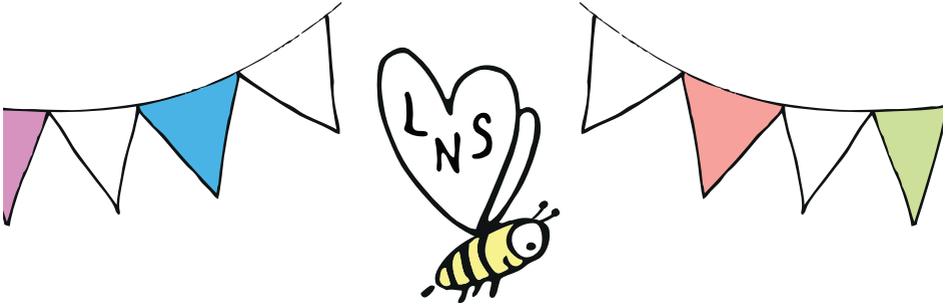


# THE Kensington MAGAZINE

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Parisiennes in Kensington: And how it came to be

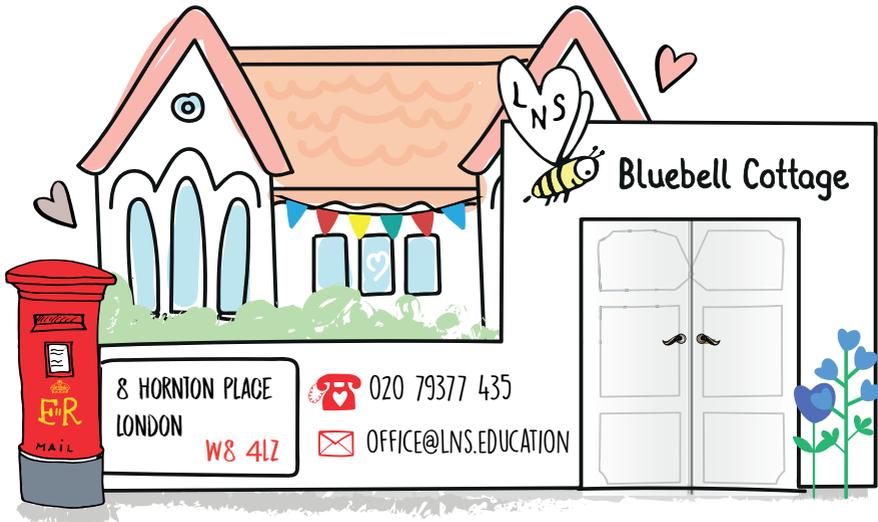


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# THE Kensington MAGAZINE

What an extraordinary month in Kensington. For the first time since 1974 the Borough went to Labour, and then, a few days later, we had the tragic fire at Grenfell Towers. Both events reflecting a sea-change - which we, the residents, business community, institutions and council will have to rise to the challenges set before us.

In this months edition we consider the impact and involvement the French residents have had, particularly those living in South Kensington and why they favour London to Paris. Sarah explores the history of the Lycee Francais and Alex investigates french pioneers with a link to the UK.

There are many activities to keep you and your families busy over the summer, so enjoy! And since this is our summer edition, we wish you all a safe and happy break, Lucy

**Front Cover:** 'Seaview 3' by French artist and resident of Kensington, Josephine Clavel.  
(For sale £650, 71 X 91 cm, acrylic on canvas). Josephine Clavel Gallery, Victoria Grove, W8

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#KensingtonMag



**Lucy Elliott, Editor**

(Hair by Toby from Hairspace at Annie Russell)

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# Parisiennes in Kensington

By Lucy Elliott

South Kensington has, for many years, been considered the French Quarter of Paris. Indeed for the number of French living here, it has also been referred to as 'Paris's 21st Arrondissement'.

As every child will know the French originally came to England with William the Conqueror and his aristocratic fighting colleagues in 1066. During the C16th and C17th the Protestant Huguenots fled religious persecution to East London and in the C18th those fleeing the French Revolution also arrived in England, having been offered sanctuary by King Charles II. Today, the French still arrive in great numbers but with less fight or flight, via Eurostar.

It is not easy to establish why they gathered around South Kensington in particular, or in such great numbers. (The French Consulate estimates there are about 300,000-400,000 French living in London\*). South Kensington has the benefit of many cultural institutions, beautiful architecture, a French Language School, Cultural Institution, French Cinema and the French Consulate and is close to the centre of 'town'. It is home to many French restaurants, cafés, bookshops as well as hosting annual events such as the South Ken Kids Festival, Le Beaujolais Nouveau and Bastille Day. If you wander around any parts of South Kensington you will hear the delightful lilt of the French accent; smartly dressed women having black coffee; businessmen reading the financial papers and multi-lingual children chattering fast in Franglais.

Asking French friends why they moved to London from France the answers are fairly similar; husbands jobs, good schooling for the children, easier to set up a business (the French beaucracy is apparently more cumbersome than the UK), its creative



Smiling boy with wine bottles, by French photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson 1954  
(source: pinterest)

environment and of course the restaurants and cafés making them feel quite at home. South Kensington and the East End, which is gaining in popularity for Francophiles, offers something for everyone.

Sadly, the thrashing out of Brexit hangs over the lingering smoke of the Gitanes and Gauloises – a sense of unease and disappointment at the result has led to those residing here questioning whether they are still welcome; whether despite having lived here for many years, watched their children grow up and worked hard, whether in a few years time, they will have to return to their homeland. It is a difficult time for them and South Kensington's Paris's 21st Arrondissement may look, sound and feel quite different in the future; we hope not.

