

# The Twickenham Tribune

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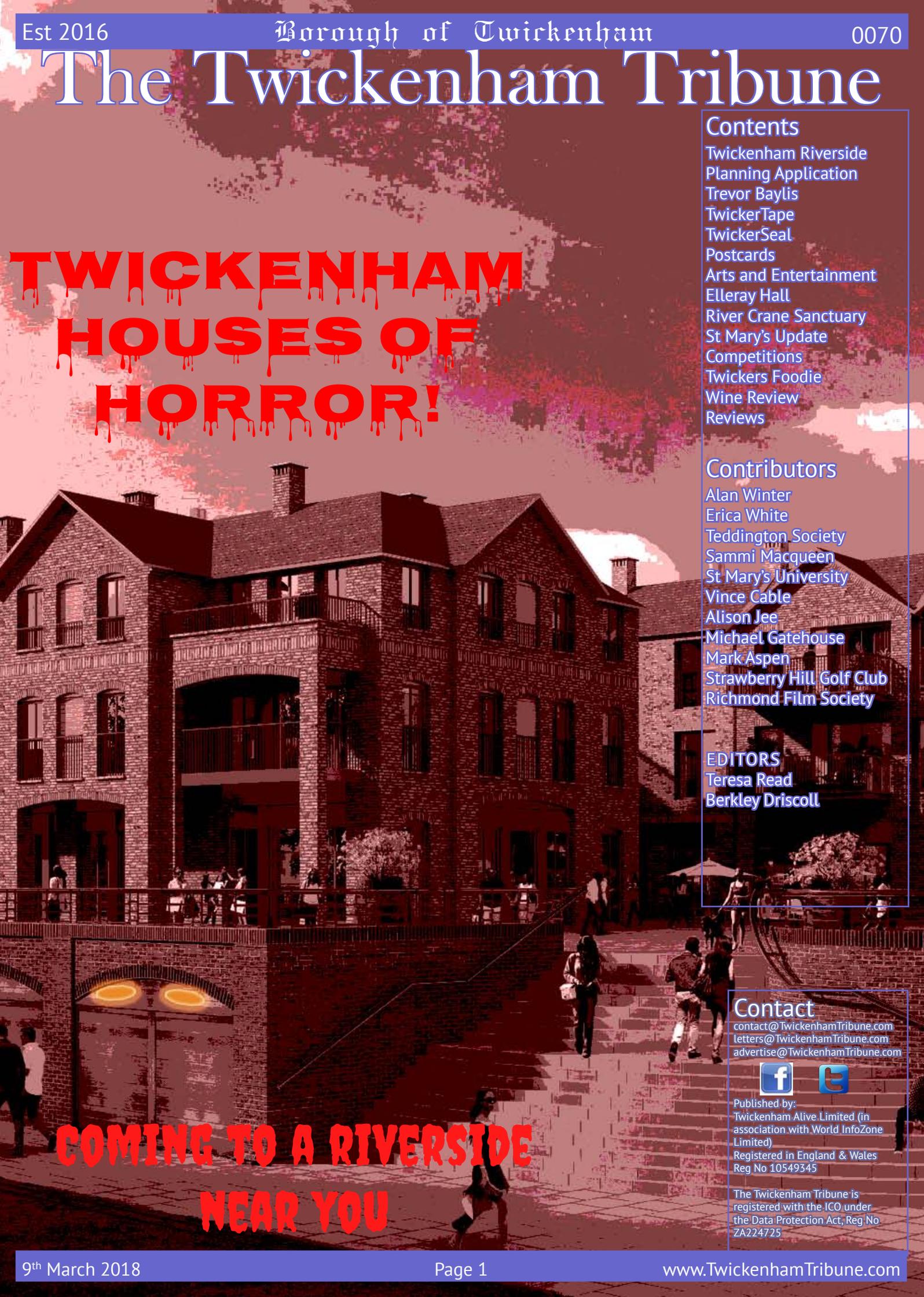


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**TWICKENHAM  
 HOUSES OF  
 HORROR!**

**COMING TO A RIVERSIDE  
 NEAR YOU**



# TWICKENHAM RIVERSIDE SOLD DOWN THE RIVER

Thirty-eight years after Twickenham outdoor pool - a magnificent lido - was closed by the Council the Tory majority on the London Borough of Richmond's Planning Committee sealed the fate of the remaining part of the site - or did they?

Residents watching the proceedings in Clarendon Hall were not offered a crumb - in fact not a biscuit, or tea or even water during the 4-hour proceedings - although the Council had flagrantly spent many £millions to get the application to planning.

Cllr Sarah Tippett, Tory councillor for Ham, Petersham and Richmond, could hardly conceal her boredom as she made her view known in around a minute and Cllr Petra Sale (Con) did not take part in the discussion but appeared to be unwell.

In making her view known the Chair, Gemma Curran (Con), said that she would support the Council's plans and hoped there would be little bird boxes on the [luxury and mundane] housing estate - which in the view of some would blot the landscape - a huge massing of 39 extremely boring flats with underground car parking liable to flooding. The Committee had not heeded the advice of the Environment Agency; as long-term Committee member, Cllr Martin Elengorn said "few local councils would go against the Environment Agency".

LBRuT had run a competition for architects for the site which was won by Quinlan and Francis Terry. Quinlan left the partnership and Francis went it alone producing several different options - none favoured by the local community. Last night there was no sign of any architect at the Planning Committee willing to put their name to the plans.



So, the Environment Agency has objected to the proposed flood defences for the underground car park which is directly in front of the Thames and floods frequently. However, Cllr Pamela Fleming said the plans for the flood defences were "adequate". In its objection to the planning committee the Environment Agency wrote "The proposed development will require a Flood Risk Activity Permit from the Environment Agency, which will be refused".

As a result of the Environment Agency's objection and refusal to give a permit the application has now gone to the Secretary of State. A request for a "Call In" of the planning application by the Secretary of State has also been made independently.

The Council now needs to provide the Planning Casework Unit at the Department for Communities and Local Government with all the planning application documentation for a decision in relation to the Environment Agency's objection. Once all the information has been received the Case Officer has 21 days to assess everything, so the LBRUT Planning Committee's vote for Permission for the Council's planning application for Twickenham Riverside depends on the Secretary of State.

