

Shopping

With Kasha Van Sant and David G. Taylor

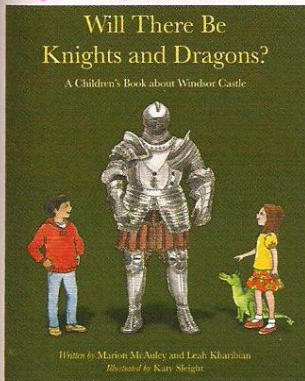
What's hot

Take home a monumental memento of your summer in the capital, as LEGO unveils Big Ben as the latest iconic building in its Architecture series. **LEGO Big Ben** is a 7.7" (19.4cm) tall model of the 19th-century Victorian gothic revival clock tower and world-famous London landmark (pictured right). It joins a list of legendary structures recreated in LEGO bricks for this series, including the Sydney Opera House (Australia), New York's Empire State Building (US) and Berlin's Brandenburg Gate (Germany). Available from Lego stores including those at Westfield London and Westfield Stratford City (p. 96). Details at shop.lego.com



SHOPPING

Right royal reads



Two recently-published books explore places loved by Elizabeth II, in this, her historic Diamond Jubilee year.

The Queen's London: The Metropolis In the Diamond Jubilee Years Of Victoria & Elizabeth II by Jon Curry and Hugo Simms, compares the capital during the lifetimes of the UK's two longest reigning monarchs. A wealth of photos, include images illustrating just how much the city has changed. Details from The History Press (thehistorypress.co.uk).

Meanwhile, **Will There Be Knights And Dragons?** (Royal Collection Publications) is an illustrated kids' book on Windsor Castle (p. 76), one of the Queen's favourite homes. Written by Marion McAuley and Leah Kharibian it's full of fun facts, ranging from secret passages to treasures. It's available from the Queen's Gallery (p. 83). royalcollection.org.uk/shop.

Ready, steady, shop!

There are far easier ways to get your hands on a glittering prize than competing for an Olympic medal. British contemporary jewellers **Dower & Hall**, for instance, have helpfully created a *Twenty-Twelve* collection to celebrate the 2012 Olympic Games. Evoking the Olympic sporting spirit, this silver jewellery range includes cufflinks, bracelets and pendants, emblazoned with designs including the Union Jack flag and inspirational words like 'Champion' and 'Winner'. Available from outlets including Liberty, Harrods and John Lewis Oxford Street (all p. 94). Enquiries on ☎ 020 7377 5544. dowerandhall.com

Cult British label **Tatty Devine** specialises in handmade jewellery in unusual materials, such as perspex. It's also getting in on the Olympic action with a kitsch collection of sporty offerings, including a necklace with a gold medal-like pendant hanging from it, another spelling out the word 'Medalist', plus sail-boat brooches (pictured) and more (Monmouth Street, WC2. ☎ 020 7836 2685. tattydevine.com ☉ Covent Garden. Map B6). If you're more of a royalist than a sports fan, you'll find Tatty Devine products among the UK designers in a celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee year at Selfridges (p. 94),

entitled *The Big British Bang* (until 31 Aug).

Meanwhile, when the crystal jewellers **Swarovski** (swarovski.com), are in a playful mood, they design bejewelled collectables featuring their cartoon characters Erika & Eliot. A new Olympic-inspired collection entitled *Around The World*, depicts them in costumes from 13 of the Olympic nations. The limited edition range of pendants and charm bracelets, includes Eliot wearing a British Guardsman's bearskin hat (pictured).



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During the Paralympic Games shoppers can pick up gifts, art and crafts, antiques, food and more until extra late at historic **Greenwich Market** (p. 89), which is open daily from noon to 20.00 **until 9 Sep**. After that, the market reverts to its usual opening hours, but there's still afterhours bargains to be had at the weekly Late Night Fridays, which trade from 11.00 to 19.30.



Best of British

Fans of the bohemian British brand **Biba** will find its footwear collection exclusively at **House of Fraser** (p. 84). It features alongside a wide range of designer footwear in their gorgeous new World Of Shoes department, which launched just this summer.

Score some medals with jeweller **Hannah Warner's** podium-worthy pieces, including tunnel bangles (pictured). Her gold, silver and bronze designs would look great on Team GB (Marylebone High Street, W1. ☎ 020 7317 2150. 🌐 kabiri.co.uk 📍 Baker Street. Off map).

British interior design shop **Linley**, owned by a real-life Viscount, flies the British flag with a range of accessories, such as wooden trinket boxes inlaid with the Union Flag design using marquetry (46 Albemarle Street, W1. ☎ 020 7730 7300. 🌐 davidlinley.com 📍 Green Park).

