

Twickenham & Richmond **TRIBUNE**

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TickerTape - News in Brief

Twickenham Riverside Exhibition

Drop-in exhibitions are being held on the below dates in the Clarendon Hall, York House, Twickenham, TW1 3AA. • Saturday 21 September, 10am to 5pm • Tuesday 24 September, 6 to 8.30pm

Vacancy on Council's Audit Committee

LBRuT have a vacancy for someone to serve as an independent Member of Richmond Council's Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee oversees all processes for risk, control and governance for the Council. The purpose of the Committee is to provide independent assurance and to support strong financial management and good governance.

The ideal candidate should ideally have experience of financial management, as well as an understanding of governance issues and the general government environment. Candidates should have a keen interest in public life whilst remaining politically neutral and independent. Find out more information [about the role and how to apply](#)

Children invited to join Climate Change campaign and design a flag for the borough

Children are invited to show their creative side and help design a new flag that demonstrates the borough's commitment to fighting climate change.

Children aged from 5 to 11 years old, who live or go to school in the borough, are invited to get involved. Richmond Council has launched a flag design competition, where the winning design will be displayed on the flag pole outside the Civic Centre in Twickenham.

Designs must include the words Take Action and should be created on A3 or A4 paper, in landscape.

Entries can be submitted in the post, by email or at a local library, where activity spaces have been set up at nine local libraries.

The deadline for submissions is **Wednesday 9 October 2019**.

Find out more about the [Primary school competition](#) and how to submit your entry.

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The circus is in town and Twickenham is juggling with the five concept proposals for the riverside. TwickerSeal returned to Clarendon Hall to view the design exhibition for a second time this week; he thinks the proposals need careful consideration before reaching a final opinion.

Overall it is a bit of a Curate's Egg, with no design standing out. Architect Three has some interesting ideas in terms of facilities, leaving aside the aesthetics for the time being.

After decades of campaigning and consultations has Twickenham finally got the proposals it deserves? Probably not.



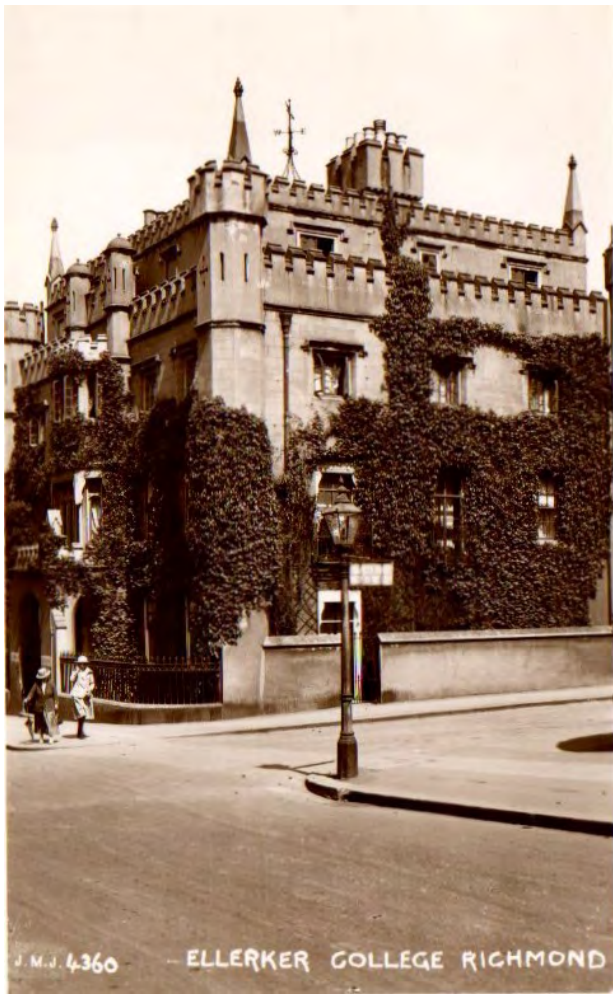
Today the home of The Old Vineyard School at 48, Richmond Hill, the building was originally built as Ellerker House for the family home of Sir John Houblon, the first Governor of the Bank of England. The grounds originally extended along what is now Ellerker Gardens as far as Onslow Road and down the hill to the Vineyard. One of the most well-known inhabitants of Richmond in the 18th century was Miss Susanna Houblon. When she died in 1765, she left her house and property – Ellerker House, to her great-nephew with several conditions attached to the inheritance. Firstly, that her niece, Esther Mytton, should be allowed to live there undisturbed for as long as she chose to do so and, secondly, that no buildings should be erected or alterations made which might interfere with the “prospect from her windows.”

By the middle of the 18th century, the view from Richmond Hill had come to be regarded as something of a personal asset by those fortunate enough to live there as indeed it remains so today.

The house later became Ellerker College which opened in 1881 as a boarding school for girls.

The first postcard shown was published by Levy and Co in Paris between 1906 and 1913. This company produced thousands of different postcards showing excellent photographs of the southern part of the UK during this period.





The second postcard is a real photographic image of the college at the same time.

In the 1920's, the newly founded Old Vicarage School moved from small premises in Chiswick to its current site on Richmond Hill and became a prep school with boys in the younger classes, before becoming an all-girls school shortly before the second World War. More recently, the school acquired an adjoining building to provide additional classrooms. The girls have the privilege of being educated in a grade 2* listed, architecturally beautiful building with a charm of its own. With the exception of a few years during WWII, when the school was evacuated to Pipers Corner in Buckinghamshire, the Old Vicarage has been educating young girls from the Richmond area ever since.

My search for old postcards continues. I am always looking for old postcards and old photograph albums etc. The postcards can be British or Foreign, black and white or coloured and of places or subjects. If you have any that are sitting unwanted in a drawer, in a box in the loft or in the garage or under a bed, please contact me on 07875 578398 or alanwinter192@hotmail.com I would like to see them and I pay cash!

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VOTE FOR THE TREE OF THE YEAR

Support Richmond Park's "Fallen Tree"

Ten spectacular trees have been shortlisted for this year's Tree of the Year competition including Richmond Park's "Fallen Tree" – an oak.

Several mighty old oaks dominate the shortlist, including Liverpool's Allerton Oak that takes pride of place in Calderstones Park, the Isle of Wight's Dragon Tree which truly is a monster specimen, and London's Fallen Tree in Richmond Park which is a fantastic example of nature beating the odds.

The Woodland Trust's annual competition is designed to highlight and celebrate the best trees in the country. Once again it's being supported by the award winning horticulturalist and TV personality David Domoney.

We're asking the public to go online at woodlandtrust.org.uk/treeoftheyear to choose their favourite, to ultimately find England's Tree of the Year for 2019.

David Domoney said:

"The Woodland Trust's Tree of the Year celebrates the marvel and beauty of trees in our country. They are such an important part of our cities and countryside, not only for their beauty, but also for the health benefits they offer to all living creatures. Choosing the one tree that stands out from the rest is a hard decision, take a look for yourself. Vote for your favourite on the Woodland Trust's website to crown England's Tree of the Year for 2019."

£1,000 tree care award

As well as putting the nation's best trees on the map, the awards - supported by players of People's Postcode Lottery - offer a £1,000 tree care award for each winning tree. This might be spent on works to benefit the tree's health, signage, or a community celebration. There are £500 awards for runners-up.

The Woodland Trust's Tree of the Year competition runs in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Each country, thanks to the public vote, will have its own champion which will be represented in the 2020 European Tree of the Year contest.

Take a closer look at the shortlist and vote for your favourite tree at woodlandtrust.org.uk/treeoftheyear. The website is open for entries from 9am on Monday 09 September. Voting closes at noon on 27 September.

The Tree of the Year competition is run in support of the Charter for Trees, Woods and People - an initiative that sets out 10 tree principles to embed into society for a future where people and trees are stronger together. Find out more and voice your support at treecharter.uk.



Fallen Oak Photo Peter Dench WTML



WOODLAND
TRUST

Nine local groups awarded record high amount of community funding

Nine local community projects have been awarded nearly £600,000 in the latest round of Richmond Council's Community Fund.

The Community Fund comes from the Community Infrastructure Levy, a tax collected by Richmond upon Thames Council and paid by developers (15% or 25% in neighbourhood plan areas). A portion of the total tax collected will fund local priority projects which address the impact development has on an area.

This money might be used for a variety of projects, including; green space improvements, resources and equipment for community use or community centre renovations.

