

# THE Kensington MAGAZINE

December 20 / January 21

ISSN 2058-2226



140th Edition:  
The Social History of a Victorian Christmas



# St Philips

'Come and see'



Celebrate Advent  
and Christmas with us

## Please join us at St Philip's

All our services are in person and livestreamed via Zoom.

Visit our website [www.specr.org](http://www.specr.org) for details.

### Sundays in Advent

**Sunday 13 December**

10.30am: Holy Eucharist.

4pm: Candlelit Carol Service with festive music and your favourite carols.

**Sunday 20 December**

10.30am: All Age Eucharist and Christingle.

*The Church is open for public worship and private prayer. If you are feeling unwell or are shielding you can join our services via zoom.*

*Please remember to bring your mask to Church as they are now required by law.*

### Christmas

**Thursday 24 December, Christmas Eve**

2pm: Childrens Crib Service.

10.30pm: Midnight Choral Eucharist  
Mozart Coronation Mass  
sung by professional choral quartet.

**Friday 25 December, Christmas Day**

10.30am: Holy Eucharist with carols.

### Epiphany

**Sunday 3 January, Epiphany Sunday**

10.30am: Holy Eucharist  
with the arrival of the three kings.

**St Philip's Church, Earls Court Road, W8 6QH**

[www.specr.org](http://www.specr.org)  [StPhilipsW8](https://twitter.com/StPhilipsW8) Charity No. 1172886

St George's & St John The Baptist Churches

Warmly invite you to:



# CHRISTMAS SERVICES

## St George's Church

Aubrey Walk, London W8 7JG

### Sun 13th Dec

10am: Christmas Pageant

### Thurs 24th Dec

4pm: Crib Service

10.30pm: Midnight Mass

### Fri 25th Dec

8am: Holy Communion (BCP)

10am: Eucharist of

Christmas Morning

## St John the Baptist

Holland Road, London W14 8AH

### Sun 13th Dec

6.30pm: Carol service with the music of Britten's 'A Ceremony of Carols'

### Thurs 24th Dec

4pm: Crib Service

10.30pm: Midnight Mass

### Fri 25th Dec

10am: Mass of Christmas Morning

For further information: 020 3602 9873 / [office@hollandparkbenefice.org](mailto:office@hollandparkbenefice.org)

[www.hollandparkbenefice.org](http://www.hollandparkbenefice.org)



# THE Kensington MAGAZINE

We have had great fun researching this edition and uncovering the origins of our Christmas traditions; somewhat ironically, as it turns out, heavily influenced by our European neighbours! Our front cover depicts the first ever Christmas card, commissioned by Henry Cole (1808-1882) and designed by John Callcott Horsley in 1843. The cost was, for those days, an exorbitant shilling per card, and depicts the themes of celebration (with family) and charity. Both these topics highly relevant today, as Kensington comes together to help others at this difficult time in our history.

I personally would like to thank our monthly contributors, Maria, Sarah, Nick, Ben, Dave, Allea and Victoria, for all their work in producing relevant articles this past year. And finally, of course, to wish our wonderful clients, all our readers and their families, a Very Happy Christmas, and a much improved 2021, Lucy

**Front Cover:** The First Christmas Card, designed by John Callcott Horsley 1843 ([helenrappaport.com](http://helenrappaport.com))

## CONTENTS

A (General) History of Christmas	6
Oh Christmas Tree! O Tannenbaum!	8
My Christmas Day: Queen Victoria's Diary	10
Kensington News	12-15
The History of the Xmas Tree in Royal Circles	18
Christmas in Kensington	20
Get Well Spoon: Pine Shortbread	21
Kensington Crossword	22
Small Box Advertisements:	24
What's On in Kensington & South Ken	26-29

## CONTRIBUTORS

Aletta Richie, Victoria O'Neil, Maria Perry, Charles Yorke, Benedict Bull, Sarah Goldsmith, Dave Saunders and Nick Campailla.

Guest Contributor: Polly Putnam

## GET IN TOUCH

**EDITOR & PHOTOGRAPHY:** Lucy M Elliott  
0203 667 8762 07921 558520  
[editor@thekensingtonmagazine.com](mailto:editor@thekensingtonmagazine.com)

**PUBLISHER:** The Kensington Magazine Ltd

**WEBSITE:** [www.thekensingtonmagazine.com](http://www.thekensingtonmagazine.com)



[/TheKensingtonMagazine](https://www.facebook.com/TheKensingtonMagazine)



[#KensingtonMag](https://twitter.com/KensingtonMag)



Lucy Elliott, Editor

Hair by Toby of Hairspace at Annie Russell  
(Image: Stephen Rodwell)

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

Whilst every care has been taken to ensure that the data in this publication is accurate, neither the publisher nor the editor, nor its editorial contributors can accept, and hereby disclaim, any liability to any party for omissions resulting from negligence, accident or any other cause. All artwork is accepted on the strict condition that permission has been given for us in this publication. The Kensington Magazine Ltd does not officially endorse any advertising material included within this publication. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, without prior permission of The Kensington Magazine Ltd.



Hawkesdown House School

&

The Walnut Tree Nursery

For girls & boys from 2 years

27 Edge Street, Kensington, London W8 7PN

Telephone: 0207 727 9090 Email: [admin@hawkesdown.co.uk](mailto:admin@hawkesdown.co.uk)

[www.hawkesdown.co.uk](http://www.hawkesdown.co.uk)

# (A General) History of Christmas

By Sarah Goldsmith

The roots of modern-day Kensington are firmly placed in the Victorian era, as are the roots of our modern-day Christmas traditions. The Victorian celebration of Christmas took its cue from the monarch and her family, emphasizing the role that children held in the family. With an economic boom and the nadir of the Industrial Revolution came the advent of a commercial Christmas heavily marketed to children.

Santa Claus himself is also firmly placed in the Victorian era. While the tradition of a Father Christmas during the midwinter festival dated back to pre-Saxon times, this Father Christmas was dressed in green with a wreath of ivy or mistletoe and symbolized the coming of Spring. The figure of Father Christmas morphed over time, taking on characteristics of the Saxon, Viking, and Norman cultures. The Victorian Father Christmas, much like the Ghost of Christmas Present in Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*, took the pagan Father Christmas form in a long cloak with a holly wreath. But by the time the Victorian era came to a close, Santa Claus, introduced in the 1870s, dressed in red with his reindeer and sleigh, was fully interchangeable with Father Christmas. Queen Victoria and Prince Albert are heavily credited with introducing our current Christmas traditions. Christmas cards began to be sent, both by adults and children, thanks to the new "penny post" introduced in 1840. Another Christmas tradition promulgated by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert was the Christmas tree. Traditionally, English houses would be decorated with evergreen branches around Christmas, but an entire decorated tree was first introduced in England by George III's German wife, Queen Charlotte at a party she

gave for her children. While not catching on immediately with the wider public, in royal circles, the tree became a tradition, and Queen Victoria always had one in her room at Christmas. When she married Prince Albert and began her family, the Christmas tree gained in popularity as the upper and middle classes sought to emulate them. By the 1840s, advertisements for trees discussed their German and royal origins as well as associations with children and gift-giving. For Christmas dinner, traditionally, roast beef was served in the north and goose in London or in the south. The poor would usually have rabbit. By the end of the Victorian era, England united over serving turkey as well as another new innovation: Christmas crackers on the table. And perhaps after dinner, Christmas carols as newly composed by the Victorians might be sung. The exchange of gifts at Christmas was also another Victorian innovation. Previously, gifts were exchanged at New Year's or on the 6 January. With the emphasis on Christmas by the Victorians, and the increasing commercialization around it, the gift-giving tradition shifted and merged with Christmas. Additionally, the variety of gifts on offer increased for both children and adults, with the rise of mass production and dry goods stores.

