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The hacienda's central courtyard and (top) main facade, a quintessential 19th-century design

Right: Federica's daughter Celia (right) with her three children, Álvaro and Blanca de Prado García-Corona and Marta Loscertales García-Corona

ANDALUSIAN SANCTUARY

Federica de Vallés y Huesca takes us inside her magnificent Seville hacienda, which showcases a blend of history, art and local tradition





One of the drawing rooms, featuring a 16th-century Brussels tapestry; below, Federica with her son, Federico García-Corona, Baron of La Puebla de Tornesa



Federica de Vallés y Huesca's life is inextricably linked to El Pino de San Antonio, her estate in Seville. With its stately facades, century-old palms, elegant courtyards and commanding tower, the house captures the very soul of traditional Andalusian architecture.

Federica is the Marchioness of San Joaquín y Pastor and the Countess of Albalat dels Sorells. She is also the matriarch of a large family, and today she welcomes us alongside her four children – Federico, Baron of La Puebla de Tornesa, Maya, Celia and Myriam García-Corona de Vallés – as well as nearly all of her grandchildren and her eldest great-granddaughter.

Every corner of the family home radiates light and vitality, with rooms that flow harmoniously to create an atmosphere where time seems to stand still. It is a house where childhood memories, family milestones and the deep-rooted history of a Spanish lineage are entwined.

LIFE OF SERVICE

Federica assumed responsibility for her family's legacy aged just 16, dedicating herself with quiet resolve to preserving some of their most important historical residences in Spain. Each of her properties shares the same signature – they are living spaces, full of memory and meaning – but it is at El Pino de San Antonio where the dialogue between past and present is most profound.

Amid courtyards, lush gardens of calla lilies and drawing rooms that have witnessed the passing of generations, one senses the balance ►

Four generations of heiresses to the Marquessate of San Joaquín y Pastor: Federica, the Marchioness, and her eldest daughter, Maya García-Corona de Vallés (seated opposite), her eldest granddaughter, Patricia Trujillo (standing), and her eldest great-granddaughter, Angela Abaurre Trujillo (seated front)





Another drawing room, featuring an 18th-century sacristy cabinet displaying French porcelain (left) and a circular table with terracotta flamenco figurines from the Granada School

Facing page: Federica's daughters Maya, Myriam and Celia García-Corona; and (below) a 19th-century sacristy chest of drawers, with a 19th-century carving of Saint Raphael, a Nativity scene (misterio) and an 18th-century carving of Saint Anne displayed on top

of culture and commitment that defines Federica. Her life is a testament to the fact that a true legacy is not found in titles or deeds alone but is forged through unity, tireless effort and a steadfast devotion to keeping history alive as time goes by.

Federica, what significance does El Pino de San Antonio hold for you?

"It is my family home, the place where I grew up and lived until I married. It is the backdrop to my most cherished memories: the parties of my youth, gatherings and long lunches by the pool, always surrounded by family and friends.

"The hacienda is a quintessential Andalusian estate. Originally, it was an olive grove with its own mill for pressing oil. Another of its courtyards housed the gallanía, which served as the workers' quarters during the week."

How long has the property been in your family?

"My mother bought it when I was a child, in the years following the Civil War. After several years

of restoration, we finally moved in. I was taken to school by car in winter and, when spring arrived, by horse-drawn carriage.

"When I was very young, my mother loved to host dinners and soirees. A great many artists and painters who were enamoured with Seville passed through these doors: people like Baldomero Romero Ressendi, Blanca Bonald and Ben Yessef.

"My husband, Rafael García-Corona Campos, and I shared that passion for entertaining here at the hacienda. He was a huge fan of flamenco and we often had artists such as El Beni de Cádiz and Los del Río performing at the house.

"In fact, a documentary about flamenco, led by the scholar Amós Rodríguez Rey, was filmed right here in these drawing rooms."

Do you have any heirlooms at the hacienda?

"I would have to say the campaign triptych of King James I, known as the Conqueror. It is a remarkable piece, featuring 300 ivory figures and the hand-carved coats of arms of the Kingdom of Aragon.

"During the Civil War, the triptych was kept in the Valencia Museum for safekeeping. Once the war ended, my mother reclaimed it because it had belonged to my father, Federico de Vallés Gil-Dolz del Castellar, who was killed in action on the Balaguer front in 1939."

When did you realise that your name carried a responsibility extending far beyond the family?

"My mother instilled in me the weight of my surname and the importance of our legacy from the very beginning.

"My father died in the final days of the Civil War. He was only 26. He was a passionate pilot and put his own light aircraft at the service of the army, joining as a flight lieutenant.

"Tragically, just days before the war ended, his plane was shot at during a reconnaissance mission and he was hit in the chest.

"As an only child and one born after his death, I inherited my father's three titles of nobility from birth. The most ancient is the



Barony of Puebla-Tornesa, which dates back to the 15th century. That is the title that I eventually passed to my son, Federico, when he finished his degree in civil engineering. My other titles are Countess of Albalat dels Sorells and Marchioness of San Joaquín y Pastor."

You lived and studied in England as a young woman. What did that experience mean to you?

"My English education gave me a much broader perspective, enabling me to experience different cultures and ways of life.

"I spent many weekends at the homes of friends and discovered my lifelong love for painting during visits to London's museums.

"During my time there, I was presented to Queen Elizabeth II at the debutante ball held at Buckingham Palace, alongside my cousin Vicki Puigmoltó, Countess of Torrefiel.

"We were accompanied by the ambassador's nephews, Miguel Primo de Rivera and Tomás Murube." ►





The table in the dining room is laid with Limoges porcelain and boasts a 19th-century French bronze lamp. Above the fireplace is a high relief by the sculptor J Lemus

Facing page: the marble staircase in the main entrance, featuring an oil painting of the Guardian Angel from the School of Murillo; and Marta, Celia's eldest daughter



You keep several historic houses across Spain. What is it like when you return to each one?

“Each of my homes holds a unique meaning. San Antonio represents the joy and dreams of my childhood and youth. The palatial house in Castellón de la Plana represents my father’s roots; my children and I have spent countless wonderful holidays there.

“In Maestrazgo, near Castellón, I have a fortified farmhouse known as Torre Matella. It is a protected heritage site. Its medieval architecture is in pristine condition and the oldest of its towers originally belonged to the Knights Templar.”

Which property would you say best captures the spirit of your heritage?

“I would have to say the house in Castellón. King Alfonso XII stayed there for several days during his proclamation as King in Sagunto. That’s where I keep the dinner service that was commissioned in his honour.

“Over the years, I have sought to preserve the home’s essence, from the period furniture to the decor. It is also home to our collection of family portraits. I keep my Valencian dresses there – the ones I wore as Queen of the Parador del Foc during the Fallas de Valencia.

“To be honest, I’m happy in all of my homes. I couldn’t possibly choose a favourite. They are all special because they represent different chapters of my life – although, having raised my children in Seville, there’s no doubt that I feel at my happiest and most ‘at home’ at San Antonio.”

What does it require to maintain so many centuries-old estates? ►



"It requires a tremendous financial commitment and a great deal of personal dedication.

"Throughout my life I have strived to – and, I believe, succeeded in – preserving the spirit of each property while ensuring that they remain productive. From an agricultural perspective, I have modernised the estates with new citrus varieties, adapted the land to modern irrigation systems, electrified the farmhouse and sunk new wells."

You also own the Hotel Doña María in Seville, which is a key part of your family history...

"Indeed. My mother, Ángela Huesca Sasiaín, inherited the property from her family.

"She was descended from a Basque family who lived for some years in Peru, where they owned silver mines in Huacho. When they returned to Spain, they settled in Seville and acquired several properties, including the building that is now the hotel.

"In 1968, my mother, a truly enterprising and courageous woman, decided to transform the house into the Hotel Doña María, becoming Seville's first female hotelier."

You were an only child, following two previous generations of only children. What is life like now, having four children and so many grandchildren and great-grandchildren?

"Having been an only child in such a small family, my own childhood was rather solitary.

"Now, with four children, 12 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, family life is quite different. It is lively, bustling and wonderfully fun.

"I feel incredibly fortunate because my children all possess such admirable qualities and complement one another beautifully. At this stage of my life, I feel a great sense of serenity and pride, seeing that they have all grown into such kind, hardworking and responsible individuals." ►

Below left: Patricia, Maya's daughter, in one of the guest rooms. The headboards feature mother-of-pearl inlays depicting Sevillian landscapes, paired with a Baroque-style bedside table. Below: its lavish en-suite bathroom





What emotional legacy do you hope to leave for all of them?

“That they remain united. For me, that is what’s most important. Without question, there is strength in unity.

“I also hope to pass on a sense of duty and professional integrity. I would like them to live by the principle of the Parable of the Talents: it’s not what you are given that matters, it’s what you do with it.

“My hope is that they continue the family legacy through hard work and high standards and, if they can, build upon it even further.”

Which family tradition would you most like to see preserved for generations to come?

“Our love for Spain and our unwavering loyalty to the Crown. I believe it is so important to instill these values in the younger generation.”

Finally, do you have any unfulfilled dreams that still drive you?

“I am currently planning the renovation of several houses to bring them up to scratch. I’ve always had a passion for a bit of building work! But above all, my greatest wish is simply to keep in good health and continue enjoying life.” 

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Some of Federica's grandchildren and one of her great-granddaughters; from left: Federico, Álvaro, Ángela (standing, in red), Isa, Patricia (seated), Celia, Blanca and Marta. The 19th-century horse-drawn carriage is a French Milord by Binder

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THE INSIDE STORY

A photograph of Robert De Niro and Julia Roberts posing together. Robert De Niro is on the left, wearing a black jacket over a grey shirt and glasses. Julia Roberts is on the right, wearing a grey blazer over a white t-shirt with a colorful graphic of a person's face. She has her arm around his shoulder. They are both smiling. The background shows a staircase and other people.

ROBERT AND JULIA TAKE A STAND

Robert De Niro and Julia Roberts brought Hollywood flair to a special New York variety show celebrating free speech. The stars joined a line-up of big names for Rise Up, Sing Out: A Concert for the First Amendment.

The moving show, which lasted two and a half hours, took place at The Town Hall. The event's co-executive producer, Jane Fonda, delivered a poignant speech, and Bette Midler performed a rendition of a rousing protest song from the Forties.

Julia recited a poem by Amanda Gorman, dedicated to the memory of Renée Good, who was killed by US Immigration and Customs Enforcement in Minneapolis earlier this year.

A full-page photograph of Angelina Jolie at a photocall. She is wearing a long, black, strapless Tom Ford gown and dark sunglasses. Her blonde hair is styled in loose waves. She is standing on a sidewalk, looking towards the camera with a slight smile. In the background, several men are visible, some in suits and others in casual wear, along with a metal crowd control barrier and city buildings.

ANGELINA'S GLAMOROUS RETURN

Keeping things simple in a strapless, floor-length black Tom Ford gown, Angelina Jolie exudes classic Hollywood glamour at a photocall at the Whitby Hotel in Manhattan.

The Academy Award-winning star, who took a break from acting while finalising her divorce from the actor Brad Pitt, was promoting her latest film, *Couture*.

She explained how she had regained her confidence to resume work.

"I think my fighting spirit is finally back," she said. "I lost it for a bit. I got taken down a little bit, and it's coming back in large part thanks to my children, who are now older, and encouraging it."



MICHELLE AND BARACK PAY TRIBUTE

Michelle Obama had a special woman on her mind during an event last week: her late mother, Marian Robinson.

The former First Lady and her husband, President Barack Obama, spoke at the new Barack Obama Presidential Centre in Chicago, where she wore a skirt bearing a portrait of her mother, who died in 2024, aged 86.

Michelle and her longtime stylist, Meredith Koop, worked with Acne Studios to create the piece, which left her husband feeling emotional.

"He didn't know it existed until just a few minutes ago, and I've had a few weeks to settle down in the beauty of this skirt," she told the crowd. "It's messing him up – for good reason."


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THE INSIDE STORY



J-LO'S SECRET TO HAPPINESS

If there's one woman who knows how to make a showstopping entrance, it's Jennifer Lopez.

The singer and actress, 56, made a surprise guest appearance at David Guetta's concert in Paris last week, delighting fans at the Stade de France as she and the DJ performed their recent single Save Me Tonight, as well as Jennifer's hit On The Floor.

She wore a futuristic bodysuit by TTSWTRS, paired with boots from Christian Louboutin and sunglasses by Burberry.

The pair recently performed together at Coachella, with Jennifer later writing on social media: "My happy era is rewriting everything. Don't ever stop surprising yourself."



MELANIA'S RINGSIDE LOOK

Showing off her fighting form in an all-black outfit, Melania Trump turned heads as she arrived at the UFC Freedom 250 fight night, which took place on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington DC.

Together with other members of their family, Melania and her husband, President Donald Trump, watched the matches from cage-side seats alongside the UFC president, Dana White.

The winner, Justin Gaethje, shook the President's hand immediately after his victory, with the US leader later calling the event – which was held on his 80th birthday – “beyond anything anybody’s ever seen in sports”.

A full-page photograph of Erin O'Connor standing outdoors on a grassy area. She is wearing a tan-colored Michael Kors suit consisting of a long-sleeved jacket with a wide lapel and a matching wide-leg trouser, cinched at the waist with a wide brown leather belt. She is also wearing a black clutch bag, a gold necklace, and brown strappy high-heeled sandals. To her right is a large, vertical wall of white and pink roses and green hydrangeas. Behind her is a white picket fence and a green polo field under a blue sky with some clouds.

ERIN MAKES WINDSOR HER RUNWAY

Wearing a tan trouser suit by Michael Kors, Erin O'Connor made an elegant appearance at the Cartier Queen's Cup polo tournament.

The supermodel, 48, joined stars including Lady Eliza and Lady Amelia Spencer, the actress Hayley Atwell and the England football player Chloe Kelly at the annual event, which was held in Windsor Great Park.

"Thank you @cartier for the most glorious day," Erin wrote on Instagram.

In a recent interview, the catwalk star admitted that, despite her statuesque form, she wasn't as relaxed with herself as she could be. "People would say: 'You're so confident.' And I'd think: 'No.' It's manufactured poise."



A full-page photograph of Tom Holland and Zendaya on a red carpet. Tom is on the left, wearing a dark navy suit, a light pink shirt, and a striped tie. He has his hands in his pockets and is looking towards the camera. Zendaya is on the right, wearing a black high-collared jacket with a white geometric pattern on the shoulders and a bright red leather skirt. She is also wearing white pointed-toe pumps and has her hand near her head, looking off to the side. They are standing in front of a purple backdrop with the 'SPIDER-MAN' logo in large, stylized letters. In the background, a canal with boats and a row of Dutch-style buildings is visible.

SUPER NIGHT OUT FOR TOM AND ZENDAYA

Tom Holland and Zendaya looked every inch the Hollywood power couple as they arrived for the premiere of their new superhero film, *Spider-Man: Brand New Day*, in Amsterdam.

The red-carpet appearance marked one of their first outings since they secretly married – a milestone Tom finally confirmed after months of speculation.

“I found my person, and I’m the happiest I’ve ever been,” the actor said.

Addressing the viral AI-generated wedding photos of the pair that previously flooded the internet, Tom joked that their families were not fooled by the hoaxes because they were “all there” to witness the real ceremony.

A full-page photograph of Davina McCall, a woman with long brown hair, smiling broadly with her arms outstretched. She is wearing a white tank top with a race bib that says 'LADY GARDEN CHALLENGE 2026' and the number '24'. She is also wearing red shorts, a black waist belt, and white sneakers. The background shows a race event with 'LADY GARDEN' banners and metal barriers.

DAVINA PUTS IN THE HARD YARDS

Davina McCall looked radiant as she led the Lady Garden Family Challenge in London's Battersea Park. She joined 500 participants who ran or walked to raise funds for the charity, which supports awareness campaigns and research into gynaecological cancers.

Other stars who took part included the actresses Isla Fisher and Millie Mackintosh, the entrepreneur Trinny Woodall and the model Leomie Anderson.

Davina, an ambassador for the charity, said: "I absolutely love this feel-good event. It's all about fun, fitness and fundraising to help fast-track the Lady Garden Foundation's revolution against the five gynae cancers."



George at Trooping
the Colour this month.
He will begin his
studies at Eton shortly
after turning 13

IN HIS FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS

*Prince George will head to Eton College this autumn – three experts
tell us why the prestigious school is perfect for the future monarch*

As a school that has taught more than a dozen members of the royal family, 20 prime ministers and numerous members of Britain's acting elite, Eton was always the obvious choice for the Prince and Princess of Wales's firstborn son.

Prince George, 12, will follow in the footsteps of his father, Prince William, and uncle, the Duke of Sussex, after Kensington Palace announced that it "can confirm that Prince George will attend Eton College from this September".

The second in line to the throne will begin with the rest of F Block – Eton's name for its first year – on 8 September.

The Old Etonian Nicky Haslam, the former Wellington College headmaster Sir Anthony Seldon and the managing editor of The Good Schools Guide, Melanie Sanderson, all tell **HELLO!** that it would have been odd for George to have gone anywhere else.

Nicky, an interior designer whose clients have included the King and Sir Mick Jagger, says that some aspects of the school have remained constant since he attended in the Fifties.

"It moulds itself to suit the person who goes there," he says. "They know how to make you an individual. It's a very good background to have. In all walks of life, you come across somebody who was at the school – in the middle of Australia, you'll find an Old Etonian buckaroo."

SENSE OF DUTY

Anthony, who has also been headmaster of Epsom College and Brighton College and has written a number of political biographies, says that Eton's emphasis on instilling a sense of duty would be the making of George.

"Eton turns out people who know how to behave but also with a social conscience. The great majority of Etonians know how to treat others respectfully and have a sense of service and responsibility.

"Eton has been famously elitist in the past, but it has become much stronger in knocking a sense of entitlement out of its pupils and replacing it with a sense of responsibility to the wider world.

"If George becomes monarch, that sense of service will make or break him. William has done an impressive job, despite the tragedy of losing his mother so early in his life."

Anthony says that the young Prince needs an environment in which he can "make mistakes, as all young people do, away from the public eye". He adds: "Eton knows how to deal with an heir to the throne and how to provide an environment in which he will not be a quirk or a talking point."

