

# Treasured family heirloom is stolen during house raid

BY PAUL BYRNE  
A POCKET watch which was passed down through five generations and survived two world wars has been stolen. The heirloom was taken – along with several other irreplaceable items – during a raid on a house. The treasured timepiece, dating back to 1913, first belonged to William Smith, who carried it across the battlefields in France more than 100 years ago. But



PRICELESS The pocket watch

raiders smashed their way into Jane Smith's home in Burnley, Lancs, last weekend and stole it, along with thousands of pounds in jewellery and laptops. They also took a gold locket containing poignant pictures of her twin sons Adam and Mark, who died just hours apart at birth in 1993. Jane, 50, said: "The watch still works but it won't be worth anything to the thieves. How you can walk in and steal someone's memories like this is beyond me."

# 'Kill contract' on stepdad

A MAN paid for his stepdad to be killed to inherit £200,000, a court heard. Flash Day, 45, allegedly got Ryan Hynes, 21, to stab John Sales in Colchester, Essex, last November. He survived. Hynes, of Lawford, admits attempted murder. Day denies conspiracy to commit murder. The trial at Chelmsford crown court continues. DOMIFLOW'S US firm Domino's Pizza is delivering orders by canoe and using boxes that can float in a trial on the River Loose in Maidstone, Kent.



## Helen Fielding, 48

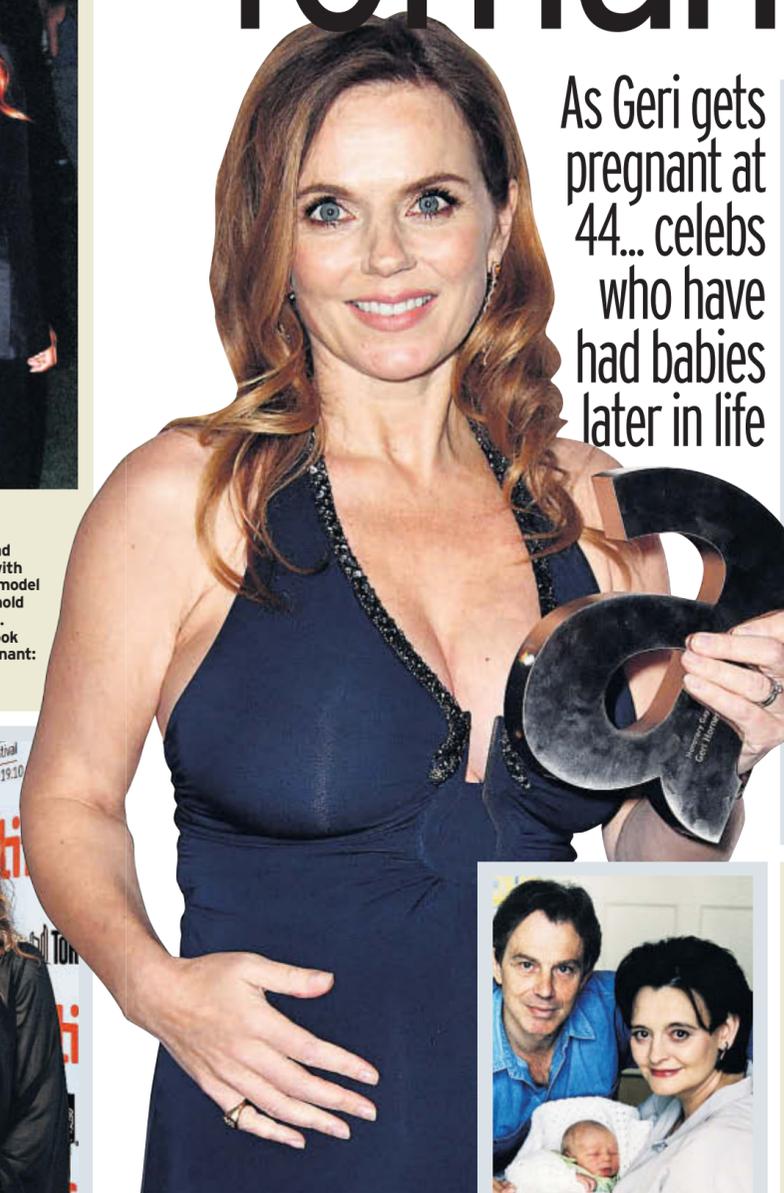
Life has mirrored art for Bridget Jones' author Helen. Just like her heroine, played by Renee Zellweger, inset, Helen became a mum in her 40s. Helen, now 58, had her son Dashiell at 43 but was 48 when she gave birth to daughter Romy with her former partner, the American comedy writer Kevin Curran.



## Iman, 45

The supermodel, now 61, had Alexandria, her first child with David Bowie, at 45. Fellow model Christie Brinkley let Iman hold her baby at a fashion shoot. Iman said: "So, I say it took two blondes to get me pregnant: Christie and David. It is a miracle."

