

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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30th April 2021

T&RT

Supermoon over Radnor Gardens

Photo by Berkley Driscoll

TickerTape - News in Brief

Twickenham Stadium to welcome fans for European cup finals

Twickenham Stadium will host the 2021 Heineken Champions Cup and Challenge Cup finals with a limited number of fans permitted to attend both matches, in line with the UK government's roadmap to recovery.

Up to 10,000 spectators will be able to buy tickets for each game with the Challenge Cup decider scheduled for Friday 21 May at 20.00 and the Heineken Champions Cup final going ahead on Saturday 22 May at 4.45pm. Both matches are subject to licences being granted by Richmond Council.

Find out more [about the matches and how to buy tickets.](#)

White House Community Centre survey

Tell YMCA St Paul's Group how you would like to see the White House Community Centre develop.

The White House Community Centre is a large community centre in Hampton, on The Avenue just next to the park.

Due to a number of circumstances, including COVID-UK, the centre is at a crossroads in its development. To help make it a vibrant, attractive resource that is fit for purpose in the future and secure its long-term viability, YMCA St Paul's Group would like to understand better how the community at large, you, would prefer to see it develop.

Completing this survey will help us determine what is practical, feasible, deliverable and best for the community. Take the survey [HERE](#)

Don't be fooled by air-purifying scam

Businesses are being warned to be on guard against a scam claiming that 'COVID-19 safe air purifiers' must be purchased as a legal requirement.

Businesses are warned that this is a scam. There is NO legal requirement for businesses to install such purifiers.

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



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This week we were lucky enough to see the Pink Supermoon as the moon passed just 360,00 kilometres of Earth.

TwickerSeal paddled down to Radnor Gardens to meet up with TwickerDuck to watch the moonrise.

Of course, the moon wasn't actually pink, but get's its name from the pink bloom of the phlox, a native herb of North America, which comes into its pink bloom at this time of year.

TwickerSeal was impressed with the size of the moon as it started to rise above the treeline ... and then the clouds rolled in! Ah well, there's another supermoon on 26th May, known as the Flower Moon.



'Burgoine Quay'

Located in Hampton Wick adjacent to the Kingston railway bridge, Burgoine Quay was once a very busy wharf. Occupied today with houseboats, canal barges and modern homes, it is a much sought after residential address with a beautiful view downstream. River boat apparatus adorns the quayside and pays tribute a rich nautical history.



COVID-19

Teresa Read

World Health Organization Overview

27 April 2021:

Globally, new COVID-19 cases increased for the ninth consecutive week, with nearly 5.7 million new cases reported in the last week – surpassing previous peaks. The number of new deaths increased for the sixth consecutive week, with over 87 000 new deaths reported.

COVID-19 in Brazil

Cases in Brazil have now declined for four weeks in a row, and hospitalizations and deaths are also declining. This is good news, and we hope this trend continues. But the pandemic has taught us that no country can ever let down its guard.

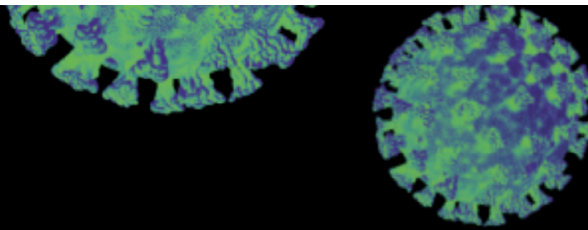
The World Health Organization is working closely with the government of Brazil to respond to urgent needs for medicines and other supplies, such as diagnostics, oxygen and masks, and we have helped to source tens of millions of dollars' worth of medicines which the government can now procure. Other partners including Spain, Portugal and private companies have also provided donations of critical supplies.

Brazil is scaling up the domestic production of COVID-19 vaccines and has joined the World Trade Organization initiative to increase vaccine production through technology transfer.

Although cases and deaths are declining, it's more important than ever that together we support health workers and continue to take a comprehensive and coordinated approach to drive down transmission and prevent a resurgence and further loss of life. That means public health measures including surveillance, testing, contact tracing, supportive quarantine and compassionate care. And it means individual measures including physical distancing, masks, hand hygiene and ventilation.



Government
Counter Fraud
Function



GOV.UK/coronavirus

Beware of Scammers

Criminals are using the COVID-19 vaccine as a way to target vulnerable people by tricking them to hand over cash or financial details.

The NHS will never ask for this, vaccines are free.

Beware of: Fake text messages claiming to be from the NHS, asking for your bank details and social media messages offering to send you self-injection vaccines for a fee.

Speak up about fraudsters abusing COVID schemes.
Stay 100% anonymous by contacting Crimestoppers online
covidfraudhotline.org or phone 0800 587 5030.

WHO lists Moderna vaccine for emergency use

Moderna vaccine adds to the growing list of vaccines that have been validated by WHO for emergency use.

Today (30th April 2021) WHO listed the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine (mRNA 1273) for emergency use, making it the fifth vaccine to receive emergency validation from WHO.

WHO's Emergency Use Listing (EUL) assesses the quality, safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines and is a prerequisite for COVAX Facility vaccine supply. It also allows countries to expedite their own regulatory approval to import and administer COVID-19 vaccines.

The vaccine has already been reviewed by WHO's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE), which makes recommendations for vaccines' use in populations (i.e. recommended age groups, intervals between shots, advice for specific groups such as pregnant and lactating women). The SAGE recommended the vaccine for all age groups 18 and above in its interim recommendations dated 25 January 2021.

The US Food and Drug Administration issued an emergency use authorization for the Moderna vaccine on 18 December 2020 and a marketing authorisation valid throughout the European Union was granted by the European Medicines Agency on 6 January 2021.

The WHO EUL process can be carried out quickly when vaccine developers submit the full data required by WHO in a timely manner. Once those data are submitted, WHO can rapidly assemble its evaluation team and regulators from around the world to assess the information and, when necessary, carry out inspections of manufacturing sites.

The Moderna vaccine is an mRNA-based vaccine. It was found by the SAGE to have an efficacy of 94.1%, based on a median follow-up of two months. Although the vaccine is provided as a frozen suspension at $-25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $-15\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ in a multidose vial, vials can be stored refrigerated at $2-8\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for up to 30 days prior to withdrawal of the first dose, meaning that ultra-cold chain equipment may not always be necessary to deploy the vaccine.

WHO emergency use listing

The emergency use listing procedure assesses the suitability of novel health products during public health emergencies. The objective is to make medicines, vaccines and diagnostics available as rapidly as possible to address the emergency, while adhering to stringent criteria of safety, efficacy and quality. The assessment weighs the threat posed by the emergency as well as the benefit that would accrue from the use of the product against any potential risks.

The EUL pathway involves a rigorous assessment of late phase II and phase III clinical trial data as well as substantial additional data on safety, efficacy, quality and a risk management plan. These data are reviewed by independent experts and WHO teams who consider the current body of evidence on the vaccine under consideration, the plans for monitoring its use, and plans for further studies.

As part of the EUL process, the company producing the vaccine must commit to continue to generate data to enable full licensure and WHO prequalification of the vaccine. The WHO prequalification process will assess additional clinical data generated from vaccine trials and deployment on a rolling basis to ensure the vaccine meets the necessary standards of quality, safety and efficacy for broader availability.

WHO has also listed the Pfizer/BioNTech, AstraZeneca-SK Bio, Serum Institute of India and Janssen vaccines for emergency use.

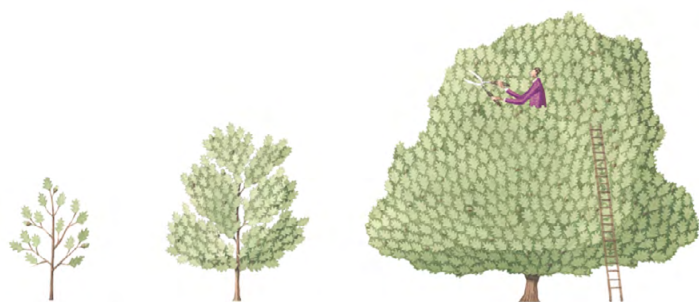
Total cases to 30 April 2021

10,872 Richmond upon Thames
12,265 Kingston upon Thames
24,913 Hounslow

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

Deaths Worldwide 3,155,168

USA	568,836	Indonesia	45,334
Brazil	398,185	Ukraine	43,778
Mexico	215,918	Turkey	39,398
India	208,330	Czechia	29,213
The United Kingdom	127,480	Romania	27,833
Italy	120,256	Hungary	27,358
Russian Federation	109,731	Chile	26,247
France	103,234	Belgium	24,140
Germany	82,544	Canada	24,117
Spain	77,943	Ecuador	18,552
Colombia	72,725	Pakistan	17,680
Iran	71,351	Philippines	17,145
Poland	67,073	Netherlands	17,104
Argentina	62,947	Portugal	16,973
Peru	60,742	Bulgaria	16,278
South Africa	54,285	Iraq	15,433



The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

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info@thetreeagency.co.uk
www.thetreeagency.co.uk



The Tree Agency

A Penny to Twickenham Town

By Simon Fowler

Hammerton's Ferry is again taking people across the Thames between Twickenham and Ham. A few minutes of quiet reflection. It is the successor to the once world-famous Twickenham Ferry (see issue 208).

