

Better with Age

Having traded from the same premises as far back as 1698, **Berry Bros. & Rudd** is the oldest wine and spirit merchant in Britain

Having supplied the Royal Family since the reign of King George III, Berry Bros. & Rudd continues its proud legacy as holders of Royal Warrants to both HM The Queen and HRH The Prince of Wales.

With over 4000 wines & spirits at their disposal, the merchant family of No.3 St James's Street can also count Lord Byron, William Pitt the Younger, and the Aga Khan among their historic customers.

Boasting over 300 years of history, the families behind Berry Bros & Rudd have seen two World Wars, and have direct links with Napoleon III, the Titanic, and the 1920s American Prohibition. Not that the business is only a record-breaker in terms of its longevity- in 1967 it became the first wine merchant to build temperature-controlled wine cellars, and in 1994, was the first to open an online shop.

Known for creating the immensely popular Cutty Sark whisky, Berry Bros. & Rudd continue to sell to many of the same families that have been purchasing its wines for generations.

www.bbr.com



The Carriage Trade

As carriage builders to HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, **Artistic Iron Products** also specialise in metal conservatory furniture

Whether serving pleasure drivers or international level carriage-driving competitors, Artistic Iron Products are experts in the manufacture of carriages; with all painting, woodwork, metalwork, upholstery, and assembly done at their base in Nottinghamshire.

Some noteworthy patrons in the last 46 years include members of the British Monarchy, The Sultan of Brunei, and the

Disney Corporation.

As pioneers in their field, the Mart family have been responsible for many features of carriages today considered commonplace, such as the 'back step', which allows a passenger to stand behind a driver to aid stability; the aluminium wheel, which is lighter and stronger than wood, and carriage powder coating, which enhances paint finish and durability.

Artistic Iron Products expanded into the manufacture of metal conservatory furniture in 2001. Second generation sisters Sue and Wendy Mart now split the running of Bennington Carriages and Furniture between them, respectively, though continue to compete nationally and internationally for Team GB in Single Pony Carriage Driving Trials.

www.bennington.co.uk

Upmarket

Originally opening in Chelsea in 1972, grocer **Partridges** was awarded its Royal Warrant only 22 years later; now run by the founder's brother, John Shepherd

Having held the title of 'Grocers to Her Majesty The Queen' since 1994, Partridges has made its sterling reputation from selling, importing, and exporting the very best of local, British, and international foods worldwide.

One of the last remaining family-owned grocers in central London, Partridges also have their own unique

branded products, including tea, biscuits, preserves, bags, and most recently, their Chelsea Flower Gin. If their pride in their Royal Warrant wasn't obvious enough from their packaging, Partridges try to stock products from as many Royal Warrant holders as they can.

John Shepherd was appointed president of the Royal Warrant Holders Association in 2007; taking the title of Honorary Treasurer for five years after the year-long tenure.

As well as a terrace café, wine bar, delicatessen counter, and range of American goods, John's three daughters also run Shepherds Markets and Startisans, a site based in Covent Garden which gives artisan food start-ups the chance to test their mettle in a real market environment.

www.partridges.co.uk