

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

Contents

TickerTape
 TwickerSeal
 COVID-19
 Borough View
 The Worst Night Of The War
 Marble Hill Marvels
 Letters
 "Sea-Port In Miniature"
 Richmond Sparkle
 Hammersmith Bridge
 River Crane Sanctuary
 Petitions
 Twickers Foodie
 St Mary's University Update
 Traveller's Tales
 WIZ Tales - Uruguay
 Reviews
 Film Screenings
 Football Focus

Contributors

TwickerSeal
 Graeme Stoten
 Marble Hill House
 Simon Fowler
 The Green Party
 Royal Parks
 Sammi Macqueen
 Alison Jee
 Richmond College
 St Mary's University
 Shona Lyons
 Bruce Lyons
 Doug Goodman
 Richmond Film Society
 James Dowden
 RFU
 LBRuT
 NAO

Editors

Berkley Driscoll
 Teresa Read



20th November 2020

T&RT

Twickenham Green Christmas Tree

Photo by Berkley Driscoll

TickerTape - News in Brief

New technology helps the Council fill potholes faster

An innovative new method for repairing the borough's roads is being rolled out this week as Richmond Council has taken delivery of its thermal repair equipment.

Following a successful pilot in June 2020, the Council will now use the technology to carry out a range of road repairs throughout the borough. The first programme of works will be carried out in Barnes over the next week.

By reheating the existing road surface, there will be no need to remove the old material, which greatly reduces the disposal of waste material and the amount of new asphalt material required. In addition, carbon emissions are reduced by removing the need for power tools which use fossil fuels. This also means the new thermal method is quieter and more suitable for repairs in areas of the borough where noise pollution is an issue.

View the [repairs timetable](#).

Lord True for Chief of Staff?

There are rumours of Lord True as a possible Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, although there are a number of candidates in the frame following the departure of Dominic Cummings. Lord True currently serves as Minister of State for European Union Relations and Constitutional Policy and was formerly Leader of LBRuT council.

No shows at Townmead Road mean residents miss out

Around 25% of people who booked appointments at Townmead Road Household Waste and Recycling centre last month failed to turn up – meaning a longer wait for a slot for other residents. Earlier this year, a new online booking system was launched, enabling people to book their slot in advance and avoid lengthy traffic queues.

Due to the social distancing measures in place, the number of visitors allowed on the site at one time had to be restricted. The reduced capacity of the site meant there could be up to two weeks' wait for an available slot.

Over the past few months, the number of people booking a slot but not turning up has increased - and last month, a quarter of bookings failed to be honoured.

[Visit the News page for more stories](#)

skyelectrical

Replacing your halogen recessed lights with LEDs will:

- ✓ SAVE ENERGY
- ✓ SAVE YOU MONEY
- ✓ PROVIDE BETTER LIGHTING

So...

- ✓ CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE HOME ASSESSMENT AND QUOTE

For a timed appointment please call Sky Electrical on 020 8894 1799

22 Fifth Cross Road, Twickenham, Middlesex, TW2 5LF

www.skyelectrical.co.uk



020 8894 1799
info@skyelectrical.co.uk



On Monday 16th November the Finance, Policy and Resources Committee met to decide on proposals to prepare for Compulsory Purchase Orders on properties within the Twickenham Riverside

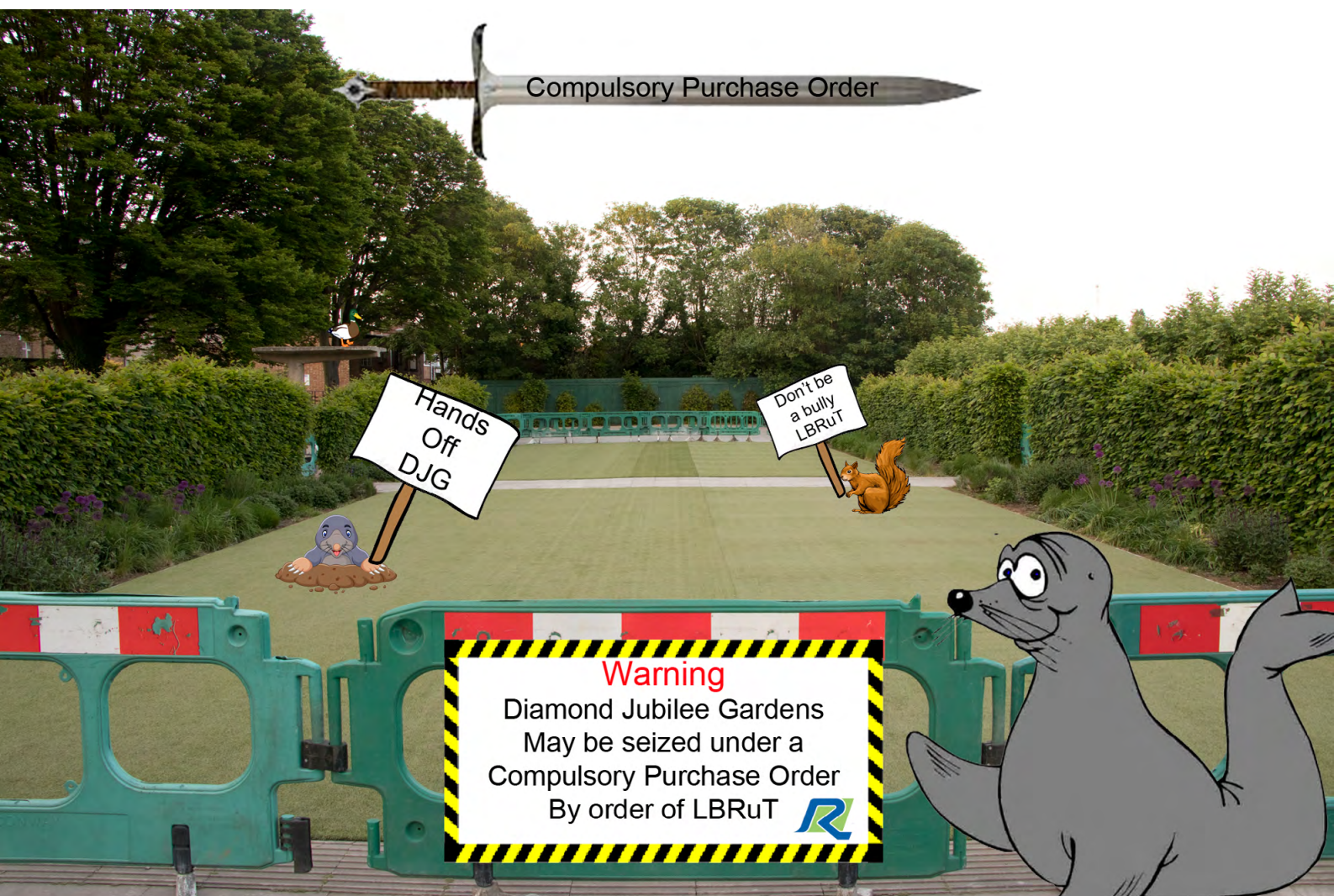
development site.

The land which would be potentially included in the CPO consists of the Diamond Jubilee Gardens, the various leases in the King Street buildings previously purchased by the council (the Santander block) and land owned by the Port of London Authority (to everyone's amazement it turns out that much of the Embankment is owned by the PLA).

Thanks to impassioned pleas from the Chairman of the Twickenham Riverside Trust Hugh Brasher and local resident Susan Chappell, as well as committee members Cllr Paul Hodgins & Cllr Aphra Brandreth, the council was persuaded to temporarily put consideration of a CPO on the DJG until further discussion at the committee meeting on 18th January 2021.

This grudging reprieve does not remove the threat of a CPO, but allows more time for further dialogue, albeit with the menace of a CPO hanging over the Trust's head during negotiations.

TwickerSeal still doesn't understand why the council wants to spend hundreds of thousands of Pounds on the CPOs; the King Street leases will be expiring in the near future and the PLA is a willing seller of the Embankment land it owns.



Borough View By Graeme Stoten

'November Draw-off'

A traditional annual event, the PLA open the weirs at Richmond Lock during November for essential maintenance.

In so doing, the Thames can adopt its natural levels between Richmond and Teddington especially low tide. At this time the riverbed can become completely exposed within the Eel Pie channel (unfortunately not on this visit), and bring about a dramatic change in the riverside landscape.

The flow here from Teddington is still quite strong with a foot or so of water, hiding the riverbed's secrets!



COVID-19

By Teresa Read

From the World Health Organization:

More cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the past 4 weeks than in the first six months of the pandemic. This week there has been more good news from vaccine trials, which continues to give us hope of ending the pandemic.

In the News

As we have seen in the news this week vaccines produced by BioNTech-Pfizer and Moderna, based on mRNA (messengerRNA) technology, are now in production.

These vaccines use strands of genetic code, based on the virus's genetic material (RNA) to train the body's immune system to produce an immune response.

The latest news from the Oxford University vaccine trials is that the vaccine is said to produce a strong immune response in older adults.

Countries with High Numbers of Deaths Recorded by the World Health Organization

Deaths Worldwide 1,349,506

USA 248,571

Brazil 167,455

India 132,162

Mexico 99,528

The United Kingdom 53,274

Italy 47,217

France 46,351

Iran 43,417

Spain 40,769

Argentina 36,347

Peru 35,402

Russian Federation 34,850

Colombia 34,563

South Africa 20,566

Micronutrients, such as vitamins D and C and zinc, are critical for a well-functioning immune system and play a vital role in promoting health and nutritional well-being.

There is currently no guidance on the use of micronutrient supplements as a treatment of COVID-19.

WHO is coordinating efforts to develop and evaluate medicines to treat COVID-19.

