

CONSERVATION NEWS

Kent

Autumn 2020 • Complimentary

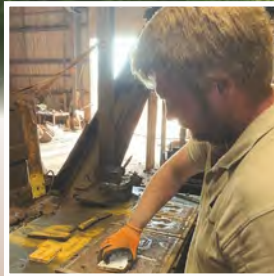
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Publisher
Dawn Long

Contributors
Susan Hubbard
Louise Tomlin
Rowena Hawtin
Sarah Morgan

Editor/Sales Manager
Dawn Long
Tel: 07725 732535
dawn@cnkent.co.uk

Design
Lynn Fasulo
Dandelion Design

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Welcome

AUTUMN 2020

While leaf fall prompts thoughts of a hunker-down at home in front of the fire, it may also be a good quiet time to fit in a UK staycation - and why not make it a spectacular one? We have some splendid suggestions from The Landmark Trust, who restore interesting old properties then let them out for holidays. Exciting choices include castles, lighthouses and stately home estates.

The latest in their portfolio is Cobham Hall Dairy (featured in our spring magazine), where stained glass artist and conservator John Corley was involved in the restoration. We meet John in his Deal studio and learn of his inspiration from Canterbury Cathedral – and that he has just received a prestigious award.

Another man with a passion for preservation is Bob Lovell of the Antique Oak Flooring Company near Ashford. Bob is a keen advocate for saving and re-using beautiful old timber.

Talking of wood, in this autumnal issue our regular garden feature is all about tree-planting, and we also bite into the most popular tree fruit to discuss the versatility of apples!

Dawn

The winner of The Pig: Tales & Recipes from the Kitchen Garden & Beyond was Simon Johnson from West Malling.





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AUTUMN GARDENING

Autumn is upon us, the evenings are gradually drawing in and winter is fast approaching. So what can garden owners look forward to in the autumn? This is the time for trees and hedging; fruit trees and fruit bushes; roses and bulbs; and garlic.



HERITAGE ORCHARD DAYS

On 26th/27th September and 17th/18th October Brogdale Collections is holding Heritage Orchard Days. Visitors will be able to enjoy orchard walks, fruit displays, juice tastings, a family apple trail, cider sales and more. With very few events taking place at the moment, these Orchard Days are a great opportunity to spend time outside with the family while enjoying some fresh Kent fruit. Visitors will also be helping raise essential funds to save these unique orchards. Visit www.brogdalecollections.org for more information and to book.

Make leaf mould

After gathering your fallen autumn leaves, don't burn them or shove them in your green bin. Use them to make leaf mould, a fabulous free resource that will improve soil quality. Simply pack wet leaves into black bin bags together with a trowel of aren soil. Punch a few holes in the bags and leave them in an out-of-the-way corner of the garden. Your leaf mould will be ready in about 18 months.



PLANT IT NOW

Now's the time to get busy planting bulbs, but don't limit yourself to the usual daffs, tulips and snowdrops – throw some alliums irises and crocuses into the mix. Grape hyacinths (*Muscari*) are an absolute must-have. These feisty little gems aren't picky about where you plant them and will provide vital nectar for early-flying bees.





BERRIED TREASURE

Why not include small berrying plants in your garden this autumn? Try *Skimmia Japonica* with its unbeatable display of bright red berries in your pots and hanging baskets. *Pyracantha* is an ideal evergreen shrub to grow against a wall or fence. It provides a valuable nesting site for birds and has flowers that attract bees. *Cotoneaster horizontalis* makes an excellent choice if you need to cover a border and blackbirds, thrushes and waxwings will love the berries.

SWEET PEA TOP TIPS

For the very finest sweet pea blooms for cut flowers, always sow in the autumn. Here are top tips for the best display possible.

- For bigger, better plants sow six seeds to a one litre pot or use deep root trainers.
- Don't soak seeds; leave them on damp kitchen paper overnight, then nick any that have not swelled.
- If you want sweet peas in pots, grow old-fashioned or semi-dwarf varieties in as big a pot as possible. Feed well with seaweed or tomato fertiliser.
- Sweet peas like plenty of root room, moisture and a sunny spot.
- Keep picking; as soon as seeds are produced they will stop flowering.



What to do now

- Pick apples frequently before they become damaged so they won't deteriorate in storage.
- Revamp your bedding. Remove tired summer flowers, then plant new frost-tolerant ones.
- Continue planting out spring bulbs, such as daffodils, hyacinths and crocuses.
- Make leaf mould.
- Harvest cabbages.
- Plant lettuces in a cool greenhouse for daily salads this winter.
- Collect and store seeds somewhere cool and dry until next spring.

FEED THE BIRDS

Feeding the birds in autumn is all about helping them through the moult and preparing them for cold winter months. With clever garden planting and a reliable supply of food in bird feeders, your garden birds will thrive through the autumn and beyond.





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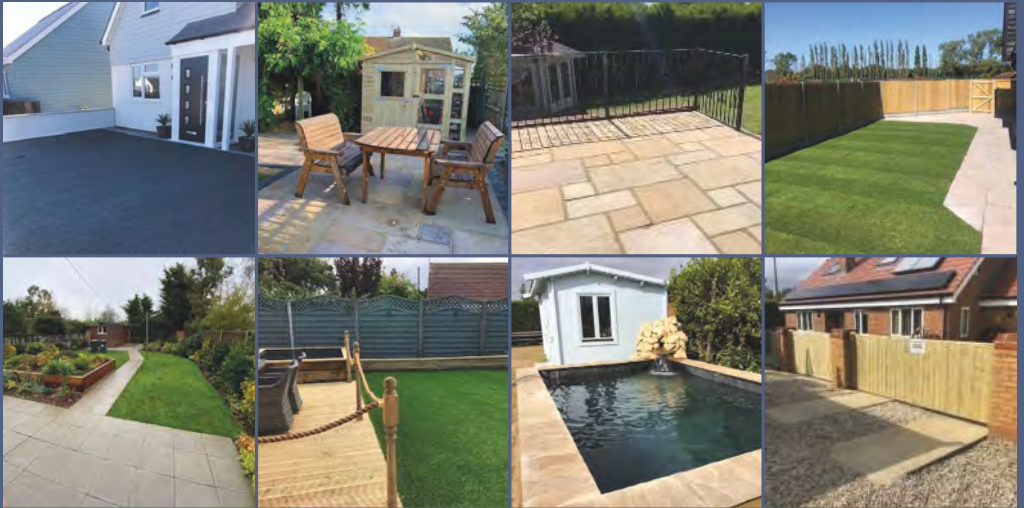


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We need more trees FOR THE FUTURE!

TREES CHANGE LIVES. THEY PROVIDE FOOD, FORAGE AND HABITAT FOR ANIMALS AND HELP COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE, SO LET'S GET PLANTING!

We can easily overlook the trees gracing our landscapes, especially when we live in towns and cities where there are fewer of these majestic beauties to take notice of. But trees are so important to our world and ourselves that taking a moment to consider them may very well save our future.

As well as being super pollution destroyers, trees help with our mental and physical health. The carbon dioxide that trees consume helps to counteract the huge amounts being produced by burning fossil fuels and, through transpiration, trees actually cool the air around them. Research has shown that through the release of chemicals known as phytoncides from trees, people's blood pressure, anxiety and pain can all be reduced. No wonder a walk in the woods has such a soothing effect.

