

# ADOREUM

ISSUE 7

Winter 2015

OUT OF  
**AFRICA**  
FEATURING KOLA KARIM

DESTINATION  
AFRICA BY  
TOM MARCHANT

EXPLORATION  
BY LEVISON  
WOOD

GEOFFREY  
KENT'S  
TOP HOTELS

MINING, INVESTMENT,  
EMERGING BRANDS,  
PEOPLE & PROPERTY

# BORN



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## IDEAS ARE BORN



## EDITOR'S LETTER



I recently returned from Marrakech, a city I have been visiting for the past 13 years. Change has been phenomenal, seeing the city evolve into a more modern and affluent destination; double its size, abundant with opportunity and now home to many of the world's leading leisure brands. Importantly, those leading its evolution are second generation Moroccans. Educated and entrepreneurial, they are leading the country's pursuit of change, with a burning desire to bring home what Western economies take for granted.

Change is abundant throughout Africa; its increasing democratisation visible through middle class wealth appreciation, improved infrastructure and the growth of technology. Inequality and poverty are still rife, but it feels like we are a far cry from the Live Aid era. It's the subject of furious debate of course but the Africa of my childhood struggled to achieve any positive media coverage. Sensationalised or not, the message was famine, dictatorship, genocide, AIDS. Any positives struggled to surmount its indignity. There are new problems today, but as this magazine issue proves, investment in Africa is a hot topic and it's now breeding home grown entrepreneurs. These are predominantly represented by a proud and loyal bunch of brand ambassadors, who delight in the new found opportunity emanating from Africa.

None are more emphatic about the reality of change than our cover, the charming Kola Karim. We found him directing the finishing touches to his polo estate near Windsor. At first sight, it is easy to dismiss Kola as a cliché; part of a clique of affluent Africans who have moved to London and turned their back on home. Kola though is a staunch advocate of change and has a deep rooted, invested interest in the economic and social prosperity of sub Saharan Africa as a whole, not just his native Nigeria. This perspective is shared by many of the contributors in this issue, whose innate desire for change isn't restricted to home, it's for brand Africa. Being 'from Africa' appears to have much deeper meaning and spiritual connection with its people than the allegiance, or lack of, that people feel for Europe or Asia.

It is easy to get caught up in the romance of Africa and I am guilty of being windswept by it in the writing of this editor's letter. Normally, I keep my contribution quite light-weight, even endeavour to be funny. It is quite tough though to be trivial or obtuse about the subject matter on this occasion. Concerts and Queen aside, what's clear is that only Africa can right its wrongs and it appears to be making big progress.

**Brett Gregory-Peake, Editor.**

# CONTRIBUTORS



**CHARLIE DANIEL** is an Associate at ACI and Head of Research at Invest Africa, where he has worked since its inception in 2013. He is a Level II CFA Candidate and is a published scholar on the subject of environmental politics.



**HUGO CAMPBELL-DAVYS** is the Founder of Urbanologie, the invitation only, curated lifestyle guide, providing members with personalised news, knowledge and information on what's hip and happening in and around London.



**GEOFFREY KENT** is founder, chairman and CEO of international luxury travel company Abercrombie & Kent and author of Safari: A Memoir of a Worldwide Travel Pioneer to be published in September by Harper Collins.



**HANNELI RUPERT** is a South African entrepreneur and businesswoman. She is founder and designer of the African luxury handbag brand Okapi as well as owner of Cape Town based concept store Merchants on Long.



**ROBERTA ANNAN** is an Impact Investor and a Philanthropist. She is the Founder of Roberta Annan Consulting; a global management-consulting firm that is focused on impacting the sustainable social, political and economic development of Africa.



**TOM MARCHANT** is a voice of authority within the fields of luxury travel and is the co-founder of The Black Tomato Group. Tom is renowned throughout the industry for launching some of the fastest growing and innovative travel companies.



**MICHAEL J CHRISTIAN** lived and worked in Europe & Southern Africa before joining Chartwell Estates in 2012, a private brokerage and advisory service for UHNWI and their families operating on the discrete acquisition and disposal of property-based assets.



**JONATHAN GLYNN-SMITH** has been shooting men and women's fashion for over 15 years. He travels extensively finding inspiration from wherever he goes, bringing a true narrative to the story. He has held exhibitions in London and Paris.



“ POLO IS A SPORT THAT  
DEMANDS DISCIPLINE, COURAGE  
AND DEDICATION OF THE PLAYER;  
A TRUE PARTNERSHIP NEEDS TO  
DEVELOP BETWEEN THE  
MAN AND HIS HORSE. ”



On location at Kola Karim's Windsor home and polo estate. Kola, pictured with polo pony, Baa, was photographed by Jonathan Glynn-Smith.





# Q&A WITH KOLA KARIM

As the CEO of Shoreline Energy International, a patron for African Art and a fearsome member of Lagos Polo team, Kola Karim is at the forefront of Africa's development. Here, he talks to Adoreum about the continent's future, his polo career and his favourite places in the world.

## **HOW DO YOU FEEL BUSINESS IS DEVELOPING/CHANGING IN AFRICA? DO YOU FEEL PEOPLE ARE INVESTING MORE IN AFRICA NOW?**

We are experiencing phenomenal growth in Africa and have been for the best part of the last decade. We have benefitted greatly from the commodities boom and a renewed interest in our economies. Our middle classes have grown tremendously as we continue to lift our people out of poverty. African businesses are generally on a growth trajectory and this fact is being recognised by investors all over the world - particularly in Asia. Investment is coming into the continent not only into traditional commodities but also in new innovative sectors such as technology, transportation and energy. These are exciting times.

## **NIGERIA IS A COUNTRY THAT HAS EVOLVED ENORMOUSLY IN THE LAST FEW DECADES. WHAT WOULD YOU SAY HAS CHANGED THE MOST DURING YOUR LIFETIME, AND WHAT CHANGES DO YOU THINK ARE YET TO COME?**

Nigeria has grown up. The big change has been the establishment of a stable multiparty democracy in the country, as evidenced by the recent peaceful election and handover of power in Nigeria. We have achieved many firsts as a nation to arrive at this point and it is a real enabler of national growth. Growth is part of the democratic dividend and we have benefitted from the commodities boom in the last decade. The future really needs to be one underpinned by the lifting of our people out of poverty through education. We must enable our youth to lead the future nation out of poverty and to create future wealth through the platform of education.

## **IN 2008 YOU WERE AWARDED THE WEF YOUNG GLOBAL LEADER HONOUR. SEVEN YEARS ON, WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO TODAY'S PROSPECTIVE YOUNG LEADERS?**

At the time I dedicated my award to Africans yet unborn and hoped that my achievements would be an inspiration to young entrepreneurs. My advice then is

the same now. Be true to yourself and be dedicated to your purpose regardless of what the outcome may be.

## **WHEN DID YOU FIRST START PLAYING POLO AND WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT THE SPORT?**

I have played polo since I was 18. Polo is a sport that demands discipline, courage and dedication of the player; a true partnership needs to develop between the man and his horse. In addition the player must work within a team. Add this to the excitement of game play and the fact you get to play outdoors in beautiful locations all over the world...what is left not to like!

## **YOU HAVE PLAYED ALL OVER THE WORLD REPRESENTING LAGOS- WHAT IS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MATCH?**

Ironically we lost, - however, playing the finals of the Wellington trophy on the Queen's Ground at Guards Polo Club was a real privilege and the highlight of my polo career to date. Sometimes victory is irrelevant when you are playing in such a significant moment or location, and that was the case with this match.

## **WHICH POLO DESTINATION DO YOU ENJOY PLAYING IN THE MOST?**

Of course, I love playing in Argentina. It is the home of polo so playing in a location which is steeped in the history of the sport's development is magical. There is a lot of passion for the sport in Argentina and you can't help be affected by that when you play.

## **WHERE IS YOUR FAVOURITE HANG OUT IN LONDON?**

It's either working in the office or at home, relaxing with the children. Opposite ends of the spectrum, I guess, but both just as enjoyable!

## **WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE CITY IN THE WORLD?**

I would have to say London is my favourite city. It is such a multicultural melting pot of people, culture, history and ideas. It is a truly modern global city where there is so

much happening. When you arrive in London, you get that buzz of activity and I love that.

## **WHAT IS THE ONE BRAND YOU COULD NOT LIVE WITHOUT?**

I think Ralph Lauren is my ultimate brand. I love its association with the sport I love (polo of course!) and how I feel comfortable and stylish wearing Ralph Lauren whether lounging at home, with friends or on the polo pitch.