Melanie, who has been managing editor of



HELLO!'s coverage of Prince William's first day at Eton (above left) in 1995. George's father wears a Union Jack waistcoat (above) as a prefect at the Berkshire school in 2000



The Good Schools Guide since 2019, says that two aspects of Eton put it ahead of its public-school rivals for the Wales family: religion and sex.

"I think a co-educational school presents some issues that William and Kate may not want to address," Melanie says. "They may wish someone to curate the kind of people George is socialising with. I think that's easier in an all-boys environment."

She also notes that George is destined to be the head of the Church of England. "Chapel is less of a central feature at a lot of schools than it used to be, but it's still a central part of Eton," she says.

Meanwhile, Nicky says that George will have a chance to make friends from a surprisingly wide variety of backgrounds. "You can have absolutely ghastly people from privileged backgrounds, but there are a lot of scholars," he says. "Quite often, the scholars are more fun."



INTERVIEW: JACK MALVERN

CULTURE CLUB

Stylish stars gather at the V&A Museum in London to celebrate creativity and usher in the summer

The Victoria and Albert Museum in South Kensington is where art meets fashion. So, for the V&A's tenth annual summer party last week, big names from the world of music, TV, fashion and the arts came together to enjoy a midsummer evening of entertainment and celebration.

Leading the star-studded line-up at the exclusive event was the royal environmentalist and **HELLO!** columnist Lady Amelia Windsor, wearing a floral red dress paired with a matching bag and platform shoes.

She was joined in the museum's John Madejski Garden by other stylish stars, including the supermodel Leomie Anderson, who turned heads in a gold sculptural bra top and a white trouser suit by Stella McCartney.

Others guests included the singer Ellie Goulding, who recently welcomed a daughter, Iris, with her boyfriend, the actor Beau Minniear.

The singer, 39, sported a black trouser suit that perfectly matched the one worn by the fashion designer Harris Reed.

DRESSED TO IMPRESS

The broadcaster Mariella Frostrup sparkled in a gold Alice Temperley dress and matching sandals. She enjoyed spending time with her friends at the party, including the Bridget Jones author Helen Fielding and the singer-songwriter and activist Bob Geldof.

Mariella, who was on this year's party committee alongside other prominent creatives including Vick Hope and David Furnish, later



Mariella Frostrup; Sir Grayson Perry and Lady Perry (below left); and Ellie Goulding



posted an update on social media, writing: "Behaving badly with one of my favourite playmates @helenarfielding at the fabulous @vamuseum #summerparty last night awash with a medley of stellar creative folk."

Sir Mick Jagger made it a date night with his fiancée, the former ballerina and now author Melanie Hamrick. The couple posed for a photograph with **HELLO!**'s society editor-at-large Emma Thynn, the Marchioness of Bath. The artist Sir Grayson Perry and his wife, Lady Perry, put in a colourful appearance.

The presenter Maya Jama, the singer Pixie Lott, the Academy Award-winning costume designer Sandy Powell and the model Anaïs Gallagher also made the guest list, as did the fashion designer Giles Deacon and the actress Zawe Ashton.

Guests enjoyed Nyetimber wines at the drinks reception before being treated to a special live performance by Jessie Ware and a DJ set from Donnie Sunshine. The rapper Tinie Tempah also joined in the fun by running the V&A's summer tombola.

REPORT: LAURA BENJAMIN



Lady Amelia Windsor and (left) Zawe Ashton are among the stars attending the glamorous party

SUMMER SOCIAL SCENE HEATS UP

Our society editor at large, the Marchioness of Bath, offers an exclusive glimpse into her hectic schedule

Is there anything to match the Victoria and Albert Museum for elegance and aspiration? I wondered this as I arrived in South Kensington for the museum's tenth summer party, which has become a bright spot in the social season.

The first people I saw when I got there were Lady Amelia Windsor, the granddaughter of the Duke of Kent, and the singer Jessie Ware, who performed a set that night.

She told me what a wonderful place it is to perform in. The V&A is pristine. It's such a beautiful space, especially at night.

I had a great laugh with Sir Mick Jagger and his partner, Melanie Hamrick. It was the night of England's first World Cup match, against Croatia, and we talked about how our kids were going to love it.

Mick and Melanie's son, Deveraux, is about the same age as my nine-year-old son Henry. We've played football on holiday in Mustique and on play dates in Chelsea.

I also caught up with the rapper Eve and the actress Zawe Ashton, who recently had her second child with Tom Hiddleston. Everyone was talking about the kids.

Sir Grayson and Lady Perry were there. It was lovely to see them. I did [the BBC Radio 4 show] Woman's Hour with Philippa.

I had a great chat with David Harewood about the Kensington Roof Gardens. A lot of people were going there to watch the match but I had to say: "I've got sausages. I have to go home."

I had a curfew to get back, put on my dressing gown and have sausages with the boys while we watched the game. Their normal bedtime is 9pm but we stayed up till the end.

HERMÈS

Wow. The Hermès party at The Hurlingham Club in south-west London was absolutely surreal. Its lawns became like a Midsomer Murders village fete.

There were Morris dancers, beehives, ►

Emma at the Hermès party; and (right) at the Royal Academy with Archie Madekwe, Elaine Foran, Nick Grimshaw, Laura Weir and Julia Hobbs



The V&A party –
to which Emma
wears a Carolina
Herrera dress – is
a “bright spot” in
the social season







Emma with (left) Laura Hanning Scarborough, Melanie Hamrick and Sir Mick Jagger; Lady Sitwell (right); and (below) Hamish Powell, Marcelino Sambé and Omari Douglas



cricket and croquet. They had recreated a traditional British pub, but with Richard Ayoade as the landlord to comper the pub quiz.

I'm rubbish at quizzes so I became immersed in the strangeness of the evening. I was probably watching something extraordinary up a tree.

There were hedges that got up and danced. I don't know how long the dancers inside them had to wait before they were allowed to move. No hedge was left unturned. It was like Alice Through the Looking Glass.

Jools Holland was there, and Fatboy Slim was doing his thing as the DJ.

I came by car but a lot of people arrived by boat, coming up the River Thames.

I might try something like that at Longleat because it was extremely impressive.

I talked to Omari Douglas, who was in [the TV show] *It's a Sin*, and had a lovely chat with the model Erin O'Connor, who was trying to juggle her diary.

She was double-booked and needing to cancel a lunch rather than miss her sons' sports day. She has two boys, like me. I'm always juggling, too. I'm constantly being hit in the face with a football while worrying I have forgotten something or am needed somewhere.

Erin is looking great – working hard, being fabulous and making it look easy.

ROYAL ACADEMY

I arrived at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition fresh from my holiday with my husband, Ceawlin, to Positano in Italy to

celebrate our 13th wedding anniversary. As I went in, I saw Gavin Turk's flat tyre sculpture, which is bronze but looks like a real tyre. I love his work and it was a reminder that I have a little collection of his art that Ceawlin got us for our wedding anniversary last year. I still need to frame it!

At the Royal Academy, you do circles. You meet most people on the first lap but catch up on the second.

Lily Allen was there with Marco Capaldo, the creative director of 16Arlington, whose dress she was wearing.

I caught up with Claudia Winkleman. If you've been on *Strictly*, it's so bonding. I told her that her hair looked great and we had a big hug.

I told Nick Grimshaw how much I love his podcast, *Dish*, and his questions about his guests' favourite potatoes. He said that it was unexpectedly a hit part of his show. If I had to choose, it would be crisps. Champagne and crisps will get you through anything.

Summer is only going to get better. I'm looking forward to my friend Serena Williams coming to Wimbledon. She's gone to Berlin but she'll be back in London soon. She's incredibly strong, so why not?

We had afternoon tea with her recently while the children made potions, raiding our cupboards to make them. Serena has two daughters, Olympia, eight, and Adira, two. It was Olympia who said she should play. I can't wait.

REPORT: EMMA THYNN, MARCHIONESS OF BATH

PHOTOGRAPHER:
DANNY CRAVEN

TONY'S BIG FAT SELF-HELP BOOK

*The star DJ Fat Tony on recovering from addiction, going to Ibiza
with Davina McCall and who he'd like to play him in a biopic*

The celebrity DJ Fat Tony proves a welcoming host when **HELLO!** arrives at his garden flat in Pimlico, central London, on a rainy spring morning.

Tony is fresh from a gym workout, and his husband, the creative director Stavros Agapiou, is off to the dog groomer with their beloved pets, Reenie Taylor and Raf.

We're here to chat about Tony's new self-help book, *Recover Me: A User's Guide to Overcoming Addiction and Insanity*, which is a follow-up to his 2022 autobiography, *I Don't Take Requests*.

It describes his recovery from drug, alcohol and sex addiction, and Tony also recounts a feud with his father that lasted for three decades of his self-confessed life of extremes.

"I didn't talk to my own father for 30 years... it was a deflection of my own stuff on to him, and it was far easier for me to hate on him because I was hating on myself," Tony admits.

"I regret that more than anything in the world, but I made my peace with him. Sometimes in life we can't control the narrative, however much we try, because everyone has an opinion, and nine times out of ten, we make up this stuff to protect ourselves. It's a learned behaviour."

BECKHAM FAMILY FEUD

He refers to this experience when discussing his friend Brooklyn Peltz Beckham, who is estranged from his parents, Sir David and Lady Beckham. In January, Brooklyn posted a lengthy statement on Instagram, saying: "I do not want to reconcile with my family." He added that when he and his wife, Nicola, married in 2022, his mother had "danced very inappropriately on me in front of everyone". Following Brooklyn's posts, Tony, who had been the DJ at the wedding, appeared on ITV's *This Morning* to discuss the controversy.

Now, he says: "It's always sad when there's a rift in any family. It just so happened that I got dragged into one. I went on [This Morning] to change a narrative of the word 'inappropriate' and where it was going for Victoria, where it was going for Brooklyn. It was not a nice situation. [The Beckham family] are incredible and [David



Tony and Stavros at their wedding, held at the former Limelight nightclub in London in 2025 and covered exclusively by **HELLO!**; below, Tony with Brooklyn Beckham during London Fashion Week in 2018



and Victoria] brought up those kids impeccably."

Speaking about his friendship with Victoria, Tony says: "They are who they are. They're an amazing PR machine, they do wonderful things and I've just gone in a different direction. I love Brooklyn; I love Nicola. I see Romeo all the time – he's always around. He's doing incredibly. He's just dropped his new clothing range, so it's amazing. They're all doing well, and Cruz."

In his book, Tony confronts his past, including childhood sexual abuse, with the help of a therapist. "I wanted to do a self-help book because it's important that people who have read the first book understand what recovery is about," he says.

"That book changed my life – for the first time in my life, I got really honest. All of that shame that I wrote about, I'd never dealt with."

TRUE TEST

Although beating his drink and drug addictions was huge for him – he's been sober for nearly two decades – dealing with his sex addiction was the toughest challenge.

"People think sex addiction isn't going to kill you – it is going to kill you," he says. "All addiction will kill you. It's how it leaves you feeling, because you're not doing it for enjoyment."

"That problem will always get bigger, until it gets to the point where you hate yourself so much that you'll take yourself to a really dark place. Going to trauma therapy and working through that stuff was really important."

The star also opens up about being the victim of a homophobic attack that left him with ►



From left: Davina McCall, Stavros, Tony, Kelly Osbourne and Boy George at the couple's wedding; below, Tony with Victoria Beckham at a London Fashion Week afterparty to celebrate her beauty brand in 2019



facial injuries at a gig in Kent in 2024. Zack Bradley, 37, pleaded guilty to grievous bodily harm and was sentenced to 12 months in prison, suspended for 18 months.

"He got a drug rehabilitation order, which I'm very happy [about], because prison's not for everyone," Tony says. "I really wish him well. I have no hate in my heart for him."

For the DJ, recovery means recovering himself and knowing himself. "I've got to this place in my life where I know who I am; I no longer need to cover it up," he says. "I'm married to one person. I've never been happier, never been fitter."

CIRCLE OF FAMOUS FRIENDS

Tony has DJ'd for Michael Jackson and Madonna and his A-list friends include Kate Moss, Boy George and Sir Elton John. Yet he's less fussed about playing for celebrities these days, preferring large gigs in Ibiza or sets at festivals.

"They're just normal people, at the end of the day," he says of such famous names. "Obviously Michael Jackson was Michael Jackson. For me now, DJing to celebrities, I still do that, but it's not where I want to be."

Proudly sober, Tony is not fazed by being around drinking culture. "I look at it and think: 'Thank God I'm not doing that. Thank God I know my lane. I know when to leave.' Stavvy [his

husband] drinks and parties with his friends and that's absolutely fine because he does it in an unproblematic way. I'm really happy being at home, walking my dogs. This weekend – I've got a weekend off, the only one this year – I've got Davina [McCall] wanting me to go to Ibiza with her. I'm still in two minds."

A house move may be on the cards for Tony and Stavros, who married in spring last year. They fancy a "semi-move" to the south coast, keeping a base in London for work. "We think we've found one in Margate," Tony tells us, revealing that his good friend, the artist Dame Tracey Emin, who lives in the town, has introduced them to an "incredible" property. "We need a big marital home."

The next year is looking busy, and *I Don't Take Requests* may be turned into a film. Tony ponders who might play him. "I think someone like Callum Turner would be brilliant, because I've known his mum all my life – way before he was born – so there's a full-circle thing there."

Now, in a new era of contentment, Tony muses about the launch of his latest book. "I really hope people read it and it helps to change their lives, like the first book did to mine."

INTERVIEW: SOPHIE HAMILTON

Recover Me: A User's Guide to Overcoming Addiction is out now, published by Little, Brown

A man with short grey hair and a beard, wearing a dark blue jacket and dark trousers, is smiling and holding a small, fluffy brown dog. He has several tattoos on his arms, including a large one on his left forearm that says 'PROF'. He is standing in front of a white bookshelf filled with books and decorative items. To the right, there is a wooden sideboard with two black candle holders and lit candles. The overall atmosphere is warm and intimate.

**‘THE BOOK
CHANGED MY
LIFE. FOR THE
FIRST TIME
IN MY LIFE, I
GOT REALLY
HONEST’**

Tony and
his beloved
cavapoo,
Reenie Taylor

A full-page photograph of a man with short grey hair and a beard, smiling while holding a small, fluffy tan dog. He is wearing a dark blue jacket and dark trousers. He has visible tattoos on his arms, including one that says "LOVE". The background features white shelves with books, a Mickey Mouse figurine, and two busts. To the right, there is a wooden sideboard with two tall black candle holders containing yellow candles.

**'THE BOOK
CHANGED MY
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Tony and
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Reenie Taylor

A full-page photograph of Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce. Travis Kelce is on the left, wearing a black leather jacket over a black shirt, smiling. Taylor Swift is on the right, wearing a light green, sequined, sleeveless dress with a zipper down the front, looking towards the camera. The background is dark with purple stage lights.

LOVE STORY

As Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce prepare to tie the knot, we bring you the essential A-Z guide to the superstar couple's relationship and their fairytale summer wedding

A ANNOUNCEMENT

It was the announcement heard around the world. On 26 August 2023, the pop sensation Taylor Swift, now 36, revealed that her boyfriend of two years, the American football star Travis Kelce, also 36, had dropped to one knee in the garden of his Missouri home and proposed.

"Your English teacher and your gym teacher are getting married," Taylor captioned her Instagram post, which was liked by nearly 38 million people.



C CATS

Taylor owns three cats: Meredith Gray and Olivia Benson, both Scottish folds, and ragdoll Benjamin Button, whom she adopted after he appeared in the music video for 2019's ME!

Meredith and Olivia have featured in adverts with Taylor, while Benjamin – Travis's favourite of the three – posed alongside her when she was named Time's Person of the Year in 2023. Could their next big role come on her wedding day?

B BRIDE

Born on 13 December 1989, Taylor released her debut album aged 16. She has gone on to record 12 studio albums, earning 14 Grammy Awards in the process; she is the only artist in the prize's history to win the award for album of the year four times.

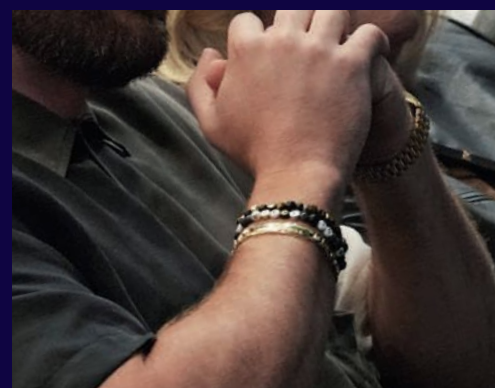
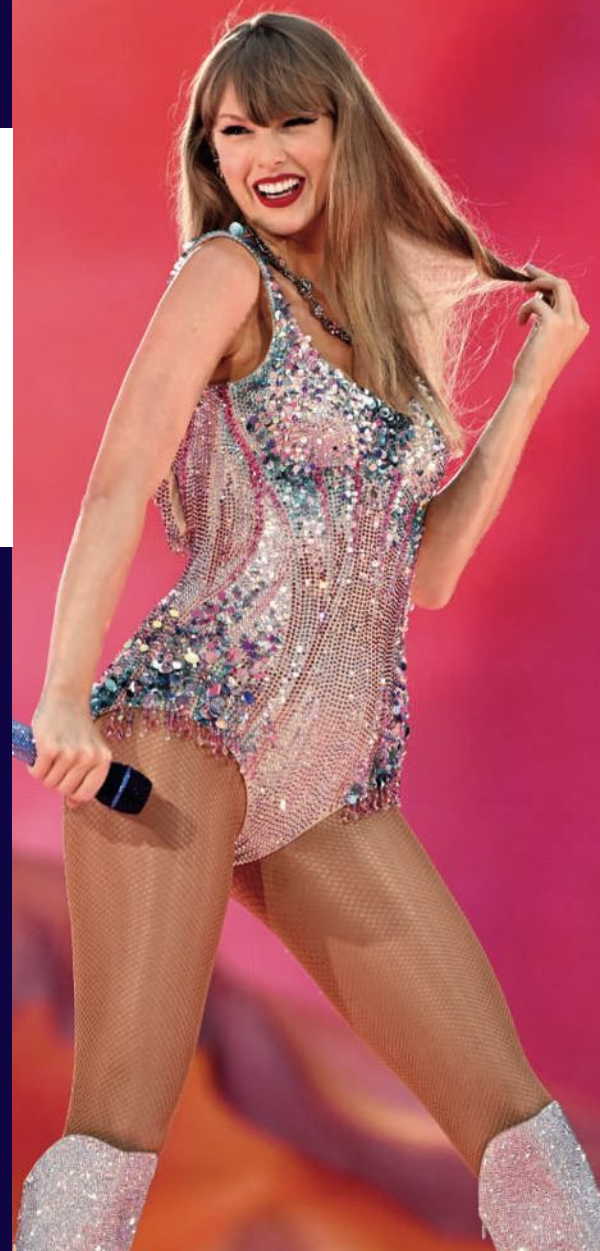
She holds the Guinness World Record for the most US No 1 albums by a female artist, and her 2023-24 Eras Tour was the highest-grossing tour of all time, helping her become the first musician to achieve billionaire status based primarily on music.



