

THE Kensington MAGAZINE

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The Definitive Guide To
Christmas in Kensington

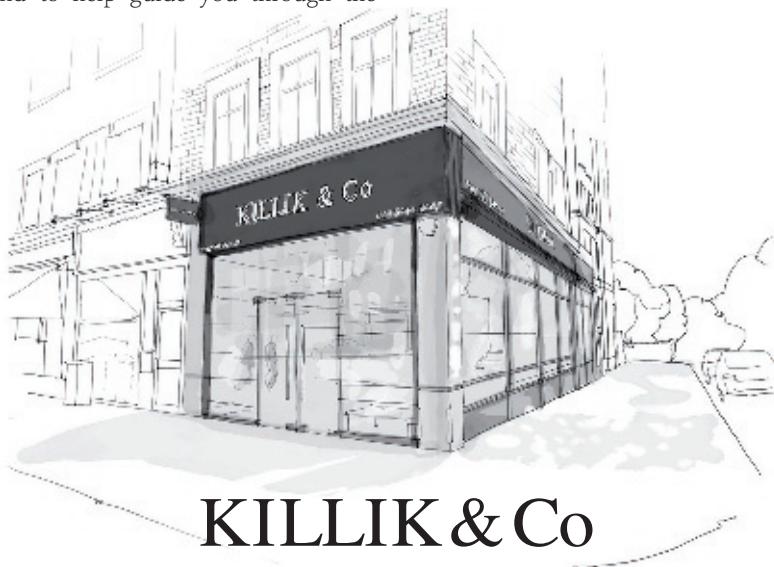
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St George's & St John The Baptist Churches

Warmly invite you to:



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

St George's Church

Aubrey Walk,
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Sun 17th Dec

10am: Christmas Pageant

Sun 24th Dec

10am: Advent 4 Sung Eucharist

4pm: Carols round the Crib

11.00pm: Midnight Mass

Sun 25th Dec

8am: Holy Communion (BCP)

10am: Eucharist of
Christmas Morning

St John the Baptist

Holland Road,
London, W14 8AH

Sun 10th Dec

6.30pm: Community Carol Service

Sun 24th Dec

11.00pm: Midnight Mass

For further information:

020 3602 9873

office@stgeorgescampdenhill.com

THE Kensington MAGAZINE

And another year passes.... A busy year with many local businesses uncertain of what the future holds. What we do know is that they will bear the external financial markets much better with your support. We have lots of independent retailers hidden in our local 'villages'. Do seek them out in Thackeray Street, Holland Street, Stratford Road and Kensington Church Walk. Many of them are participating in Late Evenings or Christmas Street Parties - please see the Kensington Hub pages for more information.

We have had a good year with our monthly themes, drawing accolade from our readers. My thanks, once again, must go to our contributors, all of whom have now been with us for many years: Maria, Charles, Alex, Sarah, Victoria, Aletta and Ben.

I hope you all have a wonderful festive season with your family and friends. Lucy

Front Cover Photograph: Promotional material for The Nutcracker, being performed at The Royal Albert Hall
(Image by kind courtesy of The Royal Albert Hall)

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 /TheKensingtonMagazine

 #KensingtonMag

Read by 34,500 residents and businesses each month. The magazine is also available at WholeFoods, Sainsbury's Local, RBKC Library, Waterstones, Virgin, Marks & Spencers, St Mary Abbots, St George's Church, The Royal Garden Hotel, The Milestone Hotel, Peter Jones in Sloane Square and many other smaller outlets in W8.

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Lucy would like to thank
Clients, Contributors and Readers of The Kensington Magazine
for their continued support and
wishes everyone an
Excellent Christmas and a Prosperous New Year



Kensington Gardens in the winter frost 2016
©lucyelliottphotography.com

INTERIORS BY
Joanne Mills



*Joanne
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SARAH'S GUIDE TO A KENSINGTON CHRISTMAS 2017

COMPILED BY SARAH GOLDSMITH

KENSINGTON PALACE



03, 10, and 17 December

- Tasty Talks, taking you through the stories of the items that grace the English Christmas table, including Christmas pudding, roast goose, and Christmas crackers. Included in the price of admission.
- Under the Christmas Tree: Storytelling (20 minutes from 11:30, 12:30, 14:00 and 15:00); Christmas Decoration Making (11:00 – 15:00); Time Explorers Station (10:00 – 15:00) 16 December: Funtastic Saturday
- Victorian Puppet Theatre: Make your own shadow puppet theatre to take home with you. 12:00 and 14:00 (1 hour sessions)
- Story Time: Under 7's, A Merry Christmas with Ernest and Celestine. 11:30, 13:00, and 14:30 (20 minute sessions)
- Time Explorers Station: From infants to 13 year olds, pick up a bag at the station and explore the Palace 10:00 – 15:00

ROYAL ALBERT HALL

- Wam Bam Club Christmas Special, 2nd December, 20:00, Elgar Room
- Christmas with the Stars, 5th December, 19:30 Auditorium
- Royal Philharmonic Orchestra presents John Rudder's Christmas Celebration, 6th December, 15:00 and 19:30, Auditorium
- It's Christmas hosted by Jason Manford, 7th December, 20:00, Auditorium

- Guy Barker's Big Band Christmas, 10th December, 18:00, Auditorium
- Raymond Gubbay, all in the Auditorium:
 - Christmas Classics, 13th December, 19:30
 - BT Christmas Concert, 14th December, 19:30
 - Kings College Choir, 15th December, 19:30
 - Christmas Carol Singalong, 16th, 21st
 - Carols by Candlelight, 16th, 17th, 22nd - 24th December, various times
 - Jingle Bell Christmas, 17th, 18th, 19th

December, various times:

- Christmas with Katherine Jenkins, 18th December, 19:30
- Messiah, 19th December, 19:30
- Classic Carols with Alan Tichmarsh, 20th December, 14:30 and 19:30
- The Glory of Christmas, 21st December, 19:30
- Late Night Jazz – Jazz at the Movies: A Swinging Christmas!, 14th December, 21:30, Elgar Room
- Santa's Little Helper, 27th – 28th December, 11:00 and 14:00, auditorium
- The Nutcracker, Thursday 28-Sunday 31st, 14:00 and 19:00, auditorium

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC

- 2nd December, RCM Sparks Juniors End of Term Christmas Concert, 13:00
- 9th December, RCMJD End of Term Concert, 17:30



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New Flavour

Home bars are all the rage. Kick yours up a notch with flavoured gins. Add your favourite herb or spice in a clean decanter with a tight lid.



Holiday Surprise

Slip in a beautiful note in a pair of champagne glasses with a promise of an exotic holiday.

The Disappearance of Father Christmas

By Maria Perry with illustration by Charles Yorke

As most children know Father Christmas lives near the North Pole, driving a reindeer sleigh round the Earth on Christmas Eve, delivering presents. As he used to slide down chimneys, stockings were hung from mantelpieces, but when central heating prevailed, chimneys were blocked. When we lived in Sweden, which is near the North Pole, we learned he parked on balconies, arriving early, because it grew dark by 3 pm. We also learned that he keeps his reindeer in Lapland - a belief reinforced, when SAS published a poster of reindeer herds, supervised by an old Lapp lady in traditional dress.