The Victorians so imbued themselves with the spirit of Christmas, that walking down Thackeray Street in the winter dark, one can easily imagine a light snow falling, hazy gas street lights flickering, a biting chill in the air, brass lion knockers turning into Jacob Marley as shoppers hurry past, collars upturned and hats pulled down over ears to get to John Barker's on the High Street for that last gift before it closed, with Christmas carols emanating from St. Mary Abbott's.

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

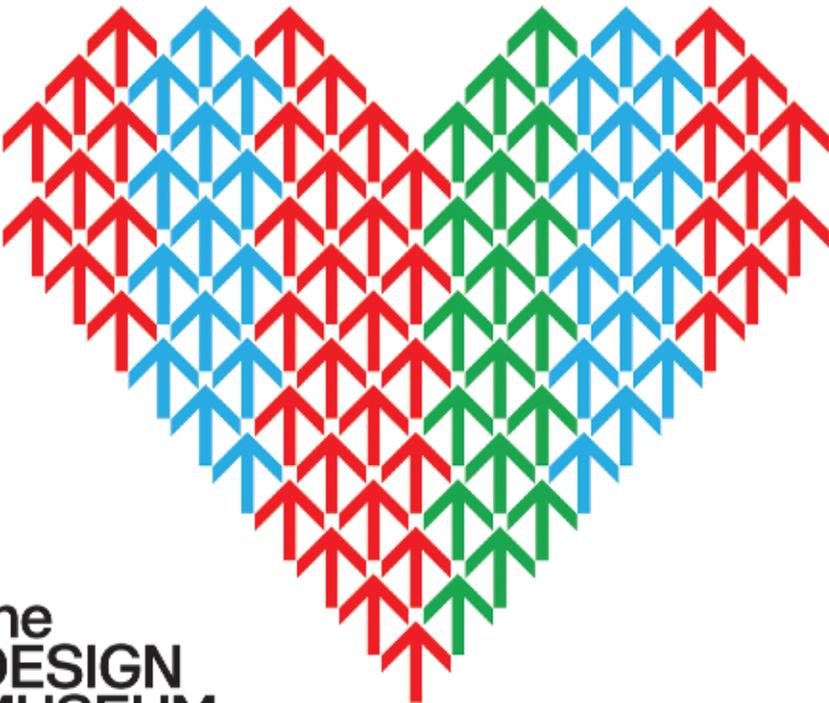
[designmuseum.org/membership](https://designmuseum.org/membership)

# Love Design? Love the Design Museum. Gift a Membership!

Support the museum and get closer to design.

Gift a year of unlimited free entry to exhibitions, virtual tours, special discounts and exhibition preview days.

**Student Membership £45**  
**Membership Plus £75**



the  
**DESIGN  
MUSEUM**

Designed by  
A2-TYPE using Rail Alphabet 2

# Oh Christmas Tree! O Tannenbaum!

By Guest Contributor: Polly Putnam, Collections Curator at Historic Royal Palaces

It's a widely held yet common misconception that we have Prince Albert to thank for the Christmas tree, so as our thoughts turn to decorating trees in our own homes, it's time we unwrap the history of this most festive of traditions...

There is, of course, an element of truth to the whole Albert Christmas tree thing. Certainly, trees became popular across Britain because in 1848, an engraving of Albert, Victoria and their children round a Christmas tree was published in the *Illustrated Evening News*. The picture so charmed the British public that they heartily adopted this very typically German practice. The picture must have been of the children's Christmas tree. Victoria and Albert gave each other so many and such large presents that they each had their own trees, whilst the children shared one between them! Yet Victoria had seen Christmas trees with presents underneath them throughout her childhood at Kensington Palace. After dinner on Christmas Eve her mother would ring a bell three times, and Victoria would enter the dining room to find trees decorated with candles and sugar ornaments, set on tables laid out with gifts. Even her beloved spaniel Dash got presents under a tree, which in 1832, "were, a basin of bread and milk, three Indian-rubber balls, and two bits of gingerbread surrounded with branches of holly and candles".

However, it was her grandmother Queen Charlotte who is actually first recorded as having a Christmas tree. Each year at Windsor, the King and Queen organised an event called the Royal Bounty where poor children were given dinners and selected to receive gifts from the Queen.



Christmas Eve at Windsor Castle in 1850  
(c) Historic Royal Palaces)

In 1800, Georgina Townsend recalls one such occasion: "Christmas evening in a German fashion. A fir tree, about as high again as any of us, lighted all over with small tapers, several little wax dolls among the branches in different places, and strings of almonds and raisins alternately tied from one to another, with skipping ropes for the boys, and each bigger girl had muslin for a frock, a muslin handkerchief, a fan and a sash, all prettily done up in the handkerchief, and a pretty necklace and earrings besides."

So, it is the mild, meek and ever charitable Queen Charlotte who must be accorded the accolade of having introduced the Christmas tree to Britain and not Albert or Victoria.

It is of course quite irrelevant which royal had the first Christmas tree, but highly relevant to consider that so much of our past and so much of our current culture we think of as "quintessentially British" is because of a rich history of intermingling with Europe.

Historic Royal Palaces  
Kensington Palace

# LIFE THROUGH A ROYAL LENS

4 MARCH – 17 OCTOBER



This brand new exhibition explores the British Royal Family's enduring relationship with the camera; from Queen Victoria and Prince Albert's patronage of photography to lesser known intimate family portraits.

**Book online to save**

Members go free

↪ Queensway ↪ High Street Kensington



# My Christmas Day: Queen Victoria's Diary 1860 (recently discovered)\*

\* according to Nick Campailla

'Bertie!' I cried, poised to reprimand, 'we are incandescent!' I was not, of course, thus addressing my beloved, rather our feckless son and heir; and whatever feck may be, my constant pain is that he was born not with it but without.

Christmas morning. I was returned to Kensington Palace at a desk piled high with pressing matters and many appeals from the veterans of Crimea. The room was ill-lit and bereft of cheer, dark clouds menaced at the window. I shivered when the door creaked open and, without leave to enter, they filed in, heads bowed, clutching their rounded bellies. I first saw Frances, then Lizzie and Rose, a harem of maids, servants and cooks, past and present, and more women besides who bore no familiarity, silently swaying and pounding their feet before me like the Maharajah's elephants. Why, even Mrs Stokes who must be all of eight-and-fifty was among them, with child. Then they straightened and I caught the sorrow and shame in their eyes. They turned and pointed in unison to a far corner, their spectral voices murmuring 'You, You, You.' I followed their gaze which alighted upon Bertie, his hat askance, his cigar pendulous, wearing not a sheepish countenance but that of a proud ram who has given his owner more than his money's worth: over one hundred Fitzroys to be fed, clothed and kept out of the newspapers!

He was seated at a table laden with a tureen of hare broth, a chine of mutton, roasts of swan and goose, pineapple jellies. The young glutton was devouring the Christmas dinner and our meals for days beyond! I must have screamed for when I awoke Albert was hushing me and planting dear

little kisses on my forehead. I told him of my nightmare, which by God's grace was not made worse by the appearance of Mr Gladstone - how I recall that ghastly man's contemptuousness when once I strengthened my claret with whisky - and Albert said my sleeping mind was in thrall to physical love and victuals, adding mysteriously that a boy not long born would grow to be the foremost interpreter of dreams like mine. I thought of those unfortunate women I had conjured and remembered with relief that I was not again myself in that vexatious animal condition.

