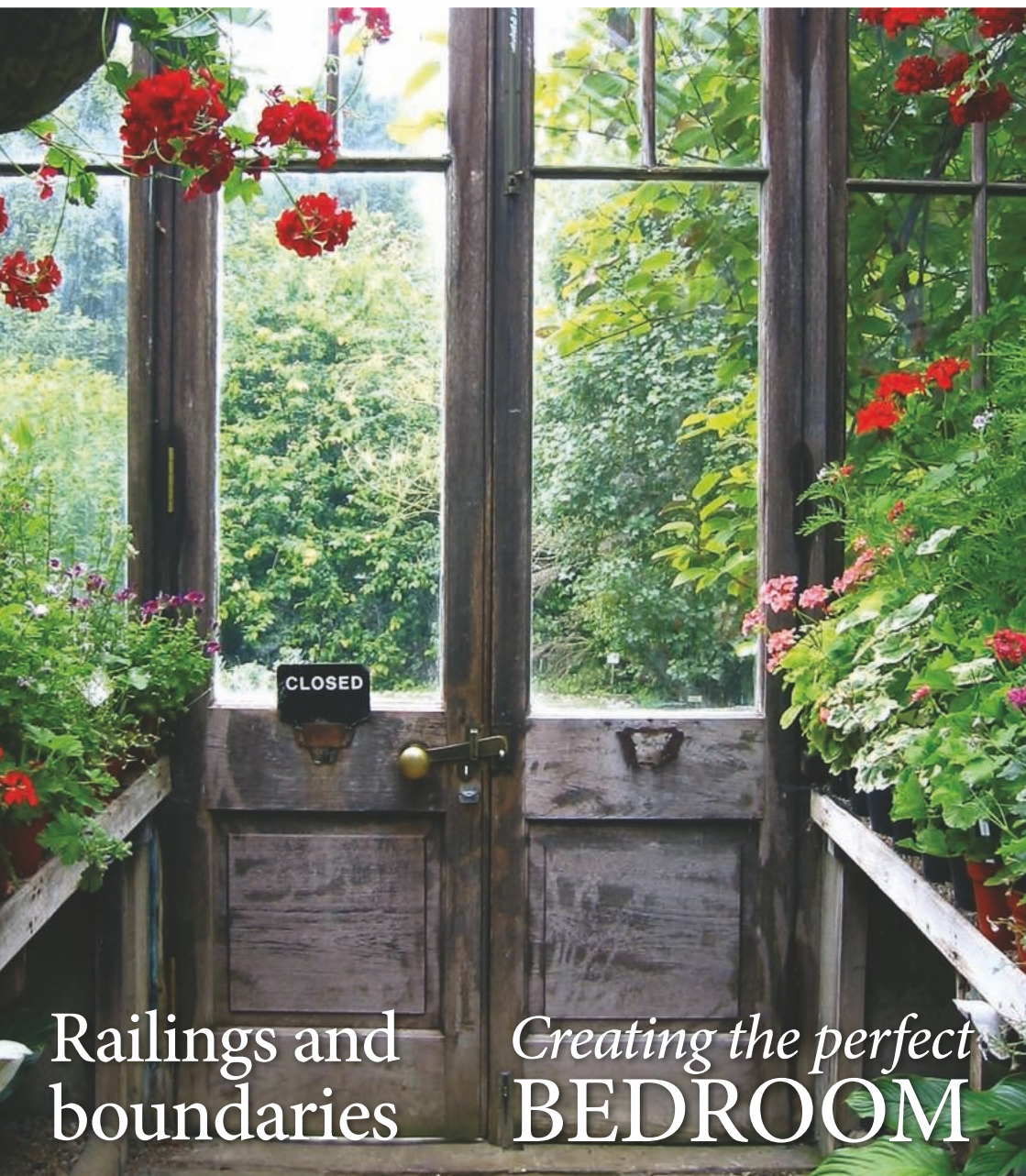


# CONSERVATION NEWS

Kent

Summer 2022 • Complimentary



Railings and  
boundaries

*Creating the perfect*  
**BEDROOM**

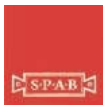
# Ashford & Cranbrook Roofing<sup>TM</sup>

— Experts in heritage roofing —



Now producing hand-made clay Kent Peg tiles for our customers

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



**Tel: 01580 242925**





**LENLEYS**  
HOME

Enjoy a breath of fresh air  
in our **summer sale**



**SUMMER SALE INSTORE AND ONLINE**

**VISIT OUR NEW MAIDSTONE STORE**



**Lenleys.co.uk**

**MAIDSTONE NEW STORE** / 01622 753 073 / Sandling Road, ME14 2RF  
**CANTERBURY** / 01227 766 655 / Roper Road, Canterbury, CT2 7EL

Wingham  
Woodburning Stoves



*Come and visit our showroom  
or visit our website*



Little Crockshard Farm Shop, Crockshard Lane, Wingham, Nr Canterbury.  
CT3 1NYT Tel: 01227 728130 [www.winghamwoodburningstoves.co.uk](http://www.winghamwoodburningstoves.co.uk)





# Welcome

Summer 2022



*Competition winners from our spring issue:  
Tea at The Palace: Yvonne Kingham, Tonbridge.  
Boy in a China Shop: Sue Hart, Charing.*

Welcome to the summer edition of Conservation News and isn't it wonderful to have the blue skies back for a while?

In this edition of the magazine, we've brought together all the best bits of summer, with gardening tips for warmer weather, home décor to help you take advantage of the summer months and fascinating articles for you to read while you relax in your deckchair.

One such article is about the restoration of the Cherville Oast House: a gorgeous 18th century construction that's been sympathetically restored and renovated into an incredible living space – we hope you love it as much as we do.

Speaking of living spaces, we have a great article about bedroom décor, plus editorials that showcase some of Kent's finest interiors and furniture businesses, as well as a brief look at the history of railings, which has proved to be remarkably interesting.

Dawn



**CONSERVATION NEWS**  
conservationnews.co.uk

*Publisher*  
Conservation News

*Contributors*  
Rowena Hawtin  
Susan Hubbard  
Tina Marshall  
Liz Norton  
Louise Tomlin

*Design*  
Dandelion Design

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

© Conservation News 2022

Printed in the UK by Pensord

If you receive your copy of Conservation News by Royal Mail and wish to opt out of our mailing, please send an email to [dawn@conservationnews.co.uk](mailto:dawn@conservationnews.co.uk)

All rights reserved.  
Reproduction of any part of this magazine is not permitted without written permission of the publisher.  
The publisher accepts no responsibility of any loss or damage in respect of any product or service that may be advertised.





# *Copperfields*

OF WHITSTABLE

Cookshop & Homewares Since 1956

## *Inspiration for your kitchen and home*



Cookware • Homeware • Gifts • Bakeware • Furniture • Electrical • Cards

[shop@copperfieldsofwhitstable.co.uk](mailto:shop@copperfieldsofwhitstable.co.uk) • [www.copperfieldsofwhitstable.co.uk](http://www.copperfieldsofwhitstable.co.uk)

93 - 95 High Street • Whitstable • Kent • CT5 1AY • Tel: 01227 273519

## OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK





Summer 2022

# Contents



- 8 **Summer gardening**  
What to do in the garden now

- 12 **Healing gardens**  
The power of plants

- 26 **Setting boundaries**  
The lowdown on railings, fences and walls

- 33 **Creating your perfect bedroom**  
Tips and advice

- 43 **Under foot**  
Using rugs to transform any room

- 58 **Beautiful, beguiling and bewitching**  
Welcome to Boys Hall!

- 77 **Outstanding oast**  
The renovation of Cherville Oast by Conservation Construction

- 96 **Recipes (win the book!)**  
Two great recipes from The Seasonal Baker

- 94 **Local markets**  
Support your local farmers' market

- 104 **Rowena's wine column**  
Rowena visits Champion Wines in Chislehurst





## WATER WAYS

If you have water lilies in your pond they should be flowering soon. Each flower only lasts a few days, so as soon as blooms start to fade it's a good idea to snip them off along with any unhealthy or yellow leaves. This will help keep your pond water clean. Other submerged oxygenating plants will be taking advantage of the sunshine and growing quickly, so it's essential to thin them out. Remember to leave the trimmings at the side of the pond so any tiny aquatic creatures can slip back into the water.

## Delphinium festival

A celebration of the fabulous Delphinium collection in the Walled Garden at Godinton House in Ashford will be taking place from 11th to 26th June. The Delphinium Society members will be on hand to offer expert advice and have delphiniums for sale 1pm until 4pm. For more information and to book tickets please visit [godintonhouse.co.uk](http://godintonhouse.co.uk).



# Garden NOTES



It's now the season of sweet peas, soft fruit and bedding plants. This is such a wonderful time in the garden, with flowers in full bloom and plenty of harvesting in the vegetable patch to be done.



## Ideas for containers

New or old terracotta pots always look lovely, as do glazed pots within a modern garden. Newer materials such as aluminium also help to create a contemporary atmosphere. Recycling containers or converting old junk into new planters needn't mean an unsightly display. Galvanised buckets, wheelbarrows, watering cans, cauldrons and other old kitchen receptacles look superb. Glazed sinks can be used along with other weird and wacky items can be used to create a very personal container. A mixture of material types, shapes and sizes will suit most gardeners, though others may prefer identical pots.





## PLANT COURGETTES

If you sowed courgette seeds earlier in spring, they should be ready for planting now. Courgettes are greedy plants, requiring plenty of water and nutrient-rich soil. They are also space-hoggers, which, if given the chance, will romp across the plot. Courgettes can be harvested when they reach around 10cm; if left longer, the flavour will have begun to fade. Cut the thick stem with a knife. There is nothing like the taste of fresh courgette, sliced and fried in butter, and the flowers are a real delicacy.

## PRUNE SOFT FRUITS

Raspberries, redcurrants, gooseberries, blackcurrants, tayberries and loganberries are exceptionally tasty, but if you want more and bigger fruit next year it's worth doing some light pruning just as soon as they have finished cropping. Shorten the current season's side branches back to five leaves and cut back main branches by one third. You'll need to prune again in the winter. With loganberries, tayberries and summer-fruiting raspberries simply cut all the stems that fruited down to ground level to give space to new stems.



## What to do now

- Water is the key word in summer.
- Prune soft fruit to get bumper crops.
- Keep deadheading. This may be a tedious task but is very essential to help plants produce more flowers.
- Feed hungry shrubs and roses.
- Divide bamboo and water lilies.
- Stay on top of the weeds.
- Clear the grass from around trees.
- Sow biennials such as foxgloves, sweet william, wallflowers and forget-me-nots.
- Sow late summer and winter crops such as cabbages, carrots, cauliflowers and lettuces.
- Refresh bird baths and top up ponds

## CONSIDER THE BEES

It's vital to attract bees in order to aid pollination of edibles. Many Mediterranean herbs produce concentrated sugary nectar in mid-summer. Sage and lavender are both excellent bee plants for a sunny position. Rosemary will flower early in the year, while oregano is also excellent, especially in August, as it attracts butterflies as well as bees. Or consider growing some annuals. It's not too late to sprinkle some pot marigold. Their bright orange flowers attract hoverflies and their predatory larvae clean up aphids and other small pests.



Constructed and resurfaced  
in Kent, Sussex and Surrey

Please call Martin  
for free advice  
and quotations

Tel: 01424 892265  
07831 643835



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



Tel: 01227 731302 or 07961 985538  
[www.alanhopkinstreesurgeon.co.uk](http://www.alanhopkinstreesurgeon.co.uk)

Underdown Nursery, Mystole Lane,  
Chartham CT4 7BX



ALL ASPECTS OF TREEWORX

NPTC CERTIFIED

- Felling
- Thinning
- Pollarding
- Deadwood
- Site & garden clearance
- Stump grinding
- Wood chipping
- Call today for a competitive quote





# InThe Country

HUNTING • SHOOTING • OUTDOOR • CLOTHING



**Come visit us in store for a warm, friendly welcome,  
stocking all your needs for outdoor pursuits**

Our store is open 5 days a week, visit us at

**IN THE COUNTRY**

ASHFORD ROAD, BADLESMERE KENT ME13 0NX

Wednesday - Sunday 10am - 4pm

**01233 742700**

**[inthecountrykent.co.uk](http://inthecountrykent.co.uk) [www.inthecountrykent.co.uk](http://www.inthecountrykent.co.uk)**

# Healing gardens

Words: Tina Marshall





GARDENING IS KNOWN TO BE HUGE BENEFICIAL TO OUR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING. IT CONNECTS US TO NATURE, GETS US OUT IN THE FRESH AIR AND IS OFTEN A WELCOME ESCAPE FROM DAILY STRESSES.



A beautifully planted herbaceous border never fails to lift spirits, and many gardeners enjoy growing fruit and vegetables to nourish both body and soul. But it's possible to tap even further into the healing power of plants by growing herbs and using them to create your own natural remedies.

For centuries, herbs have been used to treat a range of conditions and ailments, and many herbs still form the basis of some of the medications that you might buy from your chemist today. Aspirin, extracted from the bark of the willow tree, was first used to alleviate pain by the Ancient Egyptians, who chewed pieces of willow bark. Morphine was first extracted from the opium poppy in the early 19th century and was used for its pain-relieving properties. There are many simple ways to release the powerful healing properties of herbs, and by growing just a few varieties at home you can effectively create your own apothecary cabinet.

Pot-grown herbs are usually available from your local garden centre or nursery, and most varieties are easy to raise from seed. Herbs can be grown in beds and borders, raised beds, containers or even on a windowsill. They are low-maintenance plants, and thrive

in a warm, sunny, sheltered spot in well-drained soil. Where possible, site them close to the kitchen so they can be harvested easily when needed. It is advisable to plant mint and lemon balm in their own separate containers rather than in a shared container or directly in a border, as both grow prolifically and can take over a plot at the expense of other plants. The only routine care required when growing herbs is to remove any weeds and water regularly.

#### HERBAL TEA

One of the easiest ways to enjoy the many health benefits of herbs is to prepare a herbal tea, or tisane. These drinks are incredibly flavoursome, naturally caffeine-free, and may contain a range of vitamins, minerals and health-promoting antioxidants, depending on the herbs used. To prepare a tisane, pick a small



handful of fresh herbs, rinse and scrunch the leaves slightly to release their essential oils. If using dried herbs, a teaspoon of dried leaves, seeds or flowerheads is enough for one mug. Steep the herbs in freshly boiled, slightly cooled water, ideally in a teapot as the lid prevents the powerful essential oils being lost through evaporation. Leave to infuse for five minutes, strain and pour. Take time to appreciate the delicate fragrance and aroma of the tea – breaking away from a busy day for just a few minutes gives you an opportunity to reflect and regroup and enjoy a moment of mindfulness.

