

Home

INSIDE THIS WEEK

How to cash in on the market chaos

10

Space-age chic in Somerset for £2.5m

16



Discount decor: the best sales bargains

27



PLUS Home Front **4** Home Help and How to... **18** Overseas **22** Time and Space: Mark Getty **30**

COVER IMAGE: HEW MORDAN MAKING MOVIES



DEVON
£1.3M

Spot the tawny owl in the picture to the right, or simply enjoy the intoxicating view from Keaton Farmhouse, a coastal/country former longhouse that was extended in the Victorian era. A mile and a half from Mothecombe beach, within the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, it has five main bedrooms, as well as an adjoining three-bedroom cottage, a walled garden, outbuildings and five acres of gardens and paddocks. Plymouth is a half-hour drive away (and the owl is in the top left-hand corner). **01752 873311**, marchandpetit.co.uk



Belmont House, East Sussex

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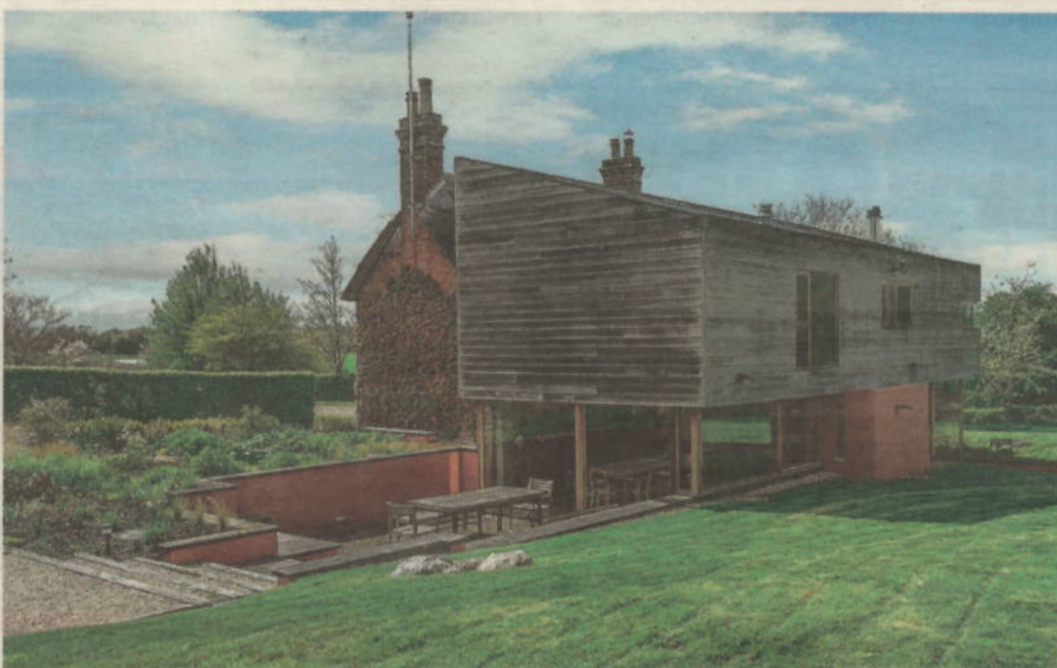
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WILTSHIRE
£1.95M

Is your dream home a traditional thatched country cottage or a contemporary grand design? Mirdown House, on the edge of the desirable village of Great Bedwyn, offers a bit of both. Recently reduced from £2.25m, it has a classic brick facade and, at the rear of the property, a glass and timber "floating barn" extension mounted on a glass and concrete base. There are five bedrooms, three bathrooms and floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the 2.6 acres of grounds; the interiors offer a pleasing combination of fireplaces, beams, clean lines and airy spaces. Feel free to entertain without guilt: there are no near neighbours, although it's just a walk to the shops, the pub and Great Bedwyn station, for direct trains to London Paddington (71 minutes). Head to Marlborough, seven miles away, for the nearest Waitrose, or Hungerford, a 15-minute drive, for a mooch around the artisan and antiques shops. **01635 521707, struttandparker.com**



FIND A PLACE TO CALL HOME

City buzz or rural bliss? See all 106 of the Sunday Times Best Places to Live at thesundaytimes.co.uk/bestplaces

OXFORDSHIRE
£575,000



Run as a fire station until the 1970s and given a luxury makeover last year, this two-bedroom house in a conservation area in Charlbury was recently named one of the UK's 50 coolest cottages by The Sunday Times Travel section.

The Old Fire Station is handy for summer shindigs such as the Wilderness music festival, Alex James's foodie Big Feastival and Cornbury, in Great Tew — it can fetch up to £2,500 a week. **01865 339700, savills.co.uk**

ARGYLL & BUTE
£290,000



On the sparsely populated Isle of Jura, in the Inner Hebrides, the Boat House is an open-plan home with four bedrooms and a detached boathouse. Designed by Denholm Partnership Architects, it's wind- and watertight, but only

partially completed — though the delightful location on the island's east coast, on the fringes of Craighouse, makes up for that. The agent says you'll need to spend £150,000 to get it shipshape. **01738 621121, bellingham.co.uk**