'The children, they are well? There is no horrid fever in our midst?' Albert reassured me and said that such is scientific progress, one day families across the land shall spend Christmas together without fear of contagion and miasma. For it was truly Christmas morning, not just in my imagination, and as we descended to breakfast the snow was falling and our lovely tree stood brightly lit and stacked with gifts. Despite their disturbing tenor, my nocturnal meanderings had rekindled love of my childhood home, supplanting even Windsor. 'Kensington is where my heart and soul belong,' I exclaimed. 'Dearest, you are restive now that the Exhibition and Osborne House are done, you need new projects: let us leave Buckingham Palace and move to Kensington!' 'Yes, Liebchen,' he sighed, humouring me.

The older children were at table: Vicky, Bertie, Alice, Affie, Lenchen, Louise and Arthur. I had a lamb chop and curried omelette. How I laughed inside when I glanced at Bertie, seemingly so gay and innocent!



# SUSAN WALKER

---

Antique & Modern Jewellery

Diamonds

Repair & Restoration

Coloured Stones

Design

Antique Gilding

Remodelling

Pearl Stringing

---

+44 (0) 20 7937 8911 | [www.susanwalkerdesigns.com](http://www.susanwalkerdesigns.com)

Richard Young Gallery 4 Holland Street London W8 4LT

## Part-time freelance opportunity

**We are** the board which oversees the management of a historic and premium mansion block in Kensington. We are looking for someone to work with us for a few hours each month, originating and co-ordinating our paperwork and circulars and keeping records of our meetings.

**You are** someone who has excellent communication skills, both written and oral. You are financially and computer literate and you understand the importance of attention to detail. Ideally, you have experience of working with a non-executive board/governing body.

**Tell us in confidence about yourself** by writing to the board c/o the editor at [editor@thekensingtonmagazine.com](mailto:editor@thekensingtonmagazine.com)

## BUSINESS NEWS

**Aegle** is a new-concept nutritional health brand founded by nutritionists on a drive to make nutritional health accessible. In January members are invited to embark on a life-changing health journey to understand what foods support certain aspects of health and why. Every month, members receive quality store cupboard ingredients with an explanation of what they are, how they support health and how to make enjoyable meals from them. Interviews with experts, recipes and access to Aegle Clinic make this an engaging way to address health goals for 2021. Oh, and they are selling beautifully curated Christmas hampers to boot!  
[www.meetaegle.com](http://www.meetaegle.com)

In 1980 Susan founded **Susan Walker Designs Ltd.**, originally specializing in antique jewellery repair and restoration services for the antique jewellery trade. During that period, through her Hatton Garden contacts she became a diamond and coloured stone dealer and designer. She now incorporates both antique and bespoke jewellery design into her designs. Susan's love for antique jewellery stemmed from her experience of being an original stall holder at Greys Antique Market. Susan continues working in restoration and design and precious stones, mainly concentrating on private commissions in a career that has now spanned nearly 40 years. You can view Susan's designs and her perfect Christmas gift exquisitely packaged at The Richard Young Gallery, 4 Holland Street W8 4LT  
[www.susanwalkerdesigns.com](http://www.susanwalkerdesigns.com)

**Caroline Andrew** is a highly experienced tailor who focusses on traditional hand crafted British suits for men and women. She uses British cloths and has an enviable list of clients built up over the past ten years. Caroline's workshop, small and beautiful, is at 109 Kensington Church St. and here you can go through a multitude of options for cloth and cut. Please call for appointment. 07940 910906 [www.carolineandrew.co.uk](http://www.carolineandrew.co.uk)

**Hillgate Management** are property managing agents who believe in a personal and practical approach to building management. Based in Notting Hill Gate they have over fifty years of experience of dealing with mansion block conversions and high end residential apartment buildings in and around RBKC. With their in-house surveyors, specialist property managers and expert accounts team their aim is to work with clients to ensure the building is well-maintained, meets current safety regulations and has complete financial transparency. Please get in touch if you are unsatisfied with your current management 020 3905 3318. [www.hillgatemanagement.com](http://www.hillgatemanagement.com)

**Bluebell Cottage School** has community admissions available for families in the local area of SW3 to attend from 5th November to 9th July 2021 due to Covid19. Places are offered on a reduced fee offering subject to terms and conditions and as part of the community commitment in these uncertain times. [www.bluebellcottageschool.com](http://www.bluebellcottageschool.com)

**The RBKC Supply Chain project**, run by Kensington and Chelsea Council in partnership with London procurement experts MTW Consultants, was launched in October 2019. With another year ahead

## Kensington News II

for the Supply Chain project, any business in the area, from plumbers and carpenters to architects and interior designers, are encouraged to get involved. Not only do those taking part get connected with contract opportunities, also on offer are one-to-one advisory sessions, informative webinars, and 'Meet the Buyer' networking events. Find out more information at [www.rbkcsupplychain.co.uk](http://www.rbkcsupplychain.co.uk).

### CHARITIES/SOCIETIES/RESIDENTS ASSOCIATIONS' NEWS

[Hotel School London](#) has re-opened thanks to a new training space provided by Westminster Kingsway College, following a tough lockdown period that saw the team work tirelessly to help 75% of graduates who lost hospitality jobs back into employment. With the rise in Covid-19 restrictions now threatening to worsen the situation afresh, the charity is appealing to potential recruiters and volunteer mentors, as well as organisations able to donate devices for remote learning. Programme Manager, Zoe Minihan, said: "We are keen to get on board employers who have positions and are willing to give our graduates a chance. Offering opportunities is key to breaking the cycle of homelessness and long-term unemployment. The support we provide is more vital than ever as unemployment levels rise and those who are vulnerable are hardest hit." [www.hotelschool.org.uk](http://www.hotelschool.org.uk)

A new fundraising initiative, '[Republic of YOUmanity](#)', was set up by arts patrons Maryam Eisler, Maria Sukkar and Shirley Elghanian, transforming shop windows across Kensington & Chelsea into a pop-up gallery, featuring large prints by award-

winning photographer David Taggart. For one month only, prints of Taggart's incredible photographs went on a limited sale with all proceeds benefitting CW+, official charity of Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. The project was conceived just 36 hours before the November national lockdown, supporting Chelsea and Westminster Hospital's efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic, and uniting the local community in a time of isolation and disconnection. This initiative is generously supported by the Youmanity Charitable Organisation.

[Friends of Holland Park](#) are pleased to alert the community of the availability of [defibrillators](#) in Holland Park. All Parks Police vehicles are equipped with one and there is also one in the Holland Park Police Office in Stable Yard. If you should find someone in Holland Park in need of a defibrillator (not breathing or appears to be suffering a heart attack), please call 999. This will alert the London Ambulance Service. Any call made to the London Ambulance Service concerning someone in our parks and open spaces is automatically forwarded to the Parks Police duty phone. This is to ensure the fastest possible response until an ambulance arrives.

