

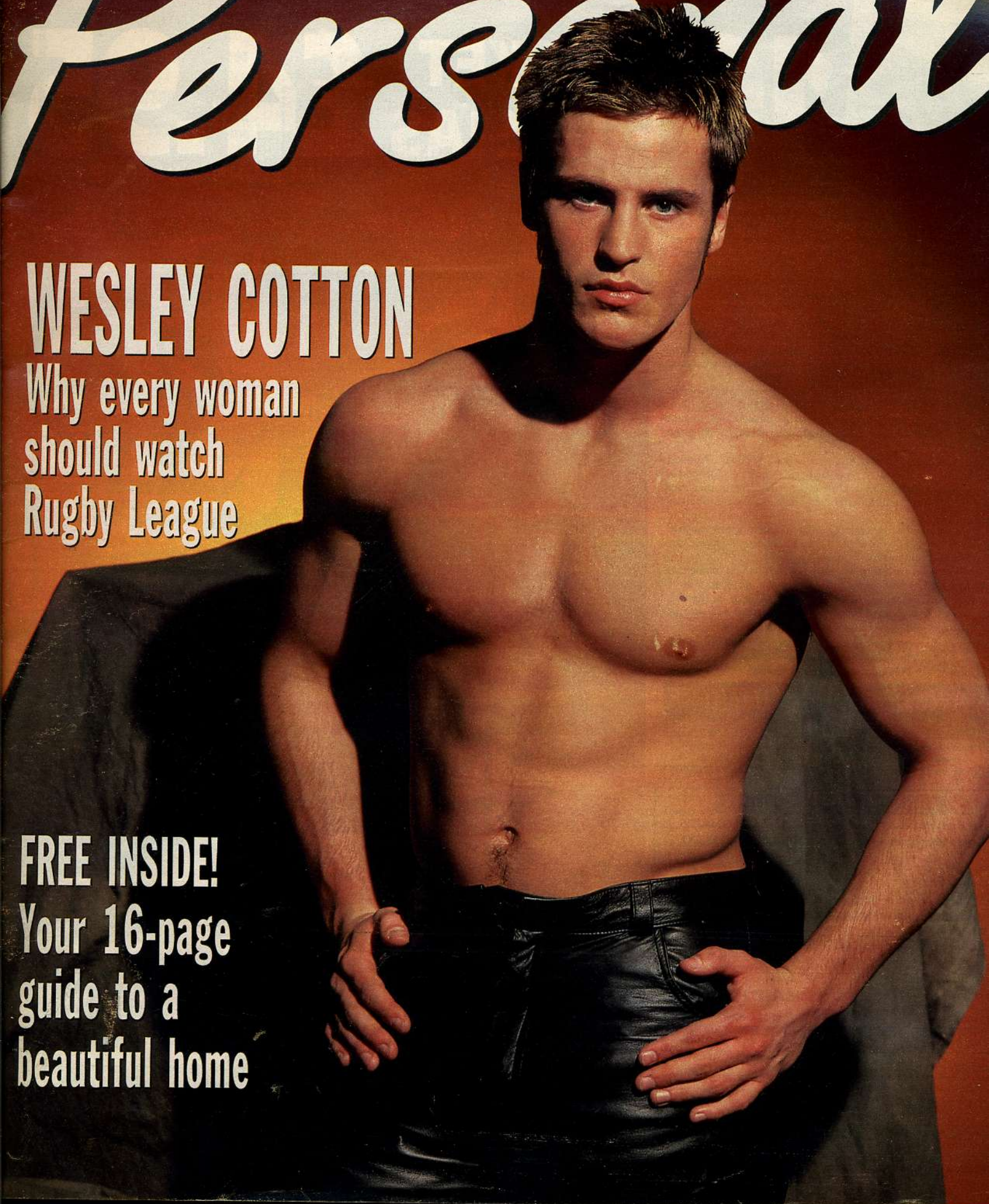
SUNDAY MIRROR ★ MARCH 23, 1997

# Personal

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5 COLOUR COMBINATIONS: blue, violet and scarlet; imperial purple and white-flushed veined pink and pale pink; white and flushed pink; white veined cerise and rich red



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## personal address book

**JEREMY EDWARDS**, 26, who plays Kurt in Channel 4's teen soap *Hollyoaks*, divides his time between homes in Liverpool and London. Today he opens his address book.

**The Dispensary, Pembridge Road, London (0171 221 9290)**: I usually slob around in T-shirts and jeans but for something a bit smarter I go here. The designs are great but if it doesn't suit you the staff say so.

**The Prince Bonaparte, Chapstow Road, Notting Hill (0171 229 5912)**: It was an old Irish boozery with pool tables and smoke. They've done it up, but I still see my mates there.

**No.7 Cafe, Falkner Street, Liverpool (0151 709 9633)**: This is a quiet cafe near where I live in Liverpool and it's just the coolest place going. They even have a little art gallery in there (not that I look at it).

**Mash 'n' Air, Chorlton St, Manchester (0161 661 6161)**: Manchester's a brilliant place. This is one of those trendy new restaurants springing up there.



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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# personal picture

**BELGIUM COPS A BEAUTY . . . AND ANTHEA GETS FRUITY**



**X-CRUCIATING** Gillian was so excited about the award show she put the wrong strap over her head



**NOT SO RUGGED** Sean Connery the best Bond? At least I've got all my own hair, says Pierce Brosnan



**ACTING THE GOAT** Looks like Dani Behr's days on youth TV are numbered . . . there's a new kid



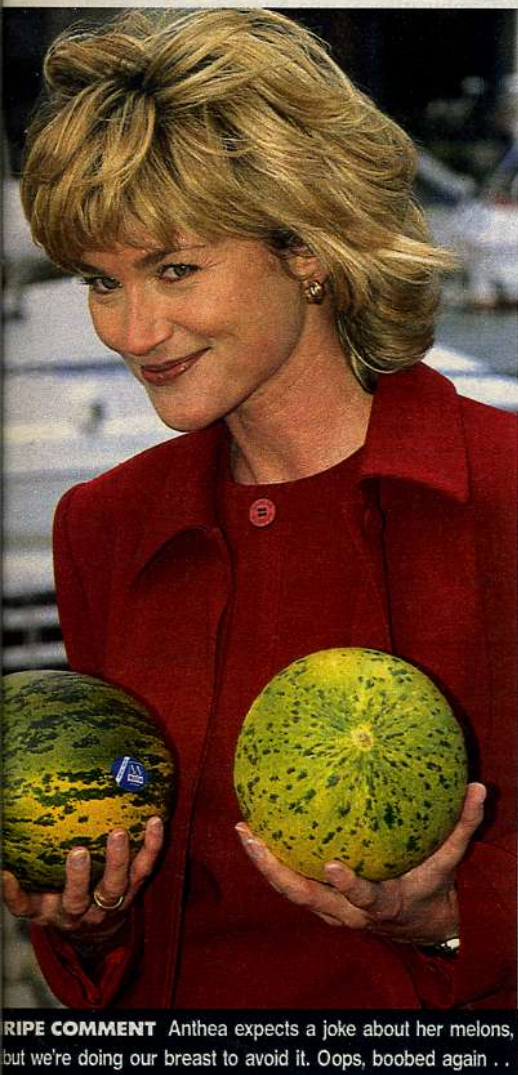
**BLOODY BAD SHOW** Prince Andrew is transfixed as he hears the worst 'I nicked-myself-shaving' story of all time



**TARTAR FOR NOW** Sheryl Crow gives her teeth a check before attempting one of her more wacky



**ULLO, ULLO BOYS** When the Belgian cops took down Pam's particulars even Brussels had never seen such sprouts



**RIPE COMMENT** Anthea expects a joke about her melons, but we're doing our breast to avoid it. Oops, boobed again . .



**TRULY, MADLY, DEPLY** Johnny gazes deep into Kate's eyes . . . and tells her that her mascara's running

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Left: Royal blue print dress from £39.99.  
 Centre: Mint jacket from £49.99. Skirt from £24.99.  
 Right: Banana jacket from £45.99. Trousers from £25.99.

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# Russell Grant's horoscopes

SUNDAY MARCH 23 TO  
SATURDAY MARCH 29

## ARIES

MAR 21 - APRIL 20

The power of love is sure to bowl you over. The goddess of amour, Venus, veers her vibes into your own sign today and tomorrow's incredible Lunar Eclipse in your solar house of relationships will have transforming effects which last until the Autumn. The celestial scene will therefore reach the cockles of your heart and beyond. What will happen is a subtle but sublime test on the validity and solidity of your marriage or any other permanent partnership tie. Stand by the results.

PHONE 0891 332 501

## TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

There's more than enchantment about your love stars now... there's a fantasy spellbinding your soul. Is this far-fetched? Not as much as you think, for you can find romantic solace in your head as much as in the arms of someone you adore. The selection of amorous aspects based on your own planet Venus are remarkable, even though they fall in your 12th house of secrets and sorrows. It's likely that any affair you are having is clandestine or in your imagination: but it's still potent stuff.

