



THE LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE FOR

edenbrook 
FLEET • HAMPSHIRE

Berkeley
Designed for life



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THE STYLE OF A BERKELEY HOME.
THE ALLURE
OF THE COUNTRY



WELCOME TO EDENBROOK

Edenbrook. A place to grow up, to grow older, a place simply to grow. Inspired by the past, yet designed for contemporary living, Edenbrook delivers an enviable new lifestyle – now and for the years ahead. Homes whose unique and innovative environment set them apart. Bringing the outside inside, blending seamlessly with their country park surroundings. Read on to discover more.



SEVEN YEARS IN THE MAKING,
A BRAND NEW COUNTRY PARK PUTS
YOU ON NATURE'S DOORSTEP.

A NATURAL
VISION

CREATING A UNIQUE AND INSPIRED LIVING ENVIRONMENT.



“Our challenge was to create a range of exciting new homes which complemented and integrated the surroundings of the new country park. Inspired by the American arts and craft movement, we have created a range of homes which bring the inside out and the outside in - challenging the rules of modern day conventional living.”

John Thompson
John Thompson & Partners

We are, says Alain de Botton in his book ‘The Architecture of Happiness’, different people in different places. The message our homes give from the outside, how space flows inside, and what surrounds them is fundamental in making us feel more at ease, more energised, more at one with where we live – literally more at home. We should not be surprised. Our home is where childhoods unfold and memories are forged, the place from where we go out and experience the world, and what meets the eye when we do and how our home makes us feel when we return is about the sense of connection between us and where we live.

It is this feeling of everything working together that you find at Edenbrook – the result of the partnership where award-winning architectural practice John Thompson and Partners’ organic approach to design and master-planning - one that responds to the nature of the existing landscape to create homes that cleverly integrate into those surroundings - meets Berkeley’s commitment, to and expertise in, building homes of quality. The result is in what you

see at Edenbrook. A place that looks contemporary and fresh yet taps into something that recalls enduring values – that instinctively looks and feels right. A place of which those who live there can be rightly proud.

Right from the start Edenbrook was designed with an organic character – so its neighbourhoods, seamlessly linked by streets, spaces and places, creates a setting with distinct areas with their own identity, all merged into a unified whole. Each has its own character, its own points of interest, its own skyline and ambiance. Walk through Edenbrook and you will find a community that has been designed so that everything from the individual features of the houses – a distinctive roof-line here, an appealing porch there – to the background that frames the view offers variety and something to please the eye – with new features unfolding as you move from one quarter to another. As Alain de Botton says, we owe it to the fields and trees already there that the houses we build around them will be worthy of it. We like to think that is exactly what we have achieved at Edenbrook.



DIFFERENT CHARACTER AREAS THAT ARE FULL OF CHAR



Woodland Enclave

The Woodland Enclave area nestles close to the trees that frame this quarter of Edenbrook – a changing backdrop through the seasons and where you will discover homes that include weather-boarded designs fit in beautifully with their setting close to nature.

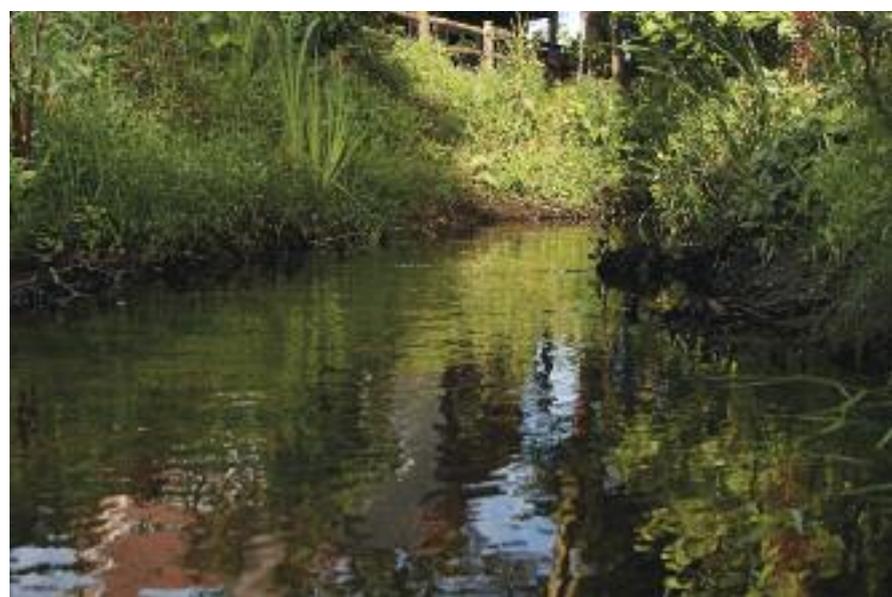


Oak Green

Nestling between woodland and the country park, Oak Green is the setting that draws the eye across its lovely views, where you will find homes with low-pitched gable roofs, detached homes with open fronted views, as well as stunning homes.



ACTER



Gateway Lawns

An enticing entrance way leading to the very hub of Edenbrook, the focal point where you will encounter friends and neighbours. It is a location that recalls the ambiance of a traditional village, as well as recreating that unique variety in house types that emerge when a community grows organically over time.

The Ponds

The water settings at Edenbrook mean tranquillity, the gentle rustling of reeds, and rich wildlife from birds skimming the surface to dancing Mayflies. It is the place to find a home quietly located near wildflower meadows and amongst footpaths and boardwalks that span across water.

SUPERB HOMES FOR A LIFE LESS ORDINARY

A FUSION OF STATE-OF-THE-ART FEATURES AND THE PERFECT NATURAL SETTING.

Building homes is an art, one which adapts and evolves - and Edenbrook is an expression of what results when you bring together a focus on traditional skills fused with the features that now define modern living. The properties at Edenbrook are undeniably homes for the 21st Century - from energy-efficient heating systems and energy-saving fixtures to features that ensure connectivity, with quality and high specification the bywords throughout. So for example, increasing experience of boutique hotels and travel means we now expect more of our bedrooms - at Edenbrook expect airy space and walk-in dressing rooms with energy-saving sensor activated lighting as well as an ensuite featuring free-standing bath,

floor-mounted mixer tap, and chrome heated towel-rail - and provision for AquaVision TV. Bathrooms and ensembles feature top marque Villeroy and Boch suites, full-height ceramic tiling, inset mirrored cabinet and bespoke under-lit vanity units. You will find a generous number of TV/FM, Sky Plus and BT points, and to maximise the connectivity of your home entertainment system and the potential output of your video/DVD, digital or satellite decoders can be received at any of the TV points. Security is a priority too, with features including high security front doors with multi-point locking systems and timer-operated lights on external doors with timer clock control.





