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# Compton Miller's Diary

Britain's piers have always been filled with spooky clairvoyants and crystal ball readers of varying styles and quality. But London now has a new occult superstar, a tarot card reader who is so popular that she has a four-month waiting list. Lebanese-born **Jasmina** describes herself as a 'psychic reading through tarot cards'. She has all the characteristics of the Hollywood-designed seer: a gypsy-like profile; a calm, compelling voice; an unworldly aura; and an indefinable grandeur.

While Jasmina herself is reluctant to discuss her clients for fear of sounding boastful or indiscreet, her fans are more forthcoming. 'Jasmina has some incredibly high-up people in government who visit her,' says a close friend. 'She is very well-respected and liked. She doesn't pretend to have all the solutions, but you come away from a session feeling that someone remarkable has entered your life.' Consulting the wheel of fortune does not come cheap. An hour's appointment costs £85. For more information call (020) 7602 1035.

Before the war Chelsea used to be London's answer to Montmartre, filled with bohemian households, artists' studios and louche drinking dens. Now it's in danger of becoming an extension of Belgravia, populated by international bankers, with its heartland, the King's Road, swamped by chain stores and coffee shops. This change in the area's traditional atmosphere is one of the themes of a one-day conference, organised by the **Chelsea Society**, entitled *A Vision For Chelsea*, to be held at the Chelsea Town Hall on 7 November. Among an unusually stimulating list of speakers will be local MP Michael Portillo, chef Gordon Ramsay, theatre director Stephen Daldry, artist Frederick Gore and sculptor Sir Eduardo Paolozzi. Tickets cost £35, including buffet lunch, and are available by calling (020) 7938 3175.

Members of the Holmes Place health club on the Fulham Road won't miss the ousted football manager **Gianluca Vialli**. During his regular lunchtime regime of some 50 lengths he was like a guided missile powering up and down the pool. Wise swimmers kept well clear.

**Macmillan Cancer Relief** once again provides the ideal way to buy unusual Christmas presents from all over the world without any of the pre-festive rush. Their 14th annual Christmas Market takes place on 7 November at the Royal Horticultural Society Hall, Vincent Square, SW1. Spread among the 170 stalls, you'll find wooden toys, chocolates, silk flowers, leather wallets, suede skirts, gourmet food and even presents for pets.

'It's the largest Christmas fair of its kind in Britain,' says a Macmillan spokesperson. 'Our target is to raise at least £120,000. This will fund three new Macmillan nurses who will be given advanced specialist training so that they can be posted to communities where cancer relief facilities are lacking.' Entrance is £3.