MH&R NEWSLETTER

MILSOM®
HOTELS & RESTAURANTS

WINTER / SPRING 2019

MAISON TALBOOTH
CELEBRATING
50
YEARS

MAISON TALBOOTH ANNIVERSARY

MILSOMS KESGRAVE HALL SPA

EVENTS IN THE HANGAR

HOUSE PARTIES AT THE PIER

ALL THINGS WEDDINGS

PHOTOGRAPH BY
BRIDGET STANLEY

FOREWORD

We always enter a new year with a spring in our step; the busy Christmas period is behind us and we can start planning for our spring and summer seasons. There's always a lot to do and a lot to get ready, before we know it the marquee will be going up at Le Talbooth and the outside dining areas will be opening.

It's certainly a challenging time to be running a business and our industry is fighting a perfect storm caused by massive rises in business rates, a scarcity of labour and government intervention in wage arrangements.

Notwithstanding these choppy waters, I remain certain our business will continue to flourish, due entirely to two groups of people; firstly our fantastic team of employees, who really do work as one big family, and secondly of course to you, our customers, whose loyalty and support has always determined the success of our enterprises.

Last year's celebrations of 10 years at Kesgrave Hall and 40 years at The Pier conveniently total the 50 years we have been at Maison Talbooth this coming year. The hotel opened to great fanfare as one of the finest small hotels in the country and all these years later I am delighted that it still collects as many accolades as it always has. Do try and get there to enjoy the accommodation, a spa treatment or an afternoon tea in its special year.

Mentioning accommodation brings me neatly onto Idle Waters, my late Aunt Heather's beautiful property opposite Le Talbooth which features so prominently in one of Constable's most famous paintings of the Vale of Dedham. My wife Geraldine has decorated it beautifully and it really is the perfect place to stay especially if you are coming to the area for a longer period or there are four of you.

I look forward to seeing you in 2019, but in the meantime a Happy New Year.

Paul Milsom
Managing Director

IDLE WATERS

OUR RIVERSIDE COTTAGE IN DEDHAM

IDLE WATERS

Probably the biggest news this autumn has been the transformation of our riverside cottage in Dedham; set in an idyllic setting beside the river Stour, Idle Waters is a timber framed 16th century cottage on the north Essex/Suffolk border. The cottage is located in the heart of the Dedham Vale – an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – which has been loved by generations of artists and is known affectionately as 'Constable Country'. The cottage features in John Constable's painting entitled 'The Vale of Dedham', the original of which is currently on display in the Scottish National Gallery in Edinburgh.

The cottage is self-catering for a maximum of four people and available for any number of nights. Le Talbooth is just over the river bridge for lunch and dinner, and a further five minutes' walk is Milsoms, which is open all day and great for breakfast. Should you wish to stay 'at home' and cook in the fabulous kitchen, then there's a well-established farm shop in the village which stocks just about everything you will need.

The accommodation has been completely refurbished by Geraldine Milsom using furniture from our brand partners, Andrew Martin, and comprises an open plan fully fitted kitchen and dining area with doors leading out onto the garden, sitting room with bay window overlooking the river, inglenook fireplace and huge leather sofas. Upstairs, the cottage has two delightful en-suite bedrooms with views over the river. The cottage is perfect for friends, families or couples getting married at Le Talbooth or Maison Talbooth, either before or after their wedding day.

IDLE WATERS Idle Waters is fast becoming THE place to stay in the area. But don't just take our word for it, book a stay soon. Starting at just £250 a night mid-week, the cottage can be booked for a night, a weekend and a week. For more information visit **www.milsomhotels.com/idle-waters**

MILSOM WEDDINGS

The flurry of Christmas and New Year engagements is always the start of a busy time in the events offices in Dedham and Kesgrave. It almost goes without saying that if you've just got engaged, do come and visit us; every year we add something new to our venues such as a new marquee in 2017, River Room and outdoor ceremonies, but you can be assured of the best planning before the day, great service on the day and, of course, great food which makes Milsom Weddings the number one choice for so many couples.

MILSOM WEDDING OPEN DAYS

The first Open Day of 2019 will be at Maison Talbooth on **Sunday, 6th January, from 12 noon to 4pm**, there's no need to book and all the bedrooms, spa and pool house will be available to view.

The Hangar at Milsoms Kesgrave Hall hold thier first open day of the year on **Sunday, 13th January,** followed by Le Talbooth on **Sunday, 14th April.**

If you want to book an appointment to view now, do get in touch on **01206 323150** for Maison Talbooth and Le Talbooth or **01473 333741** for Milsoms Kesgrave Hall.

MILSOM®
Weddings

SAVE THE DATE

MILSOM WEDDING SHOW

SUNDAY 17TH MARCH 2019
IN THE HANGAR AT
MILSOMS KESGRAVE HALL

...love the Milsom Weddings team ♡

Find us on social media **@milsomweddings**

THE MILSOM CARD

MILSOM CARD 2 FOR 1 AT LE TALBOOTH

A perennial favourite at Le Talbooth is the 2 for 1* dining in the restaurant, it has to be the most popular benefit for our card members.