Father Christmas needs many helpers. You used to see them in the big stores, sitting in grottoes, wearing red coats and white beards with a Fairy in a white frock, holding a silver wand and making lists of what children wanted for Christmas. But suddenly here in London Father Christmas's Helpers have started to disappear! None in Kensington, although Harrods opened their Father Christmas Grotto 17th November. (£10 Mummies and Daddies advised to book early.) Westfield's Snowflake Grotto (£15) opened 23 November, while Father Christmas arrived at Selfridges on 25th November. As they are



rebuilding their Accessory Hall, he will have no grotto, but is roaming the store. No Fairy either and best of all no fee! To check details I walked along Oxford Street after Rita Ora switched on the lights and found Selfridges have a window, near Marble Arch with twelve Father Christmas models sitting in conference to reassure everyone that he really will appear.

In Kensington the absence of Father Christmas is more than made up for by the forest of fir trees, transforming Marks & Spencer into a Winter Wonderland - green trees, illuminated trees, snowy trees, even trees hung with tiny replicas of Paddington Bear. It seems he is joining forces with Father Christmas this year to ensure children have a good time, as he stands at Marks & Spencer's front entrance, welcoming them to the store, but there are so many Christmas Trees, **it's hard to count them, so a competition is being organised on Thursday 14th December with a prize for the child who records the most accurate number. Marks & Spencers Kensington will declare the winning child at 5.00 pm. (Please refer to store for more information).**

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Festive Magic from Babylon: Kate's Christmas Rocky Road



This winter, Babylon at The Roof Gardens is serving up delicious dining against the glittering backdrop of London's skyline. With warming dishes such as creamy Lincolnshire cheddar risotto, roast Dingley Dell pork belly and eggnog mousse there's plenty of reasons to get family and friends together for some festive feasting.

For full details of Babylon's menu or to book, please contact 020 7368 3993 or email Babylon@roofgardens.virgin.com

If you want to bring a little slice of Babylon magic to your home this Christmas, why not recreate Pastry Chef, Kate Malcolm's delicious Christmas Rocky Road? It's the perfect treat for visitors over the festive season, if you can bear to share it!

Ingredients

- 200g white chocolate
- 3tbsp golden syrup
- 135g butter
- 70g mini marshmallows
- 120g gingerbread biscuits
- 50g dried cranberries
- 70g toasted pistachios
- 1 teaspoon of mixed spice

Method

1. Line a square baking tray with baking paper.
2. Crush your gingerbread biscuits into small pieces, roughly the size of a 10p piece.
3. Melt together the butter, golden syrup and chocolate in a bowl over a pan of boiling water. Once melted, remove from the heat.
4. Fold the marshmallows, pistachios, cranberries, biscuits and mixed spice into the chocolate mixture.
5. Pour the mix into the lined baking tray and spread out evenly, making sure you reach all the corners!
6. Refrigerate for two hours (longer if you can), before cutting into squares and deco rating as you wish – we recommend edible glitter for that festive touch!



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Kensington News I

NEW BUSINESSES IN THE AREA

The Kensington Cigar Shop is one of London's best kept secrets. An intimate dwelling in the heart of Kensington. Here you can find a selection of the finest cigars stored in the latest, carefully controlled environment. They have sourced not only the finest everyday smokes, but also some of the rarest Grand Reserva, Reserva and Limited Edition cigars available in London. Clients are welcomed either for a quick visit, or to spend a few hours, perusing the latest additions and simply enjoying some down time.
148 Kensington Church St. 020 7 243 5599

GH Fitness is a Notting Hill based personal training and yoga service, offering sessions in the privacy of your own home or outdoors. They believe fitness is the foundation from which to experience the best things life can offer. Hiking a mountain, taking up the dance floor at a friend's wedding, teaching a child to play tennis, a weekend walk, or just learning to feel a little better about ourselves. We each need our own version of fitness to accomplish any of these and GH Fitness is dedicated to helping you find your fit and to discover just what you are capable of when you dare to try. www.gh-fitness.com

Roadster Jump 'n' Jive is a new swing dance event brought to you by Swing Patrol. Perfectly located on Kensington High Street they bring you an afternoon of dancing for all ages and abilities in a retro environment. Swing dance encompasses a range of styles such as Lindy Hop, Charleston and Solo Jazz that are danced to jazzy, joyous music from the 1920s to 1940s. At The Roadster there is a taster class at the start then social dancing all afternoon. All welcome. You don't need a partner or any experience - just come ready to dance! Check the website for the details. www.swingpatrol.co.uk/spevents

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Practice provides comprehensive health care to individuals and families from birth to old age. In addition they offer health screening, foreign travel vaccination service, corporate medical services and act as school medical officers. They pride themselves on providing evidence based medical advice of the highest standard tailored to each patient's individual needs. The doctors would be delighted to welcome any new patients. They are registered with the Care Quality Commission. 020 7244 5800 info@palacegatepractice.com www.palacegatepractice.com

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After launching in Harrods, **Ella Jade** has been called the "New Face of Interior Design" by National UK Press. The designer has designed homes for royalty and celebrities such as Rio Ferdinand, Joanna Lumley and Sheridan Smith. Ella Jade has opened her flagship showroom on Fulham Road. The showroom allows guests to walk through an apartment showcasing the new collections of full-scale Interiors in each room of the house. Ella Jade also unveiled her 7 New Collections which allows clients to view her designs via a new virtual reality 3D concept.

GENERAL NEWS

In November it was 60 years to the day since British scientists launched the **Skylark Rocket Programme**. To mark the anniversary the **Science Museum** is opening an exhibition exploring the story behind this remarkable project. The exhibition will reveal the lesser-known history of

Kensington News II

Britain's first space rocket, from the scientists and engineers who designed it, to the data gathered from its pioneering flights.

Over 50 years, Britain launched a total of 441 Skylark missions, making it one of the longest and most successful rocket programmes in the world. The knowledge generated by British teams with Skylark underpins the leading role that Britain plays today in the global space science community.

Illegal cycling in Kensington Gardens. If you spend any time in Kensington Gardens, you will be well aware that there is a huge issue around unsafe cyclists illegally using the pedestrian-only paths, often at high speeds, putting pedestrians and pets in danger. There is a campaign currently underway to try to make the pedestrian paths safe, once again, for pedestrians and pets. It is not anti-cycling, but rather pro, dogs & children staying alive and injury free. The campaign is small but growing, and they need your help & support. Join them on www.facebook.com/groups/397783420582328

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The Mayor of Kensington & Chelsea, Councillor Marie-Therese Rossi hosted a wonderful evening at the Town Hall and Mayor's Parlour for local schoolchildren who performed poems and stories marking the fourth anniversary of the First World War. The event, supported by the Armed Forces Covenant was initiated by Victoria Borwick

four years ago, who was present, together with Representative Deputy Lieutenant, Lady Arnold. This year's event marked the growing involvement of women in the war effort - highly relevant as we approach the 100th anniversary of the Suffragette Movement next year.

