

September 2017

West Berkshire, North Hampshire & East Wiltshire

OUT & ABOUT

A Newbury News Ltd publication

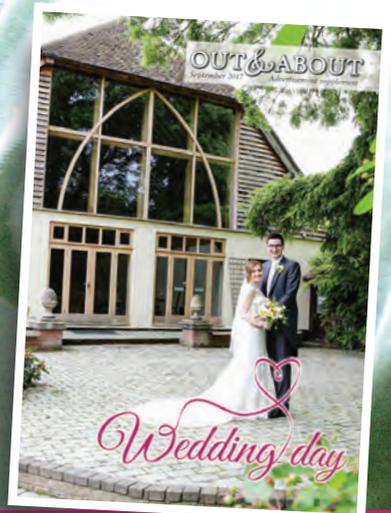
Meet Daphne & Rudi

at the Royal County of Berkshire Show



War and peace
Community-led celebration
of Greenham Common

Mind games
Local author Jon Stock on his
latest psychological thriller



Organise your day with our twelve-page wedding supplement inside

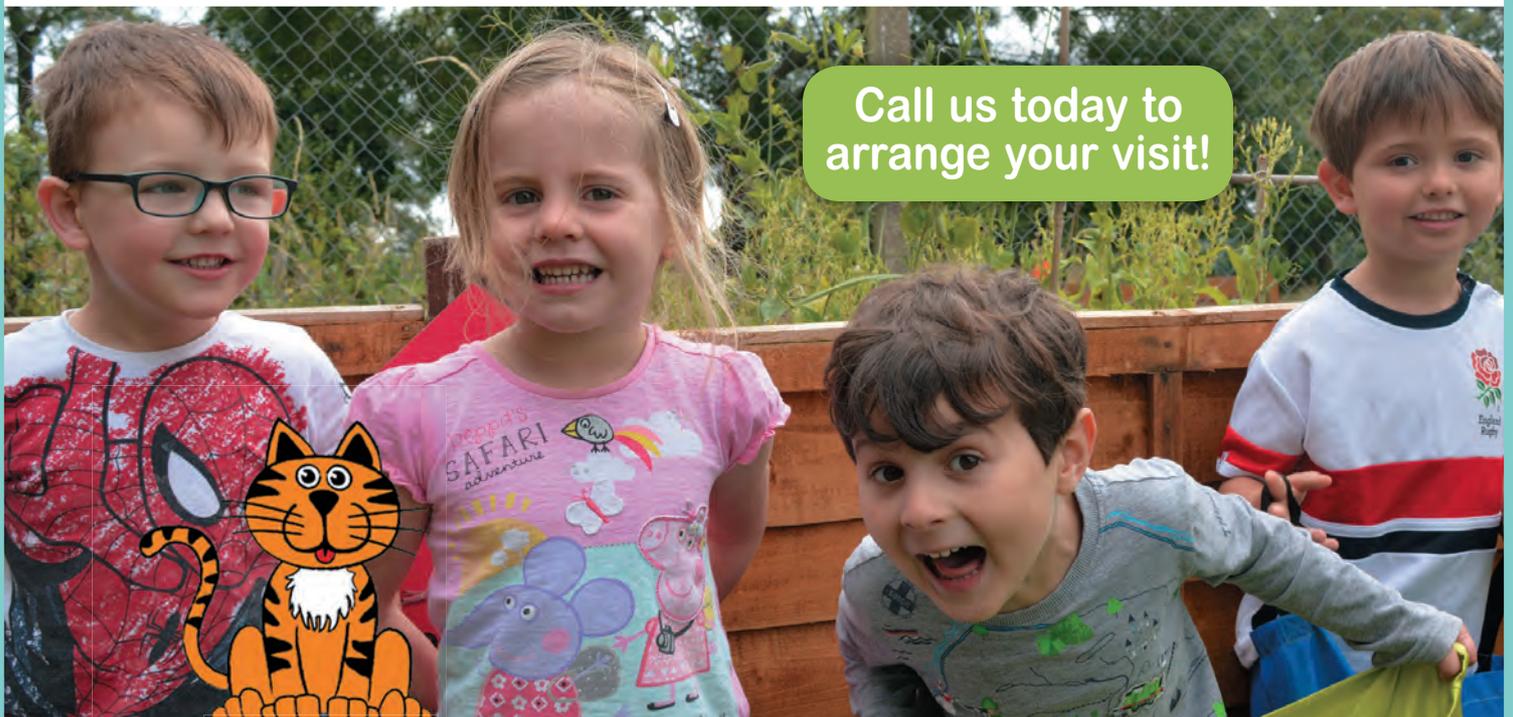


Tigers Day Nursery offers high quality care with brilliant facilities for your little ones
All of our staff are First Aid Trained and dedicated professionals



We offer freshly cooked meals, wild garden, forest school sessions, countryside walks, sensory room (bubble room), we cater for special educational needs, French lessons, dance and drama, football and well equipped rooms

Tigers have been established for over 20 years and have built up a brilliant reputation of amazing facilities and quality care



Call us today to arrange your visit!

Tigers Day Nursery, Henwick Court, Turnpike Road, Thatcham, Berkshire RG18 3QY

Telephone: 01635 528857

www.tigersdaynurseries.co.uk

WELCOME to the September issue of OUT&ABOUT

We are never short of great local events around West Berkshire and the Royal County of Berkshire Show is a calendar highlight with farm beasts galore on display. So I thought I'd take a look at some of the other creatures you can see at the show, hence my close encounter with a five-stone Burmese python, p16.

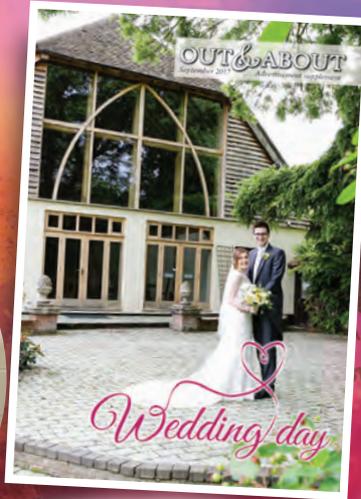
There will also be a huge celebration at Greenham Common this month with community-led events marking Greenham Trust's 20th year, p24.

And as the autumn nights draw in, you might want an atmospheric read. Local author Jon Stock talks about his latest chiller thriller, p44.

There's also floral fashion, team fitness, tasty suggestions to keep the kids' energy up and other food news, events diary, plus, if your planning a wedding, there's a 12-page supplement, packed with venue suggestions and other local providers of wedding paraphernalia.

Enjoy.

OUT&ABOUT EDITOR:
GERALDINE GARDNER
(01635) 886684
geraldine.gardner@newburynews.co.uk



Out&About

September 2017

Features

- 16 **Animal magic** Geraldine Gardner meets some of the more unusual animals you can see at the county show
- 24 **War & Peace** Trish Lee finds out about the massive pageant celebrating Greenham Common's heritage
- 44 **What's in a name** Author Jon Stock talks to Helen Sheehan and Lissa Gibbins about writing under a pseudonym

Food & drink

- 34 **Hidden treasure** Hilary Scott samples the delights of Blandy's in Kintbury
- 37 **Turbot charged** A favourite with chefs, turbot is a tasty choice says Simon Rhodes
- 38 **Food aware** Romilla Arber advocates responsible food production and disposal
- 41 **Top Tipples** James Allen dons his ushanka and toasts the tastes of Russia
- 42 **Back to school** Healthy food to fuel the kids, slow cookers and cool stuff to eat off

Regulars

- 5 **Jonathan Hopson** enjoys the bracing sea air of Berwick-upon-Tweed
 - 7 **Fitness:** Need a fitness buddy? Vicki Brown suggests ways you could find one
 - 11 **Fashion:** A selection of floral prints to brighten up the shorter days
 - 30 **Antiques:** Thomas Plant on books that hold their value
 - 47 **Books:** JS Monroe's debut thriller *Find Me* gives Helen Sheehan and Lissa Gibbins the shivers
 - 48 **Travel:** Caroline Coetzee takes a meander around Rwanda
 - 51 **Gardening:** Kate Gould is a fan of recycling garden schemes
 - 53 **Motoring:** The DS 4 Crossback is a streetwise choice that families will appreciate say Maurice and Annette Hardy
 - 55 **What's on:** Four pages of listings on where to go and what to see and do this month
 - 61 **Nature:** Jone Ayres celebrates the natural environment at Greenham Common
- Competitions**
- 9 **Andresa Skin Health Clinic** Win £250 treatment voucher
 - 23 **West Berkshire County Show** Win tickets to the agricultural show

TO ADVERTISE IN OUT&ABOUT
Abigail Reddin.
(01635) 886612
abigail.reddin@newburynews.co.uk



GROUP EDITOR: ANDY MURRILL
(01635) 886625
andy.murrill@newburynews.co.uk

Production design:
Carrie Faithfull, Helen Layton, Tim Silvester
Published on Thursday, August 31, free with the *Newbury Weekly News*.

The October issue of OUT&ABOUT will be published on September 28, 2017

Deadline for listings for the October issue is: **Tuesday, September 12** Email details to: report@newburynews.co.uk (subject line 'what's on')

OUT&ABOUT is published by Newbury News Ltd, Newspaper House, Faraday Road, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 2DW



Follow us on Twitter:
@outnaboutberks



Use this QT smartphone code to take you to our website where you can read our digital edition at:





SEE IT · FEEL IT · LOVE IT

CLASSIC BUILDINGS HANDCRAFTED
ENTIRELY FROM OAK

Barns · Garden Rooms · Porches · Garages · Shepherd Huts

HARTWOOD
OAK BUILDINGS



01635 253534

www.hartwodoak.com

Jonathan Hopson

enjoys a bit of coastline walking in the far reaches of Northumberland



Following an earlier *Out and About* article on the pleasures of walking in the countryside, this is a follow-up piece about a recent visit to Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland.

Northumberland is a great place for bracing walks and Scremerston beach, three miles south of Berwick, is one of my favourite areas to experience the many wonderful sights and sounds of coastline walking.

The shoreline is quite flat and extends for miles southwards towards Holy Island, Bamburgh Castle and the Farne Islands beyond.

There's usually a healthy sea breeze, which helps blow away any cobwebs, and the dogs enjoy running over the rippled sands and investigating the numerous rock pools for signs of life, particularly crabs.

It's also a great place for wildlife with many species of sea birds including cormorants, guillemots and kittiwakes.

You might even be lucky enough to see the occasional grey seal bobbing about in the surf.

A visit to Northumberland would be incomplete without a visit to the Farne Islands, the most famous sea bird sanctuary in the British Isles and home to a large colony of grey seals.

There are daily boat trips to the islands from Seahouses and there is a profusion of bird life, including three species of tern and literally thousands of puffins.

During our trip to Northumberland we also visited Paxton House, a few miles west of Berwick and watched a small group of fishermen use a coble – a traditional open small fishing boat – in attempting to net salmon. They were unsuccessful on this occasion, only managing to catch a single sea trout, which apparently was destined for the Paxton House restaurant.

In summary, a short, but nonetheless busy, trip to Northumberland and one with many happy memories.

PS Sadly, the 25th instalment of the Hopson Hotshots vs. Hewens Heroes annual cricket match, (mentioned in last month's Out & About), which was due to be played on July 29 at Wilcot, near Pewsey, had to be cancelled due to wet weather – hopefully the weather in 2018 will be kinder. 



Nesting seabirds on the Farne Islands



Arctic terns flying around Farne lighthouse off the Northumberland coast



Approaching sunset over Scremerston beach, Northumberland



Netting salmon for scientific and conservation purposes on the River Tweed



Abstract® Bodyworks Personal Training

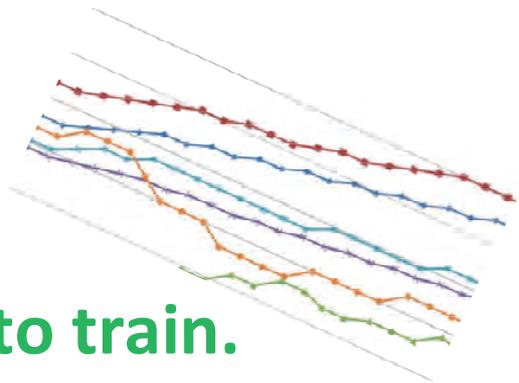
strong in body and mind



As an ex-boxing coach Ray used to *THINK* that a 15 minute workout wouldn't have any effect

Now Ray *KNOWS* that S²MART® Exercise is no ordinary workout

If you want to look, and feel, younger and fitter, we are the place to train.

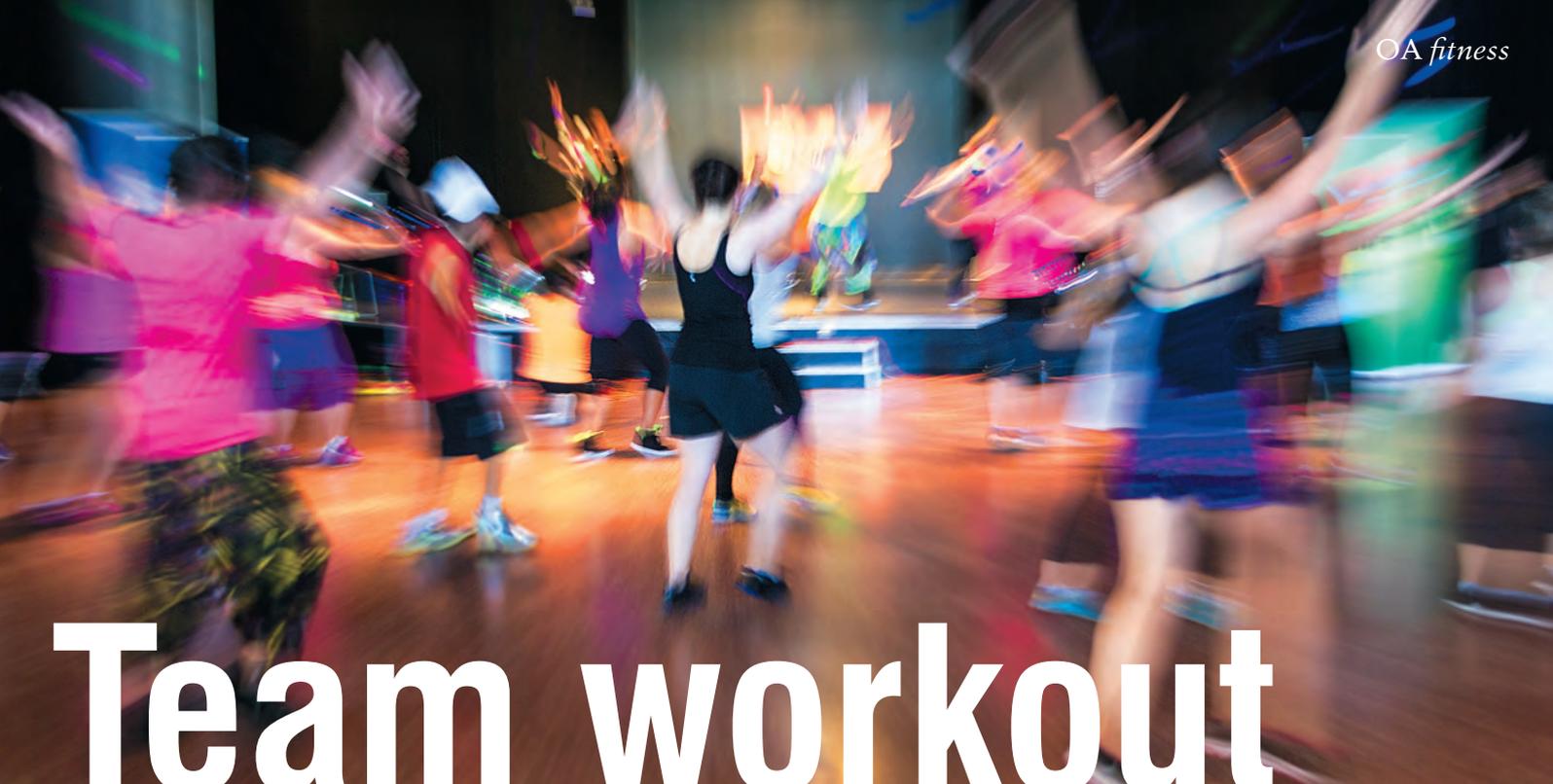


**Call or email us today to book your
TWO FREE INTRODUCTORY SESSIONS.**

11 Kings Road West, Newbury

www.pe-newbury.co.uk

01635 551656, pe.newbury@gmail.com, 07450 915462



Team workout

When it comes to wanting to adopt a healthier lifestyle you are not alone and VICKI BROWN suggest various ways you could find a support network – whether it’s one exercise buddy or a group of like-minded individuals – to get you motivated

I saw a post the other day online and it got me thinking. It was a post looking for a workout buddy.

This person knew what they should be eating and what exercise they should be doing, but even with this knowledge, they needed help.

They were looking for a workout buddy, because sometimes all someone needs is a little encouragement to stay on track.

A goal can seem extremely daunting and overwhelming if you feel alone when starting out, so having someone to encourage you and who you can encourage back is a great idea.

HOW TO FIND YOURSELF A BUDDY

The first thing worth trying is asking those close to you – family, friends and work colleagues – to see if any of them would like to work with you to achieve a goal.

Even if your goals are not exactly the same, you could still meet up and go for walks, go to an exercise class or attend the gym together. They will be a great support for you and you for them.

Going it alone, it is easy to say ‘Oh I won’t bother today’, whereas when someone else is relying on you, you are much less likely to cancel.

This is a great way to maintain continuity and support each other when you feel like you want to give up or are just having a tough day.

If you can’t find someone close by to buddy up with, you can look further afield, and you just might make a new friend at the same time.

THE INTERNET CAN BE A GREAT HELP

Look for local community groups that you can post on, asking for someone who would like to team up – chances are you will be inundated with those who are in exactly the same boat as you.

When you think you’re on your own, asking for help can make you feel much better, when you realise that actually lots of other people feel that way too.

If there is a class that you want to attend, sign up and go.

I completely understand how intimidating it can seem, but remember everyone was new once.

Once you get chatting to people, you may make some friends with similar goals and again you will benefit from the support network, which should encourage you to go back each week.

JOIN A CLUB OR GROUP TO GET YOU STARTED AND KEEP YOU ON TRACK

There are so many clubs around: running, cycling, walking, martial arts etc.

These can make you feel part of a team and are fantastic for giving guidance.

So often when you want to start out, particularly cycling or walking, you can be unsure of which routes to take or you may be wary of going somewhere on your own.

This is understandable, which is why joining a club can calm those nerves and get you motivated.

Every town seems to have a list as long as

your arm of various groups, so have a search for your desired interest and get in touch with them. Chances are you will be welcomed with open arms by a friendly and encouraging bunch of people. Just what’s needed when you need focus and support.

WORKING ALONE WITH SUPPORT

Some people need support, but like to work alone – if that’s you it might be to consider getting a personal trainer to give them some guidance. Having someone to be held accountable to can make a big difference.

Many people have an idea what they need to do, but still need help to discipline themselves and make better choices.

So get out there and find yourself a keep fit buddy or a support group to kickstart your way towards your target. Give it a try and see how much easier it can be to stick to your goals. OA



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

Cambridge Weight Plan

MYTH BUSTERS

#1 *It's just shakes.*

Cambridge Weight Plan includes a wide range of tasty meal replacements and conventional healthy food.

#2 *Dieting isn't healthy*

Cambridge Weight Plan is a nutritionally balanced diet with over 30 years of proven medical research.

#3 *It's really expensive*

One nutritious meal replacement costs less than a high street coffee.

#4 *You'll just put all the weight back on*

"It's really important to me that you don't put the weight back on" says Nuala Carroll "and I always offer free lifetime appointments to help you maintain your new healthy weight.

**"I lost a stone
in 5 weeks"**

MARTINE
MCCUTCHEON



If you would like to lose weight
contact Nuala Carroll

Cambridge
Weight Plan®

Independent Consultant

Free no obligation consultation



Nuala Carroll
Cambridge Weight Plan Centre,
Newbury
T: 07581 169765
E: nuala500@yahoo.co.uk
W: www.cambridgeweightplan.com/nuala

Radiant skin for your wedding day

Top tips from Theresa Fleetwood from Andresa Skin Health Clinic and a chance to win £250 worth of treatment

Getting married is one of the most exciting and important events in your life.

You will spend months, if not years, planning your wedding. But one thing that often gets left until the last minute is your skin; not just the bride's but also the groom, mother-of-the-bride and mother-of-the-groom.

INVEST IN YOUR SKIN

It is not worth investing hundreds or even thousands of pounds on wedding outfits if your skin is not glowing, flawless and radiant on the big day.

You need to think about investing in your skin so you look and feel your best when you walk down the aisle.

Skin health is not something you can start thinking about a couple of weeks before the wedding. Brides-to-be and mothers should start thinking about their skin programme at least six months before the wedding.

BOOK IN FOR A 3D SKIN ANALYSIS

A great place to start is with a 3D Digital Analysis of your skin and a consultation at a local skin clinic, where you can discuss what issues you want to address. This enables skin health experts to create a plan that will deliver long-lasting, visible results that continue way beyond the honeymoon.

INDULGE YOURSELF IN SOME WELL-DESERVED PAMPERING

Of course the dress is important, but what people really want to see is you. And if your skin is tired, or your décolletage is showing signs of skin damage, it's going to detract from your day. Do the dress, and yourself, justice by setting time aside for some nourishing, rejuvenating skin treatments like a luxury prescriptive facial or the amazing ClearLift 4D Laser Facelift, that will give you a beautiful glow and reduce your reliance on make-up.

EAT SKIN-BOOSTING FOODS

If you're embarking on a pre-wedding diet, it's worth knowing that significant dietary changes in the months prior to your wedding can play havoc with your skin. Whatever you decide to do, make these four points central to your plans:

■ Pick proteins

Protein from fish is considered to be the most beneficial for helping to build and maintain healthy collagen in skin, as well as strong, healthy hair and nails

■ Get your vits

Vitamin C is a super-antioxidant, needed for a strong immune system, healing of blemishes and radiant skin

■ Moisturise your skin from within

Eat foods rich in Omega 3, 6 and 9, such as oily fish, nuts and seeds for moisture and anti-inflammatory agents

■ Don't go thirsty

Drink at least two litres of still mineral or filtered water daily to help plump fine lines and wrinkles, as well as reduce the appearance of dark circles under the eyes

TAKE A TAILORED APPROACH

In the same way that you expect your dress to fit perfectly, your skincare regime should be uniquely tailored to you.

You need a personalised, prescriptive programme of skin treatments and products designed entirely around your skin and your lifestyle priorities.

So, whether you're looking to repair, rejuvenate or just refresh your skin, you'll receive a bespoke bridal skin service at skin clinics like Andresa.

GET RID OF UNWANTED HAIR

Consider pain-free laser hair removal so you don't have to worry about daily shaving and tedious plucking before the big day and on your honeymoon.

This state-of-the-art laser technology permanently reduces unwanted hair, targeting the hair follicles with heat.

For more information on Andresa Skin Health Clinic's bespoke bridal service to repair, rejuvenate and refresh your skin, go to www.andresa.co.uk or call 01635 800183 to book a consultation.

Andresa was featured in Brides Magazine's Cosmetic Beauty Guide in November 2016 and their beauty editor said that they were 'A serious find' rating their treatments as delivering 'long-term effects that last way past the honeymoon'.

They recommended Andresa's ClearLift 4D Laser Facelift for lifting and tightening, and their DermaQuest Stem Cell Facial for its ability to deliver "baby-faced radiance".

They went on to describe Andresa as having '...enough machines to rival the firepower of a top London clinic'.

