



## Jamie's opener

Storm Doris may have been raging at the end of last month (why are these horrible natural outbursts named after little old grannies - should they not be called something a bit more robust like Storm Tyson or Storm Brutus?) but the elements did not put me off attending a cookery demonstration by Chris Coubrough at the amazing new Arcadia Home Interiors showroom just outside Fakenham. Indeed, my appetite was equally raging when the demo began, not least due to the smells and sizzles that were being effortlessly rustled up right in front of my nose; one of the benefits of being very tall is that I rarely sit or stand behind someone taller than me, so I always get a good view! Ever the showman, Chris regaled the gaggle with amusing culinary tales and produced mouth watering treats such as Cauliflower Veloute (posh soup to you and me), Fresh Cod with Lobster Bisque and Squid Ink mashed potato (never had black mash before...) and last but not least a Salted



Caramel Brownie with Crème Brulee. Our hosts at Arcadia were beyond efficient at topping up our champagne glasses and as many of us had not eaten properly before arriving at 7pm, our gurgling tummies were soon awash with bubbles and we then clutched at our teaspoons, eagerly trying out all the dishes. "No double dipping people!" was the instruction from Chef Coubrough, but as the evening wore on (and the champagne kept flowing) that bowl of chocolate mousse didn't stand a chance... What is so refreshing about this particular interiors showroom is that there is a strong group of professionals and highly qualified tradesmen behind it, making it a perfect 'one stop' for any new homeowner or architect. Bespoke joiners, highly crafted contemporary and traditional kitchens and bathrooms, exquisite Italian lighting, a range of home heating options – doing up a house to make it your perfect home can be a real headache, but what a breath of fresh air to have one place that can do it all. And if you're lucky you may be invited to the next cookery demonstration!

*Jamie Jamieson*

Jamie Jamieson 

## Agents' Market Views...

This month we asked three estate agents for their current market views:

### Jonathan Weeks, Jackson-Stops (top right):

"What a whirlwind we have had... last year Brexit, Trump and now Doris! It is fair to say that if we had to sum up last year it would be a year of indecision. We were in contact with many buyers and sellers and the constant theme was uncertainty and indecision. Now we are well into 2017 and what a different year! Whether you like or not, we now know various results and can make positive decisions moving forward. This has reflected well in the property market – many properties that were not selling last year are now attracting viewers, and the new properties we have launched for our motivated clients are already going under offer – there is certainly a positive change in the wind... Price sensitivity is key, so using the services of a property expert with proven local knowledge is a must to achieving a good price in a sensible time frame."



### Tom Goodley, Strutt & Parker (middle right):

"2016 proved to be a year in which the market in Norfolk more or less carried on regardless of external factors. Norwich performed well, and we had four sales over £1million, including a record sale at £1.7m. This strong city market has continued into 2017 and with a lack of good quality stock - and low interest rates which look set to continue - it's likely to be a sellers' market in South West and central Norwich (the Golden Triangle) for the foreseeable future. London certainly slowed after Brexit, and some areas have seen significant reductions of prices being achieved, however



before we all reach for the violins, the London market increases much faster than up here, and the correction was perhaps down to an overinflated market in the first place. My London colleagues are seeing a resurgence already.

The country house market in Norfolk is, as always location specific, but we've seen some excellent results in South West Norfolk and specifically the A11 corridor. This is on the back of the dualling of the road, and the expensive Cambridge market, which is making buyers look further afield. The North, Coast and just around the South side of Norwich are also performing well. However, thatched, listed houses are becoming harder to sell, mainly due to a lack of understanding. There are some good deals out there, and a good thatched roof with Norfolk Reed can last longer than a tiled one!"



**Mark Chaston, Allgood & Davey (bottom right):**

"When George Osborne, the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, introduced a 3% stamp duty levy on second and investment homes, investors ran for the hills. That was in April 2016 and less than a year on, we are seeing signs of them tentatively returning. Yes, this levy is a bitter pill but nevertheless considerably less than in other European countries and with inflationary pressures returning and historically low interest rates, money in the bank is a depreciating asset. We have a one double bedroom character home including stamp duty at £128,750 to investors which will return 5.5% gross – not taking into account capital growth! You do the maths and it's not such a surprise that investors are once again seeing property as the place of decent return."

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## Views of Norfolk



*Original oil painting 'Castles on the beach - Holkham skies' - photo supplied by Nial Adams*

For our Views of Norfolk segment this issue, we feature a painting by local landscape artist and oil painter, **Nial Adams**.

'Castles on the Beach – Holkham Skies' measures a stately 48" x 36" and is presented on hand-stretched Irish Linen; the painting is currently available in Nial's portfolio and as Limited Edition prints.

