

VANTAGE

HAMPSTEAD EDITION: COVERING HAMPSTEAD, HIGHGATE, HAMPSTEAD HEATH, BELSIZE PARK AND WEST HAMPSTEAD

ISSUE 042 : £3.50

The BILLY ZANE'S PHILANTHROPIC FUTURE Good Life

Dream Team PREEN'S CHILDRENSWEAR DEBUT



INTO THE *NEW*

CHAMPAGNE MOMENTS: A GUIDE TO LUXURY IN 2014

020 7493 0422 OSCARDELARENTEA.COM

Oscar de





la Centa



FOLLIFOLLIE.CO.UK JOIN US:     
REGENT STREET - NEW BOND STREET - HARRODS - WESTFIELD LONDON

"IT" GIRL RULE #7

WEAR IT
YOUR WAY

Sui & Ranne

IN MODERN GREECE

Folli Follie

ACHICA.com



— SAVE UP TO —

70% OFF

RRP ON LEADING BRANDS

ACHICA

The Members-only Luxury Lifestyle Store



Great brands at amazing prices, every day,
anywhere you can get online.

DISCOVER MORE @ [ACHICA.COM](https://www.achica.com)

CONTENTS

Scene

- 12 **BIG CITY LIFE**
Billy Zane's philanthropic future
- 16 **PREEN TEAM**
The designing duo make their childrenswear debut
- 22 **JANUARY DIARY**
Events and exhibitions for the new year
- 24 **GOING, GOING, GONE**
Make an artistic investment at the London Art Fair

- 28 **GUEST LIST**
Spotted on the canapé circuit

Style

- 31 **WISHLIST**
Simone Rocha: Emerging Womenswear Designer for 2013

- 32 **STYLE UPDATE**
Gwyneth Paltrow joins forces with Michael Kors
- 34 **LUXE BE A LADY**
The best of Resort 2014
- 42 **JANE LEWIS: A STYLISH LIFE**
Business tips from creative director and founder of fashion brand Goat
- 47 **BEST OF BEAUTY**
January's handbag essentials
- 48 **BEAUTY UPDATE**
Cryotherapy gets colder
- 50 **THE LIST**
Keep your skin glowing as the Champagne is flowing
- 53 **ON THE PULSE**
Pure Flow Pulsation therapy at the Bulgari spa

Interiors

- 55 **WISHLIST**
Hibou Home's enchanting woodland wallpapers
- 56 **INTERIORS INSPIRATION**
Baccarat marks 250 years
- 58 **AN AFTERNOON WITH MARION**
Put festive prints behind you and prepare for a revamp



32

Collection

- 63 **WISHLIST**
Piaget is inspired by China and India
- 65 **WATCH NEWS**
Jaeger-LeCoultre pops up in Selfridges
- 66 **MEN'S TREND**
Après-ski in style
- 68 **SHOOTING STAR**
Zenith CEO Jean-Frédéric Dufour
- 74 **JEWELLERY TREND**
Invest in lucky charms and may you not be fortune's fool

Health & Family

- 79 **WISHLIST**
Cherub-faced children from Dior
- 80 **NURSERY NEWS**
Books from Ringo Starr and a princess boutique in Harrods
- 84 **A FISH OUT OF WATER**
Wild swimming enjoys a renaissance

Food & Drink

- 89 **WISHLIST**
A tasting menu *du jour*
- 90 **FOODIE FAVOURITES**
Best openings for a New Year tippie
- 92 **NO RESERVATIONS**
Top food trends: this year and next

Travel

- 97 **WISHLIST**
One&Only exclusives
- 98 **TRAVEL IN STYLE**
Add Montenegro to your bucket list
- 100 **500 DAYS OF SUMMER**
Year-round Vitamin D in the sunny spas of Gran Canaria
- 102 **CALL OF THE WILD**
The miracle of the Galapagos Islands

74



79



92



IT'S MORE THAN A SIGN. IT'S A COMMITMENT.

THE OFFICIAL ROLEX SIGN ESTABLISHES THE AUTHENTICITY OF AN OFFICIAL ROLEX RETAILER. WITH UNMATCHED EXPERTISE, ONLY AN OFFICIAL ROLEX RETAILER OFFERS A DIVERSE SELECTION OF ROLEX WATCHES AND PROVIDES THE SERVICE NEEDED TO MAINTAIN YOUR TIMEPIECE. EVERY WATCH INCLUDES A RETAILER WARRANTY, GRANTING ACCESS TO THE RENOWNED ROLEX SERVICE NETWORK.



OYSTER PERPETUAL COSMOGRAPH DAYTONA

FRASER HART

Brent Cross Shopping Centre, London NW4 3FH
www.fraserhart.co.uk/rolex



WATCH FEATURED SUBJECT TO STOCK AVAILABILITY

From the editor



If January were a colour, most would brand it grey. The residue of festive cheer's past can be found loitering around the waistline while the pressure to party like it's 1999 (or 2014) can put a downer on even the loosest definition of organised fun. But this issue is intended to get you feeling good; turn that grey into platinum and look forward to the year ahead.

Hollywood's perpetual villain Billy Zane, best known for his roles as Hughie in *Dead Calm* and Hockley in *Titanic*, charms Gabrielle Lane over breakfast at The Arts Club ("there's something about his eyes," she says...) to talk about his latest venture: helping disadvantaged youths build better futures. In partnership with his British mentor David C.M. Carter, Zane is putting his name to good use (p. 12).

Husband and wife designing duo Justin Thornton and Thea Bregazzi launched gritty urban label Preen in 2001. After more than a decade on the high-fashion scene, it has evolved into a go-to brand for elegant, chic silhouettes. I talk to Justin and their five year-old-daughter Fauve about what made the final cut for the debut childrenswear collection this month (p. 16). And Jane Lewis, founder and creative director of luxury clothing line Goat, welcomes us into her Paddington home. Every inch the astute businesswoman, we get some entrepreneurial directives from the glamorous mother-of-three (p. 42).

Invest in art on Rebecca Wallersteiner's advice as she guides us through the London Art Fair (p. 24) and take a sneak peak around interior designer Marion Lichtig's own beautiful Hampstead abode with Georgia Barnett (p. 58). Look back on a year of stellar restaurant openings and crazy food fads, and forward to what gastronomic loveliness the next twelve months will bring (p. 92). You may want to soak up some of our favourites for an evening spent sipping Champagne and counting down till midnight.

Kari Rosenberg
Editor

Follow us on Twitter @VantageNW

Crystal Bar at Baccarat Hotel & Residences New York conceptualised by acclaimed French design duo Gilles et Boissier
Interiors Inspiration, p. 56

Runwild Media Group
Publishers of:
Canary Wharf, The City Magazine
The Kensington & Chelsea Magazine
The Mayfair Magazine



VANTAGE

JANUARY 2014 ISSUE 42

Editor
Kari Rosenberg

Deputy Editor
Gabrielle Lane

Collection Editor
Annabel Harrison

Contributing Editor
Richard Brown

Sub Editor
Jasmine Phillips

Feature Writers
Georgia Barnett, Olivia Sharpe

Senior Designer
Grace Linn

Production
Alex Powell, Hugo Wheatley, Oscar Viney

Editorial Director
Kate Harrison

Brand Consistency
Laddawan Juhong

General Manager
Fiona Fenwick

Client Relationship
Director
Felicity Morgan-Harvey

Communications
Director
Loren Penney

Head of
Finance
Elton Hopkins

Managing Director
Eren Elkwood

Proudly published by

RUNWILD

MEDIA GROUP

7 Heron Quay, Canary Wharf, London E14 4JB

020 7987 4320 rwmg.co.uk



Members of the Professional Publishers Association

Runwild Media Ltd. cannot accept responsibility for unsolicited submissions, manuscripts and photographs. While every care is taken, prices and details are subject to change and Runwild Media Ltd. takes no responsibility for omissions or errors. We reserve the right to publish and edit any letters. All rights reserved.

DISTRIBUTION

Vantage magazine is distributed throughout Hampstead, Highgate, Primrose Hill, St John's Wood, Maida Vale, Marylebone and the surrounding areas. For complete maps please visit our website.



© Cyril Lagel, 123RF, Galty Images, Graphie Obsession, SGP © Garath Hacker, Bose © Tidiano Bossi, Sontalon © Michiel Cornelissen, © Cirna, © Gembu, SAFI organisation et subsidiary of Ateliers d'Art de France and Reed Expositions France



Open house

24-28 JAN. 2014
PARIS NORD VILLEPINTE
www.maison-objet.com

International home design exhibition

Trade only

Visitors: Promosalons UK

Tel. +44 208 216 3106 - mathilde@promosalons.co.uk



PARIS
CAPITALE
DE LA
CREATION

MAISON
& OBJET
PARIS

now!
design à vivre

BIG City Life

With New Year's resolutions upon us, *Gabrielle Lane* joins Hollywood actor Billy Zane for breakfast to find out how he is helping disadvantaged young people to build better futures in 2014, in partnership with British mentor, David C.M. Carter



It's not often that you get invited to have breakfast with a Hollywood actor and an internationally-renowned mentor, out of the blue. Rarer still, is the occasion that your interviewees talk sociological strategies, personal empowerment and even US fiscal policy as they are tucking into their croissants and coffee.

Sat with Billy Zane and David C.M. Carter at The Arts Club, the conversation is decidedly highbrow for a Tuesday morning, although both men are in good spirits. Zane is in town for the first UK exhibition of his artwork and the breakfast provides the pair with a welcome opportunity to catch up and share their vision for The Breakthrough Project, which will see some business mentoring and guidance inspiring young people and tackling anti-social issues.

Following an introduction at an "entrepreneurs weekly gathering" in LA – where Carter mistook Billy Zane for a science-type who looked like the actor – a friendship developed which the latter describes as a meeting of minds: "We connected on a philanthropic benchmark with a less pretentious title – make a difference," he explains. It was later, when visiting the police commissioner of Chicago in 2011 that he realised that both men could draw together other individuals from their networks, initially to address the area's gun crime rates.

"I was doing quite a bit of work with a local studio and headlines kept coming out about how many people were being shot in the neighbourhood," says

Zane. "There was an exciting outreach programme for the area, which invited people to get involved in cinema – *don't shoot bullets, shoot film*. This concept kept chewing with me; young shooters who are trying to change need some sort of healing and catharsis – you have people emulating fame and rap music moguls, but how do you get there bypassing jail and death? It comes from having information and guidance from the private sector. So, I wanted to set up a symposium to bring together ideas. I wanted to gather the best minds and invite members of the

- community who had been affected by it. I immediately called David, who I absolutely wanted on that panel.”

With a 20-year background in finance and as an entrepreneur and 17 years of experience in mentoring CEOs of multi-national companies, businesspeople and celebrities, David C.M. Carter has amassed a wealth of experience and contacts while helping clients to improve their personal and professional lives. One of Carter’s suggestions was to export a programme masterminded by the Tsu’Chu Biz Foundation, which is flourishing in the UK. “Instead of giving people from disadvantaged backgrounds a fish, it teaches them how to fish,” he explains. “A lot of these people have great ideas but don’t know how to set up their own business. So basically this programme, which Susan Kaye and her partner [former professional footballer] Tony Woodcock run, helps them to become entrepreneurs. It has created hundreds of micro-businesses that now employ thousands of people; these kids are coming up with great ideas that they are really passionate about. And it pays the bills. [The programme] has had a major impact on their local communities because it has stopped the violent atmosphere in the neighbourhood. When Billy started telling me about his idea, I thought one thing I could do is give some money to export the Tsu’Chu Biz Foundation programme and see if it works in Chicago.”

“ I think people have really started to assess their values and purpose and to reflect on their lives ”



In fact, David C.M. Carter is donating 100 per cent of the profits from his debut self-improvement tome *Breakthrough* to the project. Sales in the UK will benefit Tsu’Chu Biz based in London, while profits arising in the USA will be used in American cities. If all goes well, the two men are hoping that the scheme can be used as a template around the world, with the opportunity for corporate firms to sponsor projects in their own areas.

The concept of making a difference is at the core of David C.M. Carter’s mentoring work, underpinned by the belief that it is one’s positive legacy which will enable you to find fulfilment. For the past four years he has chaired The Rocket Club, a private members’ business forum for current and former clients which looks at ways to make money while having a positive impact on society. “Ten years ago it was all about ‘greed is good’,” he sighs. “But I think people have really started to assess their values and purpose and to reflect on their lives. They want to leave something behind. A strange and almost unnatural law has also been revealed to the business community; a huge part of attracting status is donating to other causes, it is a magnet for success.”

He reveals a compelling example: “One of my clients runs a global platinum mining company in South Africa and when he took over 28 per cent of its workforce had HIV or AIDS. So, over the course of the four years that he ran that business, they put in antiretroviral wellness clinics for the workers and their families, as well as crèches, health and safety clinics and an employee optional share program. Absenteeism went to zero per cent. This company cared about its employees, everyone in this entire community benefitted from it and productivity went up.”

Zane nods thoughtfully. “Even if you started with greed maybe being the motivation; you can’t help feeling good about yourself when realising you have changed the whole community.” With no mention of the film *Titanic*, in which Zane most notably starred, I seize the opportunity to ask if fame has made him more personally inclined to help others. The answer, surprisingly, is no.

“I don’t know how effective that soapbox is at the end of the day,” he shrugs. “It is such a narrow focus to excel in something that makes you famous. Isn’t it enough to entertain? I try not to focus on [fame], if anything I think it would give a negative backlash; I think it is now seen as self-promotion.”

“Many celebrities talk a great game, but Billy actually rolls up his sleeves and does something and makes a difference,” comes the glowing praise from Carter on the other side of the table.

Zane continues: “Making a difference doesn’t have to be synonymous with fame. A friend of mine’s father died and it was only discovered at his funeral how his death had affected hundreds of families. He had been supporting thousands of families in India and no one ever knew it. That is true heroism, when you make a difference without making headlines.” A perfect blockbuster quote, if ever there was one. ■

Breakthrough by David C.M. Carter is published in Great Britain by Piatkus
Further information on The Breakthrough Project is available at breakthroughwisdom.org



PLEASE SAVOUR RESPONSIBLY

THE LAST WORD.

W [THEMACALLAN.COM](http://themacallan.com) f [FACEBOOK.COM/THEMACALLAN](https://www.facebook.com/themacallan) t [@THEMACALLAN](https://twitter.com/themacallan)



The
MACALLAN

HIGHLAND SINGLE MALT
SCOTCH WHISKY

PREEN TEAM

Kari Rosenberg joins two members of the Preen family brand as it makes its childrenswear debut

I'm expecting two members of the Preen family clan for our scheduled interview at the brand's Kensal Green studio. They turn up on schedule – but it's not quite the pair I had anticipated. Founded in 1996 by Justin Thornton and Thea Bregazzi, a couple with a penchant for all things vintage, Victoriana and stylishly up-cycled, it's the male half of the fashion duo that greets me with a strong brew, along with their five-year-old daughter Fauve. Thea is at home, nursing Blythe, aged one, who has just come down with a fever. Balancing the demands of domestic life now come part and parcel with creating some of the industry's most beautiful clothes.

But Fauve is probably the authority on what we are here to discuss. After launching their gritty urban debut collection in 2001, with Liberty Ross sporting *that* rosary bead blouse, the brand's kudos and aesthetic has continued to flourish past deconstructed punk, with its name now a firm fixture on the London Fashion Week calendar – and its products stocked in only the best stores worldwide. Spring 2008 saw the launch of the contemporary, more easy to wear Preen Line, while this month it will be introducing a junior version of its Resort 2014 collection; Mini Preen. Young Fauve puts down her colouring pencils, keen to join in on whatever fun game her dad seems to be playing and shows me her personal favourites; the lace dress she wore for her birthday party and a pea coat still waiting for an outing.

"Fauve didn't want to model in the official campaign," says Justin, as we flip through the photo reel and she casts me an appraising gaze with her big, china doll-blue eyes. "But she came to the shoot and helped us direct the other children. She didn't want to have her picture taken, she just wanted to watch and help; I think it's because Thea and I are usually behind the camera,



not in front of it, so that's what she likes to do too. We did all our fittings on her and she would tell us if something was comfortable or not and which pieces she liked more than others." "I made a good pile and a bad pile," Fauve adds.

"Ever since we had Fauve, Thea has wanted to do a children's collection," says Justin. "They have the same print and feeling as the adult styles. When Thea was younger, her mum used to buy small and adult versions of her wardrobe. I think Laura Ashley used to sell that; it was a trend at the time. She always loved what her mum wore but her version was always really

long and not of the same proportions. We try to keep ours the same."

Then again, there wasn't much choice for Thea and Justin when it came to dressing stylishly growing up. The couple both spent their childhoods on the Isle of Man (at opposite ends of the island, 20 miles apart), meeting first at the age of 18 on an art foundation course. Although they went their separate ways for a while, they soon reunited again in London.

"There wasn't a fashion scene [on the Isle of Man]. There was nothing other than a Marks & Spencer. We both used to buy lots of vintage and second hand stuff and then customise it. I don't think either of us thought about 'inspiration' in those days. I also hate the term 'style icon,'" he says when I press him on the matter. "I don't really have one and I don't think Thea does either. I guess I liked musicians like Lloyd Cole and David Bowie, but the celebrity thing was a very different scene then. It was so far removed from real life." (When I get to catch up with Thea later on, she tells me: "I loved Corinne Drewery from Swing Out Sister, Bananarama and anything by Vivienne Westwood.")





“ ‘Preen’ worked because it is about a woman making herself beautiful in the fashion industry, and we really liked the contrast between vintage and modern ”

Justin didn't even think about working in fashion initially: he wanted to be a fine artist. Thea was an oil painter, he did water colour, but they were both "independently passionate about clothes". Following a fashion module at college, they realised it offered "everything we loved all rolled up in one".

"You weren't encouraged at secondary school to think of doing anything in the arts," Justin laughs. "I remember them saying 'ooh you can be an architect'. Preen came when we decided to work together and do our own label. We had an interview and needed to decide what to call the company but didn't want it under our own name, because we wanted it to be more about the clothing and less about us. 'Preen' worked perfectly because it is about a woman making herself beautiful in the fashion industry, but also because we really liked the contrast between vintage and modern." For Thea, she loved the idea of "preening one's feathers".

"We did exceptionally well with a skinny jean. Everybody said 'nobody will wear these'; they were really hipster, really skinny. It's hard to believe now that people said that. We used to sell 100 pairs on a Saturday in our little shop in Portobello in the mid-nineties because you couldn't get them anywhere else. Crazy isn't it?"



They still hang around with the same crowd, but they've all, for want of a better word, grown up. "The theme for the Resort collection [on which Mini Preen is based] is entirely aimed at our customer base now and is inspired by Miami, as well as the people we know. The young girls that we used to go clubbing with are now really successful women; mothers, CEOs, PR executives, makeup artists and creative directors. They ring us all the time wanting something for Coachella or Glastonbury, saying 'I need a new wardrobe, what can I borrow?' It used to be that you went to a rock festival and wore jeans and a T-shirt, but now people need a whole new wardrobe for it. The world has changed so much and I think our customer has changed too. They want something for the boardroom as well as holidays and music festivals.

"Since we have grown up and the business has expanded, we are more inspired by the life we have now and everyone in it. The brand has kept that raw, rock and roll feel to it, as those are our roots, but it has developed and is appealing to a more sophisticated woman. Our core customer now is probably in their 30s or 40s whereas initially they were in their 20s."

Undoubtedly, the brand has changed a lot since the obscure shop on Portobello Green, where the designs were always fascinating, statement-making deconstructions, if not a little off-kilter for the

everyday consumer (and certainly not appropriate for a mini interpretation in those days). “We kept the shop for such a long time for sentimental reasons because it was where we started, so it’s a shame we don’t have it anymore,” says Justin. Right from the get-go their early, one-off creations displayed many of the themes that Preen would revisit over the next decade (Victoriana, recycling, deconstruction, utilitarian) but the aesthetic today is much more chic.

“The modern woman doesn’t dress the way she traditionally used to. She doesn’t get to a certain age and think ‘I have to start looking like my mother’. Women adopt fashions to suit their age; the hem length or the sleeve. But generally they still want to feel current and modern, and that is how we have developed. It’s important that we have a product that people will buy; we generally don’t send anything down the runway that people can’t order, but having said that, we don’t let that concern hold back our creativity. Together, we bring the masculine and feminine to the design. Thea has a practical angle, so she can think ‘could a woman wear this, can you wear underwear?’ It is very important to keep that reality through our design aesthetic,” he says.

While they started in London, they moved their shows to New York for a few years. “London Fashion Week wasn’t what it is today and a lot of the big names had gone elsewhere to show. Within three seasons, we doubled our business internationally. It could have been that the collections were more desirable, but New York is all

about business.” Thea became pregnant with Blythe and they moved back to the capital after five years, showing at London Fashion Week once again and continuing to up their sales. We discuss how the London fashion scene bloomed in the years they were away, with it now being one of the most important when it comes to setting the fashion agenda.

Juggling work and everyday life, the Preen pair today is more Sunday roasts than rock and roll, but they make it work. “That’s modern life, people do it. It is what we wanted; it works for us to be partners both professionally and in our private lives. It is hard in one way because you can’t leave work but in another way we are always together, so if we travel anywhere and see things we are inspired by, like films and galleries, we see them at the same time and can talk about them.”

I ask if his daughters look set to follow in their footsteps, but it’s too early to tell. “I don’t mind what they want to do,” says Justin, turning to the one perched angelically at the table. “You can be a ballerina, a bricklayer or even a surgeon. I am just happy for them to do whatever they want. Blythe looks set to be a kick boxer at the moment.” Fauve is keen on the ballet suggestion but disagrees with the career plan for her younger sister. After all, she’s probably the authority on this matter, too, so I put the question to her. Her most serious face on, she whispers solemnly: “She’s going to be a screamer.” ■

Available at Selfridges from 25 January



Just a couple
of hours from home.
And yet a world away.



Austria
arrive
and revive

www.austria.info

Your personal Holiday Information Line:
0845 101 1818 (calls charged at local rates)

LOCAL UPDATE

Covering the whole of north west London





BOY GEORGE

The British Library's newest exhibition, *Georgians Revealed: Life, Style and the Making of Modern Britain*, unveils some interesting truths about the people of the era, defined as spanning the reigns of the first four Hanoverian kings of Great Britain (each of them named George). In a time of incredible innovation and the setting up of art galleries, museums and charities, it explores popular culture as it all began, with the unstoppable rise of fashion and celebrity. Drawing on the library's uniquely rich and rare collections of illustrated books, newspapers, and artefacts, the display brings to life the trials and triumphs of the ordinary people who transformed England forever.

