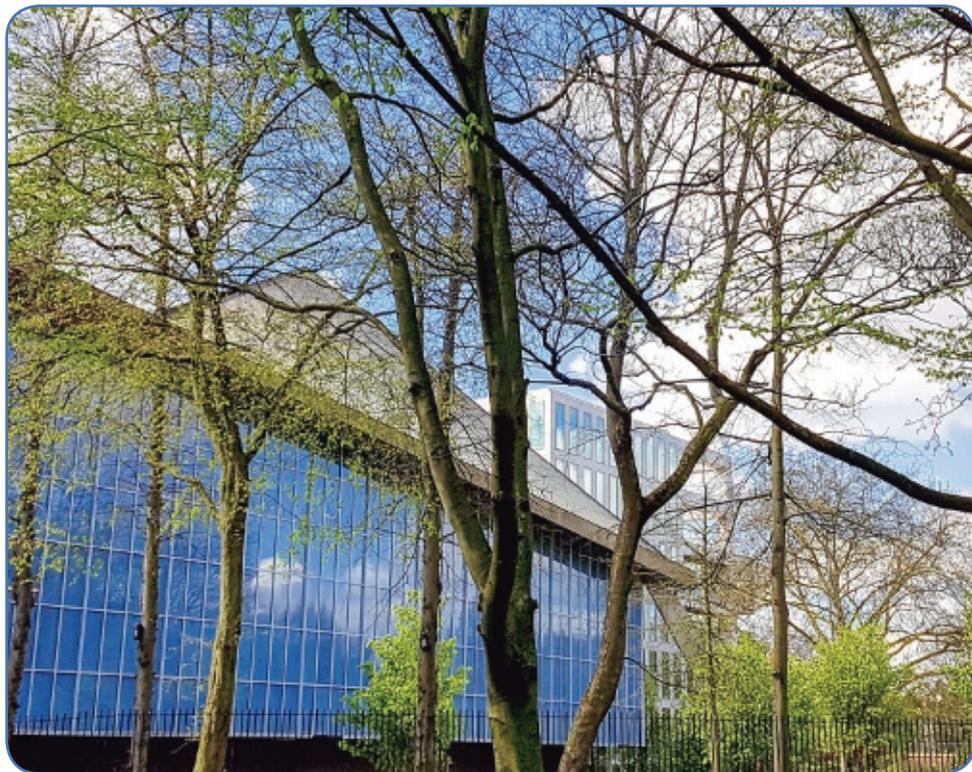


# THE Kensington MAGAZINE

ISSN 2058-2226  
November 2016



DESIGN AND CREATIVITY IN KENSINGTON

# THE Kensington MAGAZINE

Front Cover:  
The Design Museum in Kensington  
High Street with its listed Parabola roof  
(Image: Lucy Elliott Photography)



Lucy Elliott, Editor  
(Hair by Toby from Hairspace at Annie Russell)

This has been an exciting month finding out all about design and creativity in Kensington. As you will see from the articles and the entries in this month's What's On pages, Kensington, Chelsea, South Kensington and Notting Hill are all flourishing with innovation.

We are especially grateful to Alice Black (Design Museum) and Sue Harris (RBKC) for their time in providing answers to questions that we know residents are asking about the new Design Museum and we look forward to welcoming the Museum to Kensington on 24th November.

We hope you will support all those involved in creativity, innovation and design; whether that be by attending fairs/exhibitions or supporting incubating businesses. Lucy

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## GET IN TOUCH

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Guest Contributors: Alice Black, Sue Harris and David Barrie



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

t: KensingtonMag f: TheKensingtonMagazine

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# The History of the Design Museum

By Sarah Goldsmith

The Design Museum, which opens its doors to its new location at the foot of Holland Park, is the brainchild of Sir Terence Conran, who believes that design is the key to improving the quality of everyday life. Its first iteration was as the Boilerhouse Project, located in the boiler rooms at the V&A in South Kensington, and was run by Stephen Bayley to see if a design museum could create and sustain a discourse on contemporary industrial design. Between 1981 and 1986, the Boilerhouse Project staged a series of temporary exhibitions exploring the relationships between design, industry and commerce.

After the lease expired, Conran and Bayley decided to move the museum to the south bank of the River Thames, which had been undergoing rapid redevelopment in the 1980s and early 1990s. Along with architect Max Gordon, they chose a former banana warehouse on Shad Thames, which took two years to renovate into a more permanent location for the Design Museum. With spectacular views of the Thames and Tower Bridge, it attracted over five million visitors in its 26 years on Shad Thames. However, as public awareness of the museum grew, it also revealed a lack of space and resources, and by 2007 it became apparent that the museum would need a new home.

In that year, Deyan Sudjic became the Director, appointed with the remit to find a space that would allow an expanse of learning resources, facilities to cater for the needs of schools and other groups, and exhibition galleries large enough for ambitious and full-scale shows. A number of sites were considered: King's Cross, Potter's Field next to City Hall, a plot of land behind the Tate Modern, and even a return to the V&A. In 2008, the property development firm Chelsfield offered the former Commonwealth Institute as a home in Kensington, as they needed a long-term occupant in the Grade II listed structure to secure planning consent.

The Commonwealth Institute was the successor to the Imperial Institute. Originally housed on Exhibition Road (much like the Design



Sir Terence Conran at the 'Topping Out' of the Design Museum in September 2012

*(Image: Lucy Elliott Photography)*

Museum), it was founded in 1887 to promote scientific research that would benefit the industrial and commercial development of the empire. The Institute was renamed the Commonwealth Institute in 1958 and moved to the building on Kensington High Street in 1962 after its original home was demolished to make way for Imperial College. Materials for the new building came from Commonwealth nations, and until 2000, it contained a permanent exhibition to foster trade among these nations, as well as hosting cultural events. English Heritage regards the modern structure as the second most important contemporary building in London, after Royal Festival Hall, which is propitious for a new home for the Design Museum. The building closed in 2000, underwent a series of repairs, but was then shuttered permanently in 2002. In 2007, Chesfield Partners bought the Institute's former home in Kensington that same year.

John Pawson, whose previous projects includes the Sackler Crossing in Kew Gardens, was chosen to refurbish the building while maintaining the original building's character. The museum will have three times as much space for exhibitions, an auditorium, a library, and a design studio with digital workshops. Additionally, the museum's permanent collection will be free to the public for the first time.

*(Editor's note: we would like to thank Jordan Lewis from the Design Museum's Press Office for his assistance in providing background to this article.)*



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## Questions and Answers: The Design Museum

We are delighted to invite Alice Black (Deputy Director of The Design Museum) and Sue Harris (Executive Director for the Royal Borough) to give us more insight into the New Design Museum opening in Kensington on 24 November 2016

### *Why is cultural placemaking important to the Royal Borough?*

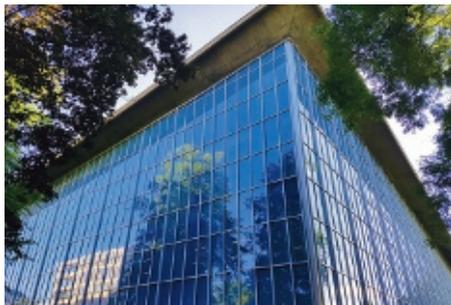
Sue Harris (SH): Because it animates public and private spaces; rejuvenates structures and streetscapes; improves local business viability and public safety; and brings diverse people together to celebrate, inspire, and be inspired. It also brings together partners from public, private, non-for-profit, and community sectors to strategically shape the physical and social character of a locality around arts and cultural activities.