## **THERE HAS BEEN AN INFLUX OF LUXURY AFRICAN BRANDS IN LONDON OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS; SUCH AS LANRE DA SILVA AJAYI- DO YOU THINK THERE IS MORE TO COME?**

Yes - there has been a huge influx and there will continue to be, as interest in Africa and all that it represents continues to inspire creativity. There is a real focus on Africa and the continent will keep throwing up exceptionally talented and creative individuals such as Tiffany Amber (an award winning international fashion designer) and the like. Watch this space.

## **YOU ARE A PATRON OF MODERN AFRICAN ART, WHAT IS IT THAT MAKES THIS GENRE SO SPECIAL FOR YOU?**

**WHAT IS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PIECE OF ART YOU OWN?** Africans are especially creative and talented. Our cultural history is rich with examples of the majestic and the sublime creations of our forefathers, in addition to more recent artists. I feel connected to these works on many levels and equally responsible for making my contribution to fueling this resurgent creativity through my patronage. I own works by Bruce Obomeyoma Onobrakpeya; a Nigerian painter and sculptor and Tola WeWe who is a truly unique talent. The works resonate with me culturally and I feel they best represent Africa's global culture.

*Kola Karim's 'OAK Foundation', founded and run by Kola's wife, Funke Karim, caters for underprivileged kids in Nigeria and the United Kingdom. The aim is to support education and vocational development with a focus on entrepreneurship.*



# PUTTING LUXURY ON THE MAP IN AFRICA

WITH A PLETHORA OF LUXURY BRANDS CROPPING UP ALL OVER THE CONTINENT, *HANNELI RUPERT* SELECTS HER TOP 10 TO WATCH OUT FOR.



## **Maxhosa by Laduma** South Africa

Inspired by traditional Xhosa beadwork, 'Maxhosa by Laduma' is a Cape Town based luxury knitwear brand founded by Laduma Ngxokolo. The designs reflect the aesthetics of Xhosa, the biggest cultural group in South Africa, in beautiful modern context. [www.maxhosa.co.za](http://www.maxhosa.co.za)

## **LaLesso** Kenya

Founded by Alice Heusser and Olivia Kennaway, LaLesso is a Kenyan fashion brand which produces summer, swim and beachware with a focus on ethical fair trading. The free flowing and print rich designs are inspired by the lessso; a long rectangular piece of brightly colored and patterned cloth worn by Swahili women living along the coastal regions of East Africa. [www.lalesso.com](http://www.lalesso.com)

## **Christie Brown** Ghana

Founded by Aisha Obuobi, Christie Brown is a Ghanaian based luxury women's fashion brand. Inspired by her grandmother, the contemporary designs allow women to experience

the culturally rich and opulent side of Africa without having to compromise their personal contemporary style. Her clothes are statement pieces and are all inspired by African culture and art. [www.christiebrownonline.com](http://www.christiebrownonline.com)

## **Brother Vellies** South Africa/Kenya

Aurora James launched footwear line Brother Vellies in 2013. The brand has a modern take on South African traditional shoes. The name itself is derived from Veldskoek, a traditional South African shoe colloquially known as 'Vellies'. Each pair is beautifully embellished with sustainably sourced organic materials such as horsehair fringe, plush furs and carved bones. [www.brothervellies.com](http://www.brothervellies.com)

## **Njema Helena** Kenya

Njema Helena is a fashion brand with a focus on ethical production in Kenya. Established in 2012 by Anne, Cecilia and Annika Ostman in Nairobi. Njema Helena is aimed at women who like to be well-dressed, feminine, timeless and elegant. Cecilia designs each collection and all the materials. Fabrics are sourced from local traders and are produced exclusively in Kenya. [www.njemahelena.com](http://www.njemahelena.com)

## **LaLoo** South Africa

Dallas born designer Jeannie Elliot founded LaLoo jewelry in 2011. Her signature pieces are handcrafted in Cape Town. Each intricate design is





meticulously crafted using gemstones and delicate glass beads, which are woven with needle and thread into colorful, organic and ornate pieces. [www.laloojewelry.com](http://www.laloojewelry.com)

 **ZEZE Collective  
Namibia**

Inspired by Namibian culture, ZEZE Collective is a jewellery brand with the artisans' traditional art forms at the core of its ethos. Founded by Anna Haber, ZEZE works with experts in craft and design from around the globe to create stunning pieces of jewellery that tell a story about its country of origin. One of the collections is in collaboration with the Bushmen of Kalahari desert, bringing timeless traditions alive with modern, beautiful pieces.

 **Yswara  
Ivory Coast**

Socially responsible gourmet brand Yswara was founded in 2012 by Cote d'Ivoire born Swaady Martin Leke. Their star product is African artisanal tea, created with ingredients and narratives from the continent. With names such as Shaka Zulu, Pharaoh Tut and King Lalibela, one cannot help but become immersed in Africa's rich culture and heritage. [www.yswara.com](http://www.yswara.com)

 **Lemlem  
Ethiopia**

Handwoven in Ethiopia, Lemlem, which means 'to flourish or bloom' in Amharic, is a handcrafted collection of women's wear and children's clothing founded by supermodel Liya Kebede.

Recognizing the beauty, quality and historic significance of their work, Kebede started Lemlem as a way to inspire economic independence in her native country and to preserve the art of weaving. [www.lemlem.com](http://www.lemlem.com)

 **Patrick Mavros  
Zimbabwe**

Zimbabwean based silversmiths and jewellers Patrick Mavros are best known for their striking silver creations, inspired by the African wildlife and landscape. Each piece has its own unique story, which adds considerably to its charm whilst highlighting the beauty of Africa. [www.patrickmavros.com](http://www.patrickmavros.com)



# MTV STAYING ALIVE FOUNDATION TACKLES AIDS IN AFRICA

Despite the incredible advances in modern medicine, AIDS remains the leading cause of death for adolescents in Africa and the second leading cause of death among adolescents globally. The foundation picked up on this startling fact noting that there were 2 million new HIV infections in 2014 and nearly 50% of people living with HIV are unaware of their status. With this disease reigning as the single biggest killer of adolescents in Africa, the MTV SAF made it its mission to prevent HIV through sustainable change.

The Foundation does this by providing both funding and training to youth-led HIV-prevention projects around the world, helping to build innovative, culturally relevant and sustainable organisations that lead the fight against HIV on the ground. One of their most successful initiatives is their Youth Empowering Initiative (YEI), a youth-led organisation that has been funded since 2007. The YEI focuses on empowering vulnerable communities in Uganda with the skills and knowledge that they need to protect themselves from HIV.

In 2014, YEI was awarded one of two available social-enterprise grants from MTV Staying Alive to continue the sustainable growth of its outreach and impact in educating and protecting communities from HIV. The YEI runs a community micro-financing programme targeting young people living with HIV, young sex workers and child-headed families. The organisation awarded micro business loans to five extremely relevant community groups including chicken farmers, fishmongers, coffee buyers, salt sellers and tree-seedling planters. The initiative went on to train each group in basic business skills and provided supervision through village mentoring. After the first six months of trading, the five groups that received a micro-loan were all paying back their loans plus interest rates, generating a profit of US\$4,000; allowing YEI to distribute well over a thousand condoms, test more than 600 people for HIV, and provide family-planning support and antenatal care to 69 young mothers and pregnant women. [www.stayingalivefoundation.org](http://www.stayingalivefoundation.org)

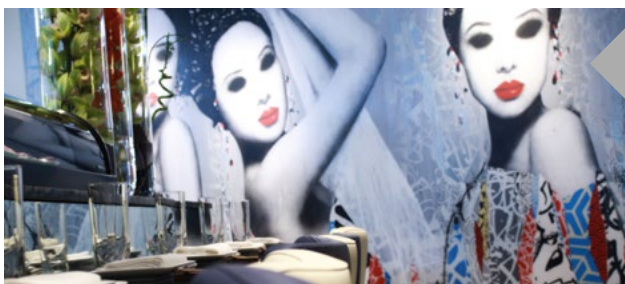


Volunteers are the real heroes of Mellon Educate, an international volunteer-based charity, which has embarked on a 10yr initiative to provide educational assistance for more than 100,000 of Africa's poorest children.

Since 2003 the charity has proudly built 25,000 homes for 125,000 people in South Africa's townships thanks to the collective efforts of more than 22,000 volunteers – 'extra' ordinary people from all walks of life who want to give back. The charity's efforts are now focused towards building better lives through better education and we're asking for your help - either by

rolling up your sleeves as a volunteer on a week long Building Blitz or by donation.