\*Source: Insee (National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies).

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# History of the French Lycee in Kensington

By Sarah Goldsmith

There has always been a large ex-pat French population in London, maybe even pre-dating the Norman conquest of 1066! However, in the 20th and 21st centuries, the French community in London\* has established dozens of schools to educate their children, as well as the children of Francophile parents. There are two types of French schools: those that follow the French national curriculum, which ensures that the student can be educated at any other Lycée anywhere at any time, and those that do not. The largest, and oldest of these schools in London is the Lycée Français Charles de Gaulle in South Kensington. Founded in London in 1915, the school was originally called the “French School of London”, and was backed by the University of Lille and other French-speaking refugees living in London during World War I. Marie d’Orliac (later Mme. Bohn), who founded the French Institute in 1910, was one of the main proponents of the school, which she also led until 1920. In 1923, she was awarded



Exterior of the Institut Français

(Image Source with thanks (c) Institut français du Royaume-Uni)

the Legion d’Honneur for her efforts in both the founding of the Institute and the Lycée. Her story in itself is inspiring: she arrived in England at the age of 17. Two years later, she conceived her idea to “bring France and Great Britain nearer together,” (in the words of George Askwith) and after much perseverance pooling her connections with French writers, intellectuals, and others, the Institute was born. The original location of the school was near Victoria on

Buckingham Palace Gardens, and had space for about 120 students. In 1919/1920, the Lycée and the Institute both moved under one roof to Cromwell Gardens across from the V&A Museum, but then in 1939, they separated again in the year leading up to World War II, and expanded, again catering to a large French-speaking refugee population. The new location was entered via Queensbury Mews, adjacent to the Institute’s new home on Queensbury Place. However, during this War, the Lycée was evacuated to Cumberland, and the new home of the Lycée became the home for Free France under de Gaulle. After the War, when the Lycée and the Institute returned to Kensington, the two institutions were often treated as one until well into the 1970’s,

though they were formally separated in 1963. During this period and into the 1980’s, the Lycée underwent constant expansion, capped by the 1984 Roeven Vardi-designed Primary School building on Harrington

Road. In 1980, the school was named after its former occupant, General de Gaulle. In 2008, the school was refurbished after it moved its primary students to the former Peterborough School on Clancarty Road in Fulham, now named the Ecole Marie d’Orliac.

\*The 2011 UK Census recorded 137,862 people born in France now resident in the U.K., with almost half of those resident in London.



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# French as it should be spoken!

By Maria Perry with illustration by Charles Yorke



I spoke French from the age of three. At five I was sent for lessons with Madame Noble, who taught from an orange-backed primer, immortalised by Ronald Searle in *Down with Skool* as 'Monsieur Souris and his detestable piece of Fromage'.

My proficiency in a language spoken all over Kensington had exotic causes. Very few people have photographs of their grandmother, tied up in a sack, diving from Cannes Pier, watched by an audience of French people in the 1930s. But my grand-mother was a rebel. She also swam the Channel, appeared as a stunt diver in silent films and was banned from the family home, Warford Hall in Cheshire for playing Dick Whittington in fish-net tights at the Palace Theatre, Manchester. My great-grandmother thought she would corrupt her younger sisters. Madge did well. Her jewellery was Faberge and she owned a villa in the South of France, where my mother stayed in the school holidays. Mummy spoke no French. She resolved I should not grow up with such a shameful handicap.

Now Kensington has always been Francophile. When I arrived in W.8. a circle of French speakers

was waiting to welcome me! We bought croissants at Patisserie Pechon (now Valerie) and charcuterie from Bute Street, adjacent to the Lycee, which sheds its cultural influence all over South Kensington. French waitresses abounded. They wore the shortest mini-skirts and Hugh de Wett, the old sculptor, imprisoned by the Nazis, but never executed, chose one as his model for a statue of the Virgin Mary. Lady Rose, who lived in Corsica was one of Hugh's friends. One night this exuberant pair stood under my window at 1 a.m., bellowing for me to let down 'une ficelle'. When angry neighbours protested, Hugh tied a bunch of roses to the string, saying disarmingly, 'I am proposing to her'. Larry Durrell was a frequent visitor to Hugh's studio, making endless mockery of diplomatic French in *Esprit de Corps*. If you read the chapter on *Frying the Flag* [sic] tears will cascade down your cheeks.

Best of all the non-French, French speakers was Natasha, the Russian overseer of all London's Lancôme ladies. Her H.Q. was Derry & Toms, (now M&S). No-one ever spoke English to Natasha. She said 'jamais', used foundation and introduced me to the first-ever tinted moisturiser. The current Lancôme ladies still marvel at the





# Hawkesdown House School

Endeavour • Courage • Truth

## New Head at Hawkesdown House School, Kensington

Mrs. Jenny Mackay joined Hawkesdown House this term as its new Head. She writes, "I considered various Headships before accepting the one at Hawkesdown and key to my choice was that Hawkesdown is the sort of school we all dream of; the emphasis on, and time for, individual attention, a broad curriculum and great results – yes, all of that – but more, it is such a warm, family school, where the boys are comfortable in their own skins and where their character and vigour flourishes at every turn."



