

The Twickenham Tribune

A New Year, A New Name

The Twickenham Times was founded as a local online newspaper for and by local people to help keep local democracy alive in Twickenham and the surrounding towns. A place where local people can have their letters published, have their say and where their articles can be published online.

In 1965 the Municipal Borough of Twickenham joined with Richmond becoming the London Borough of Richmond. The River Thames divides Twickenham and Richmond and their surrounding towns. Today the political power mostly resides with councillors on the Richmond side of the river and people in Twickenham and the surrounding “villages” want to make sure their views are known.

In November 2016 it was becoming more and more obvious that “local” news in Twickenham needed more of an outlet; a few years ago The Informer closed causing concern that there was no longer a choice of newspapers. At this time people spoke about producing a newspaper to take its place.

The only commercial newspaper in the borough is The Richmond and Twickenham Times which covers the towns on both sides of the River Thames.

The Richmond and Twickenham Times has been in existence since 1873. From 1896 until 2001 the newspaper was owned by the Dimbleby family and was sold to Newsquest in 2001. At the end of last year The Richmond and Twickenham Times Ltd was dissolved. The newspaper is part of the Newsquest Media Group which is a Gannet company.

Since the contributors to the community online newspaper are on the Twickenham side of the river Twickenham was obviously chosen as part of the name - it is where we live. There are a variety of newspaper titles which are used generally: News, Post, Gazette, Telegraph, Tribune, Herald, Times, etc. There are many newspapers which are called “the Times”: The New York Times and The Sunday Times to name just two. The use of Twickenham Times seemed simple and unobtrusive. However, there was an objection to the name of our community newspaper so we changed it to The Twickenham Tribune.

The community newspaper aims to allow local people the opportunity to showcase Twickenham, a very special area on the outskirts of London. Not just the home of rugby and ice skating but the place where many of the legends of popular music played in their early years; a town with an intriguing history, where London’s literati of the eighteenth century, such as Pope and Walpole, escaped to riverside homes. Twickenham and the surrounding “villages” need a voice to keep the special character and unique charm of this side of the river.



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THE LOCAL POSTCARD PAGE

By Alan Winter

PART 4 – POSTCARDS FROM HAMPTON

This week our local postcard journey through the ages takes us to Hampton where we see an early 20th century real photographic card of the Anglican St Marys Church taken from the Surrey side of the river. The elegant tower can be seen from viewpoints throughout the area. The current building was consecrated in 1831 although a place of worship has stood on this site on bell hill for 650 years. The church is briefly mentioned in Jerome K Jerome's 1889 comic novel, Three Men in a Boat.



VIEW FROM ST. MARY'S TOWER

Photograph by Deniz Isaaks

The second postcard was published some sixty years or so later in the 1970's (approx.), to raise money on behalf of the Hampton Hill Community Care Group. The view looks down on Station Road and Hampton Court Road from the top of the church tower.

If I am getting you interested in the fun aspect of collecting postcards and their relevance to local history and research, perhaps you might like to consider joining the West London Postcard Club.

The club meets on the 3rd Friday of the month starting in February at Chiswick Town Hall on Turnham Green. It starts at 7.30 and everyone will be made most welcome.

I'll be back next week with more images of our area as shown on picture postcards throughout the decades. I think I will show you some postcards of Marble Hill Park, including one where a flock of sheep were peacefully grazing on what is now the cricket pitch!

Meanwhile, if you have any postcards to dispose of, any questions on this subject, or ideas for future articles, please drop me a line at alanwinter192@hotmail.com

POSTCARDS WANTED

Cash paid for Old Postcards

& postally franked envelopes.

Required by local collector / dealer.

Please ring Alan to discuss on

07875 578398

Competitions and Offers

Winner of a 3 course meal for two at New Year's Eve!

Bruce Lyons, of Eel Pie Island, sent in the correct answer to the meal for two competition, correctly stating that the name of the pub changed from Pope's Grotto to Alexander Pope in 2009.