Trees are excellent at combatting all kinds of problems, from curbing flooding to providing shade, warmth, shelter from wind and extreme weather, producing raw materials and bio-diverse habitats. With carbon dioxide now at dangerously high levels, trees, especially ancient forests, are essential to keep the levels in check, and in turn, keep us alive.

Earlier this year it was announced that between March 2019 and June 2020, 1,420 hectares (3,507 acres) of new woodland were planted in England. This falls well short of the 5,000-hectare target set by government in 2019. They had aimed to add 10 million new trees

to rural landscapes and provide an additional £10m for urban areas to plant 130,000 by 2022, but with the first of these planting targets missed, this now looks unlikely. With dangerous emission levels rising and ancient trees declining we need to plant more trees now in order to preserve the planet for future generations.

The Garden Creative has teamed up with 9 Trees CIC (www.9trees.org) (email: info@9trees.org), a tree planting organisation with a difference, to offer our clients an incentive to plant trees in their own gardens while supporting tree planting around the UK.

It takes nine trees to 'balance' the average UK citizen's carbon consumption each year.







9 Trees plant trees in new woodlands across England and Wales, then employ local people to conserve and manage the woodlands as they grow. Supporting 9 Trees means that they can plant trees to counteract carbon emissions while educating, creating employment and promoting biodiversity in each area. Because the land is provided by landowners, 9 Trees work differently to other tree planting schemes. They cover the cost of the trees and their protection including pre- and post-management of the woodland to ensure its longevity, working with the local community to create an immediate impact.

The Garden Creative is supporting them by offering as a service to all its clients that for each tree they plant in your garden 9 Trees will plant one in a woodland in the UK. We would love to have a local site where we could plant trees as currently there are no sites in Kent, so if you have land that you would be interested in turning into woodland, 9 Trees would love to

hear from you. They work in partnership with landowners, community groups, local councils and festival sites. If you would like to find out more, have land to offer, or simply share 9 Trees' ethos for the benefits that trees can bring to the local environment as well as in the fight against climate change, email info@9trees.org.

To discuss planting a tree in your own garden you can get in touch with Sarah at The Garden Creative to arrange a free consultation. The Garden Creative is available for small-scale planting plans through to full garden design and landscaping and will work with you to create a unique garden suited to your family's needs. Incorporating trees in the garden can create shelter from strong, drying winds, shade from harsh sun, be a natural aid to waterlogged soils, encourage wildlife to the garden and provide a beautiful focal point.

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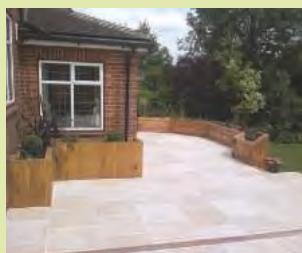
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HOW TO PLANT A TREE



RIGHT PLANT, RIGHT PLACE

The most important thing when selecting a tree is to choose one that will thrive in the area you are planting it in. Willows will be effective in waterlogged ground, Alder and Pine make excellent windbreaks and many ornamental trees require a sheltered location. The longevity of the tree will depend on its suitability to the site.

WHEN TO PLANT

Evergreen trees are best planted in the autumn or Spring and deciduous trees are planted during the winter when they are dormant.

DIGGING A HOLE

The hole for your tree should be one to two times wider than the pot but only ever as deep as the top of the soil in the pot. Planting trees too deeply is one of the main reasons for trees

not surviving. You can dig a square hole which is meant to encourage the roots outwards.

SOME FRIENDLY FUNGI

Trees don't require fertiliser when planting, but Mycorrhizal fungi really helps root growth and ability to access water and nutrients. Naturally present in most soils adding this friendly fungi in the form of powder or granules when planting will ensure the best start for your tree.

TO STAKE OR NOT TO STAKE

Small trees in sheltered gardens will not need staking. It's better to allow movement so that the tree grows a strong root system. In more exposed locations or when planting large trees, it's best to speak to an expert who can advise on the best form of staking to use. It's generally best to stake low down on the trunk and to remove the stake after 18 months to three years.

WATER, WATER WATER!

Watering is the most important job with newly planted trees. During spring, summer and autumn a watering can full several times a week should be right for most. If you are not going to be around regularly, it is worth fitting a seep hose on a timer to water for around an hour every few days for the first year. Once the tree is established it won't need extra watering except maybe in very hot, dry spells.



AMAZING TREE FACTS

1. The UK's oldest reported tree is The Fortingall Yew in Perthshire, Scotland. It is estimated to be over 3,000 years old!
2. There are almost 1,000 ancient Oak trees in Sherwood Forest, Northern Europe's largest wood of ancient trees many are up to 1,000 years old!
3. The UK's largest annual tree celebration, National Tree Week runs from Nov 28th to 6th December this year check out treecouncil.org.uk to see how you could get involved
4. Adding just one tree to an open pasture has been found to increase its bird biodiversity from almost zero to as high as 80 different species.
5. A 2015 Unilever survey found that only 1% of families could identify Britain's most common trees. The Woodland Trust has a free Tree ID app to download, so no excuses!



The Fortingall Yew in Perthshire



An ancient oak tree in Sherwood Forest

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PANSY' With dark maroon leaves the Cercis provides an excellent backdrop for white or purple flowers. It's a dramatic tree with bright cerise blossom on bare branches before leaves open in spring. Fiery shades of red adorn the leaves before falling in autumn. Plant as a specimen tree and keep watered as it will dislike drought until established.



ACER PALMATUM 'SANGO-KAKU'

Japanese Acers are available in many colours and habits but this is a truly striking tree. With bright coral pink stems the leaves turn from soft pinkish green to bright canary yellow in autumn. Acers need a sheltered spot away from strong winds and afternoon sun and like to be kept fairly moist and cool at the roots. They are perfect for pots.



CRATAEGUS LAEVIGATA PAULS SCARLET

Wonderful if you live on the coast as it's very tolerant of salt laden winds. A member of the Hawthorn family it blossoms later than many other spring trees, displaying deep pink-red flowers in May and is invaluable to wildlife.

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TO THE RESCUE...

WE MEET BOB LOVELL OF THE ANTIQUE OAK FLOORING COMPANY, THE RECLAIMED FLOORING BUSINESS THAT HAS AN UNRIVALLED REPUTATION FOR SUPPLYING GENUINE, CHARACTERFUL TIMBER FLOORING FOR PERIOD AND HISTORIC RESTORATION PROJECTS.

In the late 1970s a young Bob Lovell left his native Cornwall attracted by the lure of the bright lights of London and a work opportunity in architectural salvage. It was a move that was to shape his future, as it was how he started in a business that has become all-encompassing and has grown with him into a highly successful, lucrative and rewarding venture.

After several years working for a leading salvage company Bob, who already had a love of wood, found it developed into a passion. His appreciation for the material grew as he learned to recognise the many different varieties, and in particular he realised the importance of



Bob in the warehouse



Main photo opposite: Canterbury Oak re-machined, North London residence
 Above: Happenstance restaurant St Pauls – Mississippi Oak boards



reclaiming and re-using antique timber in specialist projects.

