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# Kids' Page

Can you solve our bumper HALLOWEEN CROSSWORD?



Across

- 5 Big pot belonging to a witch (8)
- 6 Count \_\_\_\_\_ (7)
- 7 It hangs upside down (3)
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ or treat! (5)
- 11 One might work at Gringotts Bank! (6)
- 14 Scare (8)
- 16 17 Down is made of these (5)
- 18 You can carve one of these (7)
- 20 A house full of ghosts is said to be \_\_\_\_\_ (7)
- 22 It howls at the moon (8)
- 23 It drinks your blood (7)
- 24 Terrifying (5)
- 25 It's dark at \_\_\_\_\_ (5)
- 26 Hedwig was one (3)
- 27 It has eight legs (6)
- 28 31st October (9)

Down

- 1 A large scary creature (7)
- 2 You can probably see right through one! (5)
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ o Lantern (4)
- 4 Wooden box which might contain 17 down (6)
- 5 A black one is lucky...or unlucky, depending on the superstition. (3)
- 9 Spooky (6)
- 10 Usual colour of a witch's cat (5)
- 12 Transport for a witch (5)
- 13 It's definitely not made of cheese! (4)
- 15 You might find 2 Down here (9)
- 17 Doctors sometimes have one of these hanging in their office. (8)
- 19 It comes from Egypt (5)
- 21 Hermione Granger is one (5)
- 22 27 Across might spin one of these (3)



What is a ghost's Favourite Food?

I-Scream!

What Music do MUMMIES listen to?

Wrap Music!

# WORD

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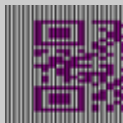
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# Warfield Environment Group

## ***VERGE MANAGEMENT***



### ***Date(s) to be confirmed***

Many of you will be aware of three verges in Whitegrove which have largely been left unmown. These are being managed as wildflower areas for the benefit of wildlife. Two wildflower surveys were undertaken over the summer, and we were pleased to find up to 30 wildflower species on each verge. We were also delighted to find several young Wild Service Trees – a Bracknell Forest priority species – growing in the verge nearest All Saints Rise. Once these saplings are more established, two or three will be allowed to grow into mature trees (they are currently protected by a dead hedge fence).

The verges will be mown soon (they may already be mown by the time you read this). ***We will then need volunteers to help rake and scarify the verges to remove any remaining cuttings (to prevent nutrients entering the soil), and to open up the soil to an over sowing of wildflower seeds.*** If you would like to help, please follow us on social media or email us to join our mailing list. We will publish event details once we are able to do so.



[www.warfieldenvgroup.wordpress.com](http://www.warfieldenvgroup.wordpress.com)

✉ [warfieldenvironmentgroup@hotmail.com](mailto:warfieldenvironmentgroup@hotmail.com)

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**Next event: Hedge Maintenance in November (tbc)**





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# Warfield Parish Council

7 County Lane, Warfield RG42 3JP Tel: 01344 457777

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## Welcome to the October update from Warfield Parish Council

### Arts Week

It is almost time for the annual Binfield, Warfield & Winkfield Arts Week for 2021 and events will take place across the northern parishes of Bracknell between the 24 – 31 October.

Please visit the following web link for further information regarding the event <http://arts-week.org/>



### Arts and Crafts Exhibition

The 2021 Arts and Crafts Exhibition is on Friday 29th October 2021 to Sunday 31st October 2021 11.00-4.00 daily at Brownlow Hall. It is a part of the overall Binfield Warfield & Winkfield Arts Week.

Enjoy paintings, craft items, sculptures, photographs and fabric works by leading local artists who enter individually or as part of a local Art Group. Visit the exhibition and maybe you could find a local art group/organisation you would like to join.

### Grant Applications 2022/23

Warfield Parish Council awards grants annually to organisations for projects or events that will be of benefit to the residents of the Parish. If you would like to apply for a grant for the financial year 2022/23 further information and an application form are available on our website. Alternatively, you may contact the Parish Office. The deadline for submission of applications is 31 October 2021.