UNCOMPROMISING STYLE

WE BELIEVE THAT STYLE GOES HAND IN HAND WITH CHOICE. A SELECTION OF INSPIRED INTERIOR FINISHES HAVE BEEN CREATED BY OUR INTERIOR DESIGNERS, WHILE SOME HOUSES EVEN FEATURE A CHOICE OF FLEXIBLE FLOOR LAYOUTS.

AT EDENBROOK A HOUSE ISN'T JUST A HOME. IT'S YOUR HOME.



Your home, your style. A new home offers you the chance to really make your mark on how your place looks and feels. Those who have moved into homes to be faced with the tastes of previous occupants will appreciate the advantages of a brand-new Berkeley home. Not only are walls and floors a pristine canvas, at Edenbrook we also offer a choice of interior finishes personally selected by our own interior designer – and for every room. Some homes even have the flexibility to define your own floor layouts, but at the very least in every Edenbrook home you can bring together the colours, finishes, textures and details that make it feel like home from day one. In the kitchen the choice of cabinet doors and worktops as well as wall and floor tiling mean you can create a room designed around your tastes. Want extra space for clothes? No problem – we can install as much additional storage as you wish, on top of existing storage that can range from dressing rooms to utility rooms equipped with a useful tall storage cupboard for household goods/detergent/clutter. Additional fitted wardrobes with nifty shelving and shoe storage, a dedicated wine cooler – you will be surprised just how we can help you create a bespoke look to your home. And while homes at Edenbrook already come with excellent security features, there is also a facility to install a wireless alarm system and CCTV cameras to front door should you wish.



FROM THE PERFECT PLACE FOR YOUR CLOTHES



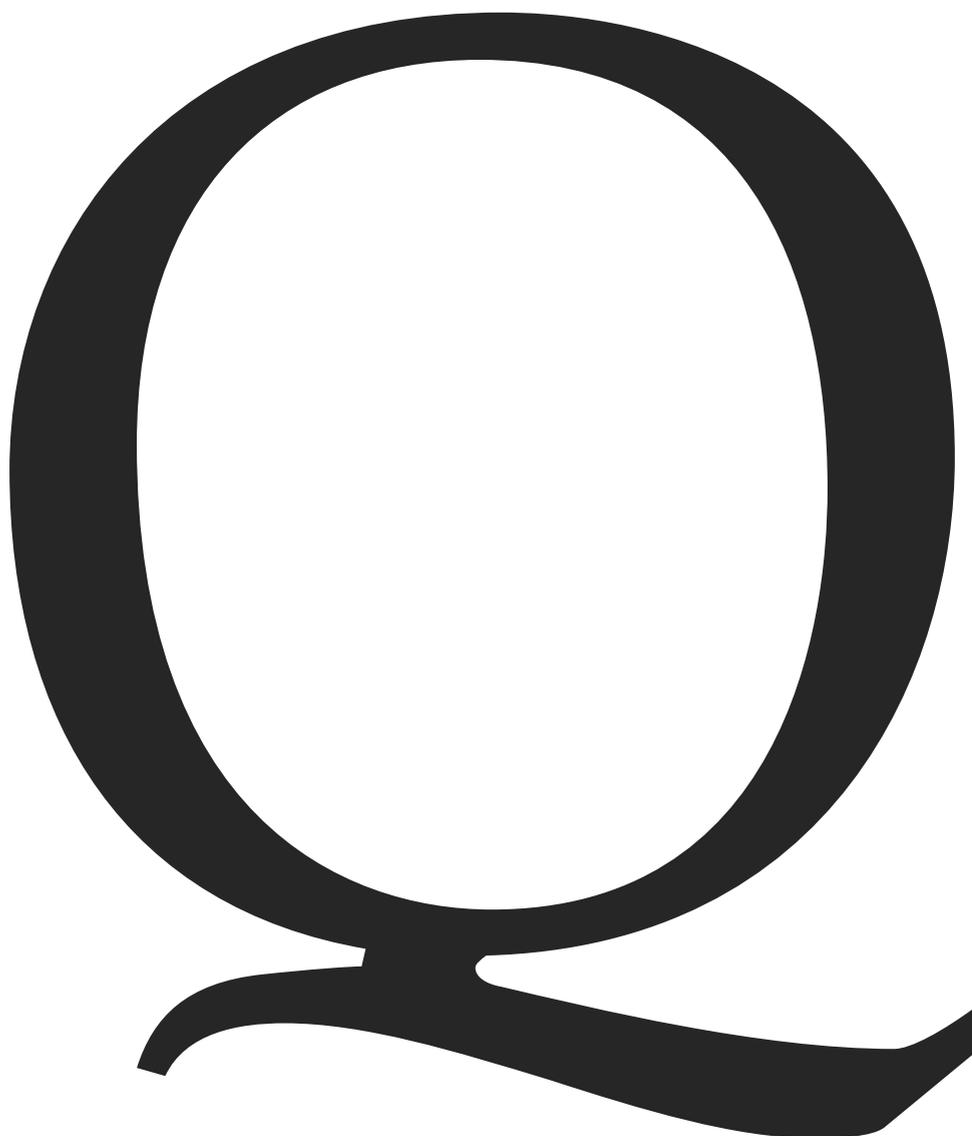


TO THE PERFECT ENVIRONMENT FOR YOUR WINE



Craftsmanship and attention to detail goes into every one of our homes.

Edenbrook takes its inspiration from the Arts and Crafts movement – whose names from Morris to Baillie-Scott are inextricably linked to the idea that homes should be places of exceptional craftsmanship and refinement. At Edenbrook homes of character and distinction are being created with a wealth of architectural detail – right across the range, from two and three bedrooms to larger four and five bedroom properties. It is where the bigger picture meets the finer details – and it is where Edenbrook differentiates itself from many other new homes. It is also where quality materials – sourced locally where available – meets craftsmanship and finish. Where carefully honed skills realise the vision of the architects – and add their own personal pride to the end result. Homes at Edenbrook are places to take a long look at – to admire elegant roof lines and the set of the eaves, the sense of texture where stone window cills meet the beauty of fine brickwork, or the enduring appeal of weather-boarding. Handsome front doors to really make an entrance and timber double glazed windows, down to the door furniture that complements everything beautifully. Inside stunningly designed glass and walnut staircases with feature lighting manage to combine contemporary airy looks with solidity, while walnut or English oak finish interior doors with chrome door furniture offer a sense of continuity, and limestone surround feature fireplaces create a real heart – and hearth – to the home.



FROM THE OUTSIDE IN.
QUALITY
THAT IS UNMATCHED.

A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of a brick building's corner. The brickwork is a mix of red and tan colors. A prominent white decorative ledge runs horizontally across the middle of the frame. Above the ledge, a wooden balcony with horizontal siding is visible. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The text is overlaid in the upper right quadrant.

FROM HARDWOOD
BALCONIES TO STONE CILLS,
WE'RE PROUD OF THE DETAIL
AND CRAFTSMANSHIP THAT
GOES INTO EVERY ONE
OF OUR HOMES.