PHONE 0891 332 502

## GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

The Libran Eclipse will have a powerful effect on you because you both share the air sign element. With its occupation of your creative fifth house, this is just the kind of trigger you need to set off an explosion that releases your talents, skills and abilities in a positive way. In the coming six months you can produce some of your most brilliant work. You will put your heart and soul into anything you touch or do. The results should give you enormous pride and prestige.

PHONE 0891 332 503

## CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23

You just can't resist a good Eclipse can you? Well here's your second in a month. The first was more your scene, as it fell in Pisces and was a "full" version. Tomorrow's is in Libra and is only partial. Both you and Libra are cardinal signs, which is challenging to say the least. So you must face up to emotional difficulties at home or to do with your family. These are all sensitive areas. Between now and autumn a major change in your security is sure to take place. Prepare for it now.

PHONE 0891 332 504



ASTRO-TAROT  
CARD OF THE WEEK  
STRENGTH (R)



Strength of character is required with this Major Arcana card but its reversal implies that willpower may fail and courage desert. Aries, Leo and Sagittarius are most affected but all signs must be strong in the face of temptation.

## SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23 - DEC 21

A new love could have come or be coming your way - if they haven't already entered your life. With radiant Venus lighting your fellow sign of Aries don't think this is just a quick fling based on transitory attraction. It's something very special. Fond and powerful feelings are involved, but they are complex or the situation itself is complicated. Okay, many of you Sadgies are loyal bunnies, but this is a case where you might not be able to help yourself. It may prove impossible to fight fate.

PHONE 0891 332 509

## CAPRICORN

DEC 22 - JAN 20

Your need to achieve something which gives your ego a boost and your public image the recognition it requires is made more desperate by the Lunar Eclipse in your zodiac career and ambition zones. You will now discover whether the path you are pursuing can give you what you want. If not, then between now and the Autumn your direction and purpose will have to alter dramatically. This could affect your home life, for what you seek may not suit your domestic situation.

PHONE 0891 332 510

## AQUARIUS

JAN 21 - FEB 19

Your destiny lies away from your native shores. That's how the current Libran Eclipse views your fortune and who am I to argue with something as powerful? All the luck you need will be found through travel and international contacts. Even if you meet them here at home, you will find the most auspicious people are from a different country, culture or creed. You require an equally dramatic change in your outlook to cope with all the incredible opportunities coming at you.

PHONE 0891 332 511

## PISCES

FEB 20 - MAR 20

As a sign, it's easy for you to block out things you find not to your liking. It's called escapism or self-deception, which is fine until reality strikes and you have to face things you have conveniently forgotten about. The Libran Eclipse in the most intimate part of your chart makes it clear that those emotional, sexual and financial hang-ups you have hidden away must be dealt with before the Full Moon in your sign on September 16. This might be an ordeal, but it's necessary for personal release.

PHONE 0891 332 512

## LEO

JULY 24 - AUG 23

How does it feel to be coming out of a dank, dark patch? For a sign ruled by the Sun it must be like being released from an emotional, psychological prison where you felt hemmed in and deprived of hope. Don't expect to find what you're seeking immediately, but your personal recovery begins now as your vitality returns with renewed strength and energy, combined with a creative ingenuity and a more positive mental attitude. This makes you doubly attractive to everyone - have fun!

PHONE 0891 332 505

## VIRGO

AUG 24 - SEPT 23

Money and your personal economy come under the Ecliptic microscope. Although this configuration might last for only a few moments tomorrow, it will ripple out until your birthday. So any financial surgery you perform should be drastic and leave you in a state of pecuniary security rather than fiscal flux. Even if all you do is cut up your credit cards or change your bank account, you must do something concrete with the way you handle cash. Do it now and by September you should be prospering.

PHONE 0891 332 506

## LIBRA

SEPT 24 - OCT 23

You've been aware of massive changes happening around you for some time, with September Librans sensing in turn the forces of both freedom-loving Uranus and limiting Saturn; now there's a contradiction. You are pulled one way and then the other, enjoying the thrill of new possibilities and then back down to earth to depression and disappointment. The Eclipse in your sign tomorrow ups the ante and leaves you no choice but to conclude those chapters of your life now beyond rescue.

PHONE 0891 332 507

## SCORPIO

OCT 24 - NOV 22

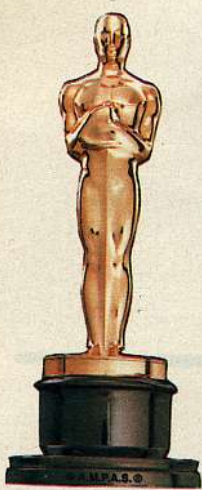
Value for money is one thing, but are you giving cut-price value to others and not accepting your full worth for the work you are producing? Remember that a labourer's worth his (or her) hire. In certain cases beggars can't be choosers, but you will always be a beggar unless you realise just what you are capable of and demand the going rate for the services you provide. You can go on being grateful for ever, but you are nothing unless you feel a sense of self-worth.

PHONE 0891 332 508

## RING RUSSELL'S LINES!

For your detailed WEEKLY FORECAST, call the phone line shown under your star sign and enter your birthday. For a daily personal horoscope, call the DAILY HOROSCOPE on 0891 332010 and enter your birthday. To look into the future, call FUTURESCOPE on 0891 332011, enter your birthday and the date of your special day. For an Astro-Tarot reading, call 0891 222881. Calls cost 50p per minute.

RUSSELL GRANT'S ASTRO-TAROT PACK IS AVAILABLE FROM VIRGIN PUBLISHING. ILLUSTRATION BY KAY SMITH



# Brenda goes to HOLLYWOOD

**BRENDA BLETHYN, BEST KNOWN FOR DOWDY ROLES ON BRITISH TV, CELEBRATED HER 51<sup>st</sup> BIRTHDAY WITH AN OSCAR NOMINATION AS BEST ACTRESS. ON THE EVE OF THE AWARDS CEREMONY SHE TALKS TO IVOR DAVIS • PICTURE BY JOHN ROGERS**

**T**he phone never stops ringing and it's always a top fashion house on the line: Escada, Yves St. Laurent or Armani. They all want to throw open their London, New York or Hollywood showrooms so Brenda can pick something to wear on Oscars night.

In the lobby of Hollywood's Hotel Nikko her limousine driver is poised to whisk her to lunch with a hot Hollywood director. Then there are calls from all the producers – including one from Australia – just dying to put her in a new movie. In the lobby a young woman rushes up to the smartly-dressed, tiry Brenda, her dark hair freshly coiffed and hugs her warmly, saying: "I just want you to know you really blew my mind . . . you were so terrific. You made me cry." Welcome to Brenda Blethyn in Wonderland. After years of playing mostly down-in-the-dumps British working-class women on stage and TV, women who have drawn the shortest straws in life, Brenda Blethyn has now become a fully-fledged star at the age of 51.

She finds herself in dazzling company: Diane Keaton, Kristin Scott Thomas, Scottish actress Emily Watson and American actress Frances McDormand are her rivals



Brenda as Cynthia in *Secrets and Lies*

**'I'm on Cloud Nine . . . and it's not just me. My whole family are revelling in this as much as I am'**

for the best actress statuette tomorrow night. And no one is more surprised or delighted than Brenda, the versatile actress whose bravura performance in director Mike Leigh's *Secrets And Lies* is the reason for all this fuss. She plays the mesmerising, funny, tragic Cynthia, a working-class mum who years ago gave away a

new-born daughter without even seeing her . . . or realising that she is black. The grown-up daughter is played by Marianne Jean-Baptiste, who has been nominated for her own Oscar as best supporting actress.

"I love Cynthia," says Brenda. "She's an extraordinary character. I'm not her, although some people think I am. One woman who came up to me in the street started arguing when I told her I didn't have any children. She wouldn't believe me.

"I'm a practical person and Cynthia is not. I think she's much nicer than me. I'm far more selfish than her because I'm an actor. My lifestyle is quite different. I've invented her. We all know Cynthias. You walk into a supermarket in London and the place is full of people who inhabit Cynthia's world."

Brenda, an unknown in Hollywood until now, is being seduced by moguls who couldn't pronounce her name a few weeks ago.

Taking a breather from filming a new movie, she sits in her Hollywood hotel and says: "I think I've won already, just by being nominated. But I do I want to win it, of course I do. This Oscar thing opens the market for me internationally.

"Suddenly everyone knows who Brenda Blethyn is. Walking down the street strangers come up to me and

say, 'Wow . . . right on.' I'm so taken aback by it all."

"I'm on cloud nine," says Brenda, giggling like a teenager who has discovered she's the toast of the school prizegiving. "It's not just me – my whole family are delighted. They are revelling in this enjoying it as much as me. It's a fantastic sense of achievement. It knocks a few years off you and makes you feel good about yourself, so you stand up a little straighter and suddenly want to wear bright colours."

Brenda is best known in Britain for the TV series like *Outside Edge*, *Grown Ups* and *The Buddha of Suburbia*, as well as lots of stage





work. None of them turned her life upside down like *Secrets And Lies*. And although working with director Leigh was her passport to fame, she admits that making a movie with him can be a bizarre experience for an actor.