### Parish Office

The Parish Office is now open Mon – Fri from 9:30 a.m. until midday.

Please be aware that the borough has increased the price of garden waste sacks, and these are now £1.10. If you could bring correct change, it would be much appreciated.

### Contact the Parish Council

If you need to contact us out of opening hours, please call us on **01344 457777** and leave a message or e-mail [info@warfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:info@warfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk). You can also use these contact details if you wish to reach your local councillor.

**If you run a local group or club and are looking for a daytime venue, we now have availability at the Brownlow Hall. For more information contact us on the e-mail or telephone number at the top of this page.**



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# Pumpkin Pie

*The perfect Halloween treat...with no tricks*



**Preparation time:** 40 minutes

**Cooking time:** 1 hour 40 minutes +  
chilling time

**Serves:** 8

## Ingredients

750g pumpkin or butternut squash,  
peeled, deseeded, and cut into chunks  
350g sweet shortcrust pastry (make your  
own or buy ready-made)  
140g caster sugar  
½ tsp salt  
½ tsp fresh nutmeg, grated  
1 tsp cinnamon  
2 eggs, beaten  
25g butter, melted  
175ml milk  
1 tbsp icing sugar

## Method

Place the chopped pumpkin into a large  
saucepan, cover with water and bring to  
the boil. Cover with a lid and simmer for  
15 mins or until tender. Drain and allow  
to cool. The final colour of your pumpkin  
filling will depend on the colour of the  
squash you choose. Some have a more  
yellow flesh, like butternut squash and  
others like the winter squash have a

much more orange flesh. They will both  
taste equally good!

Preheat the oven to 180C/160C fan/gas  
4. Roll out the pastry on a lightly floured  
surface and use it to line a 22cm loose-  
bottomed flan tin. Chill for 15 mins. Line  
the pastry with baking parchment and  
baking beans, then bake for 15 mins.  
Remove the beans and parchment, then  
bake for a further 10 mins until the base  
is pale golden and biscuity. Remove  
from the oven and allow to cool slightly.

Increase oven temperature to  
220C/200C fan/gas 7. Push the cooled  
pumpkin through a sieve into a large  
bowl to make a puree. In a separate  
bowl, combine the sugar, salt, nutmeg  
and half the cinnamon. Lightly beat  
together the eggs, melted butter and  
milk, then add to the pumpkin purée and  
mix well. Pour the mixture into the tart  
shell and bake for 10 minutes. Reduce  
the temperature to 180C/160C fan/gas 4  
and continue to bake for 35-40 mins until  
the filling has just set.

Remove from the oven and allow to cool  
before removing the pie from the tin. You  
can Mix the remaining cinnamon with the  
icing sugar and dust over the pie or  
decorate in a suitably spooky style.



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# Sudoku

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

## How to Play

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9, **with no repetition!**

That's all there is to it.

You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic - there's no maths involved and no adding up.

It's fun. It's challenging. It's addictive!

(solution on page 18)

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# Garden View

## This month – Tidy up Time

By October the garden can look a little tired: perennials collapse, leaves die back, and there's debris everywhere. It can only mean one thing, clean up time.

Cut Peonies, Leucanthemum, Nepeta, Delphiniums, Hardy Geraniums, and Phlox back to ground level, but leave anything with ornamental seed heads such as poppies, Alliums, and grasses. When the first frosts hit these plants will gain a new lease of life and add some sparkly architectural beauty to the garden.

Leave more delicate perennials such as Penstemons with the top growth in place to provide some winter protection. You can cut them back in the spring just before new growth occurs.

Herbaceous perennials can be divided now and moved around to fill gaps in the border. Perennials can become congested and tired, and flower less as they age. Dig up the clump and break it up with a sharp spade, selecting the best, newer chunks from the outside to replant. The dying centre of the plant can be composted.

