

SLOANE SQUARE

ART \ CULTURE \ FASHION \ FOOD

JULY / AUGUST 2022

THE ART OF INTERIORS

COLE & SON COMES
TO CHELSEA

Wedding Belles

BRIDAL
MUST-HAVES

Sun, sand, sea

THE BEST
BEACH READS

On a plate

PHIL HOWARD'S
LIFE IN FOOD

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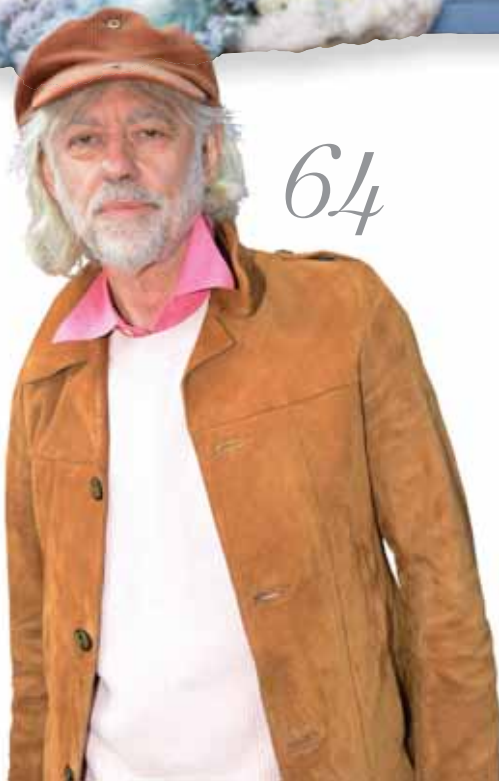
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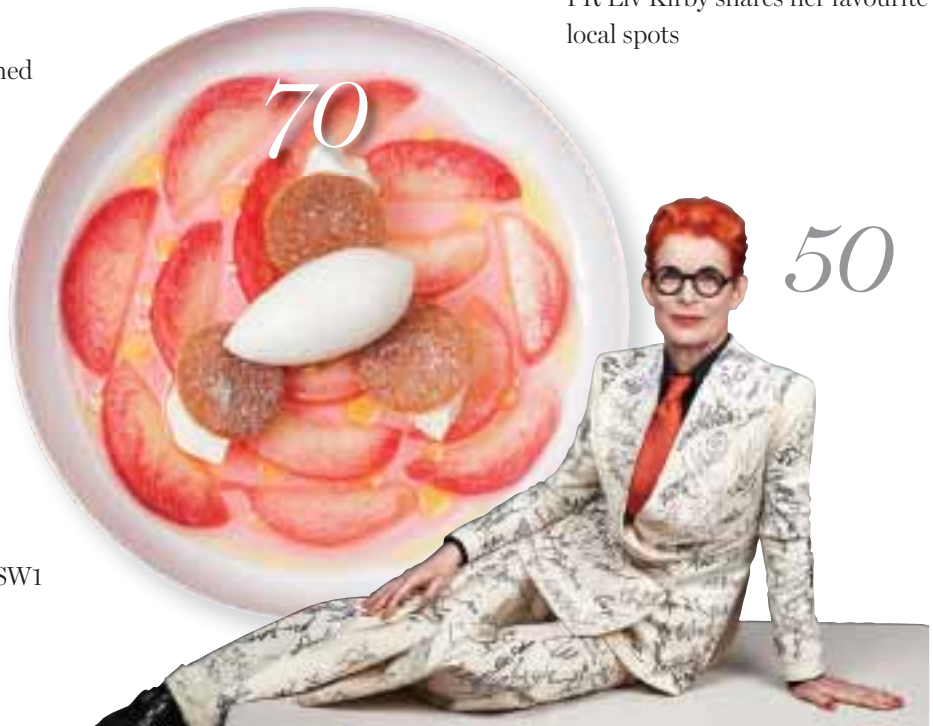
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Poliform

Calendar

UNTIL JANUARY 2023

DIPPY RETURNS

Dippy the diplodocus has returned to the Natural History Museum for a limited time only. The nation's favourite dinosaur is free to visit as part of an exhibition that celebrates his successful tour across the UK, where he was visited by over 2 million people. Dippy can now be found in the Waterhouse Gallery, where he was previously displayed in the 1970s.

Cromwell Road



Events diary

JULY & AUGUST



AUGUST 12-13

NINA KRISTOFFERSON SINGS BILLIE HOLIDAY

An award-winning singer who can perform everything from jazz and blues to opera, Nina Kristofferson is visiting the Pheasantry to tell the story of Billie Holiday. This intimate concert will include some of Holiday's most beloved songs, including *God Bless the Child*, *Lover Man* and *Strange Fruit*.

Nina will be accompanied by pianist Allan Rogers, who has performed at the O2 and Wembley Arena.

152-154 King's Road

JULY 23

KIDS' MASTERCLASS AT STICKS'N'SUSHI

Children between the ages of eight and 12 can learn some serious sushi skills at this hands-on masterclass. After creating three different types of sushi with the help of expert chefs, they'll leave with a goody bag that includes a certificate, bandana, rolling mat and chopsticks.

113-115 King's Road



ALL SUMMER

KENSINGTON + CHELSEA PUBLIC ART TRAIL

Kensington + Chelsea Art Week has launched its fifth public art trail. This free celebration of art and sculpture will feature installations at some of the borough's most iconic landmarks, a fitting tribute to West London's formidable creative heritage.

This year, the theme of the trail is 'nourish'. Artists including Gavin Turk, Sokari Douglas Camp CBE and Maya Sanbar have created monumental sculptures that interpret this theme, from a giant plastic food package made out of grey concrete, to a London city-scape made entirely from straws



SPOTLIGHT ON: THE CHELSEA LOOK

As part of the art trail, artist Roman Lokati has created six sculptures to be displayed in prominent locations including Sloane Street, Pavilion Road and Duke of York Square. Each life-sized metal sculpture is inspired by Chelsea's style icons, from Vivienne Westwood's punk revolution to the iconic red uniforms of the Chelsea Pensioners. Look out for these colourful silhouettes as you stroll through Chelsea.



ABOVE: MAYA SANBAR
CREATOR OF
QUILT PATCH
OUTSIDE
CHELSEA
THEATRE

RIGHT: SOKARI DOUGLAS CAMP'S
HOMAGE TO
CARNIVAL,
OUTSIDE
THE DESIGN
MUSEUM

IMAGES BY
GRAHAM FUDGER



collected in local bars, clubs and coffee shops. Each artwork asks us to consider what nourishes us – whether that's food, nature, family, tradition, or something else entirely.

Highlights of the trail include *Quilt Patch* on the exterior of The Chelsea Theatre: a colourful installation of quilted flags made from recycled fabrics, created collaboratively in cross-generational sewing and storytelling workshops. Outside the Design Museum you'll find a carnival float, paying tribute to carnival spirit and Caribbean tradition while acknowledging histories of enslavement through headdresses of sugarcane and tea.

Prepare to be surprised and delighted by unusual installations at every turn, the perfect excuse to explore the streets and shops of our richly creatively borough.

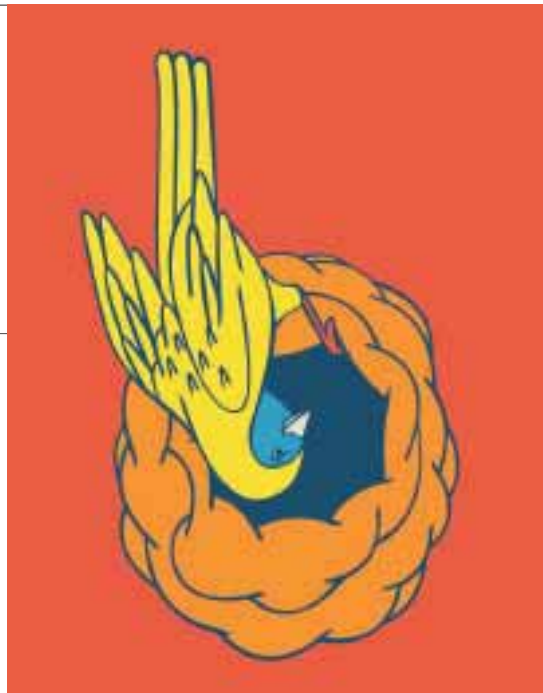
kcaw.co.uk

UNTIL SEPTEMBER 25

NATURE'S ARCHITECTS

The Museum of Architecture has created Nature's Architects: a free, family-friendly trail around Pavilion Road and Duke of York Square. Twenty tiny houses have been hidden on doorsteps, in tree forks, between railings and more, creating an inventive trail that will teach children about the magic of nature.

Each of the twenty micro homes has been created by a leading architect, inspired by the way that creatures and critters – including kingfishers, bats and spiders – build their homes. From layered nests to intricate tensile webs, each structure will explore a different natural building technique. The trail also raises questions about how humans could learn from nature to build innovative and eco-friendly homes and cities.



FROM JULY 2

AFRICA FASHION

Visit the V&A this summer to explore the UK's most extensive exhibition of African fashion to date. The display celebrates the vibrancy of the African design scene, with more than 250 items drawn from the personal archives of iconic creatives. Discover sketches, catwalk footage, protest posters and a range of garments that speak to the diversity and beauty of African fashion.

The exhibition starts with a look at the years of African liberation and independence, revealing the influence of fashion on this sweeping cultural renaissance. Next, you'll be introduced to a new generation of groundbreaking designers, collectives, stylists and fashion photographers, exploring the vibrant future of Africa's design scene.

Cromwell Road



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CHELSEA

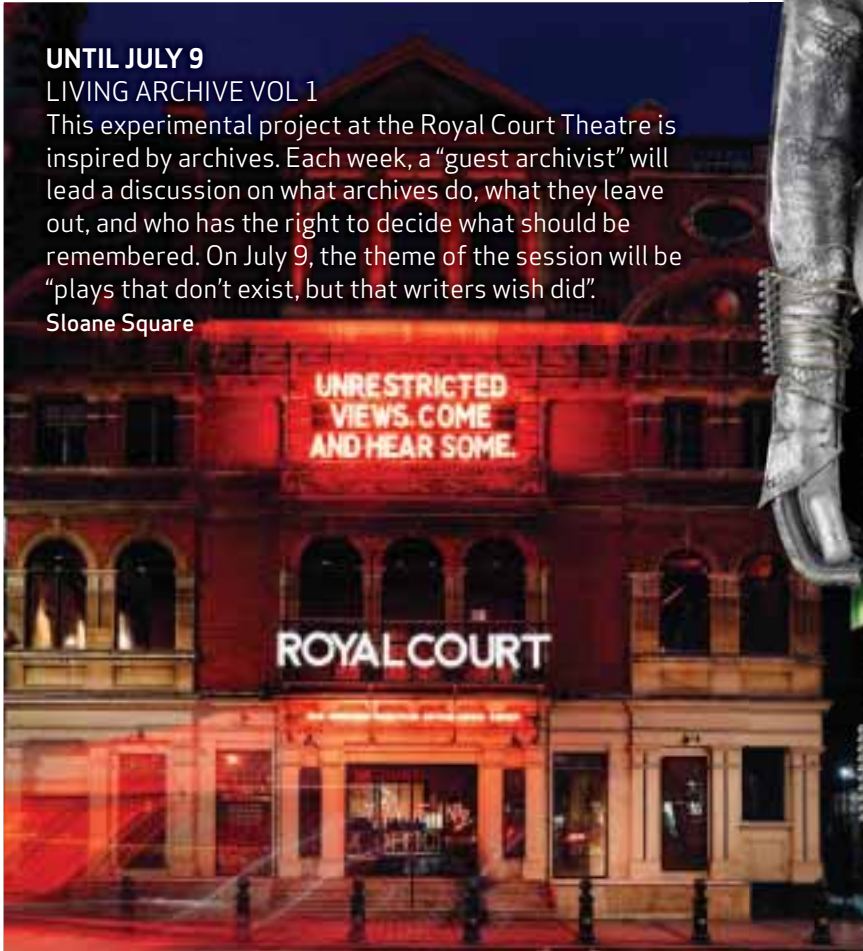
CALL 0204 549 8000 OR VISIT AURIENS.COM

UNTIL JULY 9

LIVING ARCHIVE VOL 1

This experimental project at the Royal Court Theatre is inspired by archives. Each week, a “guest archivist” will lead a discussion on what archives do, what they leave out, and who has the right to decide what should be remembered. On July 9, the theme of the session will be “plays that don’t exist, but that writers wish did”.

