

June 2017

West Berkshire, North Hampshire & East Wiltshire

# OUT & ABOUT

A Newbury News Ltd publication

*“Where the waters do agree, it is quite wonderful the relief they give”*

(Emma)

**Walking in Jane Austen’s footsteps**  
Gill Hornby explains the author’s Kintbury connection



**A head for hats**

Hungerford milliner Jane Corbett on going online and taking up sculpture

**The stage is set**

The Watermill theatre celebrates 50 years of entertaining audiences



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## WELCOME to the June issue of OUT&ABOUT

It's a month of anniversaries. To mark the bicentenary of the death of Jane Austen, Kintbury is celebrating with a weekend of events at the end of June. Resident, author and Austen fan Gill Hornby talks about the writer's time in the village (p21).

Another Jane, Hungerford milliner Jane Corbett, marks her 20-year milestone in the industry by putting her hats online (p17) and The Watermill theatre is 50 years young (p41).

There's plenty of food news, with some recommended places to go for a picnic (p37), a review of the Swan at Newtown (p28), a taste of Japan (p33), and top tipples (p31) offers some gift ideas for Father's Day.

If you want to get dad fit, how about a gift that will get him on the move (p7) or we've got some other suggestions from the high street (p13).

We hope you'll get some inspiration from these, plus enjoy the gardening, travel, books and a comprehensive list of what's on in the area this month.



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June 2017

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# Jonathan Hopson

## ...enjoys a brisk walk out for a quiet pint – or two

**W**ith the weather warming up and the longer daylight hours, this is a good time to take a brief look at two quintessential British pastimes – walking and going to the pub.

After all, the only thing better than a walk in the English countryside is finding a great pub at the end of it.

It's a sobering thought that according to the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA), pubs in the UK are closing at the rate of around 20 a week, although it's of some comfort to note the rate of closure has slowed from around 29 a week back in 2015.

CAMRA has recently launched an initiative to help protect pubs from demolition, or conversion to other use, by mobilising its members to nominate their local pub as an Asset of Community Value (ACV).

Currently, pubs can be demolished or converted to other use without planning permission, whereas pubs with ACV status are given planning protection under laws introduced in April 2015.

There are to date more than 1,200 pubs with ACV status in the UK, including nine in Berkshire.

Nominating a pub as an ACV is a simple process. You can either nominate as an unincorporated group of 21 local people, as a parish council, or in connection with another local group, including a CAMRA branch.

Village pubs are frequently local community hubs providing a valuable meeting point and so it is important to remember the adage 'use it or lose it'.

This theme is explored in more detail by Pub is The Hub – [www.pubisthehub.org.uk](http://www.pubisthehub.org.uk) – which

operates as a 'not-for-profit' organisation dedicated to improving community services and activities.

They offer advice and support to communities who are looking to relocate, re-open or introduce vital services and activities in their local pub, as well as to communities considering the options for acquiring their local pub and the range of responsibilities involved.

Interestingly, a 2016 research project commissioned by CAMRA showed that people with a good pub close to them are 'significantly' happier, have more friends, better life satisfaction and are more likely to drink in moderation.

There is a large number of interesting country pubs in the Newbury area with many of these offering the opportunity of scenic local walks.

In no particular order, here are a few of my personal favourites. All offer a good range of real ales and great food:

### **Crown & Garter, Inkpen RG17 9QR**

The Crown & Garter has been an integral part of Inkpen and the surrounding area since 1640. Set in picturesque countryside there are a wide range of walks available including routes taking in West Woodhay and Combe Gibbet. [www.crownandgarter.co.uk](http://www.crownandgarter.co.uk)

### **Furze Bush, Ball Hill RG20 0NQ**

A great location from which to explore North End, Heath End and the surrounding countryside. [www.furzebushinn.co.uk](http://www.furzebushinn.co.uk)

### **Red House, Highclere RG20 9PU**

Located off the A343 Andover Road, the Red House is close to Highclere Castle. [www.thehighclereredhouse.co.uk](http://www.thehighclereredhouse.co.uk)

### **Carpenters Arms, Burghclere RG20 9JY**

Located half a mile from the Newbury bypass, The Carpenters makes an ideal location for exploring Watership Down and the Sandham Memorial chapel. [www.carpentersarms-burghclere.co.uk](http://www.carpentersarms-burghclere.co.uk)

### **Rampant Cat, Woolton Hill**

Located next to the village stores/post office, the Rampant Cat features on the Walking for Health website ([www.walkingforhealth.org.uk](http://www.walkingforhealth.org.uk)) as the starting point for an hour-long bi-monthly walk through National Trust grounds. [www.rampantcatnewbury.co.uk](http://www.rampantcatnewbury.co.uk) 





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# Keeping dad fit

# SUPER DAD



Personal trainer Vicki Brown is the founder of LiveFitNow, based in Wash Common. For a free consultation, more information and links to online home fitness videos, visit: [www.LiveFitNow.co.uk](http://www.LiveFitNow.co.uk)

Fed up of buying your dad socks for Father's Day? VICTORIA BROWN has some gift suggestions to help improve his fitness and some routines to get him started.

Regardless of current level of fitness from beginner to pro there are many Father's Day gift ideas to help dad feel fit and healthy – or you might even suggest you could start the health kick together.

## ■ A GYM MEMBERSHIP

Or if your father already has one, perhaps some personal training sessions to help get him motivated.

## ■ HOME WORKOUT EQUIPMENT

A mat, adjustable weights or maybe a piece of cardio equipment such as a bike or treadmill.

## ■ WORKOUT HEADPHONES

This can be a great escape and help him to focus when training.

Getting workout-specific headphones can mean less movement and slipping when moving, so look for the appropriate kind.

## ■ A NEW PAIR OF TRAINERS

Maybe a voucher for the local running shop or take a trip to buy them together.

## ■ WORKOUT BAND/WATCH

A gadget for your workouts to make it even more fun. From Fitbit to Garmin there are numerous ways to track your workout and heartrate while exercising.

Here are a couple of routines to get dad started that he can try at home

### BODYWEIGHT ROUTINE

Repeat each of these as many times as you can.

#### PRESS UPS

1. Start in the plank position on your hands. Make sure you keep your spine in neutral and your core engaged.
2. Lower yourself towards the floor by bending your elbows to approximately 90 degrees.
3. Then push yourself back up to the starting position.

If you cannot complete this on your toes drop down to your knees and complete the same movement.

### TRICEP DIPS

1. Position your hands shoulder-width apart on a secured bench or stable chair. Slide your butt off the front of the bench with your legs extended out in front of you. Straighten your arms, keeping a little bend in your elbows to keep tension on your triceps and off your elbow joints.
2. Slowly lower your body by bending your elbows. Inhale as you lower your body towards the floor, and stop once your upper arms are parallel to the floor. You should have a right angle between your upper arms and the forearms, and your butt should be a few inches off the ground.
3. Push yourself back up to the starting position using your triceps, don't allow your body to take over.

### BODYWEIGHT SQUATS

1. Start in the standing position with your feet slightly wider than your hips. Your toes should be pointed slightly outward. Keep your spine in a neutral position.
2. Breathe in, break at your hip and push your butt back. Keep sending your hips backwards as your knees begin to bend. Keep your spine in neutral, chest and shoulders up and watch a spot on the wall in front of you. Squat down until your hip joint is lower than your knees, parallel.
3. Breathe out, drive through your heels, keep your knees out and return to the starting position.

### PLANK

1. Place the forearms on the ground with the elbows aligned below the shoulders, and arms parallel to the body at about shoulder-width distance.
2. Ground the toes into the floor and squeeze the glutes to stabilize the body. Keep the spine in neutral and hold that position as long as you can with good form. (Do not let the hips lift up or drop down to stay up.)

### HIIT ROUTINE

#### BURPEES

1. Drop to floor into a plank position from the standing position.
2. Thrust your knees toward your chest into a low squat position.
3. Jump as high as you can from the low squat position.
4. Land in the standing position with your knees slightly bent.

#### HIGH KNEES

1. From a standing position, raise and lower one knee at a time as if running in place. Bring the knees to the same height as the hips and keep your thighs parallel to the ground.
2. Alternate legs and go as fast as you can.

#### JUMP SQUATS

1. Stand with your feet together.
2. Lower into a squat and swing your arms back behind you, and then quickly jump up, swinging arms overhead.
3. Land into a squat position with your feet hip width apart, and swing your arms back again.
4. Repeat as quickly as you can, jumping in and out with your feet each time.

#### JUMPING JACKS

1. Start with your feet together and your arms at your side.
2. Open your legs and bring your arms up and out in one swift motion and then jump back to the start position and repeat.

#### MOUNTAIN CLIMBERS

1. Begin in the plank position with your right knee by your chest and your left leg extended.
2. Switch your bent leg and straight leg simultaneously as if you were running and repeat. 



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# Hair apparent

Do your tresses seem a little lacklustre, or are you noticing your hair falling out more rapidly than usual? There may be a simple explanation says VICTORIA LEE, and an equally simple solution

If it seems like you're having more than your fair share of bad hair days, it might be time to take a closer look. The state of your strands can give you insight into what's going on inside your body—from psychological issues to physical problems.

If you feel like your hair is going haywire here might be a few things to consider.

### **You're going through some stress**

It's normal to shed 80 to 100 hairs a day.

But if it looks like you're losing more than what's normal for you, it could be a sign of hair thinning, which is not permanent, brought on by psychological and physical stressors, like an illness, pregnancy, or a period of depression.

The thing is, this shift often isn't noticeable until three to six months after the event—so it can be tough to associate the cause with the hair loss.

**Panic not:** If a big stressor is behind your hair loss, it'll grow back on its own, though it can take another three to six months before it's back to normal.

In the meantime, focus on overall wellness: get seven and a half to eight hours of sleep a night and find stress-busting activities.

### **You're eating too much junk food**

If your hair looks lacklustre, dull, brittle, or is thinning, it may be time to rethink what's on your plate.

When it comes to healthy hair, your overall diet is critically important. If you're eating a highly-processed diet, any nutrients you do get are

shuttled to your body's crucial operations, like your heart and other organs.

Your hair won't turn brittle and dull after one burger, but over time, strands can suffer from lack of nutrients.

To prevent the issue altogether (or make up for past bad behaviour), try a diet heavy on whole, rather than processed foods, and full of colour—that's where fruits and veg come in. That will give your body—and hair—what you need to stay healthy.

### **You're not eating enough (of the right) fat**

If you've recently slashed fat from your diet in the hopes of losing weight, your hair may respond by becoming lacklustre and weak.

Not only does dietary fat contribute to the health of your hair, it also helps your body absorb key fat-soluble nutrients, like vitamin D, which has been associated with hair loss in women that don't get enough.

Luckily, you can eat your fat and be healthy, too—if you choose the right ones.

Focus on eating foods rich in omega-3 fatty acids and monounsaturated fats. Consider this your license to load your basket with satisfying goodies like oily fish, avocados, dark chocolate, and olive oil.

### **You have too much testosterone**

If you notice hair loss at the crown of your head and dark facial hair sprouting on your upper lip or thickening hair on your arms, see if your waistline also seems wider than usual.

Excess tummy fat stores testosterone, which in

turn stimulates hair follicles to perk up and take on the growth patterns usually seen in men.

What you can do: eat less sugar (we should only eat six teaspoons a day, but most of us are getting far more than that) and exercise regularly to help decrease tummy fat, one of testosterone's favourite hideouts, thus reducing its side effects.

### **You're not drinking enough water**

If your lacklustre locks are accompanied by hot flushes, night sweats or lack of energy, the common denominator is likely dehydration.

Dehydrated hair is brittle.

As for the heat, muscles that are dehydrated get hotter quicker.

Lots of organisations recommend getting 2.7 litres a day from beverages and water-rich foods.

Your skin, hair, and muscles will soak it up and you'll love how you look and feel, so try to increase your daily water intake one glass and one day at a time. 



Victoria Lee from Diverse Beauty  
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# Daddy dearest

Father's Day is on June 18 and if you need a little 'gift' inspiration here are a few suggestions to suit all pockets, and available on the high street



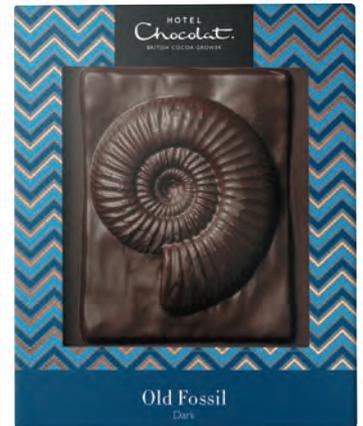
Cactus blue cap  
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Karlsson button gold alarm clock  
Paperchase £18

Your father, Jo. He never loses patience – never doubts or complains – but always hopes, and works and waits so cheerfully that one is ashamed to do otherwise before him.

Louisa May Alcott, *Little Women*



Old Fossil  
Hotelchocolat £7.50



Pocket square  
Riverisland £6



Simon Carter robot cufflinks  
John Lewis £35

It was times like these when I thought my father, who hated guns and had never been to any wars, was the bravest man who ever lived.

Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Never could I expect to be so truly beloved and important; so always first and always right in any man's eyes as I am in my father's."

Jane Austen, *Emma*



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Wilko £20



Rucksack  
Next £30



I Am Your Father Pyjama Set  
Sainsburys £14



Freedom T shirt  
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When I was a boy of 14,  
my father was so ignorant I could  
hardly stand to have the old man  
around. But when I got to be 21,  
I was astonished at how much  
he had learned in seven years.

Mark Twain



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**Weston £795,000**

*A delightful detached cottage with a beautiful outlook and generous gardens. The original part of the property offers two generous reception rooms with an inglenook fireplace. The fabulous snooker room doubles as an excellent family room. The attractive modern kitchen/breakfast room overlooks the garden and provides access to the parking area and garage. There is a master bedroom with en-suite bath and shower room, a guest bedroom with en-suite, two further bedrooms and a beautiful family bathroom. The property is approached via a gravel driveway with space for several cars to park in front of the detached garage. Weston is a delightful Hamlet close to the home of the Great British Bake Off, to the west of Newbury.*



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# TOP HATS

Former St Bart's pupil and top couture milliner Jane Corbett, is celebrating her 20th anniversary with a new online collection. She talks to ANGELA KNIGHT about her designs and her venture into sculpture

Jane Corbett is Berkshire's leading milliner, best known for designing many hats for HRH The Duchess of Cambridge and her mother Carole Middleton, including the elegant pale blue hat that Mrs Middleton wore with her outfit for the Royal Wedding.

It's now the season for racing, weddings and garden parties – a chance for stylish ladies to stand out from the crowd and complete their outfits with some elegant headwear for such formal and glamorous events.

Being a high-profile milliner, creating bespoke hats for celebrities and royalty, it is astonishing to discover that Jane doesn't actually own one of her designs. She has only two hats herself: one is a woolly hat for taking her dog for a walk and the other is a vintage 1940s black hat which she says is "simply beautiful".

Jane was born in Worcestershire and moved with her family to Newbury at the age of 12.

She says her formative years were spent in Newbury, where she went to St Bart's, which she really enjoyed. After school, she studied Fine Art at Newcastle and loved Northumberland so much she says: "I got stuck up north for years and years because it was so beautiful."

She might never have been a milliner had it

not been for seeing a tiny advert in the back of *Crafts* magazine which said 'couture millinery London'.

"I applied and when I walked into this lady's workshop it was literally a lightbulb moment when I saw all the wooden blocks you use to shape hats, and all the materials. I suddenly realised I had an absolute passion for it even though I had never even done it."

Jane never looked back, she was hooked from that moment.

There is certainly a lot involved in making a bespoke hat; if the colour of the hat is to match a particular dress the straw has to be hand-dyed, then steamed and shaped over wooden blocks.

It is stiffened, then taken off the wooden block where it is cut, wired and edged. Then a trim is added for decoration.

It is a really hands-on, time-consuming process to create a handmade creation which is why Jane's hats are unique and not mass-produced.

Jane trained for 18 months before moving on to working part-time at a couple of other milliners and then working full-time with John Boyd, an 'old guard milliner' in Knightsbridge where she learnt her craft like an old-fashioned apprentice and was very well trained.



Her designs combine these traditional techniques with a very personal creative style.

Jane found she missed Northumberland, so she went back and tried to sell couture hats in a rural area, which wasn't a key location.

"I also had a child so I made the decision to relocate nearer to my parents who were still in Berkshire, so they could see their grandchild ▶

“

*This season I have concentrated on some classic couture millinery touches, such as delicate handmade flowers and pleated ribbon details*

”

grow up and it turned out to be a good business decision for my hats."

She lives near Hungerford and says it's fun to be back because "I can be driving down a country lane and find a pub that I remember going to when I was 18. I feel I've come back to my roots."

To celebrate 20 years of millinery, Jane has launched a new online collection.