For the chance to win a £250 voucher for treatment at Andresa Skin Health Clinic, answer the following question correctly:

How many litres of water should you drink a day?

Send your answer on the form to Andresa Skin Health Clinic competition, *Out&About*, Newspaper House, Faraday Road, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 2DW. The closing date for entries is Tuesday, September 12.

For more wedding inspiration, turn to the *Out&About* supplement in the middle of the magazine.

Andresa Skin Health Clinic competition entry form

Answer

Name

Address

.....

.....

Email

Daytime tel. no

I would like more information
about the Andresa Skin Health Clinic

Bring out your inner artist
Beginners to Intermediates

new Art Class STARTS SOON!

Beginners to Intermediates

- Absolute Beginners to Improvers - Just Like You
- 14 week course
- Three hours once a week, mornings or afternoons
- Step-by-step guidance
- Suitable for beginners, refresher and advanced
- Meet New Friends, Learn New Skills
- Develop your skills and create your own original art to enjoy forever



THE SEASONS
Art Class
THE ART CLASS YOU ALWAYS WANTED

STARTS SOON • LIMITED SPACES • CALL NOW FOR DETAILS
01256 810 933 St Marys Church Hall,
Newbury

HATS • SHOES • CLOTHES
JEWELLERY • HANDBAGS



OCCASION WEAR

COCO & CO

DESIGNER LABELS FOR LESS
NEW AND PRE-OWNED

Bridge St, Hungerford • www.coco-co.co.uk
01488 686319 / 07718 748035

Bertie Golightly

**NOW OPEN
SUNDAYS**

By popular demand
we are now open
7 days a week.

*We are also very happy to
see callers in evenings by
arrangement, please phone
for an appointment.*

*Ring Bertie on
01672 513318*

www.bertiego.co.uk

4 Kingsbury St, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 1HU

NATURA SPA

AT INGLEWOOD, KINTBURY
NOW OPEN

Natura Spa has reopened under new management and want to help you destress from your pressures of everyday life!

Visit our new hair salon within the spa for a new hair do or come and unwind with a beauty or spa treatment. Natura aim to provide affordable treatments in luxury surroundings for everyone to enjoy!

Please take advantage
of our cut-voucher



Spa Day for 2 Only £80.

30 minute treatment each,
use of facilities & cream tea.

Valid until September 30th

01488 682298 | contact@naturaspa.co.uk
Facebook 'Natura Spa Kintbury'
Natura Spa, Inglewood, Hungerford RG17 9AA

Shirts



River Island £45



New Look £19.99



Matalan £16



M&S £25



Monsoon £79



M&S £25



Debenhams £49

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness...

John Keats' *Ode to Autumn* is a reminder of the gentle change of season, heading towards the winter months. During September, the trees provide a spectacular array of golds, oranges, reds and greens and these colours are reflected in high street fashion, with muted floral prints leading the way.

live happy!

with
Slimming World

save
up to **£5**
ask in group for
more details

Tuesday

Whitchurch

Testbourne School -
Community Suite

Micheldever Road

7:30 pm

Wednesday

Hungerford

Herongate Leisure
Centre

Charnham Lane

3:30, 5:30 & 7:30 pm

Thursday

Newbury

Greenham
Community Centre

The Nightingales

9:30 am

Thursday

Newbury

Newbury College -
Sports Hall

Monks Lane

5:30 & 7:30 pm

Phone Richard on 07412 033302

   slimmingworld.co.uk

0344 897 8000

Slimming
WORLD

touching hearts, changing lives

Dresses



TK Maxx £19.99



Monsoon £69



F&F £18



F&F £20



Matalan £16



Monsoon £119

Skirts



Debenhams £49



River Island £50



M&S £49.50

Over 500 memorials in stock

M. J. Sly Monumental Sculptor of Marlborough And Andover

At Marlborough we are Open
Monday to Friday 9AM TO 5PM
Saturday 9am TO 12 midday
* Evenings by appointment *

Visit our Website
www.mjsly.co.uk

Telephone 01672 516797

Email martin@mjsly.co.uk

*We import material direct and use
English materials direct from the quarry
Suppliers to funeral directors
and direct to the public*

**Workshop &
Studio is at ;**

**Pelham Court,
London Road,
Marlborough,
Wilts.
SN8 2AG**



For Cemetery



**OVER 500
In stock
To choose from**

BRAMM

*Choose us
for peace of mind*

Our Andover studio is at ;

**6 Swan Court,
East Street,
Andover,
Hampshire.
SP10 1EZ**

Open by appointment only



For Churchyard



Covering Newbury and the surrounding areas

BARNES

01793 821303
WWW.BARNESCOACHES.CO.UK

Unit E, Woodside Road, South
Marston Park, Swindon, SN3 4AQ



Alpine Brass Band Music Festival Austria

10/10/17

7 Days: £659

Don't miss this amazing musical experience: see local, national and international brass bands, each with their own music genre, perform at this unique festival in the picturesque village of Ellmau. This combination of wonderful entertainment, colourful procession and stunning Tyrolean scenery promises to be an unforgettable and unique experience.



A Mint Holiday to the Glorious Gower

08/10/17

4 Days: £329

Includes Guided of the Gower with entries, The Royal Mint and National Botanic Garden. We visit the Royal Mint the most visited garden in Wales and experience the stunning, inspiring landscapes of the Gower Peninsula, Britain's first Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and one of the most beautiful regions in the UK.



Blackpool Illuminations

13/10/17

3 Days: £189

Blackpool is Britain's largest holiday resort with a flat 6-mile promenade and three piers, The Trams on the seafront are the only survivors of their kind in England. We will be staying at the ever-popular 3 star Vernon Hotel which is ideally situated close to the promenade and all the attractions.



Lakes, Dales, Mountains & Blackpool Illuminations:

Morecambe

20/10/17

4 Days: £249

A superb tour viewing some of Britain's finest scenery in both the Yorkshire Dales and Lake District. Our centre is Morecambe with its level, five mile promenade and superb views across the bay to the Lakeland hills. We will be staying at the Lothersdale Hotel which is situated on the promenade, with breathtaking views across the bay and to the Lake District mountains.



Tatton Park, Erddig Hall & Chester

26/10/17

3 Days: £239

Spectacular scenery, glorious gardens, plus a rich culture and heritage are just a few things on offer in charming Cheshire! We will be staying at the majestic Grade 1 listed building The 4 star Crewe Hall hotel which is set in the heart of Cheshire's countryside with full leisure facilities.

**FOR FULL TOUR ITINERARIES
CALL OUR TEAM ON 01793
821303 TO REQUEST A COPY OF
OUR LATEST UK & EUROPEAN
HOLIDAY BROCHURE!**



Autumn Tints at Chatsworth & in The Peaks

26/10/17

3 Days: £229

Chatsworth is one of the UK's most loved historic houses and estates. It has something for everyone to do, from the famous art galleries, beautiful water features and amazing gardens and grounds, to the finest shops, food and drink. We also enjoy the Peak District plus some of its towns whilst in their lovely autumnal colours. Our hotel is the Breadsall Priory Marriott Hotel & Country Club.

Animal crackers

The Royal County of Berkshire Show is one of the biggest agricultural extravaganzas in the country, with prizewinning cattle, sheep and pigs parading round the ground. But, there's also a wildlife corner and GERALDINE GARDNER met up with some of the more unusual creatures you can meet at the show including *Rudi*, the otter, *No.3*, the Burmese Python and *Snitch*, the ferret



Our task must be to free ourselves by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature and its beauty.

Albert Einstein

Pictures: Phil Cannings & Geraldine Gardner

Did you know that the otter is the oldest mammal on earth, that there are 13 different species and the California sea otter is the only one that lives in water?

These are just some of the myriad facts Daphne Neville has at her fingertips, after 36 years devoted to educating children and adults about the otter and its lifestyle.

Her current companion is Rudi, an Asian short-clawed otter now 11 years old, who scurries around his suite of pens in the woodland surrounding Daphne's home, lord of all he surveys. He took a particular liking to photographer Phil Cannings' boots, but I digress...

Rudi's predecessor Bee was Daphne's first foray into otter care and while she clearly adores the animals, her life as an 'otter lady' came about quite by chance.

"A friend of ours, Ian Hunter-Darling, was explaining how otters were dying out in England and Wales because of river pollution. Otters have a diet of fish, eels and molluscs. Because our rivers were getting contaminated, fish stocks were suffering and ultimately killing the otters at the top of the food-chain.

"It became obvious that the government had to take some responsibility before we lost one of our native mammal species. No one had taken the trouble to look at what was happening in our beautiful rivers.

"So, I decided to start a charm offensive – beguile the Department of the Environment into improving and safe-guarding natural wetland habitats, so that wildlife could live as it should. Bee and I went into schools, appeared on television, went to shows – any public event that would have us – to talk about the otter, how it survives and the difficulties that river pollution was causing."

This was in the early-1980s. By 1999, Daphne's tactic paid off. Then Environment Secretary Michael Meacher had the law changed to reduce pollution in rivers, the fish gradually became more healthy and otters thrived.

Job done – except that Daphne and Bee were a star attraction at many public shows and private parties by now, so she carried on. After Bee died, aged 13 and someone told her of another otter that needed hand-rearing, how could she resist?

"When Rudi arrived, he had a readymade otter-friendly home to move into, so it didn't take long for him to settle."

In fact, the pen was 'officially opened' by Princess Michael of Kent in 1995.

"Princess Michael is just one of the many people I have met during my otter adventures," laughs Daphne.

She has albums full of cuttings with Davids Bellamy and Attenborough, politicians and, most recently, the cast of hit ITV show *The Durrells*.

"The producers wanted a pair of otters for a particular storyline and so Rudi was drafted in – I don't think I'm giving too much away when I say he played both male and female otters, and in the next series I think he will be the whole family!"

Daphne is a well-known face at the Royal County of Berkshire Show and this year will be her 25th.

Now her job in getting the rivers cleaned up and seeing an increase in the otter population seems diminished, is it time to rest?

"Oh goodness me no. We now have a problem in that, as otters increase in number and move into new territory, around 2,000 a year are being killed on the roads.

"It's really shocking and heart-breaking and again the solution is relatively simple."

Daphne disappears and a few minutes later comes back with a clear plastic box, that fits in the palm of her hand.

"You see this? It's an animal warning whistle. You can buy them off Amazon for just a few pounds and they save lives."

She blows into the casing and a whistle sound does indeed emanate.

"You stick it into the bumper of your car and as you drive along it makes the whistling sound, warning animals of your approach. It is proven to work and in Australia all cars are fitted with such a device as standard."

Not surprisingly Daphne has already written to many major car manufacturers asking them to consider fitting the device – actually asking why they haven't.

"Some have replied, saying they are 'looking into it'." Daphne is clearly unimpressed with this response.

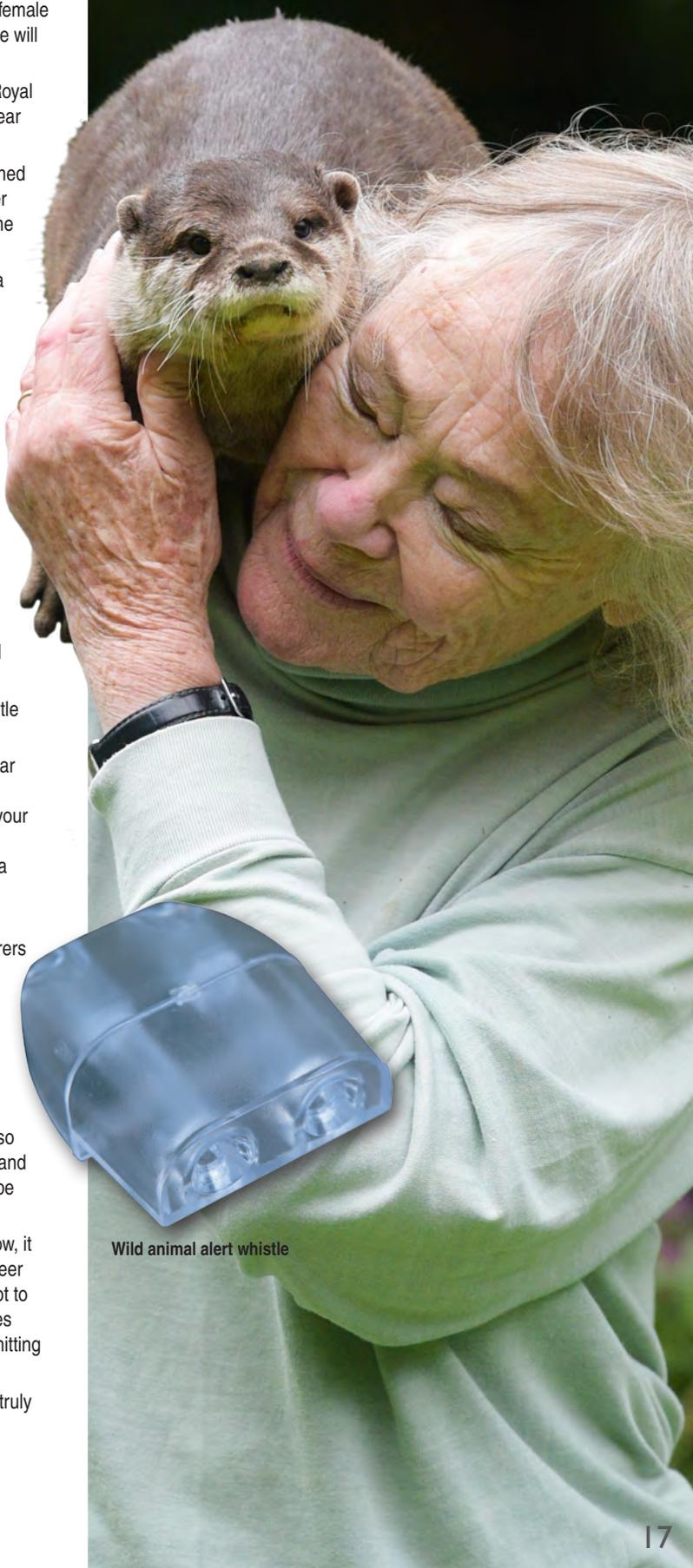
"I will bring some along to the show, so people can see how simple they are and have information on where they can be bought.

"We're not just talking about otters now, it is all animals – badgers, pheasant, deer and beloved pets, cats and dogs – not to mention avoiding the potential crashes caused by people swerving to avoid hitting the animals."

One senses that Daphne is well and truly on her next mission. ➤

Daphne Neville and Rudi

www.daphneneville.com



Wild animal alert whistle

A MORTGAGE THAT WORKS FOR YOU WHEN YOU WORK FOR YOURSELF



Being self-employed can create challenges when it comes to securing a mortgage.

Newbury Building Society believes that it doesn't have to.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) figures show more than 4.78 million people in the UK are self-employed, an increase of 114,000 from the same time last year, making it the second fastest growing group of earners in the UK.

However, the self-employed, contractors and freelancers can often struggle to get on the property ladder as they find getting a mortgage challenging.

Maybe we can help.

Newbury Building Society believes that being self-employed should not be a barrier to obtaining a mortgage. Here are just a few reasons why Newbury Building Society can help;

- We are able to look at cases where the self employed history is less than 3 years
- Retained profits and Directors loans can be considered as a source of income
- We accept applications with a combination of employed and self-employed income

To help you plan for your mortgage application the following points are useful.

- Do** keep up-to-date records and accounts.
- Do** employ a certified or chartered accountant to prepare your accounts and tax returns.

Newbury Building Society is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority (Financial Services Register number 206077). 6565

Do speak to your existing lender or a mortgage broker about your options.

Don't forget lenders will credit check your business, as well as you.

Don't assume it's impossible to get a mortgage.

Need more reasons to talk to us?

- We review all cases on an individual basis and do not credit score
- We are known for providing a tailored and individual service
- We have local branch appointments available
- Our mortgage advisers are CeMAP qualified
- We lend in England and Wales
- Saturday appointments are available in our branches

Whether you are buying for the first time, moving home or remortgaging, talk to us about our mortgages for the self-employed.

Visit our Newbury branch, call us on **01635 522588** or email **newbury@newbury.co.uk**



Jane Boshier
Senior Office Manager

YOUR MORTGAGE IS SECURED ON YOUR HOME. THINK CAREFULLY BEFORE SECURING OTHER DEBTS AGAINST YOUR HOME. YOUR HOME MAY BE RE-POSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE.





Dave Hayden



Pictures clockwise: Dave Hayden is holding an albino python, African bull frog, fruit beetles, tarantula, African land snail, tailless whip scorpion

I have to admit I am not a great fan of reptiles, so when I went to visit Dave Hayden from the Portsmouth Reptile & Amphibian Society (PRAS), I was a little wary about the animals on display – and it showed.

“A lot of people are nervous so start with,” laughs Dave. “But, you’d be surprised how quickly they relax once they become used to the snakes.”

As I walked into the room at the display in Winchester – Dave is based in Portsmouth, but travels to shows in the south – the first thing I saw was a five-stone Burmese python wrapped around a visiting WPC.

“That’s No.3 – called that because it’s the third one I’ve been asked to take care of.”

PRAS is called upon by animal rescue organisations when a reptile is in need of a temporary home before being rehoused.

“I can’t keep all the animals I am asked to look after. I have two Burmese pythons among the 17 snakes, 10 lizards, 60 spiders and various other insects living in my house.”

Hang on – back up – insects? Dave takes me over to another part of the display where he shows me the boxes of cockroaches, beetles, arachnids and other creepy crawlies that really leave me out of my comfort zone.

He holds out a spider, “This is Houston – it’s a Whiteknee tarantula.” Dave likes naming his animals appropriately – he has two Milk snakes – one is called Skimmed and the other Strawberry.

“I give a lot of talks about reptiles and insects. The kids love them and the names give them a personality.”

He’s saying all this while holding another member’s Bearded dragon lizard, Fluffy.

There are a lot of children milling around the display and some of them have snakes draped around their necks. It seems it is a family hobby.

“We have about 90 memberships, so 200 plus members in total and yes, the children are just as involved as the adults.

“It’s important that people are educated about reptiles and their needs and how to look after them responsibly.”

Dave’s interest in snakes and insects is a lifelong passion.

“I used to love worms and earwigs as a boy. I was fascinated by all animals, so I guess it was an obvious progression to reptiles and larger insects.”

As he says this he picks up an African bull frog named *Wee Jock* – a great greeny-grey mass, which looks almost like a large piece of clay, but for the huge eyes staring at me benignly.

Next to him are a group of giant African land snails, the likes of which I have never seen before and which could cause havoc in many a garden. Each snail measures at least six inches and I found myself taking a step backwards as Dave picked one up to show me.

There is no question that these animals are indeed a source of fascination and Dave will once again be bringing his display to the county show – he’s been coming to Newbury for 18 years now.

“Families really enjoy our display and we want to dispel the fear that many have of reptiles.”

And then it’s my turn – No.3, remember him? – the five-stone Burmese python is draped around my neck and lifts his head to have a look at me. I keep smiling and ask what I should do. “Just put your hand under his neck” I am told.

I oblige and am surprised at how warm this cold-blooded creature feels.

“They take on the temperature of their environment – his enclosure at home is heated to 30 degrees. Most people expect them to be cold and slimy, but they couldn’t be more different.”

I felt a sense of achievement after my bonding session with No.3 and a little ashamed of my initial fear. Dave and some of his animals will be on display at the show and I would encourage you to pay them a visit.

Dave is a mine of information on all his creatures and a willing teacher and you just might get a selfie, holding one of these magnificent creatures.

www.pras-uk.co.uk ►



Ninja the cat tolerates the ferrets

Nick and Fiona Walklet usher us through to the garden where eight ferrets are scrambling over each other to greet their visitors.

Sitting benignly next to their pen is Ninja, a black and white mog, who looks a little perplexed at the long, wriggly energetic creatures.

The couple explain that they 'got into' ferrets because of their middle daughter, Harriet, who really wanted one. Like all children, middle or otherwise, their daughter has now grown up and left home, but the ferrets have stayed – although Nick does point out that she is still in the area and still regularly visits the ferrets (and presumably her parents!).

The first thing they make very clear is that ferrets are essentially sociable animals and are not vicious.

Most people's view of ferrets is coloured by the now-legendary image of one of the furry creatures clinging on to the finger of former *Countdown* presenter Richard Whitely.

"Like any animal, ferrets will bite if they think they're in danger," explains Nick.

"They're also quite short-sighted so if they see something coming towards them they tend to think it's food and will go to bite it," adds Fiona.

There is only one species of ferret, but they can be different colours and Albino ferrets are quite common.

"In the past, the Albinos were very popular working ferrets, because when they chased out a rabbit, they could then be easily distinguished before the prey was shot at or caught by hawks."



Ferrets are still used as 'working' animals today, but they are more commonly simply pets. They have never been naturally wild, in fact they were domesticated by the Romans more than 2,000 years ago.

Nick and Fiona are members of the Hants & Berks Ferret Club, which they joined in 2010 and which currently has around 40 members.

"We learned a lot from other members of the club, which does a lot for promoting the health and wellbeing of ferrets, rehousing unwanted animals and educating owners in responsible animal care.

"In fact, the club will be celebrating its 20th anniversary next year.

"We get calls from all over the country, requesting our services – we were asked to go up to Aberdeen the other day for a show. I'd say we probably turn down about 50 appearances a year."

What is the enduring appeal of these playful creatures?

"Almost exactly that – they are very playful and a lot of fun. But they're also slippery creatures and are always looking for ways to escape and go off and explore.



WYSE
LOCKSMITHS

LOCK REPAIR

LOCK FITTING

EMERGENCY LOCK ENTRY

UPVC SPECIALIST



07825 566 865

www.wyselocksmiths.co.uk

[f wyselocksmiths](https://www.facebook.com/wyselocksmiths)

[@wyselocksmiths](https://twitter.com/wyselocksmiths)

info@wyselocksmiths.co.uk

FIREWOOD

Seasoned Hardwood Logs



Produced from locally sourced timber and delivered to you in recyclable one cubic metre bulk bags.

Quick efficient delivery - no fuss, no mess.

All logs are barn processed and stored until delivery.

Softwood kindling available with your delivery.

Free delivery within 15 miles of Hungerford and multi bag orders.

Seasoned Timber Company Limited

Call today for prices - 0791 7875781

www.seasonedtimbercompany.co.uk



The Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) is funded by Defra and the EU. The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD): Europe investing in rural areas



Nick Walklet

“People don’t realise that Jills need to mate every year – or they will die. There are various ways of combatting this, apart from neutering. You can give them an injection, which makes them think they have mated or pair them with a vasectomised Hob (male ferret).”

“We get calls all the time from people asking us to take litters. Kits do bite, they’re babies and they’re looking for food, then people won’t hold them and then they become nervier.”

This is the club’s 17th visit to the Berkshire Show and there is always a lot of interest in the ferrets.

“Children love to watch the races, older children can hold them and they all love to stroke them.”

In addition to visiting schools, fetes and county shows, the Hants & Berks Ferret Club holds two shows of its own each year – one in April in Grazeley village hall, when other clubs join in and various rosettes are hotly-contested.

In mid October, the club’s own show is held in Headley Village Hall – the public are welcome to both of these shows, but only club members



OA feature

are allowed to enter their ferrets in the second show.

“All the club members are volunteers and the club show is our opportunity to show off our ferrets to each other.”

“When we attend other events we do so for a fee, which along with the money we raise from racing and the generous contributions we receive from the public, enables us to make donations to a number of ferret rescue and rehoming centres across the south of England.”

“We’ve even been asked to set up ferret races at a wedding, and once took part in an event in the City of London. The club and our ferrets have made several TV appearances, including *The Alan Titchmarsh Show*. They love being around people and will happily take part in any event.”

www.hbferretclub.co.uk



“They can be litter trained so we let them run around the house to have a bit of an explore – and the dogs have a healthy respect for them.”

