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MARCH / 2023

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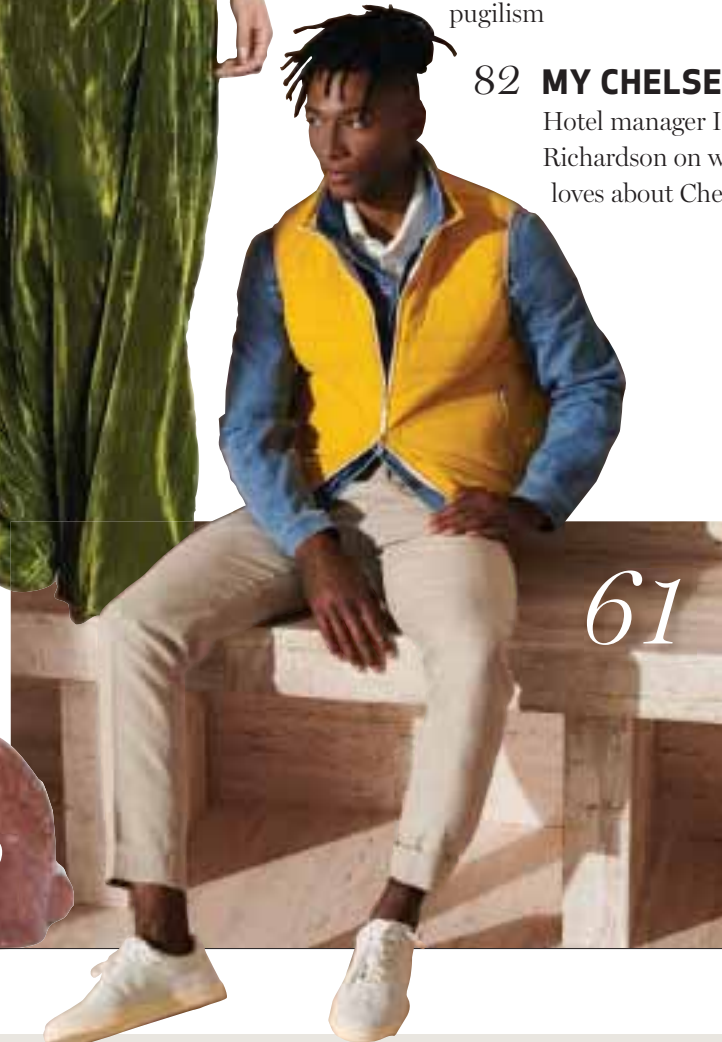
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Events diary

MARCH & APRIL

MARCH 23

LUNCHTIME LECTURE

What better way to pass a lunch break than at the V&A? This lunchtime lecture is led by Rosalie Kim, lead curator of Hallyu! The Korean Wave. She'll guide you through the exhibition highlights, telling the story of Korea's evolution from war-torn country to global trendsetter.

Cromwell Road



MARCH 18

IF ONLY MY BREATH BE FREE

This play at the Chelsea Theatre explores African and Caribbean identity, as well as the stereotypes surrounding women in sport. Against the background of a rugby match, four young people must remember their roots and reevaluate their pasts.

7 World's End Place



MARCH 24

**SWEDISH
PHILHARMONIA**

The Swedish Philharmonia returns to the UK for the first time since the pandemic, accompanied by virtuosic violinist Nemanja Radulović. The evening will open with a rendition of Grieg's *Peer Gynt Suite No 1*, and will be brought to a triumphant close with a performance of Sibelius's *Symphony No 2*.

Cadogan Hall, 5 Sloane Terrace



MARCH 14 TO APRIL 29

BLACK SUPERHERO

Danny Lee Wynter's debut play at the Royal Court Theatre tells the story of David, an ordinary man who falls in love with a global superstar. As David's life spirals out of control, our culture of hero worship is put under a microscope. On March 28 there will be a post-show talk with the writer, free with the cost of admission.

Sloane Square

MARCH 16

TINYJOHN TERRARIUM WORKSHOP

Join a terrarium workshop with the Royal Society of Sculptors. You'll learn all about these self-sustaining miniature ecosystems, before creating your own version using a variety of small tropical plants, ferns, ivy and moss. At the end of the session you will be provided with a bag and a care guide to take home with you.

Dora House, 108 Old Brompton Road





MARCH 23

HETTY KATE AT THE PHEASANTRY
Swing vocalist Hetty Kate visits the Pheasantry for the first time. The acclaimed artist has performed on stages from New Zealand to New York and has nine albums to her

name. Enjoy the show in the intimate cabaret room where stars like Brian May, Eric Clapton and Lou Reed have performed – you can also enjoy a Pizza Express pizza.

152-154 King's Road

TUESDAYS AT 1PM SONGS AND SOUP

Join Chelsea's newest choir at Holy Trinity Sloane Square. This informal group meets once a week in the Parish Room, and welcomes people of all ages and abilities – whether that's professionals on their lunch breaks or people with memory difficulty and their carers.

The choir was started by Max Barley, the new director of music at Holy Trinity. He said: "I think it's very important to have weekly groups, so that people can come and get a sense of this place as a home, not just as another beautiful church. That's why community groups like Songs and Soup are so important.

"I massively believe in choirs involving people of all ages. I think it benefits every single member of the choir to spend time with people from different generations. Singing is such a wonderful



way of stimulating many parts of the brain. We'll sing old favourites – from the Beatles, Elvis and Queen to folk songs, songs from the shows and favourite hymns. Basically, anything that's good fun to sing."

The choir is truly open to all: there are no auditions, no fees and all participants get a free bowl of soup with bread donated by nearby Bread Ahead on Pavilion Road.

"The choir is community-focused rather than Christian-focused," Max added.

"The building needs to be alive, with people of all faiths and none, of all shapes and sizes. There's so much unhappiness and challenge in the world at the moment that we must find all these opportunities for joy, community and connection."

Sloane Street

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Calendar

APRIL 20 NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: GOOD

Enjoy David Tennant's return to the West End from the comfort of Chelsea's Everyman cinema.

The renowned actor plays John Hadler, a liberal-minded German professor who is seduced by Nazi ideology, calling into question what it means to be a "good" man.

279 King's Road



FROM MARCH 31

TITANOSAUR: LIFE AS THE BIGGEST DINOSAUR

Meet the patagotitan mayorum, the largest dinosaur ever discovered, which will be showcased in the Waterhouse Gallery this spring. Four times as heavy as Dippy the diplodocus and 12 metres longer than Hope the blue whale, visitors will marvel at this truly enormous specimen.

**Natural History Museum,
Exhibition Road**

APRIL 27

GROWING HERBS AT HOME COURSE

If you don't have access to a garden space, never fear – you can still enjoy the joys of gardening. This course at Chelsea Physic Garden will teach you how to grow herbs indoors, allowing you to add flavour to meals without buying packaged products. Tickets are £35 and include entry to the garden.

66 Royal Hospital Road



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CHELSEA IN BLOOM

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MAY 22-28

GET READY FOR THE RETURN OF CHELSEA IN BLOOM

From May 22-28 Chelsea in Bloom will once again see our streets and shops transform into a floral fantasy. This year, the theme for London's largest free flower festival is 'Flowers on Film', inspired by the neighbourhood's rich cinematic heritage.

Expect to see large-scale floral installations, including a life-sized Oscar's statue and an interactive red carpet, created by designers All for Love London. There will be further installations along the King's Road, Sloane Street, Duke of York Square, Pavilion Road, Dovehouse Green and Royal Avenue, allowing the Chelsea Flower Show celebrations to extend through the entire Chelsea area.

An information point will allow visitors to ask questions or pick up maps of the floral festivities, and complimentary rickshaw rides and walking tours will help you to take in the very best of the displays.

For more information, visit chelseainbloom.co.uk

MAY 9

WORLD PREMIERE PERFORMANCE OF JONAH

Visit Cadogan Hall for the world premiere of Ian Fletcher's oratorio Jonah, a musical retelling of the Biblical story which explores themes of disobedience, mercy and repentance. The evening will be themed around "the sea", and will begin with performances of seafaring classics like Mendelsson's Hebrides Overture and songs from The Pirates of Penzance. More

than 200 participants will take part, including the London Symphony Chorus, the National Symphony Orchestra and acclaimed soloist Katerina Mina.

Cadogan Hall,
5 Sloane
Terrace

UNTIL MARCH 30

SAIRA HOSPITALITY

Saira Hospitality is collaborating with Cadogan to run a pop-up hospitality school for the local community. Chief operating officer Greg Fruchtenicht says: "We partner with hotels that are in desperate need of finding new talent, and then we go out into the community and find amazing individuals who might otherwise have been overlooked by the industry, such as refugees and people who have a lived experience of homelessness. We offer them free skills training, focusing on overlooked soft skills like communication, emotional intelligence and leadership." In Chelsea, Saira will be working with the likes of 11 Cadogan Gardens, The Cadogan, a Belmond Hotel and Sloane Place, providing work experience and a guaranteed job interview for all 25 students. Sairahospitality.com

Chelsea Physic Garden
Spring Open Day
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1673 - 2023



News / March

GIANLUCA VIALLI died recently aged 58. The Italian striker won the FA Cup, the League Cup and the UEFA Super Cup and Cup Winners' Cup with Chelsea, before becoming club manager from 1998 to 2000. He continued to live in Chelsea with his wife and daughters for 20 years after leaving Chelsea FC, and was treated in the Royal Marsden Hospital until his death in January.



THE CAFE at Smart London is now open for longer hours: from 10.30am to 7.30pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and from 10.30am to 4pm on weekends. The “pay as you feel” cafe is run by St Mary Abbots Rehabilitation and Training, a charity which supports people suffering from any form of mental illness by providing purposeful activity. The cafe is run by members, and boasts computers, free wifi, a book swap, board games, a craft table and the opportunity to talk to someone if you need support.

15 Gertrude Street

THIS YEAR MARKS THE tercentenary of the death of Sir Christopher Wren, architect of the Royal Hospital.

The hospital was commissioned by King Charles II as a charitable institution for those veterans “as are, or shall be, old, lame or infirm in ye service of the crowne”. Wren began work in 1682, starting with the Figure Court with its statue of Charles II. The first Chelsea pensioners were admitted in 1692 to receive “relief and succour”.

Wren 300 is a year-long celebration of Sir Christopher Wren’s life and work, with events, talks, tours and workshops taking place across the country.





THE LOVE MY HUMAN TOWNHOUSE has been named one of the best dog-friendly businesses in London. *Dog-Friendly London* by Four & Sons guides lists the Chelsea business as a must-visit for dog owners and their furry friends, praising the doggy creche, grooming salon and range of pet accessories. This comes after the Love My Human Townhouse was featured on ITV's *The Pet Show*, when owner Jenny Matthews was interviewed about the store and was shown arranging a doggy blueberry facial.

To discover more local canine hotspots, browse the map of dog-friendly Chelsea at kingsroad.co.uk
330 King's Road



FRANCHETTI BOND is raising money for displaced Ukrainian children by selling copies of *Rucksack* by Diane Redmond. The story is illustrated by Ukrainian artist Lilia Martynyuk, and follows the plight of a Ukrainian boy who must flee his country with just a rucksack full of memories. All proceeds from sales of the book will go to Children and War UK, providing life-saving trauma therapy for Ukrainian families.
50-51 Duke of York Square

CAMERON VALE SCHOOL has a new headmistress. Alison Melrose joins the school after an impressive 25-year career, during which she worked as the founding head at Prince's Gardens Preparatory School in Kensington and started her own educational consultancy business. She said: "I feel passionately about community within a school and how important it is to build strong links between home and school to ensure the best education for each child to flourish."
4 The Vale





Luxury living

Walpole is moving its headquarters to Chelsea

Auriens in Chelsea is a Walpole member

WALPOLE, the body for the British luxury industry, is moving to the neighbourhood, opening a three-storey townhouse in the heart of Chelsea.

Launching this spring, the Walpole Townhouse on Cadogan Gate will feature standalone office space; a ground-floor lounge where members can work, chat or grab a coffee; and a top-floor event space for meetings and gatherings.

Walpole is dedicated to promoting, protecting and developing the British luxury industry. It boasts more than 250 member brands from a range of luxury industries, with famous names including Alexander McQueen, Penhaligon's, Bentley, Boodles and more.

The new partnership with Cadogan will also see the publication of *The State of London Luxury*, a new annual report which will detail why London is the perfect location to launch a luxury brand.