For the first time, clients have the opportunity to purchase Jane's beautiful hats online, which include seasonal ready-to-wear collections, exclusive couture designs and a selection of limited edition anniversary pieces, with a limited edition piece appearing each month.

The first choice was inspired by the rich damson felt worn by HRH The Duchess of Cambridge at Sandringham.

Jane says: "When it comes to design, this dramatic folded shape represents one of my key signature styles and it is one of the most popular requested pieces.

"I had no doubt that this needed to be the hat to launch the start of my anniversary year by adding a subtle twist to this timeless classic design."

The new collection is working so well she recently sent a hat to a customer in New York, and her global audience is growing.

"It's an exciting time for millinery fashion and I am absolutely delighted to be celebrating such a significant milestone this year."

Not only is Jane designing and making hats, she has recently decided to create sculptures, inspired by the minutiae of natural details.

"Both art and hats inform each other, so I am constantly juggling, and because the artwork I do is mixed media and sculpture, it is very similar as I am still working in 3D."

This year she is taking part in the Open Studios for the first time and she has recently had a solo art exhibition of her sculpture at the Mount House Gallery in Marlborough, which is connected to Marlborough College. She displayed 50 works and sold half of them.

Jane loved talking to the students, some of whom were given projects to do based on her work.

"I'm often asked if I sketch my hat designs on paper beforehand but I never ever do.

"I don't make sketches, but right from the start I'm always thinking and working 3-dimensionally. I have to handle it physically to manipulate the materials.

"It's unnecessary to make sketches, as 2D doesn't necessarily convert to 3D so I'm constantly handling and twisting the materials."

It's a personal way of working. Jane says she is inspired by materials and looking for unusual

silhouettes and graceful lines.

"A lot of my hats are quite unusual and personal to me.

"Although there's detail with flowers and beadwork on some of them, it's important to me that a hat is a beautiful sculpture, but is not so over the top that someone wearing it is not 'over hatted'.

"There is nothing more ludicrous than a fancy hat that completely overwhelms somebody.

"It all has to work together, it's not about making shocking catwalk statements. The hat has to be a beautiful shape and eminently wearable and although hats are my passion, for a person's special occasion it all has to work together and it's all about giving the wearer confidence and looking great.

"In fact, I could build the most extraordinary sculpture for people's heads, but that's not real life, it has to be wearable."

She is now well-known for her expert skills, clean design and exquisite attention to detail.

I asked Jane if she ever had a Plan B? She says that when she was doing her A-levels at St Bart's she knew that she wanted to do something creative and that it was impossible to have a career plan as creative people do lots of different things – there is never enough time to do it all.

Her son is now 14 and having to make career choices himself and Jane teases him saying that she still hasn't decided what to do when she grows up – even though she was 55 in May.

As the social season is about to get underway, what are the trends this year?

“

*I could build the most extraordinary sculpture for people's heads but that's not real life, it has to be wearable*

”

"This season I have concentrated on some classic couture millinery touches, such as delicate handmade flowers and pleated ribbon details.

"There is high drama, soft style and some splashes of playful colour, something for every woman and every occasion."

But Jane isn't overly worried about what's in fashion.

"I make my own collections and I will design to suit whatever my client needs, not just because it's fashionable.

"My clients know that they're not going to wear orange if it doesn't suit them.

"A Jane Corbett hat doesn't look like anyone else's, but there is a definite trend to have a large tilted hat perched on a smaller base."

She loves living in rural Berkshire, walking her dog, Lara, and belongs to a book group, adding that books and films are an essential part of her life.

If she eats out for a treat she loves going to the Wheatsheaf at Chilton Foliat, as it is run by "a very enthusiastic young couple and the food is heavenly".

Her favourite shop is the florist, Martin and the Magpie in Hungerford High Street.

Another surprising discovery is that Jane has never been to Ascot herself, even though many of her hats can be seen there among the crowds.

She has no time.

"I'm a pixie on a toadstool working six days a week – it's not a job, it's a way of life. I love all my different creative activities, my hats and my sculptures."

So, after concentrating hard on designing what people wear on their heads, she loves nothing more than putting her wellies on and stepping outside her backdoor into the countryside where there are "exquisite copses of bluebells, wild birds and lambs. It keeps me sane" and ensures her feet stay firmly on the ground.

To see Jane's hats visit [janecorbett.co.uk](http://janecorbett.co.uk) and her sculptures [janecorbettartist.co.uk](http://janecorbettartist.co.uk) 





# SALVO 2017

The Original Architectural Salvage Fair  
HENLEY 23 24 25 JUNE

SALVO, the original architectural salvage fair returns to the Henley estate of Sir William and Lady McAlpine on 23rd-25th June with a Green Living Fest. Zero waste chef Douglas McMaster, vintage fashion and ethical style-savvy stands will join the unique mix of reclaimed materials and antiques. Shop architectural, decorative, garden, midcentury and industrial pieces and discover Fawley Hill's renowned railway collection including full size steam trains.



Home to a restored Edwardian train station, a railway museum and an animal sanctuary for over 20 exotic species, the Salvo fair setting is fun for exploring 10 acres of stock from over 90 exhibitors. Only at Salvo can you stroll past 'Ironhenge', composed of columns salvaged from St. Pancras station, whilst browsing period bathrooms and decorative delights. Nowhere else will you find exhibitors from the likes of LAPADA with Mid 20th Century lighting and antique chandeliers to the finest stocks of bricks and genuine reclaimed interiors.

## GREEN LIVING FEST

Antiques and salvaged materials are usually appreciated for their connection with history, but this year Salvo is focusing on their relationship with the future and the environmental benefits of reuse. Salvo fair is the annual event of [salvo.co.uk](http://salvo.co.uk) the online marketplace and global dealer directory for reclaimed, antique and salvaged items. Founded in 1991 by Thornton Kay with the intent of expanding the underutilised treasure of architectural salvage, and reducing waste by matching someone who wants to get rid of something with someone who wants it. Not limiting itself to architectural and antiques dealers, this year's Green Living Fest incorporates other green entrepreneurs and will feature both ancient and modern eco-friendly products.

## FAIR FASHION

The fair fashion marquee will feature an exhibition showcasing the beauty of reuse with dresses made from waste materials and fabric created with discarded tailoring tools. Salvo's ambition is to increase awareness of sustainability and celebrate beloved pieces with vintage and eco-friendly craftspeople. Emily Griffin, the designer and maker behind homeware and accessories brand Mahala will have bags made with old British saddlery leather and military canvases, clogs made in England, vintage and handcrafted homewares. Other stands include Mary Jones Vintage who unearths rare fashion for gents and ladies. Shop vintage clothes, accessories, jewellery and hats including unique designs by Dior.

Charity partner, Smart Works will be representing their unique fashion reuse, both supporting women and reducing landfill. Smart Works is a UK charity that provides women who are out of work or on low incomes with a free styling session, interview outfit and interview coaching. They rely on donations and will be accepting good quality clothing, shoes and accessories at the fair. A Gala Preview Party will open the event with drinks and evening shopping on Friday 23rd June, with all ticket proceeds going to the charity.



## EAT PIRATE CHOCOLATE WITH SILO AT SALVO

Named Britain's best ethical restaurant, Silo is popping up at Salvo.

Pre-book chef Douglas McMaster's two-course lunch with your Weekend Ticket and sit back and relax in the restaurant styled by vintage furniture house Metroretro. Choose Carnivorous or Herbivorous Calzone, made from freshly milled heritage flour and taste transatlantic emission free organic Pirate Chocolate fondant... Sailed from the Dominican Republic using only the wind and a crew of badass sailors (pirates). Washed down with your choice of Old Tree drink like bubbly or vintage cider with botanical infusion.



## AT A GLANCE

Salvo Fair, Icehouse Lane,  
Henley on Thames, RG9 3AP  
Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 June 2017  
10:00am to 5:00pm

Smart Works Charity Gala Preview  
and late night shopping:  
Friday 23 June 2017  
5:00pm to 8:00pm

Book Weekend Tickets for a two-course  
Silo at Salvo lunch and the Friday evening  
Smart Works Charity Gala Preview at  
[www.salvofair.com](http://www.salvofair.com)

SALVO 2017

# Jane Austen's Kintbury

Kintbury-based author Gill Hornby is an authority on 18th-century novelist Jane Austen. Most recently her adaptation of *Pride & Prejudice*, in collaboration with composer Carl Davis, made its debut at the Newbury Spring Festival, with Hayley Mills narrating.

The concert will once again feature during a weekend of Austen-themed events in Kintbury at the end of June, to mark the bicentenary of Austen's death.

HELEN SHEEHAN and LISSA GIBBINS met up with Gill Hornby to discuss their mutual love of Jane Austen's works and, in particular, the regency author's Kintbury connection ▶



Pictures: Phil Cannings

*“If adventures will not befall a young lady in her own village, she must seek them abroad.”*

Northanger Abbey

As we arrived at the Old Vicarage in Kintbury on a sunny but cold spring morning to meet up with novelist, journalist and Jane Austen aficionado Gill Hornby, we were greeted not only by our hostess, but also by her two dogs who came bounding out, tails wagging.

Our meeting place was at her home for the very good reason that it is on the site of a house that Jane Austen often visited – a place that she held close in her affections.

As we followed Gill into the house, we couldn't help but notice a hall full of books, a quiet and contemplative space, elegant and high-ceilinged, yet unfussy and homely.

Coffee was apologetically instant and that was fine by us – we couldn't wait to hear what she had to say about our common heroine, Jane Austen.

An expert on Austen, Gill is excited about the many celebrations taking place across the country this year, the bicentenary of the celebrated author's death.



Gill Hornby with Helen Sheehan and Lissa Gibbins

Not least, she is keen to tell us all about *Pride and Prejudice in Music and Words*, a celebration of arguably Jane Austen's most famous novel, which Gill says “is neither a concert, nor a show; it can't really be defined as anything other than its title”.

She was asked to re-imagine the novel for narration, while composer Carl Davis adapted his celebrated score from the 1995 BBC series of *Pride and Prejudice* for piano and violin.

So Gill sat down with *Pride and Prejudice*, unpicked it and put it back together for one actress – Hayley Mills is the narrator. She was accompanied by violinist Matthew Trussler and

*This was a reminder - if ever we needed it - that Austen is one of the world's greatest writers and *Pride and Prejudice* her masterpiece. Gill Hornby has produced a sharp, clear, clever adaptation of the novel, retaining all the author's wit and forensic social observation while moving the plot forward in a series of word and sound pictures.*

Lin Wilkinson, NWN, May 11

pianist Ashley Wass, making up an evening of equally-balanced music and words.

Their debut performance was at Newbury Spring Festival on May 7 in Kintbury church.

Instantly a sell-out, the good news is that there is a whole weekend at the end of June devoted to Jane Austen's connection to the lovely village of Kintbury, and another chance to see *Pride and Prejudice in Music and Words*, with Hayley Mills, Matthew Trussler and Ashley Wass, again at Kintbury church, on June 24 at 7.30pm.

In fact, the whole weekend is dedicated to events on an Austen theme, and talks from Jane Austen experts. The weekend also includes tea in the Old Vicarage's beautiful garden on Sunday afternoon, looking over exactly the same countryside views that Jane Austen gazed at just over 200 years ago.

#### **What exactly is Jane Austen's connection to Kintbury, and particularly to the church and the Old Vicarage?**

GH: The actual house that Jane Austen visited was pulled down and this house, the Old Vicarage, was built on its foundations (the cellar remains the same). The garden and outbuildings are unchanged from when she was a guest here.

Three generations of the Fowle family were the vicars here from 1741-1840.



The second Reverend Fowle, Thomas, was at Oxford with George Austen, Jane Austen's father, and they became best friends.

George Austen then went to Steventon, in Hampshire, to be the parson and Thomas inherited this house when he took over from his father as vicar of Kintbury.

Thomas Fowle had four boys and George Austen had eight children: Jane, her beloved sister Cassandra and six brothers.

To supplement his income as a country parson, George Austen opened a school in his house, taking in pupils and tutoring them for Oxford, and the four Fowle boys attended it.



St Mary's Church, Kintbury

Off they trotted from Kintbury to Steventon in their horse and cart to be educated and would have come home probably just twice a year. And so the second generation of Austens and Fowles forged their own lifelong friendships.

The eldest son, Fulwar (pronounced Fuller) Craven Fowle, became the next vicar, and was James Austen's best friend (Jane's eldest brother).

The next brother down from him, Thomas Fowle, became engaged to Cassandra, Jane's sister. That was, for the two families, the most perfect union.

However, Thomas Fowle needed money to marry Cassandra and so he went to the East Indies with a military expedition as chaplain to his cousin, General Lord Craven, who lived at Hamstead Marshall.

As Fulwar was the eldest son, he was inheriting Kintbury, so Thomas hoped that he would, having engendered Lord Craven's goodwill and money, be given a nice parish on his return.

Sadly, this was not to be; he died abroad of yellow fever. Thus, Cassandra never married, but she always remained good friends with the Fowle family.

#### **What happened to the sisters, Jane and Cassandra, after the tragic death of Cassandra's fiancé?**

GH: Jane's life changed at the moment of Thomas' death. If Cassandra had married, Jane would have had no choice but to marry too. In those days, there were very few options left to unmarried women. It would have been almost impossible for Jane to have supported herself.

It was all about safety in numbers for single women. They had to form into what ►



historians now call “spinster clusters” – little gangs of companions, cousins, sisters and best friends. With their meagre resources pooled together they would have been able to buy a house and live a reasonable life.

Because Cassandra didn't marry, Jane didn't have to. They had a rich brother who eventually gave them a cottage in Chawton, Hampshire. Jane and Cassandra lived there with Jane's best friend, Martha Lloyd (the sister of Eliza Fowle, the vicar's wife in *Kintbury*) and Jane's mother, who sat on the sofa, old and toothless.

By all accounts, they lived together in complete happiness. Cassandra and Martha ran the house. It was Jane's job to make breakfast, after which she sat at her little table and wrote. She was at Chawton from 1808 until 1817, when she died, and in that time she had five novels published.

**Jane Austen's fame was posthumous. Can you explain why?**

GH: Actually, Jane Austen's novels were growing in popularity while she was still alive. Her books were quite famous, even reviewed by the celebrated author Sir Walter Scott. *Pride and Prejudice* and *Emma* were especially well-known.



The reason that she herself was not widely known is that she published her books anonymously, simply 'By a lady'.

The fly in the ointment came when one of her brothers, Henry, a banker and the most worldly of the Austen boys, gave her secret away.

Dazzled by celebrity, he just couldn't resist bragging to people about his talented sister.

The secret trickled down until it reached the ears of the physician to the Prince of Wales, hence the reason that Jane had to dedicate *Emma* to the Prince of Wales.

Jane really did closely guard her secret identity. Even her nieces and nephews, and fellow villagers had no idea. Rather charmingly, Jane,

as an act of good will, read *Pride and Prejudice* to an elderly blind neighbour, Miss Mary Benn, who had no idea that author and narrator were one and the same.

**Jane was very young when she died. Can you tell us what happened?**

GH: She died in Winchester, which is where Cassandra had taken her to be treated by a celebrated doctor.

It is believed that she probably had Addison's Disease, which affects the kidneys. She died in her sister's arms, at just 41 years of age, on July 18, 1817.

The rest of her family lived long lives; two brothers continued well into their 90s.

She was laid to rest in Winchester Cathedral.

In the summer of 1816, the year before Jane died, the sisters went to Cheltenham to take the waters, and, as they always did en route to Bath or Cheltenham, they stopped in Kintbury to visit the Fowles.

One of the daughters of the house, Mary-Jane, remembers that Jane wandered around looking at everything in a very particular way, as if she knew that she would not see these treasured things again. That was the last time she was there.

However, Cassandra kept visiting her dear

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friends, the Fowles, until 1840.

### Is there any more evidence of the Austens' connections to Kintbury?

GH: Significant connections appear in the respective family trees.

Eliza Fowle, the vicar's wife at Kintbury, grew up at Enborne Rectory, in the next village along from Kintbury, with her two sisters, Mary and Martha.

Mary married James Austen, Jane's eldest brother. Martha lived with the Austen girls in the cottage in Chawton, and eventually married Francis Austen, another of Jane's brothers.

Letters exist, from the Austens to the Fowles,



Painting shows the original vicarage that Jane Austen would have visited. It was pulled down in 1859 and replaced in 1860 with the Old Vicarage

mentioning the exchange of apples from Kintbury with fish from Southampton, where the Austens lived for a short time.

Throughout Jane Austen's novels there is evidence of her drawing upon local names as inspiration for her characters and places.

For example, Mr. Wickham is spelt just like the nearby village. Barton Cottage, in *Sense and Sensibility*, where the Dashwood girls live, echoes in name the Kintbury houses of Barton Holt and Barton Court.

