

*Once
Upon a time
it was decided
To feel,
Touch
& see*

Angela Knight

IS THE PILL MAKING YOU CHOOSE THE WRONG MAN?

GRAZIA

£1.95

9 April 2012 www.graziainc.com

IN PRINTED SKINNIES

IN KILLER COURTS



SPRING IT ON!

IN FISHY FASHION

IN W-I-I-I-DE PANTS

IN SUMMER TWEED

281
INSTANT
UPDATES

BREAKING
NEWS

DEMI:
'The divorce
is OFF!'

REVEALED:
WHY THIS IS OUR
FUTURE QUEEN'S
FAVOURITE SHOP



THE GIRL WHO'S
DIVIDING
JEN & JUSTIN





Kate – wearing an lace dress – caused a stir when she was spotted shopping on the Kings Road shortly before her wedding



She wears it well... (left to right): Jostin, M. Missoni and Rupert Sanderson shoes; Alexander McQueen

It's been almost a year since Kate Middleton was thrust into the fashion spotlight. So how has she coped? *Grazia* has uncovered Kate's secret fashion map – and found some sharp haggling skills along the way...

WORDS: ZOE BEATY AND KATHERINE ORMEROD

THE SPECULATION HAD BEEN FEVERISH. But when Kate Middleton stepped out of her white Rolls-Royce and the world finally got a glimpse of her lace Alexander McQueen wedding dress, it was official – she'd earned her place in the fashion history books. But, as her first wedding anniversary approaches, it's clear Kate has taken her own, very discreet, deliberate approach to her 'fashion icon' role. Forget, as her wedding dress choice might have suggested, a duchess splashing her cash on designer purchases. By visiting

some of Kate's favourite shops along her 'M4 fashion corridor', we've discovered a cut-price royal who shops at suburban discount boutiques beloved by her mother – and who isn't afraid to haggle over the price of clothes and antiques for her Kensington Palace apartment.

FOLLOWING THE BEST-PRICE ROUTINE...

She might carry a gold credit card (or three), but we have been confidentially informed by a number of local sources ▶



Kate with her assistant private secretary, Rebecca Deacon, who sometimes shops for the duchess

«SHE STILL ASKS FOR A DISCOUNT. I ALWAYS END UP GIVING HER THE BEST PRICE – WHO CAN REFUSE A PRINCESS?»

Pippa let Kate panic for a few minutes before confessing. She found it extremely funny. Not surprisingly, Kate wasn't so amused! Her family are also handy for keeping an absent-minded Kate on track – she has apparently often left a phone or bag behind while distracted by new purchases. 'Kate is quite ditsy,' another Hungerford store owner said. 'Once she was browsing with her mum for a while, as she always does, but when she left I noticed she'd left her handbag behind just sitting on a piece of furniture.' Sweet! Secret shops: mum's wardrobe(!), Bucklebury; Bei Cappelli, Furr & Co (jewellers) and Angela Knight (lingerie – Kate paid a visit before her wedding), all Hungerford

EMPLOYING A BODY DOUBLE (YES, REALLY)...

Kate's not afraid to make a quick dash to H&M and Gap on Kensington High Street in her spare time – and we've been told she personally attends private appointments at McQueen's London store – but it's hard to shop when you're so recognisable. Kate has, therefore, come up with an ingenious solution – using a close friend as a body double to shop for her. Coming in at Kate's exact measurements (ie, tall, slim and athletic), her polo-playing friend tries duchess-friendly garments on then sends Kate pictures from the fitting room. We're told Kate's body double has made several recent purchases – so keep your eyes peeled for a couple of wrap dresses. Kate's assistant private secretary Rebecca Deacon has also been spotted shopping for her, but in a strict pick-up-only role.

MASTERING FASHION MATHS...

Perhaps there's another reason Kate's so thrifty. One fashion house revealed to *Grazia* that Kate – like us – has to work within budget restraints. 'Kate is given a budget for each of her trips – and she has to keep within strict limits,' they told us, ▶

that Kate has gained a reputation for asking, 'Is that your best price?' in the shops near to her parents' Berkshire home. 'Despite being royalty, she still asks for a discount on every purchase,' says the owner of Kate's favourite antique shops, Youll's Antiques in Hungerford. Having served Mrs Middleton over the years, he believes it's Kate's mother's influence that makes the duchess so careful. 'Carole is a true bargain-hunter. She's always been very strict with her money and would

never allow her daughter to be ripped off – so she taught her how to barter. I always end up giving her the best price – how can you refuse a princess?' Now if only that tactic could work for us, too... Secret shops: The Emporium (Antiques) and Youll's Antiques, both Hungerford

SHOPPING WITH THOSE SHE TRUSTS...