[Kensington and Chelsea Council's Leighton House](#) has raised over £26,000 to fund its first permanent contemporary artwork, [Oneness](#) by Iranian artist Shahrzad Ghaffari. The museum is the quickest project in the history of the Art Happens crowdfunding platform to hit its fundraising target in under two weeks. The extra funds will be used to design and build a bespoke scaffolding system for Ghaffari to access the staircase

# Kensington News III

wall to complete the mural. Oneness will be the final piece of the museum's capital project aimed at providing much-needed additional visitor and learning facilities, exhibition spaces and improved accessibility.

## GENERAL NEWS

Do you know the secret of why the Crystal Palace was really moved? Did you know there is a fabled creature protecting the residents of Kensington? Have you ever wondered why the Natural History museum is located where it is? Local author and fellow Kensington lover Jon-Jon answers all these questions in his short story collection: [Victorian Adventure Stories](#). You can obtain a FREE ebook copy by subscribing to his mailing list at [www.Jon-Jon.co.uk](http://www.Jon-Jon.co.uk)

**Help save Brompton Hospital:** Residents can have their say now on new planning guidance which could safeguard the future of world class healthcare services at the Brompton Hospital in Chelsea. Kensington and Chelsea Council's proposals lay out principles for any future development at Brompton Hospital. It comes after councillors opposed NHS plans to merge the Brompton and St Guy and Thomas's NHS Trusts, which have sparked concerns that the specialist cardiac facilities could be lost from the area. The hospital has provided lifesaving treatment and conducted groundbreaking research during the coronavirus pandemic. Go to [www.planningconsult.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.planningconsult.rbkc.gov.uk) to take part before 30 December.

The [Kensington Business Forum](#) are delighted to bring you Christmas Lights along Kensington High Street to local businesses and residents of W8. This has been in collaboration and receipt of funding from the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy through the Council.

The [Kensington Business Forum](#) is delighted to announce the new website for Kensington High Street and W8!

[www.visitkensington.co.uk](http://www.visitkensington.co.uk)

The website has been created to showcase all we have to offer here in W8. Kensington High Street, like many high streets across the UK, have suffered greatly over the last few years. And yet, we still have so much to offer. The website will be continually updated with new businesses, services and all the latest news in W8. The website has been created in collaboration with Kensington & Chelsea Council and the BID (Business Improvement District). Website design by Christophe Camara ([www.christophecamara.com](http://www.christophecamara.com))

**Obituary: [Former Mayor of Kensington & Chelsea, Cllr. Christopher Buckmaster.](#)** Christopher was a very well known figure in Kensington, having been a councillor for the Campden Ward for twenty years, and twice mayor. As well as being a regular attendee at St George's Church he was a huge advocate of the charity, Brain Tumour Research Campaign. On the personal side, he had an enviable collection of Napoleonic china - apparently made for Napoleon, seized by an ancestor at the Battle of Waterloo and subsequently handed down the generations. Always a gentle,



Former Mayor and Cllr. Christopher Buckmaster  
with Anne Hobson,  
Chelsea Flower Show, May 2013  
(image: lucyelliottphotography.com)

gentleman with a twinkle in his eye he will be much missed by the community of W8, and especially his companion of many years, Anne Hobson

### Editor's Last Word ...

As some of you may be aware, my husband Stephen and I moved from Kensington Church Street to Lymington in Hampshire three years ago. During that time I have worked from home and until Covid, spent a couple of days a week in London. After completing 14 years wonderful years of the magazine, I have decided to stop publishing - not to 'spend more time with my family' but to pursue interests/hobbies local to Lymington. The time spent working on the magazine has been incredible; I have met some amazing people, seen the business and residential community pulling together and working as one, on many issues, none more so than with Grenfell and Covid.

There have been many highlights during this time; The Baglioni hosting a party for

our inaugural launch; the Roof Gardens for our 5th Anniversary; Kensington Palace, The Milestone Hotel and the Baglioni Hotel for multiple 'Meet your Neighbours' evenings; attending Press Day at Chelsea Flower Show and Royal Hospital Road, Founders' Day services. I would also include holding a photographic exhibition at Whole Foods Market; getting married at St Mary Abbots in December 2010 with many residents/clients attending; and our wedding breakfast at the Milestone. But mostly it's the strong relationships with clients, many of whom are now friends, that I treasure. I am hugely honoured that so many of our clients have remained loyal to the magazine, with quite a few having been with us for ten years - particularly Trailfinders whose first advertisement celebrated their 40th Anniversary in October 2010, and who have now just celebrated their 50th.

Bound copies of the magazine from 2007-2014 are available in the RBKC Library (Local Studies Dept) and I hope once they have more funding available they might be able to complete their set to 2020. I intend to compile an index of topics in the future. A W8 client/friend also has a complete set in the corner of his sitting room. When asked recently if he would get rid of them, he replied "Oh but darling, how could I throw them away, they are works of art"!!

Most importantly, my final thanks to all our clients, past and present; to all our writers, again past and present who have so generously given their time to write each month, and to you, the reader. For your interest, support, encouragement, feedback (whether by email, letter or in conversation) and for accompanying me on this journey. I wish you all well, Lucy

You are warmly invited  
to join us this Christmas in church or online



Comfort  
&  
*JOY*

## **VIRTUAL ADVENT CALENDAR**

An online event each day of Advent!

## **CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**

Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th December at 7pm

## **MIDNIGHT COMMUNION**

Thursday 24th December at 11pm

## **CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATION**

Friday 25th December at 10.30am

ST · BARNABAS  
KENSINGTON

23 Addison Road, London W14 8LH

**[stbk.org.uk/christmas](https://stbk.org.uk/christmas)**



# light in the darkness

AT CHRIST CHURCH KENSINGTON

## SUNDAY 13 DECEMBER

*11am* All-age Carol Service

*4pm & 6pm* Carols by Candlelight

---

## THURSDAY 24 DECEMBER

*3.30pm* Crib Service

*Children are encouraged to come dressed up as a character  
from the nativity for our family-friendly retelling*

*11:15pm* Christmas Eve Communion Service

---

## FRIDAY 25 DECEMBER

*10.30am* Christmas Morning Service

*With children's group*

### PLEASE NOTE

Please check our website for how we are adapting to the latest Government restrictions, including booking & livestreaming details.

For details of how to book, or how to watch online  
[www.christchurchkensington.com/christmas](http://www.christchurchkensington.com/christmas)

CHRIST  
CHURCH  
KENSINGTON 

# The History of the Christmas Tree (in Royal Circles)

By Benedict Bull

More than carols and presents maybe the joining together of Halloween and Christmas is about warmth and making our homes cosy and spending time together as families, real and imagined. What a cool set of scary houses we had this year in late October.

On the radio this morning I heard the wonderful 10,000 voices, a minstrel lament and its warmth conjures for me our search for cosiness together in the face of winter. And few cannot marvel at the great collection of lights and trees that we experience here each year.

The simple treat of going down Holland Park Avenue after dusk with the proportions of the road, the trees, the traffic lights and car tail lights is to me so beautiful, every bit as much as the more ephemeral displays conjured by the high streets. The erecting of trees and boughs, of firs and hollies in particular and hanging them with lights is a rich tradition. There are the famous trees put up in Covent Garden and in Trafalgar Square which is a gift of the Norwegian people since 1947 and it is usually 25m tall and gaily lit.

