



Hidden treasures

Costas Constantinou, of www.flogit4u.com, reveals some of the sought-after items that might be lurking in our back rooms or attics.

With nicknames like the Drunken Bricklayer, the Banjo, and characteristics like bark, lips and dips, this is no strange family of human beings we are talking about, but a family of highly sought after glassware called Whitefriars.

In 1923, Whitefriars opened its factory in Weald-



The Banjo, worth £200 - £250.

stone, Harrow. During the 1960s and 1970s, well known glass designers such as Geoffrey Baxter began to experiment with new moulded glass.

Unusual pieces were made in moulds using tree bark, nails, wire and other materials to produce alternative textures to the glass ... and the rest is history!

To this day, Whitefriars is hunted down by glass collectors from all over the world, and we're proud to boast it was made in north-west London.



Drunken Bricklayer, worth £250 - £300.

All aboard for British and German voices in song

Following their successful collaboration in Berlin last November, Germany's Cantus Domus Choir joined the North London Chorus in a return match at the Barbican in July.

Earlier in the year in Berlin, the two choirs performed Benjamin Britten's War Requiem as part of the city's celebration of his centenary. In London, 100 years after the outbreak of World War I, they gave a concert of German music chosen in a spirit of reconciliation and remembrance.

Chorus member Marian Bunzl said: "Coming together again for a series of intensive rehearsals (and a few fun events) has strengthened our personal and artistic friendship, and this gave an added impetus to our performance. For us, it was a most moving and exciting experience and, judging by their reaction, also for our audience. We very much hope this collaboration will continue."

From the sublime to the interesting

After one of the day-long



Take your seats: North London Chorus members hop on board their Routemaster buses

rehearsals, North London Chorus gave a pre-concert party for the two choirs, and thereby took part in another London anniversary. This was Transport For London's Year of the Bus, in particular the 60th anniversary of the classic Routemaster.

The bus company Arriva, one of the Chorus's regular sponsors, provided two of their

(now Heritage) Routemasters for a tour of London and whisked both choirs through Camden Town to Park Lane, Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey and on to a view of the City, including the Gherkin and the Shard, and then to a dinner venue.

Thus an Anglo/German choir celebrated music and friendship in the spirit of this year's centenary in an iconic London bus.

KALASHNIKOV KULTUR

By Ricky Savage, the voice of social irresponsibility

Long live Johnny Foreigner!

It takes a lot for me to feel sorry for our charmless German royal family, but sometimes I just can't help it. August was the 300th anniversary of the Germans getting their hands on the throne and was marked with total indifference. It's not the first time this anniversary has been forgotten; no one bothered about the 200th in August 1914 as the only thing German that interested anyone then was war.

Then again, maybe there's another reason; maybe it's because no one wants to be reminded that the last English monarch was killed in 1066. Since then we've been ruled by a weird selection of foreigners.

Let's start with William the Conqueror, William the Bastard to his contemporaries, a displaced Viking who'd become Duke of Normandy. He introduced serfdom, the Domesday Book and a new ruling class of 'Norman French'.

Next up, from 1154 we got the real, as in French, deal with the bloodthirsty Plantagenets. The first one killed the Archbishop of Canterbury, his eldest son spent his time slaughtering his way round the Middle East and the next one lost the Crown Jewels in the Wash. After that it got worse.

There was a hundred year's war with France, a couple of kings getting deposed, one with a red hot poker, the Black Death and finally a bloody family feud over what colour rose you should wear. The court still stuck to speaking French, the Bible was in Latin and the last Plantagenet got killed in battle and buried under a car park in Leicester.

Then we got the Welsh. I don't know what it was about the Tudors, but in 120 years they changed everything. It wasn't just Henry VIII and his wives or Mary burning heretics or Elizabeth the 'virgin' and the Armada. By the time she keeled over in 1603 England was a different, Protestant, place. Different enough for the next monarch to be imported from Scotland.

When it comes to bad-news-royals, look no further than the Stuarts. It wasn't just that they believed in the divine right of kings to do whatever they wanted, the civil war, Charles I losing his head or Oliver Cromwell, the Stuarts just weren't very good at anything. Finally they trickled to an end when Queen Anne managed to outlive her children.

There were 52 people with a better claim to the throne than the Elector of Hanover but the advert said 'no Catholics' so we imported George from Germany. And that is the end of history, as the last 300 years have all been about a bunch of Germans on the throne. It's the kind of thing that makes you wonder if UKIP are barking up a whole forest of wrong trees.

Squeeze the best from a bountiful harvest

By Harriet Copperman

We are now well into the traditional time of year for harvesting nature's bountiful crop of plums, apples and pears. As in previous years East Finchley Abundance will be holding an Apple Event, this time on Saturday 11 October from 10am to 1pm outside Budgens.

We will be converting surplus apples into delicious juice and handing out samples to passers-by. Please note we are unable to sell it for hygiene reasons. However, we are again fortunate that one of our volunteers will be baking furiously nearer the time, so that various and delicious apple-themed cakes will be available to sample as well. If anyone else wishes to make similar contributions they will be gratefully received.

Similarly, if you have surplus apples do bring them along as early as possible on the 11th or we could possibly pick them up from your house by arrange-

ment. Please also get in touch if you would like to help us on the day.

We can be contacted either on efabundance2@btinternet.com or c/o 32 Park Hall Road, London N2 9PU.

Watch out!

THE ARCHER has been made aware of a phishing email doing the rounds which appears to come from "sale@the-archer.co.uk".

There isn't actually any such address - and we are certainly not in the habit of sending out random requests for people to "wire" funds to us. If you receive an email of this nature, please delete it and, whatever you do, don't open the attachment.

East Finchley Baptist Church

Just off the High Road in Creighton Avenue N2

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Tel: 8883 1544 (Minister: Simon Dyke)

www.eastfinchleybc.org.uk

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