

A minor royal wedding - but no showboating romance; Princess Eugenie, youngest daughter of Sarah Ferguson and Prince Andrew, has coped with her share of scandal and strife. Her wedding to long-term boyfriend Jack will bring her a 'pillar of support,' writes

Julia Molony Sunday Independent August 26, 2018

For their part, Eugenie's parents seem thrilled. "Jack is an absolutely outstanding young man and Eugenie and he have got to know each other over a number of years, and I'm really thrilled for them," Prince Andrew said following the engagement announcement. "I'm just completely overjoyed for them and wish them every happiness," he continued.

And for Eugenie, Jack seems to add another pillar of support. The son of an accountant, he now works in marketing for the tequila brand once owned by George Clooney, Casamigos, but in the seven years they've been together, he's been a low-profile, but stalwart presence at her side.

Eugenie needs allies she can count on. She has long relied on her close relationship with her sister Beatrice as ballast in troubled times.

"When we were younger, I always used to make her go into parties first," the princess said in September's issue of British Vogue. "I'd hide behind her and she'd make the first move, then I'd get louder and louder as she made me more confident.

"We bring each other back to earth all the time. We're very lucky... We want to show people who we are as working, young, royal women, but also not to be afraid of putting ourselves out there."

IF YOU ONLY DO ONE THING... ; ; Drop into Drip Feed Karen Cogan's dark comedy Drip Feed was shortlisted for Soho Theatre's biennial Verity Bargate Award. An infectiously dark comedy about the messiness of being youngish, female and queer in Ireland, catch it at Project Arts Centre, Space Upstairs, September 19-22.

www.fringefest.com ; ; Parade to Picnic Electric Picnic Music and Arts Festival takes place from August 31 to September 2 at Stradbally Hall, Co Laois, and performers include St Vincent (below), The Kooks, Walking On Cars, Nina Kraviz and The Coronas.

www.electricpicnic.ie ; ; Meet in a museum Discover weaponry, furniture, silver, ceramics, glassware, Asian art and the Asgard, as well as folklife and costume artefacts, at the Decorative Arts & History Museum, Collins Barracks, Dublin 7. www.museum.ie ;

Love Lisdoonvarna The Lisdoonvarna Matchmaking Festival runs from August 31 to September 30, with regular live music and dancing, and endless opportunities to get together and meet people - from speed-dating to dances and sessions in the pubs. Daily matchmaking with matchmaker Willie Daly in his 'office' in the Matchmaker Bar.

www.matchmakerireland.com ; ; Gather in a gallery In anticipation of Curious Creatures: Frans Post and Brazil (below), which opens on September 8 in the National Gallery of Ireland, curator Niamh MacNally will delve into the work of the Haarlemborn artist on August 30, 1pm. www.nationalgallery.ie ;

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