The School's motto is "Endeavour, Courage, Truth" and the boys are kind, capable and considerate, learning to make sound judgements and to begin to understand responsibility. Hawkesdown House boys are positively encouraged to develop both their initiative and their intellectual curiosity. Right from the beginning, Hawkesdown House provides advice and support to parents to give pupils a very good and happy start at school.

Hawkesdown House has long been one of Kensington's favourite schools, at the heart of the community around Kensington Church Street and Notting Hill. The special blend of magic at Hawkesdown instills a joy of learning. In an expanding and ever-changing world, the School concentrates on knowing each pupil and understanding what is important to every family. Parents are fiercely loyal to this philosophy and it is borne out in excellent results and the open, thoughtful and happy nature of the boys.

Mrs. Mackay joined the School in April 2017, with a degree in Education from Oxford. She has extensive experience of the best education in Britain, at some of London's most highly sought after and outstanding schools. "Hawkesdown House is a happy, nurturing and successful school. There is a fantastic, dedicated staff and a wonderful collaborative approach which ensures that the curriculum meets the needs of each and every boy. The school celebrates the excellence and achievements of all. I am thrilled to be part of this happy family."

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# Kensington News I

**Our hearts go out to the grieving relatives and friends of those who died in the Grenfell Tower tragedy, and to the many recovering from injuries. As has been demonstrated by the heart-felt response of the Kensington community, this is a time for the Borough to come together in its support for all of its residents.**

## NEW BUSINESSES IN KENSINGTON

After 17 years of Art-related Project Management in London, as an Interior Designer, Art Consultant, Charity Auctions Organiser (Art and Fashion events) and Private Exhibitions Curator, Josephine Clavel has launched **Josephine Clavel Gallery** in Victoria Grove, W8, just off Gloucester Road. This art space shows both Abstract and Figurative artists, and has an eclectic agenda for 2017-2018, combining timeless pieces of contemporary paintings, sculptures, photographs, ranging from conservative to intriguing styles. All pieces are originals and yet affordable. Josephine Clavel Gallery, 16 Victoria Grove W8 5RW contact: josephine.clavel@yahoo.com 07595 514290 Open Tuesday – Saturday, 10 am -6 pm Open by appointment Mondays and Sundays

**A traditional barbers opens in Kensington!** Gents of Kensington at 29 Victoria Grove W8 5RW offers a high standard of service to include classic and contemporary hair cuts plus traditional hot towel shaves at competitive prices. At this Traditional Barbers you can have a full beard shave or a quick trim in beautiful surroundings. (Gents of Kensington also offer the world famous Havana Cigars such as Romeo & Juliette Churchills, Cohiba, Montecristo and several other cigars.) Their team of experienced barbers strive hard to give their very best skills and service to assure customer satisfaction. Open seven days a week. [www.gentsofkensington.com](http://www.gentsofkensington.com)

**THREADS & Co** is a new concept store in the heart of Kensington, where a coffee bar and beauty lounge together with spiritual harmony

combine in a unique project. On the ground floor is a coffee bar where freshly roasted coffee is provided, alongside snacks, freshly prepared juices and a selection of hot or cold sandwiches. On the lower ground floor there is a beauty lounge with Oribe blow dries, threading, lashes and spray tans, together with manicures & make up workshops. In addition Oribe beauty products & Millie Edwards candles are available to purchase. Lastly, they have a 'spiritual harmony space' where Angel readings, tarot card readings, Reiki etc. are available with a booking. For more information please get in touch or visit **THREADS & Co.** at 256 Kensington High St. [www.threadsandco.co.uk](http://www.threadsandco.co.uk) 0203 903 7272

**Just Clear House and Office Clearance** is passionate about eco-friendly property clearance. Their ethos is a fresh approach to junk removal, working with homeowners as well as probate solicitors and court of protection officers for estate clearances when homeowners pass away or need to be taken into care. They also have a division dedicated to helping relatives, landlords and officials with clearances relating to hoarders. Just Clear's award-winning "zero to landfill" policy means 100% of non-value items are donated to charity or recycled. They also provide valuations of furniture and personal possessions and can remove these to auction. 0203 130 0008 [www.just-clear.co.uk](http://www.just-clear.co.uk)

## GENERAL

Kensington resident and composer, **Joy Sigaud**, has released a new single through Inspirations - another poignant piece of music, '**The Mediterranean**'. Evoking images of the present turmoil to a backdrop of the beauty and serenity of the Azure waters that have drawn so many to it throughout the ages. A passageway to the West a gateway to the East. If ever the waters could speak what stories would they tell? The uplifting score of The Mediterranean is brought to life by the Philharmonia Orchestras' expert strings, timpani, woodwind and horns, yet much is still left to the imagination. The Mediterranean is

# Kensington News II

available from Amazon, iTunes and Spotify.

On Friday 14 July, **Opera Rara** will present a special concert at Cadogan Hall with soprano Joyce El-Khoury and tenor Michael Spyres singing 19th century operatic arias featured on Opera Rara's forthcoming recordings – *Espoir* and *Écho*. Joined by the Halle under the baton of Carlo Rizzi, the performance features a selection of mainly French arias made famous by two leading figures of the bel canto heyday: Gilbert Duprez and Julie Dorus-Gras, and selected by Opera Rara's Repertoire Consultant Roger Parker with the aim of introducing audiences to forgotten music written by well-known composers of the day. See Kensington Hub pages for more information.

