

The Bigger Pond

National Events

Oct 2 World Smile Day **11** World Conker Championships, Northamptonshire **14-29** London Film Festival - Previews of British and international films, interviews with film-makers and other events **17-18** Diwali, Hindu, Sikh and Jain celebration known as the "festival of lights", start of the Hindu New Year **21** Apple Day – to celebrate all varieties of British apple **24/25** British Summer Time ends **31** Halloween the modern event is an increasingly popular American import, but it probably all started in Ireland **Nov 1** All Saints Day **1** London to Brighton Veteran Car Run – cars built before 1905 travel from London to Brighton, celebrating the removal in 1896 of the law which forced drivers to have a man walking in front of the car holding a red flag **2** All Souls Day **5** Bonfire Night fireworks, celebration of the failure of a plan by a group of Catholics to blow up the Houses of Parliament on 5th November 1605. James I was unpopular with Catholics because he passed laws which made them pay extra taxes unless they went to Anglican churches **8** Remembrance day 1 minute silence at 11am to remember the dead of wars since the 1st World War **11** Armistice day 2 minutes silence at 11 a.m. (the end of the 1st World War) **14** The Prince of Wales's birthday gun salute in Hyde Park **20** BBC Children In Need – Terry Wogan, Pudsey Bear & what will the newsreaders do this year? **22** Stir up Sunday (Christmas Pudding Day) The day when everyone in the family has a turn at stirring the Christmas pudding whilst making a wish **26** Thanksgiving Day Americans celebrate the harvest season, often eating a family meal including turkey and pumpkin pie. Oddly some Americans don't realise that it's not a celebration of their independence from us. Time for tea anyone? **29** Advent Sunday **30** St Andrew's Day - the patron saint of Scotland, fisherman who became an Apostle & was crucified in Greece. The cross of Saint Andrew is on the Scottish flag.

Sport

Oct 1-4 Golf -Dunhill Links Championship, Scotland **4** Motor Racing - Japanese Grand Prix **4** Motor Racing - British Touring Cars at Brands Hatch **7-11** Horse of the Year show, Birmingham **10** Football World Cup qualifiers **10** Rugby League - Super League grand final, Old Trafford **13-18** Artistic Gymnastics World Championships, London **14** Football World Cup qualifiers **18** Australian MotoGP, Phillip Island Malaysia MotoGP, Sepang **Nov 1** Brazilian Grand Prix, Interlagos **2-8** WTA Tennis Tournament of Champions, Bali **7** Rugby Union Wales v New Zealand **7** Tennis Fed Cup final **14** Rugby Union Wales v Samoa **15** Abu Dhabi Grand Prix **21** Rugby Union Wales v Argentina Nov **22-28** Tennis ATP Tour finals, London **28** Rugby Union Wales v Australia **30** Tennis Davis Cup final

Notable Birthdays

Oct 1 Richard Harris & Jimmy Carter **2** Sting & Don Mclean **3** Gwen Stefani & Tommy Lee **7** Simon Cowell & Vladimir Putin **8** Matt Damon & Juan Peron **12** Hugh Jackman & Luciano Pavarotti **17** Evel Knievel & Eminem **20** Arthur Rimbaud & Bela Lugosi **22** Jeff Goldblum & Christopher Lloyd **27** John Cleese & Kelly Osbourne **Nov 3** Adam Ant & Chrales Bronson **11** Leonardo DiCaprio & Demi Moore **14** Prince Charles & King Hussein of Jordan **22** Scarlett Johansson & Jamie Lee Curtis **26** Natasha Bedingfield & Charles Schultz **27** Jimi Hendrix & Bruce Lee.

Food in Season

Oct Autumn Lamb, Elderberries, Figs, Grouse, Oysters, Watercress, Guinea Fowl, Squash, Beetroot, Mushrooms, Zucchini, Marrow, Partridge, Mussels, Apples, Kale, Pumpkin **Nov** Parsnips, Chestnuts, Goose, Cranberries, Swede, Cabbage, Potatoes, Teal, Pears, Leeks, Quinces. Andrew Cressy