What volunteers often discover is that the act of giving is rewarded with an overwhelming sense of pride. Whether you participate alone, or with a group of friends or colleagues from work, the experience will not only change your life but the lives of countless disadvantaged children who yearn for a brighter future. To find out more please go to: [www.heartand-brick.com](http://www.heartand-brick.com) or contact Deborah Morris at Mellon Educate UK on +44 (0) 203 740 9914 / +44 (0) 7468 481991.



## KIRU

Recently opened in the heart of Chelsea, Kiru, a new Japanese restaurant headed up by renowned Executive chef, Taiji Maruyama, of previous Nobu fame, offers a delicious and contemporary take on Japanese fine

dining. And, with stunning wall murals from artist Hush and a 'sushi corner' where you can see expert chefs at work, Kiru offers a culinary experience you will not forget. Book now at [www.kirurestaurant.com](http://www.kirurestaurant.com).



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# DESTINATION AFRICA

Black Tomato's *Tom Marchant*, takes us off the beaten track with his top adventure recommendations, and shares insider knowledge on what not to miss.



## ETHIOPIA

Begin an Ethiopian getaway in the city of Addis Ababa for a taste of the rich coffee culture. Still relatively untouched by tourism, here you can get an authentic African experience that few other places can match. Marvel at the country's resurgent jazz scene and visit Mama's Kitchen for the sounds of traditional Ethiopian tunes merged with jazzy notes. After a whistle stop tour of bustling markets, head to the Bale National Park in the South which has only recently been made accessible by a new road. Stunning mountain landscapes and rich array of endemic flora and fauna will be sure to leave you speechless, and here we can also arrange visits to local markets where guests can explore the ancient walled town of Harar; one of the holiest Muslim cities in the world. From the National Park guests can explore Dolo Mena, a



small town, where one can savour the coffee and locally collected wild honey. A camel market is one of the weekly attractions along with a local market for other traders. The rift valley also offers an opportunity to spot birds which are indigenous to the dry conditions.

**Insider tip:** At Black Tomato we recommend a drive up to the Sanetti Plateau at sunrise to have your best chance of seeing the elusive Ethiopian wolf.

## NAMIBIA

Namibia's Skeleton Coast is remote and eerily beautiful, and many travellers miss this northern part of the country off their itinerary for the wrong reasons. Here you can explore its remote stark shores and lonely shipwreck ruins on a scenic flight over the plains. Whilst you're here, we recommend an unforgettable night-walk safari in the camps surrounding area. We at Black Tomato suggest The Hoanib River route which takes guests through game rich valleys and river beds, through gorges and past springs in search of a fresh track of black rhino or desert elephant. Guests will be able to set off on foot and enjoy the spellbinding experi-



ence of tracking the rare black rhino or the elephant in its natural habitat.

**Insider Tip:** Take a scenic flight to Möwe Bay. From there you will have the opportunity to explore the dunes at Little Oasis, visit a seal colony and enjoy lunch at the corroded remains of the Suiderkus shipwreck.

## MADAGASCAR

Head to Madagascar for alternative wildlife, surprisingly beautiful beaches and private islands. Think vibrant, bright colours, dense and mystical rainforest fringed with white sandy beaches and turquoise waters. Tropical wildlife inhabits this magical island, instead of the roaring lions and creeping hippos, you will find darting bamboo lemurs, flying foxes, chameleons and 258 different species of birds.

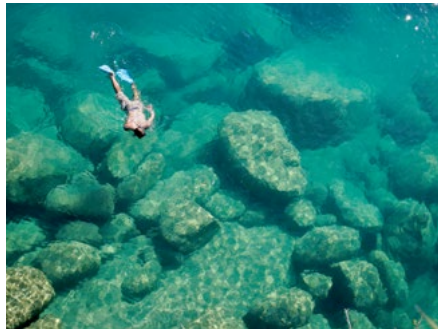


Compared to the other islands of the Indian Ocean such as The Maldives, Mauritius, and the Seychelles, Madagascar offers an off the beaten path destination for travellers to experience untouched forests, endemic wildlife and ruggedly beautiful landscapes.

**Insider Tip:** Head to the north coast, 40 miles from the island of Nosy Be and part of the Mitsio Archipelago where guests can visit the deserted island of Tsarabanjina. Fringed by white sandy beaches with extraordinary bird life, lush vegetation and encircled by coral reefs, this tiny islet is a secluded paradise. On the Eastern beach of the small peninsula guests can find the tomb of the Sakalava kings of the Mitsio islands where local villagers come to bring their offerings of money, honey, and rum.

## LAKE MALAWI

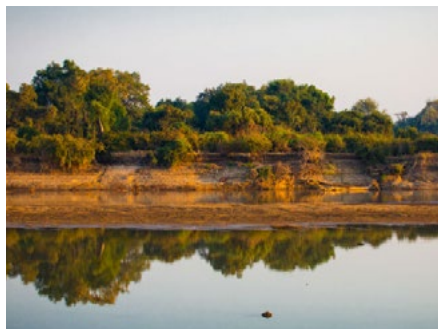
Off the typical tourist track, and for an alternative to the tidal waters of Zanzibar and Mozambique, Lake Malawi offers beautiful beach escapes around the golden shores of the lake. Swimming, snorkelling and scuba diving are typical activities you can enjoy at these idyllic bathing spots where you can listen to the lapping of the waves and swaying of the trees.



**Insider tip:** During the last week of September the Lake comes alive as the Lake of Stars music festival takes place in Lilongwe. Here guests can experience under the radar African musical talent at its best in an incredible setting. For a post festival beach-break head to Likoma Island where you can enjoy peace and serenity surrounded by astounding natural beauty at the Kaya Mawa beach lodge.

## ZAMBIA

With top-tier guides, easier visas to cross borders, plentiful wildlife, and a circuit of simple yet stylish bush camps and river lodges, Zambia is an under-the-radar safari destination for purists.



Whilst there are some amazing lodges throughout Africa, it is up close encounters that make Zambia a great pick for those that have perhaps enjoyed vehicle game drives and are now looking for the next step – canoeing, fishing, boat rides, night drives, and, not least, walking safaris.

**Insider tip:** Black Tomato recommend spending a day tiger fishing before a sunset cruise on the Zambezi. Walk with world class guides and botanists through South Luangwa national park where there's a great density of illusive leopards, there are incredible on foot guides to teach you about flora too (not just the big animals).

## BOTSWANA

Embark on an intrepid safari in Botswana and explore the channels of the Delta on a paddleboard, learn some essential bush cooking skills and spot a huge array of animals on foot. The remote island of Xaxaba Island, surrounded by marshland and waterways places you directly in wildlife paradise. You can spend a day on a Mokoro canoe, where you'll meander along the shallow waterfront to see everything from elephant and rhino to owls and wild dogs.



**Insider Tip:** Take to the skies on a helicopter ride over the Delta from Belmond Eagle Island Lodge to see the game and wildlife from above. The helicopter has been designed to get right up close to members of the animal kingdom. There's no doors, so buckle up for an unbelievable view!

## MOROCCO

Visit the less explored culinary city of Fez as an alternative to Marrakech and visit the R'cif food market for an assault on the senses. Take a trip to Roman ruins at Volubilis for a fascinating tour of the archaeological wonder before laying eyes on the awe-inspiring vistas as you drive through the Middle Atlas Mountains. Travel to Ifrane, where you can take an afternoon hike into the beautiful Cedar Forest to observe playful Barbary Apes.



**Insider Tip:** View craftsmen from the balconies above the leather tanneries to marvel at the process of the dyers. With Black Tomato, you can take a leather tanning workshop to learn this unique local skill. [www.blacktomato.com](http://www.blacktomato.com)



# INVESTMENT TRENDS ON THE CONTINENT

## Invest Africa Associate, *Charlie Daniel*, reveals the investment opportunities that Africa has to offer.

Africa is a vast continent with 54 buzzing countries, all bursting with opportunities provided by local entrepreneurs, creating innovation in traditional sectors such as manufacturing and new-age technology businesses like mobile banking. Five years ago these success stories did not warrant attention from money managers, but the tide has changed and now sub-Saharan Africa is receiving decent levels of equity capital, particularly from private equity firms.