Sloane Square



JULY 31 AND AUGUST 5

COMPLETE FRENCH BAKING WORKSHOP

Learn the basics of French baking with this full-day workshop at Bread Ahead. Suitable for bakers at every level of experience, you'll have plenty of support from the experts as you prepare a rustic pain de campagne and a selection of croissants, brioche and madeleines.

249 Pavilion Road



FROM JULY 27

BBC AT 100

This free display at the Science Museum celebrates a century of the BBC. Feast your eyes on the 6ft tall Cyberman costume from *Doctor Who*, and explore the changing technologies that have helped to shape the BBC as we know it today. The display will officially open at one of the museum's special “lates” events: after-hours themed nights that take place on the last Wednesday of every month.

Exhibition Road

JULY 30-31

SAVOUR FOOD FESTIVAL

Set in the gardens of the Royal Hospital Chelsea, this delicious festival of food and wine brings together some of London's best restaurants, including Polpo, The Frechie, 10 Greek Street and more. Sample everything from Venetian style sharing plates to traditionally crafted sushi rolls and authentic handmade pasta, as well as an exclusive vegetarian menu cooked by viral recipe creators Mob. Savour has challenged participating chefs to create a signature dish for just £3, with festival goers able to vote for their favourite throughout the weekend. The chef with the most votes will be named the Savour Signature Champion.

On top of the tasty food, there will be wine tents, a Maison Mirabeau Rosé station and Bloody Mary buses to keep you hydrated. Eat on the picnic lawn, attend a masterclass, marvel at a live fire-cooking demonstration... the gourmet possibilities are endless. At the end of the weekend, leftover food will be delivered to the Felix Project, who will distribute it to charities and schools across the city.

Royal Hospital Road



JULY 26

BOOK LAUNCH

Head to the National Army Museum for the launch of Iain MacGregor's new book, *The Lighthouse of Stalingrad*. He uncovers the hidden history of a small garrison of Red Army guardsmen based in "The Lighthouse", a strategic frontline building that withstood aerial bombardments. It's a unique insight into one of the pivotal battles of the Second World War. After his talk, the author will stay on for a book signing.

Royal Hospital Road

Calendar



JULY 20 AND 21

AN EVENING WITH DAVID SEDARIS

Humourist, bestselling author and Radio 4 star David Sedaris is visiting Cadogan Hall. He'll spend two memorable evenings getting to the heart of the human condition, deploying his trademark wit and delivering incisive social critiques along the way.

5 Sloane Terrace



JULY 10

NATURAL DYES

This introductory workshop at the Design Museum will teach you how to use foraged plants, kitchen scraps and food cupboard essentials to create handmade dyes for fabric and paper. Extract botanical colours from plants and herbs using the Japanese method of hapa-zome (or flower bashing!) then use tie-dye to create patterns on your very own turmeric-dyed tote.

224-238 Kensington High Street



AUGUST 7 AND 16

SUMMER LAWN SESSIONS

What could be better than a relaxing evening of live music on the lawns of Chelsea Physic Garden? Bring a blanket and settle in to hear performances from emerging London-based musicians, accompanied by food and drink from the Physic Garden Cafe. On August 16, you can attend a lawn session that's dedicated to the contemporary folk scene.

66 Royal Hospital Road



JULY 8-10

STRAWBERRIES & SCREEN

Strawberries & Screen will be returning to Duke of York Square for the Wimbledon Tennis Men's Semi-Finals and Men and Women's Finals. It's a chance to sit back, relax and enjoy some breathtaking tennis, accompanied by delicious food and drinks from local shops.

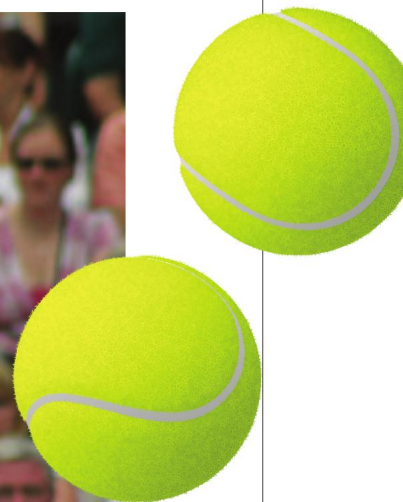
Guests can pre-book their own complimentary VIP deck chairs in the front row, or bring along a picnic blanket and secure a spot on the Square's green running track. Alongside the giant screen, there will be entertainment in the form of professional tennis coaching for youngsters, allowing aspiring tennis stars to master the moves.

Picnic hampers will be available from Partridges, and a pop-up stall will be selling strawberries and cream throughout the weekend. In addition, Partridges' annual pop-up bar will be returning on Saturday to be



enjoyed throughout the day, serving up cooling drinks to sip as you cheer on your Wimbledon winners.

dukeofyorksquare.com



NEO

8 7 1 0 0



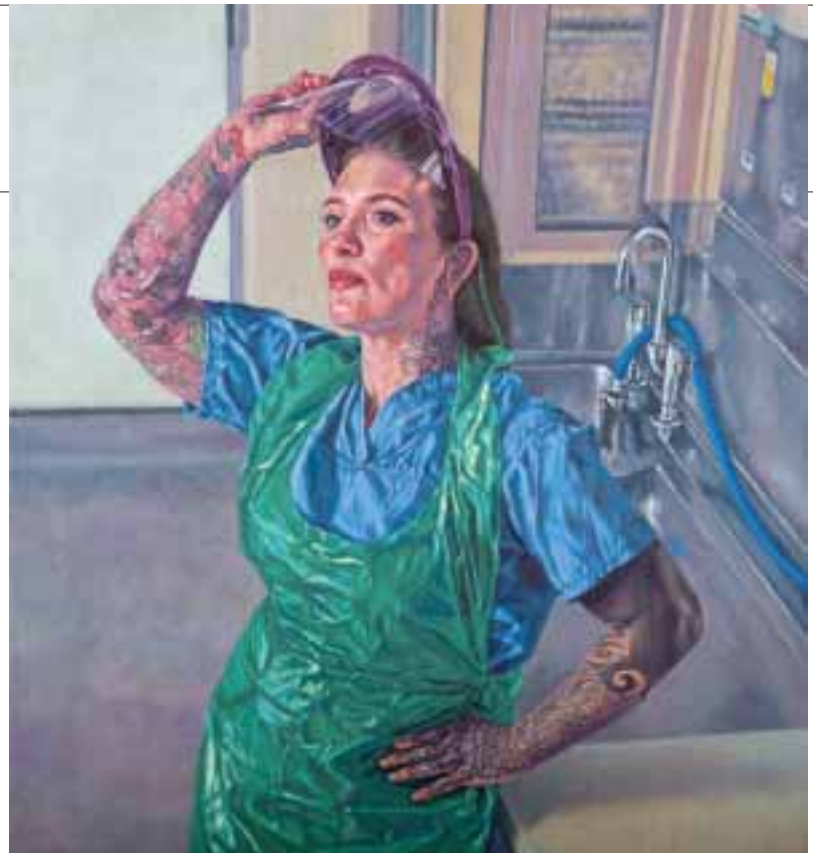
neo87100.com



13 Walton St. SW3 2HX



MORE THAN 30 LONDON LIBRARY SERVICES, including Kensington and Chelsea, have worked together to create an anthology inspired by the theme of “home”. Over 1,400 Londoners attended free creative writing workshops at their local library, before submitting their short stories to an expert judging panel. The winning works have been published in the anthology *City of Stories*, including a piece by Kensington and Chelsea local Alison Catchpole.
spreadtheword.org.uk



THE SCIENCE MUSEUM GROUP has acquired Katie Tomkins – Mortuary & Post Mortem Services Manager, an artwork by Roxana Halls. It is part of the museum’s Covid-19 Collecting project, dedicated to capturing the experience of living through the pandemic. The portrait shows Katie Tomkins, an NHS worker with over 20 years of experience working in post-mortem services and anatomical pathology.

Exhibition Road

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN for Help Us Grow at Chelsea Physic Garden, a free nine-week programme for adults recovering from physical or mental ill health. The sessions, which start in 2023, will include basic gardening, lessons in the therapeutic power of plants and remedy-making, plus creative activities like drawing. To apply, send an email explaining why you’d like to take part to learning@chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk.





STUDENTS FROM KNIGHTSBRIDGE SCHOOL recently marched to Duke of York Square as part of their Earth Day celebrations.

They were joined along the way by award-winning naturalist Nick Gates and children's eco-choir SOS from the Kids, which has previously performed at COP26. The group carried handmade banners and signs as part of their peaceful march, with slogans including "plastic-free sea" and "respect the Earth".

The march was the culmination of a term in which students at the Pont Street school were encouraged to "find their wild", and to make individual pledges on behalf of the planet. These were written down on recycled paper leaves, and have been sent to the prime minister and members of parliament.



CONGRATULATIONS to Joanna Chin, winner of the World Chelsea Bun Awards 2022. Her entry was made to a traditional recipe, with raisins and spices from the Commonwealth and edible flowers and silver leaf to celebrate the platinum jubilee. Judges including Jane Asher and Lady Sophie Windsor commended her bake as "fit for a queen".

BRITISH FINE JEWELLER THEO FENNEL has relocated from 169 Fulham Road to a new flagship gallery and studio in the Chelsea Barracks complex. He said: "This is very exciting as it takes us into the heart of my favourite part of London, nestling between the ancient and traditional and the contemporary and vibrant." *2 Garrison Square*



A POP-UP POCKET FOREST was installed on the Bull Ring roundabout during the Chelsea Flower Show. Created by Sugi and supported by Louis Vuitton and Cadogan, it was designed to show how a small urban space can house enormous diversity, with a range of native trees, shrubs and wildflowers tiered to create a crown shape. Known as Serenity Forest, the installation will be moved to a permanent home in the Chelsea neighbourhood soon...

AN OFSTED REPORT has found that the services for young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Kensington and Chelsea are the best of any local authority in the country. According to councillor Josh Rendall, "far from becoming Covid-19's 'forgotten generation', children with SEND in Kensington and Chelsea have remained firmly in the foreground."

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CHELSEA FOOTBALL CLUB HAS new owners. A group consisting of Todd Boehly, Clearlake Capital, Mark Walter and Hansjörg Wyss has acquired the club, and has committed to spending £1.75 billion in investments in Stamford Bridge, the academy, the women's team, Kingsmeadow and the Chelsea Foundation.

THE LOVE MY HUMAN TOWNHOUSE is now hosting birthday parties for pups at its daycare creche – complete with a rooftop garden. Your dog and its fluffy friends will have access to a team of chefs, waiters and qualified dog carers to ensure the party goes without a hitch. A canine birthday cake with bacon bits can be personalised with your dog's name and age, or four-legged guests can enjoy a doggy afternoon tea with a puppuccino.
330 King's Road



IN HONOUR OF THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE, the square outside Kensington Town Hall and Kensington Central Library has been named Jubilee Square. The outdoor courtyard was officially opened by councillor Gerard Hargreaves, mayor of Kensington and Chelsea, and will be used as an events space that can also be booked by local community groups. Profits from a cake sale and raffle held on opening day were donated to the "tea for the Queen" event, which saw older and isolated members of the community invited to celebrate the jubilee together.