Earlier this year the Council invited local residents, businesses or community groups, living or operating within the borough to bring forward proposals.

Following a review of the applications, the Finance, Police and Performance Committee last night (Wednesday 11 September) agreed funding for the below projects:

- Improving community facilities, include a new community café and kitchen at **East Twickenham** Neighbourhood Association Community Centre
- Restoration of St Michael's and St George's Church Hall in **Fulwell**
- Convert a garage in the grounds of St Mark's Church in **Hampton Wick** into a workshop for community repair projects – a social interaction and loneliness and isolation project called Sheddington
- Redesign of the kitchen, lobby and toilets at Bullen Hall in **Hampton Wick**
- Feasibility study to design and plan for a new and enhanced play and outdoor learning facility at Vine Road Recreation Ground in **Barnes**
- Building improvements to the **Barnes** Community Arts Centre - including improving the toilets, installation of hearing loop and making the entrance and café suitable for those with accessibility issues
- Improvements on **Barnes** High Street to reduce congestion through on street works e.g. new bus stop/widening pavement/new loading bay for Marks and Spencer's – through Barnes Community Association
- Feasibility study for step free access at **Kew** Gardens Station, through the Kew Society
- New electric vehicle for the TAG Youth Club in **Ham** to enable them to transport activity equipment

This means that now over £1.2 million has now been awarded as part of the fund since it launched.

Cllr Michael Wilson, Lead Member for Communities and Deputy Chair of Finance, Policy and Resource Committee, said: *"We know that residents have a strong vision for the future of their community. This fund helps make some of the community ideas and initiatives a reality. It's great that we have been able to support such a diverse number of projects put forward by the community that will help improve the local environment or facilities available to the community. I look forward to seeing how these projects progress."*

For more information about the Community Fund, email communityconversations@richmond.gov.uk or visit our [Community Fund](#) page.





Richmond
Concert
Society

The next concert is on

Tuesday 24 September, 7.45 pm

A grand concert to kick off our new season

**The acclaimed Marmen String Quartet play
Haydn, Ligeti and Mendelssohn**

St Mary the Virgin Church, Riverside,
Twickenham

See our website for further details
www.richmondconcerts.co.uk

Richmond Concert Society

www.richmondconcerts.co.uk



All The World's A Stage at Richmond Theatre, Sunday 15 September, Tickets Free, 120 years of history of Richmond Theatre presented by Theatre Director Brendan Riding with Mark Fox of the Matcham Society and Paul Velluet of the Richmond Local History Society.

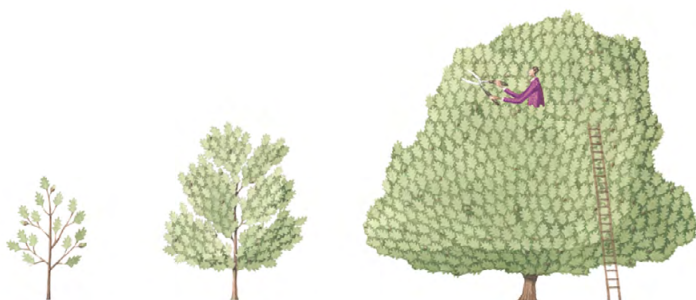
Saturday 14 – Saturday 21 September: 7.45 (Sunday, 15: 3.00) The Mary Wallace Theatre, TW1 3DU. Richmond Shakespeare Society's production of THE FATHER by Florian Zeller, translated by Christopher Hampton.

Saturday 28 September - Friday, 4 October: 7.45 (Sunday, 29: 6.00) At Hampton Hill Theatre, Main Auditorium: DAISY PULLS IT OFF by Denise Deegan.

Wednesdays-Sundays until 22 September, 12 noon-4.00. Turner's House. Exhibitions: MINIATURE LANDS OF MYTH AND MEMORY. Don't miss. Wander around the garden now in full bloom.

Jazz, rock, and blues music enthusiasts who head to the bars at The Cabbage Patch Pub in London Road are advised to visit Twickfolk, Twickenham Jazz Club and Eel Pie Club websites to check what's on.

If you are interested in advertising an Arts & Entertainment event write to advertise@twickenhamtribune.com for further information.



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darryl parkin

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Richmond Shakespeare Society
at the Mary Wallace Theatre
2019-20 SEASON
BOOK ONLINE:
www.RichmondShakespeare.org.uk



THE FATHER
 by Florian Zeller
14th to 21st SEPTEMBER

HAMLET
 by William Shakespeare
26th OCTOBER to 2nd NOVEMBER

A CHRISTMAS CAROL
 by Charles Dickens (Ad. Asha Gill)
7th to 14th DECEMBER

LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT
 by Eugene O'Neill
18th to 25th JANUARY 2020



St Mary's University Update

St Mary's Exchange Theatre Celebrates Second Birthday

The Exchange theatre in Twickenham will shortly be celebrating two years as a new public venue with an exciting autumn 2019 Programme of live events lined up with something for everyone.

In October '19 The Exchange, which is managed by St Mary's University will have been open for two years.

Within that two year period the venue has hosted just over 200 public events. Acts that have performed at The Exchange have included top comedians such as Jason Manford and Ruby Wax, music with Squeeze legend Chris Difford and talks by well-known personalities such as Germaine Greer, Russell Brand and Dan Snow. Sixty of the events have been films giving the local public a Cinema option it didn't have previously.

This autumn the strong comedy line up leads off with Sajeela Kershi and Patrick Monahan on Sept 14th, the women led 'Token Man Comedy' returns on Sept 18th including BBC Best Newcomer Janine Harouni, Jason Manford's Comedy Club makes another visit



on Oct 4th and the Scummy Mummies bring their Christmas show in December.

For live music fans there's great blues music featuring Ex-

Manfred Mann lead singer Paul Jones and Dave Kelly on 17th Sep, Americana legend Chip Taylor on Nov 3rd and innovative string quartet String Fever on Oct 11th.

Zimbabwean singer Anna Mudeka brings her African music show 'Kure Kure' on Nov 1st.

In the autumn half term there are two great children's shows: Jay Foreman's 'Disgusting



Songs for Revolting Children' on 30th Oct followed by the science magic of Morgan & West on Nov 2nd.

The comic Shakespearean production of 'Sh*t Faced Shakespeare' is on for two nights in mid-November and

is quickly followed by the first performances of author and Doctor Adam Kay's new show 'Twas the Nightshift Before Christmas'. There are also regular talks and films and around Christmas there will be a new pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty'.

The popular exhibition celebrating the films that The Beatles made in Twickenham will continue for another month until the end of September and will be followed by an exhibition of art produced by young people based at Heatham House.

Creative Director Stuart Hobday of The Exchange said of the coming events "The Exchange is developing nicely as a live venue and cinema for people in the Twickenham area and we'd like to thank everyone who has attended so far and we hope that they will continue come back and join any newcomers to the venue all of whom will be made very welcome. Please give the venue a go!"



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

Twickenham Riverside Competition Entries

Teresa Read

It seems that around three hundred people have attended the two exhibitions for the Twickenham Riverside exhibition and about one hundred people have commented online.

Thursday was my second visit to see the plans – the first reported in Edition 148.

The next exhibitions are on 21st September 10am-5p and 24th September 6pm-8:30pm.

The plans and consultation form are also online:

<https://haveyoursay.citizenspace.com/richmondce/twickenham-riverside/>

If you are viewing online you really need a large screen to see the architects' plans without scrolling from side to side. The plans at Clarendon Hall could also have done with being a larger size. It is useful to have a torch to read the explanations (the type is small), but you should go along as you can see what others think and also talk to a councillor and officers.

It seems that some models have been produced but they are not on view. Neither is there an architect's CGI Flythrough. The leader of the Council said flythroughs would be too expensive but it should be something that architects do as a matter of course, such as the one for on the [Twickenham Lido site](#) - it took some time but so do architectural drawings.

CGI Flythroughs would certainly make it easier to get a good view of each of the five plans.

It seems that architects did not really know much about some of the elements they were trying to portray: a Boathouse Pub (but no boathouse), a Lido Cafe (without a lido).

Photographs which seem to have originally come from the Lidos Alive history project www.lidosalive.com were on presentation boards but knowledge of the history of the area was not very evident in the proposals.

