

Enough respect?

Mick Brown goes to Croydon in search of a dying virtue

King of the beach bums

One man, his nine children and a 14-year surfing safari

Food & Home

Cracking courgettes, super sorrel; furniture for a great outdoors

Tie break

Andy Murray means business



Kitchen-garden cooking in the city Rose Prince's real salade niçoise Outdoor furniture sorted

NOURISHING KNITS The phrase 'knit one, purl one' takes on a whole new meaning with the artist Kate Jenkins's delectable crocheted food. For her first solo London show, Jenkins has transformed the Rebecca Hossack gallery into her fantasy cafe. Alongside a crocheted full English breakfast and an extraordinarily beautiful sequin-adorned fish and chips complete with garden peas (a bestseller) will be dozens of fruit tartlets and sugar-coated doughnuts, many displayed in box frames behind Perspex. It is the attention to detail that makes them so exquisite – Jenkins found the metallic yarn for her tinned sardines in Japan ('it looks like chainmail'). Most pieces take about two and a half weeks to create. 'I treat it like drawing with yarn. I don't make a pattern,' Jenkins says.

With a degree in fashion and textiles, Jenkins designed knitwear for Marc Jacobs, Missoni and Donna Karan before launching her Brighton-based label Cardigan in 2003. And her first collection, *Comfort Food*, in 2007, was initially created to promote Cardigan. 'I thought, what can I do to get people to talk about knitwear. Something that will appeal to everyone, not just women.' Last summer Liberty commissioned her to make boxes of crocheted insect specimens – turquoise butterflies and emerald beetles, but it is her comestibles that are consistently popular. Half the larger pieces in the exhibition have already been sold (her smaller pieces start at £650). You can even commission her to re-create your favourite meal in wool. Though some food works better than others. The person who called to ask if Jenkins could crochet a toad in the hole was politely told, 'It won't look nice as a piece of art.'

Francesca Ryan
Kate's Cafe, June 6-27, at
Rebecca Hossack, 28 Charlotte Street,
London W1 (020-7255 2828).

Styling by Rachel Jones.
Photograph by Simon Bevan