The mad woman who once lived in Barton Court is thought to have been the inspiration behind Lady Susan in Jane Austen's novella of the same name and upon which the recent film *Love and Friendship* is based.

### Could you tell us a little bit more about Jane and Cassandra's relationship?

GH: Jane and Cassandra had a deep, loving and supportive relationship.

Cassandra was central to Jane's ability to write; she gave her the time and the space in which to flourish, and she had enormous faith in Jane's literary prowess and the lasting legacy of her novels. I think they were very happy together at Chawton.

Had Jane married and not lived a simple life with Cassandra, she would have very possibly

died in childbirth or certainly been so busy running a house that there would have been no time, nor the social approval, for her to have written a single word.

I think there is much evidence in Jane Austen's novels that she is more interested in female relationships than in romantic ones, and her life among her fellow female companions would have certainly been the inspiration for this writing.

Think of the Dashwood sisters or the Bennets, even Emma's friendship with Harriet Smith.

### Did Jane ever come close to marrying?

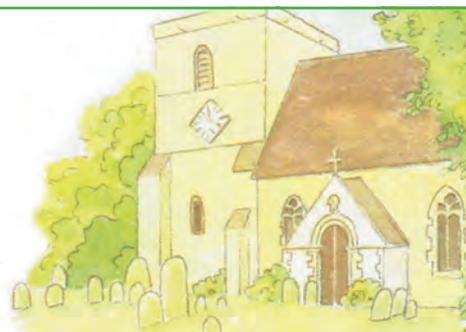
GH: Cassandra had a massive bonfire in which she burned many letters, before she died, choosing to keep only the ones that had no real significance in an attempt to protect Jane's privacy and preserve her dignity from an increasingly interested public.

I think she would have burnt any letters she felt were too sensitive. There is one letter that reveals that Jane had a brief flirtation, aged 17, and it is also known that she enjoyed a short-lived engagement in her 20s.

Cassandra would only have kept this letter detailing the flirtation if she thought it of no significance. So my answer is no, I don't think that Jane ever came close to marrying. ➤



# Jane Austen The Kintbury Connection



## Saturday 24th June 2017

10:30am - Book talks with Jane Austen experts

Paula Byrne and Helena Kelly

Tickets £8.50 - from Hungerford Bookshop

3:00 - 5:30pm - A traditional afternoon tea at Audley Inglewood

With a demonstration performance by the Devizes Regency dancers

Tickets £18.50 from Audley Inglewood

booking essential - please call (01488) 687010

7:30pm - *Pride and Prejudice*

St. Mary's Church Kintbury an adaptation of Jane Austen's novel by Gill Hornby. Narrated by Hayley Mills, accompanied by Carl Davis' celebrated score from the BBC's 1995 adaptation

Tickets £15.00 at the Corner Stores, Kintbury

Or from Valerie Prout:

Telephone 01488 658916

Email [v.a.prout@btinternet.com](mailto:v.a.prout@btinternet.com)

## Sunday 25th June 2017

10.30am - Regency themed church service at Kintbury St. Mary's Church. Admission free, all welcome

2.00pm - St. Mary's Church, Kintbury

"Our Friend, Jane Austen"

A dramatic monologue exploring Jane's friendship with a local Kintbury family, by Ellen Lock Ireland

2.40pm - St. Mary's Church, Kintbury

"Kintbury: local people in the letters of Jane Austen". A talk about the local dignitaries mentioned in Jane's letters, by local historian Penny Fletcher

3.20pm - "Jane's Kintbury Walk"

A guided walk starting at the Church, around the village that Jane Austen knew well

2.30pm - 5.30pm - Teas in the Old Vicarage Garden

Enjoy a traditional English tea in the beautiful Old Vicarage garden on the banks of the Kennet and Avon

Admission on entry

[www.janeaustenatkintbury.co.uk](http://www.janeaustenatkintbury.co.uk) for more information

Email: [apples@janeaustenatkintbury.co.uk](mailto:apples@janeaustenatkintbury.co.uk)

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### When did you discover Jane Austen?

GH: Jane Austen has always been one of my favourite novelists.

Fifteen years ago, Short Books, a publishing house, were doing a series of non-fiction books for children and asked me to write about Jane Austen and my fascination with her life took off.

### Tell us about the process of adapting *Pride and Prejudice* in this recent project.

It was great fun working with Carl Davis. He is an extraordinary genius.

I feel that I have kept the humour and wit of *Pride and Prejudice* in the adaptation, and the plot is all there. Picking it apart and putting it back together again was fascinating.

*Pride and Prejudice* really is a masterclass in narrative.

### There are other Jane Austen experts speaking at the Kintbury Connection weekend. What can visitors expect?

GH: On Saturday morning two great authors, Paula Byrne and Helena Kelly, are going to tell us about their work on Jane Austen.

Paula is a renowned Jane Austen expert with several successful publications on the subject to her name.

Helena's book, *Jane Austen, the Secret Radical*, is particularly interesting for me. It re-examines her novels and redefines them as novels which, contrary to popular understanding, explore the social and political commentary therein.

For example, she highlights the social mobility in *Pride and Prejudice*, the slave trade in *Mansfield Park* and the blatant gender inequality of property rights in *Emma*.

### We have to ask; what is your favourite Jane Austen novel?

GH: *Persuasion*, because, as I have got older, I appreciate Anne Elliot as a more mature heroine with an intelligence and a depth of emotion that is not so evident in Jane Austen's younger heroines in her earlier novels.

*Persuasion* contains a real sense of jeopardy for its protagonists; it is a much more serious work.

When I was younger, it was undoubtedly *Pride and Prejudice*.

### Finally, Mr Knightley or Mr Darcy?

GH: Mr Knightley all the way! 



Gill Hornby

For further details on The Kintbury Connection visit: [www.janeaustenatkintbury.co.uk](http://www.janeaustenatkintbury.co.uk)

## Austenmania

There are many events taking place all over the country to mark the bicentenary of Jane Austen's death and below are just a few of the local ones. For a comprehensive list, visit [janeausten200.co.uk](http://janeausten200.co.uk)

### *Jane Austen tour with coffee and cake* Winchester Cathedral

First Saturday of the month, through to November  
10am to 12noon

Standing beside the grave of Jane Austen and reflecting on the life of this great author is a moving experience.

This tour by specialist cathedral guides includes insights into Jane's life and connections within Hampshire, a walk through the Cathedral Close to the house on College Street, where she died, and time at her grave.

The guide will join the group in The Refectory after the tour. The ticket includes tea or coffee and a slice of cake.

[www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/200th-anniversary-jane-austens-death](http://www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/200th-anniversary-jane-austens-death)

### *The Mysterious Miss Austen*, Winchester Discovery Centre

To the end of July

Presented in partnership with Jane Austen's House Museum, this landmark exhibition will explore the intriguing question – who is Jane Austen?

The exhibition will look at the author's work, life and relationship to Hampshire, the county that provided inspiration for her novels.

The centrepiece of *The Mysterious Miss Austen* will be six portraits of Jane together under one roof for the first time, including one

from a private collection which has not been seen in public for more than 40 years.

Of the handful of items that survive today which actually belonged to Jane and can be traced directly back to her, on show will be her silk pelisse coat and purse.

Other treasures include the manuscript of an alternative ending to *Persuasion* in her own hand, while Grayson Perry's Jane Austen in E17 ceramic is evidence of her lasting legacy and influence on the arts.

[www.hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk/the-gallery-at-winchester-discovery-centre](http://www.hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk/the-gallery-at-winchester-discovery-centre)

### *Persuasion*

The Chesil Theatre, Chesil Street,  
Winchester  
July 15 to 22  
7.45pm

Jane Austen's last novel has been skilfully adapted to portray the lost loves of both the author and her heroine, Anne Elliot.

We meet Jane in her last days as she transmutes her own ill-fated love affair into a bittersweet tale of loneliness and longing, set against a background of scenes the author knew well: country houses, Bath in the season and the coastal town of Lyme Regis.

[www.chesiltheatre.org.uk](http://www.chesiltheatre.org.uk)

### *Regency week*

June 18-23

Chawton House Library will be putting on

daily events, to include meet the shire horses, a garden tour, embroidery workshops and lectures.

[www.chawtonhouselibrary.org](http://www.chawtonhouselibrary.org)

### *Discover the Jane Austen Collection*

June 18-23

Alton Library  
Vicarage Hill, Alton

Alton Library is home to the Hampshire Libraries special Jane Austen collection, featuring editions dating back to the 1900s. As part of Alton's Regency week programme, Alton Library is holding a drop in 2-4pm with local historian Jane Hurst, where you can discover the amazing items held in this unique collection.

### *Pride and Prejudice*

Shaw House

June 30

Gates open at 6pm, performance 7.30pm

Newbury's amateur theatre group New Era Players presents *Pride and Prejudice*, adapted by Paula K Parker. If you haven't read the book, now is your chance to see it performed in the beautiful setting on the lawns at Shaw House. This sparkling adaptation pits the opinionated Lizzy Bennet in a fencing match of words against the wealthy, taciturn Mr Darcy. Reputations, family fortunes and (of course) hearts are at stake.

[neweraplayers.org](http://neweraplayers.org)



# Swanning around

HILARY SCOTT follows in the footsteps of travellers through the ages and calls in at The Swan Inn, Newtown

## People have been dropping in to The Swan Inn at Newtown for centuries.

Since mediaeval times, thirsty and hungry travellers have been given a warm welcome.

And the nod to its illustrious past is evident all through this charming inn these days – from Edwardian and Victorian pictures on the wall, which show its heyday as a coaching inn, to gentle scenes of Newbury and the inn's association with the racecourse.

But there's nothing old-fashioned about its food and drinks in 2017 – they are bang up-to-date.

The Swan Inn was taken over in January by genial business partners Mike Evans and Karen Baskett, who have worked in the hospitality industry for more than 30 years.

Sammy M, their chef, worked in the kitchen before, but all the rest of the very well-trained staff are new and eager to implement Mike and Karen's ethos of a family-friendly pub.

Says Karen: "We want to create a great family pub with good food and a good atmosphere."

And in such a short time it seems they have done it.

Both are keen to stress they are still working

on it, but the doors are open and that warm welcome is still key.

Outside and inside, traditional muted colours of pale greys and greens look fresh and inviting and the bar still has its ancient beams.

The food has had a lot of attention.

There's an extensive restaurant menu with a specials menu too, and bar snacks include sausage rolls, honey and mustard-glazed chipolatas and sandwiches.

Children can have fish goujons, spaghetti and more, as well as a little rib eye steak so as not to feel left out.

We loved the Pimp Your Prosecco menu – great for girlies and ladies who lunch.

We could imagine clinking our Purple Sparkles together – Prosecco, sloe gin and lemon – or getting giddy over a Lemon Sherbet, prosecco with lemon and lime juice, or a Twinkle, prosecco and elderflower, and much more. Prices range from £5-£9.50 so there's something for every budget.

We settled down at a table by the window overlooking the garden on a Sunday and the pub was pretty packed.

One of us went totally traditional with a classic prawn cocktail, £7.25, and the roast beef, £12.95.

The prawn cocktail was fine, but did not reach the heights of the garlic king prawns, £9.25, my companion had. These were swimming in a rich buttery sauce with a side of tangy home-

made tartare sauce and some hunks of bread.

The prawn cocktail was filling, though, and a generous portion with heaps of shredded lettuce and a good sprinkling of paprika over the top-notch Marie Rose sauce.

The roast beef – on Sundays you can have beef, lamb, pork or chicken – was cooked beautifully.

The large slabs filled my plate end-to-end and only their height showed there was something else on the plate. And under this mound of delightfully pink in the middle with a slight char on the ends beef were perfectly cooked carrots, a rich squash purée and some red cabbage which sang with spices.

The roasties were nestling under too and were excellent and the Yorkshire pudding – sitting proud atop the meat – held its crunch until I had eaten as much as I could of this generous plate.

My companion had a Brie and Beetroot tart with salad and skinny fries, £11.50.

An obviously crunchy home-made shortcrust base held oozing Brie with a beetroot chutney in the middle. The top was on the good side of crusty too and the side salad had been given thought – cos lettuce, rocket, tomatoes and cucumber in a light dressing.

For dessert and just to help the review (of course) we had an assortment – a vanilla crème brûlée, £5.95, which arrived at the table flaming, sticky toffee pudding, £6.50, a lemon tart with crème Anglaise, £6.25, a brownie with chocolate sauce, £6.50, and two sorbets, three



Prawn cocktail



Garlic king prawns





Roast beef



Brie and beetroot tart

scoops £4.95. You can also get a tasting plate with three desserts for £8.25.

The brulée was fantastic, the creamy filling and crunchy top ticking the brulée taste test. The sauce with the brownie was lip-smackingly good – it looked as though it was both milk and dark chocolate and it was so glossy you could almost see your greedy little face in it.

The sticky toffee pudding was light and honeyed and superb. The lemon tart was as smooth as silk and the sorbets – mango and raspberry – gave us some welcome fruitiness to offset the richness of the rest.

Like Edwardian ladies of days gone by, we thought: “A good constitutional round the garden will help,” as we groaned away from the table.

The garden is another of The Swan Inn’s delights – festooned with fairy lights and with plenty of outdoor seating, this is a winner when the weather permits. The trickle of a stream running through it would be refreshing on a sultry day.

We chatted to Mike and Karen in the cosy bar over coffee before we left and we looked at a lovely little thank you note sent from a young customer. It proved how well-loved The Swan Inn is – and how perfect for families.

Karen explains that they are having fun coming up with the summer menus – Coronation chicken salad for example – and listening to what their customers want.

There’s no doubt they are helping the Swan remember its heritage while crafting a new reputation.

We will be back to keep following this exciting journey. 



Sticky toffee pudding



Crème brûlée



**THE SWAN INN**

The Swan Inn, Newtown, Newbury RG20 9BH  
01635 40313 [www.swannewbury.co.uk](http://www.swannewbury.co.uk)

Pictures: Dijana Capan



Sorbets



Lemon tart



Brownie and chocolate sauce



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# toptipples

by *James Allen*



## JAMES ALLEN has bottled together some corking ideas for Father's Day

The special day in June is Sunday 18th – Father's Day – and what better gift than something interesting to drink? I have a magnum (150cl) of excellent wine to suggest – magnums always look so special. Then I have a super Armagnac, a top Spanish red and some extremely tasty beers. Any, or all, of these would be well received on the day.

### Château Gigault Cuvée Viva Claret Magnum 2010

A magnum of "impressively opulent wine" (Robert Parker) from the exceptional 2010 vintage.

Across the river from famous Margaux commune in Bordeaux, lies the Premières Côtes de Blaye.

With Stéphane Deroncourt as winemaker, this terrific estate is ensuring the region's wines get the recognition they deserve.

Cuvée Viva is a rich, world class, modern claret. America's leading critic Robert Parker, always scores the wine highly, describing it as "consistently one of my picks as an overachieving wine". And he described this particular vintage as "an impressively opulent wine – complex, deep, flashy".

Hand-picked, low-yield Merlot aged in new oak, this is a deeply flavoured, well structured claret, velvety smooth, too. A top pick with roast lamb. Alcohol: 13%. Drink by: December 2025.

£40 per magnum from Laithwaites, Theale (limited stock)



### Tariquet Armagnac, Le Legendaire

Although both Cognac and Armagnac are made by distilling the thin wine made from the same local grapes, and, incidentally, in the same part of France (Gascony), Armagnac has, typically, a fuller more complex flavour than Cognac due to differences in distillation and maturation processes.

This is one of Tariquet's finest Armagnacs, aged for at least 13 years in oak barrels in Tariquet's cellars.

Pale gold in colour with aromas of apple pie and orange flower. Further hints of toffee lead to a smooth palate with light caramel and liquorice notes, roasted fruits and fine spices such as nutmeg and cinnamon.

Enjoy at room temperature or lightly chilled with luxury desserts.

£55 from Majestic, Newbury



### Manly Red

The Spanish cult star of the year, the Milcampos Tempranillo from Ribera del Duero (top wine producing area).

Juicy, brooding dark fruits and multi-layered flavours, silky-smooth but turbo-charged. Sure to put a smile on dad's face

£18.99 from The Naked Grape, Hungerford



### Puligny Montrachet Premier Cru

This a top-notch white burgundy from a top-notch producer. Superb wine. Terrific for Father's Day.

A perfumed and buttery nose of fresh stone fruit, racy citrus fruits and soft vanillin. A rich and creamy palate of full-bodied fruit and toasty oak, a rounded finish of toasty oak and vibrant acidity.

£39.95 from Majestic, Newbury



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£10.00 from the Naked Grape, Hungerford



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# A taste of Japan

**SIMON RHODES** is a great fan of Sushi and Sashimi, seafood-based staples of Japanese cuisine

## *Sushi and Sashimi*

As the summer is approaching and, with a bit of luck, the weather turns warmer, our eating habits change to something a little lighter like salads and cold dishes.

