

## ELITE PROFESSIONALS

Get to know  
our venues



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Summer skin  
rejuvenation



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5 Jane Austen  
classics you  
must read



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— Spring – Summer 2017



# A SUMMER OF DISTINCTION

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*With your four legged friend*

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## DAYS OUT SERVED WITH A TWIST

The summer season gives us Brits the chance to explore and get out and about. We're extremely proud that our hotels are neatly located in some of the South East's prime spots and are surrounded by some delightful towns and villages.

We searched within a 25-mile radius of our hotels for intriguing and eclectic days out – served with a little twist, of course. Here's our top pick of summertime days out – they offer the perfect opportunity to explore your doorstep and beyond.

### 1. ASHDOWN PARK HOTEL & COUNTRY CLUB:

#### Forest Row Village Market

1st Saturday of every month (10.00am-3.00pm), free entry  
Browse delightful produce from the grand finalists of the Sussex Food & Drink Awards 2017. A feast for the eyes with pastries, bread, cheeses, pies, meats and for the sweet-toothed, chocolates!

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## WELCOME TO INSIGHT

A warm welcome to the latest *Insight*, now on its 6th issue.

You join us this edition as we look at what is on offer in and around the hotels coming into spring and summer. The gardening teams have been busy clearing the trails of Storm Doris (with a couple of large trees sadly lost at Ashdown Park, Tylney Hall and Luton Hoo), whilst simultaneously preparing our estates for the spring colours.

We have a new Executive Head Chef at Tylney Hall (See page 6) who is promising big things for the Oak Room Restaurant and throughout the rest of Tylney Hall's food and Beverage offering; our new Group Director of Sales, Marc Buxey (page 5) is leading the charge across the group to ensure our meeting spaces and event facilities are exceeding expectations on every level.

Away from the hotels, we are delighted to be supporting some of the regions best loved events again this summer, with the Glyndebourne festival as popular as ever in East Sussex. Eastbourne is once again playing host to the much anticipated lead up to Wimbledon, with the Aegon international tennis tournament at Devonshire Park, as well as hosting the Beach Life festival later on in the season.

There are various garden tours and wonderful attractions for families to visit as ever in Bedfordshire, Hampshire and Sussex, but for those looking for a day out with a twist there are few events worth taking a look at across the page...

Finally closer to home it seems that wildlife is flocking to Ashdown Forest this season, with the unannounced arrival of what appears now to be our resident pheasant that spends all day following the garden team around. Meanwhile in early spring our General Manager spotted a Golden Eagle just down the road from the hotel.

Whilst we can't guarantee a friendly pheasant or bird of prey with every visit, a warm welcome awaits you at all of our hotels. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Mr. Graeme Bateman FIH MI,  
Managing Director, Elite Hotels



# DAYS OUT SERVED WITH A TWIST

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### Murder Mystery at The Bluebell Railway/Sheffield Park Station

14th July, £98 per person  
Become a detective, sift through clues, cross-examine suspects and solve a dastardly murder. Enjoy a three-course meal whilst steaming through the Sussex countryside.  
**The Walled Garden at Tilgate Park**  
19th July – 20th July, £8 per person  
(this includes a glass of wine and canapés)  
Explore gardens set in 200 acre estate; informal, wild and walled gardens. Head Gardener Nick Hagon presents a talk at 7.00pm.

### 2. THE GRAND HOTEL:

**Eastbourne Bandstands Famous 1812 Firework Concert**  
5th, 12th, 19th and 26th of July and 2nd, 9th 16th, 23rd, 30th of August, Advanced Ticket £7.75 for adults and £3.75 for child, Full price ticket £9.50 for adults and £4.75 for child.  
Eastbourne Bandstands Famous 1812 Firework Concert.  
Enjoy iconic concert music that triumphantly ends with Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture. Advance tickets available at seafront office.  
**Hot Air Balloon Festival at Hampden Park**  
29th – 30th July, free entry  
See up to 25 hot air balloons visiting Hampden Park.  
**England's Medieval Festival at Herstmonceaux Castle in Hailsham**  
25th – 28th August  
Celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2017, with demonstrations, battle re-enactments, jousting by the Knight of Camelot and falconry displays. Workshops include chainmail, blacksmith forging and wood weaving.