She could have done a Diana and employed an ex-Vogue editor as her

personal stylist. But Kate prefers to keep things in the family. Literally. Perhaps because she and Pippa share clothes with their mum (hello *that* Reiss dress), the trio often shop together. According to one of the family's favourite jewellers, they make a relaxed, familiar sight. Pippa is a little mixt – she has a wicked sense of humour. Once all three of the Middleton ladies came in to browse and while Kate took off her engagement ring – Diana's – to try on another she liked, Pippa sneakily hid it.

« WE WERE EXCITED TO SEE KATE ON TV WEARING OUR DRESS, BUT A SECRET SHOPPER MUST HAVE PICKED IT UP »

explaining that the budget for charity visits is less than state trips abroad. So no wonder one of her favourite shops is The Stock Exchange. This dress-agency – located on an industrial estate in Sunninghill, just outside Ascot – sells nearly new catwalk looks that previous owners have passed on for a fraction of the original price. It's where Kate picked up a 'pre-loved' dress by Jesiré for her recent engagement at the National Portrait Gallery. 'We remember having [the dress] in and were really excited when we saw Kate on TV wearing it. But we didn't see her in the shop – a secret shopper must have picked it up for her,' one staffer revealed. Inside, you'll find bargains like £30 Issa dresses hanging on cheap plastic hangers. But as Kate knows, it's not what the shop looks like, it's what gems you can find there...

Secret shops: The Stock Exchange, Sunninghill; Mulberry, Smythson and Missoni – all at Bicester Village; TK Maxx, Knightsbridge

ROCKING THE 'FOUR SEASON RULE'

Kate's a smart shopper. She knows that if she has to be thrifty, she needs to follow the Four Season Rule. The M by Missoni coat she wore for her first joint engagement with the Queen and the Duchess of Cornwall was perfectly appropriate, because it was far enough removed from fashion memories to look anonymously elegant but not so old as to look out of date. It's a trick Kate uses by shopping regularly at Bicester Village, the retail outlet where she picked up the coat.

BUILDING A SECRET ADDRESS BOOK...

She's become the mistress of the high street, but Kate doesn't want every wannabe copying her look (like Amy Childs did with the lace Zara dress). So she seeks out inconspicuous stores and secret sales. She's said to take



Kate is a fan of high-street store Whistles – one of their silk blouses sold out within hours of her wearing it

advantage of Bruce Oldfield's invitation-only cut-price sales on selected Saturday mornings. Guests have to know what time to ring the bell of the basement at his Beauchamp Place store to be let in, and sources say Carole and Pippa have been spotted there. And whenever she's at home, she pops into Jeanne Pettit in Hungerford – a designer boutique her mother introduced her to that stocks Amanda Wakeley, Philosophy and Collette Dinnigan in an ornate, gold-embellished setting. And we're told Kate

has been given full access to her in-laws' favourite shops, too. An employee at a local Hungerford store, brimming with antique glassware and vintage trinkets, told *Grazia*, 'Kate comes in here all the time – but before the Middletons, Princess Margaret used to shop here. It's a family tradition that the royals pass down their best shopping haunts to each other.' What we'd do to get our hands on that little black book...
Secret shops: Bruce Oldfield, Beauchamp Place; Jeanne Pettit, Hungerford ■

THE WEDDING PARTY TWO WORLD EXCLUSIVE
OFFICIAL BUMPER COLLECTORS' ISSUE

OK!

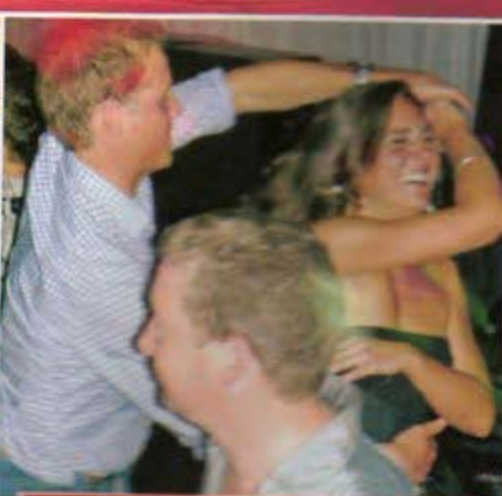
FIRST FOR ROYAL WEDDINGS
ISSUE 776 MAY 17 2011 • £1.99 WEEKLY

