November 2026

KINETON & WELLESBOURNE

DISTRICT ADVERTISER



THE ULTIMATE GO-TO DIRECTORY | EST. 1994

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Warks C/Council ..... (01926) 410410
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Youth 01789 842148
Email: ..... info@wellesbourne-lions.org.uk

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Kineton WI..... (07425) 179957







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Shakespeare's Birthplace:
Where the Story Began in Stratford-upon-Avon

Few places in Warwickshire are as closely connected with English history and literature as Shakespeare's Birthplace in Stratford-upon-Avon. Standing on Henley Street in the heart of the town, this traditional timber-framed house is where William Shakespeare was born in 1564 and spent much of his childhood.

The house belonged to Shakespeare's father, John Shakespeare, a successful glove maker and wool dealer who lived and worked there for around fifty years. John married Mary Arden in about 1557, and together they had eight children. William was their third child and first surviving son. The building was therefore not simply the family home; part of it would also have been used for John Shakespeare's business, giving today's visitors a glimpse of both domestic and working life in Tudor England.

Walking through the rooms today offers a fascinating impression of everyday life more than four centuries ago. Timber beams, period furnishings and displays help tell the story of the Shakespeare family, while exhibitions explain how the young William grew up in Stratford before eventually becoming the playwright whose work would be performed around the world.

Visitors can also discover more about his father's trade through the recreated Glover's Workshop, and items from the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust's extensive collections help place the family within the wider story of Tudor Stratford. The current Becoming Shakespeare exhibition explores how the people, places and surroundings of Stratford-upon-Avon may have helped shape Shakespeare's imagination and later writing.

A winter visit has a character of its own. Stratford is generally quieter than during the busy summer months, making November a pleasant time to explore Henley Street and the historic town centre. The shorter days and traditional buildings can add considerably to the atmosphere, particularly when combined with a walk through Stratford's old streets and along the River Avon.

Winter Opening Times

For November 2026, Shakespeare's Birthplace changes to its winter timetable.

From 2 November to 31 December 2026, the Birthplace is scheduled to open daily from 10am until 4pm, with last admission to the house at 3.30pm. During the Christmas period it will open from 10am until 2pm on 24 December, with last admission at 1.30pm, and will be closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Pre-booking is recommended.

A Birthplace ticket also includes admission to the gardens at Shakespeare's New Place, the site of the impressive house Shakespeare purchased after achieving success. During November and December 2026 the New Place gardens are scheduled to open daily from 11am until 3pm, with last admission at 2.30pm.

For anyone living in Warwickshire, Shakespeare's Birthplace is one of those attractions that can easily be overlooked simply because it is so close to home. Yet a winter visit provides an excellent opportunity to rediscover Stratford's remarkable heritage and step inside the house where the story of the world's most famous playwright began.





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Dear Reader,

November 2026

Welcome to our November edition. With the clocks changed, the evenings drawing in and winter just around the corner, this is the time of year when many of us start preparing our homes, gardens and vehicles for the colder months ahead.

Inside this issue you'll find all our usual features, including Horoscopes, Health & Wellbeing, Pets Corner, What's On, local community news, puzzles and useful advice, alongside our trusted directory of local businesses and tradespeople.

This month we are also looking at Ready for Winter Jobs– those important little tasks that can make a big difference before the really cold weather arrives. From checking gutters, roofs and heating systems to preparing gardens, vehicles and outdoor areas, November is a good month to get ahead before frost, wind and heavy rain become regular visitors.

As always, we encourage you to support the local businesses advertising within these pages. Many are small independent firms serving our communities throughout the year, and your custom really does make a difference.

And when you contact an advertiser, visit their shop or speak to them while they are working locally, please remember to say:

"I saw you in the District Advertiser."

It may seem like a small thing, but letting businesses know where you found them helps them see the value of advertising locally and, in turn, helps us continue producing and delivering the District Advertisers free of charge each month.

With Christmas now appearing on the horizon, November is also a good opportunity to shop locally, book tradespeople early and keep an eye on our community pages for forthcoming festive events.

Thank you, as always, to our readers, advertisers, contributors and delivery teams for your continued support.

Stay warm, stay local and enjoy your November edition.

District Advertiser Team



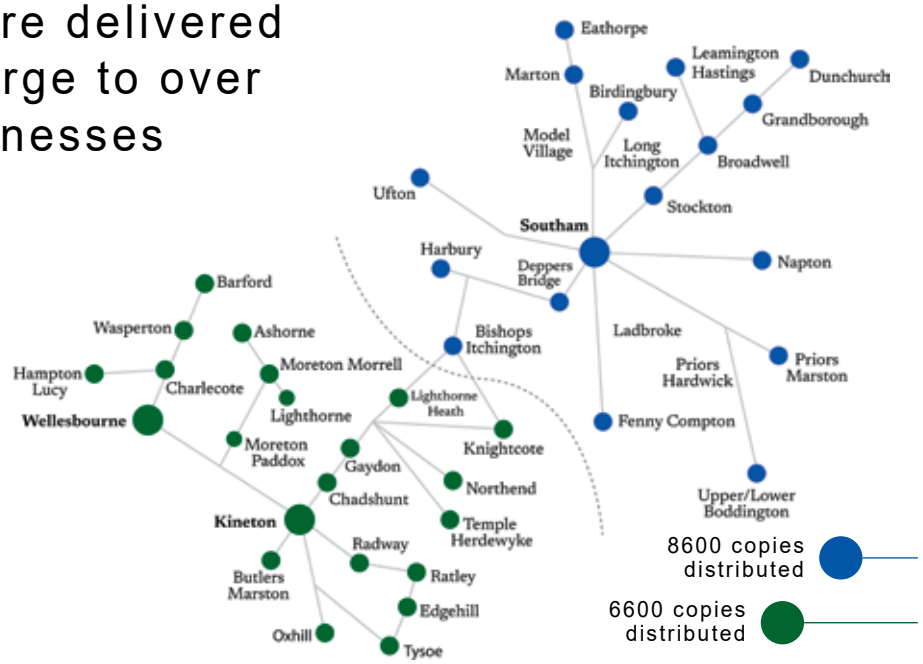
October Crossword Solutions

District Advertisers are delivered monthly FREE of charge to over 15,000 homes & businesses

Deadlines for our Next

Southam
18th of the previous month

Kineton & Wellesbourne
18th of the previous month



Owner: Peter Crosby

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Adverts can be created from basic information provided all within the cost of your advertising. Leaflets and flyers can be distributed with the Advertisers to specific areas.

