

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

Contents

- TickerTape
- COVID-19
- Local Postcard Page: The Victoria Inn – East Sheen
- Teddington RNLi boat naming ceremony
- Jonathan Hulley visits the Twickenham & Richmond Tribune
- Zippos Circus returns to Twickenham
- Investigation to trace Daniel Khalife continues
- Teddington Society Coffee Morning
- What really happened after the Springboks match?
- Twickers Foodie
- Join Crusader Travel, Piper Violet and Tsaretta Spice in the Square
- WIZ Around the World
- So it's September...
- Richmond Film Society - New Season
- Sport

Contributors

- Alan Winter
- Doug Goodman
- Metropolitan Police
- Teddington Society
- Francis (Mac) McInerny
- Alison Jee
- Bruce Lyons
- Mark Aspen
- World InfoZone
- Deep Patel
- Richmond Film Society
- RFU
- Brentford FC
- GB News
- HM Treasury
- LBRuT

Editors

Berkley Driscoll
Teresa Read



8th September 2023

T&RT

A thirsty Jay visits
Photo by Berkley Driscoll

TickerTape - News in Brief

Helicopter over Richmond Park

Residents in the Richmond area have been commenting on the presence of a helicopter circling over Richmond Park. The National Police Air Service stated "To dispel some rumours that have been circulating. We were deployed to Richmond Park last night searching for escaped prisoner Daniel Khalife. Due to the size and complexity of the park this took a protracted period of time. Apologies for the noise."

The terror suspect Daniel Khalife escaped from Wandsworth Prison on Wednesday morning. Khalife has links to the area having lived in Kingston near Richmond Park with his mother and sister; he also attended Teddington School until 2018.

Pavilion fire - Hampton Wick

The Hampton Wick Royal Cricket Club pavilion was destroyed by fire overnight on 6th September. You can find details of the Rebuild The Wick JustGiving campaign [HERE](#)

Six fire engines and around 40 firefighters tackled a fire on Park Road in Hampton Wick.

The Brigade was called at 03:15 and the fire was brought under control by 05:24. Crews from Kingston, Surbiton, New Malden, Richmond and Surrey Fire & Rescue attended the scene.

Richmond Runfest

The Richmond Runfest will be taking place from 06:45 until 10:00 on Saturday 9th, and from 07:00 to 17:00 on Sunday 10th. The run will start at Kew Gardens and participants will follow along the Thames Tow Path. A music event will also be taking place in Old Deer Park. Large crowds are expected.

South Western Railway – Engineering Works

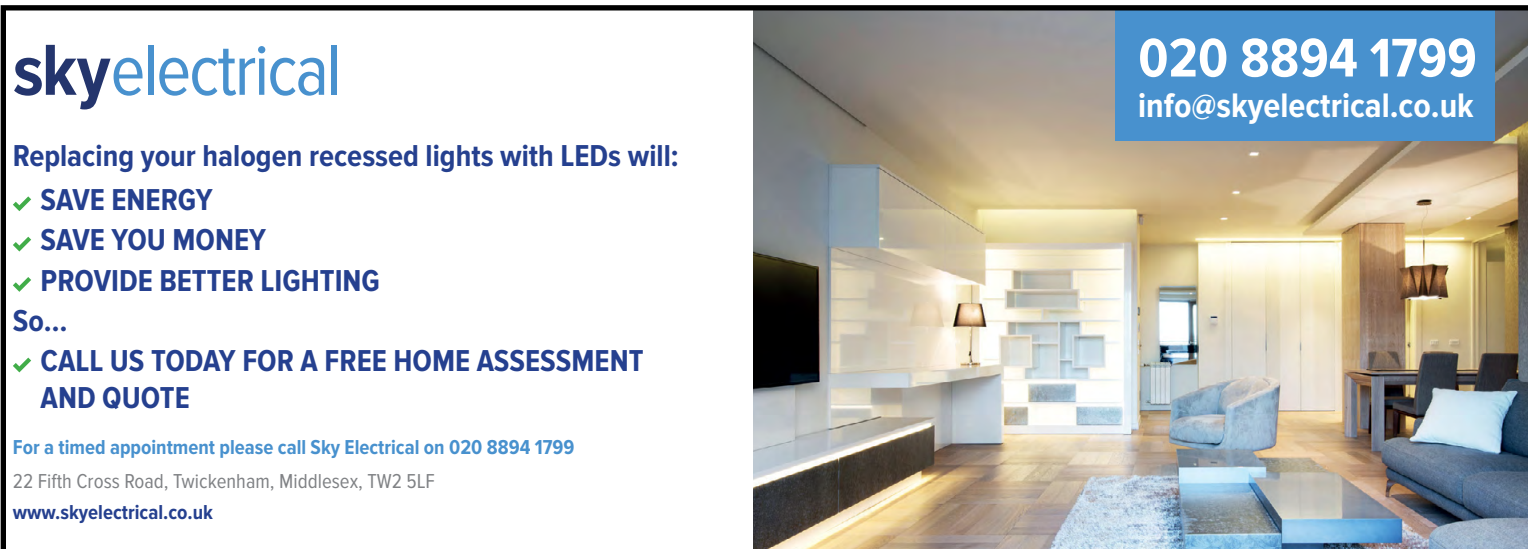
Altered train services and buses replace trains in the Wimbledon area **Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 September**

Saturday

- London Waterloo to Shepperton services will be revised and will be diverted between Clapham Junction and Kingston via Richmond.
- London Waterloo to London Waterloo via Wimbledon and Kingston services will not run.
- London Waterloo to Hampton Court services will not run.

Sunday

- London Waterloo to Shepperton services will be revised and will be diverted between Clapham Junction and Kingston via Richmond.
- London Waterloo to London Waterloo via Wimbledon and Kingston services will not run.
- The afternoon and evening London Waterloo to Kingston via Hounslow services will not run.
- London Waterloo to Hampton Court services will not run.



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Covid-19

By Teresa Read

COVID IN THE NEWS

Aljazeera: World Health Organization sees ‘concerning’ COVID trends before winter as hospitalisations rise. *The UN health agency says many countries stopped reporting COVID data and called for more vaccinations and surveillance.*

The Telegraph: New Covid variant pirola ‘spreading’ in the community First case in UK was detected last month and an outbreak in a care home in Norfolk has been reported.

Epidemiological update: COVID-19 transmission in the EU/EEA, SARS-CoV-2 variants, and public health considerations for Autumn 2023: In recent weeks, signals of SARS-CoV-2 transmission have increased from previously very low levels in the EU/EEA. Factors unrelated to the genetic evolution of SARS-CoV-2 likely contributed to observed increases in epidemiological indicators, such as large gatherings and increased travel during the seasonal holidays, as well as waning levels of immunological protection against infection – but not severe disease – in the population.

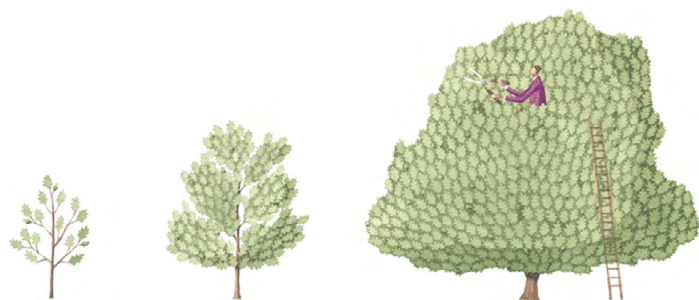
Nonetheless, SARS-CoV-2 remains capable of acquiring mutations that facilitate its continued circulation at unpredictable times throughout the year. Recently observed increases in SARS-CoV-2 transmission have coincided with the emergence and subsequent dominance of a group of related Omicron sub-lineages, XBB.1.5-like variants carrying the F456L mutation.

The Guardian: The vaccine campaign against Covid-19 has just been brought forward by a month in the face of changes in the disease’s behaviour.

Norfolk.gov.uk: Covid outbreak in care home: Interim Director of Public Health Stuart Lines said: “We have been working closely with the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) in their support to manage an outbreak of Covid-19 in a Norfolk care home.

How long are you contagious with COVID?

People with moderate or severe COVID-19 should isolate through at least day 10. Those with severe COVID-19 may remain infectious beyond 10 days and may need to extend isolation for up to 20 days.



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darryl parkin

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The Tree Agency

The Local Picture Postcard Column Part 213

By Alan Winter

The Victoria Inn – East Sheen

Let's have a look at the Victoria, a gastro-pub with six hotel rooms, it is tucked away between East Sheen centre and Richmond Park at 10, West Temple Sheen SW 14.

An independent Inn since 1888, The Victoria today serves locals and passers-by all day long. From breakfast after the school run to the must-book brunch at weekends, from lazy lunches to award winning à la carte dinners and of course a famous Sunday roast.



I haven't managed to track down any very old postcards of this pub but have found three which date from the 1950's to the 1960's.

I like the postcard where the pub is covered in snow. We don't see that too often these days do we?

This column aims to cover the whole of the London Borough

of Richmond Upon Thames with illustrations that originally appeared as postcards. There are already 213 columns available in the Tribunes archive sector going back to 2016. You will be surprised at what's already there. If you want me to focus on any specific buildings, parks, areas etc, then just send me an email.

I am always looking for old postcards, so if you have any that are sitting unwanted in a drawer, in a box in the loft or the garage or under a bed, do contact me on 07875 578398 or by email to

alanwinter192@hotmail.com I would like to see them and I pay cash!