Most plants need to be divided every three to five years but some more vigorous varieties like Achillea require it more often and others. The exception is Peonies, which hate any kind of disturbance. Leave them alone.

Once the borders are

cleared and plants have been relocated, it's time to get rid of any weeds, which have flourished in the autumn sunshine. Then you can mulch using compost or leaf mould. Mulching helps to protect the more tender plants while improving the structure of the soil and generally making things look neater. Make a layer around 3-4cms deep but don't cover the centre crown of any plants.

### Types of organic mulch

*Compost*

*Bark*

*Grass cuttings*

*Composted manure*

*Newspaper*

*Shredded Leaves*

*Straw*

**By Rachael Leverton**



# Clean Your Greens

## Food hygiene is important



When we think about food poisoning, most of us think about undercooked chicken or dodgy seafood, but some of the most notable outbreaks, have been tied to vegetables like Romaine lettuce, cucumbers, and soft fruit.

Public Health England advises people to remove any loose soil before storing vegetables and wash all veg and salads thoroughly that will be eaten raw unless they have been pre-prepared and are specifically labelled "ready to eat".

It's important to bear in mind that no method of cleaning is guaranteed to remove all bacteria when it comes to raw food – but you can significantly reduce risk. So, what is the best way to wash veg?

Wash your hands and clean all preparation surfaces first! .

**By Louise Addison**

Then wash produce just before you use it because dampness encourages bacteria growth

**Let things soak** – For anything that grows in the ground, submerge it in cold water and leave it there for up to 20 minutes to let the soil particles come loose, then take it out and rinse under running water. Lettuce leaves should be broken off before washing. Chops leeks before washing, because it makes it easier for the soil particles to flush out from between the layers. Even organic food needs to be washed.

Old fashioned salad spinners are great to 'de-soggify' (as my teen puts it) salad leaves, but you can shake them outside and leave to dry on kitchen paper.

**Treat mushrooms differently** – Mushrooms can be dirty, but they are like sponges and soaking will make them soggy. Brush the soil off and rinse them. If you're sauteing them the heat will kill any bacteria.

**Fresh herbs** – store them in a sealed plastic bag with a piece of kitchen paper to prolong their life. It really works! Wash them before use.

**Pre-packed salads** - These are often washed in a low-chlorine solution to kill off bacteria, so in theory they should be fine to eat straight from the bag. This comes down to personal choice.

Store all salad and vegetables, and berries in a cold environment because it slows down the rate at which bacteria multiply. Many modern fridges have a super cold salad drawer.



Image by Catherine Henshaw

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# Why We Love Ghosts



But ghosts are not always vengeful, they can also be friends and protectors. In Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, Ebenezer Scrooge is helped by three ghosts to mend his cruel and hard-hearted ways before it's too late. In the film *Sixth Sense*, a ghost helps a young boy to come to terms with his ability to see dead people.

Many people like to believe that death is not the end of

Recent studies show that between 30-40% of people in the UK are believe in ghosts, with those aged between 18 and 34 most likely to believe in paranormal activity. In the US figures are much higher.

Unlikely as it seems, ghosts and hauntings are a mainstream area of belief, and this belief is global, with most cultures around the world having some widely accepted types of ghosts. But why are people so keen to believe when the existence of a ghost as a disembodied soul or spirit of a dead person directly contradicts the laws of science?

In literature ghosts address some basic human needs, including the desire for justice. Shakespeare's *Hamlet* is visited by the ghost of his murdered father seeking revenge on Claudius, his murderer; and in *Macbeth* the murdered Banquo appears at a banquet both as a reminder of Macbeth's guilt and to foreshadow more deaths to come.

In Kenya, a murdered person may become a *ngoma*, a spirit who pursues their murderer, sometimes causing them to give themselves up to the police. In Russia the *rusalka* is the spirit of a dead woman who died by drowning and then lures men to their death.

existence. They are comforted by thinking that their deceased loved ones are watching over them. It can also help them face the idea of our own mortality. Most of us believe that our physical being is separate from our consciousness which means it's not a huge leap for us to entertain the idea that our mind could have an existence separate from our body and thus that our mind or consciousness could survive death. Some people even believe that the dead can communicate with the living through mediums and spiritualism.

