



OUT & ABOUT NOTES



Spend the day at glorious Dyrham Park in Gloucestershire.

We love... Mother's Day surprises

DYRHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE Join a VIP mothers-only tour of 17th-century Dyrham Park (left) on Mothering Sunday (18th March 2012); guests can see portraits of women who shaped the history of the great house. Call 01179 372501, nationaltrust.org.uk.

ALUM BAY, ISLE OF WIGHT Delve into the 1940s at the Needles Old Battery fort with a nostalgic look at wartime meal planning and a ration-book food tasting! Free entry for mums accompanied by their children and a free slice of Victoria sponge with your tearoom drinks. Call 01983 754772, nationaltrust.org.uk.

SHERINGHAM, NORFOLK Hop aboard North Norfolk Railway's gleamingly restored buffet carriages for a special Mother's Day lunch and round trip from Sheringham to Holt through unspoilt countryside and stunning coastline. Call 01263 820800, nnrailway.co.uk.

3 of the best... Saint's Day celebrations

LLANARTHNE, CARMARTHENSHIRE Celebrate St David's Day at the National Botanic Garden of Wales on 1st March 2012, where daffodils and woodland hazel welcome visitors and lake shores teem with wildlife. Call 01558 668768, gardenofwales.org.uk.

DUBLIN, IRELAND From 16th to 19th March, the St Patrick's Festival showcases Ireland's heritage and contemporary arts with music, literature and visual arts events. Call 00 353 1 676 3205, stpatriksfestival.ie.

PERRANPORTH, CORNWALL Every March Cornwall's St Piran, patron saint of tin miners, inspires a re-enactment of his 6th-century arrival at Perranporth where he set up a church. Hundreds march to the site (below) on the nearest Sunday to St Piran's Day (4th March for 2012). Call 01872 571606, an-daras.com.



ON COURSE...

Painting & printing fabric

Learn how to decorate fabric with stencils and woodblocks on a Modern & Vintage Linens course at The Textile Studio from 3rd to 4th March 2012. The course costs £90 for one day or £165 for two, including lunch.

The Textile Studio, Godshill Wood Farm, Woodgreen Road, Godshill, Hampshire SP6 2LP, 01425 655146, thetextilestudio.co.uk.



SHOP OF THE MONTH...

Set in the National Trust village of Lacock, Wiltshire, Quintessentially English sells beautiful home and garden accessories, organic beauty products and great gifts, from recycled glass goblets to vintage aprons and antique bells. **Quintessentially English, 11 West Street, Lacock, Wiltshire SN15 2LH, 01249 730100, quintessentiallyenglish.co.uk.**



DON'T MISS THE...

Edible Garden Show

Find out all about growing your own veg and rearing pigs and chickens at The Edible Garden Show in Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, from 16th to 18th March 2012. Call 0844 338 8001, theediblegardenshow.co.uk.

THE PLACE TO EAT...

La Bécasse

Tucked away in the fabulous foodie destination of Ludlow, La Bécasse offers a warm welcome from the cold with its rustic oak-panelled restaurant, friendly ambience and local organic food with ingredients sourced by Michelin-star Head Chef Will Holland and his team.

La Bécasse, 17 Corve Street, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1DA, 01584 872325, labecasse.co.uk.