WHEN IS A CEILING NOT JUST A CEILING?

WHEN IT'S A CANOPY OF LIGHT.

IT'S THE BERKELEY DIFFERENCE.

Every home at Edenbrook comes packed with its own distinctive style – depending on your property choice, here are some of the features you may find.

Chrome sockets

Small details really make a difference. Chrome sockets are contemporary, reflect light and add a real touch of luxury – you will find them throughout the homes at Edenbrook.

Underfloor heating

You can't see it, but you will certainly feel it – a sense of warmth from the moment you step out of bed, that continues right through the house, and all perfectly controllable to your optimum comfort level. Not only does underfloor heating deliver an even heat, there are no unsightly radiators, creating clear space for you to design your rooms how you wish.





Coffered ceilings

At Edenbrook even the ceilings are high on style. The Coffered ceilings include recessed edge mood lighting – adding design interest and offering flexibility when it comes to creating the ambiance you desire - from time to time and room to room.

Also designed kitchens

Kitchens are about style and comfort as well as quality that lasts, and Berkeley Homes have chosen top quality Alno kitchen cabinets and worktops, complete with LED under-lighting. In addition, the kitchens come fitted with top-graded appliances all with excellent energy efficiency grading – from the two fan-assisted ovens to the dishwasher.

Concrete flooring

The floors in Edenbrook homes use top quality flooring materials including stone, ceramic and wood - perfect for 21st Century lifestyles, with concrete underneath. This solid base offers excellent qualities when it comes to structural rigidity – with key advantages like improved heat and sound insulation between upstairs and downstairs.

THE KITCHEN - THE HEART OF YOUR HOME

The individually designed kitchens at Edenbrook by Alno, are as stylish as they are practical, and as part of Berkeley's commitment to lower energy consumption the integrated stainless steel appliances have excellent energy ratings and include a dishwasher, fan assisted ovens, microwave, ceramic induction hobs, warming drawers, wine coolers, in-column fridge and in-column frost-free freezer. Feature LED under wall unit lighting creates an attractive ambience while also contributing to lower running costs. The utility cupboard incorporates a tall storage cupboard for household goods and is equipped with a washing machine and condenser dryer.

BATHROOMS AND EN-SUITES

These superbly specified rooms combine sleek good looks with low running costs due to features like sensor-activated lighting and LED lights. Contemporary Villeroy & Boch suites, complemented by full height ceramic wall tiling, a full width mirror with demister and bespoke vanity units. The master bathroom also boasts a feature bath with concealed central filler and retractable hand held shower, provision for an Aquavision TV and a heated wall with chrome towel rail – all adding to the feeling of elegant luxury, the perfect place to relax and enjoy a soak.

FOR YOUR TOTAL COMFORT

To create the ideal living environment the dining room, living room and master bedrooms feature mood lighting. The kitchen, family/breakfast area, living room, dining room and master bedroom feature trimless mini grid downlights while the hall landing, all bathrooms and cloakroom have downlights. Underfloor heating to the ground and first floors provides controllable warmth and no local hot-spots.

FLOOR FINISHES

Floor finishes within the homes at Edenbrook have been carefully selected by our interior designers. A range of quality materials including stone, ceramic and wood have been chosen to complement the layout of the home and are perfect for the modern lifestyle.

STATE-OF-THE-ART HOME ENTERTAINMENT

With TV/FM and BT data points to multiple rooms and Sky Plus point to the living room, the homes have been designed to maximise home connectivity. Additionally, to increase the potential of your home entertainment systems the output of your video or DVD player, digital or satellite decoder can be received at any of the TV points.

SECURITY AND PEACE OF MIND

For peace of mind homes feature a high security front door with multi-point locking system, timer-operated lights to all external doors and a facility for a wireless alarm system and CCTV camera to front door.

THE FINISHING TOUCHES

Contemporary designed glass and walnut finish staircases, walnut finish internal doors with chrome finish door furniture, fully fitted walk-in dressing rooms with sensor activated lighting to master bedroom, chrome electrical sockets and a stylish fireplaces – discover the Berkeley difference.

IT'S ABOUT CHOICE

Berkeley offer a choice of internal finishes planned by our interior designer for each property. Please refer to individual housetype specifications for full details.





FRIENDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT

FRIENDS OF THE



CREATING A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN ENJOY LIVING SIDE BY SIDE WITH NATURE.

At Edenbrook, both interior and exterior design work to create a sense of connection – and for that we can thank an American icon. Architect Frank Lloyd Wright was ahead of his time – and what really set him apart was the idea of breaking down the boundaries between inside and outside space. Replacing solid walls with bands of windows and individual windows placed to their advantage, homes became light-filled – with a real sense of connectedness to the outside, the glass allowing us to view – and interact with – the outdoors, while still protecting us from the elements.

Lloyd Wright compared glass to the mirrors found in nature – lakes, rivers and ponds – and those who remember the 1960's will remember the enthusiasm with which new home builders embraced glass. The energy efficiency of glass half a century ago was far lower than it is today and its time had not yet arrived, however 21st Century glass technology has taken thermal insulation, low energy loss and high-performance to new elevated levels – creating opportunities to optimise natural light and at the same time keeping our carbon footprint in check.

Light-filled space is a hallmark of Berkeley Homes – through double-height windows, bay windows, and south-facing windows that make full use of the sunshine. But Lloyd Wright – as the Arts and Crafts architects had – also loved to add interest in the ways we link the inside to the outside – a balcony or porch, terraces, verandas and galleries. It not only makes for light-filled homes with a real connection to outside, but architectural diversity. And it brings in the complementary element of not only bringing the outside in, but with verandas and balconies, the home is reaching out into the exterior. It is features like these that make Edenbrook so special – and the outside Edenbrook homes link is a very special place – a country park setting, where ecological buffer zones and no-build areas protect wildlife and their habitats, and Green Corridors encourage wildlife to live and migrate.



COUNTRY PARK ON YOUR DOORSTEP



There is something about green open space that, quite simply, makes us feel good, and now studies have revealed it is not our imagination. Some researchers have even named it Vitamin G – for green space. Greenery it seems, can make us feel less stressed, help us become healthier, and enhance feelings of well-being – even just exposure to views of nature can improve our stress levels according to research at universities in the UK, the Netherlands and US.