Simply buy three courses from the à la carte or set lunch menu and you will get the second dishes of equivalent value FREE.

This offer is available at lunch and dinner at Le Talbooth on Monday and Tuesdays in January, February and March, this applies to the cardholder and up to nine guests.

*15% discount cannot be used in conjunction with the 2 for 1 offer

RACING CALENDAR 2018

The racing calendar moved up a notch in 2018 with the Grand National, Derby Day (or Derby Day Delight as we referred to it) and Ladies' Day at Ascot held in the Marquee due to their popularity. In 2019, the good news is the racing will be in the Marquee but no Derby Day on 1st June as it was booked for a wedding way back in 2017! However, we've added in Wonderful Wednesday at Royal Ascot in its place. As usual, Pridmores will be there as the on-site bookies with large screens to follow the racing while you enjoy a delicious lunch. After lunch on all the days, Kathleen the electric river boat, will be available to take guests on the river towards Dedham or Stratford St Mary.

GRAND NATIONAL
Saturday 6th April
Glass of fizz on arrival, 4 course lunch, coffee and chocolates.
£70 per person

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY AT ROYAL ASCOT - NEW
Wednesday 19th June
Champagne reception with 'Super de-luxe' 4 course lunch, coffee and chocolates.
£90 per person

LADIES DAY
Thursday 20th June
Champagne reception with 'Super de-luxe' 4 course lunch, coffee and chocolates.
£110 per person

2019 ACCOMMODATION OFFERS AT THE PIER, MILSOMS AND MILSOMS KESGRAVE HALL

WE LOVE TO GIVE YOU AN EXCUSE TO COME AND STAY WITH US SO HERE ARE A FEW IDEAS TO HELP YOU ENJOY THE START OF 2019 IN STYLE!

JANUARY DINNER'S ON US

You pay for the bed and breakfast and we'll pay for your dinner at Milsoms, The Pier at Harwich or Milsoms Kesgrave Hall.

INCLUDED:

- Three course dinner with free choice from the full menu
- Overnight accommodation with full breakfast

From £85 per person

Available throughout January, excluding Saturday nights, subject to availability and based on two sharing.

FABULOUS FEBRUARY

A classic break and a definite treat for your loved one at Milsoms, The Pier at Harwich or Milsoms Kesgrave Hall.

INCLUDED:

- Three course dinner with free choice from the full menu
- Overnight accommodation with full breakfast
- Bottle of Champagne Taittinger, red rose and chocolates

From £115 per person

Available throughout February excluding Saturday nights and Thursday 14th February. Subject to availability and based on two sharing.

SPRING INTO MILSOMS

Our spring break is always at a special time of year, when the clocks go forward and the longer days are just around the corner.

INCLUDED:

- Three course dinner with free choice from the full menu
- Overnight accommodation with full breakfast
- Cream tea
- Bottle of Prosecco

From £115 per person

This break is available throughout March, April and May, excluding Saturday nights, subject to availability and based on two sharing.

CALL TO BOOK: Milsoms 01206 322795 / Milsoms Kesgrave Hall 01473 333741 / The Pier 01255 241212

MILSOM PEOPLE

Milsom Hotels & Restaurants employs more than 450 people during the busiest periods and peak season. Every member of team, from chefs to housekeeping, front of house teams to GMs and every single person in between, is critical to the running of the restaurants, hotels and the outside catering. Each year we serve more than 350,000 customers – which is no easy task and only made possible by our fantastic crew.

WWW.MILSOMPEOPLE.COM
This year we created a dedicated website 'Milsom People' which includes career opportunities and the benefits that are available from day one of working for us. The site and the concept have been developed and championed by Operations Director, **Stas Anastasiades**

"We're a dynamic and moving business and brilliantly we're also very busy.

Having over 350,000 customers to serve every year can mean you are always focussed on the delivery and perhaps do not have quite as much time as we would like to work on development.

Our intention with this programme is to create a platform and a number of mechanics that focus entirely on our team and to encourage development at all levels of the business – our people are the most important ingredient of our organisation and it's critical that we invest in them through training, development, mentoring and reward.

I'm personally excited about the future of our business and I am convinced that Milsom People will be a fantastic initiative and that it will further help us to improve our entire operation."

Stas Anastasiades

If you or someone you know are looking for a career move then take a look at **www.milsompeople.com**, we've already employed a significant number through this channel.

SARAH COLE (a past recipient of Employee of the Year) has been working with the Milsom Catering team as a manager but she has now stepped up to become Catering Manager in overall charge of the busy event team running such events as Frinton Cricket Week, Tendring Show and Marmalade Ball, as well as the parties in the marquee in Dedham and generally overseeing this vibrant part of the business.

