

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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Berkley Driscoll
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20th August 2021

T&RT

View from Diamond Jubilee Gardens
 Photo by Berkley Driscoll

TickerTape - News in Brief

Boat theft and arson

There are reports of a boat (named Puffin) being stolen from a mooring in Twickenham on Tuesday 3rd August, between 4 and 6:30am. The boat was driven around by Ham, Eel Pie Island and Radnor Gardens before being set on fire and destroyed. People are asked to come forward and contact the police if they saw anything or have any information.

You can find out more on Twitter [HERE](#)

Tube strike

Tuesday 24 August until Friday 27 August

Planned strike action will cause severe disruption across the Tube network if it goes ahead. This means all Tube lines would run a significantly reduced service at some times and would not run at others.

Strike action is planned on the following dates:

- 12:00 on Tuesday 24 until 11:59 on Wednesday 25 August
- 12:00 on Thursday 26 until 11:59 on Friday 27 August

Please complete your journeys by 13:00 on Tuesday 24 and Thursday 26 August.

Further info will be available ahead of, and during the strike on the TfL website [HERE](#)

Self-isolation changes for double vaccinated people

The government has announced changes to COVID-19 self-isolation rules. Anyone who has received both vaccinations, will no longer have to isolate if identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive. This applies to adults who have had both jabs at least 14 days before the contact, and to under 18-year-olds.

Testing is also still important, especially for those identified as a contact. You will not have to self-isolate while you wait for the results of a PCR test. The government has also made a [number of other changes](#).



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It was quite fortuitous as the Twickenham Riverside Trust had just released a statement regarding the DJG and the council's proposed development of Twickenham Riverside, for which the council submitted a planning application on 2nd August (not yet validated).

The Trust reminds us that they hold a 125-year lease on the DJG – *on behalf of the public*. The Trust also states that “It will be required to demonstrate to the Charity Commission that the re-provided Gardens are ‘not less in area’ and ‘equally advantageous’ to the Trust and the public when compared to the public open space of the existing Gardens.” Not by any stretch of the imagination could the council's proposed plans be said to meet this requirement.

If the Trust accepts the council's proposal, then their decision would go to the Charity Commission for final approval. Until recently, the Trust's website stated that it would undertake a public consultation as part of this process, but strangely this commitment has been removed.

Meanwhile, the council has already submitted its plans, removing the ability for the council and the Trust to negotiate amendments, and it has also stated that it will commence a Compulsory Purchase Order of the DJG if the Trust does not accept the council's plans by the end of September 2021.

So, the council continues with its strategy of ‘*Get it done*’ and not ‘*Get it right*’ and to steamroller its plans through.



COVID-19

Teresa Read

World Health Organization epidemiological COVID-19 update - 17 August 2021

Overview
The global number of new cases has been increasing for the last 2 months with over 4.4 million cases reported in the past week (9 – 15 August 2021), bringing the cumulative number of globally to cases to over 206 million. This increasing trend is largely attributed to increases in the Western Pacific Region and the Region of the Americas which reported 14% and 8% increases respectively as compared to the previous week. Overall, the number of deaths reported remained similar with over 66 000 deaths this week, as compared to the previous week. While the African Region reported the largest percentage decrease in case and death incidence, 23% and 18% respectively, data from the weekend is incomplete which might lead to an overestimation of the percentage change. The Western Pacific and the Eastern Mediterranean Regions reported the highest proportionate increases in death incidence of 23% and 15% respectively over the last seven days.

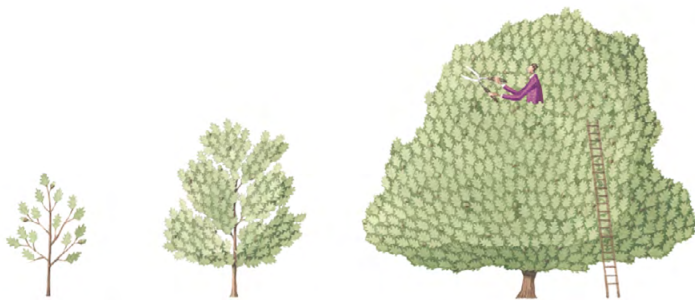
Total cases to 20 August 2021:

15,923 Richmond upon Thames
16,594 Kingston upon Thames
31,697 Hounslow

World Health Organization: Countries with High Numbers of Deaths.

Deaths Worldwide 4,390,467

USA	618,468	Ecuador	31,985
Brazil	570,598	Philippines	30,623
India	433,049	Czechia	30,382
Mexico	249,529	Hungary	30,046
Peru	197,539	Canada	26,719
Russian Federation	173,700	Belgium	25,305
The United Kingdom	131,260	Bangladesh	24,878
Italy	128,579	Pakistan	24,639
Colombia	123,688	Tunisia	22,304
Indonesia	122,633	Iraq	19,886
France	111,746	Bulgaria	18,411
Argentina	109,405	Bolivia	18,222
Iran	99,691	Netherlands	17,927
Germany	91,943	Portugal	17,601
Spain	82,883	Egypt	16,638
South Africa	78,377	Japan	15,501
Poland	75,311	Paraguay	15,473
Turkey	53,675	Sweden	14,662
Ukraine	53,368	Myanmar	13,945
Chile	36,456	Malaysia	13,302
Romania	34,379	Greece	13,278



The Tree Agency

The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

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The Battle of Kew

By Simon Fowler

In the later years of the Second World War there was an Italian prisoner of war camp in Kew. It housed some 2000 prisoners, who worked clearing bombsites in London during the day. As Italy was now an allied nation, the men were technically not prisoners, so they had the privilege of being able to leave the camp between 7pm and 10pm every evening.

There was little entertainment provided at the camp itself, so the men tended to congregate around Kew Bridge and Kew Green particularly at the Boathouse pub which was located next to the Bridge. The pub has long gone. The summer of 1945 saw several altercations between the prisoners men and locals men.

The most serious took place on 30 June when some 50 Italians were attacked by a gang from Brentford. The incident seems to have been caused when one of the youths let off a firework near a group of prisoners, which the Italians misheard as being a pistol shot. The police were called and prevented a charge of 150-200 Italians across Kew Bridge to attack the youths. Policemen formed a cordon across the roadway to prevent the two sides from attacking each other. At one stage they had to draw truncheons and forcibly move the Italians off the bridge.

This fracas followed on from a fight outside the Boathouse pub a few days earlier in which both an Italian and British soldier were stabbed. The fight seems to have broken out over an Italian approaching a local woman.

A police file survives regarding the riot and it is clear that the Police investigating the affray were sympathetic to the Italians.

The file also includes correspondence with the Kew Ratepayers Association who complained about 'these uninvited and extremely ill-behaved men' who, in particular, were 'molesting women and girls.' However, the Police concluded that the complaint was "somewhat exaggerated" and that local girls ran after the prisoners.

Indeed, there must have been mild embarrassment when in May 1946 a constable found an Italian corporal embracing a woman from Ilford on the towpath, the policeman said that 'She was a willing party'. The corporal was reprimanded.

The Italians left Kew in June 1946 and their departure probably broke several young hearts. In turn they were replaced by German prisoners, who remained in the area for several years, until they were repatriated during the summer of 1948.