£9, until 11 March
96 Euston Road, NW1



Georgian men's shoes c. 1790 © Northampton Museum

SENSATIONAL SINATRA

A musical evening is in store at the London Jewish Cultural Centre with an enjoyable performance telling the story of Frank Sinatra's life in Hollywood. The adventures of the world-famous singer and movie star are brought to life by major British singer Robert Habermann, who was the first artist to perform at a concert to celebrate Sinatra's 80th birthday at Queen Elizabeth Hall in 1995. Sinatra fans are in for a treat, as the concert recalls the star's best moments, from working with Gene Kelly in *High Society*, to *Guys and Dolls* and his Oscar-winning performance in *From Here To Eternity*.



© StampGirl

Frank Sinatra:
The Movie Years
£15, 7.30pm
29 January
94-96 North End
Road, NW11
ljcc.org.uk

FEEL THE BEAT

The month-long concert series at the Royal Academy of Music will explore some of Mozart's greatest works in music history with Mozart Chamber Series. The variety of melodic performances will feature his mastery of all 18th century styles, including *Gran Partita*.

15 January – 13 February
Marylebone Road, NW1



COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Weekends in West Hampstead have become even better, thanks to the arrival of a new market that champions community spirit at its heart. Running every Sunday, locals will be able to buy or sell anything from collectables to clothes, including designer wear and pre-loved items. The large outdoor space welcomes visitors galore to browse among the unique trinkets and knick-knacks. The new Portobello, we say.

Stalls cost £20, 10-2pm on Sundays
West Hampstead Forecourt, Iverson Road, NW6



ART AT THE HEART

The team behind Fitzrovia's beloved contemporary gallery Rook & Raven has announced the opening of its new gallery space Evelyn Yard Contemporary, with an exclusive installation by Royal College of Art graduates to mark the occasion. Working across mediums of drawing and video, the artists have come together in a voyeuristic installation of *The Hotel Room* creating a new cinematic world for visitors to enter. Evelyn Yard Contemporary aims to become a hub for innovative modern-day viewing, where audiences can interact with talented young artists and their artworks in a unique exhibition space.

Evelyn Yard Contemporary, Evelyn Yard, W1T
evelynyard.com



O, BEWARE!

This month the Tricycle Theatre welcomes the acclaimed multi-award-winning production *Red Velvet*. Set at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden in 1833, the play tells the tale of a young black American actor, who takes to the stage as Shakespeare's Othello, to the outrage of other cast members. As the story unfolds to the backdrop of racial discrimination, the emotional plight of the protagonist against public discrimination will keep the audience on the edge of their seats. The must-see performance will make its London debut for a limited run only, so book your tickets now.

£23, 23 January – 8 March
 269 Kilburn High Road, NW6
tricycle.co.uk



*Never Complain,
 Never Explain, 2010*
 Prices between
 £250 - £8000

A BIRTHDAY RETROSPECTIVE

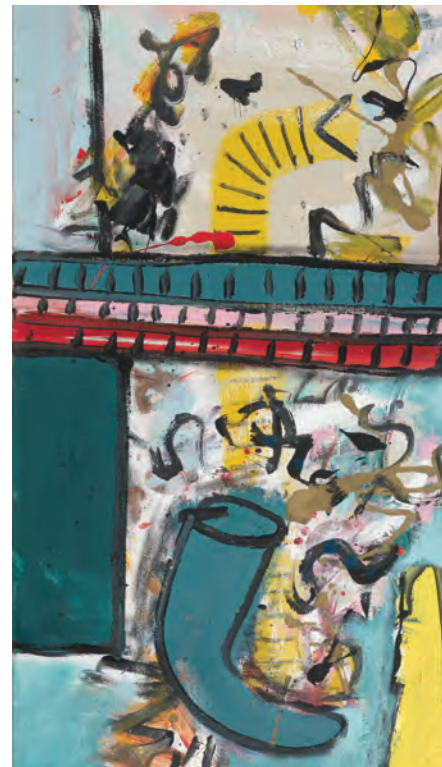
To celebrate Kate Moss's 40th birthday this month, Imitate Modern Gallery is showcasing a unique retrospective of the legendary super model by artist Russell Marshall. The show, named *40*, aims to take viewers on a captivating journey of 'Kate Moss culture' spanning the last quarter of a century. The artist has selected ten of the most distinctive images which mark her sensational transition from young model to fashion icon, as the exhibition creates a visual storybook of her career, whilst depicting to an audience her enduring appeal. "While many celebrities have come and gone Kate grows bigger, brighter and more iconic each year," states Marshall.

17 January – 15 February
 27a Devonshire Street, W1G
imitatemodern.com



Going, Going, GONE

Reclaim the month of doom and gloom with an artistic investment, writes *Rebecca Wallersteiner*



Left: Ophelia Finke in her studio by Laurence Ellis & Ophelia Finke 2013, courtesy of The Catlin Guide 2014

Below: Maisie Broadhead *Keep them Sweet*, 2011. Digital C-Type print, represented by Sarah Myerscough Gallery

Alan Davie, *Machine for Witch Watching No 3*, 1963, courtesy of Waterhouse and Dodd

Right: Kate Steciw, *Background, Basic, Bright, Burlap*, 2013 Photo50 at London Art Fair courtesy of Edel Assanti, London



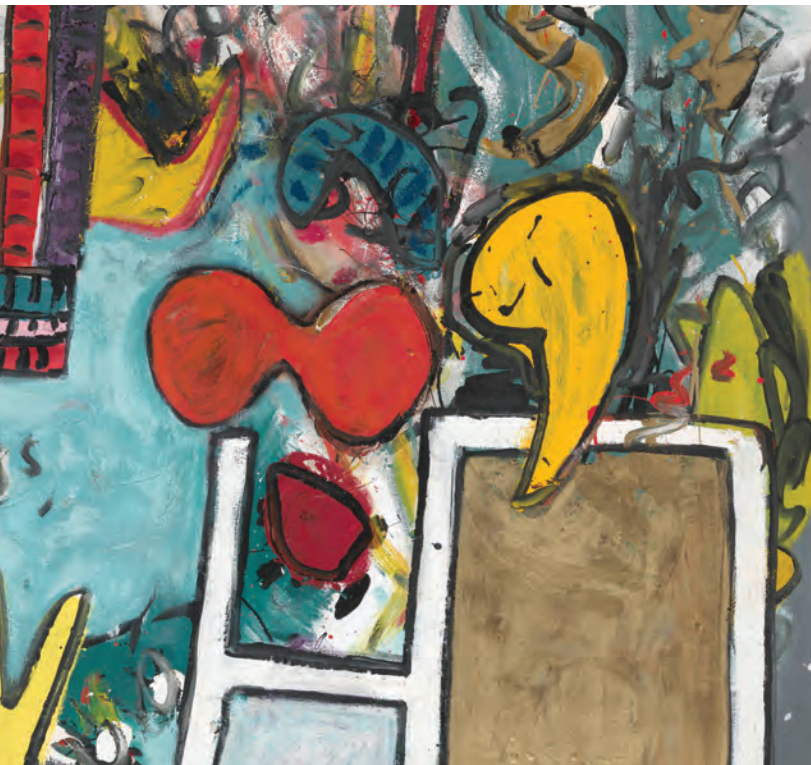
It was Picasso who said: “Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.” As the sherry and Christmas parties dry up, and the Christmas tree is being dismantled, banish winter blues with the 26th London Art Fair, the UK’s largest for modern and contemporary British art, held at the Business Design Centre, Islington. The excitement, colour and sheer energy will blow away January’s greyness and make you feel revitalised.

Sarah Monk, the event’s director says: “This promises to be our most exciting fair to date – as we evolve, [we are] responding to a diverse and vibrant market. We are delighted to welcome the Hepworth Wakefield as museum partner for our 26th edition.” If you would like to buy some work to liven up your home, or as an investment, the fair brings together 130 galleries offering a wide range of art in a fun and relaxed atmosphere, and is a good place to begin. Although some of the works on display are as cutting-edge as Frieze, it tends to focus on 20th century British artists ranging from Walter Sickert and L.S. Lowry to David Hockney and Lucian Freud.

After some gentle browsing, rendezvous with friends and exchange tips or seek out one of the numerous experts over a glass of bubbly at the luxury Champagne bar on the second floor. On the whole, the fair attracts a friendly, mixed-aged and cultured crowd. It also draws in groups of students who are particularly attracted to the Art Projects section, showcasing works by young, emerging artists – many of whom are graduates from London art colleges. It is here that you will find 30 younger, fledgling galleries, mostly just a few years old and offering less expensive art.

Since its inception in 1989, the fair has attracted exhibitors from the elite of London’s galleries. It is still the best place to see the modern greats, alongside exceptional contemporary work by both well-known artists and fresh talent. Established dealers The Redfern Gallery, the Vigo Gallery, Browse & Darby and Caroline Wiseman Modern & Contemporary are back this year, as well as exciting London newcomer the Tryon Street Gallery, founded last October, by former British Museum curator Anna Harnden. She is displaying hauntingly beautiful old photographs of Tunisian and Moroccan filmsets exploring imagination and memory. Another interesting newcomer is the Whitestone Gallery from Japan, showcasing work by 1950s abstract Gutai artists. Around five to ten per cent of the exhibitors are from overseas giving the fair a buzzy international vibe.

One of the fair’s main highlights is Barbara Hepworth and the Development of British Modernism, an exhibition of work borrowed from the Hepworth Wakefield and curated by Frances Guy. “This special



London Art Fair 2012 at the Business Design Centre, Islington, photography by James Champion



exhibition will provide a significant opportunity for patrons and collectors to engage with museum-quality works, whilst highlighting The Hepworth Wakefield's role in preserving a key moment in British art history," explains Monk. Housed in a separate pavilion at the main entrance, you will be able to see outstanding sculptures by Barbara Hepworth and Henry Moore alongside paintings by her contemporaries Terry Frost, Patrick Heron and Peter Lanyon, exploding with glorious colour and *joie de vivre*."

Although these artists are more commonly thought of as forming the avant-garde St Ives's school, many also had a strong connection to Yorkshire. Hepworth and

Moore, both from the area, became friends as students at the Royal College of Art. During the late 19th and 20th centuries, artists formed a bohemian colony in St Ives, attracted by its luminous light. "These artists contributed to the town's international reputation as the home of pioneering post-war British art," explains Guy. Embracing the Yorkshire/St Ives theme, The Redfern Gallery is showing works by Cornwall based Sir Terry Frost, Adrian Heath and the late Paul Feiler, who died last summer. Caroline Wiseman will be showing pictures by St Ives's artists Patrick Heron and Ben and Rachel Nicholson.

To celebrate Benjamin Britten's centenary, she is planning to show work by British artists Alison Wilding and Chris Orr, who have been inspired by their residences at Aldeburgh beach, where the composer lived.

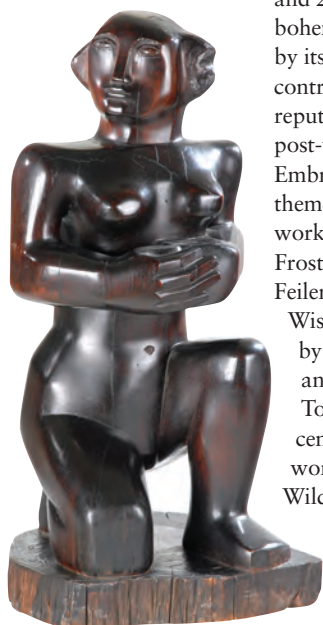
To learn more about modern British painting, Art Projects, which launched in 2006, runs alongside the fair, offering an exciting daily educational programme. This year welcomes the launch of a new Dialogues section, curated by Adam Carr and will feature large scale installations, solo shows and group displays alongside an extensive film programme presenting experimental film and video work. Photography lovers are bound to enjoy *Immaterial Matter*, an exhibition exploring contemporary photographic practice curated by Charlie Fellowes and Jeremy Epstein. You can celebrate Photography Focus Day on 15 January, while participating in discussions, tours and talks about the medium. Art cognoscenti will be at hand to provide advice on whether you should buy art for love or money (no competition in my opinion; buy an artwork that excites you and you may find that it eventually proves to be a sounder investment than stocks or shares!)

Whether you are looking to spend your Christmas bonus, or just a few hundred pounds, there will be something for every taste. Regular London Art Fair exhibitor Sims Reed specialises in selling reasonably priced art books and works on paper by high profile artists including Andy Warhol, Eduardo Paolozzi and Alberto Giacometti. But Art Projects is a good place to pick up an affordable print or photograph as it focuses on promoting young, emerging talent, and the calibre for 2014's artists is astonishing.

If you are time poor and wondering what to buy to jazz up your home, a colourful Terry Frost or Patrick Heron print or painting is guaranteed to give even the most unloved of rooms a New Year make-over. But just visiting the London Art Fair is bound to lift your winter spirits. ■

15-19 January, londonartfair.co.uk
Tickets are £13 (plus £1.50 booking fee) in advance, or £17 on the door

Barbara Hepworth, *Kneeling Figure*, 1932 Wakefield Permanent Art Collection © Bonness, Hepworth Estate



TIME LESS



VG Studio at

inspirations
vision style design

www.idesign-int.com
info@inspirationsoftickhill.co.uk
Tel: 01302 760040

concept and design by
Vincenzo Antonuccio
& Marilena Calbini

VG

GUEST LIST



Laura Bailey

Zara Martin

Kimberley Garner

Peaches Geldof



Grace McGovern and Oliver Proudlock

There were two DJ sets on the night

World Premiere of the new Mini, Central London

18 November 2013

The Old Sorting Office was the venue for the launch of the new Mini which saw guests including Poppy Delevingne, Laura Bailey, Jaime Winstone, Peaches Geldof and Henry Holland enjoy DJ sets by Ellie Goulding and Little Dragon and a live music performance by Fenech-Solar. Smoked salmon with roasted beetroot, fish and chips and quail scotch eggs were devoured enthusiastically, alongside several mojitos. The event was one of three held to mark the unveiling of the new car; Los Angeles and Shanghai also hosted launches.

21-31 New Oxford Street, WC1



Laura Bailey and Poppy Delevingne

Ella Catliff

The invited guests got to admire the new launch

The car was launched with parties in three cities



Jeremy Irvine

Lily Cole

Rick Edwards

Dominic Cooper

Grey Goose Fly Beyond Bar Launch, Piccadilly

29 November 2013

In its quest to cement itself as the premium drinks brand *du jour*, Grey Goose throws some pretty good parties: it launches three day temporary bakeries (Boulangerie François) and conceals a pop-up bar behind the doors of a pretend oven. Yes, really. Lily Cole, Jeremy Irvine, Jade Parfitt and Jasmine Guinness joined the north-west-meets-east London hipster crowd in the Shaftesbury Avenue den, until the early hours.

greygoose.com



Grey Goose Fly Beyond Bar



Camila Batmanghelidjh

Joan Burstein

Chris Bracey

Kelly Hoppen

Caroline Rush

Caroline Issa



Bay Garnett, Polly Morgan and Mat Collishaw

Matthew Williamson and Gwyneth Paltrow

Kids Company Charity Dinner, London Bridge

25 November 2013

Vantage locals are a charitable bunch. When Belsize Park residents Matthew Williamson and Gwyneth Paltrow joined forces to host a dinner at Aqua Shard in aid of Kids Company, Joan Burstein and Caroline Issa joined the likes of Arizona Muse and Kelly Hoppen to support the cause. Williamson unveiled a Christmas tree he had curated, decorated with baubles designed by Sienna Miller, Mary J Blige, Rankin and Zaha Hadid, which were due to be auctioned online until 23 December. West Hampstead's Camila Batmanghelidjh CBE founded Kids Company in 1996 to provide education and support to vulnerable young people.

ebay.co.uk/usr/aquashard



Sabine Roemer

Diego Bivero-Volpe and Olivia Grant

Noah Stewart

Oliver Cheshire

Hayley Atwell

Emma Catliff



Henry Conway was amongst the guests

Celia Imrie and Ben Elliot

Celia Imrie and James Nesbitt

Pixie Lott performs

Fayre of St James in association with The Crown Estate, Piccadilly

5 December 2013

An alliance between the Crown Estate, Quintessentially Foundation and Fortnum & Mason was always going to guarantee a good party. The Fayre of St James not only injected some seasonal cheer into central London, but simultaneously raised £200,000 for the Rays of Sunshine charity. Actors Natascha McElhone, Celia Imrie and James Nesbitt gave readings in St James's Church before the latter two were given the task of switching on the Jermyn Street Christmas lights. At Fortnum & Mason, guests enjoyed Champagne and a live set by the sons of Henry Wyndham, chairman of Sotheby's, and their friends.

St James's Church, W1



BY APPOINTMENT TO H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES
MANUFACTURERS OF LEATHER GOODS G. ETINGER LTD LONDON

ETINGER
LONDON

QUINTESSENTIAL BRITISH
LEATHER GOODS SINCE 1934

www.etingger.co.uk



THE PINSTRIPE COLLECTION

WWW.ETINGER.CO.UK TEL: +44 (0)20 8877 1616

STYLE UPDATE



A STYLISH PARTNERSHIP

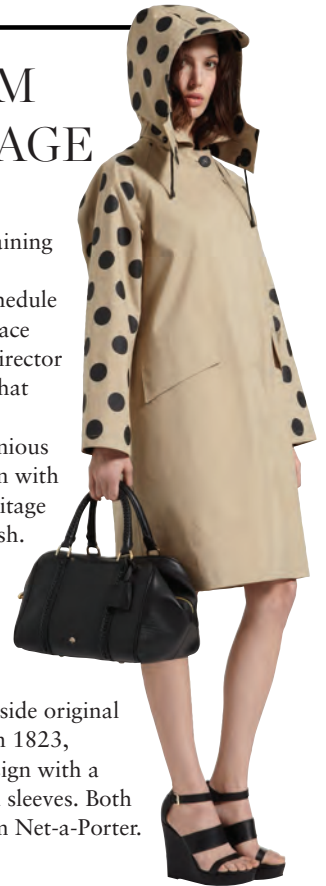
As Belsize Park resident Gwyneth Paltrow becomes known as much for her lifestyle tips as her acting career, her digital media and e-commerce company Goop.com has collaborated with her friend and go-to fashion designer, Michael Kors, to produce a new collection of clothing and accessories. Speaking of the partnership at its launch, Paltrow said: "Michael's clothes are gorgeous, staple, American classics that never go out of style. I thought it would be wonderful to reinvent some of my favourite vintage Michael Kors looks that I have kept for years and that I wear over and over. These elegant, luxurious pieces will stay in the closet forever and be passed down. I'm thrilled with what we have created." Cashmere capes, a peacoat and a peplum sweater will be on the rails, while a carry-all tote, gold-chain bracelet and versatile ankle-strap sandal are among the finishing touches for the discerning and stylish Goop audience.

goop.com



MXM MARRIAGE

Mulberry may be temporarily abstaining from the London Fashion Week schedule as it seeks to replace former creative director Emma Hill, but that hasn't stopped it finalising an ingenious new collaboration with fellow British heritage brand, Mackintosh. Two special editions of the distinguished camel overcoat have gone into production alongside original styles dating from 1823, including this design with a printed hood and sleeves. Both are available from Net-a-Porter.



GOLDEN TICKET

If anything is to make a young fashion designer's career, it's the backing of the illustrious LVMH dynasty: Raf Simons of Dior joins Nicolas Ghesquière (Louis Vuitton), Marc Jacobs (Marc Jacobs), Karl Lagerfeld (Fendi) and Phoebe Philo (Céline) alongside members of the fashion powerhouse's executive board to judge the inaugural LVMH Young Fashion Designer Prize. Entrants must have previously produced two collections and can apply for the honour until 2 February 2014. The winner – to be announced in the following May – will receive €300,000 and a year's worth of assistance in developing their company. Additionally, three fashion school graduates will be invited to join one of the LVMH brands for a year.



A WARM WELCOME

Hot on the heels of J Crew, Hackett has become the latest luxury brand to open on Regent Street with the unveiling of a three-story flagship. The menswear brand, which offers preppy basics and smart tailoring (usually to the city boy dreaming of rural Berkshire), has thought of everything to make shopping 'for him' a little bit easier: there's a dedicated space for its Aston Martin Racing line and an in-house monogramming service.

193-197 Regent Street, W1
hackett.com



THE NEXT BIG THING

Out of the shadows (or should that be rays) of the ultra-glossy Autumn/Winter trend for Perspex clutches, satin slip dresses and vinyl pencil skirts comes a range of laminated leather bags from Marni, as part of its transitional Resort 2014 line. The Mirror Collection includes five modern gold and silver designs including sleek satchels and clutches. Expect the Marni Frame Bag, which is reinvented most seasons, to become especially popular.

From £480, marni.com



Luxe
BE A LADY

PHOTOGRAPHER: JON ATTENBOROUGH

STYLIST: RACHEL GOLD





Pale blue cotton embroidered and printed guipure coat, £6,200,
Christian Dior, dior.com; White python peep-toe wedge, £350,
Burberry Prorsum, uk.burberry.com; Horn leaf double clip
earrings, £110, Monies, harveynichols.com

Sleeveless clean cotton stretch jacket, £126, Stripe lace skirt, £285, both Moschino Cheap and Chic, harveynichols.com; Top with lace sleeves, £195, Lady Dior yellow and orange gradient box in calfskin, £3,400 and sandal in red satin and orange glazed leather with comma heel and white rubber sole, £680, all Christian Dior, as before





Cropped white jumper, £295, Just Cavalli, justcavalli.com; White pencil skirt with leaf print and lace back, £844, Antonio Berardi harrods.com; Traviata patent leather bag in ice blue, £1,240, Launer, launer.com



Dolman sleeve Oxford shirt, £415, Alexander Wang, [harveynichols.com](https://www.harveynichols.com)

Blue crepe skirt, £635, Preen, harveynichols.com; Sleeveless embroidered shirt with pointed collar, £115, Antipodium, antipodium.com; Veronica fluorescent heels, £450, Gina, gina.com



Tipee dress, £540, Goat, [matchesfashion.com](https://www.matchesfashion.com); Serana white and red wedge brogue, £355, Robert Clergerie, 67 Wigmore Street London W1; Gold vermeil Bisous hoops with black and white pave, £425, Missoma, [missoma.com](https://www.missoma.com)





Cary white bonded cotton silk, gem and rhinestone pencil skirt, £3,995, Burberry Prorsum, as before; Embroidered front panel white shirt, £275, Victoria Beckham, harveynichols.com

PHOTOGRAPHER & STYLIST CONTACT: **JON ATTENBOROUGH (LHAREPRESENTS.COM) RACHEL GOLD (LHAREPRESENTS.COM)**
HAIR AND MAKE UP: **BOBBIE ROSS USING BUMBLE & BUMBLE AND ARMANI COSMETICS**
STYLIST'S ASSISTANT: **LAUREN GODWIN** | PHOTOGRAPHY ASSISTANT: **JAMES DONOVAN**
MODEL: **HERMIONE CORFIELD @ MILK MANAGEMENT (MILKMANAGEMENT.CO.UK)**

SHOT ON LOCATION AT **LUTON HOO HOTEL, GOLF & SPA, THE MANSION HOUSE,**
LUTON, BEDFORDSHIRE, LU1 3TQ, 01582 734 437, LUTONHOO.CO.UK



Jane LEWIS: a STYLISH life

There are those designers who are whimsical and then there are those that are steadily building empires. *Gabrielle Lane* meets Jane Lewis, creative director and founder of fashion brand Goat, for a lesson in good business

As I leave the beautiful Paddington townhouse of Jane Lewis, founder and creative director of luxury clothing brand Goat, her parting words are: “Don’t make me sound like an idiot.” She is joking, of course, and it’s just as well, because the entrepreneur and mother-of-three is as eloquent and self-aware as they come. When asking what her simple pleasures away from work are – dinner perhaps – I’m met with a “No.” There’s a long pause before she answers that she enjoys reading in silence and time spent with her children. How often is she able to make it to the office with so many demands on her time? “Every day.” Lewis is every inch the astute businesswoman.