### 3. TYLNEY HALL HOTEL & GARDENS:

**Winchester Distillery Tours**  
17th June, £15 per person  
An informative tour of Hampshire's first artisan distillery. Tickets limited to 30 people per session, allowing for a relaxed tour. Enjoy complimentary Gin & Tonic before going behind the scenes to meet the master distiller.  
**The Cheese & Chili Festival at Winchester**  
19th/20th August (10.00am-17.00pm) at North Walls (Devils Island) Recreational Ground, Adults £5, Senior £3 and Children Free  
This year enjoy more cheese and more chilies from around the world! There's wine tasting, chili eating contests, and real ale combined with real ciders to cool down with.  
**Surrey Farm Food & Drink Festival**  
27th August – 2nd September  
Learn about conservation measures and how they work alongside modern agriculture, see how dairy and beef cattle and sheep are managed. Produce also available to buy.

### 4. LUTON HOO HOTEL GOLF & SPA:

**National Tea Day**  
21st April, £26.95 per person, includes afternoon tea  
A talk by Malcolm Ferris, who has nearly fifty years of tea experience. He'll discuss the history of tea and how it's grown. Includes tasting sessions and demonstrations. Pre book only, The House, Shuttleworth, Old Warden, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, SG18 9EA.  
**Milton Keynes Dragon Boat Festival**  
25th June, free entry for spectators  
Dragon Boat Racing is growing fast as a water activity here in Britain. Up to 16 people paddle each of the 40-foot boats, a drummer beats time and a tail steers a straight course at the helm! Up to 60 crews are expected to battle it out over the 200m-racecourse!  
**Shuttleworth Heritage Day at Shuttleworth Bedfordshire**  
3rd September  
Celebrating the heart of everything that is Shuttleworth, including aviation, agriculture, and racing. Enjoy a flying display of The Collection's vintage and rare aircraft.

To find out more, please visit the 'What To Do' section of your chosen hotel online.



## IN THE QUEST OF CALM

*A beautiful oasis of calm and tranquillity greets you in Luton Hoo's 1-hectare sunken woodland and rock garden, which lays 150 metres east of the house.*

Sir Julius Wernher bought Luton Hoo in 1903, having made his fortune from South African diamond mines.

Upon purchase, Sir Julius commissioned the building of this beautiful garden as an act of love. A beautiful gift for his wife, Lady Alice, whom he described as 'bright-eyed, fair-haired, small, intelligent and musical.'

The garden is expertly enclosed with mature trees and multiple shrubs and is set in a south-facing hollow within the pleasure grounds. Calmness dominates the garden thanks to the cascading pool system, which runs through the area and combines with related cliffs, caverns, paths and bridges and rocks. Open lawns flank the garden with abundantly planted rock plants and shrubs. The perfect oasis of calm.

# STUNNING STROLLS WITH YOUR FOUR-LEGGED FRIEND

*Getting outdoors, exploring luscious scenery and those undulating hills with your four-legged friend is pure joy – whatever weather the British summertime brings! Ashdown Park's Estate Manager Kevin Sweet and his border terrier, Boson round up the top three dog walks within the surrounding grounds of the hotel.*



## NO.1: SECRET GARDEN – 25 MINUTES

From the hotel, walk towards the East Lodge Gate until you meet a pathway junction - head across the top of the field, follow along the edge until you reach a small track. Open the iron gates into The Secret Garden - a quiet, beautiful, secluded garden. Continue down the track, reaching the golf course's east side and the lower parts of the estate. Walk towards tee 10; the view of the hotel from behind the main lake combined with the water fountains make for great photos.

*Wildlife Watch:* Deer often graze the rough grass between the fairways.