Seafood becomes a lot more popular in the summer months, maybe as people get in the holiday mood and reminisce about sitting in the sun near the beach eating wonderfully fresh shellfish and seafood accompanied by a cool glass of wine or a cold beer.

I think that due to our long winters we appreciate this situation far more than we care to realise.

Talking of lighter meals another dish that works well during the summer is the Japanese cuisine of sushi and sashimi.

Many people confuse the two styles as the same but they are completely different dishes.

Sushi refers to any dish made with vinegared rice. While raw fish is one traditional sushi ingredient, many sushi dishes contain seafood that has been cooked, and others have no seafood at all.

Sashimi is the preparation of raw fresh fish and served with accompaniments such as pickles and miso soup.

Sashimi is often the first course in a formal Japanese meal, but it can also be the main course, presented with rice and miso soup in separate bowls.

Japanese chefs consider sashimi the finest dish in Japanese formal dining and recommend that it be eaten before other strong flavours affect the palate.

Sashimi is usually served with soy sauce, wasabi and fresh pickled ginger, although I also like sushi with soy and pickled ginger. Careful on the wasabi though, too much can

make your eyes water like hot horseradish.

Sushi and sashimi are great fun to prepare and the taste, once you are used to it, is indescribably fresh. Only the freshest of fish such as tuna, bass, mackerel and salmon will do.

*But first you have to make Japanese sushi rice and I have a fail-safe method to get you started:*

First put 500g of rice in a bowl (it is important to use proper sushi rice). This needs to be washed about five times. The cloudy water should run white.

Then place the rice in a saucepan and add about 110 per cent water to the volume of rice. Bring it to the boil, cover and let it simmer for 17 minutes.

Remove from the heat and then let it stand for a further 17 minutes.

Remove the rice from the pan and spread it onto a tray. When the rice is about 50C add a sprinkling of sushi vinegar and salt to the rice and stir it in.

You should now have fluffy but slightly sticky rice.

To make your sushi rolls spread the rice on a piece of seaweed, accompany with some raw tuna or salmon, sliced cucumber and spring onion and roll it together.

With a sharp knife slice the sushi into interesting shapes. This takes a bit of practice but once you get the hang of it it is great fun.

I have to admit that when I first tried it I was a little unsure of the taste, however now that I am accustomed to the flavours it is one of my favourite cuisines. 



## About the author

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Telephone: (01488) 686770



# To everything there is a season...



The Crown and Garter at Inkpen offers a menu of ever-changing delights, says ROMILLA ARBER, whose team of chefs make sure that what's on offer reflects the time of year



**A**t the time of writing, winter is definitely over and we have survived the late chills that came through at the end of April, reminding us that summer is often just a fragile promise in late spring.

Early summer's approach is, however, always a heartening time of year, especially when one cooks to the seasons.

The chefs in the Crown and Garter have had their fill of cabbage and leeks, as I am sure have the customers, and we can now all look forward to some dishes that make the most of all that is abundant in the beautiful British Isles during the spring and summer months.

Britain rarely disappoints in this regard. From the early wild garlic, rhubarb and asparagus that has already featured on our menu to the sea trout and new-season lamb, there is much to get the taste buds going.

It is always with some excitement that the first strawberries go on the menu.

I meet with the chefs at the restaurant every two weeks to discuss menu changes. We try to change three or four things every month and in this respect we are unusual for a small restaurant.

Most establishments tend to keep the same menu largely unchanged for each season. Changing the menu is essential at the Crown and Garter because we do only use seasonal produce.

We also appreciate that many of our customers are regulars and so it is pleasing for them to experience a variation to the menu. It does, however, put pressure on the kitchen to keep thinking ahead, but it is a challenge that the chefs, on the whole, relish.

We have five chefs in our kitchen and our apprentice Trevor Sheldon who helps out there and also in the bakery. It is a rewarding part of the business for me to see someone like him developing and learning new skills.

Talking of chefs, we are very pleased to be able to welcome back Matthew Ambrose, who was our head chef when we first opened. He is a talent in the kitchen and is helping to develop the wholesale range for our shops.

The Crown and Garter has been open for nearly three years and it has been a rollercoaster of experiences for everyone involved.

It is always a challenge opening something new and although the pub had stood for many years, we were trying to do something a little different there while keeping the essence of a country pub.

It is an idyllic setting, especially in the spring when the lambs are in the field. The garden really is a relaxing and pretty place in which to sit and socialise.

This year we are hoping to make more of our BBQ, and Alex Zompetti our manager is going to be preparing some really lovely meals for our customers outside.

The first BBQ night sold out very quickly. Alex has a grand reputation for outdoor cooking, so do come along and try one evening.

This year the Crown and Garter will once again be hosting the Walbury Hill Climb. Local cycling enthusiasts are being encouraged to enter this year. You don't have to be a member of a cycle club so if you fancy yourself as the next Bradley Wiggins do give it a go.

The farmers this year have very kindly offered us the field at the back of the garden to

alleviate traffic problems. We will be serving lunch and refreshments to all takers and there will be some stalls showcasing local small producers. It should be a fun event so do come along.

If you want more details please do email on: [info@honestygroup.co.uk](mailto:info@honestygroup.co.uk)





# Recipe

## SOLE & PRAWN MORNAY

### SOLE & PRAWN:

Serves 6  
 6 lemon sole fillets  
 100ml white wine  
 2 lemon quarters  
 A small sprig of parsley  
 200g cooked prawns  
 Sea salt  
 Freshly ground black pepper

### MORNAY SAUCE:

250ml milk  
 1 bay leaf  
 25g butter  
 25g flour  
 50ml double cream  
 1 tsp Dijon mustard  
 50g Gruyère cheese, grated  
 Sea salt  
 Freshly ground black pepper

### TO MAKE THE SAUCE:

- Heat the milk in a small saucepan with the bay leaf, until it is just simmering. Place to one side for five minutes.
- Meanwhile, melt the butter in another pan, then add the flour and stir to incorporate. Remove the saucepan from the heat and gradually stir in the warm milk. Return the pan to the heat and bring to a simmer for 5 minutes. Add the cream, mustard and cheese and stir. Check the seasoning, then remove from the heat.

### TO COOK THE SOLE:

- Preheat the oven to 180°C/Gas 4. Place the sole fillets in an ovenproof dish and pour on the wine. Place the lemon quarters and parsley sprig on top of the fish and season with salt and pepper. Cover the fish fillets with a piece of baking parchment and bake for 10 minutes. Heat the grill.
- Remove the dish from the oven and add the prawns. Spoon the sauce over the top and place the dish under a hot grill for a few minutes just prior to serving.



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# Perfect picnics

June is the month to get out and about and to pack a picnic. HILARY SCOTT susses out some favourite picnic locations, what to make and some handy accessories to take



## Donnington Castle, Newbury

Just a mile north of Newbury, the castle is enchanting for children and, as one reviewer noted, should come with a *Game of Thrones* theme tune.

The twin-towered gatehouse of the 14th-century castle was built by Sir Richard Abberbury, whose private quarters lay within it. Both Henry VIII and Elizabeth I are thought to have stayed here.

The defences built during the civil war still survive and though there are steep slopes, it's a lovely picnic spot.

Entry is free, there's a car park attached and dogs on leads are welcome.



Victoria Park

River Kennet and Kennet Canal links and cycle paths.

Access to both parks is via Northcroft Lane, accessible by car, bike or on foot and it's just a five-minute walk from Newbury town centre, and 15 minutes from the train station.

Both parks are Green Flag award-winners and if your sandwiches get squashed, Northcroft Leisure Centre has Café Vita for alternative refreshments.

Victoria Park has plenty to entertain the family with the newly-refurbished tennis courts, the children's splash area and skateboard park.

## Greenham Common

So many of us just think of it as a protest site – in fact it should be known for its vast size. Greenham Common is one thousand acres of land in total.

While it used to house Cruise missiles, it is now a wildlife haven and a great spot for walking and a picnic. Mostly heathland with gorse and heather, there are stunning views to Watership Down and the North Wessex Downs.

People have lived around Greenham Common for more than 10,000 years, so the area is packed with history.

And you will not be the first to picnic – the Edwardians in the area loved to take granny in her bathchair and a tablecloth for a real family day out.



The main control tower car park (RG19 8DB, SU 499 651) opens at 8am, subject to seasonal closing times – please check noticeboards on your arrival.

Picture courtesy of: [www.greenham-common.org.uk](http://www.greenham-common.org.uk)





### White Horse Hill, Uffington

A climb is rewarded with breathtaking views of six counties at this, the highest point in Oxfordshire, and, of course, the famous Bronze Age horse.

No one knows why the horse was built, but it is a magnificent sight.

Again, it is a National Trust owned area. For thousands of years, man has come here – evidence dates back to Neolithic times, at Waylands Smithy long barrow, then the Bronze Age white horse and the Iron Age hill fort. From Roman times to today, it has been cultivated and grazed.

Fly a kite or go hill rolling then enjoy your picnic

### Caversham Court Gardens, Reading

A unique, fairly formal space but well worth a visit and, because it is on the banks of the Thames in Reading, it is a superb place to picnic.

Caversham Court Gardens, a multi-award winning site, is of national importance and listed in the English Heritage *Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of special historic interest in England*.



Go in June for nepeta – flowering under the yew hedge on the long walk – roses, grape vines and acanthus, as well as the flowering Japanese pagoda tree. And go in July to see the wondrous lavender bank.

There's also a tea kiosk open from 11 am-6pm in June, July and August (other times from March to October) which is run by five local charities and organisations: The League of Friends, Sue Ryder/Duchess of Kent, The Ways and Means Trust, The Women's Institute and Compass Opportunities and all profits go to them.

No parking and limited parking nearby – park in one of Caversham's paid-for car parks.

### Basildon Park, Basildon

This gorgeous Palladian mansion was also used in *Downton Abbey* – but as it is a National Trust Property you will pay to enter, although admission gets you into the house too. Adults are £12.70, children £6.80, but you can pay a slightly higher Gift Aid price.

The gardens are worth the price alone. There are gravel paths round them as well as woodland trails.

This could be the cheat's picnic place because you can prebook a picnic 48 hours before you arrive. Choose from a range of items including sandwiches, Victoria sponge cake, cheese straws, wine and even picnic blankets, There's an impressive 1950s kitchen to visit and on Fridays you can take an accompanied wildlife walk around the parkland, leaving from the ticket office at 11am. ➤





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## Easy picnics

- Sandwiches – make fillings that won't make your sarnies go too soggy like cheese, ham, roast beef. Take salad, mayo, pickle, mustards etc in little jars. Egg mayo always seems like a great picnic classic filling, but a few hours after making them you'll be lucky to pick them out of their box without them falling apart.
- Finger foods - crudité's with hummus, pies, chicken drumsticks, falafels and, always, a sausage roll.
- Mason jars packed with salads keep them fresh as long as you add any dressings just before you eat.
- Sweet treats - fruit salad, traybakes and loaves.
- Drinks – take fizzy water and mix with fresh fruit concentrates. If you prefer adult fizz like Cava or Prosecco, pop a few strawberries in a container and add for a glitzy picnic drink. You can freeze bottles of soft drinks which will keep your picnic cool and should be ready to drink after a few hours. And muffin baking tins used as trays are a great way to park your drink on the grass without spills.
- And don't forget the wet wipes!

## Food bites

### Picnic paraphernalia

A great website for picnic gear is [www.picnicshop.co.uk](http://www.picnicshop.co.uk)

From lovely Orla Kiely melamine jugs, tumblers and trays to hampers and cool bags, you will find something to jazz up your picnic.

### Cheers for beer



Beer is a must for summer-day picnics and Tesco has increased its craft beer range to more than 70 beers in stores throughout the country.

Reflecting the growing trend for craft beer in pubs and bars across the country, Tesco will become the first major retailer to stock the craft drinkers' favourite tippie – sour beer.

Sour beers are intentionally acidic and tart, and are most commonly seen in Belgium. Despite the name, sours are refreshing and a perfect accompaniment to food.

New beers include Tart sour beer, £1.90 – brewed by Thornbridge Brewery in Derbyshire,

it has a golden colour, white head with a combination of citrusy hops and hints of grapefruit and lemon, and has an ABV of 6%.

Other new craft beers include: Kofra Stout from Norwich brewery Redwell; Forklift Truck Mango Ale by Glasgow brewer Drydate; Fourpure Session IPA made by Bermondsey brewery Fourpure and Double Brew Lager by Swedish brewery Wolf Warning.

### Refreshing for little ones

For non-drinkers and the children, Robinsons has the new Robinsons Refresh'd, made using 100 per cent naturally-sourced ingredients, and made up of spring water mixed with real fruit.

Available in three tasty flavour combinations – raspberry & apple, orange & lime and apple & kiwi – there are just 55 calories per 500ml bottle. Price £1.29.

### Carry the parrot



The Frida Parrot Picnic blanket by Marks & Spencer is round and features a quirky parrot design. It has a carrying handle too. Made of polyester it can be wiped clean and costs £19.50.

### Track your hydration



Quirky kitchen products manufacturer Joseph & Joseph, stocked by Camp Hopson, has a pretty water bottle to take on picnics or anywhere. It's unique because you can track your daily hydration goals with it.

The lid displays a new dot each time you refill so you can easily keep count of the number of bottles you drink.

Comes in a range of colours, £9.

### Dinky meringues

Don't have time to bake for your picnic? Then pick up a packet of diddy and dainty Meringue Drops – dinky little drops of handmade, Swiss-baked meringues in a kaleidoscope of colours.

These rainbow-finished meringues are the creation of sweet treat innovators Flower & White. They are suitable for vegetarians and



naturally gluten free.

Meringue Drops launched exclusively online – [flowerandwhite.co.uk](http://flowerandwhite.co.uk) – last month, and are going nationwide this month.

Available in 100g bespoke boxes, there are three varieties: Rainbow Fruit – a mixed box of strawberry, lemon, passion fruit and black cherry – fat-free and dairy-free. Chocolate – fat-free and dairy-free and white chocolate & raspberry – low fat. Boxes are £2.95.

### Yum Mum!

The cleverly designed Yumbox MiniSnack is designed specifically to make eating healthy snacks easier and more fun for little ones.



The food tray has three separate compartments with the large one having a ¾ cup capacity, the small one a 1/3 cup capacity and a dip well that can take yoghurt, dip or small food items.

The clear plastic tray that has the food wells built in is removable making it easy for little ones to eat their snacks and it also makes washing the Yumbox very easy.

The leak-proof and silicone-lined lid seals all of the food wells, ensuring no spills or leaks even when yoghurts or dips are included.

The Yumbox MiniSnack is £18.50 from [www.eatwell-uk.co.uk](http://www.eatwell-uk.co.uk) 



### RECIPE: Picnic Loaf

*This cob loaf stuffed with goodies is easy to pack and can be sliced and served in wedges.*

2 tbsp pesto

4 tbsp good-quality mayonnaise

100g (3 1/2oz) roasted red peppers, drained and chopped

50g (2oz) sundried tomatoes, drained and chopped

Small handful fresh basil, chopped

85g (3oz) Parma ham or 100g (3 1/2oz) wafer-thin cooked ham

100g (3 1/2oz) sliced Jarsberg cheese

200g (7oz) brie cheese

100g (3 1/2oz) sliced salami

1/4 cucumber, thinly sliced

4 leaves little gem lettuce

1 medium sourdough loaf or round cob loaf

Combine the pesto and mayonnaise in a small bowl.

Mix together the peppers, sundried tomatoes and basil and season well.

Cut the loaf in half horizontally, then scoop most of the dough inside to make room for the filling.

Spread the pesto mayonnaise inside both pieces of the loaf and layer up with the pepper/tomato mix, ham, Jarsberg, brie, salami, cucumber and little gem leaves. Replace the top of the loaf, press together gently, wrap very tightly in cling film and chill for 2-3 hours.

Cut into wedges to serve.