The boathouses which were incorporated in some plans were inadequate, the architects not knowing about the storage need of river sport clubs in the immediate area - I am not sure that the Council actually know either or, indeed, the members of the Design Panel who wrote the brief which architects were given.

So, there are a lot of buildings - buildings which do not really need to be on this site; offices which could be elsewhere. Why should a private organisation have floating offices on Twickenham Riverside when it could be developed for sport and leisure? Use of the area for river sports was suggested by the Deputy Mayor of London (for Sport) on the day of the Council elections when he visited the EPIC SUP club which has a very small storage area on Eel Pie Island.

Plans also incorporate a variety of ideas such as covered markets, a building resembling Marble

Hill and buildings resembling Phoenix Wharf on Eel Pie Island.

“Architect 3” is a bit more interesting on a second visit but it needs a proper lido, a reduction in buildings and some “toning down”.

Residents have been trying since the outdoor pool closed in 1980 to get something on the site which is worthy of Twickenham Riverside. Why don't the Council just bring back Twickenham Baths and the boathouses which used to be on the site? It would give more pleasure and activity to residents and their families. But the Council is promoting “Active Travel” on the Riverside which I understand is cycling and walking.

I sometimes wonder how much Councils - all administrations - do their best for residents.

How many of our readers know that at 9 King Street there is a historic building with beautiful original features behind a drab frontage. One of the architects mentioned historic theatres in the area but did not seem to know about Queen's Hall (9 King Street) backing on to the site!

“The entrance from King Street has the words “Queen's Hall” on the tiled floor. A fully working Victorian air ventilation system, behind a decorative metal grille, runs around the hall and foyer areas. The original stage is at the side of the hall and the hall has a sprung floor.

A false ceiling in the main hall hides a decorative painted plaster motif of a horse-drawn chariot and chandeliers hang from the high ceiling.”

http://www.memoriesoftwickenhamriverside.com/queens_hall.html

However, a planning application was granted some years ago for 9 King Street https://www2.richmond.gov.uk/lbrplanning/Planning_CaseNo.aspx?strCASENO=13/2270/FUL but the martial arts centre still seems to be operating from the site, thus the historic artefacts must still be in place.

Comments from some of the visitors to the exhibition on Thursday: “Oh dear”, “Great for offices on the river but not great for us”, “Not impressed”,

“Looks industrial”, “Looks like a lot of concrete”, “Needs to make more of space”, “Should be multiple boathouses”, “A proper lido needed”, “Put in a lot more of what is actually wanted”.

The Way Forward?

Give the architects a brief which relates to the full history of the site (there are three Heritage Lottery projects spanning six years of historical work on the internet).

Give residents what they want. There are thousands of comments from local people on the internet.

Take note of the views of the Deputy Mayor of London (for Sport) and Sport Richmond of how the site can be developed for sport and leisure.

We only have one “Twickenham Riverside” and office space does not need to be on the river, let alone “floating offices”. Paddleboards are available including a Megaboard for companies!

Happier Days on Twickenham Riverside

This photograph was taken (c1950) on the steps of the [Twickenham Baths] pool up to the restaurant by Michael Nancollas:



June Nancollas my mum, Michael Nancollas, Gloria Peacock, Don Partridge (my cousin the busker) and our neighbour Lewis Mould who owned the Lynton Cafe in

Water Lane. The Man at the back in the white coat was probably Mr Bates the butcher.

Published by kind permission of Michael Nancollas.



Fresh proposals for the future of Elleray Hall

The Council has taken a fresh look at providing a fit for purpose building for Elleray Hall Social Centre.

Elleray Hall in Teddington is a popular daytime social centre for local adult residents. It is especially well used by older people for whom it is something of a social lifeline. Last year, Richmond Council held a consultation on proposals for a possible new community hub in the area.



The consultation and engagement showed that a new or rebuilt facility was needed to replace the 'Community Hub' proposal which was popular with neither stakeholders nor the community. Therefore, the new Council confirmed that this original proposal would not go ahead.

Since then, the Council has been taking a fresh look at providing a new, fit-for-purpose building for Elleray Hall. This has included commissioning a feasibility study to look at the North Lane East Car Park and former depot site in Teddington and considering options for a rebuild of the centre. The current building is now reaching the end of its useful life and is becoming increasingly expensive to maintain.

The feasibility study has shown that a new purpose-built building on the Car Park site is possible. To fund this, the Council is considering a small affordable housing development on the current Social Centre site. The Council is not expected to make any profit at all from this development.

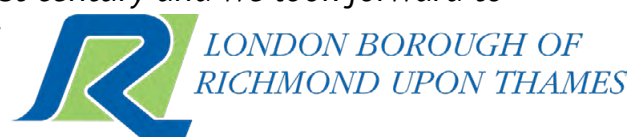
While it is early days in the process, the Council is keen to develop proposals further by holding meaningful engagement with stakeholders and the wider community later this year. And future proposals would be subject to the normal planning process.

Cllr Michael Wilson, Vice Chair of the Finance, Policy and Resource Committee, said:

"The facilities for the people who currently use Elleray Hall are not fit for purpose. However, we heard loud and clear that the previous council's proposal for a Community Hub in Teddington was not a popular with the organisations involved or the wider community. So, we have been working hard to identify a fresh approach. "The feasibility study has shown we can deliver a new community facility and also provide some desperately needed affordable housing on council land. But, to move forward with our proposals, we want to know not only the views of those who use Elleray Hall but also those of the wider community including concerns around possible impact on parking."

Chair of Teddington Older People's Welfare Association, Joan Barnett, added:

"We wholeheartedly welcome this fresh approach from the Council. Teddington deserves a facility to help meet the growing needs of the community in the 21st century and we look forward to continuing to work with the council and stakeholders to get the very best outcome for everyone who uses or relies on Elleray Hall."



Join the Conversation: have your say about where you live

If you have something to say about where you live, come along to the latest round of Community Conversations kicking off this month.

Our ward events are a chance for ward councillors to hear what matters to you and share ideas about the future of your local area.

So far six community conversation events have been held this year, with five more scheduled leading up to November. Future events include:

- Hampton North and Hampton (Wednesday 18 September) at The White House
- Mortlake and Barnes Common / East Sheen (Wednesday 25 September) at All Saints Church
- Hampton Wick (Tuesday 1 October) at Normansfield Theatre
- North Richmond and South Richmond (Thursday 10 October) at RHACC
- West and South Twickenham (Tuesday 15 October) at Waldegrave School

All events begin at 6.30pm with a 30 minute exhibition, where residents can put forward suggestions and comments around local priorities. This will be followed by a Question Time style event hosted by an independent chair from the local area.

Attendees can pre-submit questions in advance via the Council's website.

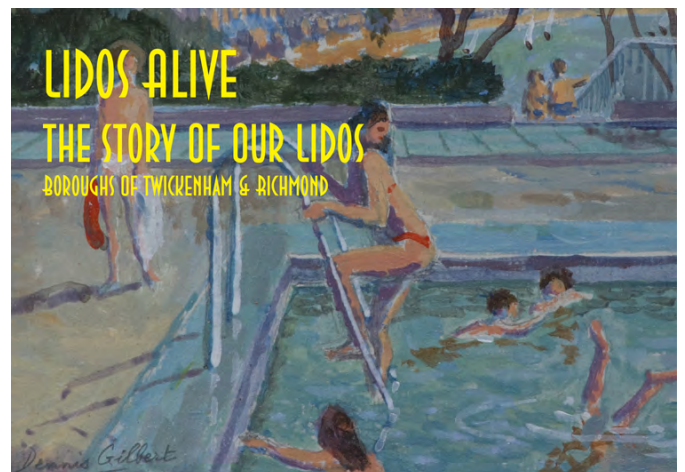
Cllr Michael Wilson, Cabinet Member for Equality, Communities and the Voluntary Sector said: 'This is a chance for residents to continue the dialogue with the Council established in the first round of conversations. We are committed to being an open and listening Council and we want to hear from our residents about their ideas for their local area and issues affecting them and their communities.'