All correct answers were put into a random draw and Bruce came out the winner!

www.alexanderpope.co.uk



Bruce (right) with Richard Cross, manager of the Alexander Pope

Photography Competition

Win an 18 hole round of golf for 4 at Strawberry Hill Golf Club

Enter our monthly photographic competition.

Email your photo to win@TwickenhamTribune.com
(include your name and postcode)

Entries must be received by Tuesday 31st January 2017.
All 4 players must play the same round.



Photos can be of any subject taken within the local villages, ie Twickenham, St Margaret's & East Twickenham, Strawberry Hill, Teddington, Hampton Wick, Hampton, Hampton Hill and Whitton/Heathfield

This competition is run in conjunction with Strawberry Hill Golf Club www.shgc.net

STRAWBERRY HILL GOLF CLUB

 **ADULT GOLF ACADEMY**
for returning/new/novice golfers

The Academy leads to full membership and includes:

- Instruction based package
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- Access to golf course

For further information:

- Club Manager: Jon Wright 020 8894 0165
- Professional: Peter Buchan 07795 973926

Strawberry Hill Golf Club
Wellesley Road, Strawberry Hill, Twickenham TW2 5SD
Tel: Club Manager 020 8894 0165
Email: secretary@shgc.net
To find out more visit: www.shgc.net





TWICKERS FOODIE

New Year – New You?

by Alison Jee

We've all tended to do it: over-eaten over the Christmas and New Year holidays. So if the bathroom scales have given you a nasty shock since you last checked, maybe now is the time to take things in hand? You can start with a 'Dry January' – just cutting alcohol will make quite a difference to your calorie intake (unless of course you replace with lots of sweetened soft drinks – try diet drinks or sparkling water with a slice of fresh lime instead). And 'Dry January' doesn't mean drinking only dry white wine, Dry Martini, dry cider etc!



Photo by Slimming World

What about embarking on one of those diets where the food is delivered to you? **Jane Plan** (a local company incidentally, as the founder lives nearby) has a sale at the moment with prices half price for the first month. And there is **Diet Chef**, which is slightly cheaper and also has a special offer but with most of these online options you usually need to sign up for a minimum period of three months to benefit from the promotions. They need quite a large up-front cash commitment but that investment can make you even more determined to succeed!

Of course you can buy healthy diet meals, as and when you need to. Marks and Spencer has its range of 'Eat Well' products that are ideal for those just wanting or needing to shed a few pounds. There is a 10 per cent discount on these meals until January 16 for all 'Sparks' card members too. Waitrose has an online **diet plan** and its 'Love Life' range has 25 per cent discount at the moment.

And there are always the slimming clubs, which offer lots of encouragement and moral support. **Slimming World** has a number of different options locally as does **Weightwatchers** and they are offering special incentives as well as an online diet support option.

While you're being healthy, don't forget to take plenty of exercise. We are lucky as this borough has many options, such as swimming, tennis, dance classes and exercise classes. And walking/running/cycling is free don't forget, and nobody can complain about a lack of fabulous places to exercise locally - we are blessed with the most wonderful parks and riverside locations.

WIZ Quiz

Fancy testing your knowledge with a food quiz? Then have a look here:

www.worldinfozone.com/Quiz/Food/quiz.php



Stand Up Paddleboarding

By James Roorda, Epic SUP club, Eel Pie Island



SUP is a great low impact activity and if using correct techniques it will work the larger muscle groups of your core, back and shoulders. When starting out you tend to feel the most strain in your feet from using muscles that don't always get lots of work because you are using them to balance. Because of having to put a little more effort into balancing on a board than normally walking down the street you get a good full body workout whatever your skill level.

SUP is a sport for people of all ages. If you have great balance to begin with or a low centre of gravity the learning curve is not so steep. As long as you are comfortable on the water (and potentially in it) you can learn at your own pace. The water and weather conditions will dictate how quickly you will get up and go but if given ideal conditions (flat water, low wind) anyone can get out on the water and almost anyone can stand up and give it a go. If you're not comfortable with standing up, then you will still get a nice paddle down on your knees like you would in a canoe.