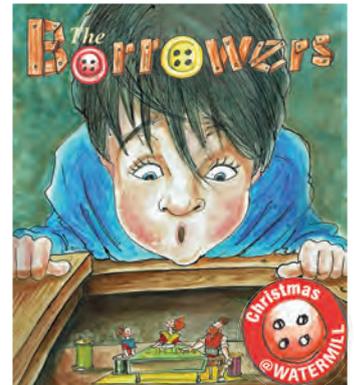
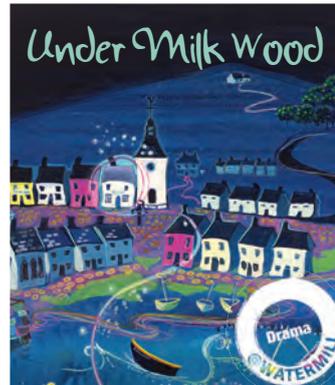
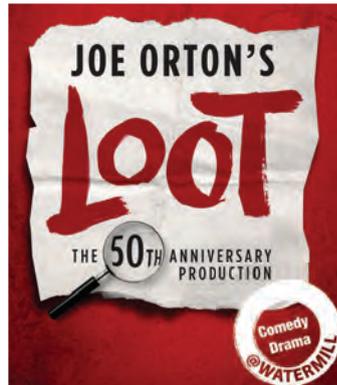
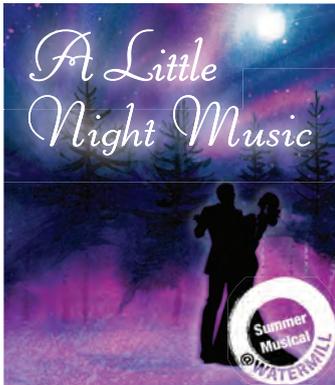
Tip: The bread you scoop out of the middle can be made into breadcrumbs in a blender, tipped into a bag and frozen for up to a month

\*Recipe and picture courtesy of Tesco

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by Alan Ayckbourn

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# GOLDEN YEAR for the Watermill

It's many happy returns at the Bagnor theatre as it celebrates its 50th anniversary by revisiting *Sondheim*, *Joe Orton* and *Dylan Thomas*. TRISH LEE talks to its artistic director Paul Hart

In 1967, David Gollins, together with his mother Judy, realised a dream of turning the derelict old Bagnor paper mill into a theatre, albeit a primitive affair at first.

The Watermill is now celebrating its 50th anniversary – one of the few producing theatres in the country, with a national and international reputation for quality work.

Its current artistic director Paul Hart says: "It's a huge year for us and the building is in full swing. We currently have four shows in production, several on tour and many more in pre-production."



*I can't imagine there's a busier theatre in the country right now and it's a thrilling place to be*



The Watermill has always created imaginative work and is known particularly for its use of music and actor musicianship, but, more than anything, that you can rely on its exceptional production values.

It is a singular place, as Paul says: "It's a space like no other – the rural location makes

it a very special experience for audiences and actors. I think it makes a real difference that the actors live and rehearse on site, and for audiences it's also a retreat from the world, where you can come and let the imagination roam."

This is the second full season for Paul, who was previously associate director for Edward Hall's all-male Shakespeare ensemble Propeller and the National Youth Theatre and also worked with London's Donmar Warehouse and Theatre Royal Haymarket, where he trained as an apprentice. He directed four shows at The Watermill before taking over as its artistic and executive director.

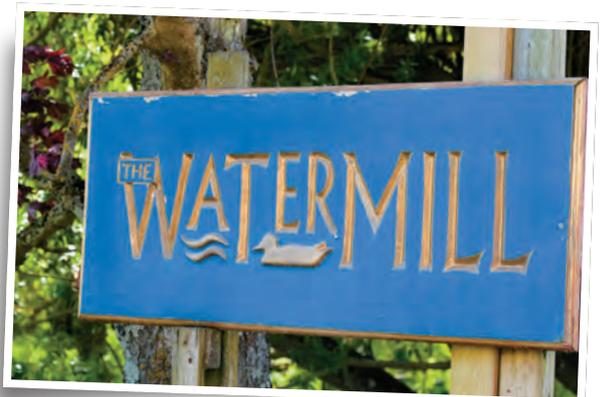
"It feels a real privilege to be putting together the programme in The Watermill's 50th anniversary year."

His idea is to celebrate some of the notable achievements of the last 50 years. "But rather than staging a year full of revivals, we'd bring our audiences a range of new work. It's important to look back and also to be excited by future possibilities as well."

Now halfway through the anniversary year, the productions are going down well, with the theatre about to open the epic *House and Garden* – two plays by Alan Ayckbourn.

"This major revival will be a great celebration of theatre that takes over our beautiful site – a reminder that there's no venue quite like The Watermill," says Paul.

"I'm particularly looking forward to *Garden*, an outstanding opportunity to experience the joy



of outdoor theatre. From covered seating in the theatre gardens, audiences will get to watch the madness of this epic comical play unfold!"

2017 began with *Frankenstein*, *Murder For Two* and *The Wipers Times* all transferring to London and the team is now gearing up for major tours around the UK with *Crazy For You*, *The Wipers Times*, *Romeo + Juliet* and *Twelfth Night*.

There's also a range of work touring to schools and village halls, as well as an amazing array of youth theatre and community work from the theatre's outreach department. And still much more to come.

"We return to Stephen Sondheim with his great masterpiece *A Little Night Music* as our summer musical. We also revisit playwright Joe Orton, whose work was so influential at the time The Watermill began producing professional theatre, with the 50th anniversary production of *Loot*. ►

"We then go back to the first-ever play produced here 50 years ago, Dylan Thomas' *Under Milk Wood*, before staging our Christmas spectacular, *The Borrowers*, which promises to be an action-packed adventure for all the family."

What has contributed to The Watermill's enduring appeal over 50 years when other theatrical ventures have foundered?

"The quality of the work is, of course, central," Paul says. "And our fiercely loyal audience have responded with an incredible sense of ownership and love for the building."

"Plus the support of trusts, foundations, the arts council and individuals that allow us to keep doing what we're doing. And taking risks and finding new audiences."

In the 60s, David Gollins had the vision to create one of the smallest and most beautiful theatres in the old mill, then in 1981 Jill Fraser and her husband James Sargent bought The Watermill.

She was a hard act to follow, leading its development from a local rep to an award-winning year-round producing theatre.

It was down to her foresight and encouragement that the young director Ed Hall was given a free hand in the evolution of the hugely-innovative Propeller company.

In 2008, thanks to a three-year £3m appeal, the trustees were able to buy the theatre, a year after Hedda Beeby was appointed artistic director, and she steered the theatre through the void left by Jill's untimely death.

Now Paul Hart is the custodian of the legacy, so what is his vision for the future?

"I want to embed a range and variety of work. We have a long history of producing innovative Shakespeare plays and I feel there's an opportunity to build a reputation for a new, exciting form of Shakespeare."

"Actor musicianship is at an exciting juncture where we're able to lead an innovative

approach to finding new ways of making work that features music.

"And we continue to build on our outreach work, reaching new areas of the local community and engaging with as many people as we can."

The Watermill's loyal audience might want 'more of the same', but it's important for theatres to move on, innovate and experiment.

"I think the audiences here are really up for new ideas and experiments, but we also love to produce shows that bring families into the theatre."

"I think the most important thing we can be doing is to be bringing new audiences in to ensure the long-term sustainability of the theatre, while continuing to produce work that really engages all generations."

"That's partly why I'm so passionate about the Christmas show here and we're really excited about presenting the world of *The Borrowers* in a theatre where it feels like you're entering under the floorboards."

"I love the variety of work we present at The Watermill from new plays, Shakespeare, musicals, revivals and community work. There really is something for everyone here."

Paul has the enviable bonus of living on site. "It's amazing. There couldn't be a more beautiful setting to work and live."

But he's not yet encountered the Watermill ghost, reputed to be a little girl in an old-fashioned pinafore.

"I've only heard the rumours. However, our outreach director Heidi Bird is writing a play about the ghost, which will be performed at the theatre by more than 100 children from six West Berkshire Primary Schools in July, so we'll meet properly then."

[The Watermill Theatre,  
Bagnor, Newbury RG20 8AE  
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Artistic director  
Paul Hart





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# Annual event

**KATE GOULD** loves the bright colours and easy-to-grow attitude of annuals, which will flower for weeks on end and never seem to go out of fashion

**S**oldier straight, millimetre perfect rows of *Pelargoniums*, *Marigolds*, *Begonias* and *Busy Lizzie's* conjures up images of dated municipal roundabouts and brightly coloured local authority schemes.

Beloved by gardeners for centuries and much championed by the Victorians this type of bedding scheme has continued to remain in fashion despite the passing of time and for very good reason.

It isn't necessarily for the ramrod straight planting that is has endured but for the plants themselves. Annuals are quite amazing plants, the seeds are inexpensive to buy, easy to grow, come to bloom in a short space of time and if cared for, fed and watered, will flower right up until the frosts; what more could you ask for?

Perhaps this 'value for money' is why we are again looking towards annuals for colour in the garden. We are just finding more contemporary and less rigid ways of using them.

My memories of annuals starts as far back as I can remember. If I think of spring at home as a child it is of windowsills groaning under the weight of seed trays with the smell of compost warmed by the sun.

I was encouraged to grow by my mother who is still to this day a keen grower of annuals. Her preferred palette though was always 'airy' rather than carpeting and rigid. *Cosmea*, *Nicotiana* and *Cleome* were sown, pricked out and grown on to be added to her summer borders.

These plants, grown quickly from seed I found provided me with almost instant gratification – a flower within weeks of sowing, or even better lots of flowers on lots of plants.

Although my gardening style has evolved and, I hope, become more refined over the years, I still find that to plug a gap in a summer border I lean towards an annual.

I suppose they are so deeply ingrained having grown them for so long and although I garden for clients without them, in my own garden I

would really miss them if they were not there. After all they take the interest right up until October, weather permitting.

Using annuals in the garden does mean hardening your heart to patches of bare earth, which early in the spring there is a huge temptation to fill.

You can of course buy annuals and pre-grown bedding plants from your local garden centre and plant them out after the threat of frosts has passed, but there is much more fun to be had in growing them from seed yourself either early in the year in trays on windowsills or in a greenhouse or a little later on directly into the ground once the soil has warmed up in late Spring.

Soon any bare soil on show will be a thing of the past. Annuals sown directly into the ground tend to lend themselves best to weaving in an informal manner in and out of existing plants and will have a less ordered and more natural 'cottagey' feel.

*Nigella* 'Persian Jewels', *Agrostemma* 'Snow Queen', *Nasturtium* 'Milkmaid', *Eschscholzia* and *Statice* will create a jewel-like effect when backed by purple leaved *Eupatorium* or dark toned *Sedum*.

If you are wary of the amount of colour that these plants provide then the scheme can be muted using textured heads of lightweight grasses such as *Briza maxima* and *Lagurus ovatus* 'Bunny Tails' which also create movement and airiness.

I have already mentioned *Cosmea*, *Nicotiana* and *Cleome*, which no self-respecting late summer border would be without. They associate so well with grasses such as *Calamagrostis* and *Stipa* and can be woven in and out of *Thalictrum*, in a happy accident helping to support their dainty stems and if you don't mind a clash of colours try then with *Rudbeckia fulgida* 'Goldsturm' or *Dahlia* 'Fascination' too.

Annuals come in all shapes, forms and sizes and climbing annuals are perfect for adding height to an immature planting scheme.

*Sweet Peas*, *Mina lobata* and *Cobaea*

*scandens* are just brilliant and will happily scale a wooden frame before flowering for weeks on end.

All of the *Ipomea* (*Morning Glory*) flower profusely, but *Ipomea* 'Grandpa Ott's' seems to do particularly well and the seed will overwinter and germinate year after year, even in my clay heavy garden.

Each spring the rather strange spade-shaped seed leaves emerge and when they are a little bigger I often dig them up and grow them on in a container on the patio or simply continue to allow them to wind their way around the stalks of *Verbena bonariensis*, *Eryngium*, *Agapanthus* or large spent *Allium* heads in the ground where they germinated.

They do look a little crazy, but I like the fact that they have braved the winter and I am happy to let them lend their velvet bi-coloured flowers to the scheme in the mornings.

You can of course save the seed in the autumn and store it in a dry place for more careful placement of plants, but I quite like the surprise of where they might have thrown themselves to.

The same can be said of *Mirabilis jalapa* which grows easily in its first year and will overwinter and set seed too. The bonus of this plant is that you never know what colour the flowers will be and its scent is lovely in the evenings.

Annuals really are worth their weight in gold. Demanding little and performing so well for such a little economic outlay they are a great way to bulk up young gardens.

There are so many to choose from that the selection can be mind-boggling, but stick to a colour theme or if in doubt you can purchase a pack of seeds with different varieties all intended to compliment each other.

Whichever option you choose, you will not be disappointed.

For more garden inspiration visit [www.kategouldgardens.co.uk](http://www.kategouldgardens.co.uk) 

# Reeling them in

If you're a lover of country pursuits and looking for some vintage mementoes, then THOMAS PLANT says you could land yourself a great catch at auction

**H**unting, shooting and fishing have long since been the pastimes of royalty and the landed gentry, but the items relating to country pursuits appeal to a wide range of people who enjoy outdoor sports.

Auctions are a great place to catch or hunt yourself a bargain...

Collectors fall roughly into a couple of categories; those who buy antique items for display purposes, and those who buy the more modern pieces to use.

Antique hunting rifles and shotguns can be found at auction. Punt guns (big shotguns used to shoot large numbers of waterfowl) dating from the 19th and 20th-centuries can be bought for a couple of hundred pounds right into the high thousands.

Modern shotguns used for clay shots can also be bought at auction for as little as £50 depending on the maker.

We sell fine binoculars in our regular camera auctions.

The top-grade binoculars made by the famous German manufacturer Leitz get snapped up quickly. A typical popular model is the Trinovid; some come with weatherproof rubber coating for extra protection, making them ideal for outdoor pursuits. They can realise more than £1,000.

Other good makes to look out for are Zeiss and Nikon, which can be found at auction for a few hundred pounds upwards.

The first fishing rods can be dated back to 2000BC when they were made from wood with a horsehair line attached.

Two centuries later and jointed examples, which were 17-foot-long and made from several different types of wood, often with a whalebone tip, became common.

We also see a huge demand for tribal fishing and hunting relics, such as Inuit or South Pacific items.

The design of fishing rods has really advanced over the years, with stronger and lighter materials used. Now carbon fibre and graphite examples are the most popular with fishermen, replacing older examples of cane and fibreglass.

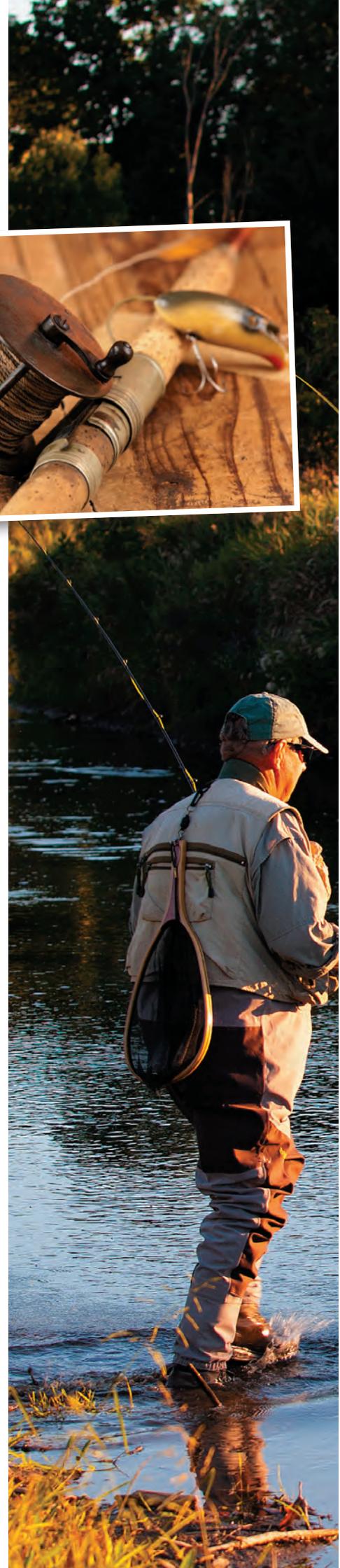
Modern rods are any made from the 1980s onwards and those made by Hardy's and Brigg & Co sell very well and are most likely to be bought to be used.

Only a few diehards fish with antique rods – doing this is a bit of a risk, as a big fish could break them.

Vintage items made by Hardy's, a British Company founded in 1872 in Alnwick Northumberland (originally a gunsmith who then started manufacturing fishing tackle), are very sought-after today, with some of their modern rods valued at £1000.

Even more popular than rods are vintage reels and fly boxes and some of the smaller equipment, perhaps because they are much easier to store and display.

Again, Hardy's is a sought-after make, alongside Farlows and Bruce & Walker. Fly boxes can sell for £50 – £100 per lot and reels for similar amounts. 





Sold for £504



Sold for £384

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**TOP TIPS:**

- Always buy the best quality you can as prices will hold for resale
- Look for well-known makes
- As with anything you are looking to buy, always check out the condition and, if you can, view the items before you buy
- Try before you buy – if you are buying a piece to use, feel it's weight and check it is right for you as bespoke items often come to the market

”



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Thomas Plant discovered his love for auctioneering at a young age, living on the family farm. Watching the man with the gavel at local cattle auctions was a regular event, and Thomas quickly decided on which side of the rostrum he'd rather be.

He went on to take a degree in antiques and served his apprenticeship with leading auction houses, including Christie's in London.

Today, Thomas is the co-owner of Special Auction Services in Newbury and is also a favourite TV expert on BBC programmes, including *Bargain Hunt*, *Flog it!* and *Antiques Road Trip*.