**FACT:
Vitamin and
mineral supplements
cannot cure COVID-19**



World Health
Organization

#Coronavirus

#COVID19

22 September 2020

Council welcomes further analysis of Stag Brewery plans

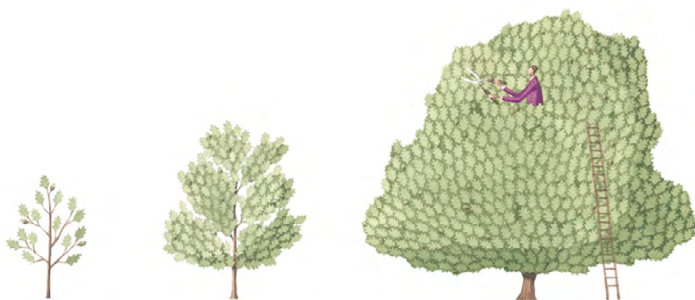
As a result of the Council and the community raising concerns about the impact of the ongoing closure of Hammersmith Bridge on the proposed Stag Brewery development – the Mayor of London has delayed his Planning hearing to further consider local transport issues and to do further assessment and consultation on the latest proposals and mitigation.



Earlier this year the local Planning Committee resolved to approve Applications A and B for the redevelopment of the Stag Brewery and refuse Application C for the Chalkers Corner highway works, subject to no adverse direction or call in by the Greater London Authority (GLA) or the National Planning Casework Unit.

The applications were formally referred to the GLA in April. Subsequently, the GLA issued a public direction that, due to the nature and scale of the development, the level of affordable housing proposed and the potential highway impacts of the proposed development following the refusal of application C, the applications warrant further consideration and the Mayor of London would thereby “call in” and act as the local planning authority for the purposes of determining all three planning applications. (Application A was then amended, as set out in the Notes to Editors.)

As part of his deliberations, a statutory consultation was held on the latest proposals. Richmond Council formally submitted feedback, outlining concerns regarding the Transport Assessment and the increased height and bulk of some of the buildings. The latest issue is the assumption that Hammersmith Bridge would be reopening sooner rather than later and no reference to what impact a prolonged closure of the bridge would have on the surrounding area with the Mortlake development.



The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

The Treehouse
25 King Edwards Grove
Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9LY
Telephone 020 8274 0107
Mobile 07960 123580
Fax 020 8274 0119
info@thetreeagency.co.uk
www.thetreeagency.co.uk



The Tree Agency

The Worst Night Of The War Part 1

By Simon Fowler

The evening of 29 November 1940 saw a very heavy German raid causing great damage to both Twickenham and Richmond and lead to the deaths of scores of civilians. As it was easy to spot Richmond Park and the River Thames from the air Luftwaffe navigators found it easy to locate, although there were few obvious military targets. But by this time the whole of London and its suburbs was a target.

In this week's column we look at what happened in Twickenham and Teddington. Next week we will concentrate on Richmond.

Across Twickenham it was said that few roads had not been damaged in some way during the raid. Teddington was particularly bad hit. A local fire warden Lilian Dring remembered: '...the Baltic Timber Yard, Stanley Road and the Baptist Church in Church Road went up in mountains of flame, which almost met over our heads as we patrolled in Walpole Road.'

Some 6,000 buildings across the town were damaged in some way, with another 150 totally destroyed and 350 more severely affected.

More importantly 61 people lost their lives with many more wounded.

At the Willoughby Arms Pub in Church Road, Teddington eight people sheltering in the cellar were killed, and Argyle Road was badly hit. Lilian Dilly praised the doctors who 'performed hazardous operations to release those still alive but trapped in the tottering buildings.'

The National Physical Laboratory received only minor damage but two high-explosive bombs destroyed a deep shelter in its grounds killing six people instantly with another couple subsequently dying from their wounds. Among the casualties were the young family of another ARP warden Arthur Rumble, who was so busy helping at local incidents he only learnt of their deaths next day.

The devastation in Twickenham was less concentrated, which led to fewer deaths. Even so Mrs Dring, later wrote that she well remembered 'the Christmas card effect of the dust-covered roofs and roads - so white and thick it looked like snow. And how, when we fell flat because of a passing bomb, we were white with dust when rising. Someone even said: 'It's snowing', but it was only the dust, dust, dust of shattered buildings.'

One prominent building which was lost was the Royal Naval School for the Daughters of Naval Officers in Kilmorey Road. Speaking about the raid, the German propagandist William Joyce - Lord Haw Haw - is supposed to have apologised for the destruction of the Royal Naval School on Richmond Green: 'We are sorry to have had to bomb the Naval School - so upsetting for the fathers at sea.' In fact the School had crossed the Thames seventy years previously.



Local fire wardens with a pump
Credit: Museum of Richmond

Jerusalem artichokes

By Kas Rasenberg

Last week at the kitchen garden, I received a handful of Jerusalem artichokes. The little root vegetables were still covered by a layer of dark soil. They had been unearthed in the kitchen garden, located in a corner of Marble Hill Park, where a group of volunteers meet weekly to cultivate an array of heirloom specimens.



The Jerusalem artichoke - or the *helianthus tuberosus* - might not appear the most handsome of late autumn vegetables, but I think its humble roots are worthy of closer appraisal. These obscure little specimens have caused a great confusion amongst linguists, who still debate the origin of their name. The helianthus has little to do with the city near the Dead Sea, nor does it belong to the family of artichokes. It is said that the plant is a sunflower. Its name might have been a mistranslation of *Girasóle articiocco*, or the Italian variant of the plant that was already cultivated in the Farnese Garden in Rome.

Petrus Hondius - or the Dutch poet and botanist born during the sixteenth century - was astonished by the propagation of the Jerusalem artichoke. He had witnessed a half-withered tuber, no larger than a chestnut, produce eleven roots that were considerably larger than the one he had assumed to be dead. The helianthus is not injured by frost and even thrives in poor, under-manured soil. Its dried stalks and leaves have been considered to be as valuable as hay collected from the meadows and have fed many a sheep or cow.

Alas the Jerusalem artichoke is, too, connected to more solemn memories. To the Omahas of North America, the plant was nourishment for orphaned children and it is said that the tubers were as valuable as wild dandelions during the years of the war. Perhaps it is, therefore, that the Jerusalem artichoke should be considered of more value. Old scraps of bread have their history and should not be thrown.

Dear Sir,

The Lebanese Loop

I was scammed this afternoon. Not seriously fortunately. But once is more than enough. A youngish well-dressed man speaking perfect French came up to my wife and I as we were walking down Kew Road, wanting help using a parking meter paypoint. He only had fifty-pound notes and a foreign credit card which he said wouldn't work. The man took us to a machine in Old Deer Park Gardens where he offered me change if I paid for the ticket with a credit card. In the confusion he palmed the card and memorised the PIN number as I typed it in. Should I have kept it secret; well I didn't.

The machine supposedly swallowed the card. Using his phone the man purported to ring through to the 'help desk', who said a technician would be around to retrieve the card in about fifteen minutes. Ten minutes later the 'engineer' rang to say he would be there in a few minutes.

It was then then I got a text from the Bank asking me whether I had spent £750 in an off-licence. Of course, not. Then the penny dropped. It took an anxious half-hour on the phone to sort things out. More seriously It turned out that they had taken a very large amount of cash using an ATMS

Thinking about it later the signs were obvious, he confused and distracted us. We trusted him because he was well-dressed and polite.

Checking online later there has been a number of such cases locally – known to the police as the Lebanese Loop Scam. As well as feeling embarrassed there was a certain admiration for his skills and those of his accomplices.

So, if a polite man approaches you for help with a parking meter, make your excuses and leave.

Simon Fowler, Richmond

Dear Sir,

Red letter day - Tribune 208

I was interested to read Doug Goodman's article in issue 208 about Royal Mail post boxes. I live in Heathfield South, and there is an Edward V111 post box on the corner of Heathfield South and Egerton Road, opposite Richmond College (see attached photograph).

Regards

Diana Fieldwick, Twickenham



The River Vista from Strawberry Hill

Horace Walpole's "Sea-Port in Miniature"

The view from Strawberry Hill of Twickenham Riverside was immortalised in the words of the founder of Strawberry Hill, Horace Walpole (1717-1779), the famous son of our first Prime Minister, Sir Robert Walpole.

From the window of Strawberry Hill House, Walpole would be able to look left towards Twickenham which he described as a 'sea-port in miniature':

"The enclosed enchanted little landscape, then, is Strawberry Hill.... This view of the castle is what I have just finished [it was a view of the south side, towards the north-east], and is the only side that will be at all regular. Directly before it is an open grove, through which you see a field, which is bounded by a serpentine wood of all kind of trees, and flowering shrubs, and flowers.

The lawn before the house is situated on the top of a small hill, from whence to the left you see the town and church of Twickenham encircling a turn of the river, that looks exactly like a sea-port in miniature."



Twickenham Riverside seen from Radnor Gardens

Protecting Views and Vistas

Policy LP 5 of the Supplementary Planning Document for Strawberry Hill

https://www.richmond.gov.uk/media/15400/strawberry_hill_village_planning_guidance_supplementary_planning_document.pdf

Policy LP 5 'Views and Vistas Seeks to protect the quality of views, vistas, gaps and the skyline that contribute significantly to the character and quality of the local and wider area. Within the existing Development Management Plan the equivalent policy is DM TC 7.

Strawberry Hill House

<https://worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=StrawberryHillHouse&page=2>

Council prepares for Compulsory Purchase Order on the Diamond Jubilee Gardens. Watch the recent meeting's webcast [HERE](#) and view the minutes and agenda [HERE](#)

Petitions

Stop the introduction of parking charges in Richmond Park and Bushy Park

The Royal Parks intend to introduce car parking charges in Richmond Park and Bushy Park. This is an indefensible proposal, particularly at a time when the link between poverty, obesity and poor health has been so clearly highlighted by the impact of Covid 19.

Spending time in the park is one of the very few free and healthy options for families and individuals. It is essential for people's mental and physical well being that access to the parks is encouraged rather than restricted. If, as a society, we really want to fight obesity we must continue to provide spaces for free and healthy exercise.