If you are interested in social history, or your children fascinated by the past, why not treat them to a tour of **Stafford House**, just moments off Kensington High St at 18 Stafford Terrace. The house remains as it was in the late 19th Century and tour guides take on roles of the Lady of the House or a maid, dressed in the current dress code of the time, and describe life in that era. The house is filled with history, art, and quirky tales - visitors will be fascinated. For more information please visit 18 Stafford Terrace or see www.rbkc.gov.uk/subsites/museums/18staffordterrace

Editor's note: Last month we gave the impression that the **Italian Institute** was no longer - this is incorrect, the Italian Cultural Institute has experienced something of a revival under the new Director Marco Delogu and runs many events/activities. We apologise for this error. For more information about events/news please see www.iiclondra.esteri.it/IIC_Londra/it

CHARITY/CHURCH/RESIDENT'S GROUPS/SOCIETIES' NEWS

On 14 September the **Kensington Society** applied to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea for the designation of an Asset of Community Value (ACV) for the **Notting Hill Police Station**, 101 Ladbroke Road. In November they received the news that the council "agree that the asset should be listed and have now added it to the List of Community Assets". The KS cannot stress the importance of this decision and both thank and congratulate the council, Councillor Elizabeth Campbell and the Neighbourhood Planning Team for their faith in the community. They received over 2,372 signatures protesting the closure and the sale

Kensington News III

of the site. The Metropolitan Police can appeal against this ruling but in the meantime, the property has the protection of an ACV.

St John the Baptist Church, Holland Road

has a new community centre and is open for bookings. £1.2 million spent on restoration has transformed the church. Donations from Borough residents made this possible, as well as grants from bodies including Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic England, Viridor Credits and City Bridges Trust. St John's is a stunning, Grade One listed mini-cathedral. It was built 1880-1910, fitted by the best craftspeople and probably has the last stone-vaulted ceiling installed in London. Sung communion every Sunday at 6.30pm, with a full choir once a month. For more information or to book a space, contact office@stgeorgescampdenhill.com or call 020 7602 9873

Inspirational and hard-working young people from Kensington and Chelsea were celebrated during a special event in which their achievements were recognised by a group of their peers. The annual **Youth Forum Apollo Awards**, hosted by **Epic CIC**, the youth support service provider for the borough, took place in November at The Tabernacle in Powis Square, in partnership with London Youth Games awards. Brendan O'Keefe, managing director of Epic CIC, said: "All the nominees have worked tirelessly and selflessly over the last 12 months to make a difference in their local communities and we're so proud of all of them."

Bringing generations together: A new community centre in the heart of North Kensington has been designed with wellbeing and social interaction in mind. Delivered by **Octavia**, with capital investment from **The Reed Family Foundation**. 'The Reed' supports local people to build social links and learn new skills. Older adults will benefit from on-site activities run by Octavia and other local partners including Open Age. A community café and garden sit alongside a new home for the long established Kensington Day Centre, a drop-in social and

personal care service. Young people aged 10-21 will benefit from free digital media training sessions at Base@theReed. The Reed, 28 Convent Gardens, London W11 1NJ. www.octavia.org.uk

Members of the **Kensington Business Forum** recently met at the newly launched **Mahiki** in Kensington High St. for special cocktails and canapes and to say goodbye to Jason Window who had been Chair for the past four years. The new chair is Lucy Elliott, whose first event was held at **Kensington Palace** with a private tour of the State Apartments and the highly acclaimed 'Diana Fashion Exhibition'. Members would like to thank both these venues for hosting such memorable events. The purpose of the Forum is to establish relationships with other businesses in the area and create synergy. If you have a business in Kensington, whether large or small and would genuinely like to meet other business owners please contact editor@thekensingtonmagazine.com - membership is free to join.

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL IN KENSINGTO AND KENSINGTON VILLAGES!

Kensington may have two main thoroughfares, but in addition to **Kensington High St. and Kensington Church Street**, we also have several 'villages' providing the locals with independently run boutiques, butchers, vintage shops, hair or beauty salons, galleries, gift shops, interior designers etc. So this year, be adventurous and **get thee to Thackeray St, Stratford Road, Holland Street and Kensington Church Walk!**

On 6 December between 5 - 8 pm **Stratford Road** local retailers will hold their '**Christmas Village Party**' - a well established seasonal event with local families attending, meeting the retailers and more often than not, impromptu dancing taking place in the street! Local retailers are very generous with food and wine for adults and plenty of Christmas activities and themed food for the children.

Kensington News IV

Residents and businesses of [Thackeray St.](#) will be holding their fourth annual festive carol service also on 6th December - wrap up warmly and sing enthusiastically! For more details see Kensington Hub pages.

Kensington Church Walk - a delightful little thoroughfare containing, amongst others:

Hornets Lady: vintage and contemporary luxury from Chanel, Prada, Dior, Louis Vuitton, Hermes and others combined with designer bags, shoes, silk scarves and fabulous costume jewellery for Christmas. **Hornets Menswear** selling classic, modern, designer, old and unusual stock - amongst which you can find waistcoats, smoking jackets and vintage sports clothing!

Le La is an independent fashion Boutique selling desirable global brands within a contemporary and welcoming Boutique. **Annie Russell's** is one of Kensington's oldest hair salons. The salon covers all areas of hairdressing for men, women and children and has a particularly excellent reputation for colour. **The Japanese Knife Company** are purveyors of the finest kitchen knives and tools as well as an unmatched hand sharpening service with additional branches at 36 Baker Street and 8 Greek Street. And finally, **Garnet** is a little Gem in the heart of Kensington who have been selling Vintage pieces of jewellery for the past 26 years.