If you've any jewellery, antiques and collectables you'd like valued for auction, don't forget SAS hold free valuation days every Wednesday at:

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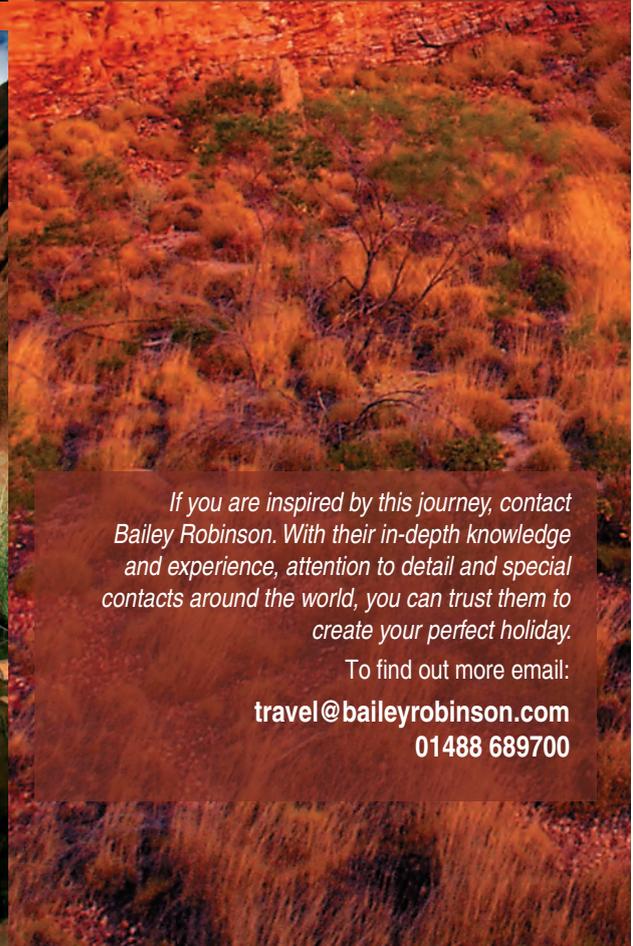
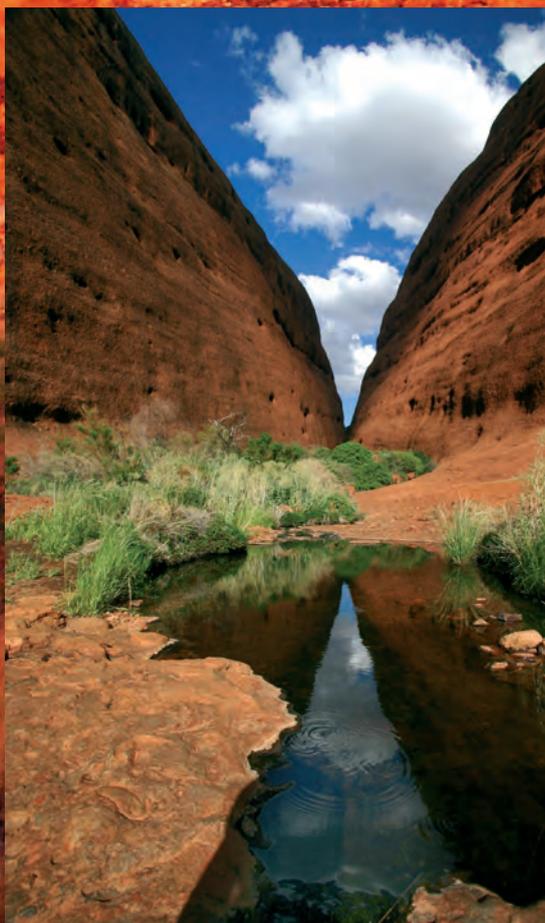
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# Outback Venture Down Under



Experience Australia's vast rugged terrain, says SARAH PARKER, and follow it up with a trip to the wine region of Perth and a bit of city culture



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Australia is a land of extremes and vivid contrasts, where the majestic landscapes, boundless horizons and unique wildlife continue to inspire explorers, artists, adventurers and pioneers. From spectacular coastlines fringed with endless beaches, ancient rainforests and fertile plains, to the Red Centre and the dramatic transformation of the land from the dry to wet season in the north; the sheer scale and rugged nature of the Outback has meant that some of its most iconic landscapes remain relatively undiscovered.

A vast and ancient land in the remote north of Western Australia, the Kimberley is one of the world's most precious and untouched wilderness areas.

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Cruise the river, cool off with a dip in the secluded waterholes of Berkeley Creek and spot native flora and fauna, including saltwater crocodiles, rock wallabies and birds of prey.

Fly to Mitchell Falls before ending the day watching the sun set atop Mount Casuarina.

Fly west along the coastline to Kimberley Coastal Camp, an exclusive, intimate and relaxed property.

Considered to be one of the best fishing regions in Australia, head out early and have a go at catching the highly-prized, but elusive, barramundi among numerous other tropical species.

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Marvel at Wandjina and Gwion Gwion ancient rock art, which gives some insight into Aboriginal culture, the traditional owners of this land.

Drink in hand, put your feet up at the end of each day accompanied only by the inimitable sound of the Australian bush and a crackling fire.

Your final stop, El Questro, is at the heart of the Kimberley and offers the freedom to really explore this last frontier.

From deep gorges and mountains to thermal springs, mud and salt flats, rainforests and cascading waterfalls, everything the Kimberley has to offer is found within the property's 700,000 acres.

Hike through dry scrub, keeping an eye out for wildlife; discover shaded gorges where tropical vegetation and palm trees thrive in a humid microcosm created by hot springs.

Take a boat along the Chamberlain Gorge or simply relax in the luxury homestead perched above the river. Admire the intense beauty of the changing light on the landscape and revel in the sheer solitude of this grand and ancient land.

Before heading home, embrace the best of both worlds in Perth. Stay at COMO The Treasury, housed in Perth's 140-year-old former state buildings, and discover a vibrant city where soft-sand beaches and scenic

parks meet a thriving metropolis of small bars, fabulous restaurants and curated street art.

For local culture, wander the nearby city of Fremantle's winding portside streets and Perth city centre's museum and gallery precinct.

Walk in leafy Kings Park and Botanic Gardens and visit nearby Rottnest Island.

Fabulous food and wine are part and parcel of life in Australia, so head to the magnificent Margaret River wine region and stay at the beautiful Cape Lodge.

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Whether your perfect day is a long lunch at a vineyard with award-winning wines and delicious food, visiting art galleries and boutiques, or canoeing and exploring the forests and pristine surf beaches, Margaret River has so much to offer.

Australia is an idyllic backdrop to any holiday with a winning combination of natural wonders, fabulous food and wine, culture, history, vibrant cities and laid-back friendly locals.

However, an adventure in the sparsely-populated northwest is an experience that truly gets to the heart of what defines this vast country and its people.

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## JUNE AUTHOR EVENTS



### June 15th: A Secret Sisterhood: The Hidden Friendships of Austen, Bronte, Eliot & Woolf

Using (some previously unpublished) letters and diaries Emily Midorikawa & Emma Claire Sweeney resurrect four literary collaborations, which were sometimes illicit, scandalous and volatile.

**Tickets £6**  
(includes a glass of wine and £5 off the book)  
7.30pm in Hungerford Town Hall

**June 20th: An Otter's Tale**  
'Life of a Chalkstream' author, Simon Cooper, interweaves the personal story of the female Otter, Kuschta, with the natural history of the Otter in the British Isles.



**Tickets £5**  
(includes a glass of wine and £3 off the book on the night)  
7.30pm Hungerford Bookshop



**June 30th: A New Map of Love**  
Abi Oliver talks about her novel - a beguiling, warm-hearted story of country antique dealer George Baxter's search for love.

Perfect for fans of 'The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry'.  
**Tickets £5**  
(includes a glass of wine and £3 off the book on the night)  
7.30pm in the Bookshop.

For more information visit [www.hungerfordbookshop.co.uk](http://www.hungerfordbookshop.co.uk)  
or to book tickets call 01488 683480

# ARE YOU A LOCAL AUTHOR?

## Finding Love on a Farm Trudy Smith

All's well that ends well. From the beginning we know that Trudy Smith has an amazing daughter and a passion for life. Remembering this makes it easier to read of the trials, injustices and abuses she went through in her life. And yet my past still weighed heavily and dragged me down... and kept me there, because it was never far away.

Smith allows the reader to meander with her through her life against a backdrop of the South African veld with colourful imagery and descriptive prowess. We all have so much to learn, not only from our own past, but from the lives of others. To take comfort and strength from the success and happiness of those who have struggled and won. Her debut novel is a reflective look back over her life in South Africa. It still resonates today on a personal and global level. There is something for everyone to take away from Smith's debut novel.



"I lived in Newbury for about ten years and thoroughly enjoyed walking in the countryside and along the river. I was so fascinated that it went through the town and couldn't resist feeding the swans and ducks. Retirement came around suddenly, and it was then that I decided to gather all my thoughts I'd stored for a lifetime and write my memoirs."

**Biography:**  
Trudy Smith was born in Pretoria and lived the majority of her life in South Africa. In this, her first novel of a trilogy, Smith paints a portrait of life in South Africa in the 1970s. As readers we can picture the landscape and almost hear the wildlife as we are transported back to a different time and place, into Trudy's childhood and early life. Now living in London, Smith is retired from a career in the cosmetic industry, and has time to reflect on a life filled with uncertainty and self-doubt. There is something for everyone to take away from this thought-provoking and evocative debut novel.

186 pages, ISBN 978-3-99048-805-8

£ 13.30

Trudy's book 'Finding Love on a Farm' is available from Amazon and [www.novum-publishers.co.uk](http://www.novum-publishers.co.uk)

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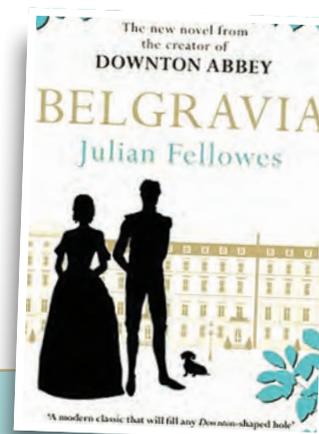
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# Scandal in Belgravia

Downton Abbey creator Julian Fellowes turns his attention to the foibles and manners of society in the dawning of the new age, as the merchant classes struggle to find their place in high society. HELEN SHEEHAN and LISSA GIBBINS recommend *Belgravia* as a study of the shift in attitudes in the 19th-century and compare it to a binge watch of a favourite television series



*On the evening of June 15, 1815, the great and the good of British society have gathered in Brussels at what is to become one of the most tragic parties in history – the Duchess of Richmond’s ball. For this is the eve of the Battle of Waterloo, and many of the handsome young men attending the ball will find themselves, the very next day, on the battlefield.*

*For Sophia Trenchard, the young and beautiful daughter of Wellington’s chief supplier, this night will change everything. But it is only 25 years later, when the upwardly mobile Trenchards move into the fashionable new area of Belgravia, that the true repercussions of that moment will be felt. For in this new world, where the aristocracy rub shoulders with the emerging nouveau riche, there are those who would prefer the secrets of the past to remain buried...*

If you are searching for the perfect holiday read, look no further. Julian Fellowes, globally renowned for penning *Downton Abbey*, has written his third novel, *Belgravia*.

Set in the title’s illustrious London neighbourhood, this is *Upstairs Downstairs* meets *Downton Abbey*, only in book form.

The novel begins at a fabulous ball thrown by the Duchess of Richmond in Brussels, on June 15, 1815, the eve of the Battle of Waterloo.

This proves to be a night to remember and not only for Napoleon’s advance. The lives of beautiful Sophia Trenchard, and her parents, all of whom are at the ball, are about to be changed forever.

The story continues 25 years later, taking place in the in the newly-fashionable Belgravia, where Sophia’s parents, James and Anne, have now moved: “The house awaiting her was one of the splendid classical “wedding cake” variety...in the recently christened Belgravia”. However, they are at a social disadvantage within the rigid confines of wealthy upper-class Belgravia.

James is a self-made man who is determined to pass himself off as a gentleman and be accepted into high society, much to Anne’s exasperation. “It was not exactly that Anne Trenchard disapproved of her husband’s social mountaineering...she did not begrudge him his dreams...she simply did not share them.”

To exacerbate and perpetuate this disadvantage, James and Anne are keenly guarding a tragic family secret.

At an afternoon tea party (the concept of this kind of party has just been introduced by the great and the good of London in the 1800s), Anne happens across the Countess of Brockenhurst, and a disturbing chain of events unfolds, jeopardising the Trenchards’ ability to conceal their terrible secret. “Anne stared at her, this haughty matron...Who had bought so much anger into the room with her.”

The families of both the Trenchards and the

Countess of Brockenhurst are on a collision course; secrets and lies to be exposed, hearts to be broken, and fortunes to be fought over.

This battle unleashes murderous intent and even pits servant against master.

The scene is set with more upstairs than downstairs characters, although a significant downstairs character is the Trenchards’ maid, Speer, a crafty and enterprising woman.

The action takes place mainly in Belgravia

helped him and his brother to build half of fashionable London?”.

Fellowes’ particular talent is describing the affluent upper classes in their fabulous mansions, wrestling with their secrets and their snobbery.

However, none of his villains are without the possibility of redemption and his heroes and heroines are likeable and fallible.

His skill is unrivalled in creating an enticing, yet

“

*This is a book to devour entirely for pleasure. Every chapter leaves you wanting more. The pace and plot deliver on all levels*

”

and the Trenchards’ beautiful country house, Glanville, “its little quirks: the stone monkeys that clambered up the Dutch gables, the Nine Worthies in their niches on the East Front”.

Julian Fellowes peppers the narrative with wonderful descriptions of these gorgeous houses, adorned with expensive and famous works of art and furniture, “There was a fine Turner hanging over the marble chimney piece”.

An interesting side story that runs through the book focuses on the development of Belgravia and other salubrious parts of central London in the 19th century.

James Trenchard has made his considerable fortune through his involvement with the Cubitt brothers.

Cleverly intertwined in the narrative are these two brothers, who are not fictional characters, but who were actually responsible for the development of some of the most well-known areas of London, including Bloomsbury, Tavistock Square and Belgravia, “...William Cubitt had been accepted, and hadn’t James

divided, world full of gossip and scandal, pride and shame, wealth and extravagance.

The servants have few freedoms and there is a gross divide between master and servant, engendering disloyalty, petty grudges and thieving.

Ellis, one of the Trenchards’ maids reflects “By her reckoning, being born into service was not to be envied...she had to fight every step of the way through life”.

This is a book to devour entirely for pleasure. Every chapter leaves you wanting more. The pace and plot deliver on all levels.

The intrigues and illicit affairs, the sumptuous houses, the haughty, beautiful ladies, their handsome suitors and the wary, disgruntled servants; all these elements we have come to expect from this author, are all present and accounted for in *Belgravia*.

Compare the act of reading it to that very modern concept of binge-watching an entire boxed set in one sitting. Find a quiet, comfortable spot, turn off the phone and start reading... 

Helen Sheehan and Lissa Gibbins are writers and owners of Aide Memoire, Great Bedwyn. Inspired by their passion for words, they write memoirs, edit novels and documents and proofread for a wide range of clients.

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# Take a wander with Nissan

MAURICE and ANNETTE HARDY say the Qashqai has stuck to its nomadic roots



Best bits: roomy body with compact dimensions (just like 2007)

Few people will have seen the real Qashqai, the people who make up the tribe that wanders the deserts of South West Iran. But lots of people will have seen the Nissan Qashqai, which borrowed the nomads' identity and wandered all over the world's car markets, to critical acclaim.

Looking back 10 years to when the Qashqai launched, we penned a piece under the headline "Nissan's urban nomad is a brave move". At the time it was radical. The car replaced three unloved and decidedly lacklustre models, the Primera, Almera, and Almera Tino, a small MPV that was actually quite good at its job.

The Qashqai was Nissan's "What the hell..." moment and thankfully for the workforce at the Japanese maker's Sunderland plant it succeeded to a spectacular degree.

Nissan has sold more than a million Qashqai models and the car is now in its third generation. In Europe, its top markets are the UK and Russia, but the Italians, Germans, and Spanish also love it.

So great has been its influence that when *AutoExpress* published its list of the 50 greatest British cars the Qashqai was in there at number 11. Even the Range Rover Evoque only achieved number 30.

Look at a Qashqai today and you might think it appears very similar to the first models to roll out of Sunderland back in 2007. But there's far more detail to the design with advanced styling features that make some rivals still look quite staid.

It doesn't go to the extremes of the smaller Juke, which is all hips and width, but has inherited some of the smaller car's flowing

curves, this time in sensible proportions.