Over the years residents have told me about the brothels which are supposed to have flourished in Kew during and after the war, but there seems to be no documentary evidence for this. But it is possible, as there were large numbers of lonely young men – American, Italian and German – stationed locally.



The Boathouse Pub in Kew which was close to Kew Bridge

*Credit: Richmond Archives and Local Studies
LCF11229*

The earthworms of Marble Hill

By Kas Rasenberg

Amongst the inhabitants of Marble Hill Park are the humble earthworms. These invertebrates may not often be noticed as most of their labour occurs during the hours of the night. Charles Darwin has described their habits at considerable length in his treatise on vegetable moulds and their formations. The little earthworms sift the soil and support the growth of fibrous plants.

Hundreds of small burrows, or so Charles Darwin wrote, may be seen during the autumnal and the winter months. Their walls consist of globular pellets of fine earth, which are spread as the worms travel up and down. Each burrow is covered by half-decaying leaves that have been gathered from the surrounding pastures. At times, when the land is not abounding in plants, they might construct their roofs from tiny bits of rocks.

The earthworms do not labour when the fields are marked by snowfall. During periods of frost, they will resign to the chambers that they have constructed in the earth. These winter-quarters, or so Charles Darwin has described, might be aligned with beads of glass, some tiny tufts of wool, or the remnants of a foraged rotting oat-grain. On occasion, a living seed of grass may have been buried under snow, but will sprout from the burrows of the worms.

Their burrows will collapse with the passage of time, much like the demarcations of a plant that has long been uprooted. It is said that they often find their shelter under stones, which, inevitably, will sink and be buried under soil. Their tower-like castings, assisted by rainwater and dust, will, eventually, bury any object that has been left out in the pastures. The tiny earthworms can digest both bricks and tiles, as well as little stones.

The grounds of Marble Hill Park will be changed after a night of heavy rainfall. It is then, during the course of the following day, that an observant wanderer might find some trails within the mud. These will be the remnants left behind by a labouring earthworm. Much like microscopic corals, who have constructed entire reefs, these creatures have made an important contribution to the prosperity of our soils.



Worm casts- the scourge of green keepers but the sign of a healthy soil!

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Update from the Twickenham Riverside Trust

Trustees of the Twickenham Riverside Trust have yet to reach a decision on relevant aspects of the Council's proposals for redevelopment of Twickenham Riverside.

On 2nd August 2021, Richmond Council submitted its planning application for the redevelopment of Twickenham Riverside.

The Diamond Jubilee Gardens on Twickenham Riverside are part (approx. 25%) of the proposed development site and, since 2014, the Twickenham Riverside Trust has held a 125-year lease on most of the land that makes up the Diamond Jubilee Gardens.

The Council has laid out an alternative space within the new development, and on the Embankment, for the Trust to occupy for the remainder of its lease.

Trustees have not yet reached a decision regarding the Council's proposal though are engaging intensely and having regular discussions. Trustees are receiving and debating advice from both its legal adviser (BDP Pitmans) and its surveyor (Carter Jonas)

The Trust is a charity set up in 2012 with the central object to "protect, preserve and enhance" the Twickenham Riverside and its environs. It will be required to demonstrate to the Charity Commission that the re-provided Gardens are 'not less in area' and 'equally advantageous' to the Trust and the public when compared to the public open space of the existing Gardens.



Should the Trust determine the offer from the Council is acceptable, its decision would go to the Charity Commission for final approval.

Should the Trust determine the offer from the Council is unacceptable, the Council has said that at the end of September 2021 it will commence legal action to attempt to secure the Trust's leasehold Public Open Space within the Diamond Jubilee Gardens via a Compulsory Purchase Order.

With the submission of its planning application, the Council has finalised its proposal, and in doing so has now allowed the Trust's surveyor, with input from the Trust's legal adviser, to issue various reports.

Trustees are in the process of reviewing these reports and will be seeking further advice where necessary.

The Trust remains in contact with the Council regarding its proposals for the redevelopment of Twickenham Riverside and hopes to be in a position to make a decision before the end of September.





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To the Editors, Twickenham and Richmond Tribune

E-scooters (again)

In his letter on page 11 of your 6th August edition Mr Lennon, Richmond Borough Coordinator for the London Cycling Campaign, continues his misleading, unpleasant and personal tirade against people who disagree with him.

In his enthusiasm for two-wheeled transport Mr Lennon has now confused the use of private cars (which are very largely licensed and insured for use on the public highway) with privately owned e-scooters (which are not). He sees criticisms of the illegal use of privately owned e-scooters as attacks on the e-scooter trial in Richmond Borough, which again is untrue.

Instead of replying responsibly, he claims to know what I think (!) and accuses me of revelling in my ignorance of 'road danger statistics', trying to 'mislead us about the data' and being less interested in the things that could make our borough roads even safer and more welcoming for people journeying on two feet and two wheels.

"Utter tosh!" as a well-known supporter of Richmond's e-scooter trial once said.

Mr Lennon's letters to this newspaper are not likely to endear him to many of the Tribune's readers. They may even discourage people from signing up to the Richmond Cycling Campaign or from recommending the London Cycling Campaign to others or even from supporting Richmond's e-scooter trial.

His personal animosity and disregard for plain truths go beyond the bounds of fair comment and responsible debate and are not worthy of the Cycling Campaign which he represents.

Mr F E McInerny (Mac)

Heatham Alliance

- We are an independent, non-political community group with over 500 members and one of the largest Neighbourhood Watches in the Borough

Letters published do not necessarily reflect the views of the Twickenham & Richmond Tribune, its Publisher, its staff or its advertisers.

Letters of approximately 500 words of body text will be printed at our standard 14pt font size, which will publish as a single page.

All letters must be submitted by the end of Thursday, prior to publication the following day on Friday.

The Tribune prefers letters to include the writer's name, but will publish anonymously provided details are supplied.

Much-loved Teddington community hub reopens its doors with special summer party

A much-loved community hub for people with learning disabilities in Teddington is this month hosting a special event to celebrate its reopening after 17 months of Covid-enforced closure.

The longstanding Enterprise hub, run by national learning disability charity United Response in Teddington, will reopen its doors to the public on Saturday 21 August 2021 for the first time since March 2020.

The free-to-attend party is being held to celebrate the relaunch of the Enterprise's regular programme of face-to-face activities, and will feature games, a tombola, refreshments and a cake stand. A selection of independent businesses will also each have a stall showcasing their services to help boost the local economy.

The popular community space, which has hosted a range of inclusive activities for locals with disabilities for over 20 years, had been forced to close because of Covid-19 lockdowns and ongoing restrictive measures keeping the public safe during the pandemic.

Located at Rowan House on Field Lane, United Response's Enterprise hub offers a range of professionally-run activities and classes for members of the public and people disabilities to enjoy. These include fitness, dance, yoga and art classes.

Since the pandemic, staff at United Response have hosted many of those sessions virtually to help ensure that people with disabilities kept engaged and connected.

Matthew Campbell, United Response's Enterprise manager,

said: "We are thrilled to be reopening The Enterprise with a special party for everyone to enjoy this summer. It's been such a challenging period for everyone and we want to celebrate the resilience of local people, particularly those with learning disabilities, over the past eighteen months.

"We want to let Teddington know that we are still here and very much looking forward to seeing friendly faces in person once again. A day of fun, festivities and fundraising awaits and we can't wait to celebrate together with the local community."