But to millions of people the Ferry was no more than an immensely popular song. It became particularly liked in America where between the wars it was sung by many school choirs. Indeed, thousands of GIs stationed in England during the Second World War visited the town and queued for the ferry, influenced by their childhood music lessons. More recently it has been picked up by folk musicians.

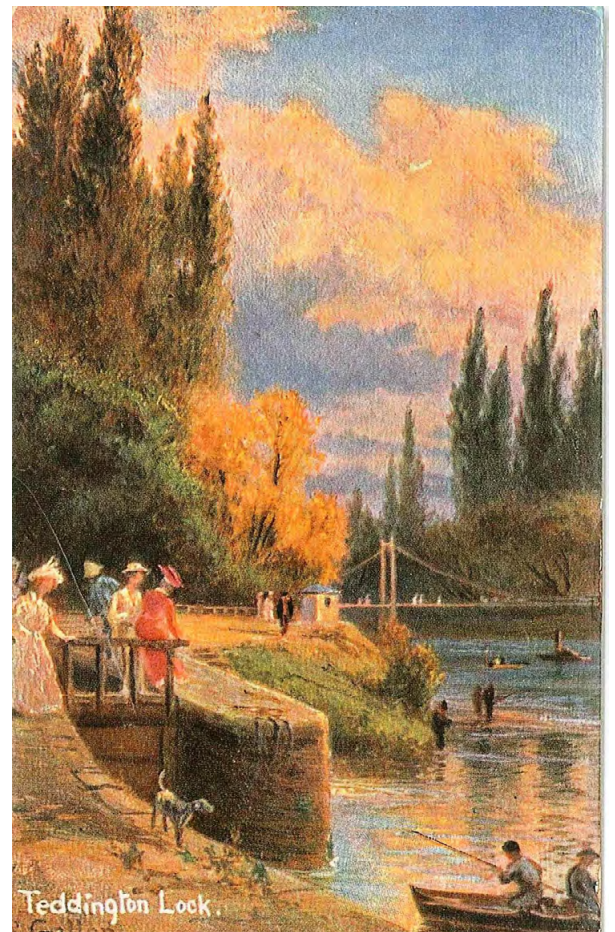
The song was written by Theo Marzials (1850-1920) a now forgotten composer and poet. He is remembered for having written perhaps worst poem in the English language – 'A Tragedy'. A strong claim indeed. However, if you read the first few lines you might be persuaded: 'Death!/Plop./The barges down in the river flop./Flop, plop.Above, beneath./From the slimy branches the grey drips drop./As they scraggle black on the thin grey sky.'

But more successfully he wrote a number of popular songs, of which 'Twickenham Ferry', became the best known. There is no evidence that he ever visited the area. The song was first published in late 1878 by Boosey's music publishers for two shillings. They advertised it as being a: 'Ballad in the Old Style.' Marzials had provided a winning mixture of catchy music with rousing words that were 'tasteful'. 'Twickenham Ferry' was picked up by Miss Mary Davies, a popular singer of the day. According to the reviewer of *The Graphic* the first performance was 'given with a truly lady-like humour' at a London Ballad Concert in mid-February 1879. By the end of March Miss Davies had taken the song to Huddersfield's Glee and Madrigal Society, where she regularly performed. A newspaper review of her concert enthused that the 'fresh lively air is sure to be become a favourite in local drawing-rooms, and was sung by charming effect by Miss Davies.'

The ballad's popularity inevitably led to rival ditties, including 'Teddington Lock' with music by Madame Sain-ton-Dolby, whose name, the *Musical Times'* reviewer, wrote in October 1880: 'should be a password to public favour.' Charlotte Sain-ton-Dolby, whose 200th birthday falls in May, was a contralto and composer, although her music has long been forgotten.

Unfortunately, Miss Davies never recorded the song, but a performance by the Jubilee Duettists recorded in 1933 is at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D0jJ2XO8YS0>

In the meantime, clear your throats and sing:
O, hoi, ye ho, Ho, ye ho, who's for the ferry?
(The briar's in bud, the sun's going down),
And I'll row ye so quick, and I'll row ye so steady,
And it is but a penny to Twickenham Town.



A late Victorian view of Teddington Lock
Credit Richmond Archives and Local Studies LCF21343

Songbirds at Marble Hill

by Kas Rasenberg

Trees and various lichen are not the only inhabitants of the woodlands. A variety of birds, such as the rose-ringed parakeet and the passerine swallow, can also be found on the grounds of Marble Hill Park. Some of these migrants will only appear here during the warmer months, when all of the snow drops have long since flowered. It is said that their voyages have become harder as the Nubian sand plains of the Sahara have grown.

Other birds will stay behind and overwinter in the branches. On moonlit nights, or so I read, they may still be active in the frost-silvered fields. A faint light will cause them to retire into their own habitats. Some may find shelter in a nest that has been built by another bird.

The little travellers are not only noticeable in the park, but reoccur in our paintings and literature. The Etruscan necropolises are covered in a portrayal of numerous birds. Homer wrote about a shrill-voiced mountain species, which had long been haunting the pinewoods. Samuel Taylor Coleridge wrote about the nightingale, which you may perchance glimpse on moonlight bushes, whose dewy leaves are but half-disclosed.

My favourite encounter with the songbirds is in the work of Adalbert Stifter. In *Der Nachsommer*, published in 1857, he offers a portrayal of their crucial role in the Austrian fields. They clean the trees, the bushes, all the minute plants and the carefully tended roses. They perform this labour much better than any of our human hands could do.



The Dawn chorus at Marble Hill starts at around 4.30 at the moment, one hour before sunrise. It is worth making the effort to get up and listen to the magnificent sound of the birds waking up. You won't regret it!

On the grounds of Marble Hill Park you can hear the medley of many voices. It is said that August is the most silent month of all, as most of the passerine birds will depart. Yet even in the winter you may still hear the hammering of the woodpecker as it searches for nutrition, even if all the branches seem to be frozen to stone.

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Green Party

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web - www.richmondandtwickenham.greenparty.org.uk  @RichTwickGreens and  @RTGreenParty

Hampton Court Road: Traffic delays

Thames Water teams are currently attending an urgent sewer collapse on Hampton Court Road, near the Esso Garage and opposite Hampton Court Green Car Park.

Traffic is being managed by manually controlled traffic signals. Estimated works completion date Wednesday 12 May. Significant traffic delays are expected.

New outdoor gym pens at Carlisle Park

Carlisle Park has been developed as one of several accessible Friendly Parks for All in the borough.

As part of the Council's continued commitment to improve our parks and open spaces, the Council and Friends of Carlisle Park have installed a new outdoor fitness space within Carlisle Park.

The toddler play area is now in the main playground and in its place is a new outdoor gym area for park users to enjoy.

The outdoor gym equipment is suitable for those with mobility issues as well as able-bodied users. Equipment installed includes a double air walker, a chest press, a seated leg press, cross trainers and a tai chi spinner. Find out more [HERE](#)



Springtime Butterflies, Birds and Bees and the wonderful flowers all showed off in the unusually warm sunshine days.

This Orange Tip rested on the Wild Bluebells in our garden and stayed awhile to enable a photo to share with you. The orange tips on the males' forewings warn birds that they taste bad! Artists/Observers may be aware that the 'green' mottling on the underside of both sexes is actually a mixture of black and yellow scales and there is no green at all.

What you see at first glance is not always what is really there. We

have to report that the Appeal Officer, from his ivory tower in Bristol, has decided that The Churchview Garages site will be fine with the removal of the dark space/established habitat and the erection of two three storey high buildings next to a Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation on the River Crane Corridor and Trafalgar School Playing field. "***I don't believe it!***". Links are on our website for those interested to read more about this campaign over three years which at least delayed this flawed decision and obtained a TPO on the

adjacent MOL in private ownership which may safeguard some trees.

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

Heron enjoys a snack and a bee in the golden dandelions which are worth leaving in the long grass for our pollinators.



'Dogs on leads' to be compulsory during deer birthing season in Richmond and Bushy Parks

From **Tuesday May 4 May until Monday 2 August 2021**, dogs will be required to be on a lead in all areas of Richmond and Bushy Parks.

Over the next few months, around 300 deer will be born in these parks. The season marks a vulnerable time for female deer, who hide their young in bracken and long grass to conceal them from dogs and other perceived predators.