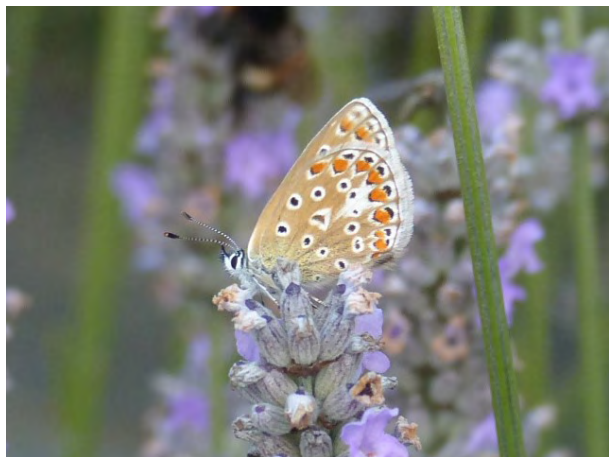
Find out more and register to join the [Community Conversation](#)

An Ideal Present for just £6

Lidos Alive – the Story of Our Lidos - is a 63-page A5 book with colour photos and illustrations full of interesting information about the history of outdoor swimming in the Borough and the rise of the lido. Contents include Mereway Bathing Place, pools in Bushy Park, Hampton Pool, Teddington Pool, Hampton Wick, Tagg's Island, Marble Hill, Twickenham Baths, Pools on the Park and other interesting stories.

Books can be purchased at Crusader Travel in Church Street, Twickenham and Premier Wines next to Strawberry Hill Station.





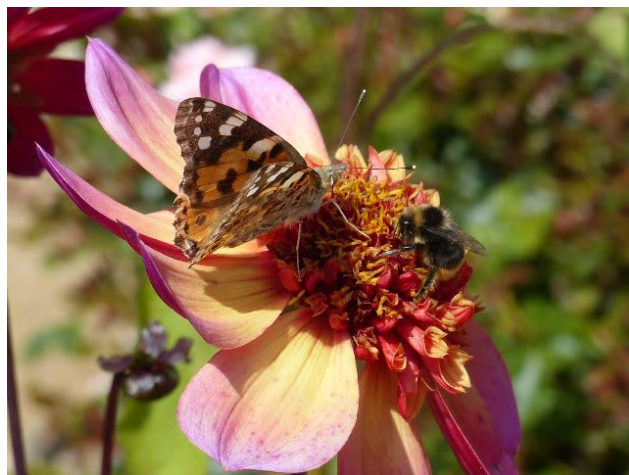
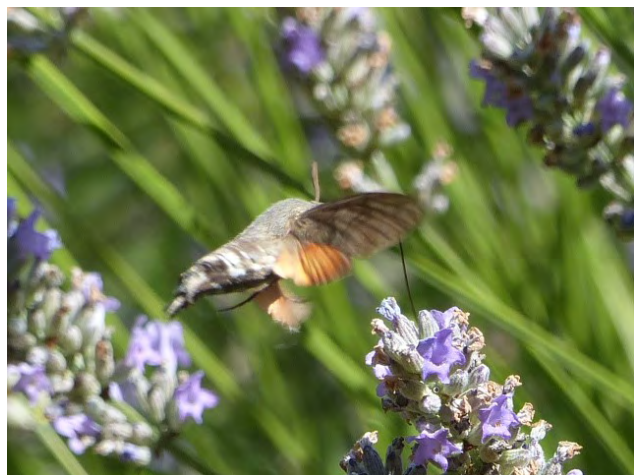
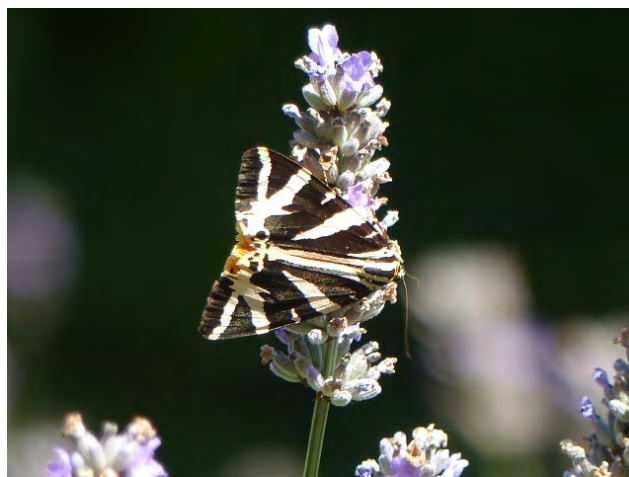
Common Blue Butterfly

Butterflies and Moths are vital Pollinators along with Bees and they have all significantly declined in numbers. We are being encouraged to have plants in our gardens which provide Pollen, Nectar and Berries.

Our blackbirds are feasting on the Pyracantha berries and the Lavender is hosting many butterflies and moths still as we enjoy an Indian summer.

Providing some of these food sources, along with water, is a small price to pay for the beauty and enjoyment gained from the visiting wildlife. The scent from the flowers favoured by many Pollinators is another plus point. It is also essential for the continuation of our very own existence to have pollinators thriving and carrying out their vital function in the food chain. The changes of emphasis and content in programmes such as Countryfile and Gardeners World to show the importance of the natural world has helped change some damaging habits in our garden and countryside management and hopefully to raise Ecology higher up the agenda in Objections considered for refusing planning applications.

**Photos below: 1. Comma Butterfly 2. Jersey Tiger Moth
3. Hummingbird Hawk Moth 4. Painted Lady Butterfly and Bumblebee**



The Great River Race comes to town

By Shona Lyons



ALL THE FUN AT THE FINISH

Enjoy the festival atmosphere along the bank at Richmond & Ham Riverside, as cheering crowds urge the River Racers towards the Finish



Richmond Riverside: Music and food from 13.00, Commentary 13.45



Ham Riverside, below Ham House: Street food, bar, music and loads of free family fun, including games galore, circus & kite training, face painting and PUNCH & JULY from noon
Commentary 14.00

The Great River Race: 0208 3900141 - info@greatriverrace.co.uk

SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER



this. We also sell accommodation, shuttle and spectator boat tickets from our travel agency to the teams taking part and the Lensbury and Teddington Travel Lodge are totally sold out for this weekend so you can see that it injects quite a bit of dosh into the local economy with people booking rooms and eating out and doing a bit of sightseeing and shopping most probably.

This year we are not taking part. Bruce had his 85th birthday this year but it isn't that he is too old, as we row our little boat about every other early morning on the Thames to have coffee before work in Richmond and pick up supplies. But my mum had a big boating accident this year and we are so busy with travel agency work and community commitments that we feel we shouldn't race this time. We are also all moving from two offices into one and the race is a little

For the last 12 years or so I have been rowing with Bruce my dad in the Great River Race. He tells me of a time (as he has been rowing this race long before I joined him) when it started in Ham and went with the tide to the Isle of Dogs where they had a very muddy finish. Now we row it from the Isle of Dogs in the London Basin and follow the tide all the way back to Ham, some 22 miles and now they have a reception area at the end and quite a party atmosphere with food and drink tents and activities for children.

We have a tiny double Thames skiff of which there are a few in the race of over 300 boats but most are huge boats with at least 8, 10 or 12 people on them. Dragon boats also take part. Teams come from all over the globe as far flung as Australia and America and this year they have over 50 foreign teams entered and many from all over Britain: Ireland, Wales and Scotland. It is a major business of sheer nerves I am sure organising all of



© RAY LITTLE 2015

on the risky side and we just can't afford another accident at this time!

But we will be there in Teddington tomorrow checking everyone into the buses and sending them on their way to the docks where their boats are waiting for them having been towed up at the crack of dawn in the morning. I am sure Bruce will be a little sad he isn't joining them this year as he has done for at least the last 20 years. Hopefully next year we will also get on the bus with the others and take part.



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BOOKS FOR STUDENT COOKS

It's that time of year soon, when many youngsters are heading off to university, and their parents suffer great angst at the thought of them catering adequately for themselves. Well, help is at hand, with a nifty little book by West London resident Diana Weiss. When she waved her children off to uni, she discovered that they couldn't be parted from her home cooked food, so it inspired her to write 'Simply No Weigh', a simple collection of recipes that don't require exact measurements or loads of time. From spiced pumpkin soup to Coq au Vin or chocolate biscuit cake, her recipes are easily adaptable for different ingredients and numbers. A copy of the book will make an excellent gift for any soon-to-be home leavers. What's more, every book sold results in a donation to Dogs for Good, an organisation training 'assistance dogs'.

'Simply No Weigh' from [Austin Macauley Publishers](#), is hardback, and available at £20.99.

Here's a recipe for a delicious salad from the book.