NEW UNSEEN
PICTURES

OUR NEW
ROYAL FAMILY
THE NEXT
GENERATION



BACK HOME IN
ANGLESEY WITH
THE NEWLYWEDS



INSIDE THEIR WILD
WEDDING PARTY



THE SECRET LIFE OF
PIPPA MIDDLETON
AGED 27½

WWW.OK.CO.UK



19>

PLUS FREE WEDDING DVD FOR EVERY READER



8 Ben Fogle almost missed his place in the royal minibus from Westminster Abbey back to Buckingham Palace. Security guards failed to recognise the adventurous TV man and weren't keen to let him loose with the royals. However, he finally managed to persuade the bus driver. 'I had to show a bank statement to security to get on!' he said.

9 The bride went shopping for wedding night lingerie at a boutique in Berkshire two weeks before her big day. Owner Angela Knight revealed: 'I have a plastic frog which I ask customers to kiss, saying it will turn their boyfriends and husbands into a prince. I asked Kate to kiss the frog but didn't realise the implications of what I had said until it was too late!'



10 Pageboy William Lowther-Pinkerton may have had an important role in proceedings, but not all of his family got to be in the Abbey to celebrate. 'Billy's proud aunt and uncle and their kids celebrated the day with the crowds on The Mall, each with a T-shirt stating: 'I am the uncle/cousin/aunt of the page boy!'

11 The London Eye had a special royal wedding makeover for the big day, with patriotic red, white and blue-coloured lights illuminating its London skyline silhouette.



12 HM The Queen was delighted with the big day, mouthing: 'It's just marvellous.' While the rest of the congregation joined the newlyweds in a chorus of *God Save The Queen* at the ceremony's end, she remained tight-lipped. The Queen never joins in.

13 Around 24 million people went to make a cup of tea after the royal couple said I do. The national grid reported a huge 2,400MW surge in electricity after the nuptials - the third biggest ever. Other big surges came after England World Cup matches in 1990 and 2002.

14 With up to 650 guests and a lot of reception Pol Roger champagne being quaffed, pressure on Buckingham Palace's sewage system was high. To ease matters, party planners installed 20 luxurious superloos in the grounds. They had gold taps and were decked out in a regal purple hue.



18 The dress that Catherine chose as her going-away outfit was from Zara. She looked very elegant in the £49.99 frock and £129.99 LK Bennett wedges.



15 Although 160 horses were involved in the procession and many more were used to keep the crowds in check, just one horse got spooked. It threw its rider and legged it up Whitehall. However, a horse named Royal Wedding won the 17.30 race at Fontwell - sure to please the race-going Queen.

16 As the evening progressed the two royal brothers became increasingly tipsy and took to calling each other Hazza and Willy.

17 Although the celebrations over, a poignant reminder of the day will remain at Westminster Abbey. The bride's bouquet now sits atop of a small pillow on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The late Queen Mother began the tradition after her wedding in 1923, commemorating her brother Fergus who was killed in action in 1917.

19 After the fireworks display - which of course included symbolic Catherine's 'Wheels' - William and his bride were waved off in a Fiat 500 with RAF emblazoned on the side. 'They were standing in the car with their heads through the open-topped roof,' said a reveller. 'It was magical - the best party ever imaginable.'

20 The royal wedding will be celebrated by a traditional tree planting. The gesture sees two young horse chestnut trees, their limbs to be intertwined forever, planted in Cornwall's Lost Gardens of Heligan.



20 right royal secrets from the big day

THOUGHT YOU KNEW EVERYTHING ABOUT WILLIAM AND CATHERINE'S WEDDING – THEN THINK AGAIN!



...watched the TV footage, seen the photos and... wedding specials – but are you... all there is to know about William and... Here we bring you 20 sizzling

secrets from behind the scenes on royal wedding day – from little-known facts about events at the Abbey, to party details the newlyweds will never forget. Think hidden hideaways, wiggly worms and even jelly beans that made the photographs magic...



3 Prince Harry requested that a special pocket with Velcro fastening was sewn into the elaborate cuff on his uniform sleeve, ensuring he had a safe place to keep Catherine's wedding ring. A spokesman for tailor Kashket & Partners said: 'The royal brothers wanted the day to run effortlessly smoothly and decided this would be the best option.'



1 It wasn't just the sweet smell of success that filled the air at the wedding. Catherine applied Illuminum's White Gardenia perfume, £70, with notes of lily, passion, jasmine and coconut, to make points during her big day.