D DRESS

Taylor is known for her timeless sense of style, so what can fans expect from the most important look of her life?

All eyes are on her long-time friend, the British designer Stella McCartney, who made the Duchess of Sussex's evening gown for her wedding reception in 2018. Or could the dress be designed by Donatella Versace, who created multiple crystal-embroidered looks for the Eras Tour?



E ENGAGEMENT

The five engagement photographs released by the happy couple epitomised Taylor and Travis's romance, with the pair standing in front of a spectacular floral trellis, surrounded by urns of stunning blooms.

In one picture, Taylor, who wore Ralph Lauren, was captured giving her new fiancé an embrace with a serene smile on her face.

The images also included a close-up of the singer's stunning custom-made engagement ring.



F FRIENDSHIP BRACELET

Taylor and Travis can thank her fans for their romance after the singer's supporters – aka Swifties – began to make and exchange friendship bracelets during the Eras Tour in 2023.

That year, Kansas City Chiefs player Travis, who attended one of the tour dates in Kansas City, revealed that he had hoped to give Taylor a beaded bracelet with his phone number, only to be told that she was not meeting any guests that night.

His callout led to mutual friends telling Taylor to give Travis a chance – and the rest was history. ►



GUESTS
Taylor is known for her A-list friends, including the models Cara Delevingne and Bella and Gigi Hadid, the actresses Zoë Kravitz and Lena Dunham, and the singer Selena Gomez. The model and singer Suki Waterhouse has confirmed her attendance at the wedding. Taylor is godmother to Blake Lively's children, but it's uncertain whether Blake will be there, after text messages between the pair were released during the actress's recent legal case against her former co-star Justin Baldoni.



HONEYMOON
With Travis expected to attend a Chiefs training camp in late July, the newlyweds may have a tight turnaround between the wedding and their return to real life. But with a private jet at their disposal and billions in the bank, the possibilities for a once-in-a-lifetime honeymoon are virtually endless. In the past, the couple have visited Lake Como in Italy, spent time at a \$15,000-a-night resort in the Bahamas and enjoyed trips to exclusive ski resorts in Montana and Utah.



IN-LAWS
Taylor and Travis enjoy close relationships with both of their families. Taylor has been seen cheering on Travis at Chiefs games alongside his parents, Donna and Ed, and her father, Scott. Donna has formed a friendship with Taylor's mother, Andrea; they were pictured together at Sundance Film Festival in Utah earlier this year. Meanwhile, Travis and both sets of parents were in attendance when Taylor was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame this month.

JULY
The fourth of July holiday has long been a favourite of Taylor's – for years, she hosted a huge annual party at her Rhode Island home – so it's no surprise that the Independence Day weekend has become the rumoured centre of her wedding. In 2026, 4 July is a Saturday, with reports suggesting that Taylor and Travis will tie the knot on 3 July and celebrate their love with their friends across the long weekend. The schedule of Taylor's friend, the actress Mariska Hargitay, has added fuel to the fire after she recorded her future absence from her Broadway show on 3 July.

KINDRED LUBECK
Travis proposed to Taylor with a custom Old Mine Brilliant-cut diamond engagement ring, designed by Travis and the jeweller Kindred Lubeck of Artifex Fine Jewelry. Estimated at eight to ten carats, its antique-style soft square stone sits on an 18-carat yellow-gold band with hand-cut facets and engraved filigree details, including the initial T. Taylor is a fan of Kindred's work and had shown Travis her designs a year before he proposed. "I know who made that," she told him when he opened the box.



LOVE STORY

L The couple have Taylor's mother to thank for their happiness, as Andrea was the one who encouraged Taylor to try dating someone different.

The first time they went out, Taylor was impressed by Travis's direct approach and willingness to embrace her fame.

"I love the person I'm with because he loves what I do and he loves how much I'm fulfilled by making art and making music," Taylor has said. "That's the coolest thing about Travis – he's so passionate about what he does that me being passionate about what I do connects us."

MARK SEED

M Multiple sources indicate that the celebrity wedding planner Mark Seed has been tasked with organising the couple's big day. Mark masterminded Taylor's friend Jennifer Lawrence's wedding to the art dealer Cooke Maroney in 2019; it took place at the historic Belcourt of Newport, an 1894 mansion on Rhode Island, and the reception included fire-pit roasting and late-night food trucks. He is known for his elaborate architecture, having constructed a greenhouse on the lawn of the actress Sam Ressler in 2022.

NAME CHANGE

N Will Travis change his name upon the couple's marriage to become Travis Swift?

When you're the biggest pop star in the world, it seems unlikely that you'd change your name, and it would appear that Travis agrees.

The NFL star liked an Instagram post shared by the sports podcast Bussin' with the Boys, featuring a clip of the hosts discussing a potential name change and concluding that Taylor "is way more globally famous than Travis Kelce".

They added: "If anything, Travis would have to change [his name]."



O **OPALITE** One of numerous love songs that Taylor is believed to have written for Travis, this single from her 12th album is not only his favourite song, it's one of Princess Charlotte's, too.

Speaking on the radio recently as the track was introduced, the Prince of Wales said: "Charlotte, in particular, is obsessed by Taylor Swift. We went to see her on her Eras Tour and it was amazing."



PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION

P Travis has encouraged Taylor to embrace her fame, meaning that public displays of affection are no longer a surprise. They have been seen hand in hand at Travis's NFL games, and Taylor was spotted running into his arms for a kiss on her Eras Tour. He even appeared on stage during one of her shows at Wembley Stadium in 2024.

"When you say a relationship is public, that means: 'I'm going to see him do what he loves, we're showing up for each other, other people are there and we don't care,'" Taylor has said. ►

QUESTION

Travis popped the question on the day Taylor joined him to record an episode of his podcast, *New Heights*, which he co-hosts with his brother, Jason Kelce. Travis “really crushed it when it came to surprising me”, Taylor told Graham Norton during an appearance on his show.

“Behind his house, he was having the whole back garden turned into this,” she said, referring to a photo of the decorated space.

“One of the things he put in there, very strategically, was a wall of hedges... and inside the hedges was my tour photographer.”



RHODE ISLAND RUMOURS

Early reports suggested that Taylor and Travis might tie the knot at her eight-bedroom home in Rhode Island. The property, known locally as Harkness House, is the most expensive private home in the state. Taylor bought it in 2013, and she and Travis have since hosted A-list guests including Gigi Hadid and Bradley Cooper there.

However, the Rhode Island senator Sheldon Whitehouse quashed the rumours, saying that the singer had “given Rhode Island a pass” for her nuptials.



TRAVIS KELCE

Travis was born on 5 October 1989 – nine weeks before Taylor – in Westlake, Ohio, growing up in the nearby city of Cleveland Heights.

Since being drafted by the Kansas City Chiefs in 2013, he has helped the team to win three Super Bowls. His elder brother, Jason, 38, previously played for the Philadelphia Eagles, retiring in 2024.

Travis is known to be boisterous, with Taylor calling him a “human exclamation point”. His sister-in-law, Kylie Kelce, says he is the “best uncle” and the first to get on the floor to play with his four nieces.

SHEERAN, ED

Could Taylor’s close friend Ed Sheeran be performing at the reception? She admitted in 2025 that it “would be hard to keep” the singer away from the stage at her wedding. “It’s like: ‘Ed, if there’s a stage, you know you’ll be on it.’ He wants to give people what they want,” she said.





USHERS

There's a good chance that Travis's wedding party will include a few familiar faces, with Jason having admitted in 2025 that he was

"hoping" to be his brother's best man.

Travis's childhood friend, the clothing-brand founder Aric Jones, is thought to have a role. "It's easy to be yourself when you've got the people you grew up with around all the time," Travis has said of Aric.

Other contenders could include his Chiefs teammate Patrick Mahomes, his former teammate Ross Travis and Taylor's brother, Austin.

VENUE

New York – the location of the couple's first date and many subsequent public appearances together – means a lot to Taylor and Travis.

Recent reports suggest that the pair will say "I do" at the legendary Madison Square Garden, where Taylor has performed several sold-out concerts. The venue, which she visited recently to watch the New York Knicks basketball team, has emerged as the unlikely frontrunner due to its secure entrance and exits. It boasts maximum security – there are no windows – and has a banquet capacity of 1,250 people.

EXES

Will any of Taylor's former partners be at the wedding? Harry Styles, whom she dated from 2012 to 2013, is engaged to the actress Zoë Kravitz, who was part of Taylor's Covid-19 quarantine "bubble" and lived in the singer's Los Angeles home after evacuating during last year's Palisades fire. But if the wedding takes place over the July 4 weekend, Harry will be 3,450 miles away, performing in London.

WILLIAM

The Prince of Wales's friendship with Taylor began in

2013, during a Centrepiece charity gala at Kensington Palace, where she encouraged William to sing with her and Jon Bon Jovi on stage.

In 2024, he took his eldest son, Prince George, and his daughter, Princess Charlotte, to see the Eras Tour in London, meeting Taylor and Travis before the show.

When asked if he had been invited to the wedding, William said: "I'm sure there might be an invitation around, but we'll see."

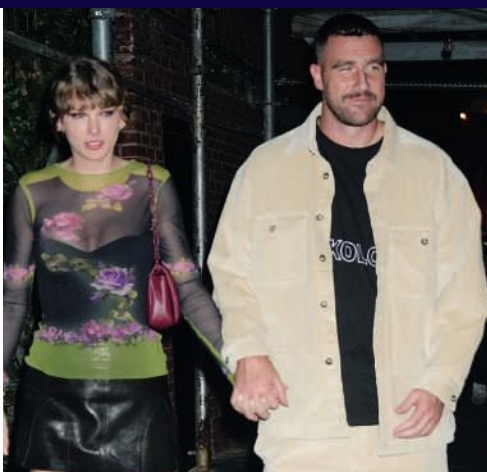


YOU BELONG WITH ME

Travis is "the love of my life", says Taylor, whose song You Belong with Me was one of her first pop hits. During the Eras Tour, she often changed lyrics to reflect their romance or to highlight a change that he had made in her life.

Meanwhile, Travis frequently points towards Taylor, sitting in the VIP box at his football games, when he scores during a match.

"When there isn't a camera on us, we're just two people in love," Travis has said. "It can be perceived as something else because of how much it's talked about and how much we are tracked... but it happened very organically."



ZOHRAN MAMDANI

The mayor of New York appeared to confirm recently that the wedding would take place in the Big Apple.

While discussing security measures for this summer's Fifa World Cup, he said: "We are used to big events. We know it coincides with the [New York] Knicks' [NBA] finals run. We know it coincides with 4 July, America 250, Taylor Swift's wedding – all happening at the same time – and we're so excited to welcome the world here."

REPORT: REBECCA LEWIS



PHOTOGRAPHER: DANNY LOWE
STYLIST: JODIE NELLIST

WINNING MENTALITY

Gemma Owen reveals how her 'brutal' new horse-racing challenge has brought her closer to her father Michael – and why she wants a career like Clare Balding's

Like Michael Owen, her famous father, Gemma Owen is committed to her sport. The TV personality has dedicated her life to her horses, balancing success as a dressage rider with a burgeoning career in equestrian presenting, along with creating content for her 1.6m followers on Instagram.

And her latest venture has brought her even closer to former Liverpool and England striker Michael, she tells **HELLO!** in this exclusive photo shoot and interview at their family home,

Lower Soughton Hall, in North Wales, where Gemma lives with her father, her mother, Louise Bonsall, and her siblings: James, 20, Emily, 18, and Jessica, 16.

Gemma, 23, is part of the line-up for this year's Markel Magnolia Cup, a charity race that takes place on Ladies' Day at Goodwood Festival. On 30 July, 12 amateur female jockeys will compete in a fast and furious five-and-a-half-furlong race on the Goodwood estate in West Sussex, the ancestral home of the Duke of Richmond.

Now, she reveals, her endeavour has struck a chord with her father, who bought his first racehorses after he returned from the 1998 World Cup in France, going on to establish his own racing yard – Manor House Stables, in Cheshire – in 2007. The former England captain, who retired in 2013 following a stellar career, has described racing as his passion.

"Dad is really enjoying it," says Gemma, who shot to fame when she appeared on Love Island in 2022. "He's obsessed with the sport. He's ►



Polo top, Uniqlo;
jacket, Holland Cooper

Facing page: jacket,
Gucci @ Designer
Exchange; trousers,
Holland Cooper



always at Manor House. Since I've been training and riding racehorses myself, it's brought us closer together as a family – and in my relationship with him, I definitely think we've got closer."

Gemma's forthcoming race has also sparked a new sense of competition between father and daughter. "He did a charity race [in 2017] at Ascot and he'd never ridden before. He learnt how to ride just for that race, and he came second," she says. "He'll joke with me now: 'I'd never ridden before and I came second.'"

Although he was praised for a "superb performance" at the time, Michael has not ridden since, Gemma says. He also hasn't shared any tips with her so far. "He hasn't told me how to ride yet, or how I should be doing anything," she says. "He likes to be in and around, and hear what the trainer is saying."

Gemma's own relationship with horses was forged by her mother, a lifelong equestrienne and a keen rider before she fractured her pelvis after falling off her horse in 2004. "Mum hasn't



'SINCE I'VE BEEN RIDING RACEHORSES, I DEFINITELY THINK MY DAD AND I HAVE GOT CLOSER'



had her own horse for a good few years, but now she's quite happy helping out me and my sister," says Gemma, whose youngest sibling, Jessica, is a budding showjumper.

Gemma was just two when she got her first pony, Sasha, who featured in **HELLO!**'s coverage of Michael and Louise's wedding in 2005. "It's pretty cute," she says now of the pictures.

At the time, the family had just returned from Michael's stint playing alongside David Beckham at Real Madrid; Gemma had been at nursery school with David's sons Brooklyn and Romeo. "I was quite young, so I don't remember the exact day," she says of her parents' wedding, which took place when she was two. "But it was so nice that we could revisit [the day], 20 years on."

She adds of her childhood: "Growing up, I've been so lucky to have the stables at home. That's truly every girl's dream. The stables are definitely the most meaningful place [to me]."

Although she has achieved considerable success in dressage, having taken part in the Junior European Championships in 2021 and enjoying competing with her "incredible" horse Ronnie, Gemma is realistic about her future.

"With any sport, to get to the top level, you have to live and breathe it," she says. "Horses are a huge part of my life and they always will be, but my career is not in dressage. In terms of the Olympic Games, I think it has to be your everything, and I don't think I could give [that]."

For now, her focus is on the Magnolia Cup. She was first asked to take part three years ago, but declined because of her dressage commitments. "This year, the timing was right, and I was in a place where I could give it 100%," she says.

MAJOR CHALLENGE

Her first time on a racehorse at Manor House Stables was "humbling", she admits. "It did take a while to adjust. It wasn't: 'You can ride dressage, so now you can be a jockey.' It's been a challenge, but one that's been really enjoyable so far."

She's been riding three or four times a week, as well as training in the gym to prepare for the fitness assessments that ensure jockeys are ready to race. "It's been brutal," she says. "Doing this has given me a newfound respect for jockeys and their physical strength. I've been growing biceps!"

Gemma and her fellow jockeys, who include a breast-cancer survivor and a surgeon, will be riding in aid of the Education Above All Foundation, a non-profit organisation that aims to help children affected by poverty and conflict to access education and employment opportunities. "The work they've done is inspiring, and to be able to do the race for a good cause is fantastic," she says.

She won't be nervous as she heads to the starting line, where her family will assemble to cheer her ►



T-shirt, Holland Cooper; blazer, Really Wild Clothing

Facing page: Trousers, Brora; shirt, Schöffel Country; cardigan, Kiltane

Top left: a two-year-old Gemma is pictured on her first pony, Sasha, during **HELLO!**'s photoshoot at the wedding of her parents, Michael Owen and Louise Bonsall, in 2005



on; Manor House will be sending out many runners over the course of Glorious Goodwood.

"I'm extremely competitive – it runs in the family," she says. "At the moment, I'm feeling good." And it might not be the last time we see her race. "I'd like to say I'll keep on riding out... Dad would love it. It would be music to his ears."

Horses will remain central to Gemma's life as she pursues a new passion: presenting. "It's something I'm really interested in," she says. Presenting the Horse of the Year show alongside Matt Baker on Channel 4 was a "highlight of last year – it was an incredible experience".

She looks up to the "great" Clare Balding, the pair having crossed paths at Cheltenham Festival. She is also friends with Lady Eliza Spencer, whom she met through the racing world, at the 2023 Melbourne Cup in Australia.

She'd love to work more with her father and her family, too. "When I'm with him, it's fun and lighthearted, and we have a nice relationship where we can bounce off each other," she says.

ALWAYS ON HER MIND

Away from work, Gemma relishes travelling, but horses are never far away. When we speak, she's just returned from a "dream" riding safari holiday with her boyfriend – reportedly the equestrian Red Morgan – in South Africa and Botswana.

"They don't need to be horsey themselves; just having an interest in horses and appreciating what they bring to my life would be important," she says of any potential partner. The safari has "been on my bucket list for ages, and to be able to do it on horseback was so special".

Next up? Several projects that she can't yet discuss. Although it's "been an incredibly busy time" for her recently, she's hoping for a trip to the south of France with her family after the Magnolia Cup.