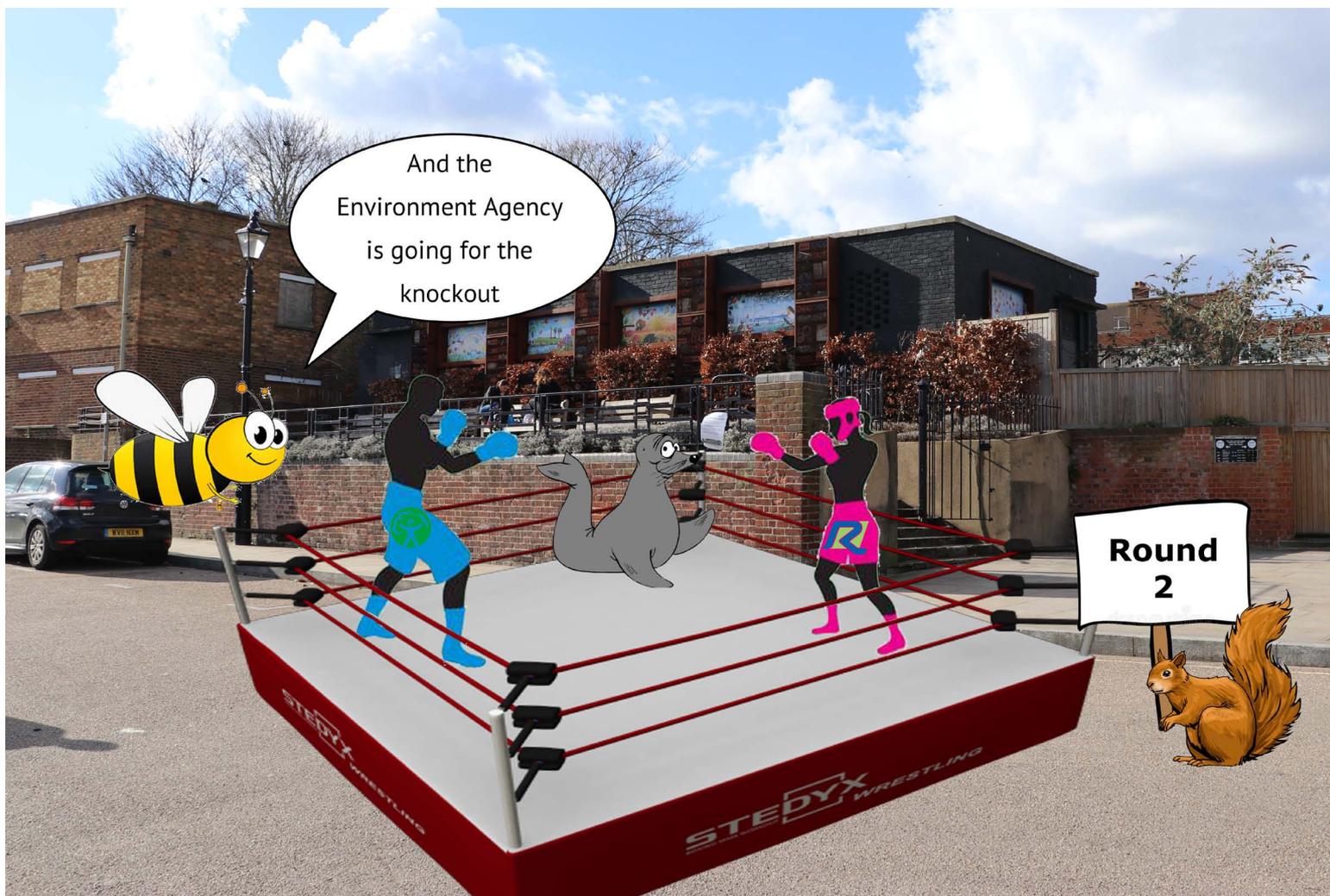
On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> the council's application for a housing estate development on Twickenham Riverside was heard, and approved, by the planning committee.

While the committee blindly accepted the plethora of misinformation from the speakers in favour of the application, TwickerSeal was particularly shocked at the council's and committee's dismissal of the objections raised by the Environment Agency.

In its objection, the EA wrote *"The proposed development is unacceptable..."*; *"As this is a major planning application this will trigger the "call in direction" to the Secretary of State to review the application if you are minded to grant planning permission."* and *"The proposed development will require a Flood Risk Activity Permit from the Environment Agency, which **will be refused**. This should be considered as part of the decision making process for this planning application and referred to in the committee report."*

It is simply incredible that the council thinks it knows more about flooding than the EA and that it feels confident in ignoring and defying the EA's position on the matter! At the meeting Cllr Jaeger asked Cllr Fleming if the council had received advice about flooding; Fleming said that their measurements were adequate as opposed to the Environment Agency.

In the blue corner we have heavyweight the Environment Agency and in the pink corner we have the lightweight contender, Richmond Council.



# Twickenham Riverside Housing Estate

The council's dismal planning application for a housing estate was heard by the planning committee on Wednesday 7th March and, as expected, approved.

The 3 votes against came from Liberal Democrat councillors Elengorn (Teddington), Coombs (Heathfield) and Jaeger (Whitton).

The 5 votes in favour came from Conservative councillors Thompson (East Sheen), Howard (Hampton North), Tippet (Ham, Petersham and Richmond Riverside), Sale (Hampton) and O'Malley (South Richmond). Committee chairman Curran (Mortlake and Barnes Common) did not need to vote but had declared that she would vote in favour if needed.

Speakers in support of the application tried to convince the committee that the proposed development offered 75% of the site as public space, obviously graduates of the Diane Abbott School of Economics; in her summing up before the final vote, chairman Curran repeated this fallacy. Those not in need of Specsavers can see the plan clearly shows this is not the case and the 'Town Square' only offers 6.75% of the application site (300m<sup>2</sup> town square as part of 4447m<sup>2</sup> site).



The clueless conservative committee members were also dismissive of the objections from the Environment Agency regarding the location of the underground car park entrance and flooding issues; they did not seem to think flooding was an issue, although the road names (Water Lane & The Embankment) might have offered a hint. Cllr Elengorn made clear his dismay that the council, and committee, were ignoring the Environment Agency and said that "There are very few local authorities which would defy the Environment Agency. We are a floodable town. I am unhappy about it."

The photographs below may give pause for thought for those looking to use the proposed underground car park!



Photos above by John Milner  
Photos below by Duncan Stone



# TwickerTape - News in Brief

### Councillor Resigns

Annie Hambidge has resigned as a councillor following a conversation with the Leader, Cllr Paul Hodgins. Annie, known as an active councillor and very supportive of local residents, was involved in a disagreement while canvassing for the local election on 3 May.

### Hampton Sorting Office

The Royal Mail is exploring the option of relocating its Hampton delivery office to Ashford. A petition against this can be found at

[https://www.change.org/p/royal-mail-prevent-the-closure-of-royal-mail-s-hampton-delivery-office?recruiter=861783757&utm\\_source=share\\_petition&utm\\_medium=twitter&utm\\_campaign=share\\_petition&utm\\_term=share\\_petition](https://www.change.org/p/royal-mail-prevent-the-closure-of-royal-mail-s-hampton-delivery-office?recruiter=861783757&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=twitter&utm_campaign=share_petition&utm_term=share_petition)

### Whitton Fire

A bungalow and a garage were destroyed in a Whitton fire. A workshop was also damaged in the blaze <https://twitter.com/LondonFire/status/971800715738820608?s=09>

### Management of the Council's property assets

Cabinet Paper on future of Elleray Hall, North Lare (east) car park and Waldegrave premises  
View paper [HERE](#)

### Green Door

Not wasting any time, the council has closed off the entrance to the car park/service road on Twickenham Riverside, in readiness for its housing development.



We heard last week that the earliest postally used Twickenham postcard was dated 28<sup>th</sup> June 1898. The picture side shows an early etching of Popes Villa facing the river. This week we can look a little closer at the history of this magnificent building which today houses the Radnor House School.

Our first postcard was on sale in Twickenham 112 years ago in 1906 and shows Popes Villa as it was at the time seen from the river

Alexander Pope (21 May 1688 – 30 May 1744) was an 18th-century English poet. He is best known for his satirical verse, his translation of Homer and for his use of the heroic couplet. He is the second-most frequently quoted writer in The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations after Shakespeare.