Flo, a regular at The Enterprise, said: "I am really happy the Enterprise is reopening. It is a place to meet new friends and try new things. This event will bring in more friends and will be very fun after a tough year"

Sam, another Enterprise user, said: "I didn't like lockdown one bit. I missed going out to cafes and shops but I did all of Matthew Campbell's Zoom activities, which were fun."

Phil agreed: "Lockdown was so boring and it was hard for me to even get out of bed sometimes. Now I really look forward to getting up and going to the Enterprise classes. I want to be fitter and more positive, and I'm becoming a new me."

The Enterprise reopening party, which is free to attend and will have a 'village fair theme', will run from 11am to 3pm on Saturday 21 August 2021.

Contact Matthew Campbell, Enterprise Manager, for more information on matthew.campbell@unitedresponse.org.uk.



Summer poetry competition



Help #KeepWildlifeWild and have your poetry immortalised in stone

We're inviting children aged 7-11 to help us [#KeepWildlifeWild](#) by capturing the essence of summer in verse and entering it into our poetry competition, with a particular emphasis on wildlife.

We have an amazing array of wildlife in Brompton - several species of bat and a huge variety of birds, including great spotted woodpeckers, jays, goldfinches and song thrushes. You can find out more about them on our [bird spotting sheet](#). We want visitors to help nature thrive by observing wildlife, rather than seeking an up-close and personal encounter. By not feeding or touching wildlife, visitors will help protect their natural way of life.

The winning poem will be immortalised by having an extract carved into stone and placed in the outdoor Storytelling Area at Brompton Cemetery, alongside the [winners of our previous seasonal competitions](#).

The Details

Theme: We are looking for poems that capture the essence of summer, with a focus on the cemetery's wildlife.

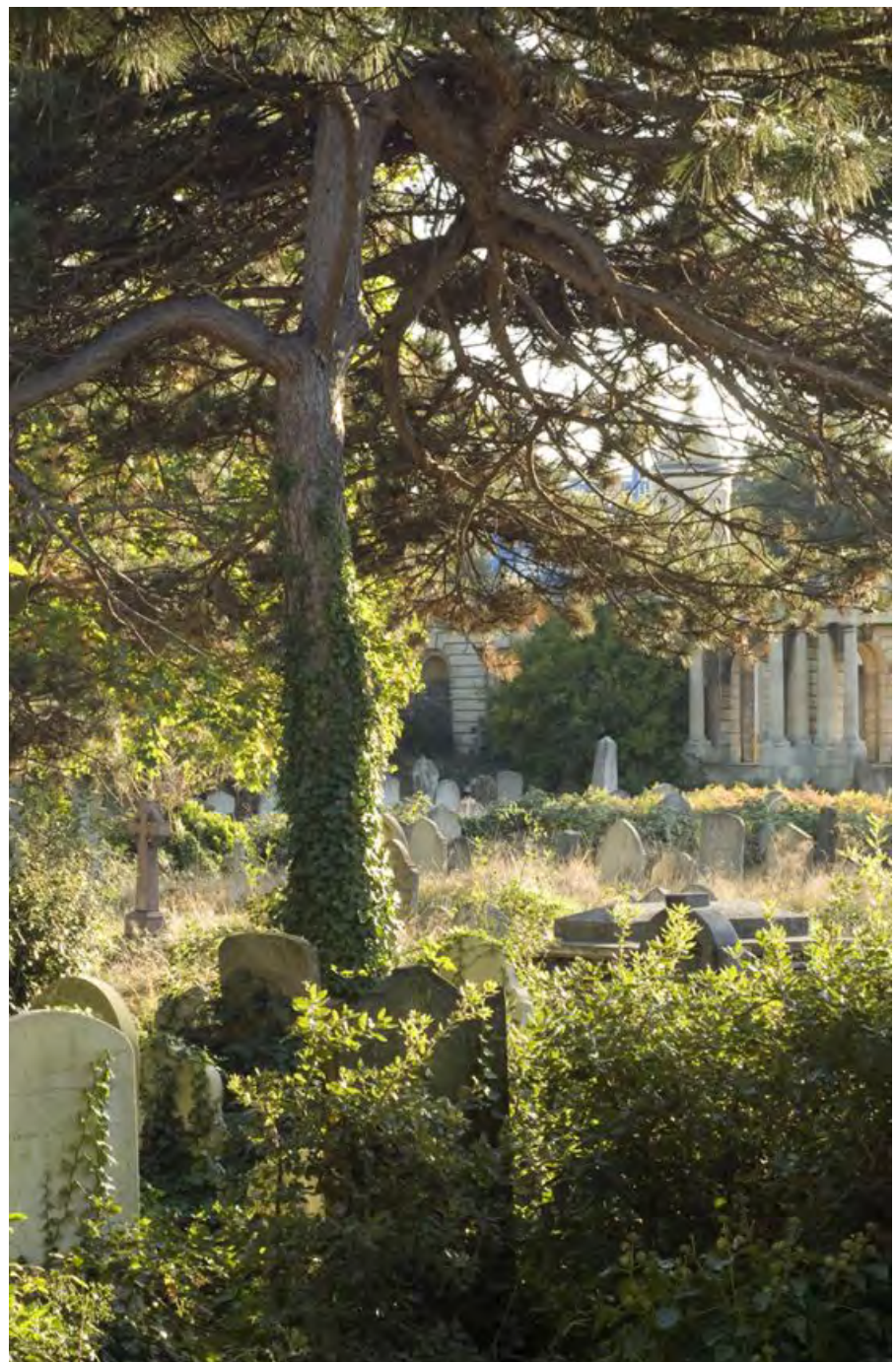
Format: Entries can be a maximum of 20 lines long, in any poetic form.

Submission: All entries to be submitted via the form below by midnight on Monday 30th August 2021.

For full terms and conditions, see the link below – and good luck to all budding entrants!

Enter the competition [HERE](#)

[Competition terms and conditions \(PDF 77.65 KB\)](#)



Council condemns proposed cuts to South Western Railway services across Richmond upon Thames

Richmond Council has strongly condemned a proposal from South Western Railway to reduce the frequency of key rail services within the borough. The proposed changes would have a detrimental impact on the borough and are in direct conflict with Richmond Council's commitment to encourage use of public transport and alternatives to driving.

South Western Railway has proposed changes to many of its peak and off-peak services which would see a 50% reduction in direct trains on some routes and would remove key commuter services from stations including **Whitton, Hampton, Teddington, St. Margarets, Mortlake and East Sheen.**

The changes would reduce direct trains from Whitton to Richmond and Waterloo by 50%, including changes to the Hounslow Loop meaning Whitton would only be serviced by two trains to Waterloo per hour. There would be no morning peak services in Whitton between 7.50 and 8.20 each morning, negatively affecting commuters as many residents begin to return to their workplaces and causing overcrowding on remaining services at Whitton.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Hounslow Loop ran two trains per hour in both directions. As a result of the pandemic, these services do not currently run. Under the proposals, during the off-peak period, the Hounslow Loop would only be reinstated between Waterloo and Twickenham via Brentford meaning Mortlake, North Sheen and St. Margaret's would only have a service to and from Waterloo every thirty minutes. Whereas before the pandemic a service was provided every fifteen minutes. This would not only affect station users at Mortlake, North Sheen and St. Margaret's but would also have a knock-on impact by making other services busier.