LE TALBOOTH AFTERNOON TEA

Everyone loves Afternoon Tea and it was certainly the case this summer in the Marquee at Le Talbooth – full afternoon tea with entertainment from singer Casper Clarke followed by boat rides on Kathleen along the river proved so popular that all three dates were a sell-out. We are going to repeat again in 2019 and the dates so far are **Sunday 12th May, Sunday 9th June and Sunday 21st July at £35.00 per person.** Keep your eyes peeled as dates in August and September may also be added.

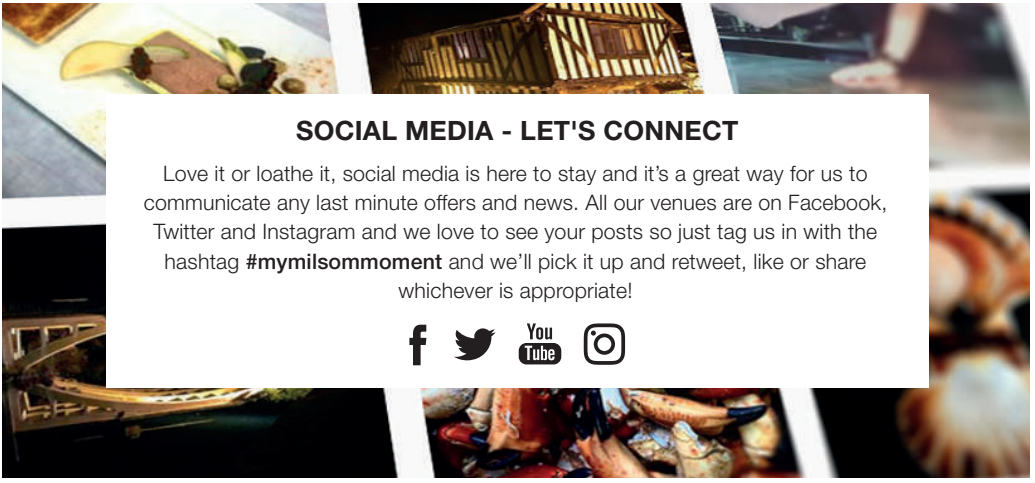
Tickets will be available to book online from mid January.

Afternoon Tea in the Marquee is great for hen parties, birthday parties and celebrations or just an excuse to spend a lazy Sunday afternoon.

20% EXTRA ON THE FACE VALUE OF VOUCHERS

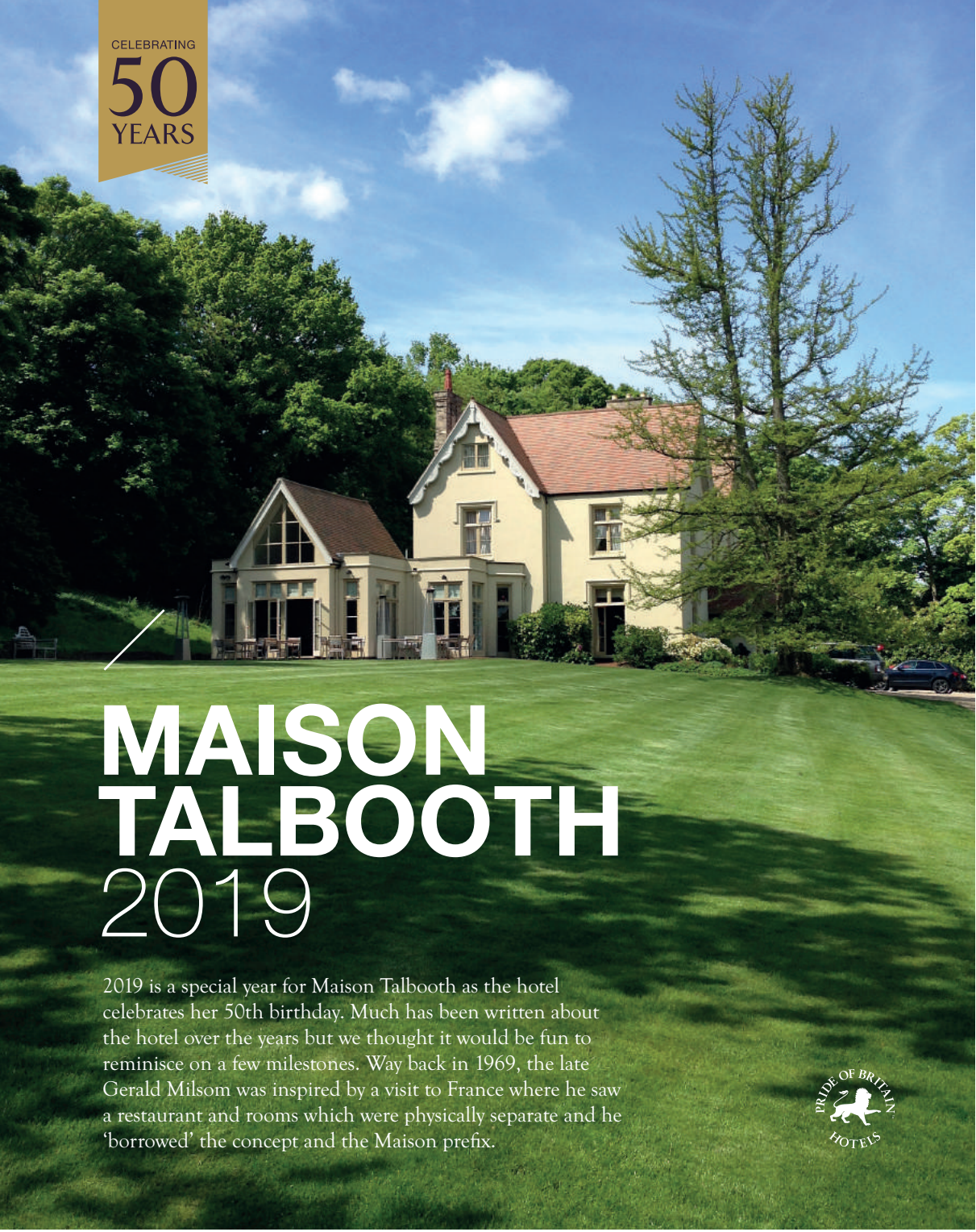
Any voucher that is redeemed in January 2019 will be worth an extra 20% of the face value. By now you will have either bought or received your MH&R Christmas vouchers, so here is an extra gift from us and don't forget our vouchers can be used throughout the group at all our hotels, restaurants and of course, the spa at Maison Talbooth.