Investors thinking seriously about Africa need to look beyond the traditional "Africa is rising" thesis. Ten years ago, people were regurgitating the same stuff - the long rehearsed, broad-brush tale of middle class demographics and urbanisation. Yes, these things are important, but they are not everything and they also generate problems - poverty, overcrowding and polluted cities (to name just a few).

Foreign investors have to start thinking in terms of specific African countries, specific African cities, specific African opportunities. What are the prospects of Mkushi District in Zambia? More sophisticated, nuanced, explanations of Sub Saharan Africa's potential are seriously lacking. We are talking about 54 countries here - each with its own unique economy, each with different cultural norms, languages and business practices. Investor naivety and generalisation is a major fall point.

In order to differentiate yourself from the crowd you need to pick your sector or region and then stick with it. The most exciting investment trends we are seeing at the moment, from a sector perspective, are in real estate. The sector is forecast to provide net annual returns of up to 20% and all dynamics fuelling that growth are fascinating. In residential, a booming middle class, rapid urbanisation and a growing expat community is driving up high-end property prices. This has a trickledown effect into the affordable segment, where activity is robust, particularly in cities like Luanda, where the government is collaborating with the private sector to help fill the massive shortage of housing.

We are very excited about the retail real estate space. Not necessarily shopping malls (an area that we believe is getting, would you believe it, over crowded) but more convenience retail or "mini-malls", particularly in under serviced second cities. Most countries in Africa still have poor transportation infrastructure and getting across a city can sometimes take a whole day. Convenience malls exploit that unfortunate reality making shopping accessible while providing flexibility to the consumer. We are putting some of our members into an investment vehicle that aims to do exactly that. They have gathered an unrivalled portfolio of locations, a great group of tenants and will be the market leaders in this space within 5 years.

Real estate is by no means the stand out story and each country has their own niche that warrants investment attention. Rwanda has a booming IT sector. Sustainable quarrying is highly profitable in Gabon. The lingerie market in Kenya is huge! Ethiopia is untapped, but perfectly suited for luxury tourism. Local knowledge is needed for investors to recognise these opportunities. Sub Saharan Africa's investment possibilities, in all their diversity, are endless.

The challenge is being able to reach these opportunities and ideas in a format that is high in quality and not overwhelming. Invest Africa has become that access point, as a global private members club with a multi-service platform for insight and investment into Africa. The club has 350 members - all of them business leaders at top global organisations, fund managers, private investors and family offices. The real value of the business is this network. New members looking to learn can extract expertise and advice from members who have been operating in Africa for a long time, in some cases 50+ years.

We want to encourage global investors entering the market to look beyond the lure of the resource sector and focus on dynamic opportunities within the SME space where you interact with local individuals. We create an environment where our members are able to learn about nuances within the market, equipping them with the right tools to make an informed investment decision. We are the first and only shop that provides new entrants with that level of market insight.



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# WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON

Straight from Adoreum HQ, here are some of the highlights of what we've been up to over the past few months.

## 01 #BeExtraordinary September

On Wednesday 9th September, Bentley launched their #BeExtraordinary global campaign to celebrate the release of their new Bentayga car. Adoreum worked with Bentley Motors to bring together some of the world's most extraordinary people for a unique dinner to celebrate the extraordinary. The dinner was hosted by Mr Dürheimer, CEO of Bentley Motors at Maison Assouline with a delicious dinner by three star Michelin chef, Guy Martin. Guests included Bill Roedy, Greg Williams & Baroness Mone of Mayfair to name a few.



## 02 Battersea Power Station launches Phase 3 April

Adoreum have been working closely with Battersea Power Station on Phases 3-9 of the development. On October 1st, BPS hosted an evening with Bear Grylls, showcasing their newest development, which Adoreum opened up to their network.



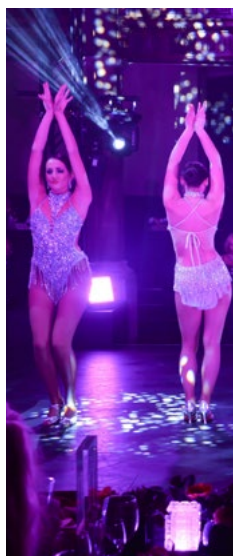
## 03 Smith & Wollensky Ambassadors August

Adoreum have been working closely with the recently opened Smith & Wollensky restaurant located just off the Strand to manage their ambassador program. Adoreum were responsible for generating a carefully selected list of individuals, who would represent the restaurant amongst their social circles.

## 04 London Cabaret Club Preview August

Adoreum are working with London Cabaret Club on their London Never Dies run of shows at the Bloomsbury Ballroom, as a taster of the what the club will offer after its refurbishment in Spring 2016. Amazing performers and delicious food lead to a night not to be missed!

[www.thelondoncabaretclub.com](http://www.thelondoncabaretclub.com)



## 05 Ritz-Carlton Residences Launches in Marrakech April

Adoreum supported the launch of the Ritz Carlton Residences Marrakech, inviting key journalists from the FT's How to Spend It, Billionaire.com and Sunday Times, for British Polo Day's Morocco event.

The extraordinary weekend attracted a loyal international following, including Richard Branson and British Ambassador Clive Alderton. The development includes 85 branded residences, polo club and hotel.

[www.rcr-marrakech.com](http://www.rcr-marrakech.com)

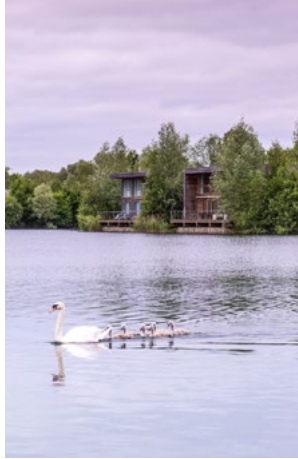






**06**  
**The Lakes**  
**by yoo**  
**launches**  
**new website**  
**September**

Adoreum created and launched The Lakes by yoo's new website which reflects the beauty, style and unique setting of the Lakes. [www.thelakesbyyoo.com](http://www.thelakesbyyoo.com)



**07**  
**Thought**  
**Leadership Series**  
**Ongoing**

In the last few months, Adoreum's Ladies Thought Leadership Breakfast Series has welcomed some incredibly influential and inspiring speakers. Held in top Mayfair 5\* Hotels and Restaurants, topics have ranged from health, philanthropy and media to state building and international diplomacy and continue to inspire our ever-growing network of Members.



**08**  
**Adoreum**  
**Club Lunch**  
**At The Cafe Royal**  
**April**

We hosted our first Adoreum club lunch on Wednesday 29th April in the beautiful Pompadour Room at the iconic Cafe Royal, which saw over 90 guests attend from all different sectors, enabling each guest to meet like-minded people and network in a relaxed and informal environment. Our lunches are a chance to bring together Adoreum's clients, friends of Adoreum and key principals within the luxury lifestyle sectors.



**09**  
**PA Drinks at**  
**Mandarin**  
**Oriental**  
**September**

Adoreum welcomed our network of EAs and PAs to the beautiful Mandarin Oriental in September, for an evening of champagne and delicious canapes. Our guests were treated to a tour of the hotel and its stunning premier suites before the business card drop was drawn where one lucky PA won a dinner for two at Bar Boulud and a luxurious hamper from Selfridges.



**10**  
**A Summer**  
**Affair**  
**with Bespoke**  
**Connections**  
**June**

On the 11th June, Adoreum worked in partnership with Bespoke Connections to kick off the summer at the Gazelli Art House, Dover Street. The event was attended by Private investors, leading financiers and some of London's top entrepreneurs.

Anita Zalubludowicz, renowned modern art collector and philanthropist, kicked off the evening with insights on her private collections and galleries and was followed by Rob Hersov, Adoreum's Chairman, who discussed redefining the luxury world and his passion for Africa. The event was a huge success and we look forward to the next!



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# PROPERTY INSIDER

*Michael Christian* reveals hot properties to keep an eye out for on the Continent.



Many African property markets from Ghana and Nigeria to Kenya and Angola are experiencing unprecedented growth, but one area which is seeing the addition of some astounding properties is the winery market and there are two beautiful properties that are harnessing South Africa's passion for wine with incredible architecture in stunning settings.

Leeu Estates, a 21-room five-star luxurious boutique hotel and winery in the Franschhoek valley, is part of Delhi-based industrialist, Analjit Singh's Leeu Collection property portfolio. Three historic farms, Dieu Donné, Klein Dassenberg and Von Ortloff were joined to create Leeu Estates, with its exquisite restored 19th-century Manor House in one of the most prosperous and elite wine valleys in the world.