Simon Richards, Park Manager for Richmond Park, said: "During the deer birthing season, we strongly advise that dogs are not walked in either Richmond or Bushy Parks but, if this is not possible, dogs must be on leads in all areas of the parks.

"Female deer are afraid of dogs harming their young. Concern for their newborn means they may act defensively towards dogs - they have been known to give chase and attack, even if the dog is at a distance and not acting provocatively. Dog walkers must remain vigilant, avoid areas of dense vegetation and stick to the perimeter of the park. As a dog owner myself, I know this can be frustrating, but it really is for the safety of both deer and dogs. We're sorry for any inconvenience caused and we thank all our visitors for their support with these measures."

Deer are instinctively frightened of dogs and this fear has not been helped by recent events. There have been 55 reported incidents of dogs chasing deer since August 2020 (when dogs were allowed off leads again, following last year's deer birthing season), bringing the total number of reported incidents to 90 over the past year. However, as many incidents go unreported that figure is expected to be much higher. At least five deer have died as a result of these chases in the past year and a number of dog owners have appeared in court and been convicted for not having their dog under control.



The Royal Parks is also urging all visitors to give female deer respect, privacy and space, and not to go in search of young deer. Under no circumstance is a newborn deer to be picked up, and if visitors see one on its own, they should rest assured that its mother will be grazing nearby.

Simon Richards added: "Every year, we receive calls about 'abandoned' baby deer. But female deer are excellent mothers, and they are not shirking their responsibility. Instead, they are hiding their young whilst they forage for food to create the milk that they need to nourish their young. Throughout the course of the day, the mother will periodically return to suckle her newborn, but she may reject it if she picks up a human scent, so please do not touch a newborn deer under any circumstances. Even though you may think you're doing the right thing, you will actually only cause the newborn deer severe stress and, sadly, you may cause it to be abandoned by its mother."

Advice to dog walkers:

- Keep your dog on a lead at all times, and in all areas of the parks
- Avoid the areas shaded in orange on the maps. These are typically the main areas of bracken and long grass where newborn deer could be concealed, so it's wise to plan your walking route in advance.
- If a deer charges, let the dog off the lead so the dog can run away.
- Consider walking your dog elsewhere.

Advice to all visitors:

- Give deer plenty of space. Always keep 50 metres away
- Avoid deer nursery areas where possible. Give female deer privacy and respect.
- Never touch a newborn deer under any circumstances, even if it's on its own. It is not abandoned, and its mother will be grazing nearby.

To report an injury to a person, dog or deer, please contact:

Richmond Park: 0300 061 2200 or email richmond@royalparks.org.uk

Bushy Park 0300 061 2250 or email bushy@royalparks.org.uk



THE
ROYAL
PARKS

May bank holiday waste and recycling collections one day later

Following the Early May bank holiday on Monday 3 May, Richmond Council will carry out general waste, food waste, garden waste and recycling collections for domestic properties one day later than usual, for one week.

For example, Monday collections will take place on Tuesday, and Tuesday collections on Wednesday.

Following the bank holiday:

- There will be no collections for bulky waste available on Monday 3 May
- There will be no change for those receiving commercial waste and recycling collection services



Normal domestic collection schedules for all waste and recycling services will resume a week later on Monday 10 May 2021.

Residents are asked to ensure their recycling and refuse is available for collection by 6am on collection day at the boundary of their property beside the entrance, i.e. where their front garden or drive meets the pavement.

To reduce issues with street litter and trip hazards, only households without front gardens, drives or equivalent are permitted to present recycling and refuse on the pavement and should only do this after 8pm on the day before collection.

Residents are reminded that Townmead Road Household Waste and Recycling Centre will be open over the bank holiday, but pre-booking is essential. Residents can [book a slot](#) to bring household waste to Townmead Road for free.

You can [confirm your revised collection day](#). For any further enquiries please call 020 8891 1411.

Normal collection day	Revised collection day
Monday 3 May	Tuesday 4 May
Tuesday 4 May	Wednesday 5 May
Wednesday 5 May	Thursday 6 May
Thursday 6 May	Friday 7 May
Friday 7 May	Saturday 8 May

A Green Recovery for our Town Centres and High Streets

Richmond Councillor Andree Frieze, Green Party candidate for South West London in the London Assembly elections, gives her thoughts on reversing the decline of our town centres and high streets. Her vision for making them vibrant and varied places to visit; for shopping, working, entertainment and leisure, and for just getting together, is very relevant for the various towns in this borough.

Andree says, "Our high streets face huge challenges especially from on-line shopping. With small independent businesses and large chains closing down there are record numbers of empty shops and offices. The pandemic has increased the problem as people are still cautious about returning to them. But there is demand for a different sort of high street. If we use our imaginations their regeneration can be the key to a Green economic recovery."

She outlines 10 key points to turn our high streets around;

- Support local independent businesses with affordable rents and fair business rates. "Localism" keeps money in the area, not syphoning it off to corporate headquarters or investment funds. They provide greater variety, reflecting the local area and culture.
- Every high street should have a "Re-use and Repair" facility" to help reduce landfill and single use of materials. Charity shops should be encouraged with a focus on "upcycling".
- Shared work space and serviced offices can be created for people wishing or needing to work closer to home, but not necessarily from home or on their own. These could offer training and skills sharing and support into re-employment.
- Vacant shops and office spaces can meet a range of housing needs, increasing the numbers living in town centres and improving community safety.
- Arts, entertainment and live performance spaces must be encouraged, using vacant spaces.
- Streets must become "Living Streets" with restricted vehicle access providing better air quality, improved pedestrian safety and full access for people with disabilities. Experience shows that, when introduced, more people visit, stay longer and spend more.
- Open green spaces are needed with cooling tree cover providing pleasant places to relax, as well as improving air quality and biodiversity.
- This approach must be supported by excellent zero emission public transport and infrastructure to encourage cycling and walking, ideally enabling people to access most of their daily needs within 20 minutes of home by "active travel".
- These measures, increasing a sense of ownership and respect for the area, are likely to reduce anti-social behaviour and crime, but should be supported by investment in a visible but low key community policing presence.
- Local communities must be consulted fully about how their town centres and high streets should change. They know best what they want and are an infinite source of ideas.

As a Richmond Councillor Andree has;

- Welcomed the campaign to provide temporary loos at key gathering points but believes this must be followed by reintroduction of permanent public conveniences and baby changing facilities across the boroughs High Streets.
- Supported the plans for Twickenham Riverside and now wants to ensure that the wishes of the wider population of Twickenham for a traffic-free scheme with lots of open space are met so it really becomes a "New Heart for Twickenham".
- Worked closely with Ham and North Kingston residents to set up Ham Parade Market. Aiming to bring fresh fruit and veg back to the Parade when the greengrocers shut, it now offers a wide range of goods and services.
- Opposed the half hour free parking policy saying this encourages dependence on cars, worsens air quality and in fact doesn't increase footfall. The money saved should be diverted to creating Living Streets.

Andree says, "The Green Party manifesto outlines in more detail plans for London's economic recovery which will also make London "The Greenest City in the World". Re-vitalising its towns is just one part of that vision which I would love to help bring about if elected on 6th May". View the manifesto [HERE](#)



Andree at Ham Parade Market. "The best thing about the market - apart from the delicious, local produce on offer - is seeing residents catching up with friends and neighbours. That's what's so important about a local-run market like this - it brings life back to a community."



On Tuesday Andree Frieze (left) and Sian Berry, Green Party Candidate for Mayor, visited Save The World Club, a charity in Kingston redistributing food, repairing and reusing resources and goods otherwise sent to landfill."



West Twickenham



A Tribune reader sent in this photo of a sign they spotted this week

They were rather bemused by the spelling and thought that the council might benefit from the use of a Spell Checker!

Roundabout is generally the preferred spelling.

Strawberry Hill



Visitors to Radnor Gardens have been pleased to see the historic 18th century Summer House freshly painted.

The painting was undertaken by the council following discussions with Clare Head, Chairman of the Friends of Radnor Gardens.

Ham

Ham Parade Market takes place this Saturday.

The Ham Parade Market will return this weekend. Support your local market and traders by visiting this Saturday 1 May, from 10am to 2pm.

All profits from the Ham Parade Market go back into improving Ham Parade and making the local high street a success.

With an amazing selection of food, drinks and much more there's something for everyone. The market takes place on the first Saturday of each month.

Dear Sir,

Removal of 12 Mature Trees in Orleans Gardens

I was appalled to read the article last week and I am copying you a letter I have written to our MP.