2 William and Catherine shared a wedding day smooch to 'Make You Feel My Love'. Singer Adele was reportedly asked to perform the track at the reception but she'd already agreed to attend a friend's barbecue.

4 Royal photographer Hugo Burnand and his team arrived at Buckingham Palace on an army of bicycles. Perhaps he will inspire the royal couple, who have received a Boris Bike tandem as a wedding gift from London's generous mayor Boris Johnson!

5 The young bridesmaids and pageboys behaved wonderfully while sitting for the official wedding portraits – because they were bribed! 'When the kids came in there was a promise of jelly beans, but they knew what they had to do,' revealed Hugo Burnand.

6 Prince Harry bought a selection of toys to entertain the youngsters with, in case they became distracted. Three-year-old Eliza Lopes, granddaughter of the Duchess of Cornwall, was particularly impressed with a £1 wiggly worm which Harry pulled out of his pocket during the carriage ride. She was still clutching the toy in official photos. Camilla laughed: 'Did you see the wiggly worm? I can't believe no one has spotted it!'

7 The newlyweds were given lessons on how to cut their wedding cake so the complicated arrangement of tiers didn't collapse with the pressure. There was one tiny piece of intricate icing that cake designer Fiona Cairns wasn't happy with, though, 'although I'm sure no one else would have noticed'.



Off in the Queen's



William & Kate iPad app

Packed with hundreds of stunning pictures

Go to www.mailsonunday.co.uk/royalweddingapp

By Ian Gallagher

CHIEF REPORTER

SHE awoke at Buckingham Palace a Princess yesterday, the first day of a new life that must have once been impossible to contemplate.

After a light breakfast, the new Duchess of Cambridge emerged from the garden entrance of the Queen's official residence still on a high, and still wearing the joyous smile that bewitched billions on Friday.

The couple are thought to have spent their first night as man and wife in the ground-floor Belgian Suite of the Palace, which is traditionally reserved for visiting heads of state.

As they strolled hand-in-hand along a gravel path and out on to the lawn, they were bathed in bright sunshine. Wearing a light blue dress, dark jacket and platform shoes, the same ones she wore at the Goring Hotel on her last night as a commoner, Kate giggled at Prince William's asides and looked relaxed and confident.

They had wanted a people's wedding, with limited pomp, and in keeping with that unfussy spirit William announced his intention to go straight back to work.

It came as a surprise. Sources had previously indicated that the couple would jet off immediately for a two-week break.

NEVER one to miss a publicity opportunity, London Mayor Boris Johnson presented the couple with a bicycle made for two. The £500 tandem, based on the capital's hire bicycles - or 'Boris Bikes' - was paid for by Serco, the firm that runs the scheme, after Transport for London bosses apparently objected to using public funds for the gift. The Mayor also commissioned an animated internet cartoon showing the couple riding the tandem past cheering crowds - but couldn't resist showing himself speeding past them on his own bike.

somewhere 'hot and sunny', with Mauritius, Kenya and Jordan among the suggested destinations.

But postponing the honeymoon to a later date, William, who wore his trademark chinos, light blue shirt and navy jacket, will now return to his job as a search and rescue helicopter pilot on Anglesey, probably as early as Tuesday.

Last night, however, the couple were staying at an undisclosed location in Britain, possibly Scotland, where they planned to 'unwind' over the long weekend.

William and Kate are determined that when they do eventually go on honeymoon it will be wholly private affair. And it is thought the decision to postpone the break was taken in part to try to take the sting out of the intense interest in their plans. A



gauge, including a bouquet of white blooms. The newlyweds paused to thank two Royal Household footmen and for William to chat to the helicopter pilot. But they disappointed crowds waiting in the Mall who were hoping the couple might make an impromptu public appearance.

William and Kate are determined that when they do eventually go on honeymoon it will be wholly private affair. And it is thought the decision to postpone the break was taken in part to try to take the sting out of the intense interest in their plans. A

Royal spokesman said: 'The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge have chosen not to depart for a honeymoon immediately. Instead, after spending the weekend privately in the United Kingdom, the Duke will return to work as a search-and-rescue pilot next week.'

The locations of both their private wedding before the Duke returns to work and their future honeymoon, which will be overseas, will not be disclosed in advance.

The couple are said to be still buzzing

... and did Mum help to choose something



IN HER traditional ivory wedding gown, Kate Middleton looked every inch the demure bride.