IMAGEFLUTTER/ALAMY LIVE NEWS - IMAGE ID: 219HFB1(RW)

RBK&C COUNCILLOR JOHNNY THALASSITES ON A JOYFUL JUBILEE

THE RECENT PLATINUM JUBILEE saw Chelsea at its best.

From Sloane Square to Lots Village, there were parties across our neighbourhoods.

And few matched the partial closure of King's Road for sheer numbers of residents and visitors, as well as attractions.

As local councillors, we enjoy facilitating celebrations big and small in the borough.

From summer fetes, to Christmas light switch-ons, and bigger events – like Her Majesty The Queen's Jubilee – we want to residents to find new reasons to love living in Chelsea every day.

That is why we are supporting partial street closures for major events and public holidays. We have seen the benefits of street closures on Pavilion Road, now one of London's most popular lifestyle streets. Meanwhile, Duke of York Square continues to draw people into our high street. It is also why we are promoting a long-term al fresco dining scheme on Sloane Square, and public realm improvements in hubs around SW3 and SW10.

As London starts its Covid recovery, footfall has sagged in strategic locations, such as the West End. Some places are still down 20-30 per cent. By contrast – footfall in Chelsea has already surpassed pre pandemic levels. Of course, that is in large part thanks to the vibrancy of our resident and business communities, to whom we owe a great debt for their sacrifice during Covid and their energy and innovation since. However, it is also partly a result of policy and investment, including the formation of a King's Road Business Improvement District (BID).

The new BID is an opportunity for landowners and businesses in the area to come together – with funding – and work towards improving the high street and the street scene. Plans for Sloane Street were agreed some years ago, but this can renew our collective ambition.

With successful ideas like street closures, al fresco dining ("Summer on the Square") and a new BID – plus a brilliant Jubilee behind us – there has never been a more exciting time to live in Chelsea. *Cllr Johnny can be contacted at cllr.johnny.thalassites@rbkc.gov.uk*



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CHELSEA ROSE TO THE CHALLENGE THIS SUMMER, EXHIBITING AN ECLECTIC ARRAY OF BOTANICAL DISPLAYS THAT PAID TRIBUTE TO BRITISH ICONS. WORDS BY WILL MOFFITT



Chelsea in Bloom



SO THERE WE HAVE IT. Chelsea bloomed once again. London's largest free flower show returned with a flourish this summer as streets and shops became living sculptures during five days of creativity and communality. Taking the theme "British icons" to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee, a varied and patriotic collection of living art went on display, inspired by iconic characters and emblems from across the United Kingdom.

Over 90 local shops, hotels and restaurants adorned their exteriors in a bid to win the title "Best Floral Display". The streets did not disappoint, from rose-adorned telephone boxes to the hot red lips of the Rolling Stones.

In addition to the imaginative and entrepreneurial spirit exhibited by local





businesses, bold public displays pushed the scope and scale of the event. Florist Veevers Carter's giant 10ft Queen's head on Sloane Square paid homage to our monarch. All For Love, a specialist in bespoke event flowers, opted to pay tribute to the royal family by installing a magnificent coat of arms complete with a lion and a unicorn on Sloane Street, and a 12ft Queen's Guard on Pavilion Road.

There were Alice in Wonderland-themed installations in Duke of York Square devised by Maison de Fleurs, and a Vivienne Westwood-inspired installation on the King's Road created by floral design studio Early Hours.

During the event, residents and visitors were



offered special discounts and limited edition products at local businesses, from an exclusive commemorative scarf at Burberry to Beatles-inspired cocktails at Vardo and floral iced buns at Anya Hindmarch's pop-up garden centre.

Floral displays remained in place throughout the Queen's platinum jubilee weekend, and there was the option to post letters to Her Majesty in special postboxes near Sloane Square.

This fabulous celebration of floral prowess, produced by Cadogan in association with the Royal Horticultural Society, was a fitting celebration of the Queen's public duty and of British craft, community, ingenuity and eccentricity. As this year's Chelsea in Bloom demonstrates: those values continue to draw visitors to this vibrant area of west London.

Chelsea in Bloom

PEOPLE'S CHAMPION

For its first ever Chelsea in Bloom outing, jeweller Astrid & Miyu partnered with Grape & Fig to create a bespoke floral design centred around London's historic Tube map. The brand added its own spin to the iconic map by drawing parallels with its own network of boutiques across London, with vinyl detailing mirroring the stops of its stores at various Tube locations.



BEST FLORAL DISPLAY

Hackett came up trumps with a brilliantly orchestrated love letter to the Queen in the form of an oversized postbox. Complete with postal staff and Royal Mail branding, it honoured the Queen as both an icon, forever synonymous with those famous stamps, and as a loyal servant to her country. Bravo.



Best in show

MEET THE WINNERS
OF CHELSEA IN BLOOM

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Jo Malone London partnered with award-winning florist Phillip Corps to capture the brand's distinctly British character in a show-stopping display. An abundance of purple flowers enveloped the store's façade, with illustrated corgis hidden among the garden scene, offering the perfect photo opportunity to mark this unique moment in time.



INNOVATION AWARD

Scribbler created a quintessential English garden tea party to represent the brand through the idea of celebration and sending greeting cards, be it for birthdays, weddings, births or a special anniversary such as the platinum jubilee. Plants were grown using seeds that come inside its range of cards by Hannah Marchant and Stormy Knight.



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Politics / Greg Hands

AN MP FOR CHELSEA AND FULHAM SINCE 2010, GREG HANDS ALSO SERVES AS MINISTER OF STATE FOR BUSINESS, ENERGY AND CLEAN GROWTH. HE TELLS WILL MOFFITT ABOUT HIS MISSION TO IMPROVE CHELSEA'S TRANSPORT LINKS, AND WHY RENEWABLES SHOULD BE AT THE FOREFRONT OF OUR ENERGY SECURITY POLICY

*HANDS
ON*

GREG HANDS IS A VERSATILE POLITICIAN. The MP for Chelsea and Fulham has worked in myriad positions across different departments under three prime ministers. A staunch Remainer, who passionately opposed Brexit, he now supports the government's mission to honour the referendum result of 2016. Meanwhile, as minister of state for business, energy and clean growth, he is not only responsible for promoting trade, commerce and corporate interests, but also for driving Britain's transition from fossil fuel emitter to clean energy powerhouse.

Speaking to me over the phone from his Westminster office, the 56-year-old is in a buoyant mood having just returned from a G7 leaders' summit in Berlin. Returning home to victory is always easier than the alternative, and Greg is encouraged by the recent election results. The Tories retained Kensington and Chelsea, winning 35 seats, an outcome he attributes to a "well oiled, effective campaigning machine" and "a lot of enthusiastic new members".

When it comes to policy, pledges to lower council tax, protect regular bin collections and tackle air pollution proved to be a winning blend at the ballot box. Greg is also focused on transport. Since February, he has called on Sadiq Khan and TfL to reverse the cuts to the number 14 and number 170 buses. Both have faced a 33 per cent reduction in their services, from nine an hour to six an hour, impacting local residents.

Greg suggests that better traffic management would also help alleviate congestion. His solution: reopen Hammersmith Bridge, which was closed to motor traffic in April 2019 due to safety and structural concerns. "The closure diverts thousands of cars and lorries and everything else to Chiswick Bridge and Putney Bridge, which are now taking thousands of extra cars a day," he explains. "The best thing for TfL to do in our area would be to get Hammersmith and Fulham Council to reopen Hammersmith Bridge to buses, cars and emergency vehicles."

Our conversation moves onto energy security. Greg recently summarised the dilemma facing western governments as a need to help Ukraine in its conflict with Russia while increasing energy security and taking collective action against climate change. "Ultimately, it's renewable energy that will reduce our dependence on hydrocarbons," he says. "So now is not the time



SUSTAINABLE CHELSEA

Cadogan is currently implementing Chelsea 2030, a plan that sets out targets on waste management, water use, green infrastructure and emissions – including the commitment to become a net zero emissions estate by 2030. The annual progress report has seen significant progress made across the targets, including a 10 per cent reduction in total emissions, a 12 per cent increase in Urban Greening Factor, and a 7 per cent increase in the Estate's operational recycling rate.

For more information, visit cadogan.co.uk

to be loosening up investment in renewables. Actually, renewables are part of the answer. Offshore and onshore wind, solar power, these are all part of the solution when it comes to both the energy security issue and the climate crisis."

On the government's commitment to climate goals, Greg strongly believes that it is a strategy founded on a genuine commitment to improve and diversify long-term energy reliance, and lessen our impact on the planet.

"Boris is an interesting mixture of different political policies. He's very unconventional in that sense," he says. "But on green issues, he gets that from his father, Stanley, who was a campaigner on the environment long before it became fashionable."

Asked about the revelations of drinking and lawbreaking in Downing Street during the pandemic, he says: "I fully understand people's concern and anger, and particularly that there seems to have been a rule-breaking culture in number 10, and in parts of Whitehall. My own father died of Covid in April 2020, and I couldn't see him when he died. However, the prime minister has apologised. He's made wholesale changes [at number 10]. I think now it is time for us to move on."

Chelsea
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ONGOING

Cancer Revolution: Science, Innovation and Hope

The Science Museum and Cancer Research UK have launched a free exhibition on the treatment and understanding of cancer throughout history. The display includes objects that have never been exhibited before in the UK, including the first malignant tumour to be identified in a dinosaur fossil. The exhibition will also feature a range of moving artworks that speak to the experience of cancer treatment.

Exhibition Road



Chelsea-based artist Daisy Sims Hilditch

was one of more than 50 artists to donate their work to a charity auction for Ukraine. Daisy works in the Grade II-listed Rossetti Studios on Flood Street, creating atmospheric landscapes inspired by Switzerland and the Thames. She donated her work to the Art for Charity auction to raise money for Choose Love, which provides support to Ukrainian refugees.



Saatchi Gallery chose British multimedia artist Anthony James to create its installation at the Chelsea Flower Show. Visitors explored three sculptures, including one that was over 2.5 metres tall, using two-way mirrors to create the illusion of infinite light reflections. This was only the second time that Saatchi Gallery has exhibited at the flower show, with the collaboration intended to raise the profile of contemporary art and spark conversations about our relationship with our environment.

Taschen has released a new photography book featuring more than 300 images of Elvis Presley taken by the legendary photographer Alfred Wertheimer. *Elvis and the Birth of Rock and Roll* captures Presley's stratospheric ascent to stardom and coincides with Baz Luhrmann's long-awaited biopic that brings the "King" to the silver screen.

12 Duke of York Square



Vibrant pop-art portraits of the Queen, created by year six children at Holy Trinity School, have been digitally enhanced and used to decorate hoarding on the King's Road while building work takes place. The original paintings were created to celebrate the Jubilee, using bold colours inspired by the Queen's colourful fashion. Cadogan hopes that the colourful portraits will brighten the street and celebrate local creativity.

Fiona Rogers has been appointed the inaugural Parasol Foundation Curator of Women in Photography at the V&A. She'll lead a major new curatorial project to support women in photography, as well as developing an Instagram account to highlight work by female artists.

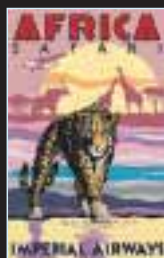
Cromwell Road





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Literature / Bookworm

JOHN DE FALBE, DIRECTOR OF JOHN SANDOE BOOKS

The Great Godden by Meg Rosoff

This is an irresistible coming-of-age story in the style of *Bonjour Tristesse* and *Call Me by Your Name*, perfect for spending languid afternoons sprawled in the sun. It's a dreamy, sexy novel, in which the arrival of two American brothers wreaks havoc on an English family over the course of a long, hot, Cornish summer.
10 Blacklands Terrace



BREAK OUT THE SUNSPECS: LOCAL BOOKWORMS SHARE THEIR ESCAPIST HOLIDAY READS

BOOK CLUB *Beach reads*

KIKI MCDONOUGH, JEWELLERY DESIGNER

Frenchman's Creek by Daphne du Maurier

From the very first page you get sucked into this extraordinary atmosphere of old and new. Part of it is set in London, where it was dirty and hot. Then you get transported to this [Cornish] house with its wide lawns, and you have a wonderful sense of freedom. The whole book is about freedom, love and independence, which makes it a wonderful holiday read.