Helen Brocklebank, chief executive of Walpole, said: "Cadogan's support for luxury businesses large and small, to create a thriving community serving locals and visitors alike, is deeply aligned to Walpole's own mission and I am hugely excited about the potential of this new partnership."

Hugh Seaborn, CEO of Cadogan, added: "The Walpole Townhouse is nestled between the independent artisans of Pavilion Road and the internationally famous luxury of Sloane Street – a perfect reflection of their membership.

"We have the highest concentration of luxury brands here of any neighbourhood in London, so we hope members will feel very much at home and look forward to working together to help support their exceptional work in promoting British excellence."

2 Cadogan Gate



Walpole member Cole & Son



Walpole member Manolo Blahnik



Chelsea-based Anabela Chan is a Walpole member



Jo Malone is a Walpole member



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KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA has a new youth mayor. More than 700 young people from across the borough voted for their new youth council, which meets regularly to discuss issues that are important to young residents of the borough. AJ Tumlos has been elected youth mayor, supported by a cabinet of five other young people dedicated to achieving positive change.



THE WORLD'S SMALLEST Department Store is opening as a permanent addition to the Anya Hindmarch Village on Pont Street. This miniature space is all about nostalgia, harking back to the heyday of the department store with attentive service and a range of iconic British brands.

Anya has curated a series of capsule collections, including travel sweets from Simpkins, gloves from Cornelia James and slippers from Bowhill & Elliott. When you've finished shopping, your purchase will be carefully wrapped in World's Smallest Department Store packaging for you to take home.

Anya said: "I have always loved the classic British department store; it was always a place of wonder and excitement when I was a child. I am delighted to be opening the doors to our very own small version in the village."

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KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA residents have the longest life expectancy in the capital according to researchers at Imperial College London. The findings are supported by Bloomberg analysis of the 2021 census figures from the Office for National Statistics, which found Kensington and Chelsea had the highest proportion of people reporting “very good health” in the UK, with 58 per cent compared to an average of 47.5 per cent across England and Wales.



LOTS ROAD POWER STATION, which once provided power to the entire London Underground network, has undergone a major conversion into 260 luxury apartments on the Chelsea waterfront. Residents will have access to a gym, spa, steam room, residents’ club and juice bar, as well as an enormous light-filled atrium. The restoration has also opened up 400 metres of the Thames Path that has been inaccessible for the last 100 years.
90 Lots Road



KNIT AND NATTER SESSIONS have returned to Peter Jones, running every Wednesday at 4pm-6pm in the third floor

haberdashery department. This group is open to anyone who can knit, and is a wonderful opportunity to meet with other locals to socialise.

Please enquire with ian.seadon@johnlewis.co.uk or sustainability@cadogan.co.uk for more details, or simply join in on the day.
Sloane Square





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Long live the King!



CHELSEA PENSIONERS LOOK ON AS THE QUEEN AND THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH ARE DRIVEN ALONG KINGS ROAD DURING THEIR CORONATION WEEK DRIVE ON JUNE 2, 1953 / ALAMY

DANIEL PEMBREY LOOKS AT ROYAL CHELSEA'S DEEP AND ENDURING ROOTS

STAND ON THE CORNER OF CHEYNE WALK and Cheyne Mews, and you should spy a discreet plaque titled, “King Henry VIII’s Manor House”. Here stood the residence of that charismatic king, until, two centuries later, it was demolished (following the death of final occupant Sir Hans Sloane). It made way for atmospheric Cheyne Walk, some of whose properties still contain Tudor brickwork and walls.

There’s a tantalising sense of a lost world, in which these mysterious earlier estates, with their mulberry

trees, orchards, exotic pet animals and direct river access, beguiled the most seasoned of travellers. *Robinson Crusoe* author and energetic travel writer Daniel Defoe found “Chelsey” to be a “town of palaces” – a shimmering spectacle of beauty: such grand houses, whose grounds swept gracefully down to the river’s edge. The curiously bucolic reach of the Thames kept a sense of separateness, of distinctness – “a Sweet and pleasant village,” observed a later Rector of Chelsea.

Royalty’s preference for the locale shouldn’t have



surprised anyone. As Dan Cruickshank points out in *Built in Chelsea*, the Thames was London's main commercial and ceremonial highway from Tudor times until well into the nineteenth century. Chelsea was in a prime strategic position between (to the east) St. James's, Westminster and the City, and (to the west) the royal power bases at Richmond and crucially, from 1529, Hampton Court. Henry VIII acquired the lordship of the manor during the mid-1530s. He built a new manor house as a nursery and sanctuary for his children, notably Elizabeth – later Queen Elizabeth I.

Sir Thomas More was already in Chelsea. From 1524, he'd been amassing an estate from the captivating fields, meadows and gardens, at the centre of which stood a residence later known as Beaufort House. More forfeited the estate to the king after losing his electrifying power struggle with him. Following More's execution, his house and the bulk of the grounds were granted to Sir William Paulet, later the first Marquess of Winchester. Royal endorsement of the area and patronage of titled society trickled down to sponsorship of painters and artists, generations of whom were drawn to this same location by its liquid light.

King Charles II (1630-1685) left his own emphatic mark on Chelsea, notably via the commissioning of Sir Christopher Wren's monumental Royal Hospital. Renowned today for its red-coated pensioners and the annual flower show in its grounds, the Royal Hospital's original vision was breathtaking in scope, aligning the classical

structures with key urban axes. A north-south axis lined up with Nottingham House, later Kensington Palace (which, in turn, inspired the name 'Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea'). The Royal Hospital scheme had the potential to transform Chelsea into London's answer to Versailles.

In the end, the north-south axis went no further than Royal Avenue's junction with the King's Road, but the scheme's influence remained. The grandly porticoed Royal Military Asylum (now the Saatchi Gallery), opened in 1801 for the children of soldiers' widows, faced not north towards the King's Road but rather west, towards Royal Avenue and the north-south axis that never was. The grand scheme still helped to integrate villagey Chelsea with the burgeoning wider metropolis, developing the quivering balance of separateness and connectedness that continues to this day.

The King's Road itself, so-called for good reason, has its own story to tell, alluded to by the base of Gilbert Ledward's Venus Fountain in Sloane Square, around which runs a relief of Charles II cavorting with his mistress, Nell Gwynn. The route of the world famous road let the king visit the manor house to the west where Gwynn stayed. They were the glamour couple of their day: he the very modern monarch who'd negotiated a new power balance with parliament; she the 'first professional actress' whose personality and beauty had taken her to the apex of society ("pretty, witty, Nell," sighed Samuel Pepys). Meanwhile, Cadogan family ancestor Sir Hans



KING CHARLES II - IT WAS HIS KING'S ROAD

Royal Chelsea / Coronation



Sloane (1660–1753), who purchased Chelsea Manor in 1712, developed a large and prestigious practice as a doctor. He was called in to consult with Queen Anne, and was made a baronet by George I (the first medical practitioner to receive a hereditary title, no less). George II appointed him Court Physician.

Not until 1719 did the King's Road open up to 'Gentleman Landowners' and those doing business along its length. The wider public had to wait until 1830. Links to royalty continued to intersect it. Coachbuilders Hooper & Co. set up shop at 77 King's Road (now Charles II Place, beside Marks & Spencer). Hooper & Co. was awarded its first royal warrant in 1830 as coachbuilder to King William IV; royal warrants were granted to it continuously, under seven reigns, over the following 130 years, well into the age of the motorcar. Records show that in 1913, it styled a Rolls-Royce "open drive limousine" for the "Earl of Cadogan". The 5th Earl (1840–1915) had his own close links to royalty, being a lifelong friend of King Edward VII.

For the last coronation, in 1953, the late Queen Elizabeth II and Duke of Edinburgh were driven along a King's Road delightfully lined with Chelsea Pensioners. While a shorter, more central route is expected for King Charles III, the coach to be used on May 6th will be the golden state one weighing four tons, built in 1762 by coachmaker Samuel

"ROYAL PLAYGROUND, SANCTUARY AND PROCESSIONAL REALM: CHELSEA'S STORY IS INSEPARABLE FROM THAT OF MONARCHY"



Butler: Hooper & Co. supplied it with rubber tyres, shortly before the last coronation, for much needed comfort. The late Queen's wider affinity with Chelsea is well known: a royal patron of the Royal Horticultural Society from 1952, she was a dedicated visitor to the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. The links of her late daughter-in-law Diana, Princess of Wales, are equally famous. The original Sloane Ranger, Lady Diana Spencer (as she was then known) defined a Chelsea tribe with her pie-crust collars and pearls.

The river has remained a golden thread throughout (to paraphrase Churchill). King George V and Queen Mary travelled by Royal Barge to Cadogan Pier in 1919, in a scene that would have been immediately recognisable to the Tudors – as would the specially commissioned Royal Barge Gloriana, which led the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant flotilla of 2012.

For the Platinum Jubilee of 2022, the King's Road was closed off between Sloane Square and Cheltenham Terrace for a glorious public street party. Along this inaugural section of the old processional route, tables and

chairs ran a good part of the way. Chelsea Pensioners enacted their precision-coordinated "pace sticking" procession, in honour of their sovereign. A similarly spectacular party is planned for the Coronation on Saturday 6th May 2023 to bring the community together to celebrate. Royal playground, sanctuary and processional realm: Chelsea's story is inseparable from that of monarchy, and the story continues today with King Charles III's coronation.



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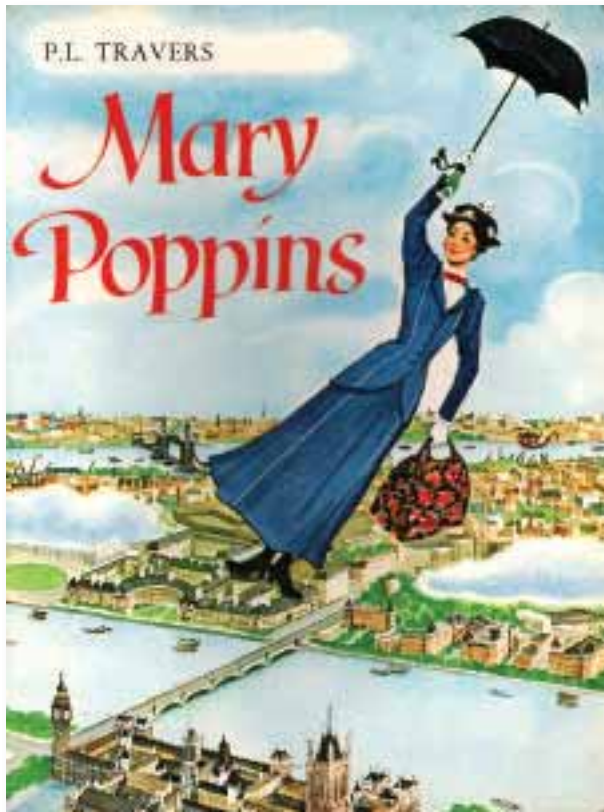
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Agatha Christie

Chelsea's literary heroines

TO MARK INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ON MARCH 8, HOLLY KYTE TAKES A STROLL AROUND CHELSEA TO APPRECIATE THE GROUNDBREAKING FEMALE WRITERS WHO HAVE GRACED ITS STREETS





THERE'S NO SHORTAGE OF GREAT LITERARY MEN who once called Chelsea home: Tobias Smollett, Bram Stoker, William Makepeace Thackeray, Oscar Wilde, Mark Twain, Samuel Beckett – the blue plaques celebrating their connection to the area are a common sight. If you know where to look, however, you'll find traces of just as many great literary women whose talents not only flourished in these streets, but overturned expectations and promoted the advancement of women everywhere.

Any feminist literary walking tour of Chelsea should start on Royal Hospital Road, in the footsteps of England's first feminist writer. Mary Astell (1666–1731) settled in Chelsea in the 1680s, where she would write her pioneering pamphlets *A Serious Proposal to the Ladies* and *Some Reflections upon Marriage* – the first arguing for women's intellectual equality with men; the second imploring women to broaden their ambitions beyond marriage. Centuries ahead of their time, both espoused deeply radical ideas that riled patriarchal society. In 1712 Astell took a house overlooking the Apothecaries'

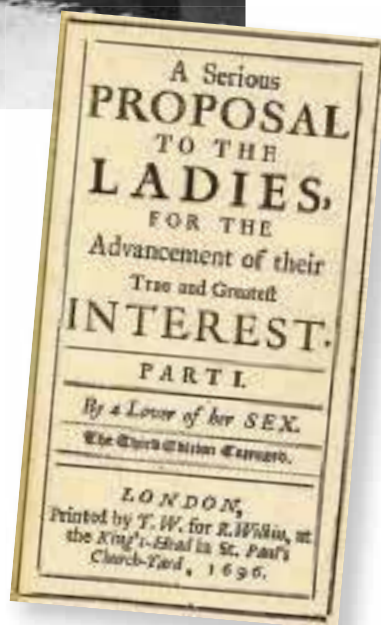
Garden (now known as Chelsea Physic Garden) and later Cale Street. There's no blue plaque marking all she achieved, but branching off Cale Street is one small nod to her life and work: Astell Street, a lasting remnant in Chelsea's geography.