SESAME SEED SALAD (serves 4)

- ½ cucumber
- 1 red pepper
- 1 yellow pepper
- 6 spring onions – chopped roughly
- 12 cherry tomatoes - halved
- 1 lime – zest and juice
- 2 teaspoons of runny honey
- 1 tablespoon of grainy mustard
- Handful of chopped mint
- 1 dessertspoon of sesame seeds



What to do

- Cut the cucumber into roughly 20cms slices and then cut them lengthways into fairly fine strips.
- Deseed the peppers and cut them into thin slices, combine them with the cucumber, chopped spring onions and the cherry tomatoes and put them in a salad bowl.
- Mix together the lime juice and zest with the honey and grainy mustard and pour it over the salad.
- Sprinkle with the sesame seeds and the chopped mint.

OR YOU COULD MAKE YOUR OWN!

If you have the time on your hands to do so, another idea would be to make your very own cookery book to present to your offspring! What a unique gift! Whether they are off to uni or setting up in a flat share, this would be a fabulous memento for them. I've been talking to [Motif Photo Books](#) – a simple, easy to use app that allows you to create your own books, cards and calendars. They are offering a special introductory offer of 30 per cent off your first order by quoting TWICKTRIBUNE30 at the checkout. (closing date 31 December 2019)



Instagram: [@theseasonedgastronome](#)

Teddington Action Group Public Meeting



Teddington Action Group's (TAG) meeting on the 5th Sept was held to warn people in Teddington and Twickenham that their quality of life could be ruined by worsening noise, air pollution, and congestion from any expansion of Heathrow. The airport plans to add 25,000 extra flights in the next few years - many between 6am and 7am so that areas such as Teddington will have concentrated arrivals in addition to departures.

Dave Gilbert showed how the noise impact over our area could worsen and will be equivalent to a doubling of flights with less and less time without planes over our heads. Stephen Clark explained how the use of proposed highly concentrated (PBN) routes, creating noise sewers, had been introduced in America and elsewhere as part of airspace modernisation and had resulted in huge levels of public opposition and legal challenges. There were no examples worldwide where PBN routes had worked over high-density populations. This is a massively important issue which has not been addressed by Heathrow. The attempt to concentrate routes in Teddington in 2014 resulted in over 7000 people signing a petition to stop the trials and the birth of TAG. There is also huge concern that the airport's planning and early enabling works budgets have ballooned from £900 million to £2.9 billion in less than two years. These escalating costs raise fundamental questions about the programme and viability of the project.

Councillor Martin Elengorn, Environment and Sustainability cabinet member at Richmond Council reminded people that we are facing a climate emergency and need to take personal responsibility and change the way we do things e.g. driving and flying less. The council were launching their new Climate Change Strategy and Air Quality Action Plan on their website: <https://haveyoursay.citizenspace.com/richmondce/climate-change19/> with a survey for adults and children.

Paul McGuinness from No3Runway Coalition explained where we are on the planning process and pointed out that the position of flightpaths will not be confirmed before 2023 - well after any decision on development consent which is outrageous. He advised that the Judicial Review appeal (in which L B Richmond is a party) will be heard in the High Court in October.

Sir Vince Cable thanked TAG for the help they provide to residents in explaining the technical details. He also pointed out that if private economics don't add up, costs fall on the taxpayer. There were many interesting questions at the end including one wag wondering whether the Prime Minister could be asked to amend his offer of dying in a ditch to lying in front of a bulldozer instead.

Katie Williams said it was really important that people fill out the consultation as the planners will see these responses and she advised looking at TAG's website beforehand: www.teddingtonactiongroup.com for suggested answers then complete the consultation online at <https://aec.heathrowconsultation.com/> by the deadline of 13 Sep. There are 24 questions on various topics. You don't have to reply to them all but please make the time as these changes could have a significant impact on your quality of life.

Please also save a copy of your answers and send them to No 3rd Runway Coalition as they're maintaining a record of key issues raised:

consultation@no3rdrunwaycoalition.co.uk



TEDDINGTON ACTION GROUP
Against Increased Aircraft Noise and Pollution



Summertime Soirée

with Amy Gould and David Harrod
Garrick's Temple, Hampton

On a balmy summer's evening on the banks of Old Father Thames we found ourselves lounging alongside a Grade 1 listed folly in Hampton. The Garrick Temple was built in 1756 as a tribute to a certain Mr William Shakespeare by the actor David Garrick (who made his name and success performing the works of the previously mentioned playwright) in this, the perfect setting for some magical mid-summer happenings - and what a magical evening it was!



As our talented duo opened with the melodic Baroque sounds of Bach, in this setting it was very easy to imagine and experience how it might have been in the Georgian era, sitting in the parlour of a fine house listening to music being performed by a small number of musicians. I was transported by the smooth and flowing bowing of a cello whilst enjoying the authentic sounding representation of a harpsichord from David's modern keyboard. Amy beautifully demonstrated the emotional range of her cello and Bach, journeying from a smooth, flowing legato into a bright skipping pace building to a strong allegro and ending with a restrained, almost tortured emotion straining to burst forth which I felt viscerally. And I always thought Bach was boring!

Following on with a theme of discovery, I was introduced to the work of Astor Piazzolla and his very appropriate piece *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The jazzy, almost Scott Joplin-esque style engendering the passion and fire in the Latin American people, and closing my eyes, images of people dancing the tango through the streets at Mardi Gras. This fusion of jazz and classical styles was echoed in the conversation between the keyboard and cello as they performed their own dance, a connectedness and yet a separation which culminated in a pacing, a pursuing, a passion which may devour, fear yet excitement

Read Ian Nethersell's review at
www.markaspen.com/2019/07/11/sum-soiree

Photography by Alison Gibson and Lewis Lloyd



REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

And have some fun too!!!!

By Bruce Lyons



That's right, we're all thinking of how to protect our wonderful world, so we need to make changes and one way is to "LET THE TRAIN TAKE THE STRAIN" Here at CRUSADER we have been swamped with a wave of clients who take rail journeys to their hearts as far as the deepest south of Spain, to Lisbon and many to Rome and Venice as well as the Italian lakes, there are many



new holiday companies catering for this market with complicated three and four centre holidays too. But away from major holidays and the Summer break we have our wonderful Northern European Cities, Paris, Lille, Brussels and Amsterdam all served by direct Eurostar Services thru



the Tunnel. The Fun? well youngsters find stations and rail travel fascinating less regimented than airports and you can walkabout on trains as well, the journey becomes much more a part of the holiday and the stations are in the centre of town, much nicer than lengthy bus transfers after a flight.



Ghent and Bruges are great destinations for short breaks - and any Belgian destination is a free add on to Brussels on the Eurostar

prices. Not only is the journey a pleasure the countryside is constantly changing and if you choose October School Break you should get the tail end of the Fall Colours. I just worked out that rail and a 4* hotel on a midweek 3-night break in Bruges would cost around £1080 Bruges is famous for its Canals and the old Flemish Merchant Houses as well Belgian Chocolate, Mussels and Fries, Waffles you can



eat that in a Beer House!!

How to keep the cost down, get a good guide it will tell you about walking tours (often free), and of course Museums and cheap transport and where to eat on a budget. It will also tell you where you can hire bikes, but most are full of good tips - like don't order (like we did in Venice) the dish of the day!!!



Bruges has one of oldest Medieval Markets in Europe a really exciting place to while away a morning too. You get to the South Of France too now on direct routes Marseilles and Avignon are both served - and the latter gets you close to Arles and the Canal du Midi and the Camargue, that wild area of Southern France with its

amazing wildlife. Have some fun reducing your footprint

TRAVELLER'S TALES 47

GOD'S OWN COUNTRY



DOUG GOODMAN VISITS SOUTHERN INDIA

Brunton's Boatyard Hotel in Cochin is one of the nicest hotels I have ever stayed in. A refreshing lime juice with soda and a cold towel greeted our arrival in a palm tree filled reception area built around a courtyard. Brunton's is a sprawling five star retreat on Willingdon Island, with British, Dutch and Portuguese influence, on the site of a former Victorian boatyard. The bedroom offered an amazing view over the open sea and port entrance where ferries chugged over to the mainland and giant freighters cruised slowly past. Sitting up in a high bed with breakfast and a copy of The Times of India with such a stunning view was sheer bliss.