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Random Ramblings

Article By Peter Vale-Humphreys

The year is nearly done and we look forward to a lovely late Autumn with all the subtle colours of the leaves and other vegetations. It is a winding down time for nature and, in some ways, for us, too.

The World is still unsettled and full of discord amongst nations and even extending to war. It seems we have never learned the lessons of two previous World Wars. We are just an inch away from something of that magnitude again. We never learn, do we? In all this friction the animals and birds are displaced or even slaughtered. It seems so unfair, as wars are not of their making, yet suffer from it.

The birds had started nesting early this year, especially the rooks and the clutches were up to normal numbers although they never expected the heatwaves we had. Predation of fledglings was all part of the food chain as the local sparrow hawks epitomised the need to feed. In the heatwaves it was essential to put out water for the birds to bathe and drink. There is some joy in watching the sparrows having a communal bathing session, splashing around and sharing the water with watching siblings and other birds perched on the edge of the bath; it is a very enjoyable moment to watch them.





The heat had helped the crops, especially cereals, to ripen; but the volumes or yields were down. That all makes for shortages and rising prices in the shops.

Still thinking of the birds, in particular, the migration, of those summer visitors, has taken place and the swallows, martins, and even the cuckoo have all gone back to whence they came – Africa. I dread to think what the heat would be like there but there it is what it is - our cyclical weather patterns and we just have to get on with it. We never hear of the birds complaining, do we? The blackbirds and their dawn chorus is certainly missed. Next year will be welcomed to give us the same again, hopefully.

The River Rangers still have to engage with me to survey and remedy some aspects of excessive reed growth this year which impedes the swans moving around and more importantly being able to fly – because they need a long run on the top of water to get airborne. We owe them this. Reed growth is not that only impediment to good river quality; but fallen trees are a problem. I have had a report of some clearing going on in the White Bridge area and this was long overdue.

Keep the seed feeders topped up and the bird baths topped up, too, please. Until next time, bless you and take care.



Down The Garden Path

Pete's Piece by Farnborough Garden Centre

November: Mid to late autumn, usually a somewhat unpredictable time of the year. The first of the real night frosts will usually have already occurred, signalling the end of any remaining tender annual plants and making most gardeners really consider the approaching onset of winter.There is still time when weather permits, to finish any delayed planting of spring flowering bulbs and autumn/ winter bedding. Pansies and violas are still looking good and remain available at Farnborough Garden Centre.Autumn leaf colour is still looking colourful but leaves will soon be falling. Once leaf-fall starts in earnest, those gardeners wuith trees around them will need to put in some hard work in clearing up. Don't be tempted to let leaves stay too long on beds, borders or lawns where they can cause damage and harbour pests and disease.This is particularly important with alpines and rockery plants.

Monthly Reminders

Fruit and Vegetables - Prune gooseberries, raspberries and blackcurrants now. Where required plant new bushes or canes. Start planting new apples, pears, plums, etc this month to enable them to establish themselves over winter. Try potting herbs to place in the greenhouse, conservatory or even on a windowsill, for use over winter. Winter digging should have already been started and is best completed as soon as practicable.

Flower Garden - Continue to plant herbaceous plants as weather permits, and if you haven't already got them in your garden, try some hellebores (Christmas Guelder Roses). They are now available in a range of colours and are normally in stock at Farnborough Garden Centre.

Trees, Shrubs and Roses - All of these can be planted this month along with conifers and climbers. If you intend adding plants to your garden, think about selecting some that will provide some winter colour to the garden, especially if you are filling bare corners, etc. Also remember that there are many dwarf and semi-dwarf conifers available in many shades of green and gold that will give year-round colour and form, without getting too overpowering.

Greenhouses - Clean and disinfect the greenhouse ready for winter, and install bubble insulation if you intend to over-winter plants under glass. Check all heaters and thermometers. Don't forget to ventilate the greenhouse during mild spells, and try not to over water. Plants will cope with low temperatures better, in most cases, if not too wet.

Garden Birds - Winter feeding should have already started in earnest now, and here at Farnborough Garden Centre we have a massive range of feeders, roosting boxes (for winter protection) support poles and brackets. We also have a wide selection of food, covering a variety of different bird varieties. As well as feeding, don't forget to provide water for birds and top up regularly or replace frozen water during long frosty periods.

Plants looking good now:

Ornamental Reeds & Grasses - Pyracantha - Liquidamber - Cotoneaster - Conifers - Pansies - Violas - Heathers - Photinias - Eleagnus

We have reached that time of year when Christmas is fast approaching and here at Farnborough Garden Centre we have been busy setting out our range of Christmas Trees, Holly and Fir wreaths, door swags and planted table decorations. Whilst we don't stock a huge range of decorations, we do keep some more unusual styles, made from natural materials and including some iluminated items. We always carry a constantly changing range of gift and home-ware from which to choose those seasonal gifts. For something really different visit our "Treasured Teddies" shop where you can see a wide selection of Teddy Bears in many shapes and sizes. The range includes some very special collectors Bears as well as many loveable 'cuddly' companions. The ideal gifts for grown-ups or children.

Pete's Top Tips for November: Preparing your Garden for Winter

1. **Leaf clearance** - Fallen leaves will need to be cleared regularly as if left they can damage plants beneath them, this is particularly relevant with lawns, alpines & rockeries. If you have the space, the leaves can be composted into leaf mould.

2. **Pruning & Training** - Begin winter pruning this month, starting with deciduous plants. Don't prune uneccesessarily as over pruning can weaken growth. Remember when pruning fruit trees that plums & cherries should NOT be pruned now but left until Summer as this will deter silver leaf desease.

3. **Plant Protection** - If you have tender plants then take steps now to protect them from Winter cold. Use fleece, hessian or where appropriate bubblewrap.You may also need to protect your plants from rabbits or deer using netting wire or tree guards.

4. **Outdoor Pots & Containers** - Lift all pots & containers on to pot feet or blocks to prevent waterlogging. This applies to pots on hard surfaces, gravel or soil. You may also need to insulate tender plants along with the pots from frosts using bubble wrap, fleece or sacking.

5. **Ponds** - Sub mersible pumps should be removed from pond now & stored through Winter together with any lights etc. Check all power cables for wear or damage. Clear plants around pond edges & remove fallen leaves & debris from the water regularly as this can make to water toxic to fish & wildlife.



The Leamington Singers - Your Local choir

Since September 2025 Harvey Brough, the composer and performer, has been Music Director for the Leamington Singers. Harvey is one of the UK's most accomplished and diverse musicians, and he has brought his style to this Choir. A brief biography shows the many facets of his long and varied career.

Harvey sang as a boy chorister at Coventry Cathedral before studying at The Royal Academy of Music, and Clare College in Cambridge.