12 Symons Street



KARL THOMPSON, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF SANDALS UK

The Beach by Alex Garland

If I get a break from running around after my three children on holiday, my go-to holiday read is *The Beach* by Alex

Garland. It is a thriller about a backpacker in Thailand, so it incorporates my love of travel. I have an eclectic taste in books and read everything from thrillers to non-fiction travel books – the latter of which is great for planning my next trip overseas.

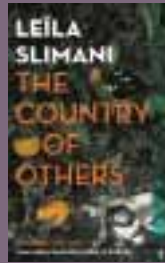
135 Fulham Road



**REBECCA MASCARENHAS,
CO-OWNER OF ELYSTAN
STREET AND KITCHEN W8**

The Country of Others by Leïla Slimani

This book looks at the experience of a French woman marrying a Moroccan ex-soldier and moving to Morocco after World War Two. She struggles with her identity, race, religion and class when faced with a completely “foreign” Arab culture. Set against the political unrest in northern Africa at the time, it provides powerful insights into



the prejudice of colonial French society, who hold her in contempt for marrying an Arab. She is marginalised by both Arab and French communities. Slimani writes compellingly with a warmth for her characters.

*43 Elystan
Street;
11-13
Abingdon
Road*



**PENNY KLEIN
AND HEIDI
GOSMAN,
FOUNDERS OF
HEIDI KLEIN**

Sorrow and Bliss
by Meg Mason;

A Handful of Dust
by Evelyn Waugh

PENNY: Under a large floppy hat and in-between dozes, I devoured *Sorrow and Bliss*. Hooking you in from the opening line with brilliant, brittle dialogue, it is thought-provoking with a

wistful, uplifting and beautiful ending. **HEIDI:** While on holiday, I like to revisit the classics. I've just read Evelyn Waugh's *A Handful of Dust*. Waugh's conversation cuts to the bone and the satirical humour is just brilliant.

257 Pavilion Road



**OLIVER TOMALIN, FOUNDER OF
LOVE BRAND & CO**

Born Wild by Tony Fitzjohn

This autobiography of Tony's life is remarkable. He's someone I really admire, and this is an inspiring and captivating read. His legacy and contribution to wildlife conservation will live on for generations and is a guiding light for the work we do at Love Brand & Co. This is a story of passion, adventure and hard work, a love affair with the world's most beautiful and endangered species. Through sales of our swim and resortwear, we have helped fund his projects through our work with Tusk Trust.

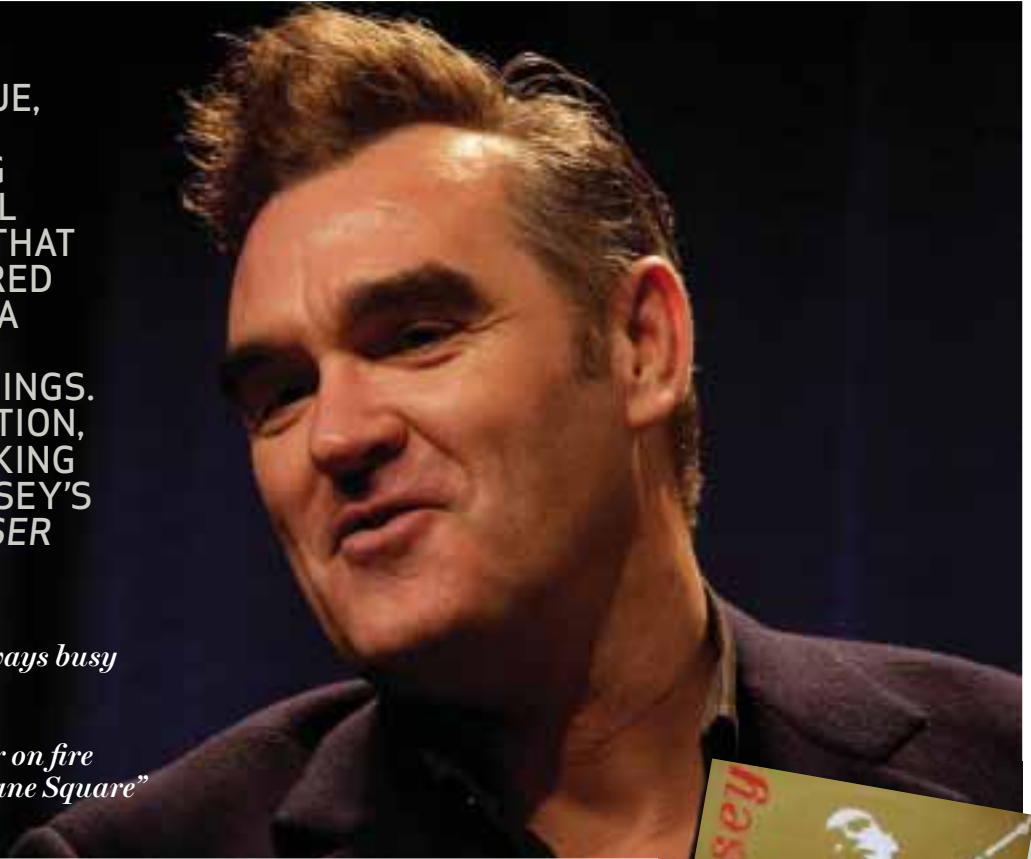
5 Park Walk



Culture / Morrissey

EVERY ISSUE,
WE'LL BE
EXPLORING
A CULTURAL
ARTEFACT THAT
WAS INSPIRED
BY CHELSEA
AND ITS
SURROUNDINGS.
IN THIS EDITION,
WE'RE LOOKING
AT MORRISSEY'S
HAIRDRESSER
ON FIRE...

*"And you're always busy
Really busy
Busy, busy
Oh, hairdresser on fire
All around Sloane Square"*



What is it?

Hairdresser on Fire is a song by Mancunian singer-songwriter Morrissey. It's the B-side to his 1988 single *Suedehead*.

What's it about?

That's open to debate. Some will argue that the song is a scalding critique of London's fashionable scene, in which a Chelsea hairdresser is a sought-after status symbol with the power to "supernaturally change me". Others have read the song as a tongue in cheek ode to Morrissey's trademark quiff, and the hairdresser who created it: "I sense the power/ In the fingers/ Within an hour the power/ Could totally destroy me/ Or, it could save my life." Then again, when asked this question in a 1988 interview with *NME*, Morrissey said: "It's just a very simple song about trying to get hold of a hairdresser."

Cultural artefact

Who was Morrissey's hairdresser?

Morrissey has used many hairdressers over the years, so the identity of the in-demand Chelsea barber remains unknown. Whoever they were, Morrissey is known to be fastidious about his haircuts, going so far as to collect the clippings from the barbershop floor in a sealed bag.

Why Sloane Square?

Morrissey had a flat in Campden Hill Road in Kensington and another at 66 Cadogan Square. He often met interviewers at the Cadogan Hotel, attracted by its link

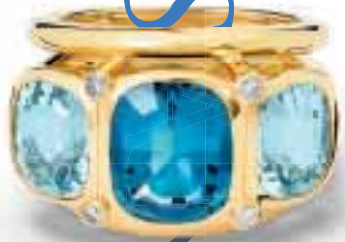
to his idol Oscar Wilde. Despite this, the song reveals a certain ambivalence towards London: "Oh, here in London/ "Home of the brash, outrageous and free"/ You are repressed/ But you're remarkably dressed/ Is it real?"

It's best listened to...

... How about in the hot seat at one of Chelsea's society hairdressers? Pop in your headphones and book in for a trim at Hari's on the King's Road, Chelsea Green Salon at 6-8 Cale Street, or Richard Ward in Duke of York Square.

If there's a cultural artefact you'd like us to explore, drop us an email at alice@pubbiz.com

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FOUNDED IN 1875, COLE & SON IS A WALLPAPER HOUSE WITH A RICH HERITAGE – AND WITH ITS NEW FLAGSHIP SHOWROOM JUST OFF THE KING’S ROAD, IT HAS GRAND AMBITIONS FOR THE FUTURE TOO. THE COMPANY’S MARIE KARLSSON TELLS WILL MOFFITT MORE

“FOR ME, COLE & SON is very close to art. Our journey starts on a blank canvas,” Marie Karlsson tells me. The company’s global managing director directs my gaze towards a sprawling platinum-coloured garden with rosebeds and fountains in the foreground, and forests and hills rolling back to the horizon.

King Cole

This finely crafted world, deliberately rendered to appear immersive and never-ending, wouldn’t look out of place in a gallery. It is, however, a piece of wallpaper – albeit a very large one – adorning three walls of the company’s Chelsea showroom. Derived from the group’s latest collection, titled *The Gardens*, it imbues the classic British manor garden with a mystical sheen.

Cole & Son has traditionally specialised in the B2B space, working with architects and interior designers to handcraft wallpapers for old buildings with rich histories. Located just off the King’s Road and thus deeply embedded in an area with a rich artistic and cultural heritage, its cavernous new showroom just off the King’s Road is an opening up of sorts, enabling

passersby to drop in, either by appointment or on a whim.

“There are a lot of walls here and in London that’s quite rare, unless you inherit an art gallery,” Marie says. “I’ve been visiting so many places in the last four years. Finally this is the space to launch our flagship showroom geared towards the end consumer.”

Founded in 1875 by John Perry, son of a Cambridgeshire merchant, Cole & Son began life as a hand-block printer in Islington. Perry made prints for well-known companies of the time, including fine wallpaper producer Jeffrey & Co, but his key contribution to the industry was the development of a new type of wallpaper featuring a lustre-like silk effect that he made using ground mica – a technique still around today.

Shortly after his death, wallpaper merchant AP Cole bought the firm in 1941. Cole had recently acquired a large proportion of JC Crace & Son’s portfolio, meaning he owned the most prestigious collection of printing blocks in Britain.

Today the company archive stretches to 1,800 block print designs, with styles from the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries, including wallpapers that are still used in



Interiors / Cole & Son

Buckingham Palace and the White House.

This aged and authentic backstory was a big draw for Marie, who first encountered the brand in 2012. “I fell in love straight away. It felt like I had come home,” she says. “The designs were so extraordinary. The company had this amazing heritage. And it was sort of like a hidden diamond waiting to be revealed to the world.”

Marie has endeavoured to strike a balance, staying true to the company’s founding roots while keeping things fresh and relevant. After in-house brainstorming sessions where the visual and historic influences behind certain designs are teased apart, a majority of the work is hand-painted, often to scale, with long ladders used for high-facing walls.

“You need to be very, very careful with modernising too fast or too much. We are custodians of this 147-year-old brand after all,” she says. “We try to keep these beautiful designs and move them into this century.”

By drawing on a vast archive of previous work, links can be established between the

classical and the contemporary, with collections ranging from stately classics – think dainty Victorian interiors – to quasi-mythical landscapes and exotic jungles.

Despite a predominantly British portfolio the group is not averse to working overseas. The bestselling Ardmore Jabula collection was created in collaboration with a ceramist atelier based in South Africa, dedicated to the rolling savannah and its wildlife. Meanwhile, the team has just finished work on the Cairo Opera House



MARIE KARLSSON

and the Mariinsky Theatre in St Petersburg.