**Juliet Travers Wallpapers & Fabrics** launches a new stationery collection. Juliet is a Kensington based designer specialising in luxury wallpapers and fabrics, which encompasses two charming collections - her Safari range takes you on a journey through East Africa and Albion features iconic wildlife from around the British Isles. Utilising the much loved designs from her current wallpaper and fabric collections, Juliet has created a selection of beautiful fabric covered hardback notebooks, luxury wrapping paper and co-ordinating note cards. [www.juliettravers.com](http://www.juliettravers.com)

**St Nicholas Preparatory School** announces the appointment of **Jill Walker as Headteacher**, commencing September 2017. This appointment marks an exciting time for the school as Mrs. Walker brings significant prep school experience, most recently as Deputy Head at Glendower Prep School, Kensington. Mrs. Walker has an excellent track record as a teacher, achieving exceptional academic results. Her professional experience is wide, covering prep, senior and boarding schools. Mrs. Walker will be an asset for the school as she has a profound understanding of the London prep school system and has established close links with many of the highly-esteemed schools that St. Nicholas children move on to at 11 years.

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea is investing £1.9 million in significant public realm improvements to the Terrace of the historic Grade I listed **Holland House**, situated in the heart of Holland Park. The works will include major landscaping for the Terrace in front of Holland House, re-alignment of the service road and an improved and larger outdoor seating area for the café. Features will include better use of space, improved safety and better visibility of Holland House from the park. These will be the first major works to the area immediately in front of Holland House since London County Council took responsibility for Holland Park after the Second World War. The works will start on site this September and are expected to be completed by the end of April 2018.

Fitness walks, buggy workouts and line dancing are just some of the free and low-cost activities on offer to residents this summer. The Council's **'Active for Life'** Summer Programme runs until Friday 14 July and sessions range from £2 to £5 with many activities, such as fitness walks and Zumba, free. Tennis activators sessions are £5, with Holland Park Tennis sessions available from £10 for those looking for a more comprehensive tennis experience. Other activities include cycling, gym club, Nordic walking and beginners T'ai Chi. In addition to the regular activities, there are a number of events taking place over summer. The Festival of Sport is taking place at Kensington Memorial Park on Saturday 1 July and the Disability Sports Coach Summer Festival will be at Westway Sports and Fitness Centre on Friday 28 July. For more information on the Royal Borough's Leisure Services summer programme download the 'active for life' summer programme at: [www.bit.ly/RBKCSummerActivities](http://www.bit.ly/RBKCSummerActivities)

**Japan House London** will take up three floors in the Grade II Heritage Listed Art Deco building that was once Derry & Toms in Kensington High St. (formerly GAP). The three floors of this historically important and elegant building will include Japanese cuisine, retailing of high quality products, language and the arts, the

# Kensington News III

latest technologies, design and architecture. These elements are brought to life in an immersive experience of events, workshops, seminars, performances and exhibitions. Japan's Ambassador to the UK, Koji Tsuruoka, commented "... I am particularly pleased that Kensington, where my residence is located, has been identified as the ideal location for its establishment in London. It is my sincere hope that Japan House, with its diverse offerings of retail outlets, food, exhibitions and events to give visitors a taste of the very best of Japan, will create a vibrant new destination on the High St., adding to the emerging cultural hub between Kensington Palace and the new Design Museum.

## CHARITY/RESIDENT'S GROUPS/SOCIETIES; COUNCIL NEWS

**All change at the Council:** Cllrs Elizabeth Rutherford and Will Pascal have finished their term as Mayor and Deputy Mayor of RBKC, respectively. For the period 2017 - 2018, in their place as The Worshipful the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, is Councillor Marie-Therese Rossi, who served as a Councillor for Redcliffe Ward since 2010. In 2015/16 she served as Deputy Mayor. On her election as Mayor, Councillor Rossi appointed Councillor Gerard Hargreaves as her Deputy Mayor. Cllr. Rossi has taken the Chelsea Community Hospital School as her mayoral charity.

**Harrods Estates Asset Management Raises Money for Charity:** 375 Kensington High Street held their annual Summer Party for their residents and guests in June. The event, organised by General Manager Albert Alfonso and his team, fully sponsored by the local businesses and community was a great success with 300 attendees. As part of the event the raffle raised £1,040 for the Kensington and Chelsea Foundation. This was the highlight of the evening and prizes included a Victoria & Albert 22Kt Gold Tea set for two from Harrods and donated by Harrods Estates Asset Management. This is the second raffle that has been organised

by 375 Kensington High Street this year with a total of £1,650 being raised and donated to the Kensington and Chelsea Foundation.

**Fire at Grenfell Towers:** With blame being apportioned in all directions, the one hope that out of the ashes of this tragedy comes real lessons; leadership in the event of any future disaster/emergency, safer social housing in the Borough, and importantly those in authority really listening to those who are not represented at the formal levels of communication structure within RBKC. If you feel uncomfortable about having received a £100 Council Tax Rebate for the year 2013/2014 at the expense of upgrading social housing in the Borough, an option might be to donate it to <https://secure.thebiggive.org.uk> via the K&C Foundation, an independent charity set up by local people that raises funds and resources for over 50 local charities a year. Whilst match funds exist, The Big Give will match your donation, and together with Gift Aid, your £100 will make £225.00 - I know, I have done it.