During lockdown, a much more diverse and geographically widespread group of people discovered the joys of Bushy and Richmond Park; this is a cause for celebration and should be viewed as a positive and healthy development and encouraged as much as possible.

The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

Accept the proposal to reinstate a Lido on Twickenham Riverside

During consultations with local stakeholders it has become clear that there is a wish to bring back a Lido on Twickenham Riverside.

A Lido on Twickenham Riverside would provide a leisure and sport facility for the people of Twickenham and surrounding areas.

More importantly though, it provides the local people with an everyday escape from modern life, an accessible urban retreat.

Such a facility on Twickenham Riverside would act as a Magnet and contribute to the rejuvenation of the town. The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

Petition for Richmond and Twickenham

Provision of Public Toilets and Hand Washing facilities in Richmond & Twickenham and enforcement of Anti-Social behaviour PSPO's

A petition has been launched seeking action from the council regarding anti-social behaviour, including public urination and defecation, in Twickenham and Richmond (particularly the greens).

On 23th August a call was made to hold an emergency meeting of the Council to discuss the growing problem; however, this was refused by the council delaying any discussion until late September.

Residents can't help but feel that the administration is kicking the can down the road.

The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

Return the borough to 30mph

Petition the Council to restore the 30mph speed limit

There has been an increase in dangerous and aggressive driving since the introduction of the 20mph speed limit.

The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

Share some winter sparkle to spread some joy

Richmond Council has joined the #RichmondSparkle campaign encouraging residents to light up their homes, businesses and schools this winter to help spread some joy across the borough.

The Winter Sparkle initiative is the brain child of a group of neighbours in Whitton who came up with the idea of illuminating their houses with fairy lights to brighten up their neighbourhood and put a smile on their neighbours faces as the evenings began to get darker.

The #RichmondSparkle campaign aims to encourage residents to spread a little cheer in a year which has been extremely difficult for so many people. The Council would like the initiative to be rolled out across the whole borough. So, local people are encouraged to decorate their houses, businesses and schools with fairy lights which can be kept in place until the evenings get brighter again. Residents are encouraged to share their creations with the Council, so they can be shared with the wider community.

Cllr Michael Wilson, Spokesperson for Communities, Equalities and the Voluntary Sector, said:

“The introduction of a second lockdown has been difficult for many people across the borough especially as the evenings get darker earlier and the weather turns. The #RichmondSparkle campaign aims to brighten up the evenings for residents and spread some joy at a difficult time for many of our residents struggling through the second lockdown.

“I would encourage everyone to get involved with the campaign and to decorate their homes, businesses and schools and help to spread some cheer. Share your creations with us via social media and we will share your illuminating work with the rest of the borough.”

Jo Shaw, of the Winter Lights & Sparkle Facebook group said:

“The idea of the campaign is to pop some fairy lights up at the front of the house that can be kept up until Spring, most of our houses in Cedar Avenue Whitton are lit up and it’s having a big impact on everyone who passes by to see our sparkly street. We want everyone to feel a little bit of cheer and hope in these dark and difficult times and hope everyone joins us.”

Share your #RichmondSparkle creations of your home, business or school with the Council via [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#) using the hashtag #RichmondSparkle

There will also be a special prize given out for the best entry received by the Council.

Check out the Whitton neighbourhood [Winter Sparkle & Lights Facebook page](#) for some inspiration.



New book awards and fund launched for Richmond and Kingston children

A new primary school children's book awards scheme has been launched in Richmond and Kingston, alongside a new fund that aims to raise money to help buy books for children from low income families.

Coombe Hill Junior School headteacher, Mark Clutterbuck, teamed up with Debbie Thomas, a Lead School Improvement Adviser for English from Achieving for Children, to launch an awards programme that will help promote reading and writing.



Over 50 books have already been submitted for each of the three categories (books for children aged four to seven, seven to nine and nine to eleven). Authors can still submit their books to be considered.

A team of judges, which include teachers, librarians and local book sellers, will then shortlist the books to a list of four in each category. Children from the schools that have signed up to the scheme will then be invited to read the books next spring and vote on their favourite. Parents are asked to check that their primary school has signed up, and if not contact the Spark! team.

The winners will be announced in May.

At the same time, the new Spark! team have launched an online fundraiser to ensure that those children from low income families can also participate and have access to the books. Residents are invited to support the scheme and donate online. Find out more [HERE](#)

A festive poster for an art event. At the top, a banner reads 'Eel Pie Island Artists' with the subtitle 'Slightly different open studio's 2020'. The main text says 'ST. MARY'S CHURCH HALL, CHURCH ST. TW1'. The background is a winter scene with a reindeer pulling a sleigh with Santa Claus, a man in a red coat and hat, a woman hula hooping, and a hot air balloon with 'CHRISTMAS' written on it. The bottom of the poster features the dates 'SATURDAY 5TH & SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER 11AM ~ 5PM' and a list of activities: 'CARTOONISTS, CERAMICS, FINE ART, PAINTING, PICTURE FRAMING, POTTERY, PRINTMAKING, SCULPTURE'. Contact information is provided: 'CONTACT US: EELPIELANDARTISTS@GOOGLEMAIL.COM WWW.EELPIELANDARTISTS.CO.UK'. Social media icons for Facebook and Instagram are also present, with the handle 'EEL.PIE.ARTISTS.' and 'EELPIELANDARTISTS' respectively. The poster is decorated with holly leaves and red berries at the bottom.

Greens demand certainty from the Mayor for west London residents

A petition addressed to the Mayor of London from the Green Party calls for clarity, collaboration and certainty over the future of Hammersmith Bridge. Lack of direction and funding from the Government, Mayor and London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham means that residents are being asked to wait for years before the bridge is reopened to walking and cycling, while the promised ferry has no fixed starting date or information about what service will be provided.

The 'Hammersmith Bridge - We Need A Plan' petition has three demands:

1. Let Londoners know when the bridge can be safely reopened for walking and cycling: set a target date and stick to it;
2. Make an immediate plan to improve temporary transport links by providing safe, protected, well-lit routes for people to walk and cycle on either side of the river, connected initially by the ferry and eventually the bridge when it reopens to walking and cycling; and
3. Reassure Londoners that the ferry service starting in the New Year will carry bicycles and be free to use.

Zack Polanski, Green Party candidate for the London Assembly, says:

"As a direct consequence of the bridge being out of action, residents on both sides of the river are suffering. They are being denied access to hospitals, schools and friends and family. They are effectively being cut off from the other half of the capital - this is a totally unacceptable situation."

CLLr Andree Frieze, Deputy Leader of the Green Group on Richmond Council, says:

"Currently no one in Government, Transport for London or Hammersmith & Fulham Council is taking responsibility for fixing Hammersmith Bridge. It is being used for political point scoring, with each party more concerned about making the other look bad than actually helping residents. It is time for all the stakeholders to collaborate properly and provide West London with certainty and clarity about what is happening."



View the petition [HERE](#)

The Royal Parks launches consultation on plans to reduce cut-through motor traffic on park roads

The Royal Parks charity is inviting local residents, park visitors and partners to take part in a formal consultation on plans to create new spaces for park visitors and reduce the volume of cut-through vehicle traffic in the parks. The consultation will open on 16 November 2020 and run for 8 weeks until 10 January 2021.

The charity began five trials across six of the Royal Parks to close sections of roads on 15 August. This includes making The Mall car-free on weekends during daylight hours and opening up new car-free spaces for visitors to enjoy the natural environment.

The trials will last six months, concluding in February 2021.

Drivers can park in car parks as usual although access routes to certain car parks are restricted. These trials follow the launch of The Royal Parks' Movement Strategy in February.

A Royal Parks spokesperson said: *"We would like to make sure everyone, including residents, visitors and our partners, has a chance to share their views on these important trials and we urge everyone to take part in the consultation, between now and January."*

The trials will also be measured and monitored by collating park stakeholder feedback, facilitating park visitor satisfaction surveys (if possible with COVID restrictions) and undertaking an evaluation of the external implications of our trials in partnership with relevant transport authorities (e.g. TfL and local boroughs).

To participate in the formal consultation, visit www.royalparks.org.uk/movement





River Crane Sanctuary



*“If you walk into a Mist a story begins.
If you eat Snow, snowmen appear in your
dreams.
If you see the Moon in a pond you’re nearly
grown up.
Falling in streams brings you good luck.
These are the Laws of Water, Sky’s
Daughter.*

*If you watch a River too long you start to
feel old.
One cup of Water is worth two buckets of
Gold.
If you watch Clouds long enough a Dragon
appears.
Icicles don’t grow on my grandfather’s
beard.
These are the Laws of Water, Sky’s
Daughter.”*

c. Matt Black

River Crane Sanctuary

[Website](#) [Instagram](#)

Water is an invaluable resource for all life and for the quality of life on our planet. How it is managed and shared will be one of the major challenges to face as Climate Change continues to influence housing, infrastructure and other economic pressures to build in inappropriate places such as flood plains and ancient woods. The long-term goal is now said to be about not just sustainability but also regeneration and it requires integrated thinking and co-operation to succeed. Perhaps we need to include learning and appreciation of these essential attributes higher up in our education curriculum and skills training as they seem to be in short supply in many so-called World Leaders. Wikipedia has a very comprehensive page on [Water Resource management](#) for those wishing to learn more.



FOOD AND DRINK SNIPPETS FOR LOCKDOWN 2

Here we go again! Hopefully this time we will be 'released' in early December. In the meantime we can still enjoy some great new products and services.

Plateaway

Restaurant meal kit delivery service **Plateaway** was launched in July with 10 restaurant partners. A variety of food types to choose include vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free, so something for all. Restaurants include Patty & Bun, Sushi Dog and Yummy (Plant-Based). Kits have the ingredients needed for the chosen meal and require only basic cooking and assembly at home. We tried one from Yummy – a plant-based kit that was a delicious feast: A falafel kit with tomato sauce, houmous, tahini, pickles, red cabbage salad, pittas (nice, fluffy ones) and seasonings. Full instructions are given and we were impressed. Our [Plateaway](#) kit was £21 and would comfortably feed a family of four. Delivery within the M25 for many products and for some delivery is nationwide. Gift vouchers are to cheer someone up in these miserable lockdown days.