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Teddington RNLI boat naming ceremony

Report and images by Doug Goodman

The naming and launch of a new boat for The Royal National Lifeboat Institution took place last Saturday at Teddington. The D Class boat, named 'Alderman Penny Shelton,' was donated by local resident Hilary Saw in memory of her sister who died in 2021. Penny Shelton held several positions on local councils culminating as mayor of Kingston. In recognition of her dedication and service to others she was made an Honorary Alderman of the borough.



Welcome from the Sea Cadets



Guests at the Dedication

Opening the dedication ceremony on a very warm morning, Tim Ody, chair of the lifeboat management group welcomed assembled guests. Jim Islam an RNLI trustee accepted the boat from Hilary Saw. He recalled the 1356 launches of the Teddington lifeboat since 2002 which resulted in the saving of 23 lives. Operations manager Matt Allchurch accepted the lifeboat on behalf of the Teddington station. The new boat was blessed by Chaplain The Revd. Chris Kennedy with hymns by the Landmark Singers. Guy and Justin Pendlebury christened D-874 Alderman Penny Shelton with vintage champagne. Head of Teddington RNLI fundraising, Amy Francis, gave a vote of thanks and closed the ceremony.



Tim Ody Chair of the Lifeboat Management Group



Hilary Saw Lifeboat Donor



Jim Islam, Trustee



Matt Allchurch, Operations Manager



Amy Francis, Head of Fundraising



Vintage Champagne



Blessing by The Revd Chris Kennedy



Christening by Guy and Justin Pendlebury



The Volunteers

The team of over 75 volunteers assembled for a photograph as the lifeboat was 'officially' launched into The Thames. Amongst the large number of guests were the mayors of Richmond and Kingston, local councillors, representatives of the emergency service and the Sea Cadets. An appreciative audience watched the lifeboat speeding along the river and then enjoyed refreshments in the boat house.



Launched



Full Speed



Crew Member Sam and Daughter Emily

Teddington will soon be the very first lifeboat station to acquire an all electric vessel marking a key event in 2024 – the 200th anniversary of The Royal National Lifeboat Institution.



Support The RNLI

Twickenham Museum Open Day

No 25 The Embankment throughout time. Find out more at 11, 12, 1 and 2pm this Saturday 9th September where as part of Open House Festival, Museum Manager Ricky Pound will be providing 10-minute introduction talks. Free entry.



The museum will be open on Saturday 9th September between 11 and 3pm. No need to book! www.twickenham-museum.org.uk



Jonathan Hulley visits the Twickenham & Richmond Tribune

On Sunday 3rd September Jonathan Hulley (Conservative Parliamentary Spokesperson for Twickenham) visited the Tribune. Jonathan was accompanied by Elizabeth Foster, his Campaign Manager.

Jonathan talked about some of his “Tell Jonathan” campaigns, including concerns at the impact of South Western Railway proposals to shut some window ticket offices.



ZIPPOS CIRCUS PRESENTS

NOMADS

TWICKENHAM: 13th TO 18th SEPTEMBER

Now on a nationwide tour, **Zippos Circus** stops off in south-west London to visit **Twickenham**. The 2023 Zippos production **Nomads** features an international cast of talented circus performers guaranteed to entertain the whole family. The famous circus company bring their new show to **Twickenham Green TW2 5TU** from Wednesday 13^h to Monday 18th September.

The show celebrates the circuses' nomadic way of life. For centuries, generations of artists have wandered from town to town to entertain and enthral people.



Headlining the show are the **Temujin Troupe** – special guests from the Mongolian Steppes. They perform hand voltege, skipping and aerial acts. Mongolia is one of the last places where a nomadic culture is the norm. Nearly half the country's population lives this lifestyle.



Our *Nomads* show also has acts returning by popular demand including the legendary motorbike **Globe of Death** from Brazil. There's also fast juggling, **knife throwing** and whip cracking from the Czech Republic, and fearless feats of **daredevil aerial artistry** from UK talent Jackie Louise. Audiences always love the high-energy acrobatics from the Kenyan **Timbuktu Tumblers**, and we have a thrilling **Wheel of Death** act from Colombia.

Our international cast continues with a breathtakingly elegant performance on a **vertical pole** from Moroccan-born Ibrahim. Ludvick from the Czech Republic has a fantastic **Rola Rola** act, there's nail-biting **Swinging Trapeze** with Alexander from Spain, plus **Ukrainian dancers** Diana and Sophia.

UK **comedy** star Whimmie Walker will get everyone laughing. And last, but by no means least, audiences adore the acrobatics, aerial acts and comedy of the inspirational Brazilian artist **Paulo Dos Santos**. Standing just over one metre tall, he always delivers a sensational display of skill and daring.

Join the Zippos Circus troupe of nomads in a delightful, fast-paced show as they stop off on a UK-wide tour of the entire length of the UK from the south of England to the north of Scotland.

Ticket prices for the 2-hour show:

FIRST NIGHT ONLY – all tickets £9 (upgrade to Ringside for an extra £3)

2–14 years from £13

Adults from £17

Children who haven't reached their 2nd birthday go free provided they sit on a parent/guardian's lap.

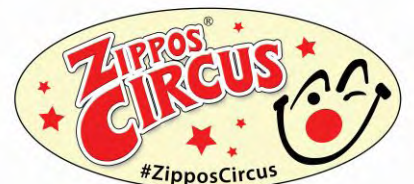
Advance booking is strongly recommended.

Book online and check tour dates at zippos.co.uk/tickets

There is a £1.50 booking fee for all online bookings made via SEE TICKETS.

Phone Enquiries: 07774 811 811

Ticket enquiries only. No telephone booking is available.



Investigation to trace Daniel Khalife continues

We continue to appeal for the public to help us locate Daniel Abed Khalife, who escaped from Wandsworth prison.

There is a significant operation under way led by the Metropolitan Police Service's Counter Terrorism Command, involving more than 150 officers and staff.

They are working closely with colleagues in police services across the country, the Ministry of Justice and a wide range of Government agencies and other partners.

Commander Dominic Murphy, who leads the investigation, asked for anyone with information about Khalife that may help us to get in touch urgently.

He said: "Since yesterday, over 150 officers and staff have been working around the clock on apprehending Khalife.

"We have issued a nationwide alert that has resulted in increased security at our ports and borders, however currently there have not been any confirmed sightings.

"I recognise and am fully aware of the impact these measures are having on the public. We are working to ensure as minimal disruption as possible.

"It is crucial for the public to help us with this search and to call us immediately if they have any information on the whereabouts of Khalife."

Khalife was declared missing at 07:50hrs on 6 September. The Met was notified at 08:15hrs and took immediate action to track down a delivery van that had left the prison.

At 08:37, police officers stopped the van in Upper Richmond Road, near the junction with Carlton Drive. Officers spoke to the driver and carried out a thorough search. Police discovered strapping on the underside of the van.

Currently, we believe Khalife was hiding underneath the van and used this strapping as part of his escape.

Officers have traced the route of the van after it left Wandsworth Prison and are appealing to anyone who might have seen the van on this route to get in touch.

The van left HMP Wandsworth at 07:32 taking a right turn out of gates onto Heathfield Road. It then turned left onto Magdalen Road. The van then turned left onto Trinity Road (A214) up to the Wandsworth Roundabout. It took the first exit onto Swandon Way (A217).

It then turned left onto Old York Road (past Wandsworth Town station) then left onto Fairfield Street, right onto Wandsworth High Street (A3) staying straight ahead onto West Hill and then on to Upper Richmond Road (A205).

The Met has continued to focus its efforts in the London area, particularly around this route, as well as the Kingston area, where Khalife is known to have connections.

Khalife's previous military experience may mean he is more aware of efforts to apprehend him.

While he is not assessed to pose a threat to the wider public we advise anyone who seems him not to approach him and instead call 999 immediately.



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

Teddington and Lock Cut footbridge nighttime access

From Monday 11 September, there will be no access overnight across Teddington Lock footbridges from 9.30pm to 6.30am, Monday to Friday.

A bespoke access system has been developed that allows the majority of works to be completed, whilst maintaining access across both bridges. However, due to the restricted width of the bridges, when working on the inside of the parapets, we will have to restrict access to the bridges. To limit disruption these restrictions will take place overnight.

There will be no access via the bridges overnight on weekdays from 11 September 2023.

The nighttime works will take place when required from 9.30pm to 6.30am Monday-Friday. Works will not take place overnight on Saturday or Sunday.

Alternative routes

For those who would normally cross Teddington/Lock Cut Bridge as part of their commute to access rail services to and from Teddington, the following bus routes serve both Richmond (rail and underground services) and Kingston (rail services):

371 – serving Ham

- operates every 8-10mins, approx. 05:30 and 01:00 (Mon-Sat) and every 11-12mins, approx. 06:30 to 01:00 on Sunday
- Bus stops located on Sandy Lane, Ham Street, Ashburnham Road, Broughton Avenue and Dukes Avenue

65 – serving Ham Common/Ham Parade

- Operates approx. every 12mins between approx.. 05:30 and 00:50
- Bus stops located along the A307 (Richmond Road, Upper Ham Road, Petersham Road)

N65 (night service) – serving Ham Common/Ham Parade

- Operates approx. every 30mins between approx. 01:00 and 05:00
- Bus stops located along the A307 (Richmond Road, Upper Ham Road, Petersham Road)

For onward bus connections to Teddington

- from Kingston you can use routes 281 and 285 or the SL7 Superloop

For onward bus connections to Twickenham

- from Richmond you can use route 490

Full route information and timetables for bus, rail and underground services can be viewed [on the TfL website](#).

Find out more: [Visit our website](#) for the latest information.

If you experience any difficulties with the works, please contact our Project Team by email on teddingtonbridges@richmond.gov.uk. For emergencies affecting public safety outside office hours or at weekends, please contact Careline on 020 8744 2442.