Dear Munira Wilson MP,

As I live in Twickenham and you are my MP I am writing to you as a matter of urgency. I watched with interest your speech on pollution made at Westminster Hall and was impressed to hear that you feel a moral and personal duty to act on improving our air quality. But I am stunned to read in the latest edition of the Twickenham Tribune (<https://twickenhamtribune.com/> Pages 9 & 10 (Removal of Mature Trees Orleans Gardens) that the Council has arranged the destruction of 12 mature trees in a wonderful park in your borough without any consultation (a small notice attached to one of the trees as shown). This is a conservation area and subject to Tree Preservation Orders. As you will see local residents who wrote to the Tribune to protest are naturally very upset as am I.

Given that it is scientific fact and proven that trees themselves contribute hugely to the air quality and health of us all, I find it outrageous that unnecessary destruction of valuable long standing trees which contribute environmentally to Twickenham are to be destroyed on the say so of 'an arboriculturist' - of whom we have no information or knowledge. This Council has a poor record on destroying perfectly good trees - and never replacing them despite promises - it happened in roads in my own neighbourhood when trees were felled and never replaced.

There is some urgency in this and that is why I am writing to you - the trees are apparently due to be felled on 10th May. I am asking you, as someone committed to air quality in our borough, to intercede and speak to the responsible Councillors to ensure that this unnecessary vandalism does not take place without proper investigation & consultation. There are alternatives which are laid out in the Tribune letter very thoughtfully. I cannot help but think that the Council is trying to avoid simple maintenance of these trees which as the Tribune points out just need branches lopping back and could go on for years more, helping to improve our air quality by the natural filtering effect of the trees. Once these beautiful mature trees that contribute not just beauty in our borough, but also significant health benefits, are gone the situation is irretrievable.

I cannot help but feel a contradiction between a vocal Parliamentary stand on air quality/pollution, and what is due to happen very shortly on your own constituency doorstep.

Kind regards,

Kate Soutter
Twickenham

Dear Twickenham Tribune,

Protected Cycle Lane, Kew Road

I am not against cycle lanes and am broadly in support of the Government encouraging more cycling. I am however against the abuse of emergency powers by Richmond council through introducing measures such as the protected cycle lane on the Kew Road.

This appeared out of the blue with less than one week's notice to Kew Gardens and Kew residents and businesses. Such measures need to be fully thought out and properly consulted upon. Richmond council did neither and rushed it through without putting in place any wider plans to accommodate all users of Kew.

Cllr. Ehmann has said that that the Kew Road had become a "Coach Parking Lot" and a "Council subsidised car park", yet he has not made any adequate alternative provision for coaches and drop offs for the 100,000 school children who visit the Gardens each year.

The cycle lane is temporary (18 months) and there must be proper consultation and wider planning if it is to be kept.

I exchanged correspondence with Cllr. Ehmann and Mr. O'Donnell (Traffic and Engineering) and neither are willing to properly engage with views other than their own, this is unacceptable in a democracy.

Cllr. Ehmann has said that the protected cycle lane is both "popular and successful", yet their own statistics show that 831 cyclists use it per week. That is less than 5 users per hour! Compare that to the 2.24 Million people who visit Kew Gardens each year.

A "popular and successful" cycle lane- what "utter tosh".

Yours sincerely

John Mikucki

Hampton

Dear Tribune,

Richard Burton's tomb

Emily Lunn's article about Sir Richard Burton's fantastic tomb in Mortlake reminded me of the last time I visited it with a friend.

Another family was also peering through the window.

I jokingly said to my friend: "I suppose the other person in there must be Elizabeth Taylor."

To which, one of the other group said very seriously: "No, I think she's buried somewhere else".

It's good to know that there is so much local knowledge around!

Yours sincerely,

Michael Jay

Hampton

Dear Sir,

Council Tax increase

Thank you, Alistair Blunt of Hampton Wick, for flagging up the deception that Richmond council blatantly deploy in their notice of council tax increase. (See LETTERS, page 15 of Tribune dated 9 April).

I have been scratching my head trying to see how they arrived at the figures showing the percentage rise over last year's rates and I think I can see what they are up to!

Yes the GLA rate has risen by 9.5% over their rate last year. BUT Richmond Council claim a mere 0.6p rise on their own component which appears commendable. Now the tricky bit is the Adult Care Rate which is actually part of the remit of Richmond Council. They claim it is a 3pc increase but as Alistair rightly says is actually a 33.7pc increase calculated against THEIR element from last year. Now that would not look very good, would it?

What they appear to have done is to calculate the increase in the Council's Adult Care Rate as a percentage of the **council's total rate of tax** (excluding GLA) which gives an increase of a mere 3%, instead of 33.7%.

So the Council is misleading us in two ways as by doing the calculations the way they have, then their claim to an increase in their part of the council tax by 0.6% is wrong and should be 3.6% including the Adult Care Rate.

Please notice that these deceptions have only been apparent for Council Tax increases since the LibDems took over running the council - see the letters accompanying your recent tax notices.

Any private business jiggling their pricing that way would soon come under the scrutiny of Trading Standards!

Yours sincerely,

Angela Creek
West Twickenham

Traffic and Parking Plans Contested By The Community

A 'what's been going on' article by The Twickenham Coalition

Twickenham is moving towards achieving the ambition of many decades to regenerate the town and revitalise the riverside, but the development proposals presented by Richmond Council are more contentious than any put forward during the last 40 years.

Overwhelming thumbs down to Council's parking proposals

In June 2020 Richmond Council held a public consultation about parking and announced that a decision had already been taken to close The Embankment between Water Lane and Wharf Lane to all vehicular traffic, along with the removal of approximately 82 parking spaces.



Fewer than 20% or one in five of 1,813 respondents actually said they supported the Council's parking proposals, but the Council pressed on anyway.

It is very clear that the Council's search for a solution to the challenges for traffic, parking, access for trades people, loading and unloading has been obstructed by their confusion over traffic flows, inadequate information about parking provisions and the absence of any strategy on the transport and parking needs of Twickenham.

Councillors decided to go ahead any way

Heatham Alliance is a 500-strong community group in Twickenham. Its founder, Mac McInerny, observed:

"In spite of the negative feedback reported by the Director of Environment & Community Services, and the flaws in the consultation process, Council Officers recommended proceeding with removal of 82 parking spaces."

"To offset the loss of these parking spaces, Council Officers actually reduced the number of new on-street parking spaces from 34 to 29, leaving just 10 new spaces within a quarter of a mile of The Embankment. How can that happen?"

A spokesperson for the Twickenham Society said:

"There seems to be no recognition that residents in the new flats on the Riverside development and their visitors will be permitted to use Holly Road car park, along with everyone else looking to park in the centre of town."

"How many more cars can they possibly fit in, especially on Saturdays when the Farmers Market is held there, and what effect will this have on traffic congestion?"

The repercussions for Twickenham

The Twickenham Coalition pointed out that Council Officers and Councillors acknowledged that drivers could well be forced to park elsewhere following these changes, but they all completely ignored the congestion problems and risks of residents and visitors driving away from Twickenham for shopping and leisure.

This will have serious impacts on shops, bars, restaurants, other venues and the small businesses in Church Street and the surrounding area.

Eel Pie Island Association's representative, Helen Montgomery-Smith, explained:

"The Embankment serves so many river-related activities include sports clubs, boatyards and moorings, with public access to the water for canoes, paddle boards and other water-borne craft.

"Losing a pay and display option for parking on Twickenham's Embankment will impact on the inclusivity, vibrancy and viability it brings to Church Street and to the waterfront."

Yvonne Hewett, York House Society, added:

"We are very concerned about the plans for traffic and parking in the scheme and the potentially adverse effects on local residents and businesses - especially post-pandemic - if the number of available spaces is severely curtailed."

The Twickenham Coalition calls publicly for Richmond Council to pause, prepare proposals that will deliver what they said they will deliver and table new plans and designs – in full – for proper consultation.

"Councillors should reflect on their public duties to examine the facts fully and objectively, to be accountable and to act openly and in the public interest," said The Twickenham Coalition's spokesperson.

"The Council's plan to introduce the ban on parking at a stroke, at an undetermined point in time, is simply not sustainable and it is not in the public interest.

"Cllr Gareth Roberts once promised that the Council will listen and be transparent.

"We hold him to that."

The Twickenham Coalition

The Twickenham Coalition is a growing number of individuals and community groups who have come together with one aim

– To ensure that Richmond Council deliver the proposals they promised to deliver, so that Twickenham will be a place we are all truly proud of for generations to come.