Having learned how the business of reclamation worked and having built up valuable contacts he started his own business, The Antique Oak Flooring Company. Now, with over 35 years' experience in reclamation and re-use under his belt, he has a thriving specialist timber and reclaimed flooring business that has an unrivalled reputation for supplying genuine, characterful timber flooring for period and historic restoration projects, both nationally and internationally.

When meeting Bob Lovell his obvious passion for his business and the materials

shines through, but this isn't just a money-making scheme, there's more to it than that. He has another motivation that drives him and that's the importance of saving valuable resources. There are huge amounts of timber in the shape of flooring and other parts of

Timber comes from far and wide, from Spain, France, Turkey, Eastern Europe and the United States.

buildings that would ordinarily be scrapped when demolition teams move in. Not so long ago what was seen as waste timber would have been thrown on a bonfire, so the ecological and environmental concerns loom large. Nowadays large quantities of timber can

be saved by reclamation companies and repurposed by more and more discerning clients, who recognise the desirability of re-using authentic reclaimed timber that has a beautiful patina, mellow colours and character,



Above and below: Versailles Panels installed in private Georgian residence





Historic Shepherds Dwelling for dismantlement – Oak Timbers

in the restoration of traditional historic buildings and also high-end contemporary design projects.

There's a rather beautiful symmetry in knowing, for instance, that an original Georgian floor can be saved from one building that is being demolished and it will live again and on into the future in another Georgian building that is being restored.

The company has supplied products to many well-known high street names including Levis and Lush in their flagship stores, also many high-end hotels and restaurants like The Happenstance in London, and numerous private residential restoration and architect designed projects.

The Antique Oak Flooring Company's

HQ at Ruckinge near Ashford in Kent nestles appropriately in an attractive woodland setting and on first impression appears to be a small family-run business. Bob's son, Sam has been working with him for the last few years along with a team of dedicated craftspeople who are tasked with carefully re-machining, enhancing and polishing the antique oak and other rescued timbers to revitalise them, ensuring the antique character of the surface is retained.

Evidence of this important part of the reclamation process is on display in the large showroom on site, where commercial and residential clients can see and experience first-hand the beauty of a diverse array, not just of antique oak, but beech, pine and many other precious timbers like teak, walnut,

cherry, maple, eucalyptus and mahogany, that have been reworked into strip flooring of various widths, from elegantly slim through to standard board sizes and as wide as 350mm. Also on show are special handmade panels from antique French oak that are beautifully reconstructed representations of panels from the Palace of Versailles, and chevron or herringbone parquet woodblock flooring, all lovingly reconstructed to be re-used.

The scale of the operation is a surprise but what is even more surprising is that the timber comes from far and wide, from Spain, France, Turkey, Eastern Europe and the United States. Notable examples are Russian oak rescued from shepherds' dwellings in Russia, and pine boards from the Gouda Cheese factory in Holland dating back to the 1920s: these are wide boards that the cheeses used to sit on to mature. A more recent scoop was Brazilian walnut reclaimed from the Olympic village. If Bob's contacts had not alerted him to these they could well have been lost forever instead of being re-used as a valuable resource.

And a final surprise to hammer home that this isn't just a local Kentish woodworking business: just one look at the 10,000 square feet warehouse on site is way more than

impressive. Taking a walk through it with Bob was fascinating. Seeing the vast piles of timber neatly stacked, protected from the elements, waiting to be milled and turned in to useful flooring or wall cladding, and hearing him describe where everything had come from was like walking through history.

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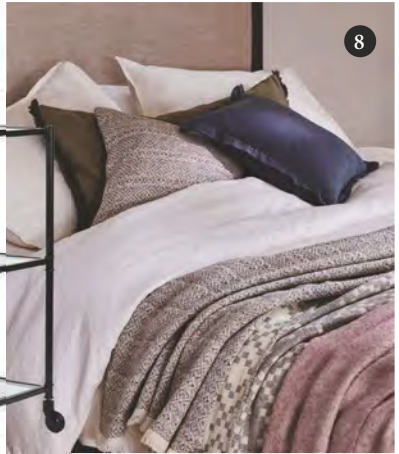
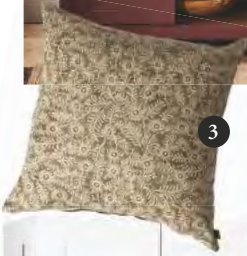
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With autumn on the horizon, waving goodbye to summer doesn't have to mean the end of enjoying gorgeous greenery – invite a touch of the outdoors in.

HYDROPONICS

Making a real style statement, hydroponics are here to change how we think about houseplants. The emerging trend for growing plants in water is ideal for homes in every shape and size due to the compact nature of planters. They are a low maintenance and contemporary addition which, thanks to LED lighting, will instantly brighten up a desk or any dark corner.



SUCCULENTS

If you are short on space, want to add some character to your home office desk, or create the ultimate 'shelfie', these cute-as-can-be succulents in animal pots fit the style brief perfectly.

Position in groups for maximum charm. Offering sculptural impact with minimal effort, the cacti planter will help to complete a more industrial look.

*Succulent in animal pot
£4.99, Dobbies*



BROMELIADS

Next up on the all-new autumn trends list is the Bromeliad, a striking plant with an exotic vibe which feature beautiful arched leaves and produces stunning long-lasting flowers. Set against a block colour backdrop to make this graphic plant really pop.



*Bromeliad £12.99, Capi groove pot
£7.99, Dobbies*

TERRARIUMS

A terrarium makes a decorative centrepiece on your dining table or an eye-catching welcome sitting atop a hallway table. A closed terrarium creates a humid atmosphere – suitable for ferns and moss. Open terrariums are better suited to succulents and air plants.



Terrarium £79.99, Dobbies

LUSH AND LEAFY

Bold, leafy plants will lift any unused corner and breathe new life into any space. One large floor plant, such as a Codiaeum, will create a foliage focal point in a smaller room; or style a selection of larger plants for an indoor jungle vibe. Pair with neutral, concrete planters which take on a supporting role to allow indoor greenery to truly become the star of the show.



*Codiaeum plant £89.99,
Vriesea planter £12.99*



BONSAI

These miniature indoor trees have a distinctive Japanese style and will bring a calming touch of nature into your home. Keep them looking their best by giving them a regular prune and keep them happy with frequent watering to avoid soil drying out. These evergreen plants are ideal for a minimalist style.



Ficus Ginseng in Glass £29.99, Dobbies

Plant expert and Dobbies Houseplant Buyer, Claire Bishop, shares her top care tips for happy houseplants...

HYDROPONICS

- Replace the water every 2-4 weeks
- If possible, use rainwater or bottled water
- Spray feed the leaves for a nutrient boost
- Most plants can be grown in water as long as the base leaf is kept above the waterline.

SUCCULENTS

- Easy to care for
- Position in a bright spot away from direct sunlight
- Water sparingly when the compost feels dry
- Misting with a spray is the easiest way to water.

BROMELIADS

- Water at the base of the flower spike
- Make sure the roots don't sit in water
- After flowering, Bromeliads will produce new plants called pups.

TERRARIUMS

- Position away from direct sunlight
- Sealed terrariums are self-nourishing and easy-care
- To grow succulents and cacti, choose an open terrarium.