## Founder's Day Parade at Royal Hospital Chelsea

**HRH The Earl of Wessex** reviewed the Chelsea Pensioners at their annual Founder's Day Parade, which commemorates King Charles II founding of the army veterans' home, the Royal Hospital Chelsea. This year they celebrated 325 years of the Hospital's existence, making it one of the only heritage sites in the country that is still being utilised for its original purpose.

The Earl of Wessex explained that the grading of the Margaret Thatcher Infirmary was rated as 'Outstanding' by the Care Quality Commission and was a formal acknowledgement of the hard work of all their staff dedicated to the care and wellbeing of the Chelsea Pensioners. It also demonstrated the very real difference that the Royal Hospital makes to the lives of its Army Veterans. (The accolade of 'Outstanding' is only given to 1% of Care Homes across the country). The Chelsea Pensioners are active members of

# Kensington News IV

their communities, both locally and nationally, taking part in a growing number of ceremonial and civic occasions throughout the UK and travelling across the world; they are seen as

ambassadors for the British Army and veteran groups. For more information on the Chelsea Pensioners please see [www.chelsea-pensioners.org.uk](http://www.chelsea-pensioners.org.uk)



HRH The Earl of Wessex reviewing the Chelsea Pensioners at Founder's Day, Royal Hospital Chelsea, with the Governor of Royal Hospital, General Sir Redmond Watt. (Images: Lucy Elliott Photography)



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# For the Love of Cognac

By Trevor Langley

To locate a wine or drink which is different, unusual or exceptional, is quite a task. I found the productions of Logis de Montifaud to be of exceptional quality. For generations the Landreau family has produced Cognac Grande Champagne, Premier Cru du Cognac. The oldest Cognacs aged in the Logis de Montifaud were produced by Emile Landreau, between 1929 and 1959, in Criteuil La Magdeleine. This being one of the 28 villages in Grande Champagne.

Vine development can begin from mid April each year depending on the presence of spring frosts. During the summer the foliage is treated respectfully and with much care and attention to ensure healthy and well-formed vines.

Chardonnay, Merlot (early grape varieties) are harvested from the end of September, annually. Ugni Blanc and Cabernet follow, during early October. Pruning of the vines takes place from January to the end of April each year. This operation also relies on the knowledge and expertise of the winegrowers to ensure good vine growths and good grape production.

Logis de Montifaud, Cognac Grande Champagne, VS, is an attractive pale colour with pleasant aromas. The mouthfeel is very good and this popular production is enjoyed regularly as an apéritif, as well as being a splendid mix with tonic.

Logis de Montifaud, Cognac Grande Champagne, Napoléon, I found a very acceptable, rounded Cognac, with a good nose and palate sensation. Logis de Montifaud, Cognac Grande Champagne, XO, is a full-bodied spirit with a superb palate. This elegant production impresses numerous connoisseurs constantly.

Pineau des Charentes is the name given to the precise mixture which brings together the grape juice and Cognac eau-de-vie from Logis

de Montifaud. Pineau Blanc is aged for 5 years and Vieux Pineau for 10 years, respectively, in oak barrels.

These, along with Pineau Rosé, are further selections from this excellent company, dedicated and committed to making exceptional productions, with knowledge passing from generation to generation.



The VS is recognizable by its pale colour and peach and pear aromas. It can be drunk as an aperitif with a tonic or an ice cube.

(Image source: [logis-montifaud.com](http://logis-montifaud.com))

The website has all details of the full range: [www.logis-montifaud.com](http://www.logis-montifaud.com)

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# The Rainbow Iris

By Benedict Bull

The iris derives its name from the Greek, the rainbow, and Iris was the messenger of the gods who descended to earth on a rainbow. In our case here the genus iris is so named because of the great variety of colours of the flowers in the genus observed by Linnaeus.

The botanists' classification of irises is slightly different from that of the gardener. In botany, the nomenclature is very much related to the geographical distribution and morphology. Irises are found in Asia, Europe and America and has been lumped and split several times since the eighteenth century. Its number of species ranging between 200 and 300 depending on the nomenclatural system espoused.

The major classifications for horticulturalists are based on organising them into recognisable groups in the first instance, not their wild provenance. For example, whether it is bearded or not, whether it is a rhizome or a bulb. These will be the major distinctions for us as gardeners.

However, iris enthusiasts have transcended these basic historical groupings, and as they emerged in the history of cultivation types such as Junos, English, Dutch, and now in the various Iris societies there are very clear groups and subgroups, and protocols on nomenclature. Plant breeders have created and registered an amazing array of new clusters of hybrids based on clear groupings that hybridise. The scale of this endeavour now means there are more registered cultivars in any one sub group of true bearded irises now than there are species in total.

Indeed, all the scientific accuracy of the botanist is at the service of the horticulturalists and like in magnolia's polyploidy and molecular cell based identification in the taxonomy is vital in the groupings in conjunction with plant morphology and parameters of form such as bearded, crested, dwarf, and other qualities such as flowering season which in turn is related to provenance.



Example of a Tall Bearded Iris  
(Image: Lucy Elliott Photography)

One of the most fascinating things about irises is that the historiography of irises and an overview of the illustration of the plants is so revealing about our own understanding and attitude toward the plants. The amazing plate illustrations in the monographs, the modern photographic register of forms, it is an exponential and disordered discourse with such quality of form and colour.