But in the Berkshire town of Hungerford, the talk on Friday was not just of her beautiful Sarah Burton dress - but what she might have been wearing underneath.

For a fortnight ago, as she made her final wedding preparations, Kate spent an afternoon buying lingerie with her mother and sister in a local shop.

The trio had a private fitting in Angela Knight Lingerie on April 16, while two protection officers waited outside.

Miss Knight, who owns the business, refused to disclose the exact items bought by the bride, but revealed she, Carole and Pippa bought 'sets of lingerie'.

When asked if their purchases may have been part of their trousseau - the set of clothes a bride-to-be buys for her wedding day and married life - Miss Knight laughed coyly. But last week, a

EXCLUSIVE: Myla underwear, as sold by Angela Knight Lingerie and featured on its Facebook page

helicopter



TAKING FLIGHT: The Queen's helicopter, a maroon Sikorsky with its own pilot, takes the royal couple from Buckingham Palace to a secret location to 'unwind'

with excitement after their marriage ceremony which was both an intimate family affair and a global event televised across the world.

Kate said: 'I am glad the weather held off. We had a great day.'

Shortly after the happy couple left the Palace, Kate's family checked out of the exclusive Goring Hotel nearby, posing briefly for photographs in their casual clothes.

Kate's father Michael told the gathered crowd: 'We had a wonderful time.'

The family then returned to their quiet country home in Chapel Row, near Bucklebury, Berkshire. The village has been bedecked with Union Jacks and bunting as the residents held their own wedding festivities.

The family seemed relieved to be back in their rural idyll following the international media attention, judging from the expressions on the faces of Kate's mum Carole and sister Pippa. And who could blame them?

The Middletons arrived back at their farmhouse in three cars with Kate's brother James leading the way. The 22-year-old bachelor turned a black BMW 3 Series estate into their private drive at about 3.15pm.

With him wearing an open-

necked shirt and looking bleary-eyed, the only reception he received was from two policemen guarding the house.

It was in sharp contrast to the scenes in Bucklebury on Friday, when local people turned out in force to celebrate the wedding.

James was quickly followed by Carole and Pippa in a Land Rover Freelander. They beamed as they drove into the driveway at a more sedate pace.

Carole looked fresh-faced and wore a white top with blue trimmings, while Pippa - who clearly enjoyed her spell in the limelight - sported a large pair of Armani sunglasses and smiled broadly.

Last to arrive was the proud father of the bride wearing a grey suit jacket over a checked shirt. He turned his black Land Rover Discovery into the drive and passed for a few minutes to talk to the police officers at the gate.

Villagers are not expecting to see the Middletons out and about until the international media circus has moved on from their village.

One said: 'I think they'll be looking forward to getting back to normal life after all the excitement of the wedding, and people here feel the same - it's a very quiet village and that's how we like it.'

special for the trousseau?

By Polly Dunbar

package labelled with the shop's name was delivered to the Middletons' home 16 miles away in Bucklebury.

Kate's mother Carole has been a customer of Miss Knight's for years. When the Middletons came in, I just asked normally even though I had no prior warning they were coming,' said Miss Knight, who closed the business for the afternoon so the family could browse in private.

'I think of my shop as a theatre so for me, it worked very well to invite our future Queen into that theatre.'

Her store is filled with exotic lingerie from designer labels such as Yvonne Lauder, Myla and Sally Jones, with prices ranging from £30 to £130 for a bra.

The shop also features a burlesque-themed private area where men can watch their wives

or girlfriends have a fitting - and a section selling more risqué items including upmarket corsets, negligees, feather boas and riding crops.

Miss Knight, a 46-year-old mother of five, admitted she made a slight faux pas with her high-profile customer.

'I have a plastic frog which I show to customers and ask them to kiss, saying it will turn their boyfriends and husbands into a prince,' she said.

'I asked Kate to kiss the frog but didn't realise the implications of what I had said until it was too late.'

'I thought to myself, "Oh well, she is marrying a prince anyway" and tried to gloss over it. Kate just laughed.'

Yesterday, Miss Knight gave a hint of her association with the bride when she posted on the company's Facebook page: 'Congratulations to Kate and Will! xxx.'



HAND IN HAND: The new Duke and Duchess of Cambridge take a brief stroll in the Buckingham Palace gardens yesterday

HELPLINE 0845 223 8806

If your Mail on Sunday is missing any section it is not the fault of your newspaper. Please call the Helpline between 9am and 5pm from today until Tuesday or email us at helpline@mailsonunday.co.uk and we will send it without delay (UK only). If your Mail on Sunday retail outlet has sold out, let us know by calling 0800 010111 or email us at availability@mailsonunday.co.uk and we will try to ensure this is rectified.