CALATHEAS

- Position in a medium or low-light spot
- Keep soil damp and mist leaves regularly
- Trim brown leaves to encourage new ones.

BONSAI

- Position in a bright spot away from draughts
- Water often, whenever soil starts to dry out
- Prune regularly to maintain shape.

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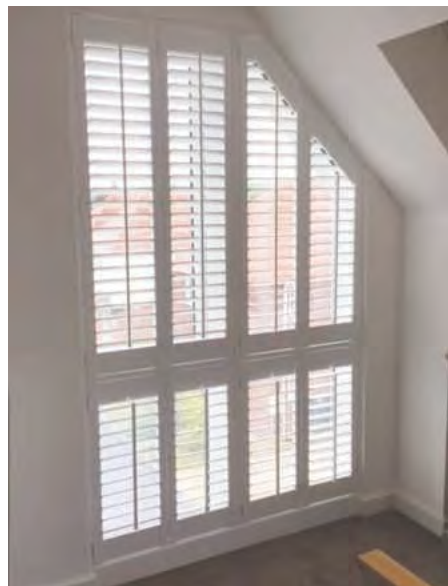
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Partridge in a pear tree flower pot,
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Photos: John Miller

Appleton Water Tower, Norfolk

You can experience any of these scenarios and more with the Landmark Trust. As foreign travel has been difficult this year there's never been a better time to explore the UK, its geography and history, and the Trust's offer of nearly 200 unique self-catering lets in an astonishing variety of spectacular buildings is the perfect pandemic panacea.

Established in 1965 to preserve special historic places and promote public enjoyment of them, the trust takes on endangered properties, sensitively restores them, then makes them available for holidays.

Guests can enjoy stepping away from modern life – there are no televisions, radios, phones or wif-fi in Trust properties, yet each is comfortably furnished to modern standards.

John Evetts, the Furnishing Manager, says he tries to avoid a 'designer' feel and doesn't want holidaymakers to feel they have to tiptoe around. Many lets are dog-friendly and each has a library of books carefully selected to illuminate aspects of the building or the locality, just as you might expect of a well-read friendly owner.

You can choose from town, countryside or coast, industrial buildings or grand residences. Castles on offer include Cawood in Yorkshire, once a residence of the Archbishop of York and where Cardinal Wolsey was arrested, and the defensive Kingswear Castle near Dartmouth.

Another fortification with very different architecture is the quatrefoil Martello Tower on the coast at Aldeburgh in Suffolk, built to defend against Napoleon's army.

You need to take a ferry to get to Lundy Island, off North Devon, which is a special

haven for birdwatchers and those simply wanting a get-away-from-it-all location. The Trust offers 23 properties here, including the lighthouse.

For a brush with royalty you can stay in Appleton Water Tower on the edge of the Queen's Sandringham estate in Norfolk. When it was built in the late 19th century to provide clean water to the estate, the second floor was reserved as a viewing room for royals and their guests. Now you can enjoy the same views.

Talking of the upper echelons of society, there's an opportunity to experience life on one of the world's most famous landscaped estates

Appleton Water Tower, Norfolk



Appleton Water Tower, Norfolk



Appleton Water Tower, Norfolk





Gothic Temple, Buckinghamshire



at fabulous Stowe in Buckinghamshire, where a stay in the Gothic Temple Folly allows you to enjoy the grounds like a Lord or Lady of the Manor. This circular-roomed structure was built in 1741 for Lord Cobham, a connection which neatly takes us back to Kent if you don't want to travel far...

One of the Trust's most recent projects was the restoration of the Dairy in the pleasant grounds of Cobham Hall (former seat of the Lords Cobham), near Gravesend. It was designed by James Wyatt, one of the most influential architects of the eighteenth century, to resemble an Italianate chapel, and is already proving popular.

Other Kentish locations include a 'must' for scholars and fans of architect Augustus Pugin. The Grange at Ramsgate was designed and lived in by the man himself and has a private chapel and tower. The Trust has returned most of the house to an appearance Pugin himself would recognise, including the intricate, jewel-bright



The Grange, Ramsgate, Kent



The Grange, Ramsgate, Kent

interior. Here, surrounded by his large family, Pugin worked among other things on his plans for the House of Lords.

Back up towards London, the tiny but quaintly perfect Prospect Tower at Belmont Park near Faversham was built as a 'den' for owner General Harris, with grandstand views of rural Kent. It has interesting links with the history of cricket, too.

Closer still to the capital are cosy Obriss Farm near Westerham, surrounded by ancient woodland, and Hole Cottage at Cowden, all that remains of a late medieval timber-framed hall house of high quality.



Prospect Tower, Belmont, nr Faversham



Obriss Farm, nr Westerham

All Landmark Trust properties were closed during the pandemic lockdown until 21 July and now have an enhanced cleaning regime as well as contact-free arrangements. Some were temporarily occupied by nurses, doctors, paramedics and other critical workers for emergency stays, which seems fitting for a charitable organisation that boasts of its properties as 'a national resource'!

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MASTER GLASS PAINTER

LOUISE TOMLIN MEETS THE MAN BEHIND JOHN CORLEY STAINED GLASS STUDIO WHICH UNDERTAKES THE DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE OF NEW COMMISSIONS, AND THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF HISTORIC STAINED GLASS.

During the course of interviewing successful people involved in businesses in the sphere of restoration we have uncovered a link with a person's love of art, and with an aesthetic awareness that has helped them develop their skills in the discipline of their chosen career. A very recent example of this was Karl Terry, a highly successful exponent of specialist conservation roofing and an accomplished and award-winning painter.



We don't have to dig too deep to uncover the links between artistic talent and the ultimate occupation for the subject of this story, as the man himself says the two disciplines work in parallel. We meet John Corley, one of the most successful stained glass artists and conservators in the field, who for over 45 years has been a leading light in the world of stained glass, carrying out private commissions and many complex conservation projects on glass from all periods, including high profile work on 800 year old masterpieces.

John's creative career began in the 1970s studying at Northampton School of Art and for a Fine Art degree at Canterbury College



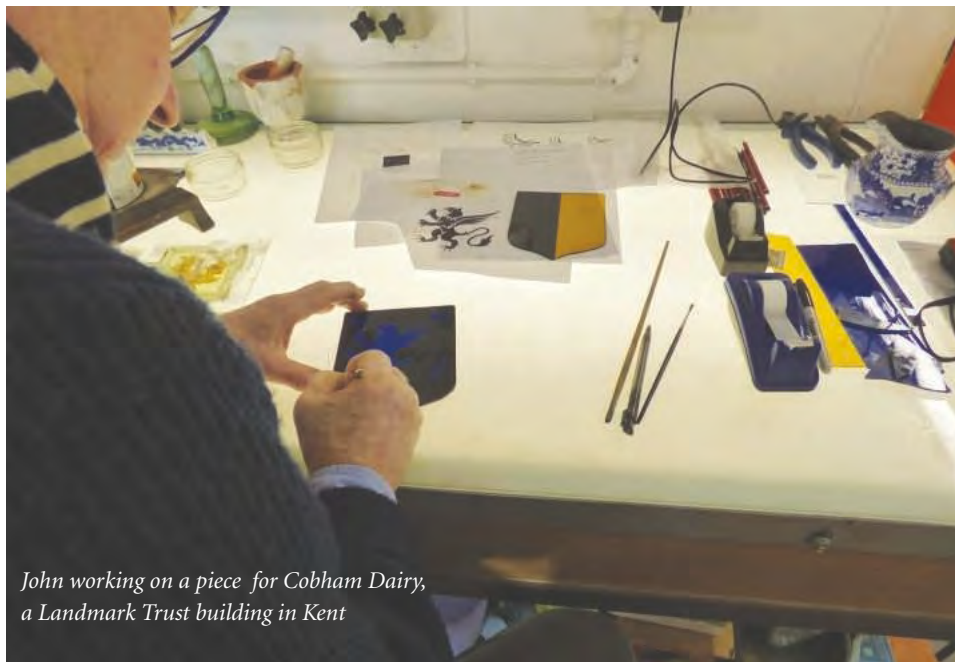
Above and below: Designed, manufactured and installed in the Reading Room, Ramsgate Library