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Almond Blossom Festival
(*Sagra del Mandorlo in Fiore*)
has been taking place in Agrigento
for 72 years! It is an international folk
festival aiming to spread the message of
peace, integration, cooperation & love
between people. Every year in February,
Agrigento celebrates the first almond blossoms
of the season in its *Sagra del Mandorlo in Fiore*.
The highlight of the 10 day festival is
the last Sunday when a parade accompanied
by songs and dances winds through the streets
celebrating love, joy, peace and fraternity.

11 February 3 nights B&B at the 4* Hotel
Valle, Agrigento, flights and car hire incl
£330 per person.

You can make SUP as aerobically challenging as you want to make it. If you want to get a good aerobic workout you can really push it and get an aerobic workout comparable to running. You can also – and this is the great appeal of the sport to me – get out on the water and just relax and take it at your own pace. There is a zen like feeling you get by being out on the water by yourself or with a few friends when it is calm and quiet.

The sport has its origins in surfing; I have competed in flatwater, ocean technical and white water racing. You can go trekking and SUP fishing is becoming popular. If you have a body of water you can almost always find a way to SUP on it.

info@EpicSUP.org

Arts and Entertainment

by Erica White

Thursday, 12 January at 7.00pm. At the Hammond Theatre, Hampton School, Hanworth Road, live streaming of **NO MAN'S LAND** by Harold Pinter, starring Ian McKellen and Patrick Stewart, from Wyndhams's Theatre, London. See: thehammondtheatre.co.uk

Sunday 15 January at 7.45pm. At the Cabbage Patch Pub, **Twickfolk** are hosts to BBC Radio 2 award-winning duo, Sam Kelly and Jamie Francis who perform an evening of singing and banjo and guitar. see twickfolk.co.uk

Tuesday, 17 January. At the Pete Postlethwaite Theatre, St Mary's College, Strawberry Hill, Richmond Film Society show **MUSTANG (2015)**, directed by Deniz Gamze Erguvan. In rural Turkey 5 orphaned sisters are wrongly accused of debauchery.

See: richmondfilmsoc.org.uk

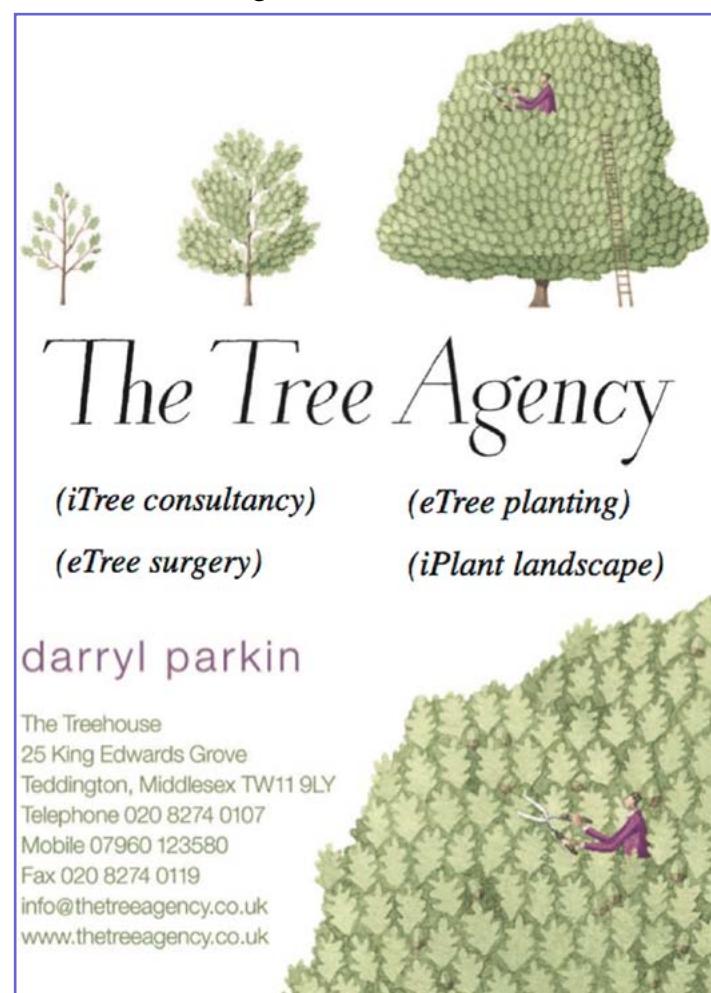
Tuesday, 17 January at 7.45pm. At St Mary's Church, Twickenham Riverside, Richmond Concert Society host leading chamber choir, **ENSEMBLE 96** from Norway.