On a domestic level having trees and boughs in the home is another part of our winter home making. There is an historical misconception in thinking that Prince Albert brought the Christmas Tree over to the UK; in fact the young Queen Charlotte (wife of King George) did so in 1800 for the great rooms in Windsor and Kew Palaces. At the time this caused quite a consternation and having a Christmas tree was confined to members of the royal family and nobility; however, with the arrival of Prince Albert

and his enthusiasm of all things Christmas, by 1860 the Christmas tree had found its way to all homes and was accordingly decorated with candles, dried fruit, ornaments and gifts. In 1984 Queen Victoria wrote:

"... Christmas, I always look upon as a most dear happy time, also for Albert, who enjoyed it naturally still more in his happy home, which mine, certainly, as a child, was not [referring to Kensington Palace]. It is a pleasure to have this blessed festival associated with one's happiest days. The very smell of the Christmas Trees of pleasant memories. To think, we have already 2 Children now, & one who already enjoys the sight, — it seems like a dream."

As in previous traditions, a huge and well lit Christmas tree is now placed in front of Kensington Palace in celebration of Albert and Victoria's legacy.

For myself, I prefer the sustainable angle and have traditionally taken boughs from trees that I have pruned and used them to decorate my home and hang ribbons and lights in them. It is still a bit early but I know there is a lot of planning going into it already!

If you would like more information on sustainable trees and species please email [ben@smartlandscapes.com](mailto:ben@smartlandscapes.com) and we will point you in the right direction.

*Editor's Note: We would like to thank HRP Kensington Palace for supplying additional information in the preparation of this article. Furthermore, this article appeared in December 2019 but we felt it was appropriate for the theme of this edition.*

WORLDS END NURSERIES



Nurserymen

# WORLDS END NURSERIES

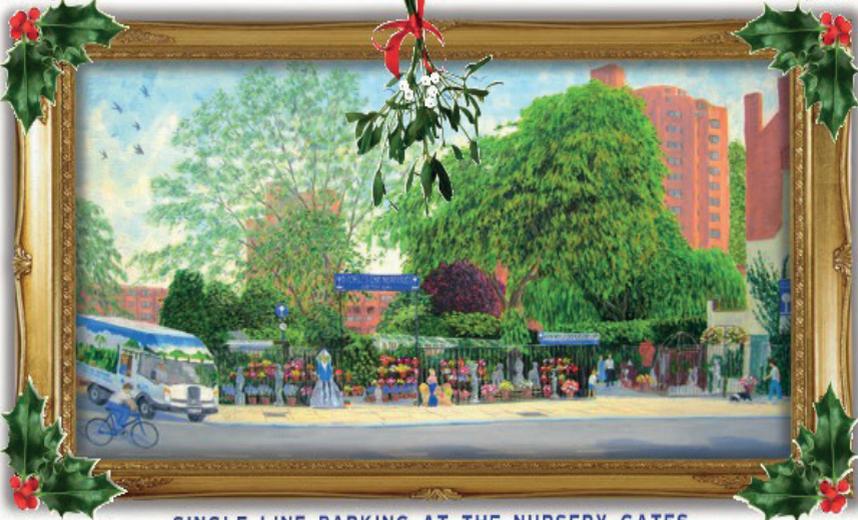
## KINGS ROAD, CHELSEA

020-7351-3343

WORLDS END NURSERIES



Plant Specialists



SINGLE LINE PARKING AT THE NURSERY GATES

HOUSE PLANTS

TROPICAL PLANTS

GARDEN PLANTS

HERBS & ROSES

SHRUBS & TREES

## CHELSEA'S OLDEST GARDEN CENTRE

ALL YOU NEED FOR THE HOME & GARDEN,  
PATIO, BALCONY, TERRACE & ROOF

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK  
MONDAY - SATURDAY 9AM - 6.30PM  
SUNDAY 10AM - 5.30PM

## COMPLETE GARDEN SERVICE

[WWW.WORLSENDNURSERIES.COM](http://WWW.WORLSENDNURSERIES.COM)

ALL TYPES OF CONTAINERS

TERRACOTTA POTS

STATUES & BIRD BATHS

TRELLIS & BOXS

IRON BENCHES

THE CHRISTMAS TREES HAVE ARRIVED  
FREE DELIVERY IN R.B.K & C

10AM



5PM

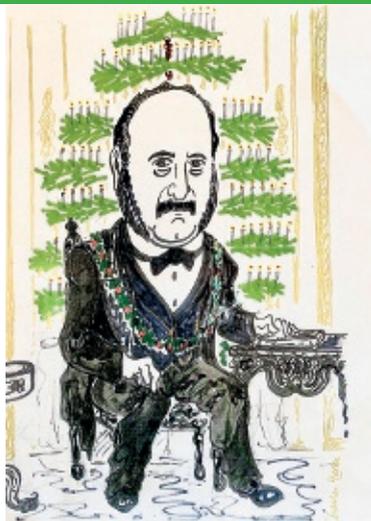
# Christmas in Kensington

By Maria Perry with illustration by Charles Yorke

It is usually asserted that Prince Albert introduced the Christmas tree into England. Perhaps this is because in 1848 a lithograph was widely circulated showing the Prince Consort 'presiding at a German-style, table-top Christmas tree.' The tree is 6ft high and stands on a table covered with a white cloth. Queen Victoria is on the left. The Prince Consort, wearing the sash of the Order of the Garter, is on the right. Between them four of their children gaze up at the tree. There is no indication of where the scene took place. Kensington Palace? Windsor Castle?

In fact Christmas trees were introduced into the British Isles long before 1848. Queen Charlotte, wife of George III brought them to her Court in the last year of the Eighteenth Century. The King gave New Year parties. He liked to welcome the coming year and give thanks for the old one. At Windsor Castle however the Queen gave a supper party on Christmas Evening 1799 at which a 12 ft Christmas tree stood lighted all over with tapers. Its branches were hung with gifts of skipping ropes and muslin frocks wrapped in a muslin handkerchief. For the older girls there were necklaces and ear-rings. Strings of almonds and raisins festooned it and the Queen and the Princesses distributed the gifts. When this was finished the candles were extinguished and the children rushed forward to grab the nuts and raisins.

This custom of fir trees at Court continued long after Queen Charlotte's time. As a girl Queen Victoria was accustomed to them in Kensington long before the arrival of Prince Albert. The people of Kensington were immensely proud that the heiress



presumptive had been born and bred there. In 1831 she made her public debut when she was 12 but, in an important state procession, when she should have walked behind the King, she managed to walk in the wrong place. Her mother, the Duchess of Kent, took her on Summer journeys to great houses like Chatsworth to meet the nobility of England. The Duchess was not quite the autocratic monster she has been portrayed in modern films. She simply sought to protect her daughter from the Press. By 1854 Victoria was confirmed in the Church of England by the Archbishop of Canterbury and later visited by King Leopold of the Belgians who became her mentor. The Duchess persuaded her own brother, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg also to visit England with his sons - the elder was Prince Albert. Unknown to the general public and the prying Press, a marriage was already being arranged! Maybe Albert, being German, took over decorating the Christmas trees, as it was a skill more familiar to him than grasping the English Constitution.

# GET WELL SPOON



## December/January

Pine Shortbread

These unusual biscuits would make a good gift.

### Ingredients:

Tablespoon of pine needles (washed and dried)  
150g plain flour  
100g butter (chilled and cubed)  
50g caster sugar  
Handful of pine nuts  
Zest of lemon

Put the pine needles and the flour into a blender and blend until the pine needles are finely ground (you need the needles with the flour because there are such a small amount they wouldn't get ground down). This will make a strong pine smell and the flour will go slightly green.

Put the flour mix, sugar and butter into a mixing bowl. With your hands make into breadcrumbs and then combine into a dough. Put the dough into the fridge while you preheat the oven to 170C/150C fan or gas 3.