of Art. This exposed him to many notable artists and their works whilst studying painting and learning about the history of art. He was introduced to the stunning frescoes of pre-Renaissance European masters, right through to more modern abstract expressionists and post impressionists, all contributing to his creative development.

A eureka moment came for John when visiting Canterbury Cathedral as a student. He was overwhelmed by the strength of colour in the windows and the powerful images; the magnificent medieval masterpieces had him hooked.

After graduating as a fine art painter, John took his portfolio to Canterbury Cathedral, now recognised as a World Heritage site, in the hope of becoming involved in a training programme in their studio to repair 12th and 13th century stained glass.



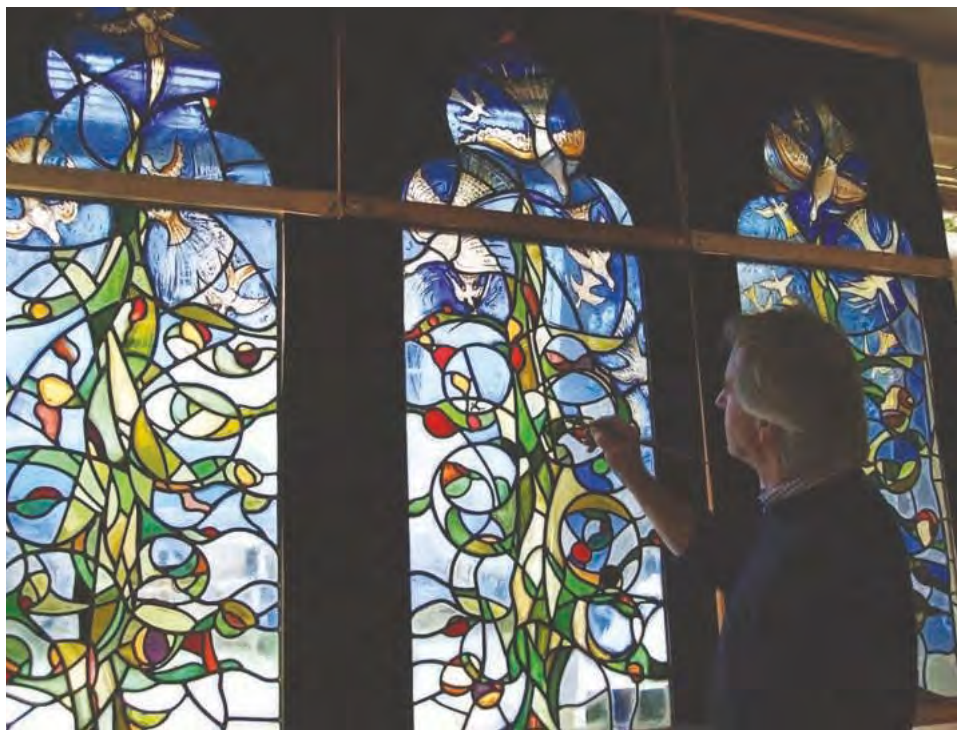
Happily for him he was welcomed on to the programme and he stayed for nearly four years learning the intricate and highly skilled art of glass painting and conserving, whilst developing an appreciation and love of the material, its textures and the impurities of blown glass that give it its character. As part of his training he was given the opportunity to attend a practical workshop run by the York Glazers Trust at York Minster and assisted in works to preserve the famous Rose Window.

Following on from this, John was ready to concentrate on private commissions and conservation work, so the John Corley Stained Glass Studio was established in 1978 in rural Kent. As the business grew quickly, the need for more space for better facilities and to employ more staff dictated a move to larger premises in Deal, which is where the studio workshops and gallery shop are now well established. The





The Natural World Window. Designed, manufactured and installed in the north aisle of St Nicholas Church, Ash, Kent.





Landmark Trust's Cobham Dairy that we featured this spring. This involved painted, silver stained, enameled and kiln fired mouthblown glass for the roundels depicting the coat of arms. Other notable commissions are the Natural World Window for St Nicholas Church, Ash and the impressive Burning Library window at Ramsgate Library, which John designed incorporating drawings and designs from local school children.

studio undertakes all types of conservation of leaded glazing and stained glass spanning many time periods from medieval up to contemporary pieces.

The works necessitate the removal from site to the studio where the in-house team undertakes the delicate conservation work, along with initial reporting, recording and documenting of the whole process for future reference up to reinstatement to site. It's no surprise that such levels of expertise and experience means John's team, many of whom have been mentored and trained by him, are in demand and are involved in prestigious restoration projects for bodies such as the National Trust, English Heritage, The Crown Estate, The Churches Conservation Trust, Historic Royal Palaces and Private Collections, to name just a few.

It's not all painstaking devotion to conservation though. As a talented artist John undertakes private commissions, and it's not surprising to hear he created the glass for the

Throughout this long and successful career in stained glass John has never stopped painting. He always has his own work on the go and there is a definite link between his work in glass and his paintings. "It all started with drawing," he told me. As a young man, drawing helped him develop a way of looking at things in detail and in depth, helping him create his unique vision of the world, which is still with him today in his paintings and glass art. He's still inspired by the sea, the light and the natural world, which inform the shapes, forms, rhythms and colours that translate in to the language of each work whatever the context, be it a framed stand-alone painting or a beautiful stained glass window.

Recognition of his long and distinguished career has just recently been announced in the shape of a very prestigious and well-deserved award: John has been made an Associate of the Society of Master Glass Painters, s congratulations John Corley, AMGP.

To find out more visit

johncorleystainedglassstudio.co.uk

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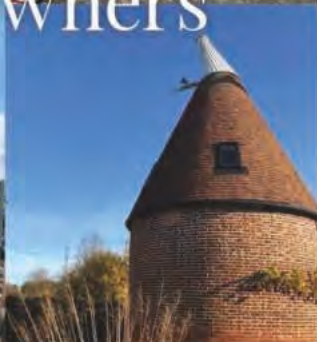


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Choosing the right doors

FOR YOUR PERIOD PROPERTY

ORIGINAL PERIOD DOORS GIVE HOMES CHARACTER AND ARCHITECTURAL INTEGRITY. WE GUIDE YOU THROUGH RENOVATING ORIGINAL DOORS, OR SOURCING SOMETHING SIMILAR

Breathing new life into an old period property can be many things – a labour of love, a test of endurance, and a seemingly never-ending to-do list... and hopefully, eventually, a joy. One detail that doesn't tend to get too much attention is how to pick period-appropriate doors for your home.

