

# COUNTRY LIVING

## ARTS IN THE COUNTRY

Underfunded and ignored?

## CREATURE COMFORTERS



Vets on 24 hour call

## SOMERSET CHAPEL CONVERTED

Jocasta Innes takes a pew

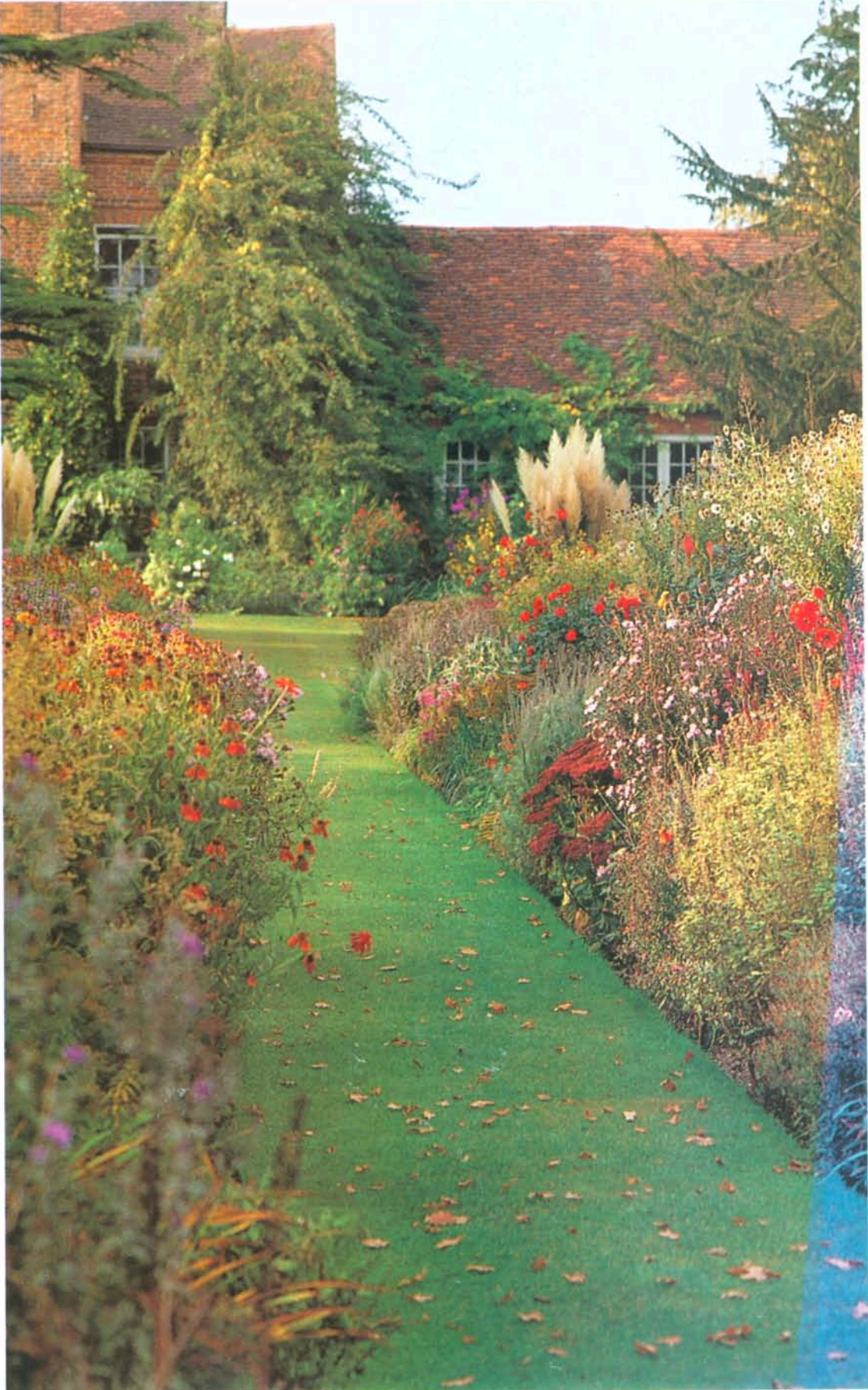
## DONOVAN THE WATER DIVINER

## AUTUMN WARMTH

Cure a smoking chimney

Send for our Scottish wool shawl

Tapestries, tassels, braids and brocades



**BRIAN JOHNSTON • JOANNA TROLLOPE • RICHARD MABEY**

# COUNTRY LIVING

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## FEATURES

### 44 ART ATTACK

Rural arts: where the money is – and isn't

James Runcie

### 58 CREATURE COMFORTERS

Small Rural Business Award winners

Katy Brown

### 68 DIVINE INSPIRATION

Donovan Wilkins, master dowser

Paul Heiney

### 74 DOVE COTERIE

In search of dove houses

Anthony Greenstreet

### 102 BRINGING HOME THE WILLOW

The pollarder at work

Jon Beer

### 110 CAROLINE MAY, BOTANOPHILE

A Victorian flower painter

Richard Mabey

### 182 FOLLOWING THE SEVERN

By bicycle, train and canoe

Steve Ashton

### 186 MERCY KILLING

The good shepherd of Rannoch

Jane Cheape

### 188 THE COUNTRY LIVING CHRISTMAS BOOK

## HOUSES & GARDENS

### 31 HOMEWORK

Finials & furbelows

Gabi Tubbs

### 90 ROOM WITH A PEW

A converted chapel in Somerset

Jocasta Innes

### 106 DOG DAYS IN BERKSHIRE

A garden glowing with colour

Miranda Innes

### 114 INTO THE WOODS

An artist's house near Antwerp

### 173 HEAT SEEKERS

How to cure a smoking fire

Richard Stevens

## FOOD & DRINK

### 126 COOK AMONG THE PIGEONS

Free-range game for all

Philippa Davenport

### 137 THE GOOD LISTENER

In praise of the noble potato

Anne Boston

### 145 JOIN THE CLUB

A directory of wine clubs and societies

Rosemary George

## CRAFTS

### 96 CAITHNESS COUTURE

High-class cloth from a cowshed

Alexandra Buxton

## FASHION, BEAUTY & HEALTH

### 154 LIFE CLASS

Women painters with fashion flair

Robert Burgess

### 164 POWER PLANTS

Healing herbal tonics

Barbara Griggs

## REGULARS

### 13 MAGPIE

Compiled by Vicky Carlisle

### 21 BRIAN REDHEAD

### 24 NETWORK

News pages

Edited by Jules MacMahon

### 51 THE GARDEN PATH

Miranda Innes

### 83 SCENES FROM A PROVINCIAL LIFE

Joanna Trollope

### 191 COLLECTIBLES

Family treen

John Riches

### 194 ESCAPES

The Lake District and Avon

### 197 BOOKS

Cooking à la grandmère

Jocasta Innes

### 201 MOTORING

Museums on wheels

Frank Page

### 223 YOUR LETTERS

### 224 MY COUNTRY CHILDHOOD

Brian Johnston

## OFFERS

### 13 VERDIGRIS CANDELABRA

### 15 WRAP UP IN A CAITHNESS SHAWL

### 150 JACQUARD RABBITS

Tapestry cushion and footstool

### 205 COUNTRY LIVING CALENDAR

## COMPETITIONS & TREATS

### 13 VANISHING PARADISE

Fifteen rainforest books to be won

### 16 KEVIN McCLOUD'S DECORATING BOOK

Win a volume full of inspiring ideas

### 16 KNITTING WEEKEND WITH SASHA KAGAN

Join us for a workshop in Wales

### 94 SIMPLE COUNTRY STYLE

Win a copy of Jocasta Innes's new book

### 168 HERBAL MEDICINE/CLARINS WORKSHOP

Join Barbara Griggs at Lucknam Park

### 188 STENCILLING DAY WITH LYN LE GRICE AND KEVIN McCLOUD

### 192 ADVERTISERS' INDEX

### 206 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING



Cover/Simon McBride. Inset/ARDEA