Kensington Church Street remains unparalleled for the range and high quality of pieces available, from fine Chinese porcelain to important English furniture, from claret jugs to contemporary art, and long case clocks to 20th Century artists' jewellery. There is something for everyone, established collectors and novice buyers alike will be tempted by the fine quality and eclectic pieces for sale, at the heart of London's prime residential area, Kensington and Chelsea. Come and discover Kensington Church Street and be certain that you will not return home empty handed. The Kensington Church Street Art and Antiques Dealers Association are holding two Christmas Late Night Opening evenings on 5 and 6 Dec (5-8pm). See What's On pages for info

or contact Patrick Sandberg Antiques, 150-152 Kensington Church St. 0207 229 0373 [www.antiques-london.com](#)

Kensington Palace will be suitably dressed for Christmas with a Victorian Christmas theme running throughout the Palace, complete with stunning lanterns, a gorgeous 25ft Christmas tree and a display of illuminated Victorian scenes. Running throughout the day on selected dates, visitors to the palace will also be able to experience the excitement of Queen Victoria's Christmas with 'Under the Christmas Tree'. This family-friendly event will see visitors being treated to Victoria's memories of Christmas past, before being able to create their own beautiful Christmas decoration to take home. Please see Sarah's Guide to Christmas on page 6 for more information about events at the Palace or see [www.hrp.org.uk/kensington-palace](#)

At a recent AGM **The Cherry Tree Association** announced their new **Local Resident's Discount Scheme** being held with certain retailers in the locality. This is available to paid up members of the Association who live within the catchment area i.e. essentially the vicinity to the east of Ken Church St. between Notting Hill Gate and Ken High St. CTRA holds social events throughout the year and works hard to look after residents interests, from police issues to planning. For details of membership and the discount card, please refer to [www.ctraa.org.uk](#)

XRCA FOR AN XTRAORDINARY XMAS

XRCA is a collective of artists who studied together at the Royal College of Art. Over the years, despite differing careers and locations, they have sent each other handmade Christmas cards. Their work can be eccentric, quirky, challenging, funny, curious and even beautiful, but never dull. So they thought, why not share their ideas with a wider audience? They will have hand crafted cards and small gifts, on their stall at the Portobello Winter Festival Made in London Market on Tavistock Rd piazza 9th and 10th Dec and Portobello Rd (by Gail's) Friday Dec 1st.

Science Bites: A Scientific Season

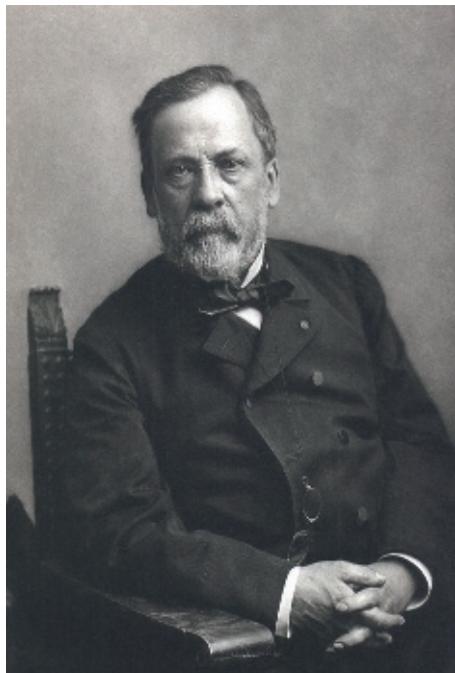
By Dr Alex Anderson

The Christmas period marks the birth of a number of notable scientists from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. These include James Prescott Joule, who was born on the 24th December 1818 to a family of brewers. Joule carried out a number of pioneering experiments on the nature of energy and the relationship between electric current, resistance, and the amount of heat produced. These findings were published in December 1840 and became known as Joule's first law. In Joule's honor the letter J represents the value of the mechanical equivalent of heat, and a standard unit of work is the joule.

The German chemist Adolf Windaus was born on 25th December 1876. Windaus spent his career working on sterols, a class of organic compounds that includes cholesterol. He found that a fungal sterol called ergosterol had the ability to cure the disease Rickets, which is caused by vitamin D deficiency. He showed that vitamin D could be formed from ergosterol under the influence of ultraviolet light. As a result of his research into the constitution of sterols and their connection with vitamins, Windaus was awarded the 1928 Nobel Prize for chemistry.

The German engineer Ernst Ruska was born on 25th December 1906. Ruska developed the first electron microscope, which allowed scientists to view things too small to be seen with a light microscope. As a result of his contributions to electron optics Ruska was jointly awarded the 1986 Nobel Prize for Physics together with Heinrich Rohrer and Gerd Binnig. Building on Ruska's work, electron microscopes are now capable of magnifying an object up to 1,000,000 times its original size. This has allowed scientists to visualize and gain an understanding of small specimens such as viruses.

The French chemist Louis Pasteur was born on the 27th December 1822. Pasteur was at the



Louis Pasteur
Photographed by Felix Nadar circa 1857
(Image source www.en.wikipedia.org)

forefront of microbiology, showing that food went off because of contamination by microorganisms in the air, and developing the germ theory of disease. Pasteur also developed a method for keeping wine and subsequently food free from contamination. He found that heating wine to 55 degrees killed contaminating bacteria without spoiling the taste, a process known as pasteurization. In addition, Pasteur developed and tested vaccines for fowl cholera, anthrax and rabies.



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Wine Review: For the Love of - Sake

By Trevor Langley

The history and heritage of Japan is rich and cultural. Many very interesting traditions can be located and appreciated in this country. Highly-developed, Japan is an advanced world-leader in technology. The modern capital is Tokyo and Japanese transport systems are super-efficient.

Oriental cuisine is world-renowned for its high-quality ingredients and is healthy, attractive and very appealing. Sake is a popular alcoholic beverage of Japanese founding and is sometimes referred to as 'rice wine'. Sake dates back many centuries and modern production techniques advanced greatly during the 20th century. Water is an extremely important ingredient in the production of sake. Various contents such as iron, magnesium and potassium, play major roles in defining the final taste, since water comprises as much as 80% of the entire ingredient. So the combination of quality of rice, rice polishing ratio, type of yeast and traditional techniques produce from more dry, to sweeter-styled sake. Sake can be served chilled, over ice, at room temperature or heated. It can also be used in exotic cocktails.

The Niizawa Brewery located in Miyagi Prefecture was established in 1873. This company has much knowledge and expertise in sake making. Several varieties of rice are grown for sake productions. These include the king of sake rice, Yamadanishiki and Hitomebore, with the latter producing Junmai Ginjo, Atago no Matsu (Summer Love). This light, pleasantly-flavoured sake, has a good bouquet and mouthfeel. I found it ideal to serve chilled and enjoy on many occasions. Junmai Daiginjo, Haku Raku Sei, is made using the Omachi rice variety. This is a premium Daiginjo and accompanies many dishes wonderfully. A nicely-balanced sake, this production has an excellent aroma and palate sensation, with an impressive finish. Recognised by Japan Air Lines, this has been enjoyed on numerous flights, by Executive Class passengers.



The Junmai Diaginjo Zankyo, Super 7

Image source: www.kikizake.com

Another exceptional sake by the Niizawa Brewing Company is Ultra Premium Junmai Daiginjo, Zankyo, Super 9. This is described as a 'flagship product of ultimate Junmai Daiginjo'. Over 300 hours of polishing Miyagi's local sake rice (Kura no Hana) to 9% makes this selection a very elegant sake indeed. A long finish adds to the enjoyment of this most-impressive production which is chosen by many connoisseurs.