Following on the international success of his group, Harvey and the Wallbangers, he has worked in a wide range of musical genres including classical, early music, pop, soul, jazz, folk, and world music.

Long before community music became popular, Harvey regularly brought together the finest professional musicians with complete beginners, both children and adults, to perform his compositions with remarkable results.

For the past thirteen years he has been composer and director of Vox Holloway, London, collaborating closely with the choir's founder, Justin Butcher, and producing exciting concerts that often include familiar choral works, but mostly creating innovative and eclectic programmes. Many of these have been recorded, including Music on the Mind, Freedom Song, The Sun Does Shine and a new choral and orchestral arrangement of the Kink's 1968 album, the Village Green Preservation Society, by invitation of Sir Ray Davies for the 50th anniversary.

Since 2012 Harvey has been the Turner Sims Professor of Music at the University of Southampton where he also teaches a module in Community Music.

During the Leamington Singers' first year under Harvey's direction, the choir has been singing a number of Beach Boys' songs, prepared and performed these and some carols at a Christmas Concert, studied most of the songs on The Beatles' Sergeant Pepper album, as well as several traditional British Folk songs.

2026 will see the Leamington Singers, now in it's 5th year taking on some new songs, arranged by Harvey, every



Thursday evening in school term-time. They rehearse in St. Nicholas Church in Radford Semele, and would love to welcome new members. You don't need to be able to read music, nor have belonged to a choir previously, just be happy to join a welcoming, relaxed group of singers and clear your head of the general week "Stuff" by singing your heart out.

The Autumn term continues on Thursday 5th November, after half term, so please come along at 6 pm any Thursday for a free "taster".





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Sudoku Puzzle

3		8	7				2	
	4	7	6					
9		1			5			
	7	4						3
		3				8		
5						2	4	
			5			3		1
					8	4	5	
	8				6	9		2

Wellesbourne & District Lions News

Wellesbourne Lions Santa Sleigh provisional dates in December

Full details will be published on our website and Facebook page in December and updates will be advised on Facebook if weather or unforeseen events affect the routes:

Follow us on: facebook.com/wdlionsclub

Website: Wellesbourne-lions.org.uk

Or email us at info@wellesbourne-lions.org.uk

Our sleighs will run from 6pm to 8pm each evening.

December Routes:

Barford 4th,7th & 8th

Ettington 9th & 10th

Kineton 11th, 14th & 15th

Wellesbourne 4th

Wellesbourne 7th – 11th

Wellesbourne 14th – 17th

Hampton Lucy 17th

Lions supporting Wellesbourne Wanderers Football Club

The Lions are pleased to be able to support WWFC inclusion fund and recently donated £500 to the fund. We received the lovely message below thanking us:

"A huge thank you to WDLC for their generous donation of £500 to our inclusion fund. The fund helps many families who may be struggling with the cost of getting their child into football. The donation will help more local children take part, make friends and enjoy being part of a team. We are grateful to the Lions for supporting our community and helping make football accessible to more families"

Newsletter contact: Tina Borer | 07710 151541 | tina.a.borer@gmail.com



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What Our Advertisers Say

Thinking about advertising your business with the District Advertisers?

There's no better recommendation than hearing directly from businesses already using our publications. Our aim has always been to provide affordable, effective local advertising that is simple to arrange and puts your business directly in front of thousands of potential customers across the local community.

Here's what Browns The Roofing Company had to say about advertising with us:

"We've found this to be one of the best local directories to use. Compared with other directories in the area, the whole process is straightforward, hassle-free and very easy to use.

It's also very affordable and offers excellent value for money. We've had a great experience using it and would definitely recommend it to other local businesses looking for an effective and reliable directory.

For us, it's definitely worth every penny and one of the best local options available."
— Browns The Roofing Company

If you're looking for an affordable way to promote your business locally and keep your name in front of potential customers month after month, District Advertisers could be the right place for you. email:Peter@districtadvertisers.co.uk

Community Events

Are you and your family living with cancer? Find out how we can help. Every 3rd Friday monthly, 2pm-4pm at The Shakespeare Hospice. Call Carole 01789 266852.

Ashorne Table Tennis Club play competitively in both the Stratford and Leamington leagues. Please contact Steve Handsley on 07484-287728 if interested in playing.

Ashorne and Moreton Morrell Cricket Club This thriving village cricket club is looking for new players and social members for the 2024 season. We play at one of Warwickshire's most attractive cricket grounds, in Ashorne and compete in Division 1 of the Cotswold Hills League (Saturdays). We also compete in a Warwickshire evening T20 League, whilst also maintaining a full season of social Sunday afternoon friendly matches. We are wholly open to potential members of all ages and abilities. If interested, please contact Mark Freeman (Secretary) on 01789 840504.

Avon Bowling Club Swans Nest Lane, Stratford-upon-Avon. Welcome non-members to join in Community Bowls. Tuesdays and Thursdays 1.30 – 3.30pm, starting Tuesday 14th May. Bowls and friendly tuition provided. Flat soled shoes to be worn. £5 including tea/biscuits. Contact Maggie 01789 842776 or our website: avonbowlingclub.org.uk

Barnardo's Warwickshire Children and Family Centres: Wellesbourne Methodist Church Let's Play. A chance to meet others whilst having fun! Our Stay & Play sessions offers language enrichment through play. The sessions are free of charge and will include activities such as stories, singing, music and movement, messy play and more. Aimed at toddlers and under 5s. Younger siblings welcome! Thursdays 9.30 – 10.30am. Please book your place on our Eventbrite page, www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/stratford-district-children-and-family-centres-49498983293
Find us on Facebook & Instagram.

Bishops Itchington Baby and Toddler group Thursday 10-11:30am The Memorial Hall. Craft table, singing, snacks and drinks. Call Clare 07500 838250.

Carers4Carers is a friendly self-help support group for those caring for a family member or friend. We meet the fourth Friday of each month from 10:30 to 12 noon at Kineton Village Hall. Come along for coffee, biscuits and a friendly chat as well as speakers and activities to support you in your caring role. Your loved ones will also be able to attend our Companionship Group while you are with us. For more information about group, including help with transport to/from meetings, phone Gillian on 07947 893504, email us at kcarers4carers@gmail.com or take a look at www.carers4carersonthefosse.org

Carers' Connect For ALL CARERS on 3rd Monday of every month at WELLESBOURNE VILLAGE HALL 10.30-12.30. Email: communities@vasa.org.uk

Connections Cafe held on the third Wednesday monthly, 2-4pm at Harbury Village Library, for those with a diagnosis of dementia together with their carers. Tea, coffee, cake, chat, activities, singing. Come along and join us.