## NO.2: 18 ACRE WOOD – 40 MINUTES

Walk along the grass track towards tee three of our on-site golf course, towards the 18-acre wood. Follow the woodland path until tee six; continue on the track alongside the woodland pond. As the track ends, you will come to Cow Lane, (this track was used to move cattle to the top fields in days gone by), this then takes you back to the hotel.

*Wildlife Watch:* Deer often graze between greens three and four.

## NO.3: SSSI WALK (SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST) – 60 MINUTES

The longest route on our guide, large open spaces make it ideal for letting your dog off the lead to have a good run around.

Walk down Cow Lane from the hotel - keeping on the track. Pass the driving range to your left and llama park on the right; continue along the grass paths around the fields, heading back towards the hotel past Southbank Wood (SSSI area).

*Top Tip:* Head to the top fields for stunning views across Ashdown Forest, looking towards Kids Hill and the hotel.

### *Wildlife Watch:*

– The wild grass fields making this a prime location for wildlife spotting.

– The beautiful and ancient Southbank Woods is home to rare moths and butterflies.

*We love seeing your photographs so please don't forget to share moments from your walks with us on social media! #EliteSummerWalks*

# UNDER OUR ROOF

*Throughout the year we are holding a whole host of events to give you even more reasons to visit. Here are some of the highlights that will whet your appetite!*

**09 APR**

## ON THE COURSE

Red Tee Masters at Luton Hoo  
Sunday 9th April

Luton Hoo are also playing host to the Jamega Pro Am and EuroPro Tour this summer.

**02 AUG**

## AROUND THE TABLE

Mirabelle Seaside Lunch at The Grand  
Wednesday 2nd August

Gourmet dining events are something of a forte at Elite and 2017 is no different, with the hotels hosting Champagne dinners, themed afternoon teas and much more.

**20 AUG**

## SWEET MUSIC

Don Giovanni Opera Gala at Tylney Hall  
Sunday 20th August

Music lovers will be pleased to hear that, as well as the above event at Tylney Hall, an Evening of Broadway Classics returns to Ashdown Park in August Bank Holiday Monday.

**11 JUN**

## GREEN FINGERS

National Garden Scheme  
Open Day at Tylney Hall  
Sunday 11th June

From April through to October, there will be several opportunities to see the stunning grounds at Tylney Hall, Ashdown Park and Luton Hoo at these fundraising events.

**06 JUL**

## THE SILVER SCREEN

Bridget Jones Open Air Cinema Screening at Ashdown Park  
Thursday 6th July

The ever popular outdoor cinema screenings return to Ashdown Park and Luton Hoo this summer, with classic films such as Back to the Future and Grease.

**14 SEP**

## REST AND RELAXATION

Kerstin Florian Beauty Evening at The Grand  
Thursday 14th September

Spa and Wellness events are taking place at The Grand Hotel and Luton Hoo this year, with workshops providing tips and exclusive offers.



# MEETING 'OUTSIDE' THE CITY

*Our hotels provide an inspiring and productive environment for meetings, events and corporate occasions away from the hustle and bustle of the City.*

From small day seminars to annual conferences and product launches, there are more than 60 meeting rooms and suites. Each hotel is available for exclusive use to accommodate the largest of events, and for that extra bit of breathing space during the summer months, we have a number of outdoor options to help focus the minds and fuel creativity.

From the Summer House with forest views at Ashdown Park and the intimate Hampshire Suite garden at Tylney Hall. To the sun drenched Chatsworth Terrace at The Grand Hotel and the breath taking weir-side lawn at Luton Hoo's Warren Weir – we'd be delighted to host your summer meeting with a twist.

## Getting to know our venues...

### ASHDOWN PARK HOTEL & COUNTRY CLUB

When planning a corporate event or personal celebration, the location, ambience, flexibility and stimulating environment are all major considerations. With sixteen fully equipped suites and syndicate rooms of varying sizes, styles and functionality, Ashdown Park is a serious contender.



