

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE



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Editors

Berkley Driscoll
Teresa Read



3rd June 2022



Jubilee Post Box, George St, Richmond
Photo by Berkley Driscoll

TickerTape - News in Brief

Bushy Park Deer Warning

Royal Parks Police are asking park users to take extra care saying:

Please Beware Can park users in Bushy Park around Cobblers Walk and the ponds take extra care as there are aggressive red deer hinds in this area at the moment protecting fawns hidden in the bracken. Royal Parks volunteers & Royal Parks Police officers are in the area assisting

Jubilee Events in Richmond upon Thames

There are plenty of Jubilee events taking place across the borough this weekend.

You can find a handy guide to many of them at Visit Richmond [HERE](#)

York House Society Centenary

The York House Society is celebrating its centenary year. The oldest amenity society in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, the society was founded in 1922 by local residents to save York House.

Friday 10th June, 1.30pm-5pm. Celebrations of the formation of the York House Society in 1922, in the company of the Mayor, Cllr Julia Cambridge.

For details of the event and to book free tickets visit the website [HERE](#)

London Underground station strike action – Monday 6 June

Severe disruption across the network is expected from start of service on **Monday 6 June** until 08:00 on Tuesday morning, with many stations closed, especially in Zone 1. This is due to RMT strike action in London Underground stations.

Train services are expected to run on parts of most lines, but won't stop at closed stations.

If travel cannot be avoided, please travel after 08:00 and complete journeys by 18:00. On **Tuesday 7 June**, some stations may still be closed at the beginning of the day and you are advised to travel after 08:00.

Also **until Sunday 10 July**, RMT strike action will be taking place across various London Underground stations. Between these dates, journeys may be impacted by short notice station closures.

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COVID-19

Teresa Read

World Health Organization

Weekly Epidemiological Update

1 June 2022

Globally, the number of new weekly cases has continued to decline since a peak in January 2022. During the week of 23 until 29 May 2022, over 3.3 million cases were reported, an 11% decrease as compared to the previous week.

As of 29 May 2022, over 526 million confirmed cases and over six million deaths have been reported globally.

These trends should be interpreted with caution as several countries have been progressively changing COVID-19 testing strategies, resulting in lower overall numbers of tests performed and consequently lower numbers of cases detected.

At the country level, the highest number of new weekly cases were reported from the United States of America (736 298 new cases; +3%), China (576 367 new cases; +6%), Australia 294 128 new cases; -18%), Japan (203 365 new cases; -18%), and Germany (183 844 new cases; -38%).

The highest number of new weekly deaths were reported from the United States of America, Brazil, Italy, the Russian Federation and China.

IN THE NEWS

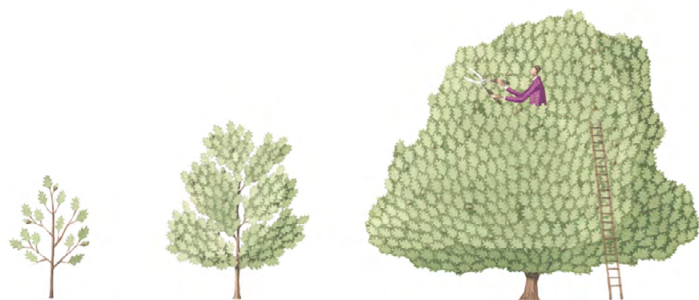
sky news 3 June 2022: Prince Andrew tests positive for COVID, Buckingham Palace says

NDTV 3 June 2022: India Records 4,041 New COVID-19 Cases, 10 Deaths in 24 Hours

WA Health 3 June 2022: There are currently 46.372 active cases in Western Australia

Reuters 2 June 2022: N. Korea reports 82,160 more people with fever symptoms amid COVID Outbreak – KCNA

New Scientist 1 June 2022: An estimated 2 million people in the UK have lingering long-Covid symptoms



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The Golden Jubilee on the Thames

By Simon Fowler

Queen Victoria reigned long enough to celebrate two jubilees. The Diamond Jubilee in 1897 is remembered as being a huge demonstration of Imperial self-confidence at a time when Britain was seen as being the world's pre-eminent power. Ten years previously the Golden Jubilee – now almost forgotten – was a more low-key affair. It was also the first such event held nationwide.

Both Richmond and Twickenham fully took part in the festivities. There were processions and firework displays, with many picnics and parties organised for the borough's children. Even the inmates in the local workhouses were not forgotten.

In Twickenham, the *Surrey Comet* reported the festivities 'were such as will never be forgotten by those who took part in or witnessed them.' For many people the highlight would have been the illuminations. Streets then would have been very poorly lit, at least by modern standards: 'The heart of Twickenham represented a spectacle of rich colour and glad magnificence.' The centre was 'transformed into a perfect fairy town.' And 'At nightfall there were hundreds of vivid devices in gaslight and yards of twinkling lamps and Chinese lanterns casting over the town a glow of indescribable radiance.' Tasteful banners with large letters VR were displayed in shop windows, on houses and in the streets. The Boys Home at Fortescue House displayed a crimson banner with the phrase 'None can love thee better than we poor children do.'



Fireworks over the Thames marking Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee
Credit: Richmond Archives and Local Studies LCP 2707

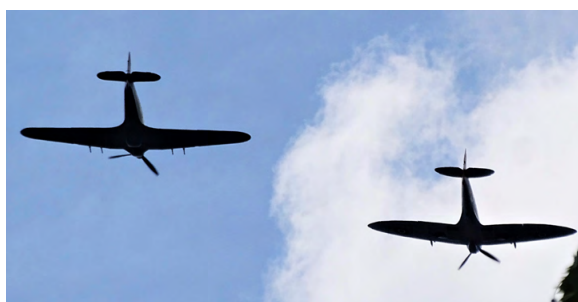
On the day itself the highlight was probably the dinner served to a thousand poor people with roast meats and plum pudding. Four barrels of beer were supplied by a local brewery, who sent two men to draw and tap it. For the sober minded there were 600 bottles of ginger beer and lemonade. The evening finished with fireworks on Eel Pie Island, the site allowed the 'pyrotechnists to arrange their pieces with their pieces with advantage before a tremendous assemblage.'

In Hampton five hundred adult parishioners set down to lunch in the garden at Garrick's Villa, who were served by the organising committee and a team of 'young lady volunteers.' A rival, probably less formal, dinner, this time for 600, was provided by the White Hart 'in most admirable style.' This was followed by 'dancing, racing and various games, some of which occasioned great amusement.' In the evening there were races and games in which the local watermen took part delighting spectators 'with their skill and antics.' The evening ended with fireworks and a procession of illuminated boats. Perhaps of more interest to many in the audience were the kegs of ale which were broached on the riverbank.

Regardless of how people celebrated everybody agreed it had been one hell of a party.

LONDON CELEBRATES

The sun shone and visitors flocked to London to enjoy the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Doug Goodman captured some of the atmosphere.



Dear Sir,

Public Loos

I was dismayed when, many years ago, the Council, I forget under which administration, closed public conveniences wholesale in the borough and relied on public houses and cafes instead. It seemed to me that if they were needed a hundred years or more ago when they were first introduced, how much more they were needed now with the increased population. In particular, Twickenham Green had a substantial brick built public lavatory which is now a restaurant. It was a big mistake and difficult and expensive to rectify now.