### *How is the borough supporting this concept?*

SH: By “making it happen” with the Design Museum: To be able to add to our already vibrant and nationally acclaimed 'Museum Quarter' – is fantastic. Through our policies on planning, environment and the arts, RBKC has upheld this position, protecting viable commercial spaces; preserving the diversity and appeal of town centres and cultural attractions. This approach has successfully enhanced commercial areas while also adding to the amenity of the Borough for residents and visitors. How exciting to now have an international showcase for the many design skills at which Britain excels, and a creative centre, promoting innovation and nurturing the next generation of design talent, right on our doorstep...

### *How did the museum come to move to Kensington High Street?*

Alice Black (AB): A decade ago the trustees of the DM decided it was time for the museum to move. Our visitors were telling us that they wanted more: more collection on display, more activities for families, schoolchildren, adults and community, and bigger exhibitions. We started to look around London for possible sites, and in 2008, both the Royal Borough of K&C and the developer of the former commonwealth institute site, approached us to explore whether the museum might be interested in refurbishing the listed building on High Street Kensington. We fell in love with the building's spectacular roof and the area! And so, here we are today...



*The exterior facade of the New Design Museum  
(Image: Lucy Elliott Photography)*

### *What do you think will be the main benefits for residents in this part of London?*

AB: the museum will offer to all free access to its permanent display Designer Maker User, to discover what design is and how it impacts our lives: from the building in which we live, down to the cutlery we use, or the smart phone we have in our pockets. We will also offer a varied programme of exhibitions about fashion, architecture, among many different topics. We will have lectures, courses for all and family activities. We will also open our doors to the local community to give them a place to meet up, grab a good cup of coffee, enjoy a nice lunch or find just the right gift for their best friend's birthday!

### *What exhibitions will you have when doors open on 24 November?*

AB: in addition to Designer Maker User, we will have two exhibitions: Fear and Love, Reactions to a Complex World, which reflects through 11 commissions on big issues of our time: from the role of robots, to Brexit, to relationships in the social media age. Then Beazley Designs of the Year: - the ninth edition of our annual exploration of the most innovative design over the past twelve months. A jury, chaired this year by Julia Peyton-Jones will select the winner, later this year, but everyone can vote for their favourite Design of the Year.



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# Creative Quarter

## Friday 18th November 2016

A free event for 13-19 year olds in South Kensington. Meet designers, scientists and artists and find out more about different education and career pathways.

Our Creative Quarter partners for 2016 are:



Visit [www.discoversouthken.com](http://www.discoversouthken.com) for details or follow @SouthKensington

# Culture and Innovation in Kensington

Guest writer: David Barrie

Kensington & Chelsea is fast becoming an important, world-class centre of innovation in business – a quality that it has not known for some thirty years.

In the 1970s and 80s, the area was home to some of the most progressive and game-changing retail and consumer businesses in the country. Biba and Hyper Hyper on High Street Kensington, Seditonaries and Habitat on King's Road, Virgin Enterprises on Campden Hill and the first branch of Foxtons estate agents at Notting Hill.

This was an age of entrepreneurship that centred on retail, lifestyle and consumer brands – success that is expressed today in home-grown global businesses such as Cath Kidston, The White Company and Net-a-Porter.

However, a new economy is now emerging in the area, one that is more about knowledge, venture investment and nurturing and enabling lifestyles, not just selling it – an economy that matters on a local, national and international stage.

Imperial College London has just been named one of the top ten best universities in the world and is expanding with a new seven-acre site in White City. Imperial Innovations, the College's investment company, has a portfolio value of over £300m that now extends beyond healthcare and into technology.

Kensington is a centre for new entrepreneurship. Off the High Street, technology entrepreneur (and local resident) Brent Hoberman is growing Founders Factory, an 'accelerator' and 'incubator' of start-up companies. Recently, the organisation announced a multi-million pound investment by a Chinese private equity firm to help nurture UK talent in artificial intelligence.

In Notting Dale in North Kensington, an area once known for its squatters and counterculture, Peter Simon of Monsoon and Sir Charles



Imperial College, home to 'Imperial Innovations.'  
(Image: Lucy Elliott Photography)

Dunstone of Talk Talk are growing a world-class cluster of food, fashion and creative businesses in The Yellow Building and Phoenix Brewery.

Next year, Wild Blue Cohort, the 'angel' investment network that I have founded will open a 'co-working' office space on Holland Park Avenue for 'early stage' entrepreneurs. We started our network in 2014 and now have over forty members who have made thirteen investments, alongside top-tier venture capital firms such as Passion Capital, Forward Partners, GFC and Episode 1.

Here is a new culture of innovation for Kensington and Chelsea, a culture that will only increase, as Second Home, the workspace and cultural venue in East London, known for its "thinkers, makers, artists and entrepreneurs", advances plans to open new offices off Princedale Road and on Ladbroke Grove.

If you are interested in learning more about any of the above, please see:

**Imperial Innovations:**

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

**Founders Factory:** [foundersfactory.com](http://foundersfactory.com)

**Phoenix Brewery:** [www.thephoenixbrewery.com](http://www.thephoenixbrewery.com)

**Wild Blue Cohort:** [wildbluekc.com](http://wildbluekc.com)

*Born and brought up in Campden Hill, David Barrie is founder and CEO of local angel investor network Wild Blue Cohort. The network was started with support from the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea.*



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## Hospice seeks high street premises

Royal Trinity Hospice plans to open a new outpatient and information hub, making its services more accessible for local people. A rental property is sought within SW3, SW5, SW7 or SW10 postcodes as below:

- High street/prominent location
- Shop front facility
- Approximately 250-300 square metres
- Disabled access
- D1 planning consent or open to change of use
- 10+ year term with break clauses



The charity seeks to work with an entrepreneurial landowner to deliver this innovative project. It has a strong covenant and is able to pay a commercial rent.

Please contact  
[awhite@royaltrinityhospice.london](mailto:awhite@royaltrinityhospice.london)  
if you know of a suitable property.

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# Creative Pruning

By Benedict Bull



The Japanese art of pine pruning is rather different to most other forms of pruning. For a start, the trees are usually trained into shape - the trunks twisted to resemble wind-swept trees and the branches trained down, as if weighed down by old age. The pruning itself is more thinning than clipping. Vigorous growth is cut out in May or June,

followed by an autumn tidy up, where the second flush of growth is thinned back and old needles are pulled off - the shape and line of the branches themselves is as important as the foliage.

Gardeners use secateurs and scissors for detailed work, and if you visit gardens in Japan in October or November you'll often hear the snip snip at the top of a tripod ladder, with cut needles falling around you. In fact it is almost like sculpture but not done in one sitting and finished, rather it is an ongoing process. The picture featured is of a *Pinus sylvestris* that has been worked on for 10 years. The contrast of the red bark, the green needles and the sky is absolutely marvellous, and it is a native tree. These pine specimens are for sale and can be transplanted and thrive in London. In the nursery and in their final home they will continue to be pruned and developed.