Readers can learn more about The Twickenham Coalition, the Diamond Jubilee Gardens and other concerns about the Council's proposals and plans, all on their website -

<https://thetwickenhamcoalition.org>

Hampton North Ward News

Councillors Geoffrey Samuel and Kate Howard

LADY ELEANOR HOLLES EXPANSION

Some residents expressed concern over the planning application for a small additional teaching block. One of us has therefore visited the school to examine the proposal. There is a clear need for additional teaching spaces: the existing shortage has been exacerbated by the requirement to convert classrooms into laboratories due to the popularity of science. To create one lab, two classrooms have to be adapted. The building will not affect neighbouring properties and no parking space will be lost. Additional girls will be admitted due to demand this year but there is no intention to have a permanent expansion. There will be a small increase in numbers but as now, the roll will not exceed 1000

OUR SURVEY

We thank those of you who have returned our Survey, Distribution has been suspended because of the election but will resume after 8th May. The June Newsletter will give the provisional results, finalised in July. We will – of course – act on your wishes as expressed in the Survey. If you have not completed the Survey we do hope you will do so before the end of May.

ELECTION DAY

As some residents have expressed concerns about social distancing at the Polling Station we will not have ‘tellers’[representatives] at the Polling Station so that all voters feel safe

PARKING MACHINES.

A number of elderly and disabled residents have expressed to us their concern that, with the beginning of the removal of parking machines, a ‘smart’ phone is needed for payment. Some elderly residents do not have smart phones or find them difficult to use. The Equalities Impact Survey for the Council recognises that this means that some elderly and disabled people will be at a disadvantage. We are concerned about the situation and are insisting that the interests of all our residents are considered.

BISHOPS GROVE/DEAN ROAD

Residents complained that, without any consultation, the Council has removed a large number of tree branches in the Dean Road Open Space thus changing their outlook. The Council has apologised for this failure.

HAMPTON COMMON PITCH

The Council is proceeding with the new pitch and will not – as we had asked – consult on the change of location

ELECTRIC CARS

We accept that it is national policy to ‘go electric’. However electric cars are far more expensive to buy than petrol or diesel models and require regular charging. This is both cheaper and more convenient if it can be done outside your home. A resident in a Social Housing Flat has told us that his Housing Association will not instal a charging point on his estate. We are pursuing this as it is clearly important.

SHORTER ITEMS

- Many local children are, or will be, pupils of the excellent **Turing House School**. On their behalf we are asking when it will move to its new site and whether the school will provide transport from Hampton
- Residents were concerned when they saw a ‘For Rent’ notice for the police base at **Tangley Park**. However we have been assured that the Police will be renewing the lease.
- We have urged the Council to improve the pleasant Open Space in **Arundel Close**
- The **Acacia Road/Hanworth Road** junction is hazardous for traffic turning right into Hanworth Road and for pedestrians. We have asked the Council to improve the situation and consider a pedestrian crossing
- We continue to receive complaints about the waste service and the appalling conditions at the Recycling Centre on **Hampton Square**. More news on this next month
- Some residents are still having problems with the delivery of post. Let us know if you experience problems.
- We will be having meetings in the Summer with Housing Associations **RHP and PA**. On behalf of local residents we are also now dealing with **Inquilab, Places for People and L and Q**. Let us know if there are issues you would like us to raise.

Keep in touch with us by phone or gjshn@btinternet.com: tell us of issues which concern you: we are both here to help

A ROYAL INDULGENCE AGAIN...AT LONG LAST!

They did a fine job in restoring The Kings Arms at Hampton Court and then they were hit with a double whammy: Covid-19 lockdowns and now the shutting of Bushy Park to through traffic! But the resilient team hasn't let this throw them – the terrace has allowed the business to reopen (albeit still not fully) but it's a start...and a great one! Carefully shielded from the traffic noise with shrubbery, that offers an element of privacy too, the sunny terrace is a fabulous place to relax with friends and family (and the family hound's welcome too). The day we went along to check out head



chef Jack Scoines' new menu it was sunny, but there was a very cold easterly wind. No problem; blankets were swiftly offered, plus comfy cushions for the chairs.

The menu is great: it's sensibly curated and we were really spoilt for choice with all the delicious sounding sharing plates to start. They are £7 each (as a starter) or four for £25 – providing a perfect light snack lunch for two or an indulgent tapas experience if, like me, you love tiny tastes of different dishes. We finally settled on just one starter each. The Crispy Devilled Whitebait, Dill Mayonnaise and Pickled Cucumber was really good. The whitebait was piping hot, crispy, and the accompanying dill mayo the perfect adjunct. The other starter we



chose was a portion of Stornoway Black Pudding Bon Bons with Brown Sauce. Reader, I loathe standard brown sauce, but this one was home made and elevated to a different stratosphere. The bon bons were again piping hot, and having been presented after the whitebait, we didn't have to rush to enjoy them at their best freshly served. Instead, we could linger over them while enjoying a G&T and a beer. Noting the selection ordered by the table next to ours, I had serious food envy, and I've already mentally chosen my tapas selection for our next visit!





But we had our main courses to enjoy, and enjoy them we certainly did. I opted for the Roast Wiltshire Free Range Chicken Supreme, served with Cauliflower cheese; hand cut chips and a Truffle & Tarragon Jus. (£19). It was delicious, rich and extremely tasty. My husband chose Wye Valley Asparagus Risotto, Young Morels, Cipolina Onion & Blue Monday No 7 (Alex James's blue cheese). It was pretty as a picture, although slightly on the meagre side portion-wise as a



main course (£17), but tasted truly fabulous.

With wines from £7.45 a glass, there's an eclectic wine list as well as a full cocktail menu and of course, still being a pub at heart, draught beer. We finished with a very generous assortment of artisan British cheeses served at the perfect temperature (with a great chutney) and a portion of Dark Chocolate & Hazelnut Delice, Salted Caramel, Roasted Hazelnuts and Praline Ice Cream. I wasn't allowed even a tiny spoonful of that, so it must have been particularly good!



The vibe at The Terrace is very relaxed and on a sunny day without that easterly wind, will be a lovely suntrap. There is a picnic in the park hamper available (£60 and serves four) and the other items on the Terrace menu are available for takeaway too. You could combine it with a visit to Hampton Court Palace or a stroll in Bushy Park or the Palace grounds. I know that we're certainly planning another visit very soon!



Chantecoq and the Mystery of the Blue Train by Arthur Bernède, translated by Andrew K. Lawston

For a great sleuth, a detail speaks volumes. In the world of Parisian detective M. Chantecoq, however, volumes are spoken about every last detail. No part of *The Mystery of the Blue Train* arrives without being extensively prefaced, described, attested in dialogue and recapitulated, as though the various hands behind it – the detective himself, his fictional amanuensis, author Arthur Bernède and translator Andrew Lawston – each want to make sure they’ve had a say on the matter. Rather than being snappy or smart, the dialogue has the laboured quality of bad radio play, with characters patiently explaining to one another things they patently already know.

You may not have heard of Chantecoq before, the concoction of prolific French writer Bernède in the 1920s. There’s no shortage of golden-age crime already, and this one is a long way from the crispness of a Christie or wit of a [Wallace](#).



Chantecoq’s career résumé is given out as frequently as a calling card in the course of this mystery, but for the fictional sleuth and his milieu the more detail accrues around him the less of a character he seems. The detective repeatedly insists on his own brilliance – appropriate



enough for a man whose name translates as “Crowing Cock” – and victims and villains seem happy to share this estimation. But next to the deftly drawn archetypes of, say, a Holmes or a Poirot, he comes across as a self-inflated balloon. The only sentiment of his I had any sympathy for was when he opined: “Each minute that we waste puts us further from our common goal.” If only Bernède had adopted this maxim.

The project has clearly been a labour of love for Lawston. However, it’s the labour rather than the love that was far more apparent to this listener.

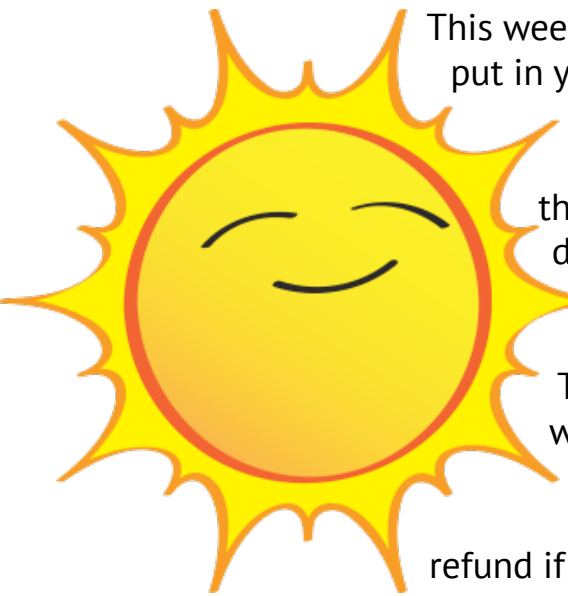
Read Matthew Grierson’s review at www.markaspen.com/2021/04/30/blue-train

Chantecoq and the Mystery of the Blue Train is available on Audible as part of the [Chantecoq series](#)

Images by Alphonse Brenet and Françoise Betouret

THE BUZZ WORD IS GREEN!

Travel News by Bruce Lyons
Confused? Well join the club!