If a train serving Mortlake, North Sheen and St. Margaret's were cancelled or delayed, as is often a regular occurrence, there would be an unacceptable wait for residents for the next scheduled train. The loss of these Hounslow Loop services would also result in a permanent reduction in services at Barnes and Richmond stations.



Richmond Council is seeking further clarity regarding the proposals for the morning peak period for the Hounslow Loop, Shepperton and Teddington services. As a result of South Western Railway's reduction in services during the pandemic, Teddington has lost two trains during the peak morning times which South Western Railway are not proposing to reinstate. The Council views these changes as unacceptable to residents.

Cllr Alexander Ehmann, Chair of the Transport and Air Quality Services Committee, said:

"South Western Railway's proposals are unacceptable and extremely short sighted. The changes would result in a significantly reduced service both at peak and off-peak times compared to the pre-pandemic service levels.

"Increased usage of public transport is an essential part of our fight against climate change and by reducing local rail services, South Western Railway will further disincentivise residents to use public transport due to increased wait times between services.

"The present consultation has been poorly promoted and is lacking some of the key details necessary for residents to respond. We are calling on South Western Railway to withdraw these proposals. If Southern Western Railway insist upon continuing this misguided consultation, we ask that they publish a clear and comprehensible timetable for all affected stations and ensure this is properly communicated to our impacted residents."

Richmond Council is encouraging residents to [have their say on these proposals](#).

Richmond Council is also encouraging residents to use #SaveSWRServices to voice their opposition to these proposed changes via social media.

LOOK OUT FOR TELEPHONE FRAUD

by Mac McInerny, Heatham Alliance community group
and Neighbourhood Watch



A lady in Whitton received a phone call from Barclays Bank recommending that money in her account should be moved to another account where it would be safe. The phone call was not from Barclays and, very sadly, she lost almost all of her savings.

On instructions from a person who had telephoned and claimed to be a police officer, a couple in Kingston, both in their '80s, handed over £4,000 and their bank cards to an unknown 'courier'.

Similar cases have been reported in Twickenham and Richmond.

Police have advised:

If you receive a suspicious telephone call from a person who is not known to you, hang up.

If the caller claims to be a police officer, request their details and the reference number that the incident relates to, hang up and then, using a different phone, call 101 in order to check this.

Do not give out personal details such as banking information over the phone or on websites that you do not implicitly trust.

If you suspect that you have been a victim of fraud, contact your bank immediately and dial 101 or dial 999 if the fraudster is nearby or in an emergency. NB Call the police on a different phone otherwise the next person you speak to could be a fraudster again!

STAY SAFE FROM FRAUD

Interactive quizzes and trails in Richmond upon Thames this August

Richmond upon Thames residents are invited to take part in a series of interactive quizzes and trails throughout August 2021.

The quizzes are held every Saturday in August from 5 to 6pm with each quiz focusing on a different area of the borough, giving families the chance to test their local knowledge and learn something new about Richmond upon Thames. The four quizzes are free to enter, and the top prizes are a family ticket to Kew Gardens or a family ticket to the WWT London Wetlands Centre. [Book online](#) to enter. Those who complete all the quizzes and trails will get 20% off at The Museum of Rugby and Stadium Tour.

Freda Hammerton

Well-known Twickenham resident Freda Hammerton died on 10 July.

A member of the Hammerton's Ferry family - her grandfather was a ferryman - she was immensely knowledgeable about the river, and she loved to talk about it.

She was a long-time member of the Richmond Shakespeare Society and the York House Society, and a supporter of BoTLHS and Twickenham Museum.

She took part in the Between the Locks oral history programme, and in 2011 recorded this interview about her father's death from a flying bomb in WWII <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zvd4uNkEBeQ>

Freda's funeral will be on Thursday 26 August, with a service at 12:40 at Mortlake Crematorium, followed by the burial at Twickenham Cemetery at 13:30. (The chapel in the cemetery is still closed.)

For those who cannot make it, the service in the chapel will be webcast live, as well as available to watch again within a few days.

Website <https://www.obitus.com> Username pogo4299 Password 885678

Instead of flowers, we would be grateful for donations towards a memorial bench to be placed on the riverside in Twickenham in memory of Freda.

Please see this link to for donations:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/freda-hammerton?utm_term=BNdqzWye9

There will also be a Celebration of Life service for Freda at St Mary's Church Twickenham at 11:00 on Saturday 16 October. This another occasion to join together and remember her, with tea and coffee afterwards in the church hall.



RICHMOND CRIME STATISTICS

(Latest Quarter April – June 2021)

Table 1 - High Level Summary of Main Crime Statistics

	QUARTER		% CHANGE		Hotspots
	LATEST (Apr-Jun 2021)	PRIOR (Jan-Mar 2021)	Latest v prior qtr	Latest v same qtr last year	
All Crime	2,904	2,460	18%	43%	Richmond Riverside Richmond Town Centre – peak time later in the evening weekends.
Theft (*)	1096	861	27%	12%	
Violence	836	710	17%	11%	
Burglary	225	265	15%	16%	
Robbery	42	49	14%	28%	
Sexual Offences	99	88	12%	47%	

(*) Includes Motor Vehicle crime

Green - decrease (better) : Red - increase (worse)

Table 2 - Detailed breakdowns

	Quarter Apr-Jun 2021
THEFT	1096
Theft of MV	113
Theft from MV	276
Theft of cycle	232
Shoplifting	119
Other	356
VIOLENCE	836
With injury	269
Without injury	567
SEXUAL OFFENCES	99
Rape	24
Other	75

KEY POINTS (see Table 1)

All stats influenced by Covid lockdowns, and comparisons are difficult

As background

- Latest quarter (Apr-Jun 2021) – easing out of lockdown
- Prior quarter (Jan-Mar 2021) – in lockdown
- Same quarter last year (Apr-Jun 2020) – in lockdown



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

Richmond Council ready to offer homes to Afghan refugees

The Leader of Richmond Council, Councillor Gareth Roberts, has joined the people of Richmond upon Thames in voicing their sadness and concern for the people of Afghanistan, and confirmed the Council's commitment to supporting those fleeing their homes and seeking safety in the UK.

The Council is in early discussions with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Home Office about the support it can provide to house Afghan refugees and is awaiting further guidance.

Councillor Roberts said:

"What is happening in Afghanistan is both shocking and heartbreaking. My first thoughts are with the Afghan people who being forced to flee their homes, but also with those members of our communities who have loved ones in Afghanistan and will be concerned about their whereabouts and safety.

"This Council has always done everything in its power to welcome refugees to Richmond upon Thames, support their settlement in the UK and enable their integration into local communities, most recently with the settlement of Syrian families between 2016-19.

"Settlement of refugees in appropriate communities with appropriate support is complex and is rightly being coordinated at a national level. We are currently awaiting guidance from the Government in terms of refugees arriving from Afghanistan and will support that scheme once details are finalised.

"There are plenty of ways people in our borough can help. We are urging any private landlords to get in touch if they would like to offer their property to rent to refugees and we have lots of links available for individuals who would like to [offer financial support or find out more about supporting refugees in the UK.](#)"



The Council is requesting that residents, businesses, or other landlords who could offer a property for new arrivals to rent register their details. The Government has indicated that the refugees are likely to be families, and so the Council is particularly keen to hear from those able to offer three and four bed properties. Properties will need to be available to rent on an assured shorthold tenancy for a minimum of 12 months, with rent levels set within the limits of the local housing allowance.