I find it hard to conceive of such a specimen as not being a member of the family, such a living individual with needs and qualities. At one level it could be said this is the same for all trees and hedges in that they are a constantly disintegrating collection of parts. What is different here however is the attention to detail and the extraordinary accomplishment with respect to creating a wonderful body, a mass of wood and foliage and light. The design and execution of the pruning is done to such a fine tolerance.

As gardeners we can shape the mass of green foliage into the most exquisite shapes on the elegant frame of trunk and branches. Such work is only possible with tools of very high quality



*Pinus Sylvestris*

*(image by kind courtesy of Jake Hobson)*

and it is widely acknowledged that these pruning secateurs and shears are unsurpassed. Look at these secateurs for example. In general, Japanese pruning tools are built around two factors: high quality materials and simplicity. That's it. No bells and whistle, cogs or cushioning, just great steel and one or two nuts and bolts (as indicated in the image above). Really good tools are laminated - a harder, finer steel cutting edge known as hagane is laminated to tougher, softer jigane steel, giving the best of both worlds - sharpness and strength.

Head over to [www.niwaki.com/store/niwaki-secateurs](http://www.niwaki.com/store/niwaki-secateurs) for a closer look. Or for more information on Japanese creative pruning or the plants please email me [ben@smartlandscapes.com](mailto:ben@smartlandscapes.com) and [jake@jakehobson.com](mailto:jake@jakehobson.com) with any specific enquiries and we will try to point you in the right direction.

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# Kensington News I

Most people would associate Kensington and Chelsea with antiques and retail but scratch the surface and the area is bubbling with creativity and design. From schools and incubators to world renowned museums, our research proves K&C can hold its own in the world of design, creativity and innovation.

**Creative Quarter** on 18th November is a day of free events in South Kensington offering thousands of 13 to 19 year old students the chance to explore work in the creative industries and creative careers. There will be an exciting programme of events from workshops, masterclasses, insight talks and meet the expert to drop-in events – all designed to provide an insight into creative careers. Events take place at the Victoria & Albert Museum, Christie's South Kensington, Imperial College London, The Science Museum, the Goethe-Institut, the Royal College of Music and the Natural History Museum. An invaluable experience for any child/young adult. For more information visit [www.discoversouthken.com](http://www.discoversouthken.com)

**The Chelsea Design Quarter** is the perfect luxury interior design destination, that brings together some of London's most vibrant names under one impressive interiors banner. All are within a casual stroll of each other, along the Kings Road, Lots Road and the Fulham Road. The Chelsea Design Quarter consists of over 30 showrooms covering rugs and lighting, fabric and furniture, kitchens and bathrooms, antiques and art. These fabulous showrooms include names such as Tatiana Tafur, Guinevere Antiques, Loomah, The Rug Company, Charles Edwards, Trowbridge, Waterworks and Talisman London. Set amongst cafes, pubs and eateries it's easy to spend the whole day there! [www.chelseadesignquarter.co.uk](http://www.chelseadesignquarter.co.uk)

**Kensington Creates** is a unique co-working hub and business incubator designed to help young entrepreneurs start and grow their businesses. The space ties in with the Kensington Aldridge Academy's focus on entrepreneurial education. The entrepreneurs housed in the business incubators are actively engaged with students



In 2015 HRH The Duchess of Cambridge met pupils involved in the 'Creates Club', at the Kensington Aldridge Academy  
*(Image: Lucy Elliott Photography)*

from the **Kensington Aldridge Academy** leading a 'Creates Club', providing students with mentoring from local entrepreneurs and inspiring their creative thinking. The students learn about the businesses housed in the Academy and then try it for themselves. As an example, previously jewellery designer Finchittida Finch ran Creates Club for students to design and make their own jewellery and which they then sold on Portobello Market.

Commissioning a piece of bespoke furniture may seem somewhat quaint, but according to designer Samuel Chan of **Channels**, it's the best approach. "A bespoke piece tells a rich story: of the commissioning owner, the designer-maker, and the time it came from. It's a unique object to pass on, which also makes it the best way of being sustainable." Based in Chelsea, Chan has been designing furniture to commission for 20 years, winning numerous awards for his work: contemporary designs with a pure aesthetic, beautifully crafted by in-house makers. Visit his showroom at Channels, 1-3 New King's Road, SW6 4SB. [www.channelsdesign.com](http://www.channelsdesign.com)

**Handmade in Britain** are celebrating their 10th Anniversary show of contemporary crafts & design with a three day showcase of the very best in contemporary fine crafts made in the UK today. With innovative design alongside exceptional craftsmanship, shoppers will find an

# Kensington News II

impressive variety of form, function and style from over 120 highly skilled UK based designer-makers. The show is a wonderful opportunity to shop for exquisite ceramics, glass, furniture, textiles, jewellery and silverware in a beautiful, historic venue. See page 26 for more info.

## General News

One of most innovative short film events in London, the **Earl's Court Film Festival** returns for a second year in November (1st and 11th). Six locally shot and co-produced Earl's Court Film Festival (ECFF) funded short films are featured, and an additional 12 external film submissions will be shown. Screenings include: The Troubadour – 1 November, The Finborough Theatre – 6 and 7 November, and the Gala & Awards Night at St. Cuthbert's - 11 November. Festival tickets are available 07789 435448 or [www.filmearlscourt.com](http://www.filmearlscourt.com). Tickets are limited, so best to book early.

Notting Hill local **Kasete Skeen** is attempting to qualify for the 2018 Winter Olympics in South Korea. If successful Kasete would be the first Tongan in history to compete at the games in an alpine skiing discipline. Kasete who attended Holland Park School has left his job at Opera Holland Park to relocate to the Alps where he will train and compete this winter. Over the past six months he has undergone a dramatic physical and personal transformation in pursuit of his dream. Kasete has started a crowdfunding campaign to help fund his training: [pledgesports.org/projects/tongan-skier-on-the-road-to-pyeongchang-2018](http://pledgesports.org/projects/tongan-skier-on-the-road-to-pyeongchang-2018). To follow Kasete's journey on his blog please see: [tonganskier.wordpress.com](http://tonganskier.wordpress.com)

In November **Opera Prelude** will be performing "Flaming June – Love Awakened" at Leighton House: a glorious evening recital of music and poetry. Lord Leighton was a deeply private person whose inner life was often a secret, even to his friends; with the return of 'Flaming June' to Leighton House for the first time since it was painted in 1895, Opera Prelude explores who

the woman in this, his most iconic painting, might be and her effect on Leighton's life and art. This evening's performance includes songs by Schubert and Strauss, interspersed with poetry readings reflecting the enigma of love awakened. See page 28 for booking information

**Superfast Broadband in Kensington:** We asked our local MP, Victoria Borwick for an update on this situation. She responded with this information: " Superfast broadband in Kensington has been a problem for some time, as in most central London boroughs. For several reasons, the cost of installation in Kensington is three times that in rural areas. It is thus difficult to convince companies to install when, contrary to popular belief, there is currently no obligation on them to do so. I organised a public meeting last year, and from this the solution is to register interest with your provider. If enough do so, there is then a good case for installation and with joined-up efforts this is now happening all over the country." So get onto your provider!