Beef It Up!

Jack Links Beef Jerky is a very tasty way to add protein to your diet, or just enjoy a healthy, low calorie snack. Made using select rump beef, ultra thinly sliced, the strips are seasoned, then dried and smoked the traditional way in hot air. At less than 80 calories per serving, I enjoy them with an aperitif, to whet the appetite but not fill you up or pile on those calories. Available in three flavours: Original; Sweet & Hot and Teriyaki these little bags of protein are widely available at around £1.50 a pack.

Chin up! Gin Up And Help A Charity

After a recent week or so of Remembrance services and programmes to pay tribute to our war heroes, I thought you might like to raise a glass or two and help The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity. Simply buy a bottle of delicious multi award-winning **Hawthorn's London Dry Gin** (which, take it from a gin aficionado, is very good indeed) and a donation will go to the charity. At £26.95 a bottle, with free P&P in the UK, this classic gin is inspired by the recipe of the grandfather of one of the founders, a much decorated war hero who distilled his own gin and smuggled it aboard ship to share with the 'ratings' and boost crew morale. Check out the website hawthornsgin.com for the whole story and some great cocktail ideas.



New Divine Winter Warmer

Just the thing to warm you up after a brisk lockdown walk is delicious salted caramel hot chocolate. Vegan friendly too, this is a perfect balance of creamy caramel with a touch of sea salt. It joins Divine's equally yummy winter spiced hot chocolate. Use hot milk or your favourite milk alternative for a 'hug in a mug'. It also makes a divine banana split sprinkled on top of banana and cream. Around £4 from Divine, Wholefoods and when they reopen, Oxfam.

Onion (and other foods) keeper

That awkward half an onion can now be safely stored to keep it fresh and stop its odour contaminating other foods in the fridge. Reusable, silicone **Cut & Keep Produce Savers from OXO** are specially designed to store any round fruit or veg, keeping it wrapped tightly for longer lasting freshness. Better than cling film, they can be used and again. From Amazon, in two sizes at £8 and £10.



Gressingham

THE RECIPE BOOK



Gressingham: The Recipe Book

Gressingham is THE name when it comes to duck. Widely stocked by supermarkets and chosen by top chefs, the company also produces other fowl such as turkey, goose, poussin and guinea fowl. But not content with supplying us with top produce, it also now shows us how best to cook it. To celebrate Gressingham's 50th anniversary the company has produced a 192-page hardback cookbook. With recipes for all occasions, it retails at £22 and is available from Amazon, bookshops (when they reopen) and online from publisher [Meze](#)

And here's a tasty, warming recipe from the book that's perfect for a miserable November lockdown evening!

Chilli con Canard

A delicious twist on the classic chilli con carne, using shredded cooked duck legs instead of beef. You can use kidney beans or black beans depending on your preference, and serve this with rice, tortilla chips or both.

Serves: 4 | Preparation time: 20 minutes | Cooking time: 60 minutes

- 2 large Gressingham duck legs
- 1 red onion, peeled and finely sliced
- Vegetable oil
- 2 cloves of garlic, peeled and crushed
- 100g cooking chorizo
- 2 tsp ground cumin
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- 1 tsp smoked paprika
- 1 tbsp tomato purée
- ½ tbsp chipotle paste
- 1 tin of kidney beans, drained (400g)
- 1 tin of chopped tomatoes (400g)
- 1 lime, halved

To serve:

- Fresh coriander
- Soured cream
- Grated cheese
- Fresh chillies
- Tortilla

Method:

Preheat the oven to 200°C or 180°C fan. Pat the duck legs dry with kitchen towel. Prick the skin all over with a fork or sharp knife and season well with salt and pepper. Place them on a baking tray and into the preheated oven. Cook for 45 minutes then remove from the oven, leave until cool enough to handle and shred the meat from the bones with two forks.

Meanwhile, gently fry the red onion with a little oil in a pan over a low to medium heat until softened. Add the garlic and chorizo and cook for 3 to 4 minutes.

Next add the cumin, oregano, paprika, tomato purée, chipotle paste, kidney beans and chopped tomatoes. Turn up the heat and simmer for 10 minutes, then stir in the shredded duck and a little water if the sauce is getting too thick. Cook the chilli for a further 10 minutes, then finish with salt, pepper and lime juice to taste. Add a sprinkle of paprika if you like, then serve the chilli alongside all your chosen accompaniments.



St Mary's University Update

St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London



Dis United States of America?

Friday
4th December
1pm

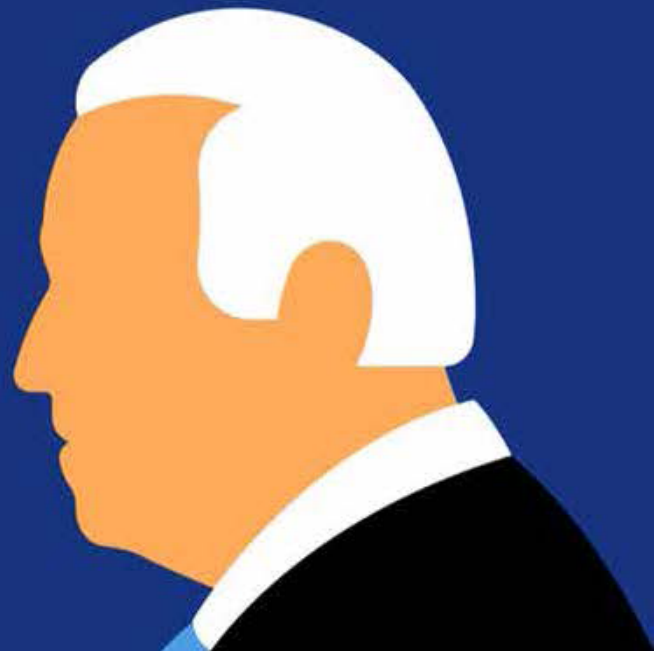
Please join Professor John Charmley, Provost of St Mary's University in conversation with Sarah Churchwell, Professor of American Literature and Chair of the Public Understanding of the Humanities and the author of *Behold, America: A History of America First and the American Dream*.

John and Sarah will be reflecting on the recent Presidential election in the United States and considering what comes next for a country so dis-united.

Register in advance for this webinar:
stmarys.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_L58_FUc3Q-G6WIKdwfErDg

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

For more information contact
kim.salmons@stmarys.ac.uk



Theatre Reinvented – RuTC Acting Students Take Audience on Immersive Tours

On Tuesday 10 November and Thursday 12 November, Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) Performing and Production Arts Acting Level 2 and Level 3 students hosted a very different kind of theatre performance for RuTC staff and students. Students performed two different adaptations of the fairy tale 'Hansel and Gretel' through an immersive tour, taking two members of audience at a time around parks, woods and streets around the college.

One version of the play was designed as an interactive murder mystery, guiding the audience through scenes and letting them be the jury at the end to decide who killed Hansel. The play performed on the other day followed the original fairy tale a bit closer but took elements from a feminist version of the play.

Levi Liston, Performing and Production Arts Level 3 student at RuTC, was one of the actors and said, *"For me, and I think for the whole class, the show was very enjoyable, and it was a pleasure to immerse an audience into a performance, to take the audiences minds off the stresses of life in such turbulent times. It was very different from any ordinary performance as it was not a normal stage, instead we took the audience on an exciting journey through the woods behind the College. It was a challenge to do an immersive performance, but it was very enjoyable."*

Velocity Alierio, Performing and Production Arts Level 3 student at RuTC, added, *"It was something completely different to how I was used to performing. At first, I felt quite awkward and uncomfortable with this new style of theatre, but through a lot of practise, I was able to overcome it and give a very new experience for our audience members to see a version of 'Hansel and Gretel' in a different light. Getting to perform this classic fairy tale in a different way was an interesting experience for me as an actor and we were able to surprise the audience with this new retelling of the original narrative, which to me was very satisfying."*



Hasti Rezvan, A Level student at RuTC, took part in one of the performance tours as audience. Before the show, she said, *"I'm feeling very excited - it's been such a long time since I have seen a production and I'm looking forward to see how the actors are going to do it."* After the performance, she commented, *"It was really good! The quality of acting was great and I really liked the audience interaction as well. I really enjoyed it."*

Jane Swift, Performing Arts teacher at RuTC, said, *"Planning and executing a show in the current times is a challenge but we really wanted to give our students the opportunity to show their skills to an audience, so we planned this immersive outdoor performance with two audience members at a time to follow safety guidelines. Students practised in all kinds of weather, faced a flooded tunnel, had guest appearances from passing by dogs and had to raise their voice to be heard next to a train."*

"This was the first project students worked on this year and it was an incredible learning curve. They all had different jobs, from scriptwriting to editing, designing, marketing and creating a risk assessment. We are really happy with the outcome and that we could give a number of staff and students the opportunity to see our students perform in this immersive way."

The next project for the Performing Arts students will be online and based on the play 'seven methods of killing kylie jenner', including the theme of Black Lives Matter. Together with her students, Jane is currently considering various ways of presenting to an audience, one of which could be a live video call performance.





*2021 & 2022
Christmas Markets
on the Rivers*

WITH AMAWATERWAYS & CRUSADER TRAVEL

FRIDAY 4TH DECEMBER | 3PM

**REGISTER YOUR
PLACE TODAY
020 8744 0474**

CrusaderTravel 
020 8744 0474 Escapology Experts
crusadertravel.com info@crusadertravel.com 

Join us as we travel through the Christmas markets of Europe

By Shona Lyons



With changing times, Crusader is also adapting to its changing environment. On a Friday afternoon at 3pm on the 4th of December we will be having our first webinar & inviting our clients to join us for a virtual cruise with Ama Waterways, an award winning River Cruise Company.