For further information about how you can help read our [refugee resettlement](#) page, email landlordlettings@richmond.gov.uk or call 020 8871 7333.

You can also find out more by visiting [Refugee Action](#).

Petersham and Ham

A new building for Petersham and Ham Sea Scouts

Petersham and Ham Sea Scouts will officially open their new building on Saturday 11 September.

It has been a ten-year dream for the new building to become a reality. It took 4 years for the preplanning and planning application alone to be approved. Stringent guidelines had to be followed as the building site is on open metropolitan land where building is restricted.

The membership is delighted with the result which is an airy building with light flooding in through large windows - a great improvement on the dark garage-type hut that was replaced.

Sarah Olney, Member of Parliament for Richmond Park will perform the official opening on Saturday 11 September 2021 at 10am. All who are interested are welcome to attend.

Barnes

Young people, The Vine Road Project needs you!

The Vine Road Project Team would like to hear the views of young people. What do you want to see at your local park? What do you like about the proposals? What can be done better? This is your chance to shape the future of your local park.

The Vine Road Projects proposed Master Plan Public Consultation is continuing and they are urging young people in the borough to have their say to help shape create a park to cater for their needs.

There has been a fantastic response from the community so far with residents supportive of a redevelopment of the park. However, The Vine Road Project wants to know what younger park users' views are.

If you are 18 or under, make your voice heard and share what you want - your views are important. The [online survey](#) takes just 2 minutes to complete.

Check out the [The Vine Road Project website](#) to find out more about the project and contact details.

Turner's House

Book your place at the Turner and Maritime Britain online lecture

Christine Riding, curator of Turner's English Coasts, explores Turner's life-long engagement with the sea in the context of Britain as a naval and maritime power, from national events to the rise of domestic tourism.

Christine Riding curated the 2013 exhibition Turner and the Sea at the National Maritime Museum, and is Curator of British Paintings at the National Gallery. There will be an opportunity to ask questions after the presentation.

The talk will be chaired by Dr Amy Concannon, a trustee at Turner's House and Curator of British Art 1790-1850 at Tate.

The talk will take place on Thursday, 19 August from 7 to 8pm. Book your place [HERE](#)

Miss Twickenham

Local girl Davina Marsh will be a finalist this September in the Miss British Isles Modelling Competition representing her home town Twickenham.

Davina works currently as Front of House Receptionist at The Petersham Hotel Richmond. Her dream is to work in the Wedding & Event industry.

The National final takes place on Friday 3rd September at The Final Furlong Marquee at Chester Racecourse in Chester.

The judges look through the huge number of entries that the competition attracts every year.

50 finalists are offered the chance to take part in the National Final.

The finalists then represent their home area at the National Final.

If Davina wins the title there are over £10,000 worth of fantastic prizes for the winner.

These include

- A modelling & Influencer contract
- A trip to Marbella, Spain with flights and fantastic accommodation included
- Photo-shoots in Marbella, Spain
- Sightseeing trip to Gibraltar with meal at great local restaurant.
- Gibraltar photoshoot.
- The winner gets to keep the fabulous Miss British Isles crown
- An incredible portfolio consisting of 4 fabulous shoots throughout the year
- Fashion wear specially selected for the winner
- Official Miss British Isles gifts and merchandise.
- Official Miss British Isles Official Appearance wear
- And many other fantastic prizes

At the National Final Davina will be up against finalists from across The British Isles including Ireland, Scotland, Wales and all across England.

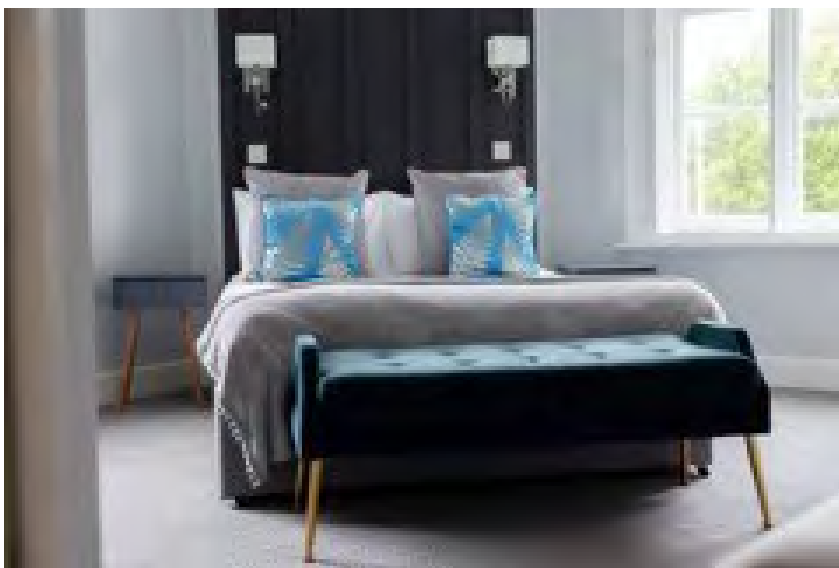
Davina will be required to take part in a professional photo-shoot prior to the final and then a catwalk show at the final which is in front of the judges and the winner is announced on the day.

Previous winners of Miss British Isles organised events have gone on to be signed by top modelling agencies, taken part in major TV shows and even appeared in a Bollywood film.



ONE TO NOTE: THE KINGSTON 1

The Kingston 1 is a new business venture, the brainchild of local businessmen, who took a previously rather sad and tired pub in the heart of Kingston upon Thames, and injected new life into the place. The result's a stylish boutique hotel (with 22 bedrooms), restaurant and bar that are a real breath of fresh air on the London Road. A short walk from central Kingston, the riverside and station, The Kingston 1's ideally placed for anyone wanting to visit or attend events at Hampton Court, Wimbledon, Ham Polo Club and lots of other SW London locations.



We checked in on a Friday evening and found our room

to be light and airy, very classy indeed, with en suite shower room stocked with The White Company toiletries and all the amenities one would expect from a top hotel. Décor is contemporary, stylish, and includes individual design features. Considering the building is Victorian,

they've done a great job, without losing many of the original features.



Moving downstairs for dinner in Solo, The Kingston 1's modern European restaurant, we enjoyed a beer and an extremely good Negroni prepared by our waiter Kennet, and studied the menu. Head chef **Marco Palazzo** is at the helm, with the restaurant open from breakfast to dinner, offering relaxed, competitively priced, all-day dining. On Friday and Saturday evenings though, it changes to his Chef's Menu - a grander offering, more fine dining in style.



Sensibly short, it's extremely well (and temptingly) compiled. We started with a portion of burrata, pea & broad bean with chilli & mint (£10) plus a seafood Scotch egg, served with salsa verde and





nasturtium (£12). My burrata was refreshing, yet slightly too light on seasonings for my taste, but my husband's Scotch egg was a triumph of culinary prowess – and delicious!