We had arrived in Kerala on an overnight train from Goa to Cochin. Indian railways are very efficient as we easily found our names alongside carriage details posted on a big board and hand written on a sheet of paper fixed to the carriage itself. In our shared six berth, air-conditioned compartment we were served dinner and breakfast along with unlimited, ready-mixed sweet tea in large churns. Train travel in India is a sociable experience: Indians like to discuss family, work and life style and are so friendly.

From Brunton's Boatyard there's plenty to see and do within easy reach: the Chinese Fishing Nets keep alive a century's old fishing tradition and the nearby ferry will take you to the mainland. The Mattancherry Palace and Fort Kochi are well worth exploring. The markets offer spices, handicrafts, jewel boxes made from rosewood, sari material and cashew nuts all of which we bought. Don't miss the Paradesi Synagogue in Cochin's old town where the story of the early Jewish settlers and dwindling Jewish population is told. After a delicious spicy dinner at the hotel we walked to a tiny theatre to see a Kathikali performance – the word means story play. The male performers take several hours to put on their elaborate costumes and bright face make up. Devotees watch the intricate hand and facial movements accompanied by drummers and singers. The stage is bare and no words are spoken. Abhinaya – expressions is the essence of Kathikali an art form which combines dance, music, poetry and tradition. The audience will sit enrapt all night but then they do know the plot!



View From Brunton's Boatyard

TROPICAL STATE

Kerala on India's south west coast with its 33 million inhabitants has the country's highest rate of literacy and is more prosperous than many other states. Famous for

the production of spices, tea, coffee and cashew nuts, The Malabar Coast or God's Own Country as the holiday brochures call it, was comparatively unknown as a tourist hotspot before the 1980's when Goa became the leading package holiday State. With 120 rainy days a year and a tropical climate the best months for a visit to Kerala are February and March. The official language is Malayalam but English is widely understood in tourist areas. Kerala is a very tolerant state in both politics and religion: The Communist party is in control and Hinduism is the most widely practised faith followed by the Muslim and Christian faiths.

Kerala's luxury hotel complexes, like the Kumarakom Lake Resort, offer all you need to relax in the sun but there's so much more to experience. There are hill stations to visit, tea plantations, wildlife safaris in the lush tropical forests, health spas offering the traditional Ayurvedic treatments and the extensive Backwaters for houseboat cruises.

I tried an Ayurvedic massage session with hot oil poured on my head: it was incredibly relaxing.

Ayurveda is the ancient science of wellness and holistic medicine and found all over Kerala.



Chinese Fishing Nets



Kathikali Performer



Elephant Parade

JUMBO JAM

Stuck in a long queue of cars as we drove out of Cochin in a gleaming Ambassador our driver exclaimed 'jumbo jam'. Wondering what to expect we soon came upon the cause of the jam: elephants parked none too neatly by the roadside. Kerala has India's largest population of domestic elephants - over 700 owned by temples or individuals. The animals play a leading role in the State's cultural activities and most festivals have at least one caparisoned elephant.

CHRISTMAS DAY IN THE HEAT

We stayed at a tea plantation in Munnar at 4,500 feet above sea level and were shown how to delicately clip the top leaves from the tea bushes to ensure the best quality. In Periyar in The Western Ghats we trekked in the tiger reserve but only saw paw prints and claw marks on trees. Wild elephants were noisy and easy to spot but we had to give them a wide berth, At Thekkady, near the border with Tamil Nadu we cruised on Lake Periyar and on December 25th, at a jungle lodge, a traditional Christmas lunch was provided including pudding with custard, carols and a decorated tree all in a temperature approaching 40 degrees.

Kerala is famous for its Backwaters – an extensive network of small rivers, canals, lakes and estuaries – where you can take a cruise on a Kettuvalam. These are converted rice or freight carrying wooden barges converted to very comfortable house boats.



Cochin Market



Lake at Periyar



The Ambassador

Next week we take a three day cruise on our own boat and meet some of the people who live on the water's edge.

Our tailor-made visit to Kerala was organised by Avion Holidays the specialist operator to India.

A ROOM WITH A VIEW

Africa and Europe from a penthouse veranda at the Elliott Hotel, Gibraltar



<http://worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=Gibraltar>

FOOTBALL FOCUS

by Alan Winter



BRENTFORD FC

BEES ON THE MOVE

The last week or two has seen several Bees players leave the club on loan deals as Thomas Frank adjusts his squad in readiness for this seasons promotion push to the Premiership. Let's take a look at the players who have gone through the "out door" in this period.



Brentford now have six contracted players out on loan this season.

Justin Shaibu is spending his season at Boreham Wood in the National League.

Canice Carroll is at Carlisle United in League Two.

Emiliano Marcondes is in Denmark with Brentford's sister club FC Midtjylland.

Reece Cole is in Scotland with Partick Thistle.

Marcus Forss who recently signed a long term contract with Brentford is just down the road at AFC Wimbledon. Marcus made a goal-scoring debut for the Dons last Saturday.

Ellery Balcombe Brentford's England under 21 goalkeeper is also in Denmark for the season with Viborg F.F.

Halil Dervişoğlu is playing in Holland with Sparta Rotterdam. Striker Halil will join Brentford in January and has helped Sparta to sixth place after five games in the Dutch league so far. Halil has been away with Turkey Under-21's this International break.

OLLIE AND JOEL PICK UP AWARDS

Ollie Watkins' form in August has earned him a place in the WhoScored.com monthly selection. Switched to play through the middle, Ollie scored the only goal of our 1-0 victory on the road at Middlesbrough before netting the equaliser a week later at home to Hull City. The 23-year-old rounded off the month with a double during our 3-0 win over Derby County at Griffin Park last time out. Ollie's tally of four has him tied for fifth in the Championship's top scorers. It has also earned him a spot in this month's WhoScored.com Team of the Month.

Joel Valencia's performances for Piast Gliwice in the Lotto Ekstraklasa last season have been officially recognised as he was presented with two awards from the Polish Union of Footballers (PZP) last week. The 24-year-old was a key component of the Gliwice side that picked up their first ever top flight title in May after winning six of their final seven league games. Joel contributed six goals in 33 league games last term, registering just as many assists. It was those performances, across a variety of midfield roles, which were recognised with a place in the Best XI of the Lotto Ekstraklasa and the coveted Player of the Season award, as chosen by his fellow players. Joel also received the most votes of any midfielder selected in the Best XI nomination. The awards were announced at the Piłkarze Wybierają, the annual Player's choice awards organized every year by the PZP, held in July. The commemorative plaques were then delivered to Joel at Brentford's Jersey Road Training Ground, shortly before the Championship game against Derby County during which the Ecuadorian international made his league debut.

BEES AWAY TO PRESTON TODAY

Brentford travel to Deepdale to face Preston North End today (Saturday Sept 14th). If they continue the form they showed when beating Derby County two weeks ago, then there is every chance of another three points to lift the Bees into the top places in the Championship. Next Saturday (21st) Brentford return to Griffin Park when Stoke City are the visitors. Get your tickets quickly!

Come on you Bees!

HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH

HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH 2 CONCORD RANGERS 3

ATTENDANCE: 485

A last gasp Concord Rangers goal was enough to leave Hampton with nothing from a game in which they competed well against one of the division's stronger teams at the Beveree last Saturday.

Concord took a deserved 1-0 lead after 22 minutes with a fine individual effort by Lamar Reynolds. Concord pressed hard for the second goal of the game, but Hampton were back in the game on 29 minutes with a fine goal by Danilo Orsi- Dadomo. Hampton continued to attack and took the lead early in the second half with Orsi-Dadoma's second goal of the game.

Concord instantly upped the intensity and got a deserved equaliser and the game looked to be heading towards a draw with the Hampton defence holding strong and Laurie Walker in goal dominating from corners and free-kicks, until Concord's Aaron Pollock hammered the ball into the roof of the net in the first minute of injury time.

The 2-3 loss might leave Hampton in a lowly 21st position in the National League South Table, but once again they showed their battling qualities and if they keep up the hard work it is surely only a matter of time until Gary McCann and the team will be celebrating a run of good results.

Next up today, (Saturday 14th September) is an away trip to Slough Town, and the chance to leapfrog others in the extremely bunched up table.

BEAVERS DRAWN AWAY IN FA CUP

The draw for the 2nd qualifying round of the FA Cup sees Hampton and Richmond Borough play away at Chesham United. The game will take place next Saturday (21st September).



Brentford FC have taken big step forward in reducing our plastic waste by introducing reusable bottles for every member of coaching and playing staff at our Jersey Road Training Ground.