Teddington Society Coffee Morning

Come and join us for hot drinks and pastries at Shambles Restaurant, High Street, Teddington, on **Tuesday 19th September from 10am to noon**, £8.80 each payable directly to Shambles on the day. Both members and non-members very welcome.

Teddington Society



<https://www.teddingtonsociety.org.uk/>

Teddington Society Horticultural Group talks

An evening talk organised by our horticultural group, **8pm on Tuesday, 3rd October**

Our Teddington Society Horticultural Group is organising a series of evening talks for everyone interested in gardens and gardening. For our first event, we're thrilled to be able to welcome Andrew Halstead, author, lecturer and retired Principal Entomologist for the Royal Horticultural Society. Andrew's talk is entitled "Encouraging wildlife in your garden - how you can develop your garden to benefit wildlife without turning your garden into a weed-filled wilderness."

Teddington Society



Entrance fee is £5 per adult (card only, no cash). Advance tickets can be purchased on TICKETSOURCE at

www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-teddington-society/t-avlmap and find out more details on the gardens page of the Teddington Society website at www.teddingtonsociety.org.uk

Teddington, Hampton Wick & South Teddington Community Conversation

Meet your local Councillors for an engaging and interactive Community Conversation in Teddington, South Teddington, and Hampton Wick!

This in-person event will take place on **Tuesday, 12 September 2023 at 6:30pm**. We invite residents, local businesses, and community organisations to come together and discuss ideas, concerns, and initiatives that can help enhance our vibrant neighbourhoods.

Location: 17 Church Road Teddington, Richmond Upon Thames, TW11 8PF. 6.30pm registration for a 7pm start. The event will finish around 9pm. Attendance is free, but registration is essential, as in person places are limited. Attendees who have not registered may not be admitted. More info and registration [HERE](#)



BCA BARNES FOOD FAIR 2023
Saturday 16th September
10am - 5pm on Barnes Green

Sponsored by **savills**

Buy tickets here!

BCA Barnes Community Association

2023

The poster features illustrations of a food stand with a chef, a person sitting at a table, and a QR code. Musical notes are scattered around the scene.

Friday The 25th - What really happened after the Springboks match? (Part 1)

From our North Twickenham correspondent, Francis (Mac) McInerney



Friday 25th August was marked by chaotic scenes after the Springboks v All Blacks match in Twickenham stadium.

To describe crowd behaviour as 'poor' does not fairly represent the situation that developed after the match.

Whitton Road was jam-packed with fans having no way through to Twickenham Station, large numbers of visitors reported urinating in residential streets and gardens and CSP stewards who were generally ineffective in keeping hundreds of rugby visitors out of the residential side roads.

Residents came out onto the streets to usher CSP stewards back to their posts and to try to persuade hordes of visitors to leave.

I run a community group in Twickenham and I was alerted to disorder on the streets just before midnight when I received messages by email from friends and members of my Heatham Alliance group.

The passage of crowds heading for Twickenham Station had been brought to a complete halt and the queue of departing

rugby fans was backed up along Whitton Road towards the A316.

Within 24 hours I received 20 or more emails from Heatham Alliance members and other residents, some with photos and video footage.

In spite of complaints made to the RFU there has been an astonishing lack of coverage of the unacceptable behaviour by many rugby fans, the appalling experiences that local residents endured, poor response by the CSP security firm and the lack of Police presence.

The aim of this article is to provide an independent and informed view of what residents saw and experienced on 'Friday the 25th' and to offer objective comments on what could be done to avoid such disorder in the future.



The anti-social behaviour was out of control

The most common complaints were about the CSP security stewards engaged by the RFU

and the offensive behaviour by dozens or even scores of visitors who treated our residential roads and private gardens as public toilets.

Finding their way to Twickenham Station blocked, many of the fans tried unsuccessfully to find alternative routes through the side streets and in many instances the CSP stewards just stood back to let them through the crowd control barriers.

Fans were allowed into the residential side roads, some of them looking for toilets. They were able to cut through the gardens of the elderly care home at Perrin Court, much to the distress of the residents there.

These are just a couple of the complaints I have read, typical of feedback from other residents:

“It wasn’t one or two people being let through, it was droves of people, I’d say 100’s and so many reports about the urinating.” “We had hundreds of people walking and shouting . . . and urinating in people’s gardens.” And that was just in one of the roads off Whitton Road.

In Heathfield North and Grimwood Road the residents came out onto the streets to try and calm things down and persuade visitors to leave and stay away, with some success and some abuse from visitors.



“They definitely need to be sending someone and quick as it’s bad!”

The crowd was out of control and a Police presence was needed. However, the ‘semi-official view’ was that it is unlikely anyone – i.e. including the Police - would reach the spot before the offender had left.

Unfortunately this opinion doesn’t take account of how urinating offenders behave as a group with others joining in and cases where a Police presence could have prevented further offences taking place.

One call to the RFU’s helpline did result in Police being sent to prevent entry into Grimwood Road.

The Police presence was welcomed by residents but in some other roads Police arrived after the disorder had subsided and crowds were already dispersed.

Questions have been asked about a communication channel for residents to summon an urgent Police presence on RFU event days, difficulties accessing the RFU’s community helpline and communications channels for CSP stewards to call for assistance.

Proper supervision of CSP stewards and supervision of the overall CSP operation were missing and instructions and training for the stewards proved to be inadequate. All of these have been recurring issues for a long time.

Next week: Part 2 –
Friday The 25th, A Perfect Storm

Mac founded his Heatham Alliance community group and Neighbourhood Watch in 2014 and membership is now approaching 600 strong.

Francis (Mac) McInerny –
Heatham.Alliance@gmail.com

OPPOSE THAMES WATER'S “SEWAGE FOR WATER” SCHEME

On **9th September starting 10.30am** come and support the many walkers, runners, swimmers, residents and other water sports clubs on Ham Lands (meet at the Burnell Avenue/Dysart Avenue end)

- Crucially, be part of our Ham Lands and River photo and media event between 10.45am and 11.00am where those on the river and those on the land come together to show the breadth and depth of local community opposition.
- Understand why Thames Water's Teddington DRA (Direct River Abstraction) Scheme to swap treated sewage for river water is the wrong solution to the challenge. Learn about the better, greener and cheaper alternatives that are being ignored.
- Hear why the level of environmental destruction and degrading being proposed to the unique Ham Lands and River environment must be stopped.
- Listen to individual local community and river groups about why they are so concerned about this scheme.

You will also have the opportunity to ask our “expert volunteers” any personal questions about the proposals. They have ploughed through the thousands of pages of documentation to unearth the details of how the proposals will impact locally.

Tea/coffee/soft drinks and cake available.

The event finishes around 12.30pm.

www.savehamlandsandriver.org.uk

SAVE HAM LANDS
& RIVER

Richmond Lacrosse Club is looking for new junior members

Richmond Lacrosse Club has grown again this year and wants new members to try out this fun, fast and different game.

The under 8s and 10s will kick-off from September through to December. The under 12s and 13s will embark on a season of competitive fixtures running each Sunday during term time until March.

The club is chaired by international player Tom Roche, who leads the boy's coaching. A variety of professional-standard coaches, including full-time staff, volunteers in teaching and social care professionals all help to run the club.

The club is a charitable organisation, looking to grow the game of lacrosse and teach kids about team values in a fun and dynamic setting.

Find out more about [how to join Richmond Lacrosse Club](#).



Over 500 new EV charging points coming to Richmond upon Thames this year

Richmond Council will install 525 new electric vehicle (EV) charging points across Richmond upon Thames. The borough already has 420 charging points, so the new additions will bring the total to 945.

CLlr Alexander Ehmann, Chair of Richmond Council's Transport and Air Quality Committee said: "Electric vehicles are becoming more and more popular, with nearly two in every five new car sales being electric, but access to charging can be a barrier. Our residents do rely on cars due to the limited public transport network in south west London, so by expanding the charging network we hope that even more people will choose to go electric and help improve the air quality in our borough.

"For those who are wanting to try out an EV, the Zipcar Flex car club operating in the borough offers electric options. And for those who are having to scrap their car to comply with the ULEZ expansion, the Council is offering financial support for you to try car clubs through our Good Move Scheme."



The charge points, installed directly into existing street lamp posts, charge at a speed of up to 5kW and take less than two hours to install. The rollout is planned for key residential locations, allowing easy access to on-street charging, where the majority of residents park on streets with no access to off-street parking.

The installation and ongoing management will be carried out by ubitricity and will start this year. Drivers will be able to pay by debit or credit card or by using the Shell Recharge app. All live sites can be found on [ZapMap](#).

The [Richmond Good Move Scheme](#) offers one-year free membership and £50 driving credit for Enterprise car club or Zipcar to residents who commit to scrapping their non-ULEZ compliant car. Other options including public transport tickets and bike hire are also available.

All ability cycling sessions return to Twickenham

We are once again teaming up with Bikeworks to bring accessible cycling sessions back to Kneller Gardens throughout September.

The sessions are suitable for anyone who wants to cycle in a park.

[Bikeworks](#) will bring a range of adapted cycles designed for people with learning, physical and/or sensory disabilities to enjoy cycling.

These include:

- Single and tandem tricycles
- Side-by-side cycles for two or more people
- Wheelchair platform cycles
- Go-kart style recumbent cycles

After being shown how to use the accessible cycles, you will also have the chance to go on a short ride to explore the park and linked green spaces.

To take part, please book onto one of the sessions, which will start near the pavilion in Kneller Gardens. There will be instructors there to help you, and carers are welcome to join as well.