T&C's: Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer, eg Milsom Card, 2 for 1 offer. Limited to maximum voucher value of £500 at any one time and must be purchased by 31st December 2018.



SOCIAL MEDIA - LET'S CONNECT

Love it or loathe it, social media is here to stay and it's a great way for us to communicate any last minute offers and news. All our venues are on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and we love to see your posts so just tag us in with the hashtag **#mymilsommoment** and we'll pick it up and retweet, like or share whichever is appropriate!



MAISON TALBOOTH 2019

2019 is a special year for Maison Talbooth as the hotel celebrates her 50th birthday. Much has been written about the hotel over the years but we thought it would be fun to reminisce on a few milestones. Way back in 1969, the late Gerald Milsom was inspired by a visit to France where he saw a restaurant and rooms which were physically separate and he 'borrowed' the concept and the Maison prefix.

PRIDE OF BRITAIN HOTELS

- Maison Talbooth, in the heart of Constable Country

When the hotel opened it was much ahead of its time, with the focus on luxury and indulgence such as huge sunken baths and a sauna. Le Talbooth restaurant was a member of Relais de Campagne and the Maison became one of the select band of Relais et Chateaux soon after opening in 1969 but left the consortium to become the founder member of Pride of Britain Hotels (and is still part of the collection today).

Ten years ago, the hotel underwent a substantial reinvestment with the addition of two more bedrooms, day spa, garden room, outdoor pool, pool house and tennis court to ensure that Maison Talbooth remained ahead of the game as one of the iconic hotels in the UK. Late September saw an inclusion in The Times as one of the 'coolest country hotels' and it's good to see that others see the Maison in this way too.

Which brings us to the present day and the hotel now offers so much more than luxury accommodation, with exclusive use house parties, day spa, weddings and afternoon tea, making it a busy and vibrant part of the Milsom Hotels group in Dedham.

HOTELIERS' HOTEL

Maison Talbooth was pleased to be named as a new entry in the Hoteliers' Hotels List for 2018.

Three years ago, Sky and The Caterer set out on a mission to create the most definitive list of the UK's greatest hotels. Hoteliers' Hotels is compiled by the people who know best – the hoteliers themselves and some of the UK's pre-eminent hotel experts such as Fiona Duncan from The Telegraph and senior editors of The Caterer. Maison Talbooth has joined this elite list as a new entry and the hotel team couldn't be more delighted.

So too was **Peter Hancock, CEO of Pride of Britain Hotels,** who replied to the hotel's tweet:

> *'We're not allowed to have favourites but Maison Talbooth was the very first hotel to join Pride of Britain Hotels in 1982 so will always be rather special to us'.*

The hotel was also given third place in the Boutique Hotel of the Year category.

HOUSE PARTIES

TAKE OVER MAISON TALBOOTH

No feature on Maison Talbooth would be complete without mention of the exclusive all-inclusive house parties which we believe are the perfect way to celebrate a special event, anniversary, birthday or wedding.

ENJOY ALL OF THIS WITH AN ALL-INCLUSIVE HOUSE PARTY:

- Afternoon Tea on arrival
- Champagne reception either in the lounge, on the terrace or at the Pool House
- Three course dinner with chosen wines in the Garden Room
- Post dinner bar in the lounge
- Overnight accommodation in one of our 12 bedrooms
- Full breakfast in the morning

All from just £240 per person based on full occupancy of 24 people.