Herbs contain an abundance of vitamins and minerals and can be used to calm, revive or energise both body and mind. They are packed with health-promoting antioxidants that fight the damaging free radicals found in our bodies, and they are believed to be hugely beneficial to our health in many other ways too.



## DRIED HERBS

Herbs can be dried to allow them to be stored for longer. Harvest the herbs, gently rinse and pat dry. Tie gently in a bunch and hang upside-down in a warm, well-ventilated spot out of direct sunlight. When the herbs appear dry and crispy, they are ready to be stored in an air-tight container and kept in a cool, dry, dark place. Dried herbs are usually three or four times stronger than fresh herbs, so when using them in a recipe adjust quantities accordingly.



*Here are some of the most versatile and widely-used herbs, all of which are incredibly easy to grow at home and make delicious herbal teas:*

## MINT

Mint has been used for centuries to soothe an upset stomach and ease indigestion. It is also said to relieve congestion from a cold and can reduce feelings of nausea. Its invigorating menthol aroma is wonderfully uplifting, making it the perfect tonic if you need to feel energised.



## LEMON VERBENA

Said to calm body and mind, lemon verbena makes a delicate, lemon-flavoured tea best enjoyed at bedtime. Its relaxing qualities are also said to soothe stomach cramps and menstrual pains.

## ROSEMARY

Said to invigorate, energise and even improve concentration and memory, rosemary is also believed to aid digestion and relieve gas and bloating.



## LEMON BALM

Known for its relaxing, calming properties and used to treat anxiety and restlessness, it's said to promote healthy and restful sleep. Can also be used to ease pain including headaches and menstrual cramps.

## FENNEL

Fennel is said to soothe digestive problems such as an upset stomach, bloating and trapped wind. It's another one said to relieve menstrual cramps.

## SAGE

Said to provide comfort from hot flushes and night sweats, this may be beneficial for women going through the menopause.

## CHAMOMILE

Believed to promote restful sleep and ease anxiety, it can also be used to treat digestive issues such as cramps and indigestion.



With summer here and temperatures rising, why not get creative and make a cooling, herbal infusion to drink and enjoy? Add a handful of fresh herbs to a jug of water and flavour with slices of fruit, cucumber or edible flowers. Place the jug in the fridge and enjoy throughout the day. Mint leaves and cucumber slices added to chilled water make a wonderfully refreshing summer drink. For a delicate but fruity flavour, pair lemon verbena leaves with strawberries, while for an invigorating pick-me-up, try a chilled rosemary infusion dressed with lemon slices. It is important to remember that herbal teas should be introduced slowly into your diet to minimise the impact of any adverse side-effects. If you suffer from a specific medical condition, be sure to seek medical advice before including herbal teas in your diet, and always speak to a medical professional about any specific health concerns. If you are pregnant, you should not drink herbal tea without your doctor's consent.



**FROM JUST  
£7.50  
PER MONTH\***

\*Minimum cost is average investment cost with a 10 year 2000 sq. ft. 200 sq. ft. contract including 10% Direct Charge

**HELP YOUR LAWN TO THRIVE, NOT JUST SURVIVE**

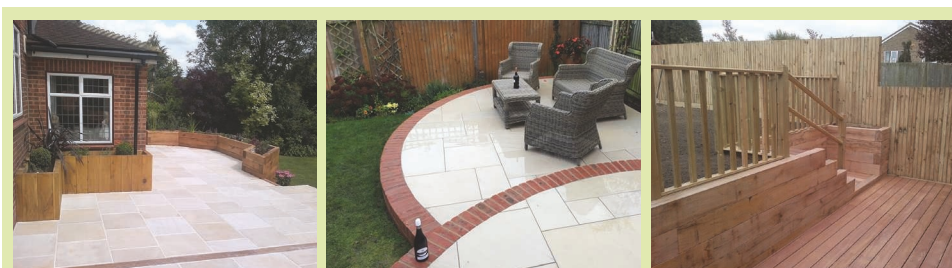
Over the last 35 years our love for lawns has continued to grow. We combine our passion and enthusiasm with innovative technology and dedicated customer service as we continue to revolutionise UK Lawn Care. Our ground-breaking **Lawn Treatment Programmes** keep your grass looking its best all year round, ensuring your lawn receives the love and attention it deserves.

*Join our nation of Lawn Lovers*

Email: [ashford@greenthumb.co.uk](mailto:ashford@greenthumb.co.uk)  
 Call: 01227 652351  
 Visit: [greenthumb.co.uk](http://greenthumb.co.uk)

**GreenThumb**  
LAWN TREATMENT SERVICE





## EVERGREEN LANDSCAPING

All aspects of landscaping work undertaken:

- Decking, patios, fencing
- Driveways, block paving, brick and stone work
- Ponds, planting and more.

*All finished to a high standard at competitive prices.*

Phone Lee 07799103112 / 01227 264482  
 For a free quotation or visit [www.evergreengardenskent.co.uk](http://www.evergreengardenskent.co.uk)





# Preston Garden Centre

- Great seasonal colour
- Hedging and screening • Kadai Firebowl specialists
- Large selection of pots
- Garden furniture • Cards & gifts
- Wheelchair friendly • Coppers Bistro

**OPEN EVERY DAY**

Monday – Saturday 9am to 5pm; Sunday 10am to 4pm

**COPPERS BISTRO - SEE PAGE 93**



The Street, Preston Nr Wingham, Canterbury CT3 1ED



Tel: 01227 722250





## SCRAP METAL RECYCLING

Polite & friendly service

Fully licensed

Clearance of all metals

Unfortunately we cannot take fridges or freezers

**Jason 07840 081990**

7 days a week

*Do you need shelter and shade?*



Verandas • Awnings • Carports • Roller Garage Doors  
Contemporary and traditional styles for all properties.  
Remote control lighting, heating, and vertical screens.



Call SBI Ltd 0800 0742 721 [sbiproducts.co.uk](http://sbiproducts.co.uk)

## BJ CESSPOOL SERVICES LTD



**Tel 07796 282864 or 01233 624017**

**[www.bjcesspool.co.uk](http://www.bjcesspool.co.uk)**

If you want someone who is reliable, careful and efficient to empty your cesspool, septic tank or treatment plant please call Barry or Fiona Spicer.

- Emergency blockages
- Septic tank clearance
- Cesspool maintenance
- Treatment plant maintenance

We can help you with your home, rental properties, caravan parks, hotels and in fact any property that is not on main drains.

A jetting service can also be provided.



# THE GARDEN CREATIVE

**SARAH MORGAN**

**07725055701**

sarah@thegardencreative.com

www.thegardencreative.com

Design

Landscaping

Planting

After-care



@thegardencreate

Award-winning Garden Designer



**EAST KENT TIMBER LTD**  
TIMBER MERCHANTS



- Softwoods
- Hardwoods
- Sheet materials
- Decking
- Machined to your design



Contact us on: 01227 738838

Email: sales@eastkenttimber.co.uk

**www.eastkenttimber.co.uk**

## KENT'S LEADING SPECIALISTS IN **DRIVEWAYS AND PATIOS**

Est. 1987

**www.drivewayexperts.co.uk**

### Landscaping specialists

- Block paving ■ Driveways
- Decking ■ Fencing ■ Patios
- Turfing ■ Garden clearance
- Building & maintenance work



**01227 749872 | 07770 964939**



# COUNTRY CLOBBER



## Country Inspired Accessories



Standard Quay, Faversham ME13 7BS [sales@countryclobberltd.co.uk](mailto:sales@countryclobberltd.co.uk)  
Tel: 07850 292523 • Web: [www.countryclobberltd.co.uk](http://www.countryclobberltd.co.uk)



5-7 days  
a week



## Old English Tools



Bench planes, chisels, felling axes, bill hooks, froes, draw  
shaves, side axes, early garden tools, blacksmith tools,  
pine boxes. Cast iron log burners and fire grates.

Tools old and new bought for cash. Workshops cleared.

*Essential business with restrictions.*

Faversham Standard Quay, ME13 7BS

BLACKSMITHS' ANVILS WANTED

Call Phil on 07796 343722 / 07850 292523

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



Find us on:  
**facebook**  
OLD ENGLISH TOOLS





# It's show time!

SARAH FROM THE GARDEN CREATIVE TALKS TO CONSERVATION NEWS ABOUT HER 5-STAR AWARD STAND AT THE 2022 CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW.

The famous Chelsea Flower Show began with a single marquee in 1913 under the name The Great Spring Show. It has grown in size and importance ever since, only halting for the World Wars, when in the Second World War the Royal Horticultural Society focused on their 'Dig for Victory' campaign, and in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

It is the premier event in horticulture. For garden and landscape designers and their sponsors, specialist nurseries, florists and specialist sellers it continues to be the world's most prestigious flower show, proud to showcase British design and manufacturing.

This year The Garden Creative created something fresh and exciting for RHS Chelsea and gained a 5-star trade stand award.

Having first been asked in June 2021 to design a trade stand for Harrison Ovens, work was soon well underway involving metal workers, sail-makers and nurseries, to bring the vision to life for this year's show.

Harrison Ovens are a local company, based on the coast in Ramsgate, hand-building exquisite charcoal ovens for use in the professional, and now home markets.

Natalie and Daniel Thumwood are the heart and hands behind the uniquely beautiful and



highly functional ovens. Daniel Thumwood is an engineer and welder with a creative edge. A love of food, fascination with cooking over charcoal, and his general inventiveness are what led to him wanting to see if it were even possible to create an oven like this. After 3 years of hard work the Harrison was born. There was nothing like it around - and still isn't. Natalie Thumwood keeps the wheels turning and has skilfully marketed the ovens with great success. Richard Corrigan and Yotam Ottolenghi feature among their A-list clients as well as local Michelin-starred chef patron Ben Crittenden

of Stark, Broadstairs.

Being based on the Kent coast they were keen to reflect this in the marketing of the Harrison at Home range, specially created to bring the professional kitchen to your home and garden.

As founder of The Garden Creative I design beautiful, naturalistic gardens inspired by the coastline in Whitstable, so what better combination to

create a trade stand that reflects the wild beauty and unique place we live in and create from.

I wanted the design to be dynamic and fresh. Reflecting the North Kent coast and plants that grow here. The idea of foraging, the act of gathering wild food for free interests me greatly, it seemed perfect to combine foraged seashore food from the Kent coast with handmade charcoal ovens built along the same coastline.

Foraging has gained greater popularity in recent years, but for many thousands of years it was a necessity. Our ancestors would have foraged daily to survive and as recently as World

War 2, wild rosehips were collected to make vitamin C syrup, in place of oranges that were embargoed. Nowadays foraging for food can add an unusual twist to your menu and even better than that has no packaging, no food miles and no food waste.

Nettles, Hawthorn, young Lime leaves and wild garlic are among spring delights to be discovered while later in the year edible flowers, delicious berries and juicy stone fruits ripen. Foraging along the seashore brings many unusual finds like Sea Kale, Sea beet and Samphire, along with seaweed, fennel and shellfish.

This idea goes hand in hand with the concept of re-purposing materials and this is something that is important to both Harrison Ovens and The Garden Creative as we become ever aware of the need to reduce our carbon footprint. So we used a high percentage of reclaimed materials and gave new life to used timber and marine textiles. Old Kentish apple boxes and reclaimed scaffolding planks became the walls and retired racing sails a canopy. Edible Samphire, Sea Kale and Sea Purslain snuggle amongst shingle, pebbles and cockle-shells beneath statuesque Hogs Fennel, a plant of Roman origins unique to our coastline along North Kent and Essex. The show launched a new range of colours for Harrison so my planting reflected this with plants like *Cerinth*



*major purpurescens*, *Tuhlbaghia violacea* and *Borago officinalis*.

We had a small but very talented team on board made up of Chris Duke from Whitstable based Ochre Gardens and Matt of Treehouse-carpentry responsible for the hard landscaping while I concentrated on the design and the planting.

We had just under a week to build the stand and the whole operation is a massive undertaking, just getting all those vehicles and their loads into the fairly small site on Chelsea embankment is a feat in itself. The atmosphere on site was electric. Having introduced



ourselves to our neighbours either side we received a lot of invaluable advice from those that have been doing the show for many years and after just six days we had a beautiful trade stand that we could all be proud of. Being awarded 5-stars was a brilliant end to an incredible week. Thank you to all that were involved with the build, we are looking forward to doing it all again next year.

Follow our journey on Instagram @thegardencreate and to discuss your own garden design call 07725055701 or email [sarah@thegardencreative.com](mailto:sarah@thegardencreative.com)

[Thegardencreative.com](http://Thegardencreative.com),  
[Harrisonovens.com](http://Harrisonovens.com), [Rhs.org.uk](http://Rhs.org.uk), [Ochregardens.co.uk](http://Ochregardens.co.uk), @treehousecarpentry



# metalworks

*Design, Engineering, Fabrication & Installation*



**CUSTOMER  
SATISFACTION  
GUARANTEED**



## **WE OFFER EXPERTISE IN:**

- MASTERLY CRAFTED HEAVY DUTY GATES  
AUTOMATIC OR MANUAL INCLUDING FULL  
AUTOMATION AND ENTRY SYSTEMS
- PEDESTRIAN AND ACCESS GATES
- RAILINGS & BALCONIES
- STRUCTURAL STAIRCASES AND MUCH MORE!

**TRUSTED FOR MORE THAN  
20 YEARS OF QUALITY FABRICATION**

**CONTACT US FOR A FREE ESTIMATE**

**VISIT US ONLINE: [WWW.METALWORKS-UK.COM](http://WWW.METALWORKS-UK.COM)**

**TEL: 01322 838150 EMAIL: [METALWORKS-UK@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:METALWORKS-UK@HOTMAIL.COM)**



# SETTING BOUNDARIES

We all have some sort of boundary around our properties and we all know that these boundaries play a major role in the safety and aesthetics of our homes.

While they can, on occasion, cause strife between neighbours, these boundaries are more often a point of pride: A smart wooden fence that neighbours on either side are happy to maintain, or a sturdy iron railing that speaks to a property's history. As for the history of these personal boundaries, it's actually quite a fascinating one...

## Ancient boundaries

The word fence comes from a 14th century word 'fens' meaning defence or protection, however fences themselves predate this by some considerable way, and were intended to not only defend property, but also to denote it.

People as far back as the Bronze Age used boundary walls to mark their property and to enclose livestock.

The ancient Greeks were disinclined to use boundaries within their own cities (in Athens property was a matter of social recognition), but were keen to create physical markings of ownership in the states and countries they conquered.



Photo: Metalworks

The Romans of course continued this practice (Hadrian being a big proponent of the trend!), and Medieval landowners were equally keen to mark their territory often using that English staple – the hedgerow – which was introduced sometime in the Saxon period.