Pope moved to the rural setting of Twickenham in 1719, leasing three cottages on a small plot of land on the banks of the Thames beside a road now known as Cross Deep. Twickenham was becoming a fashionable retreat and many wealthy Londoners had houses being within easy reach of London by water or road. He employed the architect James Gibbs to create a house in Palladian style, which became known as Popes Villa. He had it extended with a portico by William Kent in 1733.

Contemporary drawings and paintings of Pope's villa show a fairly conventional classical 18th-century English country house. Turning his attention to the 5 acres by the river across the street at Cross Deep, Pope set about laying out one of the first 'picturesque gardens'. According to Pope himself, the garden included a Theatre, an Arcade, a Bowling Green, a Grove, and a What Not.

After receiving a licence to do so in 1720, he constructed a tunnel leading from under the house to the garden, and branching from this, a Romantic grotto. In 1739 Pope decided to redesign the grotto as a museum of mineralogy and mining. Material came from abroad: Peru, Egypt, Italy, Germany, Norway and the West Indies as well as from all over England. A stalagmite from Wookey Hole in Somerset was sent by a Mr Bruce and two small "joints" of basalt from the Giants' Causeway in Ireland were given by Sir Hans Sloane, joining over 140 other mineral and geological contributions.

Pope never completed the museum. His death intervened on 30 May 1744, nine days after his 56th birthday. He died in his villa, surrounded by friends and was buried in the nave of the Church of St Mary the Virgin in Twickenham.

After Pope's death, the house was acquired by Sir William Stanhope, who enlarged it with the addition of side wings in 1758. He also extended the garden, and built a second tunnel. What remains of this is a Grade II\* listed building. Little remains of the garden, but the site was listed Grade II on 1 October 1987 and a brick gazebo is also a Grade II listed building.

The house remained in Stanhope's family until 1807, when Baroness Howe of Langar (1762–1835) bought it. She had the original villa demolished the following year and built a new house next to the site and also removed some of the decorations from the grotto and made further changes to the garden. Baroness Howe's house was subsequently partially demolished and the remainder divided into two houses, Ryan House and River Deep.



The original villa was demolished in 1808, being replaced by a new house and then a further one built by Thomas Young, a tea merchant who came into possession of the property in 1842 and had a 'Tudor Gothic' house built on the site of Pope's villa, designed by Henry Edward Kendall Jr. This was completed in 1845. Happily, much of the grotto survives and lies beneath various 20th century buildings owned by Radnor House School. Our second postcard shows the entrance to the grotto in 1906

It has been a school since 1919, first St. Catherine's Convent School and convent, then in 1994 St James Independant School for Boys (Senior School) and since 2011 Radnor House Independent School which numbers over 400 pupils between the ages of 9 and 18. The property has been substantially altered since our postcard was published over 100 years ago.

For many, the grotto represents the idea of art imitating nature and is seen as a symbol reflecting Pope's life and development as a poet. He is certainly one of Twickenham's famous sons.

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 [alanwinter192@hotmail.com](mailto:alanwinter192@hotmail.com) . I would like to see them and I pay cash!

## POSTCARDS WANTED

Cash paid for Old Postcards

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## Reminders:

[Richmond Shakespeare Society](#) (RSS) present **MACBETH** by Shakespeare at Mary Wallace Theatre (MWT), Saturday 17-Saturday, 24 March, eves at 7.45pm, Sun matinee at 3.00pm, no perf on Wed.  
info: [shakespeare.org.uk](http://shakespeare.org.uk)

**A MONTH OF SUNDAYS (AMOS)** by Bob Larbey is presented by Teddington Theatre Club (TTC) at Hampton Hill Theatre (HHT), second in a short season of Old People Behaving Badly, following After Electra in the Noel Coward Studio. AMOS runs from Saturday, 17-Friday 23 March, eves 7.45, Sun matinee, 4.00pm. Main auditorium.  
info: [teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk](http://teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk)

Hurry to get to **SPRING SERENADE: ALL AT SEA**, Cantanti Camera's Spring Concert with a salty sprinkling of G&S favourites in which you are invited to participate. At Normansfield Theatre, TW11 9PS, on Saturday 10 March at 2.30 and again at 7.30pm.  
Info: [cantanticamerati.org.uk](http://cantanticamerati.org.uk), or [langdondowncentre.org.uk](http://langdondowncentre.org.uk).

You need to hurry also to catch **CONCORDIA VOICES** present their concert, **SONGS FROM EARTH TO HEAVEN** at St Mary's Church, Twickenham TW1 3NJ on Saturday, 10 March at 7.30. Poulenc, Parry, Petter and Tippett are in the programme.  
Info: [concordiavoices.org](http://concordiavoices.org).

More choral entertainment: **HAMPTON CHORAL SOCIETY** are holding a **PARTY FOR PARRY** at St Mary's University Chapel, Strawberry Hill, TW1 3SX on Saturday 17 March at 7.30pm. Centenary salute to Hubert Parry and Edward Elgar.  
Info: [bidwell.di@gmail.com](mailto:bidwell.di@gmail.com).

The ever-popular **CONTEMPORARY TEXTILES FAIR** returns to the Landmark Arts Centre (LAC) on 16-18 March, Friday, 6.00-8.30pm, Saturday/Sunday 10.00-5.00pm. Over 70 exhibitors, workshops and talks.  
Info: [landmarkartscentre.org.uk](http://landmarkartscentre.org.uk).

Sunday, 17 March at 3.00 & 7.30pm Music Hall with a Twist of Cabaret takes to the stake at Normansfield Theatre, in **NOW HERE'S A FUNNY STORY** with the ever-popular Miss Airlie Scott and Mr Tommy Parsons.  
Info: [langdondowncentre.org.uk](http://langdondowncentre.org.uk).

**HANSON FINE ART AND ANTIQUES AUCTION** takes place at the above Normansfield Theatre venue on Saturday 24 March. Viewing from 9.30-noon, Auction from noon.

info: [langdowndowncentre.org.uk](http://langdowndowncentre.org.uk).

At the Cabbage Patch Pub, London Road, TW1 3SZ:

**TWICKFOLK** celebrate Mother's Day on Sunday, 11 March at 7.45 when you are invited to bring along a song or two, join in or just sit and listen.

On Sunday 18 March at 7.45 the award-winning songwriter and guitarist **CHRIS CLEVERLY** will entertain.

Info: [twickfolk.co.uk](http://twickfolk.co.uk).

**TWICKENHAM JAZZ CLUB** are in the Patchworks Bar at above own Tuesday 13 March, 8.00 with **ENZO ZIRILLI BAND** featuring **ROB LUFT**.

Info: [twickenhamjazzclub.co.uk](http://twickenhamjazzclub.co.uk).

**EEL PIE CLUB**, Thursday, 22 March at 8.00, present **MARTIN TURNER** ex Wishbone Ash.

Info: [eelpieclub.com](http://eelpieclub.com).

**EEL PIE ISLAND MUSEUM** is now open, Thursdays-Sundays, noon= 6.00 on Richmond Road opposite York House. Well worth a visit.

Also, well worth a visit is the renovated Octagon Room and the newly built Link Building at **ORLEANS HOUSE GALLERY** on the Riverside. Access to the borough art collection and newly discovered and donated artefact is now available. Also boasts a new retail area for classy gifts.

Info [info@artsrichmond.org.uk](mailto:info@artsrichmond.org.uk).