Yours

David Green
Hampton

Dear Sir,

Jubilee Festivities

I watched the wonderful pageantry of the Queen's Jubilee celebrations, and it was incredible to see the crowds in the Mall and around Buckingham Palace. It was so good to see the Union Flag and bunting everywhere for this great occasion, which we will not witness again.

But what happened to Twickenham? Yes, as usual Church Street was decorated with flags, but why is it always only Church Street? There is more to Twickenham, and it would have been nice to see flags along King Street, York Street, London Road and Heath Road. I noticed that East Twickenham was able to put the flags out.

I spoke to one of the local shopkeepers I know and asked why they didn't do more along with their business association. He said there is a 'BID' (a sort of business association) which takes a fee from all the local businesses, but they don't seem to do much. He also said that Bruce and Shona Lyons from the travel agency in Church Street do all the flags etc in Church St anyway! His shop is in Heath Road, so that's not much benefit to him.

It seems a pity that a once in a lifetime opportunity to push the boat out has been missed and we will all just have to go to Church Street as usual. And don't get me started on the Christmas decorations!

Yours faithfully

Emma, Twickenham
(Name and address supplied)

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.



"I've learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision.

I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one.

I've learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone.

People love a warm hug, or just a pat on the back.

I've learned that I still have a lot to learn.

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

c. Maya Angelou

Love in a Mist



Table for Two



Mandarin Duck youngster enjoying a swim in The River Crane

A holiday break for some and work, at last, for others especially in the hospitality and Live Music/Arts industries. Wishing all a happy and non-confrontational enjoyment of this extended weekend break. Peace!

If you cannot get out for a walk, please enjoy our Photos/Videos and News Dairy on:

Website: [River Crane Sanctuary](http://RiverCraneSanctuary.com)

And on: [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/rivercranesanctuary)

The Tale of the Toilets on Twickenham Green

Teresa Read

“The Green itself is largely hidden from approaching road users because of the public toilets at the east end and the cricket pavilion at the west end” March 1992 London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames, [Twickenham Green Study, Conservation Area no.9](#).

It seems that public conveniences on Twickenham Green, now Arthur’s Restaurant, were built circa 1929, described in a LBRUT document as a low brick building - with wings obscuring the view across The Green from the Heath Road approach.

The Council report stated: “As part of a borough wide strategy the Council is disposing of public conveniences which may, where appropriate, be found other uses. They will be replaced with new automatic units”. However, in 1990 the Council submitted a planning application for Retail which was withdrawn ((90/1906/FUL).

At the end of 1993 planning application 93/1427/FUL led to Arthur’s Restaurant with some initial use of the toilet for the disabled.

Today for those looking for a toilet on Twickenham Green the cricket pavilion has hours of opening for the use of its Community toilets - part of a Council paid Community Toilet Scheme (CTS).

When plans were submitted for the Cricket Club Pavilion a covering letter stated, “toilets will be made available to the general public when the pavilion is open for matches”. Reference, application [05/1095/COU](#)

It is not clear, at the time of writing, who owns the Pavilion but one objection to the planning application mentioned the use of public funds.

<https://images.richmond.gov.uk/iam/IAMCache/212530/212530.pdf>

However, the cricket club building is now a participant in the LBRUT Community Toilet Scheme (CTS) and should display a CTS notice.

It is important that a clearly visible and permanent notice stating the information is erected in full view to all users of the Green; so many people have problems finding a toilet, tending to wander off to roads around the Green instead of using the CTS toilet. Of course, the Pavilion is only open for the hours it states so it is important the Council fulfils the promise of its predecessors and instal the replacement NEW AUTOMATIC UNITS. This was a Liberal Democrat promise and we have a Liberal Democrat Council now.

Twickenham Green Cricket Pavilion opening times

Thursday 2nd June	10am to 8pm
Friday 3rd June	10am to 8pm
Saturday 4th June	11am to 10pm
Sunday 5th June	9.30am to 8pm

Kew Village Market

Oh yes, there *will* be a Kew Village Market on Jubilee weekend on Sunday 5th June – with over 45 stalls selling the finest foods and original crafts, all grown or made by the stallholders themselves.

Check out new stalls RetrEat with indulgent-tasting but good-for-you vegan treats and Kate Guy Prints' cool, witty, cuisine-themed kitchen cottons and cards. And it's a big welcome back to Mud Foods whose perfect pies have been much missed over the last few months.

The charity stall will be for the RNLI and playing in the sunshine-yellow music marquee will be Dragos Mostenescu – pianist with an Elton vibe – and singer Eamon Henry with songs we know and love. So do come along – to the friendliest and best market in the loveliest, leafiest location – and join the party!

<https://kewvillagemarket.org/>



Gala Day at Hampton Kempton Waterworks Railway

The volunteers at Hampton Kempton Waterworks Railway will host their Gala Day for enthusiasts, families and everyone that loves railways and steam on Saturday 11 June 10am to 5.30pm.

The Gala Day will be a great opportunity to show off the beautiful heritage 1903 locomotive, diesels, and other rolling stock as well as much more and will give visitors a chance to get up close to watch the railway in action.

Hampton Kempton Waterworks Railway will also be operating a miniature sit-on railway with a great exhibition of model railway layouts. Advance booking is essential.



Find out more and book your place [HERE](#)

New pop-up health bus visits Richmond upon Thames!

A new 'come and have a chat about your health' bus will be in Whitton and Ham on Monday 6 June to answer any health questions and to offer free services to help residents remain healthy and well!

On **Monday 6th June**, the bus will be parked in the car park of Ham Youth Centre (TW10 7PL) from 10am until 4pm. It will then be parked in the car park of the Whitton Sports and Fitness Centre (TW2 6JW) from 4.30pm until 7pm.

The mobile, pop-up health clinic will be able to provide you with:

- General health advice, for you or your family
- More information about accessing local health and wellbeing services
- Blood pressure checks
- Help to stop smoking
- Information on preventing and reducing your risk of a number of diseases, including diabetes, cancer and heart disease
- Information about the COVID-19 vaccine, including the offer of the vaccine if you have not had it yet or need one of your doses
- Information on immunisations

Cllr Piers Allen, Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board, said:

"The bus gives residents who are nearby the opportunity to have a friendly chat with healthcare professionals about their health and the services which may help them. The bus will be visiting various areas of the borough over the next few months to make health advice accessible and convenient, so if you do spot the bus, please take the opportunity to go in and have a chat about your health!"



EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE FORMATION OF THE TWICKENHAM & RICHMOND TRIBUNE

TWICKENHAM ALIVE EVENTS PART 3 OF 6: EVENTS 2013

By Teresa Read

TWICKENHAM ALIVE FOUNDED THE EEL PIE ISLAND SUP CLUB (EPIC SUP) in June 2013 at Twickenham Rowing Club, Twickenham Riverside. The SUP club went on to provide many Stand-Up Paddleboarding events including free SUP session days for local residents.

The TWICKENHAM ALIVE RIVERSIDE FESTIVAL from 7 June until 7 July 2013 was supported by the RFU.