## Charity/Resident's Groups/Societies' News

**KCWC** (Kensington and Chelsea Women's Club) invites you to meet BAFTA and EMMY winner, renowned international documentary filmmaker and producer, **Anthony Geffen**. The audience will be taken behind the scenes and learn about Geffen's groundbreaking work with Sir David Attenborough and his use of innovative 3D and virtual reality technology to create award winning documentaries. See page 24 for more info.

**Carols from Chelsea**, a new recording from the Chapel Choir of the Royal Hospital Chelsea under their Director, William Vann is sure to lift everyone's spirits this Christmas. The Royal Hospital is the home of the iconic Chelsea Pensioners, all retired soldiers of the British Army. The recording (issued on SOMM [www.somm-recordings.com](http://www.somm-recordings.com)) showcases the Choir's most cherished carol repertoire including the moving *Stille Nacht* and *Once in Royal David's City* that truly captures the mood of Christmas. Other highlights are John Rutter's

# Kensington News III

beautiful Dormi, Jesu and 88-year-old Chelsea Pensioner George Hattton singing Berlin's White Christmas – a real treat!

**Knightsbridge Group Riding for the Disabled** are always looking for volunteers to help at their sessions at the indoor riding school of Hyde Park Barracks teaching disabled children to ride. If you are free between 12.45 - 14.45 on Thursdays in school term time and are fit enough to run beside a trotting pony, please get in touch with Marion Hahn on 07881 701270 or email [mdhahn@btpopenworld.com](mailto:mdhahn@btpopenworld.com).



Volunteers and Riders from the Knightsbridge Group of Riding for the Disabled  
*(Image: kind courtesy of Sue Collins)*

**Royal Trinity Hospice** plans to open a new outpatient and information hub, making its services more accessible for people in the Borough. A rental property is sought within SW3, SW5, SW7 or SW10 postcodes as below: In a High St or prominent location; with a shop front facility; of approximately 250-300 sq.m; with disabled access; D1 Planning consent or open to Change of Use; 10+ year term with break clauses. The Charity seeks to work with an entrepreneurial landowner to deliver this innovative project. It has a strong covenant and is able to pay a commercial rent. For more information or if you can help in anyway please contact: [awhite@royaltrinityhospice.london](mailto:awhite@royaltrinityhospice.london)

A crowdfunding project to enable a community run football team to compete in a semi-professional league and to hold a community football tournament for young people in the Borough has been initiated. Established in 2012, **Kensington Boroughs FC** was set up to engage

and support young people in RBKC into sports, helping them to develop teamwork, discipline, build aspiration and focus them away from crime and anti-social behaviour. **‘The Green Army’** have excelled through the seasons and are now playing in the Semi Professional Division 1 of the South Midlands Spartans Football League. To help them continue their participation, they have launched a crowdfunding campaign to assist with the cover costs of pitch hire, league entry and travel costs so the team can continue to compete. The group have until December to raise over £14,000. If you are interested in pledging support to this project, please visit [www.spacehive.com/Kensington-Borough-FC](http://www.spacehive.com/Kensington-Borough-FC)

## Congratulations to:

Samuel Chan of **Channels** on the launch of a new book celebrating his work. Samuel Chan: Design Purity + Craft Principles, written by design historians Charlotte and Peter Fiell and published by Laurence King examines his career as one of Britain's most prolific furniture designers, and is comprehensively illustrated with images of key designs. The publication of the book caps a 12-month span in which Chan was named Furniture Designer of the Year, awarded Design Guild Marks for his latest work, and celebrated 20 years of his studio. To purchase this book or to see Chan's work please visit [www.channelsdesign.com](http://www.channelsdesign.com).

**The Royal Borough** is celebrating its success at this year's **London in Bloom** awards with a bunch of awards. London in Bloom encourages communities of all sizes to make positive and lasting changes to their areas. This includes imaginative planting, cleanliness, sustainability and community effort. There were a host of Gold and Silver awards for the parks of the Borough: **Holland Park, Kensington Memorial Park, Little Wormwood Scrubs, Westfield and St Luke's Gardens** all secured Gold in the Parks category, with **Gunnersbury Cemetery** earning Gold in the Best Cemetery award. **Emslie Hornimans Pleasance, Cremorne Gardens and Avondale Park** joined the list of winners, gaining Silver Gilt in

# Kensington News IV

the Parks category. **St Mary Abbots Churchyard** was also awarded Silver Gilt. **The Natural History Museum** won the Meadow Award. In addition to this there is the highly competitive “It’s Your Neighbourhood” awards, which looks at what community groups do. This year the borough has received 12 awards to community kitchen gardens, up from eight last year. Amongst these **Henry Dickens, St Quintin Avenue and St Charles Health and Wellbeing Centre** were judged to be outstanding gardens.

**The Roof Gardens** is pleased to announce that it has scooped the award for ‘**Best London Rooftop Honey**’ at the 2016 London Honey Show, hosted at The Lancaster London. The show focused on celebrating the city’s Beekeepers and enjoying the fruits of their labour. All proceeds go to Bees for Development, which supports beekeepers in underdeveloped countries. Situated 100ft above the streets of London The Roof Gardens is home to one hive which houses between 20,000 and 70,000 worker bees. The dedicated gardening team tend to the bees year round and harvest their very own honey on site. If you would like to try the honey for yourself why not visit Babylon where the kitchen and bar team regularly use the harvested honey in their dishes and cocktails. For reservations please call Babylon on (020 7368 3993) or visit [babylon@roofgardens.virgin.com](mailto:babylon@roofgardens.virgin.com)

Readers may recall last month’s edition was themed ‘**Trees in Kensington**’. We received several emails in response to this including one from Mr G Carter who wrote with respect to the origin of the cherry trees on Brunswick Gardens and Palace Gardens Terrace: “They were in fact planted, rather earlier than the Maryland tree [cited in the article], in the nineteen thirties, as a gift from the Borough to Frederick W. Parsons, Borough Alderman and Councillor, who, when asked how the Borough might mark its appreciation of his services to the community over many years between the wars, suggested the planting of the cherries. Parsons was the founder and proprietor of Marsh & Parsons. The gift was a great delight to him, he lived in Brunswick Gardens, and of course to very many residents



An example of the Tulip Tree in the South Front of Kensington Palace  
*(Image: By kind courtesy of C Darwin)*

since.” In addition Mrs J Swann noted “... your picture of trees on (page 20) did not show the Lime Walk, but in fact something much more interesting! The trees on either side of this particular walk (up to the South front of the palace are in fact Tulip trees! (*Liriodendron Tulipifera*). I don’t think they flowered for many years but just a couple of years ago I noticed their flowers for the first time and they are truly spectacular. They are quite large, like a tulip and the brightest yellow, orange and green colours with an abundance of flowers in May or June”.

We checked with Benedict, our Horticulture and Gardening writer who concurs: “This picture is indeed *liriodendron tulipifera* - a relative of the magnolia and in the magnolia family. As a park tree it has qualities similar to those of the lime, except it is not such a good long-lived specimen.”