The remaining sessions will be taking place on:

- Wednesday 13 September 10.30am to 12.30pm
- Wednesday 20 September 10.30am to 12.30pm
- Wednesday 27 September 10.30am to 12.30pm

To book a 30 minute session contact Frances at outdoor.learning@outlook.com, or Lizzy at rise@richmond.gov.uk.



LO AND NO - A HEALTHY ALTERNATIVE

I don't know about you, but I'm conscious that we're drinking far more alcohol than we used to. So, with the autumnal evenings, and (dare I say it) the Festive Season on the horizon, now might be a good time to rein in a bit. I'm planning to cut back during the week, but not worry too much over the weekends, so I've been researching some excellent new no or low alcohol alternative drinks. Interestingly, one has to be careful if, for medical reasons, any degree of alcohol must be avoided: do check the label, as some that are labelled alcohol free have a tiny amount, hardly discernible for most, but could be unpleasant for some people.

Clean G is the brainchild of Spencer Matthews, who offers a selection of premium non-alcoholic spirits that taste just like the real thing across gin, rum, tequila, vodka and whiskey, offering an alcohol-free alternative without compromising on taste or social interaction. Clean G is the company's take on London Dry Gin. It has notes of crisp juniper, balanced with botanicals - and it's rather delicious. It's won a gold award at the IWSC too and is surprisingly reasonably priced at £16 a bottle online [here](#) or at major supermarkets. And it's currently on offer in Waitrose for just £12 (till Sept 26)



To South Africa for **Mahala**, and its latest product, **Mahala Botanical Amber**, a very smooth, smoky, slightly spicy partner to its original **Mahala Botanical Classic**. Created and co-founded by respected Master Distiller Danielle Schoeman at her Donã Distillery in Cape Town, Mahala is crafted using a unique, triple-distillation process, achieving a depth of flavour and finish that is notoriously hard to achieve within an alcohol-free spirit. The botanicals used in Mahala Botanical are Cloves, Honey Bush (exclusive to the Western Cape), Orange Peel, Angelica Root, Buchu (exclusive to the Western Cape), Cardamom, Cassia Bark, Peppercorn, Pelargonium Citronella, as well as the addition of Chillies, natural Smoke and Oak extract in the case of Mahala Botanical Amber. I like it mixed with ginger ale, but you can also mix it with tonic or soda. It really has a unique taste and is delicious: on the first sip warm spices with chilli and smoke, followed by a long, warm, and spicy finish. Around £24 a bottle [here](#) or The Whisky Exchange or online alcohol free retailers



The Danes have brought an excellent range of alcohol-free wines and spirits to the UK. **ISH** offers a very broad range of award-winning non-alcoholic drinks. The drinks have an excellent 'mouthfeel' and the spirits make really good cocktails. The range includes: Château del ISH Sparkling White - based on a de-alcoholised blend of Pinot Blanc and Silvaner grapes; Château del ISH Sparkling Rosé based on a de-alcoholised blend of Merlot and Pinot Noir grapes; ISH Caribbean Spiced Spirit; ISH London Botanical Spirit; ISH Mexican Agave Spirit; Canned cocktails - Spritz, Lime Daiquiri, G&T and Mojito. The company also sensibly suggests that you can mix them with other 'full fat' spirits, thus reducing your alcohol consumption. More info and to buy [here](#) but also available at other alco-free retailers such as The Wise Bartender. From around £2.50 for a canned cocktail.





France's foremost 0.0% wine brand, **moderato**, has recently launched its range of internationally renowned, all-natural wines in the UK. **moderato** uses classic techniques to deliver a range of characterful critically-acclaimed wines. The red, white, rosé and sparkling cuvées are initially available through London's **Club Soda** Tasting Room, Shop & Bar in Covent Garden, on their website for national delivery, and **Wise Bartender**. Carefully de-alcoholised and blended to reach the desired expression for each cuveé, the resulting wines honour the profile of the original grape, while offering a low-sugar, low-calorie option. Retailing at £10 each, moderato's range of still wines includes a dry white with aromas of honey balanced with fresh acidity, a crisp rosé with bright citrus and spring fruits, and a lightly oaked red with notes of candied red berries. At £11, moderato sparkling has a rounded body with soft almond on the nose.

The French aren't the only ones launching in the UK this year: The first non-alcoholic wine from Chile, **Sinzero**, is newly available here. The range includes four different wines, so whether you are a fan of red, rosé, white or bubbles, there is something to suit – and all are available now from **DryDrinker.com**. Hailing from Santiago, surrounded by the snow-capped Andes, the Sinzero range has four products, all of which are under 0.5% alcohol. Each variety has been carefully crafted by their winemaker, Paula Bottero, to ensure they are tasty as traditional wines. The wine is separated from the alcohol leaving the colours, flavours and antioxidant properties. A Chardonnay, a rosé, a sparkling and a Cabernet Sauvignon comprise the range. Prices start at £11.25 per bottle for the Sinzero red and white, £11.99 for the rosé and £13.76 per bottle for sparkling.



The Italians get a look in too, with **Sea Change Free Albatross range**. Using the Glera grapes (as in Prosecco) these multi award winning wines have a bright, straw-gold colour and hints of elderflower, crisp apple and summer mint. Free's production method has no artificial additives or colouring and only 27 calories per 100ml. Also, the production approach is such that the grapes are picked early and chilled, so never ferment. So it is a real 0.0% drink. This award-winning, ethically sourced, wine directly supports global ocean conservation projects, raising over £300,000 for ocean charities to date. Sea Change also has innovative packaging: no plastic wraps around bottle tops, natural corks and labels, a mix of paper from certified sustainable forests and grape waste. Available online [here](#) for £10.99 a bottle.

Citizen Spritz is reimagining adult drinks with its new range of innovative non-alcoholic spritz mixes. Carefully crafted with over 40 natural ingredients, expertly blended and layered, to provide depth, complexity and taste. The spritzes deliver an intense flavour experience, balancing vibrant flavours with that elusive warming alcohol tingle. There are four varieties: Bitter Orange; Cool Lime; Pink Grapefruit and Passion Fruit. I love the Bitter Orange and just a very small amount is needed to produce an excellent bitters-style cocktail. £20 for a 50cl bottle from Threshers or from Citizen Spritz direct [here](#) where there is a pack of any four for £60.



Join Crusader Travel, Piper Violet and Tsaretta Spice in the Square

Saturday 16th September 11:00am

By Bruce Lyons

This Famous Brass Band is here to support the Dutch Rowers in the Great River Race and will be playing at the finish by Ham House in the Afternoon. But you can have a rare treat here in the Square, from 11.00 thru 12.00. Join us for a bit of Dutch Joy.

Tartouffe is a brass band from Breda Holland and founded in 1974. Consists of 18 wonderful musicians.



Tartouffe was a carnival band in the beginning and was called “de schijnheiligen” which means something like “the hypocrites/imposter”. During the 70’s and 80’s period, there were a lot of carnival bands in Holland and it was normal to play an instrument.

In 1987, the band decided to change the repertoire to a more modern style and turned their name into “Tartouffe”. Which still means the same regarding the imposter in Moileire play “Tartuffe”.

They took the name Tartouffe because of the better pronunciation, but the link was there.

From that time, Tartouffe distinguished itself by its original choice of music. In fact, they were one of the first to play rock and pop songs, as a brass band. The band is fortunate to have bandmember Liesbeth Borst to write and arrange their music. That’s why the band has got his unique sound. Liesbeth has been a member of the band since the early beginning.

They played at several occasions all over Europe and visited France, Germany and played a number of times in Belgium. Although they don’t play the typical carnival songs, they still perform during the carnival period. Recent highlights are the performances at there local pub “the Beyerd” in Breda, where they perform for a large crowd during the carnival parade.

Let them entertain you and feel the joy of music. Not only the joy of performing for a live audience but feel the fun they are having themselves as well. They have a wide repertoire from Deep Purple’s Smoke on the water, Walking on sunshine from Katrina and the Waves, up to I will follow him from the film Sister act. Sometimes jazzy, sometimes pop and always in for a smile.

Extracts from the 25th anniversary book of an internationally acclaimed internet project from Twickenham

By Teresa Read



ASIA

"I really appreciate your efforts to educate the world objectively and comprehensively about China, a country with over 5000 years history" - **Embassy of the People's Republic Of China**

"Your website is just amazing and really well structured with so much useful information that one would like to go to every page at once because all of them are so interesting" - **Environment Programme of the Government of Uzbekistan supported by UNDP**

"I was so impressed by the abundant and detailed information on the world provided by World InfoZone" - **Seoul Metropolitan Government**

Correspondence by email with South Korea took place in the run up to the FIFA World Cup in May and June 2002 when South Korea and Japan both provided venues. It was quite an exciting time with a lot of interest in World InfoZone from Seoul.

At this point, I was in contact with Roshan, a reporter for IRIN News, who often sent photographs for various countries illustrating on the spot news. However, there were many individuals and agencies keen to provide information and photographs throughout Asia, including government departments, and even a prime minister's office.

All this interaction and information went to build up a very comprehensive overview of Asia, illustrated with some very exceptional photographs. Of course, it must be remembered that it was an early time on the internet in respect of the number of websites online, with people keen to take part in the project; our pages of the Hong Kong visit going online in 1997, at a time when there were relatively few websites worldwide.