Available in the UK, Niizawa's productions have something for everyone. For all details of their full range. Tel: 078 5838 6813 (Natsuki Kikuya) Email: nk@museumofsake.co.uk www.museumofsake.co.uk

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SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER

11am Advent Morning Communion
with Crèche & Sunday School provided
6.30pm Community Carols by Candlelight

CHRISTMAS EVE

11.15pm Christmas Eve Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY

11am Christmas All-Age Service

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Winter: Impressionists in London

By Benedict Bull



Claude Monet (1840 - 1926) Charing Cross Bridge 1899 - 1902
Oil paint on canvas 650 x 1000 mm Private collection

The Novembral mist and the evening gloaming right now are revelatory, lifting my gloomy lowered gaze. The light appears galvanised at this time of year when observed with a good length of perspective and sky over a generous body of water. In the larger parks the use of round ponds or better still a long water is an exceptional landscape device to inviting this picturesque effect.

Most completely the sunset over the Thames in November is brilliant. In fact, right now on the Embankment, this week I have repeatedly observed the sunlight effect with great satisfaction and shared it with my continental companion and a Mexican friend. The winter fog is the most spectacular lens for invoking light on the Thames. Splendidly, right now in the Tate Britain is a body of work by French and British artists who were also exceptionally engaged by this very phenomenon, the meeting of the light and the water; both on the body of water itself and in the water held in the air, the mist, the fog, brouillard, on this very river in this very specific wintry season!

The second last room of the exhibition Impressionists in London contains eight Monet's with a wonderful range of studies of the effect of

sunlight in the fog. Two of Charing Cross on the back short wall and three on the two long side walls of the House of Parliament series. Two paintings capture the extraordinary red that seems to burn in the bed of the water, another two the golden light that hangs above and invites the purple aspect of solid objects and two others that show the green that is invited in the densest fog of all.

In the adjoining room there are further studies: three of the night fog by Whistler in his blue gold Nocturne series, and a large striking spectral golden painting of Westminster by Giuseppe De Nittis. Renderings of Charing Cross Bridge by Pissarro, and Hampton Court Bridge by Sisley make this exhibition an unavoidable source of delight for us denizens and devotees of our city.

This Tate exhibition builds on the excellent body of pictures and photographs put together by the Dulwich Picture gallery a few years ago in revealing the natural wealth of our landscape. Please share with me your favourite points for observing the gloaming in the borough.

The EY Exhibition: Impressionists in London at Tate Britain runs until 29th April 2018
www.tate.org.uk

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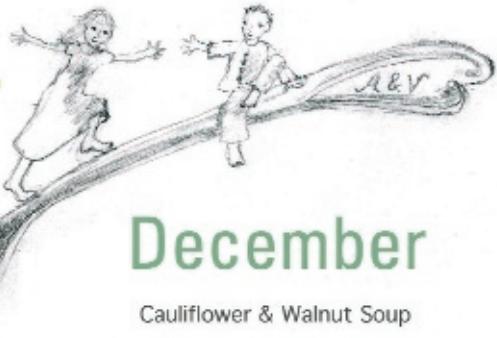
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London, W8 5SA

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the roof gardens

GET WELL SPOON



December

Cauliflower & Walnut Soup

This cauliflower and walnut soup is full of good things to help protect your digestion and liver as well as being very comforting and delicious.

Soup:

Olive oil for frying
¾ cauliflower chopped roughly
2 leeks chopped
3 cloves of garlic chopped
1 litre stock or ½ litre bone broth
½ litre water
150g walnuts (good handful)
Cayenne pepper
2 tsp sherry vinegar

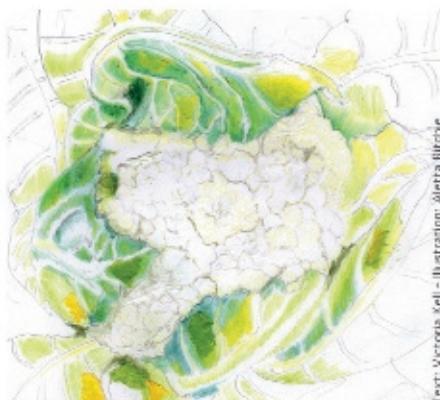
Crumb Topping:

150g walnuts finely chopped
¼ cauliflower very finely chopped
1 clove garlic finely chopped
2 tsp smoked paprika

1 handful finely chopped parsley garnish

In a large saucepan, fry the vegetables in oil until caramelised, add the stock and other ingredients and cook for about 10 minutes until the cauliflower is soft. To make the crumb topping, fry all the ingredients in 2 tbsps of olive oil, for 5-10 minutes stirring all the time. Season well. Whizz the cooked soup in the blender. Decorate with a generous amount of golden crisp crumb and a festive green sprinkle of parsley.

Cauliflower, like broccoli and kale, is of the cruciferous family; they share many health benefits: cancer protector, liver protective, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant rich and supportive of a healthy digestion and detoxification. The sulforaphane in cauliflower is a compound which kills cancer



Text: Victoria Kell - Illustration: Alecia Ritchie

stem cells. It can also improve blood pressure, kidney function and DNA methylation - important for proper gene expression and cell function. There are digestive benefits too, it can inhibit the overgrowth of helicobacter pylori and stops it from adhering to intestinal walls. Choline(a B vitamin in cauliflower) is known for brain development and improvement in memory and learning.

Walnuts pack a powerful punch, you only need to eat 7 a day to get 100% of their benefits. Super rich in plant Omega 3 they contain rare and powerful antioxidants. Walnut polyphenols can prevent chemically induced liver damage and improve cardiovascular lipid profiles. The peppers (cayenne and paprika) will help raise metabolic rate which is linked to weight loss.

Our book, "Knife, Fork, Get Well Spoon" is available at Wholefoods in Kensington & on amazon.co.uk

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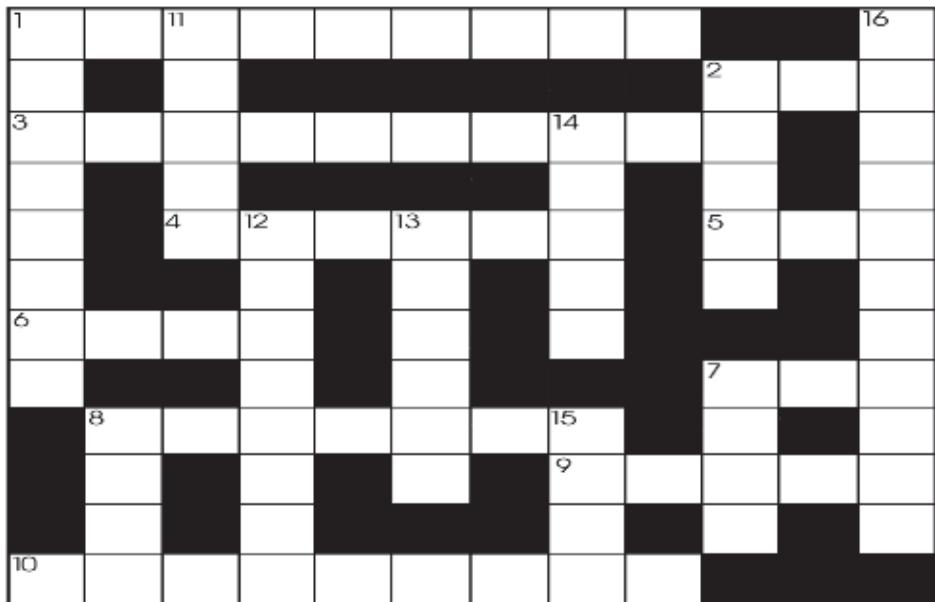
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**WHOLE
FOODS**
KENSINGTON