We followed with a portion of lobster, scallop, chorizo and peperonata (£26) and a fillet steak, burnt onion purée and beef & red wine sauce (£24). Both dishes were fabulous, and further evidence of great skill at the stove. With my fish dish I enjoyed an exceptionally good salad packed with little gem lettuce, strips of cucumber and generous scattering of Parmesan; and rosemary salt fries accompanied the steak. (sides £4) On the menu there was also a chicken dish (£18), and a vegetarian pasta dish (£16). Pretty much replete by this stage, we shared a portion of orange polenta cake (£6) that was divine. The cheese board at £14 is great value.

The cocktail and wine list, too, are well constructed and very sensibly priced... wines from £22 a bottle and soft drinks from just £2. Cocktails from £9 and if Kenet's on duty, I urge you to try one: he's a dab hand at mixology!

After an excellent, and very comfortable, night's sleep, we ventured down to breakfast. The menu's also available to non-residents and the perfect place for a brunch (and cocktails) as it's served at weekends till 4 p.m. (noon weekdays). After consuming a delicious portion of eggs Benedict, freshly squeezed orange juice and excellent coffee, we were well set up for the day. For its individuality, plus friendly, professional staff it is a great addition to the Kingston hotel scene, for business as well as tourists (or 'overflow' guests visiting family!).



If you were planning to meet up with friends that side of Kingston, I would thoroughly recommend you check out The Kingston 1. The locals now have a great bar and restaurant on their doorstep... lucky folk!

God of Carnage

by Yasmina Reza

The Questors, at the Judy Dench Playhouse, Ealing

Fights in the playground aren't always between the children and there is the distinct possibility that sometimes those parental altercations caught on CCTV are watched back in the school office. There is evidently an audience for parents behaving badly, especially amongst those parents who would never let themselves go like that ...

Yasmina Reza's *God of Carnage* at Questors' Theatre is about that subject and a great deal more: are we really superior in the West? Is society in its current incarnation actually

working? Why do people have children without any idea of what it will actually involve? But the pivot on which all of that turns (or spins wildly) is the meeting between two sets of parents to discuss the fact that one of their children has whacked the other couple's child and knocked out two of his teeth.



Ably directed by Charles Douglas, the quartet of actors charged with this material did a sterling job. Véronique and Michel (Lydia King and Matthew Benson) invite Annette and Alain (Becky Hartnup and Simon Rudkin) to their apartment to resolve their children's issues in the way that mature, sophisticated adults should. Over the next eighty minutes, however, the four descend into vitriolic chaos, culminating in a drunken, tulip-hurling climax which is both very funny and a stark reproach for those of us kidding ourselves we've matured, any more than slightly, since primary school.

The comedy lurking in that gap between who we actually are, as opposed to who we like the world to think we are, has always provided playwrights with material but Yasmina Reza's plays tend to question the issues that oppress her characters too, so there is a balance to be reached between this and the comedy. Questors' production succeeded in finding this balance.

Read Eleanor Lewis' review at www.markaspen.com/2021/08/13/carnage

Photography by Jane Arnold-Forster

Meat Cute

by Bibi Lucille

Patch Plays at the Hen and Chickens, Camden Fringe, then at Bread and Roses Theatre, Clapham until 23rd October

A fringe festival anywhere exudes trepidation and the Camden Fringe is no exception. This production in an old pub in Islington, with its steep stairs and dimly-lit auditorium, certainly came up with the goods. Writer and star of this one-woman show, [Bibi Lucille](#) was previously in Noël Coward's [This Was a Man](#) in the West End and locally in [Space Doctor at the OSO, Barnes](#). Aware of her versatility as an actress, and directed by Anastasia Bunce, she displayed further skills in her latest role.



[Meat Cute](#) rings with a clear note of truth.

Bibi, in orange ensemble matching the stark set and camp fur chair, enters accompanied by loud rap music. Her stage presence enables a strong credible portrayal of the self-doubt of her character, in what seemingly is her desperation in looking for the right man ... one she can convert from meat-eating.

The anguish of the young woman came over, however, and the audience shuffled with uncomfortable memories as Bibi recalls a man telling her “if you lost a stone, you’d be stunning”. Many of us have heard crass remarks like this. Her power games with men are sad and sordid, yet endearing and enticing; not to mention extraordinarily watchable and consistent as her true motive unravels.

We get an insight into her call centre day job, which she sabotages with relish, and a cold home life. Its details are colourful, such as the vodka-soaked cut-glass mother and a frankly sad brother, making the twisted family intriguing.

After having used Tinder to lure potential carnivores fourteen times, she is confronted by these very men waiting for her in her modest flat. They have literally come back to bite her, a great near-climax before this long quest for happiness takes on a very different dimension. Romance becomes brutal as the heroine tangles true love and animal rights

Read Heather Moulson’s review at www.markaspen.com/2021/08/17/meat-cute

Photography by Flick Isaac-Chilton

WIZ TALES - HAITI

Teresa Read



Devastated by Earthquake Last Week

The Republic of Haiti is in the Caribbean. It occupies the western part of the island of Hispaniola; the Dominican Republic occupies the eastern two-thirds of the island.

Towards the end of the seventeenth century, under the Treaty of Ryswick, the island of Hispaniola was divided between Spain and France. Santo Domingo remained Spanish (becoming the Dominican Republic In 1844). but the western part of Hispaniola (Haiti) went to France.

The Palace of Sans Souci and the Citadel, Haiti's most famous monuments, were inscribed on the World Heritage site in 1982. Situated in the Northern Massif Mountains, in one of Haiti's National Parks, the structures date from the early nineteenth century.

Haiti became a republic in 1804; this followed on from a slave uprising in the 1790s.

A military coup in 1956 installed Francois Duvalier, known as Papa Doc, as dictator. Aided by the Tontons Macoute - the secret police - Duvalier remained in power until his death in 1971.

In 1990 Jean-Bertrand Aristide became the country's first democratically elected president.

Haiti's economy suffered a severe setback following an earthquake in January 2010 which destroyed much of the capital and surrounding areas.

An earthquake of magnitude 7.2 on 14 August 2021 led to the declaration of a state of emergency. At the time of writing, it has been reported that over two thousand people have died, thousands injured and people are missing. USAID has been unable to reach some areas as roads have been severely affected by this natural disaster.

Shocks from the earthquake were felt in the Dominican Republic and on the islands of Cuba, Jamaica and Puerto Rico.



More information on Haiti:

<https://worldinfozone.com/facts.php?country=Haiti>

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



The Dominican Republic National Parks Office is responsible for the National Parks and over fifty other protected areas.

Parks cover a variety of vegetation zones. Armando Bermudez National Park and Jose del Carmen Ramirez National Park are in the Cordillera Central mountain range and include areas of pine forest. Los Haitises National Park, on the coast of Samana Bay, is a coastal region with mangrove swamps.

Other National Parks include Montecristi National Park (coast and subtropical forest), the Sierra de Bahoruco National Park (forested highland), Jaragua National Park (dry forest) and the Isla Cabritos National Park in Lake Enriquillo (wildlife).