Asian countries on the WorldInfoZone website:

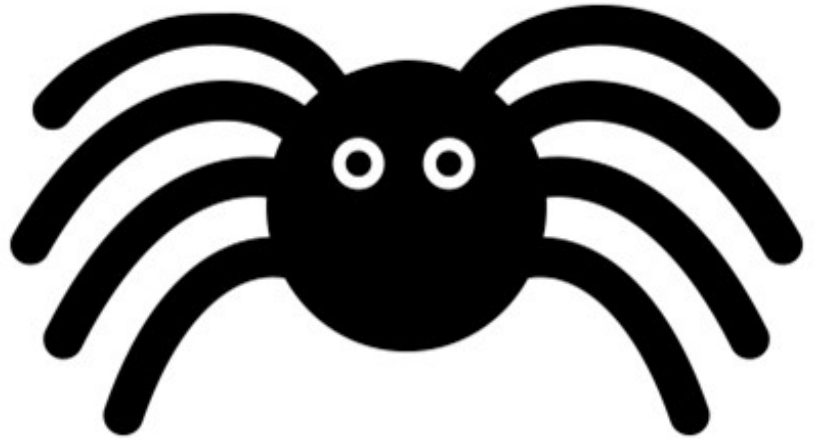
Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Timor-Leste, Georgia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia (and Bali), Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Vietnam.

So it's September...

By Deep Patel

~ Through the Eyes of a Twickenham Shopkeeper ~

Ahhh September...the start of the academic year, the kids are back to their routines, the roads in Twickers are jam packed with commuters still with a spring in their steps and still freshly bronzed from their recent holidays in Turkey, Greece and the likes (or fresh from the tanning shop in Twickenham)...but what else have my customers been talking about this past week?...SPIDERS...the start of September also marks the start of the UK house spider season...where we will see the eight-legged little guys coming into our homes until mid October...but why?



Well, it's simple really...they are looking for love...yes that's right...there's you getting all anxious and fixated that they are interested in YOU...well I don't mean to burst your bubble, but they couldn't care less about you...they are searching for a mate, someone to start a family with and share good times too...quite like many of us...so let's try to go easy on the little guys can we? Customers have been saying how they don't like killing spiders...they just don't want them in their faces!! So what can we do to help this conundrum?

Before you reach for your slipper to clout it one and be done with it, spare a thought for just how amazing these little creatures are...if you thought "a dog is man's best friend", think again...it's these little critters...spider webbing is currently being structurally examined to replicate intricate weaves to create parachutes and bullet-proof vests for human use (no I am not joking) and it is a fact that if you had spider webbing around the thickness of a pencil, it would easily stop a car in motion as it is 5 times stronger than a strand of steel of the same thickness (again, no joke)...our best friend is therefore not a dog...it is from now onwards the common house spider...they never actually harm us and instead stay hidden (most of the time) spinning their funnel shaped webs (not like the normal webs we see) to catch little ticks that may cause us allergies...so they are literally helping us to keep our homes healthy and clean...like a personal cleaner that never asks for wages...what more could you ask? Feel bad about grabbing your slipper now don't you... (if you still don't feel bad then you are a monster and will have bad karma...just saying).

So now back to the focus of this article...if 99.9% of the spiders in Twickenham are COMPLETELY harmless to us humans, then why the heck are humans still so damn terrified of them?...Well the roots go back to the good old brain and our upbringing...from a young age we have been conditioned by films, stories, TV and festivals like Halloween to see spiders as "bad" or "dangerous" or even evil...so we grow up with an irrational fear of them and end up s**t scared of them...never mind the fact that we tower over them as giants a million times bigger

than them, we still think that they are gonna “get us”?! What are we like?! I mean really?!? Never mind...the past is in the past...let’s make a positive change today and no longer kill off our fellow spiders with a new found respect for them and in the interest of good karma for ourselves...

So how can we stop being so terrified of the little gits I hear you ask? The solution is really quite simple...STOP TELLING KIDS EVERY LITTLE INSECT IS GOING TO ATTACK THEM! (obviously if you are reading this in a tropical country then you should also teach children to act with caution around certain species but also still respect them).

If we familiarize our kids with them and teach them that insects are also living beings with families and feelings then our kids will grow up with a level of empathy that even Mother Teresa would be proud of...and ultimately this would lead to a kinder community and loving world...imagine...no hate...no wars...ok I am not saying by any means that if we learn not to kill spiders then all the wars will stop...but it is definitely a step in the right direction for sure...more compassion (yes even towards the little things) creates more love...isn’t that something every parent and human should be encouraging right now? Learn that we are NOT the only inhabitants of this precious world and that we should respectively learn to live and let live... (then you will definitely have good karma).

I am a great enthusiast of good karma and am asking that we all resort to kinder ways to stop spiders in our homes going forward...if you have to put a house spider outside, remember they CANNOT live in the cold of our winters (hence they are “house spiders”) so always put them near a garage or where they can live happily away from you but in peace. Like I always say, even picking up a slug off a pavement with a leaf and moving it over a wall counts as a good deed... choosing a kind way to stop ants (like talcum powder or peppermint oil around where they come but not on them) counts as a good deed too!

Avoid sweeping/washing the garden patio too often to help save countless tiny almost invisible little lives that live there (particularly under large pots in the garden, hence I say gently lift the pots if you need to move them rather than dragging them to avoid crushing little lives). So that just about wraps up another article from me...the key to our own happiness lies in the happiness of other life forms...until the next time...have a lovely week and look after the smaller life forms and the universe will look after you.

Remember...

“A spider is more scared of us than we are of them...so show some love”

MY CREATURE-KINDNESS TIP OF THE WEEK...

STOP FOXES, RATS, MICE & SQUIRRELS KINDLY (GOOD KARMA):

Place empty bowls filled with white vinegar around places where you don’t want them to come...they will go without you having to harm them...use humane mouse & rat traps and release them back out in parkland areas. Use electronic plug in deterrents with good reviews around your house to stop them coming (the smell of white vinegar also stops ants kindly). For ANY specific tip to stop any “pest” or insect KINDLY (for good karma/blessings), email me: thedee Patel@gmail.com or join my Facebook page: “KIND WORLD

Richmond Film Society - New Season Commences on 19 September

Richmond Film Society's 60th season of World Cinema begins on 19 September, comprising a series of acclaimed films from eighteen countries in Europe, Africa, North and South America, Asia and the Middle East. The 19-film programme is as follows:

2023

- 19 September Broker (South Korea)
- 3 October The Night of the Twelfth (France)
- 17 October Joyland (Pakistan)
- 31 October Lunana: A Yak in the Classroom (Bhutan)
- 14 November The Gravedigger's Wife (Somalia)
- 28 November Plan 75 (Japan)
- 12 December Under the Fig Trees (Tunisia)

2024

- 16 January Cairo Conspiracy (Egypt)
- 30 January Zana (Kosovo)
- 13 February 1976 (Chile)
- 27 February Wings of Desire (West Germany)
- 12 March Utama (Bolivia)
- 26 March The Beasts (Spain)
- 9 April Return to Dust (China)
- 23 April The Blue Caftan (Morocco)
- 7 May Our River, Our Sky (Iraq)
- 21 May One Fine Morning (France)
- 4 June The Whistlers (Romania)
- 25 June Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret (USA)



Non-Member Tickets - £5

Although membership for Season 60 is closed, around 60 non-member tickets will be available for each screening at £5 (£3 for full-time students) and can be purchased in advance from The Exchange's Box Office - in person, by telephone on 020 8240 2399 or online at <http://exchangetwickenham.co.uk/events/> Should any remaining non-member tickets be available on the night of screenings, these can be purchased from The Exchange's box office on the ground floor by contactless payment.

Venue - The Exchange

Films are screened at The Exchange, the community facility opposite Twickenham Station at 75 London Road, Twickenham, TW1 1BE. Films are shown at 8:00pm sharp on alternate Tuesdays, with no trailers and no ads. The venue's facilities include a very comfortable, tiered 285-seat theatre, lifts, disabled access and a bar. On screening nights, the bar is open from 7.00pm and remains open after the film. Drinks can be taken into the auditorium and coffee, tea and snacks are also available.

Richmond Film Society

Richmond Film Society was formed in 1963 and has since screened over 860 films. Its objective was, and remains, to bring our community the very best in World Cinema. The seasons run from September to June and attract an aggregate audience approaching 4,500. Online film notes are provided for each screening and audience feedback is obtained.

For further information on RFS or the films, see <http://www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk>

RICHMOND FILM SOCIETY COMPETITION

Win a pair of tickets for any film of your choice in Richmond Film Society's 60th Season of World Cinema, which runs from 19 September 2023 to 25 June 2024.

Competition Question

'Jack Nicholson is the male actor with the most Oscar nominations' - is that (1) True or (2) False ?

Please send your answers to contact@twickenhamtribune.com, placing your answer in the email subject line. Correct answers will be drawn to determine the winning entry after the closing date of 30 September.

For details of the full RFS programme, see <http://www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk>



WANTED!

Trustees for local charities



Richmond CVS Trustee Recruitment Evening

Wednesday 20 September 2023, 6pm - 8pm

Richmond & Hillcroft Adult Community College
Parkshot, Richmond, TW9 2RE

Come and meet some amazing organisations

Find out about their work & trustee opportunities



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Register for your free place now

Visit www.richmondcvcs.org.uk

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Céphale et Procris

Music by Élisabeth Jacquet de La Guerre, libretto by Joseph-François Duché de Vancy
Ensemble OrQuesta at the Arcola Theatre

Élisabeth Jacquet de La Guerre was the first woman to write a French opera, which makes her a perfect candidate for the Grimeborn Festival. Her opera is certainly no worse than those written Rameau – and sometimes better – but there is no getting away from the fact that French opera of the late 1690s was pretty stiff and stilted. The libretto is dreadful, starting with an allegorical prologue in praise of Louis XIV and never recovering, as all the characters, whether divine or human, do everything in their power to thwart the love of Céphale and Procris. They eventually succeed by convincing each of the lovers that the other is unfaithful, with the result that he accidentally kills her with an arrow. *Othello* it ain't.