"It's pretty strange," she says. "We prepared for the film for nine months and then there were three months of filming. It's all improvised with Mike. To start with there's no script. Nothing. We all improvise. When we started out I didn't know what the story would be or how big my part was. At one time I found myself sitting alone in Cynthia's house and I kept saying to myself, 'I'm

obviously not going to be in this film very much!'

"Mike works that way. He deliberately keeps you in the dark by not telling you what the film is about.

You don't even know who the other actors are, what roles they play or how they will relate to you. So when it happens you're as surprised as the audience watching.

"But at the end of the day you put in the hours and it turns into a wonderful film that everybody loves and it wins lots of prizes, and that's fantastic."

While the much-in-demand Brenda realises that her asking price for movies will now take a giant leap

upwards, she says: "I'm hoping the Oscar nomination is also a step to doing more interesting work. And it's great to get the recognition after all these years."

When she really needs to relax, Brenda heads back to her flat in Folkestone, Kent.

"I haven't been there in a long time because I've been so busy," she says. "But when I am there I like to go swimming."

"As a matter of fact, I couldn't swim at all until a couple of years ago. But then I went to the pool and I was

suddenly a great swimmer. I acted it as a role . . . and it worked for me. Now I can swim a mile with quite a good stroke."

And what happens if she should win her Oscar tomorrow night? Will she cope if she is thrown into the deep end of Hollywood celebrity?

"Aah," she ponders the question long and hard. "I promise not to cry, but oh, I'd be so happy if I won.

"But if I don't, I promise not to cry." Then she disappears into her waiting limo with that Brenda/Cynthia laugh echoing in her wake. ■

**NOW TURN THE PAGE FOR YOUR OSCARS SPECIAL**

# Patient's rewarded

PAUL BENNETT LOOKS FORWARD TO BRITISH SUCCESS AT TOMORROW'S OSCAR



## BEST PICTURE

- THE ENGLISH PATIENT
- FARGO
- JERRY MAGUIRE
- SHINE
- SECRETS AND LIES

**PERSONAL PREDICTION:** The English Patient - It's no casualty, doc

## BEST ACTOR

- TOM CRUISE (Jerry Maguire)
- RALPH FIENNES (The English Patient)
- WOODY HARRELSON (The People vs. Larry Flynt)
- GEOFFREY RUSH (Shine)
- BILLY BOB THORNTON (Sling Blade)

**PERSONAL PREDICTION:** Geoffrey Rush - a shining future indeed



## BEST ACTRESS

- BRENDA BLETHYN (Secrets And Lies)
- DIANE KEATON (Marvin's Room)
- FRANCES McDORMAND (Fargo)
- KRISTIN SCOTT THOMAS (The English Patient)
- EMILY WATSON (Breaking The Waves)

**PERSONAL PREDICTION:** Brenda Blethyn - her talent is no secret



## BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

- BARBARA HERSHEY (The Portrait Of A Lady)
- JULIETTE BINOCHE (The English Patient)
- JOAN ALLEN (The Crucible)
- LAUREN BACALL (The Mirror Has Two Faces)
- MARIANNE JEAN BAPTISTE (Secrets And Lies)

**PERSONAL PREDICTION:** Lauren Bacall - back where she belongs

## BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

- WILLIAM H. MACY (Fargo)
- JAMES WOODS (Ghosts Of Mississippi)
- ARMIN MUELLER-STAHL (Shine)
- CUBA GOODING JR (Jerry Maguire)
- EDWARD NORTON (Primal Fear)

**PERSONAL PREDICTION:** Cuba Gooding Jr - give that man a clip

## BEST DIRECTOR

- MILOS FORMAN (The People vs. Larry Flynt)
- JOEL COEN (Fargo)
- ANTHONY MINGHELLA (The English Patient)
- MIKE LEIGH (Secrets And Lies)
- SCOTT HICKS (Shine)

**PERSONAL PREDICTION:** Mike Forman - the people's choice

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WILL YOU BOLDLY GO WHERE NONE HAVE GONE BEFORE? FIND OUT WITH PSYCHOLOGIST MARTIN LLOYD-ELLIOTT'S

**W**hat makes one person drive too quickly? What drives another to bet a month's salary on a single horse or give up a steady job for a madcap scheme?

In a word: risk. And some people need a lot more of it than others. In everyday life all of us have to predict the outcome of our actions and research shows that most of us are very bad at estimating risk: never forget the captain of the Titanic, who assured passengers that the ship was completely safe.

Of course, perfectly sensible people sometimes take enormous risks in irrational moments. But many take daily risks while fully aware of the danger: smokers and drug abusers are dramatic examples of this.

A lot of us seem to have a trait in our personalities that predisposes us towards taking risks. Answer these questions and discover how you score as a risk taker.

- 1 You jump red lights:**  
**a** Once in a while.  
**b** Never.  
**c** Most days.

- 2 If you see someone you really fancy at a party you would normally:**  
**a** Wait for them to talk to you.  
**b** Go up and talk to them.  
**c** Try to get an introduction.

- 3 If you buy a new cleaning product you:**  
**a** Sometimes read the instructions and warnings.  
**b** Always read the warnings carefully.  
**c** Don't bother reading anything.

- 4 If you suddenly had to speak to a crowd of people, you would find it:**  
**a** Terrifying.  
**b** Uncomfortable, but possible.  
**c** Very exciting.

- 5 If you were to have casual sex would you practise safe sex:**  
**a** Absolutely always.  
**b** Nearly always.  
**c** Not usually.

- 6 How often have you driven a car or operated machinery when drunk?**

- a** Regularly.  
**b** Occasionally.  
**c** Never.

- 7 When lighting fireworks, you:**  
**a** Like the danger and excitement of breaking the rules.  
**b** Follow the safety code to the letter.  
**c** Take a few sensible precautions.

- 8 Your idea of a gamble is:**  
**a** A pound on the Grand National.  
**b** Regular bets that you can afford to lose.  
**c** Betting very high stakes on a game of cards.

personal check-out

Now check your score:

Q	a	b	c
1	2pts	1	3
2	1	3	2
3	2	1	3
4	1	2	3
5	1	2	3
6	3	2	1
7	3	1	2
8	1	2	3

**19-24pts: High risk taker:**  
 This does not mean you're irritable. People like you are often leaders in life. You are adventurous, dynamic and thick skinned. You like meeting people, you are very interested in sex and you are unperturbed by threats. You were often labelled as a trouble maker in childhood. The more older brothers and sisters you have, the more likely you are to enjoy dangerous sports. You are in a group prone to heart attacks.

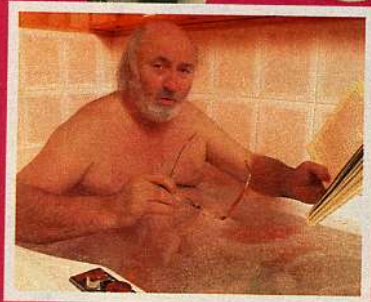
**14-18pts: Medium risk taker:**  
 You are capable of adapting your responses depending on the situation. When you do take risks they are normally measured and very great. When you are cautious you do not oppress yourself with worry or a need to over-conform.

**8-13 pts: Low risk taker:**  
 You are a responsible person who worries about the effects of your actions. You may be anxious and shy. You have an over-responsive sympathetic nervous system which means that you are strongly affected by dangerous situations. You are in a group prone to ulcers.

# THE *Personal* HOME SUPPLEMENT



OPEN THE DOOR TO A  
STAR LIFESTYLE WITH THE SIMPLE  
DIY TIPS IN OUR SPECIAL  
16-PAGE GUIDE



**O**nce you've experienced the refreshing power of a Triton shower you'll be amazed that you ever managed without one. Now that spring is in the air and we can all enjoy a more active

lifestyle, isn't it time you thought about an April shower from Triton?

Models in the Topaz range give you a relaxing shower at the temperature you like, whenever you like. They work independently of your main hot water system, so everyone in the family can take a shower and there's still enough hot water to do the washing up!

You can have a shower in a fraction of the time it takes to have a bath, and because it uses less water it's more economical, too.

The powerful Topaz T100i shown here is ideal for waking you up in the morning. Or you can adjust the sprayhead and enjoy an invigorating water massage after a hard day at the office or a sports workout. The T100i is easy to fit, has a slim profile and is packed with features: from the special economy setting to a phased hot-water shutdown.