Goat – named to reflect the label’s chic cashmere separates – was founded in 2001, for women who are similarly confident and at ease with their own style. “I want people to wear my clothes, not have my clothes wear them,” Lewis explains. The company’s financial growth during a national period of recession is just one indication that she has succeeded in creating a go-to brand for discerning clientele:

“Jane knows how to design a dress women want, one that is effortlessly stylish and has just enough detail to make it interesting without being fussy – the hem line and cuff length are always just right, keeping pieces modern and the cut and silhouettes are incredibly flattering on all ages,” reveals Suzanne Pendlebury, buying manager of Matchesfashion.com, which stocks Goat in its Marylebone High Street outpost, among others. And in current times, the ultimate assent seems to come from media-appointed fashion matriarch, the Duchess of Cambridge, who owns the British label’s collarless wool Redgrave coat in cream.

Just 12 years on from the launch of the first collection, Lewis continues to



design every piece personally, and it is this commitment that makes her cool-and-considered manner inspiring rather than intimidating: she invested her own money into the business from day one. “The important thing to practise when you have a business is to always try and trade organically as much as possible, without biting off more than you can chew,” she says. “It’s very easy to be seduced by big orders and to let your ego get in the way but that can hamper good business practice. It’s better to have a smaller business that functions at a high level, than a bigger business that is debt ridden, or has poor production or delivery times. Things like that really matter – it’s all about your reputation. If you can have a really concise, sharp little business that really works, it will stand you in good stead going forward because you



Savoy Jacket, £470



Suki Scarf, £90



Sabrina Dress, £420



Redgrave Coat, £560

Photography by Graham Jepson



◆ want really strong foundations. That's the springboard you need."

Lewis's pragmatism extends to how she manages her team. In an industry where other designers become consumed by creativity, bored with the numbers and 'brand management', Lewis knows what works. "I've got a fantastic team who I trust wholeheartedly. I am still very

much in control of the whole company and creatively I am at the helm, but I really believe you need to let go where it's appropriate. If you're stubborn and try and do everything yourself, you're not going to achieve as much. I've got terrifically talented people working for me, so where their skills are strong, I absolutely delegate, because I have every confidence that they

will do it very well. Then I'm there to supervise and to liaise. I'm proud that we're a thriving, British brand," says Lewis. "I'm also thrilled to support the factories here."

Whenever possible, Goat manufactures its pieces in the UK and adorns items that come from home-grown producers with Made in Britain labels. "I'm also proud of the following we've created over time and of the great stockists we have."

In the future – one step at a time – the plan is to extend Goat's online offering, acquire a flagship store and perhaps branch out into accessories. "The nature of the business is that you're doing collections throughout the year and every season it changes. We're always thinking ahead. There are always exciting new stories within the ranges, [inspired by] people that we meet and different ideas. It's fun in that way. I collect sunglasses and handbags, so I really would love to do accessories."

For now, I have a feeling that Jane Lewis is the perfect person to ask for the essential wardrobe edit. "If you wear jeans and trainers as a mum running around, throw on a fantastic coat and it changes the tone," she says. "My must-haves are great sunglasses and excellent tailoring. For the evening, certainly all of our dresses. I choose a few every season for myself in a few different colours; it makes life very easy. I always think you should have a blouse – I'd take a cream silk blouse, the equivalent of a white shirt. These are staples which you can then mix in with anything. A good wardrobe is flexible; it doesn't need to be bursting at the seams. It depends on your life, you have to be practical."

Anything but 'an idiot', everyone should be a little bit more like Jane Lewis. ■

goatfashion.com



Lola Dress, £395



Rocky Trousers, £270



Petra Sweater, £160



Thea Dress, £420



Johnnie Walker

CHAMPAGNE
PERRIER-JOUËT

Please Enjoy Perrier-Jouët Responsibly
drinkaware.co.uk
for the facts



26TH OCTOBER - 16TH FEBRUARY

CANADA SQUARE PARK, CANARY WHARF

ICERINKCANARYWHARF.CO.UK 020 7536 8400

In association with:



Proudly sponsored by:

CANARY WHARF
GROUP PLC

Samsung UHDTV
Ultra High Definition 4K

DOW JONES

toggle
mobile
SIM for travellers

Media Partners:

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
RUNWILD
MEDIA GROUP

BEST OF BEAUTY

January

1. Model of the moment Lily Collins appears glowing in the new campaign for Lancôme's French Ballerine look, wearing the divine Blush Highlighter in rose. Follow suit from 2 January.

£35, Lancôme, harrods.com

2. On the catwalk Christopher Bailey saluted the English Rose as he unveiled a Burberry clothing collection for Spring/Summer 14 which blooms with pastel colours and Nottingham lace. Its corresponding beauty collection has been given five similarly pretty new nail polishes including Sage Green and Dusky Mauve.

£15 each, Burberry, burberry.com

3. Well-known and well-liked fragrance Joy by Jean Patou has been given a fresh twist and launched as Joy Forever. The modern and floral scent doesn't stray too far from its heart of Rose de Mey and Jasmine, but is sure to attract a legion of new fans.

£95, Jean Patou, harrods.com

4. Guerlain has been touting the power of honey as an anti-ager since the 1840s and its new Dark Spot Corrector Pore Minimizer draws on research into a specific blend of bee products. Using the mix of clover honey and Sologne Royal Jelly in serum form for one month is said to brighten and even the complexion. Head to John Lewis for a mid-January preview.

£85, Guerlain, johnlewis.com

5. Make 2014 the year you find – and love – your beauty essentials. The Rose Majeur Eyeshadow Duo from Chanel's spring collection will launch on 17 January with a versatile peach base tone and a sultry smoked plum; feather the lash line, build into the outer corners, or simply fluff over the entire lid when you're feeling particularly glamorous.

£31, Chanel, selfridges.com

6. 21 January might be the day you land the elusive, perfect pink lip colour. The new Rose Sensation tone of Rouge Interdit Shine Lipstick from Givenchy is on counters as part of Over Rose, Givenchy's ode to all things bright and beautiful – including flushed cheeks and candy-coloured nails.

£22, Givenchy, givenchy.com



BEAUTY UPDATE



BEAUTY IN BLOOM

The Grand Trianon, built for Louis XIV in the Gardens of Versailles, lends its name to Trianon by Dior, a make-up range that aims to replicate the enigmatic elegance of nobility. Amidst new floral tones for nails and blushes which give a regal glow, the brand has invested heavily in the development of new textures for eye shadows this season. Matte monos in beige (Songe), chocolate (Miarage), mauve (Céleste) and black (Nocturne) blend well to give colour that holds, while the gum texture of the 5 Couleurs Palette can be blended with fingers for hazy highlights, or applied with a brush for definition and to frame love-lorn gazes.

From 17 January, Dior, selfridges.com



SAY HELLO TO KIKO



Industry chatter has picked up surrounding the arrival of Kiko on Regent Street. The Italian cosmetics brand is well-established in its native country and aims to offer premium-grade cosmetics and skincare at a disarmingly affordable price. With over 1,500 products in its core offering, including 600 launches from 2013 alone, the brand ethos is of one of fun and experimentation – something we can most certainly get on board with. Its Skin Trainer line is its current bestseller and is formulated with anti-ageing in mind. In November, Skin Trainer Anti-Spot, which is packed with vitamins and minerals was developed to tackle hyperpigmentation, while Skin Trainer Eyes uses caffeine and amino acids to minimise the appearance of puffiness and dark circles. Its cooling sensation is addictive.

262-264 Regent Street, W1, kikocosmetics.co.uk

TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF



Miller Harris perfumer and Primrose Hill-resident, Lyn Harris has spent 20 years championing the use of natural ingredients in fragrance, used with simplicity. Her new labour of love, Perfumer's Library, is the quintessential tribute to the floral and leafy notes of the garden. Le Jasmin is Harris's go-to perfume for all occasions; Tuberosa – in honour of the tuberose flower – is made for the stylish; Verti Vert will capture those who like crisp and masculine scents, while both La Feuille and Verger are distinctive and fruity. Fans of the Miller Harris brand will adore the assembly, which came about through a desire to explore the relationship between scent and memory.

£195 each, millerharris.com



Lyn Harris of Miller Harris



THE FUTURE OF FIRMING?

Most beauty enthusiasts are aware of cryotherapy, a treatment which uses targeted exposure to cold temperatures to improve circulation and skin tone.

But those on the quest for visible firmness or facial radiance should brace themselves – quite literally – for the arrival of the Cryo T Portable, which is already in use in LA and Dubai. The machine swaps typical salon-adopted temperatures of -15°C for streams of liquid nitrogen vapours reaching -180°C. Applied to the skin, these cause blood vessels to dilate and a subsequent increase in oxygen delivery to the cells, stimulating rejuvenation. Talk of the technology is already abundant on the London salon scene and while we hope there will be a local provider soon, there are rumours that ICE Health Cryotherapy clinical director Alla Pashynska is open to requests for small group events...

icehealth.co.uk

INSIDE OUT

If festive excess has left your skin sluggish, sign up to a six-week Get the Glow programme from Eat Evolve. The pioneering meal delivery service is based on the Paleo eating concept necessitating highly nutritious, non-processed foods. The plan is developed with fresh-faced beauty in mind and having tried it's hearty, delicious meals (without a salad in sight) we can testify to its success.

eatevolve.com



A NEW YEAR SWEETENER

When it comes to banishing the January blues, simple pleasures come in many forms. Take the tempting collaboration between Nina Ricci Parfums and Ladurée which has yielded a limited-edition fragrance, La Tentation de Nina (as well as a macaron topped with gold leaf). Master perfumer Olivier Cresp and Ladurée's new creation pastry chef, Vincent Lemains, accepted the challenge to reinterpret each other's art and from the 27th of this month, a macaron-inspired accord will be realised in scent form for the first time. We're told the secret of the blend is the combination of Bulgarian rose with raspberries, lemons and almonds, for a floral, fruity impact.

£40, Nina Ricci Parfums, 020 7494 6220



Everything is *ILLUMINATED*

PHOTOGRAPHER: IAN WALSH

STYLIST: BOO ATTWOOD



1 Tonique Douceur, £22, Lancôme, lancome.co.uk 2 Perfect Facial Hydrating Cream, £81, Aēsop, aesop.com 3 Hydrating Face Tonic, £20, Bobbi Brown, bobbibrown.co.uk
4 Floral Toning Lotion, £59.50, Sisley, sisley-paris.co.uk 5 Make a Difference Plus+, £34, Origins, origins.co.uk 6 Gentle Cleanser, £35, Perricone perriconemd.co.uk 7 Skin Hydrating
Booster, £51, Dermalogica, dermalogica.co.uk 8 Active Spa lip Balm and Primer, £9.50, Lord & Berry, lookfantastic.com



9 Purifying Creme Cleanser, £45, Tom Ford, houseoffraser.co.uk 10 Overnight Repair Serum, £56.40, Dermalogica, dermalogica.co.uk 11 The Cleansing Oil, £60, Crème de la Mer cremedelamer.co.uk 12 Hydra Beauty Serum, £59, Chanel, houseoffraser.co.uk 13 High-Potency Night-A-Mins, £34, Origins, origins.co.uk 14 Hydraskin Intensive Moisturising Serum, £43, Darphin, darphin.co.uk 15 Extra Treatment Lotion, £45, Bobbi Brown, bobbibrown.co.uk 16 Idèlia Life Serum, £29.50, Vichy, boots.com

Rediscover Your Source



Captivate Your Senses

The first internationally-acclaimed Chuan Spa in Europe is now open at The Langham, London.
Rediscover your source with luxurious treatments inspired by the philosophy
of Traditional Chinese Medicine.



The Langham, London

1c Portland Place, Regent Street, London W1B 1JA

T 44 (0) 20 7973 7550 tllon.info@chuanspa.com

www.chuanspa.co.uk

AUCKLAND • BOSTON • HONG KONG • LONDON • LOS ANGELES • MELBOURNE • SHANGHAI



On the PULSE

Kari Rosenberg experiences the new Pure Flow Pulsation therapy at the Bulgari spa



It's hard not to view any treatment at the Bulgari Hotel spa through anything but rose (gold) tinted glasses. The hotel took a bit of a battering when it opened, mainly due to its ostentatious sparkle and *international* clientele, but the spa itself is sleek, unassuming and anything but flashy, with service so genteel it's impossible not to be charmed.

The showpiece of the wellness centre is an impressive 25m swimming pool which seems to glitter when viewed peeping through the entrance doors, due to its gold-leaf glass mosaics. Surrounded by ornate columns and Vicenza stone, it forms the heart of the spa, with Turkish baths, ice showers, 11 treatment rooms, a private suite and a relaxation room with a beautiful vertical fireplace, comprising the rest of the underground centre.

Here to try the new Pure Flow Pulsation therapy, a specialist treatment which is currently exclusively offered here, it is designed to boost circulation, detox the body, increase energy and restore equilibrium. Strapped up in what can only be described as a body bandage for half an hour – the kind you wear when having your blood pressure taken – the belts are carefully positioned around the legs and hips to pulse (and slightly convulse) in time with your heartbeat, the sound of which is played over a speaker. The compression techniques are said to be absorbed by the body, quickly leading to “a sense of deep relaxation and invigoration”, relieving the body of any stress and anxiety.

Suffering from a heavy cold, I can't say I felt anything but mild discomfort, and I was relieved when my delightful therapist Claire came to the rescue, clasping a mug of honey and lemon tea. Ideal for combatting jet lag and water retention after flying, it's taken off with the jet-set hotel guests, and is said to work wonders when carried out in batches. But if you're looking for a relaxing, indulgent spa experience, pair it with a massage or facial. ■

Pure Flow Pulsation treatment sessions from £200-£4,000
Bulgari Hotel & Residences, 171 Knightsbridge, SW7

PAPILLON[✦]



Beautiful handmade lamps made to order using vintage and recycled materials.
Each lovingly designed and made by artist Roxana Alamouti.

1A Nugent Terrace, London NW8 9QB. Tel:0207 289 6379 / 07932 044 801
Email: info@roxanaalamouti.com Website: www.roxanaalamouti.com



WISH *list*

BABES IN THE WOOD

You're never too old to be enchanted by the allure of a secret garden. And while Hibou Home's luxury woodland wallpapers are officially aimed at children, we can't see why the whimsical florals and chalky tones wouldn't work elsewhere in a white-washed, country-chic home, either in a conservatory, utility or living room. Illustrated by hand and with subtle hints of metallic detailing, muted blush, peony and lavender shades are complemented with dusky white hues that create a pretty yet clean, contemporary aesthetic. Designs span three collections including the new Secret Garden and Animal Parade prints, as well as the Enchanted Wood set. Woven and printed in Lancashire, the linen mix fabric with its soft handle and wonderful drape can be used for a variety of soft furnishing applications. If you go down to the woods today...

Pictured: Secret Garden Wallpaper in Blush Pink, £70 per roll
hibouhome.com

INTERIORS INSPIRATION



A GRAND AFFAIR

Baccarat is renowned as one of the oldest and most distinguished luxury brands in the world. To celebrate the magnificent occasion of its 250th birthday, a lavish book from Rizzoli offers an in-depth preview of some of its most stunning crystal creations in history. The pages feature beautiful, historic photographs and drawings from Baccarat's extensive archive, as well as enchanting images from its advertising campaigns and celebrity clientele. Devotees of Baccarat will also have the opportunity to experience the brand's ethos on a grander scale with the opening of Baccarat Hotel & Residences New York in late 2014.

Located on one of Manhattan's most prestigious blocks off Fifth Avenue, across from the Museum of Modern Art, Baccarat Hotel & Residences New York combines sophisticated design with the level of service and exceptional quality that exemplifies the glamour and prestige of the Baccarat lifestyle.

Baccarat: Two Hundred and Fifty Years, rizzoliusa.com

To view any of the 60 private residences still for sale visit baccaratresidencesny.com

Crystal Bar at Baccarat Hotel & Residences New York conceptualised by acclaimed French design duo Gilles et Boissier



WHITE WINTER

Just imagine stepping in from the cold and being greeted with a spicy warm aroma of sweet cinnamon and clove, along with subtle hints of refreshing orange. The delicious new candle from The White Company embodies winter warmth and will breathe new life into your home this season. Practical and pretty, it makes a great centrepiece for setting the mood, and with up to 230 hours of burning time, we will certainly be keeping that flame flickering until spring.



Winter Indulgence Candle, £125
12 Marylebone High Street, W1U
thewhitecompany.com



GET THE LUXURY LOOK

The Sofa and Chair Company impresses yet again with the introduction of its stylish Windsor range. The assortment includes plush arm chairs, various sized sofas and footstools that are designed to complement one another, or equally, stand alone. Filled with luxurious layers of foam-wrapped feather and down, sinking into one of these cozy pieces, with one of its signature throws wrapped around you, provides the perfect antidote for a cold wintery evening.

thesofoandchair.co.uk



THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL

For truly trend-setting designs, the Trianon II collection from leading wallpaper brand Galerie Wallcoverings, offers a rich palette of warming shades and prints that bring a sense of understated elegance to any space. Contemporary and classic motifs are available for even the most discerning customer, ranging from metallic accents and multi-tonal stripes to even the simplest neutral tones. To really enhance the look, dark polished furniture provides a harmonious balance between any of their dramatic backdrops.

Trianon II Collection, £37.95 based on 10.05m x 53cm roll
galeriewallcoverings.co.uk

PRINTS CHARMING



The latest prints from Liberty's homeware collection have us very excited as these brightly-coloured cushions are the answer to giving a tired room a spruce. Available in a range of friendly patterns and sizes, they provide an appealing focal point, and can be scattered on a sofa, or added as a finishing touch to your bed. Each design features a fun pom-pom-trim edging, finished with a classic Liberty logo.

£110, liberty.co.uk

BATHING BELLE

For the ultimate statement bathroom, look no further than Catchpole & Rye, whose newly opened London showroom has the largest variety of classic and antique cast iron baths in the UK. With a philosophy to provide forever lasting pieces, the store offers a wide variety of exquisite models, promising the ultimate in luxury and quality bathtimes. Should nothing take your fancy, they also offer a bespoke design service to create an exclusive piece to meet individual requirements.

catchpoleandrye.com



An AFTERNOON with MARION

Acclaimed interior designer Marion Lichtig has worked on a rich portfolio of properties that span London, the English countryside and most recently, Verbier. Put festive prints behind you and prepare for an interiors revamp as she reveals some stylish home truths
to *Georgia Barnett*

Waiting outside the front door of Marion's Hampstead home, I am intrigued to see what it will look like on the other side. Imagining lavish chandeliers and quirky, ultra-modern touches, I follow her into the kitchen and soon experience the style philosophy that she later imparts: "You should walk into a home and feel the love."

Her rooms are adorned with classic artworks and bespoke pieces that she has accumulated over time. "I think that a home should feel as if it has history," she says. "Filled with books and objects that you have collected, it should be like a cultural exchange. I love going into a home and getting that feeling."

And as I make myself comfortable in her warm and inviting drawing room, the light pouring in through the windows, the stone fireplace waiting to be lit, I can see what she means.

Marion offers a spectrum of services from "a gut job," as she refers to it, to simply giving a home a refresh. "I will go in and tell the client to get rid of certain things, add in a couple of pieces and just style it up." She strongly believes that the magic starts once you have the bones of the property right: "You must respect the architecture. A lot of people don't understand that and they will buy a beautiful old property and rip it apart. You have to know what works."

"A home should last forever," she continues. "If you can afford it, spend it." For budding interior designers, or those with a penchant for soft furnishings, Marion has some valuable advice: "It's a process; like growing up. The key is not to do things that will date; choose items that stay with time, that you can always change." Otherwise, just like the latest fashion trends, she warns: "In two years' time you won't want to look at it."