For Promotions and Reader Offers enquiries, please call the Cardiac line on 0800 010111. To contact The Mail on Sunday, email us at editor@mailsonunday.co.uk or call the Newsdesk on 020 7938 7040.

ADVERTISING PRICES (supplements not included): Austria €4.50, Cyprus €7.50, €3.25, Denmark 41kr, Italy €3.80, Norway 48kr, Switzerland 7.50Sfr, USA \$2.75

The Mail

TODAY'S WEATHER IS ON PAGE 24



HER INDOORS BY MARY KILLEN

EVER SINCE I WATCHED the Royal Wedding, I have had a new spring in my step. I can't explain why. There was just something about it that made me feel that life in Britain has suddenly got a lot better. But I don't really want to let daylight in on magic by analysing why.

Of course, the weather has been wonderful, the bluebells are out and the lambs have been bleating outside the cottage, but another reason I have had a spring in my step is because I now have a slightly enhanced body image.

We live quite near – or, at least, within shared shopping distance of – the Middletons and, therefore, to Angela Knight Lingerie, a shop in Hungerford into which the Middleton females were seen disappearing for a full hour just before the Wedding, while detectives waited outside.

Tongues began to wag amongst the Hungerford shopkeepers and one of them wagged to me. What is the secret of Angela Knight, I wondered? There was, apparently, something transformational about her. I had been hearing about how women in Hungerford ask each other if they have been 'Knighthood' yet, so I decided to look into it for myself and penetrated the silky, feathery boudoir last Thursday.

Suffice to say that Angela Knight herself is an extremely sexy woman – but not in a pervy way. She is just natural and open and wears no make-up and exudes femininity and does not fold her arms over herself, or cringe in the way a lot of us do. 'She can make any woman feel like a million dollars,' said one of those who had been 'Knighthood'. 'Surely not every woman?' I challenged Angela: 'What about Vicky Pollard?'

I could do something with her,' nodded Angela.

Angela, apparently, does not really care about lingerie. She uses it as a tool to help her to make women 'make contact with themselves' and to show them how to embrace their own femininity, as this will make their man able to

'It is good to make the best of yourself but it is more restful not to be too attractive'

embrace his own masculinity. Her letterhead includes a graphic of a hawk and a dove.

In any case, I walked out of the shop with my own shape adjusted for the better and feeling slightly evangelical – only slightly because I am too old now to feel zealous about anything. However, it is time that women (it is other women that make us feel inadequate, Angela explained, not men) pulled themselves together and stopped thinking that men are examining every square inch of our bodies and thinking 'that bit is too cellulitic and that bit too crêpey'. Other women are, but men aren't.

Angela made a convincing case for the theory that men just see the general shape and respond to the general warmth and they are not focusing on the details. They just want to hug us, if they like us, but we are constantly fighting them off saying 'No, I feel too ugly!'

It is good to make the best of yourself but, in a way, it is more restful not to be too attractive. It is fun, at first, for junior beauties, but then they begin to find the attention a bit exhausting.

And, in many ways, it is better if self-confidence and the realisation that men only care how you make them feel – rather than how you look – comes in later life because that means that all the years you felt unattractive, you could be working on your personality rather than developing an unhelpful dependence on your looks to get you anywhere.

It will soon be time to make the purchase of a new bathing costume and I may now be less inclined to buy a Nigella-type burkini.

HOROSCOPES

by Victor Olliver

♉ TAURUS 21 April to 21 May

Plans for major change are galvanised by a Pluto link to Mercury, Venus and Mars, around the 21st. You turn Miss Marple-ish in efforts to find a lost item of personal property.

♊ GEMINI 22 May to 21 June

The Sun enters your sign on the 22nd, heralding a mini-rebirth coupled with Pluto's determination to break with psychological baggage. Prepare to make progress by a set of new life rules.

♋ CANCER 22 June to 22 July

A Mars-Pluto link favours deep thoughts on how best to further ambitions, especially through group efforts that benefit others and not just you. For many, a passionate, dynamic week ahead.

♌ LEO 23 July to 23 August

Listen carefully to what people say – or don't say – to you, as Pluto deepens Mercury around the 21st. Insights help to further work or status as your charm teases out vital info.