Historic Royal Palaces  
Kensington Palace

# Real drama doesn't come in a box set

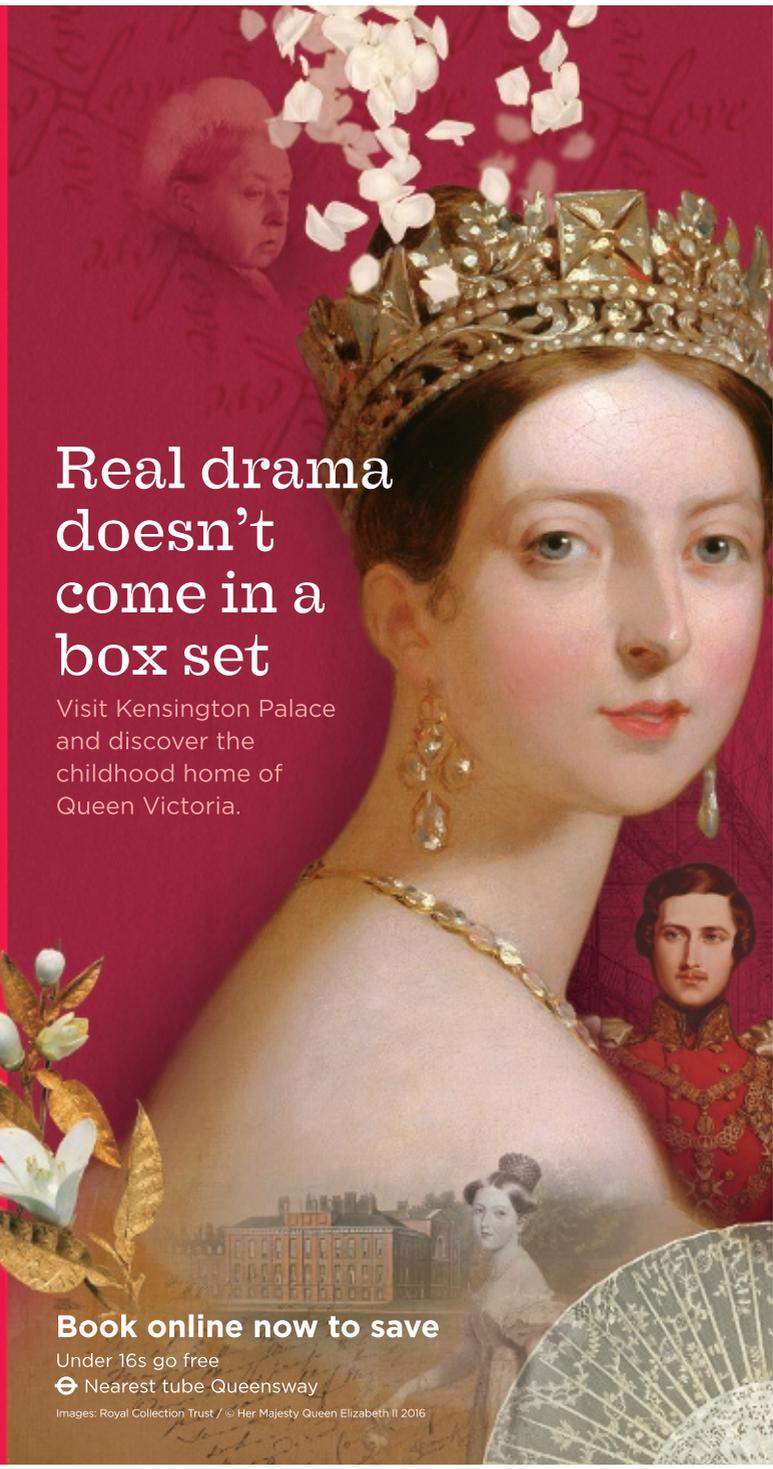
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Images: Royal Collection Trust / © Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016





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# Creativity... and how it is interpreted in a modern world

By Maria Perry with illustration by Charles Yorke

Creativity is a word with a wide range of meanings, although it did not appear in the English Dictionary until relatively recently. I looked it up in the various volumes on my own shelves to discover it was unknown in the nineteenth century and did not feature in the twentieth until at least the 1980s. For me (educated with much Latin and no Greek) it always brings to mind the charming story of Pygmalion the Greek sculptor and King of Cyprus, who made a statue of a woman so beautiful, that he fell in love with her. Aphrodite, taking pity on him, turned her into a real woman, whom he was able to love physically and whom he subsequently married. In some accounts she was named Galatea.

The story must have fascinated many, for George Bernard Shaw wrote a version in his play *Pygmalion*, the story of Eliza Dolittle, the Cockney flower girl, turned into a lady by Professor Higgins, who perfected her pronunciation, but, alas, not her vocabulary. Shaw used to say that when *Pygmalion* was staged in London in 1916, the first night audience were horrified, when Eliza in beautifully refined tones, uttered the exclamation, 'Not bloody lightly!' The phrase was considered far too improper to be used in polite

society and the play had its first performance in 1913 in avant-garde Vienna.

'Creativity' has come a long way since then. It covers every form of artistic activity - music, painting, sculpture, photography, embroidery. You name it and someone is sure to remark, that the artist responsible is 'very creative'. Sometimes it is used humorously to describe the terrible mess in a play group, or primary school in the lesson known as ART, when paints, crayons or what was once known as plasticene are used. The last is a little dated, having been superseded by 'modelling clay'. Surely the final bathos, however, has come now that CREATIVITY is regarded as a subject in itself.

My friend Fiona MacDonald, an accomplished children's writer, recently attended a course at Winchester University to acquire an M.A. in writing for children. The module on Creativity, recommended that the students should shut their eyes and

then make from modelling clay a representation of their own heads. If one of these blind attempts was recognisable, the student was deemed to have passed in CREATIVITY! O tempora, O mores. Or in the modern idiom 'Just how batty can you get?'



# GET WELL SPOON



## November

### Halibut with Clam & Mushroom Sauce

This dish is designed to keep your hair long and lustrous. Winter weather can make hair dull and dry, this tasty simple dish should help give you some seasonal protection.

#### Serves 4:

- 4 fillets of Halibut
- 2 large handfuls cooked clams
- 2 large handfuls wild mushrooms
- 2 bok choy or pak choi, shredded
- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 4 shallots, finely chopped
- Butter & olive oil for cooking
- Salt & pepper to season
- Glug white wine for de glazing
- Drizzle of avocado oil for serving

Preheat the oven to 350f, 180c, Gas 4.

Put out a baking dish. Soften the bok choy, garlic and shallots in a pan with some butter. When the shallots are translucent, spread the mixture in the baking dish, and put the halibut on top, drizzle with a little olive oil, season. Cover with the foil and bake for 18 to 20 minutes.

In the same frying pan, warm the clams in a mixture of butter and oil. Add the mushrooms, and cook until they are wilted. De glaze with some white wine.

When the fish is cooked, place it on a bed of the bok choy mixture, with the mushroom and clam mixture heaped over the top and a bright green drizzle of avocado oil.

For maximum health benefits, serve with wilted greens and smashed squash.