## Private boundaries

Using fencing or railings around one's own home is a slightly later practice, but one that really came into its own in the 15th century, with the invention of wrought iron railings. Although initially used practically rather than decoratively, these railings had their heyday in the Victorian period, when elaborate craftsmanship and a love of all things ornate made them a firm favourite, particularly throughout London and other major cities.

During the war, many iron railings were melted down supposedly to be 'used in the war effort', but this movement was in fact more about morale boosting as the iron could rarely be reused and was often simply dumped at sea!



Unfortunately wrought iron is no longer manufactured, and so railings these days must be recycled or restored, and other methods, such as cast iron, are more commonly found.

## Modern boundaries

So if you have wrought iron railings then consider yourself very lucky and learn how to properly maintain them using paint or



## Brick walls

Brick walls are a popular choice for many homeowners. Depending on the type of brick and the size of the wall, a brick wall can cost anywhere from £8 to £40 per square foot depending on the layering and quality.

Brick walls are much more durable and stronger than fences and can last for decades with little to no maintenance.

Additionally, brick walls can withstand severe weather conditions. If you live in a windy area or frequently experience storms, a brick wall may be the better option for you. They also have a classic and timeless look that can enhance the kerb appeal of your home and are available in a variety of colours and styles to match any home. You can also paint a brick wall to suit your style.







## The ha-ha

One style of boundary that is often overlooked is the ha-ha: a type of sunken fence or wall that become popular in Georgian country homes thanks to their obsession with all things naturalistic and Arcadian. These are an excellent idea if you have a garden worth showing (and if you're friendly with your neighbours!), but have an obvious disadvantage in terms of security. However, they can be used to mark boundaries within your own property, for example between a main lawn and a wild area.

other sealants. If not, there are myriad types of fencing that can bring new life to your boundaries.

During the Regency period the use of wooden fencing, previously only utilised by poorer households, became *de rigueur* for higher end properties, thanks to a desire to present one's home as 'quaint' or rustic. These wooden fences are of course still popular because they are cost effective, attractive and fairly easy to maintain.

One of the best things about wooden fencing is that there is so much choice available, from simple white pickets that mimic the American suburban ideal, to rough cut, naturalistic fences that speak to the pastoral aesthetic.

If you're interested in wooden fencing it should be noted that not all fencing was created equal and it's worth going to a reputable fencing company to avoid heartache (and hurricane casualties) down the line.

As for other types of boundary, quite frankly anything goes. From mighty stone edifices to simple plant hedges, there are so many ways to mark your property in an attractive and sympathetic manner, that there will always be something to suit your style and budget.

However, whatever you choose to do with your fencing, make sure you do it well. Boundaries are too often a neglected part of our homes and yet they make an enormous amount of difference to the overall appearance of our properties. So take a tip from our ancestors and create a boundary to be reckoned with.








### Living walls

As well as adding a personal, unique touch to your space, this planting style can fit in nearly anywhere. Whatever type of garden ideas you have – from a small courtyard to large lawn, living walls will make the most of your space. They can be planted with annuals, perennials, herbs or vegetables, providing a welcome splash of colour.







Some furniture is made for the here and now.  
Some is built to stand the test of time.  
At Neptune, we believe that the best can do both.

**Good design never grows old.**

NEPTUNE

Tonbridge, 01732 351866  
[neptune.com](http://neptune.com)





# Harrison Spinks

The True Bedmakers

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE OUR NEW  
EXCITING RANGE OF HARRISON SPINKS  
BESPOKE HANDMADE MATTRESSES

CHOICE OF SPRING COUNTS FROM  
6000 TO 14,000

CHOICE OF SUPPORTS: GENTLE,  
MEDIUM, FIRM & DUAL SUPPORT

NON TURN OR SEASONAL TURN  
(SUMMER & WINTER SIDES)

NATURAL UPHOLSTERY INCLUDING  
WOOL, COTTON, MOHAIR ALPACA,  
HEMP & FLAX

CHEMICAL FREE MATTRESS COVER  
WOVEN IN-HOUSE

100% RECYCLABLE & GLUE FREE  
POCKET SPRINGS



BESPOKE SEASONAL  
TURN COLLECTION



BESPOKE TURN  
FREE COLLECTION

BEDMAKERS FOR OVER 180 YEARS, HARRISON SPINKS IS A FIFTH GENERATION FAMILY BUSINESS, BASED IN WAKEFIELD, YORKSHIRE. EACH MATTRESS IS BESPOKE TO EACH CUSTOMER USING THEIR GROUNDBREAKING 100% RECYCLABLE CORTEC POCKET SPRINGS & CONTOURING MICRO SPRINGS TO PROVIDE MAXIMUM COMFORT AND SUPPORT. USING ONLY THE VERY FINEST NATURAL & SUSTAINABLE FILLINGS FOR A COOL LUXURIOUS NIGHTS SLEEP.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WELCOMING SHOWROOM  
& FIND YOUR PERFECT MATTRESS.

# 25%

EXTRA DISCOUNT OFF ALL HARRISON SPINKS  
MATTRESSES ONLY  
EXCLUSIVE TO CONSERVATION NEWS ONLY  
OFFER FINISHES 31/07/22

DESIGNER BED CO.  
— CANTERBURY —

27 Maynard Road  
Wincheap Estate  
Canterbury Kent CT1 3RH

T: 01227 479446  
E: [designerbedsenquiries@live.co.uk](mailto:designerbedsenquiries@live.co.uk)  
[www.designerbedsltd.co.uk](http://www.designerbedsltd.co.uk)

# Creating your perfect bedroom

If you ask a medical professional for the top three areas vital to healthy living they will always tell you: diet, exercise and sleep. However, while we all know how important it is to eat healthily and stay active, an alarming number of adults aren't getting enough good quality sleep.

There are plenty of tips to help you with your 'sleep hygiene' from staying away from technology before bed, to taking a calming bath at night, but one thing that's very important to your quality of sleep is your environment. We've put together five top tips for creating the ultimate oasis of calm with your bedroom décor.

**1 MAKE THE MOST OF SPACE**  
Clutter is an absolute no-no in a bedroom, so make sure your decor is minimal if you want to be able to relax. If you have a small room then use as little furniture as possible and make sure that there's plenty of room to move around. You should be able to get easily around three sides of the bed as this not only creates a sense of space, but also makes changing the sheets a whole lot easier. Consider fitted wardrobes





to hide away any necessary clutter (take a look through our advertisers to find the perfect professional for the job) and remove anything from the room that doesn't absolutely have to be there.

## 2 MAKE SURE FURNITURE IS APPROPRIATE

Dark, substantial antique furniture can be absolutely beautiful, but if your room is small or has small windows, then it will look heavy and oppressive. Consider pine or similar to brighten up the room or, if you do have a larger room, choose one dark piece (such as a bed) as a centrepiece. Use wall art or a tall headboard to draw the eye upwards and use mirrors to catch and spread the light.

## 3 ADD COLOUR WITH CAUTION

Your bedroom should be soothing and natural: that's why spas often use pale and natural tones such as cream and beige. However, that doesn't mean you have to drown the room in magnolia! Pick a pale base colour and then accent it with something a little stronger. Think beige with warm brown, cream with leafy green or even white with a rich navy. The important thing is to add your stronger colour sparingly. A bedroom that's predominantly white could take dark blue curtains at one end of the room, with a skyscape or similar painting at the other end to create a night sky or 'grown up' space theme. Cream walls and light furniture can be given warmth with green bedding and lampshades. The best thing about keeping your coloured



accents minimal is that they can be easily changed when you get bored, or even swapped out temporarily at Christmas for, say, red and gold.

## 4 SOFTLY SOFTLY

Bedroom furniture tends to be overtly functional and, as such, will usually be wooden and therefore hard. Whereas in a living room you can soften the décor with a nice plump sofa, in a bedroom you'll need to add those soft touches very deliberately. Your bed of course is the main 'soft focus' of the room, and a plush throw or extra cushions will take you from budget hotel to sumptuous boudoir in no time! A faux fur rug will carry through that softness and, if you've the space, a small upholstered chair can make a gorgeous addition.

## 5 LIGHT UP YOUR ROOM

The amount and type of light in your bedroom is vital to your sleep hygiene. Ideally you should be lulled to sleep with cosy, warm lights at night, and be able to let the morning sun stream in to wake you up. You can't

do much about the size of your windows or the direction your house faces, but by using colour and mirrors, as mentioned earlier, you can make the most of mornings – even adding a daylight bulb or lamp to beat the winter blues. In the evening however, you're in full control. Use warm light bulbs and wall lights or lamps, rather than overhead lights to create a peaceful ambience. Consider candles or even some carefully placed twig lights for a fantasy feel.

#### LAST BUT NOT LEAST

Those are our top five tips, but there's one thing that's more important than any décor advice we can give you, and that's the bed itself. Your bed can lend itself to every one of the tips above:

- Underbed storage is a life saver in small rooms
- A light frame will make a small room look bigger, while a heavy frame creates a focal point
- A striking headboard could be just the splash of colour you need

- Your mattress should be just the right softness to give you the best possible night's sleep
- The type of bed and mattress you choose will do more for the ambience of the room than lighting ever could.

We researched long-established mattress company Harrison Spinks and discovered the following:

It's vital that your bed be tailored to the comfort of you and your partner, year round. Many mattresses now have a dual option (for couples who like different tensions) and some high quality ones even have seasonal turning options, where one side of the mattress is cooler and one is warmer. Harrison Spinks offer no turn options, for people who are mobility impaired, and they use all natural materials so that there are no unwanted chemicals to interrupt your body's rhythms.

A good night's sleep is essential to your overall wellbeing, and we hope that these tips will help you catch up on your zzzs.







# LUKEHURST

FURNITURE BEDS CARPETS CURTAINS

lukehurst.co.uk

Wide range of sofas & chairs, plus living,  
dining, bedroom & home office furniture

Many top brands

Carpets & flooring

Bespoke curtains & blinds

Styles to suit all tastes and styles of interior

All at value for money prices



ercol  
ENGLAND SINCE 1920

DURESTA

Parker Knoll



VISPRING  
Luxury Beds - London 1980

Alexander & James  
GREAT BRITAIN MADE BEDDING

HYPNOS  
THE FIRST TRANQUILLIZER MADE IN THE WORLD

himolla

Sittingbourne Store | Bargebrick House | Eurolink Way | Sittingbourne | Kent | ME10 3HH | Telephone 01795 430 299

Rainham Store | 82-84 High Street | Rainham | Kent | ME8 7JH | Telephone 01634 387234



# DESIGNER BED COMPANY

## in exciting new partnership

Now situated on the Wincheap Estate in Canterbury, the Designer Bed Company was established in 1977 over in Herne Bay. The brain behind the company was Roy Sirett, and it's his commitment to outstanding service that has helped the business to thrive for over 40 years.

Now run by Roy's son-in-law David Weston, the Designer Bed Company has garnered a reputation as one of Kent's most trusted businesses, with their blend of customer service, quality products and an unwavering commitment to sustainability.

The company's main selling point is that, wherever possible, their products are British, and even Kent made, in order to reduce their carbon footprint and shore up our local economy.

In an exciting new move, the Designer Bed Company have now secured British staple Harrison Spinks as one of their main mattress suppliers, and it's a partnership that looks set to take Kent by storm:

Harrison Spinks was created in 1840 in Wakefield, and is now run by the 5th generation of the family. The company takes sustainability to the next level, refusing to sell anything mass produced, and going above and beyond

to ensure the provenance of their products.

Harrison Spinks mattresses use 100% recyclable Cortec pocket springs and microsprings for extra comfort. The all natural upholstery is made from wool and cotton, with some also containing mohair, kapok, alpaca, flax and even hemp. Their chemical free covers are woven in house, they manufacture their own springs, grow their own hemp and flax, and even have their own area of woodland where they source the FSC certified timber for their divan frames and headboards. In fact, Harrison Spinks are so committed to making everything in house, that they even take the wool they use from their own carefully monitored sheep!

All this effort really pays off, because Harrison Spinks mattresses are the best of the best. They come in gentle, medium, firm





and dual support, have options including seasonal turn and non-turn, and provide a cool, luxurious night's sleep that is guaranteed to leave you feeling refreshed.

David is over the moon about this latest step for the Designer Bed Company:

"I've always admired Harrison Spinks and to get the opportunity to stock them is fantastic for us. We're proud to be the company's official supplier in this part of Canterbury, and are offering a massive 25% off on all Harrison Spinks mattresses, divans, and headboards until the end of July, so that we can hopefully introduce many more people to this wonderful range of products"

*For more information visit*  
[www.designerbedsltd.co.uk](http://www.designerbedsltd.co.uk)  
 Tel: 01227 479446





Atlantic 3 + 2 chest of drawers,  
£895, London Road Furniture



Cushion, £22  
lenleys.co.uk

Kaymed 'Inner Wisdom'  
4ft 6in double divan set.  
Was £1629.99, Now  
£1099.99 (Headboard extra)  
the-bedpost.co.uk



Cushion, £24  
lenleys.co.uk



Vanity mirror, from £122  
scandinaviantouch.co.uk



Halo basket storage, £180  
scandinaviantouch.co.uk



Pooky Satre Table Lamp,  
£116, Shade, £123  
oohhowlovely.co.uk

# Get the look

## INSPIRING IDEAS FOR YOUR BEDROOM



Kip & Co Flower Fairies Make A Wish Cotton  
Pillowcase, £25, antipodream.co.uk



Flynn mirrors, £79  
lukehurst.co.uk



Moreno bedstead, £1,879,  
lukehurst.co.uk



Ercol Terramo bedsid cabinet,  
£329, lukehurst.co.uk



Montague storage box, £555  
neptune.com



## Scandinavian<sup>touch</sup>

Step into Spring  
Scandinavian style.  
We have lots of  
NEW bags, storage  
ideas and planters  
to complement your  
space. Pop in, have  
a browse and be  
inspired.



### Opening times:

Monday - Friday  
Saturday  
Sunday

11am to 4pm  
10am to 5pm  
11am to 4pm

66 Oxford Street, Whitstable. CT5 1DG

[www.scandinaviantouch.co.uk](http://www.scandinaviantouch.co.uk) | [shop@scandinaviantouch.co.uk](mailto:shop@scandinaviantouch.co.uk)

## THE FURNITURE WORKSHOP

Beautiful bespoke furniture made to customers specific requirements



Phone: 07931 318974



@chrisfurnitureworkshop



@chrisfurnitureworkshop

e-mail: [woodbay555@gmail.com](mailto:woodbay555@gmail.com)



# CORE

Waste Management

- Rubbish Clearances
- Bulky Waste Removal
- Garden Waste
- Builders Waste
- House Clearances
- Bins Emptied
- Man & Van Load & Go
- Cheaper Than A Skip



Fully Licensed & Insured

Contact Our Team

01227 940750 / 07704453288



## Wells & White

Bespoke Upholstery



Traditional and modern upholstery services available, or learn the skills yourself in one of our classes.