We will travel with them on the Danube and Rhine visiting the famous Christmas Markets, journeying through Amsterdam, Vienna, Budapest, Prague & Germany visiting all

the cultural highlights as well as the twinkling Christmas Markets which we hope will give everyone a lovely taste of Christmas and maybe a few will book these for 2021 or 2022 as a lovely Christmas present for themselves, their friends or family. We will also be offering a special Christmas present ourselves of £150 off per couple or £300 per suite.



It is really a lovely way to journey through the wonderful cities of Europe at perhaps their most spectacular from the comfort of a state of the art river cruise boat. You have all these really interesting excursions included from the cultural to the active, and you can really see so much in a short time from your very comfortable retreat where you are also wined and dined in great style and high standards. What's not to love? If you would like to join us and Ama Waterways, you just need to email info@crusadertravel.com for an invite.



TRAVELLER'S TALES 84

DRACULA INVITES YOU TO ENTER OF YOUR OWN FREE WILL

Doug Goodman encounters the Count

I saw a Dracula film – one of the Hammer Horror productions when I was about 12 years old. It really scared me! A year or so later I read Bram Stoker's book and had sleepless nights. After 123 years the story written by Stoker in 1897 still has the power to frighten. Dracula was based on the Christian ruler of Romania, Vlad Tepes. Known as Vlad the Impaler he was born in Sighisoara in Transylvania and when Constantinople fell in 1453 he became the only defender of the Christian faith east of Vienna. Times were brutal and life was cheap but Vlad had to ensure that any invading armies knew what terrible fate awaited them. He liked to impale his enemies on stakes and leave them on public view. Today Vlad Tepes is looked upon as a national hero who won victories over the Turks. There's a statue to him in Romania's capital Bucharest.



Meet the Count



Dracula's Least Favourite Sign



Vlad The Impaler



Whitby Abbey

HORROR STORY

Bram Stoker never visited Romania but was clearly influenced by the historical facts and local legends about Vlad the Impaler, Voivode of Wallachia. Count Dracula, a vampire who needed a regular supply of fresh blood, lived in an old castle somewhere in Transylvania. Retainers bought him girls whom he bewitched and turned them into undead beings. Guests entering his abode were welcomed with the words 'enter of your own free will': what he failed to tell them was that it would be rather difficult to leave. The story relates the Count's journey in a coffin from his castle to the Black Sea port of Varna where he boards a Russian ship accompanied by boxes of earth. After a long voyage the ship reaches Whitby where the ruined Abbey plays a prominent part in the book. The rest of the horror story is told in many films and, of course, in the brilliant but chilling book.



Transylvania. Bran Castle



Entrance to Bran Castle



Drac Cat



Festival

Bram Stoker was born in Dublin in 1847. He worked as a business manager for the Lyceum Theatre in London from 1879 to 1898 and earned extra money by writing sensational novels. His great masterpiece, written in 1897, brought recognition but it was only after his death in 1912 that the book received world acclaim.

DRACULA TAKES OFF

Over 200 books and films have portrayed Dracula in various guises thus keeping the legend alive. From Bella Lugosi in the 1920s to Christopher Lee in more recent times, many actors have played Dracula while Dr. Van Helsing has tried to finish him off with a stake through the heart. Dracula has been translated into many languages and there's even a book for children about Dracula's cat. The first film called *Nosferatu* was made in 1921 and caused quite a sensation. Hammer Horror Films made its Dracula debut in 1958. Its many films have remained popular ever since.

BOOST TO TOURISM

Until tourism developed in Romania the Dracula story was unknown: it came as a surprise to Romanians when Western visitors looked for the Dracula trail and wanted to visit his castle. The country's tourist authorities were quick to cash in with Transylvanian mystery tours, medieval –style banquets with costumes for guests to wear, carriage rides through spooky, dark forests and tours of haunted castles. Imagine the scope for production of tourist souvenirs!



Souvenirs



Birth Place of Vlad Tepes



Bucharest. Statue of Vlad Tepes



The Count's Favourite Tipple

I met the president of the Transylvanian Society of Dracula on a visit to Bucharest some 26 years ago and was invited to return in 1995 to take part in the World Dracula Congress. I imagined the congress would consist of visits to theme parks with fans dressed as Goths and scary tricks in mock manor houses. I was so wrong. The congress was attended by members from The Irish Bram Stoker Society, The Vampire Information Exchange, The British Dracula Society and many groups from around the world. Papers were given by PhD students, presentations offered on the historical aspect of Romania in the 16th century and much socialising took place over glasses of Dracula's wine.

Each year there's a Dublin-based Bram Stoker festival, which is handy if you want to learn more about the author without travelling to Romania. But there's so much more to Romania than the 'camping up' of their national hero. Romanians are very welcoming: during summer in the mountains you can go bear spotting, visit the painted monasteries in the north or see the medieval towns. Sites such as Bran with the 'real' Dracula castle, Sighisoara where Vlad lived, Brasov and Targoviste combine to offer an insight into a fascinating and very unspoilt part of Eastern Europe.

A warning. After reading *Dracula* you may want to adorn your house with garlic and wear a cross. Remember that the Count's reflection can never be seen in a mirror and it's impossible to photograph him. I tried in Bran Castle when a ghostly figure crossed a dark room but there was nothing on the film.

Corridors, Protocols, Disciplines and more

By Bruce Lyons

As times passes and we all adjust a little to the Pandemic and whilst you might be excused if you get confused, nevertheless some destinations are getting to grips with the domestic and international bureaucracy surrounding travel in COVID-19 times.

For now there are nearly 100 corridors and by “corridors” that means you won’t need to self-isolate (quarantine) for 15 days (or less if Grant Shapps changes that) on your return to the UK. However a corridor is far from a licence to travel - though what it does do is to permit you to travel with FCO blessing and your insurance is valid. Now that is really excellent news, so the next step is to check your planned Host country’s Policy towards foreigners (that’s us) arriving there as they differ.



For example quite a few of the new “permissions” that were announced yesterday are actually yet to permit Tourists to journey there!! For example neither Israel or Sri Lanka have yet to open their borders, nor Vietnam and there are many more like that and where the so-called corridors do work the disciplines and protocols vary enormously in the host destination - so don’t get caught out, please. As I write the Caribbean, as you would expect (or hope for) is proving a popular destination and whilst quite a few corridors exist the rules vary from roam free, with a curfew at night, may be to stay inside the hotel grounds only, unless you take an organised excursion.

Don’t get too stressed as most are simple to follow, not too demanding and all you need to do is check with us, as the rules can change – hopefully becoming more relaxed as time goes on.

Remember no one expected the Pandemic, but all these destinations relied on tourism & they all need to be sure to protect you as well as their communities and they are adapting to the new normal as fast as possible whilst ensuring safety to all.

What is important to ensure is you have an ATOL protected arrangement and that you have COVID-19 related insurance just now as the demand of regular Caribbean travellers has inflated the price of flights in the early part of December. All now priced at the higher level, though there is more availability to the Warm Canary Islands (you still need negative Valid PCR certificates to travel) but if you understand the rules you can still get winter warmth and book with confidence - and as the weeks go by a lot more destinations will open up. The Maldives and the UAE as well as Seychelles are all good to go so start dreaming - drop us a line 0208 744 0474 and check your passport!

WIZ TALES - URUGUAY

Uruguay is bordered by Argentina and Brazil. During the nineteenth century the Spanish and Portuguese in South America fought for control of the country. Uruguay's independence was assured in 1828; the Constitution approved in 1830.

British investors and engineers played an important part in the development of the country's railway system.



Uruguay's economy was traditionally dependent on livestock so meat is mainstay of the country's cuisine.

Photographs in the World InfoZone project are from Tacuarembó; these include photos of an annual national celebration in March, donated for use by WorldInfozone by Javier Meneses, the director of Tacuy.com.uy.



More photographs of Uruguay

<https://worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Uruguay>





RFS The Best of our Recent Historic Screenings

Issue 35

20th November 2020

MYSTERY ROAD

A new series for those of you who are missing Richmond Film Society's screenings or, indeed, trips to the cinema generally as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. Their committee is producing a number of weekly recommendations of films screened during the last 20 years that were extremely well received by their audiences. Should the notes reproduced below entice you to try and catch-up with this recommendation, then you should be able to do so, as it is available on streaming services and for purchase as DVD/Blu-Ray discs from the online retailers as indicated below.

RFS Context: TEHRAN TAXI was 756th film screened by RFS on 4th October 2016. **Tehran Taxi** was the top ranked film of Season 54, it got an approval mark of 92% from those attending.

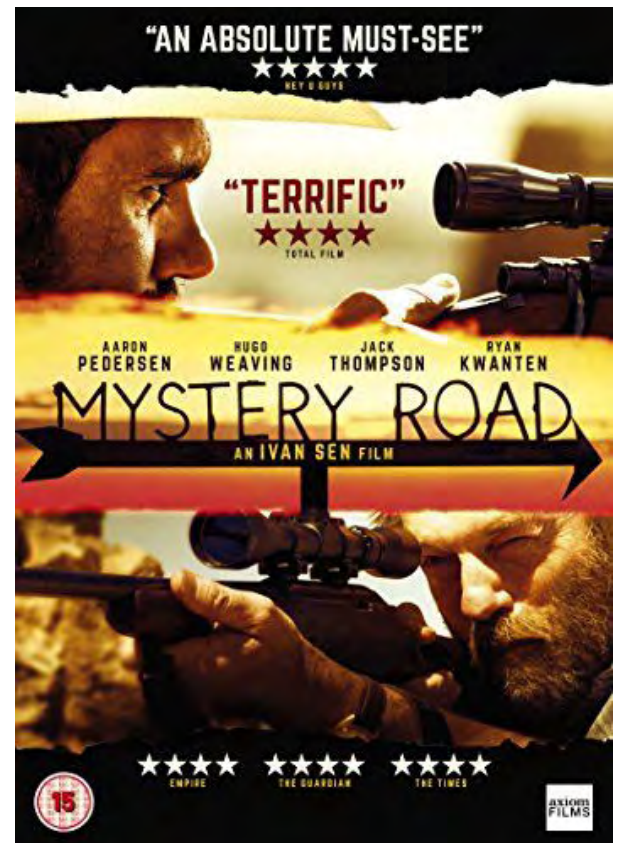
RFS Context: MYSTERY ROAD was 757th film screened by RFS on 18th October 2016. **Mystery Road** was the second ranked film of Season 54, it got an approval mark of 91% from those attending; from season 54 we have also already featured its top ranked film **Tehran Taxi**, as **Issue 29**). RFS has in season 56 also screened the sequel **Goldstone** which got a mark of 89%. **Mystery Road** spawned a TV serial that has recently been screened for the second time on BBC4 and is possibly still available on BBCi Player. **Mystery Road** film can be streamed from Amazon Prime plus the Blu-Rays are available from Amazon and others.