A left turn before the Royal Hospital will take you onto Smith Street, where, 200 years later, a very different writer would gain much greater recognition for her work. Australian-born PL Travers (1899–1996) was author of the beloved children's books about a certain magical nanny, and it was at number 50, where Travers lived from 1946 till 1962, that she wrote the fourth book in the series, *Mary Poppins in the Park*. It was here, too, where she eventually negotiated the film rights to the books with Walt Disney, having resisted the idea for 20 years. It was a

wise decision: Disney's 1964 movie would turn Mary Poppins into an icon and ensured that Travers went down in literary history.

Meander down the King's Road to where it meets Chelsea Manor Street, and on the left you'll find the home of another literary phenomenon. Swan Court, an elegant Art Deco complex fit for Hercule Poirot himself, was the pied-à-terre of not just the bestselling crime writer but the bestselling novelist of all time, Agatha Christie (1890–1976), from 1948 until her death. She wrote several mysteries at Flat 48, including *Witness for the Prosecution*, *Crooked House* and the world's longest running play, *The Mousetrap*, and her love of the area would frequently sneak its way into her books: in *Third Girl*, for example, the setting of Borodene Mansions is believed to be modelled on Swan Court.

Continue down King's Road and the next left is Oakley Street, where, at number 87, Jane Francesca Agnes, Lady Wilde (1821–96) lived. Best known as Oscar Wilde's mother, Lady Wilde was a poet, an advocate for women's rights and, like her son, no stranger to controversy. She wrote in support of the Irish nationalist movement under the pen name Speranza, arguing for independence and sovereign rule, but when she called for armed revolution



Mary Astell's pioneering pamphlet



Sylvia Pankhurst



in newspaper the *Nation*, she caused the publication to be permanently shut down.

Further along the King's Road, Paultons Square boasts another unconventional former resident. Jean Rhys (1890–1979), born in Dominica and famed for the masterful *Wide Sargasso Sea* (1966), which reinvented the story of Jane Eyre's "madwoman in the attic", lived in Flat 22, Paultons House, for two years from 1936. Rhys wrote her acclaimed novel *Good Morning, Midnight* here, but its publication marked the start of a strange hiatus in her career, during which she disappeared for nearly a decade. She was found living in poverty in 1949 and would finally produce the novel that made her name some 27 years after her last.

End your tour by strolling along Cheyne Walk, where you will be accompanied by a parade of

illustrious women. Suffragette Sylvia Pankhurst (1882–1960) lived at number 120 from 1906 – the year she went to prison for the first time – to 1909. Writing was integral to Sylvia's activism: a socialist, anti-fascist, pacifist and feminist, she wrote several books, including *Save the Mothers*, which called for maternity-care reform, and *The Suffragette Movement*, an account of the struggle to gain women the vote.

The street can also claim the birth of one great Victorian novelist and the death of another. Elizabeth Gaskell (1810–65), author of *Cranford*, *North and South* and the first biography of her friend Charlotte Brontë, was born at number 93, though her residence would last just one year. Number 4, however, was home to Cheyne Walk's most fleeting resident of all. George Eliot (1819–80) lived in the house for just 19 days, moving in on December 3 1880 but dying less than three weeks later. The brevity of her tenure has done nothing to dim local pride. The author of *Middlemarch* – a woman of astounding intellect who rejected Christianity and was scandalously modern in her sexual relationships – has earned a blue plaque over any other occupant, a testament to her significance as one of the greatest English novelists.

With the memories of such women waiting around every corner, the streets of Chelsea are steeped not just in history, but in the creative, progressive energy that these trailblazing figures left behind. That energy lives on in 21st-century Chelsea – a place where great women have always felt at home and been inspired to create groundbreaking works of literature.

Holly Kyte is the author of Roaring Girls: The Extraordinary Lives of History's Unsung Heroines, published by HQ and out in hardback and paperback now



Preparing for the future

Stepping into Eaton Square Senior School, one feels the nostalgia of this beautiful building in its prime Mayfair location.

IT IS NOT DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE Evelyn Waugh or Ian Fleming penning one of their novels in any of the Grade 1 listed grandiose rooms. Indeed, it is the perfect environment to inspire creativity and a lifelong love of learning, providing our teachers and students with a base to use London, with its museums, galleries and theatres within walking distance, as our canvas. We are a values-based school focused on holistic, all-rounded and transformative education. Our core school values, perseverance, ownership, integrity, service and empathy, are the foundation of everything we do. I am unashamedly ideological about the power of education to transform not just our young peoples' minds, but also society. My philosophy of education is predicated on the notion that our children need to be empowered and enabled with the

"We are a values-based school focused on holistic, all-rounded and transformative education."



knowledge and skills to become active creative change agents when they leave our school, equipped with the confidence and aptitude to enact positive change. Our incredibly diverse and multicultural community helps us to achieve this goal. Presently we have children from 41 different countries enrolled providing us with an outstanding platform to explore divergent viewpoints and different perspectives.

Although British values underpin everything we do, having a plurality of cultural outlooks enables our students to develop a critical lens as well as a strong sense of empathy. Our school community is a microcosm of the global community and this enriches everything we do as well as preparing our students to be thoughtful global citizens. We appreciate the need for our young people to discover their individual identity, to develop their inner confidence and sense of independence to be able to not just cope in the world around them, but to thrive in it. Thus, our academic curriculum is complemented with what I call our 'inner curriculum', which is driven by our outstanding pastoral care. 'Great minds set free' imbues everything we do and why we have so much to offer our students, and why they have so much to offer others when they leave us.

Dr Adrian Rainbow

To find out more, visit www.eatonsquareschools.com.



Eaton Square
Senior School

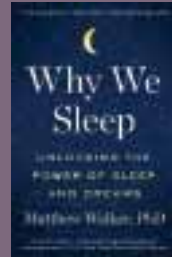
Literature / Bookworm

MARCO KUEFNER, DIRECTOR OF ROOMS AT
CARLTON TOWER JUMEIRAH

Why We Sleep by Matthew Walker

Since an early age, my parents always made sure that I was mindful of a healthy lifestyle involving a balanced diet, regular exercise but also, most importantly, a good night's sleep. Throughout my adult life, I have always managed to adhere to their advice and as I grew older, gave more significance to the impact of a great night of sleep.

Recently, I read Matthew Walker's *Why We Sleep* and while I am not only glad I listened to my parents back then, the book actually opened my eyes to just how important sleep is to our body and mind, yet how little attention we as a society pay to its importance. Few books I have read in my life have made me change my habits, but this one surely did.



BOOK CLUB

Inspirational

CORRIE BOND-FRENCH ASKED LOCAL BOOKWORMS
TO PICK THE READS THAT INSPIRE THEM

reads



RUPERT SPURGEON, GENERAL
MANAGER AT AURIENS CHELSEA

Phoenix Squadron by Rowland
White

I'm an avid reader of military history and I've just finished *Phoenix Squadron* by Rowland White. It's the story of one of the final missions of HMS Ark Royal and Britain's last top guns in a race against time to protect the outpost of British Honduras against invasion by Guatemalan para troops in 1972. It's really one of the most thrilling episodes in post-war British military history and an amazing story of strong leadership and dedicated teamwork. I found it truly inspiring.



CASSANDRA GOAD, FOUNDER
OF CASSANDRA GOAD FINE
JEWELLERY

A Century of Poetry
by Rowan Williams

Last Advent I read a poem a day from Rowan Williams' new book. It is an unusual collection of poems with his thoughtful reflection that follows on each one. The poem by Yves Bonnefoy, *Noli me tangere* ["Do not touch me"] deserves a mention. As Rowan says: "The snowflake's



**POM HARRINGTON, OWNER OF
PETER HARRINGTON RARE BOOKS**
Shoe Dog by Phil Knight

This is a memoir by the creator of Nike, Phil Knight, that chronicles the rise of Nike from being a one-man business selling running shoes from the boot of a car to being floated on the US stock market in less than 20 years. In the genre of founder-penned business books, I found Knight's story personally very inspirational, readable and relatable, and there were many elements I thought could be applied to building my own business. The book candidly touches on how he worked through the inevitable growing pains that come with scaling up a business, the value of building a trusted and loyal team, the power of marketing and turning what didn't exist a few decades ago into a name that is now ubiquitous and universally recognised.



**ILARIA BARCA, FOUNDER
AND CREATIVE DIRECTOR
OF NEO 87100**

Cathedral
by Raymond Carver

I was recommended this book while I was attending a creative writing course.

I have an interest in authors who cut the embellishments of writing and go straight to an immersive relationship between the protagonist and the reader. *Cathedral* represents all of this, and the romance of everyday life that is at the base of everything that inspires my creativity, whether it be writing or designing.



refusal to be grasped is at one and the same time its ability to be a means of grace. It somehow embodies a 'gaze', it opens up to us the awareness of just being looked at, a wholly simple moment in which I know that the source and totality of existence is focused on me – but without in any way promising some outcome, solving some problem, even healing specific wounds."

**JOHN SHEPHERD, MANAGING DIRECTOR AT
PARTRIDGES**

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

A Christmas Carol remains a great read for anyone who runs a small business, not only for the upbeat message of "it's never too late", the setting of London at Christmas and the amazing range of characters, but because of the invention of one in particular: Mr Fezziwig.

Fezziwig ran his family business in a compassionate manner, in stark contrast to the Victorian era, providing staff parties and a supportive environment for his employees before being asset-stripped by a mean-spirited Mr Scrooge. Papers have been written about him as being one of the most inspirational but often overlooked characters created by Dickens. He's someone who we should all aspire to be.



Mother's Day / Gift guide



OLIVIA VON HALLE,
AMAYA JASMINE
SILK ROAD
£390
190 Pavilion Road

LES NEREIDES, LILY OF
THE VALLEY BOUQUET
POST EARRINGS
£175
132 King's Road



THE WHITE
COMPANY,
FOUR SEASONS
MINI VOTIVE
COLLECTION
£45
4 Symons Street

*Thank
mum*

BEAUTIFUL GIFTS TO
BRIGHTEN MOTHER'S DAY



CARTIER, DOUBLE C DE
CARTIER SHOULDER BAG
£2,090
143-144 Sloane Street



LAVENDER GREEN,
A ROOM WITH A
VIEW PASTEL
£95-175
239 King's Road

**BOODLES,
FLORENTINE
BRACELET**
POA
6 Sloane Street



AESOP, MIMAMORI KIT
£80,
22-24 Duke of York Square



**DAVID MELLOR,
KASTEHELM
CAKE-STAND**
£59
4 Sloane Square



**DIPTYQUE, LIMITED
EDITION 190G
TUBEROSE CANDLE**
£65
161 Sloane Street



**ASTRID & MIYU,
HEART PAVE
BRACELET**
£69
192 King's Road



**JO MALONE, LONDON BLOSSOMS
COLOGNE IN WATERLILY**
£115
150 Sloane Street

Mother's Day / Gift Guide

HEIDI KLEIN, WIDE-BRIMMED HAT

£155

257 Pavilion Road



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DIAMOND SKINCARE KIT**

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43 Cadogan Gardens



PEGGY PORSCHE, RING O' ROSES CAKE

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EARRINGS**

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Gardens



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SAGAN STRIDER
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27 King's Road





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Art / News

APRIL 7 TO JULY 30

Ai Weiwei: Making Sense

Ai Weiwei is known for his politically charged works that blur the boundaries between art and activism. An upcoming exhibition at the Design Museum, developed in collaboration with the artist, will be the first to present his work as a commentary on design and what it reveals about our values. This highly anticipated show draws on Ai's fascination with Chinese artefacts and the country's recent history of demolition and urban development.