It seems our love of the paranormal runs deep and Halloween is the perfect time to indulge.

## Perfect Halloween Films

Ghost Films

Casper

Sixth Sense

The Woman in Black

The Legend of Hell House

The Ghost of Mrs Muir

ParaNorman

*By Jess Miller*



# A Good Read



## **Ghost Story by Peter Straub**

Although Straub had written a couple of novels before this, this was the book that made his name. It was written in the late seventies, and is an epic creeping horror that has

influenced many other writers, including Stephen King.

It is set in a small fictional town, where the elderly members of The Chowder Society meet regularly to tell each other spooky stories over a few drinks. The book opens with a seemingly unconnected tale and then the death of one of the group members. Each of the remaining members begins to experience similar, nightmarish, dreams. Contacting the nephew of their dead friend, they find he also has something to contribute to their shared nocturnal visions, forcing them to explore people and events from their collective past—a past they'd much rather forget.

The novel, although good in its own right, is also a tribute to ghost stories in general. Straub obviously set out to pay his respects to the genre and there are nods to Nathaniel Hawthorne and M.R James among others. There's a main overarching plot that incorporates a few shorter stories. Straub was clearly having fun, and he includes most of the ingredients for a classic scary story. It's not fast paced but the tension builds nicely, and a real sense of menace develops as Straub draws all the threads together for the climax.

It's a must for fans of all things scary. The storytelling is superb and it's definitely good read for Halloween.

## **In the Night Kitchen by Maurice Sendak**

Another book from the Seventies, *In the Night Kitchen* is not as well-known as Sendak's other dreamscape, *Where the Wild Things Are*, but is every bit as magical, with beautiful illustrations.

The story is a fragmented, comic book romp through a child's dream. A stream-of-consciousness, random, quirky, child's-eye-view of the world, set in a sort of kitchen-cum-cityscape built from giant boxes of baking ingredients. Written in a poetic meter that stretches and contracts with the ebb and flow of the action, it's almost as much fun for an adult to read as for a child to listen.

My kids (aged 5 and 3) love it, but I will issue a nudity warning to those parents who may not appreciate some of the illustrations. The little boy Mickey is naked for most of the book, which my three-year-old finds utterly hilarious for some reason. My husband had no problem with the nudity, but he wasn't fond of the Oliver Hardy look-alike bakers, proving that even Sendak can't please everyone.

Giant milk bottles, planes made from bread: for me, Sendak is a master storyteller who doesn't talk down to his audience. It's highly stylised and like *Where the Wild Things Are* it feels slightly of its time, but that doesn't matter; the kids feel a mixture of intrigue, excitement, trepidation, and wonder - it's perfect storytelling.



**By Tash Donovan**

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## Sudoku Solution

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

# Bad Teacher

## What to do when your child has issues with their teacher

Most parents worry a little at the beginning of a school year; will the new teacher be a good fit for my child? Usually things work out fine, even if there are a few rocky moments initially. But if problems persist, what is the best way to handle it?



Reading emotional signals isn't easy but as a parent it's usually wise to trust your instincts.

Riding out a year with a difficult teacher can help a child learn resilience and problem-solving. We can probably all remember at least one teacher with a 'reputation' from our own school days. It's requires careful judgement. One child might be able to rationalise (with a little parental support) that harsh criticism says more about the teacher than it does about them, while another may become anxious and stop enjoying school. You know your child best.

If you feel there might be a problem try to get as much detail as possible. The idea is to get a more concrete sense of your child's viewpoint. Probe gently and casually to avoid causing distress, do make sure that it's not an overreaction to normal teacher behaviour.

Tell your child that you're going to write down what she's saying so you can have a conversation with the teacher. Make it clear that you care about what's happening, and that their concerns are going to be heard, but that you are not going in to make trouble.