Next up is a launch that has been a long time in the making: a collaboration with Stella McCartney and partner B&B Italia to create a range of ultra-sustainable wallpaper made from ecological substrate that takes the form of a mushroom print. While the company might have a rich history behind it, Marie wants it to look to the future too.

“The aim is to continue our mantra of living art and living history, encompassing everything from premium to ultra-luxury, which is the kind of bespoke service that we offer,” she explains.

“But, also, we want to develop more ready-to-style products for end consumers, and communicate more with a new generation who are going to be our new buyers.”

3 Jubilee Place

Interiors / *Insley & Nash*

MIKA NASH IS CO-FOUNDER OF INSLEY & NASH, THE BESPOKE TEXTILE COMPANY WHICH HAS PROVIDED COLOURFUL SCREEN-PRINTED FABRICS FOR THE LIKES OF PADDINGTON 2 AND THE KING'S ROAD JUBILEE STREET PARTY. SHE TELLS US MORE

A top tip for working on a bespoke piece for a client is that often what someone dislikes will tell you a lot more than what they do like!

WHERE DO YOU FIND INSPIRATION?

I'm trialling being off social media, and I'm finding it quite liberating. I hate how social media will choose the images you see based on an algorithm. As a result, I feel like I'm taking more inspiration from colours and textures I see around me – especially during these summer evenings, when the sunsets are so vivid.

A fascination

for fabric



TELL US ABOUT YOUR WORK ON THE KING'S ROAD JUBILEE STREET PARTY

Sloane Square and Cadogan are quintessentially 'London', with this rich British heritage – but they're also fun and quirky and cool. We wanted to reflect that in our creations! Our deck chairs were inspired by the Queen's coronation robe – we thought there was something quite funny in the combination of the humble deck chair with opulent purple velvet fabric. We also added a hand-drawn crown, so that when guests sat down it would appear to rest on their head! For the Platinum Jubilee tablecloth, we used illustrations of all the fun things we love about London, so that there was something interesting to look at wherever you were sitting. Like a very British Where's Wally!

Insleyandnash.com

WHY DID YOU START INSLEY & NASH?

Gavin Insley [her co-founder] and myself were at university together, where we studied fashion and specialised in screen-printing. When we graduated, we were left with a hunger to keep that craft alive. So one evening, we had one too many beers, and we said 'we really should set up our own screen printing business!' When we started, all we had was a small table in a tiny artist's studio. Our very first job was a L'Oreal commercial, creating a jacket for Cheryl Cole with 'you're worth it' on the back in gold foil!

PADDINGTON 2 AND KING'S ROAD DECKCHAIRS AND TABLECLOTH – ALL IN A DAY'S WORK FOR MIKA NASH AND GAVIN INSLEY


WHAT IS THE BESPOKE DESIGN PROCESS LIKE?

We ask plenty of questions, and everything we do is dictated by what we learn.





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A decorative graphic on the left side of the page consists of three overlapping circles. The top circle is a light purple color, the middle circle is a dark purple color, and the bottom circle is a bright orange color. The circles overlap in a way that creates a central area where all three colors meet.

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cripps.co.uk

Magical reality



TELL US ABOUT *SPELLSTOPPERS*

It's a middle grade adventure story for eight to 12-year-olds. It's about a boy called Max who thinks that he's cursed because every time he touches anything electrical, it breaks. It turns out that he's not cursed at all, but is, in fact, a "spellstopper", which is a person with a gift for neutralising magical objects. He goes to stay in a very peculiar magical village with his grandfather, and discovers that it is being terrorised by a glamorous but incredibly evil villain who's

half-woman, half-owl. All sorts of terrible things happen, and it's up to Max to save the day.

WHAT WAS YOUR INSPIRATION?

I grew up in Ireland, where my father was an environmental scientist. Let me tell you, the recycling was very intense! For environmental reasons we never went on holiday, but once a year we'd drive over to see my grandmother in the Cotswolds. She lived in this atmospheric, picturesque little village where all the buildings were very old, and

she ran a shop which sold the most peculiar mix of things. You'd find all sorts of objects – fossils, jumpers, card games – just mixed up and jumbled together. She lived above the shop in a remarkably old house with bay windows, a grandfather clock that seemed to chime too often, steep stairs and doors that led to the strangest places. It seemed like a completely parallel universe, and entirely different from my life in Ireland! It got me thinking that perhaps there could be these little magical pockets hidden all over the place, and ordinary people might

**AUTHOR
CAT GRAY
LIVES JUST
OFF SLOANE
SQUARE, AND
IS PUBLISHING
HER FIRST
CHILDREN'S
NOVEL ON
JULY 7. SHE
TALKS MAGIC,
MEMORIES AND
HER LOVE OF
CHELSEA**

WHAT DID YOU WANT TO DO DIFFERENTLY?

I wanted to set my book in a contemporary world, so there are electric cars, mobile phones and all sorts of modern technologies in *Spellstoppers*. It is quite tempting, when you're writing a kids' book especially, to set it in the past or in a completely different world because technology can be very hard to incorporate without completely killing your story. And children are a lot more supervised these days, so it can be tricky to get rid of the parents in order for the magic to begin! But I like the idea that magic could be just around the corner, not this distant thing that belongs to a different time.

HOW DID YOU BECOME A WRITER?

Growing up I never wanted to be a writer – I wanted to be a vet. But I fell into journalism and ended up working at Condé Nast, first at *GQ* and then at *House & Garden*, *Town & Country* and as a commissioning editor at *Harper's Bazaar*. I've always wanted to write fiction, though, and this book has been a long time coming.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT CHELSEA?

It's so green, you can walk everywhere, and it's full of wonderful shops and places to eat. I couldn't live without John Sandoe Books. In fact, many of Chelsea's specialist shops and antique sellers do feel rather magical!

WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED NEXT?

I have another book coming out next year – it's a standalone book, but it's set in the same magical world as *Spellstoppers*.

stumble across them every now and then.

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO WRITE FOR CHILDREN?

I love a great story, and children – especially in the eight to 12 age group – have some of the very best stories. I studied English and I read many, many books during the course of my degree, but still, the books that stay with me are the books I read when I was a child. I wanted to write a book like that.



3 NEW BOOKS INSPIRED BY CHELSEA...

The Plant Hunter by TL Mogford

A historical adventure novel inspired by the King's Road and its plethora of plant nurseries, which catered to the Victorian obsession with exotic flora.



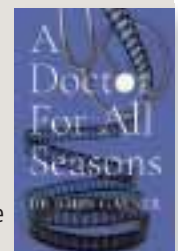
Built in Chelsea by Dan Cruickshank

One for fans of architectural history, this impeccably researched book delves into the hidden stories behind Chelsea's streets, shops, theatres and churches.



A Doctor For All Seasons by Dr John Gayner

Society GP Dr John Gayner had his surgery on Sloane Square for decades. He's now released a memoir of his time in the film industry.



History / Bill Wyman

IT'S NOT OFTEN that you get the chance to shoot the breeze with a legend – but I'm sat in the Chelsea home of Bill Wyman, former bassist in the Rolling Stones.

Quiet and grounded, Bill believes that nine out of every 10 extraordinary artists are simply regular, good people who have interests and hobbies just as any non-famous person would.

Bill himself falls into this category, as an avid researcher and writer of all kinds of history. However, a long-time love of his is the local history of Chelsea.

"I originally started to write a history of London. But then I realised it was just

doesn't have a permanent memorial.

"They've got Phene Street dedicated to him. There's the Phene pub where George Best used to go all the time. You know, he built the whole of Margareta Terrace on a plague pit and a lot of Oakley Street, but do you know there's not one plaque for him anywhere."

The book itself is titled *A Village Called Chelsea*, and Bill has been gathering his research for it since 2002. Over the last 20 years he has taken "almost 2,000 photos". However, having recently finished the book, he only ended up using around 400 of them. There was simply no room for any more.

Bill views his book, when compared to the

The *history* man

too massive," says Bill. "I had hundreds of books about London, hundreds of photos of London. But it was just too much of a project. I didn't want to do a history of Chelsea because there's a lot of books out there with old prints and things. I thought, 'I want to do a book on the way Chelsea is now. What you can see if you walk down streets, what's interesting for people just to walk and look around and think of Chelsea in a different way.'"

Bill considers himself an archivist and researcher, rather than a collector, and finds great joy in "delving and finding little bits of magic that I don't think everybody knows," he says. To do this, he focuses on both the landmarks of Chelsea at their face-value and on the stories that lie behind the buildings.

He has a lot of time for the renowned architect and former Chelsea resident John Samuel Phene but regrets that he

internet, as a singular, comprehensive work that is more suited to the task of informing those wandering the streets of the borough. Almost as an extension of his work, when he himself is meandering through the streets of Chelsea, he is often tempted to go over to people walking around and impart some of his historical knowledge, particularly when he sees they are missing out on things.

This desire to understand history, and to educate others, stems from his grandmother. He has an obvious and deep affection for what she did for him. Probably the most influential figure in his life, she instilled in him a desire to "give something to people who otherwise would not know what's here." Bill is certainly doing that, having written 11 books: "Most of them took me three, four years to do."

People are often distracted today by technology which can take away from living

ROCK 'N' ROLL ROYALTY BILL WYMAN WAS IN THE ROLLING STONES FOR OVER 30 YEARS. BUT, AS HE TELLS ADRIAN DAY, HE HAS A KEEN APPRECIATION OF HISTORY AND HAS JUST FINISHED HIS LATEST BOOK – A HISTORY OF CHELSEA



BILL... BY JUDY TOTTON

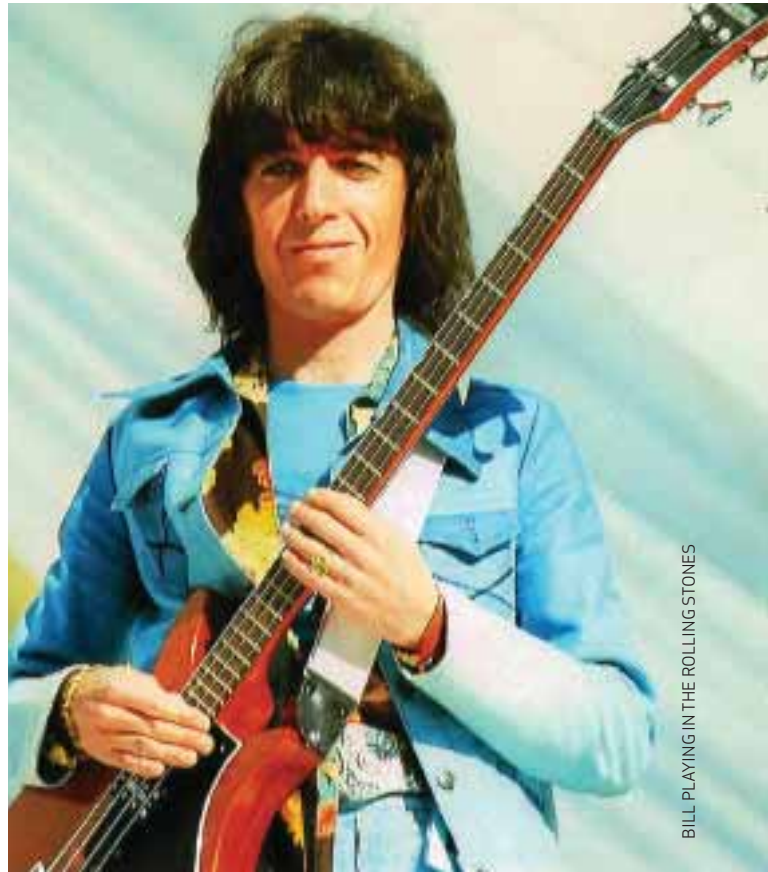
in the moment, something that Bill learned the importance of when he was a child with his grandmother. As it is for all children, but particularly for Bill, his younger years were vivid as he grew up in south London during World War Two – an experience he is also publishing as a short memoir.