Now enrolling for classes starting in September.

The Cow Shed,  
Unit 8,  
New Street Farm,  
Great Chart,  
Ashford,  
Kent TN23 3DL

07999 604250

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

[wellsandwhite@outlook.com](mailto:wellsandwhite@outlook.com)



## Gary Miller

PAINTER & DECORATOR



30 years experience specialising in period & country properties across Kent. References available.

24 High Dewar Road, Rainham ME8 8DN

Tel: 01634 235773 or 07971 871433 [garymillerdecorator@gmail.com](mailto:garymillerdecorator@gmail.com)

# UNDER FOOT

using rugs to transform a room



Persian runner, £5,400, [lillarrugs.com](http://lillarrugs.com)



Nothing transforms a room like a great rug. A good rug defines a room and adds an extra layer. It can complete a room visually, making it more exciting, warm, cosy, and comfortable. They can be a game changer on how a room looks and feels.

## VISUAL PATHWAYS

Hallways can have the tendency to be dead, unwelcoming spaces. So what better way to liven them up than with a rug. They can create a visual pathway that draws the eye to any connecting rooms. This means you can have fun and introduce pattern and colour with your chosen rug. Although, you'll need to consider how your scheme flows into connecting rooms.

## CONNECT SPACES

By placing similar style/coloured rugs in connecting spaces, you unify and create a visual connection between the two rooms. This, in turn, makes each room flow from one to the next as your eye is drawn from one space to the next. This works particularly well in neutral and/or minimal spaces.

## CREATE A FEATURE

Angling and layering rugs on top of one another can make for an interesting feature. If you're struggling to find a rug large enough for your space, opt for more by introducing the layered effect. It'll create greater impact than one large rug.

## AS ART

Rugs have become works of art in their own right and if you happen to come across one that's just too good to walk on, then maybe consider hanging it on your walls. They not only provide a decorative element but are also great for walls where you may need to a little bit of extra help in absorbing sound from adjoining rooms.



Hand Made Rugs, Rye, [www.handmaderugs.co.uk](http://www.handmaderugs.co.uk)

## REINFORCE YOUR DESIGN SCHEME

When choosing your rug look towards other elements of your design scheme, such as colour. If the rug you choose has an element of your design scheme, it will help reinforce, and create a more cohesive feel and look to your room.

## CHOOSE THE RIGHT SIZE

Whatever rug you decide to go for ensure you choose the largest rug you can for the room it will reside in. Avoid the floating rug in the centre of the room. Ideally, the rug you choose should be large enough to fit under all four legs of each piece of furniture. If this isn't possible the front legs of your furniture should be positioned on the rug. Apart from anchoring your furniture, it also helps prevent trips and falls. Your rug size should be based on the dimensions of your room and not your coffee table. Opting for a larger rug will fill the negative space created by your furniture.

## CONSIDER A DIFFERENT SHAPE

Why settle for the traditional rectangular rug shape? Choose the ideal shape depending on the space and the way your furniture is grouped. Then opt for an oval, round, or square shape if it complements the room better than a rectangular rug.



Top: Nomad Atlas rug, £169, [weavergreen.com](http://weavergreen.com).

Bottom Dutchbone round rug £389, [cuckooland.com](http://cuckooland.com)



## PLAY WITH COLOURS

The rug's colours should match your home's décor and mood. Ideally, the rug is chosen first, then the room is decorated around it. But if you already have the furniture in place, use the rug to tie the existing colours or add an accent. A rug in bold colours can be used as a centrepiece, whereas more neutral colours are great if you want the rug to blend in. In general, brighter and darker rugs are better suited for bigger rooms.

Along with natural flooring and carpet, rugs boasts many useful practical attributes. They are excellent insulators, cutting down on draughts and reducing heating bills. They soften footfall by absorbing noise and feel soft and comfortable underfoot. And, when it comes to style, they can add a whole layer of personality to a living room.



*Hand Made Rugs, Rye, [www.handmaderugs.co.uk](http://www.handmaderugs.co.uk)*



Rye Showroom  
55 Cinque Ports Street  
Rye, TN31 7AN



Landgate Showroom  
By Appointment  
3 Landgate, Rye, TN31 7LH

With an ever-growing demand for custom-made, designed rugs and our collaborations with designers across the globe, we can create rugs in any design imaginable, alongside thousands of existing rugs to choose from.



Call. 01797 360353 | [rye@handmaderugs.co.uk](mailto:rye@handmaderugs.co.uk) | [www.handmaderugs.co.uk](http://www.handmaderugs.co.uk)



64-65 High Street, Wingham, Canterbury, CT3 3BJ

Tel: 01227 721 938 or 07808 667369

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



Family-run  
business offering  
first class service

- Luxury vinyl tiles
- Laminate flooring
- High quality carpets
- Real & engineered wood
- Cushion vinyl
- High quality installation





# BAGHAM BARN ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

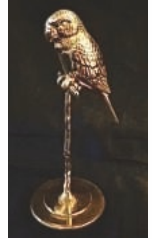
Canterbury Road (A28) Chilham Kent CT4 8DU



Tel: 01227 732522 | [www.baghambarnantiques.com](http://www.baghambarnantiques.com)



*Open Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Bank Holidays from 10am-5pm  
and on Sunday from 10am-4pm.*



*Bring the colours of summer in from the garden and let them shine on your antique furniture. Be courageous with tones and textures - you won't regret it. We have a huge selection to tempt you.*

# The Canterbury Auction Galleries

FINE ART  
AUCTIONEERS  
SINCE 1911

40 Station Road West  
Canterbury  
Kent CT2 8AN

t **01227 763337**  
e [general@tcag.co.uk](mailto:general@tcag.co.uk)

## Weekend Online Auction Dates 2022

All Auctions to be Held on **Saturdays** and **Sundays**

9th & 10th April, 11th & 12th June  
6th & 7th August, 1st & 2nd October  
3rd & 4th December

**Call Us** to Book a Valuation Appointment at Home  
or at Our Saleroom in Canterbury. All Appointments  
are subject to current social distancing guidelines.

Visit Our Website for More Details  
**[thecanterburyauctiongalleries.com](http://thecanterburyauctiongalleries.com)**





# The Antique Oak Flooring Company

SPECIALISTS IN ANTIQUE AND RECLAIMED FLOORING



VIEWING BY APPOINTMENT

Willow Court Farm, Bilsington Road, Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent TN26 2PB

T: 01233 659508 M: 07733 263540 [www.antiqueoakflooring.com](http://www.antiqueoakflooring.com)

# ENCHANTING FABRICS

SOFAS & STUFF LAUNCH EXCITING NEW FABRIC COLLECTION IN COLLABORATION WITH THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (RHS)

In an exciting new partnership with the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), Sofas & Stuff have just launched an enchanting new furnishing fabric collection at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. RHS 22 takes its inspiration from botanical artists and garden designers from the 17th through to the 20th centuries, using the archives of the RHS Lindley Collections, which houses one of the world's finest collections of botanical drawings, paintings, and literature. The result is an elegant, intimate collection grounded in soft, natural tones, with rich pops of colour from the featured illustrated fruits and flowers, that will work across a wide range of interior design styles.

Three of the designs feature intricately

detailed sketches from renowned botanical illustrators, William Hooker (1779 – 1832), Lydia Penrose (1787 – 1842) and Lilian Snelling (1879 – 1972). In each of these, individual sketches, drawings and paintings have been collated and artfully composed to create flowing designs that reflect the range and skills of the original artists. They have been printed onto beautiful tactile fabrics in soft natural tones and are suitable for all upholstery and soft furnishing purposes.

A more graphical and geometric interpretation of the rich RHS archive is delivered in two elegant fabrics based on Knot Garden designs from the early 17th century. Once again, the designs are rooted in soft,



*Kentwell 3 Seater Sofa in RHS Collection Lydia Penrose Design, 100% Linen. £3,821*



neutral grounds on both linen and cotton mix fabrics, and are presented in six nature-inspired tones ranging from inky blue through a palette of soft greens through to warm ochre and brown.

The final fabric features a design from one of Britain's best-known horticulturalists and garden designers, Gertrude Jekyll (1843 – 1932). An enchanting original sketch by Jekyll of a floral and leafy spray has been reproduced and repeated, creating a tumbling design across the fabric which feels both fresh and timelessly romantic.

The fabrics can be used across any of Sofas & Stuff range of British handmade bespoke sofas, chairs, beds, footstools, and cushions or purchased as fabrics for curtains and blinds or other soft furnishing projects. The RHS 22 fabric

collection is available to purchase exclusively through Sofas & Stuff, both in store and online.

About the partnership and the collection, Andrew Cussins, Founder of Sofas & Stuff, says:

“It was a real honour to be given the opportunity to delve into the world-renowned horticultural archives of this great British charity to select drawings and designs I could rework to create the first official fabric collection in collaboration with this iconic heritage organisation. Our customers expect quality, diversity and richness in design, and we are certain that they will find it here in this beautiful new fabric range, which reflects our nation's rich horticultural history and how much gardening and plants continue to enrich our lives.”

Sofas & Stuff's Kent showroom, just outside Tunbridge Wells, has friendly, expert design consultants on hand to help you choose the right sofa, chair or bed and fabric for your lifestyle. Whether you are inspired by timeless classic designs, updated for contemporary living, or are seeking the latest in interior trends, you are sure to find what you are hoping for among their extensive range of British bespoke, handmade furniture.

Why not visit their Tunbridge Wells showroom, with free on-site parking, and discuss your furniture needs over a complimentary cup of coffee or tea at The Estate Yard, Eridge, Nr Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN3 0JR. You can call them directly on 01892 572309 or visit [www.sofasandstuff.com](http://www.sofasandstuff.com).

® *The Royal Horticultural Society. The Royal Horticultural Society and its logo, are trade marks of The Royal Horticultural Society (Registered Charity No 222879/SC038262) and used under licence from RHS Enterprises Limited.*

[www.sofasandstuff.com](http://www.sofasandstuff.com) | T: 0808 1783211



*Rothermere Chair in RHS Collection Gertrude Jekyll Linen Green, 100% Linen. £2,396*



RHS

  
**SOFAS & STUFF**  
Let's design together



Alwinton 3 seater sofa in RHS 22 Collection William Hooker £4,086

**TUNBRIDGE WELLS SHOWROOM**

The Estate Yard, Eridge, Nr Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN3 9JR

01892 572309 | [sofasandstuff.com/rhs](https://sofasandstuff.com/rhs)





We have a lovely new range of  
fabrics/materials now available



# CGS BLINDS & SHUTTERS LTD

Come and visit our showroom

• Huge choice • FREE quotations

Tel: 01227 278643

146 Tankerton Road, Whitstable CT5 2AW

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



Find us on Facebook

# Aviva Stone, Granite and Quartz worktops

LARGE SHOWROOM NOW OPEN

Granite

Quartz

Marble

Slate



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

## FIRE HEARTH MADE TO ORDER

Court Lodge Farm,  
Frog Lane,  
Bishopsbourne,  
Canterbury CT4 5HR

Tel 01227 678007

or 07976 893646

[avivastonegranite@gmail.com](mailto:avivastonegranite@gmail.com)

**Aviva Stone**  
South East Ltd  
GRANITE & QUARTZ WORKTOPS

## Save on your home insurance



### Insurance for all types of homes including:

- High Value Homes
- Property Undergoing Renovations
- Non-Standard Construction
- Listed Buildings

**gsi-insurance.com**

GSI Insurance Services (Southern) Ltd  
118 John Wilson Business Park  
Whitstable  
Kent  
CT5 3QY

**Tel: 01227 772 775**

Your local broker has it covered





Planter, £32  
dibor.co.uk



Clock, £38  
nineangels.co.uk

Jug, £70  
neptune.com



Velvet cushion, £169  
luxeology.co.uk



Bamboo planter, £79  
cultfurniture.com



Mug, £17  
thevillagegreenonline



Victorian tale cushion, £75  
juliabrendel.com



Pooky lamp, £104, shade,  
£63, oohhowlovely.co.uk



Sea throw, £104  
jjtextile.co.uk

# Lifestyle

INSPIRING IDEAS FOR YOUR HOME



Eva vase, large, £75  
scandinaviantouch.co.uk



Whitstable print, £45  
beachhouseart.co.uk



Santorini daybed, £1,450  
coxandcox.co.uk



Two outdoor seat cushions,  
£20, habitat.co.uk



Picnic basket, £89.99, Dobbies



Emma Bridgewater bowl, £20  
daisypark.co.uk

Solar lights, £14.99  
lights4fun.co.uk



Picnic blanket, £135  
heating-and-plumbing.co.uk

Natural slate & rusted mild steel  
garden sculpture, from £45,  
Alex John Art Gallery,  
alexjohn.co.uk, 07999 786785



Deckchair, £175  
oliverbonas.com



Honey candle, £7.99  
tkmaxx.com



Fire bowl, £349  
beaumonde.co.uk



Wooden trug, £26  
nationaltrust.org.uk



Salt and pepper set, £16  
habitat.co.uk



Melamine dinner set, £49  
procook.co.uk



Outdoor beanbag, £149  
joebrowns.co.uk

Tablecloth, £390  
velvetlinen.co.uk



Boho parasol,  
£304  
iamfy.co

Gardener's gloves,  
£16.95  
annabeljames.co.uk



Lantern candle holder,  
£35, johnlewis.com



Outdoor modular sofa,  
£1,200  
vivalagoon.com



Mason jar set, £58.99  
wayfair.co.uk



Garden basket, £55  
lolaandmawu.com



# Beautiful, beguiling & bewitching

## Welcome to Boys Hall

We're delighted to be given the chance to feature the restoration and renaissance of a lovely and significant gem of a Jacobean manor house, nestling in the outskirts of Ashford.

In this first part we meet the people who took on the task and we take a peek behind the scenes at the on-going extensive repairs and the journey to rebuild it that started over two years ago, and which will culminate in the 17th Century period property opening its doors as a restaurant with rooms this autumn.

This family house is truly a family concern, courageous couple Kristie and Brad Lomas purchased the property along with her parents Richard and Rita. Kristie and her family are from Mersham in Kent. She studied photography at university and finding she had an interest in the world of hospitality, she moved to London. After a spell of working for



various establishments, she started her own Café Bar in Kings Cross with a friend, which turned out to be a great success. Brad was the Operations Director for a chain of Pubs in London, which was how the couple met. Their relationship flourished, marriage and parenthood ensued, followed by the desire to find a project they could work on together outside of London.

It's here that an interesting twist of fate occurred, they had looked at many prospective business opportunities all over the country, including north Wales, but none suited them. Then, an alert for this one popped into Kristie's inbox. Boys Hall, a gorgeous house with three acres of gardens

presented quite a challenge and immediately got her attention. It was just what she was looking for and when she realised it was so close to her family home, she knew it was an opportunity not to be missed.