#### AT A GLANCE:

- 106 bedrooms
- 160 maximum theatre
- 96 maximum cabaret
- 150 maximum private dining
- 18 hole par-3 golf course
- Location – 30 minutes to Gatwick Airport and under an hour from Heathrow Airport, London & Ebbsfleet Eurostar



### THE GRAND HOTEL

All of The Grand's conference and banqueting facilities are discreetly, yet superbly, organised to blend in with the smooth running of the hotel. Importance is placed on meeting the flexibility, comfort and support required for every guest whether it's for a private board meeting, a major product launch or a memorable civil ceremony and reception.



#### AT A GLANCE:

- 152 bedrooms
- 300 maximum theatre
- 120 maximum cabaret
- 200 maximum private dining
- On the doorstep of South Downs National Park
- Location – Just 90 minutes from central London, and under 1 hour from Gatwick Airport



## TYLNEY HALL HOTEL & GARDENS

Vital elements to consider when planning a successful corporate event or private celebration are location and versatility of the venue and the quality of support and service. Tylney Hall meets all the important criteria.



### AT A GLANCE:

- 112 bedrooms
- 120 maximum theatre
- 80 maximum cabaret
- 121 maximum private dining
- Location – 5 minutes from the M3 and close to the M4, just 40 minutes from central London and Heathrow Airport

## LUTON HOO HOTEL, GOLF & SPA

For an off-site meeting where you and your colleagues will have time and space to think... a venue for an all important presentation that will impress your clients and guests... or a location that will comfortably accommodate a conference for up to 120 delegates – it is hard to improve on the meeting facilities at Luton Hoo.



### AT A GLANCE:

- 144 Bedrooms (228 including Warren Weir)
- 130 maximum theatre
- 80 maximum cabaret
- 120 maximum private dining
- 18 hole par-73 golf course
- Location – 5 minutes from Luton Airport and M1, direct links to London St. Pancras



## WARREN WEIR AT LUTON HOO

The Warren Weir Suite, complete with private garden and overlooking the lake, comprises five individually designed function rooms adaptable for conference or leisure use and licensed for weddings and civil ceremonies, Warren Lounge, business desk, syndicate suite and dedicated leisure facilities.



### AT A GLANCE:

- 84 Bedrooms (228 including Luton Hoo)
- 368 maximum theatre
- 176 maximum cabaret
- 290 maximum private dining
- Exclusive use with own private leisure facilities
- Situated at the foot of the Luton Hoo Hotel estate



## A NEW START FOR MARC

*The start of 2017 represented a new beginning for Marc Buxey, who joined Elite Hotels as Group Director of Sales.*

Graeme Bateman, Managing Director, commented "We are delighted to have Marc on board overseeing the development and implementation of the sales strategy across our four wonderful properties, in what is an exciting time for Elite Hotels."

Marc brings with him a wealth of related industry experience most recently with Q Hotels, where he held the post of Director of Sales, Norton Park Hotel. Prior to this position, his career has included sales roles with The Grand Connaught Rooms, London, The Hyatt Regency Churchill Hotel, London, and Hilton Metropole Hotel, Brighton.

Commenting on his appointment, Marc said "I am thrilled to have taken up this position and am looking forward to driving Elite Hotels forward in the meetings, events and corporate travel markets."

# THE PERFECT PICNIC: THE GRAND HOTEL

*Our kitchen can prepare guests a premier picnic for a wonderful summer day out. The Grand Hotel's superb location ensures plenty of nearby spots to explore.*

*We have selected five nearby beautiful locations for you to enjoy. Simply find your spot in the sunshine, and set out our mouth-watering picnic food.*

ENJOY FROM  
**£16.95**  
PER PERSON



**THE BEACH:**

Eastbourne's main beach (combining pebbles and shingle) stretches half a mile to the south from the Pier to Wish Tower and is rich in Victorian heritage. You'll find plenty of picnic spots from the bandstand, the Pier, to the Floral Carpet Gardens. Here you can observe the ample sailing boats, surfers and swimmers and watch the world go by. Bliss.