On average, ferrets live to around 8 years and the Jills (female ferrets) can have litters of anything from a couple to 12 or 13 kits.

One of the club’s aims is to teach people about irresponsible breeding.

The Royal County of Berkshire Show, Saturday, September 16 and Sunday, September 17

Newbury Showground, Priors Court, Hermitage, Thatcham, Berks, RG18 9QZ
Gate prices: Adult £20, Concession £17, Children £7 Family £50. Children under 5 free when accompanied by full paying adult. www.berkshireshow.co.uk
For a chance to win tickets see over the page

National Trust

The Vyne

Join our builders
13m above ground
level as they
rescue a Tudor
roof.

When you visit, donate, volunteer or join the National Trust, your support helps us to look after special places in London and the South East such as The Vyne, Sandham Memorial Chapel and The Chase for ever, for everyone. nationaltrust.org.uk/the-vyne

KALEHURST
GARDEN MACHINERY LTD

GET YOUR WEEKENDS BACK
The Garden Revolution is here!

Over 1 million sold

COME IN AND GET YOUR FREE AUTOMOWER SITE SURVEY TODAY
With over 35 years experience, Kalehurst Garden Machinery is a name you can really trust. Come and speak to our team of experts for the best service in town.

KALEHURST
AT HILLIER GARDEN CENTRE, HERMITAGE,
Nr NEWBURY RG18 9TG
T: 01635 201623
E: sales@kalehurstgardenmachinery.co.uk
www.kalehurstgarden.co.uk

Everything I need is on my doorstep

Avonbank Lodge is ideally located in the heart of Newbury and consists of 59 one and two-bedroom retirement apartments.

This development is located on a level walk to the large variety of shops and facilities in Newbury including high street retailers, the Parkway Shopping Centre, various cafes and banks. Newbury Library, several pharmacies and the Royal British Legion are all nearby. The Corn Exchange in the Market Place has a cinema and theatre, offering various shows including comedy, dance and music throughout the year, while Victoria Park has a bandstand, bowls club and a boating lake.

Make the first move towards Churchill Retirement Living today – you'll be surprised how easy it can be.



Home is at the heart of a happy retirement

ADDED PEACE OF MIND

- Lodge Manager
- Owners' Lounge
- Guest Suite for friends and family
- Landscaped gardens
- 24-hour support
- Secure video entry system
- Free parking
- Lift to all floors



Call Kim or Harry to find out more

01635 922035

Visit churchillretirement.co.uk



Churchill
Retirement Living 

D&R FURNISHERS



Designers Guild

New Collections available now. Pay us a visit to see the thousands of options for brightening up your interior!

T. 01672 513491/2 | The Parade | Marlborough | Wiltshire | SN8 1NE

Open: Monday – Friday 8:15am – 5:00pm (Closed weekends)

www.dandrfurnishers.co.uk



It's show time

Win a family ticket to one of the biggest agricultural events in the country

The Newbury & District Agricultural Society has an exciting variety of entertainment and attractions at this year's Royal County of Berkshire Show, with fun 'have-a-go' activities for all the family, as well as spectacular shows and stunts and, of course, the best livestock from around the UK on show.

This year sees the return of the Devil's Horsemen, a team of riders who perform breath-taking, high-energy acrobatics on horseback. Tearing along at full gallop, the rider will be hanging at impossible angles from its back or standing from the saddle.

The show is also welcoming back the Shetland Grand National, which last appeared in 2015. The team will be delivering more high-speed dashes, a sea of coloured silks and flying manes, all condensed on pint-sized shetland ponies.

The hugely popular Savage Skills Extreme Sports Team will also be showcasing their daring stunts and skills using BMX, mountain bikes and parkour.

And there's a brand new catering company that will be providing a great mix of street food, such as pizza, fish and chips, hog roast and baguettes using fresh, seasonal and local ingredients, as well as a number of refreshing beverages.

Pippin the Pig will be making an appearance throughout the weekend, and as a real crowd pleaser, he has become a big part of the show's team, making appearances at various other events over the summer, so do look out for him.

Music will play a large part of the visitors' experience, with the Corunna Band & Bugles of Oxfordshire playing in the main arena over the weekend, as well as a full line-up of various acts playing on the band stand – a great area to sit and enjoy your food while watching the world go by.

The Royal County of Berkshire Show never forgets its agricultural origins, and attracts the best livestock from across the UK.

This year the show welcomes the prestigious Burke Trophy, which will be awarded to the best pair of pedigree beef animals and pair of dairy cattle.

Many of the show's favourites will be returning:

- The Food Tent: housing a variety of delectable treats and accompaniments
- Arts and Crafts: unusual gift ideas that can't be found on the high street
- Sports Zone: a thrill-seeking taster area for kids to 'have-a-go' on activities such as obstacle courses, simulator rides, skiing, football, mini-digger adventures and much more
- Miller's Ark Animals: the ever-popular mini petting area for kids, and parents
- A strong equestrian line-up: a horse-lovers paradise
- Food & Farming Zone: will continue to demonstrate the importance of backing British farming with fun activities and demonstrations for all the family
- 4x4 driving course, with JEEP taking the lead

Out&About has teamed up with the show's organisers to offer two family tickets – two adults and two children – to one of the days at the show.

To enter the competition and be in with a chance of winning a family ticket, answer the following question:

Which Oxfordshire musicians will be playing in the main arena?

Send your answer on the form to Royal County of Berkshire Show competition, *Out&About*, Newspaper House, Faraday Road, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 2DW. The closing date for entries is Tuesday, September 12.

For more information about the show, visit www.berkshireshow.co.uk

Royal County of Berkshire Show competition entry form

Answer

Name

Address

.....

.....

Email

Daytime tel. no



A common history

Greenham: 100 Years War and Peace digs deep into the history of Greenham Common to ensure that the memories and stories of this extraordinary place, its natural environment and military history are captured as part of Greenham Trust's 20th anniversary celebrations.

TRISH LEE speaks to Beth Flintoff who was commissioned to write the live performance piece.



On two evenings at the beginning of September, as daylight begins to fade, a large cast of local actors, singers, musicians, artists and re-enactors will set Greenham Common alive, as the site of a dramatic theatre of war becomes a spectacular theatre of performance, light projection and song.

Backed by and celebrating Greenham Trust, which has enriched the Newbury area by distributing more than £35m to local good causes over the past 20 years, *Greenham: 100 Years War and Peace* will portray the common's broader history through highlights of the times of war and peace that have woven through the last century.

It is a story both rich and fascinating and the trust wants to involve as many local people as possible in the project and to explain its significance locally, nationally and worldwide.

The stories of the common will be told at this free outdoor event on the runway of the former RAF base and home to the USAF during the Cold War, by hundreds of cast members from our Newbury community, led by a professional production team, Rosa Productions, who manage outstanding festivals, arts and outdoor events.

The audience for the spectacular performance on the common will see moments of war and peace from the 100 years, experience the natural world of the common from the 1930s, hear stories of the Second World War, US forces, the arrival of the Ugandan Asian refugees and, of course, the Cold War and Peace Camps and the more recent return to nature.

The writer of the piece is Newbury's very own Beth Flintoff, now living in Kingsclere, who is more than aware of the common's sense of place.

"I think it's a miracle that Greenham Common exists in its current state. It used to be a militarised zone, but now people walk their dogs there, and I can go for a six-mile run around the perimeter," she says.

"I love that the whole park is run by a charity that simply gives everything it makes back to the community; what an incredible thing that is. To have the chance to celebrate this is such a privilege, and even more so because I have a deeply-held belief in the power of community theatre.

"This event isn't about me or even about art, it's about the local people making it. It's about the stories we are telling of the people who lived here; their hopes and fears, their disagreements and their triumphs. It's about a great big coming-together of our community on a beautiful piece of land.

"One of the community participants said this was an opportunity that only comes around once in a lifetime, which made me feel very proud."

Beth's credentials are perfect for this production. She grew up in Newbury and her parents still live here. She left for university to study English Literature and went on to drama school, after which she juggled being an actor with running a small touring theatre group.

"I lived in London for a while, but came back when I was cast in *Cinderella* at the Corn Exchange – where I met my future husband – and stayed on." ➤



You're invited to
Mary Hare Hearing Centre's



"Set your sights high" - Mary Hare School



Tuesday 10 October 2017 9.30am - 1.30pm

Arlington Arts Centre, Snelsmore Common, Newbury, RG14 3BQ

Join us for complimentary refreshments from 9.30am. The programme will begin with a presentation by our guest speaker at 10.15am.

From 11am you'll then have the opportunity to:

- Have a preliminary hearing check by one of our experts
- Get your hearing aids cleaned and checked
- Visit our wax removal clinic (**pre-booking essential**)
- Experience the latest hearing technologies
- Get professional advice and information
- Go on a tour of Mary Hare School
- Enjoy complimentary refreshments
- Enter our free prize draw

Free entry



Mary Hare Hearing Centre, Weavers Walk, Newbury, RG14 1AL

01635 523343

www.maryharehearingcentres.co.uk





A seven-year stint in the outreach department at Bagnor's Watermill theatre followed, before some 18 months ago she took the plunge and became a freelance playwright and theatre director, which proved a smart move as she has achieved considerable success.

"I've been writing plays to commission ever since – I'm lucky enough to be very busy and am hoping it will stay that way. My first published play, *The Glove Thief*, will be coming out in the autumn."

Like those of us who have lived here most of our lives, Beth has personal experience of Newbury's role in the Cold War era and of the business park that the base became.

She was a young girl when she remembers driving past the women's peace camp in the 80s: "As children it was just accepted as a part of life."

Then later "My first properly grown-up temp job, as a student on vacation, was on the business park, putting labels onto jam jars at English Provender. I also once had a job during a gap in acting work where my sole task was to delete the spam emails coming into the computers of a publishing company there. I rather enjoyed that one, though I can't imagine I was really worth paying."

"After drama school, I founded a small theatre company to make touring work on the fringe, and we were based in the Open Studios office at New Greenham Arts for a while. I rehearsed plays in the studios and have gone running on the common in the summer – it's generally been a part of my life for as long as I can remember."

But still she needed to do further research to feed into her writing. "I've spent a lot of time in libraries researching books, something I love doing because I'm very geeky. I had to read up about a lot of history, covering about 60 years, and then discard most of it. I also met with a few people who had very specific memories

of the common: people who lived or worked there."

Along the way she learned some surprising things. "I knew about the peace protests of course, but I knew less about the use of the base during the Second World War – how crucial Greenham and this area in general was in preparations for D-Day. The thought of all those planes taking off in 1944 and then so few returning haunts me even now."

"I was also fascinated to hear about the Ugandan Asian refugees who came to Greenham in the 1970s; I met with one woman who came over when her family was expelled from Uganda and her story was incredible."

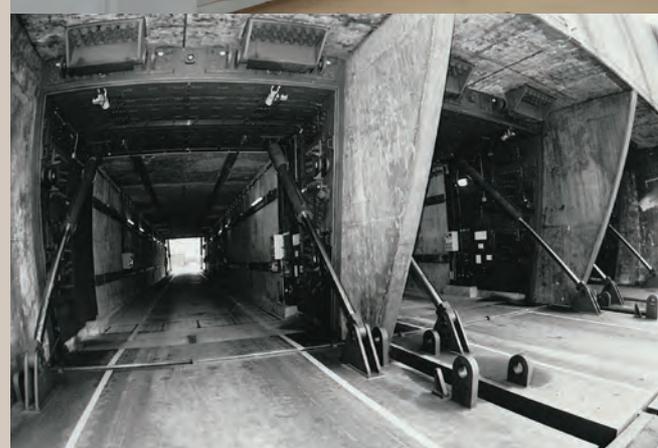
And surprisingly a valuable source emerged close to home – Beth's grandmother – "an incredible, indomitable woman" who lived in Cold Ash until she sadly died a few months ago at the grand old age of 101.

"About a year ago I was sitting on her sofa drinking tea and talking about the Greenham project when she suddenly had a burst of memory and started talking about how she used to go to dances on the RAF base during the Second World War."

"I named the main characters, Peggy and Frank, after her and my grandfather. For me they both encapsulated a spirit of proud, British make-do-and-mend practicality. They had experienced war first-hand and knew how terrible it is to be hungry or experience trauma. She would watch the news and say 'I don't hold with war'."

The difficulty came in encapsulating all she learnt into a cohesive dramatic story. "There are an infinite number of ways to tell any story and it all comes down to making choices: who gets a voice, whose viewpoint do we see?"

"Sometimes a historical retelling can seem impersonal – we can care more about one person than about thousands. So I decided to channel the whole story through the eyes of ➤





one person, a woman born in 1920, who grows up on the common during its pre-war days of innocence, and then lives through the war, the arrivals of the Ugandan Asian refugees and the arrival of nuclear weapons.

"I didn't want to be seen as taking sides in the debate about the peace camp, because everyone I have ever met here has a different take on it."

And so the story evolved.

Writing for a large-scale production is very different from anything Beth has done before, but she relishes the challenge.

"For a large-scale show like this, you can't

really have any dialogue like in a normal play. This was new to me. I had to think of ways of telling the story across a massive open space with potentially thousands of people watching.

"The hardest thing has been leaving so much out: there are important stories that I haven't been able to include because there isn't time or resources... or because we can't actually do a plane crash... but there is a whole series of talks and discussions going on around the main event and I hope very much that they will fill the gaps that I have had to leave."

So far the production is going well, but is Beth enjoying the process? She realises the magnitude of the event: "It's terrifying! Please

ask me afterwards when we have all got through it intact."

So what should we, the audience, expect when we come along to the performances on September 8 and 9?

"I hope that it will feel like a mass coming together, a celebration of what exists today on the common, and the enormous courage shown on this piece of land over the years. I hope also that everyone taking part and everyone watching will simply have a brilliant night.

"Something they will remember for years to come." [OA](#)

VG Furnishings

The Curtain Specialists

We specialise in the complete home advisory service

Beautiful Curtains at Reasonable Prices

All of our curtains are individually hand made to the heading of your choice. Pelmet, Valances, Swags & Tails are designed to your specification.

- Free Measuring Service
 - Free Estimates
 - Free Expert Advice
- Full Professional Fitting Service
- Blinds – Roller, Venetian, Vertical & Wood
 - Velux Blinds Supplier
 - Re-upholstery Service
- Contract Fire Retardant Curtains

OFFERING AN EXTENSIVE RANGE OF FABRICS, INCLUDING:

- Colefax & Fowler • Osborne & Little
- Sanderson • Romo • Jane Churchill • Zoffany
- Designers Guild • Blendworth • GP J Baker
- Malabar • Prestigious • Wemyss • Abraham Moon
- Vanessa Arbuthnott • The Isle Mill



01635 867804



email: vgfurnishings@btinternet.com
www.curtainspecialists.co.uk

24 Church Gate, Thatcham, Berkshire RG19 3PN

BRAND WINDOWS LTD



LONGEST EST. DOUBLE GLAZING COMPANY IN NEWBURY

ESTABLISHED FOR OVER 40 YEARS

MANUFACTURE, SUPPLY AND INSTALL

UPVC WINDOWS from £180
DOORS from £495
COMPOSITE DOORS from £517
CONSERVATORIES
SLIM BI-FOLDING DOORS

BUY DIRECT FROM THE MANUFACTURER
10 YEAR INSURANCE BACKED GUARANTEE

MARKET-LEADING DOUBLE GLAZED WINDOW PERFORMANCE AMONGST THE MOST ENERGY-EFFICIENT WINDOWS IN THE UK

FOR FREE FRIENDLY ADVICE
Tel 01635 248671 Mobile 07785181567
www.brandwindowsltd.co.uk

ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO VAT



Banner walks, talks, exhibitions and events, including the outdoor performance on September 8 and 9 on Greenham Common, have gathered memories of the history of the common, bringing them to life for a younger audience and an exhibition at West Berkshire Museum, opening on September 27, will display its unique heritage.

Performers will guide visitors through the Decontamination Suite, which formed part of the USAF Cold War former Wing Headquarters Building. Free tours will take place on September 8 and 9 and have already all sold out.

Greenham Trust CEO Chris Boulton explains how the *Greenham: 100 Years War and Peace* project came about.

“We thought it was important to mark our 20th anniversary and the best way to do that was by creating a community event on Greenham Common by the people, for the people, but led by professionals to engage as many people locally as we could and also put Greenham Trust on the national map.

“Professional company Rosa Productions was brought on board because they have a first-class track record of delivering high-quality outdoor events with strong links to the BBC, Arts Council England and Heritage Lottery Fund, which has financially supported the project.

“It’s all going really well, we have nearly 400 local people involved and the rehearsals are coming together. I was involved with the trust team in the banner painting, which also engaged many local groups.”

Why is it important that the Greenham Trust supports arts initiatives like this?

“This is special, to celebrate the anniversary, but we want to engage people in the arts with all the benefits – it brings the common into use for a large-scale public event for the first time, and through the year-long exhibition in the West Berks Museum it will also be long lasting and hopefully increase their footfall – a truly great by-product of the initiative.”



To find out more about all the events taking place visit:

www.greenhamtrust.com/greenham-100-year-of-war-and-peace/event-info

TOTAL BUILD

Design ~ Planning ~ Build

We can build your ideal extension
or

If you don't already have plans, no problem!

We can design your project, draw up and submit your planning application and then build your dream extension, all Project Managed by us.

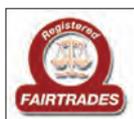
We specialise in:

Extensions, Renovations, Bungalow Conversions,
Loft Conversions, Flat to Pitched roof conversions,
Tiling/Slating and much more.

Established over 25yrs.

We are registered members of the Government endorsed TrustMark scheme, ensuring quality of service and workmanship.

We are also members of the Federation of Master Builders and FairTrades.



info@totalbuild.co.uk
www.Totalbuild.co.uk

Tel: 01635 40440

Experience a solid fuel stove surrounded by a beautiful handcrafted stone fireplace.

Humphries stoves

Which? Approved Supplier
HETAS

Call 01488 682847
for more information or visit our showroom in Hungerford to see our extensive range of multi-fuel & wood burning stoves.
www.humphries-stonemasons.co.uk
*Terms and conditions apply

10% OFF ALL STOVES ORDERED BEFORE THE END OF SEPTEMBER 2017
QUOTE 'NEW10' T&C's apply

Best sellers

Old books and manuscripts are a thing of beauty and much-prized in the antiques world. But a book doesn't have to be that old, says **THOMAS PLANT**, to command a good price at auction – a looked-after modern classic can also fetch a good sum

I am a real book fan. One of my favourites is *Lord of the Rings* and, having sold the boxed set of three first editions for just over £1,500 two years ago, I'm beginning to think I should have bought them.

Having a favourite book is how some book collectors start.

For others, it is simply the genre or history of that publication which appeals to them.

The past 15 years has seen a 300-per-cent increase in the popularity of modern first editions.

James Bond books are always extremely sought after – show me a man who doesn't want to be James Bond.

I find that after reading these books I get into character and my instinct is to indulge in a few too many martinis – shaken not stirred of course!

In 2014, we sold a first edition of Ian Fleming's *Casino Royale* (1953) for £16,520.

Other Ian Fleming books we have sold include a first edition of *Live and Let Die* (1954), which sold for £5,192, *Moonraker* (1955) sold for £2,832 and a first edition of *Diamonds are Forever* (1956), which went for £4,248.

Children's books are usually well-read and consequently worn and torn, so it is rare to find them in good condition.

This means that when a fine example does come up it can fetch a good price at auction such as J.M. Barrie's *Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens*, illustrated by Arthur Rackham, which recently doubled its estimate to achieve £3,068 at auction.

Collectors also strive to obtain any books that have been serialised or made into film; stories such as *Alice in Wonderland* or *Winnie the Pooh*, and authors including Agatha Christie, Tolkien, CS Lewis and F Scott Fitzgerald can be bought from £50 upwards, though for ones in better condition you could add a nought or two.

We do also see more classic literature as well, such as copies of monastic illuminated manuscript reinvigorated with chromolithographic plates in fine contemporary bindings.

Condition is paramount to the value of books – dustjackets that are intact, with minimal wear and tear really add to their price at auction.

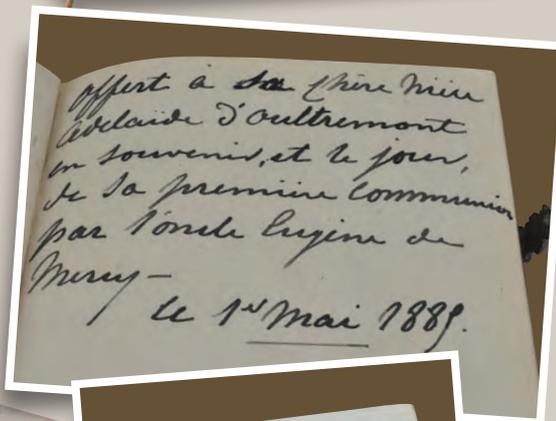
Another thing to look out for are illustrators such as Heath Robinson, Arthur Rackham, Gustav Dore or Edmund Dulac.

Books with their illustrations can also be worth a great deal – even later editions of the original can go for £2,500 plus, if the binding is in good condition, or unusual. 



In July this year we sold a neo-gothic *Book of Hours*, or *Heures du Moyen Age* in this translation, edited by Gruel-Engelman and published in 1862.

It was bound in tan calf skin with a dedication dated 1889 to the inside cover and came in a red Moroccan leather box selling for £448.40.



author of CASINO ROYAL

author of CASINO ROYAL

some reviews of
DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER

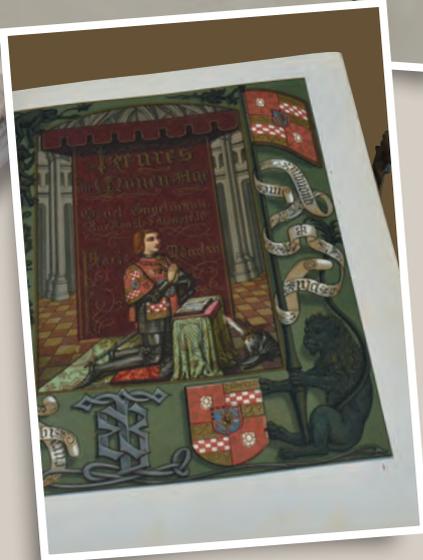
James Bond is one of the most cunningly synthesized heroes in fiction. He combines the tough-mindedness of the anti-masonic, Casanova-like private eye with the compassion of a member - perhaps a rather new one - of the Bushman. Inevitably, perhaps, with a touch of ground 'Abandon' spirit and add a tiny worth noting, and recommending. Mr. Fleming's method is sure and civilized prose, carries not an ounce of conviction and is extremely readable. - NEW STATESMAN

Mr Fleming has unusual virtues: a fine eye for places - in this book they are admirable accounts of Saratoga and Las Vegas - an ability to convey his own interest in the mechanics of gambling and an air of knowledge that many writers in this genre lack. - THE TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

Once again Ian Fleming has brought it off - giving us, in *Diamonds are Forever*, probably the best thriller of the season. Mr Fleming's writing is admirable; but his greatest gift is the ability, before his fantastic adventures begin, to paint convincingly a background against which they do not seem fantastic. - BIRMINGHAM POST

Together with his countless other fans I am already eagerly awaiting *Opus Five*. - TIME AND TIDE

And finally Raymond Chandler, in his first book review for forty years: I have left the remarkable thing about this book to the last. And that is that it is written by an Englishman. The scene is almost entirely American and it rings true to an American. I am unaware of any other writer who has accomplished this. - SUNDAY TIMES



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: Saleroom Two, 80 Greenham Business Park, Newbury, RG19 6HW.