Roll out the dough. If you have a tree cookie cutter, it would be fun to make into trees. Otherwise, make into fingers and put a few pine nuts on the top to decorate.

Cook for 15-20 minutes until golden. The taste is almost citrusy and not as piney as when uncooked, especially with a sprinkle of lemon zest.



Illustration: Aletta Riche  
Text: Victoria Keil

The smell of pine is considered uplifting and has decongestant properties.

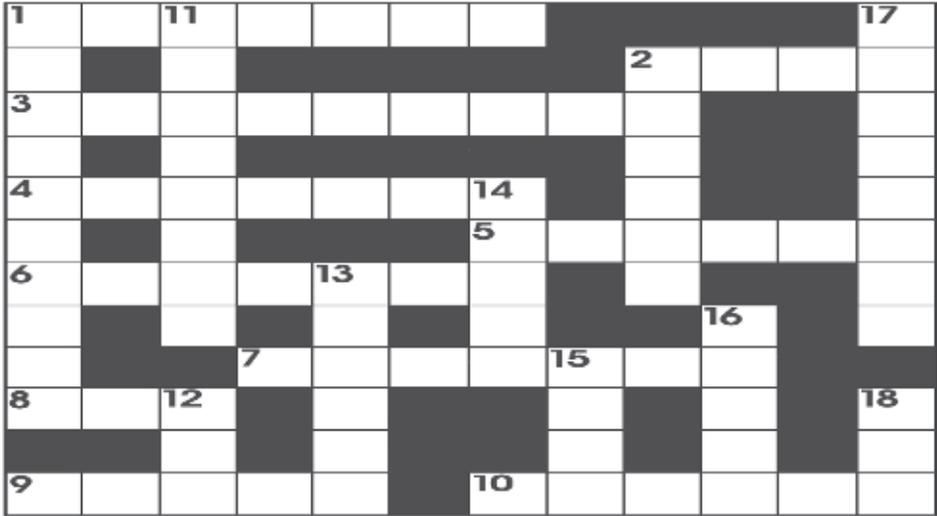
Pine nuts are rich in magnesium, iron, antioxidants, zinc, and protein, which can help with diabetes management, heart health, and brain health. Other nutrients in pine nuts include phosphorus, vitamins K and E, fibre and calcium.

*Our book 'Knife, Fork, Get Well Spoon' is available at Wholefoods in Kensington and on Amazon.co.uk*

# The Kensington Crossword

By Dave Saunders

Pit your wits against our Kensington-centric crossword. (Answers on page 24)



## Across

- 1) Indian restaurant located at 4 Derry St, W8 (7)
- 2) \_\_\_\_ Guys, burger and fast-food outlet at 183 Kensington High St, W8 (4)
- 3) Hair salon located at 1 Thackeray Street, W8 (9)
- 4) Wine merchants at 17 Kensington Church St, W8 (7)
- 5) Unisex clothing retailer at 54-58 Kensington High St, W8 (6)
- 6) Kensington \_\_\_\_\_, apartment block located at 91-95 Campden Hill Road, W8 (7)
- 7) Shop selling outdoor equipment at 176 Kensington High St, W8 (7)
- 8) Adam and \_\_\_\_ Mews, residential mews that adjoins Eden Close, W14 (3)
- 9) Bill \_\_\_\_\_, owner of the Sticky Fingers restaurant at Phillimore Gardens, W8 (5)
- 10) Margaret \_\_\_\_\_, dancer, choreographer and teacher born in Kensington in 1891; died 1980 (6)

## Down

- 1) The \_\_\_\_\_ Arms, gastro-pub situated at 37 Marloes Road, W8 (10)
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ Terrace, residential street connecting Cranley Place to Fulham Road, SW7 (6)
- 11) Solicitors at 96 Kensington High Street, W8 (8)
- 12) \_\_\_\_ Place, residential street that runs off Selwood Place, SW7 (3)
- 13) \_\_\_\_\_ London Kensington, hotel at 179-199 Holland Park Avenue, W11 (6)
- 14) Yashin \_\_\_\_\_, Japanese restaurant at 1A Argyll Road, W8 (5)
- 15) Coco \_\_\_\_\_, all-day cafe and bar at 25 Gloucester Road, SW7 (4)
- 16) Jane \_\_\_\_\_ Party Cakes, store vending cakes & cookery equipment at 22-24 Cale St, SW3, which closed in 2020 (5)
- 17) Sir Eric \_\_\_\_\_, diplomat and oil man, born in Kensington in 1900 (8)
- 18) Clothing store located at 124-126 Kensington High St, W8 (3)



# Bluebell Cottage School

Kensington · Chelsea



★  
Open  
for pre-school  
admissions



To register please e-mail: **office@LNS.education**

 [londonnurseryschools.co.uk](http://londonnurseryschools.co.uk)  
[bluebellcottageschool.com](http://bluebellcottageschool.com)

 [#LNSCommunity](https://www.instagram.com/LNSCommunity)  
[BluebellCottageschool](https://www.instagram.com/BluebellCottageschool)







## ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH

*'Serving the Heart of Kensington'*

We would like to welcome you to St Mary Abbots Parish Church, found on the corner of Kensington High Street and Kensington Church Street, which will be holding a series of Christmas services and concerts during Advent and on Christmas day. [www.smaw8.org/services](http://www.smaw8.org/services)

### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December

- 3.30 pm Handel's Messiah (Part 1)  
*Baroque performance by candlelight with our professional choir and The Purcell Players*
- 6.30 pm Handel's Messiah (Part 1)  
*Baroque performance by candlelight with our professional choir and The Purcell Players*  
**Tickets £20: [www.smaw8.org/messiah-2020](http://www.smaw8.org/messiah-2020)**

### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December

- 3.30 pm Lessons and Choral Carols for Christmastide
- 6.30 pm Lessons and Choral Carols for Christmastide

### Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December

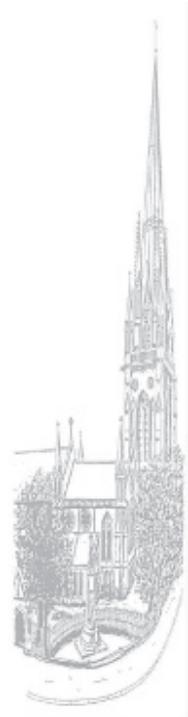
#### CHRISTMAS EVE

- 11.30 pm Midnight Mass by Candlelight  
*with our professional Choir*

### Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December

#### CHRISTMAS DAY

- 8.00 am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
- 9.30 am Family Eucharist *with our professional choir*
- 11.15 am Festal Matins *with our professional choir*



**Of necessity numbers in the church will be restricted in order to protect the health and safety of our worshippers and all are subject to alteration if regulations change.**

**Places must be booked in advance via our website [www.smaw8.org/services](http://www.smaw8.org/services)**

St Mary Abbots Parish Church, Kensington High Street, W8 4LA

Vicar: The Reverend Emma Dinwiddy Smith. Email: [pa@stmaryabbots.org.uk](mailto:pa@stmaryabbots.org.uk)

# W8 & South Ken Cultural Quarters: What's On I

## DECEMBER 2020

### CHRISTMAS AT CADOGAN 2020

Ongoing - from £5

Christmas at Cadogan returns with concerts featuring choirs, swing orchestras, musical theatre, jazz, New Year's Eve comedy with the Rainer Hersch Orchestra, annual favourites such as The Sixteen, and The Gruffalo and The Snowman for families. (Subject to tiers). Cadogan Hall  
020 7730 4500. [www.cadoganhall.com](http://www.cadoganhall.com)