224-238 Kensington High Street



MARCH 8 TO 29

David Studwell

Capturing the sparkling glamour of Hollywood's golden age, an exhibition by acclaimed artist David Studwell at Box Galleries pays homage to iconic leading stars from Marilyn Monroe to Brigitte Bardot and from Marlon Brando to Elton John. David is also releasing an exclusive new work for the show and Box Galleries will be showcasing a collection of mugshots exploring "the darker side of fame".

402 King's Road

FEBRUARY 11 TO JUNE 11

Donatello: Sculpting the Renaissance

A formative influence on the Italian Renaissance, Donatello's masterful sculptures are renowned for their naturalistic representations of human anatomy and their influence on artists such as Michelangelo and Raphael. This new show at the V&A is the first major UK exhibition to explore the exceptional talents of the Renaissance master, delivering a fresh perspective on the artist and his legacy.

Cromwell Road



MARCH 1 TO 31

Child Of and Saatchi collaboration

Child Of, the visual arts platform exploring addiction and recovery, has partnered with the Saatchi Gallery Learning Programme to create an exhibition that will use real-life stories of addiction, exploring how the condition affects individuals and family members. Running throughout March, the exhibition, which is situated in the gallery's dedicated charity project room, features a mural painted by professional artists and community groups that will include portraits and quotes to raise awareness and shed a personal light on the disease.

@child_of_project



IMAGE: CHILD OF



MARCH 3 AND 17

Beyond the Streets London - Saatchi Lates

Themed around the Saatchi Gallery's Beyond the Streets London, the most comprehensive graffiti and street art exhibition to ever open in the UK, these late-night events offer guests the chance to experience the show after dark alongside an incredible evening of live entertainment. There will be free graffiti and stencil workshops, live performance drawing sessions, DJ sets, special drinks offers and more. Members enjoy free entry and a drink token, and do not need to pre-book.

Duke of York Square

FROM JUNE 23

Engineers

A major new, free gallery looking at how engineers change the world is opening at the Science Museum. Visitors will be able to take a closer look at iconic objects such as the first digital camera, the cutting-edge CMR Versius surgical robot arm and a miniature atomic clock that the entire GPS system depended upon, while learning more about the remarkable people who invented them.

Exhibition Road



Art / Chelsea Physic Garden



Planting an idea

THE FLORILEGIUM SOCIETY AT CHELSEA PHYSIC GARDEN IS A GROUP OF BOTANICAL ARTISTS WHO CREATE METICULOUSLY DETAILED PAINTINGS OF THE GARDEN'S PLANT LIFE. THE SOCIETY'S CHAIR MARY ELLEN TAYLOR TELLS US MORE

A FLORILEGIUM is the name for a collection of paintings, often bound in a book, recording the plants of a particular area. They exist all over the world. Here at Chelsea Physic Garden, we have one of the oldest contemporary florilegia in Europe, with almost 800 paintings in our archive drawers.

We began in 1995, and today we have about 60 members contributing one painting a year to the collection, all things being well. It really is a labour of love, and a form of very slow art, with a process that can take months.

The paintings we create are historical documents and conservation tools. This year the garden is losing its magnolia, which

isn't very well, but the paintings in our archive will keep a record of that particular magnolia for posterity.

Some people will say, "Why not just take a photo?" But historically, botanical art came about to document the most important parts of a plant for a botanist. Our paintings record as much as possible of a plant so that it is identifiable down to its genus, species and cultivar and if possible its entire life cycle, as well as its idiosyncrasies. It's an extremely focused, patient, meticulous form of looking at something.

A colleague of mine at Kew recently discovered a new species of plant through her drawings, and the close observation and comparative work they involve.





We always make sure that our paintings reflect the plants as they appear here, in the Chelsea Physic Garden. We have a unique microclimate – due to being a walled, warm, south-facing garden and near the river. As a result, the plants we study here may look slightly different to the same plant grown anywhere else. Everything from the colour of an iris to the slightly stunted way a tree grows must be accurately reflected in our paintings, and we have independent assessors who look at every painting to check that it can be accepted into our collection.

One woman inspires me in my work more than anyone else, and she's someone we love to talk about on International Women's Day. Her name is Elizabeth Blackwell. She was an artist in London in the early 1700s, whose husband found himself in debtors' prison. Elizabeth was desperate to make some money, and she'd heard that all the apothecaries used the Physic Garden as a centre of study and that they needed drawings of the plants here. Sir Hans Sloane took her on as an artist, and she completed 500 paintings in two years, working by candlelight in Swan Walk. Elizabeth was a hero and we celebrate her every year!

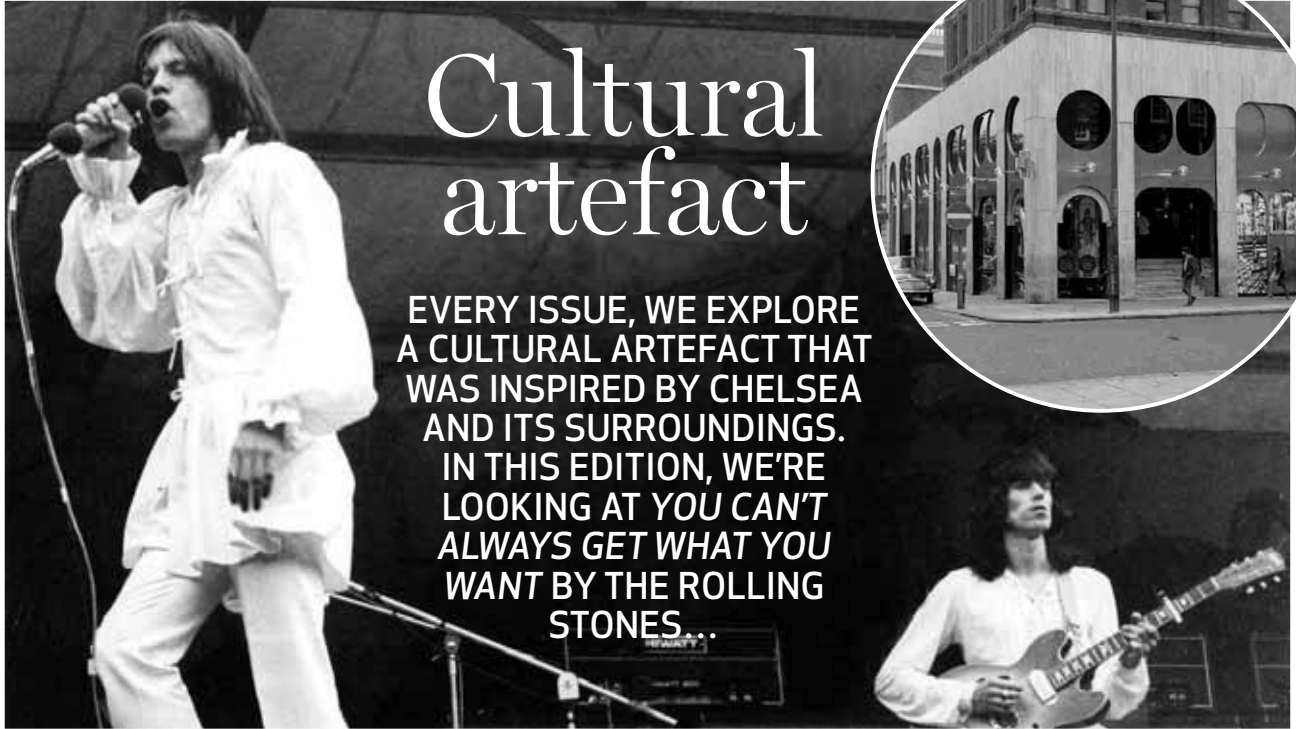
As well as being stored in our archives, the florilegium's work is exhibited on the

walls of the foyer as part of a rotating exhibition. Recently we had a display of medicinal plants in association with the Royal Brompton Hospital, featuring all the plants that help cardiology and the treatment of respiratory diseases. Our work was exhibited in the hospital, and doctors and patients were invited to come here to spend some time in the garden in quiet contemplation. It's lovely to see our work do good in the community – and a privilege working alongside so many talented botanical artists.

The Chelsea Physic Garden is a wonderful place to work. There's an energy in this garden that just feeds my soul. I knew it before I even set foot inside – it was just a sense of place that was so strong. I love what I do. The paintings we create are working documents and they're also beautiful.

Getting close to plants is a privilege – it's almost like paying homage to something. I know my work will never be as beautiful as the real thing, but it's wonderful just to spend so much time with a plant. Sometimes I'm given a plant to paint and I think, "Oh no, that doesn't interest me." But then I take time to really look at it and to think about its strategy for survival, and I am so humbled. You get to know the spirit of a plant and it's a gift.

Culture / The Rolling Stones



Images: Wikipedia/Alamy

The Stones in Hyde Park, 1969; Chelsea Drugstore

Cultural artefact

EVERY ISSUE, WE EXPLORE A CULTURAL ARTEFACT THAT WAS INSPIRED BY CHELSEA AND ITS SURROUNDINGS. IN THIS EDITION, WE'RE LOOKING AT YOU CAN'T ALWAYS GET WHAT YOU WANT BY THE ROLLING STONES...

*I went down to the Chelsea drugstore
To get your prescription filled*

What is it?

A much-loved song from the 1969 Rolling Stones album *Let It Bleed*, written by Mick Jagger and Keith Richards. It's the last song on the album, and it deals with many kinds of endings – including the disillusionment felt by the younger generation as the Swinging Sixties drew to a close.

What's it about?

Jagger has described it as a “sort of doomy ballad about drugs in Chelsea”. Each verse describes a scene of discontent, whether it's a woman tied to a “footloose man”, a demonstration that descends into “abuse” or a visit to the Chelsea drugstore where a friend looks “pretty ill”. The party decade, it seems, is well and truly fizzling out.



In spite of its downbeat lyrics, the chorus and the rousing voices of the London Bach Choir give the song a sense of irrepressible optimism. There's hope for the younger generation yet.

Why Chelsea?

The Rolling Stones were Chelsea regulars, having lived together in a squalid flat on Edith Grove, and then in a house on Cheyne

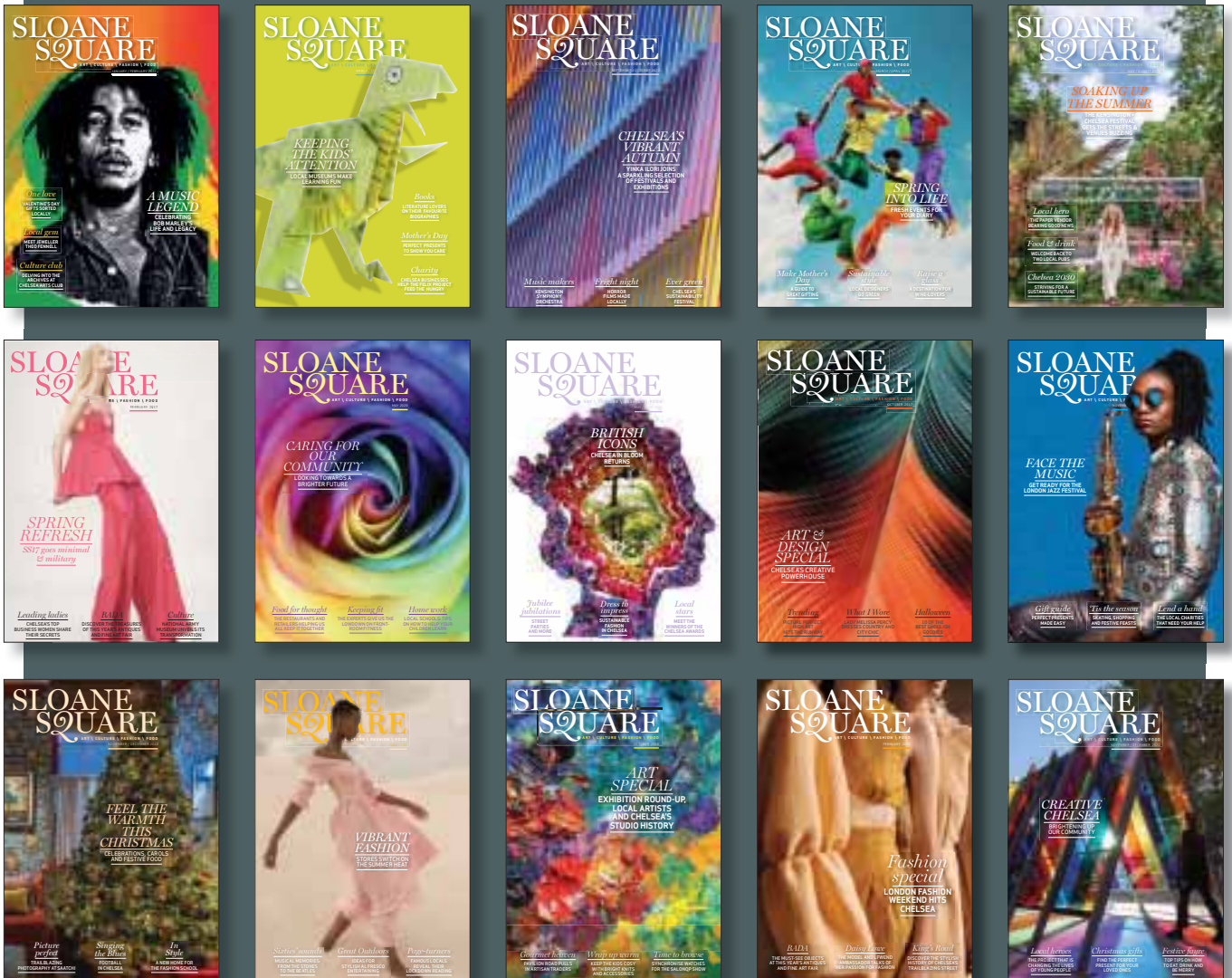
Walk. The Chelsea Drugstore, which is mentioned in the song, was a beloved hangout of the bohemian set – open 16 hours a day, with three floors including bars, a chemist and newsstands, as well as a “flying squad” delivery service which saw women in purple catsuits deliver goods on motorbikes. The drugstore's famous chrome and neon soda fountain is where the song's narrator buys his “favourite flavour, cherry red”.