To find out more, request a brochure or book an appointment to see us and start planning your party, visit www.milsomhotels.com/exclusive

There will be several open evenings at the hotel in 2019; follow Maison Talbooth on social media or sign up for our news to find out when the dates are.

THREE FANTASTIC MAISON TALBOOTH OFFERS

FABULOUS AT FIFTY

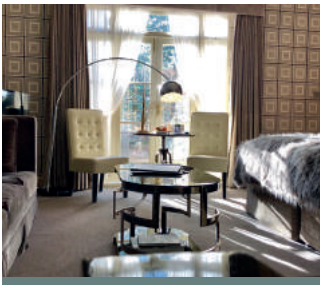
2019 is an extra special year for Maison Talbooth, so it seemed only right to start with an extra special offer in January. Stay at Maison Talbooth in January on a Sunday to Thursday night and receive a full 50% discount for bed and full English breakfast.

INCLUDED:

- Overnight accommodation with full breakfast
- Use of facilities including heated outdoor swimming pool and hot tub

From £150 per room

This break is available from Sunday to Thursday, subject to availability and based on double occupancy.



FEBRUARY AT MAISON

Maison Talbooth is definitely our most romantic hotel with the luxury of the heated outdoor pool, hot tub and the Treatment Rooms - so the perfect place to stay during February.

INCLUDED:

- Four course tasting dinner with coffee and chocolates at Le Talbooth
- Overnight accommodation with full breakfast
- Red rose, a bottle of Champagne Taittinger, and chocolates in your room on arrival

From £185 per person

This break is available Monday to Friday during February excluding Thursday 14th subject to availability and based on double occupancy.

MAGICAL MAISON

We think there's always a touch of magic at Maison Talbooth especially in the spring, book in and see for yourself.

INCLUDED:

- Three course dinner at Le Talbooth with free choice from the full menu
- Overnight accommodation with full breakfast
- 30 minute spa treatment per person
- Bottle of Champagne Taittinger in your room on arrival

From £185 per person

This break is available from Monday to Friday during March and April, subject to availability and based on double occupancy.

the treatment rooms

MILSOM®
HOTELS & RESTAURANTS

£15 VOUCHER

We want you to relax and spoil yourself with one of our fabulous treatments - facial, massage, pedicure... the choice is yours!

To help you on your way, please use this £15 voucher and enjoy!

Connect with us on Instagram **@maisonspa**

Terms & Conditions Voucher can only be used Monday - Thursday. Only one voucher per guest per visit. Voucher to be used as part payment of a treatment. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. Voucher expiry date Thursday, 28th March, 2019.

MILSOM CATERING

Whilst driving around the Essex and Suffolk countryside, you may have noticed some rather smart vans resplendent in the Milsom Catering livery; we took delivery of five new vans at the beginning of September at the end of a very busy summer season. This summer the team have been working hard with outside parties and events including the Archant Business Awards in Bury St Edmunds Cathedral and the Norfolk Showground, Marmalade Ball at Thorpeness, Frinton Cricket Week, Tendring Show and numerous weddings at Hengrave Hall and in the Marquee at Le Talbooth.

- One of these vehicles excites hundreds of people and fuels some wonderful experiences - and the other is a top-of-the-range Ferrari!

- The Milsom fleet

THE MARQUEE

With its proximity to the river Stour on the upper terrace of Le Talbooth gardens, the Marquee has always been a special place for a celebration. We always say it is a blank canvas and this year we have seen some spectacular parties in there. There are still a couple of Saturdays free in the summer, call 01206 323150 to find out more.

Bowl food
from £44.50 per person

Three course dinner
from £52.00 per person

Three course BBQ
from £56.00 per person

Speaking to the Milsom Catering team and asking if there was one standout occasion during the summer they were very diplomatic, saying every party or wedding is special in their own way. Memories of 2018 include teepees in a field, flower walls, a spectacular 10 tier wedding cake and zebras and lions (not real but that's another story) on the lawn at Le Talbooth for a 'Greatest Showman' birthday party. If you are planning a party, do get in touch, Milsom Catering has menus for all occasions from casual bowl food to glamorous three course dinners. The team love a challenge and can cater in barns, cricket pitches, islands or in your back garden. To find out more, visit **www.milsomhotels.com/milsom-catering** or give Le Talbooth a call on **01206 323150** and speak to Ian Rhodes.

MILSOM BUSINESS

THERE'S BUSINESS AND THERE'S MILSOM BUSINESS

PERFECT PLACES TO MEET, THINK AND DO BUSINESS

EAMONN MCCABE LUNCH

Mix together a fascinating speaker, a great venue and great food and you have all the ingredients for an excellent lunch. On **Thursday, 4th October**, in The Hangar at Milsoms Kesgrave Hall, Milsom Business organised a lunch with award winning photographer Eamonn McCabe as the guest speaker. This was a fascinating presentation with a slideshow of various pictures Eamonn had taken over the decades – starting with an amazing picture of the legendary Who guitarist Pete Townshend leaping across the stage watched by an open mouthed Keith Moon on drums. Eamonn was mainly a sports photographer but in the past few years as a freelance photographer he has captured famous names such as Iris Murdock, Mel Brooks and Al Pacino; during his talk it was certainly true that 'every picture tells a story'.