♍ VIRGO 24 August to 23 September

Lucky you! Love and finances are rejuvenated around the 21st-22nd as Pluto touches Venus. Long-distance travel, the great outdoors or publishing are subject to energetic attention.

♎ LIBRA 24 September to 23 October

Re: loans, mortgages, legacies – new beneficial information may come to light around the 20th with a Mercury-Pluto link-up. This week you're thinking more strategically, more patiently.

♏ SCORPIO 24 October to 22 November

A meeting of minds proves a tonic to any kind of partnership, thanks to ruler Pluto's work in your communication house. Suddenly you feel even more a part of a team.

♐ SAGITTARIUS 23 November to 21 December

Any voluntary work benefits from a Mars-Venus tie-up: you have huge get-up-and-go to win people round. The Sun's move into Gemini on the 22nd boosts partnerships.

♑ CAPRICORN 22 December to 20 January

Sensuality pervades the week – from love to food to reading Keats. Creative work sparks under Mars while problems with children should lighten around the 22nd.

♒ AQUARIUS 21 January to 19 February

Maria von Trapp (also Aquarian) you may not be, yet something of her gift for home-making ensures happy times with loved ones under Venus. No need to sing *Edelweiss*, however.

♓ PISCES 20 February to 20 March

Neighbours can be sources of intrusive noise. But this week, yours should be less annoying, particularly if you have asked for their cooperation.

♈ ARIES 21 March to 20 April

A career-related cash improvement rewards your tenacity around the 21st-23rd. Take advantage of the Sun's move into Gemini on the 22nd to communicate ideas.

♦ <http://victorolliver.bi>

HER ROYAL HIGH-LESS

She's a front-page fixture thanks to her signature style – but as we reveal, at heart the Duchess of Cambridge is a savvy shopper prepared to go the extra mile for a bargain. We've even uncovered her secret fashion map

Report ZOE BEATY and KATHERINE ORMEROD

The speculation had been feverish. But when Kate Middleton stepped out of her white Rolls-Royce and the world finally got a glimpse of her late Alexander McQueen wedding dress, it was official – she'd earned her place in the fashion history books.

As her first wedding anniversary approaches, though, it's clear that Kate has taken her own, very discreet, deliberate approach to her 'fashion icon' role. Forget, as her wedding dress choice might have suggested, a duchess splashing her oosh on designer purchases. By visiting some of Kate's favourite shops along her 'M4 fashion corridor', we've discovered a out-price royal who shops at suburban discount boutiques beloved by her mother – and who isn't afraid to haggle over the price of clothes and antiques for her Kensington Palace apartment.

FOLLOWING THE BEST-PRICE ROUTINE...

She might carry a gold credit card (or three), but we have been confidentially informed by a number of local sources that Kate has gained a reputation for asking, 'Is that your best price?' in the shops near to her parents' Berkshire home. 'Despite being royalty, she still asks for a discount on every purchase,' says the owner of Kate's favourite antiques shop, You'll's Antiques in Hungerford. Having served Mrs Middleton over the years, he believes it's Kate's mother's influence that makes the duchess so careful. 'Carole is a true bargain-hunter. She has always been very strict with her money and would never allow her daughter to be ripped off – so she taught her how to barter. I always end up giving her the best price – how can you refuse a princess?' Now if only that tactic could work for us, too...



SECRET SHOPS The Emporium (antiques) and You'll's Antiques, both Hungerford, West Berkshire.

SHOPPING WITH THOSE SHE TRUSTS...

She could have done a Diana and employed an ex-Vogue editor as her personal stylist. But Kate prefers to keep things in the family. Literally. Perhaps because she and Pippa share clothes with their mum (hello that Reiss dress), the trio often shop together. According to one of the family's favourite jewellers, they make a relaxed, familiar sight. 'Pippa is a little mix – she has a wicked sense of humour. Once, all three of the Middleton ladies came in to browse, and while Kate took off her engagement ring – Diana's – to try on another she liked, Pippa sneakily hid it. Pippa let

Kate panic for a few minutes before confessing. She found it extremely funny. Not surprisingly, Kate wasn't so amused!' Her family are also handy for keeping an absent-minded Kate on track – she has apparently often left a phone or bag behind while distracted by new purchases. 'Kate is quite ditsy,' another Hungerford store owner said. 'Once she was browsing with her mum for a while, as she always does, but when she left I noticed she'd left her handbag behind just sitting on a piece of furniture.' Sweet! **SECRET SHOPS** Mum's wardrobe(!), Bucklebury, West Berkshire; Bei Cappelli, Furr & Co (jewellers) and Angela Knight Lingerie (Kate paid a visit before her wedding), all Hungerford, West Berkshire.