If you decide to speak with the teacher, don't try to catch them at drop-off or pick-up time. Book an appointment. Approach the situation as someone seeking help in solving a problem. Use inclusive language and explain the situation using as many of your child's own words as possible.

Saying, 'Can you help me understand why Kiera seems so anxious before school,' is better than 'Kiera says you're mean to her.' This will help not to escalate the situation. Teachers are human though and some are very sensitive. Do your best to reassure them that

you're not blaming them. However, you are there to advocate for your child so try not to be derailed if they become defensive. Stay calm and repeat that you're simply trying to understand what's going on.

Ideally, the teacher will shed light on the situation, and you can have a mutually useful conversation that will help them teach your child effectively. But at the very least you'll understand more about how the teacher communicates. They may be taciturn, or snarky or perfectly nice but just not very genial. Then you can talk to your child about how some people are not as smiley, or patient as others but they aren't necessarily a horrible person.

Of course, if the meeting doesn't go well you might have to take it higher, maybe to the head of year, or the deputy head. Explain the steps you've taken and stress that you are concerned about your child's education. You might be given the option of another meeting with the teacher, or they might decide to deal with the situation in house. If nothing changes, remain calm, but be firm and make it clear you're not going away. As a last resort request a move to another class.

It's upsetting as a parent to watch your child struggle. But remember, even if the outcome isn't perfect, watching how you deal with things in a calm, rational and encouraging manner will teach them a great life lesson.

**By Sarah Davey**



# GONE FISHIN'

## Getting started with fishing

My son loves to be outdoors spending time in the countryside. I told him how my dad and I used to have fantastic fun on our fishing trips to the various rivers and lakes around the area where we lived. This caught his interest and he asked if we could go fishing. Sounded great me!

Luckily we have a small angling-supply shop in our village, so we popped in to look around and get some advice.

The staff were very knowledgeable and talked us through the equipment choice for a good quality, but reasonably priced starter set. This consisted of a nice rod suitable for float fishing and spinning, a good quality reel to go with it (don't forget to get some fishing line and ask if the staff can fit it for you!), some floats and hooks for maggot fishing and some lures for going after pike and perch. A few other bits and bobs and we were ready to catch our first whoppers for under £100.

By this time the staff knew we were novices, so they weren't surprised when we answered their, "Have you got your licences?" question with a puzzled look.

It turns out there are a number of rules and regulations you need to obey if you want to go fishing and stay on the right side of the law.

In England and Wales anyone aged over 13 needs a rod fishing licence. It's free if you're 16 or under and about £30 per year for an adult. In Scotland you just need permission for the place you want to fish from the landowner or angling club. In Northern Ireland you'll need a licence and a permit for the stretch of water. In Scotland and Northern Ireland some rivers and lakes are controlled by angling clubs, so you'll need to check before you head off to the river.

It's also turns out that you can't just fish whenever you want.

Rivers in England and Wales have a close season from 15<sup>th</sup> March to 15<sup>th</sup> June. Scotland and Ireland also have close seasons with most being controlled by the angling clubs that own the fishing rights, so again make sure you check with them.

Some rules do get a bit complicated with different fish having close seasons, and certain types of bait being allowed only in certain locations and at certain times, but don't be discouraged. Check out the gov.uk website or have a chat with your local angling club. They will be more than happy to help.

If you're fishing for pleasure you'll most likely put any fish you catch back into the water - obviously taking loads of photos before you do! But if you do plan on keeping some fish for eating there are a number of regulations on your catch sizes. These cover both the minimum size of the fish and the number. It varies from region to region so make sure you check out the rules for the place you want to fish.

With a little research you can feel reassured that your fishing trip won't end in a fine. As for our first trip out; no luck with the bigger pike and perch but some great fun with the smaller fish using a float and maggot. Not exactly whoppers, but we can always try again next time.

**By Tony Carter**







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