However, at the same time we are losing an incredible amount of information and forms in reality, in the ground, in the field. Who can grow all these irises? So while the knowledge is collected, conserved and converted to an anarchic and eclipsing array of digital data, the body of plants underpinning this is not directly related to it. In fact it might be interrupted by it. Like an audience we have wandered off in the interval in a state of amnesia. Is the depiction not further and further removed from the plant itself? Except possibly in this photo, which was taken in an English village garden.



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# The Kensington Crossword

By Dave Saunders



Pit your wits against our Kensington-centric crossword. Answers on page 29

## Across

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ Road, street which runs between Queen's Gate and South Kensington station (10)
- 2) Plane \_\_\_\_\_ House, block of residences between Holland Park and Sheldrake Place, W8 (4)
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ Armstrong, music producer and instrumentalist, born in Kensington in 1966 (5)
- 4) Shop for English Antique furniture at 104A Kensington Church Street (9)
- 5) Shoe outlet at 141 Kensington High St (4)
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_ Thornycroft, sculptor of the marble group Commerce, of the Albert Memorial (6)
- 7) \_\_\_\_\_ Hotel, five-star hotel at 1 Kensington Court, W8 (9)

## Down

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ College, public university at 23 Kensington Square, W8 (8)
- 6) Mary of \_\_\_\_\_, the Queen's grandmother. She was born in Kensington Palace in 1867 (4)
- 8) Home and Body Cosmetics Outlet at 131 high Street Kensington (7)
- 9) \_\_\_\_\_ Villas, residential street between Phillimore Gardens and Argyll Road, W8 (5)
- 10) \_\_\_\_\_ Bicknell, founder and director of the Cambridge Ballet Workshop, born in Kensington in 1914 (4)
- 11) \_\_\_\_\_ Grove, street located between Roland Gardens and Old Brompton Road, SW10 (7)
- 12) Cambia de \_\_\_\_\_, Spanish tapas restaurant at 163 Old Brompton Road, SW5 (6)
- 13) Kensington \_\_\_\_\_, beauty salon at 44A Kensington Church St (5)
- 14) \_\_\_\_\_ and Sandeman, wine merchants at 106 Kensington Church St, W8 (3)
- 15) \_\_\_\_\_ Halm, chinaware and Japanese porcelain store at 66A Kensington Church Street, W8 (3)
- 16) \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge, block of residences at the West end of Campden Hill, W8 (9)

# GET WELL SPOON



I was originally thinking of cucumber sandwiches when I thought of making this thirst quenching refreshing soup. It will serve up to four people.

2 cucumbers  
300ml thick Greek yoghurt  
1 small shallot  
1 clove garlic  
2 packs coriander leaves  
1 pack flat leaf parsley  
Juice and zest of 2 limes  
4 - 6 tbsps of olive oil  
Half an avocado  
Seasoning

Garnish with slices of cucumber, croutons and a drizzle of avocado oil

Peel and put aside a couple of ribbons of cucumber skin per person for decorating the soup. Whizz the cucumber in a blender together with the yoghurt, garlic, shallot, avocado, herbs, olive oil and lime juice, and then season. You want this to be finely whizzed. Refrigerate for 6 hours or overnight. Season again before serving. Serve with twists of cucumber, a sprinkle of croutons and a drizzle of avocado oil.

Season a bit more punchily than usual because the taste receptors on the tongue send a weaker signal to the brain when food is cold. I used Indian black salt, known for its sulphuric smell and taste, which adds another dimension to the dish. Indian black salt (usually purple in colour), also known as Kala Namak, or Himalayan Black salt, is available from Wholefoods and other health food shops.



Cucumbers originate from South Asia, and are botanically classified as a pepo, a type of botanical berry. They have a high water content (96%), and are full of soluble fibre which can help regulate bowel movements. They contain conventional antioxidant nutrients such as vitamin C, vitamin K, beta carotene, magnesium, potassium and manganese, and familiar flavonoids such as quercetin, apigenin, lutein and kaempferol. Excitingly there is research that confirms their specific antioxidant benefits with superior capabilities of scavenging free radicals and prevention of the overproduction of nitric oxide. Cucumbers are anti-inflammatory, and the soluble fibre in the peel is known to decrease blood cholesterol and triglyceride levels.

Our book, "Knife, Fork, Get Well Spoon" is available at Wholefoods in Kensington & on [amazon.co.uk](http://amazon.co.uk)

# Castle of Mey Patrons' & Supporters Reception

By Martin Hunt of Tartin Silk

The Castle of Mey Annual Patrons' Garden Party at The Goring supporting the work experience programme has raised £30,000 to date and is on target to reach the goal of £35,000.

The Trustees of The Queen Mother's much loved home in Caithness initially launched an Apprentice Programme for graduates, enabling them to start their first salaried employment in 2015. The reception is held annually by the Trustees and co-hosted with Honorary Parton Lady Elizabeth Anson and is often attended by several senior members of the Royal Family. This year Lord Snowdon, Lady Sarah Chatto and the Earl and Countess of Ulster were among the attendees who mingled with Patrons and supporters in the gardens of The Goring.



Angela Hamlin, Founder of Draycott Nursing & Care with former TV presenter, Valerie Singleton

The programme has evolved to enable those wanting work experience to get onto the employment ladder and it will supply continued tuition under the guidance of experts in their profession, including Alan Titchmarsh who has agreed to lend his name and support. This programme has already captured the hearts of benefactors of The Castle and Gardens of Mey in supporting the 'living' legacy of The Queen Mother at Friends and Patrons level. This year the target of £35,000 is close to being achieved.