EMPLOYING A BODY DOUBLE (YES, REALLY)...

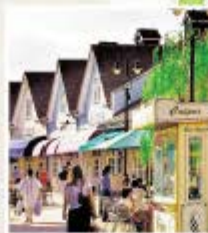
Kate's not afraid to make a quick dash to H&M and Gap on London's Kensington High Street ▶



CUT-PRICE KATE'S FAVOURITE SHOPS



KATE WITH REBECCA DEACON, WHO SOMETIMES SHOPS FOR HER



Hungerford

Angela Knight

Jeanne Pettitt

Bei Cappelli

Bucklebury

Parents' House
(Mum's Wardrobe)

Ascot

The Stock Exchange



Kensington High Street

Kings Road

Chelsea

Peter Jones

Kings Road

Duke of York Sq

Zara

L K Bennett

Thames

Selfridges

Port Lane

Oxford Street



Buckingham Palace

Big Ben



Millennium Wheel

Kate has become a mistress of the high street, but she doesn't want every wannabe copying her look, so she seeks out secret sales

inexpensive stores and secret sales. She's said to take advantage of designer Bruce Oldfield's invitation-only out-price sales on selected Saturday mornings. Guests have to know what time to ring the bell of the basement at his Beauchamp Place store to be let in, and sources say Carole and Pippa have been spotted there. And whenever she's at her family home,

she pops into Jeanne Pettitt in Hungerford – a boutique her mother introduced her to that stocks Amanda Wakeley, Philosophy and Collette Dinnigan in an ornate setting. And we're told Kate has been given full access to her in-laws' favourite shops, too. An employee at a local Hungerford store, brimming with antique glassware and vintage trinkets, said, 'Kate comes in here all the time – and Princess Margaret used to shop here. It's a family tradition that the royals pass down their best shopping haunts to each other.' What we'd do to get our hands on that little black book... **SECRET SHOPS** Bruce Oldfield, Beauchamp Place, London; Jeanne Pettitt, Hungerford, West Berkshire. **X**

MASTERING FASHION MATHS...

Perhaps there's another reason Kate's so thrifty. One fashion house revealed that Kate – like us – has to work within budget restraints. 'Kate is given a budget for each of her trips,' they told us, explaining that the budget for charity visits is less than for state trips abroad. So no wonder one of her favourite shops is the Stock Exchange. This dress agency – at an industrial estate in Sunninghill, just outside Ascot – sells nearly new ootwark looks that previous owners have passed on for a fraction of the original price. It may be where Kate picked up a dress by Jesiré for her recent engagement at the National Portrait Gallery. 'We were really excited when we saw Kate on TV wearing it. But we didn't

see her in the shop – a secret shopper could have picked it up for her,' one staffer revealed. Inside, you'll find bargains such as £30 loss dresses on cheap plastic hangers. But as Kate knows, it's not what the shop looks like, it's what gems you can find there...

SECRET SHOPS The Stock Exchange, Sunninghill; Mulberry, Smythson and Missoni – all at Bioester Village, Oxfordshire; TK Maxx, Kensington, London.

ADOPTING THE 'FOUR SEASON RULE'...

Kate's a smart shopper. She knows that if she has to be thrifty, she needs to follow the Four Season

Rule. The M by Missoni coat she wore for her first joint engagement with the Queen and the Duchess of Cornwall was perfectly appropriate, because it was far enough removed from fashion memories to look anonymously elegant but not so old as to look out of date. It's a trick Kate uses by shopping regularly at Bioester Village, the retail outlet where she picked up the coat.

BUILDING A SECRET ADDRESS BOOK...

She's become the mistress of the high street, but Kate doesn't want every wannabe copying her look (like reality TV star Amy Childs did with the loose Zara dress), so she seeks out

in her spare time – and we've been told she personally attends private appointments at McQueen's London store – but it's hard to shop when you're so recognizable. Kate has therefore come up with an ingenious solution – using a close friend as a body double to shop for her. Coming in at Kate's exact measurements (ie, tall, slim and athletic), her polo-playing friend tries duchess-friendly garments on then sends Kate pictures from the fitting room. We're told Kate's body double has made several recent purchases – so keep your eyes peeled for a couple of wrap dresses. Kate's assistant private secretary Rebecca Deacon has also been spotted shopping for her, but in a strict pick-up-only role.