**BEACHY HEAD:**

The delightful South Downs offer stunning panoramic views over Eastbourne and the English Channel, and Beachy Head is no exception. You'll need a head for heights to climb to the top of the famous red and white-striped lighthouse- but it's worthwhile.



**CYCLE RIDE:**

Eastbourne's seafront has a scenic cycle path, which runs from Sovereign Gardens to Fishermans Green. If you're up for a challenge, cycle along the flat cycle path from Eastbourne's seafront to the nearby marina. It's almost traffic-free all the way with some beautiful views (it's approximately a six-mile return journey). Go on, feel the breeze in your hair!



**DRUSILLAS ZOO PARK:**

If you have the children with you then head to Drusillas Zoo Park for a fun, interactive day out with their diverse zoo exhibits. You'll find various primates, fruit bats, porcupines, otters and llamas for the kids to enjoy. And there are plenty of feathered friends to get up close with too. By car, it's an approximate 10-mile journey from The Grand Hotel.



**FRISTON FOREST**

Slip on your walking shoes and explore the undulating beech woodland terrain. There are plenty of marked routes to choose from such as the Butchers Trudge (moderate trail of one mile from the car park), to White Horse View (moderate trail of 1.5 miles following forest tracks between plantations. Alternatively, a wealth of bridleways provides some excellent horse riding opportunities.

## DISH OF THE SEASON

BEETROOT CURED  
SALMON, SOUR CREAM,  
CUCUMBER AND DILL

This delightfully refreshing dish of the season is brought to you by Tylney Hall's new executive head chef (see adjoining article), Michael Lloyd.

This creation is a light and delicate way of enjoying salmon in the warmer months. It retains the true texture of the salmon accompanied with a distinctive flavour.

TO FIND OUT HOW TO PREPARE  
YOUR OWN AT HOME, PLEASE VISIT  
[ELITEHOTELS.CO.UK/DISHOFTHESEASON](http://ELITEHOTELS.CO.UK/DISHOFTHESEASON)



## NEW EXECUTIVE HEAD CHEF ON THE MENU AT TYLNEY HALL

*Tylney Hall Hotel & Gardens are delighted to announce the appointment of Michael Lloyd as new executive head chef.*

Arriving from the Compleat Angler, Michael will lead a team of 16 chefs and three apprentices working across the hotel's two AA Rosette Oak Room Restaurant, lounge dining, room service and conference and banqueting.

Michael brings his individual style of modern British dining to Tylney Hall, where he has already begun work to update our evening à la carte and lunch menus and is now turning his attention to making the hotel's signature afternoon tea one of the best in the south.

Speaking after his appointment, Michael said: "I've always liked working in country house hotels and places with history and Tylney Hall is a really stunning hotel, which with its fantastic potential and a supportive general manager like Sam Aziz, is the perfect new challenge for me."

General manager of Tylney Hall Sam Aziz added: "I'm delighted to welcome Michael to the team at Tylney Hall and I am very excited to see how he will enhance our F&B offering across the board. With Michael leading the team in the kitchen, we can ensure all of our guests enjoy first-class dining that will further enhance the traditional luxury experience we are already known and loved for."



# PREPARE TO POP THE QUESTION

Research suggests a preference in selecting a secluded location, asking parents permission and that Christmas proposals are to be avoided!

In a survey of over 200 people, carried out by the Elite Hotel Group just 3% of people said Christmas Day was the best time for a proposal. The so-called most romantic day of the year, Valentine’s Day, didn’t fare too well either, only 4% of people thought that was the best day to propose. Over three-quarters of people surveyed (76%) said that the day of the year didn’t matter, and of those who had a preferred day, 45% said it should be their anniversary as a couple.

The research into what makes the perfect proposal also found that modern trends of all-singing, all dancing, flash mob style proposals or dropping down on one knee in front of a stadium full of people aren’t actually that appealing. 87% of respondents said that the perfect proposal would be just you and your partner, with only 4% saying it should be in front of friends or in public.