Living near fields and parks really does make a difference, and Edenbrook's Country Park offers a diversity of green space, from hedgerows and grassland to woodland. It is the place to explore and discover a wealth of plant and tree life, from meadow grass and wild pansy, clover and buttercup to dandelion and dock, as well as blackthorn, hawthorn and hazel, dog rose, willow and bramble. It is all highly appealing, and a pleasure to be amongst. What is

more, researchers at Columbia University found the more green a neighbourhood, the greater the beneficial effects on helping those aged 3-18 keep a healthy weight by encouraging them to walk, run and play. For everyone, greenery is a landscape for health. The Country Park is also good news for the wildlife of the area. A rich fabric of natural habitats – many of which have become rare in Britain – means it will likely be home to rabbit, fox, roe deer and mole. Nearby pastures to the Country Park have already seen badger activity, who may set amongst the woodland and scrubland as well as or to live and forage there. In addition, Edenbrook Country Park will certainly be home to various bat species like the pipistrelle and brown long-eared variety with its dedicated bat house, while birdsong will never be far away as they flock to the woodland and hedgerows. So you might just hear that first cuckoo of spring – not to mention woodpeckers, willow warblers, and skylark. Doesn't it make you good just thinking about it?





Lakes, ponds, canals – Edenbrook is ideal for enjoying life, on the waterside or walking along towpaths – or doing whatever floats your boat. What is more, water provides a surprisingly diverse choice of activities from the unashamedly leisurely to the adrenaline-packed and thrilling. At Edenbrook you can really make the most of the waterways in and around the area.

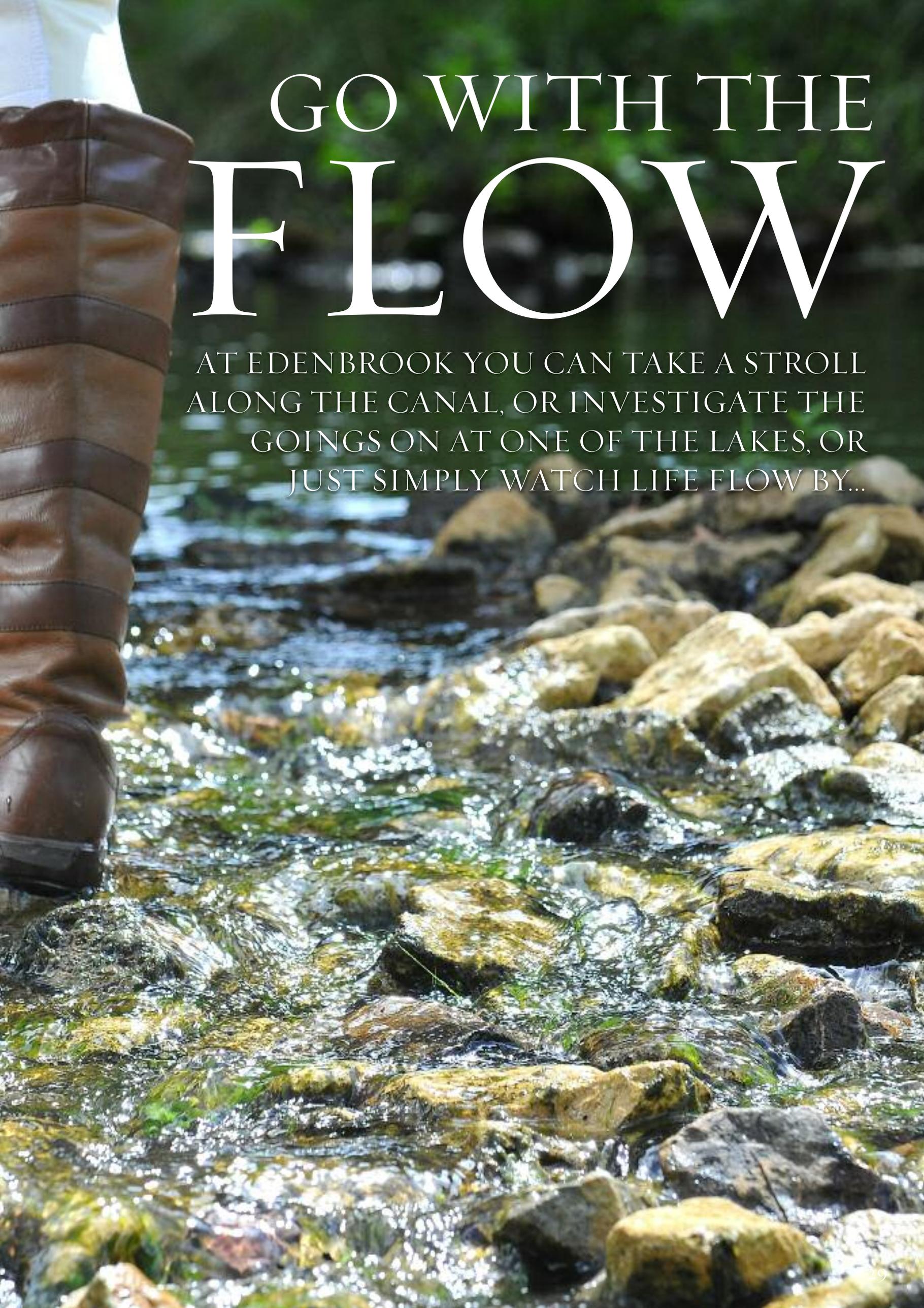
TALES OF THE RIVERBANK. Edenbrook Country Park is bordered by the River Hart, where the riverbanks and watercourses make the ideal habitat for otters and water vole. It is the ideal habitat for nature lovers exploring the diverse landscape throughout the seasons – catch a glimpse of wildlife as it follows its own natural cycle.

NO COMPASS REQUIRED. The Basingstoke Canal - 32 miles long with 29 locks – has, with years of loving restoration been restored it and is now fully navigable. (It too is home to an SSSI - Site of Special Scientific Interest - nature reserve.) Head to the Basingstoke Canal Visitor Centre for inspiration, located in Mytchett, 7 miles from Edenbrook. There you will find a raft of information as well as maps to help you get the most out of what is considered by many to be the UK's most beautiful waterway.

PUSH THE BOAT OUT. The Canal Centre is home to a history exhibition as well as a café, and is a base for boat trips along the Canal, (where someone else will steer!), while the picnic and Trailblazer adventure play area at the centre is the place to relax and watch the boats pass by: www.basingstoke-canal.co.uk.

UP THE STREAM - WITH A PADDLE. Basingstoke Canoe Club, affiliated to the British Canoe Union, it is one of the largest canoeing clubs in the south of England and is open to all abilities and all ages from 8-80 years of age. The club offers canoe/kayak racing, river and sea trips, surfing as well as leisurely standard canoeing. There is a strong family focus, and training is offered by qualified Instructors: www.b3c.org.uk.

IN YOUR ELEMENT. Hawley Lake Sail Training Centre, 4 miles away, is a military centre open to civilians, and offers club facilities for many watersports from windsurfing and water-skiing to jet-skiing. A Royal Yachting Association Training Centre, it offers certified tuition and nationally recognised qualifications in sailing, powerboating and windsurfing and participates in club level racing. An active junior section includes monthly Youth Hour and there is an annual regatta: www.hawleylake.org.uk.