She suddenly leaps from her chair to show me a large piece of coloured cloth. Her eyes light up with

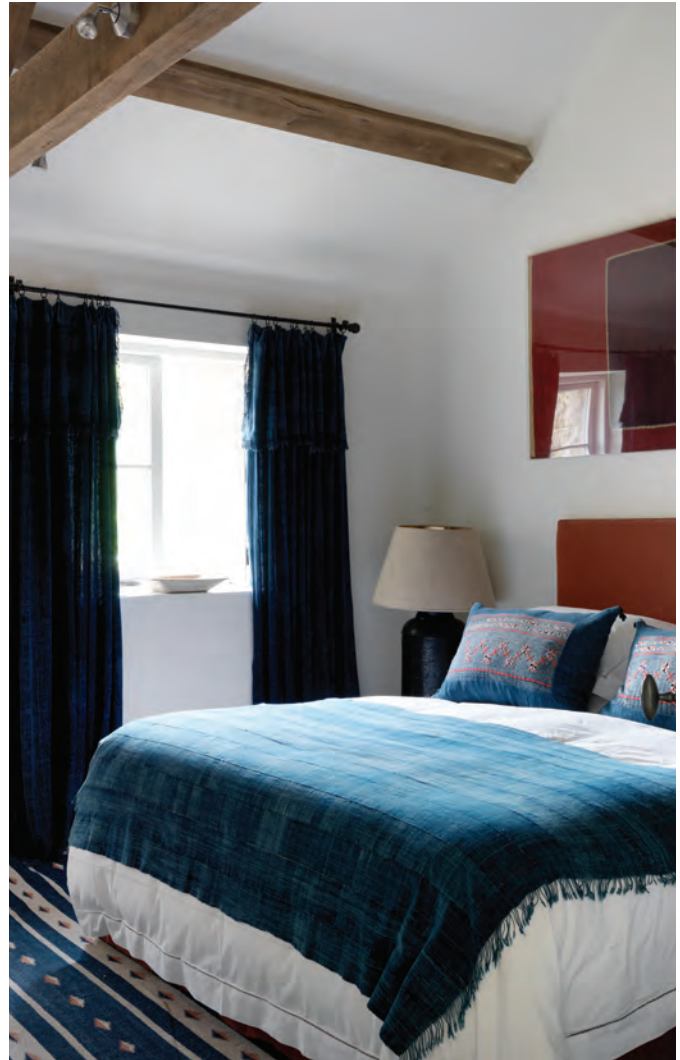




“ I love the architecture in the Soane Museum and going to Lisson Grove to all the antique stores ”

joy as she tells me that it is a Fortuny fabric. “Oh yes,” I say, trying to play it cool whilst quickly making a mental note to Google the term as soon I get home. (After researching, I later learn that Italian designed Fortuny fabrics are known for their rich floral patterns and are considered some of the most finely crafted in the world). She tells me that it would be perfect for making cushion covers. “This is how I like to work with clients. I don’t want them to spend money unnecessarily, but I think that it is cheaper in the long run if you can afford to buy good quality. And a lot of people don’t understand that.”

I wonder if she is able to simply unwind after a day’s work, or if she feels a constant need for variation in her own home. “I’ll change it up when I’m in a different mood,” she explains. “The sofas in here are ancient,” she continues animatedly “but now and again I will just add some other cushions, or change the throw.” As a lover of natural colours, she enjoys bringing the seasons into her home and advises that this is a great way to make simple changes. For winter she likes to use tangerine colours and to “add spicy things”. ●



Photography by
Simon Brown



“Georgian houses are my passion,” she says with a fond smile, as she delights in merging contemporary with classic, “it is art in a way,” favouring iconic pieces such as Dutch 1960s designs or Thonet chairs that won’t date, unlike furniture that is mass produced. I inquire about her favourite city haunts for inspiration: “I love the architecture in the Soane Museum, and going to Lisson Grove to all the antique stores. I also buy a lot from Guinevere on the King’s Road.”

Marion possesses a unique creative spark that clearly runs in the family. She originally intended to follow in her mother’s footsteps and become a fashion designer (Marion’s parents once had a successful fashion business designing and manufacturing quality coats and suits). As a child she would spend holidays in Paris; seeing the new collections of Balenciaga and Christian Dior in the late 1950s. However, after taking the decision to prematurely leave Central Saint Martins (which she now regrets) to pursue married life and motherhood, she later discovered a love for buying and selling antiques. “I had a little antiques store, which I was passionate about. One day a friend came in and asked me to do her house. I was overwhelmed and excited and it just grew from there really.” I ask her if she thinks that the designer flair is innate, to which she responds with a resounding yes. “I definitely do. My daughter works with me and she’s definitely got it. She can be very feisty.”

Her exuberance is infectious: “I get very passionate about my work; I just can’t help it! I want to scream with excitement,” she squeals, in a pitch not dissimilar to her sentiment. She hates that “soulless” interior design look, preferring a room where she can just put her feet up, “hang out” and listen to music. “I think every project I do should look and feel a bit different,” she says. “I like to inject some eccentricity. Something that makes you smile.” ■

marionlichtig.com, 020 8458 6658



**STARCK.
A CLASSIC REVIVED.**

Design by Philippe Starck

Sanitaryware, bathroom furniture, bathtubs, shower trays, wellness products and accessories: Duravit has everything you need to make life in the bathroom a little more beautiful. More info at Duravit UK, Milton Keynes, Phone 0845 500 7787, Fax 0845 500 7786, info@uk.duravit.com, www.duravit.co.uk

YOUR OWN PRIVATE AIRLINE

+44 (0)20 7361 9620

NETJETS

NETJETS. THE ONLY AIRLINE
YOU'LL WANT TO BUY SHARES IN.

Buy a fractional share in a NetJets aircraft and enjoy access to 800 jets worldwide. Only NetJets gives you the scale, safety and support of a major commercial airline with the flexibility and speed of a private jet.

NETJETS EUROPE IS THE MARKETING AGENT OF NETJETS TRANSPORTS AEROS S.A., AN EU AIR CARRIER. E-MAILS SENT TO THIS E-MAIL ADDRESS WILL BE VIEWED BY NETJETS AND THE WAYFAIR FOR THE PURPOSE OF MONITORING REFERRALS.



WISH list



NEW MOON

New Year means new beginnings and, with that, new adventures. To herald the start of 2014, Piaget is launching a fine watch and jewellery collection inspired by travel, drawing on two of the world's most historic trade routes: the Silk Route of China and the Spice Route of India. Available from January, *A Mythical Journey* comprises 32 watches which incorporate micromosaic, embroidery, bullino engraving and enamelling, and 16 pieces of jewellery created from exceptional stones including emerald, faceted sapphires and emeralds. Demonstrating the inextricable link between time and travel, the Swiss manufacturer will also present two Emperador Coussin models with each dial illustrating one of the routes and featuring a hand-engraved enamel miniature map.

piaget.com



INSIDE TRACK



ASTON MARTIN



INSIDE TRACK
The Street
Westfield Stratford City
E20 1EJ
0208 534 3446
info@insidetrackshop.com
@InsideTrackShop

MCLAREN & ASTON MARTIN COLLECTIONS
AT WESTFIELD STRATFORD

VIP SHOPPING EVENINGS

Register now for more information on one of our
VIP shopping evenings (availability limited)
info@insidetrackshop.com

WATCH NEWS



WATCH OF THE YEAR FOR GIRARD-PERREGAUX

After exhibitions in Beijing, Macau and Dubai, November saw the watches nominated for Geneva's 13th annual Watchmaking Grand Prix arrive for the Oscars of the watch world. Girard-Perregaux was awarded overall watch of the year for its Constant Escapement L.M., while Van Cleef & Arpels and Romain Gauthier walked away with best Ladies' Complication Watch and Best Men's Complication Watch respectively. Impressing the judges, who awarded it the Grande Complication Prize, and the public, was A. Lange & Söhne's stunning 1815 Rattrapante Perpetuel Calendar. Incidentally, it would have won our vote too.



PERFECTLY PITCHED

For mid-priced, mechanical Swiss timepieces, Baume & Mercier has always offered good looks at value for money prices, a fact it continues to prove with the latest addition to its Clifton collection. When it arrives in stores this April, the Clifton Chronograph will provide wearers with a Swiss-made self-winding movement, a day and date display and sapphire crystal case back for a price rumoured to be the right side of three grand. Bargain.

baume-et-mercier.com



JAEGER POPS UP AT SELFRIDGES

Having celebrated its Manufacture's 180th anniversary last year, Jaeger-LeCoultre has launched a pop-up boutique in Selfridges.

Running until late spring, the space showcases an extensive travelling tourbillon collection and an array of high jewellery and ladies timepieces. On display is the extremely rare Reverso Platinum SQ Number 1 (a high complication Reverso that appears almost transparent through skeletisation) and a Reverso Quantieme Perpetuel in 18-karat rose gold, an equally special perpetual calendar limited to 500 pieces. Pay a visit to see masterpieces by a watchmaking master.

jaeger-lecoultre.com

GREUBEL'S THIRD INVENTION

Its Tourbillon 24 Secondes Contemporain is being launched a year before Greubel Forsey's tenth birthday (a decade in which it has become one of the most fêted names in haute horology). The watchmaker's third new invention, the Tourbillon 24 Secondes (a highly-efficient, fast-rotating, 24-second revolution tourbillon cage) is housed in a regal 5N red or white gold case and can be seen 'floating' in mid-air thanks to a transparent tourbillon bridge. Limited to 33 pieces, the timepiece comes with a lofty £369,500 price tag.

Marcus Watches,
170 New Bond Street





ALPINE Essentials

Whether you're in Courchevel or Saint Anton, Meribel or Saint Moritz this season, après-ski in style

- 1 Grenoble Orohena coat, £1,180, Moncler, store.moncler.com 2 Chunky bobble knit scarf, £355, Lanvin, harrods.com 3 Emergency II, £12,040, Breitling, breitling.com
 4 Lunettes Monier sunglasses, £170, Moncler, as before 5 Lunar Compact System camera, £5,300, Hasselblad, johnlewis.com 6 Aviator coyote-trimmed trapper hat, £250, Canada Goose, canada-goose.com 7 The Hublot sledge, POA, Hublot, hublot.com 8 Leather hiking boots, £395, Car Shoe, mrporter.com 9 Toffee+Vodka spirit drink, £17.85, Thunder, thundervodka.com 10 Zai for Bentley skis, £6,645, Zai for Bentley, zaiforbentley.com

Swiss movement, English heart




C1000 TYPHOON FGR4

Made in Switzerland / Self-winding, customised ETA Valjoux 7750 chronograph with hour and minute bi-compax sub-dials / 42 hour power reserve / 42mm, high-tech ceramic case with titanium sub-frame / AR08 coated, museum grade, sapphire crystal / Delta and canard wing shaped stop-second hand / RAF low-visibility roundel at 6 O'clock counter / Deep-etched case-back engraving / Military style, high density webbing and leather strap with Bader deployment

EXCLUSIVELY AVAILABLE AT christopherward.co.uk

CHR. WARD
LONDON

Showroom at No.1 PARK STREET, Maidenhead. To arrange a personal appointment, call +44 (0)1628 763040



Just 14 months ago, eight million YouTubers watched a man freefall to earth from the edge of space. Millions more watched in the days that followed. The man survived and the timepiece strapped to his wrist thrust Zenith from the shadows of obscurity into the consciousness of the watch-wearing masses.

Before Mr Baumgartner's exploits, it's fair to say that Zenith was a brand admired by those in-the-know but relatively unknown by the man on the street. Having teamed up with the drinks giant that's famous for giving you wings, however, 'Zenith' has entered the vocabulary of people to whom 'watches' had previously meant 'Rolex', 'Omega', 'TAG Heuer', 'Breitling' and little else.

Those recently acquainted with the company will find in Zenith a pioneer of modern watchmaking and a brand peerless in the precision-based accolades it has been awarded. During its 150 year history, the company has won in excess of 2,300 prizes in the field of chronometry, or precision timing, for its pocket-watches, on-board chronometers and wristwatches – more than any other watchmaker.

While its creations have always been esteemed among collectors, company CEO Jean-Frédéric Dufour admits that it took Baumgartner's supersonic endeavours to propel the brand into the public panorama. "Our main expectation was to send a unique Swiss watch Manufacture to the edge of space," he says. "Now, from the incredible press coverage, most of Felix's jump spectators know that Zenith exists and that it manufactures watches. The next time they see a Zenith logo or advert, or come across one of our products in a shop window, they might stop and pay more attention to our watchmaking feats. I can confirm that since the jump there has been an increasing demand not only for the El Primero Stratos Flyback Striking 10th [the watch worn by Baumgartner] but for the whole collection."

Now rooted to a life in Le Locle, Mr Dufour wasn't necessarily destined for the watch world. After graduating from the University of Geneva (having read Commercial and Industrial Sciences), Dufour felt impelled to explore the world beyond the Cantons of his native Switzerland. A desire to discover the unknown took him to Hong Kong and a job in a bank. The experience taught Mr Dufour two things. Firstly, that banking wasn't for him; secondly, that if what he'd witnessed in Asia was anything to go by, the future of watches was bright.

"Back in Switzerland, I started as a junior seller, at the very bottom of the hierarchy," says Dufour. "Thanks to the different people I met and the responsibilities they entrusted me with, I was able to develop my skills. I had the opportunity to begin at Chopard [as head of product development for watches and jewellery] then I worked for Ulysse Nardin and then for Swatch Group." ▶

Shooting STAR

It's the last name in the horological alphabet but the first word in precision. As the brand freefalls its way into the public psyche, *Richard Brown* speaks to Zenith CEO Jean-Frédéric Dufour about going supersonic

“ *The Red Bull Stratos Mission proved Zenith to be a brand very much in the 21st century* ”

◆ Dufour would become CEO of Zenith in 2009, nine years after the company had become part of the LVMH group, and two years before he'd be named Man of the Year by the international watch press. One of the first things Dufour was to do upon assuming the reins at Zenith was to restructure the company's creations into a more focused set of collections. Looking for a way of “combining our incredible and continuous history and simultaneously maintaining a recognisable collection that is both contemporary and elegant,” the reshuffle saw the El Primero, Pilot, Captain, Heritage and Academy become the brand's bedrock ranges.

It is, of course, the movement from which the El Primero collection takes its name that has provided the brand the most kudos. Pre-1969, all chronographs (watches with a stopwatch function) required manual winding. When, in that year, Zenith presented the El Primero, it became the first manufacture to successfully integrate an automatic winding mechanism into a chronograph movement.

The El Primero was also the first chronograph to operate at a frequency of 36,000 vibrations per hour, against an industry standard of 28,800. With a balance spring [the organ that dictates the accuracy



Zenith CEO Jean-Frédéric Dufour

of a watch] beating more times per hour than in any other timepiece, the 'sweep' of the El Primero's seconds hand was created by ten beats per second, as opposed to eight, making it accurate to 1/10th of a second and, as a result, the world's most precise movement. (A titbit of trivia for you; until 2000, when it developed its own in-house movement, Rolex's self-winding Daytonas were powered by a modified El Primero movement – making the Zenith-Rolex Daytonas more sought-after at auction than the later Rolex-Rolex Daytonas.)

In 2010, under Dufour's guardianship, the El Primero was the recipient of a facelift. Whereas the dial of the original El Primero featured seconds, minutes and hour sub-dials, the El Primero Striking 10th lost the hour sub-dial in favour of a centre seconds hand that rotated every ten seconds – allowing tenths of a second to be measured with greater ease. For its innovative way of making the most famous movement in watchmaking more useable, the Striking 10th was awarded international watch magazine *Revolution's* Best Men's Watch in the year of its launch.

The watch currently decorating the wrist of Mr Dufour happens to be the El Primero's most recent incarnation. "I wear an El Primero Lightweight, launched in November last year, an even more avant-gardist sport version of the El Primero Striking 10th chronograph that marries lightness, performance and originality. A watch reflects who you are. I would always recommend a timepiece that you feel comfortable with." To see the carbon-cased, titanium and silicon-comprised Lightweight for yourself, head to Harrods, where the watch is being exclusively stocked for £13,600.

Next year, Zenith will celebrate its 150th birthday. Before then, renovation work continues at company HQ. The restoration of the Manufacture's main building last year marked the first stage of a huge revamp, one designed to pay tribute to the brand's birthplace –

a UNESCO World Heritage site – by returning the original facilities to their former glory. "By 2015, the 18 other buildings comprising the Manufacture will also be fully renovated," explains Dufour. "Rather than taking the easy route, tearing down and rebuilding the various edifices on this complex site, we have chosen to preserve the historical architecture that has contributed to the writing of our legend. We will continue to leave an indelible imprint on the town of Le Locle."

In an industry that puts patrimony on a pedestal, in which oldest somehow automatically means best, brands, and their press releases, are constantly 'paying homage to the past'. But while the renovation at Le Locle showcases Zenith's commitment to conservation, the Red Bull Stratos Mission proved it to be a brand very much in the 21st century. Of course, being in tune with Generation Y means internet, apps and social media. All of which Dufour knows his brand cannot ignore.

"Zenith is present on Facebook, YouTube and Weibo. We use social media as a resource and a means to build relationships. By 'liking' Zenith or sharing content about our products, our followers promote the brand. Social media is a valuable form of online advertising. But the internet will never replace live experiences and human relationships. It will never bring you the emotions and pleasure you feel when physically visiting the Manufacture or discovering our products with your own hands."

Last year, attendees of Baselworld had the chance to get their hands on a new collection of Pilot's watches. Worthy heirs in style and size to the company's original Type 20s of 1938, the six 2013 editions featured portly dials, Superluminova Arabic numerals, large screw-lock crowns and, in the case of the Pilot Montre d'Aéronef Type 20 Tourbillon, both a tourbillon and high-frequency chronograph function.

As one of a handful of brands to take serious ladies watches seriously, Zenith has also given us the noteworthy Star Open and Star Moonphase. Fitting the former with an El Primero movement and the latter with a 195-part, specially-engineered ultra-thin calibre, Zenith acknowledged the fact that women do indeed appreciate mechanical mastery, and not just quartz creations encrusted with diamonds (as some watchmakers seemingly believe).

So what should we anticipate seeing at this year's Baselworld? According to Mr Dufour, fans can expect to see "a revival of some true Zenith icons". And for the brand's 150th birthday in 2015? As history's proved, for Zenith, the sky's no limit. ■



Zenith's Star Open Ladies Watch



CONTESSA

To own a rare Argyle pink diamond is to own a truly magnificent heirloom.

Contessa, beautifully handcrafted in Platinum and 18ct Rose Gold, features an exquisite combination of stunning craftsmanship and the rarest of Australian Argyle pink diamonds.

Simply, they are the rarest diamonds in the world and are revered for their unique provenance and intrinsic beauty.



Calleija

UNITED KINGDOM

The Royal Arcade,
Old Bond St, Mayfair
London W1S 4SW

AUSTRALIA

Sydney
Gold Coast

calleija.com



JEWELLERY NEWS



COME TO A HEAD

It seems diamond tiaras are no longer restricted to princesses; Graff Diamonds' company figures from the last five years reveal a marked increase in the demand for precious head adornments. So following on from the Hair & Jewels campaign released last year, the luxury jeweller continues to make the most of this popular trend with the launch of a new collection of bejewelled Alice bands featuring floral, leaf and butterfly motifs. The company has also developed a unique setting for its brooches which can now be worn in the hair. With each piece showcasing Graff's flawlessly cut and meticulously set diamonds, they're certain to turn a head or two.

graffdiamonds.com

CUTTING EDGE

Three years ago, co-president of Chopard Caroline Scheufele launched the Animal World collection in celebration of the House's 150th anniversary. Now, for the first time, the bestiary of animals has made its way to London and is currently on display in Harrods until February.

The animal-themed Haute Joaillerie collection was inspired by Scheufele's favourite childhood toys. The results of turning this dream into reality were enchanting, each piece reflecting Chopard's whimsical, imaginative nature



Polar bear ring in white gold and diamonds, POA, part of the Animal World collection, Chopard (harrods.com)



© Cartier Archives

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

Cartier: Style and History at the Grand Palais in Paris sees more than 600 pieces taken from Maison de Cartier's rich archive on display. Comprising watches, jewellery and objet d'art, each piece conveys the history and evolving style of the House since its foundation in 1847. The majority of pieces come from the Cartier Collection, which includes 1,457 pieces amassed over the past 25 years. Highlights include the famous Panther brooch, created in 1949 and bought by the Duchess of Windsor. The exhibition also highlights Cartier's long-time involvement with the film industry; jewellery featured in films such as *The Great Gatsby* is also being showcased.

Until 16 February, cartier.com

OFF THE RECORD

Setting the new world record for a diamond or jewel, the Pink Star diamond was sold at Sotheby's Geneva in November for £52,024,736, far surpassing the £38 million estimate. After a tense five minute bidding war between four prospective buyers, it was eventually sold to well-known diamond cutter Isaac Wolf, who has since renamed it Pink Dream. Mined by De Beers in Africa in 1999, the flawless fancy pink vivid diamond has been described by Sotheby's David Bennett as "a true masterpiece of nature."

sothebys.com



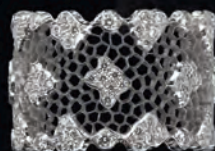
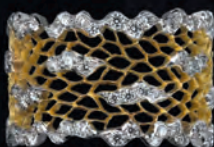
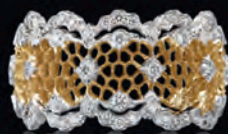


LUCKY STAR

As Emily Dickinson said, “fortune’s expensive smile is earned”; so invest in lucky charms this New Year and may you not be fortune’s fool

- 1 Moonlight pink opal necklace, £429, Assya, assyalondon.com 2 Cancer ring, The Zodiac Collection, POA, Solange Azagury-Partridge, solange.co.uk 3 In The Stars phoenix pendant, £216, Assya, as before 4 18-karat gold diamond necklace, £2,775, Inez and Vinoodh, net-a-porter.com 5 Star 18-karat gold bracelet, £5,000, Solange Azagury-Partridge, net-a-porter.com 6 Zodiac set Leo clip, POA, Van Cleef & Arpels, vancleefarpels.com 7 18-karat gold horsebit bracelet, £4,950, Gucci, gucci.com 8 Sun brooch, Fairy Tale Collection, £21,000, Jewellery Theatre, jewellerytheatre.com 9 Zodiac set Aries clip, POA, Van Cleef & Arpels, as before 10 Rainbow moonstone ring, £5,394, Farfetch, farfetch.com 11 Sun and moon amulet pendants, £1,145, Marianne Dulong, farfetch.com 12 Gold-plated cubic zirconia earrings, £330, Eddie Borgo, net-a-porter.com 13 Moonlight gold and pink topaz ring, £230, Assya, as before 14 Crystal Haze drop earrings, POA, Stephen Webster, stephenwebster.com 15 Caftan moon gold-plated and acetate collar necklace, £980, Aurélie Bidermann, aureliebidermann.com

From the Honeycomb Eternelle Ring Collection



BUCCELLATI

33 Albemarle Street - Mayfair, London W1S 4BP - Tel. 020 7629 5616

MILANO, VENEZIA, FIRENZE, CALA DI VOLPE, CAPRI, PARIS, MONTE CARLO, LONDON,
MOSCOW, NEW YORK, CHICAGO, ASPEN, BEVERLY HILLS, TOKYO, OSAKA, HONG KONG, SIDNEY

WWW.BUCCELLATI.COM



CANARY WHARF

London Ice Sculpting Festival 2014

AN UNFORGETTABLE WEEKEND OF COMPETITIVE HIGH-DRAMA UNFOLDS AT CANARY WHARF IN EARLY JANUARY AS THE WORLD'S BEST ICE SCULPTORS ARRIVE IN TOWN. WITH MORE THAN 80 RESTAURANTS AND OVER 110 SHOPS, IT'S THE PERFECT PLACE TO EXPLORE WHILST SCULPTORS RACE AGAINST THE CLOCK



With something for everyone across a three-day weekend, the UK's biggest international ice sculpting competition at Canary Wharf provides a fun and exciting start to the New Year. London Ice Sculpting Festival celebrates 'Fabulous Fashion' in 2014 with the dramatic Big Block sculpting competition on Wood Wharf where teams of sculptors from around the globe battle to win, carving their artistic designs from two metre-high glimmering blocks of ice.