An elaborate proposal planned with military precision wasn’t a popular choice either; 77% of people saying they would prefer something that wasn’t over the top, 19% say it should be spur of the moment. As for the location, keeping it private is key; 40% of respondents said it should be done in a secluded location, whilst 20% wanted it to happen on holiday.

 **49%**  
of people would bypass a social media announcement. Instead announcing their engagement to friends and family in person.

When asked if a couple should live together before getting engaged, over half (54%) said they feel that you don’t really know someone until you live together, however, 45% of people said that it wasn’t essential – perhaps a surprise given that cohabiting couples are the fastest growing family type in the UK.

 **1/2**  
of respondents think it’s important to live together before getting engaged, 45% say it isn’t essential.

When asked what their most important element of a proposal is, thoughtfulness came out on top at 54%, followed by romance and surprise. Not one respondent said the ring was the most important thing – so love wins over materialism!



When it comes to choosing the ring, the majority of people think it should be a surprise. 76% of people said the person proposing should choose the ring in secret, although a third of those said they should seek help from their partners family or friends to make sure they get it right.

After the proposal, 20% of people thought it was better for the couple to choose the ring together, whilst 4% said the couple should choose the ring together before proposing.

 **3%**  
of people think the perfect proposal should take place on Christmas Day.

Once the question has been asked and the lucky bride or groom to be has accepted, 47% of people said it would be best celebrated with an intimate dinner with close friends and family. A quarter of people would like a big engagement party to celebrate, while 17% would prefer a romantic holiday and 8% thought that with a wedding to plan, that would be celebration enough.

More than half of participants said the ideal engagement would last 1-2 years, allowing plenty of time to plan the wedding.

A third of people thought six months to a year is long enough, whilst 2% wanted a quick engagement of less than six months.

Commenting on the findings of the research, marketing manager David Petitt said: “With Christmas traditionally one of the busiest times of year for engagements and an increase in proposals taking place across our hotels, we wanted to find out if the perceptions around what makes the perfect proposal were changing.

It may seem surprising that fewer people dream of a Christmas engagement, but choosing a secluded, private setting, putting thoughtfulness above the perfect ring and celebrating with friends and family in person, is in keeping with the traditional values that are embodied by the Elite Hotels and our guests.”



## WEDDING EVENTS



**THE GRAND HOTEL**  
Wedding Open Day  
Sunday 9th July

Wedding Open Evening  
Thursday 12th October

**ASHDOWN PARK HOTEL**  
Evening Wedding Showcase  
Friday 22nd September

**LUTON HOO HOTEL**  
Evening Wedding Showcase  
Thursday 19th October

**TYLNEY HALL HOTEL**  
Luxury Wedding Show  
Sunday 22nd October

 **87%**  
of people would prefer a private proposal with a secluded location being the most popular place.

Whilst some of the traditional elements of an engagement have fallen by the wayside, such as placing an announcement in a newspaper (only 1% of respondents would still do so), other traditional values are still going strong.

Almost two thirds of people questioned (65%), still think it’s important to ask permission from your partner’s father before proposing, especially if your families have traditional values.

Despite living in the age of social media and digital communications, 49% of people still think its best to inform friends and family of your engagement in person if you can, with the next best option being over the phone.



# SUMMER SKIN REJUVENATION

Look radiant this summer with our expert therapists' recommendation of spa treatments containing mineral and sea salts – for him and her. Rejuvenate your skin and keep it looking fresh throughout the season with body scrubs and our Alpine foot treatment.

There are many benefits to salt body scrubs that extend beyond the initial removal of dead skin cells - which makes skin look vibrant. By removing these excess cells, it enables your skin to more efficiently absorb vitamins and the moisturising benefits from your personal skin care routine; in turn keeping your skin looking beautiful.

The action of the body scrub itself also helps increase your skin's blood circulation, aiding new skin cell growth, while the salts help draw out toxins.

To be head to toe fresh, ensure your feet are well cared for after a

winter of being hidden away. The Alpine foot treatment is perfect for reviving dry, rough and cracked feet using mineral salts and soothing essential oils.