Dene Valley u3a Looking for new activities this year? …or opportunities to make new friends? Then Dene Valley U3A has something just for you. With nearly 50 activities, from Art to Archeology, from Bridge to Bowls there is bound to be something of interest.

Coming on you own? … thats no problem ! Check our website, then email or phone the Group Leader for the activities of interest. We will ensure you receive a warm welcome right from your very first visit.

Want to get out more?... We run a range of Outings by coach and minibus. So whether an historic site, a musical, or show we remove the stress of driving and parking… and introduce you to a group sharing the same interests.

Finally, we meet 2.00pm second Tuesday of each month at St Peters, Wellesbourne. Entry cost is just £2 and includes a guest speaker and refreshments.

With almost 400 members from around the Wellesbourne area we are always looking for new members. So check out our website and join us denevalleyu3a.chessck.co.uk or call Trevor Shaw on 0775 374 2924 to find out more.

Fishing, Plough Angling Society looking for new members. Lovely stretches on River Avon, Ryton on Dunsmore and Hill Wootton areas. Call George 07759 250347.

J12 Model Radio Racing Club Knightcote meet on Sundays. New members welcome. Please ring John Hazelworth 07786 325000.

Kenilworth Dancing Club Tuesdays 2-4pm, St Johns Church, Kenilworth. Contact Linda on 07888 398928.

Kevin O'Connor, country and folk singer available for parties, gigs, events. Free for charities. Also looking for keyboard player to form duo. 07940 985463.

Kineton and District Gardening Club meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in the Kineton Village Hall. We have a variety of talks on horticultural topics and occasional outings in the summer. New members from novices to experienced gardeners are welcome. For more information contact Jane on 07513 528306.

Kineton and District History Group meet at Kineton village hall on the 3rd Friday of the month. Starting at 7.30pm. Please see our web site at Kineton and District Local History Group for more information, www.kinetonhistory.co.uk or www.kinetonheritage.co.uk
twitter:@kinetonhistory
email enquiries : kinetonhistory@yahoo.co.uk

Kineton Amateur Dramatic Society - we put on 2 productions a year at Kineton Village Hall. New members welcome. Details can be found on our website - kads.org.uk or contact our Secretary on 01789 842540.

Kineton Art Group meets Monday 12.30 - 3pm and also 7- 9:30pm. in Kineton Village Hall throughout the year. Artists of all abilities welcome. Please contact Gaynor Van Dijk (Membership secretary) for details please email: gaynorvandijk@gmail.com

Kineton Baby and Toddler group Mondays 9.30-11.00am, Kineton Village Hall. Toys, craft table, outdoor area, snacks and songs. Call Sophie 07988417086 - sophiewizard-ponter@hotmail.com - https://www.facebook.com/ - Kinetonbabyandtoddlergroup

Kineton Community Library The library is based in the Village Hall in Mill Street and is operated by volunteers. It is open: Monday and Wednesday afternoons 2pm until 5pm and Saturday morning 9.30 until 12.00. Telephone (during opening hours) 01926 641774.

The Friends of Kineton Library are always looking for new members and new members are very welcome. No specific skills are required just a willingness to give a couple of hours once every 2 or 3 weeks and training is available. Any one interested can contact Wendy Smith, the Chair of the Friends Committee, on 01926 641657 or call into the library any time. www.facebook.com/kinetonlibrary/

Kineton Literary Society, meeting every other month at Kineton Village Hall. A space to chat about books, make new friends and hear from local authors. Join the mailing list by emailing kinetonliterarysociety@gmail.com or come along to one of our events.

Kineton Methodist Church Southam Street, Kineton, Warwick. CV35 0LL, Minister: Rev. Tina Brooker. Email: tina.brooker@methodist.org.uk and phone: 07479 556913. We welcome all who wish to join us, in particular those living in the village of Kineton as well as the villages in the surrounding rural area. We are part of the South Warwickshire Methodist Circuit. Church Services: Morning services on Sunday at 10.30 a.m..

Kineton Playgroup Term time preschool sessions 9am to 3pm from the term after child's 2nd birthday; breakfast and after school club and holiday club for 3- to 11-year-olds. Please contact Carol for more information on 01926 640010.

Kineton WI meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except

August) at 7.30pm in Kineton Village Hall. Check us out on FB or speak to Kathy on 07425179957.

Knightcote Model Boat Club 1/4 acre water at New House Farm, Knightcote. New members welcome. Call 01926 612827.

Leamington & Warwick Model Railway Society meets 7.30pm Thursday evenings at New House Farm, Knightcote, Telephone Pete Hutchinson 07817 398903.

Lighthorne Heath Scout Group for boys & girls from age 6 years in the Beaver scout section to age 14 in the scout section. Any adult looking to become involved in scouting then please contact Senagh Booth 01926 640728 or email shenagh.booth@gmail.com, or turn up at Lighthorne heath village hall on Tuesday evenings from 6pm.

Newbold Pacey & Ashorne WI meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30pm in Ashorne Village Hall CV35 9DR. We are an active friendly group with members ranging in age from 30s to 80s. Our date of birth is 19 August 1919 but we don't act our age! We run a Community Coffee Morning in the village hall on the first Saturday of the month, we enjoy a country walk and we all love a bit of cake! We're on Facebook as Newbold Pacey & Ashorne WI - Warwickshire, Insta as newboldpaceyashornewi and Email npandawi@gmail.com Contact secretary Trish to find out more: 07919 392588

NEW Singing for Dementia Group. For people living with Dementia and their family/carer. Please join us on the 1st Tuesday of every month. Wellesbourne Village Hall CV35 9NH from 2pm - 3.30pm No charge (donations welcome. Starting on Tuesday 2nd August and then monthly. Support for Carers of loved ones living with dementia in South Warwickshire. Heather and Paul Dowler 01295 688376 - talkdementia@mail.com www.talkdementia.uk

Rainbows - a fun and exciting programme for girls aged four to seven, it's all about learning by doing. Rainbows is all about developing self-confidence, building friendships, learning new things and having fun. Girls get their hands dirty with arts and crafts, get in touch with nature and play games - it's all about learning by doing. Rainbows follow a diverse and engaging programme and can take part in lots of different activities with girls their own age. Register your daughter here: https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/

Repair Cafe Wellesbourne - Sessions are held for 2 hours once a month on the 1st Saturday of each month – 10-12: at the The Church Rooms, Church St, Wellesbourne CV35 9lt. Contact fizzzz@thefms.me – or Nicky n_morle@yahoo.co.uk - and find us on Facebook.