Telephone 01635 580 595 for an appointment.

www.specialauctionservices.com

See over the page for a chance to join Thomas Plant on a great antiques pursuit and raise money for charity



SAS

Est. 1991

specialauctionservices.com

Thomas Plant and the Special Auction Services Team would like to invite you for Free Auction Valuations of your Jewellery, Watches, Antiques & Collectables. Is it time to sort our your jewellery box or clear out the loft? Give us a Ring on **01635 580 595** for an appointment today.



We hold a Free Valuation Day Every Wednesday
at Special Auction Services (SAS), 80 & 81 Greenham Business Park,
NEWBURY RG19 6HW – Call **01635 580 595**
mail@specialauctionservices.com

OUT & ABOUT

September 2017

Advertisement supplement



Wedding day



PERFECTHAMPSHIREWEDDING.COM SIMPLY UNFORGETTABLE

We have no doubt you have a vision of your dream day, and we are here to make that dream into a reality. Each of our weddings are tailor-made to give you that personal experience and our team is here to provide you with all the inspiration and ideas you might have.

Our beautiful Marquee and Primrose room can combine to comfortably seat up to 150 guests.

Alongside our idyllic venue we have designed a range of menus, all with freshly sourced local ingredients to celebrate your perfect day.

TEST VALLEY GOLF CLUB | MICHELDEVER ROAD | OVERTON | RG25 3DS



01256 772852 | www.testvalleygolf.com

Having experienced the delights of being mother of the groom earlier this year – yes, that’s my son and daughter-in-law on the cover – I have seen first-hand the amount of planning and preparation that goes in to a wedding.

Not that I had to do much other than turn up. All the work was done by the bride and groom, with meticulous attention to every detail from save-the-date reminders to the spectacular firework display at the end of their day.

We are fortunate to have a number of fantastic venues in the area and each one is primed and ready to provide the best day possible for prospective couples.

There are packages to suit every budget and the stress of planning the day is alleviated by, in many cases, a dedicated wedding planner. Whether you’re looking for a reception venue following a church wedding or for a setting where you can do everything under one roof, there is a wide selection of ideas in the following pages.

There is a lot to think about – the clothes, the flowers, the photographer, the place names – never mind, who to sit next to whom. All the suppliers included in this supplement are there to make your day the best it can be.

If you really don’t know where to start then we also have some tickets to the National Wedding Show at the NEC, in Birmingham, to be won. It is a showcase for the latest trends and ideas for your special day.

I hope this supplement gives you some inspiration and that you enjoy visiting the various venues, all of which have open days or wedding fairs so you can see everything in a relaxed atmosphere.

Most of all – enjoy your day.

Geraldine Gardner
Out&About Editor

COVER SHOWS:

Andrew and
Bethany Gardner
at Rivervale Barn,
Yateley

PHOTOGRAPH:
LJ Photographics



Contents

VENUES

- 4 Berkshire Wedding Fairs; Donnington Grove
- 5 Newbury Town Hall; The Barn at the Hare & Hounds Hotel
- 6 Esseborne Manor; Old Mill at Aldermaston
- 7 Watermill Theatre & Restaurant
- 9 Wasing Park; Ufton Court; Rivervale Barn

FLORISTS

- 10 Willows & Bloom; Martin & the Magpie

CATERING

- 10 Graham’s Hog Roast

COUTURE

- 11 Blades; The Hatbox

COMPETITION

- 12 National Wedding Show tickets

Esseborne Manor

£500 off new bookings for weddings
before 30th April 2018 for
a minimum of 40 guests



Esseborne Manor, Hurstbourne Tarrant - SP11 0ER. Tel - 01264 746444
www. Esseborne-Manor.co.uk

Wedding Fairs

11am - 3pm except Taplow House Hotel 12 noon - 3.30pm.
All shows free admission. Fashion Shows at some venues. Different suppliers at each show.

September 2017

Sunday 3rd September
Crowne Plaza Reading
Richfield Avenue
Caversham, Reading
Berkshire RG1 8BD

Sunday 10th September
The Hampshire Court Hotel
Centre Drive
Great Binfields Road
Chineham, Basingstoke
Hampshire RG24 8FY

Sunday 17th September
Trunkwell House Hotel
Beech Hill Road, Beech Hill
Reading, Berkshire RG7 2AT

Sunday 24th September
Cantley House Hotel
Milton Road, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 5QG

October 2017

Sunday 1st October
Bisham Abbey
Marlow Road, Bisham
Nr Marlow, Bucks SL7 1RR

Sunday 8th October
Taplow House Hotel
Berry Hill, Taplow, Nr Maidenhead
Bucks SL6 0DA

Sunday 15th October
De Vere Wokefield Estate
Goodboys Lane, Mortimer
Reading, Berkshire RG7 3AE

Sunday 22nd October
Lillibrooke Manor
Ockwells Rd, Cox Green, Maidenhead
Berkshire SL6 3LP

Sunday 29th October
South Hill Park
Ringmead, Bracknell
Berkshire RG12 7PA

www.berkshireweddingfairs.co.uk | info@berkshireweddingfairs.co.uk
07708 249 440 | 07990 711 444

[f /berkshireweddingfairs](https://www.facebook.com/berkshireweddingfairs)

Why you should visit a wedding fair..

BERKSHIRE WEDDING FAIRS

Maybe you have been planning your wedding for a while and only have the finishing touches to arrange, or maybe you got engaged recently and are starting from scratch. Either way, congratulations on your forthcoming wedding or celebration. Berkshire Wedding Fairs want visitors to their fairs to experience the joys that a well-planned wedding can bring as they know that organising a wedding can be stressful, time consuming and expensive.

They organise top-quality wedding fairs with a wide variety of exhibitors, all of which are experienced and can help give you practical, sensible solutions at reasonable costs, whatever your budget. You'll also find the latest must-have or trend by visiting their fairs as the suppliers attending will know all the inside knowledge on what's in and what's out and how you can bring all those little details together to make your day unique and special and reflect your personalities as a couple. Many companies also offer discounts to couples they meet at a wedding fair which aren't available elsewhere.

Berkshire Wedding Fairs have been organising wedding fairs in Berks, Bucks and Hants for more than 11 years. Their largest fair is coming soon to your area on Sunday, September 17, 11am to 3pm, at: **Trunkwell House Hotel, Beech Hill Road, Beech Hill, Reading, RG7 2AT.**
www.berkshireweddingfairs.co.uk
info@berkshireweddingfairs.co.uk
07990 711 444 / 07708 249 440



Free Admission
11am - 3.30pm
FREE Prize Draw
MEAL FOR TWO
WITH WINE
Free Goody Bag

THE DONNINGTON GROVE NEWBURY WEDDING SHOW

September 3rd 2017

The Donnington Grove Hotel, Grove Road,
Donnington, Newbury, Berks., RG14 2LA

VIP TOURS AVAILABLE on request
Pre registration available online at www.captivatingevents.co.uk

**Mega
Bridal
Wear Sale**

Hosted by
White Rose Bridal

**captivating
events**

captivating events ltd
www.captivatingevents.co.uk
08432 892742 • 07825 156716

Wedding Venues

DONNINGTON GROVE COUNTRY CLUB

Would you like to be Lord and Lady of the Manor on your wedding day? With its secluded location, elegant architecture, and picturesque surroundings, Donnington Grove Country Club is the perfect venue for a wedding. 500 acres of beautiful scenery, and a historic manor will provide the perfect backdrop for your special day.

Come and see for yourself as Donnington Grove Country Club open their doors for their Wedding Show on September 3. Hosted by Captivating Events, the Donnington Grove Newbury Wedding Show brings you 30 of the very best local wedding suppliers, who will be on hand to assist you in creating your perfect wedding day. There is a fabulous mega bridal wear sale hosted by White Rose Bridal. Free goody bag, free entry, free prize draw. Doors open 11am - 3.30pm. And if you do fancy being Lord and Lady of the Manor on your wedding day why not book a VIP tour? For more information visit:

www.captivatingevents.co.uk
info@captivatingevents.co.uk
0843 289 2742 / 07825 156716



Donnington Grove Country Club



Newbury Town Hall

NEWBURY TOWN HALL

More than 30 years ago, Newbury Town Hall was the district's registry office, and many local people have fond memories of family weddings being held there. Recently, Newbury Town Council succeeded in having the town hall licensed for wedding ceremonies once again, and the first wedding was held there in July. The town hall, as a Victorian listed building, is full of character, and provides a number of stunning backdrops for wedding photographs. The wedding ceremonies are held in the council chamber, which has capacity for 55 guests. The room is impressive, with its high ceiling and lists of Newbury mayors around the walls dating back to 1596. The sweeping oak staircase is perfect for group photographs, as is the civic entrance onto the Market Place. As an optional extra, the happy couple and guests can have a champagne toast in the town hall after the ceremony, and can book the council chamber for the reception afterwards – either hiring caterers or self-catering. Alternatively, being in the town centre, there are plenty of restaurants and pubs within easy walking distance where the wedding party can continue their celebrations. The booking fee includes an hour before and after the ceremony, giving time to personalise the ceremony with flowers, musicians etc and plenty of time for photographs. If you would like to look around the Town Hall, please call 01635 35486 and ask to speak to Gillian Durrant, or email: gillian.durrant@newbury.gov.uk

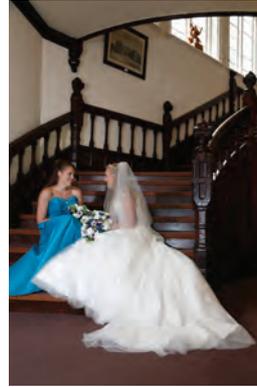
THE BARN AT THE HARE AND HOUNDS HOTEL

The Barn at The Hare and Hounds Hotel in Speen has quickly become one of the area's most popular wedding venues. Purpose-built, with its impressive nine-metre oak king post trusses, forge fireplace, attractive décor and furnishings, private terrace, heated deck and wishing well, it really is a stunning addition to the Newbury wedding scene. Privately owned, with highly-acclaimed levels of service and attention to detail, the inn takes great pride in delivering excellent value. Every detail is discussed to ensure your day is unique in menu, decoration and service so that, on the day, you can relax and enjoy a very special time and look forward to many treasured memories. All 30 bedrooms at the inn have been refurbished recently, and all couples are offered the suite on their wedding night. Prospective couples can also come to the Barn for a complementary tasting. Rooms are discounted for wedding guests and the relaxed layout really does create a very special atmosphere for the whole weekend. Pop in or call The Barn on: 01635 521152 for a private viewing. www.hareandhoundshotel.net



The Barn at the Hare and Hounds

NEWBURY TOWN HALL WEDDINGS



This distinctive, historic, landmark building in the centre of Newbury is now available for Weddings, Civil Ceremonies and can also be hired as a venue for receptions.



Exchange your vows under the exquisite Victorian hammerbeam ceiling of the Town Hall. Take your wedding photos against the backdrop of the stunning oak staircase and imposing Civic Entrance and steps.

www.newbury.gov.uk
towncouncil@newbury.gov.uk
 01635 35486



WINNER
 of Restaurant
 and Pub
 Award 2015

RESTAURANT & WEDDING VENUE
 at THE HARE AND HOUNDS NEWBURY



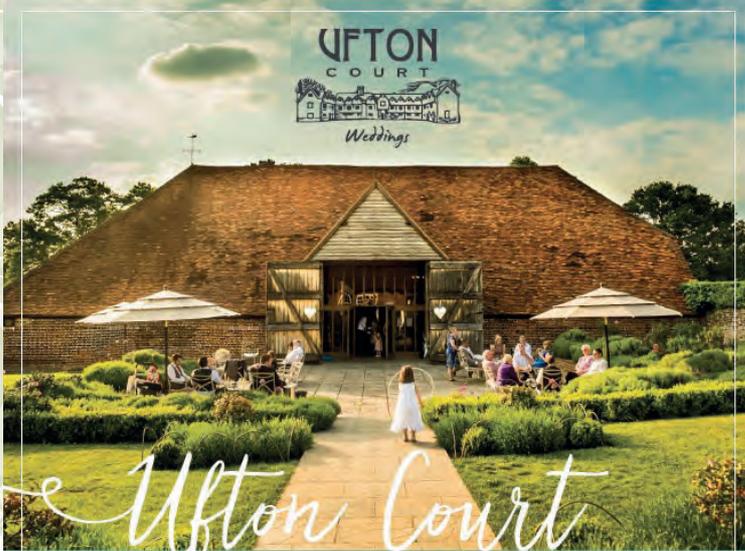
**YOUR SPECIAL DAY IN
 "THE BARN"**

All our couples enjoy our unique ability to truly personalise menus, style and service, with complimentary wedding suite, oak cake stand and knife, most importantly, you and your guests will have exclusive use of THE BARN with its heated terrace, deck and garden areas. We also have 30 bedrooms for those wanting to stay.

BATH ROAD, SPEEN, NEWBURY RG14 1QY

T: 01635 521152

For reservations please email: reservations@hareandhoundshotel.net
www.hareandhoundshotel.net



Ufton Court Wedding Fayre

Sunday 15th October 11am - 3pm

Ufton Court, Green Lane, Ufton Nervet, Reading RG7 4HD

0118 983 2099 | www.uftoncourt.co.uk | weddings@uftoncourt.co.uk

a dream day that leaves a lasting impression

Proceeds from your special day go towards our children's charity



Esseborne Manor

ESSEBORNE MANOR

Esseborne Manor has been hosting weddings for more than 17 years. Their brides and grooms are the centre of attention from the first wedding meeting to the moment they leave our house as Mr & Mrs. It's not just the beautiful wedding surroundings or the award-winning food the Esseborne team are proud of, it's the attention to every detail before and during the wedding day and the professional and caring staff that are always present and helpful. There are 16 individually-decorated beautiful bedrooms and a splendid honeymoon suite with double Jacuzzi bath. The wedding guests love the bedrooms and many of them choose to stay for more than just one night. You and your guests can have exclusive use of the hotel for the day at no extra cost. The gardens provide perfect background for gorgeous wedding photographs any time of the year and the recently-refurbished wedding room creates beautiful and elegant surroundings to your special day. The food at Esseborne is something everyone comments on. It's prepared exactly how the bride and groom wish and the chef is more than happy to adjust any menu to suit them. There are a wide range of menus for the wedding breakfast and a great selection of evening food choices, from traditional finger buffet to hog roast or paella. If you are looking for wedding venue, just call to arrange a visit and they'll be happy to arrange a visit and explain everything you want to know.

01264 73644

www.esseborne-manor.co.uk

The Old Mill Aldermaston



One of the most popular and romantic settings in the country for weddings, ceremonies, blessings and receptions.

WEDDING OPEN DAY

Sunday 1st October 2017 11.30am - 3.30pm

Steeped in traditional charm with its original oak beams, sluices and water wheel. The Old Mill is a tranquil riverside setting in 20 acres of countryside, making it one of the most picturesque venues in Royal Berkshire.

Surrounded by the river Kennet and centrally located between Basingstoke, Reading and Newbury The Old Mill has earned its reputation as a top location, not only being picturesque venue but for its excellent food and service.

Privately run for the past 80 years our personal and professional approach will give you unforgettable memories of your special day.

For all enquiries 0118 971 2365

Email: enquiries@theoldmillaldermaston.co.uk

www.theoldmillaldermaston.co.uk



Old Mill at Aldermaston

OLD MILL AT ALDERMASTON

Situated in one of the most picturesque locations in Royal Berkshire, The Old Mill at Aldermaston has become one of the top locations for both wedding ceremonies and receptions in the UK. Whether you choose a church or civil ceremony, The Old Mill is a fairytale venue, complemented by the experience of husband-and-wife team, Robin and Diane Arlott, who, together with their dedicated staff, will ensure that you and your guests are looked after from the moment you arrive until your last dance.

The Old Mill offers a spectacular backdrop for your special day; it is quite literally, a photographer's paradise. The venue can cater for receptions of up to 150 guests, and both the Mill Room and Stable Room are licensed to hold civil wedding ceremonies. The Stable Room, formerly an old dairy parlour, was converted in 1983 to make an ideal venue for smaller parties. It was one of the first locations in the area to be licensed for wedding ceremonies and has since become one of the most popular. The Old Mill is now also licensed for ceremonies in the conservatory, for up to 90 people. This beautiful room has breathtaking views over the river. To find out more, come to the Old Mill's open day on Sunday, October 1.

0118 9712365
www.theoldmillaldermaston.co.uk

THE WATERMILL THEATRE & RESTAURANT

Set in idyllic grounds on the banks of the River Lambourn, The Watermill Theatre and restaurant is a beautiful and tranquil setting for your wedding reception. "One of the prettiest theatres in the country" according to *The Guardian*, its unique countryside location offers the perfect backdrop for photographs to remember an unforgettable day. You can enjoy a drinks reception outside in the theatre's beautiful gardens before your wedding breakfast in the historic tithe barn restaurant, flowing into the adjoining Lily Pond Conservatory and bar area if required. For larger parties, a marquee can be erected in the serene garden. The Watermill's professional and experienced staff would be delighted to help you create a bespoke celebration. Call Clem or Sharon or email to discuss your requirements in more detail.

01635 570920
restaurant@watermill.org.uk
www.watermill.org.uk/weddings_and_private_parties



The Watermill

THE WATERMILL THEATRE

The perfect wedding venue

'We couldn't have asked for a more spectacular day, and we'll never forget it.'

Call us to discuss your bespoke celebration on 01635 570920

The Watermill Theatre & Restaurant, Bagnor, Newbury RG20 8AE

WASING

WEDDING SHOWCASE

Sunday 24th September
 12 noon-5pm

Monday 25th September
 5-9pm

To book your free ticket call 0118 907 0199
 or visit wasing-weddings.co.uk

Wasing Park, Wasing Lane, Aldermaston, Reading, Berkshire, RG7 4NG

© Stuart Rouse



Catherine Blades Bridal Wear

CATHERINE BLADES
- COUTURE -

CATHERINE BLADES COUTURE
Individually designed bespoke wedding dresses
www.bladesbridal.co.uk

RIVERVALE BARN

www.rivervale-barn-weddings.co.uk
01252 413232

Rivervale Barn, Mill Farm, Mill Lane, Yateley, Hampshire, GU46 7SS

f t p i

© Neale James Photography, Tracey Hosey Photography, Studio Rouge and Tony Hart Photography.

WASING PARK

Set within the beautiful Berkshire countryside, Wasing Park is a fantastic barn venue for your wedding. Wasing Estate's versatile grounds are full of historic gems, including a Victorian summerhouse and Castle Barn. For your civil ceremony, the modern Garden Room looks absolutely stunning in natural daylight. With its stylish, minimal décor, the room creates the perfect atmosphere for your ceremony. If you wish to tie the knot in an outdoor setting, the Victorian summerhouse within the Terrace Garden is licensed. With its lush surroundings and beautifully-painted murals on the summerhouse's interior, it is the perfect outdoor location. If you've always dreamed of a traditional, religious church ceremony, the parish church of St. Nicholas stands within the grounds of Wasing Estate. The beautiful 15th Century chapel boasts original characteristics, such as the stained-glass window and timber turret. There is ample accommodation for you and your guests at Wasing Estate. The Old Estate Rooms are comprised of nine luxurious rooms, including the gorgeous retreat for the happy couple. The Honeymoon Suite boasts a huge, truly indulgent bed along with a luxury bathroom and stunning views over the garden. There are also an additional 26 stylish en-suite bedrooms for your guests, located in The Stables Lodge, The Pump House and The Mews. Your overnight guests can relax in the comfort of The Long Stable, in which they can enjoy their surroundings and some refreshments throughout their stay. In addition, there are two self-catering properties on the premises.

0118 907 0199

www.wasing-weddings.co.uk

UFTON COURT

Set in 16 acres of picturesque grounds and woodland on the Berkshire/Hampshire border, Ufton Court is a unique and idyllic venue for a wedding ceremony and reception. By making the most of its January-March 2018 offers, you'll get up to 20 per cent off your wedding booking. Comprising a Tudor manor house and 16th-century tithe barn, Ufton Court is ideal for both intimate and larger weddings. During winter months, you could have your reception drinks by the roaring log fire in the Great Hall before entering the stunning barn, with fairy lights and ivy-entwined beams, for the wedding breakfast.

As far as photographs are concerned, there is no shortage of romantic settings, either in the extensive grounds and gardens, or in the stately rooms in the manor house. The arboretum, ice house and frosty herb garden also provide dramatic backdrops for winter wedding pictures. By choosing to have your wedding at Ufton Court, you will be also supporting the venue's children's charity as 100 per cent of profits from weddings are gift-aided to enable disadvantaged children to come and enjoy inspirational and challenging experiences outside the classroom. To find out more visit their Autumn Wedding Fayre on Sunday, October 15.

0118 983 2099

www.uftoncourt.co.uk/weddings

RIVERVALE BARN

Rivervale Barn is a charming property, full of unique character. With two fabulous barns, a pretty courtyard, tranquil gardens and a honeymoon cottage, it is the perfect location for an enchanting waterside wedding. Providing impact and grandeur, the Ceremony Barn is entered through beautiful arched oak doors which open to form a dramatic entrance and aisle. The barn boasts huge cathedral-style windows that make maximum use of the natural light and overlook the stunning gardens to create a most romantic setting and backdrop for the exchange of vows. An unusual minstrel's gallery is located above allowing photographers to capture stunning images from the ceremony and acoustic performers to add a musical dimension to proceedings. Equally impressive is the Dining Barn with its vaulted ceiling, lofty beams, large windows and contemporary touches. The sturdy oak beams are decorated with hundreds of twinkling fairy lights that give a magical feel to the wedding breakfast. Rivervale Barn boasts mature landscaped gardens which have been lovingly nurtured over many years to an extremely high standard. There is a beautiful lake with sunken patio area, four-tiered waterfall and sweeping lawns, all of which provide endless opportunities for stunning photographs. Beyond the foliage and flowers runs the River Blackwater, which is an idyllic escape for the newlyweds to enjoy a few special moments and pose for romantic pictures.

01252 413232

www.rivervale-barn-weddings.co.uk



Wasing Park



Ufton Court



Rivervale Barn

Willow & Blooms Florist



Simply beautiful
wedding flowers

01635 528 900

sales@willowandblooms.co.uk

www.willowandblooms.co.uk

36 Bartholomew Street, Newbury,
Berkshire RG14 5LL



GRAHAM'S HOG ROAST



Family run business established over 20 years



We can cater for weddings, garden parties and
large corporate events

We can also supply and roast more than one meat
at a time from:

**Lamb, Venison, Turkey, Spit Roast Chickens,
Boar and British Beef - all locally sourced -**



Our Wood Fired, Stone Baked Mobile Pizza Oven.
Available to hire for private parties/weddings or to
come along to your event.

We bring delicious, authentic and healthy pizzas to you, once
you have eaten a Graham's Hog Roast or Stone Baked Pizza,
you won't want anything else

NEW

Specialising in slow, wood-burning Hog Roasts
Gas Hog Roast and DIY also available
Traditional ice cream trike for hire

Contact Graham or Charlie

Graham: 07971 918674 | 0118 9713443 Charlie: 07778 385886

www.grahamshogroast.co.uk

Florists



WILLOW & BLOOMS

Every wedding is special at Willow & Blooms, no matter how big or small. Using only the very best seasonal flowers and foliage, gorgeous wedding arrangements are created in their flower shop on Bartholomew Street, Newbury, by the safe hands of their small, talented team who have a wealth of experience. Consultations are free and quotations are tailored to your unique style, taste and budget. Helen would love to hear from you to make an appointment to discuss your floral requirements for your big day contact her on: 01635 528900

willowandbloomsflowersnewbury.co.uk



Martin & The Magpie

MARTIN & THE MAGPIE

Martin & The Magpie have a wealth of experience creating beautiful wedding flowers. By working closely with you they can help you create your dream wedding. They can design just your bouquet or style your total wedding venue. Working from their florist shop in Hungerford, they only commit to one wedding a day so your wedding will have their complete focus. They are able to source quirky containers, beautiful ribbons and, obviously, the most deliciously gorgeous flowers.

