

STYLE

THE SUNDAY TIMES

1 FEBRUARY 2026

ROSE BYRNE

*on the
'mum noir'
film everyone's
talking about*

**JEAN GENIE
MEET OUR NEW
MENSWEAR COLUMNIST**

**COOL RUNNINGS
THE TEAM GB WOMEN
GOING FOR GOLD**

**INTERIORS SPECIAL
HOT HOME TRENDS
FOR 2026**



THE BAROMETER

Fashion! Beauty! People! Things! Welcome to your weekly guide to the stuff everyone will be talking about. Do keep up

EDITED BY ANNA SILVERMAN



ALEXANDER MCQUEEN



Saint Laurent winkle-pickers on the streets of Paris

Pick up a winkle-picker

With their almost comically extended toes, winkle-pickers — named in the 1950s after the tools people used to pull wrinkles out of their shells — have always been loved by rock stars (just add drainpipe jeans, an unbuttoned shirt and dirty hair). Now they're strutting along the catwalks too. At Acne Studios, stiletto courts had toes that curved slightly off the ground like witches' shoes, while at Balenciaga they were blocky and almost cartoonish. Alexander McQueen showed lace-up winkle-picker boots, and Saint Laurent's patent toes appeared to have been stretched out like gloop. The winkle-picker is a thing of mischief, best worn with a strict suit or dress, which they will nudge slightly off-kilter. You're likely to attract some double takes — this, of course, is a good thing.



BALENCIAGA



SAINT LAURENT

STYLE

ON THE COVER Rose Byrne PHOTOGRAPH Clément Pascal STYLING Dione Davis
BODYSUIT, £300, AND SKIRT, £620, BEVSA. EARRINGS, £505, AND CUFF, £1,450, AGMES. SHOES, £830, ROGER VIVIER

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Going up



▲ **'MICRODOSE DRINKING'**
Make ours a quarter glass — perfect for a fuzzy feeling with no hangover. But don't wang on about it



▲ **KATHARINE HEPBURN TROUSERS**
Spring's new shape has a flattering side pleat



▲ **CHIC CAMEOS**
Isaac Mizrahi (left) and Nick Waplington, we see



▲ **DISCO BALLS IN THE LIVING ROOM**
Making a comeback thanks to, er, Harry Styles

Don't mind if we fondue

Behold the fondue renaissance! The communal Swiss classic — Emmental, Vacherin Fribourgeois and Gruyère cheeses melted with wine spiked with nutmeg and kirsch and served in a caquelon pot for the dipping of bread et al — has been elevated from 1970s kitsch to alpine chic. And the best part?

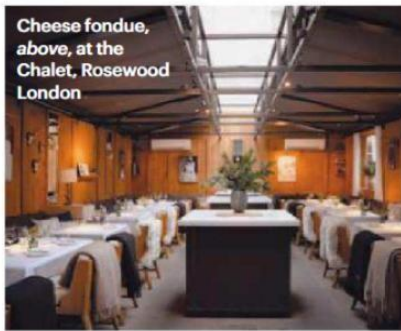
You don't need to go skiing to get in on the action. Get the full fondue experience in the Fog House at the Fife Arms in Braemar, owned by the Swiss gallerists behind Hauser & Wirth, which has been transformed into a candlelit alpine hut offering unctuous medleys of Swiss or Scottish cheeses until March 8. Meanwhile in west London, Julie's après-ski-inspired fondue residency runs until February 13 — think molten cheese with crusty bread, cornichons and charcuterie on a heated terrace. For a chic alpine experience head to Holborn, where Rosewood London's pop-up, the Chalet, offers a classic cheese fondue, or try the

Surprise in Chelsea for cheese or meat versions bubbling in Le Creuset (both until February 28). To get involved at home, the Swiss fondue cookware brand to know is Kuhn Rikon, or the chichi specialist **Borough Kitchen** has you covered with its new fondue sets (colour-coded forks included).

The only rule? No double-dipping.



Cheese fondue, above, at the Chalet, Rosewood London



Additional words: Karen Deere, Victoria Brazinski, Darragh Hand photograph: Craig Gibson. Styling: Keeley Dawson. Grooming: Nohella Reyes. Photographs: Getty Images, Alamy

Everyone's talking about... Darragh Hand

Hot priests? Darragh Hand is making 2026 the year of the hot policeman. If you've got a *Derry Girls*-shaped hole in your life, a new show by its creator, Lisa McGee, is dropping on Netflix on February 12 to fill it. *How to Get to Heaven from Belfast* follows three friends reunited for a wake — with the main love interest, a local copper called Liam, played by Hand.

It kicks off an exciting year for Hand, 27, who recently wrapped filming on the final instalment of *Heartstopper* (longtime stans will be delighted to hear it's a feature-length film). Plus, he will be starring in *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* at the National Theatre in March, alongside Aidan Turner, Lesley Manville and Monica Barbaro. "I'm a bit nervous. Apparently [Aidan's] hips don't lie and I feel like dancing next to him might be a bit tricky," he tells *Style*.

Fresh out of drama school, Hand was cast in the play *For Black Boys Who Have Considered Suicide When the Hue Gets Too Heavy*, and went on to star in the *Heartstopper* series via parts in *Silent Witness* and

Grace. Is Hollywood the next stop for the Croydon native? "Yes ma'am!" he says laughing, confirming his dream role would be a *Marty Supreme*-esque protagonist in a film. "I want to be at the top of this game. I want to be doing everything. I want to be entrenched in this work at its highest level." Watch out, Chalamet ...



The actor Darragh Hand stars in *How to Get to Heaven from Belfast*, below



Going down

▼ **HIGH PROTEIN SWEET SNACKS**
Health-conscious puds are an oxymoron



▼ **WATCHING THE FOOTIE**
The Winter Olympics plus our *Heated Rivalry* obsession mean it's all about ice hockey right now



▼ **BACKLESS SHOES**
Creeping back in. Winter-pavement foot? No thanks



▼ **ICALS**
The analogue revival has hit our forward-planning methods — welcome back the Filofax