BUSINESS SHOWCASE 2019

Following on from the great success at last year's Business Showcase in the Marquee at Le Talbooth, we are pleased to let you know the date for Showcase 2019 will be **Thursday 2nd May from 4.30pm to 7.30pm.** This year, we are delighted to welcome Peter Hancock, CEO of Pride of Britain Hotels, as our guest speaker. With his inimitable wit and enormous breadth of experience, skills and insightful observations, Peter has become a highly respected commentator on the hospitality industry, with a regular column in The Caterer, the leading UK weekly trade publication for the profession.

The afternoon is the perfect chance for informal networking and meeting leading local businesses, and of course, you can expect some excellent Milsom hospitality.

Tickets are £25 plus VAT, email Sue Tasker on suetasker@milsomhotels.com to book

BUSINESS INCENTIVE SCHEME

Launched last year, the incentive scheme has proved really popular with many companies signing up and receiving points for every booking. One lucky person has already received the ultimate reward of an overnight stay at Maison Talbooth with dinner at Le Talbooth.

www.milsomhotels.com/booking-incentive-scheme

THE PIER AT HARWICH

The buzz word in Harwich is Mayflower 2020 as the town works towards the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower to the New World in 1620. As we delve more into the history, we learn more about Christopher Jones, the Master of the Mayflower who lived in Harwich and was married twice in St Nicholas's Church in the town; interestingly around that time the ship was referred to as 'Mayflower of Harwich'.

1620—2020 Mayflower 400™

Steering our future, inspired by the past.

- The Mayflower

HISTORIC HARWICH HOME OF THE MAYFLOWER

Harwich is part of the Mayflower 400, some 14 towns and cities who have a connection with the sailing and the Pilgrim Fathers – from Leiden in Holland to Doncaster in the north and Plymouth in the south. Harwich will play a key part in these celebrations with the opening of Christopher Jones' former home as a museum, as well as a dedicated exhibition hall during 2020. To keep in touch with everything in Harwich, take a look at the new Historic Harwich website which includes news from the town, places of interest and the many museums as well as a live webcam from the Ha'penny Pier. Harwich is alive with festivals for most of the year and there is always something happening.

www.historicharwich.com

Look out for the Mayflower 2020 dining offer later in this newsletter.

AFTERNOON TEA BY THE SEA

Jam first or cream first? We are of course talking about the scones that are part of the delicious afternoon tea at The Pier. The restaurant is now serving a full afternoon tea of delicious sandwiches, scones with clotted cream and jam and a selection of cakes, as well as nine teas from English breakfast through to Persian pomegranate for just £17.50 per person. And of course you can add a cheeky glass of fizz if you want to!

Afternoon tea is available in the restaurant from 2pm every day overlooking the harbour and the Stour and Orwell estuaries.
To book, give The Pier a call on 01255 241212.

Sign up for latest news and offers www.milsomhotels.com

HOUSE PARTIES AT THE PIER

Mentioned in the last newsletter and proving really popular with guests are the **all-inclusive House Parties at The Pier**. We love the idea of a house party with an informal and relaxed atmosphere in The Angel beside The Pier.

INCLUDED:

- Afternoon Tea on arrival
- Champagne and canapés in The Angel lounge
- Three course dinner with wines in The Saloon
- Post dinner bar back in The Angel lounge
- Overnight accommodation in The Angel rooms with full breakfast

All for just £180 per person (£200 on a Saturday night).

But don't take our word for it; we were delighted to receive this review after a 'birthday' house party.

"We had a house party for 15 to celebrate our birthdays, what a fantastic time we had. The staff were so helpful and accommodating from booking to leaving, especially catering for our special dietary requirements. Afternoon tea on arrival, Champagne and canapés in the house, dinner and wine in a private room in the main building and then back to the house for a late bar, overnight accommodation and breakfast. All seven rooms in the house were great but especially the suite...we didn't want to leave, the views from the bedroom were beautiful. All food was delicious ....lamb chops got a big thumbs up. Thank you to the all the staff for making our weekend special, we would recommend to anyone wanting to celebrate with family and friends."