Mr Sing ensures that the 'world-class experience' that Leeu estate offers will encapture the heritage of wine this beautiful valley, similarly to Saronsberg, another South African property.

Saronsberg has a unique diversity of terroir as the farm consists of two distinct parts that stretch from the centre of the valley right up to Saronsberg, the mountain after which the farm was named.

Saronsberg is proudly one of South Africa's finest wine cellars, however the property offers more than just wine – it offers an experience. The cellar, with its classic Cape Dutch architectural elements, embodies a modern interpretation of the valley's

rich past. The tasting room is avant-garde, with space and light creating an austere interior.

Another attraction this cellar offers are newly renovated, cosy one- or two-bedroom self-catering cottages, fully equipped with their own built in fireplace/BBQ, making it the ideal place to enjoy the breath-taking views of the valley over a glass of award-winning Saronsberg wine, both in winter and in summer.

I can't think of a finer way to spend my time than in one of these two idyllic spots in Africa, or maybe a trip to both. For more information on either properties, please contact Charwell Estates on 020 7409 0533





Four Seasons, Marrakech  
2 bedroom riad from £825,000

In Marrakech, within the enclave of the Four Seasons Resort there is fully furnished 2 bedroom riad for sale from £825,000. Complete with private pool and spacious rooftop terrace, the property benefits from full service and management by the legendary hotel group. The riad has only recently been decorated by renowned interior designer Angela Meunier, who has carefully sourced pieces from local artisans, mixed with known international brands and artworks. For details call Investment Adventures on +7765 890990.

Located on the North West coast of Mauritius, resort development Royal Park has launched Savannah; a collection of spacious luxury villas that benefit from access to the estate's myriad services and facilities. These fully furnished 3, 4 and 5 bedroom properties start from £750,000 and are available in a variety of styles. Ownership includes membership to a private beach club, concierge and rental management service. For more information, please contact +230 286 7070.



Royal Park, Mauritius  
Savannah Villas from £750,000 freehold  
[www.royalpark.mu](http://www.royalpark.mu)



# HOW THE MINING INDUSTRY HAS CHANGED

Gemfield's CEO, *Ian Harbottle* takes a retrospect on the mining industry and voices his hopes

**T**ell us a little bit about the origins of Gemfields. While I joined the Company as CEO in 2009, Gemfields was initially formed when Rajiv Gupta, whose family has a long history of working within the emerald sector, joined forces with Brian Gilbertson, the man behind the formation of the world's largest mining company, BHP-Billiton. Our initial mining assets included a 75% stake in the Kagem emerald mine in Zambia, a number of wholly owned smaller emerald licenses in Zambia and 50% stake in the Kariba amethyst mine. We went on to acquire many more from around the world - the rest is history.

**W**hat differentiates Gemfields from other mining businesses? The trajectory of our share price is currently outperforming most other listed mining companies. If the other mining companies can be compared to Microsoft, I would compare Gemfields to Apple. We are a very energetic, creative and entrepreneurial group of people, who like to find innovative ways of doing things. More obviously, we are the leading global specialists when it comes to coloured gemstones. Coloured gems are believed to be among the first recorded luxury goods known to man; something you want because it is rare and special, not because you need it. This is true for all gemstones, but the coloured gemstone market has never been sufficiently professionalised and that is something Gemfields has achieved.

**T**ell us how you ensure your mining is sustainable and ethical. At the moment, sustainability is the buzzword and is quite an overarching term. I believe that all one can do is to ask yourself 'are you running your mine in a way that is safe while trying to improve and protect the surrounding environment and community?' If you can say yes, then I believe that you are operating in an ethical and sustainable manner. Gemfields doesn't just seek to comply with rules and regulations; we try and go above and beyond. We focus on projects that we believe will make meaningful, long term differences to our communities. We don't use harmful chemicals in any of our operations and we look for ways to turn unusable mines into something beneficial, such as sustainable fishing and wildlife environments. We are working towards having a carbon neutral footprint; something we are very proud of.

**H**ow important is the mining business to Africa? I was born and bred in Africa; it's my home thus holds a special place in my heart. Obviously the mining industry is pivotal to Africa's economy but I'm saddened because so many countries continue to be overly reliant on mining alone, when they could have progressed into industries such as fishing, farming, tourism and manufacture. These countries still have huge potential that could be unlocked through the correct levels of support from their Governments. What is needed is some level of basic infrastructure along with a commitment to equitable rules that are consistently applied. Enterprise will do the rest.

**M**ining has not always been portrayed in the most positive of light- how can this be rectified? Mining has always had negative connotations attached to it. Society watches films, reads the press, and is presented with an image of destruction and corruption believing this is a fair representation of the entire industry. In reality, while some companies may behave like that, most of the larger listed mining companies that I know are doing a fantastic job of creating skills, ensuring job security and caring for the environment. If done right, mining has such a positive impact on Africa's future. I think media has a really important role in shaping society's views on mining. Some write well and cover the story fairly, while sadly, others seem to simply write what they want, irrespective of whether their story can be substantiated or not.

**W**hat is the most exciting part of the mining process for you personally? Being in the mine is such a great experience. It is rare in this age of new technology and science to be able to feel like a pioneer, but when I am launching new projects (we are currently launching one in Columbia), I honestly feel like an explorer. Emeralds, rubies and sapphires are so rare that in the process of mining, one has



to move millions of tonnes of earth to be able to find just a few. Being present at the moment we discover these is incredible, it's almost spiritual. Just imagine, you are the first person to touch that gem in hundreds of millions of years, and you can't help but be moved by that.

**W**hich is your favourite gemstone and why? This is a hard question to answer - it's a bit like asking someone if they have a favourite child! But it would have to be emerald. Diamonds are admired for their flawlessness, but it is those very 'flaws' that are celebrated in emeralds and gives them their unique character. The colour of an emerald is beautiful and calming by its very nature and you can spend hours looking deep into the gem appreciating its own individual garden. The stone seems alive.

**W**hat has been the biggest change in the mining industry during your career? I have been directly involved in the mining industry for more than 15 years and have seen its ups and downs; in 2007, the industry was booming and now it's struggling to some extent. However, this industry is very exciting and full of potential. Up until WW2, gems were treasured for their beauty and their inherent rarity, but the key driver for luxury items has shifted towards consumable luxury; handbags, shoes and phones. But I feel there is growing respect for the lasting value of gems and people are once again placing importance on their ability to enjoy something today, while being able to pass it down to future generations as an heirloom. Coloured gemstones now seem to have an air of modernity about them; they are no longer just remnants of a bygone era.

**W**hat changes would you like to see develop in the future? I would like the industry to stop placing so much emphasis purely on the carat weight of a gem. Obviously the size of certain gemstones can make them remarkable, but jewellery design has the tendency to become dull when the only importance is the number of carats. The artistry of the jewellery design needs to be appreciated, and this comes from using unusual, multi-sized and coloured gemstones and being creative. I hope to see a greater appreciation for the entire piece of jewellery. [www.gemfields.co.uk](http://www.gemfields.co.uk)



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*Royal Exchange - 34 The Royal Exchange, London, EC3V 3LP*

*Westfield London Shopping Centre - Westfield, Ariel Way, London, W12 7GD*

*Bluewater Shopping Mall - Unit WV107, Lower Level, West Village, Kent, DA9 9ST*

*Edinburgh - 80A George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 3BU*



# WHERE TO STAY ON THE CONTINENT

Abercrombie & Kent's *Geoffrey Kent*, and author of *Safari: A Memoir of a Worldwide Travel Pioneer*, showcases his Top Ten hotel recommendations to add luxury and adventure to your African escape.

It is hard to express in words why Africa is such a magical place, but as anyone who has ever spent time there will attest, it has a way of staying with you long after leaving. The landscapes are spectacular and the wildlife is amazing. But for me, the quintessential safari experience comes when the sun goes down, sitting around a campfire, experiencing the last of the true wilderness of Africa that once existed everywhere, but is now harder to find. As more people realise that travel is about the things money can't buy – shared experiences and treasured memories – a growing number want to make a personal connection to the places they visit. The sustainable, nature-based tourism practiced at these camps and lodges in Africa offers our best hope of protecting endangered places by providing good jobs for local people, while protecting wildlife and preserving cultural traditions. [www.abercrombiekent.com](http://www.abercrombiekent.com)



## One & Only Cape Town // South Africa

Located in the V&A Waterfront in the dynamic city of Cape Town, One and Only is a resort style hotel with exceptional service and contemporary styled rooms. Take a dip in the which fantastic outdoor pool and in the evening, dine in one of the award winning restaurants with stunning views of Table Mountain.