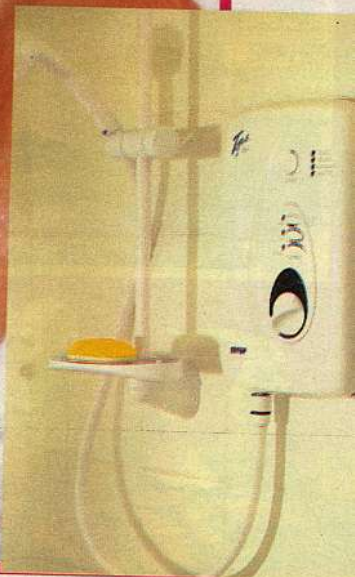
**THE**  
*Personal*  
**HOME**  
**SUPPLEMENT**  
**ADVERTORIAL**



The Triton  
Topaz T100i  
(below) is  
available in  
gold, white  
chrome finish  
Its slim profile  
and elegant  
curves  
complement  
the most  
stylish of  
bathrooms



The toothbrush holder, shelf and accessories are from the Paris range by Metlex. Freefone 0500 158159 for details



**NEED TO RELAX AFTER A LONG, TOUGH DAY? INSTALL A REFRESHING TRITON TOPAZ SHOWER AND YOU CAN FEEL BETTER IN A FEW MINUTES**

# FRESH EVERY DAY

## THE POWER OF A SHOWER

Here are just a few reasons why installing a shower is good for you:

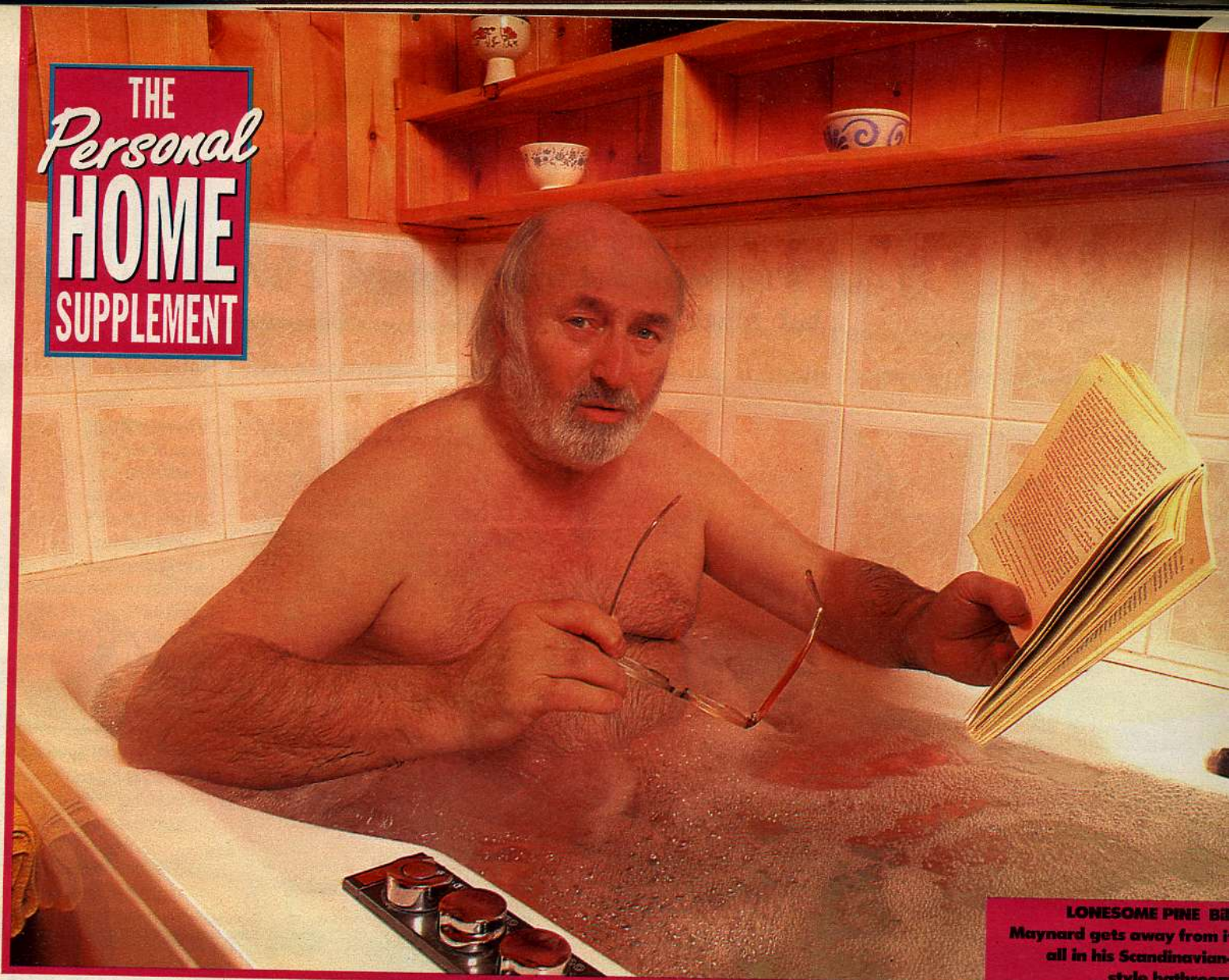
- ★ It's cheap - you can have five showers for the price of one bath. Fit an electric model like the Triton Topaz T100i for maximum economy - only the water you use is heated.

- ★ You can fit your shower almost anywhere: over the bath, in a corner of the bedroom, in a utility room or even under the stars.
- ★ It's fast. If your bathroom is busier than Waterloo Station in the morning a quick and efficient shower makes life so much easier.

## FREE TRITON BROCHURE

**TRITON** For further information about Triton showers and bathroom fittings, write to:  
Triton plc, Shepperton Business Park, Caldwell Road, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV11 4NR. C  
Freefone 0500 158159

THE  
*Personal*  
**HOME  
SUPPLEMENT**



**LONESOME PINE** Bill Maynard gets away from it all in his Scandinavian-style bathroom

**V**eteran actor Bill Maynard, who plays the roguish Greengrass in ITV's hit show *Heartbeat*, likes nothing better than a relaxing dip in the comfort of his pine-panelled bathroom. And the 68-year-old star is not alone. More and more people are turning to pine these days as a simple and attractive way of revitalising their bathrooms. There are so many ways you can use it. The simple route is to introduce it into your bathroom as an accessory – pine shelves, loo seat, toilet roll holder and vanity cabinets are all available from major DIY centres and stores like IKEA, John Lewis and Sainsbury's Homebase. Even reticent DIY-ers should have no problems here. For something a little more elaborate you could try panelling or cladding. This can add real warmth to your bathroom – and wood panels are just as practical as traditional

# WOODEN IT BE LOVELY

**FOR A PINE BATHROOM WITH REAL WARMTH AND  
STYLE LIKE HEARTBEAT STAR BILL MAYNARD'S  
FOLLOW IAN HYLAND'S DO-IT-YOURSELF GUIDE**

ceramic tiles. For most people this is fairly straightforward do-it-yourself. But if you don't know one end of a hammer from the other, get help.

All the job involves is joining wood panels to form a series of upright or horizontal strips. They are put together by simple push-in tongue

and groove joints. The panels are then nailed to holding rails which are either upright or horizontal – according to which way you want your panels to run. The panels are available at many DIY centres, or you may get a better deal from a local timber merchant. Of course, it is vitally important that the wood is waterproofed by varnishing, or if you prefer, a coating of vinyl matt emulsion such as "Willow" from Do-It-All. The more adventurous might be inclined to go the whole hog and panel their ceilings as well, incorporating spotlights into the design and giving the bathroom that true Scandinavian sauna feel. Whatever you decide, the versatility of wooden decor means that it's always possible to find the look that's just right for you. And with prices starting at around £15 for a standard pack of ten 8ft panels, even stingy old Greengrass could afford it ■

# CARRY ON KITCHENS

**BARBARA WINDSOR'S NEW KITCHEN IS JUST LIKE THE EASTENDERS STAR - SMALL, BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFULLY PROPORTIONED • BY IAN HYLAND • PICTURES BY ANDY McCARTNEY**

**A**fter nine years in her new house TV's favourite landlady Barbara Windsor was fed up. Her kitchen was getting her down and she needed help. "It was just too small and cramped for me," says the former *Carry On* star. "I wanted to be able to sit down in there and make it lived in, but it just wasn't happening. I went to see loads of designers but they all said the same thing: 'Sorry there's not enough room to play with'. "Then a friend of mine told me to go and see a guy called Chris Jay who specialises in kitchens." Barbara knew it was a good idea as soon as she met Chris and his assistant Paul Moss. "They said I could have the kitchen I wanted, no problem . . . and the thing which convinced me was Chris saying, 'If you don't like it when it's finished, we'll do it all again.' You don't get

promises like that very often these days do you?" To her surprise the first thing Chris told Barbara to do was go and stay in a hotel for a week while they worked. "He said, 'I think you're a nice lady but if you're around while we do the kitchen we might not be good friends'," she laughs. "I thought it was a bit cheeky but I went and stayed at a health farm for a week anyway."

Before she left, Barbara told Chris and Paul everything she wanted in her new kitchen. Over the course of

three meetings she was involved in all the design decisions. "I chose gloss white because I wanted it to look light and bright and I kept the window because it let so much light in. Besides, double glazing would have looked out of place. "The only thing we disagreed on was the fridge-freezer," she says. "I wanted

one on top of the other but Chris wanted them side by side. I wasn't sure . . . but in the end he was right." Thirteen days later Barbara and her

boyfriend Scott were delighted with their bright and airy new kitchen. "It's magnificent now - it looks so big," she says. "It's my favourite room in the house. I eat and work in there now. Scott even bought me a little TV last Christmas . . . so I can sit in there and watch telly as well."

**FANCY A JAR?** Individual touches give Barbara's kitchen a relaxing feel



**TRAY CHIC:** Everything is colour co-ordinated



## WHAT CHRIS DID FOR BARBARA

**WALLS** Re-plastered, then rag-rolled in four colours: white base plus pink, white and grey. Decorated with beige-coloured granite tiling.