The Grade II Listed Manor House was in need of a great deal of TLC, she was amazed that this beautiful house was just over three miles from where she had grown up and she never knew it existed until then. It offered everything she was looking for; a period property in dire need of restoration, a project to make a future business for her and Brad, and something that had been missing from others they had looked at, the all important location, as new parents of two little ones the proximity to her parents, clinched it.

Brad, Kristie and her parents purchased Boys Hall and took possession in November 2019. Of course, that date we now know coincided with the beginning of the Coronavirus pandemic with a nationwide lockdown following in March. It was uncharted territory for everyone, and any immediate plans that included building or renovation works had to be put on hold, and no one really knew how long for. However, as Kristie explained to me it was a case of trying to turn a set back into an opportunity, if they couldn't begin work on the building, as builders couldn't come in and supplies couldn't be delivered, then they started work on the grounds around the house.

What was a completely overgrown thicket of brambles and weeds was gradually tamed after many backbreaking hours of hacking away, and what began to be revealed were areas of lawns, terraces and formal gardens. She says it was a time of delightful discoveries, as the tangled growth was cleared plants started to grow





back, it seems some of the original occupants of the garden appreciated the opportunity too and emerged. Foxgloves and many other plants had self-seeded and an unusual original hydrangea called Libelle was discovered. There were also splendid specimen trees; gingkos and laburnums, not to mention an ancient mulberry tree, thought to be over 400 years old has survived. It's difficult to believe it when you see the gardens now what a state they were in. They have been transformed by masses of hard work, particularly by Kristie and her mum. Over the past two years they have pruned, weeded, mowed, created herbaceous borders and a formal rose garden, and restocked by taking many cuttings. It has been a labour of love that has been well worthwhile and has become a passion.

Another opportunity grasped by Kristie during lockdown, was the chance to research the old house and look into the fascinating history of the previous occupants. There are many tales to tell. Thomas Boys began construction of the house in 1616 using materials from a nearby property, Moat House that had been demolished. It was completed in 1632 in its current location. The style of the original house is thought to be typical of a medieval timber framed Wealden hall house, which over the years has unsurprisingly been adapted by its many inhabitants. Kristie's research has identified eleven families as owners of the property, however there may be many more residents that were tenants throughout the period between, 1616 to 2001. Coats of Arms for some of these families have been carved as decorations above one of the main fireplaces, some very well known names in the local area such as Boys, Bonnington, Barry



and Knatchbull. Also this role of honour is the Invicta Horse, symbol for the county of Kent.

There are tunnels underneath the house that are rumoured to have been used by smugglers, no one knows now where the tunnels linked to, possibly the church at Sevington, and the local inn. Sadly this can't be substantiated as they have collapsed in on themselves, but they are intriguing and can be accessed from the cellar. In 1970 a hoard of 17 gold coins in a pot were uncovered in the earth below the main kingpost in the hall of the house, the oldest dates to the reign of Henry VIII, these are now at the British Museum.

There is also a fascinating account in Mrs. Henry Wood's book *Argosy* dated 1880, these were books released twice a year, full of short







stories curated by her. Included is a story of a Christmas party that took place at Boys Hall in 1760. The descriptions of the house, with its large, low rooms, its great well staircase, the square low room where four massive beams meet overhead and features like the decoration on the fireplace, "...where birds of wonderful plumage wrought in stone are sitting on golden boughs" so accurately describe key elements of the house that remain to this day.

As the lockdown eased the long awaited work on the house itself could begin in earnest, but like many building projects over the past couple of years there have been the inevitable delays mainly due to supply chain issues, which has meant the opening has had to be rescheduled for the autumn. Brad, Kristie and her parents, along with a small team of local carpenters, tradespeople and labourers have tackled all the main renovation jobs, including the demolition of the old swimming pool area to construct the new restaurant and kitchen. Timber for the project has been sourced locally and milled on site. It's been a gradual process of reinstating and restoring each part of the wonderful old house. And at last things are really coming together, so much so that many



of the bedrooms and other areas are finally being dressed with their finishing touches and furniture moved in to position.

Now is a time to revel in sumptuous fabrics, signature wallpapers and glorious colour palettes, something Kristie definitely has a flair for. She is artfully combining these materials with treasured items sourced from auctions and antique fairs, to complement the existing wonderful wood panelled rooms with magnificent feature fireplaces that greet you at every turn of the historic interior of this precious place. Worthy of a mention, it is thought that the particularly fine ornately carved panelling in the main bedroom is in fact from Windsor Castle.

In the next part of the story in our autumn issue, we will see the results of all the hard work when Boys Hall is revealed in all its glory. For more info: [boys-hall.com](http://boys-hall.com).









**Established 1988**



## **DOMESTIC CLEANING SERVICES LTD**

**Regular or One-off Cleaning**

**Homes and Holiday Lets**

**End of Tenancy**

**Moving Cleans**

**Spring Cleans**

**Professional, Friendly, Reliable Service**

**CALL US NOW FOR A FREE QUOTATION**

**Tel: 01227 277033 | [www.supermaids.co.uk](http://www.supermaids.co.uk) | [info@supermaids.co.uk](mailto:info@supermaids.co.uk)**

## **NON FERROUS METAL RECYCLING & WASTE HANDLING**

### **JOHN BUTCHER BROS** **TEL: 01227 713850**

- Fast efficient turnaround
- Immediate cleared funds via BACS
- Collections available for larger quantities

#### **CALL FOR CURRENT PRICES**

Open to the public & trade

Mon – Fri, 8am - 5pm

Sat, 8am - 12 noon

**[www.johnbutcherbros.co.uk](http://www.johnbutcherbros.co.uk)**

**[info@johnbutcherbros.co.uk](mailto:info@johnbutcherbros.co.uk)**



**We pay competitive prices for all the following grades:**

- Copper • Brass
- Lead • Copper tanks
- Aluminium • Cables
- Stainless steel
- Silver • Gold



Unit 12, Canterbury Ind Park, Island Road, Hersden, Canterbury CT3 4HQ



## PJ ARCHITECTURE

Harbour Offices, Whitstable CT5 1AB

**01227 770470**

[enq@peterjacksonarchitects.co.uk](mailto:enq@peterjacksonarchitects.co.uk)



- Wired & Wireless Intruder Alarms
- CCTV Systems
- 24hr Monitoring
- Security Lighting

**COMPLETE HOME  
SECURITY SOLUTIONS**

Proud members of  
**Checkatrade.com**  
Where reputation matters



**01227 365000**  
**07958 180621**

[info@cactussecurity.co.uk](mailto:info@cactussecurity.co.uk)

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

**We are the UK's leading  
restorer and repairer of  
traditional, distinctive  
oast cowl & kiln roofs.**

New cowl construction. Painting  
& cleaning. Repair & maintenance.  
Also specialising in Kent peg tile  
roof repairs and kiln tile repairs.

Trusted over four family  
generations by royalty, businesses  
& homeowners alike.



Book a no-obligation visit  
01622 725 898 / 07973 332 790  
[www.dudeandarnette.co.uk](http://www.dudeandarnette.co.uk)



**DUDE &  
ARNETTE**  
OAST COWL CONSTRUCTION



**Oast owners**



**Cleal's**  
UPHOLSTERY

Over 55 years experience

Repair and re-cover dining chairs. Re-upholstery and recovering in a wide range of fabrics.

Renew old cushions; replace rubber webbing; renew old springs. Cane seating; caravan & boat cushions.

- Domestic • Modern
- Contract • Antique

Family run business



21 Oakwood Drive  
Whitstable CT5 1NY  
T: 01227 273811  
e: juliecleal@hotmail.co.uk

**WAREHAMS**

Antique Garden Ornament    Gustavian Furniture

68 Oxford Street - Whitstable CT5 1DG  
Mobile : 07831 210139  
www.warehams.com



**SOUTHGATE ELECTRICAL CO. LTD**

*The Best Electrical Services*

*Offering a full range of electrical services from design to installation*

- External Electrics
- New Builds
- Access and Security
- Space Heating
- Electric Showers
- Fire Alarms
- Landlord Certificates

T: 01227 712790 / 07889 895394  
www.electricians-canterbury.com



APPROVED CONTRACTOR

**Georgian Brickwork**

Specialists in  
Conservation & Heritage Brickwork

Skilful repairs to listed & period properties using traditional methods and materials

Charles: 07732 975 349  
www.georgianbrickwork.co.uk



## OLIVER MANNING PRESS

CABINET MAKER, FURNITURE DESIGNER, FURNITURE RESTORER,  
BESPOKE FURNITURE MADE TO ORDER - FREESTANDING OR FITTED



For more information contact: 01227 731765 or 07808 001844

www.olivermanningpress-bespoke.com    olivermanningpress@gmail.com

# HISTORIC HOMES: built to last!

GEORGIAN BRICKWORK IS A SMALL SPECIALIST TEAM OF BRICKLAYERS WHO WORK SOLELY ON PERIOD AND LISTED PROPERTIES.

The team is led by Charles Reilly a craftsman with over 25 years of experience in the heritage sector. Charles is passionate about keeping heritage brickwork skills alive and making sure that historic homes in Kent are maintained using the right materials and methods. For several years he has run training for bricklayers looking to enhance their heritage skills. He also offers consultancy and advice for homeowners, architects and conservation officers. In Autumn 2022 he is launching a new programme of events from his training space at The Historic Dockyard, Chatham.

We asked Charles to talk us through some of the common issues affecting historic brickwork that homeowners might notice on their properties.

## SPALLING BRICKS

Historically bricks were fired at lower temperatures, and this means they are inherently softer than the modern bricks produced today. When a brick has 'spalled' the surface will be indented and may crumble when touched. There are several causes of spalling and identifying the cause is an important part of finding the solution. You may notice that bricks at lower levels erode at a faster rate than elsewhere on the building. If the problem is on a roadside wall it may be due to excess moisture and salts on the road splashing back onto the brickwork

as vehicles go past. Contact with cement mortar also erodes bricks, particularly if the mortar mix is harder than the brick, and cement mortar also contributes to the retention of moisture within the wall. If a chronically damp brick is then subjected to freezing weather conditions the face



*These bricks on a house in Charing are at pavement level. The original lime mortar has been replaced with a hard cement repair and the bricks are deteriorating faster because of splashback from passing cars.*



can spall and become flaky. Sometimes a brick is so badly damaged it must be replaced, but many can be repaired. Lime repointing that includes the repair and replacement of individual bricks can help resolve damp issues as well as improve the look and stability of the wall for the future.

## LOOSE MORTAR

In a listed property areas of loose mortar may just be the result of wear and tear over the centuries. However, mortar can also be eroded by weather and salts, with sea-facing properties and walls that take the brunt of the rain suffering the most. Even sparrows can cause havoc to lime mortar joints. These little garden birds like to peck at the mortar for extra roughage in their diet. Unfortunately, there is not much that can be done to deter them, aside from perhaps getting a cat!! Sometimes specific areas of a wall are more affected than others, a skilled craftsman will be able to assess the areas that need repointing and carry out 'patch' pointing where required, using a lime mortar mix to blend in with the original mix.

Unightly repairs using the wrong bricks/mortar: The use of the wrong brick to a repair a wall is a frequent complaint - and an eyesore! It may be that an old external door has been bricked up, or perhaps new waste pipes have been installed for an upstairs bathroom and the surrounding bricks don't match the originals. Another grumble from today's listed property owners is that previous occupants have had repairs carried out using cement instead of lime and this has created an unsightly area in an otherwise beautiful brick wall.

Charles explains that using cement mortar on historic brickwork was common practice from the early 20th Century. In comparison to lime, cement is a much cheaper standardised product.

The presence of a localised cement repair may be just an aesthetic issue, but widespread use of cement on a historic property can upset the cycle of moisture within the brickwork and lead to more serious problems. It is fine for brick walls to get wet providing that the rain can be absorbed by the brick and then evaporate in drier weather; lime allows this continuous 'wicking' process to occur, allowing the building to 'breathe'. Unfortunately, cement prevents it, leading to trapped moisture within the bricks and often contributing to damp issues within the walls of the house.



*BEFORE: Cement repair to pavement level brickwork on a house in Sandwich*



*AFTER: The cement has been raked out, replaced with lime mortar and finished with a brushed heritage joint.*

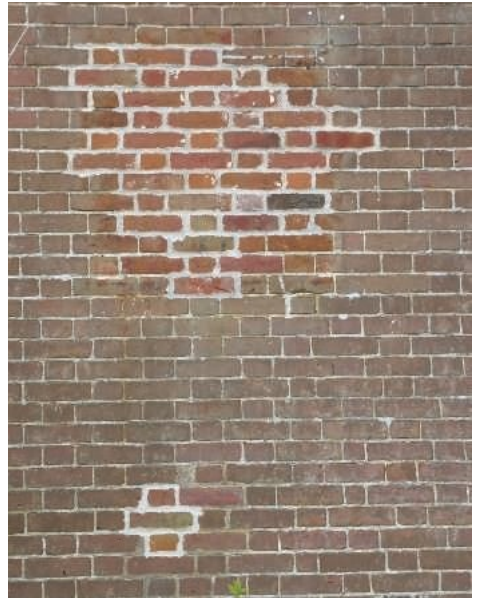
## FINDING A HERITAGE BRICKLAYER

According to Charles, all the above issues are resolvable however he stresses that choosing the right person to undertake repairs on your home is vital. You want the contractor to use the correct methods and materials and meet the requirements of your local conservation officer. A repair to your home that uses like-for-like methods and materials may not need listed building consent. However, Charles states that if you are unsure it is wiser to check before starting the work.

When you undertake repairs on your property you want the result to look good and last for many years. There are many factors that contribute to an enduring high-quality finish. The depth of the raking out, the type of brick and aggregates, and the mix of the mortar will all have an impact on the final outcome.

The cost of the work is always an important consideration, Charles explained that lime mortar repairs are generally more expensive than cement repairs. The process is slower because the preparation of the repair area, the care of the lime mortar, and the aftercare of the brickwork all take time, and skill! Depending on the weather conditions lime mortar may not be fully cured (hardened) for two or three months. So, when you are comparing quotes, take account of the skill and experience of the craftsman as well as the price. If you do it right the first time you won't be in the demoralising position of having to go back to the more expensive specialist to ask them to put right the issues that the cheaper contractor didn't fix properly!

Georgian Brickwork are often asked to correct repairs that were undertaken by other contractors using the wrong methods and/or materials.