Events included a D-Day Dance with Twickenham Rowing Club, Twickenham Alive SUP event, Dragon Boat races, the Charlie Shore Children's Regatta, a children's Fun Fair, Shetland pony rides, water zorbing, an open-air market on The Embankment, as well as a Family Fun Day in Diamond Jubilee Gardens, and live music stages (bands playing at these events can be seen in the Rugby Post - see below).

TWICKENHAM ALIVE RIVERSIDE FESTIVAL 2013
THURSDAY 6th JUNE - SUNDAY 7th JULY

Twickenham Alive Riverside Festival will feature a considerable number of community activities at Twickenham Riverside and nearby. Lots of fun events, music, entertainment, action and fun for kids.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME
Some events and times subject to change

Thursday 6th June
D-Day Dance
19.30 to 23.30 Ed Pie Island
Raising funds for charity

Saturday 8th June
Twickenham Alive Charity Mile
Kovak & Stand Up Paddleboarding
10.00 to 12.00 - The Embankment
Help raise funds for charity

Live Music Stage
14.00 to 20.00 - The Embankment

Water Zorbing
10.00 to 20.00 - Champion's Wharf, The Embankment

Men about on the water - roll or bounce!

Shetland Pony Rides
10.00 to 19.00 - Stags Gardens

Children's Fairground
10.00 to 19.00 - The Embankment

Crafts, Food, Sweets & More

Sunday 9th June
The Turks Head 10K Fun Run
10.30 Start Finish Marble Hill Park

Saturday 15th June
Diamond Jubilee Family Fun Day
12noon - 19.00
Live Music Stage
Bar, Stalls - Food & Crafts, Pony Rides
Strawberry Hill Bowls Club Teaser
Sessions for Adults and Kids
Children's Fairground

Saturday 22nd June
Stand Up Paddleboarding Marathon
12.00 to 17.00 Paddle from Kew to Twickenham and back

Sunday 23rd June
Twickenham Alive Dragon Boat Races
10.00 to 18.00 - The Embankment
Help raise funds for charity

Live Music Stage
14.00 to 20.00 - The Embankment

Water Zorbing
10.00 to 20.00 - Champion's Wharf, The Embankment

Men about on the water - roll or bounce!

Shetland Pony Rides
10.00 to 18.00 - Stags Gardens

Children's Fairground
10.00 to 19.00 - The Embankment

Stalls
10.00 to 19.00 - The Embankment

Crafts, Food, Sweets & More

Ed Pie Row
14.30 to 15.30
Row twice around Ed Pie Island
Start/Finish opposite White Swan Pub

Celebration Sunday on The Diamond Jubilee Gardens TFC
Organised by Twickenham Riverside Trust

Sunday 28th June
Family Fun Day on The Diamond Jubilee Gardens TFC
From 12noon

Sunday 30th July
RFU Strawberry Hill Music & Fun Day
Live Music Stage
Bar, Stalls, Food & Crafts
Water Zorbing, Pony Rides
Children's Fairground

See www.twickenhamalive.com for further information

Twickenham Alive Riverside Festival 2013

www.twickenhamalive.com

TWICKENHAM ALIVE SPONSORED BY THE RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION



In July Berkley Driscoll and I worked alongside the RFU organizing the Strawberry Hill Music and Fun Day, a charity event raising money for Strawberry Hill House with thousands of people attending.



In 2013 the first **Twickenham Alive Film Festival** took place in the



Live Room at the RFU. Opened by the Mayor, Rita Palmer, who commented "I was hugely impressed. There were some fantastic entries, and a wealth of local talent was on show. This highlights how films encourage local people to explore, celebrate and promote local achievements and highlights." Awards were presented by Maria Walker of Twickenham Film Studios.

View the 2013 films [HERE](#)

In August the UK premiere of Borrowed Time, presented by Twickenham Alive Open-Air Cinema, was hosted in the grounds of Strawberry Hill House. Members of the cast were present. Stars included Phil Davis, Theo Barklem-Biggs and Juliet Oldfield.



Detailed information about the Twickenham Alive Film Festival in the [Rugby Post](#) page 7 AND Twickenham Riverside Festival pages 8 and 9

The first **TWICKENHAM ALIVE ICE RINK** was brought to the grounds of the Council offices, York House, Twickenham Riverside, during Christmas and New Year (2013/14). This was the first of three yearly community ice rinks organized by Twickenham Alive.



The Heritage Lottery funded **The Most Famous Ice Rink in the World**, the second two-year history project running in conjunction with the temporary ice rinks. <https://icerinx.com/>

Click image above to view video of the rink



Stop Press: Did you see our insect video on Springwatch, Thursday 2nd June show?

We were contacted on the day by The BBC and asked if they could use it on their segment to highlight the problem with Lighting which destroys dark spaces and impacts on insect populations.

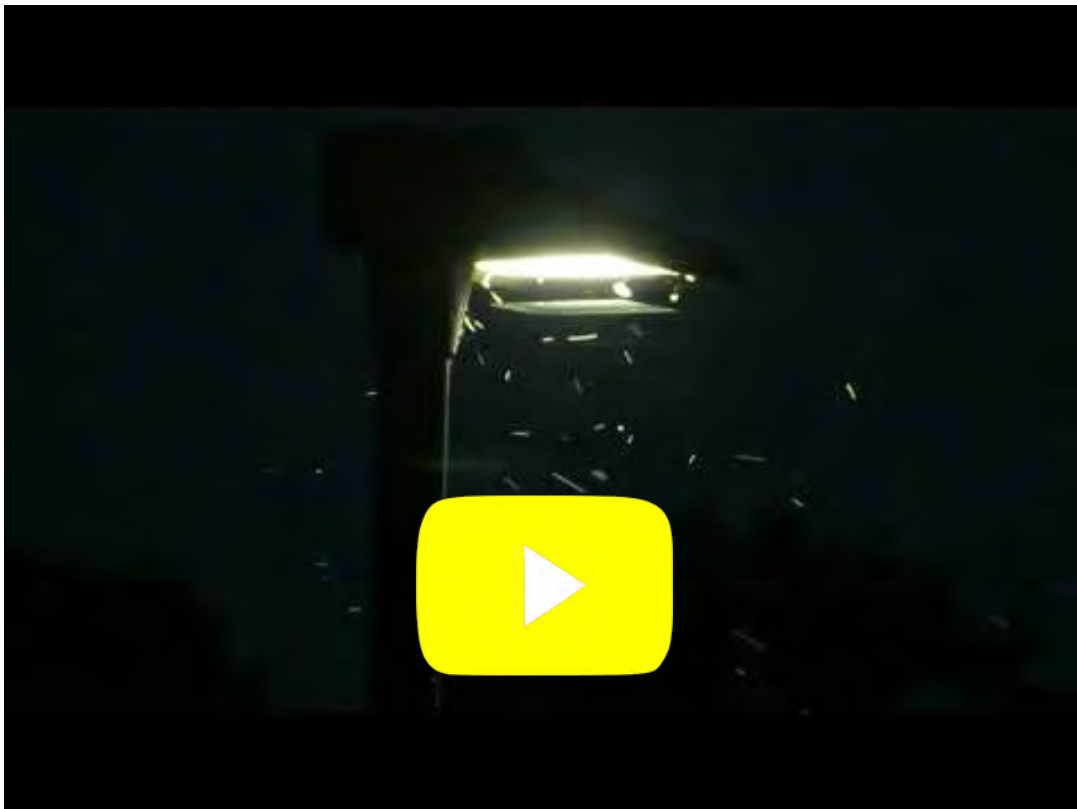
We were happy to let them use it and hope our Council will take heed about how their lack of action when contacted about this locally in 2018 had been detrimental and continues to be so.