The Castle of Mey Work Experience Programme is a twelve month salaried position where the successful candidate will be able to develop



Alan Titchmarsh, Charles Burns, Eva Dugdale Penot and Ashe Windham

their skills working within the team, harnessing modern and heritage working practices to gain invaluable experience for their futures. To date a Garden work experience position and Marketing & Communications Apprentice have been funded. The generosity of Patrons and benefactors has ensured the success of this programme and during his speech, the chairman of The Queen Elizabeth Castle of Mey Trust, Ashe Windham said:

"Without the support of our Patrons this initiative would not have been nearly so successful and on behalf of the Trustees I thank you for your ongoing support in keeping alive the legacy of the Queen Mother and supporting the next generation of those who help in the running of the Castle of Mey." Alan Titchmarsh has agreed to host the successful garden applicant for a day at his own home to explain the development of his own garden over the years.

Alan Titchmarsh, MBE VMH DL says: "I was an apprentice myself and have constantly battled to achieve more recognition for both apprenticeships and for those who undertake practical work experience which provides them with the skills that are vital to the nation's workforce. Successful careers are not only based on foundations which are academic. While university degrees are rightly highly valued, apprenticeships and practical experience in the workplace should not be underestimated.

# raises £30,000 for Work Experience Programme

Lord Snowdon



Zanuska Mowatt and The Countess of Ulster  
(All images: Lucy Elliott Photography)

We need to change opinions and perceptions to redress the balance where such skills are concerned, and I am delighted to support the Castle of Mey Work Experience Programme. It will benefit all those who enter horticulture under its banner and ensure that their talent will be nurtured and developed as they gain experience working in a variety of climates and soils in a

number of the most iconic gardens in the UK.”  
With many thanks to our generous sponsors:  
The Goring, Auriens, Draycott Nursing & Care,  
Halcyon Days, J&B and Mey Selections.  
[www.castleofmey.org.uk](http://www.castleofmey.org.uk)



# Kensington Hub |

## JULY ENTRIES

### SHIFT

1 July – 2 September 2017

Tues – Sat, 11am–6pm. FREE

Shift is the UK debut of three young female artists from Saudi Arabia. Dana Awartani, Zahrah Al-Ghamdi and Reem Al-Nasser present installations and films which respond to their experience of accelerated change in their country. Venue: The Mosaic Rooms, 226 Cromwell Road, SW5 0SW.

### FRIENDS OF HOLLAND PARK NATURE WALK

1 July, 9.00 am – 10.30 am. Free. No booking needed

Join the Friends as they look at birds, plants, butterflies and park management. Meet outside park cafe. Interested? Queries Rhoddy Wood 020 7602 0304 or rhoddy.wood@virgin.net

### EXPERIENTIAL MARKETING

Monday 3 July 6.30pm £25 plus booking fee

As part of the Museum's newly launched Professional Development Programme, they are delighted to present an talk on branded experiences with Iain Swan, Strategy Director at Bright London. Venue: The Museum of Brands Notting Hill. To find out more please contact rosehughes@museumofbrands.com www.museumofbrands.com

### "SPRINGTIME CHAOS", by JOE FAN RSA

4 – 20 July

Joe Fan's new collection of work concentrates on everyday events, and makes them an epic journey. With a strong narrative, sense of play, and humour, Joe's work is rooted in part real, part imagined stories of his life. Venue: Thackeray Gallery, Est 1968 020 7937 5883 www.thackeraygallery.com

### THE ODYSSEY + Q&A WITH ACTOR LAMBERT WILSON

5 July - 7pm - £12, conc. £10

With stunning images, a haunting soundtrack

and a superb cast including Lambert Wilson and Audrey Tautou, The Odyssey recounts the story of famous undersea explorer Jacques-Yves Cousteau. Venue: Ciné Lumière at the Institut français, SW7 2DT. www.institut-francais.org.uk

### ALMA-TADEMA: AT HOME IN ANTIQUITY

7 July - 29 October £14 - £6

This will be the first Alma-Tadema exhibition since 1913. Over 130 works by the Victorian artist will be hung throughout Leighton House Museum and for the first time Leighton's Studio will be used for the exhibition. www.rbkc.gov.uk/subsites/museums/leightonhousemuseum1.aspx

### LEWISHAM CHORAL SOCIETY PRESENTS AN EASTERN EUROPEAN MUSICAL FEAST

8 July, 7.30pm. Tickets: £15, £13 (concessions), £2 (16 years and under).

The programme includes Zoltán Kodály's Missa Brevis and Arvo Pärt's Alleluia Tropus and Which was the Son of... Venue: Holy Trinity, Sloane Street SW1X 9BZ. For more information and tickets: <http://lewishamchoralsociety.org.uk/events/event/summer-2017/>

### Walking Tour: Beyond the battlefield

8 July, 10.15am. £10.00, concessions £7.50

Walking from Brompton Cemetery to the National Army Museum, discover stories of the soldiers linking the two organisations. Led by guides from Brompton Cemetery and the National Army Museum, this unique walking tour will uncover the personal stories behind cemetery monuments, linking them with the National Army Museum's unique collections, and highlighting the historic relationship between Chelsea and the military. www.nam.ac.uk

### Kodály, Pärt, Górecki and more

8 July 2017 at 7.30 pm. Tickets: £15, £13 (Concessions), £2 (16 yrs and under)

Join Lewisham Choral Society in the beautiful 'Arts and Crafts' church of Holy Trinity, Sloane Street, for a musical feast from Eastern Europe. Venue: Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Street, SW1X Tickets [www.cadoganhall.com](http://www.cadoganhall.com) or on the door.