Royal British Legion Galanos Branch (BR4049) - Becoming a Royal British Legion member means joining a network of likeminded people and enjoying a variety of activities. For more information, please contact us at Galanos. Chairman@rbl.community or call 07850 431127.

Shipston Beekeepers contact via website https://www.sbka.org.uk/

Shipston Cycling Club meet every Sunday at 0930 at the Bridge Car Park in Shipston just off the B4035. We cater for all road cyclists of all abilities. For more information visit our website or contact Alex via the contact page on the website.

Single Boots We are a friendly, Midlands based walking club for single people. We organise day walks on most Sundays, summer evening walks, weekend trips away in cottages, B&Bs and camping and social activities. For more information please visit www.singleboots.co.uk.

Short Mat Bowls Club held at Lighthorne Heath Primary School on Mondays at 5:30pm during term time only. We need new members 18+, come along and join us -first night free.

Stamp Collectors. Stratford-upon-Avon Philatelic Society welcomes new members. Do you have a collection you would like to develop? Or, have you inherited one and are looking for advice on preserving or selling? We can help! We meet alternate Wednesdays at 2pm at the Stratford-upon-Avon Racecourse. For programme and further details see our website or contact Colin at cfountain@talktalk.net or 01789 841606.

St Peter's Little Angels meet Monday 1.30pm-3pm term time for toddlers + carers. Please ring Margaret on 01789 508831.

Swan Singers - come and try our lively mixed choir singing all music genres in Kineton on Tuesdays at 7.30pm. No auditions but enthusiasm is essential, friends will be made and fun will be had. Singing has proven health benefits. Browse www.swansingers.uk or email admin@swansingers.uk or phone 07791 769102 for more details.

"The Evergreens" provides a wide variety of monthly entertainment for the young at heart. Neetings are normally in Kineton Village Hall on the 2nd Thursday in the month at 2.30pm. Call Wenda 01926 640314.

Transforming Lives for Good (TLG) has been organising Lunch Clubs during the school holidays in many different towns, and now there will be one in Stratford. Make Lunch aims to provide a free hot meal and some fun-filled activities on certain days in the long Summer holidays. It is directed at Primary age children (5-11) in those families who find it difficult to manage when there are extra mouths to feed when the children are home from school. The sessions are taking place on Monday and Thursday at the United Reformed Church from 11.30am to 1.15pm. Contact Linda on 07523 363464 or Ann on 07580 557163.

Tysoe Childrens Group Pre School sessions for children from 18 months between 9am and 4pm. Breakfast club from 7.45am and After School Club until 6pm. Call Yvonne/Rachel on 01295 680624.

Tysoe W.I. meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in Tysoe Village Hall. Join us for a glass of wine. Check us out on FB or call 01295 780765.

Warwickshire Vision Support Centres for people with a visual impairment *Leamington and Warwick:* Mondays –located at Chandos Court, Chandos Street, Leamington Spa. The centre runs every Monday morning (except bank holidays) 9.30am – 11.30am

Stratford: Tuesdays –,located at Tyler House, Tyler Street, Stratford Upon Avon. The centre runs every Tuesday morning 9.30am – 11.30am

Both centres with speakers, equipment demonstrations, activities and social sessions. Min £1 entry. Please call 01926 411331 or email enquiries@warwickshire.vision with any queries. Many varied volunteer roles also available with the charity – please get in touch!

Wellesbourne & District Lions Club The Club meets on 2nd and 4th Mondays, Wellesbourne Cricket



COMMUNITY EVENTS • FIREWORKS • CHRISTMAS FAIRS • MARKETS

Friday 6 November – The Tysoe Enclosures, Kineton

Gill Stewart talks about the Tysoe Enclosures for Kineton & District Local History Group. Kineton Village Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm. Visitors welcome.

More Info: www.kinetonhistory.co.uk

Saturday 7 November – Barford Bonfire & Fireworks

Annual organised display at Barford St Peter's Primary School Field. Gates 5.30pm, bonfire 6pm and fireworks from 7pm, with food and refreshments.

More Info: Barford Community

Saturday 14 November – Ladbroke Festive Market

The Bell Inn hosts a festive market from 10am–4pm with handmade gifts, crafts, Christmas treats and seasonal food and drink.

More Info: www.bellinnatladbroke.co.uk

Saturday 21 November – Wellesbourne Christmas Fair

St Peter's Church hosts its annual Christmas Fair with festive stalls, gifts, refreshments and seasonal attractions.

More Info: www.stpeterswellesbourne.org.uk

Friday 20–Sunday 29 November – Warwick Christmas Tree Festival

St Mary's Church in Warwick is filled with decorated Christmas trees and wreaths created by schools, charities, businesses and community groups.

More Info: www.stmaryswarwick.org.uk

Friday 27 November – Kineton Victorian Evening

Banbury Street comes alive from around 6pm with festive stalls, food, gifts and entertainment at this popular community Christmas event.

More Info: www.kineton.org.uk

Saturday 28 & Sunday 29 November – Stoneleigh Winter Fair

Large heated indoor Christmas market at NAEC Stoneleigh with local businesses, festive food, children's activities and seasonal entertainment.

More Info: www.naecstoneleigh.co.uk

Thursday 3 December – Southam Blue Light Breakfast Club

Meet members of the emergency services and local community at Southam Community Hub & Cafe, Banbury Road, 10am–12 noon.

More Info: www.warwickshireconnected.com

Saturday 5 December – Breakfast with Santa, Ladbroke

A festive breakfast for younger children at The Bell Inn from 9am–11am, including a chance to meet Father Christmas. Booking essential.

More Info: www.bellinnatladbroke.co.uk

Friday 6 November – Shipston Bonfire & Fireworks

Organised Bonfire Night celebration at Shipston Sports Club. Gates 5pm, bonfire around 6.30pm and fireworks at 7pm, with food, live music and licensed bars.

More Info: www.shipstonsportsclub.co.uk

Saturday 7 November – Southam Craft Fayre

Browse crafts and gifts at The Graham Adams Centre, St James Road, Southam, 11am–3pm. Ideal for an early start to Christmas shopping.

More Info: www.grahamadamscentre.com

Saturday 14 November – Harbury Craft Fayre

Local makers and craftspeople at Harbury Village Hall, South Parade, 10am–4pm, with handmade gifts and locally produced items.

More Info: Harbury Village Hall

Wednesday 18–Saturday 21 November – Witness for the Prosecution, Kineton

Kineton Amateur Dramatic Society presents Agatha Christie's courtroom thriller at Kineton Village Hall. Performances nightly at 8pm.

More Info: Kineton Amateur Dramatic Society

Saturday 21 November–Sunday 3 January – Christmas at Warwick Castle

Warwick Castle celebrates the festive season with Christmas attractions and illuminations for a seasonal day or evening out.