It's best listened to...

... In the McDonald's on the King's Road, which is located on the site of the Chelsea Drugstore. Grab yourself a soda, plug in your headphones, and transport yourself back to 1969.

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

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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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Leader of the pack

CONDUCTOR EVA OLLIKAINEN IS VISITING CADOGAN HALL ON APRIL 20 WITH THE ICELAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. WE CAUGHT UP WITH HER AHEAD OF THE PERFORMANCE

Why did you become a conductor?

I was very young when I attended my first opera, perhaps five or six, and I was instantly fascinated by the conductor. Of course, the singing was lovely, but the conductor amazed me – I couldn't understand what he was doing – and it's still to some degree a mystery, even though I've been doing it for 20 years now! It sounds strange to say, but being a conductor really did become my childhood dream.

What do you love about it?

I love the sound, and the possibilities of sound. I love hearing a large group of people playing very, very softly – it can be so enormously intimate. It's fascinating because every orchestra is so different, and as a conductor you have to work out what makes your orchestra tick. That is endlessly fascinating, I think.

What makes a great conductor?

You need to know enough about music and music history. You need to have a grasp of how group psychology works, and quite a strong physique. But I think the main thing is just time and experience. Development is not linear. It grows more like a tree, and it's a lifelong journey. Maybe, in the end, being a great conductor is about understanding something about human life.

What's the most difficult part of the job?

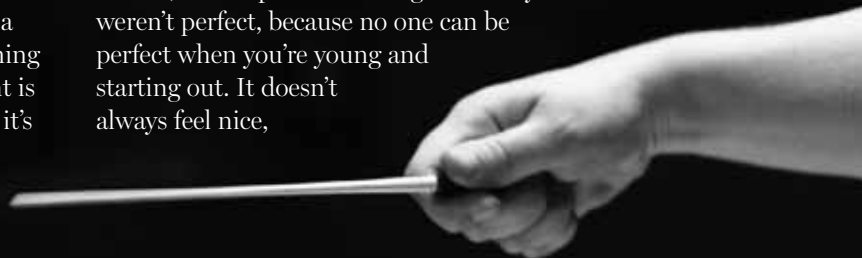
One challenge is bringing the orchestra together as one. What a group of people they are! Hugely talented musicians, who if they chose to be something else, could be doctors, lawyers, politicians... These are very, very talented and intellectual people. There has to be a huge mutual respect between conductors and musicians, because otherwise none of this would

work.

Is it hard to be a woman in the industry?

The scene has changed a lot. Twenty years ago, a female conductor was an exception, and I know for a fact that there were orchestras which categorically refused to work with female conductors. Today, this isn't a possibility any more, and it's quite the contrary actually – orchestras are really trying to invite female conductors.

Orchestras can also be very tough for young conductors, male or female. Musicians are probably very right to be critical, and to point out things that maybe weren't perfect, because no one can be perfect when you're young and starting out. It doesn't always feel nice,



to hear nasty comments, but maybe you go home and learn something.

Are you enjoying your time with the Iceland Symphony Orchestra?

It is a story of love at first sight. The orchestra is composed of such wonderful musicians, and we have something in common – we don't give up. If we want to make something work, we will keep going until it works. The other thing about the orchestra is that they are incapable of playing an everyday concert, without heart. Every single note that they play has meaning, and they are really giving their soul to the music.

Iceland is very small – just 370,000 inhabitants in total – so this is the only full-size professional orchestra in the country. I think it is something very special.

Which pieces of music have changed your life?

There are three pieces. The first is Bach's *The Well-Tempered Clavier*: my childhood was quite tough, and playing this on the piano was something that gave me great comfort and helped me survive the difficult times.

Next is Beethoven's third symphony, the *Eroica*. It was one of the first pieces I conducted as a 15-year-old. Even more importantly I took a break from music a little over 10 years ago and I wasn't sure if I'd ever return. I listened to this and it was the moment when I

realised how much I really loved music, and how much I had to come back.

Finally all the Bruckner symphonies, which I planned to listen to during the birth of my first child. I figured it would be a good way to judge time: sure, birth can take a while, but by the time you've listened to all of the Bruckner symphonies, you're probably quite far along.

Are you looking forward to visiting Chelsea?

Absolutely! Cadogan Hall is such a special venue, and we can't wait to return there.

*April 20,
Cadogan Hall*



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www.breadahead.com

**BREAD
AHEAD**
BAKERY



ROBIN BIRLEY, owner and founder of private members' clubs 5 Hertford Street and Oswald's, has opened Birley Bakery in Chelsea Green. Conceived by Robin and executive pastry chef Vincent Zanardi, the bakery serves a range of breads, pastries, cakes, chocolates, ice creams and spreads, as well as takeaway coffee, in a contemporary expression of a traditional French boulangerie pâtisserie.
28-30 Cale Street

THE SLOANE CLUB has put a cosy spin on al fresco dining by launching a winter terrace. Devised in partnership with Jackson Nugent Vintners and French winery Château La Tuilerie du Puy, the Taïga at the Sloane Club is a wintery enclave decorated with snow-covered branches, pine cones and sparkly lights inspired by the Arctic stars. The terrace serves warming snacks, sharing platters, burgers and grills, along with a selection of wines supplied by Jackson Nugent.

52 Lower Sloane Street



THE CADOGAN ARMS has polled at 54 in the top 100 gastropubs in the UK. Described as a "much-loved Chelsea institution", the Cadogan is praised for its pub classics, British dishes and bar snacks "enhanced with all kinds of enticing touches and underpinned by an ethos of provenance and seasonality". Conceived in 2009 to recognise hard-working individuals in the gastropubs industry, the list is compiled by collecting votes from more than 100 industry professionals.
298 King's Road



CHELSEA RESIDENT Mark Wakefield has launched Beesou, an all-natural bitter honey aperitif blended from ethically sourced British honey. Full of all-natural ingredients, and devised after hundreds of trials and tastings over a two-year period, Beesou is fermented into a wine-based blend infused with natural botanicals and is free from artificial flavourings and colourings. Made from ethical British apiaries, 10 per cent of all profits go to the charity Bees for Development. The drink is available at a number of Chelsea venues including Chelsea Arts Club and No Fifty Cheyne.

beesou.london



PARTRIDGES has announced the judges for the World Chelsea Bun Awards Bake-Off Competition on May 20 in aid of the Children's Surgery Foundation. The event invites participants to bake Chelsea buns, photograph them and post them on Instagram or email them to Partridges directly. Guest judges this year will include Lady Frederick Windsor, who became the royal patron of the Children's Surgery Foundation in 2019; actress, author and cake expert Jane Asher, who is a long-time patron of the charity; and John Shepherd, managing director and owner of Partridges.

2-5 Duke of York Square

EVENTIST GROUP has signed a £25 million five-year catering contract for the Chelsea Flower Show. The company will use each of its four hospitality and catering brands to provide a range of food and drink to more than 100,000 guests over the prestigious six-day event in May. Tim Stevens, chief executive and founder of Eventist Group, said: "It was always our long-term plan to win major sporting and social events with a proactive collaboration between our four fabulous catering brands. We are absolutely delighted to have been awarded this incredible event, which is one of the crown jewels in the event-catering world."



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FROM HER EARLY DAYS AT DUBLIN DINING DESTINATION L'ECRIVAIN TO OPENING HER CHELSEA RESTAURANT MYRTLE, CHEF AND MASTERCHEF JUDGE ANNA HAUGH HAS PURSUED HER LOVE OF COOKING AND IRISH FOOD WITH A PASSION, FINDS WILL MOFFITT

Table talk

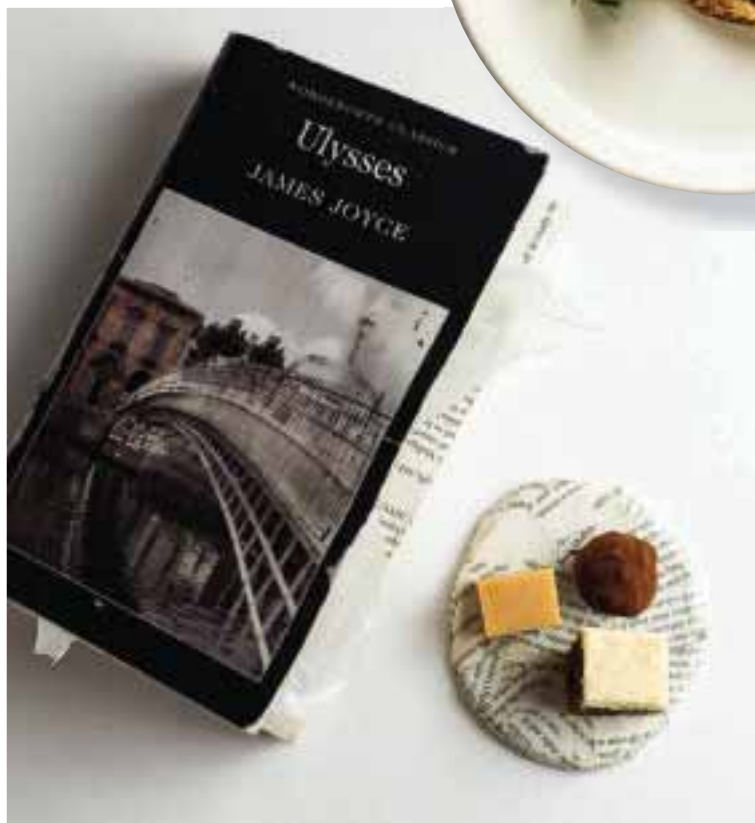
“OUR INDUSTRY HAS THIS IDEA that everybody should just work until you’re broken. Like the only way to create beautiful food is by damaging yourself,” Anna Haugh tells me. The cliché of the overworked chef suffering for their food is tragically ubiquitous, but the 40-year-old Irish chef believes in a different approach to cooking. It’s based around “smart thinking, planning, having a vision and [setting] lots of small goals”, Anna tells me, speaking over the phone from her kitchen at Myrtle.

The Irish-influenced modern European restaurant has been a hit since it opened on Langton Street in Chelsea in 2019; its name a tribute to Myrtle Allen, the Cork-born restaurateur and writer who put modern Irish food back on the map.

“I felt that paying homage to her was important,” Anna says. “I’m standing on her shoulders and [the shoulders of] lots of other chefs who’ve done great work. But nobody has ever done anything that is as remarkable as what Myrtle Allen has done for the Irish identity of food.”

Anna talks passionately and excitedly about Myrtle, describing it as a dream come true. But she is realistic too, aware of how cutthroat the business can be. “Really, Myrtle should have closed, given the finances and the resources that I had. You throw a pandemic in there... It’s nothing short of an absolute miracle [that it’s still going].”





is based on respect. “[It’s about] respect for the animals, for the farmer that grows the vegetables, the staff that work in the restaurant, the customers that come in. Everybody deserves respect,” she explains.