The music feels pretty constrained as well, with an awful lot of recitative interspersed with airs that usually fail to blossom. The ensemble writing is more interesting than the solos, but unless you are a lover of the French baroque, it is always in danger of becoming dull.



It seems a bit of a waste of some extremely talented performers. Ensemble OrQuesta has some fine instrumentalists who were beautifully audible in this intimate auditorium. Kieran White (Céphale) has a beautiful high flexible tenor and did wonders in making this difficult music sound ingratiating. He is well matched by Poppy Shotts as Procris.

Marcio da Silva sings Arcas, as well as conducting and taking responsibility for the staging, lighting, set, costumes, and choreography. His talents are considerable but he spreads them far too thinly. He has far too many ideas – and not all of them work. And why choose to 'represent Céphale with female characteristics' when he still has a beard and occasionally loses his skirt for no good reason.

Read Patrick Shorrock's review at www.markaspen.com/2023/08/30/cephale-procris

Photography courtesy of Ensemble OrQuesta, image by François de Troy

Scavengers

by Bryan Oliver

Urban Wolves Theatre Company at The Etcetera Theatre

Strolling into *Scavengers*, with its deceptive and dark staging, you could be trespassing into somebody's dwelling. Sitting there at a table, fiddling between make-up and mobile, sits Zeb, who is about to take centre stage in a play which explores survival in a post-apocalyptic world that is closer-to-reality than you might hope.

Set within the murky confines of a tower block's basement, the play delves into the lives of three individuals battling against insurmountable odds to endure the aftermath of a major catastrophe. Wikki and Zeb are hiding from the relentless hunters – scavengers – of The Squire, an opportunist who has seized control over this hellish landscape, follows a combined crisis of climate and virus. A chance intrusion by Finn, another survivor desperately searching for sustenance, sends shockwaves through their precarious existence, as truths are gradually revealed. Amidst the backdrop of scarcity and danger, the characters are compelled to confront fears, desires, and the looming external threats that challenge their fragile limbo-like reality.



Oliver's script is performed with an impeccable tempo, which keeps the audience suitably unnerved throughout, capturing the urgency and tension of a world in a state of disarray. The effective use of darkness and candlelight heightens the atmosphere, enveloping the characters in an eerie ambiance that mirrors the uncertainty of their world.

The cast's skilled performances keep the tension whispering, as three human beings navigate unthinkable challenges. Matteo Piombino's extravagantly performed Finn, who turns from hushed timidity to eccentric humour, stands out, while Wikki is given a real grit by Neil Hobbs, creating a grounded and moral character. Grace Richardson perhaps has the hardest role with Zeb as the true centre of the story, yet manages to ebb and flow credibly in her relationships with the other characters.

Scavengers completely draws you into its bleak post-apocalyptic setting. Its uncertainty is unsettlingly close to reality, an unease that lingers even after leaving the theatre into a London darkness permeated by softly suburban streetlights.

Read Brent Muirhouse's review at www.markaspen.com/2023/08/19/scavengers

Photography courtesy of Urban Wolves

The Camden Fringe Festival Round-Up

The Camden Fringe 2023 has come to an end. Here are a final few offerings

An Evening with Gene Montague by Lewis King and Robert Thomas (Hot Car Vodka Collective)
The interviewer at a talk show has been replaced by the incisive Aubrey, putting the interviewee, actor Gene Montague, on a wrong footing, and into downward spiral. Montague (Woody Franklyn) is clearly on the way down, if he was even up there at all. His exposé is simultaneously cruel and funny. A dramatic sequence against the soundtrack of *Gardener's Question Time* is ingenious, as it goads the plot towards the climatic revelation.

Gaslight by Shaira Yasmin Berg (CADS)
What would happen if “life-threatening physical wounds were treated the same as psychological trauma”? In this exploration relationships fall apart abruptly. Arianna Munoz’s sensitive direction uncovers emotions, accusations and betrayals. The roles of five students and their tutor are played with subtlety and skill, in highly watchable performances. None of them comes away unscathed in a tight script that build up to the tragic climax of this tense quick-paced drama.



Wife Material by Heleana and Sophia Blackwell (HSB)
Anyone expecting a cosy ideal of marriage are soon brought up short, as we are drawn into niggles, bad habits, duvet covers and ... lockdown. Sharply directed by multi-award winning comedian Maria Shehata, this slickly devised show draws on the Italian and West Indian roots of the writers. The pair manoeuvre swiftly between comedy, poetry and song. Drawing energy from the audience, this is an hilarious, refreshing, relevant hour of joy.

How to Be Jewish Again by Gillian Fischer
In spite of a passion for bacon, actress-writer (and one time Israeli tank driver) wants to revert to Judaism. However, research shows that the number of people converting back to their Jewish faith is zero! After eighteen months, we share her arduous climb, but maybe Fischer will never again be ‘Jewish enough’. It is a poignant message, but Gillian Fischer has a witty and vibrant style, and is a natural comedienne and storyteller.

Read Heather Moulson’s reviews at: www.markaspen.com/2023/08/17/gene-montague; www.markaspen.com/2023/08/18/gaslight-cads; www.markaspen.com/2023/08/21/wife-mat; and www.markaspen.com/2023/08/26/jewish-again

Photography courtesy of the producers

A Celebration of your unique community spaces in Richmond Upon Thames

Your Community Centre Week, Monday 11th to Friday 15th September 2023

We love living in Richmond upon Thames. But it isn't just the river, the parks, the theatre, and the cafés that make it a brilliant place to be – it's the people! The diversity and friendliness of our communities make great things happen when we come together. And across Richmond upon Thames, we are fortunate enough to have ten independent centres, each providing services, activities, support and facilities that contribute to the lively community life of our lovely borough. All these spaces are open to every generation and place an emphasis on bringing all corners of our community together. So, whether you want to learn a new language, get active, meet like-minded local people or host a charity event – there is a community centre near you that is ready and waiting!

The possibilities are endless, with local people making use of these cherished spaces and the ever-expanding programme of activities & events, each centre offers. There are plenty of options if you are looking for an enjoyable and sociable way to get fit, from yoga and meditation at the Cambrian Centre to seated exercise and indoor bowls at the YMCA White House. At ETNA Community Centre, volunteers take surplus food from supermarkets and turn it into tasty lunches. Castelnau Community Centre has a range of free kids' clubs and support for teenagers, while Greenwood Community Centre hosts a ballet school for young people. With Whitton Community Centre being home to Bonsai & Photography clubs

For the more mature among us, the Avenue Kew Club, Ellera Hall, Linden Hall and Mortlake Community Association have weekly groups and activities, social clubs, day trips and many other programmed events that appeal to all.



**Your
COMMUNITY WEEK
Centre**

Join in with one of our
Vintage Bus Tours
around Richmond Borough
and discover more about your community

**Advance booking only £5 per person
Includes bus tour and cream tea at the final destination**

Tuesday 12 September	Friday 15 September
Departs: Richmond pick up point Covering: Twickenham; Hampton Hill & Hampton. Final destination: Whitton Community Centre	Departs: Richmond pick up point Covering: Richmond Hill, Kew Mortlake. Final destination: Castelnau Community Centre

For more information and booking, scan the QR Code or see:
<https://bit.ly/Bus12Sept>
<https://bit.ly/Bus15Sept>

Tuesday 12 September
Friday 15 September

And this barely even scratches the surface! At your local centres in Barnes, Mortlake, Kew, Richmond, Twickenham, Teddington, Hampton, Hampton Hill & Whitton there is bound to be something that you can get involved in and make the most of staying connected in person.

Many of our community centres also have spaces for hire, from rooms for one off meetings to Halls to accommodate larger groups and functions. You might just find that perfect space, at a very reasonable rate, for you to launch your own enterprise, host an event or teach a class.

Our family service
together
is back at 3:30pm

from 10 Sep



St James's Road, Hampton Hill, TW12 1DQ

Rugby World Cup 2023 – England Team To Play Argentina

England men's head coach Steve Borthwick has named his team to play Argentina in England's opening pool match of Rugby World Cup 2023 at Stade de Marseille (kick-off 9pm CET, 8pm BST live on ITV Sport).

Courtney Lawes is named captain at blindside flanker and is joined in the backrow by Tom Curry on the openside and Ben Earl at No.8.

In the front row, vice-captain Ellis Genge starts at loosehead prop with Jamie George at hooker and Dan Cole on the tighthead. Elsewhere in the pack, Maro Itoje and Ollie Chessum are paired in the second row.

Alex Mitchell and vice-captain George Ford feature in the half-back berths, with inside centre Manu Tuilagi partnering Joe Marchant at 13.

Jonny May lines up on the right wing, opposite Elliot Daly on the left, and Freddie Steward is at fullback.

Amongst the replacements, Theo Dan, Joe Marler, Will Stuart, George Martin, Lewis Ludlam, Danny Care, Marcus Smith, and Ollie Lawrence will all be hoping to make an impact should they join the action in Marseille.

“With an excellent week of preparation in Le Touquet, the players are now looking forward to starting their Rugby World Cup campaign under the lights in Marseille on Saturday,” said Borthwick. After a number of impressive performances in the last 12 months by Argentina, we know that the first game in our pool will provide a stern test. This great tournament provides an excitingly special opportunity for our players, who I know, as ever, will be giving their all in front of our travelling support in the south of France.”