Photos of the Dominican Republic

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

Richmond Film Society

New Season Commences on 14 September

Following its long enforced COVID absence and a very successful screening of 'Wild Rose' at The Exchange on 20 July, Richmond Film Society's 58th Season of World Cinema will commence on **14 September 2021** with **'Can You Ever Forgive Me?'**



Season 58 will run from 14th September 2021 to 14th June 2022, with screenings on alternate Tuesdays at The Exchange at 8:00pm. The 19-film programme comprises the following:

Date	Title
Sep-14	Can You Ever Forgive Me? (USA)
Sep-28	Transit (Germany)
Oct-12	Woman at War (Iceland)
Oct-26	Elena (Russia)
Nov-09	Bait (UK) plus AGM
Nov-23	Portrait of a Lady on Fire (France)
Dec-07	The Truffle Hunters (Italy) and Christmas Party
Jan-04	Parasite (South Korea)
Jan-18	The Breadwinner (Ireland)
Feb-01	Harriet (USA)
Feb-15	Rashomon (Japan)
Mar-01	Persischstunden (Persian Lessons) (Belarus)
Mar-15	Rafiki (Kenya)
Mar-29	The Perfect Candidate (Saudi Arabia)
Apr-12	System Crasher (Germany)
Apr-26	Honeyland (Macedonia)
May-10	Thunder Road (USA)
May-24	Another Round (Denmark)
Jun-14	TBA our June Summer Film

Season 58 Membership

For our 58th season, we are holding the price of membership at £40 (the 1998 fee), which equates to £2.11 per film. For full-time students, membership is offered at the concessionary rate of £25 for the season.

The number of members that we can accommodate will depend upon the level of renew-als from our 250 plus Season 57 members (who have priority) and any developments and further government advice relating to the pandemic. We do, however, anticipate being able to welcome some new members for the forthcoming season.

Non-Member Tickets

The availability or otherwise of non-member tickets will be determined by the venue's capacity when screenings return and as the season progresses. Initially, however, we anticipate that the early screenings of Season 58 are likely to be 'members only'.

When they do become available, the price of non-member tickets will remain at **£5** (full-time students **£3**). Subject to availability, tickets can be purchased in advance from The Exchange's Box Office – by telephone on 020 8240 2399 or online <http://exchangetwickenham.co.uk/events/>.

Venue - The Exchange

Since January 2018, we have screened all our films at The Exchange, the community facility opposite Twickenham Station at 75 London Road, Twickenham, TW1 1BE. Its facilities include a very comfortable, tiered 285-seat theatre (whose capacity can be expanded to 310), lifts, disabled access, a bar and a café.

Films are shown at 8.00pm sharp on alternate Tuesdays, with no trailers and no ads.

Subject always to any COVID restrictions, the Bar is open from 7.00pm and remains open after the film. Drinks can be taken into

the auditorium and coffee, tea and snacks are also available. Film notes are provided for each screening and audience feedback is obtained.



Richmond Film Society

Richmond Film Society (a not-for-profit charity) was formed in 1963 and has since screened well over 800 films. Our objective is to bring our community the very best in World Cinema. Our seasons run from September to June and attract an aggregate audience of over 4,500 attendees.

Further Information

For further information on membership and the programme of films, please see our website at <http://www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk>.

You can also contact us by email at admin@richmondfilmsoc.org.uk

You can, in addition, follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/RichmondFilmSociety/> and on Twitter at https://twitter.com/Richmond_Film

St Mary's University

St Mary's Students to Receive Turing Scheme Funding for Global Placements

St Mary's University, Twickenham is delighted to have been awarded over £88,000 from the UK government's new [Turing Scheme](#), designed to increase the number of students participating in life-changing international study and work placements.



This funding will support students on international study or training placements in 2021/22. It will especially benefit students from widening participation backgrounds, who are historically less likely to go abroad.

Turing funding will enable more St Mary's students to act as global ambassadors, strengthening our extensive network of international partnerships in the Americas, Europe, Asia and Australia.

Our cross-University programme supports students before, during and after their time abroad through comprehensive pre-departure coaching, in-country connections and re-integration activities. Gaining a global perspective helps students to grow academically. It also boosts their employability by nurturing the hard and soft skills valued by future employers.

Kristen Pilbrow, Head of International, said "St Mary's is thrilled at the success of our Turing bid. Every year, we see how much our students benefit from studying or working abroad, but we also see the financial challenges posed by these experiences. Turing grants will dramatically increase the funding we can offer and open up these placements for everyone. Sending more students abroad also means we can host more students from our exchange partners, giving the entire St Mary's community a valuable internationalisation opportunity".

International experiences of four weeks or more will be eligible for Turing funding. Find out more about our wide-ranging programmes on the [Study Abroad section of the website](#).

St Mary's University Awarded Funding for Mental Health Study

The Institute of Education (IOE) and the Widening

Participation department at St Mary's University, Twickenham have successfully bid for over £180,000 to lead a study into mental health support at universities.

The grant, awarded by the Office for Students (OfS), will see St Mary's work collaboratively with teams at King's College London, the University of West London, and Maudsley Learning (South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust), on a project exploring mental health and wellbeing interventions for students who first in their families to attend university, or who are studying without specific kinds of support from their families, such as estranged or care-experienced students.

First generation university students, many of whom are from lower socioeconomic backgrounds, as well as students who receive little or no family support, are at increased risk of poor mental health, social isolation, and non-continuation as they make their way through critical transition points in their university careers.

Students encounter many transition points through their university careers, such as entering and leaving university and moving between academic years and semester breaks. Negotiating these also includes adapting to and coping with academic and financial pressures and contrasts between home and university life, building new relationships, increasing independence, as well as possible homesickness, and other aspects of student life.



This project, which will be coordinated by Nikki Anghileri, Head of Widening Participation at St Mary's and co-designed and co-delivered with students, is led by a combination of expert higher education and mental health professionals. It will generate much-needed evidence of what can improve mental health outcomes for this group of students through the provision of a novel transition support package for first-in-family or independent students. This support package will include psychoeducation training; personal skills development; peer-to-peer support initiatives; mental health drop-in sessions; and online resources.



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London



BRENTFORD FC

Bees announce signing of Álvaro Fernández

Brentford have confirmed the signing of goalkeeper Álvaro Fernández from Spanish side SD Huesca. Fernández, who was called up to the Spain squad for the recent Tokyo Olympics in the summer, has completed the move on an initial loan deal with the option to make it permanent.



Speaking to club media following the signing Brentford Head Coach Thomas Frank said, “Álvaro is a player with huge potential, and we are very pleased that he has come into our squad and our goalkeeper unit. He will come here and compete every day with David Raya and Patrik Gunnarsson. This is a signing that make us stronger as a group and will help push us to a higher level.”

Fernández started his career with Osasuna where he made his La Liga debut before moving to France to play for Monaco. From there he moved back to his native Spain on loan with Extremadura and he subsequently completed a permanent transfer to newly relegated SD Huesca. Fernández has played for every Spanish national team age group from U18 to the senior Spanish national team where he made his debut against Lithuania in June 2021.

UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Game 1

Opponent: Crystal Palace (A) Saturday 21st August 15:00 Selhurst Park

Nickname: The Eagles

Competition: Premier League – Matchday 2

Manager: Patrick Viera

Interesting fact: Crystal Palace are the only team in Premier League history to have been relegated after finishing fourth bottom. This happened at the end of the 1994/95 season, when the number of teams competing in the division was cut from 22 to 20.