More Info: www.warwick-castle.com

Saturday 28 November – Harbury Market

Harbury Village Hall, 10am–12.30pm, with local producers, crafts, gifts and refreshments – useful for locally made Christmas presents.

More Info: Harbury Village Hall

Sunday 29 November – Southam Christmas Lights Switch-On

Southam town centre welcomes Christmas with festive entertainment and activities through the day, leading up to the Christmas lights switch-on.

More Info: www.southam.co.uk

Saturday 5 December – Long Itchington Christmas Tree Festival

Holy Trinity Church hosts its Christmas Tree Festival from 11am–4pm, with a colourful collection of decorated trees in the historic church.

More Info: Holy Trinity Church, Long Itchington

Please check before travelling: Event times, programmes and ticket availability can change. Confirm details with the organiser where appropriate.

Saturday 7 November – Southam Cricket Club Bonfire & Fireworks

Gates open 5pm, Best Guy competition 5.45pm, bonfire 6.30pm and organised fireworks at 7pm. Hot food, drinks and bar available.

More Info: Southam Cricket Club

Saturday 7 November – Wellesbourne Coffee Morning

Friendly community coffee morning at St Peter's Church, Wellesbourne, 10am–12 noon. Refreshments and a relaxed Saturday gathering.

More Info: www.stpeterswellesbourne.org.uk

From Monday 16 November – Christmas at Charlecote Park

Charlecote Park near Wellesbourne begins its Christmas season, with the historic house dressed for Christmas and seasonal displays.

More Info: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/charlecote-park

Saturday 21 November – Southam Indoor Market

Local food, gifts, crafts and refreshments at The Graham Adams Centre, Southam. The monthly market runs about 9.30am–12.30pm.

More Info: www.grahamadamscentre.com

Thursday 26 November – Warwick Victorian Evening

Warwick town centre turns back the clock with market stalls, entertainment, fairground attractions and the Christmas lights switch-on.

More Info: www.warwickdc.gov.uk

Friday 27 November – Festive Wreath Making, Ladbroke

Create your own Christmas wreath at The Bell Inn from 6pm, with materials and festive refreshments included. Advance booking essential.

More Info: www.bellinnatladbroke.co.uk

Monday 30 November – Festive Quiz Night, Ladbroke

Round up a team for food and friendly competition at The Bell Inn. Food from 6.30pm and quiz at 8pm. Teams of up to six.

More Info: www.bellinnatladbroke.co.uk

Saturday 5 December – Wellesbourne Coffee Morning

St Peter's Church holds its December coffee morning from 10am–12 noon. Enjoy refreshments and friendly company.

More Info: www.stpeterswellesbourne.org.uk

Sunday 6 December – Dogs Trust Christmas Fair, Stoneleigh

Seasonal family event at NAEC Stoneleigh with Christmas shopping and activities in support of Dogs Trust.

More Info: www.naecstoneleigh.co.uk



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Small habits, brighter days

As autumn gives way to winter, shorter days and colder weather can make it tempting to slow down and stay indoors. November is an ideal time to strengthen the simple routines that help us feel healthier, more energetic and better prepared for the months ahead. Rather than making dramatic changes, try setting achievable targets that fit naturally into everyday life.

Make daylight part of your day

With daylight hours shrinking, take advantage of natural light whenever you can. A walk in the morning or at lunchtime offers fresh air, gentle exercise and a welcome change of scenery. Even on overcast days, time outdoors can help support a regular sleep–wake pattern. If the weather is poor, keep moving indoors instead.

Keep moving, little and often

You do not need a gym membership to stay active. Brisk walking, gardening, dancing or a few gentle stretches all count. UK guidance encourages adults to aim for at least 150 minutes of moderate activity each week, alongside strength-building activities on two days. Start at a comfortable level and build up gradually.

Nourish yourself through colder weather

Seasonal vegetables, soups, stews and warming breakfasts can make balanced eating easier. Try to include fruit and vegetables, wholegrains and sources of protein across the day, and remember to drink water even when you are not feeling thirsty. Planning a few meals in advance may also reduce stress and food waste.

Look after your mind and your sleep

Dark evenings can affect motivation and mood. Make time for a conversation with a friend, a favourite hobby or a relaxing activity away from screens. Aim for a consistent bedtime and waking time. If low mood, anxiety or sleep problems are persistent or begin to interfere with daily life, speak to your GP.

Get winter-ready

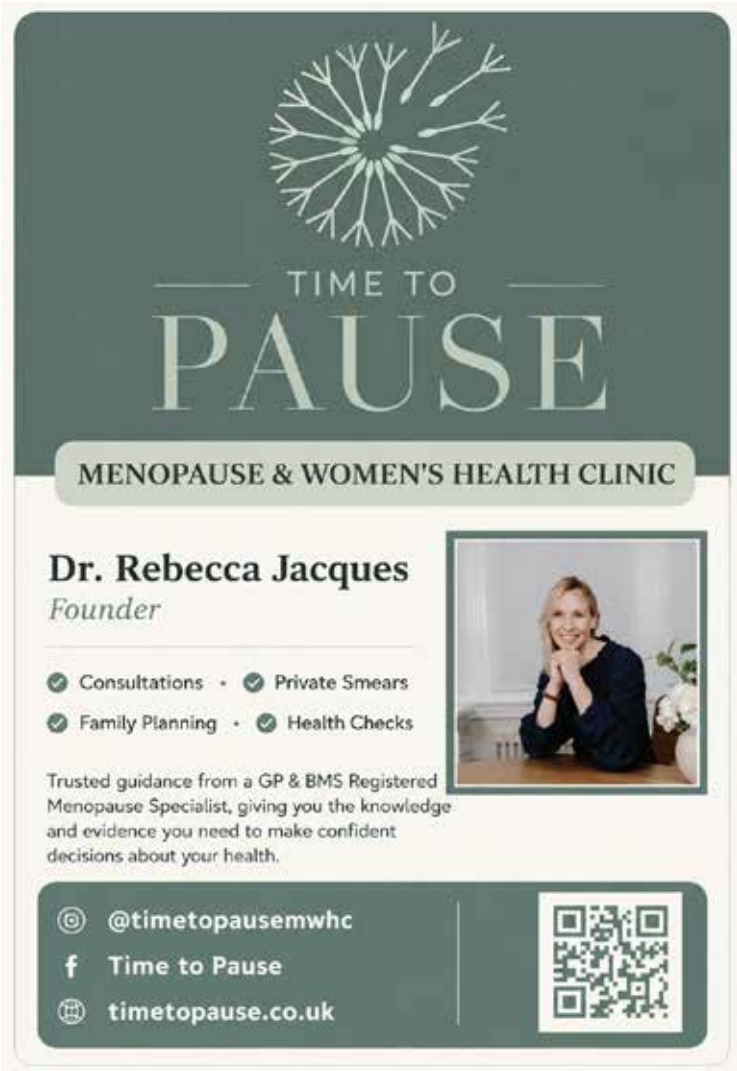
November is a useful moment to check that repeat prescriptions are in order, review any invitations for NHS seasonal vaccinations and prepare for colder weather. Keep your home comfortably warm where possible, particularly if you are older or have a long-term health condition. If you are unsure which vaccinations you are eligible for, consult NHS guidance or your GP practice.