**The Tree Agency**

darryl parkin

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*The Tree Agency*

# Vince Cable and Local Lib Dem Councillors continue to push for accessible stations

Vince Cable MP and Lib Dem councillors Martin Elengorn and Geraldine Locke last Friday met Network Rail officials at Teddington train station to discuss the long awaited lift to ease access faced by disabled people, along with many older people and parents with buggies.

The officials confirmed that structural analysis had been completed, money is now available and the improvements will go ahead as promised next year, hopefully for completion in early 2020.

Following the meeting Vince Cable said: "There have been repeated requests to simply get the relevant train Minister to come to Teddington to understand fully the situation. However, despite his refusal our longstanding campaign to get the lifts installed seems at last to have borne fruit"

On the same day at St Margarets station Vince Cable also met Network Rail officials and was joined by the three Lib Dem councillors representing St Margaret's and North Twickenham ward.

The costs of simple accessibility improvements, are likely to cost under £150,000, but this is still seen by the rail company as unaffordable despite the station being one of the busiest in the borough.

Councillor Alexander Ehmann of St Margaret's and North Twickenham ward said:

"It was shocking to hear that Network Rail still don't have plans to fund these modest improvements. It's all the more concerning to hear they are contemplating a high-cost installation of ticket gates instead. It would be utterly unforgivable if they press ahead with expensive revenue protection equipment while continuing to ignore passengers' needs for access."

A written parliamentary question asked by Vince Cable about Teddington train station last year can be seen here:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-06-21/307/>

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# TEDDINGTON SOCIETY SUPPORTS ELLERAY HALL

From The Executive Committee of the Teddington Society

Elleray Hall sits in one of the older parts of Teddington which still retains some of its rural charm although it's just off Broad Street, close by Tesco supermarket and car parks, not far from the Railway Station and bus services. It was built in 1911 on the site of a previous house of that name and has served the community for over a hundred years in various ways.

In 1946 the Teddington Old People's Welfare Committee was formed to care for the elderly. Today TOPWA (the A is for Association) carries on the good work of running a daytime Social Centre managed by a board of volunteer trustees and is a registered charitable company. In recent years the Teddington Society has held its AGM there, has booked rooms for meetings and met some of their members to talk about their memories of the town. Additionally, we have donated funds to set up and plant up a secluded outside patio area for sitting and enjoying the garden for therapeutic benefit of members. Today our MP holds some surgeries there.

A couple of years ago the Teddington Society was invited to join in discussions with the Council, the MP, Hampton Fuel Allotment Charity and trustees from Elleray Hall and the Greenwood Centre about the future of the building, which was showing its age, and what its future activities should or could be. TOPWA identified the need for a two-storey Community Centre with a large hall, kitchen, toilet facilities, meeting rooms with modern IT equipment, office space, some parking and a garden area. Now, suddenly, the council have announced plans to amalgamate Elleray Hall with RAID and RUILS and create a Community Hub on one of the three sites they own: Elleray Hall itself, North Lane car park and 4 Waldegrave Road. Cllr Pamela Fleming is quoted as saying: "It is important that these groups and organisations have the facilities they need to provide the services that the borough needs in the future."

Well, Elleray Hall is an essential part of facilities local to Teddington - but is there any reason why RAID and RUILS could not be found a home somewhere else in the borough, perhaps in the Civic Centre in Twickenham, and 4 Waldegrave Road sold or found some other use perhaps housing? The point is, Elleray Hall is dedicated to providing services just for Teddington, but they are not; they just happen to be based in the town.

An improved, modernised and enlarged Elleray Hall would benefit from the addition of the North Lane car park, which would ease pressure of parking in Elleray Road and little Middle Lane (which, incidentally, was originally a track for driving goats to market!)

Much more time is needed to present ideas and alternatives, probably after the local elections have taken place and we can see the future of LBRuT more clearly. The council couldn't have forecast the awful winter weather of last week, but the open day they organised at Elleray Hall on February 28th to show off their ideas for a new community hub needs to be rerun so that more people can view the plans and a more representative selection of views obtained. A feedback period of February 28th to March 9th is wholly inadequate. None of us is getting any younger, including our Councillors, and who knows when we will want to use the facilities provided by the hard-working volunteers at Elleray Hall? Let's take time to get it right. The Society would be happy to organise an Open Meeting so that the whole town could have a say - so how about it, Cllr Fleming?

Teddington  
Society



# Teddington Station will still be given a 'lift' confirms Council

Teddington Station is still on track to be made fully accessible for people with limited mobility, heavy luggage or children in prams, Richmond Council has confirmed.

Local groups, ward councillors, residents and businesses, have long campaigned that the station in Teddington should be made accessible for all. And, in 2014 it was announced that Network Rail would install a lift from each platform to the overhead pedestrian footbridge.

However, since then numerous designs have been produced but work has not begun nor has planning permission been secured, leading to concerns about if and when the scheme would be delivered.



Following a meeting with Network Rail, Cllr Peter Buckwell, Cabinet Member for Highways and Street Scene, can confirm that Network Rail funding is still available for the scheme and the lifts are programmed to be installed by 2020.

He said:

“Teddington is an important local station and interchange. However, if you have lots of bags, a mobility problem or a push chair, you can't cross between the platforms without struggling over the footbridge or taking an enormous detour around the local streets.

“I am pleased that we can reassure residents and train station customers that the lifts are still a priority and the project is fully funded by Network Rail. We are hopeful that work will commence in the very near future.”



## Statement from Vince Cable following the death of Trevor Baylis

Vince Cable, MP for Twickenham, commenting on the recent death of Trevor Baylis said:

“I am incredibly saddened to hear of the death of Trevor Baylis, a long standing Twickenham resident.

“He was quite rightly internationally famous for the invention of the clockwork radio and so much else. I am proud to have worked along with him, in his campaigning work to get proper recognition for inventors who he believed were too often ripped off by lawyers and venture capitalists.

“Trevor was truly a great man who made a huge difference to this world.”

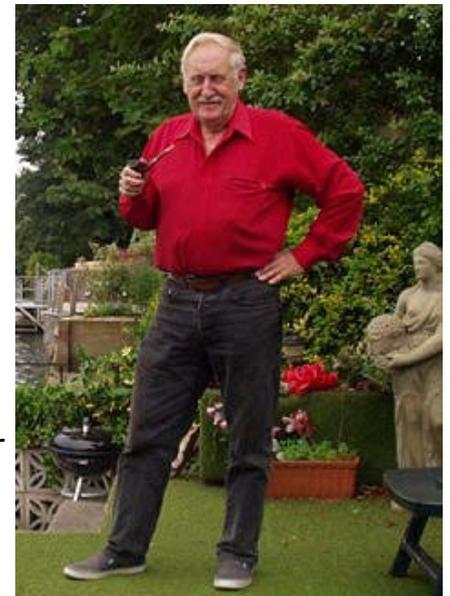
**Trevor Baylis**, born in 1937, was brought up in Southall. At 15 Trevor was swimming for Great Britain and later began to study mechanical and structural engineering.

At 20 Trevor began National Service as a physical training instructor and then went on to become a professional swimmer, stunt man and entertainer.

Trevor's first company was Shotline Steel Swimming Pools. In 1985 he started to develop a range of products for disabled people called Orange Aids.

Trevor's gift for invention came into its own in 1991. Having seen a programme about the spread of AIDS in Africa, Trevor set about developing the Wind-Up Radio as a means of spreading educational information in countries where electricity and batteries were not readily available. Eventually a group of foreign investors came on board forming a company called Baylis Generators, later named Freeplay.