# Kensington Hub II

## A NIGHT AT THE OPERA WITH LONDON CONCERT CHOIR

13 July 7.30pm, £12 to £30

Conductor: Mark Forkgen

A concert performance of wide-ranging excerpts from Mozart's The Magic Flute, Verdi's La Traviata, Bizet's Carmen, Stravinsky's The Rake's Progress and Wagner's Die Meistersinger, with soloists and Southbank Sinfonia. Venue: Cadogan Hall 020 7730 4500 [www.cadoganhall.com](http://www.cadoganhall.com)

## SUMMER INNOVATION LABS

Fridays 14, 28 July, 11, 25 August

Tickets £45 + booking fee

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## OPERA RARA PRESENTS A SPECIAL EVENING OF BEL CANTO

Friday 14 July, 7pm

Opera Rara presents Joyce El-Khoury, soprano; Michael Spyres, tenor; in a special evening of bel canto with the Hallé conducted by Carlo Rizzi. Venue: Cadogan Hall <https://www.cadoganhall.com/event/joyce-el-khoury-and-michael-spyres-170714/>

## SUMMER PARTY & POLISH HIGHLANDER-STYLE BARBEQUE 16 July 1-6pm

£25 non-members; £10 under 10s

Our Sunday afternoon Summer Party takes place on the 77th anniversary of the inauguration of Ognisko Polskie - the Polish Hearth. There will be a special performance by the "Mazury" Polish dance group, live music and lots more! Ognisko Polskie 0207 589 4670 [www.ogniskopolskie.org.uk](http://www.ogniskopolskie.org.uk) 55 Princes Gate SW7

## BOOK CLUB: BRITAIN'S EUROPE

26 July, 7.00pm. FREE

Join the Book Club once a month for an evening of discussion and debate about books relating

to the British Army. This month they will be discussing Brendan Simms' book Britain's Europe. Come along and meet new people at an entertaining and informative evening of lively discussion. Explore their book of the month and unpack current issues, historical events and popular fiction through recent book releases related to the British Army. The Book Club meets on the last Wednesday of the month, from 7pm to 8pm. Refreshments are available from 6.30pm. Venue: National Army Museum [www.nam.ac.uk](http://www.nam.ac.uk)

## AUGUST ENTRIES

### NEW EXHIBITION: BEAM ME BACK, SCOTTI

To 20th August 2017

Teleport yourself to the great era of space fiction, and explore characters from Star Wars, Star Trek, Thunderbirds, Dr Who and more through vibrant artwork, comics, toys, games, film posters and even packaging. Venue: Museum of Brands, Packaging and Advertising [info@museumofbrands.com](mailto:info@museumofbrands.com) [www.museumofbrands.com](http://www.museumofbrands.com)

### SECRET GARDEN AFTERNOON TEA AT THE ROOF GARDENS

28 August - Tickets £38

Relax in the beautiful gardens as you indulge in a traditional assortment of sandwiches, golden scones and cakes accompanied by specially selected teas and coffees and a glass of fizz. Venue: The Roof Gardens Tickets: [www.virginlimitededition.com/the-roof-gardens/whats-on](http://www.virginlimitededition.com/the-roof-gardens/whats-on)



# Science Bites: La Vie Scientifique

By Dr Alex Anderson

The influence of the French in the UK is undeniable, from the croissants we eat for breakfast to the Bordeaux wine we drink with an evening meal. However, the influence of the French stretches far beyond food and drink. As illustrated by the current Cartier in Motion exhibition at Kensington's Design Museum, French engineers and innovators have influenced our everyday lives in numerous ways. Cartier created his first men's wristwatch after his friend the Brazilian aviator Alberto Santos-Dumont mentioned the difficulty of checking his pocket watch when flying. Indeed, the French made

the Daily Mail newspaper. French engineering has also contributed to the development of modern automobiles. André-Gustave Citroën founded the French automobile manufacturer Citroën in 1919. Citroën cars were some of the first in Europe to be constructed on an assembly line and delivered with body work and electric lights. In 1934, the French engineer Andre Lefebvre created the Traction Avant for Citroën. This car pioneered the mass production of features such as front-wheel drive. In the field of life science, who can forget that the French microbiologist Louis Pasteur created the first



Louis Blériot and his plane  
(Image source: [www.disciplesofflight.com](http://www.disciplesofflight.com))

significant contributions to aviation during the 20th century far beyond the introduction of the wristwatch. For example, Gabriel Voisin created Europe's first manned, engine-powered, heavier-than-air aircraft. In 1908, this aircraft was flown by Henri Farman and made the first officially witnessed circular flight of 1 km. Then in 1909, Louis Blériot became the first man to fly across the English Channel from Calais to Dover in a monoplane, a feat for which he won £1000 from

vaccines for rabies and anthrax, and invented the process of pasteurization for wine and milk.

In physics, the first evidence of radioactivity was discovered by a French physicist, Henri Becquerel in 1896. The international unit of radioactivity, the becquerel (Bq) is named after him. In 1903, Becquerel, together with Pierre Curie and Marie Skłodowska-Curie received the Noble Prize in Physics for their study of radioactivity.

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