Nial came to our attention at Jamieson Property Search through his twitter feed, Big Norfolk Skies. Painting skies has been a life-long pursuit for Nial and his love of our county pours through his paintings. He tends to work in the traditional methods of studio work, rather than the 'plein-air' painting (outdoors) that is currently popular again. Nial has just started offering private studio sessions and oil painting experiences for complete beginners to intermediate artists. He has also recently been nominated for Norfolk Magazine's Landscape Painter of the Year award.

To find out more about Nial you can view his portfolio at [www.bignorfolkskies.co.uk](http://www.bignorfolkskies.co.uk)

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## An introduction, Stately Car Boot & Whisky!

I am delighted to introduce **Samantha Dunn**, who I'm pleased to announce will be working alongside me, with immediate effect. Samantha's focus will be on the Norwich market, but her efforts will support me generally in all that I do with Jamieson Property Search.

Samantha relocated to Norfolk with her family from Lincolnshire around three years ago. Her background is in advertising and newspaper publishing. She left her last post as Circulation Director of the Nottingham Evening Post to have a career break and raise her two daughters. Always up for a challenge and never one to sit still, Sam put her people skills to good use working part time as an online PA and later setting up a Cookery School. Once in Norfolk, Samantha worked as a Marketing and PR consultant for a couple of Norfolk firms before taking a year out to concentrate on renovating her old farmhouse. So Sam has had first hand experience of the challenges facing anyone trying to find the perfect family house in Norfolk! As she notes: 'Norfolk is a different marketplace and house hunting required patience, consistent communication with agents and significant research.' Sam shares Jamie's passion for houses and also residential property for

investment.

When she's not at work, Sam will be found rounding up two horses and the two family dogs!



# Stately



# Car Boot Sale

## At Sennowe Park, Near Guist

## Sunday 30th April 10.30 – 3.30

### In Aid of The Norfolk Churches Trust

Supported by **Jamieson** Property Search 

#### Did you know...

I am lucky to share my Norwich office space with a company called Paragraph Publishing. An international publishing, awards and events company, Paragraph has numerous popular magazines, publications, awards and websites. Founded in London by Damian Riley-Smith in 1997, the business moved to Norfolk in 2000.

It's a fun place to have my office because one of Damian's key areas is whisky. Now, I don't actually like whisky, but (thankfully) the company does a lot in the spirit world as well, so hopefully my dinner party repertoire should increase over the next few months!

Paragraph runs a host of leading annual awards, including the World Whisky Awards, the Word Drinks Awards, the Word Beer Awards, the Scottish Hotel Awards and the new World Fortified Wine Awards. They also run some high profile events including the Whiskies & Spirits Conference, Whisky Live and the Whisky Magazine Awards in London, New York and Edinburgh.

Paragraph publishes some great magazines too. *Whisky Magazine* ([www.whiskymag.com](http://www.whiskymag.com)) was the first title they launched back in 1998 and it's now published eight times a year in English, Japanese, French, Mandarin and Cantonese and is distributed worldwide. *Scotland Magazine* ([www.scotlandmag.com](http://www.scotlandmag.com)) was launched in 2002 targeting all those throughout the world with a passion for the 'world's best small country'. With more than 70% of its readers in North America, *Scotland Magazine* has fast become the best-read magazine of its kind specialising in Scottish travel and history.

And then there's a new series of publications called 'World's Best'. The first in the series, *World's Best Beers*, is a celebration of the finest brews available across the globe. With over 150 beers and tasting notes, brewery profiles and more, this is the beer lover's ultimate guide to the perfect brew. The second volume is the *World's Best Spirits* and includes aroma wheels, food pairings, information on the finest spirits and distilleries, mixology, over 200 expert tasting notes, best bottle designs, and much more. *World's Best Fortified Wine* will be the next new publication in the World's Best series...

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## Norfolk eats...

This month it is an exciting new restaurant, 'Season' in Wells

- Cuisine:  
Seafood & Grill
- Open:  
Thurs, Fri, Sat - 12-2 & 6-9  
Sun - 12-3
- Price range:  
£15-55



Season seafood and grill was launched on 8th December when The Plattens family, an established family in Wells for over 50 years, decided to create a unique destination restaurant in Wells next the Sea. Their objective was very focused - to offer a restaurant that could provide great local, traceable ingredients, a delicious fresh menu, personal, friendly service, and a welcoming ambience boasting a fantastic view over the quay. As the current Sunday Times 'Best Beach of the Year', Wells really is having its moment and Season is undoubtedly going to add something rather wonderful to Wells' offering. Jeremy and Rachael Parke, a knowledgeable, passionate and highly experienced couple in the Norfolk dining scene, are head chef and front of house respectively.

The menu offers a wide range of shellfish and seafood, with much of it coming fresh off the boats from the quay and within minutes of the boats landing! And for anyone who wants to steer clear of fish, they offer meat dishes from award winning supplier, Swannington Farm to Fork.

You can keep up to date with all their special events and developments by following Season on [Twitter](#),



[Visit Jamie's website](#)

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