"I don't do anything crazy in terms of going out or partying," she says. "I'm a homebody. I like to spend time with my family – being with them is what I like to do." **H**

INTERVIEW: MIRANDA THOMPSON
HAIR: BECCA ANDERTON AT ME AGENCY

The 2026 Markel Magnolia Cup takes place on 30 July on Ladies' Day at the Qatar Goodwood Festival; visit goodwood.com



**‘I’M A HOMEBODY. I LIKE TO SPEND TIME WITH MY FAMILY –
BEING WITH THEM IS WHAT I LIKE TO DO’**

Top, Kiltane; jeans,
Michael Kors

Facing page:
Dress, Free People
@ Fenwick;
cardigan, N Peal

Above right: Gemma
with the influencer
Alex Collins at
Cheltenham Festival
in 2025

A full-page photograph of Prince William and Catherine, Princess of Wales at Royal Ascot. Prince William is on the left, wearing a black top hat, a dark suit, a light blue shirt, and a blue patterned tie. He has a yellow flower pinned to his lapel and is smiling. Catherine is on the right, wearing a bright yellow dress with a large bow at the shoulder and a large, wide-brimmed yellow hat with a delicate wire mesh veil. She is also smiling. The background is a blurred crowd of spectators.

LADIES' DAY OUT AT THE RACES

The Princess of Wales dazzles on her long-awaited return to Royal Ascot, with her family by her side

The Princess of Wales made a triumphant return to Royal Ascot on its second day last week, and her mother and sister-in-law were by her side to celebrate every second.

Kate was greeted by cheers from the crowd as she appeared at the racing festival for the first time since receiving a cancer diagnosis in 2024. She last attended Ascot in 2023 with her mother, in her first appearance there as the Princess of Wales.

The Princess, 44, who chose not to attend last

year while managing her return to work after chemotherapy, sported a head-turning yellow Roksanda dress that she first wore in 2022 as she rode with the Prince of Wales in the traditional carriage procession.

William, who celebrated his 44th birthday days later, made a touching tribute to his wife of 15 years by adding a matching yellow buttonhole to his outfit of morning suit and top hat.

HELLO! was there to witness the rapturous reception for the Princess, who was also ►



Carole Middleton arrives with her daughter-in-law Alizée Thevenet on day two, in the Catherine Walker dress she wore to her daughter Pippa's wedding

Facing page: The Princess of Wales, alongside the Prince, returns for the first time in three years



There are laughs aplenty as Kate, Carole and Alizée enjoy quality family time. Below: Carole greets the King's cousin Lady Sarah Chatto



joined in the carriage by the Duke and Duchess of Richmond and Gordon.

"Royal Ascot is one of the biggest events of the summer season, so it was great to see her return for the occasion," says **HELLO!**'s royal editor, Emily Nash, who watched as the carriages concluded their procession through the racecourse.

"People were clearly delighted to see her, and although there were three cheers for the King, there was palpable excitement about her entrance. When she appeared, a huge cheer went up."

The Princess smiled and waved to onlookers as she stepped down into the parade ring, before curtsying to the King and Queen. William, meanwhile, was heard joking with well-wishers. After a member of the crowd shouted, "Up the Villa", referring to his beloved Aston Villa football team, he replied: "I hear people saying that now."

The family were all smiles at the event, which coincided with the news that the Duke and Duchess of Sussex will reportedly return to the UK next month, bringing their children – Prince

Archie, seven, and Princess Lilibet, five – to the country for the first time since 2022.

Harry, 41, is expected to attend an event celebrating the one-year countdown to the 2027 edition of the Invictus Games, the sporting event he launched in 2014. It will be held in Birmingham next year.

Away from the glare of the parade ring, Kate – who just weeks ago made her first overseas work trip since her cancer diagnosis, visiting Italy – was joined by her mother, Carole Middleton, 71, ►



Kate dresses for the weather in a sunny yellow dress by Roksanada, while William pays tribute to his wife with a matching boutonhole

‘IT’S LOVELY TO SEE THE PRINCESS LOOKING SO RELAXED AND HAVING FUN’

and her sister-in-law, Alizée Thevenet, 36, who arrived at Ascot together on day two in a show of family solidarity for a girls' day out.

Kate's close bond with her mother was clear to see as they laughed together in the royal box; at one point, the Princess clasped her mother's hand.

Carole, who has been a constant throughout her daughter's life, has long been cherished by William and Kate for her support, especially when it comes to raising the couple's three children: Prince George, 12, Princess Charlotte, 11, and Prince Louis, eight.

"Seeing Kate having so much fun with her mother and sister-in-law shows what a close bond they share," Emily says. "The Princess has spoken about how much she relied on her family during her illness and they have clearly given her so much strength."

"It's lovely to see them being able to celebrate her return together, and to see her away from the crowds looking so relaxed and clearly having a lot of fun with those closest to her."

Carole's own role in the royals' inner circle was evident as she spoke intimately with other family members, including the King's cousin Lady Sarah Chatto, the daughter of Princess Margaret and Antony Armstrong-Jones.

"It was a lovely moment to capture," the Getty photographer Samir Hussein, who snapped the moments in the royal box, tells **HELLO!**. "Catherine and Carole arrived separately, but as soon as they saw each other there was this instant warmth between them."

"Catherine seemed genuinely thrilled to see her mother – they clasped hands straight away and spent the afternoon chatting, smiling and laughing together. You could see how much they were enjoying sharing the day."

Carole's position at the heart of the Firm was seen again on day three, when she was joined by her husband, Michael, 76, in the parade ring. The couple enjoyed time in the royal box, where Carole – between the King and Zara Tindall – was seen intently watching the racecourse.

SISTERLY SUPPORT

It was a rare public appearance by Alizée, who was greeted by the Princess with a kiss on the cheek. The wife of Kate's younger brother, James Middleton, prefers to keep a low profile, although she joined the family at Westminster Abbey in December for the Princess's carol service, Together at Christmas, and made her Ascot debut last summer.

The sisters-in-law quickly settled into an animated conversation, both smiling broadly throughout. "Kate has always been incredibly close to her siblings, and that closeness extends to her sister-in-law, too," Emily says. "They clearly get on really well."

Both Kate and her mother chose to re-wear looks at the event. The Princess first sported her yellow dress in 2022 on a royal visit to Jamaica and later wore it at Wimbledon. On this occasion, she paired it with a hat by Jane Taylor London, a three-strand pearl bracelet that belonged to Diana, Princess of Wales and diamond earrings once owned by Queen Elizabeth II.

Carole, meanwhile, donned the mother-of-the-bride look that she wore to the wedding of her younger daughter, Pippa, to James Matthews in 2017. She accessorised her blush-pink dress by Catherine Walker with an Emmy London bag and shoes, alongside amethyst and diamond earrings by Kiki McDonough.

As for Alizée, the financial expert paid tribute to her French heritage in her festival look, ►





accessorising her pie-crust collared white dress and straw boater with a Longchamp tote bag and Sézane drop earrings. Alizée and James, who have been married since 2021, have a son, Inigo, two.

They were joined in the royal box by Lady Gabriella Kingston, 45, who looked elegant in an ice-blue look by Claire Mischewani, a label also favoured by Queen Mary of Denmark. Her dress was complemented by an Aspinal of London bag, earrings by Lizzie Fortunato and a white hat.

Earlier, she had been warmly welcomed by Kate in the parade ring, the Princess gently touching her arm before they fell into conversation.

STRONGER TOGETHER

It was evident that William was delighted by Kate's presence, offering her his hand and staying nearby as they greeted fellow members of the royal family in the parade ring.

"They looked closer than ever as a couple," Emily says. "Last year, we saw William attend alone, with support from his cousin Zara Tindall, in particular. But this year, his wife was back at his side to help him present the prizes for the winners of the Prince of Wales's Stakes, including the jockey William Buick, who won on Ombudsman."

"They were clearly having fun later, too, with friends and family in the royal box."

The couple were seen deep in conversation with the former England football manager Sir Gareth Southgate ahead of England's first World Cup match against Croatia. Doubtless there was much that William, an avowed fan, wished to discuss with the former Aston Villa player.

Ascot truly proved to be a family affair, with **HELLO!** watching as the royals welcomed a new member into the fold on the opening day: Harriet Phillips, 45, who married Peter Phillips earlier this month. The King and Queen – Camilla wearing ►





A smiling Kate greets the King and Queen (top left) and Lady Gabriella Kingston, who wears a dress by Claire Mischewani



Newlyweds Peter and Harriet Phillips raise a glass after Harriet makes her debut in the carriage procession (above) alongside her mother-in-law, the Princess Royal

'ALL EYES WERE ON THE SECOND CARRIAGE, WHICH HELD HARRIET PHILLIPS'

Harriet teams a
Suzannah London
dress and a Jane
Taylor London hat with
earrings by Pragnell,
which created her
wedding tiara and
engagement ring

an Anna Valentine dress, Chanel pumps, a Philip Treacy hat and the Cullinan V heart-shaped diamond brooch – were there as Harriet made her debut in the carriage procession.

"All eyes were on the second carriage, which held Harriet Phillips," says **HELLO!**'s features editor, Miranda Thompson. "Just ten days after she had married the Princess Royal's son, Peter Phillips, in front of the King and Queen, it was wonderful to see just how warm the royals were towards her, especially her new mother-in-law."

Princess Anne, 75, could be seen offering Harriet advice before she stepped down from the carriage to join her husband, who beamed from ear to ear as he offered her his arm. "People seemed to be congratulating Peter and Harriet on their nuptials," Miranda says.

Harriet looked radiant in a Suzannah London dress and a Jane Taylor London hat, accessorised with Jimmy Choo shoes, a bespoke Anya Hindmarch purse and jewellery from Pragnell, the jeweller that made her wedding tiara and engagement ring. The couple were later seen smiling together over champagne in the royal box.

IN EXPERT HANDS

It wouldn't be a royal racing festival without the former Olympic equestrian Zara Tindall in attendance. Zara, 45, looked radiant in a custom pink Rebecca Vallance dress and Kiki McDonough earrings, while her husband, former England rugby international Mike, 47, wore custom Gieves & Hawkes morning wear.

"The King was clearly delighted to see Zara and Mike, and took off his top hat to give Zara a kiss," Miranda says, adding that Mike bowed and dropped his top hat to the King to reveal a smaller top hat inside – a prank he had played on Queen Elizabeth II at Ascot in 2019. "It was a delight to see the King and Mike smiling together."

The racing proved disappointing for the King and Queen, who watched from the royal box as their horse finished last in the Ascot Stakes on ►







The Queen
shares a joke
with Carole on
day three

Facing page:
After greeting the
crowds, Charles
and Camilla turn
their attentions to
the action on the
racecourse



Zara Tindall wears a custom pink Rebecca Vallance dress, while her husband, Mike, sports custom Gieves & Hawkes morning wear



The Duchess of Edinburgh, wearing Suzannah London, joins Princess Anne on day two. Right: Carole with her husband, Michael; and Gabriella



the opening day, despite having been tipped as the favourite to win.

When asked about the appeal of Ascot by ITV Racing, Camilla replied: "I love it," lamenting the losses by two of her horses in the races. "You can but hope," she added.

"It's the best of British, really, isn't it?" she said of the racing festival. "It doesn't matter whether you love horses or don't know much about them... you come here for a really good day to experience a bit of fun, the best racing in the world, the best horses and the elegant women.

"With the world we live in, it's wonderful just to get away and enjoy yourself, and that's what Ascot does. You get the pageantry and the procession – I love it. It's five days of pleasure."

The Queen certainly won in the style stakes, later donning a white buttoned coat dress and a handbag by Dior, teamed with a Philip Treacy hat and the Williamson pink diamond flower brooch, which was made by Cartier for Queen Elizabeth II in 1953. She followed up this look with a pale-green crepe silk coat dress by Fiona Clare, a Philip Treacy hat and a diamond oyster brooch.

Princess Anne, who is renowned for her sustainable style, arrived on the second day in a pastel-pink skirt suit that she first wore to Ascot 25 years ago, with the addition of a horse brooch she had donned on the opening day of the races.

Royal Ascot is known for its strict rules when it comes to race-day dressing, and the Duchess of Edinburgh, 61, surprised some onlookers in her black silk Suzannah London dress, worn with a Jane Taylor London hat and a Sophie Habsburg bag. Historically, the colour is reserved for a period of mourning or a black-tie evening event.

A more traditional look followed the next day,

as Sophie wore a blue Suzannah London dress accented with a statement pearl necklace designed by her husband, the Duke, 62, who joined her at the racecourse ahead of their 27th wedding anniversary last Friday.

The Duchess of Gloucester, 80, flew the flag for Charles's charity The King's Foundation, which is dedicated to the preservation of traditional crafts.

She wore a hat created by Finley Howie, a graduate of this year's Chanel and The King's Foundation Métiers d'Art Millinery Fellowship in partnership with Le19M and the winner of the Royal Ascot bursary for 2026.

"It was one I made right at the beginning of the course," Finley told **HELLO!** of the piece the Duchess wore on the opening day. "She got me to take off the flowers, actually, so it's simple – it's clean, elegant. I was going to remake it in a different colour, but she liked that."

A-LIST GLAMOUR

Away from the royals, big names from the world of showbusiness dusted off their finery to make their own Ascot appearances.

In a moving tribute to her late father, Ozzy Osbourne, Kelly Osbourne wore a black hat in the shape of a bat. The rocker, who died aged 76 last July, became associated with the animal when he notoriously bit off the head of a live bat during a concert in 1982.

Kelly, 41 – who recently split from her fiancé, Sid Wilson, the father of her three-year-old son, Sidney – teamed the unique creation with a black dress by Karen Millen and Gina shoes.

"My hat is designed by my favourite milliner, two women from London – they're called Hood," she said as she arrived for day one of the races. ►





From left:
Vanessa
Williams,
Georgia
Toffolo and
Jade Holland
Cooper



Ncuti Gatwa with
Saffron Hocking

"It's incredible, I've got to say – it's an ode to my father. I actually stole this bag from my mom's closet this morning. It's Chanel."

As she has done for the past few years, the former *I'm a Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here!* winner Georgia Toffolo attended every day of the races, dressing in one stylish outfit after another.

The star, who has also appeared on *Made in Chelsea*, took to social media to document her looks, which included an off-the-shoulder cream dress from My Wardrobe, Prada shoes and a Beazley Millinery hat. "Day 2... and the dress of my Ascot dreams," she wrote on Instagram.

The American actress Vanessa Williams, currently starring as Miranda Priestly in the West End production of *The Devil Wears Prada*, opted for a chic burnt-orange Edeline Lee dress, teamed with a Lock & Co Hatters hat, Christian Louboutin shoes and a Tyler Ellis clutch bag.

"I don't know if this is very Miranda or not. I feel very me in this, but my attitude towards everyone walking by is very Miranda," she said.

"I would say that about 80% nailed it and the other 20%... tried very hard. I've seen a lot of ladies hobbling in shoes that are not comfortable. I see you, gals."

The designer Jade Holland Cooper is another famous name who revels in making multiple trips to Ascot, wowing on the second day in a polka-dot gown from her own brand, Holland Cooper.

"I felt so incredibly lucky to see Catherine, Princess of Wales, and William, Prince of Wales, looking so elegant alongside the King and Queen at Royal Ascot," she wrote on Instagram.

Elsewhere, one couple who enjoyed a date at the event were the former Spice Girl Geri Halliwell-Horner, wearing her signature white, and her husband, the former Formula 1 executive Christian Horner.

DRESSED TO IMPRESS

Also in celebration mode were the *Bridgerton* actress Golda Rosheuvel, who was photographed on the opening day in a blue taffeta dress with a patchwork denim jacket, and Maura Higgins, who wore a striking custom-made white outfit.

"A wonderful day at Royal Ascot," Golda wrote on social media, posting a series of images of herself posing alongside fellow stars including Kelly Osbourne and Dame Mary Berry.

Others who were spotted enjoying a day at the races included Lord Lloyd-Webber, Mary Earps, Charlotte Hawkins, Joel Dommett and Emma Louise Connolly.

The singer James Blunt was accompanied by his wife, Sofia Wellesley, while the former Doctor Who star Ncuti Gatwa enjoyed a day out with his friend, the actress Saffron Hocking.

The actor Stanley Tucci added a touch of Hollywood flair to the carriage procession on ►

Kelly Osbourne pays tribute to her late father, Ozzy, in a bat-shaped hat by the London-based milliner Hood





Wearing her signature white, Geri Halliwell-Horner arrives with her husband, Christian Horner



day three, travelling down the racecourse with his wife, the literary agent Felicity Blunt, and Lord and Lady Cavendish.

The *Devil Wears Prada* actor, dressed in full morning suit and top hat, waved to racegoers from his spot in the horse-drawn carriage.

The actor's inclusion in the procession demonstrates his growing friendship with the King. Last year, he organised a dinner with a focus on sustainable food at Highgrove, the monarch's residence in Gloucestershire, and later attended the annual awards ceremony for The King's Foundation.

Meanwhile, Felicity's clients have included the late author Dame Jilly Cooper, who was a dear friend of the Queen. **H**

REPORT: MIRANDA THOMPSON & LAURA BENJAMIN

Stanley Tucci waves to the crowds before his wife, Felicity Blunt (below left), chats to the King]

Above from left: Golda Rosheuvel, Ladies Eliza and Amelia Spencer, and Maura Higgins



The Queen
has become
a "stalwart of
the monarchy",
Catherine
Mayer says

FIRM FAVOURITES

*Discussing the challenges faced by royal women,
the biographer Catherine Mayer looks at the successes
and struggles of Camilla, Kate and Meghan*



Catherine has sympathy for the Duchess of Sussex, and praises Kate's adaptability. Below: The royal biographer meets the Queen earlier this year



Royal women have faced struggles throughout history – and in her new book, the royal biographer Catherine Mayer explores the challenges confronted by the Queen, the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of Sussex, as well as past figures including Diana, Princess of Wales, Queen Victoria and Anne Boleyn.

In an exclusive interview for **HELLO!**'s A Right Royal Podcast, the author discusses how a calm and composed Kate has managed to establish a unique role within the Firm.

"She has done such a clever job of finding a way to adapt to the institution," says Catherine, who published a biography of Prince Charles, as he was then, in 2015. "That does not mean that I think she has it easy. [But she has done] very little speaking about who she is. She's quite enigmatic."

"She and William have chosen a group of friends who do no media. They are carving out a very private life in the public eye, which is an enormously difficult thing to do."

going on," she says. "The expectation that she should have [understood] comes from people who don't know what it's like behind palace doors. I know enough to know that it would have completely wrong-footed me."

In contrast, Camilla's image has been completely transformed in a positive way. "She has the most amazing arc of all of the women in the book. She's now seen as a stalwart of the monarchy as opposed to the biggest threat that it faced. It's an incredible change. Camilla just comes in and takes to [royal life] like a duck to water."

"I think part of the reason that she and Charles have such a good relationship is the similarity in their backgrounds. They have a world view that is, in many ways, closely aligned."

