



Canvas of hunting dreams

Supporters of the Meynell, long renowned for its history, fine horsemen and rolling grass country, celebrated its bicentenary last week with the unveiling of a painting commissioned from Daniel Crane. The Meynell, which merged with the South Staffordshire in 1970, can trace its roots to when Meynell Ingram, grandson of Hugo Meynell, the father of hunting, started hunting foxes in the Hoar Cross and Sudbury areas of Derbyshire, where the kennels remain. 'Being involved with this pack at this time is an immense privilege,' says huntsman Jamie Nicklin, who is depicted with his hounds. 'I challenge anyone to find a better grass country than we have here.' Mr Crane's painting is set in an area near Thurvaston between three famous coverts: Peat Moss, The Spath and Boden's Thorns. The unveiling party took place on the Dunstall estate, Staffordshire, home of Simon and Alex Clarke. Prints will soon be available: contact hunt secretary Rachael Morley on 07889 083194. *Charlotte Cooper*

Good week for

Battery hens

British Hen Welfare Trust founder Jane Howarth collected her MBE last week

Britain on Film

The BFI has released more than 750 films online about British rural life, dating from 1900 to 1999

Libraries

Stephen Fry is appearing in a new poster campaign to show his support for preserving libraries

Winnie-the-Pooh

The Queen and Prince George meet Christopher Robin's bear in Winnie-the-Pooh's latest tale

Bad week for

e-books

Waterstones has announced it will be withdrawing from the e-book market after concluding it could no longer sell them effectively

Swallows and Amazons

The BBC has sparked outrage by changing Titty's name to Tatty in its new adaptation due out later this year

Adult scribblers

The recent surge in sales of colouring books has prompted the government plans to explore making them subject to VAT

Derek Croucher/Alamy; Andrew Parkinson/Alamy; David Kjaer/NaturePL; Chris Grady/Alamy; Arterra Picture Library/Alamy; Natural Visions/Alamy; Terry Whitaker/Alamy; Our Wild Life Photography/Alamy; Ernie James/NaturePL; Gary K. Smith/NaturePL; Hugh Harrop/Alamy; Chris Herring/Alamy

On the red list

Curlew
Lapwing
Whimbrel
Black-tailed godwit
Ruff
Red-necked phalarope
Dotterel
Woodcock
Ringed plover
Scaup
Common scoter
Long-tailed duck
Velvet scoter
Red-necked grebe
Slavonian grebe
Pochard
White-fronted goose

Green list

Red-throated diver
Little gull
Black tern
Jack snipe
Tufted duck
Golden plover
Little grebe
Little egrets

Amber

Dunlin
Greenshank
Sanderling
Curlew
sandpiper
Mute swan

Recent wetland bird additions to each list of concern, taken from 'The Birds of Conservation Concern 4: the Red List for Birds', published in December 2015

Sculpture in the countryside

CORK STREET gallery owner David Messum is running his annual summer exhibition of outdoor sculpture at his Lord's Wood studio on Marlow Common, Buckinghamshire, on June 11–12, and by appointment thereafter (01628 486565; www.messums.com). Featured artists include Laurence Edward, Bridget McCrum, Giles Rayner, Guy Taplin, Dominic Welch and Neil Wilkin. Mr and Mrs Messum bought Lord's Wood, in a dilapidated state, in 1974, from the psychoanalyst James Strachey and his wife, Alix, whose mother, Mary Florence, had established an artists' colony there—their friend, Francis Partridge, described it as 'the last outpost of Old Bloomsbury'.

This month is the height of outdoor sculpture exhibitions. Others to visit include 'On Form', the biennial exhibition of works in stone at Asthall Manor, Burford, Gloucestershire (June 12–July 10, 01993 824319; www.onformsculpture.co.uk) and the Moncrieff-Bray Gallery's exhibition on the South Downs at Petworth, West Sussex (07867 978414; www.moncrieffbray.com). There are exhibitions in the grounds of Borde Hill, Haywards Heath, West Sussex (01444 450326; www.bordehill.co.uk) and Goodwood, West Sussex (July 2–November, 01243 538449; www.sculpture.org.uk).



Brooding Man I by Laurence Edwards is at the Messum show ➤