THE PIER®

MAYFLOWER 2020 MENU

Available from Wednesday 2nd January to Friday 12th April (excluding Saturdays)

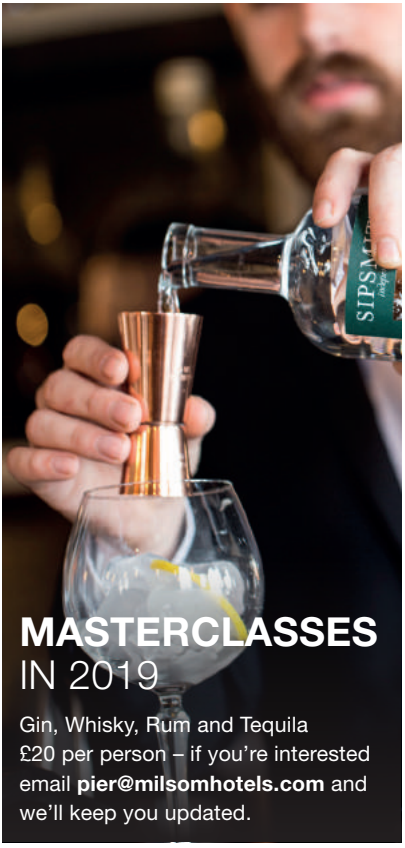
only **£20.20** *per person for three courses*

FRIDAY NIGHTS LIVE MUSIC IN THE NAVYÄRD

Join us on the last Friday of every month for live performances from talented local bands and singers.

Follow us on social media for the latest updates on upcoming performances.

FREE ENTRY



MASTERCLASSES IN 2019

Gin, Whisky, Rum and Tequila
£20 per person – if you're interested email **pier@milsomhotels.com** and we'll keep you updated.

CORPORATE CELEBRATIONS

During the course of 2018, we have seen a flurry of company anniversaries at Le Talbooth. It is good to see companies in north Essex flourishing and deciding to mark their important milestones with us in the Marquee. We can offer all sorts of events from cocktails and canapés on the lawn, informal bowl food, BBQ or an elaborate three course lunch or dinner; whatever you decide you can be assured that it will be a party you and your guests will remember. If you'd like to know more call Le Talbooth on **01206 323150** and speak to a member of the event team.

- Partners of Fenn Wright celebrating 250 years in Essex and Suffolk at Le Talbooth

GOLF DAY 2019

MONDAY 24TH JUNE

The Golf Day will again be held at Ipswich Golf Club at Purdis Heath in 2019. We all agree that it is a lovely course, albeit quite challenging on certain holes. The abiding memory from this year was the support buggy breaking down at the furthest point from the clubhouse and the long walk home! We require teams of three playing 18 holes Stapleford followed by dinner and prize giving in the Marquee at Le Talbooth.

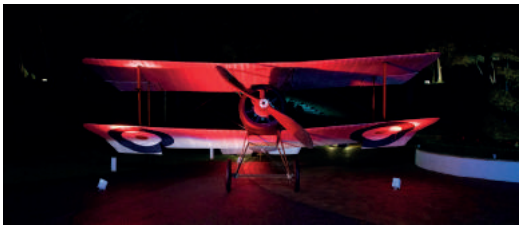
£345 for the team of three. Extra dinner guests are more than welcome at £70 per person.
To book please email **suebunting@milsomhotels.com**

ARMISTICE BALL MILSOMS KESGRAVE HALL

The Hangar at Milsoms Kesgrave Hall was transformed into the Downton Abbey Ballroom on Saturday, 10th November, as 200 guests commemorated the 100th anniversary of the Armistice at a fabulous charity ball raising funds for the ABF The Soldiers' Charity.
The evening started with a Champagne reception before guests went through into The Hangar which has been dressed for the occasion and captured the spirit of the time. Paul Milsom welcomed guests to Kesgrave Hall and asked for a two minute silence at the start of the evening. During dinner, guests were entertained by the acapella group The Testostertones and the 'Downton Abbey Dancers'.

There was also a charity auction, including lots such as dinner with Graham Gooch and Michael J Fitch in The Mess at Kesgrave Hall, and a morning's digger driving with the Hills Group, but the highlight was definitely the replica of the Royal Enfield 500 Pegasus 500 motorbike **'the Flying Flea'**, which raised an incredible **£10,000** to give an amazing boost to the fundraising. After the excitement of the auction, guests took to the dancefloor with entertainment from the Band of the Army Air Corps and Dreamwave Events.

Paul Milsom said: “We promised everyone a night to remember and we certainly delivered it, from the First World War bi-plane from Stow Maries airfield to the magnificent entertainment from The Testostertones, the Downton Abbey Dancers and the band of the Army Air Corps and the amazing transformation of The Hangar by Dreamwave Events. Our aim was to match the £20,000 we raised in 2015 for the VE Party, but to smash this to **£27,000 was amazing and we thank all our guests for giving so generously** and for partying long into the night.”



£27,000

RAISED FOR THE ABF THE SOLDIERS' CHARITY

KESGRAVE HALL SPA - EXCITING NEWS!

At last, the build on the long awaited day spa at Milsoms Kesgrave Hall will start early in 2019. Kesgrave Hall is a joint venture between the Hills Group (who will be undertaking the build) and Milsom Hotels and we're sure there will be plenty of questions regarding the spa, so we've had a chat with Geraldine Milsom who will be spearheading the design and the overall concept of the spa.