“Even the concept of time deserves respect. Self respect is really important too because if you don’t respect yourself enough, you will work in a manner that will be bad for you.”

Anna speaks fondly of Langton Street and the wider Chelsea area too, citing it as “a wonderful place” to open up a restaurant. “The community that we have on the road, all my neighbours, have been so fantastic,” she says.

“People see you on television and they think that you’re made of money, but the people on this street are real business owners. They understand the graft that’s involved in maintaining a good business.”

Speaking of television, Anna recently replaced Monica Galetti as a judge on *MasterChef: The Professionals* for the 15th series of the popular cooking show, alongside co-stars Marcus Wareing and Gregg Wallace. So far she has loved the experience.

“You think that they plan who’s going to win,” she admits. “I was sure that must be the case, and that’s just not what happens. The winner is the person who has the X factor. They have that extra level of talent, but they also have resilience and the strength to just keep pushing on, to keep creating.”

“Lots of people can create stunning dishes, but can you create a new dish again and again? That’s really important in our industry. Skills, talent, and hard work in equal measure are what makes a great chef.”

The restaurant is a deeply personal pledge to put Irish cuisine back in the spotlight, but also to refine and evolve it. It is also the culmination of a hard-fought career spent under the tutelage of some of Europe’s most esteemed chefs.

After an early stint at Dublin’s much-loved L’Ecrivain working with Derry Clarke and his wife Sallyann, Anna moved to London where she worked with Philip Howard, Shane Osborn and Gordon Ramsay. She has also worked with the celebrated Italian chef Gualtiero Marchesi in Paris.

Anna talks about all of these experiences in glowing terms, reflecting on the lessons and technical skills that she has acquired along the way. They have come to inform her cooking philosophy, which



IMAGE: REBECCA DICKSON



of the best

With Easter on the horizon, we've found 10 of the best chocolate treats

SMELL SWEET

Have you ever considered a chocolate-inspired fragrance? Candy Night by Prada has notes of cocoa, vanilla and tonka bean.
£95, Prada, 43-45 Sloane Street



IN THE BAG

Proclaim your love of chocolate to the world with this Dairy Milk bag from Anya Hindmarch. It's made from recycled satin and embellished with sequins in iconic Cadbury's colours.
£995, Anya Hindmarch, 16 Pont Street



CHOCOLATE TIPPLE

This vodka from Hotel Chocolat is infused with single-origin cacao beans and salted caramel, and is best served over plenty of ice.
£25, Peter Jones, Sloane Square



Top 10 / Easter chocolate

RABBITING ON

This fluffle of bunnies, shown left (yes, that's the technical term) is crafted from Rococo's delicious milk chocolate: the perfect Easter snack.

£12.95, Rococo Chocolates, 321 King's Road



BY THE BOOK

Treat yourself to a copy of Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, finely bound in purple morocco by the Chelsea Bindery.

£3,750, Peter Harrington, 43 Dover Street

COCOA MAKEOVER

This eye shadow palette from Too Faced is infused with cocoa and smells of chocolate, with 18 shades inspired by everyone's favourite sweet snack.

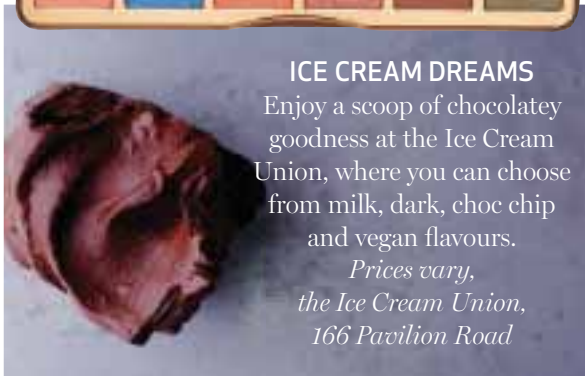
£40, Boots, 60 King's Road



ICE CREAM DREAMS

Enjoy a scoop of chocolatey goodness at the Ice Cream Union, where you can choose from milk, dark, choc chip and vegan flavours.

Prices vary, the Ice Cream Union, 166 Pavilion Road



SOME LIKE IT HOT

This hot chocolate hamper from Knoop's contains a shaker, drinking bowl, marshmallows, two flavours of chocolate flakes and a handy recipe book.

£95, Knoop's, 69 King's Road

DAIRY-FREE DELIGHT

Vegans will love these tasty plant-based truffles. Made from rice and soya milk, they're filled with a luscious ganache.

£12.50, Artisan du Chocolat, 89 Lower Sloane Street



GO NUTS

This white chocolate and pistachio paste egg is a grown up Easter treat, with a crunchy coating of pistachio, toffee and cacao nibs.

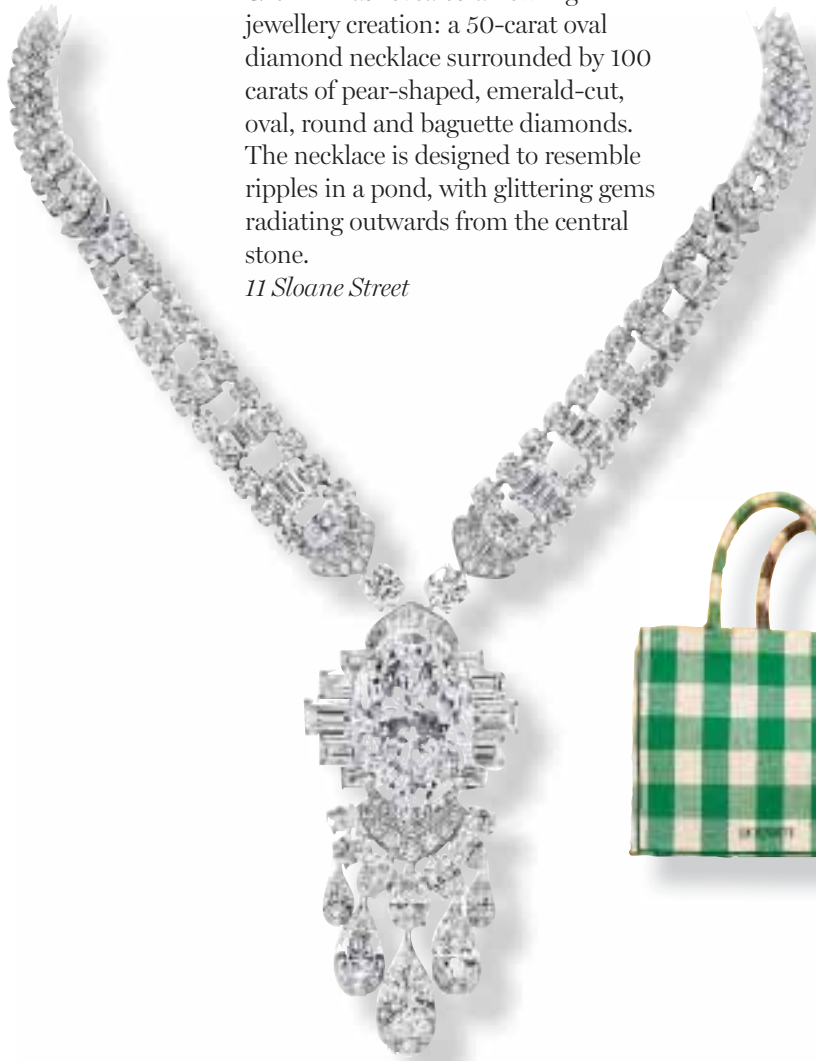
£46, Venchi, 71 King's Road



Fashion / News

GRAFF has revealed a new high jewellery creation: a 50-carat oval diamond necklace surrounded by 100 carats of pear-shaped, emerald-cut, oval, round and baguette diamonds. The necklace is designed to resemble ripples in a pond, with glittering gems radiating outwards from the central stone.

11 Sloane Street



LK BENNETT has released a new collection inspired by the art world, and in particular by the art collector and socialite Peggy Guggenheim. Taking inspiration from Peggy's glamorous life

in 1920s Paris, surrounded by bohemians, creatives, poets and artists, this spring/summer collection features plenty of colour and vintage print.

18-21 King's Road



SCANDI FASHION brand Ganni has collaborated with Submission Beauty to release a limited-edition capsule of plant-based glitter, perfect for parties. The glitter has been designed to biodegrade quickly and safely, and comes in bold shades of pink, gold and silver.

94 King's Road





DIOR has released its haute couture spring/summer collection, using singer and cultural icon Josephine Baker as a muse. Baker was born in America but moved to Paris in 1925, where she became a personal friend of Christian Dior. This new collection celebrates black icons and the trailblazing style of the Roaring Twenties.
31 Sloane Street



CHELSEA-BASED jewellery designer Annoushka Ducas has created a new charm to celebrate the upcoming coronation. This limited-edition piece is an exact miniature replica of the St Edward's Crown, crafted from 18 carat yellow gold and inlaid with amethyst, sapphires, rubies, amethysts and black and white diamonds. The charm is also a locket, and can be opened at the base to reveal space for a special memento. The piece is available from April 5, with only 100 available, and will cost £4,500.
41 Cadogan Gardens



OLIVIA VON HALLE has welcomed the Year of the Rabbit with two limited-edition silk satin pyjama sets. The PJs have been screen-printed with a playful rabbit motif, and come complete with mother-of-pearl buttons and silk trims for an extra touch of luxury.
190 Pavilion Road

Fashion / News



SOUTH AFRICAN DESIGNER Thebe Magugu held four free catwalk shows in the V&A's Raphael Court, the first time he's shown his clothes outside of Johannesburg. His designs used secondhand materials and found fabrics, combining traditional African silhouettes with western styles and graphics.

Cromwell Road



BOOKING IS NOW OPEN for the Summer Fashion School, an exciting programme of fashion-forward events and classes held throughout the summer holidays. You can spend a week immersing yourself in haute couture, take a course in finding your fashion identity, or learn how to launch your very own brand.

6 Burnsall Street

HEIDI KLEIN now sells sunglasses. The debut collection is inspired by Hollywood style icons, including Grace Kelly, Ursula Andress and Audrey Hepburn. The lenses provide 100 per cent UV protection, and each pair comes in a beautiful bamboo-trimmed box.

257 Pavilion Road



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Find out more



FIT FOR PURPOSE

COVETED ATHLEISURE BRAND VARLEY IS OPENING ITS LONDON FLAGSHIP STORE ON THE KING'S ROAD. WE MEET ITS FOUNDER LARA MEAD

IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE a time before the athleisure boom swept the nation. Today, leggings and trainers are an essential part of a woman's working wardrobe, often getting far more use – and far more love – than a tailored suit.

“Women's lives have evolved in the last decade,” says Lara Mead, founder of cult athleisure brand Varley, which is opening its flagship store on the King's Road this spring.

“The way we live and the way we move has changed. A new way of dressing has caught on, one that allows us to feel comfortable and

move freely as we go about our busy lives.”

Lara and her husband Ben founded Varley in 2015, five years before the pandemic saw sales of loungewear and athleisure reach

unprecedented heights. They'd spotted a gap in the market, and they were so passionate about their idea that they sold their house to fund the initial costs.

“When we launched Varley, all the activewear on the market was very



sports-based,” Lara says. “I thought that women needed something a little more stylish, more versatile, that could go effortlessly from a yoga class to a dog walk to the school gates to a meeting. Varley isn’t an activewear brand - we’re a fashion brand that’s rooted in movement.”

Varley creates practical clothes in a calmingly neutral palette; smart enough to wear to the office, soft enough for a day on the sofa, and stretchy enough for a workout or a run.

“We produce beautiful everyday clothing with an active element to it, which looks elevated and elegant. The ethos of the brand was never trend-driven. It’s about classic, elevated, stylish, functional clothing. We seem to have been ahead of the curve - our business has grown by 400 per cent in the last four years, perhaps accelerated by the pandemic, and there seems to be more demand than ever.”

Setting up Varley was a passion project for Lara, who trained as a track athlete and who sees movement as one of life’s chief pleasures. Exercise has influenced every aspect of her life: her father was professional footballer Tim Parkin, her mother was a PE teacher, and she met her husband at a Richmond Park running group while training for a marathon (“running is my happy place, so it’s no wonder I met my husband there!” she says.)