For a change of pace, the speedy Freestyle and Singles sculpting competitions on Friday will not disappoint. Sculptors will work swiftly in pairs to interpret 'River Life' on 1M high blocks in the afternoon, and then just one sculptor from each team will be given free rein to sculpt whatever icy creation they desire in the evening. Delicious winter treats and fantastically toasty 'glühwein' will be on offer each day from the Winter Food Market, so grab a hot drink and enjoy the action as twilight sets in early at Wood Wharf and the sculptures begin to glow.

For those eager to test their own sculpting skills on a small block of ice, supervised masterclasses* are back at Wood Wharf and in Jubilee

Place shopping mall. Masterclasses are a hit with all who have a go. Led by professionals from The Ice Box team, visitors have the chance to create an ice sculpture of their own using chisels to carve their way through mini blocks of ice. There will be ample opportunity to sign up at Wood Wharf, or for a warm and well-earned break, Jubilee Place shopping mall will host free masterclasses on Saturday and Sunday too. For times, check canarywharf.com.

While visiting the London Ice Sculpting Festival, don't miss the chance to skate on Ice Rink Canary Wharf, situated beneath the soaring buildings in Canada Square Park and featuring London's only skate path and the Boisdale Jukebox Bar. Visit icerinkcanarywharf.co.uk for session details.

London Ice Sculpting Festival
Throughout Canary Wharf
Friday 10 – Sunday 12 January 2014

*Visitors must sign up on arrival for Masterclasses.
Children must be 12+ and accompanied by an adult.
Sessions on the hour, 20 minutes and 40 minutes past.

Combining the excellence and experience of The Wellington Hospital, The Platinum Medical Centre provides only the best in private healthcare



Platinum Medical Centre, 15-17 Lodge Road, St Johns Wood, London, NW8 7JA

Tel 020 7483 5000 www.theplatinummedicalcentre.com



WISH *list*

BIRDS OF A FEATHER

Sporting ribbons, birds and cherub-faced children, the campaign for the A/W13 collection by Dior Kids is every bit as whimsical as the beautiful clothes themselves. Inspired by the archives of Christian Dior and with a nod to current trends lifted from the adult range and catwalk, the collection has a definite nostalgic feel to it, featuring finely tailored separates and couture dresses. Little girls are catered for with delicately opulent tulle and silk organza partywear, houndstooth jackets and smart hats, while velvet jackets, cashmere knits and satin trousers have been designed for the sartorial little gents about town. It's surely the stuff of which every child's dreams are made, and ideal for a New Year's Eve soirée. Just watch it with those chocolatey hands.

dior.com

NURSERY NEWS

Photography by Montana Lowery



HOLA CHICA

Pepa & Co is a stylish online clothing boutique that brings the best of Spanish design to babies and children up to the age of six. The wide-ranging assortment for both boys and girls offers classic and contemporary garments for all occasions, including sweet little skirts, blouses and charming jackets and coats. All beautifully designed and environmentally friendly, mothers can also browse the latest arrivals at the newly opened concept store down in Fulham, which offers a more personal shopping experience, by appointment only.

pepaandcompany.com

PET'S CORNER



A CLEAN BREAK

Butch & Bess are a north London-based pet company that brings owners a wide range of sweet-smelling scents and shampoos for their dogs, each filled with essential oils and natural ingredients. Its selection of grooming sprays, deodorisers and detanglers also comes in handy handbag sizes for a convenient quick fix.

butchandbess.com

A LIFE LESS ORDINARY

Thanks to online pet boutique Chi Ki Paws, your pets can snooze in style. The hand made Buckle Berry four poster bed is the ultimate in creature comfort; hand carved and made to order, each comes with a plush soft mattress for those cold winter nights, available in a choice of colours and prints.

£399.99, chikipaws.com



MINI COUTURE

Jean Paul Gaultier's latest range of couture gowns is set to mark its most luxurious offering for girls. The Spring/Summer 2014 collection, which has taken inspiration from the adult range, comprises of pretty and petite tulle dresses adorned with Swarovski crystals and is available in either ivory or pink. The mini couture label, which is available from Harrods, will be updated every six months, and have a run of 90 pieces only.



jeanpaulgaultier.com





CHOP CHOP

Sharkey's is an innovative new children's hair salon that brings a treat to getting a trim. Upon arrival, an array of engaging games and activities are on display to keep the kids entertained, so that they won't run a mile once the scissors come out. Each child is invited to sit in their own motorcar-style chair and watch a film of their choice whilst the stylist snips away. In addition to being hair experts, the Sharkey's team also hosts children's events at their very own in-house party room, offering 'minicures' and makeovers for girls, and fun themed celebrations for boys.



77 Abbey Road, NW8
sharkeyscutsforkids.co.uk



UNDERWATER ADVENTURE

Based on the lyrics of the world-famous Beatles song, the glorious new picture book by Ringo Starr follows five children on a magical journey through the Octopus's garden. The friendly sea creature takes them on a wild underwater adventure that they will never forget, as they experience riding turtles and explore mysterious caves. The book comes with an accompanying CD which includes an exclusive reading by Ringo himself and a never-before-heard version of the song.

£10.99, available from
 Waterstones, 68-69 Hampstead
 High Street, NW3

MAMA MIA

Internationally acclaimed maternity-wear brand Séraphine has had a lot to celebrate this year. After recently marking its tenth anniversary, the label's creator Cecile Reinaud welcomes shoppers to its brand new third location in Marylebone. The recently opened space features the designer's popular signature styles, offering elegant yet comfortable daywear. In addition, the latest LUXE eveningwear range gives mothers-to-be the opportunity to feel glamorous, no matter the occasion.

45 Marylebone High Street, NW3



BIBBIDI BOBBIDI BOO...



Inspired by the famous makeover scene in Disney's *Cinderella*, Bibbidi Bobbidi Boutique is now open in Harrods, offering little ones the chance to become a prince or princess for the day with their very own fairy godmother.

Set in an enchanted castle within the store, the boutique is brimming with dresses, costumes and accessories for a magical transformation, including a gift of a crystal slipper to give young girls the ultimate fairytale ending.

Prices from £50
 Suitable for children aged 3-12
harrods.com/disney





IT'S COLD OUTSIDE

Consultant Respiratory Physician, Dr Amit Patel discusses the difference between cold and flu and when you should seek medical advice

Winter is upon us, but with the season of celebration also comes the season of sniffles, coughs and colds. Nearly a quarter of people will see a doctor about a respiratory illness every year, but the number of patients peak over the winter months, adding to a rise in hospital admissions for serious cases.

It is common knowledge that respiratory infections are transmissible from person to person. We use common terms such as 'cold' and 'flu' to describe respiratory infections, but these words mean very different things. People can suffer from a range of symptoms, including fever, cough and muscle aches. Some will have very mild symptoms and do not feel particularly unwell whereas others will be quite incapacitated. The effects of flu are worse with the severity of symptoms very much depending on the person.

Flu is also more likely to make the sufferer feel poorly for a longer period of time. This is particularly apparent in those with existing chronic respiratory conditions such as asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), as any infection can have a debilitating effect. It is recommended that these types of sufferers seek early advice before their health deteriorates any further. Flu jabs are given to those deemed most at risk including those over the age of 65 and people with conditions such as COPD, asthma, bronchiectasis and heart or kidney diseases.

What if you have the flu?

Simple measures are important. This includes staying indoors and staying well hydrated as well as making sure you get plenty of rest.

Over the counter medications such as paracetamol or ibuprofen will help with symptoms but make sure you follow instructions on the packet. Flu is a viral infection and antibiotics are not going to be of any benefit unless there is a further complication of a bacterial infection. If you have a pre-existing long term condition such as asthma or COPD, it is important to make an appointment with your GP.

When should I visit my GP?

The majority of respiratory infections will go away within 14 days.

However, if after this time you are still unwell or you display any of the following symptoms at any time during your illness, you should seek medical help immediately:

- If you experience difficulty breathing, breathlessness or chest pains
- If you are coughing blood or bloody phlegm
- If you are feeling light headed, dizzy or actually faint
- If you experience persistent or severe vomiting
 - A high fever
 - Feeling confused or disorientated
- If you have a long term medical condition such as COPD or a condition that weakens your immune system.

Flu can lead to other complications with pneumonia being one of the most serious, so do not delay in seeking medical advice if your symptoms worsen. To prevent contamination, ensure hands are washed thoroughly, as although respiratory infections are most often spread through coughing, this can also occur through physical contact.

MEET the specialist

Dr Amit Patel is a Consultant Respiratory Physician specialising in all areas of respiratory medicine with a particular interest in coughs, interstitial lung disorders and breathlessness. His research interests include novel techniques in the assessment of interstitial lung diseases.

GP SESSIONS: INFECTION CONTROL

Private GP at The Wellington Hospital, Dr Lisa Anderson discusses infection control and the importance of a good diet and hygiene practice

In the season of coughs and colds, it is often hard to avoid picking up an infection. Two of the factors increasing the likelihood of illness are a bad diet and poor hygiene which can lead to opportunities for infection.

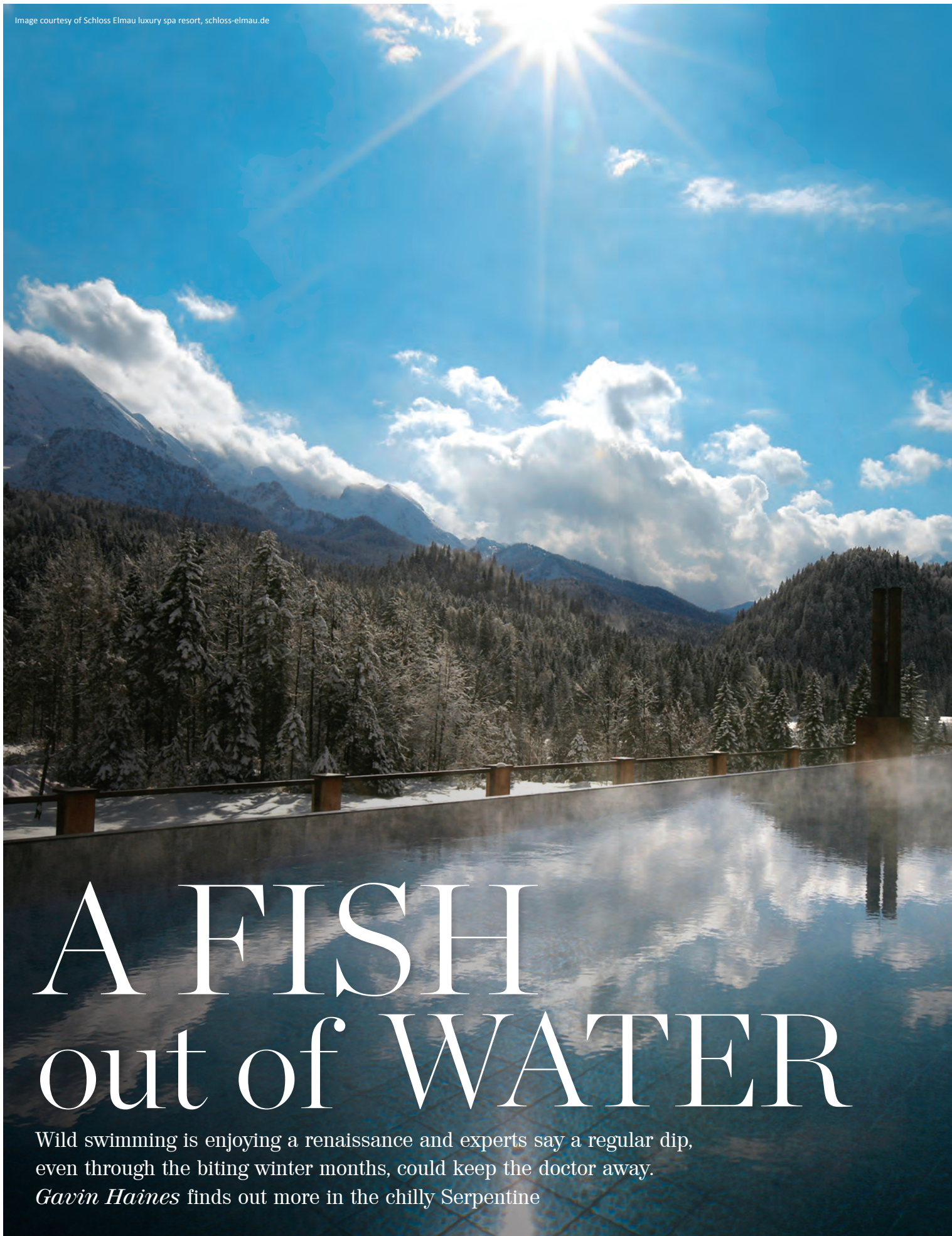
Poor diet can cause a multitude of triggers including:

- **Poor skin condition** which increases the likelihood of broken skin, leaving a route for infection
- **Weight gain** leading to an increase in fungal infections in the folds of the skin and also reduced mobility. This increases the risk of passing infection from one person to another
- **Weight loss** can increase the risk of skin damage and potentially lead to subsequent infection
- **Undernourishment** means that an individual is more likely to pick up infections, which may also become more severe than those who eat well.

There are many things you can do to minimise the risk of catching

an infection such as an upper respiratory illness. Implementing good hygiene practice is important to minimise the spread of infection. Good hygiene includes:

- Frequent and proper hand washing, not only after using the toilet but if you are in contact with an infected person. If you are in a public place, such as a petrol station, you should consider using the gloves provided. It is also a good idea to keep a hand sanitiser on you
- Store foods properly making sure you keep raw foods below cooked foods in the fridge
- Clean as you go when cooking to prevent spreading harmful bacteria
- Take care when reheating foods and never reheat more than once
- Be mindful of the date mark on food; it is there for a reason
- Do not use reusable towels in public toilets as they are a haven for bacteria



A FISH out of WATER

Wild swimming is enjoying a renaissance and experts say a regular dip, even through the biting winter months, could keep the doctor away.

Gavin Haines finds out more in the chilly Serpentine



If the spectators at the edge of the Serpentine wondered just how cold the water was, then a glance down at my crotch would have told them all they needed to know. I thought there was nowhere to hide in these skimpy, Daniel Craig-style swim shorts, but my family jewels had Houdinied. Gone without a trace. MIA.

Moments ago I had stripped down to my Speedos, walked nervously to the jetty and peered at my sorry reflection in the Hyde Park lake as I prepared to jump. There had been a ground frost overnight. Snow was forecast for the afternoon.

Wild swimming in these conditions might seem like a mad prospect, but according to the Outdoor Swimming Society (OSS) the sport is enjoying a renaissance after a series of studies highlighted the health benefits of a bracing dip. Research suggests that cold-water swimming improves circulation and shocks painkilling endorphins into action, which helps the body fight infections. Immersion in chilly water has also been attributed with boosting serotonin and dopamine levels, which are the chemicals associated with happiness. So forget that massage, sack your personal trainer; if you want to improve your wellbeing in 2014, wild swimming is the way to go.

The recreation has received celebrity endorsement from comedian David Walliams, who in 2006 swam the length of the Thames for charity. Since then a number of travel companies have popped up offering luxury wild swimming holidays; the London based Coningham-Rolls is one of them and organises trips to destinations as diverse as the Lake District, Arctic Circle and Thailand.

But there are some beautiful spots to take the plunge right here in London; the capital has more outdoor pools than you can shake a stick at, with lidos in Parliament Hill, Tooting Bec, Brockwell and Hampton. Then there are the ponds at Hampstead Heath and the Serpentine Swimming Club in Hyde Park, which traces its roots back to Christmas Day in 1864 when, rather than quaffing turkey and opening presents at home, a group of enthusiasts came down for a festive dip. People have been swimming here every day since, and on this chilly Saturday morning, I'm joining them.

Taking the plunge

Trying to forget about the Arctic breeze blowing across my bare flesh, I wait for a man with a megaphone to start the race. That's right, a race. They hold them every Saturday and I thought if I'm going to do this, I might as well do it properly. So I signed up to the breaststroke, due to start at 9am.

Happily, Lucy Taylor, a brand consultant from Kensal Rise, and one of my competitors, utters some words of encouragement on the jetty before we plunge into the perishing lake. At first, the surprisingly clear water doesn't feel cold. It takes my breath away, but the initial sensation is more like being scalded than jumping into cold water. In other words, it's so cold that it burns.

The burning sensation soon gives way to a feeling of unadulterated frigidity; so cold that I'm stunned into silence and unable to answer Lucy when she looks over her shoulder and asks if I'm alright. The crowd



- compensate for my silence, cheering me on from behind their scarves as I do something loosely resembling breaststroke. The race distance is only about 20 metres, but halfway through my muscles turn to lead, my skin tightens and the simple act of swimming becomes a challenge. I shiver across the line stone-cold last, emphasis on the cold.

But at the finish line, in a perverse way, I start to enjoy the sensation; adrenaline has converted the pain and shock into sheer exhilaration. I feel like a champion. I feel like Michael Phelps.

The benefits

Over a cuppa in the changing rooms I chat to club members about outdoor swimming. What possessed them to take it up? It turns out Lucy was brought here by literature.

“I read a book called *An Equal Music* and the main character used to go swimming in the Serpentine,” explains the 31-year-old. “In the summer I came down and met all these lovely people and I just kept coming through the winter. My friends think I’m crazy, but I feel euphoric afterwards.”

Gordon Brodie has been a member for 23 years and swims here twice a week. At 78, the charismatic pensioner is one of the more senior members of the club, but not the oldest.

“We have one member who is 90-years-old,” says Gordon, shivering behind a towel. “When it gets really cold we have to break the ice before we get in.”

Presumably at that age and in those temperatures, members are allowed to wear wetsuits?

“They aren’t really in the true spirit of outdoor swimming,” says Brian Thomas, club secretary. “If people turn up in them we will point and giggle.”

The club has a buoyant 140 members and they come from all walks of life.

“What they do outside doesn’t come into it,” says Brian, a member since 1967. “They are just here for the love of swimming and for the love of the lake.”

Wild swimming as part of a healthier lifestyle is not a new phenomenon. The Romans were early advocates and during Victorian times there were river swimming clubs and lidos all over Britain, but most were killed off by the arrival of indoor pools.

As the Serpentine Swimming Club closes for another day, I hang around to appreciate Hyde Park in all its autumnal glory. A man appears – apparently unaffiliated with the club – strips down to his shorts and lowers himself into the water from the jetty. He doesn’t flinch. If he is cold or remotely uncomfortable, his facial expressions don’t betray those feelings – you wouldn’t want to play poker with him.

For ten minutes he bathes in the Serpentine as if he’s in Barbados, by the shores of Sandy Lane. Then he emerges from the water and has, of all things, a cold shower. People in thick coats walk by in bemusement calling him mad to which he just laughs – the dopamine must be kicking in.

It has certainly kicked in for me. In fact I have tried some of the most luxurious wellness treatments available, but nothing has made me feel quite so rejuvenated, so full of life, as a winter dip. And my jewels? Well, I’m sure they’ll turn up. ■

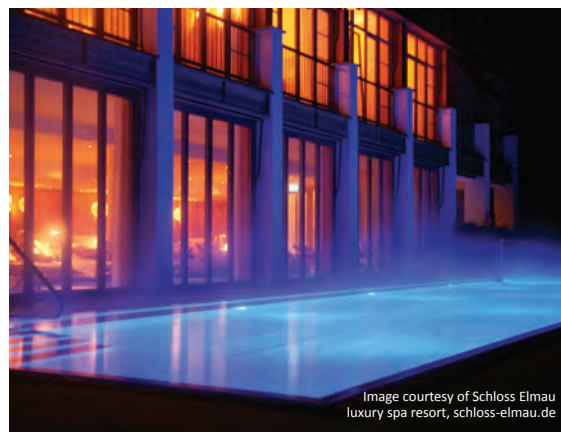


Image courtesy of Schloss Elmau luxury spa resort, schloss-elmau.de

FOR THE CHAMPAGNE SWIMMER

If the idea of winter swimming outside is not something you’re prepared to entertain, you might be more tempted by The Berkeley Hotel’s newly refurbished pool and spa. With its retractable glass roof and Hyde Park views, it’s sort of outdoors, right?

Well, hardly, but I spent a revitalising morning there recently and, although it didn’t give me a dopamine hit, I felt fabulous afterwards. The purists at the Serpentine might have something to say about my “Champagne swim,” but, as I did lengths in the tepid pool and relaxed in the sauna, I was with them in spirit as they shivered in Hyde Park.

Tired of feeling fatigued?

*Are you getting your 8 hours
a night and still feeling tired
in the morning?*

*There are a number of physical,
psychological and lifestyle factors which
may be keeping you up at night and,
left untreated, can be detrimental to
your health.*

*Often, the causes of progressive fatigue
are easily treated, meaning you'll soon
be sleeping sound.*

*Our easily accessed private GP service
offers fast and convenient appointments
with respected doctors; helping to relieve
the stress of a sleepless night.*

*To make an appointment
call our team today*

020 7483 5000



EVERY TASTE A NEW EXPERIENCE

With 85 flavour notes in every drop, each sip is a new discovery.



ENJOY CHIVAS RESPONSIBLY
drinkaware.co.uk for the facts

 CHIVAS 18



WISH *list*



CUT AND TASTE

'London's first' is an overused prefix often espoused for something not really that new at all. But Michael Riemenschneider really will be the first chef to allow his diners to create their own tasting menus at his new 20-seat Marylebone macro-restaurant Canvas, opening on the 14th of this month. Consisting of a minimum of three courses, up to nine courses at lunch, or a substantial 15 courses at dinner, the options will consist of five signature plates, available year-round, and a further 11 seasonally-inspired dishes. Examples include pigeon with chocolate, beetroot and 'the golden egg'; scallop with cauliflower, caramel and juniper; and veal-loin, mince and shoulder, served with quince and artichokes. Those seeking a more traditional tasting menu experience can go for a five-course bespoke option of Riemenschneider's choosing.