REPORT: LAURA BENJAMIN

Divide and Rule: Royal Women and Their Battles by Catherine Mayer is out now, published by HQ, priced £22

KATE'S SUCCESS

Catherine says that Kate is "a player of the long game" when it comes to both her reputation and her sense of style. "She has, if you look at her fashion evolution, definitely figured out how to present herself. She's gone almost entirely into the silver-screen age, which says 'classic and elegant'. She never tries to go high fashion in a way that would be challenging."

When faced with tests of her reputation, Kate has always stayed calm, the author says. "That's part of what turned things around for her – her absolute refusal to panic and change things, because she's stayed true to [herself]."

Discussing the Duchess of Sussex, Catherine says that Meghan "had great people working for her" during her time as a senior royal.

"I don't think she necessarily understood how great those people working for her were, but I understand why she didn't understand what was



A portrait of the Prince of Wales, Prince Charles, sitting outdoors in a grassy field. He is wearing a light blue button-down shirt and dark trousers. He has a beard and is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. His hands are clasped in his lap, and he is wearing a watch on his left wrist. The background is a soft-focus landscape with green hills and a body of water in the distance.

MAN OF THE PEOPLE

As he celebrates his birthday, the Prince of Wales is ready to share his true personality

The portrait shared by William and Kate to mark their 15th wedding anniversary, featuring their children, George, Louis and Charlotte, and two dogs, Orla and Otto; below, the couple in Northern Ireland last year



As he turns 44, the Prince of Wales is opening up. In recent months, he has offered dozens of glimpses into the man behind the title.

Whether discussing his “terrible taste in music”, his passion for Aston Villa football club or his pride in his wife’s recovery from cancer, Prince William has revealed more of his personality to the public than ever before.

One such moment came earlier this month, when William was put on the spot by a young activist who asked whether he had discussed menstruation with his children.

It was a conversation that would once have been unthinkable for a future monarch. But in a split-second, his expression turned from surprise – and perhaps the briefest hint of embarrassment – to a self-deprecating laugh, followed by a poised and thoughtful response.

“I know I will have to one day, but I might need my wife to help me with that,” he said.

Deftly handled by the man who will one day be King, it gave great insight into the way in which he approaches family discussions, leaning on the Princess for support.

These moments of openness from William – who celebrated his birthday on Sunday – are becoming increasingly common. They show us who he is and the values that will shape his reign.

At the centre of his vision is his family. He is determined to ensure that his children’s upbringing is as stable, loving and normal as

possible – and at the heart of it all is Kate. In recent months, he has been candid about her importance to him, admitting that their family “couldn’t cope without her”.

And when the singer Ronan Keating mentioned William to Kate during an outing in early June, saying, “We love him”, she replied with a smile: “So do I.”

“He and Catherine are a team – they always have been,” a friend of the Prince tells **HELLO!**.

As for William’s mindset – two years on from the most “brutal” year of his life, after both Kate and his father, the King, received a cancer diagnosis – he is in a good place. Pointing to his recent appearance on the Heart Breakfast radio show, the friend adds: “He’s so relaxed and down to earth. You saw it there. What you see is what you get.”

RELATABLE FAMILY MAN

That ease has been increasingly visible in public. William appears comfortable with people seeing aspects of his life that resonate with parents across the country – whether it is the chaos of the school run, endless arguments over the family playlist or dancing along to Taylor Swift with his daughter, Princess Charlotte.

Friends and staff often mention his keen sense of humour, which was in evidence during the Heart interview when the host Amanda Holden tried to persuade him to pick a favourite song, telling him: “I’m being lowered into the ground to Dancing Queen.” ►





The Prince with Kylie Minogue and Shawn Mendes at the 2025 Earthshot Prize awards ceremony in Rio de Janeiro

Below: William watches Aston Villa win the Europe League in May, then chats to Amanda Holden on the radio the following morning

Deadpan and quick as a flash, the Prince responded: "Today?"

Days earlier, he looked ecstatic as he watched his beloved Aston Villa's historic triumph in the Europa League final in Istanbul, surrounded by friends he has known since childhood.

We now know William better than ever before. Yet at the same time, he remains fiercely protective of the things that matter most to him.

He is often seen standing at the side of a sports pitch, holding bags of kit, while watching one of his children compete. Onlookers may be surprised to see him, but photos rarely emerge; the Prince reveals things on his own terms.

A small staff and a very close circle of trusted, long-standing friends have helped to create the sanctuary he values so highly. The public may be seeing more of his personality, though not at the expense of his family's privacy.

But William knows that to succeed as a modern monarch, he needs to be relatable. He also needs purpose. His Earthshot Prize and Homewards initiatives are key examples of how he has found

it. Along with his official overseas trips, Earthshot has established him as an international statesman. Homewards has proved his determination to tackle tough social problems. Both reflect his unwillingness to simply raise awareness of an issue; he wants action and measurable outcomes. He calls himself a "stubborn optimist".

An aide to the Prince tells **HELLO!:** "He continues to be driven by impact and delivering for communities up and down the country. As he's previously said, the Prince comes with no agenda other than using his platform for good."

A particularly revealing moment came last October, when William met Rhian Mannings, who had lost her husband to suicide in 2012, five days after the death of their one-year-old son, George. As she recalled her experience, the Prince's eyes shone with tears.

It was a reminder that behind the future King's growing confidence as a leader lies an empathy shaped by his own experience of grief and loss. Those who work alongside him on the causes he champions see this up close.

MODERN LEADER

The youth climate activist Ernest Gibson, a member of the Earthshot Prize Council, describes "kind and gentle" interactions with the Prince, who wants to hear from every person in a meeting.

"It turns a lot of the preconceived ideas of what leadership looks like on their head," he says of William's style. "I think he's given a really good example of what leadership in the 21st century ought to look like."

With a flair for empathetic leadership, the heir to the throne is managing to tackle deadly serious issues, such as homelessness and climate change, with a warmth and optimism that inspires others to act. His willingness to reveal more of himself has enabled the public to connect with him in a way that previous generations of the royal family have not always managed.

If there is one area of his life that remains unresolved, however, it is his relationship with his brother. When the Duke of Sussex visits the UK next month, there will be no meeting. The brothers have reportedly not spoken for years.

Those close to William say that he is focused on the future rather than the past. Anchored by his marriage to Kate and the life they have built together, he appears comfortable in his own skin.

His causes give him purpose, his family provides stability and his growing openness and humour help the public to connect with him in a new way.

At 44, the Prince of Wales is no longer simply preparing to be King. Increasingly, he is showing the country what kind of monarch he intends to become. **H**

REPORT: EMILY NASH



William visits
RAF Valley,
where he is the
Royal Honorary
Air Commodore,
in Holyhead,
Wales, in April





GARTER DAY GIGGLES

As the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of Edinburgh show their support for the King and Queen, their sisterly bond is clear for all to see



Kate, in a dress by Patrick McDowell, shares a laugh with Sophie before the royal procession, led by the King (below)

With their curtseys in sequence like a miniature Mexican wave, the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of Edinburgh displayed their sisterly bond as they showed support for the King and Queen during Garter Day at Windsor Castle.

The King is Sovereign of the Order of the Garter, which, at nearly 700 years old, is Britain's oldest and most senior order of chivalry. The annual procession last week provided the royal family with an opportunity for a show of unity.

Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor did not attend, having been banned following the controversy surrounding his friendship with the late sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

He last took part in the procession in 2019 but continued to attend other parts of the event until last year, when he enjoyed the private lunch before the service at St George's Chapel. Andrew also wore his Garter robes at the King's

coronation in 2023. Andrew was arrested in February on suspicion of misconduct in public office and remains under police investigation. He denies any wrongdoing.

This year, he was not invited to the lunch or the procession, having been removed from the Order of the Garter in late 2025 in an announcement that also stripped him of his titles of Prince and Duke of York.

CEREMONIAL ROBES

Kate and Sophie, who appeared to share a joke, watched the procession from the Galilee Porch of the chapel, smiling broadly at the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh as they walked past in their grand blue velvet robes and plumed Tudor bonnets. The Princess Royal also took part in the parade.

Kate wore a pale-yellow coat dress by Patrick McDowell, whom she presented with the ►







Kate and William return to Windsor Castle by carriage after the blessing at St George's Chapel



Queen Elizabeth II Award for British Design last year. It was made from fabric woven by Stephen Walters in Suffolk.

She finished her outfit with a wide-brimmed hat by Jane Taylor, trimmed with the same fabric, and earrings by Robinson Pelham that she received as a wedding gift from her parents and wore on the day, 15 years ago.

She and Sophie, in a white dress with a pink-and-blue floral motif and co-ordinating two-toned hat, waved to the crowd and chatted animatedly as they waited.

STRONG BOND

It was a reminder of the pair's close relationship, which commentators have described as a deep friendship.

Ingrid Seward, a royal biographer and editor-in-chief of *Majesty* magazine, told **HELLO!** in 2024 that both women were "incredibly kind" and that they were united by their shared experiences of marrying into the royal family, motherhood and health concerns.

"They have a sisterly bond, and Sophie is like the older sister Kate never had," Ingrid said.

One notable gesture came at the Cenotaph in November 2024, when Sophie placed a hand on Kate's shoulder as they left the Remembrance Day commemorations. It came two months after the Princess had announced that she was cancer-free.

Ingrid said of the gesture: "[It] is something you wouldn't have seen [previously]. Sophie also has experience of life-threatening illness – she nearly died when her daughter, Louise, was born."

Before the procession and service, Charles was joined by Camilla, Prince William, Prince ►





The King and Queen, and William, wear velvet robes and Tudor bonnets for the annual procession, accompanied by the knights, a marching band and officers of the Order of the Garter

Edward, Princess Anne and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester at a lunch to mark the occasion before they made their way to St George's Chapel.

The royal party walked down Castle Hill, following the Military Knights of Windsor and the Heralds and followed by a detachment of The King's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard.

EUROPEAN ROYAL CONNECTION

The Order comprises the King and Queen, the Prince of Wales and 24 appointed companions.

There are also supernumerary knights and ladies, who include other members of the royal family as well as heads of foreign royal families, such as Carl XVI Gustaf, the King of Sweden, Harald V, the King of Norway, and Princess

Beatrix of the Netherlands. Notable figures taking part this year included the former prime minister Sir Tony Blair, the former Conservative Party chairman Lord Patten and the former diplomat and Labour peer Baroness Amos.

The Duke of Kent, 90, and the Olympic gold medallist Lady Mary Peters, 86, both attended the service but did not take part in the procession.

The service began with the installation of three new Garter members: the historian Lord Hennessy of Nympsfield, the former cabinet secretary Lord O'Donnell and the former Lord Chief Justice Lord Burnett of Maldon.

They were invested in the Garter Throne Room before taking their places in their stalls, followed by the King, before the congregation

joined in the Lord's Prayer. After a final blessing from the Bishop of Winchester, the royal family emerged from the chapel's West Door and took their seats in carriages to return to the castle.

The King and Queen went first, waving to the more than 4,400 ticket holders who were lining the route. There were cheers and applause as they swept past. William and Kate came next, the Princess holding on to her hat in the breeze, as both waved.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester followed, as did the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, with Princess Anne and her husband, Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence.



REPORT: JACK MALVERN & EMILY NASH

THE ROYAL BRIEF

ROYAL FAMILY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

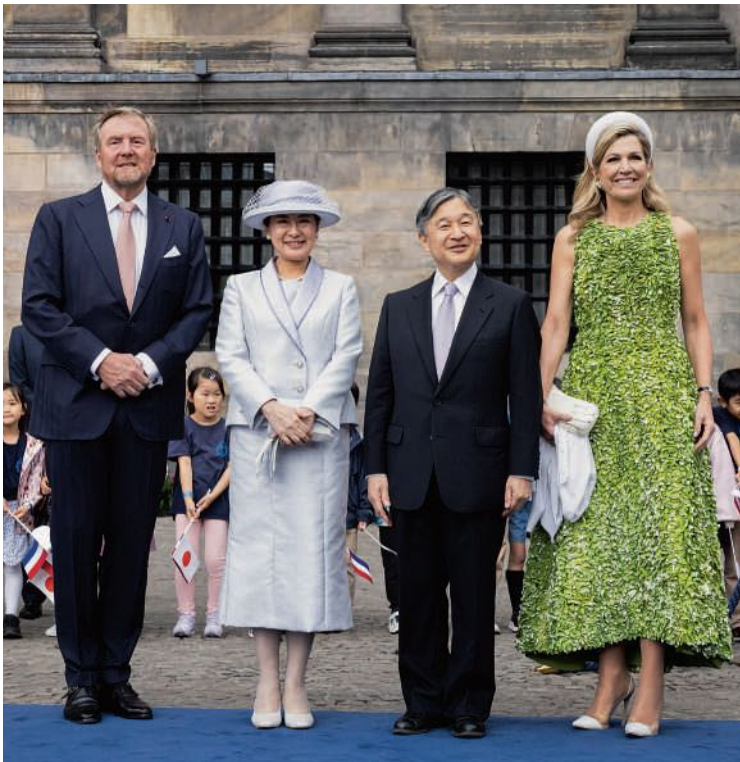
Lukas von Lattorf, 26, the grandson of the ruling Prince Hans-Adam II of Liechtenstein, married his fourth cousin once removed, Countess Marie von Wilczek, also 26, at a parish church in Stockerau in Lower Austria. The bride wore a tiara of sapphires and diamonds that had been presented to the family in 1967 as a necklace.





THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Pupils from schools in north-east England showed off their outdoor skills to Prince Edward as he visited Barnard Castle in his role as patron of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, founded by his father, Prince Philip. Edward missed the first day of Royal Ascot for the trip, which also included a visit to Production Park in Pontefract and the Royal Grammar School Newcastle.



EMPEROR NARUHITO AND EMPRESS MASAKO OF JAPAN

The heads of Japan's imperial family flew to the Netherlands on an official visit that coincided with the two countries' World Cup match. They watched the game with King Willem-Alexander and Queen Máxima at the Het Oude Loo castle, presumably relieved by the diplomatically safe scoreline of 2-2.

PRINCESS MADELEINE OF SWEDEN

In a billowing floral dress, the youngest of King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia's children visited the Royal Opera House in Stockholm for a celebration of her parents' golden wedding anniversary. Princess Madeleine arrived on the red carpet with her British-American husband Christopher O'Neill, a financier.





'I FEEL REALLY STRONG'

The presenter Lauren Laverne tells us how her illness brought her family closer together



She may be one of the UK's best-loved radio and TV presenters, but the past few years have been tough going for Lauren Laverne as she faced a cancer diagnosis.

When **HELLO!** speaks to Lauren – who hosts BBC Radio 4's Desert Island Discs and BBC Radio 6 Music's mid-morning show, as well as regularly presenting The One Show on BBC1 – she is open about how her recent health issues have affected her family.

"The kids have been absolutely extraordinary," says Lauren, 48, who was given the all-clear from cancer in November 2024.

She and her husband, the DJ and TV producer Graeme Fisher, have two sons: Fergus James, 18, and Mack, 15. "They're so brave and loving, and it brought us even closer as a family. I've been so proud of the way they've handled it."

The star, who has not disclosed the type of cancer, adds: "It's made me determined to have honest, open conversations with the kids in an age-appropriate way, so they don't get any kind of nasty surprises around the corner. Our relationship has benefited from that."

"It's really hard telling your kids you've got cancer; I wouldn't wish that on my worst enemy. But I'd say to anybody in that position: 'Your kids will surprise you with how strong, resilient and brilliant they can be.'"

Lauren, whose cancer was discovered during a routine screening, says that she feels "really good right now", adding: "I feel as though I know myself – I feel really strong. I've been through some incredibly difficult things and I kept going. I'm really proud of that."

Now, she's supporting Big Give's Small Charity Week by raising awareness of the charity Beauty Banks, which supplies essential toiletries and personal-care

products to people living in poverty. "It was co-founded by one of my best friends, the wonderful [journalist] Sali Hughes," she says.

The charity provides sanitary products for girls and also helps elderly people who are struggling financially. "It's important to give them dignity, and access to these basics. It's not something that anybody in the UK in 2026 should be experiencing," she says.

Big Give, a match-funding platform, works with large donors to double all donations made by members of the public. The Small Charity Week runs until 29 June.

KEEPING COOL

Workwise, Lauren is keeping busy with her many hosting gigs. The One Show is "the best fun," she says.

In the Nineties, she was lead singer and guitarist in the band Kenickie, and her impressive music connections make her the envy of many – but it's only recently that her children have noticed.

"I don't know how cool they think their mum is," she says. "A turning point came when my eldest asked: 'Have you met the Wu-Tang Clan?' I said: 'Yeah.' He went: 'Really?' I said: 'Yeah, that's my job!'"

"Music's big in our house," she adds. "My 18-year-old is forever making playlists and going to clubs to see DJs. He's at film school and my little one is into fashion."

It's no surprise that, with a hectic work life, Lauren's weekends are sacrosanct. "It's about doing absolutely sod all," she says. "A big shop, reading a book... I might plant some dahlias. Rock'n'roll Monday to Friday, gardening at the weekend."

INTERVIEW: SOPHIE HAMILTON

To find out more about Big Give's Small Charity Week and to donate, visit donate.biggive.org



Facing page: Lauren at Glastonbury Festival in 2025, when she hosted the BBC's coverage; and with fellow presenter Angellica Bell, who takes a selfie with the cast of *The Devil Wears Prada 2* on *The One Show* in April

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TYRA BANKS

Model sues Netflix for defamation

Tyra Banks has filed a defamation lawsuit against Netflix and the directors of a documentary series about America's Next Top Model, the reality show she presented.

The model, 52, said that she gave the team behind Reality Check: Inside America's Next Top Model more than three hours of interview time, but the footage was edited to "support a false and defamatory narrative", the lawsuit says.

"The accountability Ms Banks took ended up on the cutting-room floor. It was there, but viewers were never given the opportunity to see it."



SERENA AND VENUS WILLIAMS

Tennis stars score Wimbledon wild card

Tennis champions Serena and Venus Williams will reunite on the court at Wimbledon this summer.

The sisters have been given a wild card to compete in the women's doubles at the tournament in south-west London. It starts on 29 June and runs until 12 July.

Serena, who has won 23 Grand Slam singles titles during a stellar career, played her first match since 2022 alongside doubles partner Victoria Mboko at the HSBC Championships at Queen's Club in London earlier this month. The pair had to withdraw when Victoria suffered an injury.