A close-up, low-angle shot of a person's legs and feet wearing brown leather boots, walking through a shallow stream. The water is clear and flows over a bed of smooth, light-colored rocks. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting a lush, natural setting. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

GO WITH THE FLOW

AT EDENBROOK YOU CAN TAKE A STROLL
ALONG THE CANAL, OR INVESTIGATE THE
GOINGS ON AT ONE OF THE LAKES, OR
JUST SIMPLY WATCH LIFE FLOW BY...





THE GREAT OUTDOORS

TEN WAYS TO BLOW THE COBWEBS AND STRESSES OF LIFE CLEAN AWAY.



GO WILD IN THE COUNTRY. Love nature and want to explore and discover more? Check out the local Wildlife Conservation Trust. WCTs aim to increase people's involvement in their local environment, protecting and enhancing habitats, rare and threatened species. Regular events include guided walks: www.wildlifetrusts.org.

TELL IT TO THE BIRDS. Check out the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, www.rspb.org.uk/england and the Hampshire Ornithological Society which hold regular outdoor meetings: www.hos.org.uk. You'll find out so much more about our rich birdlife, and how best to protect them as they face more difficult times.

ROAMING WITH NO CHARGES. For those who like to take their ambles as part of a social group, the North East Hampshire Ramblers is a good start: www.nehantsramblers.hampshire.org.uk.

SLEEP UNDER THE STARS. Basingstoke Canoe Club – (see more about this club on page 28 and 29) holds events like Family Fun Weekends which can include overnight camps. Children love the excitement of camping out – and with fun activities on hand it makes for a memorable experience that they won't forget.

BIG IDEAS FOR LITTLE ONES. Youngsters right up to young adults will find plenty of outdoor activities – with the added fun of being with people of their own age – there are Fleet Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior sections: www.fleetguides.org.uk. Odiham Scout District covers Fleet, while Crondall Scout Centre is a large headquarters with a small camp site attached: www.scouts-hants.org.uk and www.scouts.org.uk.

HORSES FOR COURSES. Nearby places are ideal for trips out – there is Tweseldown the premier horse trial venue with dressage, show jumping and three-day eventing.

TIME WELL SPENT. The National Trust is the country's guardian of wonderful properties, each one with its own unique history, character and story, and each presented as if the owner had just slipped out of the room. Hartley Wintney is home to the National Trust's West Green House with a lovely walled garden, check out www.nationaltrust.org.uk for this property and more in the region – their grounds and gardens are a great way to enjoy being outdoors.

MARK THE CALENDAR. Fleet and surrounding area is home to a wealth of outdoor events from the Christmas light-up with an open-air ice rink to the summer Carnival, one of the biggest and best around: www.fleetcarnival.com. Nearby Elvetham Heath revs up with its car show, while Crookham Village holds a traditional Boxing Day Mummers play on the green, while Hawley is famous for its Bonfire Night spectacular.

IF MUSIC BE THE FOOD OF LOVE. Buzzing music festivals to Shakespearean sonnets – peace and quiet in the outdoors is lovely, but so is enjoying a concert or enjoying balmy summer evenings watching a *Midsummer Night's Dream*. The Winchfield Festival of music has grown to be a big event, and there are outdoor rock and classical concerts in country parks across the region. Look out too for summer open-air theatre performances from Shakespeare to Jane Austen at National Trust properties and the gardens of stately grounds.

BEST IN SHOW! The New Forest and Hampshire County Show is held for three days at the end of July at New Park, Brockenhurst. A great family day out with much to do, learn and see, around, 95,000 visitors every year celebrate of traditional country pursuits, crafts, produce and entertainment, see www.newforestshow.co.uk.

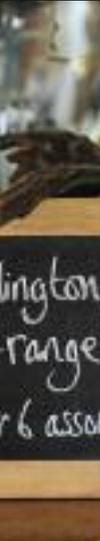


A MARKET TOWN WITH A LOCAL FLAVOUR





WITH FLAVOUR



Market towns are the gems of the English townscape – the quintessential English town. Each has a unique character – but being small means community spirit is usually strong, while they are usually large enough to support amenities from banks to solicitors and doctors. There may be a bit of period architecture or a handsome church, and while chains stores have a presence they will often still support family-owned shops – and of course there is the market, the symbolic hub in the town.

Recent years have seen farmers' markets become a big draw in addition to regular markets, each one reflecting what the French call an area's *terroir* – the unique produce and tastes that are result of that particular landscape and its people. At Edenbrook the Hampshire coast and countryside produces some of the finest food in the country – from meat to trout and watercress for which the county is renowned. Fleet Farmers' Market in Ghurka Square is packed

with stalls piled high with produce grown, bred, caught, reared, pickled, brewed or baked nearby – where you can buy direct, knowing its origin.

Every year the Hampshire Food Festival celebrates the food and drink of the county with over 90 different county-wide events from farm open days and walks, brewery, vineyard, orchard and lavender tours, fish filleting demos, cookery classes and cheese-making, foraging and beekeeping, cookery competitions and of course plenty of samplings and tastings. And recent gold-star awards for Hampshire producers at the national Great Taste Awards show the breadth and innovation of farms and food producers around the area – from buffalo jerky, Barkham Blue and Fenugreek cheeses, salted caramel ice-cream and smoked sausages to English peppermint tea and strawberry jam, organic lager and Limoncello truffles: www.hampshirefare.co.uk/food-festival.asp. So dig in and really get a taste for your local area!

FLEET, THE BEST OF TOWN & COUNTRY

FLEET HAS SOME EXCELLENT TOWN FACILITIES, WHILE THE SURROUNDING TOWNS OF FARNHAM AND GUILDFORD OFFER MORE OF THEIR OWN SO YOU CAN REALLY GO TO TOWN ON A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES.