In line with Sky Ocean Rescue and the EFL's commitment to improving our impact on the environment, we have joined the fight to #PassOnPlastic by stopping the use of plastic water bottles at our training base in Osterley.

The new season saw a raft of new innovations and equipment upgrades, designed to continue a culture of innovation and creativity across all departments at the Club. Among these was a commitment to eradicate single-use plastic from day to day use at the training ground.



Medical Department Staff Member Chris Domoney was tasked with setting up the project and spoke as the new bottles were introduced to everyone on site.

“Co-Director of Football Phil Giles asked me to drive the removal of single-use plastic at Jersey Road and thus began a quite long process of getting an alternative in place,” said Chris.

“Over the course of a single season we estimate we used 20,000 plastic bottles, adding up to 304kg of plastic waste.

“After exhaustive research we have installed three Pure Water stations around the site, which provide filtered and mineral-enhanced chilled water from our regular mains supply.

“The drive towards a plastic-free environment is also being reflected in excellent work being done by Chef Joe O’Neil and the team around the catering department. The environmental and economic benefits are long term, but we are also striving to introduce the project at other Club sites and the new stadium.

“We are indebted to brand leaders Chilly’s for supplying the bottles, as well as Hawker Softeners and Kinetico for supplying and fitting the filtration equipment.”



INTERNATIONAL ENTRY FOR LONDON'S RIVER MARATHON

Great River Race welcomes Royal Navy

With entries from America, Australia, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Kuwait and the Netherlands competing against traditional boats from every part of the UK, the Great River Race on September 14 will be truly international. And with a super-fast Trainera from the Basque Country in Spain, crewed by twelve highly-experienced British rowers determined to break the 21.6-mile course record of 2 hours, 3 minutes and 14 seconds, it will be highly competitive too. Racing from London's Docklands to Ham, Richmond, in addition to the Trainera, will be over 300 gigs, skiffs, cutters, naval whalers, Chinese dragon boats, Hawaiian war canoes, longboats, shallops, skerries, wherries and many, many more. All are traditional-style, fixed-seat, coxed craft powered by a minimum of four oars or paddles. To give all crews an equal chance, entrants are handicapped according to the calculated potential performance of their boats. And, to add spice to the contest, it is run on a 'slowest away first, fastest last' pursuit basis, with every boat individually timed over the course.



They will be accompanied, for part of the way, by two Royal Navy P2000 Archer Class Patrol Boats, supporting the many Services entries and in recognition of the choice of Help for Heroes as the official charity

Race Director, Stuart Wolff said today; "We are delighted to have such an international entry taking part and honoured by the Navy's participation." He added, "The Race attracts both the true racer and the leisure rower, with boats propelled by a bunch

of enthusiasts ranging from barely teenage Sea Scouts to hardened offshore rowing veterans more used to racing anywhere from the south coast to the south seas and entered by such diverse outfits as museums, rowing clubs, pubs, youth organisations, police, fire brigades, the armed services, boating societies and groups just out take part and beat the course"

The overall winners will take The Challenge Trophy of The Company of Watermen & Lightermen of the River Thames, becoming the UK Traditional Boat Champions in the process. There are 32 more trophies to be won in gender, age and boat-related classes..

Most will be raising money for charity, including the official charity 'Help for Heroes', and many are sure to add to the spectacle of the Race by competing in fancy dress.

RACE INFORMATION

The Great River Race starts from the Millwall Slipway, opposite the Docklands Sailing Centre, Westferry Road E14 3QS at 11.25 hours on Saturday, September 14, with boats leaving on handicap. A winner is expected at Ham Riverside, below Ham House, Richmond at about 14.30 hours, with approximate intermediate bridge timings as follows: Tower – 11.50; Millennium – 11.52; Westminster – 12.05; Lambeth – 12.10; Battersea – 12.25; Wandsworth – 12.35; Putney – 12.40; Hammersmith – 12.55; Chiswick – 13.25; Kew – 13.40 and Richmond – 14.15

Red Roses 2020 Six Nations fixtures announced

The Women's 2020 Six Nations fixtures have been confirmed with holders England returning to Castle Park, Doncaster and The Twickenham Stoop for their two home games. Next year's schedule replicates that of the senior men and U20 teams, with the Red Roses starting their campaign against France in Pau [Sunday 2 February, KO 12.30pm GMT] before travelling to Glasgow to face Scotland [Sunday 9 February, KO 12.10pm].

Simon Middleton's side then return to Doncaster for a third time as they welcome Ireland [Sunday 23 February, KO 12.45pm and live on Sky Sports Mix, Action and Main Event]. Earlier this year, a crowd of 4,674 backed the Red Roses in their Six Nations victory over France at Castle Park, following 3,876 who were present for England's victory over Canada at the same venue in November 2018.

The Red Roses then take on Wales at Harlequins' Twickenham Stoop home [Saturday 7 March, KO 12.05pm and live on Sky Sports Mix, Action and Main Event]. Later that day, Eddie Jones' senior men's side host Wales at Twickenham [KO 4.45pm], providing supporters with the opportunity to watch both of England's senior teams on the same day in TW2. England's final game of the tournament sees them travel to an Italian side who finished runners-up this year as they head to Padova on Sunday 15 March [KO 1330 GMT].

England head coach Simon Middleton said: *"The Six Nations is an integral part of our season. Last year we played some excellent stuff and were rewarded with a Grand Slam. We will be looking to move those performances up to another level this time around and hopefully that will bring us the outcome we want and another Championship. Last year we saw Italy challenge and make a statement to show where their game is at, that was not only great from an Italian point of view, but from a Six Nations perspective too. We're really looking forward to going back to Castle Park. There was a great atmosphere against France in what was a huge game in terms of the Six Nations earlier this year. We were up on the gantry and I remember the roar when the team came out and thinking 'this is brilliant, this is the type of stage we want to be on'. It'll be great to go back for a big game against a top international side. We're also pleased to be returning to."*

Doncaster Knights commercial manager Michael Casey said: *"We are delighted to have been chosen to host the Red Roses and Ireland in the 2020 Women's Six Nations. The fixtures against Canada and France last season were absolutely fantastic and confirmed how popular the women's game is in the county. All the team at Castle Park are really excited to work with England Rugby and rooting for the Red Roses to make it a third win on Donny soil!"*

Harlequins chief executive David Ellis said: *"We have a rich and colourful history of hosting England Women's matches at the Home of Harlequins, in tournaments such as the Rugby World Cup and in major international Test matches and we are honoured to showcase the prestige of the Six Nations Championship in 2020. At Harlequins we pride ourselves on our commitment to driving parity in the game and this fixture will further grow the profile of women's rugby and women's sport. As a club, we are proud to have a number of players in both our men's and women's squads who have represented England and Wales and we hope that this fixture will allow us to exhibit more of our international pedigree.."*

England secured maximum points in their 2019 success, scoring 278 points in their five fixtures. The victory was their ninth Grand Slam.

England Women Six Nations fixtures:

France v England
Sunday 2 February, KO 12.30pm GMT
Stade du Hameau, Pau

Scotland v England
Sunday 9 February, KO 12.10pm GMT
Scotstoun, Glasgow

England v Ireland
Sunday 23 February, KO 12.45pm GMT – live on Sky Sports
Mix, Action and Main Event
Castle Park, Doncaster

England v Wales
Saturday 7 March, KO 12.05pm GMT – live on Sky Sports
Mix, Action and Main Event
The Twickenham Stoop
Tickets are available here

Italy v England
Sunday 15 March, KO 1.30pm GMT
Stadio Plebiscito, Padova



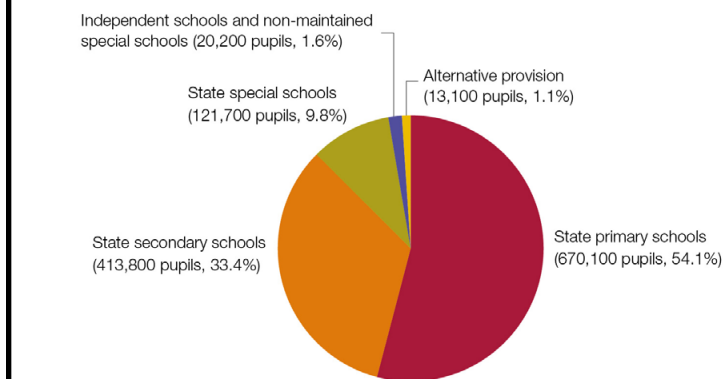
Support for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities in England

While some children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) are receiving high-quality support, many others are not getting the help they should, according to the National Audit Office (NAO). Local authorities are coming under growing financial pressure as the demand for supporting school pupils with the greatest needs rises.