TEDDIE BEVERLEY

Last of The Beverley Sisters dies aged 99

Teddie Beverley, who rose to stardom with her siblings in The Beverley Sisters, has died at the age of 99.

Teddie, her twin, Babs, and their elder sister, Joy, found fame in the Fifties with hits including I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus and Little Drummer Boy. The group, who were once Britain's highest-paid female entertainers, were known for their matching clothes and hairstyles.

Joy died in 2015 and Babs three years later. Teddie is survived by her daughter, Sasha, and a granddaughter, Francesca.

7 DAYS

A ROUND-UP OF NEWS REPORTS



STORY OF THE WEEK

JEREMY CLARKSON

Presenter reveals cancer diagnosis

Jeremy Clarkson has revealed that he has received a diagnosis of "aggressive" prostate cancer. He shared the news during the final two episodes of the fifth series of his documentary series, Clarkson's Farm, which premiered last week.

"I've got cancer," he told his co-stars Kaleb Cooper and Charlie Ireland, adding that he had known since May – the series was filmed in 2025 – and had undergone an operation to remove part of his prostate.

"I won't know whether it's worked or not until November, probably," he said. "I don't know what's going to happen. If this is all successful, I'll see you for season six."

Earlier, he had warned his followers on social media about the serious content, saying that he tries to keep the show "bucolic and charming" but that the two episodes in question would be "none of those things".

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

'I'm just at an age now where I care a lot less what people think'

Louise Redknapp knows her own mind

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PERRIE EDWARDS

Little Mix singer marries football star

The former Little Mix star Perrie Edwards has married the footballer Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain in a private ceremony in Portugal.

The couple, who have a son, Axel, four, and a five-month-old daughter, Alanis, exchanged vows in the tranquil village of Estoi. "It was the best day of my life – up there with the births of my children," Perrie, 32, said afterwards.

She wore a lace dress by Dana Harel for the ceremony, describing the gown as "so classic and timeless". Perrie's former bandmates Jade Thirlwall and Leigh-Anne Pinnock were among the guests.



THE WOMBLES

Eco-heroes set to return to screens

The beloved children's characters The Wombles are making a comeback.

Created by the author Elisabeth Beresford in the Sixties, the group of litter-picking furry creatures – including Great Uncle Bulgaria, Orinoco and Madame Cholet – are set to entertain new audiences following a consolidation of the brand's intellectual property rights.

An official Wombles YouTube channel, featuring new content, will launch this summer, with a TV show, a big-budget film and audio productions featuring celebrity casts reportedly on the horizon.



DAME JUDI DENCH

West End theatre to be renamed after star

The Shaftesbury Theatre in London's West End is to be renamed in honour of Dame Judi Dench.

The actress has worked with the Taffner family, whose media company, DLT Entertainment, operates the theatre. She was also a founding member of the Theatre of Comedy Company, which had shares in the venue.

"To have this beautiful theatre renamed after me is truly overwhelming," Judi, 91, said last week.

"Live theatre continues to be so important as a way of telling stories and entertaining audiences, something I have aimed to do all my working life."

PUZZLE TIME

TIME TO
TAKE A
BREAK

*Train your brain with our tea-break teasers.
Answers in issue 1950*

WORDSEARCH

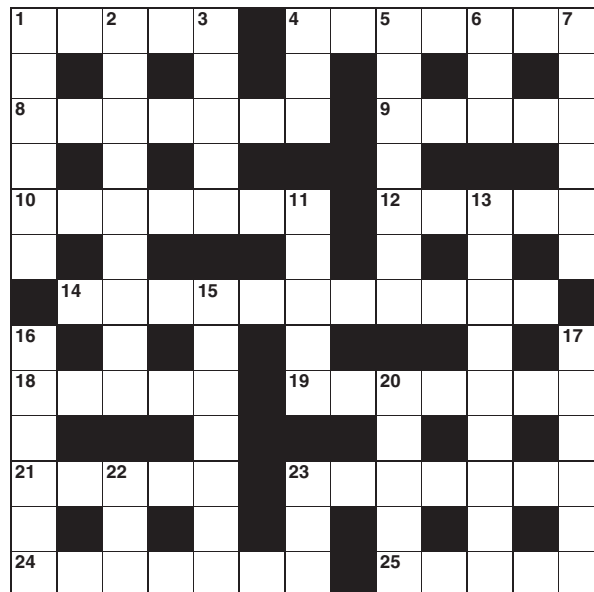


Locate all these insects in the grid. The answers always appear in a straight line – forwards, backwards, up, down or diagonally. You can use letters in the grid more than once.

BEETLE
BUTTERFLY
CRANEFLY
CRICKET
DRAGONFLY
FIREFLY
FLEA
GNAT
GREENFLY
HORNET

KATYDID
LACEWING
LADYBIRD
LOCUST
LOUSE
MIDGE
MOSQUITO
MOTH
SKIPPER
WASP

CROSSWORD



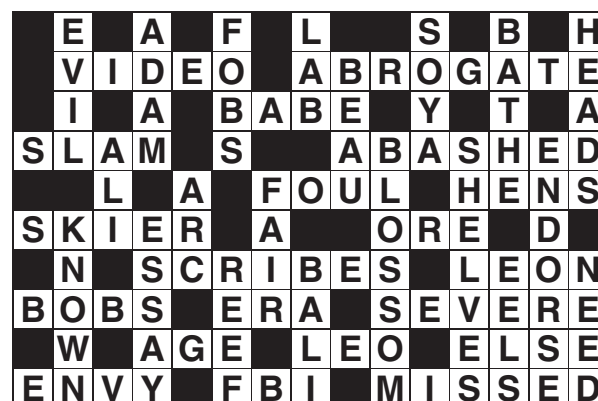
ACROSS

- Guitar-like Indian instrument (5)
- Have a change of heart (7)
- Welsh cheese on toast (7)
- Express indirectly (5)
- Non-portable (computer) (7)
- Fad, craze (5)
- Stack of decaying vegetation (7,4)
- Snake found in the UK (5)
- Acquit without blame (7)
- Haggard (5)
- ___ heaven, blissful state (7)
- Proposition yet to be proven (7)
- Person using oars (5)

DOWN

- Step purposefully (6)
- Sill of a house door (9)
- Mechanical person (5)
- Stuck in a ___, dull routine (3)
- Success (7)
- Naughty sprite (3)
- Array of telephone buttons (6)
- Staple food of Italy (5)
- Second-hand (6,3)
- Spouse (7)
- Outlaw (6)
- Restricting-rope (6)
- Cut right through (5)
- Amazement (3)
- Arithmetic problem (3)

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS



'THERE'S HOPE FOR ANYONE'

The celebrity chef Nisha Katona on her brave career change and her secret for staying young

HELLO!
SECOND
ACT

It was thanks to passion and her willingness to take a leap of faith that the celebrity chef Nisha Katona quit her 20-year career as a family barrister, later becoming a best-selling cookery writer and restaurant owner.

In between long hours in chambers, Nisha, 54, enjoyed showing people how to cook the traditional Indian dishes that her mother had taught her, and realised that she needed to write a recipe book to pass on the tradition to her daughters.

"I wrote it and then thought: 'I don't know how to publish a book.' So I looked inside a Jamie Oliver cookbook and Googled some of the names in it – one was his agent. I put my pride to one side and sent her a little video of my proposal," Nisha tells Ateh Jewel on this week's episode of **HELLO!**'s Second Act podcast.

"Within ten minutes, she rang me, wanting to meet on Monday. I remember getting that phone call, going out into the garden and sitting on the children's swings, thinking: 'Oh my God, a door has just flung open.' That was the beginning of that second phase. Suddenly my life was charging into food, which was my passion."

FRESH START

Following the idea for her book, she felt inspired to establish her first restaurant. Mowgli Street Food, in Liverpool, opened in 2014 to great success, and she eventually gave up her secure career to throw herself into expanding the chain, which now comprises 26 restaurants.

Her family – and even bank managers – initially had concerns. "A woman in the bank said: 'You've got a steady job. What are you doing that for?'" says Nisha, who has appeared on *Celebrity MasterChef*. "But it's an involuntary thing. If you're an entrepreneur, you have to do it. Otherwise, you'll feel like: 'What am I living for?' There's a door with a light flashing over it. I've got to go through that door."

Nisha, who has been married for more than 25 years to Zoltán, a classical guitarist, lost three stone after being diagnosed with chronic Crohn's disease in her bowel last year. "It was scary – I felt as though I was going to die," she says.

But she isn't letting her condition hold her back. "Life does not end at 40 or 50 or 60. It's a new beginning, and we are at our best in our second act. There's hope for anyone."

"The most important thing is being joyful and having purpose – it keeps you hungry and happy."

If you do the things you love, it keeps you young and glowing from the inside. **H**



Listen to **HELLO!**'s Second Act podcast now on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Podcasts and YouTube



STAR POWER

Johannes Radebe, the new co-host of Strictly Come Dancing, on his enchanting encounter with the Prince and Princess of Wales

As he continues to wow the West End in the hit musical *Kinky Boots*, 2026 is only getting better for Johannes Radebe.

Following the departures of the presenters Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman from *Strictly Come Dancing*, the 39-year-old South African dancer will join Emma Willis and Josh Widdicombe as the hit show's new co-hosts when the next series begins in September.

Describing his thrilling career move as “beyond anything I ever imagined”, he wrote in a statement: “This show has always stood for joy, heart and togetherness, and I feel deeply honoured to help carry that magic forward. I’m ready – sequins, nerves and all.”

Speaking to **HELLO!**, Johannes, who joined *Strictly* as a professional dancer in 2018, is on a high as he explains why he believes the stars have aligned to bring him success.

“I think it’s divine intervention, coupled with hard work,” he says. “When you strive, opportunity will meet you. If you don’t do that, nothing will happen.”

“When my bosses at Burn the Floor [the famous ballroom-dancing show in which he toured the world] planted the idea in my mind that the place for my artistry to blossom would be the UK, I put myself forward and everything just aligned.”

“But it was never about the glitterball for me; it was about the dream.”

STAUNCH SUPPORTERS

Johannes, who was raised in the township of Zamdela, describes his Aunt Martha as one of his “greatest champions”. She helped him to blaze a trail as a dancer before her death during the Covid-19 pandemic.

“In my culture, we believe that when people pass away they become a watchful eye,” he says. “I believe there are people who have passed who would have wished this for me.”



Johannes is currently appearing as drag queen Lola in *Kinky Boots* at the London Coliseum

'PRINCE WILLIAM WOULD SURPRISE US ALL ON THE DANCEFLOOR'

Looking forward to the new season of *Strictly*, Johannes, who has previously danced with celebrity contestants including Annabel Croft and John Whaite, insists that he will definitely be "throwing some shapes".

Until then, he continues to dazzle audiences in his dream role as drag queen Lola in *Kinky Boots*, a musical adaptation of the 2005 film that's currently playing in the West End.

"It's absolutely wild and beautifully overwhelming," he says. "The sheer size of the Coliseum makes my tummy flutter."

His first singing role was, he admits, such a "daunting" prospect that he took lessons for two years before auditioning for the part. "I was a performative child and would belt out songs at home," he recalls, "but I never had the confidence to sing in front of people, so I had to get over that."

Johannes, who has faced bullying and homophobia since he was a child, has been conquering challenges all his life. His best-selling 2023 book, *Jojo: Finally Home*, which charts his rollercoaster ride to stardom, is now being turned

into a film. As an executive producer, he has the opportunity to choose who will play his beloved mother, Jacobeth, and himself.

"There are so many Jojos roaming the streets of Zamdela, and it would be lovely to find someone who walked a similar path," he says.

"So I will be going to South Africa to find him, and also plan to open it to the rest of Africa and the world. There will be a young Jojo and an older Jojo. The question is, though, should I play myself?"

The dancer credits **HELLO!** magazine, which ran his first exclusive interview after he arrived in the UK in 2018, with playing a part in his story. "I will never forget as long as I live. Thank you," he tells us. "I'm so grateful for being seen as a human being and for being championed on this journey."

"It's a mad, wild industry, but what you did really shaped my career. I will never forget that."

ROYAL FANS

Jojo has also enchanted royalty. The Queen and the Duchess of Edinburgh were already firm fans when he charmed the Prince and Princess of Wales with a number from *Kinky Boots* at the Royal Variety Performance last year.

"I was still in my denim boots, in full drag. William said: 'I don't know how you do it in those heels!' I replied: 'I can teach you if you like.' We both laughed. I curtsied to his father, the King, once, and did so for William, too."

"As for Catherine, I'd never been that close to her before. There's something so angelic and regal about her. She was so gracious, talking to everyone, and really engaged."

"I'd love to do a waltz with her, to Audrey Hepburn's *Moon River*. I think William would surprise us all on the dance floor, in a **H** fluorescent samba costume!"

INTERVIEW: SALLY MORGAN

Kinky Boots runs at the London Coliseum until 11 July

DON'T MISS THIS WEEK...



EXHIBITION

SUPERNATURAL TENDENCIES

The artist and film-maker Charlotte Colbert prepares to transform London's historic Fitzrovia Chapel into an immersive exhibition exploring themes of dreams and unseen worlds, accompanied by a soundscape created in collaboration with the musician Birdy.

At the Fitzrovia Chapel, London, from 1 to 9 July



BOOK

THE FINAL SIX

This gripping Japanese bestseller, recently published in English, follows six people in the running for a coveted tech job who discover mysterious envelopes containing career-ending secrets.

By Akinari Asakura, out now, published by Sphere, priced £20



TV

HOUSE OF THE DRAGON

HBO's smash-hit *Game of Thrones* prequel returns with an action-packed third season, in which a sweeping royal war of succession continues to rage within House Targaryen. Matt Smith (above) and Emma D'Arcy star.

Out now on HBO Max, Sky Atlantic and Now TV



FILM

SUPERCIRL

Milly Alcock (above) stars in the DC Universe's latest feature, which follows Supergirl as she reluctantly teams up with an unlikely companion to face a ruthless enemy, embarking on an epic interstellar journey of vengeance.

In UK cinemas from Thursday

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S
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E
G



Avoiding the airports this summer? Mariella Frostrup shares tips on creating a holiday environment at home, while we look at how to be a chic wedding guest



Emilia Wickstead was a fitting choice for Harriet Sperling's wedding to Peter Phillips earlier this month. The New Zealand-born, London-based designer has long been a favourite among royal women, particularly the Princess of Wales, when it comes to milestone occasions. She is also a popular choice among wedding guests, thanks to her elegant, sophisticated aesthetic. Clockwise from left: **Ragna dress**, £2,100, **Renne dress**, £1,510, and **Marione dress**, £1,350

DEMI-BESPOKE

The London-based brand The Fold offers premium womenswear with an exclusive, limited-edition appeal. Often described as "the feminine answer to Savile Row", it is particularly known for its tailoring and elegant suits, offering pieces that work just as well in the office as they do at weddings, summer events and other special occasions. **Capri stretch-cotton dress**, £425, and **Doppio crepe Clifton jacket**, £435



GUEST OF HONOUR

Wedding season has arrived, bringing with it the search for the perfect guest outfit... here, we select some smart buys to see you through

WEAR ON REPEAT

When wedding invitations start to arrive, the smartest buys are the ones that earn their place in your wardrobe long after the last dance. The premium high-street brand Jigsaw strikes that balance well. Its dresses and tailoring feel polished enough for weddings and summer celebrations, yet versatile enough to slip seamlessly into everyday rotation. High-quality fabrics and flattering cuts give pieces the longevity that makes the cost-per-wear equation look particularly appealing. **Frill plisse maxi dress**, £249, and **cashmere longline cardigan**, £249

FASHION



1



6

5



FINISHING TOUCHES

Wedding season can quickly become an expensive affair, which is why neutral accessories are among the hardest-working pieces. Many guests prefer not to repeat the same dress or suit in front of the same crowd, but accessories tend to escape such scrutiny. Timeless nude heels, a classic clutch or an understated hat will work across multiple outfits, making them a smart investment.

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Becky
Donaldson
with Savannah
Miller at the
event

A FASHION EDITOR'S LOVE LETTER TO...

Savannah Miller's Meet the Maker series

I recently attended a lunch hosted by a seven-months-pregnant Savannah Miller and the jewellery designer Dinny Hall, alongside the model Jodie Kidd (pictured below) and the actresses Remmie Milner, Mika Simmons and Pearl Mackie.

Held in a private dining room at The Princess Royal, a pub in Notting Hill, the gathering formed part of Savannah's Meet the Maker series, which brings together women for hands-on craft workshops and creative conversations.

The fashion designer is on a mission to encourage people to put down their phones and reconnect with their creative instincts by learning new skills. Many of the previous workshops, which focused on crafts such as calligraphy and willow-weaving, were hosted in the Cotswolds, at The Double Red Duke in Clanfield, close to where Savannah lives.

"I loved seeing the impact they had," she says. "People feel as though they have literally awakened the maker within themselves."

Dinny was a natural choice to lead the jewellery workshop, with Savannah explaining that she has admired the designer's work since childhood. "Sienna [her actress sister] and I used to be – and still are – die-hard fans of her hoops," she says.

Before the workshop began, guests were invited to colour in the jewellery sketches that Dinny had drawn in notebooks placed at each setting. Ahead of the activity, the designer guided me through some of her newest creations.

My favourite was a new ring called A Bit on the Side, designed so that its central stone sits between two fingers. It immediately secured a place on my wish list.

Becky Donaldson, HELLO!'s head of fashion



OLD FAVOURITE

Coast has long been a destination for both wedding guests and those seeking occasionwear in general. If you favour a co-ordinated approach, its extensive selection of hats and fascinators can be paired with matching dresses for a polished head-to-toe look.

This season, Lisa Tan Millinery has collaborated with the brand on some standout headpieces.

Lisa Tan bow-detail pillbox fascinator, £99, and Mega Bow twill dress, £149



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**SCAN NOW
TO JOIN**

I'm not booking a summer holiday this year. How can I create a holiday environment at home and feel as though I've had a break?

Having just spent a rare two full weeks at my home in Somerset, without having to pack up my "trolley dolly" and set off for an overnight work trip or an appointment in London, I'm all in the mood for a homestay.

The heatwave helped. There's nothing like a busy morning on your laptop followed by a post-lunchtime doze on a sun lounger, and my dog, Moby, is a joy-generating machine. Watching him bound around the fields without a care in the world is infectious.