One thing buyers need to avoid is the 19-inch wheel option that, when combined with low profile tyres, gives a hard edge to the ride that is detrimental to comfort levels. Cars like this just don't need that kind of add-on shod with 45 profile Dunlop Sportmaxx tyres.

Looking back to our original Qashqai test, we had the 1.5 litre dCi in Accenta trim with a list price of £16,099, just about enough to buy a decently-equipped supermini these days.

This time round, Nissan sent a 1.6 dCi Tekna costing £28,590 including the £575 for metallic paint. It's a fair old leap but in exchange you get a lot more car, even if they look very much the same size. And, to be fair, if you don't want all the Tekna kit you can be mobile in a Qashqai for only £18,955, a bargain price.

The generational difference is most significant under the skin. There are now better crash structures – at its launch the Qashqai was already the highest-scoring car in EuroNCAP tests – and driver aids thanks to advances in technology.

The modern Qashqai presents its driver with a vast amount of information, down to the current speed limit display and sat nav, the latter keeping the former up to speed with pinpoint accuracy.

Without sounding like luddites, we still spend a couple of quid a year on a large scale AA road atlas and make do with that.

I can't remember when we last programmed a sat nav to deliver us anywhere and even if you do rely on electronic guidance you still need to have a good idea of where it should be taking you before you set out.

Wasted miles mean wasted fuel but the Nissan is thankfully great on the economy front. The car is now heavier and more complicated, powered by a gutsier and slightly larger engine.

But the payback from modern engineering comes at the pumps with today's test car delivering a 53 mpg average, a 12.7 per cent improvement over the 2007 car's 47 mpg.

Qashqai has always been about maximising space and this has also improved – not by a huge margin but with the seats down there's 1,585 litres of capacity, an increase of 62 litres and likely to be appreciated by families who always find plenty to take on a trip.

Hobbyists will also like this Qashqai's 1.8 tonne towing capacity, the same whether you have the front wheel drive of the test car or go for the full-fat 4x4 which lifts the price by another £1,740. 

**Car:**  
Nissan Qashqai Tekna dCi 130

**Does it fit your ego...**

0-62 mph: 9.9 secs

Top speed: 118 mph

PS: 130 @ 4,000 rpm

Torque: 320 nm @ 1,750 rpm

**...and your wallet...**

Price: £28,045

Combined: 61.4 mpg

CO2 emissions: 120 g/km

# Floral fun

Five pairs of tickets to be won to West Woodhay Gardeners' Fair



West Woodhay estate is playing host to a garden fair from Friday, June 23 to Sunday, 25.

Out&About has teamed up with the organisers to offer you the chance to win one five pairs of tickets to visit this exclusive event which will be a paradise for passionate gardeners.

The fair is being held in Association with The National Garden Scheme, and all the profits from the fair are going to several local charities including: The Rosemary Appeal, Fairclose Day Centre, Berkshire Scouting and The Walbury Beacon Benefice Churches.

The chosen national charity to benefit, is The National Garden Scheme.

The West Woodhay Gardeners Fair will offer a treasure trove of quality plants and gardening products, direct from some of the UK's and Europe's finest plant nurseries and product makers.

Top plant growers attending include RHS Gold Medal winning nurseries Hardy's Cottage

Plants and Tynings Climbers, Special Plants, The Botanic Nursery and Shady Plants.

Garden product makers include James Fuller from Home and Garden Ironwork, the Victorian

Glass House Company, Dave Seabourne from Green Man Woodcrafts and from Paris, some French chic, from Ma Mouillere, with its range of designer garden over-shoes.

Tickets are £12 on the day, £9 if you buy online beforehand at [www.westwoodhayfair.co.uk](http://www.westwoodhayfair.co.uk)

Entrance tickets to the Fair also give visitors an exclusive opportunity to stroll around the beautiful private gardens and estate of West Woodhay House which is not generally open to the public.

For your chance to win a pair of tickets to the West Woodhay Gardeners' Fair, answer the following question:

**Which national charity is the fair supporting?**

Send your answer on the form, to West Woodhay Gardeners' Fair competition, OUT&ABOUT, Newspaper House, Faraday Road, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 2DW. The closing date for entries is Tuesday, June 13.

## West Woodhay Gardeners' Fair competition

Answer.....

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**RED KANGAROO**  
TRAMPOLINE PARKS

# Bouncing bonanza

Win a party package for 10 people at RedKangaroo Trampoline Park, Reading



**R**edKangaroo, a new trampoline park, has opened in Reading and Out&About has teamed up with them to offer one person the chance to win a party package for 10 people – kids, teens or adults – to include a one-hour bounce session for each guest across all zones, complimentary trampolining socks, and time in one of the themed party rooms post-bounce with complimentary pizza and soft drinks.

At 36,000 square feet it's equivalent in size to no fewer than 12 tennis courts and houses a whole host of super-bouncy, super-sized interconnecting trampolines plus more air-bound-activities and state-of-the-art equipment than in any other UK park – you can bounce off the walls, compete in ninja courses, play dodgeball, perform an awesome bouncing slam dunk and fly into a foam pit or a huge inflated bag, all under one roof.

As well as being brilliant fun, trampolining is excellent exercise; a 10-minute session is as good for you as a half hour run, and, being low impact, is kinder on the limbs and suitable for all ages and abilities.

From KangaFree open sessions to KangaTots, KangaStudents, KangaPro, KangaFit and KangaNightlife, there really is something for everyone.

There are also quiet rooms for parents and

guardians to relax, Café Roo, themed rooms for parties and you can also book the venue for team building and corporate entertaining.

The park is open seven days a week and prices start at £8 per 60-minute session.

RedKangaroo Trampoline Park is located at Bridgewater Close, Reading.

Advance booking is essential via the website: [www.redkangaroo.co.uk/parks/reading](http://www.redkangaroo.co.uk/parks/reading)

You can also follow and like RedKangaroo on [facebook.com/RedKangarooPark](https://www.facebook.com/RedKangarooPark)

For your chance to win one a party package for 10 people at RedKangaroo Trampoline Park, Reading, answer the following question:

**How many square feet does the new trampoline park cover?**

Send your answer on the form, to RedKangaroo Trampoline Park competition, OUT&ABOUT, Newspaper House, Faraday Road, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 2DW. The closing date for entries is Tuesday, June 13.



## RedKangaroo Trampoline Park competition

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Newbury Weekly News



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# What's on

Find out what's happening in West Berkshire and the surrounding area this month, with concerts, theatre, fetes, lectures, exhibitions and markets to choose from. You can find more detailed listings every Thursday in the *Newbury Weekly News* or online at [www.newburytoday.co.uk](http://www.newburytoday.co.uk)

## Town centre celebrations

June 11 – July 23

### Newbury Fest

Six weeks celebrating all that is good about Newbury, NewburyFest is now in its sixth year. This is the event that takes over the town, with fabulous, fun activities for all the family. Just some of the events this year include:

- June 11 Rotary Club Boules
- July 3–9 Shop Local Week
- July 4 Independents' Day
- July 9 Day of Dance
- July 15/16 Jazz & Blues Festival
- July 16 Newbury Carnival 2017
- July 23 Waterways Festival – Beatlemania
- July 23 Get Active Day



## Fun on the farm

June 11

### LEAF Open Farm Sunday

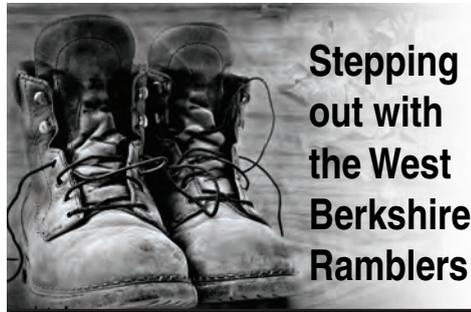
Across the UK, hundreds of farms will be open to the public, to show visitors how important farming is.

The majority of events are free and activities may include tractor and trailer rides, farm walks and bug hunts and meet the animal sessions.

Local participating farms include:

**Strouds Farm**, Ermin Street, Lambourn Woodlands, 12noon to 4pm. Free entry, but other charges apply. Tractor and Trailer ride including a farm tour; farm trail & quiz; meet the animals; farm machinery on display; children's activities; refreshments

**Coombe End Farm**, Whitchurch Hill, Goring Heath, 12noon to 4pm. Free. Simple walks around farm, accompanied by a member of Nettlebed Farming Club, opportunity to ask questions, light refreshments, donations for children's hospice Helen & Douglas House



## Stepping out with the West Berkshire Ramblers

**Saturday, June 3**, 10am Meet at the car park at Snelsmore Country Park, grid ref SU463710, for a walk via Donnington Castle and Bagnor. Just a couple of stiles and gentle slopes. 3.8 miles. Leader: Chris R Tel: 07979 804637 or 01635 226826

**Saturday, June 17**, 10am Meet outside the Swan PH at Compton, grid ref SU521799. Park considerably in side roads. Walk up to Roden Downs and the Ridgeway. 6 miles Leader: Joan C Tel: 07497 754404 or 01235 835618

**Thursday, June 22**, 9.30am A Summer saunter around Selborne: Park free in the NT car park grid ref SU741334, behind the Selborne Arms PH. We'll take the Hangers Way, then under the hangers to East Worldham, turning south towards Oakhanger and a pub lunch, then back to Selborne. Lunch at the Red Lion PH, grid ref SU769358. 10.3 miles Leader: Tony V Tel: 01635 230046 or 07413 480080

For more walks and information visit [www.wberksramblers.org.uk](http://www.wberksramblers.org.uk)

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## Ladies Lunch Club

Every last Monday of the month Esseborne hosts a Ladies Club where guests are entertained by interesting speakers after lunch.

There is a set 4-course menu with a glass of wine, coffee and petite fours.

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**Monday 26th June**

**Raven: My year of dating dangerously**

by *Monica Porter*

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Face Painting  
Bouncy Castle and Slides  
Scarecrow Competition

**SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**



# June dates for your diary

## Thursday 1

**The Pied Piper-indoor puppet theatre**, 2pm, Shaw House (suitable for ages three to seven). Tickets available from Shaw House or online. [www.westberkshireheritage.org/](http://www.westberkshireheritage.org/)

**Coffee morning in aid of St Mary's Shaw**, 10am-12noon, St Nicolas Church Hall, Newbury

## Friday 2

**Kitchen Sink Litho Printing** with Karen Carter, 10am-4pm, City Arts, Hampton Road, Newbury [cityartsnewbury.co.uk/about](http://cityartsnewbury.co.uk/about)

## Saturday 3

**The Gingerbread Man**, The Watermill, Lily Pond conservatory, 10am and 11.15am. Georgie the Gingerbread Man has a lot on his plate. He needs your help as he ventures through the woods, encountering many a furry friend along the way. Will he escape? Find out on this interactive adventure. Suitable for families and children aged two to six. [www.watermill.org.uk](http://www.watermill.org.uk)

**Coffee morning and bells**, St Michael and All Angels church, Lambourn, 10am to 12noon. Variety of stalls in the church, including cakes and refreshments, and open ringing in the tower. The event is to raise funds for the bells

## Sunday 4

**Ollie Johnson Memorial Kintbury 5k run**, from 10am, Kintbury Recreation Ground. To register, contact Newbury Athletic Club [www.newburyac.org.uk](http://www.newburyac.org.uk)

**Aldbourne Band Pond Concert**, 6pm. An informal, free Sunday evening concert by the pond in the village of Aldbourne. Bring a deck chair, and maybe a picnic, and put your feet up with a drink from one of the local pubs – a perfect way to end a Summer's Day. Donations to help fund the band appreciated

## Saturday 10

**Highclere Church Fete**, St Michael and All Angels, 2pm. Stalls, raffles, games, plants and entertainment. Tea and cake

## Sunday 11

**St Michael and All Angels, Highclere**, open 2.30pm-5pm. Refreshments available.

**Newbury Rotary annual Boules in the Square tournament**, Market Place, Newbury.

A fun day in a competitive spirit with friends and colleagues. There will be six pistes in total: four for the main company team trophy competition, one for a charity team competition and one for a general public competition with a prize for whoever gets the closest accumulated distance to the "pig" with three throws. All proceeds will be donated to End Polio Now and other Rotary nominated charities. 10am start thru to 4pm. General public competition – £1 for three throws.

**Shalbourne open gardens**, 1pm- 5pm, in aid of Shalbourne Primary School. The School is raising money for a much needed extension and new kitchen. There will be 16 gardens open - big, small; tidy, and untidy. There will be tea and cakes on sale from Shalbourne Manor Barn where a car park will also be available. Tickets are £5 per adult (under 16 year olds are free) and are available in advance from the Shalbourne village shop and Shalbourne Manor on the day. For more information please contact Donna Scott, Shalbourne Manor, Kingston Road, Marlborough, SN8 3QF [donnamscott@gmail.com](mailto:donnamscott@gmail.com); 01672 870019

**Special Air Ambulance Charity Sunday Afternoon Concert**, 3 pm, Aldermaston Concert Centre, William Penney Theatre, AWE Rec Society, Tasley. Live Music – spanning decades – with Chris Powell. In conjunction with the Air Ambulance. Interval/refreshments/ raffle. Bar available. £8 on the Door. Sylvia 0118 932 3971. SATNAV takes you to Main Gate – ask for Theatre.

**Father's Day Canvas** with Sarah Moorcroft, 10am-2pm, City Arts, Hampton Road, Newbury. Book on [info@cityartsnewbury.co.uk](mailto:info@cityartsnewbury.co.uk)

## Monday 12

**Newbury Embroiderers' Guild**, 7.30pm, St Francis de Sales Church Hall, off Warren Road, off Andover Road, Newbury. Visitors £5. The talk by Anne Marie Cadman is called *Pattern, Layer and Collage*. Ann Marie will talk about her Inspiration and demonstrate the working methods she uses to produce her strongly coloured, patterned unique textiles. Contact: 01635 862289 [info@newburyembroiderers.org.uk](mailto:info@newburyembroiderers.org.uk) [www.newbury-embroiderers.co.uk](http://www.newbury-embroiderers.co.uk)

**Civil Service Retirement Fellowship**, meetings held at St John's Parish Room, Newbury on the 2nd Monday of each month from 2.15pm. Bring and Buy and plant sale

## Tuesday 13

**Newbury Floral Society**, 2pm, British Legion Hall, Newbury. Area demonstrator Arnaud Metairie presents *From my Shed*. If you are interested in flower arranging, Newbury Floral Society meet on the second Tuesday of each month for demonstrations and workshops. Guests are welcome. Why not join the Society for more information. Contact (01635) 48852 or 253874 for further information.

## Wednesday 14

**Newbury District Ornithological Club**, An evening visit to Newtown Common looking and listening for Nightjars and Woodcock. Meet at 9pm in the carpark at the top of Jonathan Hill. Grid ref 174/SU476635. All welcome, please contact 01488 682301 in advance.

**Berkshire Family History Society Newbury Branch**, 7.30pm to 9.30pm, Shaw Church Hall. *Mayhem on the Midland – an accident, a*

*suicide and a murder*. railway historians Chris and Judy Rouse will explain how one small snippet of information and use of common records can be built up to make a detailed story. All welcome. Free parking. Refreshments. Good company. Non-members are requested to make a £3 donation towards costs. Enquiries to [newbury@berksfhs.org.uk](mailto:newbury@berksfhs.org.uk) [www.berksfhs.org.uk](http://www.berksfhs.org.uk)

## Thursday 15

**Count Arthur Strong – The Sound of Mucus**, 7.30pm, Corn Exchange. Using stories and other things that are secret, Count Arthur Strong, showbiz legend, pays tribute to one of the best musicals he can remember. Uniquely recreating the most striking and poignant moments for your enjoyment... plus something else. Comedian and character actor Steve Delaney brings his best known role to life on stage. Box Office 0845 5218218

## Saturday 17

**Three Rivers Community Choir concert**, 7.30pm, St Mary's Church, Church Road, Shaw-cum-Donnington. Tickets £5 on the door

**The East Woodhay Midsummer Prom**, St Martin's Church, East Woodhay at 6.30pm. The Newbury Chamber Choir, conducted by Edward Lambert, will perform in aid of church funds. An evening of Victorian musical gems including favourites from Italian opera, Gilbert and Sullivan musicals, barbershop and parlour songs and featuring a selection of works by Julian Edwards: one of the most successful Broadway composers of all time. Soloists are Elinor Jane Moran (soprano) and Philip Lee (tenor) with Don Crerar acting as Master of Ceremonies. The audience is invited to bring a picnic for the supper interval in the beautiful grounds of Church Farm, which is adjacent (inside if wet). Tickets £25 (children free), to include programme and a glass of wine on arrival, are available at [www.newburychamberchoir.org](http://www.newburychamberchoir.org)

**Kintbury Wildlife Group** An afternoon visit to Ham Hill for wild flowers and butterflies. Leaving Kintbury Square at 2.30pm we will return around 4.30. All welcome but please call 01488 682301 in advance

**BELONGING(s)**, Outdoor Arts Creation Space, New Greenham Arts, 4pm and 7.15pm. The production provokes thoughts on migration, the notion of belonging and the fleeting nature of what surrounds us. This is Tilted Productions' latest site-sensitive promenade performance. Different in each place and responding to its environment, the piece invites the viewer to see the familiar in new ways, with local spaces being turned into illusionary worlds. Created by Maresa von Stockert in collaboration with an inter-generational cast of eight performers, combining contemporary dance, physical theatre and an integral use of ➤

# June dates for your diary

Arts Editor TRISH LEE's pick of events in June.