This street light is so bright that it lights up bedrooms and spills onto MOL along the River Crane.

More impact from security lights in Churchview Road and Trafalgar Infant School continue to impact further along this stretch of the river.

Another large tree was cut down in front of Churchview Flats/Back of Campbell Close without any intervention although well used by wildlife and a wonderful visual amenity/privacy for neighbours.

We have noticed fewer insects and wonder when will action replace words.



Click image to view video

Platinum Jubilee Garden Party

St Mary's Church, Hampton

If you look at the top of the flagpole above the tower, you will see a golden crown. This represents the strong connection between St Mary's and the Sovereign, 'who has long held the Manor of Hampton'.

You are invited to join us in the churchyard on **4 June** as we celebrate this long-standing connection by coming together as a community and raising a toast to Her Majesty to thank her for her 70 years of service.

Starting at 11am you can expect, amongst other things, Live Music, a Traditional English Tea Tent, Barbecue, Bar, Bouncy Castle and Crypt Tours.

St Mary's Church, Thames Street, Hampton, TW12 2EB

<https://www.hampton-church.org.uk/home>



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

GARDEN PARTY

Saturday 4 June 11am-3.30pm



- ❁ Traditional English Tea Tent ❁ Bar
- ❁ Barbecue ❁ Live Music ❁ Crypt Tours
- ❁ Bouncy Castle ❁ Lots more!

Come and raise a toast to Her Majesty!

Hampton North Ward News

Councillor Geoffrey Samuel

NURSERY GREEN

This attractive open space at the centre of our Ward for many years hosted the popular Hampton Carnival of which, sadly, there is no sign this year. I did report at the end of last year on a site meeting held with Council officers and local residents to improve the Green and officers have now been implementing our decisions. At the same time I reported on the proposal to set up a Friends of Nursery Green to which I received a limited response. Elsewhere Friends groups have been highly successful in improving parks. A few days ago I was contacted by a new Council Community Development Manager who has now taken over responsibility for Nursery Green: he has just started to readvertise for a Friends group with posters, social media posts, contacts with stakeholders and direct communication with the Church, schools, local organisations of all kinds including the nursery, care home, Shooting Star etc. The aim is to hold an inaugural meeting in July. This has my total support – and I do hope that more local people will volunteer.

CAR THEFT

This continues to be a problem: please contact me if you know of any incidents in the ward. The Hampton Hill Association has drawn the attention of its members to a reference in the Minutes of the local Police Liaison group. This refers to Catalytic Converter Theft. Kwik Fit can mark converters with security details for free in an effort to reduce theft. The two nearest premises are Kwik Fit Richmond at 48 Sheendale Road TW9 2JJ [0208 948 4179] and the Twickenham Branch at 353 Richmond Road TW1 2EJ [0208 892 1491]. Richmond Police have arranged for these to be made available free but appointments must be pre-booked.

BROAD LANE CROSSING

The Council is now preparing to install this crossing for which I have been pressing for many months and are embarking on a formal consultation. In our ward copies are being sent to houses from 71 Broad Lane to the junction of Tudor Avenue and Marlborough Road and up to 7 and 10 in Nightingale Road. It is also possible to respond via the Council website. Do reply if you are affected as we want the scheme to go ahead as soon as possible.

HAMPTON COMMON

As the trial period for the new pitch draws to an end a decision must soon be taken. I am disappointed that there will be no formal consultation as the Council “assumes” that any residents with views will already have made contact. However officers have agreed to put up posters in the area. Issues remain. For example there is an assumption that pitch users will go to The White House if they need a toilet. But The White House is not always open! Let me know if you are experiencing any problems.

BURTONS ROAD SCHEME

This continues to be an issue for many residents. There is also a view that the decision on the provision of 'free passes' for Burtons Road has not been fair. Residents in **Graham Road, Longford Close, Ringwood Way and Winifred Road** are experiencing increased use of 'their' slip road and heavier traffic when they join Uxbridge Road. No resident in these roads is receiving the 'free pass' although I have obtained one for a family on compassionate grounds

BUS STOP- UXBRIDGE ROAD

The current location blocks the crossover at number 157 so that the resident cannot always leave or enter the drive. It is proposed to move it by some 3 metres and then install a Bus Stop Clearways marking. If you are opposed to this, please let me – and the Council- know.

£150 COUNCIL TAX REBATE

Residents were concerned that they had not received the Government's £150 rebate due, they believed, in April. When I followed this up for them I was advised that there were 37,000 intended recipients of whom 18,000 did not have a Bank account known to the Council. Payments are due from April and this is in train

SHORTER ITEMS

- Residents of **Kingswood Avenue** have complained about the slow pace of the roadworks in the road and I have taken this up with senior officers
- I follow up all complaints about failures in the waste and recycling service. I have just assisted a resident of **Fulmer Close** who has been badly let down by the green waste service
- Local residents have complained about noise from **The Hampton Pub** which continues until 2am on Saturdays
- Following my intervention PA is now to prune trees in Fulmer Close which impinge on houses in **Briar Close**
- I understand – and am acting on – the concern of a resident whose house backs on to a cricket pitch. Inevitably cricket balls are hit into the back garden.
- Next month I will report on Council proposals to instal a large number of double yellow lines in **Fulmer Close**

Keep in touch with me by phone or tell me of issues which concern you: I am here to help

Never Mind - Never Mind - Never Mind

By: TwickWatch

There are at least three things we worry about regarding toilets, when we look to carry out our natural bodily functions. Can a public toilet be easily found and identified i.e. is there a logic to its location and accessibility? Is the toilet clean, healthy and well maintained? Will you be able to answer the call of nature safely and in privacy?

Toilets are a symbol of Japan's world-renowned hospitality culture as they should be anywhere. They are a symbol of caring for their own citizens and a reflection of the pride of the community in their environment when welcoming visitors. They don't pay local traders' money to hive off the problem to premises that may or may not be open, that may have an environment not conducive to some people to enter and where standards may be lacking and statistical monitoring non-existent. Are such schemes "a bargain" and fulfilling everyone's needs or an excuse not to "take the bull by the horns" and deal with this social issue? Of course, it costs money but weigh that against money the council wastes, the anguish suffered by people with medical needs and the reputation visitors associate with poor facilities.

Richmond has the opportunity to be a world leader but can't even deal with two small open spaces, Twickenham and Richmond Green. Their idea of "toilet bliss" is exemplified by a basic toilet and wash bowl at the Civic Centre for instance but only if you need it Monday to Friday during opening times. Similarly the Civic Centre is the tourist information centre but only during opening times – no tourists on Saturday or Sunday. Or, you can use a smelly cast iron urinal hidden away in York House gardens! I can't recall a single modern "fit for purpose" urinal in the borough.