**FLOOR** White lino with beige diamond-shaped inserts.

**UNITS** Five base units and seven wall units in white gloss with Cartier handles (stainless steel with brass knobs).

**APPLIANCES** Combi washer-dryer, cooker with single oven, microwave, dishwasher, extractor fan and boiler.

**WINDOW** Original window with new fitted blinds.

**THE**  
*Personal*  
**HOME**  
**SUPPLEMENT**



**Brass hand-le,**  
£17.99, J D Beardmore  
& Co (mail order  
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cupboard/drawer knobs  
£5.70 each, from  
Nice Irma's E  
Post (0181  
343 7610)



**Slimline brass**  
knocker,  
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of Rothley  
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Douglas Kane  
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**Large green and amber**  
glass door knobs, £2.25  
from branches of  
The Pier (0171 637 700)

**Frog knob £41,**  
Turnstyle  
Designs (as  
right)



**Fish door handle**  
£44.50, from Turnstyl  
Designs (01271 25325)

**TRANSFORM DULL DOORS AND DRAWERS WITH  
THESE UNUSUAL HANDLES, SAYS JULIE WOODGATE**

# GET A GRIP!



**Orange and green sparkle resin**  
door knobs with bases from £40 a pair,  
Maax Design (0181 968 8493)



**Silver handle, £12.50, The**  
Furniture Union (0171  
287 3424)



# THE *Personal* HOME SUPPLEMENT

JOIN OUR GUIDED TOUR OF JILL DANDO'S  
LUXURY HOME . . . AND FIND OUT HOW  
THE RIGHT COLOUR SCHEME CAN BRING  
OUT THE BEST IN ANY HOUSE • BY JULIE  
WOODGATE • PICTURES BY DAVID PORTER



# THE HOUSE THAT JILL BUILT

**F**rom humble beginnings as a local reporter in her home town of Weston-super-Mare, Jill Dando has risen to become one of the most recognised faces on TV.

At the age of 36 she earns a reputed £750,000 a year for high-profile work that includes hosting BBC1's *Holiday* programme and *Crimewatch UK*.

Throughout her steady rise in the television ranks, Jill's home in Fulham, South West London, has been her haven from the pressures of fame. During her six-year relationship with BBC Breakfast TV boss Bob Wheaton she spent most weekends

at his house in Berkshire. But since their split in December, she has retreated to her own £250,000 home. Over the years she has transformed it into a comfortable retreat where she can relax and unwind.

It is decorated throughout in pale colours to create a soothing mood. In Jill's **living room** the natural light from the large front window is reflected around the room by the white ceiling, while the soft gold finish on the walls (echoed in the furnishings) evokes a sunny atmosphere whatever the weather. Using pale colours makes a room seem larger, light and airy. Shades of primrose and gold maintain the light

and airy feel but as they are from the warm end of the colour spectrum, they make even a large room seem welcoming and cosy. A plain, fitted carpet in a muted colour also creates a feeling of space and comfort. Subtle stripes on the walls and sofa covers in toning shades add texture and interest without dominating the room or disturbing its feeling of harmony.

A large mirror creates a focal point above the fireplace, makes the room appear larger, and reflects light from the window into darker corners opposite. The polished brass fender and radiator cover, along with the burnished gold mirror and picture

frames add gleaming accents that emphasise the room's warmth. Above all it's a comfortable room, with plush sofas to curl up on and a bold patterned rug in reassuring shades of rich, rust red. Black accessories and dark wood furniture provide a striking contrast to the muted colour scheme, giving the room strong points of focus. The sturdy candlesticks and bust on the mantelpiece, the corner TV and the ornate black and gold lamp table at one end of the room are balanced by the rich tones of the polished wood tables, chairs and picture frames at the other. Although the room is clearly divided into two separate





areas by the placing of furniture and accessories, the overall feeling of space and light is maintained by the continuity of the wall and curtain treatments, the soft, oyster-colour carpet and the matching colours of the rugs. Beside the fireplace there are built-in cupboards which serve as a platform for personal knick-knacks and mementoes from Jill's travels around the world – and a handily-placed script for Crimewatch UK. More souvenirs are piled in a corner of the hall with a huge pile of travel books and an ever-ready flight bag.

**The kitchen**, traditionally the heart of a home, has a practical soft grey and white work area offset by pale lemon walls and the warm tones of an antique pine table and chairs. The grey and yellow scheme is echoed by the window blind, which also adds pattern and interest to the plain blocks of colour.

Unlike many kitchens, the hob rather than the sink is situated in front of the window. This not only helps to keep the room smelling fresh but also means that everything needed for cooking is handily situated in one corner, with the large table doubling up as a food preparation surface.

**The bedroom** follows a similar colour scheme to the rest of the house with its pale oyster fitted carpet and soft primrose walls. The room is dominated by a beautiful old brass bed, which picks up the gold colour of the mirror and picture frames.



### NIGHTIE NIGHT

In Jill Dando's bedroom the pale colour scheme is enlivened by splashes of warmer hues from the cushions and tablecloth as well as the candles and dried flowers in the grate. There is not a single jarring note to mar the serenity of the room – it's a comfortable place where Goldilocks Jill and her two little teddy bears can sleep safe and sound.

# THE Personal HOME SUPPLEMENT

**WALK THIS WAY**  
A plain fitted carpet with a dramatically coloured rug at a jaunty angle gives Jill Dando's living room a warm but stylish feel



# IT'S ON THE FLOOR!

**WHEN YOU WANT YOUR HOME TO LOOK GREAT IT'S BEST TO START AT THE BOTTOM, SAYS JULIE WOODGATE**

**O**ne of the simplest ways to give your home a stylish look is to take a leaf from Jill Dando's book and lay plain-coloured fitted carpets in all of your main living areas. But there are many more options for your floors . . .

**THE HALL** As a heavy-traffic area, your hall or lobby needs a hard-wearing floor material that's easy to keep clean. If you have fitted carpet, lay a runner over the top to protect it from the worst wear and tear. Alternatively, vinyl, terracotta or ceramic floor tiles provide a totally impermeable surface against wet, muddy footprints. A good amalgam of the two is natural flooring such as sisal or jute which does not have a pile to attract dirt particles or dust, but is warmer and more comfortable

underfoot than hard flooring.

## THE KITCHEN

Always prone to knocks and spills, a kitchen floor needs an easy, wipe-clean surface. Again, you can choose from vinyl, terracotta or ceramic tiles . . . or you might opt for sheet vinyl or real linoleum (now very trendy). If you have floorboards in the kitchen you can strip and restore them, but make sure you give them several coats of a tough varnish so they can be washed easily and will stand up to everyday wear and tear in one of the busiest areas of the home. IKEA sell laminated floorboards which are tough and hard-wearing.



**NATURAL FINISH** Sisal or jute look good in halls like Jill Dando's

## THE LIVING ROOM

Almost anything goes here, depending on the look you want to achieve. Wooden floors (be they waxed or varnished floorboards or woodblock tiles) look very elegant teamed with rugs. They're also easy to clean. The rugs protect the heaviest traffic areas in the centre of the room

while the wooden floor adds that touch of class. However, a fitted carpet is warmer, more comfortable to bare feet and helps to make your room look larger. If your heart is set on wall-to-wall carpets and you're on a limited budget, take a look at Allied

Carpets' new Home First Select range at prices from £3.58 per sq. metre (£2.99 per sq. yard).

**THE BEDROOM** Floors get less wear in bedrooms and a fitted carpet provides a soft, warm surface to ease you gently into the day when you tumble out of bed. Floorboards and rugs give a more traditional look. If you have young children, carpet tiles are a practical choice as you can replace a stained or damaged tile rather than the whole carpet.