See richmondconcerts.co.uk

Tuesday 17 January at 8.00pm. At the Patchworks Bar, Cabbage Patch Pub, Twickenham Jazz Club present **TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE**, an award-winning Oxford band featuring Peter Oxley and Ollie Weston.

Friday 20-Saturday 28 January. At St Edmund's Church Hall, Nelson Road, Whitton, Edmundian Players present their annual pantomime, **PINOCCHIO**. Ring Box Office 07765 605375, 6-9pm for times of matinee and evening performances and ticket price. Or see: edmundianplayers.com

Richmond Shakespeare Society and Teddington Theatre Club both produce major productions towards the end of January. RSS: **THE WEIR**. TTC: **A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE** Visit their websites or watch this space for further information next week.



Review

An Innocent Abroad this Christmas: Elf The Musical

by Matthew Skylar and Chad Begeulin
Dramacube Productions, Hampton Hill Theatre



Review by Viola Selby, 21 December 2016

A musical brimming with festive cheer, innocence and a huge pool of talent, this is a story of innocence abroad, depicted brilliantly through the innocence of the actors themselves: a simple tale well told through cleverly choreographed dance scenes, melodic musical numbers, scintillating scenery changes and fantastic facial expressions. Dramacube's Elf The Musical is definitely the seasonal show that you will kick yourself if you missed. To read the full review visit:

markaspens.wordpress.com/2016/12/21/an-innocent-abroad-this-christmas-elf-the-musical/

Richmond Film Society

Half Season Memberships now available

Interested in World Cinema or thinking about taking up a new pastime in the New Year ? Half season memberships for the second half of Richmond Film Society's 2016/17 season - comprising eight films and commencing with 'Mustang' on 17 January - are now available for £35 - i.e. for less than £4.40 per film (students £20).

Films are shown on alternate Tuesdays on a state-of-the-art screen in the Pete Postlethwaite Theatre at St Mary's University, TW1 4SX. Between 17 January and 25 April 2017, eight films are being screened, namely:

- 17 January : Mustang (Turkey)
- 31 January : The Company You Keep (USA)
- 14 February : Dheepan (France)
- 28 February : The Club (Chile)
- 14 March : Still Walking (Japan)
- 28 March : The Lesson (Bulgaria)
- 11 April : Marguerite (France)
- 25 April : Sing Street (UK/Ireland)



WORLD CINEMA

For further information or to take advantage of this offer, email rfs@richmondfilmsoc.org.uk, telephone 020 8893 3503, visit the website at www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk or come along to the next screening and 'sign up' in person. Tickets on the night for non-members are £6 and all are very welcome.

Word On The Street

COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

In Editions 6 and 8 of The Twickenham Times it was reported that the Community Arts Centre in Brewery Wharf, opposite Twickenham Station, is rumoured to be a venue which St Mary's University might use for their students as they are short of teaching space. There has been no word from the Council but rumour now suggests that St Mary's may have pulled out. One might ask "Where does the Council go from here?".



ARTHUR'S, TWICKENHAM GREEN



In the autumn of last year it was announced that the 100+ year lease for Arthur's restaurant was for sale. Arthur's, which opened almost twenty years ago, is known for its popular film night and customers will want to know if there will be any major changes in the operation of the restaurant.