So, it is easy to "nit-pick" but returning to Japan (and why not?) there are some imaginative solutions around. The pictures below show state of the art modern public toilets. Their nature is such that they would fit into any traditional landscape.

The glass, the colours being customisable, turns opaque once the door is locked ensuring full privacy. No longer would you need to hideaway toilets. At night, the facility lights up the park like a beautiful lantern.



The doom-mongers in Richmond Council would try to find the negatives such as vandalism and safety of users.

Vandalism is discouraged by cameras! Not in my toilet I hear you say! However the same door mechanism that blanks out the glass can be used to trigger a camera ONLY when the door is unlocked, filming vandals entering or leaving. Similarly, a panic button could turn on the camera or a microphone to the excellent council monitoring centre to call for help.

The picture to the right shows the internal facilities in a well-spaced cubicle.

Easily cleanable and to meet all needs, including baby changing facilities if wanted.

An auto-spray could be added to deal with ongoing future virus issues.



For an imaginative modern scheme as suggested the council could probably even get sponsorship. In the case of Richmond and Twickenham Green for instance, a sponsorship board alongside the toilets with the history of each green would attract people. Such a modern scheme would be something to be proud of.

As Harvard Business School professor Frances Frei says, “Identifying problems can be a solo sport, but finding solutions rarely is.”

Let’s hope Richmond Council listen to the people for a change.

More detailed information on modern Japanese public toilet schemes can be found at: https://tokyotoilet.jp/en/yoyogifukamachi_mini_park/.

ON THE NUTMEG TRAIL - THE TICKET TO SPICE

Eleanor Ford's latest cookbook - *The Nutmeg Trail* - is a triumph. This culinary journey along the ancient spice routes is interwoven with fabulous recipes and stories. It's a veritable pilgrimage, a culinary exploration of spice, showcasing how centuries of spice trading and cultural diffusion have influenced and changed the world's cuisine. It really is a superb book for anyone, like me, who enjoys experimenting with different spices. And what a spice journey it is: through Indonesia, Malaysia, China, Vietnam, Thailand, Sri Lanka, India, Iran and the Emirates.



Following the ancient spice trail, Eleanor (who lives in the UK but has lived in Indonesia and Hong Kong) showcases the different elements of spice through her recipes. Salty, gingery, fiery, fragrant, floral - you name it, she's covered it! The book combines historical research with a travel writer's eye and a cook's nose for a memorable recipe - and having tried some of the recipes myself, I can vouch for her ability to tempt those taste buds but also provide a workable and delicious result. Eleanor is an award-winning food writer and this is her third book. *The Nutmeg Trail* is published by Murdoch Books at £25 for a beautifully illustrated hardback. Here are a couple of vegetarian recipes from the book - but there are lots of wonderful meat and fish dishes too.

Cashew Nut & Lemongrass Curry (Serves: 4–6 as a side)

“The cashew tree, with its extraordinary-looking rainbow fruit and hanging curved seeds we erroneously call nuts, is a member of the sumac family. Native to Brazil, it was brought to Goa by the Portuguese in the 1560s, from where it spread to become a staple of South Asian cookery. In curries, the nuts are often ground into silky sauces, but in this rich and delightful Sri Lankan dish they get star billing: soft, sweet and plump with coconut milk.

There is a similarity between this and the Garlic clove curry (page 189), however the flavour profile is different. Here, fresh stems of lemongrass bring out the slight citrusy notes of both curry leaves and cinnamon, where they sit behind its more obvious sweet warmth.”

- 250g (1 2/3 cups) raw cashews
- 1 tablespoon ghee or neutral oil
- 1 large onion, finely chopped
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 1.5cm (5/8 inch) ginger, peeled and minced (1½ teaspoons)
- 10 fresh curry leaves
- 400ml (1½ cups) coconut milk
- 1 scant teaspoon fine sea salt
- ½ teaspoon ground turmeric
- 2 lemongrass sticks, bruised
- 2 green finger chillies, split lengthways
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 12cm (4½ inch) pandan leaf (optional)
- Soak the cashew nuts in a bowl of water for at least 1 hour, or overnight. Drain and rinse.



Heat the oil in a pan over a medium–high heat. Fry the onion until softened and just starting to turn golden. Add the garlic, ginger and curry leaves and cook for a few minutes, until fragrant. Add the cashews to the pan along with the coconut milk, salt and turmeric. Drop in the lemongrass, chillies, cinnamon and pandan, pushing them beneath the surface to infuse their flavours into the creamy sauce. Bring to a simmer, then cook on a low heat, uncovered, for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Eat with: Rice, other curries, and a pickle to cut the sweet richness

Royal Saffron Paneer (Serves 4)

“Mughal kitchens must have been exquisite places, the air scented with the saffron, flower waters and cardamom used to suffuse their rich, creamy foods. Here is a derivative of one of the courts’ most celebrated dishes, silky-soft morsels of fresh cheese cloaked in a sumptuous, sweetly spiced tomato cream with the merest thread of heat. Delicate and divine.”

- 1 tablespoon neutral oil
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 400g (14oz) ripe tomatoes, blended, or good
- tinned tomatoes, finely chopped
- 4 green cardamom pods, bruised
- 2 cloves
- 1 teaspoon ground turmeric
- 1 teaspoon Kashmiri chilli powder, plus extra to serve
- 1 teaspoon grated jaggery or sugar
- 1 teaspoon fine sea salt
- 450g (1lb) paneer
- 1/4 teaspoon saffron strands
- 1 teaspoon rose water or kewra (screwpine) water
- 125ml (1/2 cup) thick (double) cream

Heat the oil in a pan and cook the onion until soft and golden. Add the tomatoes, cardamom, cloves, turmeric and chilli powder. Season with jaggery and salt. Bring to a simmer and cook for 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, cut the paneer into bite-sized cubes and put in a bowl. Pour over boiling water, cover and set aside for 10 minutes to soften. (There is no need to soak if you are using homemade paneer.)

Toast the saffron in a dry pan for just a few moments, you want to wake it up not scorch it. Tip into a small bowl and crush to a powder with the back of a spoon. Add a tablespoon of hot water and leave to infuse.

When you are ready to serve, drain the paneer and add it to the hot pan of spiced tomato. Simmer for 2 minutes. Stir in the saffron infusion, rose water and all but a dribble of the cream. Warm through. Serve with the reserved cream, white dripped lacyly on saffron yellow, and a red dusting of chilli powder.

Eat with: Roti or paratha and other Indian dishes.





God of Carnage

By Yasmina Reza

Richmond Shakespeare Society at the Mary Wallace Theatre

God of Carnage, a farcical comedy, runs for ninety mins without any break or change of scenes. Characters hurl a barrage of insults at each other, many concealed by a thin veneer of civilised behaviour. Two sets of parents have met to discuss the behaviour of two boys, one of whom has attacked the other, resulting in the breaking of two incisors and damage to a 'half a nerve' in a tooth.

Theatrically, these types of argument make for interesting theatre, as they often succeed in revealing multidimensional levels of character when emotional buttons are pressed. The play is funny and presents the kind of humour that makes you laugh aloud either through verbal wit or farcical comedy.