Thomas Frank pre match quotes:

On the increased media coverage

“I think that massively helps me that I’m not on social media. I’m pleased. I don’t think you’re going to change that. Of course, I got I don’t know how many texts from friends, family, network and that was of course nice. I think I just carried on relatively normal. I know on Friday night it wasn’t a normal game of course I know that. And I did sit back an extra five minutes of course to take in everything and I think it’s a part of enjoying the moment. There’s not going to be many moments as pure as it was on Friday night. Of course, I’ve had the opportunity to enjoy it a bit more and I did that on Saturday and Sunday but from Monday it’s ‘boom game on.’ Exactly the same as normal. I think a good way to stay in is to not carry too much with social media. Of course, there are thousands of articles out there. I try to be a little updated. I’ve got a good man in Chris [Press officer Brentford FC] that helps me with important stuff that I have to know but I can’t look into all the stories about Brentford, me or the Premier League.”

On the challenge of facing Crystal Palace and Patrick Viera

I like the challenge to prepare for good opponents to find solutions that can hopefully give us the advantage to potentially get three points. You can say it is easier against a team let’s say Chelsea now that they play the same 3-4-3 and they’re not predictable but clear in what they do, and they are extremely hard to close down. So, I think it’s a very interesting challenge to have and to find a way

but it's also an interesting challenge with Crystal Palace. I would have loved if Patrick had changed between systems. Fantastic, but now there's a little bit more uncertainty because there's only one game but I like the challenge definitely no matter if there's a clear system or between different systems.

Game 2

Opponent: Forest Green Rovers (H) Tuesday 24th August 19:45 Brentford Community Stadium

Nickname: Rovers

Competition: League Cup – Second Round

Head Coach: Rob Edwards

Interesting fact: Under Dale Vince's chairmanship Forest Green became the world's first vegan football club in 2015 and then in 2018 Forest Green Rovers became the first football club in the world to be certified carbon neutral under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Hampton & Richmond Borough

Five-star display from the Beavers on opening day

Hampton & Richmond Borough 5 – 0 Eastbourne Borough

Hampton & Richmond Borough kicked off their season with a bang down on the south coast with a 5-0 victory against Eastbourne Borough to take them top of the league on the opening day.



The Beavers made a devastating start and were quickly ahead inside three minutes.

A quick throw in from Ru Donaldson allowed Kadell Daniel to ghost into the box with pace and bury the ball past Curtis Anderson to make a flying start to their first game of the season.

Things got even better when soon after Daniel was celebrating once more after he was alive to the danger when a dangerous shot from Ryan Gondoh had been spilled by Anderson.

A terrible start for the home side was compounded with just over twenty minutes played when Steve James was given his marching orders after hauling down Beavers' striker Jerome Slew as he looked to race away on goal.

Against the ten men the Beavers was largely dominant, and they were three goals to the good just before the interval. A free kick from Jake Gray was pushed out by Anderson but Slew was there to tap in the rebound to send the many travelling Beavers fans wild.

Hampton & Richmond was similarly dominant in the second period and Charlie Wassmer nodded in after a header from Dean Inman had initially palmed out by Anderson.

The pick of the goals on the afternoon then came from defender Kyron Farrell who launched an incredible dipping strike from distance that gave Anderson no chance as it arched into the top corner to cap an excellent opening day

UP NEXT FOR HAMPTON

Opponent: Havant & Waterlooville (H) Saturday 21st August 15:00 Beveree Stadium

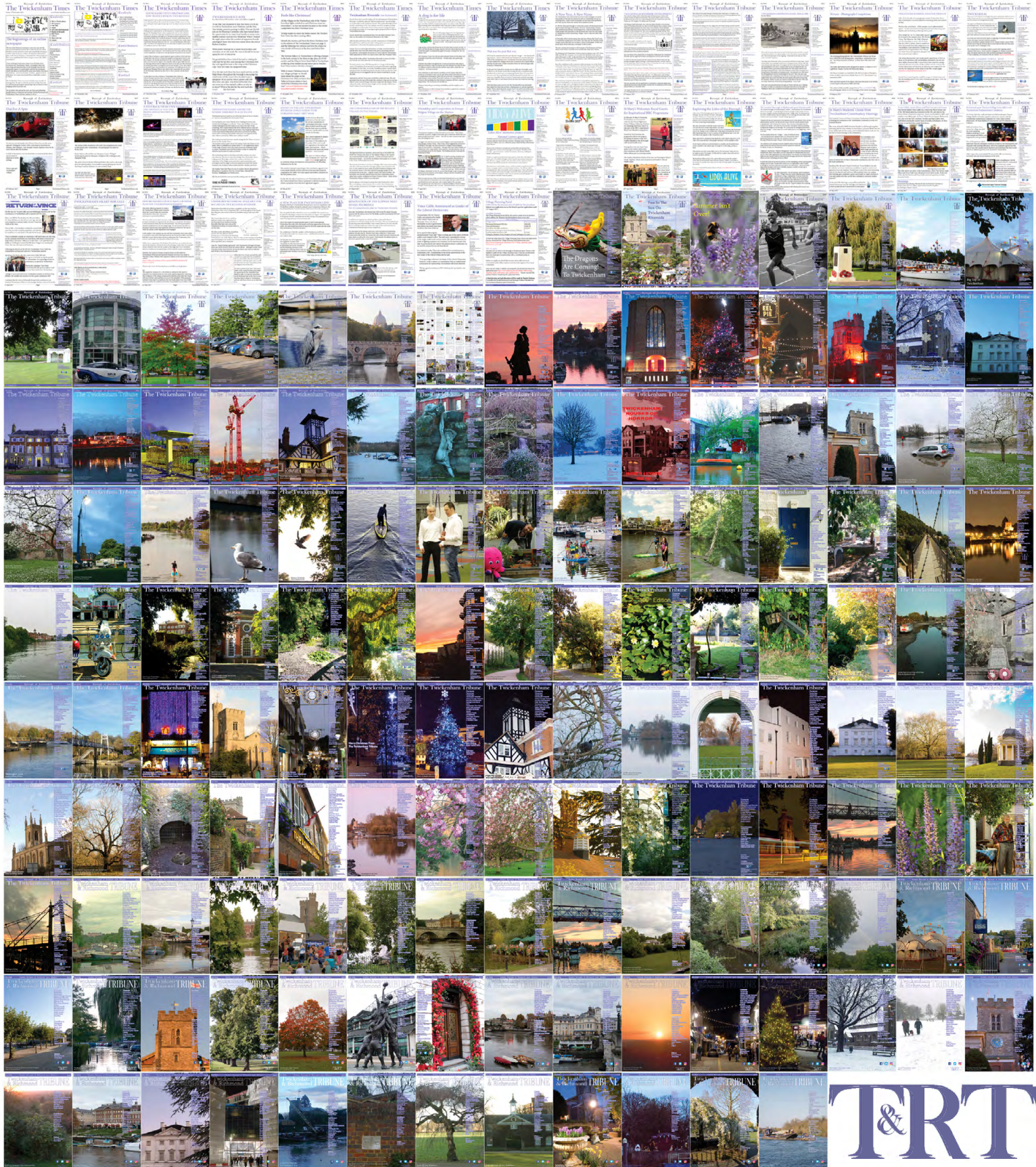
Nickname: The Hawks

Competition: National League South – Matchday 2

Manager: Paul Doswell

Interesting fact: In July 2011, the club played a "once in a lifetime" game against La Liga side Real Betis, losing 7–0, after the Spanish club's original friendly opponents (Portsmouth) found themselves unable to play the game.

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