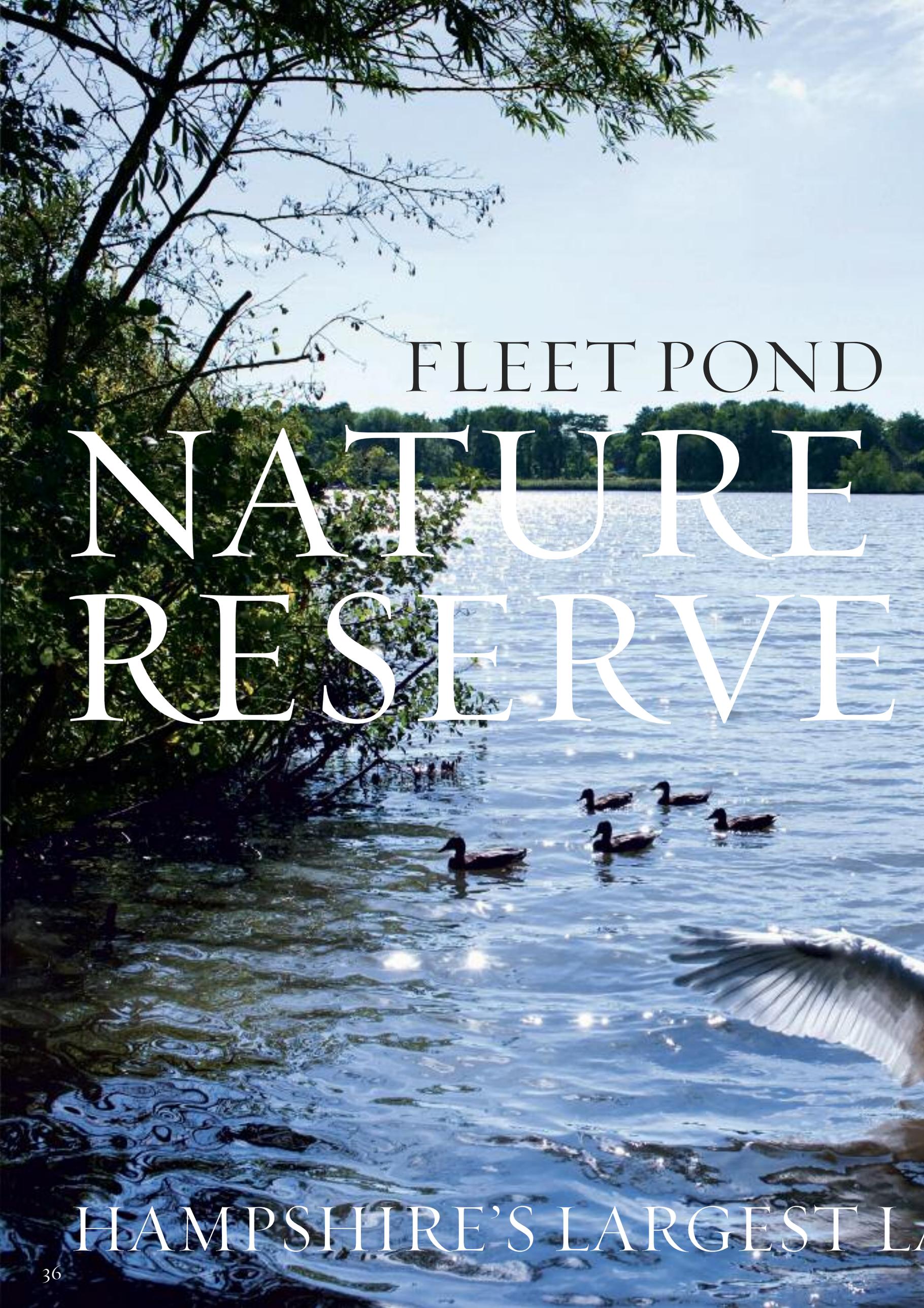


Fleet's Hart Leisure Centre has a 25 metre competition pool and teaching pools, a superbly equipped gym, and an aerobics studio with over 50 different fitness classes a week, as well as a sports halls for five-a-side football: 01252 629974. There are badminton courts, and the centre is also the base for Hart Squash Club: www.hartsquash.org.uk, while the LTA affiliated Avondale Lawn Tennis Club on the outskirts of Fleet is one of the premier tennis clubs in the area, welcoming players of all standards and ages, with social and league tennis, coaching and tournament days for all levels: www.avondalelhc.co.uk.

Nearby Farnborough is world-renowned for its aerospace museum – and the thrills of its international Air Show, while over in Aldershot you can explore the history of this military town in a

museum that tells of the lives and battles of soldier since 1854: www.armymuseums.org.uk. Aldershot is also home to the Alpine Snowsports Centre, the venue for snow sports and fun activities for all ages and abilities, with a 100 metre long slope and two nursery slopes. There are lessons on offer, and school holiday programmes: www.visitactivation.org.uk. Surrey's county town of Guildford is under 15 miles away from Fleet, with superb amenities including an Odeon multiplex, one of the top regional theatre venues in the south-east, the Yvonne Arnaud, and county town calibre shopping with chic boutiques in the high street and lanes. Hampshire's county town Winchester is 35 miles away, an ideal destination for a day out amongst its chic streets – where even its street entertainment is a cut above according to The Times – who said there you meet 'a better class of busker!'



A scenic view of Fleet Pond, Hampshire's largest lake. The water is blue with ripples and reflections of the sky. Several ducks are swimming in the middle ground. In the foreground, a white bird is in flight, its wings spread wide. The background shows a dense line of green trees under a clear blue sky. The text 'FLEET POND' is in a smaller serif font, while 'NATURE RESERVE' is in a large, bold serif font, both in white. The text 'HAMPSHIRE'S LARGEST LAKE' is at the bottom in a white serif font.

FLEET POND
NATURE
RESERVE

HAMPSHIRE'S LARGEST LAKE



LAKE.

Fleet is no big fish in a small pond - Fleet Pond is actually the largest freshwater lake in Hampshire – and a special Nature Reserve. A favourite spot for centuries, it still has plenty of fans, and its own society - the Fleet Pond Society which is working hard to ensure it continues to provide a unique setting for everyone who loves this stretch of water.

Dedicated bands of volunteers have carried out much work for decades – from the circular path around the pond to the construction of the boat launch jetty at Chestnut Grove. The surrounding habitats have also been given attention to protect the water, reedbeds and marshland. Conservation tasks are held monthly from September to June, and projects like the Clearwater Campaign - a partnership between Fleet Pond Society, Hart District Council, Natural England, the Environmental Agency and

other bodies – is focusing on the problems of silting, as well as making the place as welcoming as possible with more seating and improved footpaths and bridges.

It is a very special place in the community – it is where many have learned about the diversity of the flora and fauna, including returning species not seen for decades, on Ranger Rambles. It is also the where the energetic have completed ambitious 24-hour walks. And it is also home to the watering hole of The Heron on the Lake, a hostelry where you can sit out on the decking area that stretches over the water, dine under a parasol or heater depending on the weather, on romantic candle-lit dinners, family lunches – or simply gazing at this unique place, glass of wine or real ale in hand: www.fleetpond.fcs.org.uk; The Heron on the Lake, 01252 812522.

IT'S GREAT TO SPEND TIME AS A
FAMILY, BUT IT IS ALSO REFRESHING
TO ENJOY SOME QUALITY TIME
RELAXING WITH OTHER ADULTS.



P

Those who love spending time out on the golf course will find Edenbrook is handy for several top quality golf courses – like North Hants Golf Club, an 18-hole undulating golf course considered one of the finest in the south of England, and set amongst delightful heathland course amongst pines and silver birch, heather and broom. Its designer, James Braid, described the course as, ‘most sporting and interesting’, today it is on the qualifying roster for the Open Championship and stages two national amateur events, the Hampshire Hog and Hampshire Rose ladies event: www.northhantsgolf.co.uk.