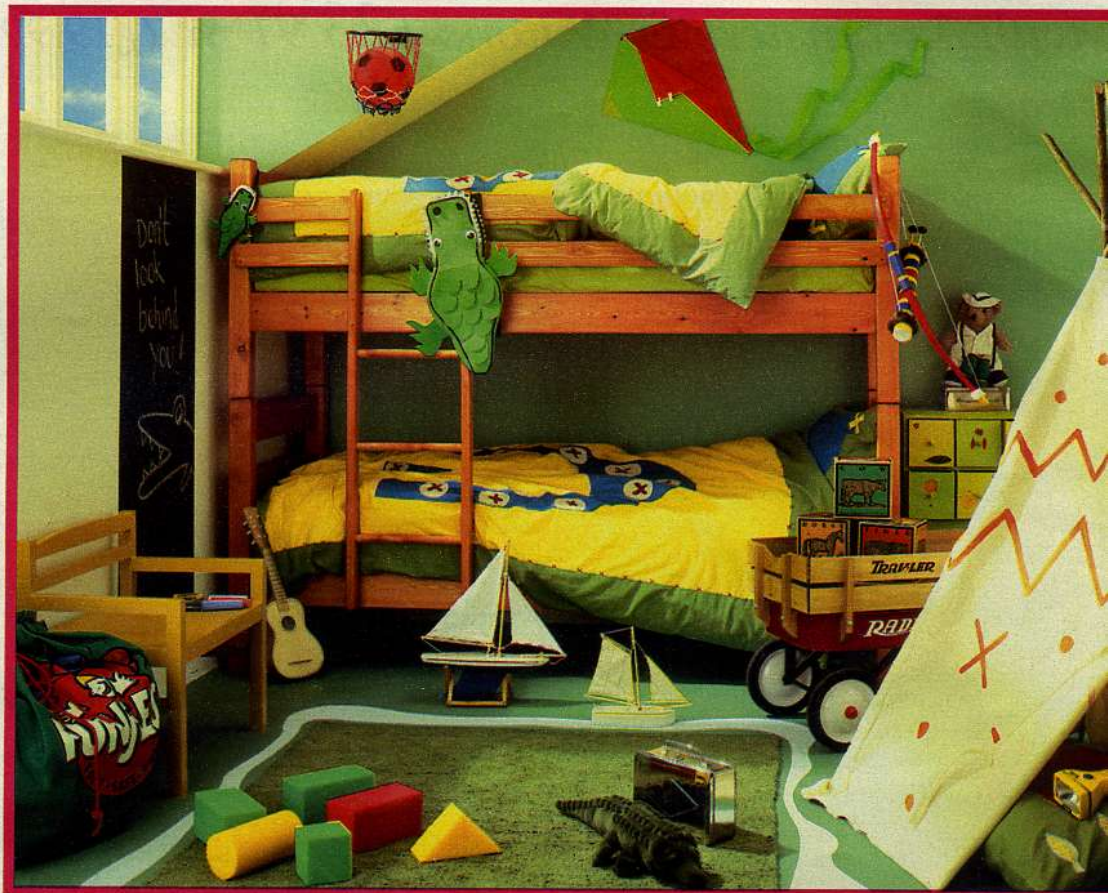
**THE BATHROOM** Carpet provides warmth and comfort in a bathroom but you should use rugs to protect it from splashes. Alternatively, varnished floorboards are warmer underfoot than ceramic tiles. Or use cushioned vinyl flooring for warmth with an easy-to-clean, non-permeable surface. ■

# SWEET DREAMS

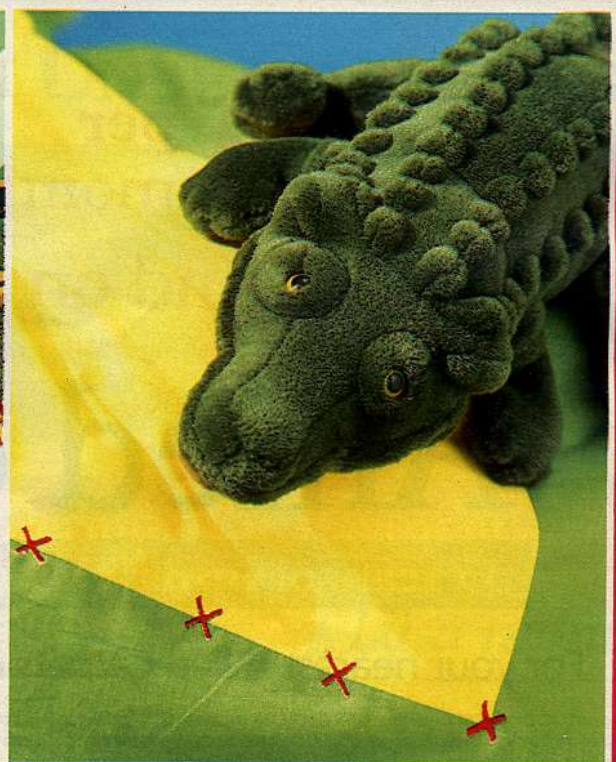
**M**ake your child's bedroom a fun place to play and they won't litter the living room with toys any more – with a bit of luck! Choose a theme that captures their imagination, such as our exciting explorer's hideaway. Use a bold colour on the walls which will hide grubby paw prints. You can leave this plain, or add a wallpaper border or stencils to create a lively atmosphere. Lino or vinyl flooring provides a hard-wearing surface that can cope with knocks and scuffs and makes mopping up spilt drinks quick and easy. You can lay fitted carpet over the top later when the children are older and more responsible. Meanwhile, provide a soft cotton, washable, rug that they can sit on.

Creating activity areas will keep them occupied for hours. Try painting the floor around the rug with a winding river to "sail" boats on. This also turns the rug into an island, or a castle with a moat around it. Or cover an area of the wall with blackboard paint so that they can draw all over it without fear of reprisals.

Bunk beds appeal to young explorers, both as a play area and a novel place to sleep, and also free up floor space if you have two sharing a room. Children also love dens – and a wigwam makes an exciting hideaway. You can make one by binding garden stakes together with string at one end and fitting rubber tips to the other ends to prevent it all from slipping. Use a length of canvas, or an old white sheet, to make the tent and get the children to paint abstract designs on it. As they are likely to out-grow the explorer phase after a couple of years, you can re-use old, marked duvet covers or sheets to make spectacular themed bedlinen. Sew a bright rectangle of fabric over the worn side of a duvet cover, or on to a single sheet, then sew scraps of



other fabric on to that to create an interesting pattern. If you're using sheets, sew two together to make a duvet cover. Add brightly-coloured sturdy furniture that won't tip over easily and a plump floor cushion, livened up with different materials and shapes. You'll soon begin to wonder whether you've still got children! ■



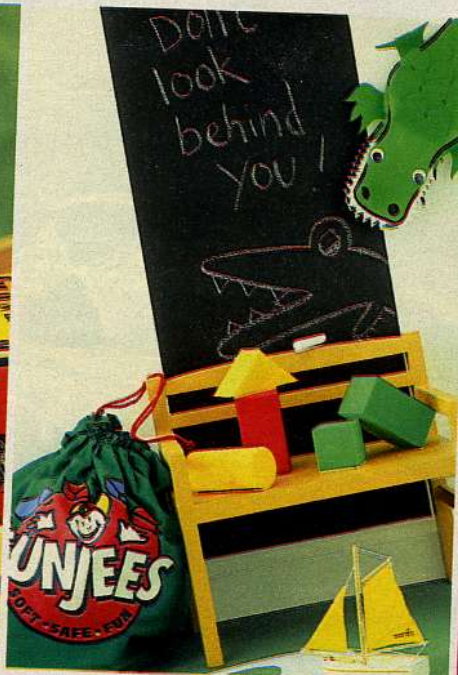
**DOUBLE FUN**  
(above) Bunk beds help to make bedtime adventures.

**FANTASTIC VOYAGE**  
Set sail on a trip round the bedroom with your own 'river' (far left) then wrap it up with the man-eating 'crocodile' (left)

# HIDEAWAYS

HOW TO TURN A CHILD'S  
BEDROOM INTO A FUN PALACE  
WITH SIMPLE TOUCHES WHICH  
FIRE UP THE IMAGINATION.

BY JULIE WOODGATE



**CUBIC FEAT**  
(far left)  
Picture bricks  
with captions  
are great for  
learning.  
**CHALKED UP**  
(left) A  
painted  
blackboard  
provides an  
instant free-  
expression  
zone.  
**TREASURE**  
**CHEST** (right)  
Brighten up  
sturdy  
furniture  
with stencil  
patterns  
(left)



## Designed with your freedom in mind



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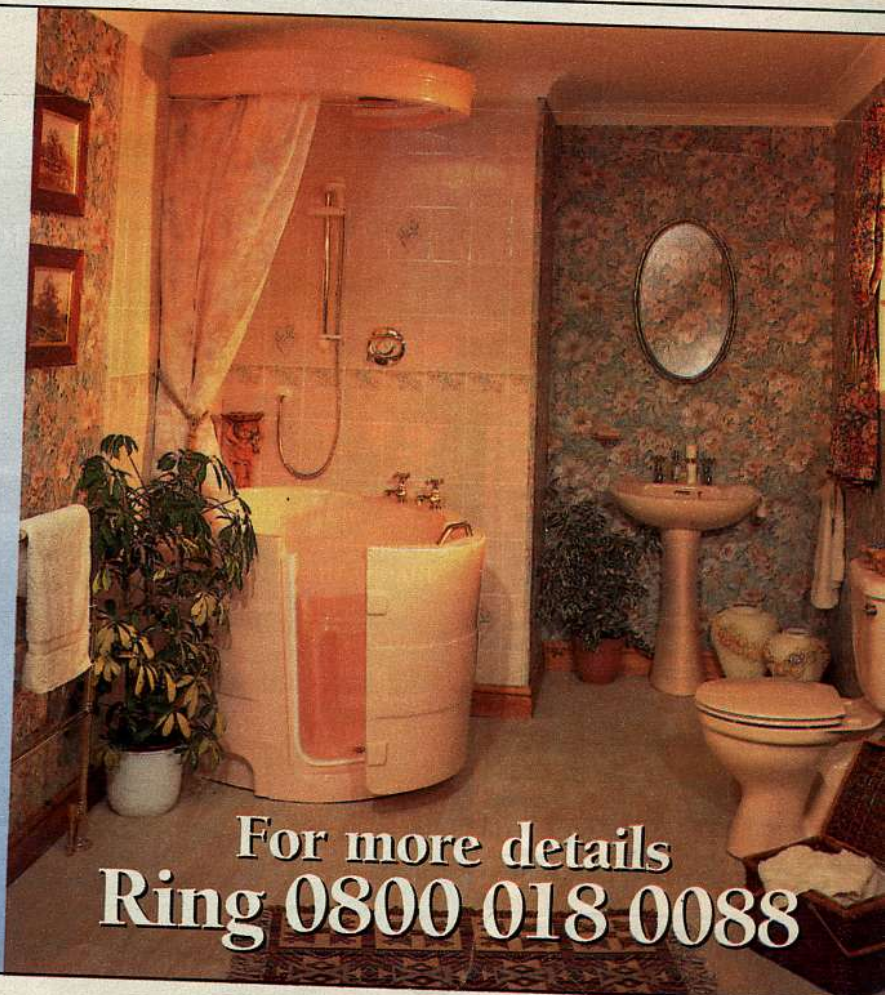
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For more details  
Ring 0800 018 0088