## Royal Malewane // South Africa

Experience the wilderness of Africa with supreme luxury at Royal Malewane. Expert guides and trackers bring you thrillingly close to the Big Five, and afterwards, you can indulge in sensual treatments at the tranquil Bush Spa and let the passion of the chefs delight you with nightly feasts under the stars.



## Sanctuary Chief's Camp // Botswana

Sanctuary Chief's Camp is located on Chief's Island in the Mombo Concession of the Moremi Game Reserve, known as the "Predator Capital of Africa". Ideal for game sightings, the seasonal water of the delta surrounding the camp ensures that the area is always changing - from a dry flood plain teeming with wildlife to a lush and tranquil lagoon.



## Sanctuary Baines' Camp // Botswana

Sanctuary's Botswanan base is a small and intimate camp with only five suites. Star beds roll out onto private decks allowing guests to sleep under the incredible African star lit sky. During the day, walk with three orphaned elephants and learn about their creative intelligence and the camp's conservation efforts.



### Sanctuary Olonana, Masai Mara // Kenya

Sanctuary Olonana is nestled in the Masai Mara conservation area on the banks of the Mara River and is renowned for its reliable sightings the 'Big Five' - lion, leopard, buffalo, elephant and rhino. A personalised service and an relaxed atmosphere make for a spectacular stay, allowing you to gain a glimpse into the lives of the Masai people.



### Singita Pamushana Lodge // Zimbabwe

Singita Pamushana is an incredible environmental project that offers a high-end safari experience with two swimming pools, a spa and small gym which offers luxurious accommodations and game drives in state of the art Land Cruisers. Children of all ages are welcome making it perfect for families.



### Sanctuary Gorilla Forest Camp // Uganda

Nestled deep inside Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in southwest Uganda, this Forest Camp has a theatrical landscape; surrounded by volcanoes, jagged valleys, waterfalls and dramatic mountain ranges. The perfect base for tracking the endangered mountain gorillas in the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.



### Hoanib Desert Camp, Skeleton Coast // Namibia

New for 2015, this camp is contemporary in style and surrounded by the most stunning landscapes. A three night stay is needed so you can take the flight over the dramatic Skeleton Coast. Opportunities to find rare Desert Adapted Elephants and the incredible scenery makes this a unique and very special place.



### Bale Mountain Lodge // Ethiopia

Owner run and managed, this is for the more intrepid explorer who is searching for something unique. Bale Mountain Lodge is the perfect destination for seeking out unique wildlife and one of the only places you can spot the rare Ethiopian Wolf. Incredible bird watching and beautiful views make this the perfect place to stay.



### La Mamounia // Morocco

This world class hotel with an esteemed history has been restored to a level that exceeds its former glory. Superbly located on the edge of the Marrakech medina, it is in the heart of the action; ideal if you are looking for bundles of culture on your doorstep. The beautiful gardens provide a tranquil haven for the souq-weary traveller.

# THERE'S STILL TIME TO COME ABOARD



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# LONDON'S NEWEST NETWORKING VENUES

A selection of suave new members' clubs are opening their doors across London, offering a range of refined services to their business-orientated clientele. These are set to be the best new places to network and work for London's top city slickers. Urbanologie's founder Hugo Campbell-Davys gives us his recommendations:



## 1 Neuheouse London

Self-styled as a private work collective, the New York members' club NeueHouse has announced that it will open in early 2016 in London's historic Art Deco Adelphi Building in Covent Garden. This follows the launch this spring of a Los Angeles location at the landmark 1938 CBS Radio Building. NeueHouse debuted in 2013 in New York's Madison Square district, and like the original, the London venture - their first location outside the US - will be designed in collaboration between NeueHouse Design Studio and internationally recognized archi-

tect David Rockwell. The club, which provides a "workspace for creative people and entrepreneurs as well as events", requires the membership to be split evenly between men and women and does not advertise, instead attracting members from "film, fashion, design, publishing and the arts" by word of mouth. Facilities in the two-storey building will include private studios, a screening room, broadcast facilities, event spaces and private dining rooms. Interestingly the Adelphi Building is home to another US import - the first overseas restaurant of the iconic American steakhouse Smith & Wollensky.

## 3 Devonshire Club

Popular bon viveur Brian Clivaz is becoming quite a patron of the new wave of private members' clubs. He has already been behind Home House and Dover Street's Arts Club and now he has his eyes on an exciting new members' club venture in the Square Mile. The Devonshire Club will comprise of a club lounge, bars, 120-cover brasserie, private dining rooms, library with screening room, and hotel with 68 bedrooms, with an adjacent 18th century townhouse home to the club spa and gym. The Grade II listed Regency

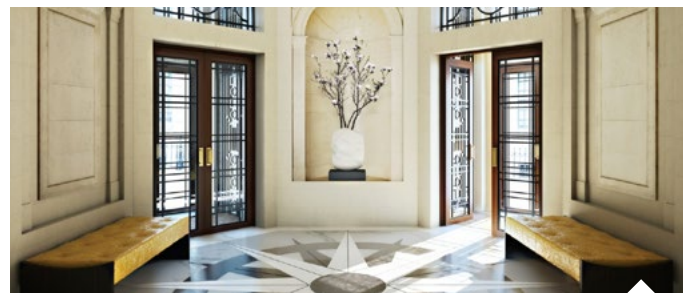
six-storey site, is located in the heart of the City of London, an area traditionally considered the financial hub of the country which has seen dramatic transformation over the last 5 years. With works underway, completion is due summer 2016 and it is expected that the club will attract leading financiers and city professionals as well as creative executives from Shoreditch and Hoxton. The Devonshire Club is set to "offer a sophisticated atmosphere in which to conduct business, relax and entertain," Clivaz has said.



## 2 12 Hay Hill

A prominent Mayfair location has been transformed into this exciting new club, which has only just opened. Offering luxury serviced offices and members' business facilities, 12 Hay Hill is capitalising on London's elite position in international business and commerce. The owner's vision is to attract a new community of international business people, who are looking to establish both a physical presence in Mayfair and to build an exceptional network of business contacts. The Club also acts as a hub for like-minded entrepreneurs and small businesses, seeking a high service office

and private social environment. In addition to state-of-the-art offices & private meeting rooms, the Club offers numerous dining facilities, run by the acclaimed Michelin-starred chef Shaun Rankin. Be it in the lower-ground bar & bistro, in the ground floor dining room and private dining rooms or on the roof-terrace overlooking Berkeley Square, 12 Hay Hill ensures culinary excellence on every level. For those not wishing to take a permanent office at 12 Hay Hill, 'Individual' and 'Corporate' membership is available, providing members with full access to the Club's business lounges and facilities and the dining areas.



## 4 Ten Trinity Square

This iconic London landmark building and its neo-classical interiors has been meticulously restored by a team of experts commissioned by developers Reignwood Group (also the new owners of Wentworth Golf Club). Now this 1920s heritage property is set to house a Four Seasons Hotel - with 98 guestrooms and suites - many with breathtaking

views of the Thames - as well as 41 private residences, a private members' club, two gourmet restaurants, and a spa. The private members' club at Ten Trinity Square, located in the original wood-paneled executive offices of the building, will offer members exclusive meeting rooms, a business centre, screening room, cigar lounge and access to the exclusive Château Latour room.

## 5 South Kensington Club

Located in Ronnie Wood's notoriously decadent Harrington Club and founded by Luca Del Bono, the South Kensington Club is inspired by the spirit of adventure and discovery, taking influences from around the world to create a truly unique members only experience. This state of the art club is a convenient business and networking environment, that's highly suited for the travelling entrepreneur. It feels like a home from home, with comfortable

corners to catch up on emails or elegant spaces to have more formal meetings. The stunning interiors include wood panelled Russian banyas, mosaic-lined Turkish hammams, and a Sicilian saltwater Watsu pool, in addition to a male grooming salon, fully equipped gym and spinning and Pilates studio. Regular talks are available in the Voyager Room to exercise mental muscle and the restaurant promises to merge health with hedonism with the help of an Italian inspired menu and wood fired pizza oven.

**Urbanologie** is a luxury lifestyle global destination guide, designed to keep you in the know with insider news and exclusive content on all of the latest restaurants, bars, pop-ups, clubs and hotels openings with exclusive access to the most happening and unmissable events. To join as a complimentary Founder Member register entering the invitation code **wewantu** at [www.urbanologie.com](http://www.urbanologie.com).