The Rotherwick Course at Tylney Park lies amongst 200 acres of Hampshire parkland, registered by English Heritage as a protected park and garden and one of the finest parkland settings in the south of England. Redesigned in recent years by leading golf architects, and with large undulating greens, the club has hosted a number of county events: www.tylneypark.co.uk. Meanwhile, Hartley Wintney is a friendly club that offers golf in tranquil parkland surroundings

with mature trees and water hazards at the 18 hole: www.hartleywintneygolfclub.com. And with a round of golf burning about 300 calories for a 10-11 stone individual playing for an hour carrying clubs, providing natural vitamin D from the sunshine, and the chance to chat with friends and get to know new ones, there’s a lot to be gained.

Of course if you find even a round of golf too taxing, at Edenbrook you are also in easy reach of some serious pampering. The Four Seasons Hotel at Dogmersfield combines a Georgian manor house setting and acres of gardens and grounds with a spa in the 18th-century stable block. Treatments include Balinese body massage with its hot stones as Lomi Lomi massage, originating from Hawaii. Or keep it local with herbs grown including lavender, mint and rosemary grown in the area. Spa and Club members can also enjoy the state-of-the art gym, pool, fitness classes, and all-weather tennis courts - and Santé, the spa’s café:



ADULT URSUIITS

REAL
COUNTRY
FAYRE IN
AUTHENTIC
COUNTRY
PUBS

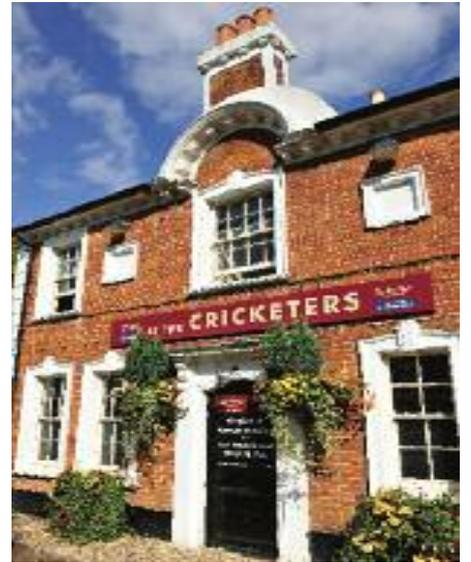


What the Romans did for us – apart from showing us how to build impressive roads and the rudiments of central heating – was to introduce us to the fast-food restaurant. The thermopolium was an eatery for the people, complete with the menu behind the counter and workers rushing around serving hungry customers. Evidence of these places has been found in Pompeii, near Naples, and elsewhere in the Roman Empire, with some archaeological finds still showing the tiling décor and holes in the counters where condiments were kept!

Fast-forward a few centuries, and the French Revolution also played a part in the cultural evolution of the restaurant. By 1789 when French aristocrats were getting the idea that things were hotting up, and began to flee, they left behind highly trained chefs. With time on their hands and livings to make, they set up their own restaurants, and with fewer haute-bourgeoisie to serve, eating out was exposed to a broader clientele.

The rest, as they say, is history. Today, whether you are looking for places where no jacket is required or to dress up in your finery, the choice is vast. Edenbrook and the surrounding area offers plenty of places to enjoy lunch, afternoon tea, supper or even breakfast in a vast choice of spots. There are places perfect for romantic assignations (or for remember-what-we-saw-in-each-other-before-the-kids time), full-blown family celebrations, Friday pizzas, Saturday night lively gatherings, Sunday lunch or relaxing and delicious afternoon tea. Look out for places that source local ingredients - for which Hampshire is amply provided (see page 32 in this magazine.) – Bon appetit!

Edenbrook is surrounded by villages conveniently with hostelries and inns that have been serving hospitality for centuries. Fox and Hounds, Church Crookham's serves Sunday roasts and has a Beer Garden overlooking the canal, while Cove's Plough and Horses is one of the oldest inns in the area. Crondall has revived the local tradition with a brewery producing a select range of ales – including the local Crondall Ale, with 500 year old hostelries like the Plume of Feathers pub and a gastro-pub with a Feasting Menu, or head to Winchfield home to the 17th Century Winchfield Inn.



Roasted pepper and goat cheese tart.

Use a whole Hampshire Trout for this recipe. Simple to prepare and full of subtle orange and spring onion flavours. Served on a Watercress Mousse and hot Jasmine rice.

Ingredients
Filling:
 sliced 2 tbsp olive oil, 2 red onions
 1 tbsp balsamic vinegar,
 Some destoned black olives
 (optional) 2 red peppers, 150-200g goat's
 cheese* 250g cherry tomatoes - or choose
 a mix of red, orange and yellow small tomatoes, Basil leaves.

Shortcrust pastry
 100g butter,
 for the base: 1/2 teaspoon of salt, 1 beaten egg.
 (You can of course simply buy ready-made pastry if you wish!)

1) For the pastry, sieve the flour into a bowl. Add half a teaspoon of salt. Cut the butter into cubes, and put into flour and rub the flour and butter until it resembles coarse bread crumbs

2) Make a well in the centre of the bowl and crack the egg into the well. Gently mix egg into the flour mixture using a utensil, then when the mixture becomes stiff use your hands until all the mixture is combined into one ball. If the mixture is too crumbly, add a small amount of milk, if too sticky add a little

flour. As soon as the pastry comes together don't mix further.

3) Wrap the pastry in cling film and place in the fridge for half an hour.

4) Roll out the pastry until it is about 3mm thick and a little larger than your flan tin. Gently place the pastry in the tin and let the pastry hang over the sides. Prick the bottom with a fork, and line with greaseproof paper and fill with rice or dried beans - or specially bought baking bins (eg Tala brand do these.)

5) Place on a baking tray in a pre-heated oven at 170 degrees for 15 minutes. Remove from oven, remove paper and beans and return and cook for a further 10 minutes. Remove from the oven and allow to cool.

For the filling

1) Cook the onions in the olive oil for until they soften and take on a light colour. Add the balsamic vinegar and a tbsp of water. Cook for a further couple of minutes. If you are going to use olives, chop and stir in now.

2) Cut the peppers in half, removing seeds and core. Place under a hot grill, skin-side up, until the skins char. Remove, cool then peel off the skins.