For reviews and arts news see N2 in the *Newbury Weekly News* each week

## Ear and eye-popping spectacle

**Worldbeaters and Dundu:**

***Sense of Unity* – a new outdoor performance**  
Northbrook St, Newbury, Friday, June 30 (9.45pm)  
[www.cornexchangenew.com](http://www.cornexchangenew.com)

Be the first to see this new ear and eye-popping spectacle, before the whole world catches on. As dusk falls, follow the exuberant world percussion rhythms of Worldbeaters, samba style, as they parade through Newbury, and discover large-scale illuminated puppets – the gentle giants Dundu and baby Dundu.

This collaboration between Germany's outdoor arts specialists Dundu and the UK's LED-lit, high-energy percussion band Worldbeaters, has been developed at the Corn Exchange's 101 Creation Space in Greenham. Both companies have strong international reputations and have enthralled spectators all over the world.

Enjoy the different musical worlds of the two companies – West African Kora and Latin American riffs and rhythms rolled into one premiere night-time performance, before the giants go on to tour the UK, then who knows where... If you've never been to any of these fantastic free shows before, make a note in your diary – they are real crowd-pleasers.



## Miss Matchmaker

**Emma**

**Oxford Playhouse Tuesday, June 20 to Saturday, June 24**  
[www.oxfordplayhouse.com](http://www.oxfordplayhouse.com)

Jane Austen fans are spoilt for choice with the number of events marking the bi-centenary of the author's death.

Oxford Playhouse's contribution is a new production of *Emma*, adapted by Tim Luscombe. Keeping faithfully to the original story, this warm and witty retelling of Austen's masterpiece transports her famous characters vividly to the stage, including the dashing Mr Knightley, the comic hypochondriac Mr Woodhouse and the sublimely dull Miss Bates.

Young, bright and beautiful, Emma Woodhouse has the world at her feet. When Mr Elton comes to town she decides to take it on herself to perform the role of matchmaker to her new friend Harriet Smith. But to Emma's great surprise, the more she tries to manipulate the destinies of others, the less success she has.

Presented by Production Exchange, who support young theatre professionals.



## Big on bluegrass

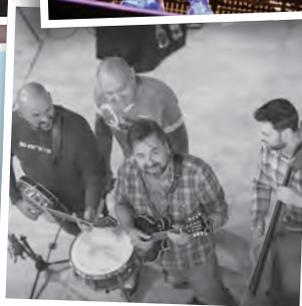
**NewGrass Cutters**  
Arlington Arts, Snelsmore,  
Friday, June 30 (8pm)  
[www.arlingtonarts.co.uk](http://www.arlingtonarts.co.uk)

They cause a stir whenever they come to Newbury – and the progressive bluegrass band NewGrass Cutters are heading back this way.

Formed by Pete Brown, the talented Bluegrass band features the same musicians who tour with his father rock 'n' roll veteran Joe at his sell-out gigs. The line-up includes banjo/mandolin virtuoso Richard Collins, Mike Nichols on bass, drummer and singer Phil Capaldi plus Pete Brown on guitar, lap steel and mandolin.

Collectively, they've worked with some of the biggest names in the business. All share a love of bluegrass music and you can expect stunning new arrangements of rock and pop classics, Phil's brilliant 'Elvis Presley' interpretations plus the finest vocal and instrumental performances anywhere.

Guitar legend Albert Lee, Amen Corner's Andy Fairweather Low and Chas n Dave and are already big NewGrass Cutters fans, you could join them.



## Piper Gallery now open

**River and Rowing Museum, Henley on Thames**  
[www.rrm.co.uk](http://www.rrm.co.uk)

It's a lovely time of year to take a trip to Henley on Thames and visit the River & Rowing Museum to see its new John Piper Gallery.

Piper was one of the most popular, prolific and versatile British artists of the 20th century who spent most of his working life living in Fawley, just outside Henley.

John Piper – *A Very British Artist* examines the diversity of Piper's career from Modernism to Romanticism. His extraordinary diversity of work covered painting, collage, drawing, stained glass, ceramics, tapestry, set design and textiles.

This exhibition features unseen work from private collections from around the country, as well as a continually evolving display of loans from galleries such as the Tate, V&A and the Arts Council.

The museum has received a donation of a brightly coloured tapestry, *Long Sutton, Lincolnshire* (1984), depicting an image of the town's church surrounded by trees and foliage. Piper originally produced a painting of the church in 1981 followed by a screen print in 1985.

*Long Sutton, Lincolnshire* is a striking example of Piper's eye for converting his artwork into textile designs.

An £11 adult ticket to the museum also buys access to the Rowing, Henley, River and Wind in the Willows galleries.



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DATE	COURSE	TIME
Saturday 3rd June	Intermediate Crochet (£35)	14.00-17.00
Saturday 17th June	Beginners Crochet (£25)	14.00-16.00
Saturday 1st July	How to read a Knitting Pattern (£25)	11.00-13.00
Saturday 1st July	How to read a Crochet Pattern and Chart (£35)	14.00-17.00
Sunday 30th July	Summer Open Day and Craft Fair - Book a Table Ring Sue for details	

watch Facebook & Web for our special offers

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[www.yarnfest.co.uk](http://www.yarnfest.co.uk)

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# June dates for your diary

objects and locality. The piece also involves elements performed by people from the local community.

## Sunday 18

**Pete Allen Reeds 'n' Rhythm**, Chequers Hotel, Newbury, 3pm. Tickets at the door £12.50 (cash only).

**Hungerford Hares Running Club**, 'Harey 8' Multi-terrain Race & Fun Run. To register visit [www.hungerfordhares.co.uk](http://www.hungerfordhares.co.uk)

**Newbury District Ornithological Club**. Full day visit to look for Redstart, Wood Warbler and Tree Pipits. Leave Newbury 8am. All welcome, but please call 01488 682301 in advance.

## Wednesday 21

**West Berkshire Ramblers**, Sunrise on the longest day, 4.30 am. Meet at Bury Down car park, grid ref SU479841, to watch the sunrise, then go for a walk along the Ridgeway and to West Ilsley. Bring a drink etc. Please contact the leader the day before hand if going on the walk. This walk will not happen if it is going to rain as the sunrise will not be visible. 5.3 miles Leader: Richard, tel 01635 230054

## Thursday 22

**Watermill Theatre presents Nesting**, 7.30pm, Aldworth Village Hall. Tickets £20 includes light supper, [aldworthnesting@googlegroups.com](mailto:aldworthnesting@googlegroups.com) or phone Ali 07796 855315

## Saturday 24

**One Great Day**, Kennet Centre, all day. Join the Kennet Centre and friends for a massive one day fundraising event in aid of Great Ormond Street and local charity, Swings and Smiles. Lots of entertainment, activities, competitions, sponsored events and challenges and special guests, plus facepainting and treasure hunts. All for great causes

## Wilton Windmill murder mystery and hog roast

7pm. Fundraiser for the Windmill. Smoke & Mirrors present *Cinderella: a Murder Mystery* The classic fairy tale gets the Smoke & Mirrors treatment, and an evening of riotous comedy, charming princes, hard-up barons and (exceptionally) ugly sisters is guaranteed. It's by no means compulsory, but as ever, we'd love it if you come in costume – this year's theme is Pantomania. Tickets include a gourmet hog-roast buffet (with vegetarian option); and there'll be a cash bar available throughout the evening. And of course there will be prizes of champagne and chocolates. Large groups are most definitely welcome, with one free ticket for

every group of ten booked. Tickets £27.50. To book call: 07769 977779; email: [info@hauntedmysteryweekend.co.uk](mailto:info@hauntedmysteryweekend.co.uk)

**Jazz Evening with Clive Fortune Big Band**, 6.30pm, Little Manor, Burghclere, RG30 3TG. Hog roast, bar and BYO picnic. £10 in advance, £12 on the door (Accompanied under 16s free). In aid of Save the Children. Tickets 0118 983 2569

## Sunday 25

**Hannington Country Fair** from 12noon. A full day of fun and entertainment for all ages with great arena entertainment, more than 80 sideshows and stalls, and probably the best fun dog show of the year. Car parks open at 11.15am and the fair starts at 12noon. Follow Facebook for updated information: [www.facebook.com/www.hanningtonfair.net](http://www.facebook.com/www.hanningtonfair.net)

**Soft Pastel Landscapes** with Louise Gunnerson, 10am-3pm, City Arts, Hampton Road, Newbury. [cityartsnewbury.co.uk/about](http://cityartsnewbury.co.uk/about)

## Thursday 29

To July 1, **The Railway Children**, Corn Exchange. Bobbie, Peter and Phyllis move with their mother from London to The Three Chimneys, a house near the railway in Yorkshire, after their father is imprisoned after being falsely accused of spying. There they befriend an old gentleman who regularly takes the 9.15am train near their home, and take care of a Russian exile, Mr Szczepansky, who is looking for his family. This new production captures all the excitement and emotion of Edith Nesbit's story and aims to bring the delights of this literary classic to yet another generation. Post show talk on June 29. Box Office 0845 5218218

**Pump Technology Irish Night**, Newbury Racecourse, gates open 4pm, first race 5.20pm. Alongside seven highly-competitive races there will be live music after racing which will celebrate all that is good about the Emerald Isle. [www.newburyracecourse.co.uk](http://www.newburyracecourse.co.uk)

## Friday 30

**Monoprinting: Line and Colour** with Karen Carter 10am-4pm City Arts, Newbury [cityartsnewbury.co.uk/about](http://cityartsnewbury.co.uk/about) 

**Deadline for listings for July issue:  
Tuesday, June 13**

Email: [report@newburynews.co.uk](mailto:report@newburynews.co.uk)  
or tweet: @outnaboutberks

## Village markets

**Aldworth Community Market**, every Saturday, 9.30am to noon. 01635 578090.

**Basildon village market**, 10am to 12.30pm. Last Saturday of the month. 01491 671515.

**Beenham village market**, 2pm to 3.30pm. Second Saturday of the month. 0118 971 4822.

**Bradfield market**, Bradfield Village Hall, 10am to 11.30am on the second Saturday of the month. 0118 9744068.

**Bucklebury Artisan Food market**, The Bladebone Inn, Chapel Row, first Saturday of the month, 10am to 12noon. Love food @BuckleburyAFM

**Farmers' markets** – Newbury, first and third Sunday of every month, 9am to 1pm; Hungerford, fourth Sunday, 9am to 1.30pm; Purley-on-Thames, second Sat, 9am to 1pm.

**Hamstead Marshall market**, second Saturday of every month, 10am to 1pm, 01488 658932/ 658168.

**Hermitage farmers' market**, second Sunday of every month, 10am to 1pm, 01635 201555.

**Inkpen Food and Craft Market**, Inkpen Village Hall, 3rd Sunday of every month, 10am - 12.30pm.

**Silchester Market**, Silchester Village Hall, first Saturday of the month, 10am to midday.

**Spirals Craft market**, raising money for The Brain Tumour Charity, dates and venues vary. See [www.spiralscraftmarket.co.uk](http://www.spiralscraftmarket.co.uk)

**Thatcham Community Market** every Wednesday, United Reformed Church Hall, Church Lane, Thatcham 10am to 11.30am. 01635 872713.

**Wolverton Village Hall**, market first Saturday of every month, 9.30am to 11am. 01488 608594.

**Woolhampton Village Market**, first Saturday of the month, 10am to midday. 0118 971 3637.

**Woolton Hill Village Market**, last Saturday of every month, 10am to 1pm.



## May competition winners:

**Highclere Country Show:** Mrs L Painter, Beenham; Mrs M Clarke, Thatcham; A Hughes, Kingsclere; Ajay Kotadia, Thatcham; Alison Braithwaite, Newbury

**General competition rules:** The winner(s) will be the first entry(ies) drawn with the correct answer. In the event that a winner must be notified quickly and is unavailable on the daytime number provided,

another winner may have to be chosen. Newbury News Limited employees, and employees directly involved in the competition, and their families, are not eligible to enter. The editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Responsibility not accepted for entries lost or torn in the post. Postal entries must be on the original form. There are no cash alternatives to the prize.

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# Random acts of wildness

Get closer to nature with 30 Days Wild every day this June says **WENDY TOBITT** from the Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust

Scything at Audrey's Meadow

Seeing the world through the eyes of our children is one of the best ways to enjoy 30 Days Wild, the Wildlife Trust's annual campaign to encourage all of us to be a little bit closer to nature.

Going on daily adventures to explore and discover is all part of 30 Days Wild, a nationwide campaign to encourage more people to discover their local nature in easy ways, and feel the benefits.

Researchers at the University of Derby asked people taking part in the initiative how they felt after finishing the challenge.

Dr Miles Richardson, Director of Psychology, who led the study, said: "The impact of 30 Days Wild adds to the compelling argument for bringing nature into our everyday lives.

"Two months after taking part in 30 Days Wild, there was a 30 per cent increase in the number of people who reported their health as excellent.

"Last year's results also show people's happiness continued to improve after 30 Days Wild ended, which illustrates its sustained impact.

"This is important as it is happiness and connecting with nature that influence improvements in health.

"Our study also shows that those who

benefitted most were younger adults and those who weren't nature lovers."

What will you do in West Berkshire this June? It's easy and fun, and it will open your eyes to seeing nature in a new way.

Be inspired by these suggestions for Random Acts of Wildness, and create your own.

Share them with others using #30DaysWild and see them on the BBOWT website at [www.bbowl.org.uk](http://www.bbowl.org.uk)

- Go for a walk on Greenham Common or in Bowdown Woods and create your own artwork using leaves, twigs, feathers and pebbles. Take a photo and share on social media #30DaysWild.
- Make your own pollinators' patch at home with a tub or hanging basket of nectar-rich flowers and watch the butterflies and bees move in.
- Meet the neighbours: create a hedgehog highway by putting a CD-size hole in your fence and encourage your neighbours to do the same thing; you will help any local hedgehogs travel the 1-2km that they do each night.
- Start a nature table at school or at home. Feathers, snail shells, mosses, flower petals and old bird's nests make great talking points.

■ Challenge yourself to learn something new about nature. On June 11 there's a guided walk at Decoy Heath nature reserve near Aldermaston to discover southern marsh-orchids and dragonflies, or learn to scythe a hay meadow at Audrey's Meadow, Greenham on 24 June.

■ Go for an early morning walk, you'll be amazed to discover the different creatures that are about at dawn; hear the dawn chorus and catch the perfume of garden flowers before the heat of the day.

■ Explore a local nature site. Take a walk around a churchyard or local park to discover wildlife in hidden places.

■ Admire the setting sun from the top of the Berkshire Downs or Wayfarer's Walk, a pub garden beside the Kennet & Avon Canal, or your bedroom window. Listen to birds going to roost, and watch bats taking their first flight of the night. [OA](#)

Southern Marsh orchid



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT LOCAL WILDLIFE EVENTS

[www.bbowl.org.uk/whats-on](http://www.bbowl.org.uk/whats-on)

To download your 30 Days Wild pack go to [www.wildlifetrusts.org/30dayswild](http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/30dayswild)

Pictures: Rob Appleby, Lizzie Wilberforce

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3.40 4.50

**DISNEY** cheese, bacon & salad

3.60 4.70

**CASABLANCA** salad & mayo

3.50 4.60

**MALIBU** bacon, BBQ sauce, pineapple & cheese

3.80 5.00

**DEVILS PINCH** hot chilli sauce, cheese & onion

3.60 4.70

**DAYTONA** coleslaw, cheese & salad

3.60 4.70

**PALM BEACH** cheese, pineapple & mayo

3.60 4.70

**BLUESTON** blue cheese, salad & mayo

3.50 4.60

**PHOENIX** sweet chilli sauce

3.50 4.60

**PACIFIC** prawns in tasty cocktail sauce

3.80 5.00

**RIO GRANDE** blue cheese sauce & bacon

3.80 5.00

**CHICAGO** cheese, bacon & BBQ sauce

3.70 4.80

**SUPREME** swiss cheese, mushroom & garlic mayo

3.60 4.70

**VOLCANO** pepperoni, cheese, jalapenos & chilli sauce

3.80 5.00

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<b>PAYDAY</b>	any choice from the beef menu with a giant 3x 1/4 pound burger	6.00
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