Houses built in each era will have been designed with a specific style of door, and replacing like-with-like can really help you keep – or reinstate – an authentic period feel. However, the choice can be baffling. Here is our guide to which type of house matches which style of doors to help you resolve at least one design dilemma on your list.



HISTORIC COTTAGES

A cosy country cottage built before the Georgian era would have had the simplest of doors. Constructed from vertical timbers – stiles – and horizontal framing timbers – rails – these doors are just as charming today in their humble but effective design. Perfect for homes with a fuss-free, country feel, or for installing a rustic feel in a barn conversion, cottage-style doors look wonderful in natural wood or a white-painted finish.

GEORGIAN HOMES

The house-building skills and artistic flair of the Georgians is undisputed, and one of the reasons why Georgian homes are still so in-demand today. This is the point at which panelled doors were introduced, and a typical





came into vogue for ordinary domestic homes, often used to link the living and dining spaces and add a sense of grandeur.

ARTS & CRAFTS HOMES

The Arts & Crafts movement emerged in the 1860s, as the Industrial Revolution bloomed, and was in part a reaction to an increasingly mass-produced, mechanised age in design. Driven by the desire for quality hand-crafted homeware, the Arts & Crafts movement also drew inspiration from Oriental design and Medieval craft and shapes. A classic Arts & Crafts-style door has three vertical panels at the bottom, with a smaller panel on the top third of the door. As the Arts & Crafts pioneers were passionate about both traditional skills and the beauty of nature, floral stained glass can often be found in this upper section.

Georgian-style door has six panels rather than the more standard four. Doors were often made a feature of, with detailed, elegant architraving framing each doorway.

VICTORIAN HOMES

This period saw the rise of automatic cutting techniques and the mass production of wood doors. The classic Victorian door has four panels, with unbeaded panels the humbler option and beaded panels on display in the best rooms. Glass inserted in the upper two panels also became popular, and double doors also

ART DECO HOMES

As the century turned so too did design tastes, and fuss and frills were out. During the 1920 flush doors with a hardwood veneered smooth face replaced the old panel doors. These doors could be painted but more often the natural grain of the wood was used as a decorative element in itself, with inlay details of a second wood adding extra interest.

1930S HOMES

During the 1930s the suburbs began to expand with homes built to accommodate the desire

to move out of the city and into a village semi. The clean lines of Deco are still in evidence, but a nostalgia for the grandeur of earlier decades also held sway, and many 30s homes would have had doors influenced by the Arts & Crafts style.

SOURCING ORIGINALS

It will be possible to find doors of the same period, but they are unlikely to match any that may survive in the house. Second-hand doors can be used for houses and rooms that can tolerate a mixed, eclectic style, but for listed buildings, it's far better to get replacement doors made that are of the right size, appearance and detail. If you don't need an exact match to existing originals, architectural reclamation yards are a good place to start.

RENOVATING ORIGINALS

Use a gentle approach when restoring original doors yourself or employ an expert. Use a water-based stripper, then lightly sand and refinish. Some people have old pine doors dipped, but this can cause joints to open and doors to warp. Do not use a heat gun – the paint may be toxic.

Most period doors are meant to be painted, although hardwood doors may well be French polished, stained or lacquered.



LOOKALIKE DOORS

There are lots of options when it comes to new period-style doors. If you can't find one to match, it's straightforward to have one made to your specifications. The cheapest option would be to search around for reclaimed originals on second-hand selling sites. Alternatively, contact a local joiner who specialises in bespoke internal doors. They offer a range of finishes including painted, lacquered and stained, and use hardwood and softwoods including beech, pine and oak.



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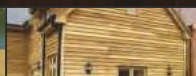
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Cherry Tree Farm, Stalisfield

A BEAUTIFUL DOUBLE FRONT EXTENDED VICTORIAN COUNTRY HOME SET IN NEARLY THREE ACRES OF LAND

An extended four bedroom detached Victorian farmhouse set in a truly stunning peaceful plot of 2.87 acres backing onto farmland with far reaching countryside views and a naturally filtered swimming pool.

Cherry Tree Farmhouse dates back to 1880 since which time it has been extensively changed to the unique country home you see today. It has been tastefully extended by the current vendors along with the accommodation being reorganised, giving superb living space and the more recent addition of a reed filtered swimming pool is a rare treat.

The accommodation is arranged over three floors, to the ground floor there is an entrance hall, drawing/sitting room, main dining room, cloakroom, utility room and an open-plan kitchen/breakfast family room. To the first floor there is a 20'9" main bedroom with vaulted ceiling, fitted wardrobes, shoe rack and a luxury en-suite shower room. There are two further double bedrooms and a family bathroom to this floor. The second floor comprises a bedroom in the eaves with a superb folding Velux window/balcony offering a panoramic view of the grounds and farmland beyond.

The property is approached via a shingle



driveway to the side with off road parking for numerous vehicles. There is a tandem garage/workshop and a flint Byre with corrugated roofing. The wonderfully private grounds of this property have to be seen to be appreciated, with a superb large lawned area, fruit trees, an extensive wild garden area with path, green house and

of course the crystal clear swimming pool. Naturally filtered with reeds and stone set in a fenced area with composite decking. In addition, there is a separate gated plot with the ruins of a former flint barn, which potentially subject to the necessary consents and permissions, could be reinstated or possibly another property created.



The Details

35' Flint byre and separate timber garage

Extensive landscaped gardens

Fabulous natural swimming pool with reed filtration system

24'1" kitchen/breakfast/family room with separate utility

Principal bedroom suite with Juliet balcony and views across neighbouring farmland

Three further bedrooms and family bathroom

Private accompanied viewing strictly via Saddlers, Reed House, 1-3 Old Ashford Rd, Charing TN27 0JG (Tel: 01233 713127)

Price: £1,150,000



Turners, Hothfield

A CLASSIC EXAMPLE OF A KENTISH PERIOD HOME
WITH OPEN COUNTRYSIDE VIEWS

Owned by the same family for the past 25 years, this charming period Grade II listed country home sits in a plot totalling 4.76 acres with uninterrupted views across to the North Downs.

Turners originally dates back to the 17th century and showcases a wealth of character features with inglenook fireplaces and exposed timbers. The house was subsequently extended in the 1950's and again in the mid 1990's to the arrangement that you see today, ideal for a family.

On entering the side entrance to a vaulted ceiling breakfast room, a 1990's addition which opens through to a spacious kitchen and a

conservatory to take in the garden views. Next is a super dining room with a large inglenook fire, exposed beams and brick floor. You then arrive at the hall, with cloakroom and extended porch with the original front door, stairs to the first floor, a 25'2" (7.67m) drawing room, again with large inglenook fire and study beyond.

To the first floor there is a landing, main bedroom with a large Jack and Jill en-suite/ bathroom, three further bedrooms along with an additional shower room to the other end of the landing.

