

AND NOW FOR THE NEWS...



BURLESQUE FANS

Paddock Wood resident Laura Lawton (34) has launched what she claims is the only course in the county for burlesque dancing. Despite its risqué reputation she insists the routines are not sleazy and that course members will only strip down to their vest tops and shorts.

"There will be no nudity in class although the women can do what they like at home," explains the software saleswoman who believes burlesque can boost romance.

Classes are held at The Beacon in Tunbridge Wells and The Grey Lady on The Pantiles. Burlesque began in the 1840s as music hall satire and developed into an erotic form of teasing made famous by the likes of Gypsy Rose Lee.

OUR MONTHLY LOOK AT SOME OF THE STORIES, BOTH LIGHT HEARTED AND SERIOUS, MAKING THE HEADLINES

Good News for:

ALE LOVERS

The Royal Tunbridge Wells Brewing Company is back in business. The Rusthall-based brewer is producing cask conditioned and bottled Kentish ale for the first time in a quarter of a century.

Behind the scheme are Simon Lewis, who has worked in the industry for more than 20 years, and Ian Dormon who was owner of the original brewery in the '80s.

"This is the culmination of a year's hard work to bring the brewing tradition back to this area," Simon Lewis tells us. "These will be beers the town can be proud of."

He says they'll use local produce wherever possible including Kentish hops.

FRUSTRATED GARDENERS

The environmental organisation Transition Tunbridge Wells is plotting to help those with green fingers but nowhere to grow their fruit, veg and flowers. They want to match them up with people who have too much garden to manage.

"It's a bit like dating for gardeners," explains Kate Sergeant of Transition which is running the scheme in partnership with the Town and Country Foundation.

There's a two year waiting list locally for allotments which makes the project ideal for those who don't want to miss another season of gardening. Those who own the land will benefit from a more attractive garden and a possible share in the produce.