It is understood that the restaurant may be incorporated into one of the brewery chains.

BREAKING NEWS: Arthur's is to become an Italian restaurant

DID YOU KNOW?

The Barmy Arms, used to be called the Queens Head Hotel. The name was changed to the Barmy Arms as each year its Christmas tree used to be assembled upside down.



CARTOON



Supermarket Etiquette

Overheard in a local supermarket
"How do I know what to wear, I only wanted some bananas!"

Bees in winter

by Julie Hill, Twickenham Beekeeper

Many readers will be familiar with Twickenham Beekeeping Association Twickenham and have enjoyed afternoon tea and home-made cakes on Open Days whilst watching the bees flying, but have you ever wondered what happens to the Apiary bees over winter?

Honey bees work tirelessly during Spring and Summer collecting pollen and nectar, to feed themselves, the brood inside the nest and to also make delicious honey. When the temperature drops below 10 degrees the bees remain in the hive and as the temperature continues to drop, they form a cluster inside, taking it in turns to be on the outside and fan their wings to keep the colony warm. The cluster moves slowly around inside the hive consuming the honey stores. As a beekeeper it is important to ensure enough accessible honey is left for the bees to eat whilst inside the hive during wet and cold periods and to get them through winter. Opening the hive for the first time in the early Spring to find bees have died through starvation is a very sad sight indeed and even worse when there are sufficient stores but they could not break the cluster to reach them.



Mild winters are actually worse for bees, as they do not form clusters so much and rapidly consume their stores. Beekeepers heft the hives regularly and if any feel noticeably lighter, a block of baker's fondant can be quickly put under the roof of the hive as close as possible to where the bees are clustering. Old beekeeping books refer to giving bees a present of a block of Candy on Christmas Day and this is what many of us do.

Non beekeepers can also play an important part in bee survival, by planting bee friendly plants. Going into winter, flowering ivy provides a vital source of late nectar to top up the bees winter stores, so delay pruning ivy until the flowers have died down. Planting Crocus and Snowdrop bulbs will give the bees an important source of early nectar and pollen too, as will winter aconite, winter flowering jasmine and Eranthis Hyemalis.

Beekeeping is also a very rewarding – albeit sometimes a challenging hobby. You never stop learning and if you ask three beekeepers the same question you will inevitably get three or even four different answers. These little insects are incredibly intelligent and resourceful and have the amazing ability to restore order and hope to apparent chaos and despair.

More information about Twickenham Apiary open days and winter courses can be found here: twickenhambeekeepers.apps-1and1.net/

THE QUIETWAY AND THE CONSULTATION

Richmond Council has extended the consultation deadline on new quieter cycling routes until Monday 16 January 2017.

The consultation involves proposals to launch a 'Quietway route' running between Richmond Park and Bushy Park, via Ham and Teddington. The Quietway will be funded by £800k from Transport for London.

The route comes from the neighbouring borough of Wandsworth, across Richmond Park to the Ham Gate, then through Ham and Teddington crossing the river at Teddington Lock and finishing at Bushy Park.

The Council says that the Quietway is part of a planned network of well-signed cycle routes throughout London, mostly using less-trafficked streets. The Quietway is primarily aimed at new cyclists, and those who would prefer to cycle on quieter routes at a gentler pace.

The Council anticipates that in many places the Quietway will only require route signs and road markings, but it is thought that some sections will require further measures to improve the safety of cyclists using the routes. Some parts of the routes will be on slightly busier roads in order to connect people to town centres such as Teddington.



The Quietway routes will eventually join up to form a London network, delivered in partnership with Transport for London, the Royal Parks and other London boroughs.