For a consultation get in touch:

01488 681062

www.martinandthemagpie.co.uk



Willow & Blooms



Catering

GRAHAM'S HOG ROAST

Graham's Hog Roast specialise in traditional wood-fired or gas hog roast machines with the added options of chicken rotisseries. They roast any meat you choose

to perfection. All their meat is locally-sourced by award-winning butchers Vicar's Game in Ashampstead. It is always cooked from fresh and never pre-cooked or reheated. It is all cooked to perfection to your specific requirements and timings. These fine meats are served with the full range of trimmings to meet your requirements – just let them know what you need. Equipment can be manned by Graham's own staff or hired out for you to use yourself. Their professional catering equipment is ideal for all occasions, from small garden parties to weddings and corporate events. If you are operating on a budget and want to keep your costs down, hiring a gas hog roast machine is well worth considering. They now also offer mobile wood-fired pizza ovens, available for hire around Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Hampshire and surrounding areas. The perfect extra for weddings when guests are feeling a bit peckish while dancing the night away. Just imagine a traditional hand-rolled thin base Italian style pizza, fresh pizza sauce and topped with mozzarella cheese and locally-sourced meat and/or vegetable toppings of your choice. For more information:

www.grahamshogroast.co.uk



Graham's Hog Roast



Couture

BLADES BRIDAL

Catherine Blades is the British bridal designer to watch. She provides a fully bespoke service designing and creating stunning wedding gowns and occasion wear that are unique to each client. Her superior knowledge of cut and fit set her apart from other designers. She is a highly-skilled dressmaker, taking your ideas and transforming them in to the dress of your dreams. Her warmth and personal service makes having a dress designed and made by her a truly wonderful experience, one that will have you feeling at ease, and thoroughly enjoying the process from beginning to end.

Catherine learned her craft with some big-name designers, and over the past 16 years has refined her skills to become a couture dressmaker, designing and hand-crafting exquisite gowns using a mix of traditional and modern techniques, luxurious fabrics and stunning embellishments. Having your wedding dress made for you is a uniquely creative and personal experience. Catherine designs with flare and innovation, and her creations are definitively cutting edge.

The beautiful Blades studio is a calm and peaceful place, set in the tranquil countryside on the Berkshire/Hampshire border. All commissioned dresses are designed, made and fitted by Catherine personally, and her welcoming nature will ensure the ultimate bridal experience.

Her great care and attention to detail will leave you owning a stunning bespoke gown, perfect for you special day. Catherine works by appointment and can offer timings to suit your busy schedule, with evening and weekend slots available. You can relax and feel unhurried and you will have her undivided attention as you work together to translate your ideas into the plans that will ultimately become your dream dress. For more information contact

www.bladesbridal.co.uk
Catherine@bladesbridal.co.uk
01635 268963

THE HAT BOX

Weddings offer the perfect excuse to dress up and finish your outfit off with a hat or fascinator. Jean Hutchings is an experienced and well-trained milliner who makes hats and fascinators using silk, sinamay, straw or velvet; sinamay is woven from the processed stalks of the abaca tree and has been the most popular fabric for several years now. Jean is happy for clients to bring their own fabric for her to fashion a hat from and it usually helps to wear or bring the outfit you have chosen for that special occasion, so that you can see the whole ensemble. Jean will advise on which shape of hat or fascinator will flatter the shape of the face, including if you also wear glasses. She will also listen to your ideas and with her help and advice you will get the best look appropriate for you. The Hat Box is a purpose-built work space and has all the equipment necessary to produce exceptional hats and fascinators. Contact Jean on: 01488 682976 – please leave a message on the answerphone and she will return your call as soon as possible, or email: jaykay_btinternet.com



Catherine Blades Bridal Wear



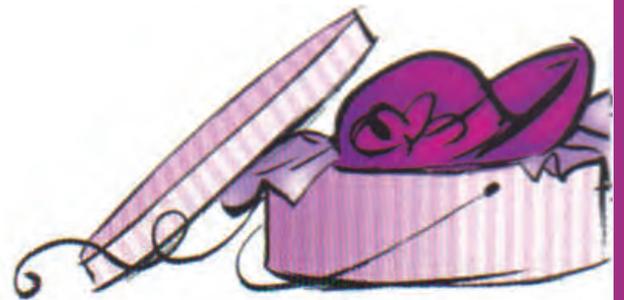
Working closely with you we can help create your dream wedding from bouquets to styling your venue.

Martin & the
Magpie
 - FLORAL DESIGN -

120 High Street, Hungerford, Berkshire, RG17 0LU

01488 681062

www.martinandthemagpie.co.uk



Jean Hutchings Millinery

Couture Milliner
 Unique and Elegant

The Hat Box

Westbrook Farmhouse
 Smitham Bridge Road
 Hungerford RG17 0QP

tel: 01488 682976

Email: jaykay_02@btinternet.com



○A competition

Wedding belles

Win a pair of tickets to the **National Wedding Show** at the NEC, Birmingham

The National Wedding Show returns to the NEC from September 29 to October 1 and has everything you need to plan your perfect wedding day all under one roof.

With more than 300 experts on hand, you can be sure to tick off many of the wedding planning basics in just one day.

Out&About has teamed up with the Wedding Show organisers to give you the chance to win one of five pairs of standard tickets to one day at the show.

Browse collections from the nation's finest designers, retailers and boutiques and try on as many dresses as you like with no appointments necessary.

From stunning countryside venues to picturesque villas, meet wedding venue specialists who can make your dream day a reality. You will also find a range of award-winning photographers, wedding day cars and entertainment acts.

The much-loved catwalk shows will showcase the latest trends in bridalwear, menswear and bridesmaid and mother-of-the-bride outfits.

See looks from brands such as Riki Dalal, Maggie Sottero, David's Bridal, Young's Hire, Rainbow Club, Ben Sherman and Allure Bridals.

Plus, get inspiration for every aspect of your wedding day look with on-trend hair, makeup and accessory ideas.

The National Wedding Show is the ultimate show for wedding inspiration and advice.

Set your creative side loose and learn a new skill with DIY weddings workshops in the Inspiration Lab. Plus, Lancôme's experts will be on hand to offer makeup tips at the Lancôme pop-up Skill Sessions.

Learn from the best and head to the Hitched Wedding Planning Platform where wedding industry experts will offer indispensable advice for planning your wedding.

New for autumn, don't miss the Style Stage for style, beauty and health tips to help you look and feel your best.

Treat yourself to a VIP ticket and relax in style in the Secret Garden VIP lounge, where you'll discover hidden treats and surprises around every corner.

Also included in the VIP package is a goody bag filled with top-brand beauty products, reserved catwalk seating, a complimentary cocktail, bridal magazines and fast-track entry to the show worth more than £100.

To find out more and to book tickets www.nationalweddingshow.co.uk

For the chance to win a pair of standard tickets to the National Wedding Show, answer the following question correctly:

What is the area where VIP ticketholders can sit and relax called?

Send your answer on the form to National Wedding Show competition, *Out&About*, Newspaper House, Faraday Road, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 2DW. The closing date for entries is Tuesday, September 12.

National Wedding Show competition entry form

Answer

Name

Address

.....

.....

Email

Daytime tel. no





the secret is out

Blandy's Bistro at Inglewood House should be on every foodie's list of places to dine says **HILARY SCOTT**

BLANDY'S BAR AND BISTRO

Blandys Bar and Bistro
Inglewood House,
Audley Retirement Village,
Templeton Road,
Kintbury RG17 9AA
T: 01488 208173
www.blandysbistro.co.uk

There is a bistro in the area that is a very well-kept secret. But it really doesn't want to be – nor does it deserve to be.

Let me introduce Blandy's at Inglewood – a charming place set in Inglewood House, a country mansion now an Audley retirement village.

Now, hold on there – stop imagining what that could be like and listen here.

Inglewood is a very pretty converted pile and to get to Blandy's you walk into a reception area that could be any upmarket hotel, you turn along a corridor filled with stunning artwork and antiques and turn into the bar and bistro. Very swish and elegant.

You can sit at the well-stocked bar or take your G&T on to the sun terrace surrounded by lovely gardens.

At our table we had views out of the arched Georgian windows on to the wooded grounds and plenty to look at inside with some stunning paintings on the walls.

And the food – well here's a place with refined, polished offerings at one course for £17.50, two for £24 and three for £29.50. A real bargain for the quality.

Take our starters – a seared mackerel fillet delivered that morning with confit red, green and orange tomatoes, crispy squid ink tuiles and a drizzle of basil oil.

The yielding mackerel flesh could not hide its freshness and the confit tomatoes submitted to a gentle push from the knife and burst into sweetness in the mouth.

The confit technique was also used in my guinea fowl roast and leg, which sparkled with sea salt and sat atop a silky sweetcorn purée with popcorn and a wedge of a corn cob.

We were impressed – how would our mains, lamb and skate wing live up to this good start? Very, very well it turned out.

Four thick slices of lamb rump sat on a rich lamb jus and crushed marjoram peas and came with griddled baby artichoke hearts, Parisienne potatoes (balls cooked in butter) spiked with black pepper and a daddy of all anchovies splashed with lemon and coated in a crunchy batter. It all worked so well.

I had food envy though at my guest's skate wing – cooked classically in butter it was surrounded by plump sultanas, capers so tiny they looked like green lentils, but which added a sharpness to contrast the sweet sultanas, fine green beans and lemony cubes of roasted potatoes. It too sang with freshness and skill.

The service too was good – our waiter could not have been more attentive without smothering us.

The lightness of touch used by Blandys' South African chef Gert Pienaar meant we did not ask for an over-long wait before dessert and anyway we were so impressed by the first two courses we could not wait to try our final course.

The dark chocolate tart was a revelation – using 64 per cent dark chocolate meant it did not have that lip-puckering bitterness that some dark chocolate has. It came with a nougatine ice cream sandwich and a gloss you could use to apply your lipstick.



Chocolate tart



Gert Pienaar



Skate wing



Blandy's is set in Audley Inglewood House

Also as a lesson in geometric presentation it got top marks.

Passion fruit, meanwhile, is often an after-thought in a dessert, but not this time.

The tart was proudly passion fruit-flavoured in a buttery and crisp pastry case and covered in Italian meringue. A passion fruit sorbet and crunchy biscotti mixed among some syrup finished it off.

A word here on the pastry. As a food reviewer, I've tasted many a pastry base – good, bad and downright soggy bottom hell. Blandy's kitchen produces some of the best I've had.

Chef Pienaar is 36 and has worked at Blandy's for around five years. He came when the site was being converted and he is keen to draw more locals in to his bistro.

"We do have a good lunchtime trade," he says, "and Sunday lunch is healthy too. We do afternoon teas which are popular and we'd like to entice more people in for dinner in the evenings, especially at weekends.

"We're a young company and we want to market ourselves as just that – fresh and exciting."

Well, that I can testify is the truth. The night we were there the place was filled with locals and had a good atmosphere. The fare was fresh and exciting too.

Blandy's deserves its place among the area's better places to eat. And I'm glad to disturb the bushel and let the light out. 



Lamb rump



Bread



Mackerel fillet



Guinea fowl



Passion fruit tart





BLANDY'S AT INGLEWOOD

Blandy's at Inglewood is full of character and offers fresh seasonal dishes which are sourced locally and boasts a modern and classical twist in taste.

Join us for afternoon tea, Sunday lunch or explore one of our seasonal menus.

Open daily 9:00am - 8:00pm*

To book call us on 01488 208 145
or email info@blandysbistro.co.uk

www.blandysbistro.co.uk

*4:00pm close on Sunday

Templeton Road, Kintbury, Hungerford RG17 9AA

THE ROYAL OAK
ECCHINSWELL

Real Ales | Real Food | Real Atmosphere





Tel: 01635 297 355
www.royaloakecchinswell.co.uk
 Email: info@royaloak-ecchinswell.co.uk
 ROYAL OAK ECCHINSWELL RG20 4UH

QUALITY KITCHEN FACELIFTS

Brighten up your kitchen this summer

Before



- Trusted reputation
- Huge choice of doors, worktops appliances, sinks & taps
- Free planning & design service
- Door swaps to full kitchens - tailored to your needs

CALL LESLEY NOW FOR YOUR
FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTE ON

01635 867336

dreamdoors.co.uk



Visit our Showroom:
86-88 Chapel Street, Thatcham,
Berks RG18 4QN - Free Parking at rear

EST.
1999



DREAM DOORS®
NEW LIFE FOR OLD KITCHENS

Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters





Turbot charged

Good value and a favourite with chefs, it's time to splash out on one of the unsung stars of the sea – a bit of turbot, suggests SIMON RHODES

Fish prices have fluctuated to such an extent lately that cod has risen by nearly a third, salmon has increased yet again and even hake and mackerel have become expensive.

It's not all bad news though; turbot, a chef's favourite, is now quite cheap, so it is an ideal time to eat this amazing fish.

Known as the king of the sea, turbot is a highly-prized table fish, which provides firm white flesh with a delicate flavour, and is therefore caught commercially.

Spain catches the most turbot, with Britain, France and Germany taking the rest of Europe's catch.

Turbot is a widespread flatfish around British waters and are caught mostly by beam trawling.

It is seen as being more common in the south and west of the British Isles and to an extent this is true.

However, the north of Scotland has some of the UK's best turbot fishing sites, and it is perfectly possible to catch this species from the North East and North Yorkshire coastlines.

Turbot are hunters and feed mostly on small fish. In summer they will take sand eels, sprats and even smaller mackerel, which are

abundant at that time of year.

In winter they will feed on species such as whiting and rockling, as well as taking crabs and prawns if they are present.

Similar to brill, they are easily identified by their sandy-coloured skin and small 'bobbles' on their top side.

Turbot is well liked for good reason: one fish provides four decent-sized fillets; the flesh – which is stark white and firm with large flakes – holds together during cooking; and it has a subtle taste-of-the-sea flavour.

This fish is best cooked on the bone, preferably whole and poached.

Its delicate white flesh holds together well and is best suited to steaming or poaching or even en papillote. It should be accompanied by a simple sauce or dressing, such as a hollandaise or even a light champagne sauce, so as not to overwhelm the fish.

This star of the sea is a delight and should be treated with the upmost respect.

It should be revered and shown off around the dinner table with some 'foodies' that you invite over for special dinners.

So, if ever there was a time for that special dinner and for showing off this amazing fish, then now is it. **OA**

GET COOKING

HOLLANDAISE SAUCE

- 125g butter
- 2 egg yolks
- ½ tsp white wine vinegar or tarragon vinegar
- pinch salt
- splash ice cold water
- lemon juice
- cayenne pepper

Melt 125g butter in a saucepan and skim any white solids from surface. Keep the butter warm.

Put 2 egg yolks, 1/2 tsp tarragon vinegar or white wine vinegar, a pinch of salt and a splash of ice-cold water in a metal or glass bowl that will fit over a small pan.

Whisk for a few minutes then put the bowl over a pan of barely simmering water and whisk continuously until pale and thick, about 3-5 minutes.

Remove from the heat and slowly whisk in the melted butter, bit by bit until it's all incorporated and you have a creamy hollandaise. (If it gets too thick, add a splash of water.)

Season with a squeeze of lemon juice and a little cayenne pepper.

Keep warm until needed.

CHAMPAGNE SAUCE

- 50g/1¼oz butter
- 2 medium shallots, finely sliced
- 150ml/5fl oz dry white wine
- 150ml/5fl oz fish stock
- 150ml/5fl oz double cream
- 110ml/3¾fl oz champagne
- 2 tbsp chopped chives

Heat a frying pan until medium-hot, add the butter and the shallots and fry for a couple of minutes, or until softened, but not browned.

Add the white wine and cook until the volume of liquid has reduced by half, then add the fish stock and cook until reduced by half again.

Add the cream and cook once more until reduced by one-third.

Strain through a fine sieve into a clean pan, check the seasoning, adding salt and pepper to taste and set aside.



About the author

Simon Rhodes owns:
The Lobster Pot Fishmongers, Cobbs Farmshop, Bath Road,
Hungerford, Berkshire RG17 0SP
Telephone: 01488 686770



We all need to take more notice of what we eat, where it comes from, how it is packaged and what happens to that packaging. ROMILLA ARBER is a passionate advocate of responsible food production and disposal and sets out the case for how we can all be more aware

When you are out and about this month give a thought to how your food ends up at your table.

I have for a long time been interested in the politics of food and in particular how it gets to the consumer.

If someone asked me why I would have been crazy enough to buy a pub and restaurant, open a wholesale food business and five coffee shops, the only answer I can give is that I wanted to prove that the supply of food could take place in a more equitable manner, fairer to the consumer, fairer to the suppliers and fairer to those employed by a food business.

I also think that food is too good, too important and too precious to be produced badly and cheaply with little concern as to the consequences of its production.

We are going to have to accept that food will become more expensive and more difficult to produce. We are already 13 per cent less self-sufficient with our food production in the UK than we were 20 years ago.

Most of the blame for this can be laid at the door of the rise of the supermarket in cutting the prices paid to farmers, which has had the effect of putting a lot of UK farmers out of the game.

With this in mind, consumers have to expect to pay more for their food and treat food with a little more respect.

One of the more frequent complaints we get when we open a new coffee shop is from people annoyed that our sausage rolls cost more than the ones sold in service stations.

Without wanting to state the obvious, we pay our staff more to produce our sausage rolls, our staff more to deliver the sausage rolls, our shop assistants more to sell them and we use quality ingredients that cost a little more *and* we pack our sausage rolls full of sausagemeat.

Should a product that involves the breeding, rearing and slaughter of an animal be a cheap product or a premium product?

So how else do we do to try to make a difference and be a more thoughtful business?

We try to engage with the communities in which we operate. For example, in August we started our Honesty bike challenge and walking group.

Although these groups are designed to help market our business, they are also conceived with people's mental and physical well-being in mind, which sits well with our ethos and principles.

As the production of food becomes more challenging, I really think that it is going to become more and more important to source food locally wherever possible, cutting down on food miles and assisting the local community and, of course, local producers.

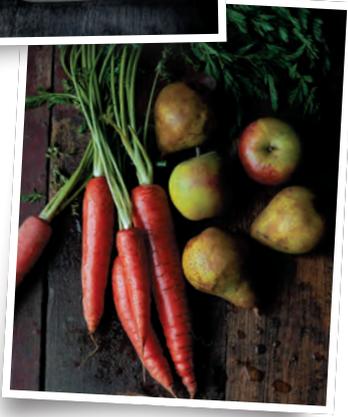
We are making a real effort in the coffee shops to find local producers who can supply us with good, locally-made products that will add to what we already offer.

For example, this month we started stocking beautiful nut butters made by the Nut Butter Company, based in Fordingbridge. They are seriously good.

This year I am also determined to find a way of disposing of waste in an environmentally-friendly way.

We can't all keep consuming and disposing of what we don't need in landfill sites. Most of the packaging we use in our coffee shops is compostable so we need to get composting them and encourage our customers to do likewise.

The world is a precious place and the food it provides a precious commodity so let's treat it as such. **OA**



Italian Country Soup

This is my version of ribollita, a classic Tuscan soup.

If you use dried cannellini beans you'll get a perfect result, but if you're anything like me, you'll forget to soak them the night before and have to use canned beans.

This is no great tragedy and should certainly not put you off making this soup.

SERVES 6

- 3tbsp olive oil
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 1 celery stalk, finely chopped
- 1 garlic clove, finely chopped
- 400g dried cannellini beans, soaked overnight and boiled until tender or
- 1 x 400g can of cannellini beans, drained and rinsed
- 100g green beans, topped, tailed and cut into 2cm pieces
- 200g potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks
- 300g swiss chard leaves roughly chopped
- 1 x 400g can chopped tomatoes
- 200g courgettes, cut into 2cm chunks
- 8 sage leaves
- 1.5 litres chicken stock
- 300g stale white country-style bread
- sea salt
- freshly ground black pepper

- Heat the olive oil in a large saucepan. Add the onion, celery and garlic and cook for five minutes, stirring occasionally.
- Add the cooked or canned cannellini beans and cook for three minutes, mashing them slightly as you stir them.
- Add the green beans, potatoes, chard, tomatoes, courgettes and sage leaves and stir.
- Pour on the stock and simmer for 40 minutes, covered. You want all the vegetables to cook until they are breaking down as this adds to the velvety thickness of the soup.
- Add the bread in torn pieces and simmer soup for another 10 minutes until the bread has softened and thickens the soup.
- Check the seasoning before serving.



What's for Dinner?
Second helpings by Romilla Arber, £20,
directly from the group, or plus p+p
www.honestygroup.co.uk

honesty
honest about food, what's in it and where it comes from

RESTAURANT
 ROOMS
 CONFERENCES
 MEETINGS
 TEAM BUILDING
 CATERING

www.honestygroup.co.uk



THE TINDERBOX

WOODBURNING STOVES & FIREPLACES LTD

- Woodburning and multi fuel stoves, Gas and Electric
- Stone fireplaces, wooden mantles and beams.
- Bespoke fireplaces designed and tailored to your needs.
- Chimney specialists: lining, new builds, renovations and repairs.
- Site survey and full installation service available.
- Book an appointment for one to one specialist advice.

01635 581073 • thetinderbox@hotmail.com
www.thetinderbox.biz

● Unit 7b, Riddings Farm, Goose Hill, Headley, RG19 8AU



toptipples

by *James Allen*



As there is a War and Peace article in the magazine this month (see p24), JAMES ALLEN thought he'd give his column a Russian twist... and discovered some recurring themes in Russian tastes – vodka and sweet wines being among the favourites

Firstly I'm going to look at two lesser-known, stunning sweet wines, Tokaj (or Tokaji) and Constantia, both of which have had, deservedly, a renaissance in the last couple of decades, and both of which were very popular in the Russian Imperial court.

Tokaj declined in quality after 1918 with the disappearance of the Russian and Austrian empires – and the rich clientele – and then yet further under communist rule.

Happily a new generation of wine-makers have now revived this terrific wine.

Dobogó 'Mylitta' Noble Late Harvest Tokaji, 2012

This delightfully sweet Tokaji is pale gold in the glass, with dominant aromas of blossom and honey, accompanied by refreshing citrus notes. The palate is deeper and more complex; a myriad of different apricot varieties and flowers. Made from Aszu-quality grapes (late-picked grapes with Noble Rot) but with less barrel and bottle age, creating a lovely, fresher touch.

£20.95 from Innathome, Newbury



Tokaji Aszú 5 Puttonyos, Szepsy-Dulo 2005

A wine with a rich, honeyed, raisin flavour with a long, lingering finish. This has excellent bottle age and for those liking mature wines this is something of a bargain.

£17.95 from Haynes Hanson & Clark, Whitchurch

2008 Royal Tokaji Essencia

Essencia is the richest and rarest of all Hungarian Tokaji wines made from the juice naturally oozing out of the ripe grapes with no pressing. Typically, this free-run juice takes six to eight years to complete its fermentation to less than three per cent alcohol. Essencia can reach 85 per cent residual sugar.

Essencia wine is legendary. Deep gold colour with a hint of amber. Fresh, ripe peach on the nose with complex honeyed, spicy, ginger notes and background presence of botrytis. Full, but graceful to taste, intensely concentrated, rich and sweet, balanced with taunt acidity. Stunning!

It was so highly-prized that the Czar of Russia kept a detachment of soldiers in Hungary purely to bring the latest vintage safely back to St Petersburg.