The Kensington Crossword

By Dave Saunders



Pit your wits against our Kensington-centric crossword. Answers on page 32

Across

- 1) Hair salon located at 1 Thackeray Street, W8 (9)
- 2) Shoe and footwear outlet at 13 Kensington Church Street (3)
- 3) Restaurant at 1 Kensington High Street, W8 (9)
- 4) And 15) down: painter, specialising in maritime subjects, born in Kensington in 1864 (6,4)
- 5) _____ Tokyo, Japanese diner at 18 Hillgate Street, W8 (3)
- 6) Country which has its consulate located at 50 Kensington Court, W8 (4)
- 7) _____ Gallery, milliners' shop at 32-34 Earls Court Road, W8 (3)
- 8) Red _____ styling consultancy at 1 Thackeray Street, W8 (7)
- 9) _____ Street, thoroughfare running between High Street Kensington and Stratford Road (5)
- 10) Saint _____ Armenian Church, located at Cranley Gardens, South Kensington (9)

Down

- 1) _____ Road, residential street between High Street Kensington and St. Albans Grove, W8 (8)
- 2) Claude _____, author born at 4 Holland Park in 1865; died in 1917 (5)
- 7) Peach on the _____, hairdresser's shop at 140 Campden Hill Road, W8 (4)
- 8) _____ Partners Ltd, independent merchant bank at Northcliffe House, Young St W8 (4)
- 11) Electrical retailer at 237 Kensington High Street (5)
- 12) _____ Aston, rugby union centre, born in Kensington in 1869 (8)
- 13) _____ Road, residential street between Holland Road and Russell Gardens Mews, W14 (6)
- 14) _____ Mews, row of former stables situated to the north of McLeod's Mews, SW7 (5)
- 15) See 4) down
- 16) Estate Agents located at 116 Kensington High Street (11)



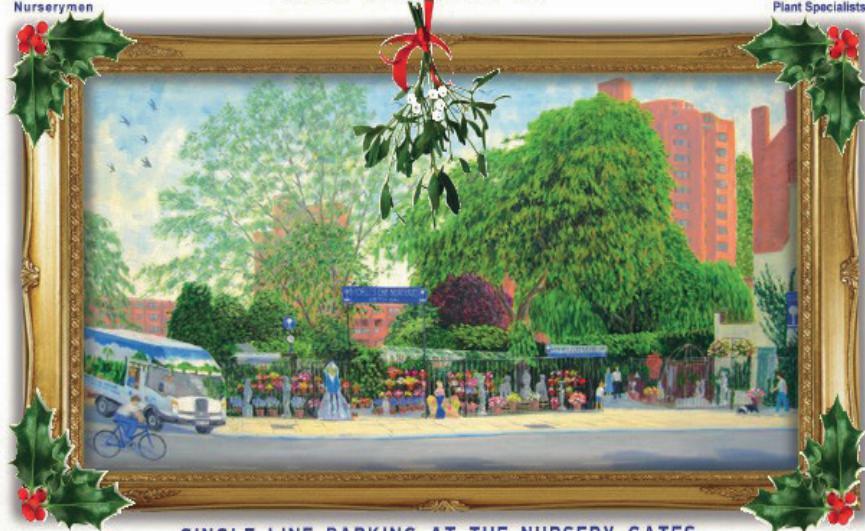
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Kensington Hub I: DECEMBER 2017

XRCA FOR AN XTRAORDINARY XMAS

1 December at Portobello Rd (by Gail's Bakery)
9 and 10 December at Portobello Winter Festival 'Made in London Market', on Tavistock Rd piazza
Buy wonderful and unique presents at the XRCA Collective Xmas stall: Xmas cards and small gifts, hand crafted with small artisan print runs.
gbradley@dircon.co.uk

THE DESIGN MUSEUM MARKET 2017

1 December 12pm-8pm, 2 & 3 Dec 10am - 6pm
Browse for one-off unique Christmas gifts from a beautiful selection of jewellery, ceramics, textiles and homeware products. Visitors have the opportunity to meet new designers, find out more about their work and view, buy or commission items. www.designmuseum.org/whats-on/talks-courses-and-workshops/the-design-museum-market-2017 or 0203 862 5900

FRIENDS OF HOLLAND PARK NATURE WALK

2 December 09.00 am -10.30 am FREE

No booking required

Looking at birds, plants, butterflies and park management. Meet outside park café
Queries Rhoddy Wood 020 7602 0304 or email rhoddy.wood@virgin.net

ADDISON JAZZ CHOIRS' WINTER CONCERT 'DAY & NIGHT'

2 December 19.30 hrs. Tickets at door £12/10/3

A glorious mix of musical styles from Caribbean rock and gospel to jazz, pop, funk and disco.
Advance tickets: www.addisonsingers.com/events. Venue: St Andrews Church, Greyhound Road, Fulham, W14 9SA

CURTAIN UP: CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 2017

3 December 11.00 – 15.30 hrs Entrance £2

Grand opening by Interior Designer Guru, Nicky Haslam at 11.30. Raffle 3.00pm. Over 45 stalls including collectables, crafts, jams, jewellery, clothes +more. Refreshments by master chef semi-finalist Julia Gray. All proceeds to SANDS: Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Charity. Venue: St Mary Abbots Centre. www.sands.co.uk www.curtainupevents.co.uk

Winter Concert: SING TO LIVE, LIVE TO SING

3 December 17.30 - 19.00 hrs FREE

Singers from this group present a selection of winter warmers, mischievous melodies and old-time classics. Venue: The Tabernacle, 35 Powis Square, W11 2AY. To book tickets, please go to www.tabernaclew11.com/whats-on? Sing to Live, Live to Sing is an arts & health initiative designed to encourage movement, breath work and song, provided by RBKC and Chelsea Arts Service in partnership with Public Health.

ST MARY ABBOTS 'LIVING ADVENT WINDOW' TRAIL

4 - 22 December 15.45 hrs

Follow the Advent Trail across W8 with local independent retailers showing off their artistic skills and unveiling their window each day.
See page 32 for more information.