GREENWICH MARKET. IMAGE © LONDONONVIEW/BRITANONVIEW



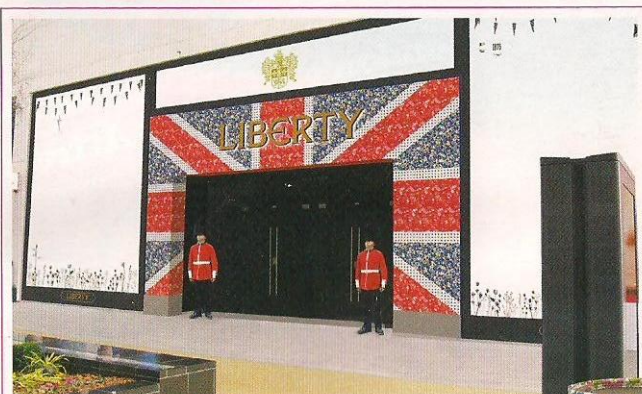
Masters of the verse



CHARLES DICKENS AND "BOZ"
The Birth of the Industrial-Age Author
ROBERT L. PATTEN

Meanwhile, Dickens, the master of Victorian storytelling reveals his alter ego, 'Boz', and his struggle to find his place in the worlds of fiction writing and journalism. **Charles Dickens And 'Boz': The Birth Of The Industrial-Age Author** by Robert L. Patten (left), charts the great author's rise to international fame. Details from Cambridge University Press (🌐 cambridge.org). Both titles are available from good bookshops.

The capital's love affair with the written word is still going strong as the nation's best-loved authors are celebrated this summer with the World Shakespeare Festival (p. 105) and the Charles Dickens bicentennial. Ryan J. W. Smith pays homage to the Bard and his prolific pen with the must-read collection of his own modern verse **500 Shakespearean Sonnets: The Diary Of A Poetic Quest For Truth**. Details from Duckpaddle Publishing (🌐 duckpaddle.org).



In pursuit of Liberty

When it comes to department stores, **Liberty's** vintage heritage and glamour takes some beating. Now shoppers can enjoy the same unrivalled atmosphere at the recently-opened satellite store in **Westfield Stratford City** (p. 86). In a toast to everything British, a trademark Liberty print is stamped on goods from umbrellas to boots (right). Two fully-attired Queen's guards are even stationed outside the store for full impact and fun.





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Plan for a picture-perfect festive season with the **Ideal Home Show Christmas** at Earls Court from **14-18 Nov**. Celebrity speakers, such as pianist Myleene Klass and chef Gino D'Acampo, will be offering invaluable festive tips on everything from what to wear, to what to eat. **Warwick Road, SW5**. ☎ 08442 097 330. 📄 idealthomeshowchristmas.co.uk 📍 Earls Court. Off map.

Accessories all areas

Changing seasons means weatherproofing your wardrobe. Do it in style with British label **Temperley London's** scarf collection, which coincides with the opening of the flagship store in Mayfair's Bruton Street in November



(📄 temperleylondon.com 📍 Green Park). Keep your feet dry and still look cool with foldable wellies from the **Welly Shop** that stack neatly away (📄 thewellyshop.com). To glam things up under all those layers, pop along to the **Dazzle: Contemporary Jewellery** display at the National Theatre (from 5 Nov) and grab a lovely Victoria Walker locket (pictured). South Bank, SE1. ☎ 020 7452 3000. 📄 dazzle-exhibitions.co.uk. 📍 Waterloo).

Oxford Street and Regent Street (both map B5) give shoppers star treatment on **West End VIP Day (27 Nov)**. 📄 westendvip.com. The area even becomes traffic free. And don't miss 20% off shopping and food at the **Carnaby Shopping Party on 29 Nov** (map B5). 📄 carnaby.co.uk



Wherefore art thou

Art is everywhere and within any budget this month. The **Affordable Art Fair** (pictured) returns to London to show off pieces from £40-£4,000 from **1-4 Nov** (East Heath Road, Hampstead Heath, NW3). 📄 artfair.com/uk 📍 Hampstead). For an older vintage, the **Winter Fine Art & Antiques Fair (12-18 Nov)** at Olympia is a must-see. Lowry paintings and even Cartier earrings make an appearance alongside 140 exhibits. (Hammersmith Road, W14. ☎ 08716 207 062. 📄 olympia-antiques.com 📍 Kensington Olympia). In



London Glassblowing: Past & Present (until 10 Nov) artist Peter Layton is celebrating 35 years of his London Glassblowing Studio (p. 63), with an exhibition of exceptional pieces from 26 of the UK's top makers.



London calling

London guidebooks have gone all kid friendly. The iconic Paddington Bear turns tour guide with **Paddington's Guide To London** (£9.99), while **Hello Kitty's Guide To London** (£9.99), takes little ones around town to some of her favourite spots (both titles are published by Harper Collins. 📄 harpercollins.co.uk).

Meanwhile, for adults, there's Frank and Joan Shaw's capital new book **We Remember The Blitz**. It collates vivid stories in a funny, yet moving tribute to cheerful resilience during the nine months of bombing that affected Britain in 1940-41. Priced £7.99, it's published by the Random House Group's Ebury Press (📄 randomhouse.co.uk).

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