“I was bombed out and all that – machine-gunned by a German fighter bomber,” he says. “It’s called *Billy in the Wars*.”

Even after the war, Bill’s life was far from easy. His family home didn’t have electricity until he was 16 years old, and the future rock ‘n’ roll star would eat all of his meals off government-sanctioned food rations until he was 17.

Bill is proud of his rise from poor beginnings, where his family would sometimes eat dandelion leaves “because there was nothing else to eat”.

“I’m proud to be a Londoner,” he says. “There were only two in the Stones – me and Charlie. The rest of them weren’t Londoners. Mick and Keith came from Dartford and Brian Jones was from Cheltenham, Mick Taylor was from Welwyn Garden City and Ronnie Wood was from West Drayton.”



BILL PLAYING IN THE ROLLING STONES

“I WAS IN THE STONES FOR 31 YEARS. I’VE BEEN OUT FOR 30”

From the point where he joined the Rolling Stones in 1962 and onwards, Bill reflects on the fact that “every time I did anything, I was always lucky and it was successful in an usual way.”

Indeed, his broad range of interests has led to many memorable moments, such as discovering a Roman archaeological site in Suffolk and playing charity cricket for several years with legends like David Gower and Michael Holding – even taking a hat trick at the Oval with his leg breaks and googlies.

However, of all the activities that he has embarked on and of all the great people that he has met during his life, Bill particularly values his connection with the Belarusian-French artist Marc Chagall.

While still in the Rolling Stones and living in Saint-Paul de Vence in Provence, Bill would

find himself going to the home of Chagall. “I took hundreds of pictures of Chagall and even did two books on him. You know, he really was amazing,” he says of the pioneering artist, who was one of his dearest friends.

Signing off Bill says: “I always think everything’s preordained. It’s fate. It’s gonna happen anyway. I’ve had absurd miracles in my life, which could never happen, but they did. I was in the Stones for 31 years. I’ve been out for 30 – I was in The Stones for 31 years. I’ve been out for 30 – and I’ve been lucky enough to pursue all these other interests in that time.”

Bill’s book on local history, A Village Called Chelsea, is due to be published next year. We will be sure to update readers when publishing details are finalised.

KEEP IN THE KNOW



We know that these days you might not be in the area every day – or you may just visit us occasionally – but you still want to keep up-to-date with what's happening locally

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MUSIC *maestro*

VASILY PETRENKO IS MUSIC DIRECTOR OF THE ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, WHICH HAS ITS HOME IN CADOGAN HALL. HE TALKS TO ALICE CAIRNS ABOUT MUSIC, MORALE AND BRITISH MANNERS

“WHEN I WAS FOUR, my mother took me to a choir in north Leningrad,” Vasily Petrenko, music director of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, tells me. “The music teacher there listened to me, and then she told my mum that I had no musical ability and no voice.”

He laughs.

“My mum became offended, and she wanted to prove otherwise.”

Vasily’s mother devised her own plan to prove the music teacher wrong. Two years later, she took Vasily for an audition at the Capella boys’ music school at the St Petersburg Conservatoire.

“It is the most prestigious school in St Petersburg, where 450 boys apply for 25 seats. There you are trained to become a choral conductor, but every year, the lowest performing of those 25 boys are eliminated. Then, at the end, no more than eight or nine finish the school.”

Vasily was offered a place.

It was a success that came as little surprise to anyone who knew Vasily, who had always been a quick study; learning to read at two, play chess at four, and ultimately to conduct at 12.

He is now a passionate advocate for music education, working as chief conductor of the European Union Youth Orchestra and as music director of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, which is based at Cadogan Hall.

“The life of a music director does not stop at the podium,” Vasily says. “You have to

do a lot of social work, a lot of work with sponsors and politicians, and plenty of thinking about inclusivity and diversity.

“A big part of my job is actually dedicated to the social life and morale of the orchestra. These people have spent years working elbow to elbow with the same partners. They are all strong individuals, otherwise they wouldn’t be musicians. So you can imagine, at times, they do get tired of each other.

“Obviously, this is part of a conductor’s work – to keep up a good morale and to keep people invested, working with them on a psychological and mental basis. It’s about much more than standing on stage and waving your hands.”

It’s a complex role, and one that hasn’t been made easier by global events. Brexit, according to Vasily, has made it costly to plan tours and to transport the orchestra’s instruments overseas. Covid temporarily silenced Cadogan Hall, as well as other concert venues across the country.

Perhaps the most personal crisis, however, has been Russia’s war with Ukraine. Vasily is an outspoken critic of the conflict, calling it “one of the greatest moral failures and humanitarian disasters of our century.” He has suspended all work in his home country until peace is restored, and has helped members of his family, including his Ukrainian mother, to escape Russia and start a new life in Bulgaria.

“Respect and politeness are the



cornerstones of the British mentality,” he says. “What lies behind that respect and politeness is perhaps another question, but it is there on the surface. In Russia, it is different, it is all based on fear, including in an orchestra. But fear has limits, because fear provokes hate.”

Vasily himself is happy in the UK, although he admits that his decade in Liverpool as the youngest ever conductor of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra was a steep learning curve.

“I didn’t understand the Scouse language at the beginning,” he says, in a remarkably accurate Liverpool accent. “I had to teach myself from scratch.” Ever the quick learner, Vasily was made an “honorary Scouser” by the lord mayor of Liverpool in 2009 and was named a citizen of honour by the city in 2016.

“Now, I am enjoying life in London,” he says. “It is probably the most cosmopolitan city I’ve ever lived in. People of all nations, races and backgrounds live next door to each other. Cadogan Hall is a fantastic place to perform, especially something like Beethoven with a small orchestra.

“It’s exciting to see audiences coming back now, and I do think there has been a longing for live performances. We are so happy to be able to share the music we love.”

I COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT...

LENINGRAD SYMPHONY BY SHOSTAKOVICH

I have a very special connection to the city, so this will always have a place in my heart.

PARSIFAL BY RICHARD WAGNER

This is not even opera, it is spiritual drama. I would love to conduct it in full.

FIFTH SYMPHONIES

I know this is a generalisation, but there are so many great fifth symphonies!

Think Mahler, Tchaikovsky, Beethoven, Schubert... They are all very, very special.

Fashion / News



FRANCHETTI BOND in Duke of York Square recently raised over £5,600 for First Aid Ukraine. 10 per cent of all profits during the week of Chelsea in Bloom were directly donated to the fund, while a selection of sunflowers, grow bars, T-shirts and badges could be purchased for a suggested donation. As a result of this fundraising work, over 100 individual first aid kits have been secured for those on the Ukrainian frontline.

50-51 Duke of York Square

GANNI HAS LAUNCHED a second collection of reworked denim. The collaboration with designer Priya Ahluwalia explores the potential of leftover materials, with garments crafted exclusively out of deadstock denim. The collection celebrates the end of lockdown, with styles inspired by travelling, dancing in clubs and human connection.
94 King's Road



THE V&A has acquired Sandy Powell's autograph suit. The costume designer wore the suit during the 2020 awards season, collecting signatures from 200 A-listers including Leonardo DiCaprio, Donatella Versace, Spike Lee and Billie Eilish. The suit was purchased at auction by Edwina Dunn, CEO of educational charity The Female Lead, and generously gifted to the V&A.
Cromwell Road

LUXURY WOMENSWEAR LABEL THE FOLD has partnered with non-profit organisation Malaika to launch a style edit, with a portion of the profits going to help girls in the Democratic Republic of the Congo access free education, internships and invaluable resources.

The edit is curated by Malaika founder Noëlla Coursaris Musunka, a Congolese-Cypriot international model. She said: "I was born in Congo. My dad died when I was five, and my mum didn't have the resources to keep me so she decided to give me away and I grew up with families in Europe.

"I had a very tough childhood, speaking to my mum two or three times on the phone, and I was 18 when I went back. That was a crucial time in my life, to see the country, so many kids out of school and my mum living so poorly. I always said, 'Mum, I will help you and I will work hard and I want to do something back in my country.'

"On my first salary I bought my mum a house and I decided to create Malaika, which is 15 years old this year. We work in a village where there is no water or electricity. We give the girls shoes, uniforms and underwear. They eat twice a week at home, so we put in a very robust nutrition programme at the school for 450 students and staff."

Noëlla handpicked and styled her favourite pieces from The Fold's collection, creating a versatile edit inspired by her busy diary of fundraising, public speaking and working on the ground for Malaika. The Fold continues to champion and support women and the next generation of leaders by sharing insightful resources and tools to help women realise their ambitions.
28 Cadogan Place



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WHERE THERE IS NO
WATER OR ELECTRICITY.
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THESE HOT NEW BUYS

Fashion / Women

THE FOLD

Varena knitted jacket, £275
28 Cadogan Place



HEIDI KLEIN

Tremezzo one-piece, £260
257 Pavilion Road



AMERICAN VINTAGE

Women's Taraw jumpsuit, £205
105 King's Road



EXEAT

Nelson tennis dress, £385
exeatweekend.com



PRETTY POLLY

Eco-wear rib brief in sea foam, top £22 and bottoms £12
Boots, 148-150 King's Road



REALLY WILD

Smile Jackson bag in cobalt blue, £83
53 Sloane Square



VEJA

Impala jacquard trainers in matcha cream, £105
Office, 58 King's Road





RAG & BONE
Beck cotton
seersucker
cropped slim-
fit pant, £250
13-14 Sloane
Square



LYLE & SCOTT
Archive overdyed
panelled Oxford
shirt, £60
Peter Jones, Sloane
Square

VILEBREQUIN
Flat belt stretch
Nautilus tie and
dye in poppy red,
£220
23 King's Road

**SLOWEAR X
DIEMME**
Canvas trainers, £230
15 King's Road



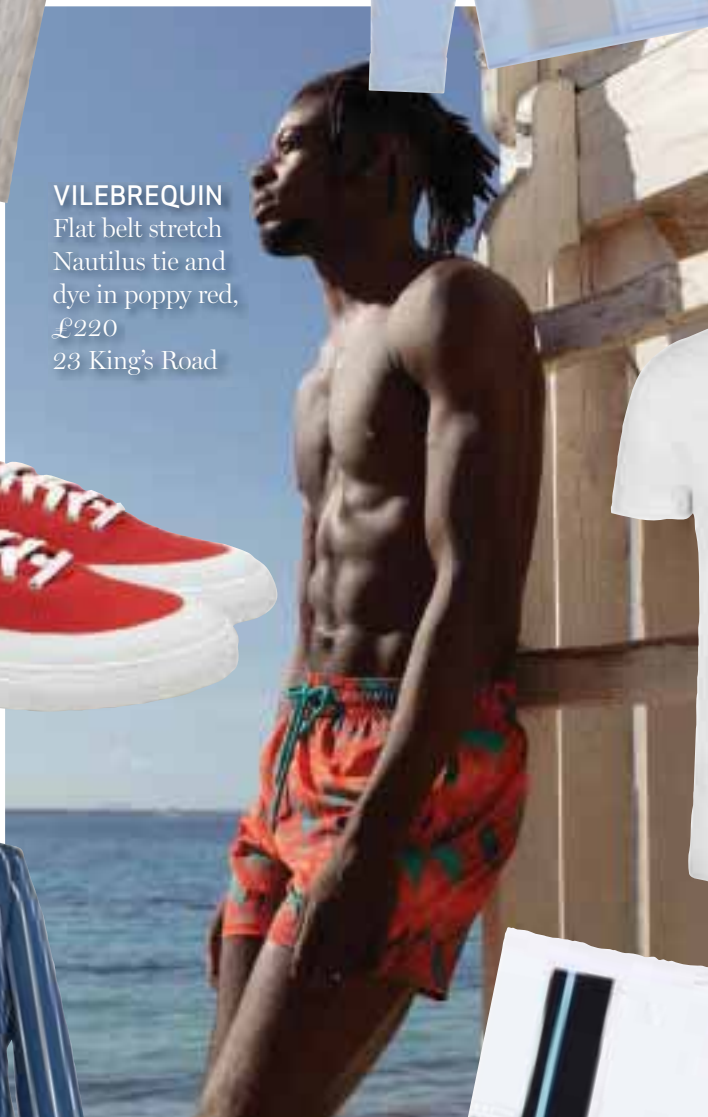
BLUEMINT
Ricci printed
cotton tennis
T-shirt, £60
15 Duke of
York Square



OLIVER BROWN
Striped Eaton
jacket with
binding, £375
75 Lower Sloane
Street



BOSS
Cotton-blend tracksuit
bottoms with side
stripes, £129
35-38 Sloane Square



Fashion / Kids

JACADI

Girls' tennis-inspired dress in white and green, from £65
156 King's Road



BRORA

Cashmere Breton jumper, £179
6 Symons Street



BONPOINT

Bermuda shorts in emerald green with adjustable waist for boys, £95
6f Sloane Street



TROTTERS

Amalfi sail boat dress, £36
34 King's Road

PETIT BATEAU

Babies' UV-resistant recycled T-shirt in medieval blue and marshmallow white, £24
106-108 King's Road



CARMEL

Cosmos baby boiler suit in sage poplin, £77
250a King's Road



THE WHITE COMPANY

Polo shirt and shorts set (18 months to six years), £38
4 Symons Street



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of the best

Celebrating your big day? We've picked out some bridal essentials

ALL THAT GLITTERS

These romantic diamond earrings will add sparkle to any bridal ensemble – the glittering topaz at the centre will even provide your “something blue”.

