

Grapevine

Tasty local titbits

SHAKEN, NOT STIRRED

Tanqueray's No. Ten gin is an essential ingredient for a perfect martini, and its new limited edition packaging, designed by Jeremy Scott, means the bottle will look as good on your shelf as it tastes in your glass. Sleek geometric casing opens up to reveal a jolly yellow olive-print interior, and the stylish dark green bottle within. The countdown to cocktail hour is on...

£30, from Harvey Nichols

HAM IT UP

Brindisa is the place to go if you're after top-quality Spanish fare, and prides itself on stocking (and serving) a delectable range of hams. So much so, this month sees the launch of the Brindisa ham carving school, where eager foodies can enjoy a tutored tasting of four Pata Negra and Serrano hams, be trained on what to look for when buying a whole ham and, most importantly, learn how to carve it too. The lessons cost £85 per person, which includes sherry, bread, oil and olives, and you'll leave with a ham goodie bag, and a 10% discount voucher for whole ham purchases. Classes are on Thursday nights from 7-8.45pm. The first is on 27 May, then 10 June.

To book a place call 020 7407 1036

ICING ON THE CAKE

Whether you're an accomplished baker, or prefer to jazz up a shop-bought creation, knowing how to put the 'icing on the cake' is a skill that will turn a simple sponge into an irresistible treat. Putney-based company Cakes 4 Fun offer a range of courses that will teach you all the skills you need, from mastering techniques (10, 17 and 27 June) to ultimate cupcakes (27 June). Courses take place on weekday evenings or Sundays, and cost £40 to £129, including ingredients and equipment.

www.cakes4funshop.co.uk

CLAPHAM'S FINEST

The Venn Street food and flower market in Clapham is a must-visit for all those on the hunt for great local produce. Head down on the last weekend of the month, and find an array of delectable edible treats from superb local suppliers such as Moen & Sons. But it's not just about the food... on Sundays, the flower market comes into bloom, with a range of top specialist traders offering a beautiful selection of bulbs, plants and flowers. The next one is 26-27 June (flower market on the 27 only).

Venn Street, Clapham SW4, 10am-5pm