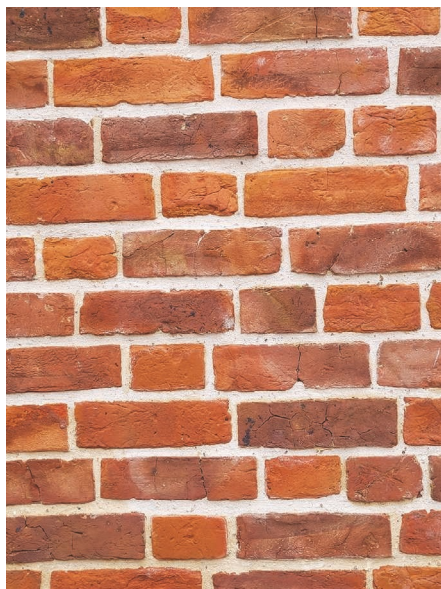
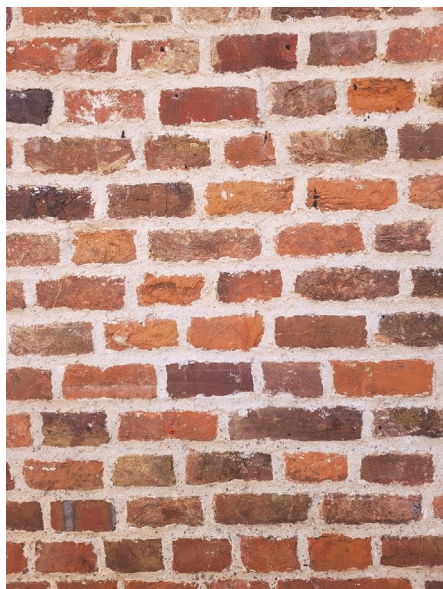
*This is a Grade I listed building designed by Robert Adams. This photograph shows how entrusting your repairs to the wrong person can be a disaster. The Georgian Brickwork team is now working to correct earlier repairs that were done with the wrong methods and materials.*

So, how do you find an experienced craftsman to repair the brickwork on your historic home?

We asked Charles for his tips;

- Do your research! Check their website and their credentials
- How long have they been a heritage specialist, who trained them?
- Can they provide information/references for completed contracts that are similar to your project? Are there similar examples on their website, can they talk about the contract in detail
- Can they explain the process and methods that they will use on your property? Will they supply you with a method statement if





*These two photographs show the difference between pointing completed by a lime mortar specialist and someone who isn't! In these images the rear of the house had recently been repointed in lime but the finish was messy with lime smeared over the face of the bricks. Georgian Brickwork raked out the messy lime mortar, cleaned up the bricks and repointed the wall again using a brushed heritage joint.*

you need to make a listed building consent application?

- Your local listed building officer will be aware of the heritage bricklayers on their patch. Whilst the officers are not able to specifically recommend anyone there is nothing to stop you asking a contractor how they get on with the local conservation officer in your area. A mutually respectful professional relationship between the bricklayer and the conservation officer can help smooth the process of applying for consents.

Charles is contactable through his website, [www.georgianbrickwork.co.uk](http://www.georgianbrickwork.co.uk).

If you would like to find out more about looking after your historic brickwork why not

join Charles on Saturday 3rd September at The Historic Dockyard, Chatham for his workshop Historic Homes - Built to Last!

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Saturday 18th June: FREE Drop In Event  
10am-3pm**

To celebrate the opening of Georgian Brickwork's Heritage Brickwork Training Workshop at Unit 6, Craft Workshops, The Historic Dockyard, Chatham ME4 4TE. Drop in and say hello anytime between 10am and 3pm. Parking available. All welcome!

**Thursday 1st September: Gauged Brick Arches (GB3)**

This workshop session is suitable for anyone



and will include practical demonstrations.

### **Saturday 8th October: Built to Deceive!**

This one day seminar examines the changes in brick built houses from 1660 to the end of the Georgian period in 1830 and explores the Georgian love affair with facadism -as exemplified by the many Tuck Pointed houses of that period. A morning lecture followed by lunch and an afternoon of Tuck pointing demonstrations, and discussion of the Tuck pointed buildings within the Dockyard

with an interest in finding out more about traditional gauged arches. Topics include the geometry of an arch, techniques for cutting bricks, and an examination of different types of arch within the locality

### **Saturday 3rd September: Historic Homes - Built to Last! 10am – 1pm**

A three hour workshop exploring some of the common issues affecting historic brickwork that homeowners might notice on their properties. Includes discussion, demonstrations and examination of brickwork buildings at The Historic Dockyard, Chatham

### **Thursday 15th September: Using Lime Mortar (GB1) 10am – 1pm**

This three hour workshop is suitable for anyone with an interest in finding out more about Lime Mortar. The session will cover the Lime Cycle, choosing aggregates, the preparation and aftercare of lime mortar, different mixes,

### **Thursday 18th November: Tuck Pointing 10am – 1pm**

This three hour workshop is suitable for anyone with an interest in the traditional craft of Tuck Pointing. The session will include demonstrations and information on methods and materials.

All courses take place at Unit 6 Craft Workshops, The Historic Dockyard, Chatham ME4 4TE. Parking is available at The Dockyard.

For further details of these events including information on how to book and pay online please scan the QR code or email [heritagebrickworktrainingltd@gmail.com](mailto:heritagebrickworktrainingltd@gmail.com)







Smarden Business Estate, Smarden, Ashford TN27 8QL  
Tel: 01233 770373 email: [info@ashscaffoldingltd.co.uk](mailto:info@ashscaffoldingltd.co.uk)  
[www.ashscaffoldingltd.co.uk](http://www.ashscaffoldingltd.co.uk)



## ADDERLEY MASONRY



7 Abbey Place,  
Faversham ME13 7BG  
Tel: 07791 233 922  
[info@adderleymasonry.com](mailto:info@adderleymasonry.com)  
[www.adderleymasonry.com](http://www.adderleymasonry.com)

Getting the right masonry team to undertake your project is key to upholding its integrity and history. That's why we aim to provide a high quality and efficient workmanship that both compliments and protects the fabric of the building.

# Anthony Swaine

## ARCHITECTURE LTD

Conservation • Design Consultancy • Listed Buildings  
Urban Design • Joinery Detailing • Traditional Shopfronts



**Initial consultation undertaken  
free of charge**

**Specialising in traditional design & works to  
historic buildings; timber framed structures; &  
new buildings in the historic context**

The Bastion Tower,  
16 Pound Lane,  
Canterbury,  
Kent CT1 2BZ

Tel: 01227 462680  
mail@anthonyswaine.co.uk  
www.anthonyswaine.co.uk



## HERITAGE BRICKWORK RESTORATION LTD

† Lime Mortar Specialists †

† Historic Brickwork Repairs †  
& Repointing

† Gauged Brickwork †

Tel: 01227 264 737 Mob: 07866 388 962

info@heritagebrickworkrestoration.co.uk

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

EMPLOYED SKILLED WORKFORCE | RENOVATIONS & EXTENSIONS  
CONVERSIONS & ALTERATIONS | DESIGN & BUILD



**A.T. PALMER LTD**

RESTORATION SPECIALISTS EST.1949

T: 01233 770077

Smarden Business Estate, TN27 8QL

[atpalmer.co.uk](http://atpalmer.co.uk)



A reputation built on quality  
craftsmanship and service

*Karl  
Terry*

Roofing Contractors



Kent Peg Tiling & Listed Building Specialists.  
Conservation and renovation specialists.  
High quality work by experienced craftsman.  
National Award Winning Company.

01797 270 268 | [kentpegs.com](http://kentpegs.com)



# RESTORATION & CONSERVATION

## SERVICES

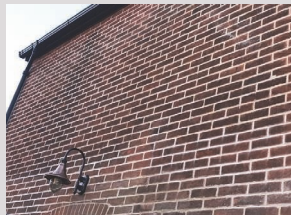
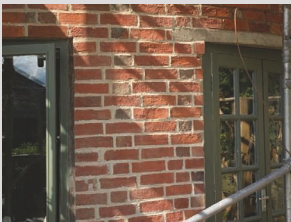
- Lime mortar pointing
- Brick and stone replacement
- Structural crack repairs & remedial wall ties
- Natural damp proofing
- Professional brick and stone cleaning
- Render removal to allow masonry to breathe



## ABOUT US

Prestige Brickwork is a Canterbury based restoration company that specialises in the conservation of period properties throughout Kent. We offer all types of expert brickwork repairs and repointing. We are specialists in working with lime mortar.

All of our staff members are fully committed to providing you with a stress free service. Our tradesmen are professional and are experts in bringing the beauty of your home back to life.



**Tel: 01227 908563 or 07954 409840**

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

email: [prestigebrickworkkent@gmail.com](mailto:prestigebrickworkkent@gmail.com)





**DOLMEN**  
ENGLISH VERNACULAR CARPENTRY  
CONSERVATION & JOINERY

BESPOKE ARCHITECTURAL JOINERY  
ENGLISH VERNACULAR CARPENTRY | HANDMADE KITCHENS  
PERIOD DOORS AND WINDOWS | SUSTAINABLE TIMBER SOURCING

*dolmenjoinery.co.uk | projects@dolmenjoinery.co.uk | 01708 732 813 | 01233 746 301 | @dolmenconservation*  
WOODCHURCH - KENT



**CONSERVATION  
CONSTRUCTION**  
CONSERVATION-CONSTRUCTION.CO.UK

- Ecclesiastical work
- Heritage brickwork
- Fully insured
- All work quoted for
- Flint work
- Lime pointing/render
- New builds & extensions
- Traditionally trained craftsmen

**Tel: 07856 266795**  
**e-mail: conservation-construction@outlook.com**






# OUTSTANDING OAST

Back in 2019 we met Julian Linch of Conservation Construction and learned about the fascinating work he does to repair, restore and rebuild period properties and historic buildings using the specialist skills and expert knowledge that he has acquired over many years.





**W**e now have the chance to catch up with him again when we take a look at a recently completed project he has been working on, the renovation of a 19th century oast house, where he has called on his considerable repertoire of conservation building knowledge for possibly the most demanding client of all – himself.

Cherville Oast house was Grade II Listed in 1975 and is located in the beautiful Kent countryside not far from Bramling, outside Canterbury. It is one of a trio of buildings built in the 1870s, a detached period house, a smaller period cottage and an oast house. These were owned by George Pinto until his death in

2018. He was well known in the local area as a somewhat eccentric character, a talented and successful merchant banker, an almost obsessive golf enthusiast and an ardent Zionist. Pinto lived in the main house, his housekeeper was in the cottage, with the oast housing his gardener. Apparently the roof of the roundel at this time had collapsed and was in a very dilapidated condition, and as part of the 1977 planning permission he obtained it had to be reinstated, which is why, back then it was converted to only a ground-floor dwelling.

The oast, was purchased by Julian two years ago. His plan was to restore it and reinstate the upper levels. With the help of drawings by local structural engineer Andy Locke, who drew up

the plans for the steel beams to strengthen it, he was eventually granted planning permission and began work a year ago. The renovation of the oast was of particular interest to Julian as his father-in-law is one of only a few remaining hop farmers in Kent.

Fortunately many of the original features were still intact, and as part of its Grade II Listed status are protected, which for someone like Julian, who has a passion for historic buildings, is an absolute bonus.

Typical single oast houses like this one consist of a stowage section, which is a barn or storage area attached to the roundel. The ground floor of the circular kiln building housed a chamber



called a plenum with a charcoal fire below a mesh drying floor, above which the fresh hops were laid for five days allowing the heat from below to dry them. The roundel's steep roof channeled hot air up and out of the cowl, which pivots on top to control the air extraction and to keep rain out. These are usually painted white and topped with a weather vane, this is the most distinctive characteristic feature of oast houses, a sight that has become an emblem of the Kentish landscape for many years. The majority of oast houses are in the south east of England in Kent and Sussex, with a smaller number in Herefordshire and Worcestershire, where they are known locally as kilns.

Julian's renovation of the building has been carried out with his usual attention to detail with high-end finishes and luxurious installations, as you can see







from the photos of the tuxedo kitchen with its beautifully crafted bespoke cabinetry, masterful touches including copper handles and tap fittings on the butler's sink, and the solid warm wood surfaces. The ground floor entrance leads into a lobby with a utility area off to the

side. Past the spacious kitchen you access the dining room with a beautifully preserved set of brickwork and wooden steps that originally led from the ground floor to the plenum or drying area. This unique feature has been retained as part of the Listed Building stipulations, you can see from the 'before' photo Julian took how this looked previously and the transformation he has achieved. Solid oak floors have been installed throughout the dining room and the magnificent circular living room that is the ground floor of the roundel.

The solid timber theme continues in the shape of the superb bespoke oak staircase that takes you to the next level, this second floor houses a modern spacious family bathroom and a large circular bedroom. There are beautiful touches throughout the building with original timbers left exposed and preserved that speak of the property's past. Light floods from windows that give generous and charming views of





the orchards and Kent countryside all around.

Another solid oak staircase leads to the top floor that contains even more luxurious accommodation, the master suite consisting of an expansive bedroom with sloping ceilings and more beams, and another of the original features that has been preserved just outside the bedroom's window.

The lucum that is attached to the roof, which was used to hoist fresh hops up to the loading doors of the drying floor is still very much in evidence, as are the doors themselves, which have been preserved and pinned back on the exterior.



The pièce de résistance of the master suite is yet to come, the whole of the top floor of the roundel has been devoted to a lavish circular bathroom accessed from the master bedroom. This luxurious yet minimally styled room has marbled porcelain floor tiles, a vaulted ceiling with two huge original oak cross beams that are exposed to reveal their age and character, with



a tasteful simple chandelier suspended from the central point. Strategically positioned in the centre of the room is the crowning glory, a beautiful freestanding, doubled ended copper bathtub with a shiny nickel interior. It is a bathroom to die for.

Throughout the renovation Julian has worked with local contacts in various trades, as he feels it is important to support local businesses, amongst them are CC Carpentry and Construction based in Aylesham who have worked on the joinery aspects of the project. Also definitely worthy of a mention are our old friends at Dude and Arnett the oast cowl specialists who were able to advise Julian on all aspects of the restoration of the cowl after he read about them in Conservation News magazine. They also supplied the Invicta horse motif commonly seen on Kentish oasts. Another company that Julian says were vital in the project are Up and Out Platforms of Whitstable. Their assistance in the restoration of the cowl without the use of scaffolding, and most importantly not breaking any of the original Kent peg tiles was invaluable!

The exterior of the building has benefitted from Julian's undoubted historic building experience as well. Any existing damage to the roof has been rectified with traditional Kent peg tiles and the original cast iron guttering has been rubbed back, repainted and reused.

Meeting Julian again and seeing the great work he has done on this building I am reminded of how I was impressed with his obvious enthusiasm and passion for the uniqueness of buildings and their history. He commented previously on how he often muses on whom the craftsmen were that built and



worked on them hundreds of years ago, and how this brings the past to life for him. And this time he has a tale to tell of discovering a plank of wood he found whilst working on the neighboring property, this is the housekeeper's house that was built by the same people as Cherville oast. One of the workmen had dated and inscribed the plank, it reads, 'May 22, 1877 Charles Taylor at 4 shillings 6 pence a day test ing(?) and we want more'. We're not quite sure what one of the words is but the message from the past is loud and clear about the dissatisfaction with the day rate! It's a perfect reminder of the people that built these properties and brings the past the to life.