MYSTERY ROAD

Country: Australia, 2013
Director: Ivan Sen
Screenplay: Ivan Sen
Music: Ivan Sen
Language: English
Editor: Ivan Sen
Cinematography: Ivan Sen
Running Time: 121 min., colour

Leading Players:

Hugo Weaving (Johnno)
Ryan Kwanten (Pete Bailey)
Jack Thompson (Charlie Murray)
Tony Barry (Sergeant)
Robert Mammone (Constable Roberts)
Tasma Walton (Mary)



Writer-director Ivan Sen (who also shoots, scores and edits) goes walkabout through the minefield of contemporary Australian culture, offering an evocative snapshot of an unravelling crime scene – social, racial and economic.

Charismatic Aaron Pedersen stars as detective Jay Swan, returning to his small-town roots after a stint in “the big smoke”, which has merely widened the chasm between him and his former

peers. The son of a stockman, Jay is “an Abbo copper” caught between two worlds – alienated from his own community, ostracised by his white workmates.

“Are you one of them ‘black trackers’ who turns on his own?” asks a sneering landowner. His family are no more trusting: “At least I know who I am,” declares his habitually drunken and battered estranged wife, Mary (Tasma Walton), contemptuous of her former partner’s “big house” life on the other side of town, dismissing his concern for the welfare of their teenage daughter as “10 years too late”.

It is the discovery of a teenager’s body under a road used by truckers that fires this scorched-noir murder mystery. While the police department remains resolutely unmoved by the death of an indigenous Australian girl (“You’re on your own on this one, Jay”), the case strikes close to home for the unloved detective – the dead girl had been texting his daughter, Crystal, and his lonely inquiries uncover sordid evidence of drug-dealing, sexual exploitation and worse. You don’t have to be a super-sleuth to figure out that Jay is scratching away at a web in which almost everyone is ensnared, or that the thin blue line between cops and criminals has turned a very murky shade of grey. Yet the ultimate destination of the narrative is less important than the road that leads us there, the sights and fellow travellers encountered en route making this a journey worth taking.

Mark Kermode – Observer (Edited by Mike Day)

Lessons Learned from Major Programmes

A report by the National Audit Office (NAO) draws together insights from its recent work on government’s major projects and programmes, examining the root causes of common problems and supporting government to improve its performance.

Government programmes range from transport infrastructure, military capability and nuclear projects, to digital programmes or government building improvements. The Government Major Projects Portfolio, which covers government’s largest, most innovative and riskiest programmes includes 125 programmes at a combined whole life cost of £448 billion.

To secure best value from the significant public money it commits to these programmes, it is crucial that government can successfully navigate the challenges of delivering them. Government programmes frequently encounter difficulties, often taking longer and costing more than planned, and do not always deliver their intended aims. The NAO considers that many experience problems across four key areas: scope, planning, managing interdependencies and oversight.

By bringing together findings from recent NAO reports on major infrastructure programmes - including on [Crossrail](#), [Carrier Strike](#) and [Universal Credit](#) - the NAO has identified where government should focus its attention to improve performance on major programmes.

Click [HERE](#) for the full report



National Audit Office



Today is James' first anniversary as the Tribune's Football Focus reporter. Thank you from the Tribune and all the Bees and Beavers supporters.

BRENTFORD FC

Bees impress on international duty

With an international break scheduled for the past week and with no Brentford first team football a number of Bees received international callups across a range of nations and age groups.



Marcus Forss made history as he scored on his debut for the Finish national team in a very impressive win against France. The forward opened the scoring in the 28th minute as the Finns won 2-0 to record victory in the international friendly away from home in Paris. Forss then made two further appearances in the UEFA Nations League in Group B4 in a 2-0 victory against Bulgaria and a 3-1 defeat to Wales, respectively.

Brentford's Danish duo of Henrik Dalsgaard and Mathias Jensen also received callups for UEFA Nations League matches, this time in Group A2 against Iceland and Belgium. Jensen was in the starting lineup for the game against Iceland in which they ran out 2-1 victors and came off the bench to play the final 20 minutes against Belgium in a 4-2 defeat. Dalsgaard was an unused sub in both games.

Bees players received callups not only to their senior sides but also across a range of age groups teams. Josh Dasilva, having made his international bow for the England U21s earlier this season, completed a full game against Andorra in a 3-1 victory and also claimed an assist after coming onto the pitch with 15 minutes to play against Albania U21s at Molineux in a convincing 5-0 win.

Mads Bech Sorensen also received international honours at U21 level playing in a 1-1 draw against Romania U21s.

It was not only in Europe that Brentford players turned on for their national sides with Tariqe Fosu playing for the Ghanaian national team during the break. Fosu played against Sudan in African Cup of Nations Group C Qualifying in which the Black Stars are currently top of the group. Having won the first meeting of the two sides 2-0 earlier in the international break it was in fact Sudan who turned the tide and avenged their defeat with a last minute winner on their home turf to record a 1-0 victory.

UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Game 1

Opponent: Wycombe Wanderers (A) Saturday 21st November 15:00 Adams Park

Nickname: The Chairboys

Competition: Championship – Matchday 12

Manager: Gareth Ainsworth

Opponent record: P11 W2 D1 L8 GF6 GA19 (22nd in Championship)

Most recent meeting:

- Brentford 1 -1 Wycombe Wanderers (Brentford progress 4-2 on penalties)
- Bees goal scorers: Pinnock
- 6/9/20
- EFL Cup First Round 20/21

Interesting fact: In 2000–01, Wycombe began a successful FA Cup run, with wins over First Division sides Grimsby Town, Wolverhampton Wanderers and Wimbledon taking them to a quarter-final with Premiership outfit Leicester City. The problem was that when they reach the quarter-final they had no fit strikers and so Wycombe manager Lawrie Sanchez sent an appeal on Teletext looking for a fit striker that wasn't cup-tied. Striker Roy Essandoh, who had most recently been playing in Finland, responded to the call and ended up scoring an injury-time winner to seal a 2–1 win for the Wanderers at Filbert Street in one of the most incredible FA Cup stories.

Game 2

Opponent: Barnsley (A) Tuesday 24th November 19:45 Oakwell

Nickname: The Tykes

Competition: Championship – Matchday 13

Head Coach: Valérien Ismaël

Opponent record: P11 W3 D4 L4 GF12 GA13 (13th in National League South)

Most recent meeting:

- Brentford 1 -2 Barnsley
- Bees goal scorers: Dasilva
- 22/7/20
- Championship 19/20 - Matchday 46

Interesting fact: Barnsley have spent more seasons at the second level of English football than any other team and were the first club to play over 3,000 games in second tier.

Come on you Bees!

Hampton & Richmond Borough

Beavers make it three in a row away from home

Chelmsford City 0 – 1 Hampton & Richmond

Hampton & Richmond Borough made it three away league wins in a row without conceding with a 1-0 victory against a ten man Chelmsford City in Essex.



The game started at a high tempo and a both teams had chances in the opening period. Adam Morgan drew a save from Alan Julian within the first five minutes having cut inside as both sides looked to attack from the start.

A couple of early free-kicks from Hampton caused problems inside the Chelmsford box. The first from Sam Deadfield nearly found the run of Christian Smith before the second, from a more central position, saw Kyron Farrell force home keeper Lee Worgan into tipping a powerful shot over the bar.

Hampton produced the better of the chances in the first-half and it was Morgan who was the busier of the two keepers. A short corner from Farrell to Deadfield caught the hosts unaware and after exchanging a one-two Farrell picked his head up to lay the ball into the path of Jake Gray on the edge of the area. Gray let fly from distance and his shot dipped viciously but Worgan was equal and Ruaridh Donaldson couldn't direct his effort on target following in on the rebound.

Ryan Gondoh also made an impressive start and his pace was causing problems. He was nearly put two on through twice in five minutes but was denied on both occasions by Danny Imray.

Early in the second-half the Clarets counterattacked at pace and the ball broke free to Philip Roberts who cut in front the left hand side of the pitch but his shot was blocked and Adam Morgan couldn't direct an effort on target as he closed in.

The game changed on the hour mark as Phil Roberts was sent off for a second yellow card after a late tackle on Ryan Gondoh.

Within seven minutes Hampton had capitalised on the man advantage and took the lead through Wilson Carvalho. Good combination play between Niko Muir and Gray led to the Portuguese forward receiving the ball unmarked and with time at the back post. Carvalho made no mistake and swept the ball into the bottom corner past Worgan.

The Beavers could have doubled their lead but for great defending from the hosts and in particular Lee Worgan who had to be alert to clear the ball with Carvalho having escaped the Chelmsford backline.

The Clarets went closest when Adam Morgan crossed for Tom Wraight at the back post but his diving header attempt was blocked for a corner but the Beavers held on for another 10 minutes to secure a good win.

Hampton humbled against Hemel

Hampton & Richmond 0 – 3 Hemel Hempstead Town

Hampton's recent run of form was brought quickly back down to earth with a disappointing 3-0 defeat at home against Hemel Hempstead Town. For this visitor it was something of a revenge mission, having been knocked out by the Beavers in the FA Cup Fourth Qualifying Round earlier this season, as goals from Nathan Cooper, Jake Evans and an own goal secured a comfortable three points.

