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EDITED BY ANN BARR



Gardener Jason Evers, 32 (Cancer), does astrological pots. For a Cancerian, he might plant *Cineraria maritima*, *convolvulus*, *senecio*, laurel; for a Leo, sunflower, scented red *pelargonium*, African marigolds, *heliotropium*. From £50 (hand-thrown pot), delivered not too far from Horribleville. 0171-582 2430

IN SCOTLAND, LAST REDOUBT OF DRESSING for dinner, 'informal' means jacket and tie, not jeans and T-shirt, as the local MP's eyebrow-raisingly thought. (That's *casual*)

NEW YORK WOMEN RESEMBLE drug addicts, says a Euro visitor. 'All in black or drab grey. I wore a Saint Laurent suit that was red and green and one muttered, "Looks like a Christmas tree"'

Some L*****ers go to Devizes for a haircut. Stuart of By Appointment is top-notch: from £17 for a cut, wash and set. 01380 727002

Travellers are confused by luggage-makers all thinking pine-green. So many take the wrong green case off the carousel, it's worrying Heathrow



Hilton Herbs at Downclose Farm near Crewkerne, Somerset, is a herbalist for horses and dogs (it has been consulted about ostriches). It prescribes remedies (raw materials from China etc) for aches, arthritis, lungs, temperament. Humans have been known to make tea with their pets' herbs. 01460 78300

PORTABLE TELEPHONES ARE STILL swanky in the East. When a bizman in Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) laid his on the board table, his colleagues spent half an hour calling the world on it. Sev himh rait



Gallé, Lalique (above), Loetz, and Tiffany are in 'Glass from Art Nouveau to Art Deco', Sunderland Museum, 17 July to 27 October



The saps that car dealers used to call punters they now call 'victims'

What is small and hums and can kill you? The low-powered vultures sans permis that French law allows sans licence for OAPs, the mentally handicapped, and banned drivers (though not on autoroutes, thank God)

A DRUNK FRIEND OF Barometer's, bent on reform, attended two different groups of AA. At the first, he empathised with the anguish of two particular speakers, a man and a woman. But then he witnessed the same sinners repenting the same sins for the next group. Are they Attention-seekers Anonymous? In league? AA plants? Time to clean up your act, AA

To be young is very Dodgem – that's what the 'skate' shoes (worn by in-line types) with bi rubber bumpers look like. Of the various makes, Nose (Italian) wins by a tongue (right): squeeze the tongue and smell peaches. From £59.99, Shellys

When catching lobsters, throw back huge ones to preserve the population – the opposite of fish



IT'S EASY TO TELL WHO'S A townie at restaurants. The others order beef. Ned Sherrin, brother of a West Country farmer, says, 'Devon beef forever,' and if you want it absolutely no-risk (old breeds, free range), Heal Farm of King's Nympton delivers throughout Britain, including Jersey. (It also does a four-course dinner, £60 for six. July: spatchcock quail, apricot mousse.) 01769 574341