£390 per bottle from Laitwaites, Theale



Vin de Constance 2013 Klein Constantia – South Africa

'From these Elysian fields used to come one of the very greatest wines in the world – the legendary Constantia', writes Hugh Johnson. 'Constantia was bought by European courts in the early 19th century in preference to Yquem, Tokay, Madeira...'

Indeed this was one of Catherine the Great's top tipples.

From vineyards originally planted in 1685 by Dutch settlers, this wine was really popular in Victorian times, but the vineyards were completely wiped out by phylloxera disease in 1865.

It was only in 1985 that the vineyards were revived and wine made again.

Bright and gold in appearance with aromas of citrus marmalade and frangipani abundant on the nose. The palate is full-bodied and complex. The wine concludes with a long, spicy and grippy finish.

£52 from Grapesmith, Hungerford



Tovaritch, Russian Vodka

The world's most awarded Vodka apparently, this pure spirit is distilled five times from Russian grain and it's gluten-free. Fantastic by the shot, Tovaritch also makes a staggeringly good Vodka Martini.

£18.99 from the Naked Grape, Hungerford

Stolichnaya, Russian Vodka

Stolichnaya's roots are Russian, with the brand launched in the early 20th century, taking its name from 'stolitsa' (capital city).

Stolichnaya is a classically-styled, exceptionally smooth vodka and is crystal-clear in colour with marshmallow, mineral and mild fruit peel aromas. A soft and smooth, medium-bodied palate with pastry frosting, talc and citrus rind flavours. Finishes with a clean, lightly sweet, sugar dust, wet straw and balanced pepper fade.

£18.45 from Haynes Hanson & Clarke, Whitchurch



Louis Roederer Crystal

Louis Roederer's top-end champagne is not only the best of the best, but also has a fascinating birth, all down to one paranoid Tsar.

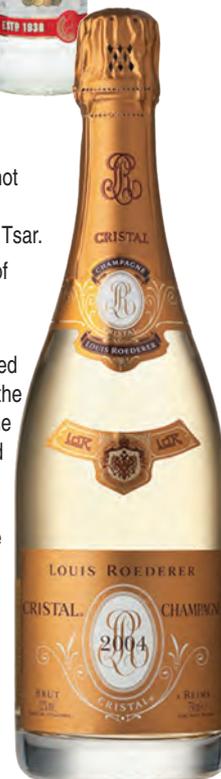
Tsar Alexander II of Russia was terrified of being assassinated even when drinking champagne.

When holding a feast in 1876, he requested his champagne be clear so he could see the colour of the wine. He also insisted that the bottle be flat bottomed so no bombs could be hidden in the dimple. These are traditions that have continued to this day and can still be found on the 2009 vintage currently available.

A truly incredible champagne that will make you the toast of the evening, if not the Czar.

As for Alexander II himself, despite all his efforts, he was still assassinated in 1881.

£175 from Majestic Wine, Newbury



Back to school and back to healthy eating

Now the holidays are over, it's time to get back into a routine with your family's meals. HILARY SCOTT has some great ideas for healthy breakfasts and healthy teatime recipes which will also save you time. And if on some days teatime is just too stressful at home, here's what to choose if you take the children out for some fast food

BREAKFASTS

A healthy breakfast for children should be about 25-30 per cent of their daily calorie intake. For girls, this is 1,200 calories aged 4-8 and 1,600 for 9-13-year-olds. So about 300-400 calories is a good breakfast.

It's so easy to fall in to the trap of sugary cereals, but good old-fashioned wholemeal toast with a healthy topping, granola and yogurt and porridge will fill them up, give them slow-released energy and be better for them. So here are some quick, easy and good-for-them ideas

Cereal with warm peanut butter – if they have to have cereal go for the lowest sugar and then warm some peanut butter in the microwave until it is pourable consistency

PORRIDGE

Apple porridge – grate an apple into porridge instead of using syrup or sugar to sweeten.

Fruit and nut porridge – try kiwi fruit and cashews or walnuts and pomegranate seeds.

Blueberry porridge – sprinkle blueberries on top and for little ones make faces with the berries.



GRANOLA POTS

Layer raspberry yogurt, granola and fresh raspberries

Strawberry yogurt, granola and fresh strawberries

Vanilla yogurt, granola and passion fruit



TOAST

Peanut butter and banana

Toasted brioche with bananas and blueberries with a drizzle of maple syrup

Marmite on top of cream cheese or with melted cheddar

Smashed avocado and a squeeze of lemon or lime

Hummus scattered with seeds

Honey butter (whip butter with a little honey)

Smashed soft boiled eggs on toast (a change from poached)

Cream cheese and cucumber

Beans on toast

TEA TIME

Invest in a slow cooker – bung some ingredients in the pot in the morning and return to a healthy meal for the family. Here are some recipes and three of the best slow cookers to buy if you don't already have one



Sage Fast Slow Pro Cooker
by Heston Blumenthal £159.99

This 6L cooker is a multi-purpose machine, hence the price. Combining the benefits of a slow cooker and pressure cooker into one handy unit, the Fast Slow Pro brings the best of both worlds to your kitchen in a stylish and space-saving option.

With six pre-set settings including pressure cooking, slow cooking, searing, sautéing, reducing and steaming, the Fast Slow Pro makes getting the cooking process started incredibly simple.

It even has a keep-warm function to ensure your food stays hot and ready to serve for up to two hours after it's cooked.



Crock-Pot Black Digital Slow Cooker, £39.99

Easy-to-use one-touch button settings and a generous 4.7L capacity, this is ideal for catering for up to five people. Two heat settings allow you multiple cooking options as and when you require them. A keep-warm function guarantees piping hot food whenever you eat.

The countdown programmable timer allows you to set your cook time, ranging from 30 minutes to 20 hours. The digital timer will count down the minutes and automatically switch the cooker to warm when cooking time is up.

Removable stoneware, which doubles as a convenient serving dish, and safe glass lid are all dishwasher safe, for ultimate convenience.



Lakeland 1.5 litre Slow Cooker, £22.99

This basic cooker will do the job. It has three heat settings – low, high and auto. Low is for simmering and slow cooking, high is for faster cooking and auto is a standard setting, which cooks food on high until the correct temperature is reached, then keeps it warm until ready to serve. Its heating element encircles the crock for even cooking and it has a dishwasher safe ceramic cooking pot, while the glass lid allows you to see what's cooking. Just right when cooking for one or two.

OUT FOR TEA

So the cupboard is bare and you did not prep the slow cooker. If you take the little ones to a fast-food place are there really healthy options on offer?

McDonalds, Northbrook Street, Newbury Retail Park and Tot Hill

Does the Happy Meal make parents happy by being healthy? No trans fat now means the Happy Meal is better. Nuggets are best, with carrot sticks or a fruit bag. To drink go for organic milk, mineral water or a Small Fruitizz (made with fruit juice concentrates of grape, apple and raspberry mixed with sparkling water).

All nutritional information is on McDonalds website, but as an example: a cheeseburger is 290 calories and 11g of fat, a hamburger is 240 calories and 8g fat, chicken nuggets 190 calories and 12g fat. Fries are 100 calories and 5g of fat and apple slices 15 calories.

But, like Burger King, be aware of the salt content of your children's meals. Check the website.

Burger King, 34 Greenham Road

Best choices are nuggets, hamburger or veggie burger and Apple Fries to replace French fries.



All nutritional information is on their website, but a veggie burger is 330 calories and 12g of fat. Nuggets are 190 calories and 12g of fat. The kiddie-sized burger is 260 calories and 9g of fat.

No soft drinks come with kids' meals – like McDonalds – just milk, chocolate milk, apple juice or water.

Pizza Express, Market Place, Newbury

The Piccolo menu at Pizza Express has, for example, Bolognese, mushroom béchamel pasta, American pizza with pepperoni, but healthiest is the Pollo Salad – torn chicken, Cos lettuce, roasted red and yellow peppers, light mozzarella and light house dressing, served with polenta chips or dough balls. Three courses for kids is £6.95. A healthy dessert is a Bambinocinno, a frothed milk drink with a sprinkle of chocolate powder.

The traditional dough balls come with a fresh salad of crunchy cucumber and red baby plum tomatoes.



DISHING IT UP

Three fun ideas for mealtimes

Disney 3-Piece Disney Princess Story Telling Melamine Set, Amazon £7.99. This very girly set includes a plate, bowl and tumbler. Churchill Wheels on the Bus 4 Piece Breakfast Set, John Lewis £30. Included inside this gift box from Churchill is a plate (17.2cm), a bowl (13cm), a mug (284ml) and an egg cup (6.5cm). Twisted Envy Whatever Ceramic Tea Mug, Amazon, £5.99. For the teenager in your life...



ALL IN THE MIND

Journalist-cum-crime author Jon Stock's latest offering is a psychological thriller, written under the pseudonym JS Monroe. HELEN SHEEHAN and LISSA GIBBINS met up with him in Great Bedwyn, where he lives, to talk about his mindgames spine-chiller *Find Me*

Now a full-time author, former journalist and Great Bedwyn resident Jon Stock has had an impressive career as the editor of the *Weekend* section of the *Daily Telegraph*, also as foreign correspondent for the same paper and a columnist for *The Week* magazine in India.

He has written seven books, five of them spy thrillers. His *Daniel Marchant Trilogy* has been optioned by Warner Brothers, with continued interest from director McG (*Terminator 4* and *Charlie's Angels*).

By his own admission, the writing of a book,

although challenging in itself, is only half the battle. Finding an agent, and a suitable publisher, are the next Herculean hurdles. Even then, with all your ducks in a row, you can't be sure your book will sell.

Happily for Jon, his thrillers have been well received and sales figures are impressive. With *Find Me* coming out in paperback on September 7, all the signs are positive for another winner.

Find Me, published by Head of Zeus, came out in hardback in February this year. It ranked number one in the Kobo chart, number

14 in the Kindle chart and, in its first month, sold more than 10,000 downloads in the UK alone.

Writing as JS Monroe, *Find Me* is a little different from standard thriller fare. While it is indeed a gripping story, it harbours dark and disturbing twists in its plot, which place it firmly in the psychological thriller genre, alongside *Gone Girl* and *Girl on a Train*.

The first and possibly most obvious question to ask Jon is, why the pseudonym?

Picture: Hilary Stock

I wanted to experiment with different types of story telling and to write a book in a different genre from that of spy thriller. I liked the idea of playing with new themes.

To do that I wrote under a pseudonym, thereby avoiding any inevitable pre-judgment that agents and readers would make if they knew it was written by Jon Stock.

JS obviously comes from Jon Stock and Monroe I have borrowed from my wonderful mother-in-law (it always helps to keep her on side).

I also liked the fact that JS is gender neutral.

So was one of your aspirations that the book appealed to both men and women?

It is, of course, very satisfying when people say that they had no concept of the author's gender.

I wanted to make the main character, Jar, a man because the initial inspiration for the book came directly from an experience I'd had in my 20s.

But I love the thought that people feel it could have been written by a woman.

What was the experience you drew on for inspiration for the book?

I kept playing over and over again the tragic, accidental death of an ex-girlfriend of mine, with whom I'd been at university and who I remained close friends with until her death two years after we left.

Some considerable time after she died, I thought I saw her face in the crowd on a train platform. I knew it wasn't her, it couldn't have been, but it made me think, what if?

That set the scene for the opening chapter of *Find Me*.

Jar, the main character, is fresh out of university and holding down his first job in London, getting on with his life, but suffering from crippling post-bereavement hallucinations.

He sees his beloved late girlfriend, Rosa, at Paddington Station. She's on the up escalator and he is going down. Something about this sighting is different – he knows that this time it really is Rosa. Although, how can it be? She's dead. And so Jar's quest begin.

How does a psychological thriller differ from a spy thriller?

Psychological thrillers need, by their very nature, to have complex characters. They rely on someone truly evil masquerading as someone plausibly 'normal'.

Spy thrillers rely more heavily on the plot, so although *Find Me* has a strong plot line, I wanted to concentrate more on the psychological elements than I had done in

my previous novels.

There are two storylines – two possible explanations for what is going on – which run through the novel.

Was it difficult writing them in parallel?

Yes, I found it extremely challenging writing both storylines.

The way that *Find Me* twists unexpectedly and unfolds in a whole new way was fun to work on, but complicated and sometimes very hard to get my head around.

Why did you choose more than one key narrator to tell the story?

I hope that their different voices create a broader picture and deeper character identities and personalities.

I wanted to play around with people's voices to give the book a multi-layered effect and to give different perspectives on the same experiences.

It complicates the whodunit and the reader has to work harder to find the truth. Who is telling the truth and whose version of events adds up?

Tell us about the ups and downs of writing a book?

Writing a book is a bit like going on a run – it's wonderful to get home afterwards.

When it's going well and the words are flowing, it's brilliant. But there's no better feeling than getting to the end of a good day's writing.

However, writing is very isolating and you have to spend a lot of time in your head. Even when it's a struggle I carry on because fundamentally I enjoy telling stories. It certainly beats commuting to London.

***Find Me* is set in many different places, including the wild extremes of Cromer and Cornwall – why did you choose these locations?**

At the very outset of this project I was sitting on the beach at Cromer and realised its haunting isolation was ideal for setting some of the key scenes in the book.

I came upon a disused airfield, where I found row upon row of deserted buildings with chimney stacks that reminded me of the horrors of Belsen.

They were, in fact, old Bernard Matthews' turkey barns, surrounded by pine trees and bits of broken tarmac.

Eerily, I even found a face mask outside one of the abandoned buildings. A flat, windy, deserted landscape where you can imagine only the darkest things happening.

Throughout the book I play with the idea that wherever you are in the country, no matter how remote, you cannot escape the tentacles of power, the investigations of the intelligence

services or the evil underworld. There's nowhere to hide.

Equally, Cornwall as a far-flung county, stretching out into the Atlantic, also presents the perfect backdrop for this story.

A quintessentially remote English idyll, yet there is imminent danger and fear at every turn.

Do you have a dark side, Jon?

Well, as this has all come from my imagination, maybe I do.

I have learnt not to run social checks on my darker imaginings, and I allow myself to develop them in order to work through the evil elements of my books.

As part of my research for *Find Me*, I researched the Dark Web, which frankly terrified me.

Jar reflects my fear of the Dark Web – he is afraid of the anonymity and lawlessness that it affords to its subscribers, let alone the grim dealings that it hides in its darkest corners.

But, unlike me, he couldn't avoid it. In order for him to succeed he had to play the game, however dangerous the consequences.

Is there a character in *Find Me* that you relate to?

I envy Jar's Irish literary heritage and rootedness, growing up above a bar in Galway. His pride in being Irish is something I admire.

I like him; he's a nice, big Irish bloke who loves Yeats [the poet WB Yeats].

He drinks a lot, particularly Irish whiskey, and he was raised on music and song from the bar downstairs.

I also enjoyed writing his excuses for being late for work like, for example, "*Just getting my act together after Glastonbury. Might be a few days late*". How brilliant to be able to get away with that.

Why thrillers, and what's the next project?

My aim is to write books that you can't put down – and thrillers provide the pace and plot to deliver this.

Although, perversely, it pains me when someone tells me that they read my book in seven hours flat (when it took me three years to write). Really, of course, that is a great compliment.

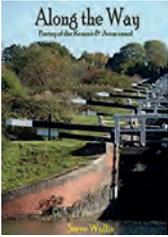
At the moment I'm writing another psychological thriller, although not a sequel to *Find Me*. It's a completely new story with new characters, so it's back to the grindstone for me. [OA](#)

See over the page for Helen's and Lissa's review of *Find Me*

hungerford BOOKSHOP



SEPTEMBER EVENTS



POETRY AFLOAT

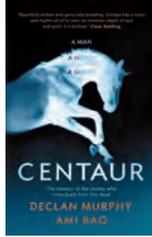
Sept 8: Arts for Hungerford presents an Open Mic Night aboard *The Rose of Hungerford* with guest poet Steve Wallis.

Steve will be reading from his book *'Along the Way: Poems from the Kennet and Avon Canal'* before it is the turn of the audience. Bring a bottle and two poems to read aloud.

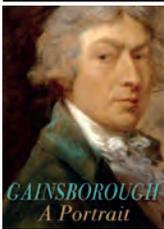
Tickets £7. 7.00-9.00pm

Declan Murphy & Ami Rao - Centaur

Sept 12: Declan Murphy became one of the most brilliant jockeys of his generation before his world came crashing down at the final hurdle of a race. For 23 years Declan has been unable to tell his remarkable story. Now in an extraordinary collaboration with AMI RAO they talk to LIS ALLEN about his incredible story, and the book that became a Sunday Times bestseller.



Hungerford Town Hall Tickets £6. 7.30pm



James Hamilton - Gainsborough: A Portrait

In an exhilarating new biography that was Radio 4 Book of the Week, Hamilton reveals Gainsborough in his many contexts: the easy-going Suffolk lad, the rake-on-the-make, a society portrait painter, and the charming friend of George III. The author is speaking as part of Hungerford's Visual Arts Trail (21-30 Sept).

To buy tickets call 01488 683480 or go to ArtsForHungerford.com
Hungerford Corn Exchange Tickets £6. 7.30pm

For more information visit 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 I 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

Would you like the opportunity to promote your book in **OUT & ABOUT**
West Berkshire, North Hampshire & East Wiltshire

From £225 + vat we will have an advertorial space available next to the Book Page where you can tell your story.

If you would like more information please contact

Abigail

01635 886612

abigail.reddin@newburynews.co.uk

One advertorial position per month

Please note we do not review the book

Subject to availability



CREATING MEMORIES CHILDREN WILL TREASURE FOR A LIFETIME

- Independent nurseries with a highly regarded reputation for outdoor learning
- Exceptional care for children from three months to five years of age
- Conveniently located between Newbury and Reading just off the A4



Jubilee Day Nursery
Celebrating Childhood

For our full time Nursery:
www.jubileedaynursery.co.uk
Tel. 0118 970 1600

Jubilee GEMS

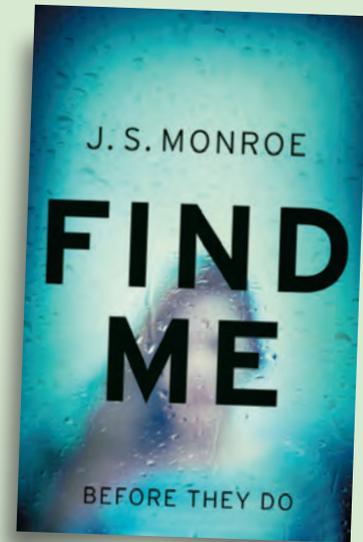
For our term-time Nursery:
www.jubileegems.co.uk
Tel. 0118 983 4018

We offer discounts for Armed Forces and NHS workers

Seeing things...

The psychological thriller *Find Me* by JS Monroe is an unsettling and spine-tingling exploration of grief and the Dark Web, a place HELEN SHEEHAN and LISSA GIBBINS wouldn't recommend you read about on your own late at night

Jarlath 'Jar' Costello's girlfriend, Rosa, committed suicide when they were both students at Cambridge. It's been five years, yet Jar is still obsessed with the idea that Rosa is alive. He's tormented by visions of her and has disturbingly real sightings of her in unexpected places, experiences the psychologist treating him describes as "post-bereavement hallucinations". When Jar receives a message from Rosa's aunt telling him that she's just found Rosa's diary, he embarks on a quest to finally make sense of the suspicious circumstances surrounding her death. But the deeper he digs, the more confused he becomes as he is pressed into a dark underworld where nothing is as it seems and no one can be trusted. When a startling discovery convinces him more than ever that these are not just hallucinations that Rosa really is alive, Jar is thrust into the heart of a larger intrigue that may finally shed some light on Rosa's death, even as it dangerously threatens his own.



It is a well-known phenomenon that some people believe they see their recently-deceased loved ones in a crowd, on a street or at some other seemingly random location.

This is just what happens at the beginning of JS Monroe's gripping thriller *Find Me*, but in this case Jar, our hero, knows for sure he has seen his girlfriend, Rosa, very much alive on an escalator at Paddington Station, although he is painfully aware that she died five years previously.

Jar (Jarlath Costello – "Jar to his friends") has not long left university and is working as a journalist in London, trying to get on with his life, despite being haunted by Rosa's death and his hallucinatory sightings of her.

Once he has seen Rosa, though, he cannot get the image of her face out of his mind. He knows it is her. But this is not the Rosa of five years ago – her head is shaved, she looks bedraggled and when Jar chases after her to get her attention, there's not a flicker of recognition in her eyes.

He has one clue though; she boards a train bound for Cornwall.

Jar quickly becomes obsessed with re-examining the circumstances surrounding Rosa's death, despite the concerns of friends and his therapist.

Rosa's aunt, in a bid to help him, sends Jar Rosa's electronic diary, but it is encrypted which presents him with considerable technical difficulties.

He manages, with some expert help, to read bits of the diary at a time, and soon discovers that things do not add up.

Then Jar starts to get messages, apparently from Rosa: "Meet me where I said I'd go if the world ever slipped off its axis... You're not safe and nor am I".

Jar is an appealing character, despite being haunted by his recent past. He's witty and he likes a good party. He loves Yeats and drinks a lot, particularly Irish whiskey – an influence from his happy childhood growing up above the bar that his father ran in Galway.

Throughout the book you want this charming chap to succeed, to be proved right and, if at all possible, be re-united with his beloved Rosa.

To start with *Find Me* reads like a well-plotted spy thriller, but then the story takes a sinister turn and a monster starts to emerge; someone who, bit by bit, reveals dark and frightening secrets.

JS Monroe effortlessly switches gear from spy thriller to psychological thriller and the book is all the richer for it; a chilling race between good and evil ensues, two forces locked in battle right to the finish.

Monroe writes his story, in the main, in two different voices; Jar, narrated in the third person, and Rosa, whose voice speaks to us through her diary. This technique makes you constantly need to reassess what you think is true. One account does not square with the other. The two stories are intriguing, complex and equally plausible. Who can you believe?

As part of Jar's search for Rosa he has to tackle the Dark Web. This murky internet underworld, reserved for drug dealers, human traffickers and paedophiles, is a horrible, deeply disturbing place to be.

Even accessing the Dark Web is a daunting task. In spite of, or perhaps because of, the anonymity it affords its users, it nevertheless runs the risk of detection by police, or in Jar's case, the very villains he's trying to find: "With the dark web, it's a question of knowing where to look".

The story takes place in London, Cromer and

Cornwall. From the buzzing metropolis to the furthest coastal reaches of England, each location has a pivotal role to play.

Cromer pier and the remote, desolate Norfolk countryside provide dramatic backdrops for some of the scariest scenes in the book: "... the wide expanse of the disused airfield, surrounded by pine trees and the vivid yellow of rapeseed fields".

The wild north Cornish coast is key to Jar's quest to find Rosa: "There are some big rocks on the headland, out of the wind... Shall we meet there?".

Find Me, like all really good thrillers, is hard to put down. The interconnected stories of Rosa and Jar work well as a narrative vehicle and the fast-paced, twisting plot is full of suspense.

Increasingly menacing in tone, the horror and excitement build throughout the book as grisly discoveries are made while alarming evidence of an evil, demented fiend festers in the background.

Monroe's characters, the good ones and the bad, are well-drawn and memorable. *Find Me* is shocking and absorbing – maybe leave the light on if you read it at night. 

Marlborough Literary Festival

September 28 - October 1
JS Monroe (aka Jon Stock) will be talking about his books on Sunday, October 1, 12noon to 1pm at White Horse Bookshop, Marlborough
Cost: £10

For more information about the festival visit www.marlboroughlitfest.org

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.

Email: lissa@aidememoire.biz helen@aidememoire.biz

“

We are very close...

our guide whispered as we made our way through the thick jungle vegetation.