Outside, you arrive via an electric gate into a gravel courtyard with a turning circle and



plentiful parking for several vehicles. There is a garage, wine store, two former dairy buildings and a double cart lodge.

The vendor informs us there is potential here, subject to the necessary consents, to convert these outbuildings into an annexe. Behind this, there is a heated outdoor pool with sliding electric cover in a private hedged area offering

a wonderful place to relax with the family. The formal gardens are a real feature of this property, beautifully tended with box dwarf hedging, herb garden, rose garden, lavender borders, a large vegetable plot and a fruit tree area. In addition there are two large fields with wonderful uninterrupted views across the Kent countryside totalling 3.72 acres.



The Details

4.76 acre plot featuring superbly presented formal gardens and two paddocks
 Two former dairy buildings
 Heated outdoor swimming pool
 Gated driveway with turning circle and parking for several vehicles
 Garage and wine Store
 Family room, drawing room, study and orangery/dining room.
 Private accompanied viewing strictly via Saddlers, Reed House, 1-3 Old Ashford Rd, Charing TN27 0JG (Tel: 01233 713127)
 Price: £1,350,000

KENTISH

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Our county is packed full of fine food and drink. From furrow to orchard, from marsh to shore - Kent is crammed with foodie delights.

Fabulous locally produced food includes just-caught fish; superb oysters; tender Romney Marsh lamb; sweet soft fruit and tangy apples. Wash it down with locally-made, world-class wine; a crisp cider or a traditionally brewed beer.

All this makes Kent an outstanding place to eat out. From contemporary Michelin-starred restaurants to characterful eateries graced by log fires or stunning sea views. Kent offers everything from fine dining and gourmet Asian cuisine, to great grub in rural pubs.

Kent is also renowned for its orchards abundant with apples, pears and cherries. Fertile soil, a favourable climate and centuries-old expertise create prime growing conditions.





THE BIG APPLE

THEY MAY BE FRUIT BOWL STAPLES, BUT THERE'S FAR MORE VARIETY TO, AND ENDLESS MORE USAGES FOR, THE HUMBLE APPLE THAN MIGHT IMMEDIATELY MEET THE EYE.

Over 2,300 different varieties have been grown in Britain, of every texture, colour and shape, from nutty, spicy late-season types to fresh, light ones that smell faintly of berries.

We've been eating apples since forever: first in central Asia, then in Turkey and the rest of Europe too. Quite when we Brits first got into them isn't clear, but they crop up in all the best myths – Greek, Norse, Christian. And in fairytales, they're everywhere!

Apples are perennial; after blossoming in spring they are gathered in autumn and ready for winter, when we can retreat to the kitchen and bake to our heart's content. 'Early-eaters' like the Beauty of Bath and Laxton's Early Crimson ripen in late summer. Soft and sweet, they don't keep long but are the perfect foil for summer's late blackberries. Autumn heralds the arrival of the 'late-keepers', like the Blenheim Orange, with its longer shelf-life and robust flavour. Eaten out of the hand, 'late-keepers', with the longest storage time of all, bring a refreshing tang to the end of a long winter. Once you've munched on a crisp May Queen, the latest-keeper of all, you've reached the end of the season.

Of course, apples come in two types,

eaters and cookers. Eaters are the sweetest (and the tastiest). Cookers are bigger and way more acidic – the Bramley is the classic British one. They can be very sour and most demand you add sugar to them while cooking.

As for what to do with them: what can't you do? Chutney, crumbles, Charlotte, pie and sauce are all classics; apple enjoys being paired with most meat, but pork, sausages and bacon especially.

As with everything, the best apples are tree-ripened and recently picked; do it yourself when you can, and some orchards allow you to. When picking, cup the fruit in your hand and twist; if the stalk comes away from the tree easily, the juicy treat is ready for you.

Brogdale Collections in Faversham is the home of the National Fruit Collection and houses over 2,000 varieties including rare and heritage specimens. Visitors can enjoy orchard walks, fruit displays, juice tasting, cider sales and more. (www.brogdalecollections.org). For those wanting to grow their own visit Grow at Brogdale, the on-site fruit tree nursery. (www.brogdaleonline.co.uk).

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THE LOST ORCHARD

Raymond Blanc

APPLE BEIGNETS

I have fond memories of Mardi Gras, when the children of our village would dress up and visit every home, where we would receive a 'penny' and the fluffiest, delicious beignet. My mother made her own version with the Reinette Grise du Canada apples that grew behind our house, and I still remember the beautiful contrast between the crisp, light batter and the soft, intense apple filling. The beignets are especially good served with chocolate sauce, ice cream, or a lovely English custard.

YOU WILL NEED

1 medium egg
240ml whole milk
1 teaspoon vegetable oil
100g caster sugar, plus 30g
pinch of salt
150g plain flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
400ml vegetable oil, for
frying
4 apples cored and cut into
1cm rings
1 teaspoon ground
cinnamon

METHOD

In a large bowl, whisk together the egg, milk, oil, 100g of sugar and salt.

Into a separate bowl, sift together the flour and baking powder, then sieve this again into the egg and milk mixture. Whisk together until you have a smooth batter. Have a tray lined with kitchen paper ready.

In a shallow frying pan, carefully heat the oil to 180°C.

Cook the fritters in batches, dipping each apple ring into the batter and then carefully lowering into the hot oil. Fry on each side for 1-2 minutes until golden brown, then, using a slotted spoon, lift out and lay on the kitchen paper to soak up any excess oil.

Mix the 30g of sugar and cinnamon together in a shallow bowl or tray, then while still warm, toss each fritter in the mixture, coating them evenly. Serve immediately.



WIN A COPY

For your chance to win a copy of *The Lost Orchard* by Raymond Blanc, please email your name, address and telephone number to dawn@cnkent.co.uk. Closing date: Friday, 20th November 2020
The Lost Orchard, with foreword by HRH The Prince of Wales by Raymond Blanc (£10.99, Headline) is out now in paperback



Photo: www.thegirllovestoeat.com





CINNAMON, SPICE & WARM APPLE PIE

APPLE TART

Apple tart is a classic, but this recipe represents a slight departure. The combination of apples and vanilla is absolutely divine, so a layer of vanilla-scented apple purée has been added.

YOU WILL NEED

1 quantity sweet
pastry dough, at room
temperature

3 mild eating apples,
peeled, cored and sliced

1 tablespoon unsalted
butter, melted

1 tablespoon sugar

chilled single cream to
serve

For the apple and vanilla purée

3 apples (any variety)
peeled, cored and sliced

1 vanilla pod

2-4 tablespoons caster
sugar

2 teaspoons unsalted
butter



METHOD

Roll out the pastry dough on a floured work surface to a circle slightly larger than the prepared tart tin. Transfer the dough to the tin. To trim the edges, roll a rolling pin over the top, using the edge of the tin as a cutting surface and let the excess pastry fall away. Refrigerate for at least 30 minutes, until firm.

To bake blind, preheat the oven to 200°C/fan 180°/gas 6. Prick the pastry base all over, line with baking parchment and fill with baking beans. Bake in the preheated oven for 15 minutes, then remove the paper and beans and bake for a further 10-15 minutes, until golden. Let cool before filling.