And talking of bringing that sense of history to life, that is exactly what the talented man behind this renovation project has achieved. Well done Julian Linch and all involved, you have restored a rural gem and returned it to a useful existence as a luxurious dwelling playing its part in the community for many years to come.

Contact Julian Linch on: [conservation-construction@outlook.com](mailto:conservation-construction@outlook.com)

If you are interested in purchasing Cherville Oast please contact the agent: [martinballantine@Milesandbarr.co.uk](mailto:martinballantine@Milesandbarr.co.uk)



# SPECIALISTS IN ROOFING



Canterbury Roofing and Building is a family-run business with over 35 years' experience working in Kent and surrounding areas. We have vast experience of conservation and other roofing works.

- Guttering
- Flat roofing
- Velux and sky lights
- Conservation work
- Tiling
- Pointing and chimney work
- Slating
- Lead work



---

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
AND TO CONTACT US:**

**[www.canterburyroofing.com](http://www.canterburyroofing.com)**

**Tel: 01233 647867**

**or 07976 325520**

**[info@canterburyroofing.com](mailto:info@canterburyroofing.com)**

---





ORLESTONE OAK

KENT · ENGLAND

# Bespoke Flooring

LONG & WIDE · PRODUCED IN KENT · FINISHED BY HAND



JOINERY



OAK FRAMED BUILDINGS



DECKING



CLADDING

For more information on pricing or fitting, or to place an order

CALL **01233 732179** VISIT **[orlestoneoak.co.uk](http://orlestoneoak.co.uk)**

# SCHOOL STARTERS:

## Preparing your child for the next step



When the new term starts in September, thousands of children up and down the country will have the excitement, and trepidation, of starting a new school. However, if you're still preparing your children for the big move next year and are thinking of sending them to private or boarding school, then there are a few things that you can do to give them the best chance of getting into the school they want.

Private schools, boarding schools and even some sixth forms rely heavily on the interview process to determine which students will be joining them the following year. Those pupils with their hearts set on such institutions will undoubtedly have been studying hard to make sure that their exam results pass muster. That being said, and with such a high standard of curricular excellence in the applications, schools will be relying on how students come across at interview to help them make final decisions.

Indeed the preparation for this (possibly first

ever) interview will stand your child in good stead for the rest of their lives. It may not be a priority in many primary schools, but teaching your child how to interact confidently with adults, is a crucial life skill and you are the best person to take charge of their tuition in this respect.

The key to success here is not to put too much pressure on your child: they need to know how important this next step is, but creating unnecessary anxiety will be counteractive and may establish an unwanted precedent for the future. For many interview boards, creating a harmonious and balanced school community is on a par with, and sometimes even more important than exam results. It's not unknown for schools to pass over A-plus students in favour of those who have as yet unrealised potential, both academic and social.

This can particularly be the case with younger students, and so making sure that your child's personality and kindness shine through at interview is the most helpful thing that you, as a parent, can do.





# SUTTON VALENCE SCHOOL

The heart of Kent education, where each  
cares for all and individuality is cherished



- **Co-educational independent day and boarding school for pupils aged 11 - 18**
- **Extensive facilities, set in acres of stunning Kent countryside**
- **Newly refurbished accommodation for part, weekly and full boarding**
- **Scholarships available**

Visit our admissions page for more information - [svs.org.uk](https://svs.org.uk)

Call us on (+44) 0 1622 845200

Email our Admissions department at [admissions@svs.org.uk](mailto:admissions@svs.org.uk)



# Sutton Valence School

One of Sutton Valence School's students give us an insight into why he loves boarding at this prestigious educational establishment in the heart of Kent.

**First Name** Tyler Weekes

**Age/year** 18, Upper Sixth

***How long have you boarded here?***

I have boarded here for five years in St Margaret's House.

***How are the rooms/buildings different since the renovation?***

It has changed significantly, but regardless of the new modern changes, the community feel has lingered on. Coming back into the newly-renovated house in September 2021 still felt homely.

***What do you like the most about the changes?***

I like the changes because of quality of the renovations within the rooms, with a lot more of a modern feel, creating a better environment to get work done and we have all enjoyed the new recreational rooms during our downtime.

***What do you enjoy most about boarding here?***

The thing I enjoy most about boarding at Sutton Valence School is the family feel in the boarding house and the mixing of the year groups, which creates a great environment for everybody. I think that there is a healthy mix between study hours (in which we receive brilliant support) and the recreational time during boarding makes it an exciting place to be. We have a huge range of opportunities in the evenings, such as mixing with the other houses, full use of the Sports Hall, Pool, Strength and Conditioning Gym, Cardio Suite,

AstroTurf and Tennis courts, watching TV with the other boys or playing on our PS4, especially when there are tournaments on! I think that boarding at SVS is excellent, and allows me to be myself outside of my home environment, which creating a great study environment, especially when we are close to taking our examinations, and the mutual connection on the Sixth Form corridor, as well as the younger pupils on the top floor, really shows the respect and understanding between the different year groups. Boarding have given me a greater sense of self-confidence; a place to make friends, and a greater understanding of living away from home and gaining vital independence - but with the comfort and support of our friends, peers, Housemaster and boarding house staff.

***What would you say to prospective students who are thinking of coming here?***

I would say do it! Come and experience the opportunities that boarding offers, that is unlike







other places, with the excellent facilities within the house and the freedom you are given in the evenings; to have fun, stay active, socialise, and most importantly, to be yourself.

*What is your best memory of your time at the School?*

The best memory I have of being at School is captaining the 1st XV Rugby team in the National Vase final at Twickenham, and especially seeing the rest of the St Margaret's boarding house backing the whole squad on that day was fantastic. There was six boys from the house in the squad and seeing the whole team flourish on the team was incredible. Although we did not take the trophy home, I will never forget the support that we received on our return to the house. It was a very special time and I have built relationships that I will cherish forever.

This year, Sutton Valence School was a finalist in the Boarding Schools' Association (BSA) Boarding House Extension or Refurbishment Award category.

Following our extensive refurbishment of St Margaret's, the entry highlighted the sustainability, use of space and innovation that the renovation incorporated. To book a tour of the School or attend an open morning, please visit [www.svs.org.uk](http://www.svs.org.uk).





# Supporting the Kent community for over 235 years

Whitehead Monckton solicitors are based in Tenterden, Canterbury, Maidstone and London providing specialist legal services to individuals and businesses. Our clients tell us we are good listeners and great lawyers, but don't take their word for it.

## If you would like help with:

- Wills
- Tax & Estate Planning
- Probate
- Family
- Residential Conveyancing

## If your business needs help with:

- Contracts & Transactions
- Property
- Licensing
- Employment



**Call Maidstone 01622 698000**

or visit **[www.whitehead-monckton.co.uk](http://www.whitehead-monckton.co.uk)**

[info@whitehead-monckton.co.uk](mailto:info@whitehead-monckton.co.uk)

5 Eclipse Park, Sittingbourne Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 3EN





## Woodville Hall, Temple Ewell

A handsome and historic listed country house set in beautiful wooded grounds, with a very fine suite of formal and informal entertaining rooms

Arranged around a magnificent hallway with a sweeping cantilevered staircase are the property's stunning reception rooms, comprising a drawing, dining and sitting room of beautiful proportions. The kitchen is fitted with hand painted units and is situated to the rear of the house along with further excellent ancillary accommodation in the form of a study and two offices. The substantial basement provides storage, games rooms, laundry and wine stores as well as a gardener's kitchen.

Off a landing, lit by a glazed cupola, there are five principal bedrooms, all with original shutters. The principal bedroom sits to the front, adjacent to the family bathroom and there is an en suite guest bedroom. The remaining bedrooms are served by two further bathrooms and a superb second floor provides six additional rooms and a shower room.

Woodville Hall is set in magnificent arboretum style grounds, with superb specimen trees, varieties of deciduous native trees and conifers of magnificent proportions, giving complete privacy and seclusion to the rear garden.

The house is approached via a sweeping in and

out drive way, and there is a garage block which comprises of a four bay cart barn.

Woodville Hall is situated in a rural area at the foot of the Downs on the outskirts of the village of Temple Ewell, The surrounding area is designated either as a Special Landscape Area and/or as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Locally there are superstores at Whitfield (about 2 miles), and shops in Temple Ewell and River, with Canterbury providing a wider range of facilities. There are good schools locally, both in the independent and state sectors.

Temple Ewell has easy access to the A2 and A20/M20. The High Speed service to London St Pancras can be accessed from Dover Priory and Ashford International with journey times from 67 minutes and 36 minutes respectively. The area has good access to the Continent.

## The details

Reception hall • Drawing room • Sitting room • Dining room • Kitchen • Study  
• 2 Offices • Ground floor shower room  
• 7 Bedrooms (2 en-suite) • Family bathroom  
• Separate WC • Games/hobby room • Studio  
• 2 Store rooms • Basement rooms: Laundry room • Pantry • Wine store • Cycle workshop  
• Cinema room • Exercise room • Store room  
• Workshop • Gardener's kitchen • Gardens  
• 4 Bay cart barn garage • EPC rating F  
• About 12 acres

*Strictly by appointment with  
Strutt & Parker.*

*Tel: 01227 451123*

*Price: £2,250,000*

*canterbury@struttandparker.com*

*www.struttandparker.com*







Micro eaterie & exclusive deli with inside & outside seating offering an extensive menu. Delicious homemade recipes, serving breakfast, brunch & lunch. Takeaway also available, alongside private catering events.

### GILBERTS CAFE & DELI

19 Oxford Street, Whitstable CT5 1DB

Tel: 01227 273189



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



## The BLACKSMITH'S Arms

17th century village pub, near the Pilgrims Way, set in rolling downland countryside. An inglenook log fire gives a warm welcome in winter. Good quality, locally sourced food served.

No children under 14 allowed in bar or restaurant.

No vegetarian options available.

Wednesday - Saturday, 7pm - 11pm (must pre-book for food)

Sunday 4pm - 11pm. No lunches being served at present.

The Street, Wormshill, Sittingbourne ME9 0TU

Tel: 01622 884386

# THE PEPPERBOX INN

*Country pub and restaurant, in the heart of Kent*



Windmill Hill, Harrietsham, Kent ME17 1LP

[www.thepepperboxinn.co.uk](http://www.thepepperboxinn.co.uk) | Tel: 01622 842558



# COPPERS BISTRO

Café ✦ Kitchen ✦ Bar



## OPENING HOURS

Mon-Sat 9am-5pm

Sun evening summer opening  
hours 10am - 7pm

## QUIZ NIGHTS

1st Thursday of every month

2 course meal £12.50pp

## BBBQ & LIVE MUSIC

Last Friday of every month

£16.50pp

## NEW SUMMER MENU

New 2 or 3 Course Sunday Menu

## NEW LITE BITES MENU

Now available

## NEW EXTENSIVE WINE LIST

## CHEESE & WINE EVENING

With live entertainment

June 24th (Friday)

More details over the coming weeks on all events. Please see our social media pages for updates or ask one of our staff for more information.

## PLUS PRIVATE EVENTS



Phone for further details

The Street, Preston, nr Wingham, Canterbury CT3 1ED



Tel: 01227 728580







— LOCAL —  
Farmers' markets



# Support your local farmers' market

For more information and to find out what's in season visit [www.kfma.org.uk](http://www.kfma.org.uk).

## JUNE

**WEDNESDAY: 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th** Rye

**THURSDAY: 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th** Ashford Food Hub; Rolvenden; Shipbourne

**THURSDAY: 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st** Ashford Food Hub; Rolvenden; Shipbourne

**FRIDAY: 3rd**  
Egerton; Reuthe's Sevenoaks; Tenterden

**SATURDAY: 4th**  
Biggin Hill; Chatham; Deal; Gravesend; Penshurst; Tunbridge Wells; Wye

**SUNDAY: 5th**  
Bearsted; Tunbridge Wells; Whitstable Castle

**TUESDAY: 7th**  
Capel-le-Ferne; Folkestone Food Hub; Hildenborough

**SATURDAY: 11th**  
Bridge; Deal; Gravesend; Hythe; Tunbridge Wells; Whitstable

**SUNDAY: 12th**  
Elham; Lenham; Tonbridge; Tunbridge Wells

**SATURDAY: 18th**  
Deal; Gravesend; Tunbridge Wells; Wye

**SUNDAY: 19th**  
Aylesford; Folkestone; Rochester; Staplehurst; Tunbridge Wells; Watlingtonbury

**SATURDAY: 25th**  
Ashford; Bridge; Deal; Gravesend; Hythe; Knockholt; Tunbridge Wells; Whitstable

## JULY

**FRIDAY: 1st**  
Egerton; Reuthe's Sevenoaks; Tenterden

**SATURDAY: 2nd**  
Biggin Hill; Chatham; Deal; Gravesend; Penshurst; Tunbridge Wells; Wye

**SUNDAY: 3rd**  
Bearsted; Tunbridge Wells; Whitstable Castle

**TUESDAY 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th**  
Capel-le-Ferne; Folkestone Food Hub; Hildenborough

**WEDNESDAY: 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th** Rye

**THURSDAY: 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th**  
Ashford Food Hub; Hastings; Rolvenden; Shipbourne

**FRIDAY: 8th, 15th & 29th**  
Egerton; Tenterden

**SATURDAY: 9th**  
Bridge; Deal; Gravesend; Hythe; Whitstable

**SUNDAY: 10th**  
Lenham; Tonbridge; Tunbridge Wells

**SATURDAY: 16th**  
Deal; Gravesend; Tunbridge Wells; Wye

**SUNDAY: 17th**  
Aylesford; Folkestone; Rochester; Staplehurst; Tunbridge Wells; Watlingtonbury

**SATURDAY: 23rd**  
Ashford; Bridge; Deal; Gravesend; Hythe; Knockholt; Tunbridge Wells; Whitstable

**SUNDAY: 24th**  
Tunbridge Wells

**SATURDAY: 30th**  
Deal; Gravesend

## AUGUST

**TUESDAY: 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th**  
Capel-le-Ferne; Folkestone Food Hub; Hildenborough

**WEDNESDAY: 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st** Rye

**THURSDAY: 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th**  
Ashford Food Hub; Rolvenden; Shipbourne

**FRIDAY: 5th** Egerton; Reuthe's Sevenoaks; Tenterden

**SATURDAY: 6th** Biggin Hill; Chatham; Deal; Gravesend; Penshurst; Tunbridge Wells; Wye

**SUNDAY: 7th**  
Bearsted; Tunbridge Wells; Whitstable Castle

**FRIDAY: 12th, 19th & 26th**  
Egerton; Tenterden

**SATURDAY: 13th**  
Bridge; Deal; Gravesend; Hythe; Tunbridge Wells; Whitstable

**SUNDAY: 14th**  
Lenham; Tonbridge; Tunbridge Wells

**SATURDAY: 20th**  
Deal; Gravesend; Tunbridge Wells; Wye

**SUNDAY: 21st**  
Aylesford; Folkestone; Rochester; Staplehurst; Tunbridge Wells; Watlingtonbury

**SATURDAY: 27th**  
Ashford; Bridge; Deal; Gravesend; Hythe; Knockholt; Tunbridge Wells; Whitstable

**SUNDAY: 28th**  
Cliftonville; Sandgate; Tunbridge Wells





We love quiche, and using cooked quinoa instead of pastry as a base elevates this quiche to the next level. The delicious, crispy, chewy crust makes a nice change to traditional pastry.