MAKE YOURSELF RELAX

For me, it's the phrase "getting away from it all" that defines the perfect holiday. And in between desk work, dog walking and trying out recipes for my second cookbook, the only downside was the churn of chores calling for my attention. I woke up every morning with a nagging to-do list in my head.

For most women, home isn't a place of respite where we can put our feet up. We do around 68% of unpaid care work in the UK and shoulder a similar proportion of domestic responsibilities, so there are always jobs to be done – the list is endless. This means that choosing your own home as a venue for a staycation is an exercise in self-discipline.

IT'S NOT ABOUT LOCATION

The key to a successful holiday isn't geography. It's about giving yourself permission to relax; sit in the garden, eat lunch slowly with a glass of rosé and read a book during the day. If it's raining, go to the cinema. And explore where you live – walks, exhibitions, stately homes.

The UK is filled with places we ignore because they're familiar and therefore don't seem exciting, yet when we're abroad, we're flocking to see the sights.

A successful staycation means switching mindsets. You wouldn't go to a Portuguese villa and reorganise the cutlery drawer, though I know that delivers peace of mind for some. I'd rather visit the dentist, and I'm orthodontically phobic!

THE JOY OF NEW FRIENDS

I've been on a work trip that really was worth making – to the Ballymaloe Festival of Food, a fabulous gathering at the world-famous cookery school in County Cork.

Alongside an unwittingly hilarious demonstration with my partner in crime, Belles Berry (one audience member said we were like Morecambe and Wise), my favourite part of the weekend was finding a new friend, something that rarely happens in older age.

It's that moment when your eyes meet, you smile at the same joke and you realise that you are souls in tune.

So, expect to see me develop a surprising interest in Mexican chillis now that Thomasina Miers and I (together right) have found each other. Tommi's five-course Mexican feast was followed by a bracing dip in the Irish Sea.

I posted a photo on Instagram of myself in a swimsuit to remind the world that we don't all have to be model-perfect. The number of likes I got suggests there's hope for all sixty-somethings.



**HELLO!
SECOND
ACT**

Rather, make a bucket list of small pleasures: books you've meant to get around to, box sets, catching the Schiaparelli exhibition at the V&A, having lunch with old friends, taking a hike, booking a beauty treatment... all far better routes to a pleasurable break.

IGNORE THE OFFICE

Switch off the alarm clock, then set an out-of-office message and stick to it. The temptation to check in is the curse of our 24/7-connected society. Try to leave your phone in another room. One of my aspirations is a week without reading the perennially gloomy news – another good way to restore your equilibrium.

THINK OF THE POSITIVES

Savour a homemade cocktail (there are near-healthy ones in Menolicious, the cookbook I wrote with Belles Berry) while congratulating yourself on dodging the downside of holidays: hours of travel, delayed flights, mosquito bites and tourist-trap prices. I love being abroad, I'm just pointing out that nothing is going to be perfect.

SAVOUR THE GOOD THINGS ALL THE TIME

Much as I believe that we need time off, shouldn't we be trying to make normal life as fulfilling as possible, so that we don't feel the need to escape it?

As a freelancer, I live a precarious life. I don't have a regular salary, so I frequently end up working around the clock and even during the weekends. I love what I do, but I'm sometimes shattered.

That fortnight at home was a vital chance to touch base – a reminder that it's important to make time for the little things throughout the year, not just the odd week in high season.

HELLO! LOVES

Here are a few of our favourite things...



SUMMER SKIN HEROES AWAIT

Summer is officially here – but before chasing the sunshine, you should ensure that your skin is ready for it. From advanced-formula body and face SPF's to probiotic-infused aftersun and hydrating mists packed with protection, consider your sunny-season glow sorted with our favourites from Boots.



CeraVe Moisturising Cream, £10.20
(£57.63 per litre)



Naked Sundays Hydrating Glow Mist SPF 50+,
£25.20 (£336 per litre)



HABI Sunny Shield SPF 40, £7
(£140 per litre)



Boots Ingredients Hydrating Serum, £6
(£200 per litre)



No7 Prime Forever SPF 50 Primer, £19.96
(£399.20 per litre)



L'Oréal Paris Revitalift Glass Skin Liquid Cream, £13.49 (£269.80 per litre)



Daily Calm Soothing Repair Cream, £43
(£1,433.33 per litre)



Beauty of Joseon Relief Sun: Rice + Probiotics,
£15.50 (£310 per litre)



Boots Ingredients Nourishing Milky Cleanser, £9
(£45 per litre)



Soltan Once Spray SPF 30, £10.40
(£52 per litre)



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TRAVEL

SPAIN | AUSTRIA | SRI LANKA

*It isn't too late to plan
your summer holidays,
from Alpine getaways
to beachside stays*

An aerial photograph of a tropical beach. The top half of the image shows deep turquoise ocean water with white foam from waves crashing onto a wide, white sandy beach. The bottom half of the image shows a dense forest of palm trees and other tropical vegetation. Several small buildings with thatched roofs are visible among the trees. The overall scene is vibrant and idyllic, capturing the essence of a summer escape.

SUMMER ESCAPES

*With holiday season upon us, our
editors reveal what's hot – and what's cool*

HELLO! WORLD



With July on the horizon, thoughts are well and truly on the summer holidays. In our most recent travel special, we explored a variety of amazing locations across the UK that are just waiting to be explored (if you missed it, check it out online). This time, we're gazing beyond our borders to see where this year's trends will take us.

OLDIES BUT GOODIES

When it comes to holidays, Brits can be creatures of habit. Come summer, we flood the Continent in our millions, with France, Portugal, Italy and Greece all featuring in our top five international destinations.

Spain clearly leads the way, though. According to the 2025 YouGov DestinationIndex, it's the top spot for British holidaymakers – and with good reason. Sandy shores, superb tapas (and sangria) and lively cities are just a few of the draws.

It has long been a favourite, from the heyday of Hollywood glamour in the Sixties to the considered luxury on offer today – and 2026 is set to be no different.

BEAT THE HEAT

The playground whispers are spreading and in-the-know families are swapping the Mediterranean for the mountains as heatwaves and wildfires continue to plague some of Europe's more traditional holiday locations.

A new generation of Kinderhotels, on the rise in destinations such as Austria, Germany and Switzerland, is becoming an increasingly popular choice.

IN IT FOR THE LONG-HAUL

The European Union's newly implemented Entry/Exit System (EES) could cause havoc in

some of our preferred holiday spots this year. I recently travelled to Italy and, having spent two and a half hours in a queue to register just to get into the country, I was immensely grateful that I didn't have my toddlers in tow.

One way around this is to travel to countries where the EES doesn't apply. The Greeks have just decided that they are not making it mandatory this summer, while Turkey is exempt for the obvious reason that the country isn't in the EU.

If you're looking for something a little more exciting, though, why not opt for long-haul?

Heading west is an option – to the shores of the US, Canada or the Caribbean. But if you know where to look, you can wrap every type of holiday into one for a fraction of the price.

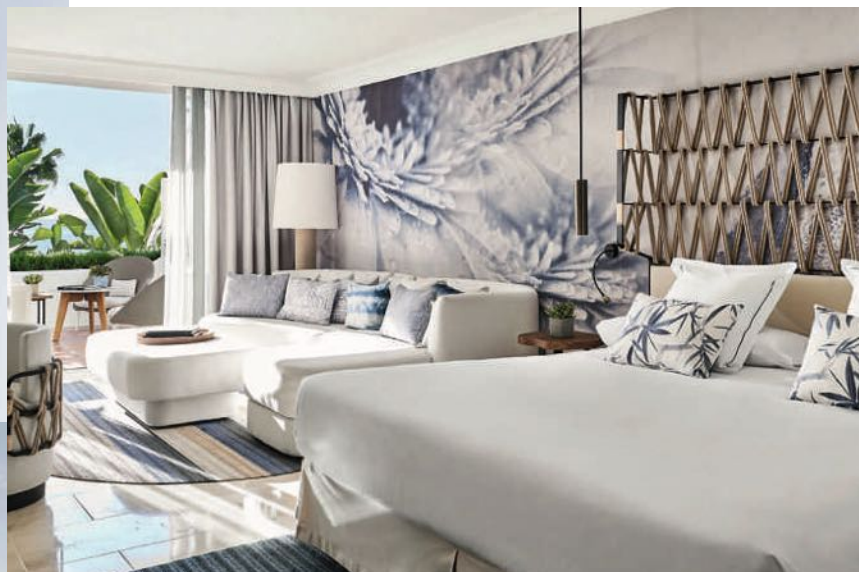
We reveal why Sri Lanka could be the answer to your summer holiday conundrum, whether you're travelling with family or friends, or heading off on that all-important honeymoon.

Clockwise from left: Marbella, Spain, a classic British holiday spot with a storied history; a site in Polonnaruwa, the ancient royal capital of Sri Lanka and a Unesco World Heritage site; and the family-friendly Alpine town of Grossarl, near Salzburg in Austria

HELLO! WORLD

New take on a classic





Clockwise from left: a luxurious suite at Puente Romano; the rooftop at the star-studded Nobu Hotel within the resort; the Costa del Sol village of Mijas Pueblo, a classic Andalucian Old Town; and Puente Romano's famed Chiringuito beach club



beach club that has real pulling power, with sought-after beds and excellent cocktails.

If you can't get a reservation, La Cabane (lacabanemarbella.com) is another popular beach club, as is La Sala (lasalabythesea.com), where the Towie cast regularly filmed their special summer episodes.

AWAY FROM THE BEACH

Marbella's Old Town is a beauty that deserves at least an afternoon of exploration. Life revolves around Plaza de los Naranjos ("orange tree square"), where citrus trees bloom and scarlet geraniums burst from every pot and windowsill.

There are ancient churches to poke your head into and pretty cobbled streets to explore, while the square is the perfect place to end your day with a tinto de verano – the Spanish summertime drink of red wine and lemonade.

Puerto Banús is Marbella's famous marina, where megayachts bob and supercars cruise. The wealth will knock you out and the people-watching is off the charts.

MARBELLA

Nowhere sashays into summer like Marbella, a famed holiday destination that has its own bikini-body mantra. "No carbs before Marbs" was made famous by the TV show *The Only Way Is Essex*, helping the city on the Costa del Sol to skyrocket in popularity among Brits.

STAR-STUDDED HISTORY

Marbella was legendary long before Gemma Collins and Mark Wright took to its beach clubs, with the likes of Brigitte Bardot, Ava Gardner and Audrey Hepburn having been photographed at Prince Alfonso de Hohenlohe-Langenburg's legendary Marbella Club Hotel in the Sixties.

Today, the city remains an A-list go-to destination. There's something about its mix of sandy coastline, yachting scene and Andalucian Old Town that ticks every box, attracting celebrities from spheres ranging from sports to Silicon Valley.

Hollywood stars are also regulars, of course, with some – such as Eva Longoria Bastón and Antonio Banderas – having bought homes here.

SEE AND BE SEEN

The place to congregate is Puente Romano (puenteromano.com), an oceanfront resort that first opened its doors in 1974 – think of it more as a cultural phenomenon than a hotel.

The estate is home to high-end boutiques (stocking Valentino and Orlebar Brown), a Six Senses Spa and a tennis academy where Novak Djokovic has played. But it's the Chiringuito

HOME FROM HOME

The only way to do Marbella properly is to rent a villa. Solmar Villas has a brilliant selection, including Casa Penati in the heart of the city, on the must-stay Golden Mile. It has a private pool, outdoor kitchen and sauna; you're also moments from Playa de Casablanca.

HOW TO DO IT

Casa Penati (sleeps ten) cost from £4,700 per week (solmarvillas.com).





PRIZE DRAW



WIN! 7 nights in Dubrovnik

We're offering readers the chance to win a chic getaway for two, worth £7,500, to this stunning Croatian city

Escape to the sun-drenched, historic shores of Dubrovnik in Croatia with an unforgettable seven-night stay at the stunning Palace Natali.

This restored 16th-century estate blends heritage charm with contemporary luxury, offering a dreamy sanctuary just moments from the city's famous Old Town.

We're offering one lucky reader and a guest the chance to win this incredible holiday, valued at around £7,500. The prize includes:

STAY: Seven nights in a Prestige Room with a private sauna, plus daily breakfast

DINING: Chef's-choice dinners at Palace Natali and Restaurant Tramuntana (including wine), plus cocktails at Cave Bar More

EXPERIENCES: A private full-day island-hopping boat excursion, an exclusive oyster tour in Mali Ston Bay and a rejuvenating couples' massage

TRAVEL: Return private airport transfers



The prize includes seven nights at the historic Palace Natali, delicious dinners, a private full-day boat trip hopping between islands and a rejuvenating couples' massage

For couples seeking style, privacy and authentic Croatian hospitality, look no further than Palace Natali. The prize is valid for redemption between 1 September 2026 and 31 October 2027 (blackout dates apply). Don't miss out – this spectacular retreat is certainly one to tick off your bucket list.

To enter, scan the QR code or visit hellomagazine.com/prize. The draw closes on 22 July and the winner will be contacted on 23 July. To arrange the stay, the winner will need to contact sales@palacenatali.com.



Terms and conditions: The prize is valid for redemption from 1 September 2026 to 31 October 2027. Blackout dates (15 July to 31 August 2027) apply; these may be subject to change. The stay must be booked at least 60 days in advance. All bookings are subject to availability at the time of booking. The prize is valid for guests aged 14 and over. The prize is valid for two people sharing; they must stay at the same time. The prize is non-transferable and non-refundable, and cannot be exchanged for cash. The prize does not include flights to and from Dubrovnik, travel insurance, additional meals, beverages or services not explicitly stated, or personal expenses; any additional costs not explicitly stated are the responsibility of the winner. Palace Natali accepts no responsibility for any loss, damage, injury or disappointment suffered as a result of entering the prize draw or accepting the prize, except where liability cannot be excluded by law. Palace Natali reserves the right to substitute the prize with another of equal or greater value if necessary. Palace Natali reserves the right to amend these terms and conditions or to cancel the prize draw in the event of force majeure or unforeseen circumstances.

HELLO! WORLD

Beat the heat



AUSTRIA

The UK registered its hottest May day on record last month, with temperatures over the second May bank holiday weekend reaching 34.8°C in south-west London.

As temperatures climb higher across the globe, travellers are increasingly eschewing traditional summer destinations in favour of “coolcation” holidays that offer milder climates and outdoor breaks without the extreme heat.

Among my friends, bookings for Greece and Spain have been replaced by holidays in Scandinavia and Scotland. And after my family managed to avoid wildfires in the south of France last June, when temperatures exceeded 35°C, I was keen to explore an alternative to the usual spots.

FAMILY ADVENTURE

It was 16°C and snow still rested on the mountain peaks of the Grossarl Valley near Salzburg, in Austria, as I arrived with my husband and our toddler for our May break at the luxury Moar Gut family resort, home to practically everything a parent – or child – could ever need.

Every day took us somewhere different: scrambling around an adventure playground, feeding my son’s “adopted” rabbit on the small on-site animal farm or splashing in the baby pool. The Lilee Baby Spa even offers specialised treatments to little ones aged three weeks and over.

The hotel’s “kinderhof” (nursery) is open from 9am until 9pm, with a continually changing rota of activities to try out, alongside superb facilities that include the best-looking soft play I’ve ever come across. Although all of its 46 rooms were booked during our stay, nowhere ever felt busy.

GLORIOUS FOOD

Although the focus is on family fun, there’s plenty to amuse the grown-ups, too. I enjoyed me-time in the adults-only spa and a gallop up a mountain on an Icelandic horse from Moar Gut’s stables.

Meanwhile, the whole family loved the food, which is included in the stay. As well as an endless breakfast spread (I counted 16 types of bread) and lunch buffet, we sat down every evening to an elegant four-course meal that included local specialities to appease even the fussiest eater. By the end of our break, our son was even asking for spätzle (buttery German pasta) instead of chips.

HOW TO DO IT

Familien Natur Resort Moar Gut (moargut.com) ranges from £545 for a double room to £2,420 for a luxury suite, including full board and childcare.

The Familien Natur Resort Moar Gut features an indoor pool (below) and a panoramic platform (above) offering yoga classes with views of the Alps





HELLO! WORLD

SRI LANKA

Travellers gravitate to the Mediterranean during the UK summer, assuming that long-haul destinations are overpriced, suffer from monsoons and are in the depths of winter.

Yet, unusually, July to September is the perfect period in which to visit Sri Lanka's east coast. This island in the Indian Ocean promises wall-to-wall blue skies, calm seas and temperatures circling around 30°C.

The region is packed with incredible experiences, too – you can cram a safari, beach and cultural holiday all into one.

SUMMER PARADISE

The combination of great weather, superb swimming and sensational sights during our summer months make the country an anomaly in the region (southern Asia and the surrounding areas are too hot and muggy).

This means that flights are not as expensive as you might think – in fact, fares in August are around a third cheaper than similar journeys in December.

Hotels are cheaper on Sri Lanka's lesser-visited east coast, too. The entire country could be classified as affordable, but this particular region is even better value than the more popular south.

MAKE LIKE THE MALDIVES

Sun Siyam Pasikudah is a five-star beach resort with all the luxuries of an Indian Ocean hotel – beach villas, private pools, a spa, sand-underfoot dining – but rates start from as little as £100 a night (sunsiyam.com).

Those looking for a honeymoon following the summer wedding season should also take note: Sun Siyam is a Maldivian-owned group, meaning that the hotel has perfected the island-fantasy style for which many newlyweds are searching.

There's a cinema under the stars, a floating bar with a glass floor and an infinity-edged swimming pool that looks as though it's been taken straight from the pages of a bridal magazine.

HOW TO DO IT Trailfinders has seven nights at Sun Siyam Pasikudah from £1,849 per person B&B, including flights and transfers (trailfinders.com).

Affordable long-haul





The Sun Siyam Pasikudah resort in Kalkudah. The five-star resort offers a beachside pool, stylish rooms and views across Sri Lanka's east coast



SICILY, ITALY

Suspended between sea and sky, Una Hotels Capotaormina is a sunny Sicilian dream carved directly into the cliffs. Overlooking the Gulf of Naxos, this four-star hotel offers a front-row seat to the dramatic peaks of Mount Etna and the shimmering waters of Isola Bella. Days here melt away on poolside loungers, and as the sun sets, the flavours of Sicily come alive at the Le Grand Bleu and Naxos restaurants, where refined regional cuisine is paired with a sea breeze. From light-filled rooms with exquisite sea views to its picturesque private beach, every corner of this cliffside stay is a masterclass in bliss.