£2,400, Kiki McDonough,
12 Symons Street



IN THE BAG

This quirky clutch is made with recycled satin and covered with pearly beads – perfect for stashing bridal essentials from lipstick to tissues.

£425, Anya Hindmarch,
157-158 Sloane Street



KISS THE BRIDE

Pucker up with Pillow Talk by Charlotte Tilbury, a buttery nude pink that's sure to complement every skin tone.

£25, Space NK, 27 Duke of York Square

Top 10 / Bridal essentials



4

STYLISH SILK

This silk-satin slip in bridal white and cream is crafted by hand using a time-honoured Florentine technique and takes two days to make.

£540, *La Perla*,
163 Sloane Street



5

HEART AND SOLE

Stride up the aisle in a pair of these white satin stilettos, crafted in Italy and inspired by the 1960s photography of Norman Parkinson.

£625, *Manolo Blahnik*, 49-51
Old Church Street



6

SCENT SENSATION

Meghan and Harry are said to have sourced their wedding scent from Diptyque. Our money is on the fruity and floral Eau Rose.

£107, *Diptyque*,
Peter Jones,
Sloane Square



7

FROTH AND BUBBLE

What big day would be complete without a bottle of bubbly? The Rathfinny Blanc de Blancs 2017 is made in Sussex, with notes of lemon curd and citrus blossom.

£41, *Mother Vine*, 255
Pavilion Road



10

IN FLOWER

Moyses Stevens is your one-stop shop for bespoke wedding flowers, from blossom sculptures and flower walls to personalised bouquets.

Pictured bouquet from £80,
Moyses Stevens,
188 Pavilion Road

BEST DRESSED

For an untraditional take on wedding style, browse the bridal range at Rixo. The Lena dress is 100 per cent silk with a structured 1960s-inspired shape and a super-soft ostrich feather trim.

£600, *Rixo*, 104 King's Road

8



9

TRAVEL LIGHT

Travel to your wedding venue in style with this vanity case, lined in blush pink with a card holder and an antique square mirror.

£1,550, *Tanner Krolle*,
70 Cadogan Place

Social / People



Winners and judges celebrate another successful Chelsea in Bloom



BLOOMING LOVELY

CHELSEA IN BLOOM 2022 AWARDS

The winners of Chelsea in Bloom 2022 were announced at a prize-giving ceremony in Duke of York Square. Representatives from local businesses gathered together to celebrate a royally successful free flower show, which saw Chelsea's streets and squares transformed with larger-than-life floral sculptures. Prizes were awarded to the worthy winners by Cadogan CEO Hugh Seaborn and seasoned RHS judge Howard Franklin.





JUBILEE JOY

KING'S ROAD JUBILEE STREET PARTY

Locals came together to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee with a special street party. The road was pedestrianised from Sloane Square to Cheltenham Terrace, while a jubilee edition of the Fine Food Market provided food inspired by the Commonwealth. Local institutions offered entertainment, including street art with Saatchi Gallery, Gruffalo storytelling from Peter Jones and a "pace sticking" display from the Chelsea Pensioners. Brass and steel bands also performed at this quintessentially British celebration.



The Eggs of an Era exhibition



Sir Bob Geldof



Alison Jackson and Henrietta Caledon

HISTORY MAPPED

ROPERS GARDENS

Artist and former local councillor Alison Jackson joined fellow artist Henrietta Caledon to unveil Henrietta's historical map of Chelsea riverside in May.

The map details the rich artistic history of the area and features introductions by Lord Chelsea and former Rolling Stone Bill Wyman. True British weather arrived in the form of a deluge of hail during the speeches followed by bright sunshine as Lord Chelsea planted a memorial tree. The map is on constant display at the gardens. *To get your hands on your own copy or to view it in detail, visit chelseariversidemap.com*



Lord Chelsea plants a memorial cherry tree



Bill Wyman and wife Suzanne



Penny Pocock and Michelle van Tulder, key figures in the Ropers Gardens revival



Kensington & Chelsea mayor Gerard Hargreaves and Amanda Eliasch



Dame Judi Dench



Joanna Lumley with two Chelsea Pensioners



Ainsley Harriott and Christopher Biggins



Katie Piper



Jeremy Irons

FLORAL FUN

THE CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

A star-studded crowd of celebrities, climate activists, drag artists and royalty came together for the opening day of the Chelsea Flower Show. Guests were able to explore gorgeous gardens including a bee sanctuary, a rewilding landscape and an ice garden, as well as plenty of floral tributes to the Queen ahead of her platinum jubilee.



Kirstie Allsopp



The Queen



Cath Kidston with Queen Azizah of Malaysia



Clare Balding



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Food / News



A CAFE AND FITNESS SPACE promoting inclusivity, nutrition and wellbeing has launched locally. Spearheaded by friends Vidushi Binani and Haylene Ryan-Causar, Volonté draws on the pair's expert knowledge of food and wellbeing, and their energetic ethos of nurturing health, thoughtful fitness and nourishment. With a menu by Le Cordon Bleu graduate Vidushi that ranges from a Snickers protein smoothie to chipotle bowls, and workouts by fitness coach Haylene, Volonté combines delicious food with a fun, fitness-loving attitude. 299-301 Brompton Road

VENCHI, the Italian luxury chocolate and gelato manufacturer, is extending its gelato collection with four delicious new vegan options. The mouthwatering flavours of hazelnut, pistachio, lemon and liquorice and mixed berries are available across all of its chocogelateria shops. 71 King's Road



CHELSEA'S MUCH-LOVED sushi restaurant Sticks'n'Sushi has introduced summer specials to its menus. Perfectly timed for warmer days, the additions include the stunning summer house roll made with fresh Norway lobster, and hiramasa aka, made with hiramasa, miso mustard and kizami wasabi. To drink, the Suika Cooler – Haku vodka shaken with watermelon, Aperol, citrus and pink grapefruit soda – is the ideal tippie for hot summer afternoons. 113-115 King's Road



NOTHING SAYS SUMMER like sitting out in the sun with a refreshing drink, so here's a list of three of the best cocktail bars Chelsea has to offer...

CALLOOH CALLAY

Building on Callooh Callay's much-loved Shoreditch venture which opened in 2008 and quickly carved out a reputation for quality drinks and quirky fun, the Chelsea equivalent is just as good. Located just off the King's Road, Callooh Callay's wholesale blend of manic energy and expert mixology is unmatched.
316-318 King's Road

BARTS

Modelled on the speakeasy bars of 1920s prohibition America, Barts is just as good at conjuring up the debauchery, gangsterism and glamour of that era as it is serving its now timeless cocktails. Whether you're after something fruity, strong, dry, creamy, long, or short, the enigmatic Uncle Barts will deliver it.
Chelsea Cloisters, Sloane Avenue



THE BOTANIST

Perfectly positioned just off Sloane Square, this stylish location has long been a staple on the west London social scene. More a restaurant and bar than a designated cocktail tavern, the Botanist's stylish decor, buzzy atmosphere and wide-ranging drinks menu make it a go-to venue for summer socialising.
7 Sloane Square



MOËT & CHANDON has opened its largest standalone champagne bar in Europe. Located at Harrods, on the ground floor of the department store, it has been created by architectural design studio Sybarite. The contemporary bar, which will be a permanent space for the iconic brand, features a gold sweeping chandelier hanging over an intimate 34-seater bar modelled on the linearity of the terroir and topography of the Épernay Champagne region. Decadent and delicious food pairings are complemented by an extensive selection of Moët & Chandon wines.
Harrods, Knightsbridge



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Food / Phil Howard

FOR OVER 40 YEARS PHIL HOWARD HAS DEVOTED HIS LIFE TO COOKING, OPENING ICONIC RESTAURANTS AND INFLUENCING THE INDUSTRY IMMEASURABLY. A RECIPIENT OF MICHELIN'S SPECIAL MENTOR AWARD 2022, ONE WOULD FORGIVE HIM FOR TAKING IT EASY, BUT THE VETERAN CHEF ISN'T RESTING ON HIS LAURELS, AS WILL MOFFITT DISCOVERS

Pleasure on a plate



PHIL HOWARD IS A “CHEF’S CHEF”. Profiles, interviews and podcasts all say it. Now there is an accolade to prove it. Phil’s achievements have been honoured in the form of this year’s special mentor award from Michelin. Alongside his influence on a coterie of cooking talent, the guidebook cites his iconic two Michelin-starred restaurant the Square, founded in 1994, as a “beacon of reliability and consistency” that was as popular with chefs as it was with consumers.

Speaking to me at Elystan Street, his one-star Michelin restaurant in Chelsea, it’s clear that for Phil there has only ever been one thing that really matters: pleasure on

a plate. “I cook things that people enjoy eating, and that’s been there from the very start,” he says. “I’m not an inquisitive chef in terms of trying to make technical things or come up with new flavour pairings.

“When you eat something that stops you in your tracks it’s never anything complicated. It’s normally a burger, or an amazing piece of protein dipped in a bit of purée, or a Twix. I’ve always kept that absolutely at the forefront of my mind: food’s capacity to deliver pleasure.”

Phil, by his own admission, came late to the kitchen. His experiments with cooking began in his student digs while studying microbiology at Canterbury university. After graduating he went travelling





with a friend and took a job working as a waiter in a restaurant in Sydney. He knew instantly that he had found his calling. “I just thought, ‘This is where I want to be,’” he explains. “I had gotten far enough away from the expectations of me to hear my own truth. I know that sounds a bit flowery, but I had always thought that I was supposed to become a businessman or something.”

In 1988, Phil returned to London in the thrall of haute cuisine and French fine dining. A job at the Roux brothers’ contract catering company taught him the raw basics, but it was cooking under Marco Pierre White at Harveys that left an indelible mark on the young chef.

“It was the first time I’d seen food that was that beautiful. Marco had an eye for dressing food that was just extraordinary,” he says. “The technique and flair in the cooking was more contemporary than anything I’d done before.”

After a year under the Frenchman’s exacting stewardship Phil went the same way as his predecessors and was moved on for “overboiling Marco’s pommes purée”. Next came a stint at Simon Hopkinson’s Bibendum on Fulham Road.