In Teddington it is felt that the problem faced with the consultation is about an unnecessary Wandsworth to Teddington Cycle Quietway up Teddington's busy High Street. A local resident said: "Teddington's residents, businesses and the Teddington Society have been specifically and knowingly excluded from the initial design and selection of route stages - and to make matters worse, Quietway officers have refused to write to Teddington's residents and businesses to tell them about its plans. The quality of research was very sub standard, and the Quietway team appeared to be completely unaware of the five cycle existing cycle routes across Teddington, all of which have connected to Bushy Park for the last dozen years without any problems."

He went on to say that the article on consultation in Edition 7 of The Twickenham Times which mentioned consultation problems in Strawberry Hill - with a link to the Council's own Report on how some consultations take place: some done properly, others in a prejudiced manner with highly selective choice of who, how and what should be consulted about – is exactly the problem we faced in Teddington with the so called consultation about an unnecessary Wandsworth to Teddington Cycle Quietway up Teddington's busy High Street.

The Link from Edition 7 of The Twickenham Times: The Scrutiny Task Group on Consultation – London Borough of Richmond upon Thames

www.richmond.gov.uk/scrutiny_task_group_on_public_consultation.pdf

Saint Valentine's Fayre

Church Street Twickenham

11 February midday until 6pm

by Shona Lyons

There are a few theories about the origin of valentines. One of the most popular stories is the one based in the time of the Roman Empire, when there was a cruel emperor called Claudius. He made it illegal for couples to marry because he needed single soldiers to sign up to his army, and he thought that they would make better soldiers if the men were single as they wouldn't worry about the fate of their wives and children if they were to die in battle. But Christianity also existed at this time and there was a Christian Priest called Valentine who married couples in secret. He was caught and sentenced to death for his disobedience. In prison he befriended his jailer's blind daughter who the jailer asked the priest to teach. A miracle happened to the girl and whilst having lessons from Valentine, her sight was restored. His death sentence was the 14th of February and he left a message to the girl signed "from your Valentine" After his death Valentine was canonised and became a saint and the day was forever associated with love & friendship, the giving of gifts, cards, letters and flowers.

Please will you come to Church Street on the 11th of February as the Church Street Association would like to celebrate this day with a fayre for all their friends in the community to enjoy and take part in. It is from midday until 6pm and there will be stalls with all kinds of gifts, cakes, street food and also live entertainment. There may also be a gift from the Saint Valentine of Church Street!

Would you like to have your own stall at the fair?

Please see right for details.



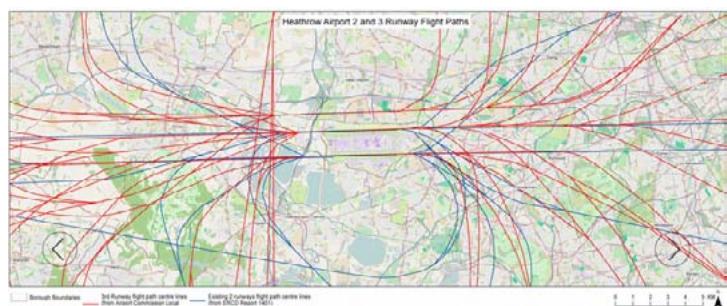
Dementia linked to toxic emissions

By Teddington Action Group

It is hard not to be worried about reports in the national press of links between people living next to roads with heavy traffic and dementia?

How to live in London and yet avoid main roads and heavy traffic? Very difficult. But it is not only the traffic on the road beyond the front door belching out poisonous emissions. People tend to look down rather than up: at screens, shopping lists, at the pavement to avoid stepping in dog poo! Yet above our heads is a much less recognized but no less menacing source of emissions danger.

Red lines show potential flightpaths.



Go outside and look up. What do you see? If you are fortunate you will see - through the smog - the sky, a few clouds, perhaps a remaining bird or two, a tree with a plane skimming its branches?



Danger from nitrous oxides and toxic particulates above our heads is no less deadly for being difficult to see, and soon the numbers of planes in the sky will challenge cars for traffic related dominance. If Heathrow gets its third runway, there will be 750,000 planes per annum on concentrated paths that will

criss-cross the whole of London leading also to a huge increase in diesel polluting land vehicles. Today is 6th January 2017. It has been reported in the Guardian today that London's legal limits for toxic air in 2017 have already been exceeded.