69 Marylebone Lane, W1U

FOODIE FAVOURITES



ROKA ROUND THE CLOCK

Bring in the New Year with Japanese rice cakes and sparkling saké at Shochu Lounge's Paper Doll Party, where professional geishas will be serving the cocktails and DJ Aina Roxx will be pumping Deep House and Balearic beats. Head there early for an exquisite pre-party dinner of Robata grilled meats and the best tiraditos in London – set in Roka's Charlotte Street basement, you can enjoy the full restaurant menu with a buzzy, bar vibe. The lamb chops, lobster and black cod dumplings and truffled beef tataki are worth the food coma. Who says you need to make it till midnight?

37 Charlotte Street, W1T



Q TIP

Following the success of The Fish & Chip Shop, Des McDonald now has Camden in his sights for a new BBQ joint, set to open this month. Named Q, former Hix head chef Phil Eagle will be charring and smoking carnivorous favourites of pecan wood-roasted chicken and grilled rib eye steak, alongside battered shrimp and 'hickory chicory' salad. A raw bar offers scallop ceviche, blackened tiger shrimp and citrus sea bass while sides cover seasoned US favourites; fries, mac and cheese, house slaw and onion rings. Expect root beer and coke floats, banoffee cheesecake, peanut butter puddings and Louisville lemonade jello for afters. Ideal for the January detox then...

33 Chalk Farm Road, NW1



BROWNIE POINTS

Macarons are like, so 2013. Get on board with the brownie, a seemingly simple but utterly perfect tea-accompanying treat which has, until now, remained off the Instagram radar. The Brownie Bar's homemade organic combinations include the Cinnamon Miracle with white chocolate, raisins, blueberry and cranberry; Made in Manhattan with Oreo and cookie dough and what we hope won't just be for Christmas, Santa's Swirl, encompassing the best of the cupcake's *pièce de résistance*, red velvet with cream cheese. Owned by three sisters who have been baking and experimenting for years, the brand's headquarters are based in north west London, and they'll deliver anywhere in the area.

Visit thebrowniebarlondon.co.uk to order and view full delivery terms and conditions



LA VIDA LOCA

With entertainment inspired by Tarantino's cult classic *From Dusk till Dawn* and cocktails comprising the super foods of the Andes (plus some not-so-super foods, we presume) the newly opened Chakana club is set to be *the* decadent hotspot for those who like to spend their nights in a Shaman-like trance. Meaning the tree of life, its décor and ethos mimics an ancient Incan temple; think skulls, snakeskin, and chests full of treasure, while you ogle the 'beautiful dancing spirits' by the light of oversized candelabra. There's nothing like a theme to get you in the mood...

23 Orchard Street, W1H

RESTAURANT REVIEW

FOND REFLECTIONS

Gabrielle Lane visits the glamorous new Rosewood London hotel, to enjoy dinner courtesy of talented chef, Bjorn van der Horst



With its rumoured cost of £85million, Grade-II-listed status, a seven-storey marble fireplace and a 166ft cupola crowning the property, it's fair to say that the Edwardian Belle Époque building that houses the Rosewood London is a glamorous setting for dinner.

Although my guest and I are told that the hotel interior has been designed to reflect its location, with vintage books, animal sculptures and even live birds providing a good dose of British eccentricity, it has a tell-tale glossiness that betrays the involvement of New York-based interior design firm, Tony Chi and Associates. Chi is known for lacquer and prismatic mirrors and nowhere is this more evident than in the Mirror Room, the hotel's all-day fine dining restaurant which is holding the culinary fort until the Holborn Dining Room opens in February.

It's working well. Although the slightly lower dining tables and option of sofas as well as chairs is suited to the hotel's afternoon tea service and might put some visitors off come suppertime, the food is delicious: if you're going to eat expensive black truffle omelettes, of course you want to do it in a lounge befitting of an oligarch.

Head chef Bjorn van der Horst used to hold the reins at swanky Mayfair restaurant The Greenhouse and while the food here has just as much flavour, it is heartier: a posh club sandwich even makes the main menu. I had a mini burger for my main

course, while my friend tucked into milk-fed lamb and Guinness pie (which, with just a fluff of pastry on top, was more like a stew but tasty all the same). Thankfully, for the sake of this review, we were more adventurous with the choices of our four starter plates, which are intended to be shared.

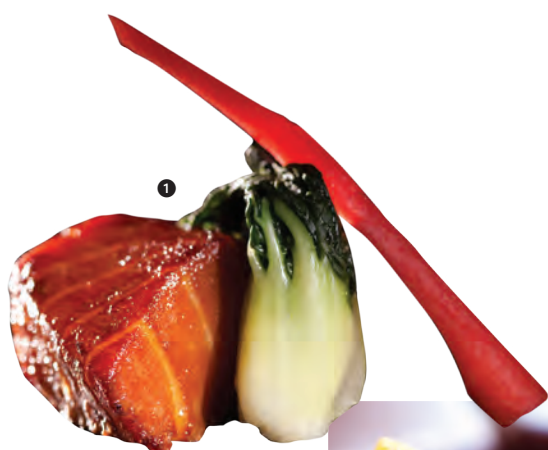
The homemade gnocchi with morel ragout and feta was rich and buttery, the slivers of Hamachi with citrus soy, equally light and fresh. King prawns come wrapped in phyllo pastry and ready to dip when ordering the prawn cocktail, but if you're going to eat at the liberty of van der Horst, you have to try the pan-seared foie gras with almond and coffee, one of his specialities. It's when the menu gets fancy, that the chef earns his reputation, without any shall-we-whisper, suit-jacket-required pomp.

If I could leave you with one good-to-know fact about the Mirror Room, it's the presence of private dining rooms. The restaurant has two suites which can be hired complete with long tables and open-plan professional grade kitchens. You can bring your own chef or entourage (someone will), or you can potter around in the kitchen yourself, should you fancy getting friends together for an interesting New Year soirée. ■

252 High Holborn, WC1
rosewoodhotels.com/London
 020 7781 8888

NO RESERVAT

Few can deny that innovative food fads have formed some of the most talked about trends in the capital this year. Waving a burger-shaped goodbye to 2013, *Kari Rosenberg* relives the year's best openings and most inspired (and misguided) crazes while highlighting some we can all expect as we go into 2014



If the words 'no bookings', 'former pop up goes permanent' and 'best burger in London' make you want to mini-sick your cronut into the nearest hipster's dungaree pocket, then you may be pleased to see the back of 2013. But putting the Armageddon of sepiationed meat patty images to one side (The Riding House Café's Longhorn beef and bone marrow version gets my vote), there's no doubt it's been a stellar year for restaurant openings and cult crazes, many of which have been meticulously documented in this publication.

Karam Sethi has had foodies eating out the palm of his hand at Gymkhana, serving modern Indian food with a focus on the tandoor oven and sigri charcoal grill – the *Vantage* guinea pigs still can't stop saying "pistachio kulfi *falooda*". We were well fed by Bruno Loubet at his veggie centric Grain Store, if not a little underwhelmed by the cavernous décor, and were pleasantly surprised by the less publicised Lockhart, which serves the best – and probably only – crab hush puppies this side of



Marylebone. Tom Sellers's beef dripping candle at Story has been to 2013 what ducks-on-waffles were to 2012, while Jason Atherton's foodie credentials have continued to soar. His newly opened Berners Tavern in the London Edition hotel has seen more optimistic column inches

than all of the Shard's offerings put together, following on from the success of Social Eating House and Little Social (with a City Social outpost to follow next year). French restaurant and café Boulestin, inspired by the first ever TV chef Xavier Marcel Boulestin, has also earned itself a fantastic reputation for its stunning classics and wine list.

Kerstin Kühn, former restaurant editor of *Caterer and Hotel Keeper* magazine also rates Grain Store and Story as her top openings this year, alongside Brasserie Chavot. "After a two-year hiatus, Eric Chavot has returned to London with a bang," she says. "One of

IONS



1. Bo London
2. Berners Tavern
3. Bo London
4. Tom Sellers
5. Story
6. The Riding House Café
7. Bo London
8. Bo London
9. Jason Atherton



London's true star chefs has returned."

Trends have come in all shapes and sizes, with some movements trickling over from 2012 shaped up to persevere into 2014. Elizabeth Friend, foodservice analyst at market intelligence firm Euromonitor International says: "One of the biggest global trends has been a move toward greater flexibility in all formats; outlets like modern self-service cafeterias and very high-end fast food concepts have grown in popularity all over the world, even in markets where traditional dining has always played a key role in the local dining culture. This has also led to greater innovation with format in general, with restaurants experimenting with luxury retail-food service hybrid concepts. Innovation in beverages also continues to be a big trend."

American imports have ballooned, receiving mixed receptions, although you get the feeling some critics were ready to slate them before they'd even got here. New York landmark Balthazar, where I've wolfed down my fair share of stroganoff pappardelles following a morning



10



12

- 10. Gymkhana
- 11. Eric Chavot
- 12. Bo London
- 13. Brasserie Chavot
- 14. Brasserie Chavot
- 15. Lima
- 16. Grain Store
- 17. Bruno Loubet



13

“It’s been a year of big overseas names coming to London”



14



11

of hard Manhattan shopping, opened to much pomp and ceremony at the old Theatre Museum in Covent Garden. True, the food may not be as great as the original, but with

Ronnie Wood and Paul McCartney at the next table, I wasn’t fully focused on my moules frites. The ‘women friendly’ STK steakhouse (presumably labelled such due to the throngs of suited-and-booted bachelors at the bar – if you ignore the glammed-up female imports hanging from their arms) which opened at the tail end of 2012 is great for a night spent dancing – quite literally – between filet mignons.

Kühn says: “It’s been a year of big overseas names coming to London. Iconic three-Michelin-starred Spanish father-and-daughter team Juan Mari and Elena Arzak opened Ametsa with Arzak Instruction; two-Michelin-starred chef Alvin Leung brought his X-treme Chinese cuisine to Mayfair; and Hong Kong-based Aqua added to their existing London portfolio. What this shows is just how far London has come in establishing itself as a top international dining destination. Everyone wants to have a presence here now.”

Pork has gone from bellies to ‘pulled’ with a US (indoor) barbecue revival: Pitt Cue Co. got *Esquire*’s top London vote, while the slaw-accompanied *treif* has even made its way to the finest tables in London (Atherton’s Berners Tavern even offers a lunchtime barbecue pulled

pork sandwich). We are catching on to the American penchant for fast food and street food, which often go hand-in-hand with pop-ups, no-reservation policies (discriminatory to those with lives/jobs) and 'single ticket items': burgers, lobsters, chickens. Kentish Town-based Chicken Shop was one of the first to spot the niche, along with Russian-owned inspiration Burger and Lobster, which continues to stretch its lemon-butter doused claws, having just opened a Harvey Nichols outpost, and planning a new Lobster Roll Deli next year. Tommi's, Dirty Burger; the godforsaken between-two-buns trend keeps on giving (there's even an Asian street food version at Flesh and Buns) with restaurateurs and clientele intent on keeping the mania, and the queues, growing. BRGR.co that...

Jeremy Wayne, restaurant editor at *Tatler* says: "The dreadful pop-up scene continues unabated. What's the point? People want to eat ever more revolting parts of the pig. Cheap restaurants in aesthetically unlovely areas (Bethnal Green, Dalston) are all the rage. This is not said in a glib way; my own belief is that restaurants should be bright and attractive and food should be served in such a

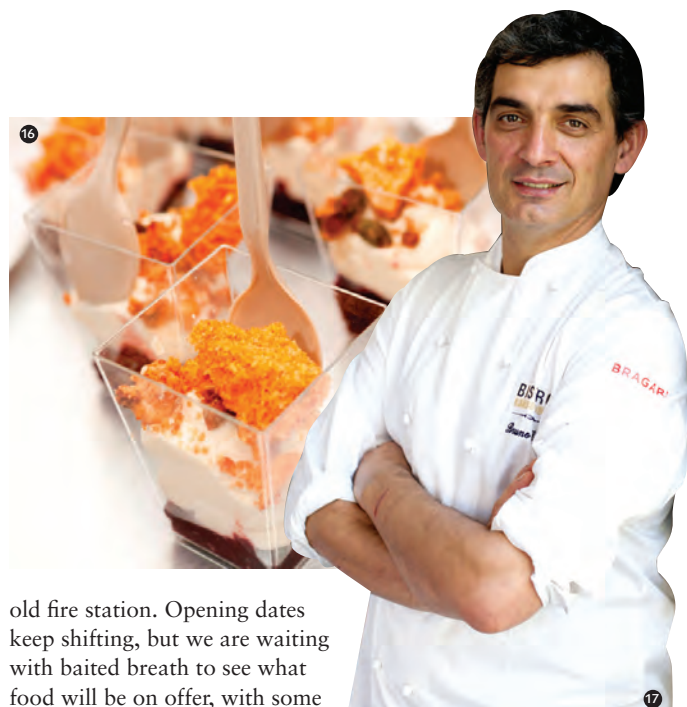


way as to lift the spirit, not depress it."

At the more refined end of the spectrum, our slow but steady introduction to Latin American infusions by way of Roka, Nobu and Sushinho have given way to fun, exciting restaurants going the full chimichurri. Lima, which earned a Michelin star this year, serves the best ceviche in London, as well as a truly memorable sticky lamb shoulder. Modern Mexican at Casa Negra, following on from the demand at sister restaurant La Bodega Negra, is leading the way with flavours and a fantastic vibe, while Arjun Waney's Coya (Peruvian) and just opened Peyote (Mexican), which replaced Aurelia (boo hoo!) caters to those looking for fine dining with a breath of fresh air.

Former *MasterChef: The Professionals* finalist Marianne Lumb may be onto something for the months ahead with her new 14-cover eatery, Marianne. Small but perfectly formed, the macro-restaurant trend has been growing slowly over the past couple of years. Marylebone's Japanese fusion restaurant Dinings has just a handful of tables in a room barely big enough to swing a soft shell crab in, but it's worth booking way in advance, and has remained a firm Rosenberg favourite for birthdays since it opened.

As we tentatively step into 2014, there are some hot new openings to watch out for. André Balazs, whose hotels The Standard and The Mercer are top New York hangouts, will pull in thousands to Chiltern Street – tipped by *Vogue* editor Alexandra Shulman as the street to watch next year – with his new hotel at the



old fire station. Opening dates keep shifting, but we are waiting with baited breath to see what food will be on offer, with some hinting at a London version

of The Standard Grill. Simon Rogan (of the famed L'Enclume in the Lake District and Roganic, a two-year pop-up in Marylebone) is said to be giving Claridges a foodie overhaul after the rumour wheel went into overdrive following Gordon Ramsey's departure. Nobu will also be branching into hotels, with its first 143-bedroom endeavour on Willow Street.

Wayne and Kühn both have great expectations for Chris Corbin and Jeremy King's Fischer's on Marylebone High Street (the people behind the Wolseley, Brasserie Zedel, Colbert and The Delaunay), which will be evocative of early 20th century Vienna, another food-culture that looks set to take off with the recent opening of Boopshi's (and Herman Ze German...?). The duo will then complete their most ambitious project to date; the Beaumont hotel in Mayfair, which will include a yet-to-be-announced restaurant with a private dining room serving American food. "These two have the Midas touch," asserts Kühn.

Wayne's one restaurant wish for 2014 would be "a return of the starched white tablecloth" but Kühn predicts more nauseating food hybrids and that lobster and pizzas will be taking centre stage. "There are already lobster festivals, lobster offers and specific new lobster items being added to menus all over London, which will hopefully continue into the New Year." The lobster may be a beacon for better economic times ahead, while restaurants such as Green's put extortionate caviars back on the menu and Arkady Novikov continues to further Ruskyfy Mayfair.

Fflur Roberts, head of luxury goods research at Euromonitor International says: "As long as there is money there will be the need for fine dining – we have witnessed a growth in spend across luxury experiences as well as luxury goods this year. Much of the growth in the developed markets has been driven by mainland Chinese and Russians who are frequent visitors of luxury hotspots such as London and consider them mainstay shopping destinations. Along with their insatiable hunger for luxury goods and services there is also the growing need to be able to eat, drink and stay in London's most prestigious and luxurious locations."

Did someone say borscht-ger? ■

Put dreaming back on the agenda

If enjoying a restful slumber is at the top of your to-do list, relax back into our fully reclining beds in Business Class. Embrace the freedom to dream away. Say hello to a more inspiring way to travel.

Hello Tomorrow



Emirates



WISH *list*



ONE LOVE

Kaleidoscope-coloured sarongs and chic raffia hats are suitcase staples for serial shore dwellers. But if packing the beachwear becomes a chore when heading to a One&Only outpost, fear not; now you can buy a range of stunning and exclusive pieces at the proverbial utopias themselves. As the brand marks its tenth birthday this month, the world's most prolific fashion designers have turned their hands to developing some unique garments inspired by the luxury resorts. We love Matthew Williamson's rainbow kaftan, which takes its hues from the Maldives' Reethi Rah, as well as Charlotte Olympia's iridescent Oasis sandal, layered with abstract palm leaves, among other pieces. The launch of Limited Edition, as it is named, closely follows the unveiling of supermodel Christy Turlington as the face of the hotel group, shot by Greg Kadel at One&Only Palmilla, Mexico.

oneandonlyresorts.com

TRAVEL *IN STYLE*

HOT SPOT *in January*



KOTOR BAY, MONTENEGRO

Heaven on the Adriatic, it's high time you discovered the Montenegrin Riviera

why

Huddled around a mountain-locked inlet, the stunning Kotor Bay on Montenegro's Adriatic coast is close to perfection.

With heavy Venetian influences, immaculately preserved old towns and weather that means it's often warm enough to swim in November, it's hardly surprising that this picturesque place is being tipped as Europe's most up-and-coming luxury travel destination. For the true Montenegrin experience, take a boat across the bay, visit lots of tiny red-roofed churches and wander aimlessly around labyrinthine cobbled streets.

stay

Home to the exclusive Porto Montenegro mega-yacht marina, the town of Tivat makes an ideal base. Perched in the foothills above the harbour, the Boka Group is currently building Sea Breeze, a collection of deluxe villas which will be available to rent or buy from 2016, promising not only unbeatable views, but also direct access to the Royal Montenegro Golf & Country Club (rmgcc.me) and to Porto Montenegro's designer shops and restaurants.

Sea Breeze Villas, seabreeze.me

ON BOARD

Adventure seekers will be delighted by the return of the world-famous London Boat Show this month, marking its 60th anniversary. A wide range of stunning yachts will make their debut, next to hundreds of exhibitors, who will be available to offer boating enthusiasts everything they need to get active, get informed and get on board for the coming year. The show will feature many new brands and models from around the world including the 72ft Challenger Racing Yacht, the Fairline Targa 48 GT and Princess Yachts' V48.

4-12 January Excel London,
Royal Victoria Dock, E16
londonboatshow.com



HESTON AT HEATHROW

Blumenthal has yet another delicious venture up his sleeve, having teamed up with Heathrow airport to launch his latest restaurant alongside a refurbished Terminal 2, both of which are set to open in June. The menu will introduce a unique dimension to the airport eating experience, with many dishes inspired by his *In Search of Perfection* TV series. Heston says: "We want to deliver a broad spectrum of easy-to-enjoy, familiar dishes from fish and chips to pizza."

THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT

The famed Marbella Club Hotel Golf Resort & Spa, has just unveiled its brand new kids club, offering a fun recreation experience for children aged 4-12. The newly designed space offers a wide range of interactive programmes such as sports, music and dance, cookery and even supervised evening play time, to keep the kiddies entertained so the adults can relax and unwind. The decor is so beautiful, you may want to stay put yourself.

marbellaclub.com



NEW YEAR BODY BLITZ

SHORT HAUL: *Italy*

Aggressive military-style bootcamps are not for the faint of heart. Fitness Renaissance is a holistic alternative, designed by one of London's leading personal trainers, Drew Perrot, to give guests an intensive wellness experience. Located in the stunning Italian countryside, you'll bed down at a 14th century villa, famed for its appearance in the iconic James Bond blockbuster *Quantum of Solace*. The Tuscan hills will play host to a range of activities including hiking and cycling.

villadigeggiano.com



LONG HAUL: *Bali*

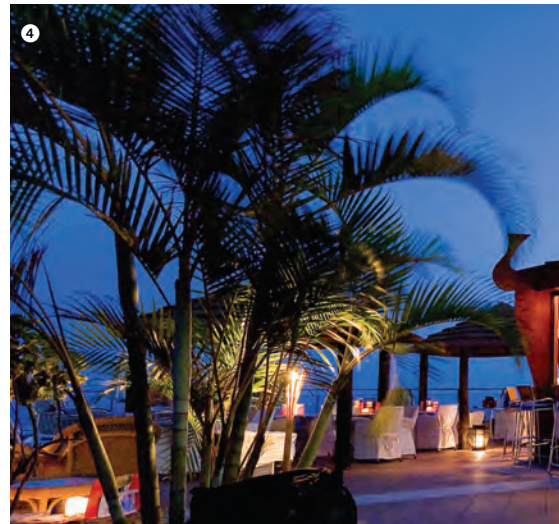
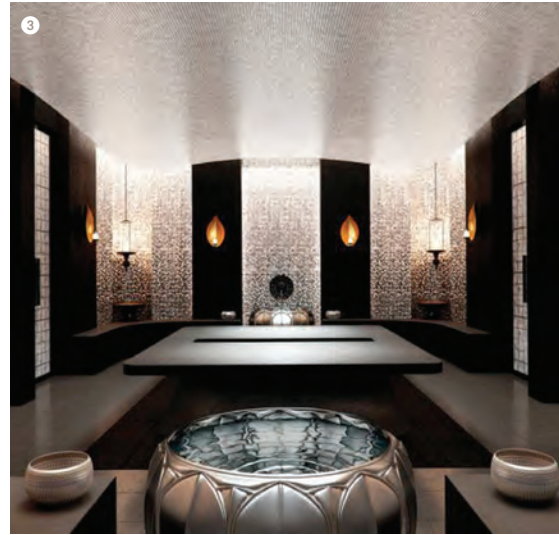
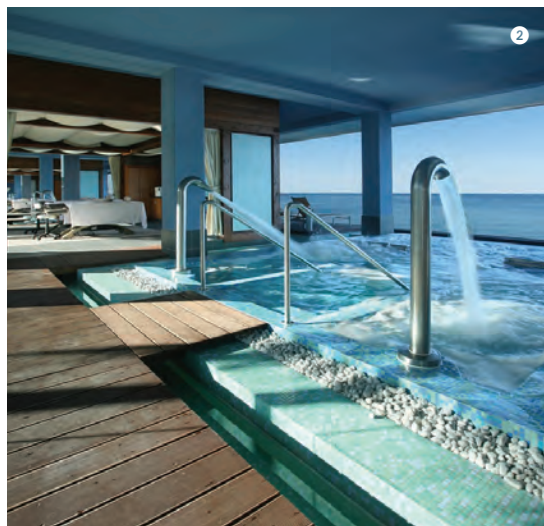
Set amid luscious Indonesian woodland lies the exotic fitness retreat Sharing Bali, whose newest rejuvenation package guarantees to help shift those unwanted Christmas pounds. 'A New Year, A New You' will put you through your paces in a five-day body transformation programme, including adventurous jungle treks and volcano climbing at sunrise, but not forgetting lavish spa treatments, yoga sessions and healthy cooking classes. With an alternating itinerary of well-being options, there's never been a better excuse to detox.

sharingbali.com



Five hundred days of SUMMER

As London endures the cold snap, *Gabrielle Lane* goes in search of Vitamin D in the perennially sunny Gran Canaria and profiles the five popular spas which are maintaining the island's historical links with health and wellbeing



1. Best Hidden Gem

The Hotel Cordial Mogán Playa offers a pocket of peace and quiet in the form of its new indoor/outdoor Spa Inagua. Modern and smart, it has its own 372m² terrace with pristine white-canopied double loungers, footbaths and a mini flotarium pool charged with magnesium salts. Inside, there's a pool and steam room and five treatment areas offering facials, massages, manicures and pedicures. Whilst not a spa destination in its own right, this secluded suntrap is a nice touch that works as part of the hotel's facilities including five laid-back bars, snack bars and restaurants. Suites here are spacious and well-equipped for families and set within an enormous and beautiful botanical garden.



