



Bruce Fleming remembers Jimi, page 14



True story of the Nativity, page 28



The art of a king, page 36

Features

- 12** Olden Life: Who was Tim Nice-But-Dim? *James Pembroke*
- 12** Modern Life: What Is cryptocurrency? *Annabel Sampson*
- 14** Christmas with Hendrix. Photographer *Bruce Fleming* recalls lunch with a legend
- 16** A countryman's Christmas. *Robin Page* explains why it has to be pheasant
- 18** Vera Lynn remembers Christmas in wartime. *York Membery*
- 20** An irreverent A-Z guide to Christmas by *Nina Stibbe*
- 22** The Way We Live Now *Dafydd Jones*
- 26** The agonies of the man behind Morecambe and Wise. *Brian Viner*
- 28** The true story of the Nativity. *Christopher House*
- 30** The gentleman who became a lady. *Robin Parker*
- 32** *Rachel Johnson's* ruthless guide to Christmas parties
- 33** *Nicky Haslam* on a very uncommon Christmas
- 36** Charles I, king of the art collectors. *Laura Freeman*

- 38** The circus is dead – long live the circus! says *Dea Birkett*
- 40** On the road with David Attenborough. *Louise Flind*
- 41** Mugabe and me. *Algy Cluff*

Regulars

- 5** The Old Un's Notes
- 9** Res Publica *Simon Carr*
- 11** Media Matters *Stephen Glover*
- 13** Raymond Briggs
- 24** Postcards from the Edge *Mary Kenny*
- 42** Gyles Brandreth's Diary
- 43** Short Cuts *Anne Robinson*
- 44** Town Mouse *Tom Hodgkinson*
- 45** Country Mouse *Giles Wood*
- 46** I Once Met... Elvis Presley
- 46** Memory Lane
- 48** School Days *Sophia Waugh*
- 48** Home Front *Alice Pitman*
- 49** Wilfred De'Ath
- 51** Letter from America
- 52** Readers' Letters
- 64** Literary Lunches
- 65** Words and Stuff *Johnny Grimond*
- 65** Rant. Theatrical adaptations
- 72** Getting Dressed – *Caroline Dawnay*
- 73** *Rachel Johnson's* Golden Oldies

- 73** British Building Styles
- 81** Bird of the Month: Guillemot
- 82** Overlooked Britain *Lucinda Lambton*
- 83** Taking a Walk *Patrick Barkham*
- 86** *God Sister Teresa*
- 86** Memorial Service
- 87** Profitable Wonders *James Le Fanu*
- 88** DigitalLife *Matthew Webster*
- 88** Money Matters *Margaret Dibben*
- 89** The Doctor's Surgery *Tom Stuttaford*
- 90** Bridge *Andrew Robson*
- 90** Competition *Tessa Castro*
- 97** Crossword *Antico*
- 98** Ask Virginia Ironside

Books

- 55** *Toscanini: Musician of Conscience* by *Harvey Sachs* *Stephen Walsh*
- 57** *Shouting in the Street* by *Donald Treford* *William Keegan*
- 59** *Britain's Hundred Best Railway Stations* by *Simon Jenkins* *Lucinda Lambton*
- 59** *Prairie Fires: The American Dreams* of *Laura Ingalls Wilder* *Emily Bearn*

- 60** *Travels in a Dervish Cloak* by *Isambard Wilkinson* *Jason Goodwin*
- 61** *Darling Pol: The Letters of Mary Wesley and Eric Siepmann* edited by *Patrick Marnham* *Jane Shilling*
- 62** *Absence* by *Sarah Wiseman* *Cressida Connolly*

Arts

- 66** Film *Marcus Berkman*
- 67** Theatre *Paul Bailey*
- 67** Radio *Valerie Grove*
- 69** Television *Roger Lewis*
- 70** Music *Richard Osborne*
- 71** Exhibitions *Huon Mallalieu*

Pursuits

- 75** Gardening *David Wheeler*
- 75** Kitchen Garden *Simon Courtauld*
- 76** Cookery *Elisabeth Luard*
- 76** Restaurants *James Pembroke*
- 77** Wine *Bill Knott*
- 79** Sport *Jim White*
- 79** Motoring *Alan Judd*

Reader Offers

- Buy The Very Best of The Oldie p53**
- Literary Lunches p64**
- Reader trip to Denmark p85**
- The Oldie course p85**