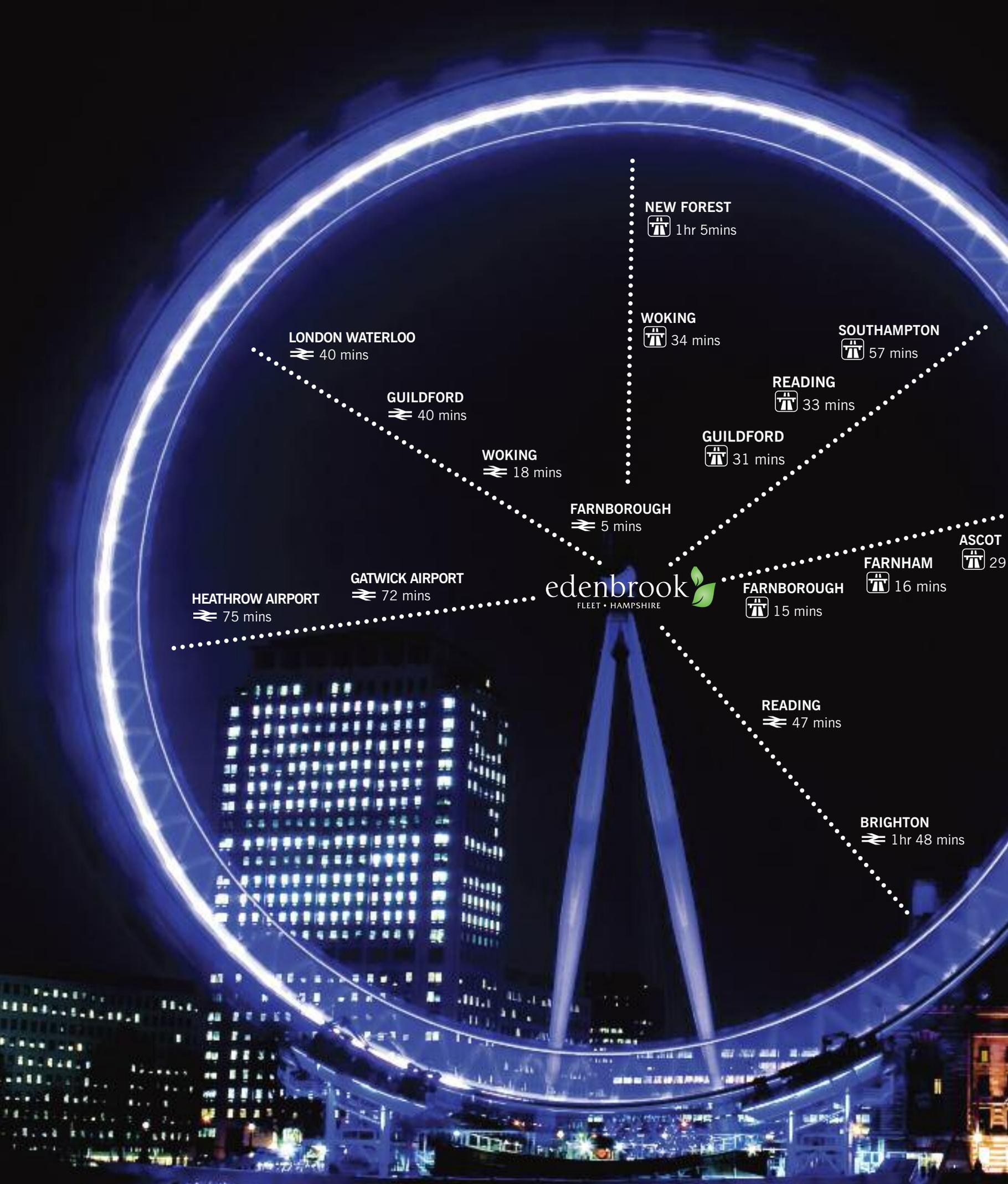
3) Spread the onion mix over the base of the pastry case. Put the halved peppers on top. Slice the goat's cheese and put a few slices in each pepper half. Spread the tomatoes evenly over the rest of base.

4) Bake for 20-25 minutes until the cheese is taking to melt and turn the lightest brown and the tomatoes have burst their flesh and flavour over the base. Scatter over basil leaves and serve warm with a mixed salad of a variety of baby leaves drizzled with a dressing of your choice. Serve with love!

TRY THIS DELICIOUS RECIPE COURTESY OF THE CRICKETER'S ARMS IN HARTLEY WINTNEY

*if you usually find Goat's cheese too strong, try New Forest Nanny, a delicious fresh tasting goats cheese with a sweet, mild flavour.

Thanks to The Cricketers, Cricket Green Hartley Wintney, 01252 842166, info@thecricketers-hartleywintney.co.uk, www.thecricketers-hartleywintney.co.uk.



NEW FOREST
🚆 1hr 5mins

WOKING
🚆 34 mins

SOUTHAMPTON
🚆 57 mins

LONDON WATERLOO
🚆 40 mins

READING
🚆 33 mins

GUILDFORD
🚆 40 mins

GUILDFORD
🚆 31 mins

WOKING
🚆 18 mins

FARNBOROUGH
🚆 5 mins

ASCOT
🚆 29 mins

FARNHAM
🚆 16 mins

edenbrook
FLEET • HAMPSHIRE

FARNBOROUGH
🚆 15 mins

GATWICK AIRPORT
🚆 72 mins

HEATHROW AIRPORT
🚆 75 mins

READING
🚆 47 mins

BRIGHTON
🚆 1hr 48 mins



JUST 40 MINUTES FROM LONDON BUT A WORLD AWAY

At Edenbrook it is just 40 minutes by fast trains into London with all taking under an hour. Trains from Fleet arrive at Waterloo – ideally placed for the Southbank, a buzzing cultural hub with things to see and do all year round from free events, music, film, exhibitions and dance to festivals and family fun.

The Southbank is home to the National Film Theatre, Queen Elizabeth Hall, as well as the iconic Royal Festival Hall - the last remaining building from the 1951 Festival of Britain, the tonic for the nation whose 60th Anniversary has been celebrated in style. The Skylon restaurant takes its name from the futuristic steel and aluminium 300ft structure built for the Festival -- today's Skylon offering spectacular panorama of London's skyline and the Thames.

The Southbank is also the place to take a walk along the river, and – just like Paris – the Southbank is home to an urban summer beach. The gallery@oxo is a bright, contemporary riverside space in Oxo Tower Wharf with regularly changing exhibitions showcasing the best in cutting-edge photography, art, design and architecture. The National Theatre is the place to catch the latest drama from Chekhov to new talents, or head to the Old Vic, less than a 10 minutes' walk from Waterloo, while

Shakespeare's Globe further along the river at the Bankside cultural centre – together with Tate Modern - offers another vibrant area to explore.

From Waterloo it is easy to hop to the West End with the flagship stores of many national store names from M&S to H&M, or head to Knightsbridge and the King's Road and Kensington for top-notch shopping and a wealth of museums including the Natural History, Science museums and V&A. London is now world-renowned for its restaurants, so whether you are looking for places in the style of Hong Kong diners in Chinatown with 80 restaurants to choose from or to splash out with fine dining at restaurants with chefs like Gordon Ramsay, Gary Rhodes and Jamie Oliver, there is an incredible choice on the menu. And with the last train leaving well after midnight there are no worries about missing last acts or finding out 'who dunnit!'

mins





Berkeley
Designed for life