# THE WOMEN OF AFRICA

Impact investor and philanthropist, *Roberta Annan*, sheds light on the women who are shaping business, driving progress and changing the face of Africa today.



**FOLORUNSHO ALAKIJA**

Mrs. Folorunsho Alakija is a Nigerian businesswoman and Nigeria's first female billionaire with a net worth of \$2.5 billion (March 2014). She is the Group Managing Director of The Rose of Sharon Group, which consists of The Rose of Sharon Prints & Promotions Limited and Digital Reality Prints Limited; and is the Executive Vice-Chairman of Famfa Oil Limited. Mrs Alakija understands the important role of women in and is dedicated to increasing women's participation in all sectors. Incidentally, Mrs Alakija is also a passionate social entrepreneur who specializes in African women's empowerment. She epitomises hard work and success for not just Africans but all people of color in the diaspora. She is inspiring, and challenges women to draw from their God-given power within to realize their dreams.



**PRECIOUS MOTSEPE**

Dr. Precious Moloi-Motsepe is one of the most dynamic female leaders in Africa today. She sits on several boards and also dedicated to addressing global poverty and social injustice. She is a Doctor by profession and chairman of African Fashion International one of the premier African Fashion organizations, that develops and promotes African fashion designers globally. As a philanthropist, Precious is passionate about alleviating poverty and empowering communities across Africa.



**KHETIWE MCCLAIN**

Khetiwe McClain has over 12 years' experience in the mining industry and has held senior executive positions in the gold and diamond mining industries. Khetiwe was also the founder and executive director of Khusela Women's Investment - an all women's investment company that has made significant inroads in the mining industry in South Africa. Khetiwe is now the chairman at Minerals and Petroleum Board.



**DR MAWUENA TREBARH**

Dr. Mawuena Trebarh is the first female to be appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Ghana Investment Promotion Centre (GIPC). Mrs. Trebarh has been at the forefront of corporate Ghana acting in various key management capacities. She has been recognized both nationally and internationally for excellence in reputation management. She is a recipient of a national award for commitment to youth development. As one of the prominent female leaders in Ghana, Mrs. Trebarh has been a key influencer and driving force in increasing foreign direct investment in Ghana.



**DR BETTINA BOOHENE-ANDAH**

Dr. Bettina Ama Boohene-Andah is the Medical Director of Brainwave Consult Ltd. comprising a clinic, nutrition centre and a diagnostic component which she set up in 2009. Dr. Andah is a qualified medical practitioner and a nutritionist with over 15 years experience in various health institutions. She is also a Senior Health Advisor for the Olusegun Obasanjo Foundation head quartered in London (U.K). In 2004, Dr. Andah was appointed Physician to H. E. John Agyekum Kufuor, former President of Ghana and headed the presidential medical team for five years. She was the youngest and first ever female Physician to a Ghanaian head of state.



**PHUMZILE MLAMBO-NGCUKA**

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka is the United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women and has a wealth of experience and expertise to this position, having devoted her career to issues of human rights, equality and social justice. Ms. Mlambo-Ngcuka has worked in government and civil society, and with the private sector, and was actively involved in the struggle to end apartheid in her home country of South Africa. From 2005 to 2008, she served as Deputy President of South Africa, overseeing programmes to combat poverty and bring the advantages of a growing economy to the poor, with a particular focus on women. She is the founder of the Umlambo Foundation, which supports leadership and education. A longtime champion of women's rights, she is affiliated with several organizations devoted to education, women's empowerment and gender equality.



*Tennis in the Babamas, photograph by Slim Aarons, circa 1957*

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# The Man Of The Nile

With the upcoming release of his new book which documents his incredible African expedition, 'Walk the Nile', Livvi Alderson-Tuck catches up with Lev Wood before he jets off for his next adventure.

**HAVE YOU ALWAYS HAD A SENSE OF ADVENTURE FROM CHILDHOOD?** I was a curious and adventurous child and my Dad had a library full of travel books so I was immersed in that world from a young age. I loved the classic explorers' tales from TE Lawrence to Shackleton and I always dreamed of adventure. To me, the world was always there to be explored.

**EVIDENTLY, YOU HAVE TRAVELLED EXTENSIVELY; WHICH CITY IS YOUR FAVOURITE IN THE WORLD?** Cape Town. It's an incredibly beautiful city. I love the historical tapestry behind its cosmopolitan heart, whether that's the European Winelands or the gabled homesteads of the original colonists and English-built Georgian mansions – it has an amazing past, full of hidden secrets. As a modern city it is thriving, offering art galleries, world-class restaurants, a busy harbour and iconic museums but most of all I'm always completely struck by the proximity of nature to all of this. I love the pace of life there, people seem to radiate happiness in Cape Town and I'm very drawn to that.

**YOU HAVE INTERVIEWED AND PHOTOGRAPHED MANY PEOPLE OF NOTE DURING YOUR CAREER; WHO WAS THE MOST MEMORABLE OR INTERESTING PERSON YOU HAVE MET?** During Walking the Nile, I met endless extraordinary and memorable people but I think the person who had the greatest influence on me in terms of the path I have taken in life, is wildlife artist, David Shepherd. When I was 10, my Dad took me to one of his book signings and I remember thinking to myself: "So this guy gets to travel, paint elephants and makes a living from it." I thought I'd be an artist, but it turned out I was rubbish at drawing. A few years later, though, I went on holiday to Kenya with my parents, saw elephants for myself and decided to follow the travelling route. Meeting George Clooney whilst in the field was fun too.

**YOU ARE THE CO-FOUNDER OF SECRET COMPASS; WHAT WAS THE INSPIRATION BEHIND THE COMPANY? WHAT KIND OF EXPEDITIONS DO YOU OFFER?** It was during my time as an Officer in the Parachute Regiment that I met my good friend, Tom Bodkin. Tom was a fellow commander in the Paras, we both shared a love of travel and adventure and so when we left the army we decided to channel that into setting up Secret Compass. The core aim of the company was to create imaginative experiences for adventurers around the world, leading pioneering expeditions to the most remote regions on earth. The company based itself on the premise that nowhere is off-limits – it was very much born from an army mental-



ity – give us a challenge and we will rise to it. During my time with the company we achieved ground-breaking world firsts including the first ever successful walk across Madagascar, coast to coast, mountain climbing in Iraq, and a horse riding expedition retracing the steps of the explorers of the Great Game in search of the river Oxus. I like to think that through these journeys, we made a bit of history.

**YOU HAVE RECENTLY RETURNED FROM YOUR 9 MONTH EXPEDITION WHICH SAW YOU WALK THE LENGTH OF THE NILE. WHAT WAS IT ABOUT THE NILE THAT INTERESTED YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE?** I've always been fascinated by Africa. When I was a young teenager, my father gave me books about the great Victorian explorers – Burton, Speke, Livingstone, all the ones who had travelled there and it was during my gap year when I spent time in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Zambia that I really became hooked. I'd always wanted to do an epic expedition there, and after driving from London to Malawi in 2010 I decided to do it again but this time on foot so Walking the Nile was the culmination of 15 years' work for me.

**WHAT WAS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE YOU FACED DURING THAT EXPEDITION?** The tragic and sudden death of my colleague, Matt Power in northern Uganda was a desperately difficult time. Matt joined us for a few days to cover Walking the Nile for Men's Journal. He was fit, healthy, only 39 and a fiercely experienced and capable travel writer. Matt collapsed of heat stroke in the remote Ajai Wildlife Reserve, an area too isolated for quick rescue. Matt's death left us numb with disbelief and brought the whole expedition and its ethics into question. We were asking ourselves 'do we carry on - in his honour?' In the end, it felt like the right thing to do, or it was all for nothing, but we nearly ended the expedition there and then.

**DID THE EXPEDITION ALLOW YOU TO SEE A DIFFERENT SIDE TO THE COUNTRIES YOU TREKKED THROUGH?** Definitely; take Sudan for example. People often define the country by its dictatorship, but in reality, some of the people in Sudan are the friendliest I've ever met. It says a lot about a country when every single house has an urn of water that's just there for passing strangers to help themselves to. Some of these houses are 10 miles away from the river and they go out every day to fill up these water urns, it's incredible. In South Sudan, although it's a war zone, you find these

pockets of serenity. The peace-loving Mundari tribe could not have been more welcoming, they value generosity highly and it's thought that if you're grumpy it can make you sick. My time in the cattle camp islands of the Mundari tribe gave me some incredible memories that will stay with me for the rest of my life.