2. Best for Luxury

If you're keen on whisking a loved one away, book the Lopesan Villa del Conde Resort & Corallium Thalasso, which could easily be plucked from the Maldives. It's oriented around a bubbling thalassotherapy circuit which uses the motions and minerals of seawater to soothe and revitalise. In practise this means elevated, ocean-front treatment rooms with retractable glass walls, private Jacuzzis and sun terraces, as well as water jets, flotation tanks, ice fountains and crystal and herbal steam rooms.

Gran Canaria is considered by many experts to provide the purest aloe vera in the world and you'll find that the native plant is used alongside green tea and algae in many treatments at the Lopesan, to detoxify and moisturise. The entire complex here is geared towards healthy living and the spa area incorporates a smoothie and salad bar, while the elegant restaurants offer barbecues, extravagant buffets and fine dining. It's infinitely glamorous and photo worthy.

3. Best for those In-the-Know

Gran Canaria had been in need of a boutique hotel like the Bohemia Suites & Spa. Opened in 2012, the contemporary, adults-only accommodation could easily have been taken from New York and is situated close to the nightlife of Playa del Inglés in a grittier and edgier neighbourhood than its rivals. Taking inspiration from across the world, the on-site Siam Spa prides itself on traditional Thai treatments performed by therapists who learnt their art in Eastern temples. Quite simply it means that the authentic massages, which involve twisting, bending and pulling all tension out of the body, are agony, but you will leave pumped full of endorphins and feeling lean. Décor throughout is akin to the best of Philippe Starck with ergonomic sofas, chrome and bright colours aplenty. In the spa this theme gives way to moody tones, bamboo, tented ceilings and the scent of jasmine.

4. Best for Families

As of April 2013, the health and fitness centre at the Thalasso Gloria Palace Amadores was about to undergo renovation as its facilities were more functional than attractive. That said; this is a venue specialising in seawater therapies, with a giant indoor pool circuit of different temperatures offering hydro massage beds and cliff-top views. Moreover, what the spa lacks in style, it makes up for with its brilliant techniques. The Indoceane package combines a salt scrub, milk bath, body wrap and Ayurvedic massage and it is quite simply one of the most relaxing beauty treatments I've ever had. The hotel additionally offers the option of experiencing its massages in the open air, which I'd choose – its cliff-top pool and restaurant (serving grilled fresh fish, chips and goblets of crisp white wine) is already one of the best laid-back lunch spots on the island. An activity programme includes daytime and evening entertainment for younger guests.

5. Best for Newcomers

The Seaside Palm Beach is a dependable choice for a loyal clientele. A member of the Design Hotels group, its fresh and colourful décor has a holiday feel, it's seconds from the beach and the catering is second-to-none (thanks to surf and turf nights, a pizzeria and Cava at breakfast). The spa here is managed by a friendly team trained in aromatherapy, heat therapy and oxygen-facials and the treatment rooms are comfortable and bright. The hotel doesn't depart from traditional impressions of Gran Canaria too much; it catches the best of the sun, it's peaceful and popular with an older crowd and you can walk to the local shops, bars and restaurants. On the wellness front, it's all about taking to your sun lounger, enjoying a cocktail from one of its bars and some live music. ■

CALL OF THE WILD

The Galapagos Islands are the ultimate destination for reconnecting with the wild. *Gavin Haines* visits this miracle of Mother Nature

When I was 10-years-old, I visited Dudley Zoo with the Cub Scouts. It was a memorable trip because the chimpanzees threw faeces at us and I got bitten by an otter.

Ignoring the warning signs I poked my finger through a wire fence, only for it to return decidedly gnawed. How the other boys laughed...

Yet despite this ignominious encounter in my formative years, I have since strived to get as close to wildlife as possible. I started by sitting in damp huts, in remote wooded areas, with bearded men, watching birds – which, when you put like that, sounds a bit strange.

Then I headed for more exotic climes, learning to scuba dive in Australia, tracking cheetahs in Namibia and swimming with beluga whales in the Arctic (an experience nearly as uncomfortable as the otter mauling).

And now, chasing my next fix of the natural world, I have come to the Galapagos Islands, an archipelago that, amongst other more significant achievements, represents the very zenith of my wildlife-watching days. How do I top this? Suggestions on a postcard, please.

The manner in which I am exploring these islands, it has to be said, would induce tuts of disapproval from bearded men in huts. That's because I have set sail on a lavish cruising vessel, where passengers can indulge in three-course dinners, Jacuzzis and other such luxuries. This is not one for purists; this is Champagne wildlife watching.

But more about the cruising experience later, because to talk about a vessel, no matter how gorgeous, seems prosaic while I'm in the Galapagos Islands. It's akin to discussing the grass-cutting technique on a visit to the Emirates Stadium.

Mother Nature is, quite simply, the star attraction here and there are few places in this world where you can get much closer to her. Behind every rock and beneath every wave there is wildlife, and it competes for your attention. Snorkelling off Sombrero Chino Island – named so because it supposedly resembles a Chinese

hat – I paddle through iridescent shoals of fish, eyeball white-tipped reef sharks and dance with a sea lion.

Pirouetting through the water in what looks like a carefully choreographed routine, this silent performer cuts shapes in the sea for five playful minutes, before disappearing in a burst of air bubbles. The mystery dancer is gone forever, but I find new friends in a giant turtle and the most elegant of sea creatures, a ray. ▶





◉ Exceptional diversity

The sheer variety of wildlife in Galapagos – and the way it has evolved in isolation from the rest of the world – is unparalleled. Formed by a volcanic hotspot beneath the Pacific Ocean, these islands have, by quirks of fate and miracles of Mother Nature, helped us understand more about humanity than anywhere else on the planet.

Blown here by trade winds and delivered by currents, the flora and fauna that has populated Galapagos originates largely from mainland South America, some 600 miles east. The iconic giant tortoises, for instance, are thought to have arrived here on flotsam after being washed away by floods on the continent.

To cope with the conditions in their harsh new environment – namely a lack of freshwater – these creatures have evolved into a new subspecies. The iguanas, for instance, which are also thought to have arrived on driftwood, have developed the ability to filter out salt from seawater. The British naturalist, Charles Darwin, was the first to observe such evolutionary phenomena and published his landmark book, *Origin of Species*, after visiting the islands in 1835.

While a lack of freshwater has made life challenging for wildlife, it has also been a blessing – because it kept man, that great destroyer of nature, away. “If they had found freshwater in Galapagos, we would probably be sitting here sipping piña colodas in a resort,” explains my guide, John Garate.

Instead we watch as a heron stalks the pellucid waters off Bartolomé Island, waiting patiently for an unsuspecting fish. Like most of the smaller islands, development here has been limited; there is nothing more than a wooden staircase, which takes visitors up the steep, solidified magma fields to a windy peak. The views from the top haven’t changed in millennia. Still, I wouldn’t say no to a fruity cocktail...

Cruise control

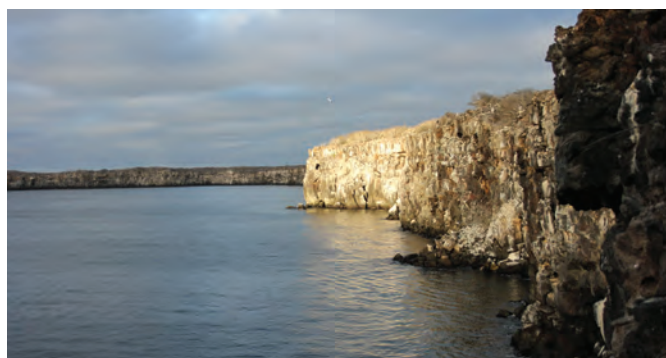
Cruises aren’t something I would typically endorse, but they are the best way to explore Galapagos. Remember, these islands are scattered 220km (137miles) across the Pacific and land-based holidays will reveal only a tiny fraction of this archipelago.

However, on a cruise the captain will cross leagues of ocean and deliver you, in your sleep, to exciting new islands. And when you wake, the resident naturalists will take you on excursions and introduce you to the local inhabitants; sharks, sea lions, tortoises and boobies (a type of bird, thank you) are just some of the delights.

In the company of such creatures it would usually be boring to write about anything else, but my luxurious home away from home is worth its column inches.

Dubbed La Pinta, the yacht accommodates 48 passengers, which is bijoux compared to the other vessels plying these waters.

The cabins are cavernous and well-appointed with plush double beds, floor-to-ceiling windows, iPod docks and power



showers. On the top deck there’s a hot tub, which is just the tonic after snorkelling in the surprisingly nippy waters.

The ships in Galapagos offer various itineraries taking in different islands. If you want a greatest hits tour of the area, then look for itineraries visiting the highlands of Santa Cruz or Isabela, which are home to the iconic giant tortoises.

Try and get to Sombrero Chino Island too. This offers the best snorkelling I have experienced – there are few places in this world where you can swim with tropical fish and penguins simultaneously.

If you have a penchant for birding then Genovesa Island is unmissable. Its solidified lava fields and woodlands are home to short-eared owls, Nazca boobies and the iconic blue-footed boobies. The island also harbours rare fur seals, marine iguanas and fiddler crabs. Mercifully, there are no otters. ■

NEED TO KNOW

Iberia (iberia.com) runs flights from London Heathrow to Galapagos, changing at Madrid and Guayaquil, from £964 return. Four-day, three-night cruises aboard La Pinta, operated by Metropolitan Touring, start at US \$2,573pp based on two sharing. This includes food, transfers, excursions, snorkelling gear and guides (lapintagalapagoscruise.com)

LISTING

SEE BELOW FOR ESTATE AGENTS IN YOUR AREA



ARLINGTON RESIDENTIAL

8 Wellington Road, NW8 9SP
020 7722 3322

arlingtonresidential.co.uk



ASTON CHASE

69 / 71 Park Road, NW1 6XU
020 7724 4724

astonchase.com



BARGETS

16 Park Road, NW1 4SH
020 7402 9494

bargets.co.uk



HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL

99 St John's Wood Terrace, NW8 6PL
020 7717 5319

21 Heath street, NW3 6TR
020 7717 5301

hamptons.co.uk



HANOVER RESIDENTIAL

102 St John's Wood Terrace
NW8 6PL
020 7722 2223

31a Thayer Street
Marylebone
W1U 2QS
020 3540 5990

hanover-residential.com



JONES LANG LASALLE

30 Warwick Street
W1B 5NH
020 7087 5557

joneslanglasalle.co.uk



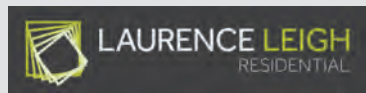
KNIGHT FRANK

5-7 Wellington Place, NW8 7PB
020 7586 2777

79-81 Heath Street, NW3 6UG
020 7431 8686

55 Baker Street, W1U 8EW
020 3435 6440

knightfrank.co.uk



LAURENCE LEIGH

020 7483 0101

laurenceleigh.com



MARSH & PARSONS

35 Maida Vale
W9 1TP
020 7368 4458

marshandparsons.co.uk



PARKHEATH

208 Haverstock Hill, NW3 2AG
020 7431 1234

8a Canfield Gardens, NW6 3BS
020 7625 4567

192 West End Lane, NW6 1SG
020 7794 7111

parkheath.com



PROPERTY DIVAS LIMITED

34a Rosslyn Hill, Hampstead
NW3 1NH
020 7431 8000

propertydivas.com



SAVILLS

7 Perrin's Court, NW3 1QS
020 7472 5000

15 St John's Wood High Street
NW8 7NG
020 3043 3600

savills.co.uk

VANTAGE

PROPERTY

SHOWCASING THE *finest* HOMES & PROPERTY FROM THE BEST ESTATE AGENTS



ELEGANT *AND*
EXCLUSIVE

THE LATEST PRIME PROPERTIES



Blenheim Terrace, St John's Wood NW8

Beautifully refurbished period house in St John's Wood

The house is beautifully presented on this pleasant Cul de Sac. The property benefits from good light and well arranged accommodation. It also has off street parking. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, reception room, study, dining room, guest WC, kitchen, garden. EPC rating E. Approximately 230 sq m (2,482 sq ft)

Freehold

Guide price: £3,500,000

(SJW130291)

[KnightFrank.co.uk/st-johns-wood](https://www.knightfrank.co.uk/st-johns-wood)
stjohnswood@knightfrank.com
0207 586 2777





Hamilton Terrace, St John's Wood NW8

Exceptional period house with parking in St John's Wood

An exceptional semi-detached period home offering excellent entertaining space and an unusually large 112 ft rear garden with a double width garage. 6 to 7 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, garden, private parking. EPC rating D. Approximately 410 sq m (4,414 sq ft)

Freehold

Guide price: £11,750,000

(SJW130066)

[KnightFrank.co.uk/st-johns-wood](https://www.knightfrank.co.uk/st-johns-wood)
stjohnswood@knightfrank.com
020 7586 2777



ASTONCHASE



CAMBRIDGE GATE
REGENT'S PARK NW1
£9,250,000 L/H: 135 YEARS

A magnificent and spacious duplex apartment (571.8sq m/6,155sq ft) benefitting from its own private entrance, courtyard garden, integral garage, portage and views of Regent's Park. The property features high ceilings in the reception and dining rooms, ideal for entertaining, whilst providing balanced and versatile bedroom accommodation including six bedroom suites, each with en-suite bathrooms and a further bedroom with an accompanying bathroom.

Peacefully situated within this imposing terrace, Cambridge Gate is positioned on the favourable southern side of Regent's Park within close proximity to the amenities of Marylebone Village and St John's Wood including Great Portland Street Underground Station (Hammersmith & City, Circle & Metropolitan Lines).

ACCOMMODATION AND AMENITIES

Principal Bedroom with En-Suite Bathroom & Separate Shower Room, 5 Further Bedrooms, 6 Further Bathrooms (5 En-Suite), Drawing Room, Family Room, Studio/Study, Fully Fitted Kitchen, Breakfast Room, Guest Cloakroom, Staff Bedroom/Utility Room, Private Entrance, 24 Hour Portage, Courtyard Garden, Integral Garage for 1 Car, Resident's Off-Street Parking, EPC/D.

JOINT SOLE AGENT



ARMITAGE HALL
GREAT PORTLAND STREET W1
£8,750,000 L/H: 989 YEARS

An exceptionally unique and expansive three bedroom apartment (415.8sq m/4,476sq ft) set within this beautiful Edwardian building conveniently located for access to Marylebone Village and the West End. Access to the apartment is by means of a private entrance, leading to an internal lift and feature staircase, revealing meticulously decorative accommodation and an abundance of voluminous entertaining space.

Finished to an exacting standard throughout, the apartment features a wealth of modern amenities including a Boffi White lacquered kitchen with Sub-Zero & Miele appliances, Lutron lighting, Crestron touch screens, air conditioning, under floor heating and a sophisticated security system. There is also a private roof garden and an integral garage.

ACCOMMODATION AND AMENITIES

Private Entrance Hall, Lift Lobby, Grand Reception Hall, Double Height Reception Hall, Boffi White Lacquered Kitchen/Breakfast Room with Sub-Zero & Miele Appliances and Utility Room, Principal Bedroom with Dressing Area, Dressing Room and En-Suite Bathroom, 2 Further Bedrooms with En-Suite Bathroom & Shower Rooms, Cinema Room/Study, Laundry Room, Guest Cloakroom, Private Entrance, Passenger Lift, Store Room, Lutron Lighting, Crestron Touch Screens, Air Conditioning, Under Floor Heating, Sophisticated Security System, Balcony, Private Roof Garden, Integral Garage. EPC/C.

JOINT SOLE AGENT

ASTONCHASE



THURLOW ROAD
HAMPSTEAD NW3
£8,950,000 FREEHOLD

A stunning six bedroom period style home (635.92sq m/6,845sq ft) with a self-contained one bedroom maisonette and an expansive rear garden. The ground floor level of this luxurious home features an open plan kitchen/dining room with a double height gallery leading to the first floor drawing room. Occupying the entire second level is the principal bedroom suite with five further bedrooms on the upper levels. There is also a garage with parking for up to four cars and a lift providing access from the lower ground level to the third level.

ThurLOW Road is located within close proximity to Hampstead Village, with its range of shopping, transport and recreational amenities. The property is well positioned for transport links including Hampstead and Belsize Park Underground Stations (Northern Line), many prestigious independent schools and the open spaces of Hampstead Heath.

ACCOMMODATION AND AMENITIES

Principal Bedroom with En-Suite Dressing Room, Bathroom & Balcony, 5 Further Bedrooms, 3 Further Bathrooms, Open Plan Fully Fitted Kitchen/Dining Room, Reception Room, Family Room, Drawing Room, Study, Self-Contained Maisonette comprising Bedroom, En-Suite Bathroom, Kitchen and Reception Room, Utility Room, 2 Guest Cloakrooms, Lift, Patio, Westerly Facing 95' Rear Landscaped Garden, Integral Garage for Parking for up to 4 Cars. EPC/C.

PRINCIPAL AGENT



GROVE END ROAD
ST JOHN'S WOOD NW8
GUIDE PRICE £6,500,000 FREEHOLD

A fantastic opportunity to purchase a low built detached house (395sq m/3,928sq ft) predominantly arranged over two floors only situated in the heart of St John's Wood. The property, which is in need of modernisation, is not included on the statutory list of listed buildings therefore provides an incoming purchaser with the opportunity to (subject to the necessary planning consents) add significant value and create a truly magnificent home.

Grove End Road is located just minutes from all the couture boutiques, quirky independent shops and thriving cafés, bars and restaurants in both St John's Wood and Maida Vale. Other notable area amenities include The American School in London, Abbey Road Studios, Lord's Cricket Ground, St John's Wood (Jubilee Line) and Maida Vale (Bakerloo Line) Underground Stations and the open spaces of Regent's Park.

ACCOMMODATION AND AMENITIES

Principal Bedroom with En-Suite Dressing Room & Bathroom, 4 Further Bedrooms, 2 Further Bathrooms, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Drawing Room, Dining Room, Garden Room, Attic Room, 2 Guest Cloakrooms. Sauna, Private Front & Rear Gardens, Garage, Further Private Parking for 4/5 Cars. EPC/E.

SOLE AGENT

Top Quality
Parkheath
Sold on Service

Fresh Meat
from British Farms

Sold on
Village Life



Parkheath

Sold on Service



St Regis Heights, Hampstead NW3

£2,295,000

In prime Hampstead opposite the Heath a spacious duplex of over 2000 sq ft within a prestigious gated development.

Modern and bright contemporary internal space is complemented by a south-facing roof terrace, private courtyard and balconies.

2010 sq ft/186 sq m
Impressive 32' reception
3 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms
Porterage, communal gardens
Secure underground parking

Contact Belsize Park Office
020 7431 1234

South Hampstead
Sales 020 7625 4567
Lettings 020 7644 0800
nw6@parkheath.com

West Hampstead
Sales 020 7794 7111
Lettings 020 7794 7111
192@parkheath.com

Belsize Park
Sales 020 7431 1234
Lettings 020 7431 3104
nw3@parkheath.com

Property Management
Tel 020 7722 6777
pm@parkheath.com

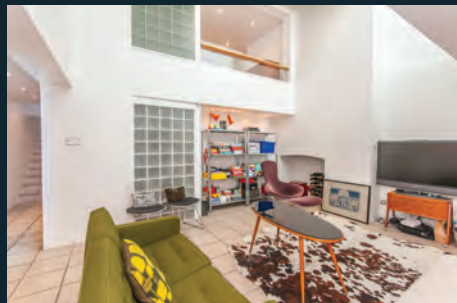


Parkheath
Sold on Service

*Sold on
the Lifestyle*

Parkheath

Sold on Service



Pond Street, Hampstead NW3

£1,695,000

A dramatic contemporary triplex apartment forming part of a stucco period house moments from Hampstead Heath.

Styled with extensive and imaginative use of glass, and featuring a double-tiered patio.

2354 sq ft/218 sq m
28' reception, 2nd reception
4 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms
21' kitchen/diner
Double level patio

Contact Belsize Park Office
020 7431 1234

South Hampstead
Sales 020 7625 4567
Lettings 020 7644 0800
nw6@parkheath.com

West Hampstead
Sales 020 7794 7111
Lettings 020 7794 7111
192@parkheath.com

Belsize Park
Sales 020 7431 1234
Lettings 020 7431 3104
nw3@parkheath.com

Property Management
Tel 020 7722 6777
pm@parkheath.com

ST JOHN'S WOOD

LONDON NW8



Arlington
RESIDENTIAL
— SALES & LETTINGS —

020 7722 3322
ARLINGTONRESIDENTIAL.COM

A STUNNING DUPLEX PENTHOUSE APARTMENT ON THE 5TH & 6TH FLOORS COMPRISING OF 2,695 SQ FT (250 SQ M) OF BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED CONTEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION WITH WOODEN FLOORS, LUTRON LIGHTING AND LUXURY FINISHES THROUGHOUT. THE APARTMENT IS SET IN THE YOO BUILDING, A LANDMARK BLOCK DESIGNED BY PHILIPPE STARCK AND LOCATED WITHIN CLOSE PROXIMITY OF LITTLE VENICE AND WITHIN A SHORT WALK OF MAIDA VALE UNDERGROUND STATION.