To make the apple and vanilla purée, put the apples, vanilla pod, sugar and butter in a saucepan with 3-4 tablespoons water. Cook gently, stirring often, for about 10-15 minutes until soft (adding more water if necessary). Remove the vanilla pod, use the tip of a small sharp knife to scrape the vanilla seeds directly into the mixture, then discard the pod. Transfer the mixture to a food processor and purée until smooth.

Preheat the oven to 190°C/fan 170°/gas 5. Spread the puree evenly in the pastry case. Arrange the apple slices in a neat circle around the edge; they should be slightly overlapping. Repeat to create an inner circle, trimming the slices slightly so that they fit, going in the opposite direction from the outer circle. Brush with melted butter and sprinkle over the sugar.

Bake in the preheated oven for 25-35 minutes, until the apples are just browned and tender. Serve warm with cream.

Recipe from Cinnamon, Spice & Warm Apple Pie, published by Ryland Peters & Small (£9.99), photography Ryland Peters & Small.

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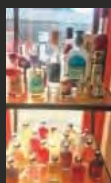
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IN SEASON!

With a well-established food hall in Faversham and a brand-new deli & dining experience in Ashford, independent grocer Macknade is well-positioned in Kent to select the finest local apples.

As Kent begins to harvest the best the orchards have to offer, why not enjoy the apple season with this savoury scone recipe. A fine selection of heritage apple varieties from local supplier Brogdale, are now in store at Macknade.

APPLE & CHEESE SCONES

These scones combine crisp green apples with the characterful Winterdale Shaw, a traditional clothbound cheese made near Sevenoaks. Serve warm with butter, extra cheese and apple, or a red onion marmalade.

YOU WILL NEED

300g self-raising flour
1/2 tsp baking powder
75g cold butter-cubed
125g of Kentish Winterdale Shaw (or other hard Kentish cheese)
1 tsp fresh herbs (we used tarragon but thyme or rosemary also work well)
1 grated Kentish green apple
1 good handful of Italian olives, coarsely chopped
1 egg
115ml of milk

METHOD

Preheat oven to 200 degrees / gas mark 4 and prepare baking sheet – oiled or with baking paper.

Mix flour and baking powder before rubbing in cold butter to create breadcrumbs.

Stir $\frac{3}{4}$ of the cheese and the herbs, apples and olives into the mix.

Whisk egg and combine with milk before pouring into the centre of the mixture. Use a blunt knife to stir and combine a soft dough.

Transfer to floured surface and knead gently before flattening with your hands to approx. 2cm thick.

Cut rounds with a small cutter (easier if straight-sided) until all pastry is used and place on baking tray. Top with remaining cheese and bake in the oven for 12-15 minutes.



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Let's say cheers **TO CHILE**

ROWENA HAWTIN REPORTS ON A RECENT TASTING OF WINES FROM CHILE, A COUNTRY WITH GREAT POTENTIAL WHOSE WINES HAVE GONE FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH IN RECENT YEARS.

Chile has been making wine for over 500 years – since the Spanish conquered the land back in the 16th century. The country had a voracious appetite for wine but it was mostly made from Pais (Criolla Chica in Argentina) which made a thin, rustic red wine that is still made today, but it doesn't reach the export market as the quality is not high enough for international tastes.

When the country gained independence from Spain in the mid 19th century, immigrants from France and Spain brought a number of cuttings with them such as Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay, and Chile had a bank of these vines which were free from Phylloxera, the louse which devastated 90% of vineyards in Europe at the end of the 19th century.



Many of these vines still survive today as bush vines which produce intensely concentrated grapes from low yielding vines that make highly sought-after wines. But in the late 1990s the country had a reputation for producing vast quantities of cheap wine – mostly Merlot as land and labour were cheap compared with many other wine producing countries. But today, the country is going from strength to strength in transforming its international reputation from a country that just produced bulk wine to a country that uses the latest techniques in winemaking and is developing new vineyards that express individual wine styles as well as a connection with the place or terroir. For example, the Atacama desert in northern Chile, the driest desert on earth, is



now producing top quality wine – albeit a small amount from Tara wines named after the salt flats in the region.

At a recent online tasting I hosted, we tasted three wines from Chile – one white and two red which are ideal to ease you slowly into Autumn as you watch the leaves on the trees turn brown and eventually fall to the ground.

SANTA RITA 'MEDALLA REAL' CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2017 MAIPU 14%

Cabernet Sauvignon is the most planted red grape in the country and does really well in the warm sunshine to produce ripe grapes and full-bodied wines. This wine comes from Maipu – a sub region in the Central Valley - inland from the coast, so its warmer, but at the same time the region benefits from the gaps in the coastal mountains so the breezes can reach the vineyards – cooling them down and lengthening the time on the vine. This grape variety has high tannins, due to the thick skin, and needs a good

deal of heat to ensure all the aromatics are ripe as well as the tannins.

This wine is deep ruby with a nose of blackcurrant, menthol and toasty vanilla notes. Aged in French oak, it has ripe, sweet tannins and a long, lingering length. This is a big, full-bodied wine and can take strong or rich flavoured food and will go well with spicy red meat, venison and goose.





All three wines sampled are available from Majestic

MORANDE ONE TO ONE GEWURZTRAMINER 2019 CASABLANCA VALLEY 13.5%

This aromatic wine accounts for only about 1% of the country's total production so is a rare find indeed. Produced in the Casablanca valley which is on the Pacific coast, it has the strong sunshine to ensure that the grape fully ripens whilst at the same time, the cool Pacific breezes and the fog that descends on the coast slow down the ripening to make sure that the acidity doesn't drop too far, but the grape has time for all the aromas to develop.

The wine has intense aromas of lychees, orange blossom, melon, jasmine and is rich on the palate, but at the same time refreshing from the crisp acidity. This aromatic grape variety is the perfect partner for Asian dishes such as Chinese, Thai or mild Indian curries.

DISCOVER THE VINE runs regular online wine tastings on Thursday evenings fortnightly.

If you enjoy wine and would like to know more, please see my website for my latest tastings.

www.discoverthevine.co.uk #thewinelady

MAYU CARMENERE APPASSIMENTO 14.5%

Carmenere is Chile's own grape – their signature variety and although originally from Bordeaux where it was used in blends to soften the astringent Cabernet Sauvignon, today it is only found in Chile. For many years, in fact as recently as 1994, it was confused with Merlot so both these grapes were planted in the same vineyard and harvested at the same time which was disastrous as Carmenere ripens earlier than Merlot so you either had ripe Carmenere and unripe Merlot or ripe Merlot and overripe Carmenere. Fortunately, today the grapes are planted separately and managed accordingly, so this grape can produce some extremely good wines when managed properly.

The one we tasted was a rare example of the Italian appassimento method used to produce a Carmenere. The grapes were picked and air dried for two months in the driest place on earth, the Elqui valley, to create a rich, concentrated juice. It has a deep red colour with aromas of dark fruit such as blackberries, plums and cherries, medium tannins, a touch of vanilla and slightly green herbaceous notes.

This wine would go really well with lamb and coriander, lamb kebabs with a touch of spice or even bacon as there is a touch of smokiness in this wine. Or why not try some empanadas and green olives, as the green herbaceous character will complement the olives perfectly!

CHEERS TO THE WEEKEND!




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