This week there is a strong smell of expectancy, a delicious herb to put in your Summer Holiday.

The Hope to Travel this Summer is right at the top of everybody's "wish list" but whilst Grant Shapps says today that he is going to spill the beans and tell all in the next 10 days (that is just a few days before Johnny Johnson said the Government would reveal the next stage)

There is still a lot of mystery as to how it is all going to work- to which destinations and from when! It is all a bit like a Sherlock Holmes plot. Nevertheless the operators are happy you "Book with Confidence" as they will cancel/ refund if the Govt says you can't go without having to quarantine on your return - So there is quite a lot more to be divulged like, which destination will be Green, or Orange – even RED. There is talk about NHS Passports and PCR's – tests on arrival.

And even after all is revealed there is what happens in resort – hopefully just a little "distancing" and hand sanitizing! And then there is what happens when you come home! However, dear Reader, there has been progress – whichever way it goes.

Crusader is ready we have signed up as a depot for ECTS (Eurofin Covid Testing Service), an express "test at home" PCR kit costing £44.90 and will keep tracking the progress on the NHS APP development. So if you need the former you know where to come or the latter (NHS) we will all know – so from that point of view we are all set to go.

So what was happening in the travel world this week? Quite a lot of work with departures in 2022 or if in 2021, after June seems to be the focus as even when the traffic lights are revealed you still have to conform with the various requirements. One thing that is simple though – if you plan to travel check you have 6 months in your departure from your planned return date. So for now you can book anything you like with a certainty that you could get your money back if the GOVT doesn't allow travel there. We also noticed that the most popular destinations were those likely to be Green; Portugal, Malta, Gibraltar, Israel, Iceland and Greece – Hope that is going to be correct! We had to move quite a few late May holidays (Turkey) to a later date and other different destinations and even later dates.

Staycations and Sea-cations are still the most popular – here's a great semi active Discovery Trip just been announced take a look;

<https://www.explore.co.uk/holidays/north-wales-adventure>

Remember **GREEN IS THE COLOUR!** www.crusadertravel.com **020 8744 0474**

WIZ TALES - TONGA

Teresa Read



The islands of the Pacific are can be divided into three areas: Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia.

Polynesia consists of over a thousand islands between Hawaii, New Zealand and Easter Island; Tonga is withing this grouping.

The Kingdom of Tonga is an archipelago of around 170 islands in the South Pacific Ocean; it is two thousand two hundred- and fifty-kilometres northeast of New Zealand.

Ha'amonga'a Maui is a very interesting structure and is protected. Thirty-two kilometres from Nuku'alofa (on the island of Tongatapu), Ha'amonga'a Maui was built at the beginning of the thirteenth century. Consisting of two upright pillars and a lintel, the trilithon, thought to have been used to determine the longest and shortest day of the year, is now the gateway of an archaeological reserve.

Tonga is within the [British] Commonwealth of Nations. Captain Cook arrived in the area in the 1770s and named Tonga the Friendly Islands.

After being forced off the HMS Bounty by mutineers, William Bligh, the British captain, and his loyal crew set out for Tonga in an open boat (1789).



More about Tonga:

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

REMEMBER! THE FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN

By Doug Goodman

Seventy years ago on Monday The Festival of Britain was opened by King George. The 1951 celebrations were staged to commemorate the centenary of the Great Exhibition of 1851, which showcased British and Empire achievements in a massive glass and steel building designed by Sir Joseph Paxton. The exhibition was located in Hyde Park and moved to Sydenham Hill in South London in 1852. The location became known as Crystal Palace but sadly it was destroyed by fire in 1936.



Festival Logo



Crystal Palace 1926

The plan for a Festival of Britain originated in 1943 when the Royal Society of Arts suggested an international exhibition to commemorate the 1851 event. However, it became a celebration of British achievements only and was constructed on the South Bank of the Thames near Waterloo Station at a cost of £12 million. Six years after the end of WW2 the UK was a gloomy country with much of London in ruins and rationing still in force. The population needed a boost decreed the government.



Souvenir Glass



New styles for 1951



Souvenir Matches

Activities were staged around the country but The South Bank became a beacon for renewal and change attracting millions of visitors while helping to reshape design, arts and craft and sports. I was taken to the exhibition and remember the 300 feet tall Skylon – a slender, transparent, pointed column and the mushroom-shaped Dome of Discovery. Another attraction was the Battersea Pleasure Gardens with a curious miniature railway, a tree walk, zoo and funfair. The Festival of Britain was the beginning of the end of war-time austerity and changed the London riverside area for ever. Old, shabby dwellings, warehouses and the Shot Tower disappeared under the redevelopment which saw the opening of The Royal Festival Hall on May 3rd 1951 and later on new concert halls. Today the riverside from Westminster Bridge to Tower Bridge is one of London's most popular walks.

Engineering Construction Industry Training Board hands 'Approved Scholarship Provider' Plaque to Richmond upon Thames College

On Thursday 22 April, the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board (ECITB) visited Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) to meet our current Design and Draft scholarship students and hand the ECITB 'Approved Scholarship Provider' plaque. On the day, ECITB members had a tour of the new college building and discussed their programme with employers.

In summer 2020, RuTC was successful in gaining scholarship funding for students to be paid while they learn on a two-year programme and will then progress onto the final years of an apprenticeship programme.

Aiyana, one of the engineering scholars said, "I have always wanted to go into engineering, so when I moved to the area, I applied for a normal vocational engineering course. RuTC recommended the ECITB Scholarship, and I am so glad I chose this course. It has more units than the vocational course and involves a lot of practical work."

Her classmate, Michael, said, "I did my A Levels and then started this course which gives me everything I need to progress to the next stage in my education and career. I really enjoy the skills we learn in the workshop and units on thermo dynamics and CAD. The ECITB Scholarship is very practical which makes it easier for me to learn than when I did my A Levels."

Bryn is also on the scholarship course and said, "I did my GCSEs and have always wanted to pursue a career in engineering. I started a vocational course, but the ECITB Scholarship is so much better for me and my career and it is a great benefit that I am being paid for it as well."

RuTC is pleased to say that the scholarship programme will also continue in the next academic year and the College's engineering teachers and the ECITB are excited to welcome new applicants to gain skills and knowledge in Engineering Design and Draughting but also in Project Controls. If you know of any prospective students who would like to "earn while they learn" then please apply for the course.

Chris Claydon, ECITB Chief Executive, said: "It was a pleasure to meet the Scholars and the great team delivering the ECITB Scholarship at the impressive new Richmond upon Thames College flagship building. I know the engineering construction employers who joined us to talk with the scholars were really impressed with the young people, the course and the facilities.

"I'm proud of our partnership with the College, which provides a great opportunity for these learners to start out on their engineering careers with a foundation in the critical skills we need for the future."

Sheila Fraser Whyte, Executive Director for Business Development and Innovation at RuTC, said, "Richmond upon Thames College has been working with the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board for over 10 years and we are grateful to have now received the ECITB Scholarship plaque. We are proud of our engineering scholars who have successfully completed the first year. The partnership ensures that they will have the skills, knowledge and behaviours to succeed in the engineering sector and we are looking forward to welcome the second cohort of scholars this September."



**Richmond upon
Thames College**

Hampton's 'BetterWorld' in running for £20,000 Amazon Longitude Explorer Prize

A team of young people from **Lady Eleanor Holles, Hampton**, has beaten hundreds of young people from across the UK to make it to the finals of the Amazon Longitude Explorer Prize – a £20,000 tech for good prize for young people.

'**Scan!**', designed by 'BetterWorld', Lady Eleanor Holles, is an app that recommends health food, provides shopping lists, and alerts the user as to expiry dates, with a leadership board to encourage less waste.

A team of young people from **Richmond Park Academy, Richmond**, has beaten hundreds of young people from across the UK to make it to the finals of the Amazon Longitude Explorer Prize – a £20,000 tech for good prize for young people.

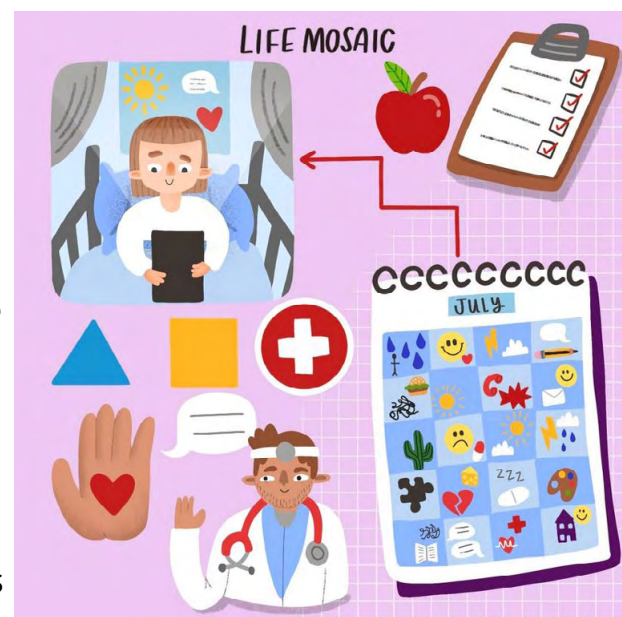
'**LifeMosaic**', designed by 'RPA', Richmond Park Academy, is an a smart display and app that enables young people in hospital to express their feelings via colours and symbols, with the option to unlock different levels as they progress.