YOUR NOVEMBER WELLBEING TARGETS

- ☐ Spend 15–20 minutes outdoors in daylight on at least five days each week.
- ☐ Build towards 30 minutes of movement on five days each week, at your own pace.
- ☐ Prepare three home-cooked, vegetable-rich meals each week.
- ☐ Set aside 10 screen-free minutes each evening to unwind.
- ☐ Contact a friend or neighbour at least once each week.
- ☐ Choose one winter-health task to complete before the end of the month.

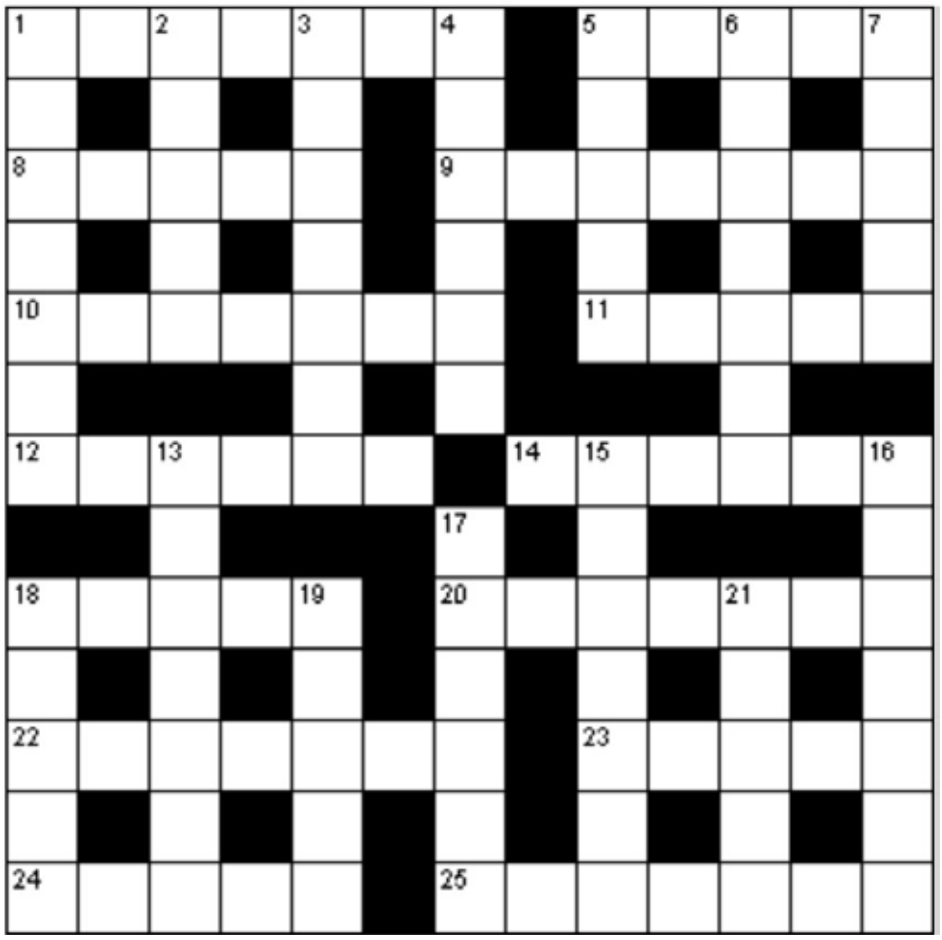
Remember: Progress is more important than perfection. Pick two or three targets to begin with, celebrate each small success and make December a little healthier, one day at a time.

General wellbeing information only; seek personalised medical advice from a healthcare professional when needed.



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CROSSWORD COMPETITION



Across

1 Remain in the same place (4,3)
5 Purloin (5)
8 Once more (5)
9 Autumn month (7)
10 Weave, interlace (7)
11 Care for (5)
12 Marionette (6)
14 Fit in (6)
18 Demand as a right (5)
20 Showing no expression (7)
22 Shedding tears (7)
23 Snares (5)
24 Stir up (5)
25 Imperfect goods at reduced prices (7)

Down

1 Drastic reorganisation (5-2)
2 Towards the stern of a ship (5)
3 Thoughtful (7)
4 Gardener's tool (6)
5 Lustrous fabric (5)
6 Trading ban (7)
7 Considerable (5)
13 High level ground (7)
15 Stretchy (7)
16 First book of the Bible (7)
17 Proverbs (6)
18 Cringe (5)
19 Corn (5)
21 Small edible crustacean (5)





MONTHLY HOROSCOPE

November brings a season of transformation, fresh opportunities and renewed ambition. As autumn deepens, the stars encourage reflection, stronger relationships and bold decisions. Scorpio inspires change and emotional growth, while Sagittarius brings optimism, adventure and exciting possibilities for the months ahead.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

Happy birthday, Scorpio! It is your time to shine, with the Sun boosting your confidence, determination and personal magnetism. A long-awaited opportunity could finally emerge. Trust your instincts, embrace positive changes and leave old worries behind. Your future looks brighter than ever.

Love: Passion deepens and romance blossoms.

Career: Recognition and new opportunities await.

Lucky Days/Nos: 3, 11, 21

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

Adventure is calling, Sagittarius! As your birthday season approaches, you'll feel a surge of enthusiasm and optimism. November encourages fresh experiences, exciting plans and meaningful connections. A surprise invitation could open unexpected doors. Follow your adventurous spirit and embrace new possibilities.

Love: An unexpected encounter sparks excitement.

Career: Fresh ideas bring promising opportunities.

Lucky Days/Nos: 7, 22, 29

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

November rewards patience and persistence, Capricorn. Your practical approach helps resolve a lingering problem, while supportive friends offer valuable advice. Financial matters begin to settle, giving you greater peace of mind. Take time to celebrate your achievements and enjoy life's simpler pleasures.

Love: Honest conversations strengthen relationships.

Career: Hard work brings well-deserved recognition.