ENGLAND v ARGENTINA

Saturday 9 September 2023

Stade de Marseille

Kick-off: 9pm (local time)



15. Freddie Steward (Leicester Tigers, 26 caps)
14. Jonny May (Gloucester Rugby, 73 caps)
13. Joe Marchant (Stade Francais, 19 caps)
12. Manu Tuilagi (Sale Sharks, 53 caps)
11. Elliot Daly (Saracens, 59 caps)
10. George Ford – vice-captain (Sale Sharks, 85 caps)
9. Alex Mitchell (Northampton Saints, 6 caps)

1. Ellis Genge – vice-captain (Bristol Bears, 52 caps)
2. Jamie George (Saracens, 79 caps)
3. Dan Cole (Leicester Tigers, 102 caps)
4. Maro Itoje (Saracens, 70 caps)
5. Ollie Chessum (Leicester Tigers, 11 caps)
6. Courtney Lawes – captain (Northampton Saints, 100 caps)
7. Tom Curry (Sale Sharks, 45 caps)
8. Ben Earl (Saracens, 18 caps)

Replacements:

16. Theo Dan (Saracens, 3 caps)
17. Joe Marler (Harlequins, 82 caps)
18. Will Stuart (Bath Rugby, 29 caps)
19. George Martin (Leicester Tigers, 3 caps)
20. Lewis Ludlam (Northampton Saints, 21 caps)
21. Danny Care (Harlequins, 90 caps)
22. Marcus Smith (Harlequins, 24 caps)
23. Ollie Lawrence (Bath Rugby, 14 caps)

Red Roses squad update

The Red Roses have named a 38-player training squad as preparations continue ahead of back-to-back Summer Series fixtures against Canada.

The squad began their 2023/24 journey with two camps in Chester before returning south to Pennyhill Park last week.

Interim head coach Louis Deacon has been impressed by the quality and the unity on display.

“The start of our new journey together as a squad has been very enjoyable,” he said.

“Not only has there been positive progression on the field, but we have seen an incredible desire from the players and staff to do their best for one another, for the benefit of the Red Roses. It was extremely beneficial for the squad to experience a camp in a different region of the country, and we extend our thanks and appreciation to Chester Rugby Club for hosting us. The hard work continues at Pennyhill Park with everything gearing up towards the two home fixtures against Canada at Exeter Chiefs and Saracens before we travel out to New Zealand for WXV.”

FORWARDS

Zoe Aldcroft (Gloucester-Hartpury, 43 caps)
Maisy Allen (Exeter Chiefs, uncapped)*
Lark Atkin-Davies (Bristol Bears, 49 caps)
Sarah Beckett (Gloucester-Hartpury, 30 caps)
Sarah Bern (Bristol Bears, 57 caps)
Hannah Botterman (Bristol Bears, 37 caps)
Delaney Burns (Bristol Bears, 3 caps)**
Mackenzie Carson (Gloucester-Hartpury, 5 caps)
Grace Clifford (Loughborough Lightning, uncapped)*
Kelsey Clifford (Saracens, 2 caps)
Amy Cokayne (Leicester Tigers, 72 caps)

Rosie Galligan (Saracens, 9 caps)
Daisy Hibbert-Jones (Loughborough Lightning, uncapped)**
Lilli Ives Campion (Loughborough Lightning, uncapped)*
Sadia Kabeya (Loughborough Lightning, 13 caps)
Alex Matthews (Gloucester-Hartpury, 59 caps)
Maud Muir (Gloucester-Hartpury, 20 caps)
Cath O'Donnell (Loughborough Lightning, 27 caps)
Marlie Packer (Saracens, 94 caps)
Connie Powell (Harlequins, 9 caps)
Morwenna Talling (Sale Sharks, 7 caps)

BACKS

Holly Aitchison (Bristol Bears, 20 caps)
Sophie Bridger (Saracens, uncapped)**
Jess Breach (Saracens, 28 caps)
Merryn Doidge (Exeter Chiefs, uncapped)**
Abby Dow (Trailfinders, 35 caps)
Lizzie Duffy (Sale Sharks, uncapped)*
Tatyana Heard (Gloucester-Hartpury, 14 caps)
Mo Hunt (Gloucester-Hartpury, 62 caps)**

Megan Jones (Leicester Tigers, 12 caps)
Ellie Kildunne (Harlequins, 34 caps)
Claudia MacDonald (Exeter Chiefs, 28 caps)
Lucy Packer (Harlequins, 14 caps)
Amber Reed (Bristol Bears, 65 caps)
Flo Robinson (Harlequins, uncapped)**
Helena Rowland (Loughborough Lightning, 24 caps)
Emma Sing (Gloucester-Hartpury, 5 caps)
Ella Wyrwas (Saracens, 3 caps)**

Rehabbing with club: Katie Buchanan (Exeter Chiefs)*, Poppy Cleall (Saracens), Vickii Cornborough (Harlequins, maternity leave), Zoe Harrison (Saracens), Nancy McGillivray (Exeter Chiefs)*, Emily Scarratt (Loughborough Lightning), Abbie Ward (Bristol Bears)

*transition contracted player

** non-contracted player



Brentford trio nominated for Premier League awards

Brentford's Bryan Mbeumo, Kevin Schade and Mark Flekken have been recognised by the Premier League for their contributions in August

Written by Brentford Football Club

Brentford's Bryan Mbeumo, Kevin Schade and Mark Flekken have been recognised by the Premier League for their impact in August.

Mbeumo has been nominated for Player of the Month, Schade is in the running for Goal of the Month, and Flekken is on the shortlist for Save of the Month.

Mbeumo has stepped up in the absence of Ivan Toney and scored a joint-high tally of three goals in August.

The Cameroon international netted on the opening day during a 2-2 draw with Tottenham Hotspur, and then scored a brace the following weekend as Brentford beat Fulham 3-0 at Craven Cottage.

Kevin Schade's first Bees goal was well worth the wait. Against Crystal Palace, the 21-year-old picked up Christian Norgaard's switch on the left, then toyed with Joel Ward before firing a powerful effort beyond Sam Johnstone.

Mark Flekken also shone during the [1-1 draw with Palace](#), making a superb double save at Gtech Community Stadium.

From a right-sided corner, Flekken pushed away Jefferson Lerma's header before getting up quickly to block a follow-up effort from Jordan Ayew at close range.

Vote for Mbeumo, Schade and Flekken at premierleague.com. Voting for all three awards closes at 12pm on Monday 11 September.



ULEZ 'is all about raising £200 million' not health says Conservative group leader

Tories 'should have stepped in' to stop expansion says party's leader in London

THE Leader of the Conservatives on the London Assembly has said he thinks his party should have stepped in over the expansion of ULEZ to all 32 boroughs of Greater London.



Keith Prince, Member for Havering and Redbridge, told [GB News](#) the Conservatives “*should have challenged the consultation*” as he claimed the new charges were “*all about raising £200 million.*”

“I really don’t think Saqid [Khan] appreciates how angry people are,” he said. *“We had a special meeting this week at my council. The weekend before, I was out in the streets of Romford and I can tell you people are really angry and they’re not just angry with Sadiq, they’re angry with us too.*”

“And I can understand that; I can understand why they’re angry with the Conservatives because they feel we haven’t done enough to help them.”

“I really do think we should have stepped in. We should have challenged the consultation because he broke virtually every rule around consultation and we should have said ‘Sorry, you’ve got to do it again.’”



With reports showing that levels of air pollution on the London Underground are worse than at street level, Mr Prince told Nana Akua he believed Saqid Khan hasn’t focused on the Tube due to finances.

“He can’t raise any revenues from that,” he said. *“The London Underground is 30% more polluting than a ground level on the street. But of course, he can’t raise any revenue by taxing the tube lines but of course, he can tax people who can’t afford it and this is all about him raising £200 million.*”

“It’s got nothing to do with air quality because his own survey said that the impact will be negligible.”

“He actually wrote to me in 2021 saying he had no plans to roll out the extension of ULEZ to the outer London boroughs and he said a blanket approach was not the way to do it. That’s what he said in 2021. And now, two years later, look where we are.”

Mr Prince also said he believed “*some people are beginning to realise that [Khan’s] power is unfettered.*”

“Even though we have the Assembly and we are able to, on rare occasions, overrule him, it’s only when we have a two thirds majority.”

“As nearly half the assembly are Labour we’re never ever going to have a situation where we have a two thirds majority to stop the madness of Sadiq Khan.”

£381m boost for electric vehicle charging as Chancellor opens West Midlands charging hub

- £381 million funding scheme to deliver thousands of public charge points across the country opens for applications.
- Chancellor opens UK's largest electric vehicle charging site in Birmingham in major boost to Britain's electric charging infrastructure.
- EV drivers in the West Midlands set to benefit from the 180 charge point hub, becoming the largest electric vehicle charging site in the UK.

A new electric vehicle charging hub – big enough to charge 180 cars simultaneously – has been opened by the Chancellor Jeremy Hunt in Birmingham today (Thursday 7 September). It marks a significant boost for Britain's electric car charging network, becoming the largest electric vehicle charging site in the UK.

The Gigahub™, located at the city's NEC Campus, is the largest-ever private investment in a UK electric vehicle project to date. The project has been developed by a three-way collaboration between the NEC, EV Network and bp pulse, and is now operated by bp pulse.

It is funded by a record £8 million from its investment partner, Zood Infrastructure Limited. The site will provide 30 super-fast, 300kw DC charging bays and a further 150, 7KW a/c charging bays - one of the largest amounts of super-fast chargers in one location in the UK.

The site is strategically positioned to become a major transport hub for the future – located in the heart of the UK motorway network, including the M42, M46 and A45 and the new HS2 interchange station.

The site supports the Government's electric vehicle infrastructure strategy and commitment to decarbonising transport, backed with more than £2 billion to support the transition to zero emission vehicles including accelerating the rollout of chargepoint infrastructure.

As part of that, Government and industry have so far supported the installation of over 45,500 publicly available electric vehicle charging devices, including more than 8,600 rapid devices.