The play has the power to strike a chord into some of the pitfalls of married life, especially when children are concerned. The whole play takes place in the sitting room of the home of Veronica and Michael. Director Harry Medawar has set the play in Twickenham. While the play is essentially about the individual personalities of the characters and the relationship between the two couples, it also says something about men versus women, and class differences between the couple; and this is cleverly conveyed by Medawar.

Dominating the back wall of the stage hangs a huge impressionistic painting that provides a level of insight into Veronica's personality. At first, Veronica comes across as the most benign of the group, believing that an amicable settlement can be reached about the injury to her son through negotiation. Veronica, however, is very judgemental and seeks to instil a sense of shame Alain and Annette about their son. Bit by bit, this veneer is stripped away, and we see in her a complete loss of behavioural control.

Overall the production succeeds in exploring the pitfalls of parenthood when facing the dilemma of having to cope with fights that sometimes break out between children, and no doubt will strike a chord with most parents.

Read Celia Bard's review at www.markaspen.com/2022/05/29/god-carn-rss

Photography by Simone Germaine



Mozart and Salieri

by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov and *Suor Angelica* by Giacomo Puccini
Rose Opera at Normansfield Theatre, Teddington

Poisonous motivations and, well, actual death by poisoning, links Rose Opera's double-bill of one-act operas.

Rimsky-Korsakov's opera *Mozart and Salieri*, based on a short drama by Pushkin about the eponymous composers, served as the inspiration for the masterful but [historically inaccurate film, *Amadeus*](#). Salieri (Ian Helm) broods in his resplendent Viennese bachelor pad, lamenting to himself how despite decades of disciplined mastering all elements of music, fate smiled on Mozart (William Smith) instead, giving him a "holy gift" despite having an "idlers mind".



Apart from a brief, but amusing, entrance by a blind violinist, the lion's share of work is done by Smith and Helm and the performance as well as the delivery was gripping, a testament to both of their control over their vocal and acting ability.

Conducted by Benedict Collins Rice, the orchestra was brilliant and undoubtedly talented. They interpreted Rimsky-Korsakov's composition with greater lyricism and poignancy than the score itself probably provides. A lot of enthusiasm and passion had gone into the production and this shone through the orchestra's interpretation and performance.

With the standard set from the first half, *Suor Angelica* had high expectations to meet. It did so in spades.

As the eponymous character, Tamara Ravenhill is the dramatic and vocal keystone of the performance, clearly a woman of tenderness. Lorna Jane Perry Perry portrays Suor Angelica's aunt, the princess, as a stoic and uncompromising woman, with an authoritative tone to match. The contrast between the bright and impassioned tone of Ravenhill's soprano and Perry's mature and clipped contralto gives additional contrast to their vocal tapestries. Ravenhill performs the aria *Senza Mamma* with such touching sincerity it's impossible not to feel for her.



Unashamedly romantic and with lyrical mastery, it would be impossible, even for cynics such as myself, to not be stirred by Puccini's composition. Once again though, the orchestra effortlessly transported us.

Read Eugene Broad's review at www.markaspen.com/2022/05/28/mozt-sali-suor-ang

Photography courtesy of Rose Opera



Abigail's Party

by Mike Leigh

Teddington Theatre Club at The Coward Studio, Hampton Hill

Abigail's Party is a modern classic, so well-known that it has become the stuff of legend, a familiar a setting that's part of the national consciousness. So designers Wesley Henderson Roe and Fiona Auty, and props mistress Jacqui Grebot transported their audience back to the 1970's, from "leather look" sofa to wine bottle candlestick, and Lesley Alexander's costumes had it all. Gary Stevenson's lighting, with the obligatory lava lamp, and Charles Halford's Demis Roussos soundscape were the icing on the design cake.



All the actors gave performances that were alternately moving, poignant, hysterically funny and excruciatingly embarrassing. Bill Compton's Laurence was the typical "yuppie" of the time, but with a soft centre. Juanita Al-Dahhan as Sue made something much more of the character than is usual. Her Sue was not a one-dimensional character, but a person in her own right. Hannah Lobley and Josh Clarke as Ange and Tony were a joy to behold. The monosyllabic Clarke was very funny, in spite of the underlying resentment for his lost career and at his wife Ange who, despite appearing subservient, annoying puts him down at every opportunity was never far from the surface.

Inextricably linked to the original Alison Steadman performance, the big question of the evening was "is there any other way to play the monstrous Beverly?". The answer is a resounding "yes"! Of course there are certain lines that lend themselves to that original delivery (and if it ain't broke then don't fix it) but Mia Skytte managed to find the human side to the hostess from Hell.

Director Ian Kinane's *Abigail's Party* is a somewhat claustrophobic evening, actually being inside Beverly's living room and suffering the awkward silences, and the cast give the play an immersive edge that adds to the overall experience.

Read David Marks' review at www.markaspen.com/2022/05/28/abigail-ttc



Photography by Jojo Leppink, Handwritten Photography

Carmen

by Didy Veldman, music by Dave Price after Georges Bizet
Bird and Carrot Productions at the Queen Elizabeth Hall

Fearless. Passionate. Dramatic. Daring. All the characteristics that are traditionally attributed to Carmen could just as well be true about Natalia Osipova, who has reached a point in her career where she seems to be much more than simply one of the legendary ballerinas of our time. Her personality and star power is so large these days, it transcends any role she might interpret on stage. Such is her celebrity and standing within the dance world, she was not only able to fill the Southbank Centre but also pull together an impressive collective of artistic collaborators, first and foremost the Dutch contemporary choreographer Didy Veldman.



Veldman is a choreographer with such clear movement vocabulary, a pureness of emotion, a simplicity in storytelling, such that every visual lands with the intended impact. Effortlessly she moves between fun, playful moods to thoughtful intimate moments that reveal the artists' inner complexities and vulnerability.

Composer Dave Price's original score deconstructs and reimagines motives of Bizet's popular crowd pleasers until they sound familiar yet entirely new. The small five strong ensemble of artists portray a company in the process of creating a film based on *Carmen*.

Veldman cleverly uses the tropes of film making to zoom in on the action in an exaggerated slow motion sequence that shows Osipova switching on her star power for her adoring fans. Shortly after, she pulls away the mask of the celebrity persona revealing the dancer's complicated relationship with the mirror in an intimate solo full of self-doubt.

The ending still manages to completely surprise, and at the same time it is entirely convincing. This Carmen is, to use a phrase of today, a woman who slays – not one to be slain.

Read Suzanne Frost's review at www.markaspen.com/2022/05/29/carmen-bc

Photography by Amanda Fordyce and Annabel Moeller



TRAVELLER'S TALES 124

SECRET LONDON

Doug Goodman visits some of London's secret locations



With the help of the guide book 'London's Hidden Walks' I discovered that the Capital was once the centre for spying and espionage activities: and perhaps still is. Assassinations by foreign powers – some successful and others not, secret messages, disguised buildings and the playground for traitors – London had it all and most of the clandestine activities took place in Mayfair.