The great results of these treatments extends beyond the physical benefits – the experience of a luxurious pamper session can help to boost your mood, reduce stress and the essential oils used along side the salts have their own health benefits.

If you are unsure about your personal skin care routine and would like to know more about how you can enhance your skins natural beauty, our therapists are

on hand to provide you with tailored advice and help you choose the right combination of products and treatments that suits your lifestyle.

*These luxurious treatments are available at all hotels. Please pick up your spa treatment menu from reception.*

**FINAL TIP:**  
For ultimate relaxation add your body scrub and alpine foot treatment onto a full body massage.



## TYLNEY HALL TOAST ONE OF HAMPSHIRE'S FINEST THIS SUMMER

SUNDAY 16TH JULY

*This summer marks the 200th anniversary of the passing of celebrated Hampshire novelist, Jane Austen.*

Situated in the heart of the Hampshire countryside, just 15 miles from Jane Austen's birthplace, Tylney Hall are marking the occasion with a celebratory afternoon tea with a twist.

Joining diners at this special event on 16th July, are the Hampshire Regency Dancers, in full period costume, providing live entertainment straight from Jane Austen's era.

To book or find out more, please call 01256 745533 or visit [tylneyhall.co.uk/events](http://tylneyhall.co.uk/events).



## JANE AUSTEN CLASSICS

We celebrate Georgian author Jane Austen's literature. Known for her social commentary in her novels. She gained popularity after 1869; her reputation grew in the 20th Century. They bridge the gap between romance and realism.

### 1. SENSE AND SENSIBILITY (PUBLISHED 1811)

Centring on the Dashwood family, specifically sisters Elinor and Marianne, who respectively represent the 'sense' and 'sensibility' of the title.

Following their father's death, the Dashwood sisters, Elinor, Marianne and Margaret are left at the mercy of their half-brother John and his greedy wife.

Their story is peppered with social scandals; plot twists, with heady doses of youthful infatuation, love letters and secret engagement revelations.

### 2. PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PUBLISHED IN 1813)

It's sometimes described as a novel of 'manners' as Austen observes how people interact with each other, how people show their feelings in public can often be different to their true feelings.

Primarily set in Hertfordshire, the story centres around the Bennet family and their five children, particularly Elizabeth.

*It's sometimes described as a novel of 'manners as Austen observes how people interact with each other*

The story follows Elizabeth as she deals with issues of upbringing, morality, manners and education.

### 3. MANSFIELD PARK (PUBLISHED 1814)

Notably known as Austen's most complex novel; it deals with several themes of social aspects,

*Notably known as Austen's most complex novel*

from the education of children and the difference of appearances of the reality. This is Austen's third novel.

### 4. EMMA (PUBLISHED 1815)

Austen introduces title character Emma Woodhouse as "handsome, clever and rich," Emma's story opens as a twenty year old; she makes some mistakes, (due to her conviction that she's always right and this compounds with her lack of experience).

She vowed she would never marry, yet delights in matchmaking others. She falls in love, (albeit briefly) with Frank Churchill, but this soon ends, as she realises that she loves Mr Knightly.

### 5. PERSUASION (PUBLISHED IN 1818 POSTHUMOUSLY BY HER BROTHER HENRY)

Often described as one of the most tender love stories, whereby narration talks about a different kind of love story with second chances.

Central character Anne Elliot is aged twenty-seven, and for her, falling in love is relegated to her past, (after a previous engagement ended).

Consequently, Anne has since regretted this decision and firmly doesn't expect to find love again.

## GIVE THE GIFT OF AN ELITE EXPERIENCE

Share the experience of Elite Hotels with our range of gift certificates; from afternoon tea and indulgent spa treatments to gourmet dining and luxury overnight stays; we have the perfect gift for a loved-one, friend or colleague. Purchase online at [www.elitehotels.co.uk](http://www.elitehotels.co.uk) or talk to our reception teams about your bespoke gift.