This is a recipe to improve hair condition and growth. The protein in the fish will help

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



Kell / Ritchie [www.getwellspoon.com](http://www.getwellspoon.com)

build hair structure and the omega oils feed the oil gland around hair follicles which help lubricate hair. Bok choy and pak choi are a brilliant source of ferritin as are the clams, which helps to thicken hair. The zinc in the clams can also help prevent scalp dryness and flaky hair and the mushrooms provide the mineral copper, thought to maintain hair colour.

If you serve with greens, you are adding Vitamin A, iron and the B vitamin family, which will work together to help prevent hair falling out and breakages. If you add squash, then the beta carotene and vitamin C will protect against dull hair. The avocado oil adds a splash of colour and lots of Vitamin E, great for strength of hair and shine.

# A Taste of ... Austrian Wines

By Trevor Langley

Austria has many attributes, which include being renowned for pretty alpine villages, mountains and impressive landscapes. Beautiful cities bring great numbers of visitors to Austria. Also, festivals and music feature throughout the country and the capital city, Vienna, is home to Strauss, the famous family who created many music scores, including much-loved and well-known waltzes. The Vienna Boys Choir is famed worldwide. Mozart's birthplace, Salzburg Cathedral and many more very interesting locations throughout Austria attract numerous visitors constantly. Austrian cuisine is much loved as are their superb wines.

The multi award-winning Wein-Gut Nigl estate cultivates mostly Grüner Veltliner and Riesling grapes. The micro-climate of the Kremstal, with its very hot summers and severe, cold temperatures of the winters, is a major contributor to the high-quality wines, subsequently produced. The vineyards are regularly monitored to ensure that when the grapes are hand-picked, only the ripest and best quality fruits are collected.

The dry, medium and full-bodied Grüner Veltliner and Riesling wines, of Wein-Gut Nigl, I find very impressive. Grüner Veltliner Senftenberger Piri and Privat Senftenberger Pellingen Reserve are regularly chosen. These constantly grace many dining tables. Fresh, elegant and their most acceptable bouquets, lead enticingly, to the juicy and crisp mouthfeels and palate sensations.

Grüner Veltliner Herzstück vom Kirchenberg Reserve is a further example of Nigl's high-quality productions. Popular, with a long finish, this wine has many devotees. For the Rieslings I enjoy the Privat Senftenberger Pellingen Reserve. Full of character, the mouthfeel and palate enjoy the juicy fruits in abundance, which follow to the long finish. These wines pair exceptionally well with fish, seafood, chicken and white meats, etc.



The multi award-winning Wein-Gut Nigl Estate  
(Image sourced from [www.weingutnigl.at](http://www.weingutnigl.at))



Grüner Veltliner Trockenbeerenauslese is my selection for a sweeter production. With a very good depth of sweet fruits for the mouthfeel, this splendid wine follows with a long finish on the palate. These are just a selection of superb wines from Nigl. High-quality wines that suit all palates and complement many dishes and dining occasions, as well as being able to be enjoyed on their own.

[www.weingutnigl.at](http://www.weingutnigl.at).  
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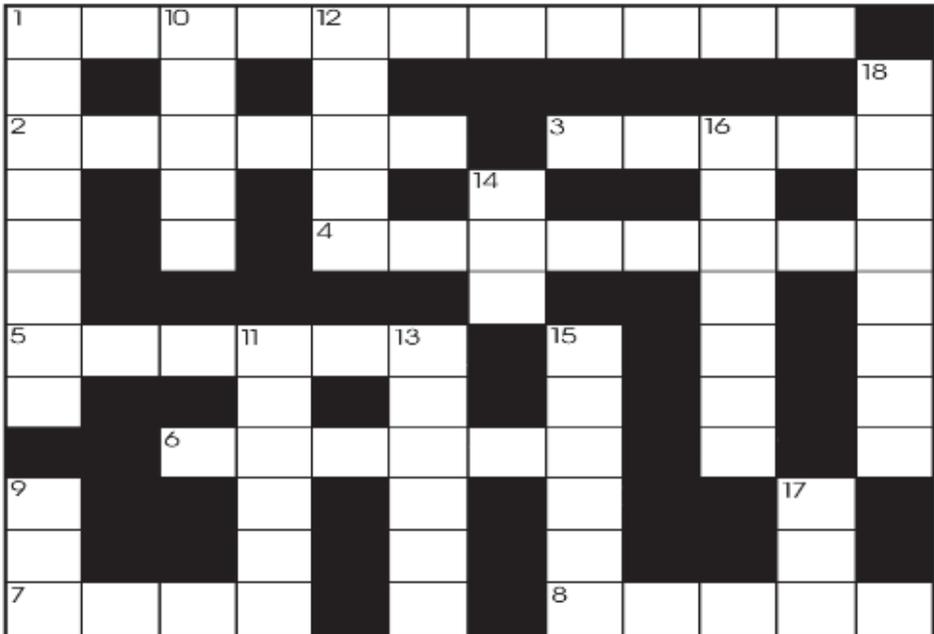
Coffee, Cake and Architecture  
An Exhibition of Kensington Architecture:  
from the 18th Century - Present day  
at Kensington Coffee, 45 Kensington Church Street  
From 1st November



Lucy Elliott Photography

# The Kensington Crossword

Compiled by Dave Saunders



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

## Across

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ Lowes Dickinson, author and humanist who lived at 11 Edwardes Square, W8 (11)
- 2) \_\_\_\_ Mews, quiet sidestreet off Stratford Road, W8 (6)
- 3) \_\_\_ Place, cul-de-sac off Stanford Road, W8 (5)
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_ Terrace, residential street between Essex Villas and Phillimore Walk (8)
- 5) Unisex clothing retailer at 54-58 Kensington High St (6)
- 6) \_\_\_\_ Collection, art gallery at 7B Kensington Church St (6)
- 7) Antiques shop at 141 Kensington Church St, W8 (4)
- 8) \_\_\_\_ Street, thoroughfare between Kensington High St and Stratford Road (5)

## Down

- 1) Charity shop at 269 Kensington High St, W8 (8)
- 9) \_\_\_ Day & Co, Estate Agents at 15 Kensington High St, W8 (3)
- 10) Carriage \_\_\_\_, residential development at 12 Earls Court Road, W8 (5)
- 11) The \_\_\_\_ Arms, pub and restaurant at 30 Queens Gate Mews, SW7 (6)
- 12) \_\_\_\_ of Kensington, opticians at 36 Earls Court Road, W8 (5)
- 13) \_\_\_\_ Bonas, fashion and jewellery outlet at 129 Kensington High St (6)
- 14) \_\_ Gallery, milliners' shop at 32-34 Earls Court Road, W8 (3)
- 15) \_\_\_\_ Court, residential street off Wrights Lane, W8 (6)
- 16) \_\_\_\_ Woolf, theorist, author and publisher born in Kensington in 1880 (7)
- 17) Adam and \_\_\_\_ Mews, residences connecting to Eden Close, W8 (3)
- 18) California burger place at 11 Kensington High St (8)

## Marcela's top tips for healthy feet



### Have a daily routine for your foot care

You can incorporate this into your shower routine

**Exfoliation** after 5- 10 minutes in the shower your feet will be soft. I recommend using the Marcela's hand and foot exfoliation which has all the essential ingredients to scrub away hard, dead skin and moisturise.