HARLEM QUARTET

4 December 19.30 hrs Tickets: £5

Hailing from New York, hear the dynamic Harlem Quartet perform a varied programme of Beethoven, Webern and Mendelssohn.
The Harlem Quartet Residency is generously supported by Victoria, Lady Robey OBE.
Royal College of Music
www.rcm.ac.uk/events | 020 7591 4314

KENSINGTON CHURCH STREET WHITE NIGHT OPEN EVENINGS

5 and 6 December 17.00 - 20.00 hrs

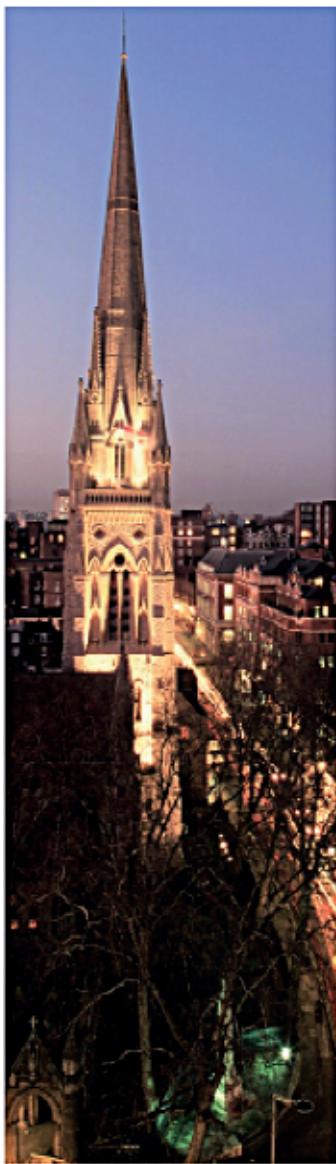
You are cordially invited to the Kensington Church Street Art and Antique Dealers late night opening when selected dealers will welcome you to their Galleries. This will be an opportunity to meet the 'experts' who will be pleased to show off their wares. Browse and Buy with festive cheer! Venue: Kensington Church Street.

"CHRISTMAS SHOW 2017"

5 – 21 December

'Christmas Show 2017', a much sought after biennial event, sees 19 gallery artists, exhibiting nearly 90 artworks over two floors. Venue: Thackeray Gallery, Est 1968
Tel: 020 7937 5883 www.thackeraygallery.com

SPECIAL SERVICES & EVENTS FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2017



for details: www.smaw8.org vestry phone: 020 7937 5136

Sunday 3 December

6.30pm THE ADVENT PROCESSION

The great Advent readings, hymns and motets – leading up to Mendelssohn's LOBEGESANG

Sunday 10 December

9.30pm Family Eucharist

with Children's Nativity Play

written, produced and performed by our young people

Wednesday 13 December

1.05pm Community Carol Service

A service for all, sponsored by Kensington businesses and institutions

Sunday 17 December

6.30pm HANDEL'S MESSIAH

*Baroque performance by candlelight.
Tickets £20/10 from www.smaw8.org*

Thursday 21 December

7.00pm NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

BY CANDLELIGHT

The traditional service – followed by mulled wine and mince pies

Sunday 24 December CHRISTMAS EVE

4.00pm Children's Crib Service

A Kensington institution – children dress up as the Nativity Scene characters

11.30pm MIDNIGHT MASS

Monday 25 December CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST

11.15am CHORAL MATINS

4.00pm Carols & Communion by the Crib

Photograph by mega diamond

Kensington Hub II: DECEMBER 2017

FATHER CHRISTMAS AT THE HALL!

5 - 24 December suitable age 2+

This winter, the Royal Albert Hall has been transformed into a festive wonderland, where you'll discover snowy scenes and enchanting characters behind mysterious doorways. Father Christmas is stuck at the Royal Albert Hall and needs your help to repair his sleigh! Can you help him gather enough festive spirit to save Christmas? Your quest will end at Santa's magical sleigh, where children will meet Father Christmas, receive a present and have the opportunity with him. Tickets and info please see www.royalalberthall.com

HOPE AND HOMES FOR CHILDREN CHRISTMAS TEA AND CAROL CONCERT

6 December 16.30 hrs and 19.00 hrs

Tickets £20 per adult £8 per child

St Mary Abbots Church and Centre, Kensington. Join them for a Christmas Tea followed by an evening of celebration with special guest performances and speakers. email: Community@hopeandhomes.org www.hopeandhomes.org

THACKERAY STREET CHRISTMAS CAROL

6 December 18.00 - 19.00 hrs

A lovely way to start the festive season - this is the fourth year and Heythrop Schola Cantorum Choir will perform. Meet in front of Esmond Court. The Builders Arms will providing mulled wine and there will be minced pies and sweets for the children. Tell your friends and neighbours, rug up & pop along to join in some festive carols.

STRATFORD ROAD VILLAGE SHOPS

CHRISTMAS PARTY!

6 December 17.00 hrs - 20.00 hrs FREE

Independent retailers get together to provide games, food, music and shopping for local residents and their families. Come here to meet your neighbours and buy Christmas presents! #Stratfordroadvillageshops

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Tickets £25 adult £15 child

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crusecarolservice@gmail.com

www.kchf-cruse.org.uk

THE OUTCRY ENSEMBLE

7 December, 19.30 hrs Tickets £15, Concessions

£8 Orchestra in residence of St John's, the Outcry Ensemble directed by James Henshaw (ENO) will be performing an exciting new commission by Laurence Osborn, April in the Amazon and Mahler's Das Lied von der Erde.

Venue: St John's Church, Notting Hill, W11 2NN theoutcryensemble.com, email info@theoutcryensemble.com

W11 OPERA presents THE CUTLASS CREW

9 & 10 December - shows at 15.30 hrs & 19.00 hrs

Tickets from £12 W11 Opera's 38th original commission performed by a cast of over 80 young people. Entertaining, swashbuckling fun for the whole family! Venue: POSK Theatre, 238 - 245 King Street, Hammersmith W6 0RF www.w11opera.org/box-office

PERCUSSION SHOWCASE

12 December 18.15 hrs Tickets: £5

Percussionists from the Royal College of Music present a thrilling showcase including iconic works by by John Cage. Tel 020 591 4314 www.rcm.ac.uk/events

LUNCHTIME COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE for BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTS

13 December 13.00 hrs - 14.00 hrs FREE

Whether you have the voice of an angel - or not, come, sing and be merry at St Mary Abbots Church's Christmas carol service, and enjoy some deliciously festive treats. Sponsored by dmg media, match funded by Barclays and in partnership with the K&C Foundation, to raise money for those less fortunate in the Borough.

Kensington Hub III: DECEMBER 2017

MARKS & SPENCERS with THE KENSINGTON MAGAZINE 'CHILDREN'S COMPETITION'
14 December. All day. Prize being awarded 5.00 pm. in store Children, come along to Marks & Spencers and count how many Christmas trees you can spot, amongst the Paddington Bears! See Page 8 for information.

CANINE PARTNERS CAROL SERVICE 2017 at St Mary Abbots Church 14 December 19.00 hrs (guests to be seated by 6.45 pm) Tickets £35 adults £10 (Under 12) To support the valuable work of Canine Partners: Readings by David Robb, James Dreyfuss, Michael Peluso, Rula Lenska with a performance by Patti Boulaye and live demonstration by Canine Partners Demonstration Team. Moving and Inspirational, a must for ALL dog lovers! Tickets via www.caninepartners.org.uk/event/dracycott-carol-service-2017 or call 01530 225939. Sponsored by Dracycott Nursing & Care.