Lucky Days/Nos: 4, 15, 26

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 18)

Your innovative spirit takes centre stage this November, Aquarius. An unusual idea could develop into something rewarding, particularly when shared with others. Friendships and social activities bring fresh inspiration. Keep an open mind and welcome opportunities that challenge your usual way of thinking.

Love: Friendship could blossom into romance.

Career: Teamwork delivers impressive results.

Lucky Days/Nos: 6, 17, 28

Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

November awakens your imagination and intuition, Pisces. Creative pursuits and meaningful conversations bring renewed inspiration. A change of scenery could help you see an old situation differently. Trust your feelings, but balance dreams with practical action. A pleasant surprise awaits towards month's end.

Love: Emotional connections grow stronger.

Career: Creative thinking opens exciting doors.

Lucky Days/Nos: 9, 18, 27

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

Your determination is stronger than ever, Aries! November encourages you to tackle unfinished business and pursue ambitious goals. An unexpected opportunity could arrive through a friend or colleague. Avoid rushing important decisions, and remember that patience can sometimes achieve more than sheer determination.

Love: A romantic gesture brings happiness.

Career: Bold ideas attract positive attention.

Lucky Days/Nos: 5, 14, 23

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

Relationships and personal security take priority this November, Taurus. A thoughtful conversation helps clear up a misunderstanding, bringing welcome harmony. Your practical nature proves invaluable when making financial decisions. Enjoy cosy evenings, familiar comforts and quality time with those who matter most.

Love: Trust and affection bring lasting warmth.

Career: Careful planning leads to progress.

Lucky Days/Nos: 2, 16, 25

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 20)

November brings a welcome burst of mental energy, Gemini. Your curiosity leads to fascinating discoveries and useful new contacts. A busy schedule requires careful organisation, but exciting opportunities make the effort worthwhile. Stay flexible and make time for relaxation amid your many commitments.

Love: Lively conversations create romantic sparks.

Career: Communication skills bring fresh opportunities.

Lucky Days/Nos: 8, 19, 30

Cancer (Jun 21 – Jul 22)

Home, family and emotional wellbeing feature strongly this November, Cancer. A thoughtful gesture from someone close lifts your spirits. Creative activities provide a welcome escape from everyday pressures. Trust your natural instincts when making personal decisions, and remember to make time for yourself.

Love: Tender moments strengthen existing bonds.

Career: A steady approach brings financial rewards.

Lucky Days/Nos: 1, 12, 24

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 22)

November encourages you to balance ambition with relaxation, Leo. Your natural leadership qualities attract admiration, while a family matter may require extra attention. A creative project brings satisfaction and renewed confidence. Enjoy opportunities to socialise, but remember that quiet moments can be equally rewarding.

Love: Romance flourishes through shared experiences.

Career: Leadership skills impress the right people.

Lucky Days/Nos: 10, 20, 28

Virgo (Aug 23 – Sep 22)

Your organisational talents shine throughout November, Virgo. A complicated situation becomes easier to manage once you focus on the essentials. Helpful advice arrives from an unexpected source. This is an excellent month for learning, improving routines and making practical plans for the festive season.

Love: Small gestures make a big difference.

Career: Attention to detail earns appreciation.

Lucky Days/Nos: 6, 13, 25

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

November brings renewed balance and clarity, Libra. Financial planning and personal priorities deserve attention as the year draws towards its close. A social invitation could introduce you to someone interesting. Trust your diplomatic instincts, but don't hesitate to express your own needs and ambitions.

Love: Harmony returns after a minor misunderstanding.

Career: A promising opportunity boosts confidence.

Lucky Days/Nos: 4, 17, 29

Horoscopes are written for entertainment and inspiration.

November Sudoku Solution

3	5	8	7	1	4	6	2	9
2	4	7	6	3	9	5	1	8
9	6	1	2	8	5	7	3	4
8	7	4	9	5	2	1	6	3
6	2	3	4	7	1	8	9	5
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4	9	6	5	2	7	3	8	1
7	3	2	1	9	8	4	5	6
1	8	5	3	4	6	9	7	2

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Word Search - Theme Music

Solution on page 17

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Pets Corner – November:

Keeping Pets Safe as Seasons Change

November brings a noticeable change in our surroundings. The days are shorter, temperatures fall, leaves cover paths and roads, and many pets spend more time indoors. It is also the season of fireworks, bonfires and colder, wetter walks, so a few simple precautions can help keep our animals safe, comfortable and happy.

For dogs, darker mornings and evenings mean visibility becomes especially important. Reflective collars, leads or coats can make dogs easier for motorists and cyclists to see. A small light attached to a collar can also be useful, particularly when walking along country lanes or poorly lit footpaths. Even dogs with excellent recall should be kept under closer control when visibility is reduced.

Autumn leaves may look harmless, but wet leaves can hide broken glass, sharp objects or slippery surfaces. Fallen conkers and acorns can also cause problems if eaten in quantity, so try to discourage dogs from picking up unfamiliar objects during walks.

Cold and damp conditions affect pets differently. Older dogs and cats, very young animals and short-haired breeds can feel the cold more quickly. Make sure bedding is dry, warm and positioned away from draughts. Outdoor rabbits and guinea pigs need particular attention, with hutches protected from wind and rain while still allowing adequate ventilation. Extra dry bedding should be provided and checked regularly.

November is also closely associated with fireworks. Some animals appear completely unconcerned by loud noises, while others may become extremely frightened. Keep cats and dogs indoors during periods when fireworks are likely, close curtains and provide a familiar, quiet place where they can retreat. Background television or radio can help mask sudden noises. Never punish a frightened animal or force it out of its hiding place.

Make sure microchip details are up to date and that dogs wear identification tags. Frightened pets can sometimes escape through surprisingly small gaps when startled.

Bonfires bring another seasonal hazard. Always check piles of leaves, logs and garden waste before lighting them. Hedgehogs and other wildlife may use these areas for shelter, particularly as temperatures fall. Ideally, build or move bonfire material shortly before lighting rather than leaving a prepared pile untouched for several days.

Antifreeze also becomes more commonly used as winter approaches. It can be extremely dangerous if swallowed by pets, so clean up any spills immediately and store containers securely.

Finally, November is a good month to give pets a simple seasonal health check. Look at paws after muddy or wet walks, check claws, keep coats groomed and watch for changes in appetite, movement or behaviour as temperatures fall.

A little extra care during the changing season can make November safer and more comfortable for pets and wildlife alike.

November Pet Tip:

Before every evening walk, ask yourself: Can other people and vehicles clearly see my pet? A reflective collar, coat or small light can make a very big difference.





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