**THE EXPEDITIONS AND ADVENTURES YOU UNDERTAKE MUST BE PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY EXHAUSTING. WHAT KEEPS YOU MOTIVATED WHEN YOU HAVE TOUGH DAYS?** I'm a firm believer that you need to constantly challenge yourself, overcoming both physical and mental goals in order to evolve as a person. During the Nile expedition, I was walking for days and days on end, seeing so many unchanging horizons in the desert. It's just a case of keeping your mind focused on the day-to-day, like where you'll find water, rather than any big thoughts. For the first half of the expedition I didn't bother with entertainment, but towards the end when I felt like I needed motivation I listened to audio books – lots of Nile-related stuff and history, a bit of Kipling.

Thinking further back to previous expeditions, my military experience has definitely got me through some of the more testing times. I spent five years with the regulars, and a stint before and after in the reserves. The military gives you a certain mind-set. It trains you to push yourself to the limit and beyond.

**PHOTOGRAPHY HAS ALWAYS PLAYED A BIG PART IN DOCUMENTING YOUR TRAVELS. WHAT DO YOU FEEL MAKES THE PERFECT SUBJECT FOR A PHOTOGRAPH? ARE THE PHOTOS YOU TAKE SPONTANEOUS OR DO YOU CONSCIOUSLY CREATE THE SCENE?** It was while I was in the army that I began to develop an interest in photography and I began to use it as a way to document my passion for adventure. With Instagram and social media, many people are curating their lives online and it's very manipulative, I use my photos to cast a truthful eye over what I discover on my travels, away from staged shots and Instagram filters. I'm a strong believer that it's essential to capture something honest in your photography. When I photograph the people I meet, I see each photo as an unspoken conversation with that person – the more I engage with them, the more vivid a story the photo will tell. Thinking back to Walking the Nile, the Murchison Falls national park in Uganda was the most memorable scenery I encountered there. We'd get out of our tents in the



morning to the most spectacular wildlife and raw nature, it was truly breathtaking. It's so important, when you're trying to capture that perfect scene, that you don't take its beauty for granted.

**WHICH BRAND COULD YOU NOT LIVE WITHOUT DURING YOUR EXPEDITIONS?** Over the years I've been lucky enough to be supported by a multitude of great brands, most recently Alt-Berg, Belstaff, Burberry, Craghoppers, Ghurka USA, IWC Schaffhausen and Leica. In their own key ways, each of these brands are crucial to making my journeys possible.

**WHICH LUXURY ITEM DO YOU WISH YOU COULD TAKE ON YOUR EXPEDITIONS WITH YOU?** Even though I fill up my iPod with audio books I still like to have a paperback with me at all times, just in case there's no power and

I want to read. On my current journey I've got Homer's *Odyssey* and the *Art of Happiness* by the Dalai Lama.

**WHAT IS THE NEXT ADVENTURE FOR YOU?**

I'm currently half-way through it! Unfortunately I'm not at liberty to say where I am just yet but it's epic! On the horizon though I've got my sights set on Burma, Morocco, the US and more...



*If you can't wait for his next adventure, you can catch the highlights of Lev's Walking the Nile expedition at his photography exhibition at La Galleria, Pall Mall from December 6th - 12th.*



## 8 LAYERS OF PROSPER ASSOULINE



**WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO START ASSOULINE?** Although we focus on publishing books, my wife and I wanted to create a luxury brand that was synonymous with style and culture. We are flexible when it comes to the subject matter of our books; we have published over 1400. But, the one thing all these books share in common is their style and beauty, and we feel this is what differentiates Assouline to other publishing houses.

**WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO READ IN YOUR SPARE TIME?** When I am not reading Assouline books, I love reading the author Stefan Zweig.

**WHICH BRAND COULD YOU NOT LIVE WITHOUT?** Ladurée macaroons are a big weakness of mine. I also could not function without Apple- it is such a sophisticated and affordable brand which makes day to day life so much easier.

**WHO HAS HAD THE BIGGEST IMPACT ON YOUR LIFE?** My wife. Not only is she my partner in life, but we also created Assouline together so the company has been a journey for us both.

**ASSOULINE HAS STORES IN OVER 20 DIFFERENT CITIES WORLDWIDE, SO YOU MUST TRAVEL FREQUENTLY. WHICH IS YOUR FAVOURITE CITY?**

I love Istanbul. We have three stores there and I try to visit at least once a year, it is so full of culture. I admire their way of life and the Grand Bazar is full of beauty and energy. I love The Bosphorus Bridge that connects Europe and Asia, it is very special place.

**WHAT IS IN THE PIPELINE FOR ASSOULINE?** We have fifty books being released in the autumn which is very exciting. We are also publishing a book in collaboration with Valentino which will be full of beautiful fashion. We are also expanding the Assouline empire and opening a new store in Geneva, so there is a lot to look forward to!

**ASSOULINE HAS BEEN GOING OVER TWO DECADES NOW-HOW HAS ASSOULINE PROGRESSED THROUGHOUT THAT TIME?** The world around us has changed completely in the past twenty years; when we started the computer was just being introduced and no one had heard of a Blackberry. However, Assouline hasn't really changed at all. Our core ethos to produce books with an exceptional level of quality has remained the same. We make all of our books by hand; a technique and approach we have no plans to change.

**WHAT HAS BEEN THE MOST MEMORABLE OR FAVOURITE OF THE BOOKS ASSOULINE HAS PUBLISHED?** It is very difficult to select just one as, although it sounds silly, the books we have published feel part of our family. However, the first book we published still holds a special place in my heart; 'La Colombe D'Or'. I took the photos and my wife, Martine, wrote the text. We have reprinted this book numerous times but nothing has changed, not the cover, nor the text. This book epitomises the spirit of the brand of Assouline.

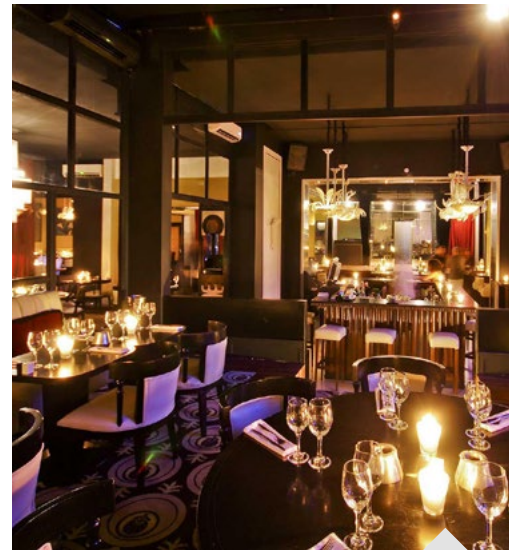


www.assouline.com

## THE ARTS CLUB LAUNCHES ITS DECO STYLE SUITES



The iconic Mayfair member's club, The Arts Club, has unveiled its new hotel room and suites in collaboration with London design house, Sagrada. The luxury rooms are inspired by European Art Deco, with furnishings from renowned designers such as Hans Wegner and Jacques Adnet. The 16 glamorous rooms will be available to book by members and their guests. [www.theartsclub.co.uk](http://www.theartsclub.co.uk)



## Lotus Club Marrakech Caberet

Marrakech continues to sit as a firm favourite amongst the jet set and recently saw the launch of the new Mandarin Oriental. Visitors are spoilt for choice when it comes to dining and nightlife. Chic cabaret outfit The Lotus Club blends great food and entertainment with array of extraordinary performers, including dance act Oh La La and mesmerising guitarist, Mood. [www.lotusclubmarrakech.com](http://www.lotusclubmarrakech.com)



MY PHOTO  
MEMORY:  
RHINO  
BY JONATHAN  
GLYNN-SMITH

I came across this incredible animal whilst photographing charity event, 'Rhino Charge' in Kenya. He stared at me so I stared back at him through the lens of my camera. Bet you can guess who flinched first.

[www.jonathanglynsmith.com](http://www.jonathanglynsmith.com)



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Bentayga fuel consumption\* – EU Drive Cycle in mpg (l/100 km): Urban 14.7 (19.2); Extra Urban 31.0 (9.1); Combined 22.1 (12.8). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 292 g/km.

\*Fuel consumption figures subject to Type Approval. The name 'Bentley' and the 'B' in wings device are registered trademarks. © 2015 Bentley Motors Limited. Model shown: Bentayga.