Will you be affected? Unless you live in the Outer Hebrides. And even then – well Heathrow has cut a deal with the SNP!

(Maps courtesy of Airportwatch. Red lines indicate potential flightpaths as yet unpublished).

www.teddingtonactiongroup.com

RADNOR BRIDGE

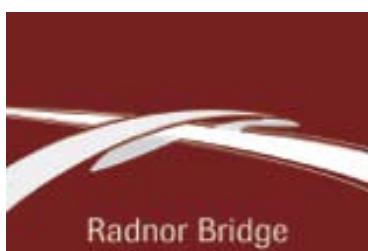
Mark Wing replies to the question of whether any other locations had been considered for the bridge.

Firstly, the Radnor Bridge idea was first launched at the Barefoot Consultation in 2010 so this is not a repeat but the original idea still coming to fruition. More detail can be found at this blog: radnorbridge.blogspot.com

Secondly, while at least four locations for a bridge were explored in the mini-Holland strategy review a few years ago (one to be located in the vicinity of Eel Pie Island and Ham House), the Radnor Bridge team feel strongly that the Radnor Gardens location is the best; hence the name.



There are a number of reasons for this. Our top five are (1) the topology on both sides at this point is most suited to a bridge crossing of the river. When the bridge starts from the proposed new mini-roundabout on Cross Deep (see details on the blogsite) then it only needs to rise 2m to clear sailing masts at high tide below. (2) the location fits best with the landscape strategy for both sides of the river and as a key piece of infrastructure will prove to be the strategic link in the heart of Richmond Borough, offering benefits to the greatest number of residents and reducing the need for numerous cyclists to enter Twickenham town centre or cars to be on the road. (3) at this point the best access for river strollers is offered. It is the midway point between Richmond Bridge and Teddington Lock and will not challenge access via Hammerton Ferry. Indeed we believe it will encourage greater usage of the ferry boat crossing. (4) it will connect Ham House to Strawberry Hill House, making a significant tourism attraction - the adventurous can then choose to complete the circle of all four local Houses with the addition of York House and Marble Hill House. (5) Strawberry Hill station is the closest station (as the crow flies) for people who live in Ham.



I'm sure others can think of many additional reasons/benefits for the Radnor Gardens location... but hopefully this is a useful starter.

Question Time heading to Strawberry Hill

Residents in Strawberry Hill will be able to quiz the Leader and Senior Cabinet Members about their local area in a Question Time event.

In 2013 the Council agreed to move forward with proposals to develop the innovative Village Plans, by including guidance on local planning considerations. The process gives local people and businesses the lead role in developing local planning guidance. In addition it provides a wider opportunity to ensure that the Council is working with the community to address a wide range of local issues.

The Question Time in Strawberry Hill will be held at the 11 January 2017 at Strawberry Hill Golf Club, Wellseley Road, Twickenham from 6.30pm – 8.30pm.

The first hour of the event will consist of pre-submitted questions to ensure a spread of issues are discussed. The second hour will be opened to the floor. Please submit your questions before 8 January 2017.



Radnor Gardens, Strawberry Hill

Starting in February, the Council will hold a series of drop-in sessions and walk-about. Residents will be asked to contribute to refreshing the existing Village Plans for Strawberry Hill as well as think about the character of the area. They will be asked what they would like to see maintained, what they would like to see improved, and how they would like to get involved in their local community. When complete, the new 'guidance' will be taken into account when making decisions on planning applications.

To RSVP for the Question Time events or to submit a question email:
events@richmond.gov.uk

STRAWBERRY HILL

Drop in:

Saturday 25 February 10-4pm at Emmanuel Centre
(Radnor Road Entrance) Popes Grove, Church of St James.

Walkabout:

Sunday 26 February at 10.30am – 12.30pm meeting outside the Emmanuel Centre

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