### JOHN RUTTER'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

10 Dec 3pm; 7:30pm Prices vary

Join the nation's favourite choral composer for another joyful celebration of Christmas as he conducts Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in the Royal Albert Hall. Sing-along carols, rousing fanfares, Yuletide classics and more. Royal Albert Hall. [www.royalalberthall.com](http://www.royalalberthall.com)

### GUY BARKER'S BIG BAND CHRISTMAS

11 Dec 7:30pm Prices vary

This much-loved festive, annual tradition returns for a swinging, soulful celebration of big band music with a Christmas twist! His inimitable mixture of jazz classics, treasures and Christmas oddities will put a swing in your step. [www.royalalberthall.com](http://www.royalalberthall.com)

### MY CHRISTMAS ORCHESTRAL ADVENTURE

13 Dec 3pm Prices vary

Father Christmas has lost his map on a practice run of his delivery route! Thankfully his trusty ensemble has found it but they need your help to return it to him ahead of the big day. [www.royalalberthall.com](http://www.royalalberthall.com)

### CHRISTMAS MARKETS ON PORTOBELLO RD

Sun 13 and Sun 20 December, 10am - 5pm  
Christmas is coming to Portobello with

pop up market stalls featuring gifts, clothes, antiques, food and more. Along Portobello Road from the corner of Elgin Crescent to Cambridge Gardens. Keep up to date @ VisitPortobello on Instagram and Twitter.

### SEARCHING FOR GIANT BANANAS

14 Dec 6:30-7:30pm Online Free

Ethiopia, the world's largest historical recipient of targeted food aid, and the second most populous country in Africa where a quarter live below the national poverty line: yet despite significant development challenges, Ethiopia remains exceptionally botanically rich. Royal Geographical Society. [www.rgs.org.uk](http://www.rgs.org.uk)

### HANDEL'S MESSIAH

15 Dec 7pm Prices vary

Performed since 1871, this year's annual event features the sublime voices of the Philharmonia Chorus, accompanied by majestic sounds of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, combined with special guest vocalists Francesca Chiejina, Katie Bray, Trystan Llŷr Griffiths and Dingle Yandell. [www.royalalberthall.com](http://www.royalalberthall.com)

### ROYAL BROMPTON'S ONLINE CAROL CONCERT

17 December, 7:30pm

Her Royal Highness Princess Eugenie will be reading at Virtually Christmas, Royal Brompton's online Christmas Carol Concert. The event includes Dame Sian Phillips, the choir Singing for Breathing, Fortis Voices and Harefield School choir. Virtually Christmas will take place online. Tickets are available from [www.rbhcharity.org/Event/virtually-christmas](http://www.rbhcharity.org/Event/virtually-christmas)

# W8 & South Ken Cultural Quarter: What's On II

## BTRC CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Thursday 17 December, 19.30-20.30, tickets £25 or live-streamed £15 each  
Carols and Celebrity Readings followed by "bubbles and bites", dedicated to raising funds for brain tumour research at Imperial College London. All Saints Church, Pryors Bank, Bishops Park, London SW6  
Wendy Fulcher 020 8601 2402, wendy@btrc-charity.org, www.btrc-charity.org

## JUDY BUXTON, 'WILD SPACES'

To 17 December 2020  
Judy Buxton's paintings are abstract yet beautifully clear created by carefully placed mark making manipulating the layers of paint to form the most sublime seascapes, still lifes and equestrian portraits.  
THACKERAY GALLERY 020 7937 5883  
www.thackeraygallery.com

## CAROLS AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL

18-23 December 1:30pm; 7:30pm Prices vary  
The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Richard Cooke, along with the Royal Choral Society, the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain will sing the world's favourite carols, with accompaniment on the Voice of Jupiter. www.royalalberthall.com

## EARTH PHOTO EXHIBITION

19 Dec-25 April Free Online  
Professional and amateur photographs featuring the best in environmental visual media and how it can connect us with the world by telling stories and encouraging discussion about our planet, its inhabitants and our treatment of both. www.rgs.org

## "WE NEED A LITTLE CHRISTMAS"

From 20 December 2020 to 1 January 2021

Tickets will cost £20 + booking fee for a single ticket or £30 + booking fee for a family ticket. Filmed concert in support of Shelter and Crisis at Christmas. Watch online - stream.theatre

## RUGY PORTOBELLO TRUST CHRISTMAS QUIZ WITH SEBASTIAN FAULKS

29 December 7 - 8.00 pm. Online  
Test yours and your family's general knowledge with this family friendly quiz, in support of RPT. You can take part by visiting www.tinyurl.com/rptchristmasquiz

## THE NUTCRACKER

30 Dec-2 Jan Times & Prices vary  
A magical, spectacular Christmas ballet Birmingham Royal Ballet returns to the Royal Albert Hall following critically acclaimed seasons since 2017. This enchanting production, featuring Tchaikovsky's sumptuous score, is the quintessential festive treat for all the family.  
www.royalalberthall.com

## THE COST OF YOUR WORDS

Outside. Free  
Award-winning artist Fabio Lattanzi Antinori has transformed the terrace with a bold digital artwork displaying the current cost of keywords captured from Google searches in and around South Kensington. Royal Society of Sculptors. www.sculptors.org.uk

## INFORMATION AGE

Daily 10am-6pm Wed-Sun Free  
200 years of innovation told through the eyes of those who invented, operated or were affected by the new wave of technology, from the BBC's first radio broadcast in 1922 to the dawn of digital TV.  
www.sciencemuseum.org.uk

## W8 & South Ken Cultural Quarters: What's On III

### CREATIVE GARDEN

Daily 10am-6pm Wed-Sun Free

An exciting interactive space created especially for children 3–6. While playing, they can find out about floating and sinking, shadows and reflections, and more. At the same time, developing skills of observing, predicting, testing and drawing conclusions. [www.sciencemuseum.org.uk](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk)

### BRASS, STEEL AND FIRE

10am-6pm Wed-Sun Free Free

Discover the beauty of locomotive engineering and journey through 100 years of model-making. Brass, Steel and Fire highlights the great age of experimentation when vicars, lace makers and engineers breathed life into hissing, steaming miniature locomotives. Science Museum [www.sciencemuseum.org.uk](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk)

### ON POINT:

#### ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCE AT 100

To March 2021 Wed-Sun 11am-6pm Free  
Explore their 100-year history and discover a host of costume, designs, film and unique material from the last century including shoes worn by Dame Darcey Bussell DBE at her 2007 farewell performance. V&A [www.vam.ac.uk](http://www.vam.ac.uk)

### FANTASTIC BEASTS AND THE WONDER OF NATURE

Mon-Sun 10am-5:50pm (last entry 5pm)

Adult £22 Child £13.25

Discover where the real and wizarding worlds intertwine, and how the wonders of the natural world have inspired myths, legends and magical creatures for generations. Natural History Museum [www.nhm.ac.uk](http://www.nhm.ac.uk)

### JANUARY 2021

#### AI-DA

Opening January

Meet Ai-Da, a humanoid robot artist whose 'self-portraits' use artificial intelligence to open up questions about human identity and creativity. Sign up to their newsletter to <https://bit.ly/3ea1CCV> to be the first to know when it opens in January. Design Museum. [www.designmuseum.org](http://www.designmuseum.org)