**Filing** once you have scrubbed you may find you still have hard skin, in this case you can use the Marcela's foot file with a dollop of the exfoliation on the area that is still tough and file until soft and smooth. Dry your feet well as fungal organisms thrive in moisture.



**Massage** take your favourite rich foot cream, and give yourself a 5 minute foot massage on each foot. I recommend the Marcela's peppermint foot cream as it gives a refreshing tingle and aroma to your feet. This massage will make a difference to your stress levels, circulation and even levels of energy. My father who is now 91 taught me a slapping technique that literally involves slapping (not violently!) the sole of your foot at least 15 times. He swore by this to promote healthy circulation in the body. I am such a fan of tips like these as I think this is how we keep in connection with our bodies.



### Pedicure once a month

Book a pedicure once a month to have your nails, toes professionally inspected. Our beauticians are trained to give you personal tips and spot fungal infections and of course to try all the latest colours



To book a pedicure appointment call 0207 938 1555

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



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@Marcelasnails



# What's On in and around Kensington - I

## EARL'S COURT FILM FESTIVAL

1, 6, 7 and 11 November

Six short films shot in Earl's Court are featured in this year's Film Festival. Film submissions from emerging film makers are also included. Screening venues include The Troubadour, Finborough Theatre and St. Cuthbert's (19:30). Please see [www.filmearlscourt.com](http://www.filmearlscourt.com) for details and ticket information.

## COFFEE, CAKE AND ARCHITECTURE

1 - 28 November

A photographic exhibition by Lucy Elliott Photography showcasing the variety of Kensington architectural styles from Queen Anne to the modern day. Venue: Kensington Coffee, 45 Kensington Church St.

## GOYASCAS: MUSIC IN THE TIME OF GOYA

2 November 19.00 hrs. Ticket Price £10-£30

Join virtuoso pianist José Menor for an exhilarating journey inspired by Goya. Also featured are works by Granados, Beethoven, Scarlatti and more, plus flamenco dancing & a stunning projection of Goya's artworks. [www.ilams.org.uk/echoesfestival.htm](http://www.ilams.org.uk/echoesfestival.htm)  
Call 020 7222 1061 or email [info@ilams.org.uk](mailto:info@ilams.org.uk)  
Venue: St John's Smith Square, SW1P 3HA

## LONDON CONCERT CHOIR

### HANDEL: ISRAEL IN EGYPT

2 November 19.30 hrs. Tickets £12 - £30

The chorus takes the starring role in Handel's great oratorio telling the Biblical story of the Israelites' escape from oppression and slavery in Egypt. Mark Forkgen conducts, with soloists and Counterpoint period instrument ensemble.

Venue: Cadogan Hall 020 7730 4500  
[www.cadoganhall.com](http://www.cadoganhall.com)

## ANTHONY GEFFEN TALKS ABOUT

### WORKING WITH SIR DAVID

### ATTENBOROUGH & AWARD WINNING FILMS

3 November 09.30 hrs Ticket £10

Anthony Geffen, BAFTA and Emmy award winning filmmaker, talks about his years working with Sir David Attenborough and his

many ground-breaking achievements at the Kensington Chelsea Women's Club. Venue: The Royal Geographical Society, 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR [www.kcwc.org.uk](http://www.kcwc.org.uk). Non-members welcome.

## THE ROYALE

3 - 26 November

The Bush Theatre's knockout production of The Royale returns following the 2015 UK sell-out run, starring Nicholas Pinnock as Jay Jackson - the first black heavyweight boxing champion of the world. The Tabernacle, Powis Square, London, W11 2AY Box Office: 020 8743 5050 [bushtheatre.co.uk](http://bushtheatre.co.uk) @bushtheatre

## CREATIVE TALKS AT SKETCH

7 November

Sketch's Creative Talks are back! This year focusses on music with dynamic dialogues from influencers within the industry, including the V&A's Head of Exhibitions and Director of the Department of Theatre and Performance, Victoria Broackes and Geoffrey Marsh. Sketch, 9 Conduit Street, W1S 2XG 0207 659 4500. [www.sketch.london](http://www.sketch.london)

## CZECH NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA at CADOGAN HALL

9 November 19.30 hrs from £18

Esteemed British cellist Natalie Clein joins the orchestra and Chief Conductor Libor Pešek to perform Dvořák's popular Cello Concerto. The evening's repertoire features all Czech composers, opening with Smetana's Má Vlast and concludes with Dvořák's Symphony No 8. 020 7730 4500 [www.cadoganhall.com](http://www.cadoganhall.com)

## KATHERINE BRYAN, FLUTE, and TIM CAREY, PIANO

10 November 19.30 hrs Tickets £18 - £12 concessions

Outstanding flautist Katherine Bryan joins with her collaborator pianist Tim Carey, to present arrangements of iconic pieces for solo violin, arranged for flute. Venue: St Peter's Church, 119 Eaton Square, London SW1 020 7288 6511. [www.eatonsquareconcerts.org.uk](http://www.eatonsquareconcerts.org.uk)

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# What's On in and around Kensington - II

## HANDMADE IN BRITAIN: The Contemporary Crafts & Design Fair

11-13 November

Friday 11th 11am – 7pm

Saturday 12th 11am – 7pm

Sunday 13th 11am – 5pm

Adults £10 Concessions £8

This Christmas, Handmade in Britain celebrate a decade of contemporary British craftsmanship with their 10th anniversary craft fair. Venue: Chelsea Old Town Hall 020 3105 1682  
hello@handmadeinbritain.co.uk  
handmadeinbritain.co.uk/chelsea

## RUSSIAN CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

12 November

Delicious Russian Food, inc. Borsch, Pirozhky, tea and cakes. Stalls include Antiques, Icons, Books, Russian Goods, Bric-a-brac, Linen, Bottle Stall, etc. Venue: St. Mary Abbots Church Hall, Vicarage Gate, (off Kensington Church St), London W8. Contact: ruthnares@hotmail.co.uk

## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON: DUKE OF YORK SQUARE

12 November - All day (Switch on 16.00 hrs)

Get in the festive spirit with the Duke of York Square's highly anticipated Christmas lights switch-on. The all-day event is a great occasion for the whole family, including special shopping offers, carolling and culminating in the switch-on itself at 16.00 hrs.

## THE ROYAL BOROUGH'S ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Sunday 13 November 10.55 hrs

The Mayor will lead the wreath laying at the Sloane Square War Memorial and then join a Service of Remembrance in Holy Trinity Church Sloane Street. All are welcome. 0207 361 3659 email: mayor@rbkc.gov.uk

## JEREMY HOUGHTON ART EXHIBITION for charity: Hope and Homes

14 - 18 November. Olympic and royal artist-in-residence Jeremy Houghton will host an exclusive exhibition to raise funds for children warehoused in orphanages across the world on behalf of

the charity, Hope and Homes. The award-winning artist painted the Queen in 2009, before becoming the artist-in-residence at the London Olympic Games (2012), Highgrove House (2013), Windsor Castle (2014), Goodwood (2015) and for Ben Ainslie Racing in the America's Cup (2017). Venue: Gallery 8, Mayfair. For more information about the exhibition, or a private view evening on November 17, please contact [deborah.speirs@hopeandhomes.org](mailto:deborah.speirs@hopeandhomes.org).