In an interview with Trevor in July 2009, Trevor advised young people to "always follow your heart", for instance, if you are a water skier become a water skiing instructor. Trevor went on to say that life is not about money and that you can only wear one suit at a time.



For many years Trevor lived on Eel Pie Island in Twickenham which he used to visit in his youth - after leaving National Service, he moved to East Twickenham visiting the island at weekends for jazz concerts in the Eel Pie Island Hotel.

Trevor built his own house on the island, constructing a raised deck with soil from the area where he dug out his swimming pool. He says that building his house was the best thing he ever did.

Eel Pie Island is a tight bonded community, always ready to help if something goes wrong. Trevor said that the community is very unusual today. There is so much friendliness and someone in the boatyard will always help with something practical. Also, London, where Trevor often visited to give after dinner speeches and accept awards, is only twenty minutes away by train.

Trevor received many Academic Honours. He travelled to many countries with the British Council and met Nelson Mandela in [South Africa](#): "an amazing man for whom I have the greatest respect". He lectured in [Ethiopia](#), [Malawi](#), [Namibia](#), [Tanzania](#), [Zambia](#) and [Zimbabwe](#) as well as in [Greece](#), [Malta](#), [Slovenia](#), [Bahrain](#), [Cyprus](#), [Israel](#), Palestine, [Singapore](#), [India](#) and [Australia](#).

In 2001 Trevor completed a 100 mile walk in searing temperatures across the Namib Desert to raise money for the Mines Advisory Group whilst demonstrating his new invention, the Electric Shoes.

Trevor promoted the concept of "personal power" and helped inventors take their ideas to market (Trevor Baylis Brands). He believed that none of us have all the skills to bring a product to market but he thought that we could all be inventors: "you do not need to be a genius, often it is pure chance."

<http://worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=EelPieTrevorBaylis>

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## Strawberry Hill Golf Club

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**Email:** [secretary@shgc.net](mailto:secretary@shgc.net)

**To find out more visit:** [www.shgc.net](http://www.shgc.net)



Places People Play



## Cold Weather Payment(s) triggered

<b>Constituency</b>	Twickenham
<b>Trigger period</b>	24/2/2018 to 2/3/2018
<b>Postcode districts affected in your constituency*</b>	KT1, KT8, TW1, TW11, TW12, TW13, TW2, TW3, TW4, TW7, UB10
<b>Met Office weather station(s) triggered</b>	Heathrow

The alert was triggered on the 2/3/2018 for the period 24/2/2018 to 2/3/2018. £25 will be paid to eligible residents within Twickenham constituency living in the Postcode district(s) listed above.

Information from Social and General Statistics, House of Commons Library

## Council backs funding for youth mental health programme

Following a successful pilot, Richmond Council has agreed to continue to fund additional support post for teachers and school staff enabling them to be better equipped at identifying emotional and mental health issues in their pupils.

In Tuesday's budget, Richmond Council announced £50k to continue funding a consultant who has been offering support to schools and teachers in identifying emotional and mental health issues early on.

Mental health issues in young people are a priority for Richmond Council, Richmond Clinical Commissioning Group and the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The schools Mental Health Clinician post was originally funded in 2017 as a pilot. However, since then it has become so valuable in schools, that the Council will continue to fund the role for an additional twelve months.

The funding will be used to help identify the support schools need to identify mental health issues early. It will also highlight gaps in the current provision. In addition, it will fund training and specialist services to support schools effectively in working with young people who are experiencing emotional issues.



# ST MARY'S UNIVERSITY UPDATE

## St Mary's Athletes take Centre Stage in Major Sporting Events



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London

Athletes and alumni from the Endurance Performance and Coaching Centre (EPACC) at St Mary's University, Twickenham took centre stage at two major sporting events at the weekend.

Alumnus Elliot Giles and EPACC athlete Jake Wightman took part at the World Indoor Championships in Birmingham while alumni Sir Mo Farah and Charlotte Purdue ran the Vitality Big Half marathon in London.

In the inaugural Vitality Big Half Sir Mo, who was [named BBC Sports Personality of the Year](#) in December at St Mary's, won the race in a time of 1:01:40 as he prepared for April's London Marathon in style.

There was also success for Charlotte Purdue as she finished as the quickest woman in the race in a time of 1:10:29, which meant she finished as the 35<sup>th</sup> fastest across all competitors.

At the World Indoor Championships Elliot eased through his heat in the 800m to progress to the final where he was pipped to the Bronze medal by less than a quarter of a second by Spaniard Saúl Ordóñez. He thought

he had won Bronze when second place Drew Windle was disqualified but the American was later reinstated meaning Elliot agonisingly missed out on a medal.



Jake also narrowly missed out on a medal when competing in the 1500m event. He comfortably progressed to the final after winning his heat but finished sixth, just 72 hundredths of a second off a Gold medal.

Director for Sport at St Mary's Andrew Reid-Smith, said, "St Mary's is very proud of the athletes and the performances they continue to produce. It was great to see Mo and Charlotte winning their Vitality Big Half races at the weekend and Elliot and Jake running well at the World Indoors, narrowly missing out on winning medals."

**Postponed  
to March 17th  
due to snow!!**

Sponsored by:  
**Sainsbury's**  
Richmond Friars Stile Local



# Skating Returns

## To Richmond!

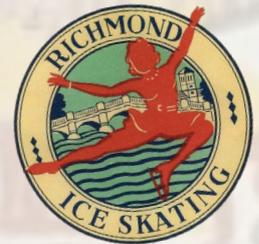
Come join us celebrate

Richmond's skating heritage!

Saturday 17th March

10am to 5pm

The Vineyard School



Friars Stile Road, Richmond, TW10 6NE

High-quality synthetic ice rink for children and adults

Exhibition on the historic Richmond Ice Rink

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Bouncy Castle, Mega Slide, Snow machine and much more!

Children's Book Party to celebrate our new library

FREE General Admission & Exhibition / Ice skating: £5 per half hour session / Bouncy castle, Mega slide: £3 per session

Tickets and information: [www.vineyardpta.org](http://www.vineyardpta.org)

Exhibition supported by [WWW.icerinx.COM](http://WWW.icerinx.COM):



The Vineyard School PTA - Charity no. 1150744



# River Crane Sanctuary



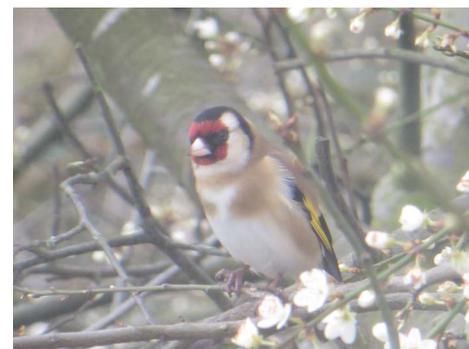
**S**now, sunshine, rain and wind all in one week. The environment needs us all to do our bit in our gardens and locality to help wildlife and ourselves to breathe fresh air and produce good foods for all life forms.

Below is a photo of the wildflower meadows from 2011 which were magnificent and a joy to walk by on the River Crane corridor near Hospital Bridge Road A316. Our council and local environmental groups did this amazing planting and we hope they are there again this year.

Free Seed Kit applications are now available and all the details are on this link. “Transform an urban or unloved space with wildflowers” If you have an area near you which is being littered or looks in need of some beauty then we encourage you to take a look and see if you can do something positive for the community and nature.