”

GORILLAS IN THE MOUNTAINS

Taking a trek across Rwanda, CAROLINE COETZEE is awestruck by the magnificence of our anthropological ancestors

Low voices are required when creeping up on a group of mountain gorillas. However, knowledge of sequencing a genome is not, in order to establish the similarity between us and our hirsute cousins; when you lock eyes with our evolutionary relatives, there is a profound sense of recognition and empathy.

Under the gaze of a huge silverback, I shivered with a surreal sense of collusion as his shrewd 'knowing' eyes conveyed the familiar pained look of the trials of parenting; a particularly active baby seemed intent on disturbing the rest of the group with his high jinks, or perhaps it was just from the low of a post-sugar high from munching on too much bamboo.

In a pre-trek briefing we had been told not to stare, but that is easier said than done when a sizable male, who dwarfs the others, curiously looks at you with soft brown eyes, in search of answers to his dilemma.

Standing there, feeling like David Attenborough, I was reminded of Christmas at my parents; dad had a bit of a snooze, the teenagers played and mum scurried around trying to keep a semblance of order.

As if knowing that our allotted hour with them was up, the silverback awoke, grumbled a summons to the group and headed off into the forest.

I am not sure what I expected, but to be accepted into a group of gorillas, to watch, smell, hear and laugh with them is awe-inspiring and emotional; a humbling testament to the inherent commonality that links our species.

Emerging from its dark past, Rwanda has much to offer and has become one of the safest and most forward-thinking countries in Africa.

Along with Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo, it is the only place that you can see these incomprehensibly rare creatures, and it was at the country's Parc National des Volcans that Dian Fossey lived, worked and wrote her famous book *Gorillas in the Mist*.

There are less than 900 mountain gorillas left in the wild, but far from being a conservation tragedy, the gorillas are making a comeback and are the only primate species anywhere in the world which is increasing in number; ten groups can be seen on the park's lush emerald-green slopes.

With permits priced at \$750 per person, and limited to 80 per day, the effect of low-impact tourism promotes their survival through conservation.

To put that in perspective, a visit to see gorillas is to become part of an elite club of 29,000 privileged people per year – the Tate Modern has seen that amount of visitors in one day.

With flights operating via Nairobi in Kenya, an East Africa safari makes for a good combination with gorilla trekking – although Rwanda is a country more than worthy of exploring in its own right.

The reintroduction of rhino and lion to Akagera National Park makes it a genuinely good prospect for a safari, with its plains, marshes and papyrus swamps reminiscent of the Okavango Delta in Botswana.

Down in the south, Nyungwe Forest National Park is like a scene from a fairy tale book and covers one of the oldest rain forests in Africa. The park is great for nature lovers with hiking and tracking habituated chimpanzees some of its highlights.

A common misconception is that Rwanda does not offer the pampering high standards of its African counterparts, but this is set to change in June this year when the luxury bar will be raised.

Elevated above the forest floor in the amphitheatre of an eroded volcano cone, Bisate Lodge is set to become an exclusive favourite of Bailey Robinson.

Located close to the park headquarters for Parc National des Volcans, the lodge has six private forest villas with views over the surrounding volcanic peaks into the National Park beyond.

The lodge's spherical thatched structures echo the thousands of hills that dot the Rwandan landscape and feature stylish accommodation consisting of a contemporary bedroom, relaxation area and bathroom all warmed by a central fireplace.

There are on-site gorilla experts, researchers and scientists to brief, teach, and prepare you for your trek, maximising this rare opportunity.

If it is possible for the experience of meeting gorillas to be even more magical, then a stay at Bisate Lodge will deliver the dream.

Stay four nights from £5,845 per person, including gorilla permit, fully inclusive including flights and transfers. 



If you are inspired by this journey, contact Bailey Robinson. With their in-depth knowledge and experience, attention to detail and special contacts around the world, you can trust them to create your perfect holiday.

To find out more email: travel@baileyrobinson.com 01488 689700
www.baileyrobinson.com

RIVAR Sand & Gravel Ltd

LANDSCAPE CENTRES



Please quote
NOUT17
for a 10%
discount when
ordering*

*For stunning patios and paths,
choose Rivar natural stone and
gravel to bring your garden to life.*

Newbury **01635 871003**
www.rivarsandandgravel.co.uk

**Discount is on standard retail prices.
Excludes skip hire & some deliveries. Ask for details.*

Amberwood

Designs of Aldermaston



Supply throughout Berkshire,
North Hampshire
& South Oxfordshire

Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters



- Doors
- Porches
- Soffits
- Balconies
- Conservatories
- Car Ports
- Fascias
- Verandas
- Windows
- Solid Roofs
- Garage Doors & Conversions



Call Roy Ward or Dermot O'Sullivan
01189 820300

email: office@amberwooddesigns.co.uk
www.amberwooddesigns.co.uk

Youngs Industrial Estate, Paices Hill, Aldermaston, RG7 4PW

Where quality, professionalism and value count



EXPERTS IN FENCING,
DECKING, FURNITURE AND TIMBER
BUILDINGS FOR YOUR GARDEN
☎ 01635 862 489

SALE Ex-display Garden Buildings



BUILDINGS
We have a fully comprehensive range of wooden sheds, pine cabins and wooden furniture.



FENCING / GATES
We provide high quality fencing and gates in a range of styles, at competitive rates.



DECKING & PERGOLAS
Our robust timber decking can be a tremendously useful and eye catching aspect to your garden.

STORAGE SOLUTIONS
GARDEN & PATIO FURNITURE

Telephone: **01635 862 489**

111 Bury's Bank Road, Crookham Common, Thatcham RG19 8DE

email: crookhamsawmills@aol.co.uk

www.crookhamsawmills.com

Recycling within gardens schemes

With a bit of creative thought, unwanted items can add charm to a garden. KATE GOULD explains how she created a 'recycled' outdoor area to stunning effect



We live in a world now where kettles, televisions and other electrical items are not built to last as they were for my parents' generation.

In most cases a new television or fridge is cheaper than mending an old one, so it is not surprising then that we generate more waste than ever before.

Although these items can be recycled, they have no use within the garden concept. For items to recycle into an exterior scheme we have to think far more broadly.

Old stone, metal and timber are the most popular items to be reused within a garden scheme.

Care should be taken with old stone such as Yorkstone, which would need a skilled landscaper to lay it, since it is not of an even thickness.

The larger slabs can weigh 150 to 200kg, which makes handling them a careful process.

Similarly, old timbers – gnarled and twisted – can look beautiful in the garden and sculptural enough to stand alone as a piece of art.

At the 2013 Chelsea flower show, we created a show garden called *The Wasteland*, which transformed a perceived old water pumping station into a usable community space, using the leftover infrastructure and items that we “imagined” would be found on the site.

These ubiquitous items of rubbish were those that we see on a regular basis lying by the side of the road or in skips and they were transformed into interesting and, very importantly, attractive pieces that could have a viable second life in a garden.

There were some items that we wished we could transform such as traffic cones, wheelie bins and old vehicle tyres, but with time and budget press-

ing we settled on a few interesting pieces such as our old glulam bridge.

Glulam is a process where sheets of wood are glued and laminated together. This process enables architects to design buildings with huge spans of curved or shaped rooves that do not require steel beams, but are just as strong. I eventually found a specialist company that recycles its old glulam products. I wanted to create an additional seating area in the garden, one for five or six people to sit together on and ideally it should be from recycled wood.

It would have been quite ordinary to build a new subframe out of metal and then clad it with reclaimed wood, but using glulam meant that we would not have to use a new metal frame.

What was offered was a section of a 30-year-old bridge, complete with rusty nails, screw-holes and missing bits where bolts had been drilled through and removed.

This was perfect and the result was a cantilevered bench so strong and sound that with only four bolts it held, unmoving under the combined weight of six hefty landscapers.

The patina of the wood and the addition of all the accoutrements that came with its previous use greatly added to its charm and it was an area in the garden that people who used the space gravitated towards because of its generous size and inviting nature.

Another thing we salvaged were some old valves. These came off a ship and were made of steel weighing approximately 200kg each. These were used to hold up two concrete planks that formed seats.

We could have easily put a recycled wooden block underneath, but these valves, again found in

the maritime salvage yard, were too good to miss and injected character and fun into the garden.

Salvage yards are full of old bits of machinery that you might not know the use for, but could easily become a plinth for a sculpture, a prop for a seat or simply a decorative piece in its own right.

Often these pieces are slightly rusted, but if this is not to your taste, then they can be cleaned up and painted, or if you do like the rust then they can be left as they are and appreciated as they gently age.

The garden for all of its so-called ‘rubbish’ was exceptionally well received and the overall comment was “pretty” or “beautiful”, which just goes to show that reusing items with a bit of thought can create an attractive space that people want to spend time in.

It will never be possible to recycle everything into a garden, but if we are more careful with how we think about our waste and consider whether something can have a second life, then we will be much farther towards a world where we no longer turn to landfill as the first and only option for broken items. **OA**

Kate Gould is an award-winning garden designer with more than a decade's hands-on experience transforming gardens of all sizes and is a regular exhibitor at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, where she has been awarded three gold medals. www.kategouldgardens.com



SHARP'S AUTOS



Vehicle Diagnostics

Latest diagnostic equipment • Trained diagnostic technicians • Equipment for most vehicles

Coding, programming & software updates for BMW, Mercedes, VW, Audi, Seat, Skoda, Renault, Peugeot & Citroen

Plus

Quality Vehicle Servicing & Maintenance • Air conditioning service & repair

Book your next Vehicle Service, MOT or Aircon Service today

by calling us now on 01635 551661 or visit our website at

www.sharpsautos.co.uk



Sharp's Autos, Unit 2, Bone Lane, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 5SH



ELECTRIC GARAGE DOORS



EXCEPTIONAL ECO GARAGE DOORS

The Skandoor G91 Electric Roller Garage Door
BERKSHIRES FAVOURITE GARAGE DOOR

NEWBURY
INSTALLATION

MARLBOROUGH
INSTALLATION

THATCHAM
INSTALLATION

All doors within this advert and our website are manufactured and installed by Skandoor – Winchester

- So simple to operate
- Fully automatic
- Simple key fob operation
- Fully insulated
- No maintenance
- Reduced draughts
- Space saving
- Full range of colours
- Single / double doors all made in our Bishop's Waltham factory

From
£845

01962 600777
www.skandoor.co.uk

Covering Hampshire, Berkshire and Wiltshire
Open 6 days a week
info@skandoor.co.uk



Proud members of
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

Terre firmer



MAURICE and ANNETTE HARDY discover the DS 4 Crossback has developed its sense of adventure

Best bits: mean-looking streetcar

There's no doubting the real sense of adventure permeating the team at DS Automobiles.

The company has as its advertising slogan 'The Spirit of Avant Garde' and it certainly seems to be getting into the spirit of things in both the cars it creates and the way it goes about selling them.

The DS 3, for instance, is aimed at bright young things, so there has been a series of tie-ins with fashion and make-up firms.

Now, as the DS 7 Crossback approaches its UK launch, it's being showcased at a series of events that involves hoisting potential customers 100 feet into the air on a suspended table for either breakfast, lunch or one of two dinner sittings.

They also get to take a look at the only example of the DS 7 in the country while on terra firma.

Crossback is a theme that started when it arrived in the DS 4 range when it was relaunched for 2016. It was maybe unexpected, but is nevertheless an addition that brings much more than show to the line-up in view of DS', and its parent Citroen's, big role in motor sport.

DS has been creating special versions of the DS 4 Crossback, too. One of the most striking is the Terre Rouge, a model finished in tourmaline orange, the most vivid car colour on just about any manufacturer's palette, and made all the more impressive thanks to its matt finish.

Already an instant headturner with its raised suspension and sculpted 18 inch alloys in gloss black, the Terre Rouge brings immediate impact and the all-important brand awareness DS wants.

It's also launching another exclusive model called Moondust in matt platinum grey – we should have been driving it, but it is so exclusive that even the DS press office doesn't have one yet, hence the Terre Rouge excursion.

Black wheelarch trims also emphasise the visual aspect of the Crossback, but there is a more practical side to this package. For a start, the ride height is raised by 40mm with the result that ride comfort is greatly increased over the standard DS4, although the ordinary model rides and handles well enough.

The Crossback doesn't seem to suffer from its high-rise stance when it comes to driveability so progress along twisting routes is pleasurable and doesn't involve too much sideways sway.

If the looks appeal to people who are 20, the attraction of the ride height is equally great for people approaching their three score years and 10. The skywards move in the Crossback makes the seat cushions level with hip height for most people, so it's easy to slide into the car rather than climb down.

Under the bonnet of our Terre Rouge test car was the BlueHDI 180 S&S EAT6 auto engine and gearbox combination, making this a relaxing and long-legged beast delivering good pace through that smooth gearbox.

On paper, this 2.0l engine endows the car with a 0-62mph time of 8.6seconds and top speed of 127mph, but such is its subdued nature that it feels fitter and faster than the figures suggest.

Certainly if you want an outstandingly-styled medium-size hatchback that delivers a relaxing drive then the Crossback Terre Rouge with this engine will take some beating.

You could save on its £30,205 list price by opting for a DS 4, but that would steal the whole point of this car's existence – individuality. DS restricts the numbers of its special editions quite severely so it's rare that you'd ever see another Terre Rouge on the road.

Families will find this an enjoyable car to use. It may have been created to major on its looks, but it also delivers as a family model. There's a generous boot, even allowing space for a full-size spare wheel under the floor, a welcome feature for many potential owners, which on the test car had been replaced by an inflator kit and huge plastic infill.

Equally welcome is the crystal clear instrumentation, with a touch screen dominating the centre of the fascia. In front of the driver are two large, blue-framed dials and the info can be tuned to suit, from a fuel consumption read-out to a large digital speedo, a feature that's welcome in tandem with the cruise control / speed limiter system. **OA**

DS 4 Crossback Terre Rouge BlueHDI 180 S&S Auto

Does it fit your ego...

0-62 mph: 8.6 secs

Top speed: 127 mph

Bhp: 180 @ 3,750 rpm

Torque: 400 Nm @ 2,000 rpm

...and your wallet...

Price: £30,205

Combined: 64.2 mpg

CO2 emissions: 115 g/km

AUTUMN GIFT FAIR

IN AID OF NEWBURY RIDING FOR THE DISABLED

CELEBRATING OUR 10th YEAR

THURSDAY 28th SEPTEMBER 2017
9.30am – 4.00pm

Hillfields Farm, Park Wall Lane,
Lower Basildon, RG8 9PE

**Meet Olympian Dressage Medallist,
Spencer Wilton**

Entry £5.00 (Children free)

**50 Fabulous Stalls including food,
gifts, clothing & homewares**

Coffee, tea and cakes served all day
Light lunch available between 12.00 and 2.00pm

Free Parking – SORRY NO DOGS

Supported by



For further information and to see a full list of stalls visit our website at newburyrda.co.uk
Registered Charity No. 1121113

NOT THE ROLLING STONES



Saturday 09 September

Tickets £16

www.arlingtonarts.co.uk

01635 244246

ARLINGTON ARTS CENTRE

N&RWS

presents

COLOURS 2017

**RAISING THE STANDARD AS THE FINEST
EXHIBITION OF MILITARY MODELS AND GAMES**

at
Newbury Racecourse
Newbury, RG14 7NZ
with Free Parking
and close to
Railway Station

**September
16th**
Doors
10.00am - 5.00pm

- Thousands of Models**
- Dozens of Trade Stands**
- Bring and Buy**
- Participation Games**
- Action packed Displays**
- Refreshment Facilities & Bar**

More details on our website: www.nrwc.org.uk

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

Explore this country's heritage

Heritage open days September 9

Wilton Windmill, 2pm-5pm

Free guided tours of the mill, children's games, tug of war, folk band. Also on site will be Paint Party – your chance to create a painting of Wilton Windmill, under expert artistic guidance. Ice creams, teas and cakes and a Pimm's Bar.

Sandham Memorial Chapel, 11am to 5pm.

Enjoy free entry

St Mary's Church, Shaw, 2pm to 5pm (Sunday 12noon to 4pm)

The church will be open to all with an exhibition of artefacts, photographs, documents and models showing buildings and people through the years in the parish.



We shall remember them

Sandham Memorial Chapel,

Burghclere

September 3

First World War poetry reading,

11am to 4pm

Come and listen to Jonathan Jones reading iconic First World War poetry throughout the day in the setting of this inspiring chapel created by Stanley Spencer. Standard entry to the chapel applies.

September 26

Lest We Forget: First World War poetry talk,

11am to 12noon

The voices of Owen, Sassoon, McCrae and Brooke, in the unique setting and atmosphere of Spencer's iconic paintings, echo down across the century, as a timely and poignant reminder of the hardships endured, and the sacrifices made. Along the way, we encounter the origins of the Unknown Warrior, the two-minute silence, the Scottish Cairns, the Field of Remembrance and the Poppy Appeal. Tickets £6, on top of admission rates. To book call 0344 249 1895



Please look after this bear...

Paddington Bear

September 30

Kennet Shopping Centre

Meet Paddington Bear at

11am, 12 noon, 1.30pm, 2.30pm, 3.30pm

Apple pie order

Apple Day, Market Place, Newbury

September 30, 9am to 3.30pm

Celebrate the apple harvest at this free event. Watch apples being pressed into juice and bring along your spare apples. Apple activities for children. Apple cakes and goodies to buy. More info at www.growingnewburygreen.org.uk

Find out more about all things apple in food pages of October's *Out&About*, September 28.



Esseborne Manor
HOTEL & RESTAURANT

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.

£28 PER PERSON

Monday 25th September

Danger, hidden talent

- Women Artists

by Viv & Geoff Philpot

To book call 01264 736 444

www.esseborne-manor.co.uk

Ryan's
Newbury
Antiques &
Collectables



**ITEMS
BOUGHT -
GOLD • SILVER •
VINYL RECORDS
• MILITARIA • ART
• FURNITURE •
TOYS • CURIOS &
ANYTHING OF
INTEREST**

Open

Thurs, Fri & Sat

10am - 5pm

Tel: 01635 37840

07890368185

57 Cheap Street,
Newbury

email: ryansantiquesplus@icloud.com

The Church of England
DIOCESE OF OXFORD

**SUNDAY
17th SEPT
at 3:00pm**



St John's Church, Newbury

SONGS of PRAISE

This will be a medley of songs, hymns and prose personally chosen by members of the congregation

The service will be followed
by Tea and Cakes

ALL ARE WELCOME



September dates for your diary

Friday 1

Collage, paint, print with Karen Carter, 10am-4pm City Arts, Hampton Road, Newbury. £38 to book email info@cityartsnewbury.co.uk

Saturday 2

Newbury District Field Club History Day: Aspects of the History of the City, 10am-4.30pm, St Nicolas Church Hall, Newbury. £10 in advance, £12 on the door. Tickets from the Corn Exchange Box Office 0845 5218218 or NDFC Treasurer 01635 43605

Martin and Eliza Carthy, 8pm, Arlington Arts Centre, Snelsmore Common. Box Office 01635 244 246 or <https://arlingtonarts.ticketssolve.com/shows/873570482>

Hickory Smoke: Irish, Celtic and country music, 7pm-9.30pm, Old Bluecoat School, Thatcham. Tickets from Picture iT, 17 High Street, Thatcham, £10. Bring your own beer

Sunday 3

Pete Allen Reeds 'n' Rhythm with Ben Holder (violin), Chequers Hotel, Newbury, 3pm. Tickets on the door £13.50 (Cash only)

Sulhamstead and Ufton Nernet Fete, 11am-3pm, Hannington's Field, Ufton Nernet, opposite Ufton Church. Children free, adults £1

Aldbourn Band's final pond concert of the season, 6.45pm in the village square. Bring a chair, buy yourself a drink from the nearby pub and settle down to enjoy the evening's concert
Aldbourn Band is always looking to add committed, good quality brass players to its ranks. For further information contact the chairman Ian Keene on 07799 648585 or email secretary@aldbourne-band.co.uk

Monday 4

City Arts presents A Portrait of Newbury 10am-4pm, Market place. Newbury Together – we want to create a community portrait of Newbury. Come and draw. Suitable for all ages, no booking required. £1 per person, all materials provided. Artist Isabel Carmona will be offering one-minute portraits for £1 that you can take home with you

Tuesday 5

Interaktiv sessions for all abilities, 3.30pm-4.30pm, Ace Space, St Nicholas Road, every Tuesday. No on-site parking. Fun games and positive atmosphere. £5 per session or five sessions for £20. Call 07900 867 704

Thursday 7

To Saturday, and Tuesday 12 to Saturday 16, **New Era Players presents Dear Lupin:** comedy based on the letters of racing correspondent Roger Mortimer and his wayward son Charlie. Tickets boxoffice@neweraplayers.org

Floralyn George, 8pm, Anvil Arts Centre, Basingstoke. Box office 01635 244 246

Friday 8

Unplugged Open Mic Night, 7.30pm (performers sign up from 7pm), Ace Space, St Nicholas Rd, Newbury. Tel 07905 590214. No parking

Poetry Afloat, an open mic night on the *Rose of Hungerford* with guest poet Steve Wallis, 7pm. Booking essential. Tickets £7 from Hungerford Bookshop or online at www.Artsforhungerford.com

Woodcut and Watercolour workshop with Karen Carter, 10am-4pm, City Arts, Hampton Road, Newbury. <https://cityartsnewbury.co.uk/> to book email info@cityartsnewbury.co.uk

Needle felting workshop with Sue Pearl, 10am-4pm, West Berkshire Museum. £62. To book 01635 519562 or email museum@westberks.gov.uk

And tomorrow, **Outdoor Community Event: Greenham: One hundred years of war and peace.** Greenham Common. Free. Start 6.30pm, ends 9.30pm. Call 01635 813900 www.greenhamtrust.com (see feature p24)

Saturday 9

Booksigning at Hungerford Bookshop with Anthony Lavisher, 11am-1pm, Hungerford Bookshop, High St, Hungerford

Aldbourn Carnival Service and Pond Concert, 6pm, The Green, Aldbourne

An Evening of Song: Les Amours Baroque, 6pm-8pm, Sandham Memorial Chapel, Burghclere. An evening of songs and court airs from the baroque era, with Hannah Medlam, vocals, Charles Medlam, bass viol, and William Carter, theorbo. Tickets £15. Booking essential – call 0344 249 1895.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events/d569e438-2da5-4d50-8d6b-bbea406bf1a0/pages/details

Aldworth Community Market's 15th birthday, Aldworth village hall from 9.30am to 12noon. Free entry and cake. Entertainment from Goring Little Ukulele Group. Plants, flowers, produce, crafts and handmade babies' and children's clothes and toys, with proceeds to the Alexander Devine Children's Hospice. Children's playground. Details: 01635 578090

Newbury Real Ale Festival, Northcroft Fields, 12noon onwards. Plus open mic and live music including Ricky and the Gamblers. Tickets £10. www.newburyrealale.co.uk

Goring and Streatley Food and Drink festival, 10am-5pm

Not the Rolling Stones, 8pm, Arlington Arts Centre. Box office 01635 244246

Jumble Sale in aid of Save the Children, 10.30am, St John's Hall, West End Road, Mortimer (drop off items from 9am)

Sunday 10

Victorian 175th anniversary service, 10am,

St Mary's Church Shaw

A Celebratory Seasonal Sauce with Miss Helen Watson, 2.30pm, The Watermill, Bagnor Box office 01635 46044

Monday 11

Newbury Embroiderers' Guild, 7.30pm, St Francis de Sales church hall, off Warren Road, Newbury. Visitors are welcome £5. An Embroiderers' Guild Folio – *Stitches, tones and textures* – which will contain a collection of embroidery samples to examine, enjoy and inspire us. Contact: 01635 862289, info@newburyembroiderers.co.uk, www.newbury-embroiderers.co.uk

Tuesday 12

Papercraft Workshop, Sandham Memorial Chapel, 11am to 12.30pm. Learn about the artistic medium of paper craft and create beautiful cards and three dimensional projects. Tickets £10. To book call 0344 249 1895

And Jewellery Workshop, 2pm to 4pm. Working with local artist Helen Mortimer learn how to loop a headpin to create your own designs of bracelets, earrings and handbag charms. Tickets £15. To book call 0344 249 1895

Newbury Floral Society, Area Demonstrator Kathryn Brown presents *Fifty Shades of Colour*. If you are interested in flower arranging, Newbury Floral Society meet at 2pm on the second Tuesday of each month, at the British Legion Hall, Newbury for demonstrations and workshops. Guests are welcome. To find out more call 01635 253874

Authors Declan Murphy and Ami Rao talk about their book *Centaur*, 7.30pm, Hungerford Town Hall. Tickets from Hungerford bookshop

Wednesday 13

Berkshire Family History Society Newbury branch meeting: *Whatever happened to Lucy?* Ian Waller on the plight of unwanted children in the 19th and 20th centuries. 7.30pm-9.30pm, Shaw Church Hall. All welcome. Free parking. Refreshments. Non-members are requested to make a £3 donation towards costs. newbury@berksfhs.org.uk or www.berksfhs.org.uk

Encore John le Carré: An evening with George Smiley, broadcast from the Royal Festival Hall, 7.45pm, Corn Exchange, Newbury. Box office 0845 5218218

Thursday 14

Fish filleting evening, 7.30pm-9.30pm, The Lobster Pot, Cobbs Farm, Hungerford. £25. <https://www.cobbsfarmshop.co.uk/events.asp?contentID=722>

Friday 15

Catfish, 8pm, Arlington Arts Centre, Snelsmore Common. Box Office 01635 244 246 ➤

September dates for your diary

The new season may only just be getting into swing after the August lull, but there's still a variety of entertainment on offer within an hour's drive of Newbury. Here's the September pick from Arts Editor TRISH LEE.