**LONDON CONCERT CHOIR
CAROLS FOR CHOIR AND AUDIENCE**
14 December 19.30 hrs Tickets £20 (U 16s £10)
Conductor: Mark Forkgen, Organist: James Longford. The choir will sing a variety of carols from medieval times to the present, including two new carols. Venue: Holy Trinity Sloane Square. Tickets from Cadogan Hall 020 7730 4500 or www.cadoganhall.com

HANDEL'S 'MESSIAH' AT ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH
17 December 18.30 hrs £20 (under 16s: £10)
A special Christmas Baroque concert by candlelight, recreating the atmosphere of Handel's original performance. Played on Baroque instruments by the Purcell Orchestra, with the St Mary Abbots Choir and soloists. Tickets available 020 7 937 5136 or www.stmaryabbotschurch.org or from the Church, Kensington Church Street W8 4LA.

THE SIXTEEN AND THE TEMPLE CHURCH CHOIR
18, 19 and 23 December, 19.30 hrs
Tickets from £16 The Sixteen and Harry

Christophers' concert includes festive music from the 16th century to the present day. The Temple Church Choir performs arrangements directed by Roger Sayer from the 16th to 20th centuries. Venue: Cadogan Hall, SW1. Tel: 020 7730 4500 www.cadoganhall.com

CHRISTMAS SELLING EXHIBITION

To 22nd December

An opportunity to find unusual Christmas presents ranging from contemporary Asterix and Tottering-by-Gently cartoons to antique furniture and silver. Venue: Reindeer Antiques, 81 Kensington Church Street. 020 7937 3754

CHANDELIERS BY CANDLE-LIGHT:

To 22nd December, Monday-Friday, 3.30 – 6pm Mrs Crick Chandeliers, 166 Kensington Church Street, W8 4BN. More than 100 real candles are lit in the antique chandeliers to celebrate the coming of Christmas. 0207 229 5866 www.crick-chandeliers.co.uk

ROADSTER JUMP'NJIVE

2nd and 4th Saturday of each month, 3pm-7pm. £10 class and social, £5 social only. Student Discount available.

Swing Patrol's fun, new swing dance event! There's a taster class at 3:15pm followed by social dancing in an enjoyable atmosphere with music. Roadster California Burger, 11 Kensington High St, W8 5NP www.swingpatrol.co.uk/spevents/the-roadster-jumpnjive www.facebook.com/roadsterjnj. email info@swingpatrol.co.uk

FOR SPECIFIC CHRISTMAS SERVICES

PLEASE REFER TO :

ST MARY ABBOTS, CHRIST CHURCH, ST GEORGES AND SAINT STEPHEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS

DESIGN !

Ongoing to 6 January 2018

The galerie is showing a group show of 5 living artists around the theme design and how Art and Design are interconnected, even indivisible. Galerie Artima, 58 Gloucester Road, SW7. 0207 584 1821 london@galerie-artima.com

Kensington Hub IV: DECEMBER 2017

The Living Advent Calendar

is a series of window installations around central Kensington to unite our community, with artwork and installations inspired by the message “Making Space for Hope”. The event is being led by St Mary Abbots Church, in partnership with local Kensington businesses.



MAP	DATE	HOST
A	4 Dec	Kensington Whole Foods
B	5 Dec	Skillman & sons
C	6 Dec	Pickwicks
D	7 Dec	Bickersteth House
E	8 Dec	St Mary Abbots School
F	11 Dec	Burlingtons Dry Cleaners
G	12 Dec	Hornets
H	13 Dec	Romano's Italian Restaurant
I	14 Dec	Huntsworth
J	15 Dec	Pestle & Mortar
K	18 Dec	Rowleys
L	19 Dec	Gallery 19
M	20 Dec	Beauty by Nicole Fenton
N	21 Dec	David Faulder Opticians
O	22 Dec	Beatrice Place

The trail launches at Whole Foods Market on 4 December and ends with Beatrice Place on 22 December.

A new Advent window will be opened at 3.45pm every weekday, during advent, with carols and other festive offerings.

Please follow the Advent trail and join us in celebrating Advent and the coming of Christmas.



Answers to the Kensington Crossword
on page 26

SAINT STEPHEN'S GLOUCESTER ROAD LONDON SW7 4RL

Parish Priest: Fr Philip Barnes SSC

Advent 3

17 December

Service of Lessons and Carols with
Benediction 18.00

Advent 4

24 December

Solemn Mass 11.00
Missa de angelis (Plainchant)

Christmas Eve

24 December

Midnight Mass 23.00
Missa ad praesepe (Malcolm)
Cantique de Noel (Adam)

Christmas Day

25 December

Solemn Mass 11.00
Missa Brevis (Drott)
In dulci jubilo (Traditional)

S Stephen's Day **26 December**

Solemn Mass 11.00
G; Missa Brevis (Dove)
Missa in tempore nativitatis (Drott)
Deus tuorum militum (Drott)
Break forth O beauteous heavenly
light (Bach)
In the bleak midwinter (Darke)

Holy Family

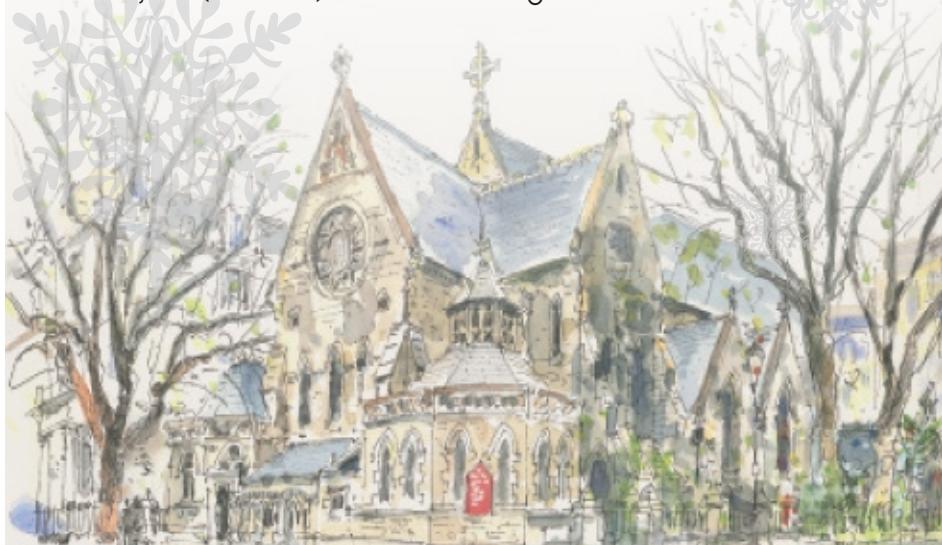
31 December

Solemn Mass 11.00
Missa de angelis (Plainchant)

Mary, Mother of God

1 January 2018

Sung Mass 12.00



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