The public charging network is growing quickly - public charging devices have more than tripled in four years from 10,300 devices in January 2019 to over 45,500 in August 2023.

The number of public chargepoints rose by 38% over the last year, and as a recent report from the National Infrastructure Commission points out, if charge point deployment grows at around 30% per year the 300,000 expectation will be met.

Today the Chancellor has also announced that several local authorities across England can apply for the first round of the Government's £343 million Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) Capital Fund, with the West Midlands Combined Authority among the authorities eligible to apply this year.

The LEVI fund will ensure the transition to electric vehicles takes place in every part of the country by supporting tens of thousands of local chargepoints, especially for those without access to off-street parking.

Local authorities will receive LEVI funding in two groups, with the first able to apply for their allocated funding from today, to be distributed this financial year. The second group can apply for their funding next financial year.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Jeremy Hunt, said:

“This is the biggest private investment in electric charging in the UK and is a huge vote of confidence in Britain’s role as a leader in green industries.

“The ground-breaking site will be a major transport hub for the future and marks a significant step in our rollout of electric vehicle charging infrastructure across the country.”

Decarbonisation Minister Jesse Norman said:

“Electric vehicles will play a crucial role in helping the UK to decarbonise transport and reach net zero.

“Today’s measures will deliver tens of thousands of chargepoints across the country, boosting the economy and creating skilled jobs.”

Paul Thandi CBE, DL Chairman of NEC Group, said:

“We are proud to contribute to the UK Government’s Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy. Working in collaboration with EVN and bp pulse, the opening of our EV charging hub provides NEC Campus customers, commuters, and those working for local regional or national businesses, a reliable and convenient way to recharge and support a lower carbon travel future.

“This strategic collaboration and initiative strengthen our destination offer, demonstrate our commitment to reducing the impact our business practices and our Masterplan credentials have on the environment, and ultimately supports a reduction in carbon emissions.”

Alongside this, UK Research and Innovation has announced that Innovate UK has awarded £5.8m of funding to 12 projects through the Driving the Electric Revolution Challenge Fund.

Winning projects include work on best practice in automation and robotics to produce EV chargers, and the scale-up of the assembly manufacturing processes for a rare earth-free permanent magnet generator – allowing us to produce electric machines without using rare earth elements.

Whilst he was in the region, the Chancellor also convened a roundtable with green industries SMEs based in and around the West-Midlands, including leading green electric vehicle, energy and manufacturing companies as part of his ongoing engagement with his five key growth sectors: life sciences, advanced manufacturing, green industries, digital and technology and creative industries.



HM Treasury

CHANCELLOR: “Now is the time to see the job through – our plan is working.”

- Ahead of the next fiscal event, Chancellor reassures that inflation is on track to be halved this year
- Recognises that household budgets are still stretched but is confident that the plan is working and pressure will ease on families
- Reiterates commitment to public sector reform to help keep taxes down for working families

THE CHANCELLOR Jeremy Hunt is confident that the plan to halve inflation this year is working and that pressure on household budgets will begin to ease.

Ahead of Parliament returning on Monday 3 September, the Chancellor recognised that household budgets are still feeling stretched, and has impressed the need to stick to the plan to halve inflation as the best way to help ease the pressure. Despite the Bank of England expecting a rise of inflation to 7.1 percent in figures released this month, forecasts still expect it will fall to around five percent at the end of the year.

It comes as the UK's growth figures have been substantially upgraded by the ONS, showing the UK economy recovered from the pandemic far more rapidly than previously thought, returning to its pre-pandemic size almost two years ago. The revision proves the resilience of the UK economy, which has already grown faster than Germany, Italy, Japan and France since 2010. The UK recovered from the pandemic faster than any country in Europe and only behind Canada and the US in the G7, and is second only to France for foreign investment.

The government will build on this momentum in the coming months, with the PM travelling to India to cement his already-strong relations with G20 allies, hosting the international Artificial Intelligence Summit to pioneer investment in AI and the Trade Secretary pursuing trade talks with Gulf Cooperation Council economies.

Over the summer, inflation fell to 6.8 percent, GDP figures showed the economy grew by 0.5 percent in June – beating forecasts, and business confidence in the UK soared to an 18-month high.

It comes as the government continues to drive economic growth, establishing 12 investment zones across the country to support growth industries, with the first investment zone in South Yorkshire already securing more than £80 million of private investment – helping to create 8,000 jobs by 2030. We are also investing billions in freeports and transport to boost connectivity across the country, such as the Teesside Freeport, which is bringing millions of pounds of new investment into the area, creating 40,000 jobs. And we have introduced full expensing for businesses to drive investment in the UK, equivalent to a £27bn tax cut.

The government has already taken decisive action to limit inflation by supporting households with the cost of living, the Energy Price Guarantee and by extending the cut to fuel duty. The Chancellor has also avoided inflationary spending, including by asking departments to fund public sector pay rises from existing budgets.

The Chancellor said:

“As we move into autumn, I know family budgets are still stretched, but inflation is coming down and now is the time to see the job through. We are on track to halve inflation this year and by sticking to our plan we will ease the pressure on families and businesses alike.

“And it should be no surprise, despite the doubting from some, latest figures show we have bounced back better than many other G7 economies and are one of the most attractive countries in the world to invest.

“This government is unlocking the UK's potential – attracting more investment, creating new jobs and growing the economy.”

With progress made on the PM's priorities to halve inflation and grow the economy, the Chancellor is working with the public sector to improve productivity to ease the pressure on the public purse and keep taxes low for working families.

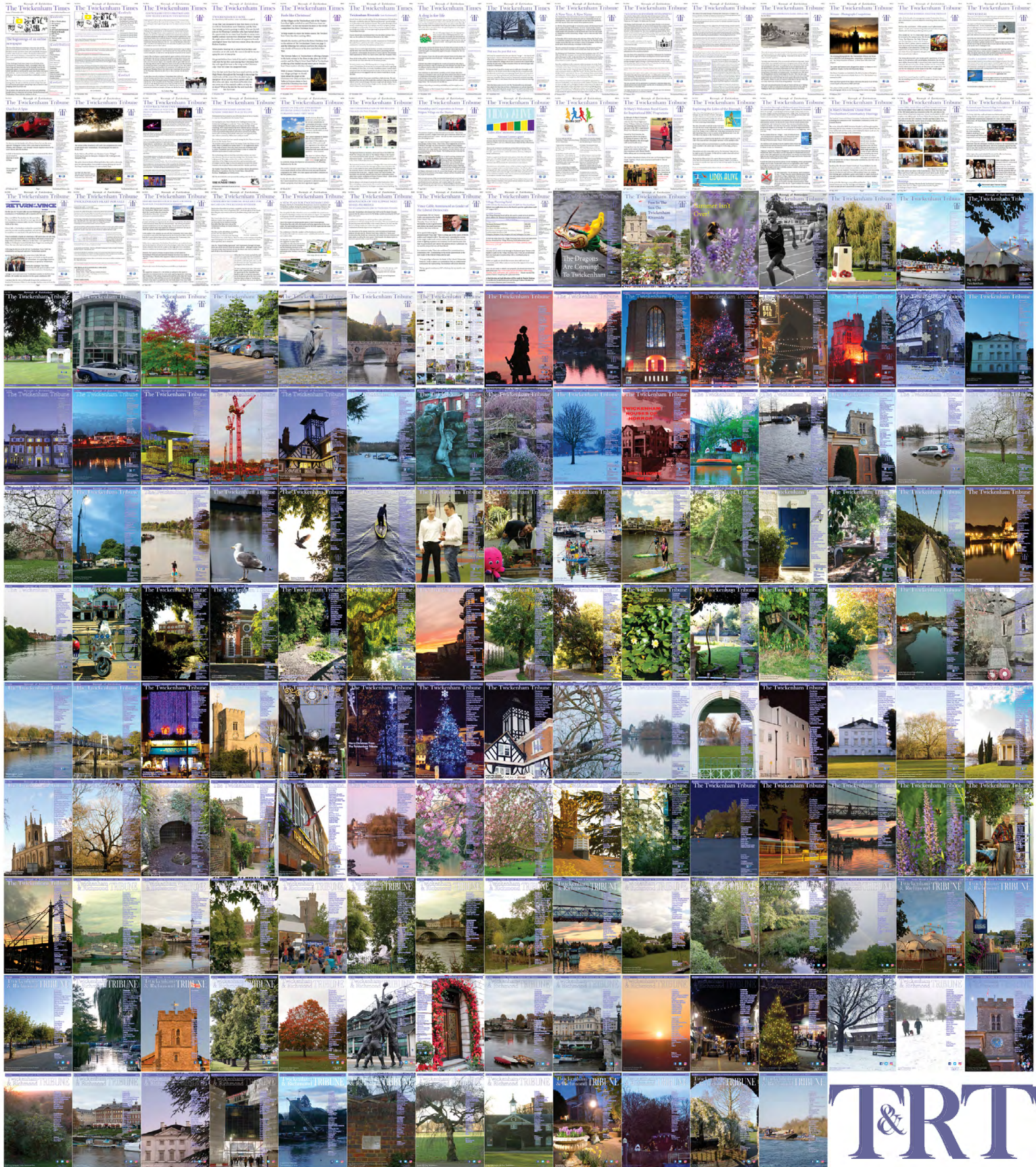
He will commission departments to provide up to date analysis of the time frontline staff are spending on administration and non-core work, and for plans to significantly reduce it as part of the Public Sector productivity programme.

Keeping spending under control is also important to keep interest rates down. External evidence suggests from the OBR and IMF that £25 billion of additional borrowing could push up interest rates by as much as 0.5%, reinforcing the need to carefully manage public sector spending.



HM Treasury

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