

*Esquire*

**A/W 2016**

ISSUE N°8

**THE BIG  
BLACK  
BOOK**

**THE STYLE MANUAL  
FOR SUCCESSFUL MEN**



€6

UK EDITION

# **THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK**

**THE INSIDER'S GUIDE TO  
THE GOOD LIFE**

**101 GREAT BRITISH SHOPS**

leather armchairs on which to sit and try on its beautiful crafted shoes, plus a VIP lounge in which the customer can enjoy the company's made-to-order service. For those preferring to walk out in a pair of extant shoes, the iconic Le Mocassin loafer remains something of a timeless classic. J'aime Weston, indeed.

[jmweston.fr/en](http://jmweston.fr/en)

#### 022 • THE MOST SVELTE OF SHIRTS

##### **Budd**

3 Piccadilly Arcade, London SW1Y  
+44 20 7493 0139

From a tiny boutique come Budd's peerless bespoke shirts. Available in myriad fabrics from British, Swiss and Italian mills, they are prepared in the cutting room above the shop, by cutters with a combined 60 years' experience (head cutter John Butcher has been plying his trade for over 45 years), before being sent to Hampshire to be finished by Budd's experienced seamstresses.

[buddshirts.co.uk](http://buddshirts.co.uk)

#### 023 • THE JOLLY BROLLY MASTERS

##### **James Smith & Sons Umbrellas Ltd**

Hazelwood House, 53 New Oxford Street,  
London WC1A  
+44 20 7836 4731

Those looking for a premium, timeless, sturdy umbrella could do far worse than walk through the iconic entrance of James Smith & Sons, whose umbrologists\* make their wares by hand in the workshop under the store. The New Oxford Street shopfront subscribes to the Victorian philosophy of "cram as many types of product that you sell in the window as possible", and is all the better for it. (\*Not a real word.)

[james-smith.co.uk](http://james-smith.co.uk)

#### 024 • THE KINKIEST LINGERIE SHOP

##### **Bordelle**

Unit 6, 2-4 Exmoor Street, London W10  
+44 20 8968 4488

For all your "curated kink" needs, look no further than the hyper-glamorous (and gloriously risqué) world of Bordelle, a lingerie label founded by Alexandra Popa and launched in Selfridges in 2009. Its collections are fierce, strictly lace-free, and offer a decadent take on bondage which can be taken to its logical extreme via a fitting appointment at the atelier. Once you've experienced fully bespoke S&M gear you'll never go back (we've been told).

[bordelle.co.uk](http://bordelle.co.uk)

#### 025 • THE MOST CELEBRATED TAILOR

##### **Kilgour**

5 Savile Row, London W1S  
+44 20 3283 8941

Cary Grant, Fred Astaire and Daniel Craig have worn Kilgour's elegantly cut, deeply luxurious bespoke suits.

Established in 1880, the Savile Row institution has, since 2013, been under the auspices of Anglo-Italian creative director Carlo Brandelli, who has pursued a modern, discreet aesthetic with an emphasis on texture and proportion. Thus, its Savile Row showroom is stunningly spare, an antidote to the fustier, Garrick Club-esque interiors of other Row tailors. Kilgour's off-the-peg collections include arrestingly simple suits in highest-quality mohair, suede, wool and silk, while its made-to-measure suits – with 26 adjustment points for a jacket and 16 for trousers – are a superb alternative to going fully bespoke.

[kilgour.com](http://kilgour.com)

#### 026 • THE MOST CREATIVE COBBLER

##### **Classic Shoe Repairs**

23-25 Brecknock Road, London N7  
+44 20 7485 5275

This Islington-based operation has become that rarest of things – a neighbourhood cobbler of global renown where walls are adorned with autographs of its celebrity clientele. The store also takes wonderful care of leather goods by Versace, Gucci and D&G; shoes, bags and coats can be taken into the store from whence they return almost supernaturally rejuvenated.

[classicshoerepairs.com](http://classicshoerepairs.com)

#### 027 • THE RAREST RETRO KICKS

##### **80s Casual Classics**

6 Sadlergate, Derby, Derbyshire DE1  
+44 1332 409 652

Hoping to look fresh when next going large on a mad one? Look no further than 80s Casual Classics, which proudly stocks a vast range of old skool trainers and retro track tops. It operates stores in Derby and Barnsley, and has a meticulously updated website. You can expect to find everything classic and casual from dozens of brands including Adidas, Puma, Reebok and Saucony through to Ellesse, Kappa, Fila and, God bless them, Diadora. You'll get high on the nostalgia alone.

[80scasualclassics.co.uk](http://80scasualclassics.co.uk)

#### 028 • THE SCENT-SATIONAL SCENT MAKERS

##### **Floris**

89 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y  
+44 20 7747 3612

"The art of creating distinguished fragrances is in the Floris blood," states the revered perfumer's website. Thankfully, it refers not to a gruesome secret ingredient but rather the levels of meticulous care that have gone into producing scents since the company was opened by the gloriously named Juan Famenias Floris in 1730. First royal warranted by George V in 1830 (for the sale of combs), and in more recent years by Queen Elizabeth II, Floris has supplied fragrances to Florence Nightingale, Winston Churchill and Marilyn Monroe. Remarkably, its beautiful shop in St James's remains family owned.

[florislondon.com](http://florislondon.com)