# The Seasonal Baker

Former Bake Off contestant Michelle was known on the show for her flavoursome, colourful bakes and for championing seasonal, locally sourced and homegrown produce. Whether it's a simple loaf for breakfast or a striking showstopper cake for a celebration, she loves using seasonal food to create tasty recipes for the whole family to enjoy.

**SERVES  
SIX**

## YOU WILL NEED

2 large egg whites  
250g/9oz cooked quinoa  
400g/14oz rainbow chard  
170g/6oz smoked bacon  
1 small onion  
80g/3oz mature cheese (grated)  
2 large eggs  
200ml/7fl oz double cream  
Salt and pepper, to taste  
Oil/butter for greasing

YOU WILL NEED A  
20CM/8IN ROUND  
FLUTED TART TIN

## RAINBOW CHARD QUINOA CRUSTED QUICHE

### METHOD

Preheat the oven to 200°C (180°C fan oven) Gas 6 and lightly grease the tin.

Whisk the two egg whites in a bowl and add the cooked quinoa, reserving a tablespoon of the egg white. Mix together to coat the quinoa, then tip into the tin. Using the back of a spoon, press the quinoa firmly up against the sides and onto the base of the tin. Bake in the oven for 15 minutes until the case is dry to touch and shrinks away from the sides a little. Brush the sides and base with the remaining egg white and pop back into the oven for 5 minutes.

For the filling, trim the leaves from the rainbow chard and roughly chop. Steam the chopped leaves and stems for 5–10 minutes to soften and place them on kitchen paper to absorb the moisture.

Cube the bacon and finely dice the onion. Gently fry them over a medium heat, then transfer to a bowl to cool using a slotted spoon.

Place the cooled bacon, onions and chard leaves into the base of the crust, top with grated cheese, then arrange the chard stems in a circular pattern starting from the outside and working inwards, shaping the chard with your hands as you go.

Whisk the two whole eggs with the cream and season with salt and pepper. Fill the tin halfway with the creamy mixture, then transfer it onto the shelf of the oven and fill to the top. Bake for 25–30 minutes until golden with a slight wobble in the centre.

Leave to cool in the tin, then transfer to a board or platter and slice.



MAKES  
TEN

## APRICOT AND ALMOND FLAPJACKS

### YOU WILL NEED

- 150g/5oz unsalted butter
- 115g/4oz condensed milk
- 100g/3½oz soft brown sugar
- 2 tbsp golden syrup
- 1 tsp vanilla bean paste
- 70g/2½oz dried apricots
- 35g/1oz blanched almonds
- 300g/10½oz porridge oats
- 30g/1oz mixed seeds (sunflower, pumpkin, poppy and linseeds)

YOU WILL  
NEED A 23CM/9IN  
SQUARE TIN

### METHOD

Preheat oven to 190°C (170°C fan oven) Gas 5 and line the tin with baking paper.

Place the butter, condensed milk, sugar, golden syrup and vanilla into a saucepan and heat gently until all the mixture has melted and is smooth.

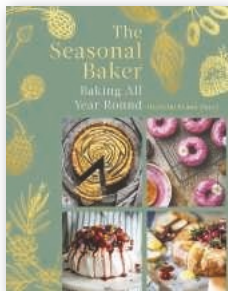
Roughly chop the apricots and almonds and add these to the saucepan (reserving a few for the top) along with the porridge oats and mix well. Scatter in the seeds, roughly mix and pour the mixture into the tin.

Press the mixture into the tin with the back of a spoon and scatter the remaining apricots and almonds on top. Bake for 20–25 minutes. This makes a soft chewy flapjack, so bake it a little longer if you prefer yours firmer. Leave to cool in the tin for 10 minutes.

Lift the flapjack out of the tin using the baking paper and cut into squares or slices.

### TIP

For soft and chewy flapjacks that melt in the mouth, make sure you don't overbake them. They will continue to cook in the residual heat of the tin as they cool and firm up.



### WIN A COPY OF THE SEASONAL BAKER

For your chance to win a copy of *The Seasonal Baker*, please email your name, address and telephone number to:

**dawn@conservationnews.co.uk**

*Closing date: Thursday, 1st September 2022*

*The Seasonal Baker: Baking for All Seasons* by Michell Evans-Fecchi is out now (£20, Robinson)  
All images © Ben Fecci



These flapjacks are studded with juicy apricots and crunchy nuts and seeds.

The condensed milk adds extra creaminess, taste and texture.

They are the perfect tasty snack and a great addition to any lunchbox.





#### OPENING TIMES

Lunch: Tue - Sun 12 noon - 2.30pm

Evenings: Tue - Mon 6pm - 9.30pm



Birdies is one of Whitstable's oldest family run restaurants, serving brilliant locally caught fresh fish features alongside great French classics.

41 Harbour Street, Whitstable CT5 1AH Tel: 01227 265337

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

## THE OLD NEPTUNE

Marine Terrace, Whitstable CT5 1EJ

01227 272262 • [www.thepubonthebeach.co.uk](http://www.thepubonthebeach.co.uk)



### LIVE MUSIC SUNDAYS 6-8PM

June 5th

Flaighing Angels

June 12th

MaSKAra

June 19th

The Pete Best Band

June 26th

Back Street Bloozers

August 7th

Brad Pittance & The Pirates

August 14

Native Oysters or Ivans Allstars

### OPENING HOURS

Mon - Wed: 11.30 - 10pm Thurs - Sat: 11.30 - 11pm

Sun: 12 noon - 9pm

Food served all day Saturday & Sunday from 12-4pm

Mon - Fri 12 noon - 4pm & 5pm - 8.15pm



# SIGN UP FOR THE BRAND NEW MACKNADE WINE CLUB

*A subscription service featuring hand-selected wines delivered to your door,  
paired with seasonal recipes and tastings notes from our wine experts.*



To find more details or to sign up simply **SCAN HERE >>>**  
or head to [www.macknade.com/collections/subscriptions](http://www.macknade.com/collections/subscriptions)



**MACKNADE**  
QUALITY & COMMUNITY SINCE 1847

SCAN ME  
[WWW.MACKNADE.COM](http://WWW.MACKNADE.COM)  
🐦 📺 📷 📺  
@MACKNADE



# THERE'S A NEW GIN IN TOWN

ONLINE SHOP:

[WHITSTABLEHARBOURGIN.CO.UK](http://WHITSTABLEHARBOURGIN.CO.UK)



Come and see us at our Whitstable  
Harbour Gin Store - Unit 2 South Quay  
Shed - Whitstable CT5 1AB

OUR PREMIER BATCH DISTILLED JUNE 21ST

SMALL BATCH LONDON DRY

**WHITSTABLE HARBOUR GIN**

WHERE THE WORLD IS YOUR OYSTER



# CHILHAM SHOP

Farm shop & plant centre

Canterbury Road, Chilham CT4 8DX

Tel: 01227 730348 | [chilhamshop.co.uk](http://chilhamshop.co.uk)

**FREE LOCAL DELIVERIES**

Serving Chilham and the surrounding villages for over 35 years with a wide range of fresh, fruit, vegetables, cut flowers, garden plants as well as a good selection of general groceries, dairy, bakery, frozen foods and much more. **Mon to Sat: 8:30am to 6pm Sun: 9am to 5pm. We also run Chilham Post Office.**



*FREE DELIVERY to Chilham and neighbouring villages*

# Bull Green Farm

QUALITY FARM PRODUCE

Bull Green,

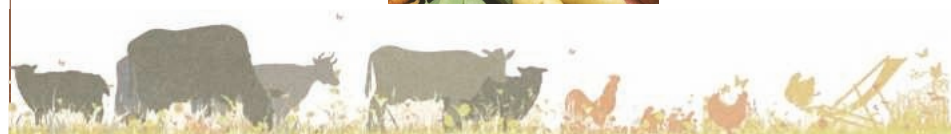
Bethersden TN26 3LB

Tel: 01233 822463

Email: [Shop@BullGreenFarm.co.uk](mailto:Shop@BullGreenFarm.co.uk)

We are a family-run farm rearing Dexter cows, sheep and chickens. We believe animals should be able to roam free in the fields and enjoy fresh air and green grass.

We have a nicely stocked shop with fresh eggs daily, home grown veg, and a variety of local products such as Kentish honey, jams, and occasionally freshly baked cakes. We also have a freezer packed with locally made pies and tasty treats.





# CHAMPION WINES

A delightful independent wine shop/bar in the heart of Chislehurst

**C**hampion Wines, in the heart of bustling Chislehurst High Street, is a unique wine merchant because it not only sells a range of over 400 wines from around the world, but it also features a wine bar where you can sample old favourites or try out new wines and, if you are a little peckish, enjoy a cheese or charcuterie platter.

Penny Champion, the Australian proprietor, has long had a passion for wine; having worked in the trade for over 30 years she always had a vision to open her own wine shop. Many of us remember when Australian wine really took off in this country in the early 1990s and our supermarket shelves became packed with Chardonnay and Shiraz and the consumer boom began! Penny, arriving in the UK in 1990, was

central to the development of our love for Aussie wine while working as a rep for Australian winemakers, and during this time she built up her knowledge as well as her contacts. With all this experience behind her, she finally realised her dream and in 2011 Champion Wines was born.

Don't expect to see the big brands that you see in supermarkets and large well-known retailers, as Champion's range is from smaller growers who produce great wines with passion in small batches which aim to reflect the terroir and heritage of the region. Although you will see many well-known appellations and regions, the producers are hand-picked



## OPENING TIMES

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday 11 – 5pm • Thursday 11-6pm

Friday and Saturday 11-8pm • Sunday 11-3pm

for their commitment to producing excellent quality wine at affordable prices and all the wines are tasted before they reach the shelves, which demonstrates a commitment to quality and service.

### SUMMER IS DEFINITELY ROSÉ WINE TIME!

June 11th is National Rosé Wine Day and it's a double celebration for Champion as they are also marking their 11th birthday. Customers can pop in and enjoy a delicious glass or two of Selladore en Provence Rosé (formerly known as William Chase Rosé) as seen in the picture, try Eton Mess cake, meet the team and relax in a warm, friendly atmosphere. Or why not try the White Selladore

– a crisp citrusy nose and on the palate, dry and fruity with a hint of white pepper.

Champion offer a full range of other rosé wines including the famous and very sought-after Whispering Angel from Provence as well as a number of rosé wines from various parts of France. But it's not only French rosé, but also rosés from around the world. For example, have you tried The First Lady from Stellenbosch in South Africa – red fruit, watermelon and rose petals? Or what about a rosé made from a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Bobal (a local Spanish grape) from Valencia in north-east Spain – raspberry, redcurrant with hints of citrus and peach – ideal for those warm summer evenings with or without food. You can

even try a rosé from Argentina or Uruguay – something for everyone.

Whilst we were there, we shared a glass of rosé Prosecco which was absolutely delicious! An excellent nose, bursting with delicate red fruit, and on the palate the creamy texture blended perfectly with the fresh acidity – not too heavy on the alcohol either – definitely recommended, so ask for a glass when you visit.

But if rosé is not for you and you are looking for a white wine with a difference, try their Chateau de Rhodes – a delicious white wine from Gaillac in south-west France, not far from Toulouse. This wine is a blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Muscadelle together with the ancient grapes local to the region including Mauzac, Ondenc and Loin de l'Oeil. On the nose there







each wine is quality as well as being unique – you won't find these exact wines in the supermarket! There are three levels of subscription – Bronze, Silver and Gold – prices on request.

### WEDNESDAY WINE TASTINGS

Champion's also offers a wine tasting on the last Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm – last month was fizz and how to make sparkling wine using the traditional method. June 29th is the next one and I recommend checking beforehand the exact tasting on 0203 581 9935 for booking and further information.

### CHAMPION'S WINE BAR

The perfect place to meet up with friends for a few drinks or before you go out to dinner. You can either have a glass from the wine bar menu or choose a bottle from the extensive

is a lovely intense perfume of white flowers, citrus, tarragon and anise and the palate is rich and mouth-filling with a lovely long length. The flavours echo the aromas detected on the nose which reflect the Gaillac terroir. Ideal as an aperitif or pair with seafood or fish.

### CHAMPION'S WINE CLUB

Many people do find wine intimidating – so many wines – how do we choose? – what do we choose? Simply the thought of it makes us choose the same wine over and over again – but why miss out? Why not try Champion's wine club! It's absolutely free to sign up and you will be delivered a mixed case of 12 wines five times a year – usually six reds and six whites with full tasting notes and food-pairing suggestions. What a great way to try new wines in the comfort of your home, knowing that the emphasis with

range, and if you are feeling a little peckish why not have a cheese platter: choose from a selection of Cheddar, Manchego, Goat's Cheese, Cashel Blue and Somerset Brie as well as charcuterie. The setting is perfect, overlooking Chislehurst Pond with a little light music in the background to while away a summer's evening... definitely worth a visit!

### OPENING TIMES

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday 11-5pm

Thursday 11-6pm

Friday and Saturday 11-8pm

Sunday 11-3pm

If you would like to know more:

email [pc@championwines.co.uk](mailto:pc@championwines.co.uk)

Phone 0203 581 9935



Make this space your own

THE  
CURIOUS  
EATERY

Have you thought about having your Christmas party in our space. Now taking Christmas bookings for exclusive hire.

Tel: 01622 299359 [www.thecurioseatery.co.uk](http://www.thecurioseatery.co.uk)

Curious Eatery, Albion Inn,  
1 Church Street, Boughton Monchelsea,  
Maidstone ME17 4HW



A stylish & modern kitchen designed to suit you



Court Lodge Farm, Bishopsbourne, CT4 5HR | Phone: 01227 831663

Email: [info@hogwoodhouse.co.uk](mailto:info@hogwoodhouse.co.uk) | [www.hogwoodhouse.co.uk](http://www.hogwoodhouse.co.uk)