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Rees & Co



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All that jazz

IN a few days' time, we'll be able to say that jazz reached Britain exactly 100 years ago. To celebrate, Two Temple Place, London WC2, is hosting an exhibition, 'Rhythm & Reaction: The Age of Jazz in Britain' (January 27, 2018 to April 22, 2018).

The show will explore the social and visual impact of jazz on British art and society from 1918, its vibrancy as a soundtrack to the inter World War years and its complex reception, bringing together instruments, paintings, prints, cartoons, textiles and ceramics from public collections—accompanied by the all-important sound of that wandering bassline. We often imagine the Jazz Age as peopled by flappers, gregarious trombonists and Champagne fountains, but this exhibition tells a different story, demonstrating the degree to which the music and its aesthetic permeated everyday life in Britain. Visit www.twotempleplace.org

A hero and a fisherman

THOSE who wish to pay tribute to Orri Vigfússon (*right*)—award-winning Icelandic entrepreneur, environmentalist and founder and chairman of the North Atlantic Salmon Fund (NASF), who died in July—are invited to Fishmonger's Hall, London EC4, on January 23, 2018, at 12.30pm.

With the help of donors, international NASF director Tarquin Millington-Drake will host up to 200 guests for drinks and canapés. If you wish to attend, contact Edwina Ord-Hume at support@frontierstrvl.co.uk stating how you knew Orri. Numbered admission invitations will be sent out. There is no ticket price, but contributions are welcome.



John Cornforth lectures

LONG-TIME readers of COUNTRY LIFE will well remember the late John Cornforth—he wrote more than 800 articles for the magazine and was Architectural Editor—but any country-house enthusiast will find interest in the annual John Cornforth Memorial Lectures. Tickets are now available for the 2018 series.

In association with Christie's, speakers include the Earl of Shaftesbury on St Giles House in Dorset (January 22), Lord and Lady Heseltine on Thenford House, Northamptonshire (February 19) and Viscount Windsor on Oakly Park, Shropshire (March 19). Tickets cost £40, 6.30pm for 7pm at Christie's King Street, London SW1. To book, contact Emma Tersigni on etersigni@christies.com or 020-7389 2145.

www.countrylife.co.uk

Country Mouse

Out with the old



FOR a number of reasons, I can't wait to see the back of 2017 and hope the turning of the year will bring happier and better times, but, looking back over the year, there were a number of highlights. There always are.

As my eyesight fails, requiring stronger and stronger reading glasses, my shooting has improved—I've no idea why. I even caught a salmon during a rainstorm in Iceland, but the precious hand-built salmon rod I was given on my 50th birthday has still not landed a fish. I've lost four rods on rivers in Ireland and Scotland this year. Perhaps, in 2018, my fishing luck will change.

Where I've been most fortunate is with the team that works with me at COUNTRY LIFE. It's a remarkable achievement to produce a weekly magazine, let alone one that's increased its annual sales every year this decade. The late nights and early starts show a dedication that leaves me in awe. I'm most grateful to them, but, above all, it's to you the reader where my greatest thanks lie. I hope that you continue to enjoy the magazine. Happy New Year! **MH**

Town Mouse

Gold to black and back



IS daily life about to be regulated in disturbing new ways? That thought flashed through my mind when one of the children began constructing a behaviour chart at home last week. The idea comes from school. Each member of the family has been allotted a piece of paper with their name on it and this rises or falls on the different coloured panels of the chart according to their behaviour.

We all begin in the middle on green—which is clearly marked 'Daily start'. From there, the virtuous can rise via silver to gold or the ill-behaved sink via red to black. The black bears the message 'no free time', which, while threatening, actually feels more or less like the natural state of my life. At the opposite extreme is the inscription 'If you get on gold, the reward is £1, 10 hugs and a huge round of applause'.

Parents, it seems, are generously treated by the system: on the first night, I was placed on gold simply for returning from work. Then, I was applauded, hugged and awarded a £1 coin. All very touching, of course, but I'm suspicious that the children will be as generous to each other and I'm pretty certain that the £1 came from my dressing table. **JG**

Bridget Isidor/Gunnarsson; Estate of the artist/Courtesy of Lefevre Fine Art Ltd/London and British Council Collection