SECRET INFORMATION

Secret information was often sent in a letter written in invisible ink or hidden in a micro dot underneath a postage stamp. Soviet newspapers carried coded instructions for their operatives who reported to the Lubyanka, Moscow's KGB headquarters where interrogations and executions took place. Our own secret service left messages in a fake rock on the outskirts of Moscow for Russians working for the UK. The authorities made great propaganda from their discovery of this trickery. British traitors in London used a lamp post as a dead-letter drop for their Russian handlers. You can see the street light where chalk marks were left to indicate a meeting and where messages were concealed within the post. It's outside number 2 South Audley Street. The first home for the British Secret Service was at Watergate House off The Strand formed in 1919 from sections of The Admiralty and The War Office. In 2019 The Queen unveiled a plaque to commemorate the event. Now its head-quarters is the building on the south side of Vauxhall Bridge opposite the station. You may remember the very realistic destruction of 'Spy House' in a James Bond film. The clubs, casinos and hotels in Mayfair were popular meeting places for the infamous spy group of Philby, Burgess, Maclean and Blunt in the 1950s. Number 6 Chesterfield Gardens was a rendez-vous during WW2 for the ex-Cambridge men to swap information. Guy Burgess lived at 10 Clifford Chambers off New Bond Street and when his cover was blown and he had fled to Moscow none other than fellow spy Blunt was sent by the authorities to search his home. It was never known how much incriminating evidence was destroyed by Blunt who, in turn was much later exposed as a traitor.



Coded Messages



Moscow KGB HQ



Secret Lamp Post

At number 33 South Audley Street, not far from that lamp post with the secret compartment, the director general of MI5, Sir Roger Hollis was interrogated in an attempt to get a confession that he was a Soviet agent. Nothing it seems was proven, or if it was, the information was never made public. At a building in Curzon Street, number 1-4, the secret files of MI5 were closely guarded for many years. If you walk around Berkley Square look out for number 40 where in 1942 the Office of Strategic

Services was based: later to become The C.I.A. Between Lambeth Bridge and Westminster Bridge on the river's south side you'll find a memorial to SOE the WW2 Special Operations Executive. This was one of several services run by British military intelligence set up by Churchill to 'set Europe alight'. Its agents were landed in occupied Europe to assist the local resistance groups and to sabotage German installations. Of the 470 highly trained agents sent, 117 died. A famous SOE agent was Violet Szabo whose sculpture appears on the monument. She was captured, tortured and died in 1945. For her bravery she was posthumously awarded the George Cross.



First GCHQ



The Admiralty



MI5 HQ

TWO ASSASSINATIONS

Georgi Markov, a Bulgarian dissident writer defected to the UK in 1978 and joined the BBC. On September 7th of that year he was waiting for a bus on Waterloo Bridge when he was stabbed in the thigh by an unknown man with an umbrella. It is believed that the assassin used Ricin to kill Markov who died four days after the attack. Another poisoning took place in London in November 2006 after Alexander Litvinenko, a member of The Russian KGB became the first victim of Polonium -210 a radioactive substance. This attack was evidently authorised at the highest level in Moscow – probably by Putin himself. A more recent attempt to poison a Russian KGB defector and double-agent Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia in Salisbury failed but a totally innocent person died from handling the discarded bottle which held the substance Novichok. The two attackers, who claimed to be tourists visiting Salisbury Cathedral, were exposed as Russian agents after they had returned to Moscow.



Spy Party Spot.
Chesterfield Gdns



Spy Stamp of Philby



S.O.E. Memorial



D10 Waterloo Bridge Assassination Spot

Foot note. Kim Philby, the most notorious of Soviet agents working within MI6, failed to get the recognition he hoped for in the USSR. After he fled from Istanbul in 1963 to his new country he was given a luxury flat in the centre of Moscow where he lived until his death in 1988 age 76. I once bumped into him in a corridor when visiting a friend in the same block. He was given a hero's funeral and was buried in the Kuntsevo cemetery. In 1990 a postage stamp commemorating his achievements was issued and later a square in an obscure part of south-west Moscow was named after him.

Interesting reading: London's Hidden Walks by Stephen Millar; The Defence of the Realm, Authorised History of MI5 by Christopher Andrew.

WIZ Tales - MEXICO

Teresa Read

The hurricane season in the eastern Pacific started early this year when Hurricane Agatha, a category 2 storm, struck Mexico near Puerto Escondido and Puerto Angel in the southern state of Oaxaca on 30 May; the strongest May hurricane to hit the Pacific coast of Mexico since record keeping began in 1949.

The National Hurricane Centre and Central Pacific Hurricane Centre predicted an above normal hurricane season this year. Although sea temperatures in the Pacific are affected by a natural phenomenon (the El Niño–Southern Oscillation) with climate change there is the likelihood of more severe storms.

Initially, eleven people in the area affected by Hurricane Agatha were reported to have died with more missing.

Heavy rain resulted in landslides and flash flooding; villages in the mountains were among the worst affected. Power was cut off and homes destroyed.



Information about Mexico

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

Pacific Ocean: Tides, Currents/Temperature and Facts

<https://worldinfozone.com/oceans.php?country=Pacific>



Help deliver our new pavilion

A new pavilion on Moormead park, St Margarets has been given planning permission by Richmond Council. They have also pledged £150k towards the project.



The charitable trust driving the project is looking to build a board of trustees, could you fill any of the following roles?

- Chair
- Environment
- Fundraising
- Legal advice
- Local engagement
- Project management
- Secretary
- Treasurer

bringing everything together
ensuring a sustainable project
grant applications and local events
lease and contractual expertise
community liaison, social media
building and construction
administration and organisation
finance experience

Time commitment would be monthly meetings with trustees, plus additional time to deliver your role

To apply or discuss any of the roles, please contact us via **moormeadcsp@gmail.com**

For further information: <https://bit.ly/3sghOen>



Jack Petchey Award for Business and Enterprise student



Khalil Assaf (centre) holding his Jack Petchey Award alongside some Business Level 3 classmates.

On 24th May, Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) student, Khalil Assaf was awarded with a Jack Petchey Achievement Award for excelling in his studies and his continual hard work in class.

Khalil Assaf was nominated as his teacher felt that during his time at RuTC, he has excelled in his studies and has worked hard continually. His entire class voted that he was a worthy winner of the award. Khalil has excelled in his Level 3 Business course, due to his positive attitude towards learning, his want to help others and his regular positive contributions in class.

Khalil's teacher, David Webb explains: "Khalil is a well-liked member of the group and demonstrates a positive attitude in and out of class and is a very proactive student. He is always seeking out opportunities to complete additional work to address gaps in his knowledge."

Jack Petchey Awards are a peer recognition scheme which recognises the positive contributions, efforts and endeavours of young people aged 11-25 across London and Essex. These achievements include being a great role model, volunteering, overcoming personal challenges and supporting others over and above expectations.

Award winners receive a £300 grant, which can be used for anything that will benefit their class.

Learn more about studying Business and Enterprise at Richmond upon Thames College [here](#)



Healthy living in Richmond - Share your thoughts

Have you ever tried to improve your lifestyle? What were the biggest barriers? What helped you?

Eating healthy, staying active, and our overall lifestyle can have a significant impact on our physical health and wellbeing, but these behaviours can be hard to maintain.

Whether you are happy about your current lifestyle, or feel like it could be improved, Healthwatch Richmond want to hear from you!