<https://www.growwilduk.com/content/seed-kit-applications-2018-now-open>

Photos: Wildflower Meadow, Blackbird in the Snow, Buff Tailed Bumblebee and Goldfinch on the Plum tree



The River Crane Sanctuary Under Threat

<http://e-voice.org.uk/rcs/>

## Plants Taste Better – from Root to Fruit By Alison Jee

I don't know about you, but I try to make sure that (even though we are meat eaters) we have one or two days a week when we avoid meat altogether. And I think I might have found the definitive reference book for anyone who, like me, is trying to increase their vegetable intake and reduce their meat consumption. This beautiful book *Plants Taste Better*, is by Richard Buckley, chef proprietor of the award-winning Acorn Restaurant in Bath, held in great esteem by vegetarians and meat eaters alike.

According to Richard: "Cooking plants is a uniquely different art from cooking meat or fish – it requires not only a solid grounding in traditional cooking techniques, but also a deeper understanding of new techniques specific to plant based cookery. Current plant-based cookbooks rarely, if ever, delve into the type of sophisticated cuisine that is available in cookbooks with meat and fish dishes." But in *Plants Taste Better* he addresses this twofold: by introducing the reader to seventy top notch recipes that take vegetable cooking to a new level, and sharing with them an understanding of how to cook – highlighting specific techniques in each recipe that will enhance their cooking prowess across the board.

It certainly took this foodie on a veritable flavour journey where vegetables and fruit are concerned. There are recipe suggestions for all manner of different vegetable stocks with their own subtle nuances (as opposed to the standard vegetable stock cubes or Marigold powder I confess I tend to have in my cupboard!) Other suggestions include caramelizing or pickling different nuts and herbs, as well as some of the traditional accompaniments for vegetables such as tapenade and aioli, plus some more unusual ones.

Vegetable patés, salads and soups all feature, as well as a section on pasta and bread. Desserts also have the Buckley magic and no aspect of the plant is overlooked, with Richard extolling the virtues of using every part to enhance taste experience and uphold a zero-waste policy.

I love cauliflower, and often create my own version of a hot roast cauli salad (which varies depending on what I have in the fridge). To give you a taster from the book, this recipe for Pan Fried Cauliflower Salad with caper, pine nut and chilli dressing looks fab and relatively easy to prepare.

### PAN-FRIED CAULIFLOWER SALAD with a caper pine nut and chilli dressing,

Pan-frying the cauliflower in this dish means that you don't need to heat a lot of oil. It also means that the cauliflower fries unevenly, which in this case is a good thing, leading to charred tasty areas and softer sweeter ones.

Serves: 4

## FOR THE CAULIFLOWER

2 large cauliflowers  
20g ( $\frac{3}{4}$ oz/scant 3 tbsp) gram flour  
5g ( $\frac{1}{8}$ oz/2 tsp) paprika  
60ml ( $2\frac{1}{4}$ fl oz/ $\frac{1}{4}$  cup) extra virgin olive oil, for frying

## FOR THE DRESSING

40g ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz/ $\frac{1}{4}$  cup) small capers in salt  
25g (1oz/3 tbsp) pine nuts  
80ml (3fl oz/ $\frac{1}{3}$  cup) extra virgin olive oil  
2 cloves of garlic, puréed  
2 red chillies (not too hot), cut in half, deseeded and finely sliced  
zest of 2 lemons  
40ml ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ fl oz/8 tsp) lemon juice  
20g ( $\frac{3}{4}$ oz/ $\frac{1}{3}$  cup) parsley leaves, finely chopped  
20g ( $\frac{3}{4}$ oz/ $\frac{3}{4}$  cup) mint leaves, finely sliced  
4g ( $\frac{3}{4}$  tsp) sea salt



Put 4 litres (7 pints/16 cups) of water and 60g (2oz/ $3\frac{1}{2}$  tbsp) of salt into a large saucepan and bring to the boil. Separate the cauliflower into florets and peel off any woody skin on the stem. Add the florets to the boiling water and simmer gently for 4–6 minutes until cooked but still al dente (a knife will just pass through the stem). Shock (plunge) in ice-cold water, then drain and pat dry.

Preheat the oven to (fan) 160°C/180°C/350°F/gas mark 4.

Make the dressing. Place the capers in a small bowl and cover with cold water. Drain and re-cover with water, then leave to soak for 1 hour. Put the pine nuts on a small baking tray (sheet) and bake in the oven for 5 minutes. Leave to cool slightly, then crush gently using a pestle and mortar, so they are just broken with some whole pieces. Remove the capers from the water (leaving the salt) and dry on kitchen (paper) towel.

Heat the olive oil in a small saucepan and add the capers. Fry gently until they begin to go crispy, then add the garlic and fry for 30 seconds. Remove from the heat, stir in the chillies and pine nuts and allow to cool. Add the lemon zest and juice, parsley, mint and salt to the saucepan. Mix well. Mix the gram flour and paprika together in a small bowl. Lightly sprinkle it over the cauliflower florets, making sure there is a light coating with no lumps, then rub it on.

Turn the cauliflower over and do the same on the other side. Heat the olive oil in a large, wide-based frying pan (skillet), place the cauliflower in the pan and fry until a deep golden brown. Turn over and repeat on the other side. You may need to cook it in batches, adding more oil if necessary, keeping the cooked cauliflower warm.

Serve the cauliflower with the dressing drizzled generously over the top.

**Taken from Plants Taste Better by Richard Buckley.**

There are two very similar Argentina Malbecs in our wine shop; one label depicting the vineyard in gentle pastel colours; the other with bright purple and red hands on a vivid yellow background. One is traditional and solid, the other shouts COME AND LOOK AT ME! So what's going on here? Why are they so different and is it important?

There are two schools of thought. It has long been accepted that a cream coloured label, with image of the chateau or winery, together with a distinctive script, are indicative of quality, and this is certainly the case in traditional winemaking areas such as Bordeaux and Burgundy, where there are sniffy rules about such things.

In the New World, of course, there are no rules at all. Anything goes, and it's sometimes hard to work out if there's any relationship between the label and the wine itself. What does a wine called "I LOVE YOU!" signify? Or "BOSS MONSTER"?

In a way, the wine buying public have become art critics. Are we more likely to buy a product with packaging we like? Are we influenced by the art? The label is after all, just one element to take into consideration when choosing wine for a business, along with quality and cost. However, the label can be so bad it will put people off. I once bought in a delicious Sauvignon Blanc from Chile with an awful label, designed by the winemakers cat. It was so dreadful, and the wine was so good, that I ended up putting an explanatory note on the bottles in order to sell any.

There are some special wines with special labels: Clovella Grenache Mataro (£15.99) from the Barossa Valley is soft, dark and voluptuous, like its 60's retro label, and perfumed with sultry spices.

El Pugil (£9.99), a Tempranillo from Toro in Spain, sports an eye-catching pugnacious label complete with boxing analogies about carrying a mighty punch. And it does. Underworld Grenache Blanc (£10.99) from South Africa's Western Cape goes all out for the soil; sticks, stones and bones. The grind of roots blindly winding into the earth. The label is resplendent with skulls and fossils. Oh, and the wine is delicious.

It's all a matter of taste, of course, but there are nowadays so many outrageous, funky and well designed modern labels that there's a danger of the wine itself becoming a secondary reason for buying the bottle.