# 40mumthings

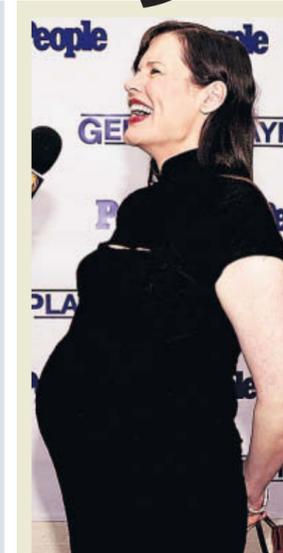


As Geri gets pregnant at 44... celebs who have had babies later in life



## Halle Berry, 47

It seems no one was more surprised than the Hollywood star when she became a mum for the second time, aged 47, with son Maceo in 2013. She said: "They call it a geriatric pregnancy. I was, on my way, kinda premenopausal so to have this happen was a shock." Halle was 41 when she had daughter Nahla.



## Geena Davis, 48

The Thelma and Louise star was 48 when she welcomed twin boys Kian and Kais into the world in 2004, two years after giving birth to daughter Alizeh at the age of 46. Speaking about having three close together, the 60 year old said: "It's been really wonderful, but it was overwhelming."



## Gwen Stefani, 44

The No Doubt singer told her sons her baby-making days were over but Kingston, her eldest, wanted another sibling. Four weeks later Gwen was pregnant and gave birth to her third child, Apollo, with her now ex Gavin Rossdale in 2014 at the age of 44. The singer, now 47, joked: "He has a direct link to God."



## Kelly Preston, 48

Actor John Travolta's wife had her third child, Benjamin, six years ago at the age of 48. She admitted: "When I found out I was pregnant, I was floored. I'd snuck out of bed and then came back and woke Johnny up in bed. We both started crying. It was wonderful." Kelly, now 53, added: "It's pretty amazing having a child at this age."



## Cherie Blair, 45

THE former PM's wife was 45 when she had Leo, her fourth child. She revealed in her autobiography her surprise baby was conceived during a trip to Balmoral. Cherie, now 62, said: "It is so long since we had our other three children that I had forgotten quite what an ordeal those last few hours of labour can be."



## Sharron Davies, 44

The former Olympic swimmer went through four years of painful IVF and two miscarriages before giving birth to her third child Finley at the age of 44 in 2007. Sharron, now 53, said: "Being an older mum has its advantages. Whether you are having your first, second or third, you know what you want."



## Sian Williams, 44

The Channel 5 newsreader was 26 when she gave birth to her first child and was 44 when she had her fourth in 2009. The 51-year-old is mum to sons Joss, 24, Al, 22, with first husband Neale Hunt and has a son Seth, 10, and daughter Evie, six, with current husband Paul Woolwich.



PROUD MUM Claire with Jaxon

# Just enjoy your bump, you're in great shape

By CLAIRE SWEENEY  
Former Brookside actress, 45, who had a son two years ago

## Dear Geri,

Congratulations! Like you, I had a baby in my 40s. I was 43 when I gave birth to my son Jaxon two years ago – and just because of that we're classed as geriatric mums. I don't feel geriatric and I bet you don't. You're in great shape and looked glowing on the red carpet showing off your bump. Girl Power! People can call me what they want. I'm just thrilled after the heartbreak of losing two babies. And we're not alone. In Liverpool, my mum remembers women having kids in their late 40s and a friend of mine fell pregnant at 46. But be prepared for the endless questions: Do you get tired? Do you find it hard? My answer has always been a firm, 'No'. And I bet you'll agree when I say I don't feel any different to when I was 20. I'm touring doing nine shows a week and still have the energy to run after a toddler. And do you know what? I'm glad I left it until later in life because I'd got my career and felt more settled. Yes, the risks increase as you get older. I was scared about complications during childbirth and re-wrote my will. But I was a first-time mum and this is your second. You know the ropes and you have 10-year-old, Bluebell, who will come in handy as a babysitter when she's older. A word of warning – stay away from Google. I call myself a cyber-chondriac because there is all this information and you can worry yourself to death. Enjoy your pregnancy and don't feel guilty if you want to put your feet up. I got really tired during my pregnancy – it's important to rest. And it was no different after giving birth. I'd be up in the middle of the night doing feeds and chatting to Giovanna Fletcher, who's married to McFly singer Tom, on Facebook. She's in her early 30s but she was just as tired as me. Now I'll go to the park with Jaxon and there will be mums of all ages but I've never faced any prejudice because of my age. That's not to say people aren't saying things behind my back. But who cares? Just enjoy it, Geri! ■ Claire Sweeney is starring in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. Tickets at www.chittythemusical.co.uk

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