Tell them what services you need to help you lead a healthy life. Your answers will help to shape services in Richmond upon Thames.

Share your thoughts with [Healthwatch Richmond](#).



Healthy Living in Richmond

Whether you are happy with your current lifestyle, or feel like it could be improved, **we want to hear from you!**

**Fill in the survey
and share!**

Your answers will help shape services in the borough.



**Accessing mental health services over the
Platinum Jubilee bank holiday weekend**



**South West
London**

**Call 0800 028 8000, if you need
urgent mental health support.
Our free crisis line is available
24/7.**



Our Season in Numbers

A stats look at our maiden Premier League season

By [Brentford FC](#)



Our first season in the Premier League certainly left us with plenty of memories but it also left us with a number of new entries into our record books. This week on Social Media we've been looking at some of the numbers which made our first campaign back in the top flight so memorable.

13 Our 13th-placed finish was our highest since 1938 and fourth-highest of all-time

46 Our points haul was the highest by a Play-Off winner since 2012 and seventh highest by all Play-Off winners

4 We were one of only four Premier League sides not to lose a game from a winning position this season

15 Only Liverpool won more Premier League points from losing positions this season than The Bees

1 Our win at Chelsea was the joint-biggest by a newly promoted team over a side that started the day in the top three

109 Christian Norgaard led the Premier League in tackles won this season

186 Pontus Jansson made the top flight's most clearances

First double over West Ham since **1954**

First away win at Watford since **1977**

First win over Chelsea since **1939**

First win over Arsenal since **1938**

73482 Our game at Old Trafford saw us play in front of our biggest ever crowd



Six Nations Under-20 Summer Series to take place in Italy

England men's U20s will take part in the Six Nations Under-20 Summer Series taking place in Italy. The series, that includes the Six Nations unions plus Georgia and South Africa, takes place between 24 June and 12 July in Treviso and Verona and is hosted by the Federazione Italiana de Rugby.



Alongside the Oceania Rugby U20 Championship, the Under-20 Summer Series will provide a regional alternative to the postponed World Rugby U20 Championship that will return in 2023.

Teams will be in two pools of four based on rankings with cross-pool play offs taking place on 12 July.

England men's U20 head coach, Alan Dickens, speaking about the Six Nations Summer Series said: "This is the first time since 2019 that we've been able to have a summer activity that involves us playing a southern hemisphere nation at the U20 level."

"Playing against a number of different nations across the two weeks will provide really valuable learning and development experiences for the players.

"We're looking forward to getting out to Italy and continuing to develop the squad."

Pool A

France
Ireland
England
South Africa

Pool B

Scotland
Wales
Italy
Georgia

England's Pool A games

Round 1 – England v South Africa, Friday 24 June, KO 4pm (BST), Payanini Centre, Verona

Round 2 – France v England, Wednesday 29 June, KO 4pm (BST), Payanini Centre, Verona

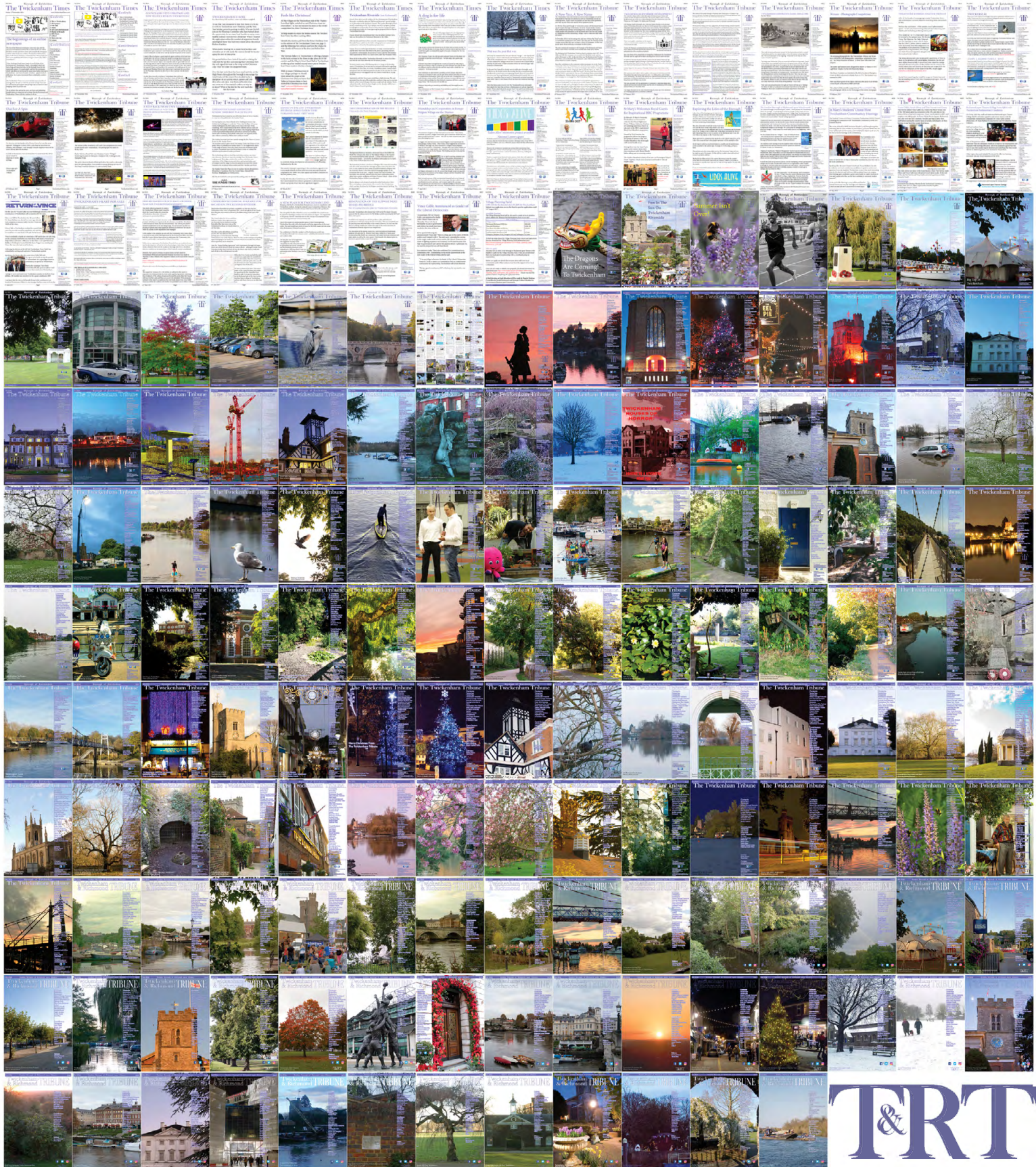
Round 3 – Ireland v England, Tuesday 5 July, KO 7pm (BST), Payanini Centre, Verona

Play offs

Tuesday 12 July, KO TBC, Stadio Monigo, Treviso

Every game of the Under 20 Summer Series will be streamed via the Six Nations Rugby U20 YouTube channel.

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Half Page

Quarter Page
Landscape

Quarter Page Portrait

Eighth Page

Eighth Page
Landscape

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