The Amazon Longitude Explorer Prize, delivered by Nesta Challenges, pairs entrepreneurial skills not usually taught in the classroom with the STEM curriculum to encourage young innovators from across the UK aged 11-16 to create tech solutions to the big challenges of our time - like climate change, healthy living, ageing well and staying better connected. The team from Lady Eleanor Holles and the 39 other teams in the running will now work with tech industry mentors to develop prototypes of their ideas ahead of the final judging in July.

There are some really exciting and creative ideas from teams in the running this year, all the more impressive that they developed and submitted them at the height of lockdown.

The [Amazon Longitude Explorer Prize](#), delivered by Nesta Challenges, has unveiled a finalist shortlist of 40 inspirational projects from teams of 11-16 year olds in the running to win the £20,000 first prize. The Amazon Longitude Explorer Prize pairs STEM knowledge with new entrepreneurial skills and calls on young people to develop innovative 'tech for good' solutions to help solve society's biggest issues. Finalists include a sea-cleaning robot sphere that detects and removes microplastics with infrared sensors; a hand sanitiser-dispensing and infrared thermometer phone case that reminds the user to wash their hands and take their temperature regularly, and; an app that tackles period poverty and its link with female participation in sport and exercise by offering free monthly hygiene packs alongside motivation and fitness goals, and mental health tips.

In July, the winning team will be awarded £20,000 for its school or youth group, with three teams of runners-up to be awarded £5,000 each for their school or youth group. The public will also be given the chance to choose their favourite design in the People's Choice Award in June, the winner of which will receive £5,000 prize money for its school or youth group.





RFS The Best of our Recent Historic Screenings

Issue 58

30th April 2021

LIKE FATHER LIKE SON

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: **LIKE FATHER LIKE SON** was the 736th film screened by RFS, on 10th March 2015. **Like Father Like Son** was the fourth equal ranked film of Season 52 (equal with **Good Vibrations**), it got an approval mark of 89% from those attending; from season 52 we have also already featured the top three films, in order: **Wadja**, **The Patience Stone**, **The Hunt** and plus its fourth equal companion **Good Vibrations** as **Issues 4, 34, 7 and 11** respectively. **Like Father Like Son** can be streamed from Curzon and BFI Player and the discs are available from Amazon and others.

LIKE FATHER LIKE SON (Soshite chichi ni naru)

Director: Hirokazu Koreeda
Country: Japan, 2013
Screenplay: Hirokazu Koreeda
Running Time: 119 min., colour
Language: Japanese
Music: Takeshi Matsubara, et al.
Cinematography: Mikiya Takimoto
Editor: Hirokazu Koreeda

Leading Players:

Masaharu Fukuyama (Ryota Nonomiya)
Yôko Maki (Yukari Saiki)
Machiko Ono (Midori Nonomiya)
Riri Furankî (Yudai Saiki)
Jun Fubuki (Nobuko Nonomiya)
Shôgen Hwang (Ryusei Saiki)



Would you choose your natural son, or the son you believed was yours after spending 6 years together? Kore-eda Hirokazu, the globally acclaimed director of **Nobody Knows**, **Still Walking** and **I Wish** (previously shown by RFS), returns to the big screen with another family a family thrown into torment after a phone call from the hospital where the son was born...

Ryota has earned everything he has by his hard work and believes nothing can stop him from pursuing his perfect life as a winner. Then one day, he and his wife, Midori, get an unexpected phone call from the hospital. Their 6-year-old son, Keita, is not 'their son' the hospital gave them the wrong baby. Ryota is forced to make a life-changing decision, to choose between 'nature' and 'nurture.' Seeing Midori's devotion to Keita even after learning his origin, and communicating with the rough yet caring family that has raised his natural son for the last six years, Ryota also starts to question himself: has he really been a father all these years...

"Work hard now, so there is no struggle later" declares a hard-driving and pushy Dad. As if work makes the man. As if it is so simple. Upon discovering his 6-year-old son was switched at birth, the Dad continues to focus on form and not heart. The family taking care of his real son is everything that he is not; fun-loving, adventuresome, and loving of the natural world. He pools his lawyers and his money in order to prove a point, yet the point proved may be his own demise. Though the story might be better developed in places, the theme is compelling and poignant, the actors are believable, and the disparate characters are intriguing. Winner of a Cannes festival jury prize. This film is about the importance of achieving real connections with others.

The strength of this film is the unique story and the complexities that comes with this theme. Already from the start when both families meet a lot of tensions occur due to the different backgrounds and personalities of the characters. The acting performances are top notch creating a convincing scenario between these families. Koreeda has always been good with handling fun and deep family stories with underlying conflicts. A masterful combination of both humour and grief. This film will make you both laugh and cry. As always in Koreeda films the children are the biggest reasons for enjoying his films. Full of charisma and innocence pulling us through an emotional journey from start to end.

The situation portrayed is every parent's nightmare, and the film succeeds in conveying that, while also mining a deep vein of humanity and compassion, and even managing a few comic flourishes. Superb.

I hope this is not a spoiler for you all but if I recall there is a dog and it lives!

Peter Sheil with assistance from **Amazon**



BRENTFORD FC

Ten men Bees bounce back to return to winning ways

AFC Bournemouth 0 - 1 Brentford

Brentford returned to winning ways in the Championship despite having to play virtually the whole second-half with ten men after Pontus Jansson had been sent off. Despite the man disadvantage the Bees scored with just over ten minutes to play through substitute Bryan Mbeumo to consign their fellow playoff contenders to defeat.



Both teams made a lively start to proceedings in the lunchtime sunshine of the south coast and the home side were very nearly in inside the opening minute, but a heavy touch from Dominic Solanke meant that the ball ran out for a goal kick.

At the other end Steve Cook got back to make a good block to deny Ivan Toney in an attacking opening to the game.

Bournemouth then had a brilliant chance when Solanke combined with Junior Stanislas on the edge of the box and the forward broke clean through on goal. However, as he went to take the shot he slipped and his shot was skewed high and wide.

Brentford though had chance of their own and were only prevented from opening the scoring by an excellent goal line clearance. Mathias Jensen initiated the move and picked out Mads Roerslev advancing from wingback and the Dane crossed to the back post for Marcus Forss. Forss then headed the ball down into the path of Sergi Canós, whose shot from inside the six-yard box was cleared away by Steve Cook and then Tariqe Fosu on the follow up was blocked as well.

Asmir Begović was called into the first save by either goalkeeper to keep out Jensen from the edge of the area. Fosu had teed the ball up on the edge of the area and after taking a touch the Dane got a shot away which Begović managed to tip around the post.

The best chance of the first half came with just over half an hour played when a long searching ball from Vitaly Janelt found its way to Ivan Toney after Cook had lunged for and missed the ball. Toney, however, couldn't capitalise and his shot lacked conviction as he tried to roll the ball through the legs of Begović.

Arnaut Danjuma then looked to slip in Dominic Solanke but Canós tracked back excellently to make the tackle and clear at the last moment.

As the first-half came to a close Toney had two attempts that were promising. First, Forss

disposed Jack Wilshere and the ball broke to Jensen who in turn found Toney whose attempt drifted of target. He then combined with Jensen minutes later as he was picked out by the Dane via a crossfield switch and the Championship's top scorer fired narrowly wide of the far post.

Five minutes into the second-half Brentford were reduced to ten men after Pontus Jansson was sent off for a second yellow card. Having already been cautioned in the first-half the Swedish defender was soon heading down the tunnel after being penalised for dragging down Solanke as they both jostled for a ball over the top.

With both teams then making substitutes in response to the red card the game became slightly more scrappy. Danjuma did well to get to the by-line by Charlie Goode, on as a substitute, did equally well to flick the ball clear from the cross.

Despite the man disadvantage Brentford nearly scored after some good linkup play between Toney and Forss. A long throw from Mads Bech Sørensen up towards the hallway line was knocked down by Forss to Toney. Toney returned the favour and looped a ball over the top for his striker partner to run onto. Cook at the back misjudged the header back to Begović but the Brentford player could only fire over.

With just over ten minutes to play Brentford things got even better as they scored. Toney was unsurprisingly at the heart of it as he initially had a shot blocked but he recycled the ball through Christian Nørgaard and had another attempt that Begovic could only parry into the path of Bryan Mbeumo, who fresh on as a substitute, slid in to score.