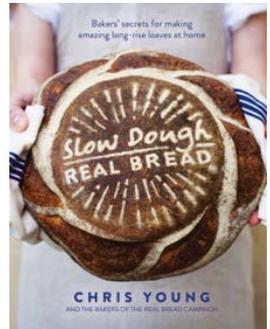


# Offers and Competitions

## Winners of a copy of Slow Dough: Real Bread

Are **Jane Fawley, TW1**

And **John Milner, TW1**

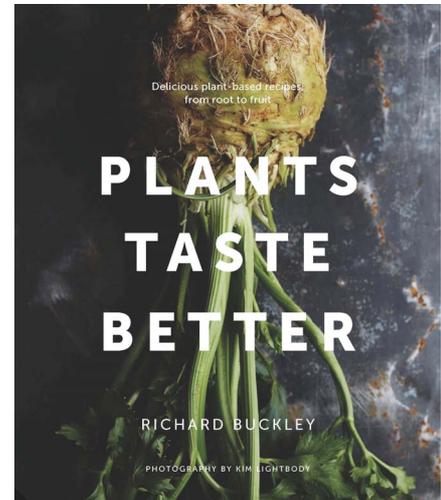


## Win a copy of Plants Taste Better by Richard Buckley, worth £25

The lovely people at Jacqui Small, publisher of this gorgeous book, have kindly offered a copy as a competition prize for one lucky Twickenham Tribune reader to win.

To enter, email [win@twickenhamtribune.com](mailto:win@twickenhamtribune.com) with your contact details and in the subject header, the name of

Twickenham's very own greengrocer and fruit seller, located in King Street.



Closing date: Noon, Friday 23 March 2018. Prize is as stated and no cash alternative will be offered. Entry deems permission for the winner to be named in the Twickenham Tribune.

## Monthly Photography Competition

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

With a glass of wine or beer at the bar afterwards

Email your photo to [win@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:win@TwickenhamTribune.com)

(include your name and postcode) All 4 players must play the same round.

**Photos of pets or wildlife, or any scenes 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](http://www.shgc.net)



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To find out more visit: [www.shgc.net](http://www.shgc.net)



# A Midsummer Night's Dream

Opens this weekend



Get a free ticket when you book yours

**A Special Offer for All Visitors to the Mark Aspen Reviews Website.**

**The Two-for-One offer of tickets for The Questor's production of William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at The Judy Dench Playhouse, Ealing, continues during this opening week.**

The [Questors](#), Ealing's premier theatre is giving two tickets for the price of one for its next show, which runs until 17<sup>th</sup> March.

To claim your free ticket, get the unique Mark Aspen discount code at [www.markaspen.wordpress.com](http://www.markaspen.wordpress.com)



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Concert  
Society

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**Ten classical concerts by top musicians**

**All for just £45**

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in St Mary's Church, Twickenham at 7.45pm*

Lawrence Power (viola)

Simon Crawford-Phillips (piano)

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**Guest tickets (one concert) £15**

**Richmond Concert Society**

[www.richmondconcerts.co.uk](http://www.richmondconcerts.co.uk)



## After Electra

Teddington Theatre Club, Hampton Hill Theatre until 10th March

Review by Matthew Grierson

Is *After Electra* a comedy? There are plenty of laughs, for sure, and the cast are well drilled in getting them. But to depend on this kind of delivery, as the show seems to do, is to lose sight of its drama.



There should be drama after all: Virgie has gathered friends and family at her coastal home not only to celebrate her 81st birthday but also to declare her intention to walk into the sea, perhaps alluding to her namesake Woolf's suicide. Yet it is difficult to take this pronouncement seriously because none of her guests are able to treat it as such. Line readings are given as jokes rather than dialogue, and I did not always have a sense that I was watching characters having exchanges – exchanges that are often heated, teetering between the self-aggrandising and the absurd.

Part of the problem is that Virgie and her set are naturally given to dramatics, she a painter swanning around in a fabulous gown-cum-nightdress, her friends Tom and Sonia respectively a plummy thesp and neurotic novelist, and her younger sister Shirley a member of the House of Lords.



The awkward rhythm created by the cycle of lines and laughs – and don't get me wrong, this play has very funny dialogue – means that scenes tend to conclude unexpectedly and abruptly, without dramatic pacing or impact. The first act rushes to end with the discovery of Virgie's body on the beach, but it took me until long after the lights had gone up to make sense of what I'd seen.

The great strength of the play throughout is Fran Billington, who in the pivotal role of Virgie is a tour de force. In the first act she sweeps and swoops about her seaside abode, blithely declaring her suicidal intentions and waving away the concerns of her guests; in the second act, transformed by a stroke, she channels the same energy into her frustration, one arm hanging awkwardly at her side and, memorably in her convalescence, through frantic gestures with her eyes when other characters presume to speak for her.

Such is her easy presence in the first act, in particular, that it is difficult for the other characters to establish themselves ... ..

Read Matthew Grierson's full review at

[www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/03/05/after-electra](http://www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/03/05/after-electra)

*Photography Tom Shore.*



## A Midsummer Night's Dream

by Benjamin Britten, libretto by Peter Pears, adapted from William Shakespeare.

English National Opera, London Coliseum until 15th March

Review by Suzanne Frost

**S**leep is a funny thing. Humans spend one third of their life in the trance like state and then we dream: wild and wondrous adventures that may be absurd or surreal but can seem as real as anything that happens in bright daylight.



ENO's production of Benjamin Britten's A Midsummer Night's Dream, an opera adaptation of Shakespeare's comedy, takes the dream of the title quite literally: the entire stage is

one gigantic bed with acid green sheets, the playing field that gets tangled and ruffled up with all the amorous action. A giant crescent moon is illuminating the stage. Everything, this production suggests, is a dream – the antics in the fairy kingdom of Oberon and Tytania just as much as the human lovers or the rustic mechanicals. All is just phantasmagorical fabrications of the subconscious. Oberon, King of the fairies, (countertenor Christopher Ainslie) therefore fittingly wears acid green pyjamas under his acid green robe to match his shock of green

hair. Queen Tytania (Soraya Mafi) matches her electric blue nightdress to her blue curls. The Trinity Boys Choir looks spectacular as a crowd of attentive fairy minions, an army of little green leprechauns with bright blue hair and butler's gloves in fiery red. The vivid primary colours create images right out of a surreal LSD dream, the mesmerising visuals are by far the strongest point of Robert Carsen's classic production, now on its third London revival. With Zeb Lalljee's costumes and Michael Levine's inspired design, the minimal distinct staging looks fresh, modern and timely, otherworldly and magical.

The second act has images of pure stage magic you wouldn't want to have missed. With a swish of his hand Oberon unveils three beds suspended in the air, a vision so dreamlike and Dali-esque the audience breaks into a little spontaneous applause. As the beds softly descend, the lighting, can only be described as a post-coital glow. It is beautiful ... ..



Read Suzanne Frost's full review at [www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/03/05/dream](http://www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/03/05/dream)

Photography Robert Workman.



We pick up again this week to continue with our reviews of London's own fringe, The Vault Festival, which staged in lots of eclectic venues in and around Waterloo. This time Melissa Syversen writes about treasures found on the beach.