Reservations are open; visit www.unaitalianhospitality.com

GOLDEN-HOUR GRANDEUR

Cliffside suites, private beaches and panoramic sea views – discover our edit of the best hotels for a high-summer retreat



KEMER, TURKEY

At the foot of the Taurus Mountains, with its own private bay opening up to the Mediterranean, Nirvana Dolce Vita is an ultra-all-inclusive hotel on the up-and-coming Turkish Riviera. Its private beach stretches two-thirds of a mile and comes complete with hidden coves. Choice is everything; plunge into pristine seawater pools, chase adrenaline at the water park or carve out some time for peace at the Me Spa by L'Occitane. Whether you're staying in a swim-up family suite or a private seafront villa, this stunning haven balances exciting coastal energy with complete relaxation.

Reservations are open; visit nirvanahotels.uk



IBIZA, SPAIN

Vibing on a unique frequency is Six Senses Ibiza, a masterfully secluded sanctuary nestled on the northern tip of the island along the crystalline Cala Xarraca beach. Far removed from the neon nightlife, this clifftop resort is an eco-luxury tribute to the free-spirited mystics and creatives who first fell in love with the White Isle. Here, 137 beautiful guest rooms, including sea-facing suites and beachfront offerings built directly into the bay's cliffs, are grounded in deep spirituality and sustainable design. There's also an organic farm, wellness workshops and next-generation therapies at the expansive Six Senses Spa.

Reservations are open; visit sixsenses.com

HELLO! WORLD LOVES



TUSCANY, ITALY

A quintessential Tuscan summer awaits at Versilia Lido Una Esperienze, a four-star retreat that encapsulates the effortless glamour of a classic Riviera escape. With 69 sophisticated rooms and 30 modern apartments, it's perfect for couples and families alike. Outside, there's a spectacular 80ft semi-Olympic outdoor pool, plus newly added padel and tennis courts for active afternoons under the sun. Inside, the spa has an indoor heated pool, a sauna and multi-sensory showers. As twilight falls, ascend to the hotel's rooftop restaurant to savour refined local cuisine while taking in breathtaking panoramic sea views.

Reservations are open; visit www.unaitalianhospitality.com



CATALONIA, SPAIN

Perched where the rugged Garraf Massif mountain range meets the Mediterranean, Sabàtic, Sitges, Autograph Collection is designed to make every day feel like Saturday: the region enjoys more than 300 sunny days a year. With 90 suites decorated in a soothing palette of neutral tones, each complete with a separate living room and terrace, serenity is always on the agenda. Stays here include daily yoga and Pilates, adults-only areas, a pool bar and an outdoor cinema. For gastronomy, expect seasonal dishes made using local ingredients, while the sea-view terrace plays host to live music and resident DJs.

Reservations are open; visit marriott.com



DUBROVNIK, CROATIA

Bringing a new level of luxury to the Adriatic Riviera is Rixos Premium Dubrovnik, a seafront hotel that marries the Croatian city's medieval heritage with modern glamour. Sleek interiors, adorned with works by local and international artists, double as a cultural hub, while foodies are spoilt for choice: there are four restaurants, including fine-dining terraces where renowned chefs host themed nights. The beautiful Old Town is just a short stroll away, ready to be explored following easy days lounging beside the idyllic outdoor pool overlooking the sea.

Reservations are open; visit tui.co.uk



BARBIE
Transpare umbrella, £ from Freem



NEXT
Blue 5-pack short sleeve cotton polo shirts, £15-27



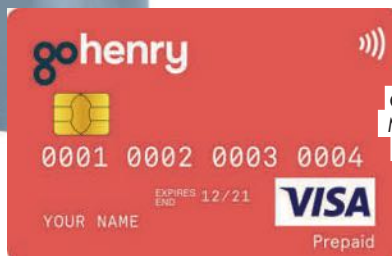
BAUHN
Children's headphones, £9.99 at Aldi



GEORGE
Red frill sleeve gingham dress, from £4.80



AIR UP
Air Up Click water bottle. £25



GO HENRY
Monthly plan, from £3.99 per child



HERSCHEL
Children's backpack, £50 from Next



F&F
Boys' 5-pack pure cotton vests, £7.50



BEST IN CLASS

Get ready for September with these school essentials – then relax and enjoy the summer holidays



BOOTS
Navy school hair set, £3.50



CRELANDO
Sticky notes cube, £0.99 at Lidl



START-RITE
Lottier patent girls' classic buckle shoes, £58



LIVING

FOOD | WELLNESS | LUXURY

*Classic recipes
from Theo Randall
celebrating the
spirit of Italy*

PANE FRATTAU

Sardinian bread with poached eggs and rich tomato sauce

Serves 4

"I sometimes have this as a brunch dish on a Sunday when the restaurant is closed. Poached eggs are my favourite, but a good fried egg works just as well. Salty pecorino brings everything together nicely. This is a classic Sardinian dish that is satisfying to make and sets you up for the day. You can find pane carasau in most good Italian delis."

INGREDIENTS

- 3 tbsp extra virgin olive oil, plus extra to serve
- 1 garlic clove, finely sliced

- 500g/1lb 2oz tomato passata
- 1½ litres/35fl oz hot vegetable stock
- 12 sheets of pane carasau
- 1 tsp white wine vinegar
- 4 very fresh eggs
- 100g/3½oz pecorino romano, grated
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

1. Put the olive oil and garlic in a saucepan over a medium heat and cook for 30 seconds, then add the passata and cook for about

15 minutes, to reduce by half. Season with salt and black pepper and keep to one side.

2. Pour the vegetable stock into a large frying pan, turn on the heat and dunk a piece of pane carasau in the hot stock for 30 seconds, so that it becomes softer. Place on a wire rack, then repeat with all of the pane carasau.

3. Add the vinegar and a good pinch of salt to a saucepan of boiling salted water. Whisk the water to create a whirlpool, then

carefully crack in the eggs, turn down the heat and let the eggs poach (2 minutes for a runny yolk, 3 for a firmer one). Take out the poached eggs and put on a plate.

4. Take 4 warm plates and place 3 slices of the softened pane carasau on each plate. Spread the tomato sauce on top of the pane carasau, place a cooked poached egg on top and finish with a generous grating of pecorino, a drizzle of good olive oil and some black pepper. ►

FOOD

RIBOLLITA Bread and vegetable soup *Serves 8*

"This is one of the tastiest soups around. I was taught how to make ribollita by the great Ruthie Rogers, co-founder of the River Café. What I learnt from Ruthie was that soup comes from the heart; you have to love making it to make a good one."

"The bread in this soup has to be sufficiently cooked for the texture to go creamy and almost dissolve. A good dash of a spicy new-season olive oil makes all the difference."

INGREDIENTS

- 6 tbsp extra virgin olive oil, plus extra to serve
- 3 leeks, washed and chopped into 2cm/ $\frac{3}{4}$ in pieces
- 4 carrots, peeled and chopped

into 1cm/ $\frac{1}{2}$ in pieces

- 1 head of celery, chopped into 1cm/ $\frac{1}{2}$ in pieces
- 600g/2 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz tomato passata
- 2 x 400g/14oz cans of cannellini beans, drained
- 500g/1lb 2oz Swiss chard, leaves and stalks chopped into 3cm/1 $\frac{1}{4}$ in pieces
- 500g/1lb 2oz cavolo nero (Tuscan kale), tough stalks removed
- 2 stale loaves of ciabatta, cut into 5cm/2in pieces
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

1. Put 4 tablespoons of the olive oil, plus the leeks, carrots and

celery and 1 teaspoon of salt, in a large saucepan over a low heat. Cook slowly for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add the passata and cook for about 15 minutes, to reduce by half. Add the cannellini beans and cook for a further 10 minutes.

2. Meanwhile, add the chard and cavolo nero to a large saucepan of boiling salted water and cook for 4 minutes. Remove from the water and place in a colander, reserving the blanching water.

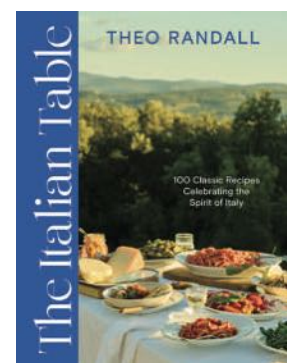
3. Add 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ litres/35fl oz of the reserved blanching water to the soup base, then add the blanched greens. Bring to a simmer, then

add the ciabatta pieces. Add a ladle or two more of the blanching water so that the bread can cook into the soup. It's very important that the bread cooks in the soup and becomes almost invisible. Add more blanching water if necessary to make sure this happens, cooking for a further 15 minutes if you have done so.

4. Check the seasoning, adding salt and black pepper to taste, then add the remaining oil. Stir so that everything is smooth and so that the bread thickens the soup, making it look creamy. Serve in warmed bowls with more olive oil on top.



'Soup comes from the heart; you have to love making it to make a good one'



LIVING LA DOLCE VITA

The acclaimed chef Theo Randall returns with a vibrant celebration of regional Italian food. Bringing together 100 recipes and following the structure of a traditional Italian meal, the book moves from antipasti through to dolci, capturing the simplicity, authenticity and generosity that make Italian cuisine so enduring.

The Italian Table by Theo Randall, with photography by Lizzie Mayson, is out now, published by Quadrille, priced £28

CANTUCCINI Tuscan biscuits with almonds, honey and pistachio Makes 40

"My earliest memories of cantuccini are the ones you would get in boxes at Christmas. They're simple to make, and on many occasions, we've packaged them in little bags as gifts for special events."

INGREDIENTS

- 4 eggs
- 4 tbsp honey (chestnut is best)
- 2 tbsp amaretto liqueur or brandy
- Zest of 2 oranges
- 500g/1lb 2oz plain flour
- 300g/10½oz caster sugar
- 1 tsp baking powder

- 300g/10½oz blanched almonds
- 100g/3½oz peeled pistachios

1. In a large bowl, whisk together the eggs, honey, amaretto and orange zest. Add the flour, sugar and baking powder and use your hands to mix together, so you have a dough. Add the almonds and pistachios, mix well, then take out of the bowl and divide the dough in half.

2. Place your hands under a running tap so they are wet, then

start to roll out the cantuccini dough into 2 equal-sized logs. When you are happy with their size and shape, place them on a baking sheet lined with baking parchment and chill them in the fridge for 30 minutes.

3. Preheat the oven to 200°C/180°C fan/gas mark 6.

4. Bake the cantuccini logs for 30 minutes, or until golden brown. Remove from the oven and place on a wire rack to cool. When they are cool, take a bread knife and

cut the logs at a 45-degree angle into slices 1cm/½in thick. Place the slices, not too close to each other, cut side down on the lined baking sheet.

5. Place back in the oven and bake for 10 minutes until golden brown. Remove and cool on a wire rack, then serve straight away or store in a sealed container. It's important that they are completely cool before you store them, as residual heat will make the biscuits go soggy. **H**



MY LITTLE LUXURIES

Hayley Menzies

The fashion designer gives us her take on luxury – bohemian travel, Chloé shoes and pistachio gelato

Hayley Menzies launched her eponymous label in 2011, beginning with a stall on Portobello Road. The brand now has a flagship store in Duke of York Square on the famous King's Road in London.

Known for its small-batch production, the label works with independent factories and places emphasis on artisanal craft and mindful making.

Inspired by travel, nature and the glamour of past eras, the collections embody contemporary luxury and focus on “lasting treasures”: silk, leather and statement pieces.

Based in the Somerset village of Trowbridge, Hayley is now based in East London.

Luxury nights out are few and far between nowadays. For me, it's wearing something fabulous: vintage, floor-length, wooshy, silk and lace – probably 1920s-style negligee – with heels, and coming back in the early hours of the morning.

My favourite meal is fish and chips with ketchup, followed by pistachio and Dubai-chocolate gelato from Gelateria 3Bis on Portobello Road.

The one little luxury on which I'll never compromise is my daily bar of dark chocolate. It's non-negotiable.

The simple luxuries that bring me the most joy are the small rituals that make you feel pulled-together – a fresh manicure, good skin, that feeling of being a bit more “done” even if you're coming a little undone on the inside at times.

My last luxury splurge was on two pairs of Chloé shoes from the latest collection – not just one, but two.

My biggest indulgence when it comes to luxury is beautiful skincare and a monthly facial. I'm quite disciplined about it. I cleanse with the Elemis Pro-Collagen Cleansing Balm – I've used it for years. Then I spritz an Allies of Skin mist, layer an Allies of Skin

peptide serum and finish with the Daily Power Defence serum from ZO Skin Health. It's simple, but it really works for me.

The store that best embodies luxury to me is Karen Vintage Boutique on Portobello Road. It's so glamorous – full of pieces from incredible eras when glamour and hedonism were really at their height.

My gold Rolex Datejust 1977 is very special to me because I bought it at a pivotal moment in the business.

For me, luxury is more about a feeling than a place. I love being somewhere that feels simple, easy

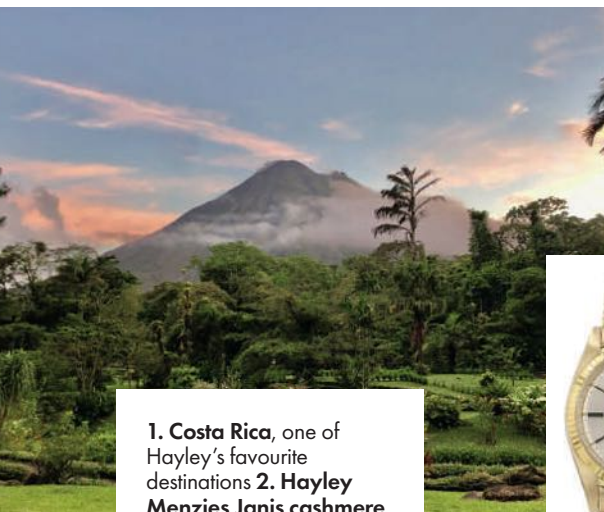
‘LUXURY IS MORE ABOUT A FEELING THAN A PLACE’

and bohemian, surrounded by nature and animals. Some of my most special times have been spent in Costa Rica, India and Thailand. **For a luxurious mini-break**, it's Ibiza, or Suryalila [wellness retreat] in southern Spain.

Luxury at home is my heated blanket and Egyptian-cotton sheets. **To elevate a cosy night in**, I'll wear a cashmere jumper, comfortable socks and trackies.

In the kitchen, luxury is olive oil from my sister-in-law's olive farm in Sicily – it makes everything taste better.

Luxury is something that feels special and a little bit extraordinary. It's about being beyond comfortable, in very simple and pleasurable ways. More than anything, it's how something makes you feel – indulgent, personal and giving you a real sense of pleasure.



1. Costa Rica, one of Hayley's favourite destinations
2. Hayley Menzies Janis cashmere jumper, £400
3. Rolex Datejust 1977
4. Allies of Skin Multi Peptides & GF Advanced Lifting Serum, £260
5. Chloé canvas espadrilles, £520
6. Ibiza is Hayley's go-to short-haul destination
7. Elemis Pro-Collagen Cleansing Balm, £52



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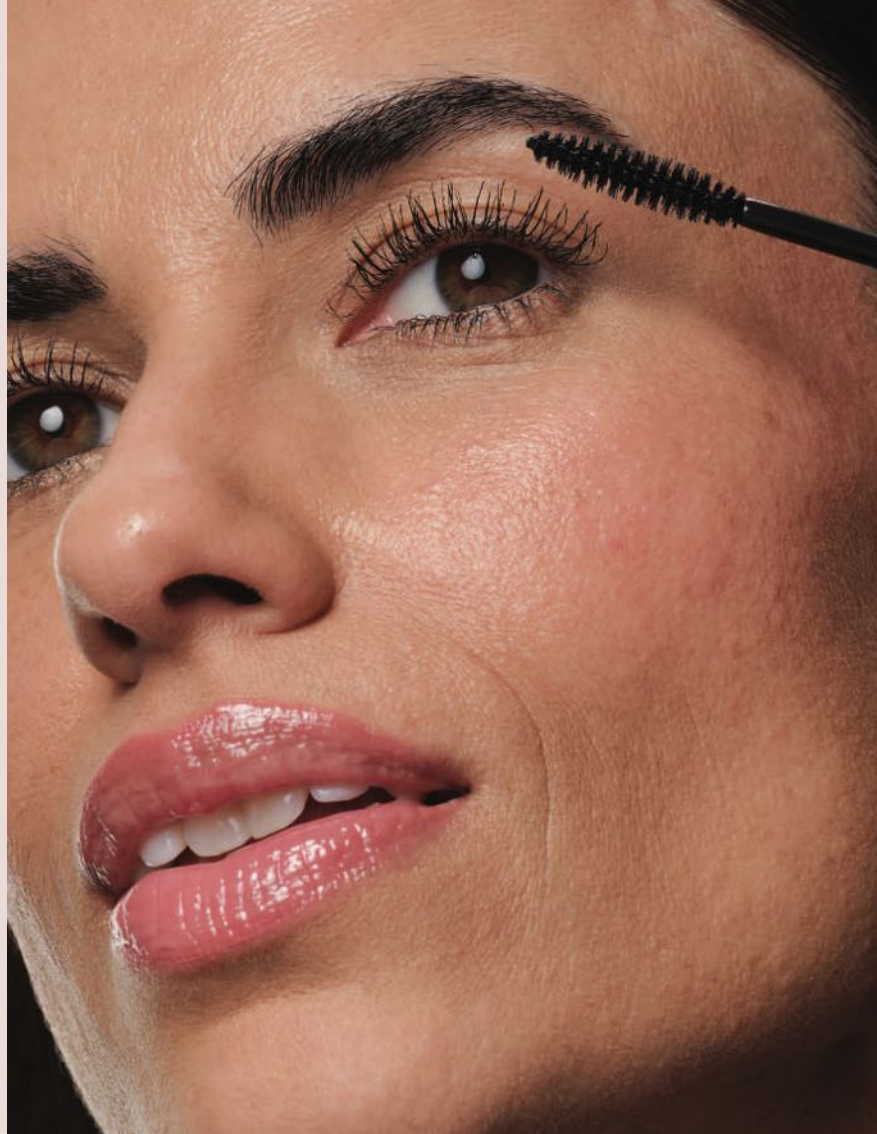


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