

Jim's Jottings May '08

From the Concierge Desk at The Milestone

The Milestone
Hotel



The Merry Widow

The Merry Widow was a huge success when premiered in Vienna in 1905 and remains one of the most enduringly popular of all operettas. The Merry Widow is set in the heady champagne days of decadent, nineteenth-century Paris. The Merry Widow forms part of the English National Opera's 2007/08 Sky Arts Season and is showing at The Coliseum throughout the month of May.



For your Eyes Only... at the Imperial War Museum

To celebrate the centenary of Ian Fleming's birth, Imperial War Museum London will launch the first major exhibition devoted to the life and work of the man who created the world's most famous secret agent, James Bond. The exhibition will examine the extent to which the books and films reflect the reality of the Cold War and how far they were a product of Fleming's prodigious imagination.

Top Five Treats Where to go and what to do in London this month



Vanity Fair Portrait

1913-2008

At the National Portrait Gallery

This remarkable exhibition showcases 150 portraits including classic images from Vanity Fair's early period, displayed for the first time alongside photographs featured in the magazine since its re-launch in 1983.



HRH Prince Charles

60th Birthday

To celebrate the 60th birthday of His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales in 2008, a special exhibition will be shown at Windsor Castle, the royal home where The Prince spent much of his childhood.

Photographs from the Royal Photograph Collection will document major public and family events in His Royal Highness's life – his Investiture as Prince of Wales in 1969, marriage to Lady Diana Spencer in 1981, the births of Princes William and Harry, and his marriage to the Duchess of Cornwall in 2005, while works of art and memorabilia selected from the Royal Collection and from The Prince's own personal archive will reflect many of his lifelong interests.



'All the World is a playhouse' – Shakespeare Season opens at The Globe

This year the Globe celebrates the glorious unruly diversity of Shakespeare's work. In form and in content, he was never content to rest, never tempted to repeat himself, always searching to kick his muse awake by taking on a new corner of the human heart, and encasing it in a bold new form. This year they will perform his most searching tragedy, King Lear; his most wild and inventive comedy, A Midsummer's Nights Dream; his most thrilling and savage satire, Timon of Athens, and his invention of a new form, the sit-com, in The Merry Wives of Windsor. Contact the concierge for the full schedule of performances.

Concierge Confidential

Jim's personal recommendations that you won't find on 'Google'

Perhaps one of the most famous stretches of tarmac in the world, the Mall links Trafalgar Square, via Admiralty Arch, to the Queen's official residence Buckingham Palace. It was created towards the end of the 19th century to mirror similar ceremonial roads already successfully tried in capitals on the continent. Bordered by St James' Park and Green Park on either side, the Mall is a place of both ceremony and sporting achievement, playing host as it does to the finish of the London Marathon as well being used during visits by foreign heads of state. The Queen and visiting dignitaries are driven by ceremonial carriage along the Mall, which is decked out in flags of the host and visiting nations, to the Palace. But one thing that not many people know is that each lamp post carries one of the ships of the fleet that took part in The Battle of Trafalgar. The famous battle took place on 21st October 1805 and it was where Lord Nelson was killed.

Milestone Musings

Did you know that once upon a time The Milestone was a small Jesuit school where the future King Louis Philippe was an usher.



Time for Tea...

“There are few hours in life more agreeable than the hour dedicated to the ceremony known as afternoon tea” *Henry James*

The traditional Afternoon tea evolved in the early 19th Century and was characterised by fastidious attention to detail and etiquette with silver teapots, delicate china and how to pour the milk being just a few. Its ceremonial nature typifies a thoroughly English affair, particularly during the days of the British Empire, yet it still remains a wonderful occasion to indulge in, and at The Milestone guests can experience it in all its glory and in beautiful surroundings to match.

Afternoon tea is served daily in the **Park Lounge** and the **Conservatory from 3.00pm to 6.00pm**



Bentley Car Service

Travel in style in our exclusive Bentley. Please book with the concierge team.

Colleagues Corner



Gavin Parkinson – Assistant Head Concierge who originates from Hull, started his career as a luggage porter in London, and has over 20 years experience in concierge. He has spent 8 years at The Milestone assisting the head concierge in making sure all our guests get the absolute best out of everything. His favourite London attraction is an organised tour with a blue badge guide inside the Houses of Parliament including The House of Commons, The House of Lords and The Queen's Robing Room.

Pamper Me Silly

Escape from the pressures of city life and enter the tranquillity and intimate surroundings of our spa treatment room, located on the lower ground floor of the hotel. Let our beauty therapist Fiona Keane pamper and spoil you with one of her treatments using the finest products from SOTHYS, an expert professional brand exclusively available to beauty institutes and spas.



The World's Greatest Flower Show

The RHS Chelsea Flower Show is the ultimate event in the gardening year. It sets the latest gardening trends, features the newest and most desirable gardening products and creates an explosion of colours and scents. Chelsea - the world's greatest flower show. The show is held annually for five days in May. It has been held at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea since 1913.

This will be the 85th show to be held at this site. Originally known as the Great Spring Show, it was first held in Kensington in 1862. Ask the Concierge about tickets.

This Month's Moment

Take a moment ...

The month of May was come, when every lusty heart beginneth to blossom, and to bring forth fruit; for like as herbs and trees bring forth fruit and flourish in May, in likewise every lusty heart that is in any manner a lover, springeth and flourisheth in lusty deeds. For it giveth unto all lovers courage, that lusty month of May.

- Sir Thomas Malory, *Le Morte d'Arthur*