## Treading Water

by Kathryn Gardner

Subtle Paws at Brick Hall, The Vaults, Waterloo, until 4th March

Part of The VAULT Festival

Review by Melissa Syversen



Treading Water is several things. It is a quirky love story, a piece of slice-of-life theatre and a story about human interactions. It is mainly about two female bodyguards who spend their days on the beach keeping an eye out for distressed swimmers and other visitors to the beach. It is a slow job which involves mostly sitting, watching and waiting for something to happen. Carol is the savvier of the two, quick-witted and with a no-nonsense approach to things, whereas Sue is the sweet, well-meaning if ditzzy one of the pair. She also happens to have a crippling crush on the play's third character, a metal detector enthusiast who walks his dog every morning whilst looking for coins and other bits and bobs in the sand.



We meet these three on what seems to be a day much like any other. As is with well-established routines, all three have their little rituals: making tea, hiding coins in the sand to attract the man with the metal detector and making bets on which type of plastic bag is bobbing up and down in the ocean. One difference today is that it is Carol's birthday and the consequent presence of a seemingly innocuous carrot cake.

One could make the point that these characters and their dynamics might not be the most original, but I would argue that that is kind of the point.

These characters and this piece are so affecting and wonderfully funny because we recognize who they are. We all know people like this, be it being so in love with someone you can barely talk to them, being so painfully awkward and shy you would rather spend your days looking for tiny treasures in the sand or hiding your personal pain and vulnerability behind a guise of wit and cynical realism.

A clear strength in Treading Water is the clear structure and dialogue that beautifully ebbs and flows much like the ocean evoked throughout the piece ... ..

Read Melissa Syversen's full review at [www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/03/02/treadwater](http://www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/03/02/treadwater)

Photography James McInnes

## Say Something Happened

Barnes Community Players, OSO Arts Centre, Barnes, until 10th March

Barnes Community Players are currently reviving three one act plays by Alan Bennett at the Old Sorting Office in Barnes.

Say Something Happened is the production title and that of one of the plays, A Visit from Miss Prothero and Green Forms being the other two.  
Review by Eleanor Lewis

There is sometimes a tendency with Alan Bennett plays, for directors to focus on the comedy and produce a kind of Benny Hill interpretation and there were elements of this in the opening night's performance. It works if that's what you're aiming for, the audience laughed heartily but Barnes is deep in the south of England and possibly labouring under the mistaken impression that northern folk in general are a) hilarious, and b) quite dim.



More importantly though, taking the Benny Hill route ignores the depth and quality of the writing. In A Visit from Miss Prothero, Miss Prothero completely invalidates Mr Dodsworth for no reason other than her own personal satisfaction. In Say Something Happened a contented, retired couple are forced to confront the prospect of old age, incapacity and death. In Green Forms, one woman wholly dependent on the tiresome work she is failing to do is willing to throw her friend and colleague to the wolves at the first sign of trouble, and the appearance in the play's final seconds of the dreaded Ms Binns heralds the arrival of the new 24/7 world of work we in the 21st century are all too familiar with. These little plays should be more than just three comic turns.

Striking in the two-hander, A Visit from Miss Prothero, was Elizabeth Ollier, in full command of the role she had. She understood the embittered and vindictive character beneath Miss Prothero's thin veil of courtesy and played her appropriately. She sneered without appearing to sneer (quite a skill) and managed an authentic, accurate northern accent, finding and delivering the appropriate emphasis in every line and at no point veering into 'comedy northern woman' ...

...  
Read Eleanor Lewis' full review at [www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/03/07/something-2](http://www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/03/07/something-2)  
*Photography Thornton Ramsden*



# Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em

by Guy Unsworth

Limelight Productions at Richmond Theatre until 10th March, then on tour until 28th July  
Review by Vince Francis

Working outside my usual brief, I found myself in the crowded stalls bar of Richmond Theatre enjoying the pre curtain-up buzz (and a glass of a very passable Malbec) on a mid-week mission to capture the essence of the Limelight Productions' latest offering, *Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em*.



*Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em* was an iconic sitcom which was part of the golden age of British sitcoms. It brought Michael Crawford to prominence and was a springboard for his career. The central character is Frank Spencer, a hapless individual, a product of an over-protective childhood and prone to disasters.

Moving into the auditorium, the 70s feel is reinforced by pop hits from the era, always guaranteed to prompt a fond nostalgic smile and a little discreet toe tapping. Such gems as Pilot's Magic and Tony Orlando and Dawn's Say Has anybody Seen My Sweet Gypsy Rose immediately place one in that magic period of wide lapels and flared trousers, nay, even stacked heels.



The single set is the interior of Frank and Betty's home and is decorated with beautifully garish wallpapers and furnished appropriately, including a wonderful stereogram. Frank's attempts at DIY are legendary and the effect is that nothing works without a stamp on the floor, or a slap on the wall in the right place.

The plot revolves around Betty attempting to tell Frank that she is pregnant, whilst Frank is preoccupied with the possibility of appearing on television. Add to that Frank's insistence on cooking dinner, the arrival of Betty's mum, Barbara, with her new boyfriend, both of whom are aware of the news, and the possibilities for misunderstanding and mishap are endless ...

Read Vince Francis' full review at [www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/03/08/mothers](http://www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/03/08/mothers)

Photography Scott Rylander

## The second half of Richmond Film Society's Season comprises the following eight films at The Exchange:

### 13th March – Outside the Law (France)

Directed by Rachid Bouchareb

An Algerian family are scattered across the globe. Messaoud joins the French army; Abdelkader becomes a leader of the Algerian independence movement; Said moves to Paris to make his fortune in the shady clubs and boxing halls. Their interconnecting destinies reunite them in Paris.... Award winning Gangster-Drama movie.



### 27th March – Marshland (Spain) - Directed by Alberto Rodríguez

Set in the early years of a post-Franco Spain, two detectives with things to hide are assigned to a remote part of Andalusia to investigate the murder of two sisters. Clues are scarce, the locals are unwelcoming and the ghosts of the past are everywhere.

### 10th April – Toni Erdmann (Germany) - Directed by Maren Ade

A father, concerned about his career-obsessed and apparently joyless daughter, deploys his dishevelled prankster alter ego, Toni Erdmann, to make mischief, travelling to her workplace and posing as an executive 'life coach'. A startlingly original and uproarious comedy, suffused with pathos and tenderness. Oscar-shortlisted and winner of 73 awards worldwide.

### 24th April – A Man Called Ove (Sweden) - Directed by Hannes Holm

Short-listed for the 2017 Foreign Language Oscar, Ove is the archetypal angry old man who spends his days enforcing block association rules and visiting his wife's grave. After reaching a life changing decision, an unlikely friendship develops and life takes a new path. A funny, tragic and heart-warming transformation of an angry, solitary and regimented old man.

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



# Borough Council Elections

Thursday May 3rd, 2018

Last date for  
registering  
to **vote**

Midnight  
**Tuesday**  
**April 17<sup>th</sup>**

Last date to  
apply to vote  
by **post**

5pm  
**Wednesday**  
**April 18<sup>th</sup>**

Last date to  
apply to vote  
by **proxy**

5pm  
**Wednesday**  
**April 25<sup>th</sup>**

Borough Council Elections will be held on Thursday 3rd May 2018. Contact us on 020 8891 7775 or visit [www.richmond.gov.uk/elections](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/elections) for more information.

Half Page

Quarter Page Landscape

Quarter Page Portrait

Eighth Page Landscape

Eighth Page

Example advert sizes shown above

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