personal fashion

# WESLEY GOES L FOR LEATHER

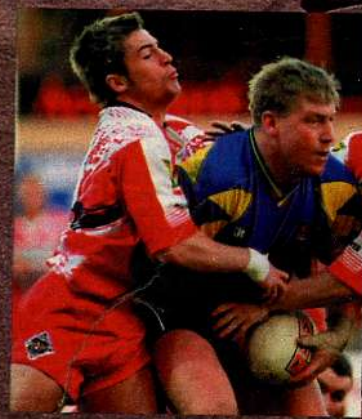
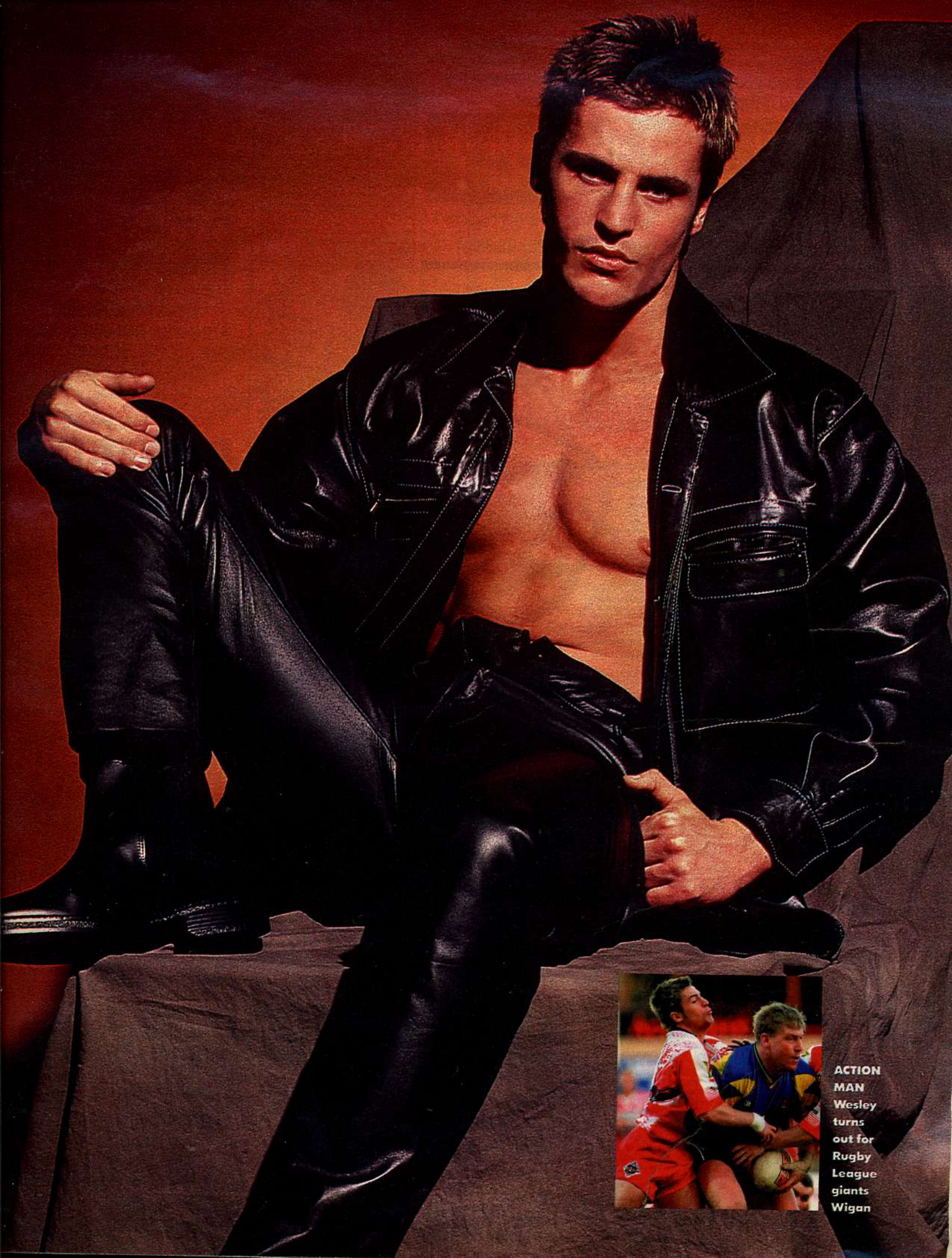
HIS NAME IS COTTON BUT HE FEELS MUCH MORE AT HOME IN SENSUOUS BLACK LEATHER. SUPER-FIT WESLEY COTTON, 19, WHO PLAYS RUGBY LEAGUE FOR TOP CLUB WIGAN, HAS BEEN VOTED ONE OF BRITAIN'S MOST ELIGIBLE BACHELORS BY COMPANY MAGAZINE. STYLING BY DEBBIE HAMBLIN. PICTURES BY ANDY MCCARTNEY

Left: leather jeans, £195, by Genel from Emanuel Kenel, London SW1 (0171 730 5247)

Right: black waistcoat, £70, leather jeans, £180, by Gossip from Metaltec, London NW1 and Rivaaz, Kings Road, London SW3 (phone 0181 746 2002 for other stockists)

Main picture: black leather shirt, £295, and leather jeans, £195 by Genel from Emanuel Kenel, London SW1 (0171 730 5247); boots £2999, order no. BD2196 from the Empire catalogue

Grooming:  
SUE DANIELS



**ACTION  
MAN**  
Wesley  
turns  
out for  
Rugby  
League  
giants  
Wigan

# personal brain-teasers

PUT YOUR WITS TO THE TEST WITH OUR FUN PUZZLE PAGE, THEN SIMPLY PHONE IN BOTH OF YOUR ANSWERS FOR A CHANCE TO WIN £250.

## OSCAR MATCH

Only one square below matches one in the grid. Which one?



A



B



C



## THREE FOR ALL



Cross out every letter that appears below a number which is divisible by three. The letters that are left will spell out your phone-in answer: a six letter word.

## LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

**ODD BODS:** 1 Sweden, matches the rubber stamp. The film star is **TATUM**  
 2 Marrow, 3 Aster, 4 Red, 5 **STAR CROSSED**  
 Ton. Answer: **SMART** 1 Stupor, 2 Parent, 3 **O'NEAL**  
**LEPRECHAUNS:** Image **A** Storey, 4 Guitar, 5 Embalm. left over is **ALTITUDE**

**FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN £250 PHONE BOTH ANSWERS TO 0891 554 306**

When you call the number above and leave your answers on the line, give your name and address. The £250 winner will be selected at random from all the correct entries after lines close on Friday, March 28, 1997. Calls cost 50p per minute. Normal Mirror Group competition rules apply.

# TOP CAT AND THE BEVERLY HILLS CATS

BY THE *John Berwick* STUDIOS OF



ROYAL DOULTON

A unique and interesting collection of the seven characters from the famous TV cartoon Top Cat™ is now produced in fine ceramic figures by Royal Doulton and are available in a limited edition of only 2000 sets.

Top Cat, Choo Choo, Benny, Brain, Spook, Fancy Fancy and Officer Dibble can be part of your family and they are bound to become collectors treasures in the future.

Each figure is hand decorated using the traditional skills of master potters at Royal Doulton.

LIMITED EDITION OF 2000

The first four figures in the collection, Top Cat, Choo Choo, Benny and Fancy Fancy are now available exclusively from Sinclairs at £170.00.

The last three figures will be ready to complete the set early in 1998.