MASTER BEDROOM SUITE COMPRISING OF BEDROOM, BATHROOM, DRESSING AREA AND TERRACE, 3 FURTHER BEDROOMS, 2 FURTHER BATHROOMS, DOUBLE RECEPTION ROOM, STUDY, KITCHEN/DINING ROOM, UTILITY ROOM, SECURE GARAGE PARKING, 24 HOUR SECURITY PORTERAGE, ADDITIONAL TERRACE AND COURTYARD, EPC: C.

AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL AT £3,500 PER WEEK SOLE AGENT



REGENT'S PARK

LONDON NW1



Arlington
RESIDENTIAL
— SALES & LETTINGS —

020 7722 3322
ARLINGTONRESIDENTIAL.COM

A MAGNIFICENT NASH HOUSE DIRECTLY OVERLOOKING REGENT'S PARK. HAVING BEEN THE SUBJECT OF METICULOUS RECENT REFURBISHMENT, THE HOUSE PROVIDES A CLASSIC PERIOD HOME TASTEFULLY DESIGNED TO LUXURIOUS CONTEMPORARY FINISHES, WITH MODERN TECHNOLOGY, ELEGANT RECEPTION ROOMS AND EXCELLENT FAMILY ACCOMMODATION. BENEFITS INCLUDE A PASSENGER LIFT, INTEGRAL GARAGE AND A ROOF TERRACE.

5 BEDROOMS, 4 BATHROOMS (2 EN SUITE), DINING ROOM/FAMILY ROOM, KITCHEN/BREAKFAST ROOM, FIRST FLOOR DOUBLE DRAWING ROOM, MEDIA ROOM, GUEST CLOAKROOM, ROOF TERRACE, INTEGRAL GARAGE, CROWN PERMIT OFF STREET PARKING EPC: D.

AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL AT £6,750 PER WEEK



Somerset Penthouse

STOCKLEIGH HALL, PRINCE ALBERT ROAD NW8



An exceptional five bedroom, four bathroom duplex penthouse apartment comprising 2,790 sq ft / 259 sq m, situated atop this prestigious Art Deco 1930s purpose built block on Prince Albert Road. Stockleigh Hall is conveniently located for the schools and all local amenities of St John's Wood, Regent's Park and Primrose Hill. St John's Wood High Street with its fashionable shops, cafes and boutiques is just a short walk away.



Accommodation comprises:

- Impressive reception room with intercommunicating dining room
- Fully fitted kitchen/breakfast room • Utility room • Two guest WCs
- Principal bedroom suite with ensuite bathroom • Second bedroom with ensuite bathroom • Third bedroom with ensuite shower room
- Two further bedroom suites • Family shower room • Spectacular roof terrace featuring breath taking views • Direct passenger lift
- 24 hour portorage • Two reserved parking spaces

Share of Freehold



PRICE £6,495,000

hanover-residential.com

St John's Wood Office
102 St John's Wood Terrace, London NW8 6PL

020 7722 2223

e: info@hanover-residential.com

Dumpton Place

PRIMROSE HILL NW3



A secure gated development of four brand new townhouses, each with an allocated parking space and private courtyard, located in the heart of Primrose Hill. Each house has been architecturally designed and offers spacious and contemporary living. Dumpton Place is located just off Gloucester Avenue, close to the shops, cafés and restaurants of Regent's Park Road and surrounding areas of Primrose Hill, Regent's Park and Camden. Full specifications on request.



Amenities include:

- Private courtyards • Secure underground parking
- German Hacker kitchens • Luxury bath and shower rooms
- Underfloor heating • Video entry system and alarm system
- Located in the heart of trendy and fashionable Primrose Hill



PRICES RANGE FROM £2,250,000 TO £2,600,000

hanover-residential.com

St John's Wood Office
102 St John's Wood Terrace, London NW8 6PL

020 7722 2223

e: info@hanover-residential.com

102 St John's Wood Terrace,
St John's Wood,
London NW8 6PL
t: 020 7722 2223

31a Thayer Street,
Marylebone,
London W1U 2QS
t: 020 3540 5990

e: info@hanover-residential.com
w: hanover-residential.com



Portman Towers, Marylebone, W1H | £5,000,000

A superb, newly refurbished, duplex penthouse apartment offering 2118 sq ft / 197 sq ft. Situated on 10th and 11th floors of this exclusive purpose built block this amazing penthouse has excellent views, directly over Montagu Square and beyond to the London Skyline. Features include a private balcony, roof terrace, two underground parking space, air conditioning, lift and 24 hour porterage.

Main Agent/Leasehold



London House, St John's Wood, NW8 | £3,800,000

A stunning, interior designed four bedroom, three bathroom apartment (1,796 sq ft / 167 sq m), located on the sixth floor of this sought after modern block in St John's Wood. This bright, contemporary apartment has undergone extensive refurbishment to provide spacious luxury accommodation including 37ft reception/dining room with access to a terrace featuring outstanding views towards Regent's Park. Benefits include parking for 2 cars, passenger lift and 24 hour porterage.

Sole Agent/Share of Freehold



Viceroy Court, St John's Wood, NW8 | £2,950,000

A bright three bedroom apartment (1,536 sq ft / 143 sq m) situated on the second floor of this sought after portered block on Prince Albert Road. The apartment is offered in excellent decorative condition throughout and benefits from a balcony with direct views towards Regent's Park and one underground parking space. Viceroy Court has the advantage of 24 hour porterage and a wonderful communal roof terrace with views across London.

Sole Agent/Share of Freehold



St Stephen's Close, St John's Wood, NW8 | £1,995,000

A beautifully presented three bedroom, two bathroom apartment situated on the fourth floor of this prestigious development located off London's famous Avenue Road. The apartment features two intercommunicating reception rooms with wood flooring and a fireplace. Additional features include 24 hour porterage, limited off street parking for two cars, passenger lift and access to Primrose Hill is located directly behind the building.

Sole Agent/Share of Freehold



Marlborough Hill, St John's Wood, NW8 | £1,700 per week

A spacious and well presented five bedroom townhouse (2,264 sq ft / 210 sq m) located on the West Side of St John's Wood. This delightful family home, set over four floors, affords an abundance of natural light and has the advantage of a single lock-up garage, front garden and a west facing rear garden. Marlborough Hill is situated very close to The American School as well as the shopping amenities of St John's Wood High Street and underground station (Jubilee Line).



Redington Road, Hampstead, NW3 | £1,280 per week

A stunning three bedroom ground floor apartment with garden and parking offering stylish and contemporary living. This luxury apartment features high ceilings, solid wood flooring and its own 100ft rear garden with decked patio areas and also includes a landscaped front garden. Accommodation comprises: 3 Double Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms (1 En-Suite), Double Reception Room, Kitchen, Separate Utility Room, Store Room, Front Garden, Large Rear Garden & Patios, Off Street Parking Space.



The Yoo Building, St John's Wood, NW8 | £1,150 per week

A beautifully presented two bedroom, two bathroom apartment situated on the second floor of this modern development architecturally designed by Philippe Starck. The apartment features a stunning double volume reception room with an abundance of natural light. Additional benefits include 24-hour concierge service, passenger lift and secure off street parking.



Sunny Mews, Primrose Hill, NW1 | £1,100 per week

Located behind an electric gated entrance, a recently built development of six contemporary mews houses. This house offers a fully fitted kitchen, a double aspect reception room leading to a bridged terrace, three double bedrooms one with an en-suite bathroom and an additional family bathroom. The house also benefits from one allocated parking space.



LEADING THE WAY IN ST JOHN'S WOOD

Founded by Laurence Leigh, who has spent more than 20 years in the profession, Laurence Leigh Residential is an independent estate agency specialising in the sale, acquisition and letting of some of the most exclusive and desirable properties in and around North West and Central London. Directors Laurence Leigh and Elias Raymond tell *Vantage* what makes an exceptional estate agent.

What are the key personal qualities needed to be a successful estate agent?

The main thing is listening to people, being personable and being honest. You have to be a chameleon and be able to react professionally to each individual client because every client is different.

What bespoke services do you offer that other agents don't?

Selling property is a process. For most people it concerns the most important and usually biggest asset they have. We understand this and we genuinely care. We pride ourselves on achieving a very good balance between acting for our clients and at the same time building ongoing relationships with all of our purchasers.

With most transactions, we are presented with unique challenges and we always work hard to find a successful solution. Buying and selling property is an emotional process, so listening to everyone's side of the argument and then try to navigate the best path to resolving any issue is key.

How has the market changed since 2007?

The market dipped approximately 25-30 per cent from 2007-2009. Since then it has probably gone up approximately 50 per cent, and prices are now way beyond what they were at the height of the market in 2006-2007.

Do you think St John's Wood as a market place has upped its presence?

St John's Wood has always been a very sought after area. Obviously being very close to Central London, it

is an attractive area for people to live, who for work and social reasons, want to be at the heart of all that London has to offer.

Additionally, there are a number of very good schools in the area and this has attracted people from all parts of the globe. As long as London is seen to be one of the financial capitals of the world, St John's Wood and the surrounding areas will continue to enjoy the benefits.

In your opinion, what are the best roads around St John's Wood?

The most renowned roads in St John's Wood are Hamilton Terrace, Avenue Road and Cavendish Avenue, where some of the grand ambassadorial homes are located. However there are plenty of other fabulous roads such as Acacia Road, Norfolk Road and Queens Grove on the East Side and Clifton Hill, Carlton Hill, Blenheim Road, Springfield Road and Blenheim Terrace which are all located on the West Side of St John's Wood.

What advice would you give to someone looking to invest in property now?

Understanding your market place is of the upmost importance. Spending time exploring and carrying out your research to understand what will give you the best return is imperative. Location is also key to finding the right property that will give you the maximum rental income.

What are your thoughts about the central London property market in 2014?

The last six months of 2013 were very active indeed. I have every reason to believe that 2014 will continue from exactly where we left off in December! Central London is perceived to be a safe haven for property investment. It is also an extremely desirable and safe city for people to reside in. With the demand for prime residential property greatly exceeding supply, I feel we have an exciting year ahead of us with a significant growth in property prices for 2014. ■

laurenceleigh.com
020 7483 0101



PARKHEATH'S PROJECTIONS FOR 2014

Tom Gladwin, managing director at Parkheath looks forward to a buoyant property market in 2014

Looking back on what many in the industry have described as a positive year overall, what would you say have been Parkheath's strengths?

Clients say our strength is the service we provide. That is of immense importance to our company. Service is at the heart of everything we do. It guides and shapes how every member of our team acts. We believe that good service is at the centre of every successful business.

What will affect the London property market in 2014?

The Governor of the Bank of England Mark Carney has recently announced that he is to stop the Funding for Lending scheme. This will increase the number of properties which come to the market as landlords, whose cheap finance deals are ending, are pushed to sell. This will be good news for the many buyers looking to move house, and if enough extra properties are put up for sale, it may even slow the huge surge in prices that we have seen recently. Another side effect of this would be a less saturated lettings market. Fewer properties to rent could stabilise rental prices which have been falling over the past year.

Do you think London will continue to be one of the leaders in the global property market in 2014, and if so, why?

The New York Times recently described prime London property as the "new gold". London is high on the wave of investor confidence and I can't see that changing any time soon. The city is increasingly considered a safe haven for those foreign buyers looking to secure their money in a tangible, safe and profitable asset. London is a world centre for banking, business and commerce, with a stable government and favourable taxation and is perfectly placed to continue as a leader in the global property market. The only word of caution I would add is that we must

now be careful not to encourage that investment to go elsewhere by further increasing taxation and levies upon foreign ownership.

At the moment, what is most readily available and what is in short supply?

We currently sell family houses and flats between £1.25m and £3m at record breaking speed and we have had multiple offers on almost each one we have marketed this year. There is not an over-supply of anything – everything which comes on at the 'right' price goes very quickly, especially under the £2m stamp duty. Demand is still outstripping supply in all price brackets at the moment.

Do you think we will see a shift going into 2014?

I do believe more properties will come on to the market next year but we have already seen an increase in buyers registering. I think there is going to be just as much competition for homes.

At the upper end of the property sector, the highest rate of stamp duty will continue to be offputting and the specter of a 'mansion tax' remains. I see little change at this upper end with few buyers prepared to bear the high costs of moving at this level.

What will the New Year hold for Parkheath?

2014 is going to be an exciting year for Parkheath. We are a creative, energetic team and we never take our business's success for granted. The New Year will see some innovative ideas come to life at Parkheath which will ensure we maintain our reputation as the leading agents in sales, rentals and property management. ■

Parkheath
West Hampstead Office
 192 West End Lane, NW6
 020 7794 7111
parkheath.com



Beyond your expectations
www.hamptons.co.uk



Park Village West, NW1

A wonderful double fronted, low built Nash villa in this enchanting enclave moments from Regents Park. The accommodation comprises three bedrooms, two of which have en-suite bathrooms, two reception rooms, separate eat-in kitchen, plenty of storage and a patio garden. A perfect formed home.

£2,500,000 Leasehold

- Leasehold
- Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- House
- Patio

Hamptons St John's Wood Office

Sales. 0207 586 9595 | Lettings. 020 7717 5487



Dartmouth Park, NW5

This is a really excellent four bedroom Victorian family house, in one of Dartmouth Park's most popular locations. Arranged over four floors and offering in excess of 3,000 square feet, the house offers a superb balance of accommodation, with excellent reception space and a 60' south east facing garden.

£3,000,000 Freehold

- Four bedrooms
- Two bathrooms
- Two inter-communicating reception rooms
- Family/TV room
- Stunning kitchen/diner
- 60' south east facing split level garden





Elgin Mews South, Maida Vale, W9

An outstanding and stylish 3/4 bedroom, mews house comprising approximately 1,835 sq ft / 170 sq m set over 3 floors and boasting direct informal access to the communal gardens at the rear of the property. The house, which has been interior designed throughout, is presented in excellent decorative condition and benefits from light, spacious accommodation. The property also benefits from a secluded roof terrace overlooking the communal garden. This delightful cobble mews is situated just off Randolph Avenue, close to all the transport and shopping amenities of Maida Vale and Little Venice. EPC Rated - E

Freehold

Asking Price: £2,850,000

Sole Agent



Albert Terrace Mews, Primrose Hill, **NW1**

A delightful, three bedroom, two storey mews house, comprising approximately 1,354 sq ft / 126 sq m of internal accommodation. The house is immaculately presented throughout and benefits from a west facing patio garden and off street parking. Albert Terrace Mews is quietly situated off Regents Park Road, within a quarter of a mile of Primrose Hill Village. EPC Rated - D

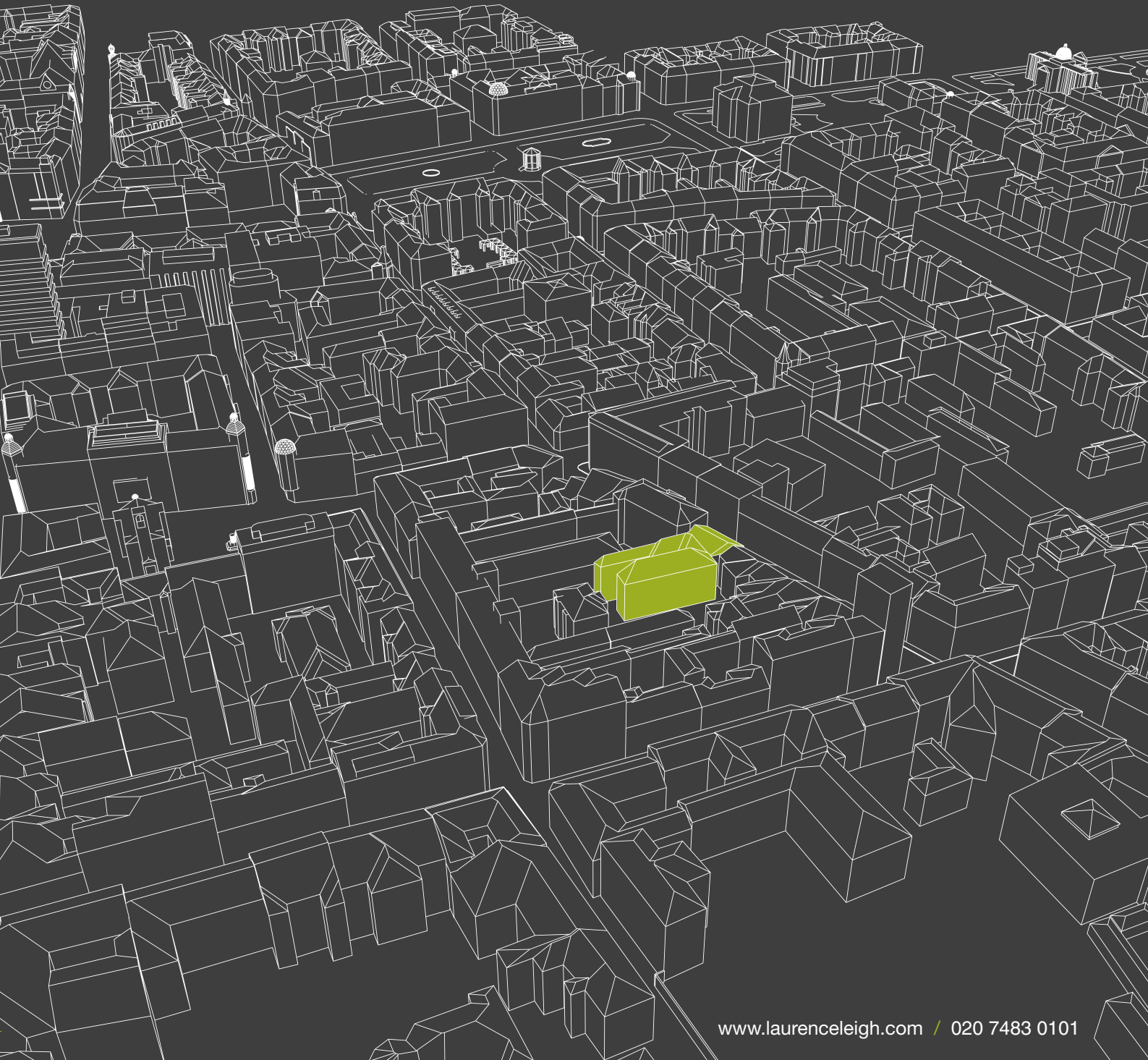
Freehold

Asking Price: **£1,995,000**

Sole Agent



Finding you the **perfect** property



Local know-how. Better results.

Our offices:

Battersea	Chelsea	Fulham	Kensington	Mayfair	Pimlico & Westminster
Balham	Bishops Park	Clapham	Hammersmith	North Kensington	South Kensington
Barnes	Brook Green	Earls Court	Holland Park	Marylebone	Notting Hill



Wigmore Street W1 £3,000,000

An opulent two-bedroom apartment arranged over the entire first floor of a wonderful late Victorian building. There are three factors which determine how special a property is - the location, the layout/proportion of the rooms and of course the finish. On all three this apartment scores top marks, with Selfridges as your local corner shop and the West End literally on your doorstep. Leasehold. EPC=C. **Joint Sole Agent.**

MARYLEBONE: 020 7935 1775 sales.mar@marshandparsons.co.uk

See all of our properties online:
marshandparsons.co.uk

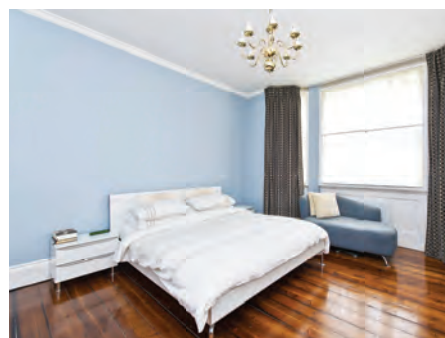
Follow us on Twitter:
twitter.com/marshandparsons

Join us on Facebook:
facebook.com/marshandparsons

Visit our YouTube channel:
youtube.com/user/marshandparsons

MARSH & PARSONS

SALES



Portman Mansions W1 £1,350,000

It's rare to get everything on your wish list when buying a flat, but this two-bedroom apartment has everything most buyers are looking for. The flat has a great balance of reception and bedroom space with the rooms radiating off a central hallway. Both bedrooms are doubles, one with an en suite, while the other is only a step across the hallway to get to the bathroom. One particularly nice feature is the kitchen, which can fit a dining table; a rarity these days. Leashold. EPC=E.

MARYLEBONE: 020 7935 1775 sales.mar@marshandparsons.co.uk

Our network of 19 Prime London offices work together to get you the best results.

We have **seven offices** in the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea - more than any other agent



We have **18% more buyers** than this time last year

Our international desk is **fluent** in **18 languages**



Property prices in Prime London have risen **14.24%** in the last year **

17.8% of our properties are sold or let by one of our **other offices**



FOR A FREE SALES OR LETTINGS VALUATION CONTACT US ON:

T 020 7368 4458

E sales@marshandparsons.co.uk

E lettings@marshandparsons.co.uk

Local know-how. Better results.

* An evaluation of 'supply and demand' statistics, based on an audit of Marsh & Parsons' buyer registrations and property instructions during the quarter.
** Based on a repeat valuation of over 400 Prime London properties carried out by Marsh & Parsons, monthly.

MARSH & PARSONS



 We have **17.5 buyers** registered for **every property** *

£ We achieve, on average, **98%** of the asking price

 In 2013, **77%** of our **Corporate tenancies** were to **international tenants**

 We have **four offices in Westminster** - more than any other agent

 Recently awarded the **UK's best estate agency** for the **2nd year** running
Negotiator Awards



BOODLES
BOUCHERON
BUCCELLATI
BVLGARI
CARTIER
CHANEL FINE JEWELLERY
CHAUMET
CHOPARD
DE BEERS
DE GRISOGONO
DIOR JOAILLERIE
FABERGÉ
FARAONE MENNELLA
GARRARD
H. STERN
HARRY WINSTON
HERMÈS
MIKIMOTO
PIAGET
THEO FENNELL
TIFFANY & CO.
VAN CLEEF & ARPELS

TIMELESS FINE JEWELS

THE FINE JEWELLERY ROOM

+44 (0)20 7730 1234

Harrods