In its report published today, the NAO estimates that the Department for Education (DfE) gave local authorities £9.4 billion to spend on support for pupils with SEND in 2018-19 – 24.0% of their total core grant for schools. While the DfE has increased school funding, the number of pupils identified as having the greatest needs – those in special schools and with education, health and care plans (EHC plans)¹ in mainstream schools – rose by 10.0% between 2013-14 and 2017-18. Over the same period, funding per pupil dropped by 2.6% in real terms for those with high needs, and also decreased for those without EHC plans.

Figure 3
Where pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) are educated, by type of school, at January 2019

Most pupils with SEND are educated in mainstream state primary and secondary schools



- Notes
- Figures for pupils attending independent schools exclude pupils who do not have education, health and care plans (EHC plans), because they are not supported by public funding.
 - Alternative provision is education arranged by local authorities for pupils who, because of exclusion, illness or other reasons, would not otherwise receive suitable education.
 - As well as pupils educated at school, there were 2,800 children and young people with EHC plans (0.8%) for whom parents made other arrangements, including home education, and 3,000 for whom the local authority made other arrangements.

Source: National Audit Office analysis of data from the Department for Education's *January 2019 school census*, published July 2019; the source for Note 3 is the Department for Education's January 2019 data collection from local authorities, published May 2019

Local authorities are increasingly overspending their budgets for children with high needs. In 2017-18, 81.3% of councils overspent compared with 47.3% in 2013-14. This is primarily driven by a 20% increase in the number of pupils attending special schools instead of mainstream education. Local authorities have also sharply increased the amount they spend on independent special schools – by 32.4% in real terms between 2013-14 and 2017-18. In some cases, this is due to a lack of appropriate places at state special schools.

In response to overspending against these budgets, local authorities are transferring money from their budgets for mainstream schools to support pupils with high needs. They are also using up their ringfenced

school reserves, which have dropped by 86.5% in the last four years. This is not a sustainable approach.

Stakeholders in the sector have raised concerns that the demand for special school places is growing because the system incentivises mainstream primary and secondary schools to be less inclusive. Mainstream schools are expected to cover the first £6,000 of support for a child with SEND from existing budgets and cost pressures can make them reluctant to admit or keep pupils with SEND. Another barrier is that schools with high numbers of children with SEND may also appear to perform less well against performance metrics.

Pupils with SEND, particularly those without EHC plans, are more likely to be permanently

excluded from school than those without SEND. Pupils with SEND accounted for 44.9% of permanent exclusions in 2017/18. Evidence also suggests that pupils with SEND are more likely to experience off-rolling - where schools encourage parents to remove a child primarily for the school's benefit - than other pupils.

While Ofsted has consistently rated over 90% of state special schools as good or outstanding, most pupils with SEND attend mainstream schools. Short Ofsted inspections of 'good' mainstream schools are not designed to routinely comment on SEND provision, so provide limited assurance of its quality.

The NAO has also raised questions about the consistency of support across the country as there are substantial unexplained variations between different local areas. Joint Ofsted and Care Quality Commission inspections indicate that many local areas are not supporting children as effectively as they should be.

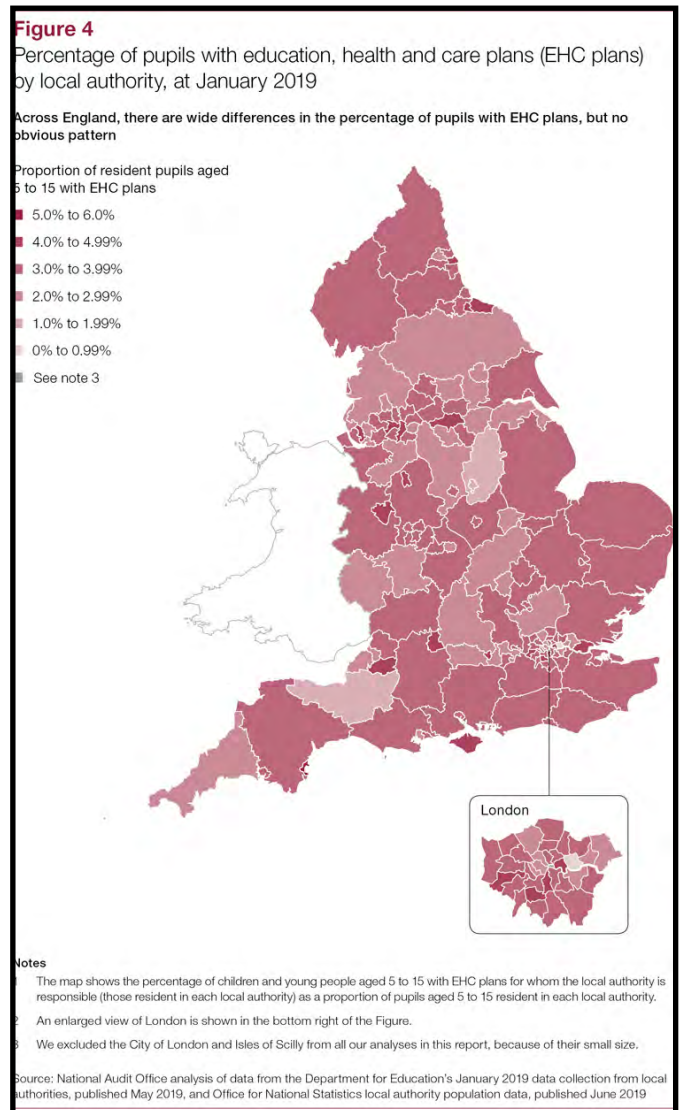
The NAO recommends that the DfE should assess how much it would cost to provide the system for supporting pupils with SEND created by the 2014 reforms and use this to determine whether it is affordable. The Department needs better measures of the effectiveness of SEND support in preparing pupils for their adult lives and should make changes to funding and accountability arrangements to encourage and support mainstream schools to be more inclusive. It should also investigate the reasons for local variations to increase confidence in the fairness of the system, identify good practice and promote improvement.

Since the report was completed, on Friday 6 September, the DfE announced a review of support for pupils with SEND.

Gareth Davies, the head of the NAO, said today:

“Access to the right support is crucial to the happiness and life chances of the 1.3 million pupils with SEND in England. While lots of schools, both special and mainstream, are providing high-quality education for pupils with SEND, it is clear that many children’s needs are not being met.

“I therefore welcome the Department for Education’s announcement last week of a review into support for children with SEND, following our engagement with them on this issue over recent months. We hope the review will secure the improvements in quality and sustainability that are needed.”



National Audit Office

Richmond Film Society's 57th Season of World Cinema continues at The Exchange, Twickenham

24 September, 8pm

'Shoplifters' (Japan)

RFS's season continues with Hirokazu Koreeda's Palme d'Or winning drama. After a shoplifting trip, Osamu and his son run into a homeless girl shivering with cold. Osamu's wife is not keen to take her in, but she feels sorry for her and eventually relents. Then an incident unveils a secret that tests their bond. Winner of 43 awards and shortlisted for the 2019 Foreign Language Film Oscar.

www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk

Non-member tickets are £5 (full-time students £3) and can be purchased in advance from The Exchange's Box Office (subject to a cap of 60) - in person, by telephone on 020 8240 2399 or online at

www.exchangetwickenham.co.uk/events/. A further 50 or so tickets

will be available to purchase on the door on the night of screenings (cash only) on a 'first-come-first-served' basis.

Films are shown at 8.00pm sharp on alternate Tuesdays (no trailers and no ads) and are screened at The Exchange, 75 London Road, Twickenham, TW1 1BE. On screening nights, the Bar is open from 7.00pm and remains open after the film. Drinks can be taken into the auditorium and coffee, tea and snacks are also available. Film notes are provided for each screening and audience feedback is obtained via response slips.



Half Page

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Landscape

Quarter Page Portrait

Eighth Page

Eighth Page
Landscape

Example advert sizes shown above

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Published by:

Twickenham Alive Limited (in association with World InfoZone Limited)

Registered in England & Wales

Reg No 10549345

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