The Tudors, who hadn't won a game away from home yet this season, defied the statistics to take the lead inside the opening twenty minutes of the game. A free-kick midway between the touchline and box on the left hand side of the pitch and Nathan Cooper made the most of being unmarked to head the ball past Alan Julian and into the roof of the net.

Hampton fought back though and fashioned a couple of half chances for themselves. Nathan Minhas had a shot that Dean Snedker had to get down to after the ball arrived to him from Razzaq Coleman and Coleman himself had an attempt but it came to nothing.

The Beavers came out of the tunnel still in the game but found themselves two goals down seven minutes into the second half. Reggie Young escaped down the left wing and fired a ball across the box that Myles Anderson couldn't sort his feet out in time to deal with and the defender deflect the ball into his own net.

Hampton went closest to scoring when a Sam Deadfield corner caused danger in the penalty area. His low delivery was missed initially at the front post by Hemel and Christian Smith reacted quickest to wrap his foot around the ball but unfortunately for him his shot went into the ground and the visitors were able to clear their lines.

Hemel sealed all three points with their third goal four minutes from time. A long ball up field from Snedker that was headed back inside by Imran Uche to Sam Cox. A slip from Cox then allowed Jake Evans, who had come onto the pitch as a substitute, to curl home an outrageous strike from the edge of the area to put the cherry on top for the visitors and compound a disappointing evening for the Beavers.

Hampton sign David Fisher

Hampton & Richmond Borough have announced the signing of attacking forward David Fisher. The 18 year old came through the youth system at AFC Wimbledon and made his first move into non-league football on loan with Carshalton Athletic and with the season suspended for Step 3 teams and below the forward has joined up with Gary McCann at the Beveree.

The youngster featured for the Dons in pre-season this year and enjoyed a prolific spell at Carshalton which saw him score a hat-trick in the FA Cup against Faversham Town.

Speaking to club media, manager Gary McCann welcomed the addition, "David is a player that we nearly took on loan earlier on in the season from AFC Wimbledon. His short term contract has now ended with Wimbledon but they do still hold his registration for a permanent transfer. He can play in all of the front four positions and can finish comfortably off both feet. He is

certainly an exciting young prospect who I'm really pleased to get on board."

Duo depart Beveree

Hampton & Richmond Borough have confirmed that forward Danny Bassett and defender Rene Steer are to leave the club.

Bassett has received an offer from another club in the National League South whilst Steer has struggled for game time this season.

Speaking to club media about the departures Gary McCann said, "Rene came in on the back of Kyron Farrell returning to pre-season in not the best shape mentally and physically. As the season has progressed though Kyron, has shown more and more the player we saw last season and has made the left-back position his own which is unfortunate for Rene. It's up to Kyron now to continue to crack on and not get complacent. Given the budget I have at my disposal I have to maximise every penny, and it's as much a financial decision as it is a football one that I've had to release Rene.

Danny was approached this week and after a conversation between us has decided to take up that offer to get more game time, something I've not been able to offer him of late.

Both Rene and Danny are top professionals with fantastic attitudes who I'm sure will be an asset to others, it's just not been possible to fit them into the squad here as I look to keep everything in order football and budget wise."

UP NEXT FOR HAMPTON

Game 1

Opponent: Bath City (H) Saturday 21st November 15:00 Beveree Stadium

Nickname: The Romans

Competition: National League South – Matchday 8

Manager: Jerry Gill

Opponent record: P5 W1 D0 L4 GF4 GA7 (19th in National League South)

Interesting fact: Bath have formed a friendly relationship with Italian side Calcio Lecco. The clubs played against each other in the 1977 Anglo-Italian Cup Final, with the Italian side triumphing. Fans of both sides celebrated the 40th anniversary of the game in 2017 with a supporters match held in Lecco's Stadio Rigamonti-Ceppi ground.

Come on you Beavers!

England team announcement - Quilter International (England v Ireland)



Eddie Jones has named his team for England's Quilter International against Ireland this weekend.

England will host Ireland at Twickenham Stadium on Saturday (3pm KO) as they look to build on their winning start to the Autumn Nations Cup – after beating Georgia 40-0 in their opening match.

Owen Farrell will captain the side at fly half. Ollie Lawrence will make his second start for England at outside centre, with Henry Slade at inside centre. The team's most-capped player, Ben Youngs, will play at scrum half, while Jonathan Joseph and Jonny May are on the wing. Elliot Daly will play at full back.

Jamie George, who scored a hat-trick of tries against Georgia, is at hooker with Mako Vunipola (loose-head prop) and Kyle Sinckler (tight-head prop) beside him in the front row. Maro Itoje moves to lock, joining Joe Launchbury, to complete the tight five.

Tom Curry (blindsided) and Sam Underhill (openside) return to the starting line up as flankers, with Billy Vunipola making up the back row at number 8. George Ford returns from injury and is named as a finisher along with last weekend's debutant Max Malins and try-scorer Dan Robson. Tom Dunn, Ben Earl, Ellis Genge, Jonny Hill and Will Stuart complete the bench.

Jones said: *"I've picked the strongest team possible for the most important game of our season. We have the highest respect for the Ireland and their coach Andy Farrell. They've had good preparation with two wins and a dominant display against Wales, and we will need to be at our best on Saturday.*

We've trained well this week, we're expecting a tough, physical game against Ireland and we've reflected that in our sessions. We'll look to lift our performance even higher and are looking forward to a really good game of rugby."

England will then play their final group game in Llanelli, against hosts Wales, at Parc y Scarlets on Saturday 28 November (4pm KO). Their final Quilter International, a tournament placing game, will be played at Twickenham on Sunday 6 December (2pm KO).

England v Ireland is live on Amazon Prime and Channel 4.

ENGLAND XV STARTERS

15. Elliot Daly (Saracens, 44 caps)
14. Jonathan Joseph (Bath Rugby, 52 caps)
13. Ollie Lawrence (Worcester Warriors, 2 caps)
12. Henry Slade (Exeter Chiefs, 31 caps)
11. Jonny May (Gloucester Rugby, 58 caps)
10. Owen Farrell (c) (Saracens, 85 caps)
9. Ben Youngs (Leicester Tigers, 101 caps)

FINISHERS

16. Tom Dunn (Bath Rugby, 2 caps)
17. Ellis Genge (Leicester Tigers, 20 caps)
18. Will Stuart (Bath Rugby, 5 caps)
19. Jonny Hill (Exeter Chiefs, 1 cap)

1. Mako Vunipola (Saracens, 61 caps)
2. Jamie George (Saracens, 51 caps)
3. Kyle Sinckler (Bristol Bears, 37 caps)
4. Maro Itoje (Saracens, 40 caps)
5. Joe Launchbury (Wasps, 66 caps)
6. Tom Curry (Sale Sharks, 25 caps)
7. Sam Underhill (Bath Rugby, 19 caps)
8. Billy Vunipola (Saracens, 53 caps)
20. Ben Earl (Bristol Bears, 5 caps)
21. Dan Robson (Wasps, 4 caps)
22. George Ford (Leicester Tigers, 69 caps)
23. Max Malins (Bristol Bears, 1 cap)

England Women team to play France



Head coach Simon Middleton has named his England Women team to play France at Twickenham Stadium this weekend. The Red Roses take on Les Bleues in the second of a two-Test series on Saturday 21 November (KO 12 noon, live on BBC Two and BBC iPlayer).

On her 116th cap, Katy Daley-Mclean captains the side and becomes the standalone third most capped England player of all time.

Centre Lagi Tuima makes her first appearance since June 2019 while Claudia MacDonald takes her place on the wing. Harriet-Millar Mills starts at blind-side flanker with Worcester Warriors forward Alex Matthews at openside. Returning Gloucester-Hartpury prop Ellena Perry is among the finishers.

The final Test of the year comes too soon for Sarah Hunter who continues her return to play. Jess Breach picked up an injury in last weekend's victory in Grenoble so misses out.

Middleton said: *"Playing three physical matches against top opposition back-to-back is very attritional and understandably can take its toll.*

"When I asked Katy if she'd captain the side, I honestly didn't know it would fall on such an occasion and knowing her as I have come to I'm pretty sure she didn't either. What I do know is that even after winning the World Cup as captain in 2014, the smile on her face when I asked her to captain the side said everything you need to know about one of England's greatest-ever players.

Last week we had to see how we coped without the experience of Katy at fly half, this week is an opportunity to see how we fare without Emily Scarratt in the starting XV. Lagi was out for a long time, she's now back playing for Harlequins and in training with us and we're looking forward to seeing what she can do on the Twickenham stage. Harriet Millar-Mills thoroughly deserves her start. She's been exceptional for us on and off the field. We're delighted to welcome Ellena Perry back into the squad. She's a player that has quality stamped all over her and someone we think very highly of.

We're absolutely gutted for Sarah [Hunter] but know we need to manage her return to play appropriately. There's a bigger picture over the next 12 months, come September 2021 we'll need our captain and that's our strategy with her. Both Marlie Packer and Sarah Beckett have been standout performers for us over the last two games and we are comfortable we know what both of them can do.

Helena Rowland picked up a knock against France and hasn't trained fully this week but did more than enough last week to keep her place in the squad. That was one of the most composed and impactful first starts I've seen from an England player. All the players and staff can't wait for Saturday in what we know will be another tough game. As a squad and staff group alike, we would like to say a huge thank you to everyone within the RFU family who has made this game possible, to all the supporters who have wished us well over the last few weeks and to everyone for tuning in to watch.

We set our stall out to work hard and never give anything but our very best over this series of games. We really want our performances to reflect the endeavour so many people have shown and are continuing to show to keep our game on the field at such a tough time. We wanted to put smiles on people's faces and we'll be giving everything we have on Saturday to try and keep people smiling."