Late on Bournemouth pushed forward for the win and Raya did well to hold a couple of crossed from out wide but the Bees held firm to return to winning ways and take all three points from their trip to the south coast.

Playoff bound Bees make it back to back wins Brentford 0 - 1 Rotherham United

Brentford made in two wins a row as they look to build momentum heading into the playoffs following a victory at the Brentford Community Stadium courtesy of a first-half header from Bryan Mbeumo.

Ahead of kick off both teams paid tribute with a minute's applause following the sad news earlier in the day of the death of Peter Gelson, one of Brentford's all-time leading appearance makers, aged 79.

Rotherham came into the game in the relegation zone but had the first chance of the game via a set piece. Iva Toney was penalised for jumping into Richard Wood and the resulting free-kick was eventually worked up field to Jamie Lindsay whose shot was straight at David Raya.

However, it was the home side who took the lead through Mbeumo with just under half an hour played. Vitaly Janelt initially picked up the ball and drove from midfield before finding Sergi Canós on the left wing. Canós then dribbled inside Wes Harding and curled a cross into the box for Mbeumo to glance the ball in from the edge of the six-yard box past Jamal

Blackman.

At the other end Rotherham looked to hit back quickly and Chiedozie Ogbene got on the end of a cross from Michael Smith but once again for the Millers the attempt was straight at Raya and the Spaniard gathered easily.

Championship top scorer Ivan Toney then curled over after cutting onto his right foot and Blackman was forced into a good save to keep out Canós after the winger had produced a neat turn to make space for the shot.

Canós himself then cut in from his wing and shot into the side netting with Blackman committed to the dive and right before half-time Toney had the best chance of all to double the Brentford lead when he hit the post after escaping Angus MacDonald, but on the stretch he saw his shot comeback off the post.

In the second-half Toney went close once more to extending Brentford's advantage. Saman Ghoddos found Mads Roerslev out wide and he crossed to Toney who found space in the box but Blackman showed good reactions to get down low and keep the header out.

Rotherham in their fight against relegation looked to rescue a point with an equaliser but the closest the went was when substitute Matthew Olosunde had a header saved from close range by Raya.

Late on Brentford should have added to their lead when Marcus Forss, also on as a substitute, drag a shot wide after picking the ball up inside the box but in the end the miss didn't prove costly as the Bees made it back to back wins.

Bees to join in with football social media blackout

Brentford will join fellow football clubs in a full boycott across all social media platforms over the bank holiday weekend. The move comes in light of a recent rise in the number of incidents being reported this season, including racial abuse of players.

Ivan Toney and Bryan Mbeumo are among players to have received racist abuse via online social media platforms this season and the world of football has come together in a united front to make a stand against abuse.

The Bees will be joined by fellow clubs, media organisations and individuals in the boycott which will begin at 3pm on Friday 30th April and last until Monday 3rd May.

In a statement issued by the club Brentford said that, "Abuse on social media has been a scourge of the medium for many years. Players and staff have been the targets of sickening language directed at them in replies and comments. This has been arriving on the laptops and mobile phones of those managing and using social media. In recent months, the frequency of this abuse has increased and there has been an exponential rise in discriminatory language sent directly to players and other participants in our game. As has been pointed out by others – Enough is Enough."

Brentford great Peter Gelson dies aged 79

Former Brentford player and Club Hall of Fame member Peter Gelson has sadly died aged 79 on Monday 26th April.

The defender made more than 500 appearances for the club after coming through the youth system with the Bees and was voted second in a poll by Brentford fans in 2013 for their all time favourite player.

During his time at Griffin Park Gelson won the Fourth Division championship in 1962/63 and then once more in 1971/72 following relegation in 1966. He also won Supporters' Player of the Year in back to back seasons in 1972/73 and 1973/74 as well as Players' Player of the Year in 1973/74.

In his later years Gelson remained connected with the club as a season ticket holder and he remains the club's third highest appearances maker of all time during a 15 year stay with the club.

UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Game 1

Opponent: Watford (H) Saturday 1st May 15:00 Brentford Community Stadium

Nickname: The Hornets

Competition: Championship - Matchday 45

Head Coach: Xisco Muñoz

Opponent record: P43 W26 D10 L8 GF61 GA28 (2nd in Championship) (p)

Interesting fact: Watford are just one of three sides along with Southampton and Norwich City to have recorded back to back promotions into the top division of English football when they did so under Graham Taylor between 1997 and 1999.

Game 2

Opponent: Bristol City (A) Saturday 8th May 12:30 Ashton Gate

Nickname: The Robins

Competition: Championship - Matchday 46

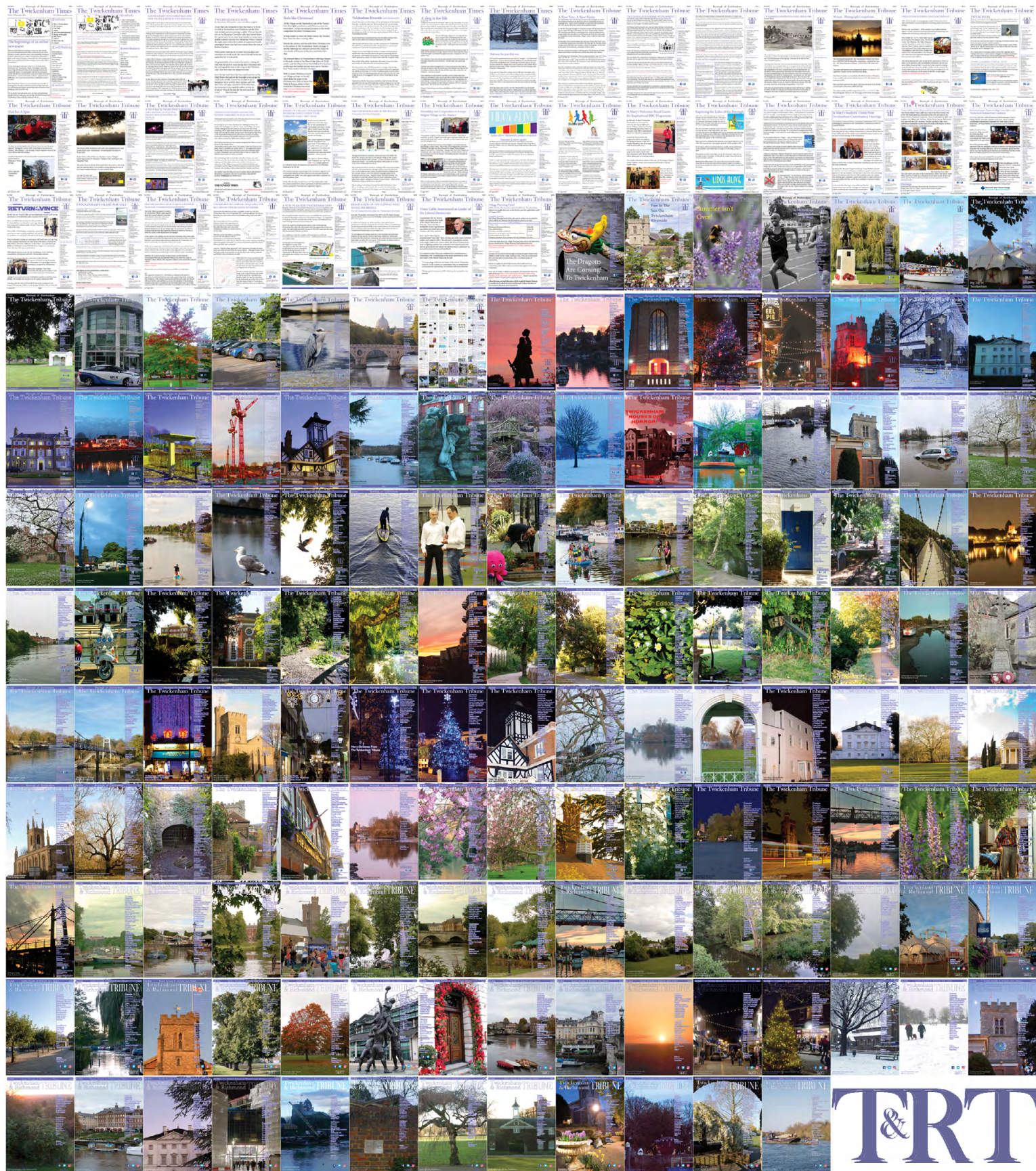
Head Coach: Paul Warne

Opponent record: P44 W15 D6 L23 GF44 GA61 (18th in Championship)

Interesting fact: Bristol City have one of the few international club derbies in the United Kingdom with their rivalry with Cardiff City, which is known as the Severnside derby.

Come on you Bees!

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