



Fashion: take the curves

Diet? What diet? The hottest new dresses that do all the hard work for you **Times2**

High Street or Haute Street?

Laura Craik



The 11-year-old boy who (almost) saved the euro

COURTESY OF THE HERMANS FAMILY



Jurje Hermans, a Dutch schoolboy, became the youngest entrant to the Wolfson Prize with his plan for a break-up of the euro based on a drawing of a pizza. Page 4

IN THE NEWS

Four-letter row as Boris attacks Ken's tax 'lies'



The London mayoral race turned nasty when Boris Johnson, the Conservative candidate, accused his Labour challenger, Ken Livingstone, of being "a f***ing liar". Witnesses said that the Mayor was "red with rage" and "visibly shaking" when he confronted Mr Livingstone after a row over the two men's tax affairs. News, page 3

Airport queues worsen

Passengers are waiting longer at British airports because of staff shortages caused by government cutbacks at the troubled UK Border Agency. News, page 5

Murdoch steps down

James Murdoch has quit as chairman of BSkyB after almost a decade at the satellite broadcaster. News, pages 12, 13

Let them eat carrot cake

The British sandwich chain Pret A Manger says that weeks after setting up its first two shops in Paris it is doing so well that it is to open two more. News, page 9

Late deals Three nights' B&B in Jersey from £163; a week in Bulgaria from £254; seven nights' B&B in The Gambia from £439

British Isles

● **Cornish Traditional Cottages** heads the list of companies offering a last chance to book an Easter break. Among properties is the Quillet, a secluded wing of a farmhouse near Mevagissey, the port in **South Cornwall**, which costs £429 for a week from Friday, and Cuckoo Tor, a cottage close to a tidal creek of the River Fowey, which is £427 for a week from Saturday. Both sleep four and are available at lower prices in the week after. 01208 821666

● In **Boscastle**, on the **North Cornwall** coast, an 18th-century beamed cottage for four is available with Helpful Holidays for a week from Saturday. With an open fire and views from the garden to the sea, Fuchsia Cottage costs £434. 01647 434063

● **Jersey Tourism** is promoting spring breaks including over Easter, with three nights at the three-star Shakespeare Hotel on the south coast from £235; flights from Gatwick, airport parking and car hire are included. Three nights' B&B at the four-star Somerville Hotel costs from £163 with car hire but not travel from the mainland. 01534 448800

● A five-bedroom Victorian house on the banks of Loch Fyne, **Argyll & Bute**,

with log fires and underfloor heating is reduced to £600 for a week from Friday with holidaylettings.co.uk. Walks from Seacliffe's door lead to castles and the Crinan Canal. 01865 312000

● Two-night spring breaks in midweek at the five-star Ffynnon hotel, with exclusive use of a hot tub accompanied

Book early ...



Enjoy a fortnight's two centre trip to Croatia in October from £635 with Wexas Travel. Fly from Gatwick for a week's B&B at the Hotel Lero, close to the centre of Dubrovnik, above, and a week at the Hotel Marko Polo on the island of Korcula. 020-7838 5901

by champagne, are on offer for £142 until mid-June. The boutique hotel is in **Snowdonia** National Park and near the market town of Dolgellau, the Coedy Brenin mountain biking centre and the Mawddach Estuary. 01341 421774

● Ideal Cruising suggests a new way to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee by sailing around the Queen's realm. The nine-day **British Isles** cruise on board *Marco Polo* starts from Leith, the port for Edinburgh, on May 28, calling at Tilbury for London, Portsmouth, the Scilly Isles, Cardiff and the Isle of Man. Prices start from £399 for an inside cabin. 0845 2961832

Short haul

● **Quinta Bonita**, a boutique hotel with a splendid garden in the hills behind Lagos in the **Algarve**, offers a week's B&B in a seaview room, car hire and wine on arrival for £470 this month and next. The hotel will also provide afternoon tea and picnic hampers for lunch in the garden, on the beach or the cliffs. Flights are extra. 00 351 282 762135

● On offer with Kirker Holidays until April 27 is a three nights for the price of two package at Le Logis du Paradis, a charming chambre d'hôte in the Grand Champagne Cognac vineyards of the **Poitou-Charentes** region. With flights

from London to Bordeaux, car hire and B&B, it costs from £418. 020-7593 2283

● The lead-in prices this month with lowcostholidays.com are to the Canary Islands, starting with a week's self-catering at the Carlota Apartments, Puerto Rico on **Grand Canary** from £117, with a flight from Stansted on April 18. Leave from Luton a day later and an all-inclusive week at the Don Paco Castilla complex, Puerto del Carmen on **Lanzarote**, is from £242. 0800 1116271

● **Prague** in midweek later this month is likely to be free of stag parties and less crowded than at Easter, so benefit from these deals with Corona Holidays: three nights in the three-star Venezia Hotel, 200m from Wenceslas Square, from £162 – and with B&B in the four-star Three Crowns Hotel, within walking distance of the Old Town, from £175. Both include flights from Luton on April 17 but not transfers. 01582 390939

● Take advantage of the first summer deals to Sunny Beach, **Bulgaria**, with Balkan Holidays which has a week's B&B at the four-star Hotel Fenix from £254 with flights from Manchester and Newcastle to Burgas on May 5 and transfers. 0845 1301114

● All-inclusive stays in **Sharm el-Sheikh**, starting with flights on April 26 from

Gatwick or Manchester, are available at a discount with Red Sea Holidays. Choose from a week at the Sharm Resort Hotel with a private beach close to the Far Garden coral reef for £459 or nine nights at the Sharm Plaza Hotel with seven pools from £609. 0845 0265973

Long haul

● Go green in **The Gambia** by staying at the four-star Kombo Beach Hotel in the Kotu district, which has won a Travelife Gold Award for sustainable tourism by reducing waste as well as energy and water consumption. A week's B&B from May 8 at the hotel costs from £439 with The Gambia Experience, with a flight from Gatwick and transfers. 0845 3302087

● Available from next Tuesday until the end of June is an eight-night package at the five-star Centara Grand Mirage Beach Resort in Pattaya, **Thailand**. With a Gulf Airlines flight from Gatwick and B&B, the deal costs from £669 with Travelbag. 0871 7034240

All prices on this page are per person based on two travelling together and sharing a room unless stated otherwise.