Q & A WITH GERALDINE MILSOM

Q1: It's really exciting news about the spa at Milsoms Kesgrave Hall, when will work start?

A: We plan to start the build early in 2019; it has always been on the cards to open a day spa at Milsoms Kesgrave Hall and now we can't wait to get started.

Q2: What will it be called?

A: To keep the continuity, The Treatment Rooms at Milsoms Kesgrave Hall.

Q3: Will the spa be open to everyone or just hotel guests?

A: Treatments will be available to everyone, but the use of the large outdoor hot tub, deckchairs and decking area will be limited to hotel guests or those on a day spa package.

Q4: How many treatment rooms will there be?

A: Five double treatment rooms. The double treatment rooms have proved really popular at Maison Talbooth so we have included five double rooms in the new spa; which means we will be employing 12 full and part time therapists.

Q5: Will there be packages or just individual treatments?

A: A mixture of both, we will of course offer individual treatments but the space will be perfect for group spa days, whether leisure or corporate. Imagine taking the whole spa over for a day with exclusive use!

Q6: What packages will there be?

A. To start with we'll be running the same packages as we have at Maison Talbooth, which have proved really popular – such as the Spa Day, Lovely Lunch, Afternoon Indulgence and After Hours Spa.

Q7: Is there anything exciting and unique we can look forward to?

A: First and foremost will be the look of the building, with wooden cladding and large sections of bi-folding doors that will give a lovely open feel to the spa. We are really excited by the amazing design concept from the Hills Group, who are our partners at Milsoms Kesgrave Hall, which includes a huge double-sided log burner with masses of comfy seating around the large and unique bespoke hot tub.

Q8: What will set the new spa apart from the rest?

A: The quality and calibre of our staff. All our therapists love their work and the products they use. They also specialise in different areas such as massage, make up or lashes!

Q9: What products will you use and why?

A: We'll definitely be using Dermalogica which is a tried, tested and loved range of products that we have used for over 10 years in the Maison Spa.

We'll also use Aromatherapy Associates for a great range of facial body products, a new range of make-up, Jane Iredale, and we're also looking at Comfort Zone, a skin care range offering an advanced science-based product. All these will be available at The Treatment Rooms at Maison Talbooth as well.

Q10: Will we be able to buy products from the spa?

A: Yes, you will be able to pop in and stock up with your favourite products and the therapists will be able to help you choose the right products.

Q11: Can I buy vouchers to use in the Spa?

A: Vouchers can be bought for all our spa packages and make great presents any time of year. You can buy the vouchers either online or at the reception in Milsoms Kesgrave Hall.

THE HANGAR

MILSOMS KESGRAVE HALL

EVENTS CALENDAR 2019

Book online today!

VALENTINE'S BALL
Saturday 16th February - £52

MIDSUMMER BALL
Saturday 22nd June - £52

MILSOM WEDDING SHOW
Sunday 17th March
FREE ENTRY

SUMMER BBQ
Friday 26th July - £48
Friday 30th August - £48

BEERTOPIA
Friday 22nd March - £33
Saturday 23rd March - £33

HALLOWEEN
Friday 1st November - £52

MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND
Saturday 30th March - £25
Sunday 31st March - £30

COMEDY LUNCH
Tuesday 17th December - £55

TICKETS AVAILABLE - BOOK ONLINE TODAY!

To buy tickets for any of our events, simply visit **www.milsomhotels.com/events** and enter your details. Event tickets are sent to guests by email and can be redeemed on a smart phone or print out thanks to the unique QR codes, allowing you to forward the ticket to your fellow guests if you intend to arrive separately.

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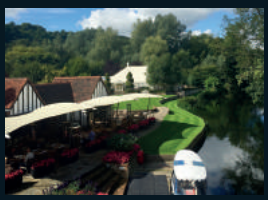

LE TALBOOTH

Gun Hill, Dedham,
Colchester, Essex CO7 6HP
Tel: 01206 323150
talbooth@milsomhotels.com

MAISON TALBOOTH

plus HOUSE PARTIES

Stratford Road, Dedham,
Colchester, Essex CO7 6HN
Tel: 01206 322367
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Milsoms KESGRAVE HALL

plus THE HANGAR

Hall Road, Kesgrave
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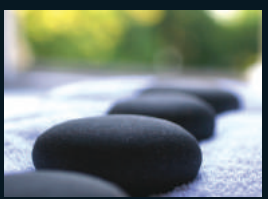
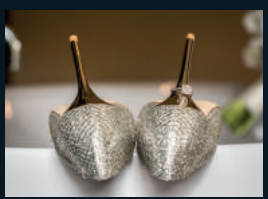


THE TREATMENT ROOMS

Stratford Road, Dedham,
Colchester, Essex CO7 6HN
Tel: 01206 322367
treatmentrooms@milsomhotels.com



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