## RUGBY PORTOBELLO TRUST CHRISTMAS MARKET

15 November 18.00 - 21.00 hrs. Tickets £20

Enjoy 'drinks and canapés while you shop' party.

16 November 09.00 - 17.00 hrs. Tickets £5

Shopping for a great cause. Join friends for the 27th Rugby Portobello Trust Christmas Party and Market. 50 stalls will be selling beautiful, unique products making great presents for all the family. Get all your festive shopping done at once this year, while helping local children. Venue: 221 Walmer Road, London W11 4EY. For tickets see [www.rptchristmasmarket.co.uk](http://www.rptchristmasmarket.co.uk) or on door.

## CREATIVE QUARTER

Friday 18 November

A day of free events in South Kensington offering 13 to 19 year old students the chance to explore work in creative industries and creative careers. Events include workshops, masterclasses, insight talks, meet the expert and drop-in events – all providing an insight into creative careers. South Kensington [www.discoversouthken.com](http://www.discoversouthken.com)

## RAYMOND BRIGGS' FATHER CHRISTMAS

18 Nov – 24 Dec

Join Father Christmas as he gets ready for his busiest day of the year, Christmas Eve. Watch as he prepares his Christmas deliveries, feeds his reindeer and finally takes flight into the snowy night. Venue: Lyric Hammersmith 020 8741 6850 [www.lyric.co.uk](http://www.lyric.co.uk)

## ALADDIN

19 Nov – 07 Jan. The Lyric's traditional panto returns in 2016 when Aladdin flies into Hammersmith on his magic carpet for some



The Royal Borough  
of Kensington and Chelsea

Supporting the Mayor's Charity  
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KENSINGTON  
& CHELSEA  
FOUNDATION**

## The Mayor's Advent Carol Service

Wednesday 30th November 2016

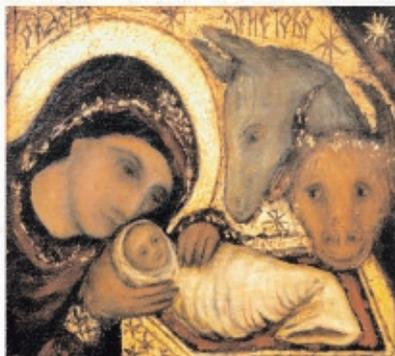
7.15 p.m.

At The Little Oratory at Brompton Oratory  
and afterwards at a Reception in St. Wilfrid's Hall

Tickets £20

Email: [mayor@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:mayor@rbkc.gov.uk)

Tel: 020 7361 3659



## Russian Christmas Bazaar

Russian Orthodox Church in London  
Ecumenical Patriarchate

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November**  
12 - 4pm

Saint Mary Abbot's Church Hall  
Vicarage Gate, W8, off Kensington Church Street



Church Hall at end of car-park, as marked

Russian Goods, Books, Antiques, Linen & More.  
Grand Draw.

*and of course* Delicious Russian Food,  
including Borsch, Pirozhki, Cakes and Tea.

## What's On in and around Kensington - III

festive fun in true Lyric style. Venue: Lyric Hammersmith 020 8741 6850. [www.lyric.co.uk](http://www.lyric.co.uk)

### **MAGNIFICENCE** by Howard Brenton Until 19 November

London, 1973. Poverty, homelessness, rising inequality, unemployment, industrial disputes. Five young activists squat a disused building and try to make a stand against it all.

Tickets £12 - £18, £10 tickets for Under 30's for first week when booked online only. Venue: Finborough Theatre, Fulham. [www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk)

### **LEIGHTON HOUSE MUSEUM** **FLAMING JUNE – LOVE AWAKENED:** **AN EVENING RECITAL OF MUSIC AND** **POETRY** 23 November, 19.00 - 21.00 hrs.

Tickets £35 to include programme and interval refreshments. This evening's performance includes songs by Schubert and Strauss, interspersed with poetry readings reflecting the enigma of love awakened. Tickets from Fiona Hamilton: Tel 0207 183 7323 or online, [www.operaprelude.com](http://www.operaprelude.com). charity number 1158309

### **The Whitley Fund for Nature** **'POACHING, PESTICIDES & POLITICS:** **Protecting the small and the mighty'**

23 November 18.30 hrs Drinks Reception  
Talk starts 19.00 hrs. Tickets £35

Powerful talks by two of Kenya's conservation heroes, anti-poaching activist, Dr Paula Kahumbu and pollinator specialist, Dr Dino Martins. Hosted by renowned wildlife filmmaker, Alastair Fothergill who will give an insight into the speakers' personal journeys and the challenges they face working on the ground in East Africa. Venue: Royal Geographical Society. For tickets please see [www.whitleyaward.org](http://www.whitleyaward.org)

### **CHELSEA PHYSIC GARDEN CHRISTMAS** **FAIR** 26 November 10.00 - 17.00 hrs Saturday 10.00 - 16.00 hrs Sunday

A popular event featuring a broad range of beautifully crafted products including jewellery, contemporary crafts, toys and a selection of

festive fare. The perfect opportunity to gather gifts for your loved ones! Venue: 66 Royal Hospital Road, SW3 4HS [chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk/christmas-fair-2016](http://chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk/christmas-fair-2016)

### **KENSINGTON PHILHARMONIC** **ORCHESTRA AUTUMN CONCERT** 27 November 19.00 hrs. Tickets £12 (£6 Students and under 18)

Director: Mark Fitz-Gerald  
Leader: Abigail Dance  
Brahms – "Tragic" Overture  
Schumann – Konzertstück for Four Horns and Orchestra (soloists Joel Ashford, Helena Jacklin, Florence Rousseau, Fabian van de Geest)  
Tchaikovsky – Symphony No 5  
Venue: Chelsea Town Hall. Please see [www.kpo.org.uk](http://www.kpo.org.uk) for more information.

### **KENSINGTON MUMS FAMILY CHRISTMAS** **FAIR** 27 November 10.00 - 17.00 hrs

For the second year running, Kensington Mums are organising their second Family Christmas Fair. Enjoy family festive shopping, children entertainment all under one roof with lots of raffle prizes to be won. Venue: Kensington Close Hotel, Wrights Lane, W8. [www.kensingtonmums.co.uk](http://www.kensingtonmums.co.uk)

### **THE MAYOR'S ADVENT CAROL SERVICE** 30 November 19.15. Tickets £20

Supporting the Mayor's Charity, 'The Kensington & Chelsea Foundation', join the Mayor of Kensington & Chelsea, Councillor Elizabeth Rutherford in this Advent Carol Service. Venue: The Little Oratory at Brompton Oratory, and refreshments afterwards in St Wilfrid's Hall. For tickets please email [mayor@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:mayor@rbkc.gov.uk) or call 020 7361 3659

### **WHY NOT GIVE A LITTLE TIME TO HELP** **THE ELDERLY?** Every Friday from 11am to 12 noon in November.

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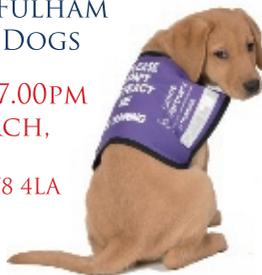
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