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

Thinking person's farce

Loot by Joe Orton
 The Watermill, Bagnor
 September 28 to October 21
 Bookings: 01635 46044
www.watermill.org.uk



It's great to see the subversive genius Joe Orton on the Watermill's 50th anniversary bill. It was also 50 years ago that the playwright was bludgeoned to death by his boyfriend Kenneth Halliwell, who feared Orton was going to leave him, and then took a fatal overdose. At 34, Orton was at the peak of his career and he was riding high on the success of his latest play, *Loot*, a dark comic masterpiece that shocked and delighted audiences in equal measure when it premiered, winning the *Evening Standard* Best Play award. *Loot* was made into a film of the same name in 1970, directed by Silvio Narizzano and starring a young Richard Attenborough, Lee Remick, Hywel Bennett and comedian Dick Emery. In this production, uproarious slapstick meets dubious morals as two young friends stash the proceeds of a bank robbery in an occupied coffin, attempting to hide their spoils from the attentions of a psychopathic policeman, a gold-digging nurse and a grieving widower – it's funny, but bleakly funny. *Loot* starts at Park Theatre, London before its run at The Watermill and is directed by Michael Fentiman, whose credits include acclaimed productions of *Titus Andronicus* and *The Taming of The Shrew* for the RSC. It should be a cracker.

Conversing with Culshaw

Jon Culshaw Does
The Great British Take Off
 The Corn Exchange, Newbury
 September 9
 Bookings: 0845 5218 218
www.cornexchangenew.com

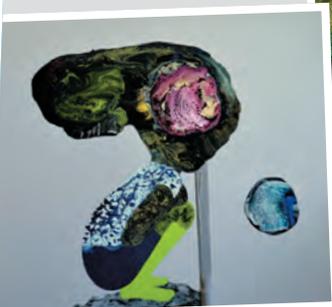
Who's ready for a bit of topical satire then? It's been a busy year for impressionist and comedian Jon Culshaw with the return of a new series of ITV's impressionist show *Newzoids*, as well as the hugely successful BBC Radio 4 comedy *Dead Ringers*, which is now into its 17th series. And now he comes to Newbury with the legendary comedy producer Bill Dare for the first time following their sell-out tour earlier in the year. *The Great British Take Off* is an evening of unscripted, unrehearsed, spontaneous comedy and conversation as politicians, sports personalities and celebrities old and new are all up for a roasting. You, the audience, help choose which characters appear and what direction the show takes. Jon reveals the secrets of mimicry and together with Bill reveals some of the mishaps and mayhem of life behind the scenes in television and on the celebrity circuit.



New contemporaries

Modern Artists Gallery, Whitchurch on Thames
 Throughout September
 Ring to check opening times: 0118 984 5893
www.modernartistsgallery.com

If you've never visited this lovely little gallery, September is a good time to do it – you could combine it with one of the walks, long or short, that take in the river, woods and hills surrounding the village. Director Peggy Brodie, with her eye for quality contemporary, innovative work is showing a selection of the gallery's featured artists in a group exhibition, including Angela Smith's abstracted figurative paintings; Marcia Hester Keeling Scott's mesmerizing work that expands the possibilities of enamel paint; Ashley Hansen's paintings inspired by Paul Auster's novel *City of Glass* from *The New York Trilogy* combining images sourced from narrative and text, plus favourites Alice Cescatti, who works with gold leaf, Kate and Paul Kessling from West Hendred and stunning new monotypes by Paul Wright. Go see.



Full-on feelgood

Flashdance the Musical
 New Theatre Oxford
 September 18 to 23
 Bookings: 0844 871 3020
www.ents24.com/oxford-events/new-theatre-oxford

Leg-warmers at the ready, you fans of the 80s movie *Flashdance* who hold it in a special place in your nostalgic hearts. You're gonna love *Flashdance the Musical*, on a UK tour with *Strictly Come Dancing's* Joanna Clifton in the starring role, and 90s boy band A1's Ben Adams (known back in the day for his iconic curtains). A welder by day and 'flashdancer' by night, this rock musical tells the inspiring story of 18-year-old Alex, who dreams of going to the prestigious Shipley Dance Academy and becoming a professional dancer. When a romance complicates her ambitions, she harnesses it to drive her dream. Prepare to be blown away with an astonishing musical spectacle and phenomenal choreography to this iconic score including the smash hits *Maniac*, *Manhunt*, *Gloria*, *I Love Rock & Roll* and the sensational title track *Flashdance – What a Feeling*.
 Age guide 11+



Yarn Fest

Knot just your average Knit

- Knitting • Needles & Hooks • Patterns • Crochet
- Kumihimo • Felted Accessories.

New ranges of wool and other yarns now in stock, come along and enjoy a coffee whilst you browse.

All 18 colours of the new Caron Cakes now in stock

Courses for Autumn 2017

DATE	COURSE	TIME
Saturday 9th September	Broomstick Crochet (£45)	14.00-17.00
Sunday 24th September	Needle Felting Course (birds) (£40)	10.30-15.00
Saturday 30th September	Beginners Crochet (£25)	14.00-16.00
Saturday 7th October	Corner to Corner Crochet (£35)	14.00-17.00
Saturday 14th October	Christmas Crochet Project (£TBC)	14.00-17.00
Saturday 28th October	Tunisian Crochet (£25)	14.00-16.00
Saturday 11th November	Intermediate Crochet (£35)	14.00-17.00
Saturday 25th November	Beginners Crochet (£25)	14.00-16.00

watch Facebook & Web for our special offers

CALL NOW TO BOOK A WORKSHOP



Tel: 01635 201660 Email: enquiries@yarnfest.co.uk



www.yarnfest.co.uk

The Old Telephone Exchange, Long Lane, Hermitage, Thatcham RG18 9QS

To advertise in the
**What's On of
OUT & ABOUT**

please email:

Abigail.redding@newburynews.co.uk

Our next publication is
the October edition
so if you have any

**HALLOWEEN
EVENTS**

ask for a quote

YOUTH THEATRE

AT THE LEARNING CENTRE, NEWBURY

This September the Corn Exchange Newbury are launching a new creative Learning Centre on the corner of the Market Place in Newbury's town centre.

At the heart of this building will be the Youth Theatre where young performers will have the opportunity to make new friends and learn new performance skills. With the support of professional theatre practitioners, each term they'll create showcase sharings for parents, as well as produce large-scale bi-annual performances with a fully-professional creative team.



	Reception & Year 1		9.15am - 10am	£55
INFANT YOUTH THEATRE	Year 2		10am - 10.45am	£55
	Year 3		11am - 11.45am	£55
	Year 4		11.45am - 12.30pm	£55
	Year 5	Saturdays	12.45pm - 1.45pm	£60
Year 6	1.45pm - 2.45pm		£60	
Year 7 & 8	3pm - 4pm		£60	
	Year 9		4.15pm - 5.30pm	£60
INTERMEDIATE YOUTH THEATRE	Year 10 & Year 11	Thursdays	6pm - 7.30pm	£65
SENIOR YOUTH THEATRE	Ages 16 - 19	Fridays	6pm - 8pm	£75

The autumn term will start week commencing Monday 18 September
There are sibling discounts and bursary options available

*Calls will cost 2p per minute plus your telephone company's access charge

Register your child today by visiting:

www.cornexchangenew.com/YouthTheatre
or call 0845 5218 218*



"[They] come out with a huge smile after each session"
Participant's parent

September dates for your diary



Textiles Collage with Lorna Goldsmith, 10am-4pm, City Arts. <https://cityartsnewbury.co.uk/>

Saturday 16

Life and art: a night of Opera, 8pm, Croft hall, Hungerford. Tickets from Hungerford Bookshop or Arts for Hungerford <https://artsforhungerford.com/2017/06/10/sat-16-sep-life-and-art-a-night-of-opera/>

And tomorrow, **Royal County of Berkshire Show** (see feature p16)

Andy Parsons: Peak Bullsh*t, 8pm, The Haymarket, Basingstoke. 012556 844244

Razzmatazz, Park House School, dance classes for all ages and abilities. Free taster session today. Classes run every Saturday. For more information contact Debbi Ledwith 01635 905404, email newbury@razzamataz.co.uk or visit their website for more information www.newbury.razzamataz.co.uk

Sunday 17

Songs of Praise, St John's Church, Newbury, 3pm. This will take the form of songs/hymns and prose personally chosen by members of the congregation. The service will be followed by tea and cakes. All are welcome

Tuesday 19

Sandham Memorial Chapel service, 10am-10.30am. Conducted by the parish rector. Services are free but donations are welcome

Thursday 21

To September 30, **Hungerford Visual Arts Trail** – HADCAF <https://artsforhungerford.com/2017/06/09/visual-arts-trail-thu-21-sat-30-sep/>

Friday 22

And tomorrow, Silchester Players present *Mourning, Nun & Night*, three short comedies, Silchester Village Hall, 7.30pm (Saturday matinee, 2.30pm). Tickets, £8 adults, £6 concessions, call 0118 981 5600. *Here Endeth the First Lesson*, a satire by Stewart Auty, *None the Wiser*, comedy by Anthony Booth and *Properly Processed* a comedy by Lynn Brittny

Saturday 23

And tomorrow, **Mortimer RNLI charity book sale**, St Johns Hall, Mortimer, 10am to 4pm (2pm on Sunday). Contact John Bull 0118 933 3741 or j.r.bull@btinternet.com

Jericho comedy stand-up, 8pm, Croft Hall, Hungerford. Tickets from <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/jericho-comedy-stand-up-tickets-35369765922?ref=wpwidget>

Silchester Parish Church concert by Berkshire Brass, 7.30pm. Includes works by Jerome Kern, Irving Berlin and others. Tickets £10 or at the door. Proceeds to church funds. Contact Ralph Atton, 0118 970 0825

Tuesday 26

Victorian Lunch Club meal, 12noon-2pm, St Mary's Church, Shaw

Newbury District Field Club. Talk by Terry Gilligan: *the Famous Albourne Bell Foundry*, 7.30pm, St John's Parish Rooms, St John's Church, Newbury

Wednesday 27

Hungerford Historical Association Talk: *Escape from Colditz* by Col Piers Storie-Pugh, 7.30pm, Hungerford Corn Exchange. £4. Visitors welcome

Thursday 28

James Hamilton talks about his biography of Gainsborough, 7.30pm, Hungerford Corn Exchange. Tickets from Hungerford Bookshop

Saturday 30

And tomorrow, **Flower Festival weekend** – *Harvest through the ages*, St Mary's Church, Shaw

And tomorrow, **Oil Painting weekend** with Kevin Skully, 10am-4pm, City Arts, Newbury. £100. info@cityartsnewbury.co.uk

Coffee morning for Thames Valley Air

Ambulance, 10.30am to 12.30pm, The Friends Meeting House, 1 Highfield Ave, Newbury. Meet Quakers and other groups that use the meeting house, 1.30pm to 4pm. Tel: 01635 47550.

9th Bucklebury Beerfest, 12noon til 6pm, Bucklebury Village recreation ground. Includes Bucklebury Fun Dog Show. www.bucklebury.beer 

Deadline for listings for October issue:

Tuesday, September 12

Email: 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, third 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

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.

August competition winners:

Highclere Vintage Party: Rosemary Haynes, Donnington

Great Antiques Pursuit: Judith Palka, Cold Ash, Paul and Christine Kinsman, Newbury, Janita and Brian Thomas, Newbury, Mrs Moya Tong, Lambourn

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.

Just

Tel: (01635) 36967

www.justnewburyltd.co.uk

email: justnewburyltd@yahoo.co.uk

PVC-U WINDOWS

FITTED

1 window - £300

2 windows - £590

3 windows - £870

4 windows - £1140

5 windows - £1400

6 windows - £1650

7 windows - £1890

8 windows - £2120

PLUS £50 PER OPENER

28 'A' Rated clear sealed Units

High security.

Subject to size & survey

★ CONSERVATORY ROOF CONVERSIONS ★

Full Range of Fully Insulated Tiles Roofs

Full Plastered - Lights - Roof Lites

for more information:

www.equinoxconservatoryroofconversions.co.uk

FASCIA - SOFFIT - GUTTERING

BI-FOLD DOORS - ALL COLOURS

ROOF LANTERNS - ALL COLOURS

COMPOSITE DOORS - ALL COLOURS

SPECIAL SHOWROOM ONLY - COMPOSITE DOOR DEALS

★ **FULL RANGE OF ALL STYLES OF CONSERVATORIES** ★

MADE TO MEASURE TO SUIT ALL YOUR REQUIREMENTS

★ Ten Year Warranty - Public Liability Insurance - Free Quotes ★



trustedtraders.which.co.uk

we are the only local
double-glazing installer
recognised by **which?**



Insurance backed warranty

Registered certass

for building regulation
approval installations

SHOWROOM AT 34 BOUNDARY ROAD NEWBURY BERKS RG14 5DQ

DEBIT & CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED



ROSEMARY'S MOBILE FOOT CLINIC

DO YOU SUFFER FROM...

- Athletes foot
- Corns
- Callus
- Thick toe nails / Nail cutting
- Fungal infections
- Ingrowing toe nails
- Cracked heels
- Verrucas

For treatment of foot related
problems in the comfort of your
own home

Tel: 01635 31065

Mob: 07884 311860

Rosemary Thomas S.A.C. Dip FHPT S.A.C. Dip FHPP



GENERAL CHIROPODY

All routine foot treatments undertaken in professional surroundings.

Nail trimming
Corns and callous removed
Verrucas and Warts treated



ORTHOTICS

We offer a full range of insoles and orthotics

Fully bespoke orthotics to compensate for pathological problems
Semi-bespoke orthotics for sporting activities
Running, Skiing, Cycling, Football
Also simple off the shelf pre-casted insoles



NAIL SURGERY

We offer nail surgery using local anaesthetics

Instant relief from in-growing toe nails
Speedy consultations, no waiting lists
Clean, sterile conditions
Competitively priced

**EXPERT
FOOTCARE**
Chiropody & Podiatry
Specialists in Footcare

Richard, Noreen & Barbara

Burdwood Surgery, 01635 863752

Hungerford Surgery, 01635 863752

Natures Corner, 01635 33007

Saturdays only



www.expertfootcare.co.uk



Flying the flag for nature

JONE AYRES from the Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust sings the praises of Greenham Common and the trust that has helped preserve it

Greenham Common is surely incorrectly named; a place with so rich a history can hardly be thought of as common.

On top of that, its natural beauty and the sheer volume and variety of its wildlife marks it out as a place of astonishing beauty and wonder. A place to be cherished and nurtured for the good of the local community and for the nature it supports.

Greenham Trust reclaimed the common in 1997, following the closure of the RAF airbase, and it is now managed by the Berks Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) on behalf of West Berkshire Council.

Rare and endangered wildlife such as nightjars have returned and are growing in numbers, and more local people are enjoying the common for walking, running, cycling, and wildlife photography.

The magnificent two-day Greenham: 100 Years of War & Peace event celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Greenham Trust starts on Friday, September 8, with professional

performances alongside local talent and community groups (see feature p24).

The Wildlife Trust is joining in and literally flying the flag for nature.

Earlier this year, BBOWT volunteers and staff worked alongside professional artist Ali Pretty, to create a stunningly beautiful banner, four metres high and every centimetre celebrating the wonderful aspects of this not-so-common landscape.

The design captures all the natural elements: a silver birch tree runs the length of the banner, pools and the network of paths are there.

Iconic species such as the diminutive Dartford warbler and the adder feature, while the full colours of the heathland are shown off through the wild flowers and insects that flourish through the summer.

At the centre of the banner is a pond with a frog and eggs, signifying life's cycle.



Jacky Akam parades the Wildlife Banner and her partner Lincoln Jacobs holds the USAF Banner

Jacky Akam, who led BBOWT's Linking the Landscape in West Berkshire project, enjoyed reflecting on the importance of the common: "the whole process was huge fun and extremely thought provoking".

Footprints, both human and canine, together with bike tyre marks are dotted along the pathways; cattle and ponies are also present because their grazing is important for managing heather.

The wildlife banner is one of 10 superb flags, all of them created by community groups, which will be flying throughout the two-day event.

Come along and meet Wildlife Trust volunteers and colleagues who can tell you so much more about the wildlife that make their homes on Greenham Common. [OA](#)

BBOWT volunteer Lloyd Garvey helps families discover reptiles on Greenham Common
Picture: Adrian Wallington



Wildlife banner on parade among the Greenham War and Peace banners
Banner pictures: Mike Johnston



Wherever you are this summer, go wild with your local wildlife trust

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT LOCAL WILDLIFE EVENTS

www.bbowl.org.uk/whats-on

for events throughout September

Thank you Greenham Trust. In the last 20 years your generous support of BBOWT's Living Landscape work helped to restore the heathlands at Greenham and Crookham Commons, enabling more wildlife to thrive there and more people to enjoy the landscape.

RIO'S FLAME GRILLED BURGER BAR



DECIDE BETWEEN FLAME GRILLED:

BEEF BURGER • CHICKEN BURGER • VEGGIE BURGER

CHOOSE THE SIZE

4 oz 8 oz

CLASSIC plain & simple

3.30 4.40

MICKEY MOUSE melted cheese & salad

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

ALL OUR BURGERS ARE FLAME GRILLED AND TOASTED TO ORDER

SIDES

	Small	Large
CHIPS	1.80	2.50
CHEESY CHIPS	2.70	3.50
ANGRY CHIPS	2.80	3.80
grated cheese, hot chilli sauce, jalapenos & onion		
COLESLAW 8oz TUB	1.80	
ONION RINGS x10	2.50	
MOZZARELLA STICKS	3.20	
EXTRA SAUCE 4oz TUB	60p	
garlic mayo • chilli sauce • blue cheese • BBQ sauce		

upgrade any burger to 100% deluxe angus
6oz 5.50 8oz 6.50

our angus burgers are made from 100%
angus beef flame grilled to order

Extra toppings available on any burger 30p extra
bacon • cheese • pepperoni • jalapenos •
chilli or BBQ sauce • garlic mayo • fried
onions • pineapple • gherkins • blue
cheese sauce • mushrooms

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

RIO 3000	6oz beef, chicken, pepperoni, chilli sauce & garlic mayo	6.80
RIO 2000	4oz beef + 4oz chicken, bacon, BBQ sauce, salad, mushroom & mayo	5.50
PAYDAY	any choice from the beef menu with a giant 3x 1/4 pound burger	6.00
BEAST	5oz cumberland sausage ring, 4oz beef burger, slice of smoked bacon & BBQ sauce	5.50
NUCGETS	8 chicken nuggets with dip	3.50

Delivery Thursday to Saturday 6-10pm Newbury and Thatcham

Open every day and ready to serve our flame grilled burgers made the way you want them!
£3.00 Delivery charge with no minimum spend

5-6, Eight Bells Arcade, Bartholomew St, Newbury

Opening Times: Mon-Thur: 11.00am - 10.30pm,
Fri-Sat: 11.00am - 11.30pm, Sun: 4pm-10pm

01635 32437

phone orders welcome

Flame
grilling
for over 25
years!

**BEST
WESTERN
DRY CLEANERS**

SPECIALISTS IN

- DRY CLEANING
- LAUNDRY AND IRONING
- REPAIRS ● ALTERATIONS
- DUVET CLEANING
- CURTAIN & HOUSEHOLD ITEM CLEANING
- **VOUCHERS MUST BE PRESENTED WHEN LEAVING YOUR GARMENTS WITH US **NOT** ON COLLECTION**

**SPECIAL OFFER
DRY CLEANING**

2 Piece Suit	£6.50
Trousers	£3.50
Jacket	£4.50
Coat from	£5.00
Dress from	£5.50

* voucher to be presented
 expires 30th September 2017 *exclusions may apply
 *Vouchers must be presented when leaving your garments with us

**SPECIAL OFFER
REPAIRS & ALTERATIONS**

Trousers shortened or lengthened	£5.99
Waist taken in or out	£5.99
Trouser or skirt zip	£5.99
Shorten plain jacket sleeves	£6.99

* voucher to be presented
 expires 30th September 2017 *exclusions may apply
 *Vouchers must be presented when leaving your garments with us

**1/2 PRICE
CURTAIN, DUVET &
HOUSEHOLD ITEM
CLEANING**

* voucher to be presented
 expires 30th September 2017 *exclusions may apply
 *Vouchers must be presented when leaving your garments with us

**SPECIAL OFFER
LAUNDRY**

Single Sheet	£2.00
Double Sheet	£2.25
King Size Sheet	£2.50
Single Duvet Cover	£2.70
Double Duvet Cover	£2.99
King Size Duvet Cover	£3.25
Pillow Cases from	70p

* voucher to be presented
 expires 30th September 2017 *exclusions may apply
 *Vouchers must be presented when leaving your garments with us

**5 SHIRTS WASHED
AND IRONED FOR £6**

MULTIPLE ITEMS ACCEPTED
 WITH EACH VOUCHER

105 Bartholomew Street, Newbury, Berks RG14 5DY (01635) 33053

Mon - Fri 8.30am - 6pm, Sat 9am - 5pm

“So much more than a furniture store”

ONE OF THE SOUTH'S LARGEST FURNITURE STORES



Solid Wood & Painted Furniture Plus
Great Gifts & Accessories

Pine & Oak Furniture Ltd.



* Terms and Conditions Apply

MIDGHAM

Kennet Holme Farm
Buildings Bath Road
RG7 5UX

Tel: 01189 712666

NEWBURY

Pelican Lane
Newbury
RG14 1NX

Tel: 01635 33000

WINCHESTER

Unit 3, Easton Lane
Winnall
SO23 7RU

Tel: 01962 865775

WALLINGFORD

Old Reading Road
(off A4074)
Crowmarsh Gifford
OX10 8BW

Tel: 01491 825886

WINNERSH

Winnersh
Garden Centre
Winnersh
RG41 5HE

Tel: 01189 797355

www.pine-oak.co.uk