Divine inspiration, page 68



Cook among the pigeons, page 126



Caroline May, botanophile, page 110



Into the woods, page 114



Painting makes you appreciate life more, makes you look around and notice things. To someone who would like to start painting I would say don't be shy, just do it and don't be afraid of little failures. So many people are intimidated by failure, but the thing to do is to avoid working on too small a scale: use big paper and be bold and quick." Words of advice from **Olivia Temple**, whose oils and pastels depict life in and around her home in the Somerset countryside, from farm buildings with peeling paint to an apple orchard in blossom.

"I like painting things which might seem rather ordinary but have something interesting about them; and I like recording bits of country life that are becoming extinct. I've done some paintings of the harvesting of willows for basket making."

In addition to her paintings, Olivia takes a keen interest in clothes and likes to change the contents of her wardrobe often. To avoid spending a lot of money she often buys from charity

shops. "As I've grown older I've found that my style has changed, and there comes a moment in your life when you find you can't wear frilly, floaty dresses any longer."

Her pictures overflow with colour and this is reflected in her clothes. "I think a lot of people are scared of wearing colour. Many others choose colours that don't suit them, especially turquoise and fuchsia – what I think of as 'nylon' colours. You need to use colour carefully, as in painting, with one lovely big splash."

"When friends come to stay for the weekend, they know that I'm likely to be working on a painting, so they often bring a sketch pad to try it for themselves. Some of them have never really painted before and they go and hide in corners of the garden and work, which makes me happy."

For paintings and commissions Olivia Temple can be contacted through The Addison Ross Gallery, 40 Eaton Terrace, London SW1W 8TS (071-730 1536). ➤➤➤

**Main picture** Olivia with her painting *Autumn in the Quantocks*. *Midnight-blue wool crêpe tunic*, £300, by Jean Muir Studio from Fenwick. *Susan Rooke, The Ballroom*, Lucienne Phillips. *Cropped embroidered trousers*, £123, by Ghost from Harrods, The Vestry. *Ashra, Handpainted chiffon scarf*, £45, by Cornelia James from Fenwick. *Selfridges, Multicoloured suede shoes*, £79.99, from Russell & Bramley. *Brooch*, £14.95, by Mali from Fenwick, *Fabulous Fakes, Town and Country*. *Tights* by Pretty Polly. **Above** Knitted out for autumn. *Handknitted "Lapdeer" sweater*, £190, by Annabel Fox from Margaret Howell. *Cream jersey jodhpurs*, £32.99, by Zygo from Academy. *Basement, Top Shop, Off The Rails*. *Suede pumps*, £95, from Emma Hope. *Tights* from Pretty Polly. *Pheasant-feathered hat*, £58, by Children of the Forest from Holland & Holland. *Déjà Vu, Hollyhock*. **Top left** Working in a corner of the garden. **Above left** Detail from *Red Tulips in a Jug*