“Sport and exercise have meant everything to me. I went to watch my dad play every weekend, and I’d go for long runs with him while he trained. Exercise is not something that’s ever been a chore or that I’ve ever questioned, and movement has always been part of my everyday life: as natural as brushing my teeth, and something I always make time for.”

She credits this early love of sport for her success as an entrepreneur: “What you put in is what you get out, you learn how to win and lose, you learn how to build and form relationships. Those skills are very transferrable.”

Varley was initially established in sunny Los Angeles, which was an early adopter of the loungewear lifestyle. Lara and Ben have always considered London home, however, which is why they’ve chosen to open their flagship store in Chelsea.

“We wanted to make a statement about our commitment to being here in the UK,” Lara says. “Especially as the market for athleisure in the UK and Europe continues to grow. The store that we’ve taken is just beautiful, with the most amazing windows. Then there’s the fascinating history of the King’s Road - it’s an amazing place to open your flagship.”

Designed to meet the reality of busy lives, Varley proves that form and function can go hand in hand. “We hope to instil quiet confidence in women, and make them comfortable as they go about their day-to-day lives. We can’t wait to do that in Chelsea.”



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denim four-pocket jacket,
£1,500, Pique polo shirt,
£440, Prince of Wales
trousers, £1,170,
159 Sloane Street

*Daffodils
and
SUNSHINE*

AS SPRING APPROACHES,
OUR WARDROBES TURN THE
CHEERIEST OF SHADES

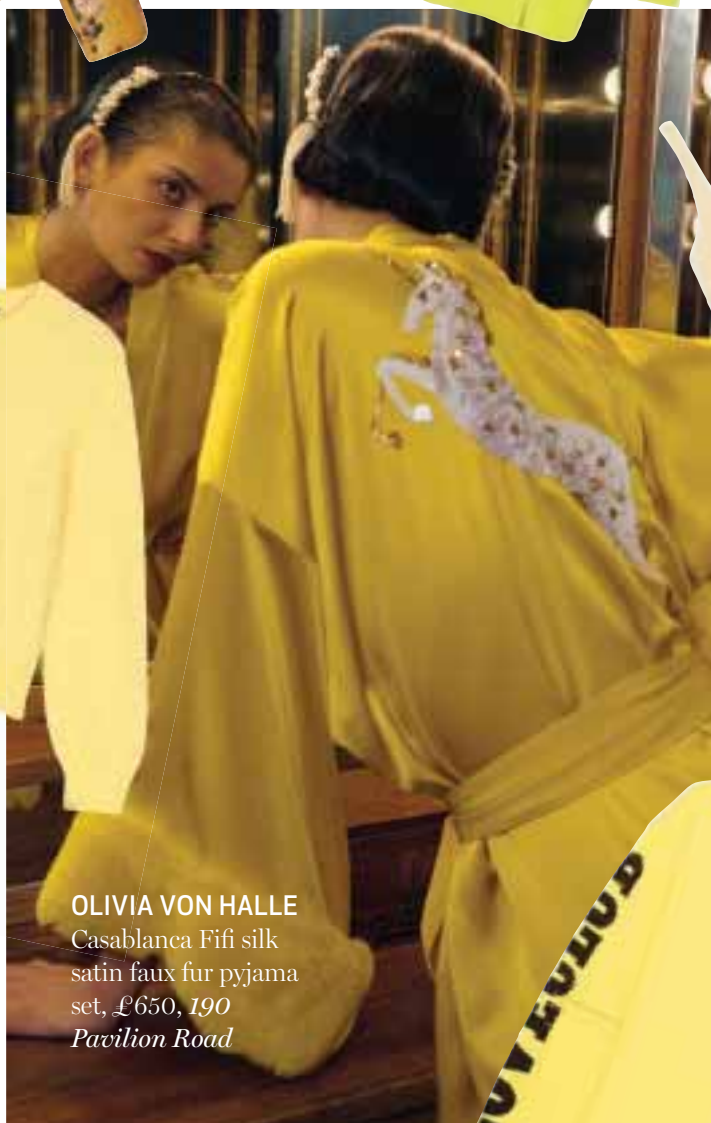
Fashion / Women



REFORMATION
Canada Goose
x Reformation
Lorita puffer,
£950,
11 King's Road



**ESSENTIEL
ANTWERP**
Dandelion
jacket, £290,
27a Sloane Square



OLIVIA VON HALLE
Casablanca Fifi silk
satin faux fur pyjama
set, £650, *190*
Pavilion Road



MAJE
Yellow fluffy
round-neck
jumper, £229,
182a King's Road



RIXO
Ronan dress, £185,
104 King's Road



LK BENNETT
Simmi heels in
nectar, £299, *18-21*
King's Road



GANNI
Light jersey layered
long-sleeve T-shirt in
lemon zest, £125,
94 King's Road



VILEBREQUIN
Yellow cotton
voile shirt in
yellow, £145,
23 King's Road



OLIVER BROWN
Silk handkerchief
in polka dot
yellow, £25,
*75 Lower Sloane
Street*



LOVE BRAND & CO
Limoncello Abaco
linen shirt, £150,
5 Park Walk



TOAST
Donegal roll-neck
sweater, £195,
205 King's Road



MUSTO
Evolution hoodie in
gold, £80, Marks
& Spencer,
85 King's Road



TATEOSSIAN
Classic knot gold
cufflinks, £400,
55 Sloane Square

Fashion / Kids



ROARSOME

Buzzy the Bee snowsuit, £185, Harrods, 87-135 Brompton Road

IL PORTICCILO

Light yellow overalls, £58, 123 Sydney Street



MARIE-CHANTAL

Cloud print pyjamas, £55, 4 Motcomb Street



PETIT BATEAU

Sleeveless cotton gauze blouse, £29, 106-108 King's Road



TROTTERS

Little Isla bunny cardigan, £52, 34 King's Road



VEJA

Trainers in desert petal, £55, Harvey Nichols, 109-125 Knightsbridge



BONPOINT

Cardigan, from £160, 6f Sloane Street

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Harrods, International Designer, First Floor
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GET READY FOR THE 2023 CHELSEA AWARDS

THE CHELSEA AWARDS

THE 2023 CHELSEA AWARDS are on the horizon, which means another chance to champion your favourite local heroes, brands and businesses. This is the third instalment of the awards, which were designed by *Sloane Square* magazine and Cadogan to shine a light on the people and places that make our area so unique. We can't wait to celebrate another group of worthy winners!

So how does it work? Well, the Chelsea Awards rely on help from you, our readers. We invite you to nominate your local favourites, telling us a little bit about why you believe they're worthy of an award. We'll put your suggestions forward to our expert judging panel, who'll select the seven winners. The awards will be handed out at a star-studded ceremony in October, with food stalls, live music and more.

Chelsea is crammed with so many exciting destinations, from globally renowned cultural powerhouses like Saatchi Gallery and Cadogan Hall, to small independent coffee shops, community groups, bookshops and charities. We'd love to hear about your favourites, however big or small, so that we can recognise some of the wonderful work they do to make Chelsea such a vibrant place to live and visit.

You can nominate your favourites in seven categories, specially chosen to reflect



Community Awards



PEGGY PORSCHE WINS IN GOOD TASTE AT THE 2022 AWARDS



THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY WINS CULTURAL CHAMPION AT THE 2022 CHELSEA AWARDS

different areas of excellence. Our Only in Chelsea award celebrates a business that's totally unique – the kind of place you wouldn't find anywhere else. Last year, our winner was Haines of Sloane Square: one of London's oldest newsstands, a family affair which continued to serve the community throughout the pandemic.

The Community Hero award is one of our favourites. It invites you to nominate someone who goes above and beyond for their community, whether that's by running a local community group, supporting a charity or spearheading a campaign. Last year, our winner in this category was the Revd Prebendary Dr Brian Leathard, who serves as rector of St Luke's & Christ Church and who works tirelessly as chairman of the charity Glass Door, which offers shelter and support to people affected by homelessness. We love reading your nominations for this award – it's a heart-warming reminder of the compassion and generosity that abound in our community.

When it comes to our Cultural Champion award, we're usually spoiled for choice. Chelsea has so many world-famous venues, museums and galleries, all of which play their part to raise the profile of the arts and uphold Chelsea's reputation as a haven for creatives. Plenty of pioneering residents have also dedicated their time and energy to championing culture, including Oliver Lallemand, founder of the beloved Sloane Square Choral Society, who was shortlisted last year. Whether your pick is a person, a performance venue or a gallery, there's so much to choose from in Chelsea. *Continued overleaf...*

Community / Awards

In Good Taste celebrates the very tastiest of Chelsea's gourmet offerings, from the local cafes to the five-star restaurants. Last year, the prize went to the delectable cakes at Peggy Porschen, while at our first ever Chelsea Awards, it was local favourite Partridges which took the crown. Wherever you like to eat – as long as it's delicious and it's local – nominate it!

Next up is the Community Collaboration award. Sharing is caring, and this award celebrates those businesses or institutions which have teamed up to create something special. A great example would be last year's winner, the King's Road Partnership, which gathered organisations together to boost the profile of the King's Road.

Master of Craft is awarded to an artisan who has developed unquestionable expertise in their field. Think of last year's shortlisted craftsman, Theo Fennell, who creates intricate



MASTER OF CRAFT GOES TO DESIGNERS GUILD AT THE 2022 AWARDS

and opulent jewellery that resembles miniature works of art.

Last but not least, we have Future Forward. This award is reserved for those businesses or institutions which have shown remarkable foresight by innovating to solve future problems. There's the Fashion School, winner

of this category in 2019, which teaches children the skills to repair their clothing and reduce waste. Then there's Dr Rhona Eskander, one of the dentists who designed Pärila, the plastic-free toothpaste brand. Of course, your nominees don't have to be working in the field of sustainability – perhaps they've incorporated digital tools into their business in an exciting way, or have developed a new retail experience that feels unique and fresh. Whatever it is, if they're a few steps ahead of the pack, they could be perfect nominees for this category.

We absolutely can't wait to read your nominations. It's always a treat to discover new places through your recommendations, and to have an opportunity to shine a spotlight on some of the wonderful institutions that make Chelsea so special – including some that may have gone under the radar. We firmly believe that there's never been a better time to support and champion your local area, so start thinking about those nominations. We look forward to discovering even more to love about Chelsea!

To make your nominations for worthy winners in the categories shown, visit chelseaawards.com

ONLY IN CHELSEA

Businesses that bring something unique to the area

COMMUNITY HERO

An organisation or person that has benefited the community through their actions

CULTURAL CHAMPION

An organisation that has enriched Chelsea's culture and raised the area's profile

IN GOOD TASTE

Someone who has made Chelsea more delicious

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Businesses who have joined forces for the greater good

MASTER OF CRAFT

An artisan who elevates the everyday to the extraordinary

FUTURE FORWARD

A company that is innovating to meet tomorrow's challenges. That could be sustainability, experiential retail or something quite different

The Chelsea Awards are created and supported by Cadogan and *Sloane Square* magazine





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Charity / K+C Foundation

The rise in the cost of living has left many of our neighbours struggling to put food on the table and keep their homes warm. Often, they will have to choose between the two – a situation which causes incredible stress and anxiety and can lead to a reliance on unmanageable debt like payday loans, which only make financial strains worse. Local data indicated that there were already 4,768 residents in, or at risk of, falling into financial crisis.

The Kensington + Chelsea Foundation launched its Winter Crisis Appeal, and thanks to the incredible support of local individuals, businesses and schools, it has so far raised £218,833. This is its most successful Christmas appeal ever and it is overwhelmed by the support from, and for, our community.

The donations raised through this appeal are funding fuel bills and essential items for households in need. Clients are also offered professional advice and support to help identify ways of improving their situation permanently, for example an assessment of whether they are claiming the right benefits, or support managing debts.

This is making a huge difference to many residents:

“When Jo got in touch... he was faced with the decision of paying his fuel bills or feeding his children. He was asking family and friends for

Winter Crisis Appeal

money and looking up short-term loans. Support through the Winter Crisis Appeal allowed him to do both. Jo was overwhelmed with joy and tears and the support gave him a real boost when he was ‘at his lowest.’”

The foundation is also able to support community organisations working directly with vulnerable residents to provide a warm, safe space to access services, with some also providing a nutritious hot meal and wider support. By April, thanks to these donations approximately 2,631 residents in the borough will have received financial support, advice or access to a warm space.

The foundation is continuing to fundraise for this campaign as there are still cold months ahead. Please donate to help a neighbour in need, particularly if you don't need your £400 government fuel subsidy.