England team

15. Ellie Kildunne (Wasps FC Ladies, 10 caps)
14. Claudia MacDonald (Wasps FC Ladies, 11 caps)
13. Lagi Tuima (Harlequins Women, 5 caps)
12. Zoe Harrison (Saracens Women, 26 caps)
11. Abby Dow (Wasps FC Ladies, 14 caps)
10. Katy Daley-Mclean (C; Sale Sharks Women, 115 caps)
9. Leanne Riley (Harlequins Women, 39 caps)

Finishers

16. Amy Cokayne (Harlequins Women, 52 caps)
17. Ellena Perry (Gloucester-Hartpury Women, 9 caps)
18. Laura Keates (Worcester Warriors, 61 caps)
19. Sarah Beckett (Harlequins Women, 19 caps)

1. Vickii Cornborough (Harlequins Women, 55 caps)
2. Lark Davies (Loughborough Lightning, 27 caps)
3. Shaunagh Brown (Harlequins Women, 19 caps)
4. Abbie Ward (VC; Harlequins Women, 44 caps)
5. Morwenna Talling (Loughborough Lightning, 2 caps)
6. Harriet Millar-Mills (Wasps FC Ladies, 57 caps)
7. Alex Matthews (Worcester Warriors, 39 caps)
8. Poppy Cleall (Saracens Women, 42 caps)

20. Marlie Packer (Saracens Women, 73 caps)
21. Natasha Hunt (Gloucester-Hartpury Women, 54 caps)
22. Helena Rowland (Loughborough Lightning, 2 caps)
23. Emily Scarratt (Loughborough Lightning, 91 caps)

NPR: Heather Kerr (Wasps FC Ladies, 23 caps)

Red Roses in Pool C for 2021 Rugby World Cup

England Women will be in Pool C for the 2021 Rugby World Cup after the draw was made in host country New Zealand.

The Red Roses have been drawn in a pool with France, South Africa and Fiji in what is the first women's Rugby World Cup to be held in the southern hemisphere. The draw took place at SkyCity Theatre in Auckland at an event where New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and New Zealand Rugby Board member and former All Black Dan Carter were amongst those in attendance.

England have competed at eight Rugby World Cups and have been in the final in all but one, winning two of the seven finals they have contested. At the 2017 Rugby World Cup in Ireland, the Red Roses progressed to the final where they were beaten by the Black Ferns 41-32 in a game that was watched on television by a peak audience of 2.6m people.

The tournament will run from 18 September 2021 until 16 October 2021 with the match schedule for the games to be confirmed at a later date.

Reaction

England head coach Simon Middleton: *"I thought the draw was fantastic and if that is a taste of things to come then you don't want to miss the World Cup."*

"You get the experienced players who had a few nods and looks at each other and you get a feel from them about 'this is fine, there is a good slant on the game at the weekend now', and then the young players are bouncing off the walls as it's a World Cup."

"South Africa are an incredibly proud nation and you only have to look at the men's World Cup final and everything that went with that. It's fantastic that we get to play them as we haven't as a senior side for a while – it will be physical and high energy."

"I encountered Fiji a lot on the sevens series when I coached and they're very similar to the men with their offloading game, very physical and will come out of the line in defence, so we're going to have a few challenges that we've not had before."

England captain Sarah Hunter: *"I just had this gut feeling we were going to be drawn against France, I don't know what it was about it. They're one of our rival teams who we have regular encounters with and they're always hard fought and entertaining for the neutral."*

"When we played them in the semi-final of the last World Cup it was probably one of the most physically demanding games that I've played in."

"If we want to win the World Cup we're going to have to play the best teams along the way so if they're in our pool that is what we focus on to get out of our pool."

"I thought there was a sense of what the competition was going to be and if that's the draw how big is the tournament going to be? As a player, team and a country we want to go and play on the biggest stage and you got a feeling this could be the biggest World Cup there has been in the women's game."

Red Roses at the Rugby World Cup

1991 - Runner-up
1994 - Winner
1998 - Third-place
2002 - Runner-up

2006 - Runner-up
2010 - Runner-up
2014 - Winner
2017 - Runner-up



Investigation into government procurement during the COVID-19 pandemic

The National Audit Office (NAO) reports a lack of transparency and adequate documentation of some key decisions, such as why particular suppliers were chosen or how government identified and managed potential conflicts of interest, in the awarding of some contracts while government was procuring large volumes of goods and services at high speed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Some contracts were also awarded after work had already begun, and many were not published in the timeframe they should have been.

By 31 July, over 8,600 contracts, worth £18.0 billion, related to government's response to the pandemic had been awarded. Individual contracts ranged in value from less than £100 to £410 million. 90% of the contracts by value (£16.2 billion) were awarded by the Department of Health & Social Care (DHSC) and its national bodies. In comparison, in 2019-20 DHSC awarded 174 contracts worth £1.1 billion, less than 7% of what it and its national bodies awarded between January and July 2020 in response to the pandemic.

New contracts worth £17.3 billion were awarded to suppliers, of which: £10.5 billion were awarded directly without a competitive tender process; £6.7 billion were awarded directly through pre-existing framework agreements (which would have involved a competitive bidding process when they were set up); and contracts worth almost £0.2 billion were awarded using a competitive tender process or using a competitive bidding process from a framework agreement. Government also procured goods and services worth £0.7 billion through amendments or extensions to existing contracts.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) accounted for 80% of the number of contracts awarded (over 6,900 contracts) and 68% of the total value of contracts awarded (£12.3 billion). PPE needed to be procured quickly during the first few months of the pandemic, when global demand far exceeded supply.

DHSC, supported by other departments, established an eight-stage process to assess and process offers of support to supply PPE. It set up processes to rapidly check suppliers' equipment against government's PPE specifications and to undertake due diligence on the suppliers. Contracts were awarded to 71 suppliers, worth £1.5 billion in total, before this process was standardised; 62 of these have been delivered, three have been cancelled and six remain ongoing.

The cross-government PPE team established a high-priority lane to assess and process potential PPE leads referred by government officials, ministers' offices, MPs and Lords, senior NHS staff and other health professionals. The team considered that leads referred by these sources were more credible or needed to be treated with more urgency. About one in ten suppliers processed through the high-priority lane (47 out of 493) obtained contracts compared to less than one in a hundred suppliers that came through the ordinary lane (104 of 14,892). The sources of the referrals to the high-priority lane were not always documented in the case management system and the NAO found a case where a supplier, PestFix, was added to the high-priority lane in error.

For procurements where there is no competition, it is important that awarding bodies set out clearly why they have chosen a particular supplier and how any associated risks from a lack of competition have been identified and mitigated. This is to ensure public trust in the fairness of the procurement process. In a selected sample of 20 contracts,³ the NAO found examples where departments failed to document key decisions, such as why they chose a particular supplier or used emergency procurement, and failed to document their consideration of risks, including how they had identified and managed any potential conflicts of interest.⁴

The NAO found that some contracts were awarded retrospectively after work had already been carried out. For example, a £3.2 million contract was awarded to Deloitte to support the cross-government PPE team's procurement of PPE on 21 July 2020, with the contract effective from 14 March 2020. The Cabinet Office's contract with Public First was awarded on 5 June 2020, with the contract effective from 3 March 2020. By asking for work to be delivered without a formal contract, risks such as underperformance are increased.

A clear trail of documents to support key procurement decisions was sometimes missing. The Cabinet Office asked the Government Internal Audit Agency to review six PPE contracts that have attracted media attention. The review found that while there was evidence for most controls being applied, there were some gaps in the documentation, such as why some suppliers which had low due diligence ratings were awarded contracts.

Many of the contracts awarded over this period have not been published in a timely manner. Guidance issued by the Crown Commercial Service recommends that basic information about the award of all contracts is published within 90 days of the award. Of the 1,644 contracts worth more than £25,000 awarded up to the end of July 2020, 55% had not had details published on Contracts Finder by 10 November 2020 and only 25% were published within the 90-day target. For contracts of a higher value which are required to be published to the Official Journal of the European Union, DHSC published 89% of 871 contracts. Transparency is a key control to ensure accountability for decisions taken.

The NAO recommends that, should the need to procure significant volumes of goods with extreme urgency arise again, government identifies and manages potential conflicts of interest and bias earlier in the procurement process. Government should ensure that basic information on contracts are published within 90 days of award.

Gareth Davies, the head of the NAO, said:

"At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in the UK, government had to procure large volumes of goods and services quickly whilst managing the increased risks this might entail.

"While we recognise that these were exceptional circumstances, it remains essential that decisions are properly documented and made transparent if government is to maintain public trust that taxpayers' money is being spent appropriately and fairly. The evidence set out in our report shows that these standards of transparency and documentation were not consistently met in the first phase of the pandemic."

Read the full report [HERE](#)



National Audit Office

211 editions of the **Twickenham & Richmond Tribune** online - Lots to read: News, Reviews, History, Sports and On-going Sagas in the Borough of Richmond upon Thames



Half Page

Quarter Page
Landscape

Quarter Page Portrait

Eighth Page

Eighth Page
Landscape

Example advert sizes shown above

Thousands read The Twickenham & Richmond Tribune

If you are reading this you could be advertising your business with
The Twickenham & Richmond Tribune. Community rates are
available

Contact: advertise@TwickenhamTribune.com

View ad details at www.TwickenhamTribune.com/advertise

Contact

contact@TwickenhamTribune.com
letters@TwickenhamTribune.com
advertise@TwickenhamTribune.com



Published by:

Twickenham Alive Limited (in association with World InfoZone Limited)
Registered in England & Wales
Reg No 10549345

The Twickenham Tribune is registered with the ICO under the Data
Protection Act, Reg No ZA224725

©Twickenham Alive Limited. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be used or reproduced without the permission of Twickenham Alive Limited. While we take reasonable efforts, this online newspaper cannot be held responsible for the accuracy or reliability of information. The views and opinions in these pages do not necessarily represent those of Twickenham Alive Limited or The Twickenham & Richmond Tribune. [Terms & Conditions](#)