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY INCLUDED



BENNY 3½" CHOO-CHOO 4½" SPOOK 4½" OFFICER DIBBLE 7" FANCY FANCY 4½" TOP CAT 4½" BRAIN 4"

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Please send  Free Sinclairs Brochure  
 Top Cat, Choo Choo, Benny & Fancy Fancy £170.00 for a set of four  
 Name .....  
 Address .....  
 ..... Postcode .....  
 Telephone .....  
 Signature .....  
 I wish to pay in 5 instalments. The first instalment is £34.00  
 I enclose a cheque for the total amount £ ..... made payable to John Sinclair  
 Please debit my Access/Visa account with £ .....  
 Card Number   
 Expiry Date



MAIL ORDER DEPARTMENT  
 266 GLOSSOP ROAD  
 SHEFFIELD S10 2HS, ENGLAND.  
 TELEPHONE: 0114 275 0333 FAX: 0114 275 4443



# £1,000 Star Search Crossword

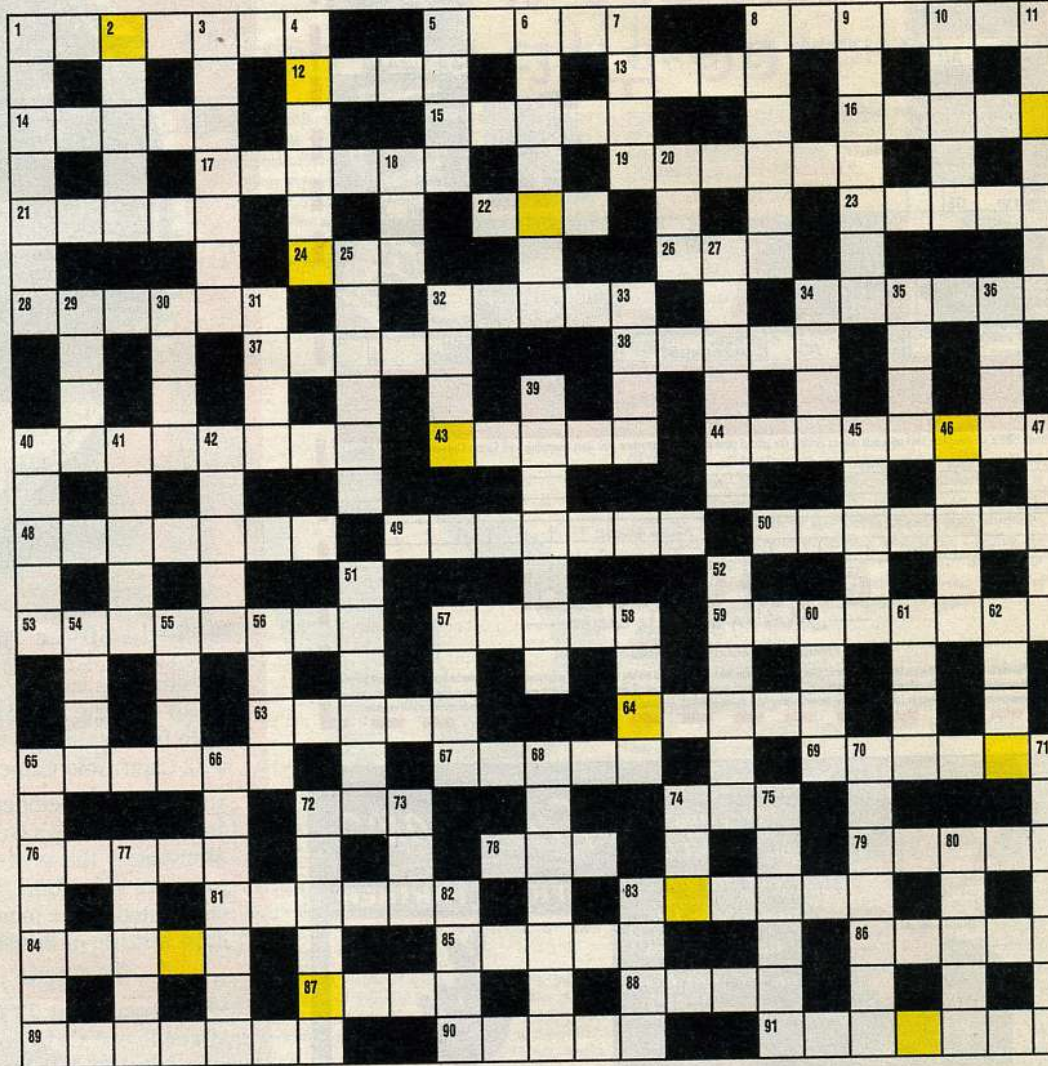
**ACROSS**

- 1 Downy yellow fruit (7)
- 5 Direct the course of a vehicle (5)
- 8 Vehicles on the road (7)
- 12 Hop-drying kiln (4)
- 13 Large jug (4)
- 14 Perform well (5)
- 15 Variety of quartz (5)
- 16 Dud firework (5)
- 17 Take up residence (6)
- 19 Breed of deer (6)
- 21 Cook's protective garment (5)
- 22 Blend (3)
- 23 Go in (5)
- 24 Short sleep (3)
- 26 Thickness of wool (3)
- 28 Fit to eat (6)
- 32 Ledge (5)
- 34 View (6)
- 37 Smithy's block (5)
- 38 Bury (5)
- 40 Covered walk (8)
- 43 Ballroom dance (5)
- 44 Putting up with hardship (8)
- 48 Female thespian (7)
- 49 Money matters (7)
- 50 Newspaper editorial (7)
- 53 Soak completely (8)
- 57 Braid (5)
- 59 Military subdivision (8)
- 63 Not clandestine (5)
- 64 Baggy (5)
- 65 English river (6)
- 67 Guest house (5)
- 69 Baby's noisy toy (6)
- 72 Do sums (3)
- 74 Use a needle and thread (3)
- 76 Earn, deserve (5)
- 78 The alphabet (1, 1, 1)
- 79 Private teacher (5)
- 81 Part of the foot (6)
- 83 One stroke under par (6)
- 84 Strict vegetarian (5)
- 85 Tusk material (5)
- 86 Period of darkness (5)
- 87 Title of an unmarried woman (4)

- 88 Genuine (4)
- 89 Alleviate (pain) (7)
- 90 Become confused (5)
- 91 Stretchy (7)

**Down**

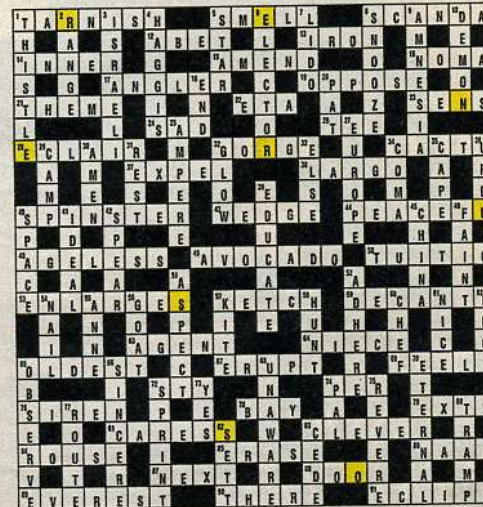
- 1 Middling (7)
- 2 Fast bike (5)
- 3 Army officer (7)
- 4 Large-billed bird (6)
- 5 Remain (4)
- 6 Inspect (7)
- 7 Coral formation (4)
- 8 Type of hat (6)
- 9 Replies (7)
- 10 Seed-bearing part of a plant (5)
- 11 Liza Minnelli musical set in Germany (7)
- 18 Burst - like a balloon? (3)
- 20 Cleopatra's snake (3)
- 25 Placard, hoarding (6)
- 27 Strewn rubbish (6)
- 29 Dreary (4)
- 30 Indonesian island (4)
- 31 The Orient (4)
- 32 Not fast (4)
- 33 Effervescence (4)
- 34 Dry as a desert (4)
- 35 Jetty (4)
- 36 Maize (4)
- 39 Calendar (7)
- 40 Group of pupils (5)
- 41 Group of eight musicians (5)
- 42 Semi-transparent (5)
- 45 Extreme (5)
- 46 Bring upon oneself (5)
- 47 . . . . . Close, American actress whose films include *Fatal Attraction* (5)
- 51 Protect (6)
- 52 On dry land (6)
- 54 Bitter-tasting herb (4)
- 55 Encourage (4)
- 56 Shakespeare's river? (4)
- 57 Pavement (4)
- 58 Lofty (4)



- 60 Computer operator (4)
- 61 Slimming regime (4)
- 62 Iridescent gemstone (4)
- 65 Russian tea urn (7)
- 66 Celebrity's entourage (7)
- 68 Newspaper size (7)
- 70 Aerial (7)
- 71 Irregular (7)
- 72 Take for granted (6)
- 73 Expire (3)
- 74 Glide over snow (3)
- 75 Chris . . . . ., former England star

- now with Bradford FC (6)
- 77 Royal (5)
- 80 Taut (5)
- 82 Italy's Leaning Tower city (4)
- 83 Shelter for cows (4)

**HERE'S YOUR FULL SET OF ANSWERS FOR OUR MARCH 16 STAR SEARCH CROSSWORD. THE NAME IN THE YELLOW SQUARES IS: RENE RUSSO**



**WIN £1,000** When you fill in the grid the yellow squares will spell out the name of a celebrity. Phone **0891 318 107**, leave the star's name plus your name and address on the line and you could win £1,000! The winner will be selected at random from all correct entries after lines close on Friday, March 28. Calls cost 50p per minute. Normal Mirror Group rules apply.

personal look

# The last laugh



**“ Listen, you know I’m not one to gossip, but . . . ”**

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