#### EXPERITOTS

5-26 Jan Dates vary Adults £2.50 Child £2.50

This term will explore themes of communication and technology. During these relaxed sessions, toddlers and their adults are encouraged to play, explore and experiment together. Science Museum [www.sciencemuseum.org.uk](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk)

#### PATTERN POD

Daily 10am-6pm Wed-Sun Free

An amazing multi-sensory area for children under 8 years old, where they can explore water ripples without getting their feet wet, create symmetrical images on touch screens, follow robot trails and much more. Science Museum [www.sciencemuseum.org.uk](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk)

#### EXPLORING SPACE

Daily 10am-6pm Wed-Sun Free

From rockets to satellites, probes to landers and a full-sized replica of Eagle - the lander that took astronauts Armstrong and Aldrin to the Moon in 1969. Discover how we can live in space— eat, drink and go to the toilet. [www.sciencemuseum.org.uk](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk)

# W8 & South Ken Cultural Quarters: What's On IV

## MAKING THE MODERN WORLD

Daily 10am-6pm Wed-Sun Free  
Chart 250 years of science and technology amongst some iconic items that have shaped our society. Come face-to-face with the Apollo 10 command module, Babbage's Difference Engine No. 1, Crick and Watson's DNA model and the first Apple computer. [www.sciencemuseum.org.uk](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk)

## MARGARET CALVERT: WOMAN AT WORK

Til 10 January Free Advanced booking  
Enjoy a free display marking the launch of Network Rail's new customised typeface, Rail Alphabet 2, designed by the co-designer of the UK's road signing system, Margaret Calvert. [www.designmuseum.org](http://www.designmuseum.org)

## GALLERY ARTIST: GROUP SHOW

12 – 29 January 2021  
Featuring 27 established and emerging artist, Thackeray Gallery is proud to announce our Gallery Artist group show. A wonderful way to start the New Year [www.thackeraygallery.com](http://www.thackeraygallery.com)

## LAUGHING MATTERS: THE STATE OF A NATION

31 Jan-28 March Free Wed-Sun 11am-6pm  
Through objects ranging from costumes to scripts, puppets to music, this display unpicks the punchlines to discover what humour since the Victorian era – whether subversive, surreal, mocking or celebratory – tell us about being British today. V&A [www.vam.ac.uk](http://www.vam.ac.uk)

## KENSINGTON CHELSEA WOMEN'S CLUB

4 February 2021 10.45am - 12 noon  
Join KCWC for a zoom lecture with Dr Tristram Hunt, Director of the V&A who will discuss how the museum's founding

commitment to design, education and industry continues to define it today. Learn more about our January, February activities [www.kcwc.org.uk](http://www.kcwc.org.uk) and become a member.

## ELECTRONIC: FROM KRAFTWERK TO THE CHEMICAL BROTHERS

Til 14 Feb 2021 Mon-Thurs & Sun 10am-6:30pm Fri & Sat 10am-9pm Adult £16.30 Child £8.15.

Explore 'how electronic music rewired the world'. Experience an amazing club-like environment with bespoke music by DJ Laurent Garnier and lighting by 1024 architecture. [www.designmuseum.org](http://www.designmuseum.org)

## BEAZLEY DESIGNS OF THE YEAR

Til 28 March. Adult £12 Child £6:50 Student £9:50.

Discover the most innovative designs across fashion, architecture, digital, transport, product and graphic design, as nominated by the public and design experts from around the world. [www.designmuseum.org](http://www.designmuseum.org)

## LANDSCAPE AND LANGUAGE IN ARTISTS' BOOKS

Til 4 April 2021 10am-5:30pm Free  
A display of artists' books on the themes of landscape and language, drawn from the National Art Library's extensive collection since the 1960s. V&A [www.vam.ac.uk](http://www.vam.ac.uk)

## Editor's Note:

We would like to thank [Sara-Jane Allen](#) of [Discover South Ken](#) for her monthly contributions to the entries placed in these pages, relevant to South Kensington. To find out more about great exhibitions to debates with experts, and fun activities to try at home please see [www.discoversouthken.com](http://www.discoversouthken.com)

# Are you happy with your managing agent?

**Hillgate Management specialise in residential properties in the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and take a personal and practical approach to building management.**

With over 50 years of management experience we understand the need to maintain our clients to the highest standard, meet current fire safety regulations and ensure affordable and appropriate budgeting.

If you feel your home or asset is not being managed properly maybe we can help.

**Hillgate** MANAGEMENT

020 3905 3318 | [info@hillgatemanagement.com](mailto:info@hillgatemanagement.com) | [www.hillgatemanagement.com](http://www.hillgatemanagement.com)



# BLIND CUPID PREMIUM

BLIND CUPID HAS FOUND 80% OF ITS USERS THE LOVE OF THEIR LIVES.

BLIND CUPID USES ADVANCED SYSTEMATIC PHILOSOPHY AND BRAND NEW AI TO MATCH USERS MORE ACCURATELY THAN ANYTHING ELSE ON THE MARKET.

THE EXPERTS BEHIND THIS REVOLUTIONARY PRODUCT ARE NOW OFFERING A BESPOKE, ULTRA-PERSONAL MATCHMAKING SERVICE WHEREBY PREMIUM SUBSCRIBERS WILL BENEFIT FROM THE PRODUCT'S TECHNOLOGY AS WELL AS PERSONAL ANALYSIS AND EXPERTISE.

OUR PREMIUM OFFERING IS AS FOLLOWS:

- BRONZE LEVEL - 1 TAILORED MATCH A MONTH
- SILVER LEVEL - 3 TAILORED MATCHES A MONTH
- GOLD LEVEL - 5 TAILORED MATCHES A MONTH
- PLATINUM LEVEL - 10+ TAILORED MATCHES A MONTH

DON'T WASTE ANY MORE OF YOUR TIME. LET US FIND YOU YOUR SOULMATE NOW.

APPLY NOW:



SCAN ME



“ The methodology used by Blind Cupid is more advanced than anything else out there. The combination of technology and personal analysis by experts is a game changer!

<https://www.blindcupid.co.uk/premium>

- Rachel, 32

**SETTING THE STANDARDS IN TRAVEL SINCE 1970**

**TRAILFINDERS'** winning streak continues!

Shortly after being named 'Holiday Provider of the Year' at the Which? Awards 2020, we are delighted to have won 'Best Tour Operator' by readers of The Times and The Sunday Times for the 8th consecutive year.



**WINNER**  
**BEST TOUR OPERATOR**

The Times & The Sunday Times  
Travel Awards 2020 for  
**8 consecutive years**

Your holiday is safe with us

Trailfinders pays for your holiday as we keep your own funds safe in Escrow until you are back home. We pay the cost of your travels from our own funds. This means we still have your money when it comes to any adjustments in your favour if any part of your travels are denied through no fault of your own.

Trust **TRAILFINDERS** – no one looks after you,  
your holiday or your money better



**creditsafe** 100  
TRAILFINDERS HAS A  
00/100 CREDIT RATING

For award-winning holidays speak to the travel experts  
at 194 Kensington High Street

Tailormade Travel Worldwide **020 7368 1200**  
Private Touring **020 7368 1500**

Or visit our **exclusive** Premium Travel & Cruise Travel Centre  
at 215 Kensington High Street

Cruise Trailfinders **020 7368 1300**  
First & Business Class Travel **020 7368 1400**



"Truly excellent: patient,  
friendly, helpful and  
a mine of knowledge,  
tips and advice."