“Simon was uninterested in a lot of the things that fine dining is preoccupied with: technique, delicacy, and being complicated,” Phil recalls. “He taught me about the importance of ingredients, seasonality, provenance, and harmony of flavour.”

In 1991, still only 24, he opened the Square, a French fine dining restaurant on King Street, St James’s, with business partner Nigel Platts-Martin. Despite being a talented chef he had little to no kitchen management experience. The learning curve was steep, the standards impeccably high, and the daily regime all consuming. “No other restaurant did it seven days a week. Nigel and I were determined to achieve everything we could over and above running a great business.”

After securing its first Michelin star in 1994, the Square came to Bruton Street, Mayfair, three years later. Critics were even more complimentary this time around and the customers rolled in. A second star swiftly followed.

On one level this fame and success brought Phil huge personal pride, but a relentless work schedule, coupled with spiralling drug use, nearly destroyed him. In 2016, he detailed those

experiences in a brave and erudite article for the Guardian, recalling that “an uncomplicated sense of utter spiritual bankruptcy and very real pain” pushed him to seek help.

“Addiction has been a huge part of my life,” he says. “Even with all the knowledge that I have amassed I still don’t know why some people end up with it and others don’t. I was brought up with phenomenal parents. There’s no excuses. There were no traumas that I needed to run away from.

“Certainly the demands of the job contributed to it. In the end, thankfully, I did two stints in rehab. I went to Narcotics Anonymous for many years. There’s no two ways about it. It saved my life.”



THIS IMAGE:
DRESSED
BURRATA WITH
RED ONION,
PICKLED PLUMS,
SCORCHED
CHILLIES, ROCKET
AND OLIVE OIL.
RIGHT: SAUTÉ OF
OCTOPUS WITH
SCORCHED WHITE
ONION, GARLIC
PURÉE, STRAW
POTATOES AND
CEPS. BOTH IMAGES
© GREAT BRITISH
CHEFS

Phil credits his now healthy and happy state of mind to many things: the loyalty of his family, his friends and a consistent exercise regime. Finding time for himself outside of his frenetic work schedule has also been crucial.

“It’s very easy for cooking at this level to become your entirety and that’s dangerous,” he admits. “It’s hard because every minute is live and real, and if you want to try and get three stars everything has to be perfect. That’s just ridiculous pressure.”

While he has never been “a tyrant in the kitchen”, dealing with his own struggles has made him more attuned to the moods of his colleagues – “I’m not on the lookout, but I try to make myself available to them” – and more determined to foster a positive and open working environment.

After the gruelling ambition he displayed in his youth he is now more concerned with delivering a cuisine and an experience in line with his personal tastes: more flavour, less formality. To that end, he sold the Square in 2016 to concentrate on his other restaurants with business partner Rebecca Mascarenhas – Elystan Street, Kitchen W8 and Church Road.



“The Square evolved into something really special over the years and we had great people working there,” he says. “I started it when I was 24 and we sold it when I was 50. In that time you change as a chef, as a consumer, and as a human being. What I was cooking was no longer in keeping with what I felt I wanted to be doing, or eating.”

If that sounds like the 56 year old is disillusioned with cooking think again. Speaking of Elystan Street, which he opened with Mascarenhas in 2016, Phil talks passionately about his desire to craft simpler, seasonal dishes and do away with the more refined and polished elements of haute cuisine. After a pandemic-induced lull he is hungrier than ever to make up for lost time and deliver mouthfuls that are pure, precise and joyous.

“I just feel that the menu is the best it’s ever been,” he says. “There’s some dishes on there now that I look at and go, ‘Now that’s a banging plate of food.’ There’s nothing technical there, they’re very direct, utterly delicious, natural looking. That’s where I want to be.”

43 Elystan Street



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For more information or to sign up, visit thekandcfoundation.enthuse.com/cf/walk-17-000 or contact Morag at msmith@thekandcfoundation.com.

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AVIS HAWKINS HAS BEEN A LOCAL HEADTEACHER FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS, BRINGING HER UNIQUE VISION TO CHRIST CHURCH CHELSEA AND HOLY TRINITY SLOANE SQUARE. SHE TELLS ALICE CAIRNS HOW SHE MAKES LEARNING FUN

Best *in* class

I NEVER, EVER PLANNED to be a teacher. In fact, what I wanted was to be a psychologist. As part of my studies in educational psychology, I had to spend some time in a classroom. I was convinced that this would be temporary, but in fact, I completely fell in love with it. I do believe that if teaching is for you, once you get into a classroom, you won't be able to imagine yourself anywhere else.

Another thing I never wanted was to be a headteacher. Once again, it only happened because I fell in love. I remember when I first saw Christ Church: it was quite an old, strange building, and it was about to be rebuilt, but the area and the children were so amazing. I became so committed to the school that when the headteacher left, I agreed to take over. The same is true of Holy Trinity. I went there to help out, as the old head had retired and the school was in quite a vulnerable position, without a leadership structure in place. Once I'd met

the children, and seen the potential the school had, I just couldn't leave.

I think the reason I was so reluctant to teach was that I'd never wanted to be that person up on the stage, or at the front of the classroom. I imagined you'd have to be a massive extrovert. But what I've learned is that lots of different personality types can make great teachers, and everyone will bring something different. It's a special feeling to see the effect your work has on 30 little people in a classroom.



I'm a strong advocate for experience-based learning. I believe that children should learn through experiences, not just from a dry curriculum. One example is that we do "forest school", where some of the students go to Holland Park for a whole day every week, and their learning – including art, writing and music – is inspired by that. We also do fun things like a pop-up restaurant where the parents come for dinner, and the

People / Local hero

children's learning that week is all about running a restaurant. We've had families come in to cook their home cuisine, including a Russian lady who's visiting soon to teach us all how to cook borscht. Last year we had a skipping week, in which every single person in Christ Church and Holy Trinity learned to skip. We skipped in the most ridiculous places, including on school trips. People would come up to us in the street and say, "I've never seen children so good at skipping!"

Because of all this, I feel like the children have learned to find school fun, and they enjoy their

more basic lessons more because it's part of a bigger picture. We keep in touch with our ex-pupils too, and a lot of them come in and volunteer at the schools. One of our past students is now a semi-professional boxer, and he visited recently to teach the children boxercise. I think it's important to show the children that they're part of a community that's bigger than just the seven years that they're actually here, and that they'll always be welcomed back to pass on their passions.

I couldn't do any of this without my amazing team around me. My teachers are all, without

exception, passionate about the subject they teach. Our music teacher is a member of a band, and he also writes scores for pantomimes. Our drama teacher is a touring mime! I think that's so special.

I can't tell you the sleepless nights I've had, worrying about the schools, but I've always had the most invaluable help from my staff. They've really supported me in the changes I've made – and at times, I think they've had to hold their nerve. But now, I feel like there's a momentum to what we're doing here, and the school community has got used to

thinking in a creative way. They come up with so many fantastical ideas for things we can do, that sometimes I have to say, "Yes, but not right now!" We're just that busy.

One more thing I'd say is that at Christ Church and Holy Trinity, we adapt our teaching to fit where we are. We go out on visits to the local area all the time, because we're so lucky to be so near to so many wonderful parks, galleries and historic places. I'm always talking to the children about how lucky they are to live and learn in such an amazing place. It's a real privilege.



**"I FEEL
LIKE THE
CHILDREN
HAVE
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TO FIND
SCHOOL
FUN"**

Beauty / News

HIGHERDOSE HAS JOINED FORCES with Korean facialist Mina Lee for a 90-minute “system heal and glow” treatment.

It features traditional Korean deep-tissue massage, cosmetic acupuncture, reflexology, Reiki and a red light face mask, all while lying on a PEMF mat that sends low-level frequency through the body to recharge cells, aid recovery and calm the central nervous system and mind.
106a Draycott Avenue



DIPTYQUE'S SUPER-SUCCESSFUL “Teatime in Roses” pop-up – launched to tie in with Chelsea in Bloom – was the precursor to the brand’s permanent Chelsea store. The new UK flagship will open on Sloane Street in October and will house the full brand catalogue, including items from the coveted decoration collection, exclusive events and services.

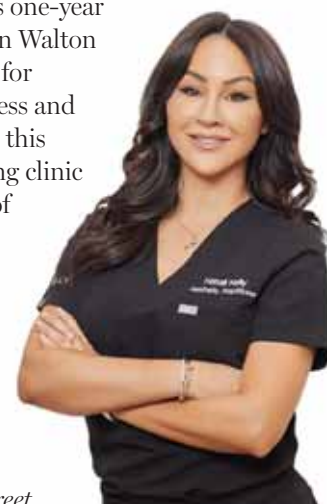
A BRAND-NEW SPA SUITE has opened at the Cadogan, a Belmond Hotel. Created by Elemental Herbology, it’s open to both resident and non-resident guests and offers a bespoke treatment menu inspired by the five elements. After completing a questionnaire to establish your current needs, you’ll enjoy a personalised treatment featuring relaxing foot soaks, guided meditations, massage and salt scrubs.
75 Sloane Street



UNTIL JULY 31, visit Cosmetics à la Carte for an instant holiday glow experience. The free 10-minute makeup session is led by one of the brand's senior artists, and includes personalised recommendations and expert application of bronzer, highlighter, eyeshadow and lip colour to create a sun-kissed look.
192 Pavilion Road



THE NATALI KELLY clinic is celebrating its one-year anniversary on Walton Street. A hub for celebrities, press and beauty lovers, this award-winning clinic offers a host of treatments including anti-wrinkle injections, dermal fillers, chemical peels and Reiki facials.
69 Walton Street



JO MALONE LONDON has announced a new global ambassador. Adwoa Aboah is an activist, actor and model and the founder of mental health initiative Gurls Talk. Her aim to stamp out stigmas around mental illness is the perfect match for Jo Malone, which has donated over £2.5 million to mental health charities.
150 Sloane Street



My Chelsea / Liv Kirby



CHELSEA RESIDENT **LIV KIRBY** LIVES ON THE KING'S ROAD. NOT ONLY IS SHE THE CO-FOUNDER OF LUXURY TANNING BRAND MADAME LA LA, SHE ALSO RUNS HER OWN PR AGENCY, SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESSES

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN CHELSEA?

I've lived in Chelsea for around 10 years now, every day finding somewhere new. My family home is based in Notting Hill so it's always great to have two amazing locations in which to reside.

WHEN DID YOU REALISE YOU WANTED TO BE YOUR OWN BOSS? AND HOW DO YOU CHOOSE WHAT BRANDS TO WORK WITH?

I've been working in PR for large companies for around 10 years now and finally decided to take the leap and start Kirby PR two years ago. It's the best decision I've ever



made, there's no going back!

WHERE DO YOU LIKE TO EAT, DRINK AND GO OUT IN CHELSEA?

I am definitely a pub girl, you can always find me at the Mitre in Fulham. To eat, I am loving 28-50 on the King's Road at the moment. The lamb chops are incredible!

WHEN YOU MANAGE TO GET OUT OF TOWN, WHERE IS YOUR TOP HOLIDAY DESTINATION?

My happy place is anywhere by the sea. For a quick UK getaway I love jumping on the train with my dog to Brighton.

IS THERE A SECRET SPOT IN CHELSEA THAT PEOPLE MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT?

I'm not 100 per cent sure it's a secret but Mezcalito has the most incredible vibes. It feels like I'm in Tulum. You have to try the margaritas!

WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOUR BUSINESS?

The sky's the limit for Kirby PR!

I would love to take on a boutique hotel in the near future. At the end of the day, as long as my clients are happy, then I'm happy.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT CHELSEA?

The stunning mix of old and new. There's also nothing better than sitting in Duke of York Square on a sunny day and watching the exquisite fashion of the people walking by.

WORDS TO LIVE BY?

Se non ora, quando? If not now, when?



Clockwise from top: Duke of York Square, Mezcalito margarita, 28-50



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