Please scan the QR code to donate or click this link: <https://thekandcfoundation.enthuse.com/cf/winter-crisis-appeal>



Registered charity number 1125940

Social / People



The band



Sophie Maclean and guest



Lallie Fraser, Nadia Koch

WINTER WARMER

Chelsea residents gathered at the Sloane Club to celebrate the launch of the Taiga, a new winter terrace complete with thick blankets, twinkling lights and a warming al fresco menu. Guests snacked on sweet and savoury canapés including roasted cauliflower and coconut, lime and white chocolate macarons.

52 Lower Sloane Street



Guy Woodward, Chuck Cramer



Nick Boulos and guest



Gareth Huw Davies



Jack Maling, Kofi Case, guest, Erkan Oden



Hayley Richardson and guest



Sudi Pigott



Mayfair PA is a group of dedicated professionals who enjoy bespoke monthly events in and around the West End with the chance to experience luxury boutiques, fine dining restaurants, hotels and business services - all looking to showcase the best they can offer to Personal or Executive Assistants.



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As a key influencer in your organisation, these evenings are wonderful opportunities to engage with premium brands that will be on your company's radar going forward. Always varied and fun, Mayfair PA is here to point you in the right direction, whatever your company's needs.



Joining Mayfair PA and attending its events is free of charge. To receive regular event invitations, we just need your name, the company you represent and your work email address.



Please email MayfairPA@pubbiz.com to join the fun.



To partner with us to host an event please email Bridget@pubbiz.com



THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING NEW to try at celebrity hotspot Neville and the latest is Herbal Hair Ritual, a four-step treatment made from marshmallow, mountain arnica, soya, barley and Asiatic pennywort. The ingredients are known for their nourishing and soothing properties, and the results include silky, glossy hair which looks more youthful. Dry strands, be gone.
5 Pont Street



EMMA LEWISHAM is the world's first climate positive skincare brand, and now it's available at Harrods. New Zealand based and science-led, a good place to start is with the Skin Reset serum, which promises to even out skin tone using niacinamide, hyaluronic acid and seven organic, bioactive alpine plant extracts which work at a cellular level.
87-135 Brompton Road



JS HEALTH is a supplement and vitamin brand with an excellent reputation, and its latest launch, apple cider vinegar gummies, makes for a good addition to the roster. Fermented juice from crushed apples is infused with beneficial bacteria cultures and anecdotally, the health benefits are numerous, from managing blood sugar levels to clear skin. They taste nice and sweet too.
Boots, 60 King's Road



A NEW TREATMENT from Chelsea guru Dr Maryam Zamani is always good news. If you're in need of a refresh, try her latest combination treatment, Complexion Balance, designed to treat hyperpigmentation and melasma. Bringing together the fractional, non-ablative Moxi laser with injections of tranexamic acid, it works to promote new cell growth and reduce unwanted pigmentation. It's not pain-free, but the good news is you're looking at less downtime than with more aggressive laser treatments. Glow on.
The Clinic, 110-112 King's Road



NO ONE DOES fragrance like Diptyque and the new Do Son collection is a real treat. Named after a coastal town in Vietnam and inspired by a childhood memory there from one of the brand's founders, the tuberose scent is gorgeous. Try the hand and body gel - it's great for gifts but the collection is limited edition, so don't delay.
161 Sloane Street

NEWS APLENTY at Pavilion Road's beloved hairdresser Salon Sloane. The team welcomes resident on-set stylist of '10 Years Younger' Sharleen Oldaker, along with former educator at Sassoon Academy, Cristian Balan. And a recent addition to the salon's stellar treatment roster is Glass Hair - a scalp and hair detox along with a gloss and go treatment. Shine on.



IF YOUR HAIR is in need of some TLC, Living Proof has just the right new product. The Triple Bond Complex is a leave-in treatment designed to be done weekly. Without the faff of rinsing it off, it makes hair stronger by rebuilding the structure of your hair at the cuticle level. To use it, apply two to three pumps on clean, wet hair and wait 10 minutes before blow-drying as usual.
Marks & Spencer, 85 King's Road



THOSE IN THE KNOW head to Urban Retreat for a one-stop beauty shop, and now joining the list of its experts is aesthetic consultant Josh Sim, who has a skin atelier, Studio Montecosmet, at the beauty and wellness emporium. Start with a consultation and skin analysis before booking in for one of his treatments focusing on preventative ageing. Whether it's redness, scarring or acne you're concerned about, he'll have the bespoke facial for you.
2 Hans Crescent

THERE'S A NEW FACIAL at Michaeljohn, and it's for anyone who wants their face to look tighter and more lifted. The 45-minute Micro-Touch facial uses the Synergy machine by renowned beauty brand Caci, which is known for its muscle-lifting techniques, as well as Electro Gloves – the brand's latest in microcurrent technology. It releases tension while ensuring a face that looks seriously sculpted. You'll see results after one treatment, but a course of 10 is recommended for longer lasting effects.
4-6 Ellis Street





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Fighting talk

FOR ALMOST A DECADE MARTIN DIMITROV HAS BEEN TEACHING CHELSEA RESIDENTS HOW TO BOX, DRAWING ON HIS PERSONAL EXPERIENCE AS A TITLE-WINNING FIGHTER. WILL MOFFITT MEETS THE BOXER TURNED TEACHER TO TALK ABOUT FOUNDING THE SQUARE BOXING GYM AND HIS LOVE OF TRAINING PEOPLE TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS

“I STARTED BOXING AGED 11. I was a wild child. Where I come from boxing is very primitive,” Martin Dimitrov tells me.

Perched on a weights bench in his gym sporting a grey flat cap, the 40 year old is recalling his early years growing up in Ruse in Bulgaria. It was a place of extremes he says, bitterly cold in the winter and swelteringly hot in the summer. Born in 1983, Martin experienced the fallout of the old communist order and the disruptive economic and social ramifications that followed.

“My grandmother worked as a secretary for the Communist Party. She was very

powerful,” he says. “My family went from the top to the bottom. They took away everything.”

A gifted boxer from an early age Martin forged his craft through devotion and sacrifice, training six days a week at the local school which specialised in high-level sports and academic performance. He studied history at university, before leaving Bulgaria when job opportunities dried up.

After a brief spell in America, Martin arrived in London in 2011. He worked as a boxing coach in a mixed martial arts club in east London, where he also coached children’s classes.



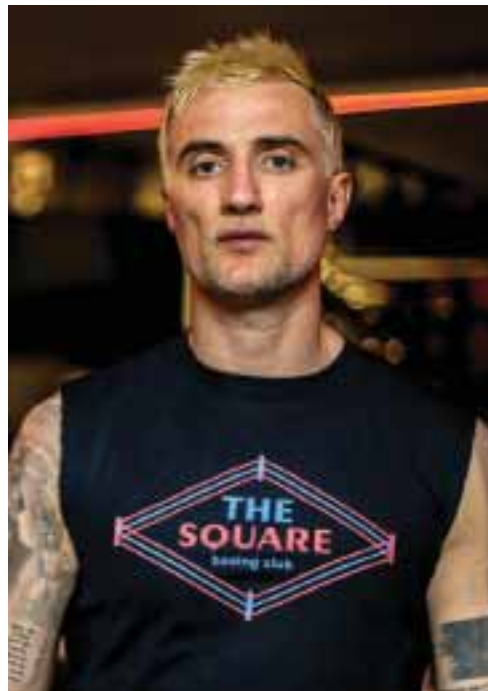


A year later he became a boxing coach and personal trainer at Rooney's Boxing Gym, an establishment in Southwark founded by John Rooney Jnr that has housed celebrities and world-famous pugilists. Martin recalls sparring in Rooney's gym and impressing the trainer with his power and precision.

"The Eastern European style [of boxing] is very intense when compared to western boxing styles," he explains. "In western boxing you have to be patient. You have to plan. In the east we just get things done. You don't get a second to react. People here are usually overwhelmed by that."

In 2013, Martin won the amateur prize fighter tournament Last Man Standing in the middleweight division, coached by Richard Williams and Archie Dublin. That same year he took the role of head amateur boxing coach at King's College London university, a position that he held for seven years. Two years later he founded the Square Boxing Club on the King's Road, building a community of people dedicated to self-improvement through a shared work ethic.

Known for his no-nonsense approach to training, Martin admits that he has a low tolerance for "time wasters", preferring to conduct sessions individually rather than in large groups. "I like to work with individuals one on one. It gives me a better connection. I've trained people of all ages. I had this one



IMAGES: CHARLOTTE CUMMING

woman who was 66. She's a cancer survivor and she woke up and she realised that she wanted to do all the things she hasn't done yet. I've trained young children too."

Forced to close the Square due to financial costs inflicted by the pandemic, Martin now trains people at Box Centric gym near Brompton Square. However, he remains active in the Chelsea area, visiting clients directly in their homes. Boxing talent, he says, is not essential. The most important thing is that people are committed to learning and developing their skills.

"Some people have all this talent but they don't have the work ethic or the discipline to work hard," Martin says. "But when you can't do something and you learn through work it really keeps your feet on the ground."

As our interview draws to a close I ask Martin what he loves most about coaching. Is it building personal relationships with people or seeing them improve their ringcraft? "It's all of those things," he responds, "but the main thing that brings me satisfaction is seeing people rediscovering themselves when they get far out of their comfort zone."



My Chelsea / Ian Richardson

IAN RICHARDSON,
GENERAL
MANAGER OF
11 CADOGAN
GARDENS,
SHARES HIS TOP
LOCAL SPOTS

**WHAT DO YOU LOVE
ABOUT CHELSEA?**

Chelsea is so vibrant and has so much energy. 11 Cadogan Gardens is located on a super quiet garden square which feels like an oasis of calm, and yet we are only a stone's throw away from the hustle and bustle of Sloane Square and Sloane Street, the King's Road, Saatchi Gallery and many other sites of historical interest. Pavilion Road has become a destination in itself and completes the village-style feel to the neighbourhood.

**FAVOURITE SPOTS
FOR FOOD?**

For me, the morning coffee comes from the friendly team at



the Roasting Party on Pavilion Road. If a sandwich lunch is the order of the day, then I love the traditional sandwich bar that is Piccolo on Sloane Street. A treat for lunch or dinner would be Bluebird on King's Road, and the local pub feel of the Antelope on Eaton Terrace makes it the perfect spot for a post-work pint.

**WHERE DO YOU LIKE
TO VISIT?**

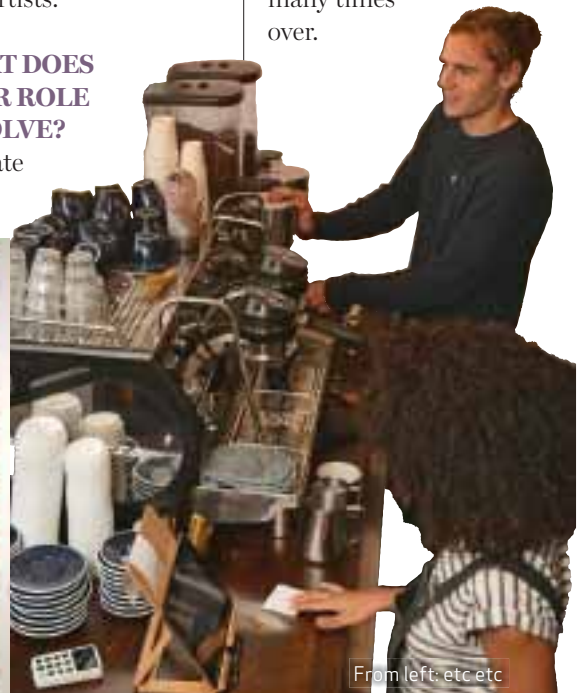
The street art exhibition Beyond the Streets London at Saatchi will be amazing – the largest of its type ever in the UK and attracting the world's best artists.

**WHAT DOES
YOUR ROLE
INVOLVE?**

I equate the

role of a GM to that of a house party host. Think of the preparation and care that you might put into entertaining your family or friends in your home for a dinner, or a drinks reception, think of the care that you would take in trying to make everything perfect, working with your family or friends to ensure a happy and successful event. That's essentially what the 11 Cadogan Gardens family and I do 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

The character and energy of the hotel is what I like most. Its Victorian heritage is shared with much of the local townhouse architecture, but when four townhouses are joined together, the "home from home" feel is multiplied many times over.



From left: etc etc



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