

# The Twickenham Tribune

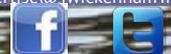
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Eel Pie Litter Pick  
 Photo by Berkley Driscoll

## Vince's Year as Twickenham's MP – Second Time Around

It is a year since Sir Vincent Cable was re-elected as the Twickenham constituency's Member of Parliament; Vince served as Twickenham's MP for eighteen years with Dr Tania Mathias representing Twickenham for two years in between before his re-election in June 2017.

In an interview with the Twickenham Tribune Vince said that apart from Brexit, Heathrow expansion is one of the biggest issues in the Twickenham constituency. It seems likely that it will get Government approval and subsequent decisions will affect local residents.



Local issues Vince is monitoring include proposals for Marble Hill, developments at Richmond upon Thames College, Kneller Hall, Ellera Hall in Teddington, Udney Park Playing Fields and Twickenham Studios and the redevelopment of the neighbouring refinery. Dissatisfaction with the railways, especially in Hampton, is also of concern to residents.

We asked Vince which issue was of particular interest to him and he said that he is concerned about mental health and the lack of recognition of the mental health problems of children and young people.

In the month following Vince's election as MP for Twickenham he was also elected the national leader of the Liberal Democrats.

Vince is in Twickenham from Friday to Monday and has a very good team to help him manage both jobs. As the leader of the Liberal Democrats Vince spends a lot of time on the train and says that he books in advance, so he can get a table and use the travelling time to keep up with his work.

So what does Vince do in his spare time? As many of us know, he is a keen dancer and said he continues with dancing lessons; he is also a member of a gym. Every so often he visits his wife's small-holding in the south of England and has had a week's holiday in Italy this year. It seems that Vince is very active both locally and nationally as well as very concerned with international affairs, but he always has time to help individual constituents as many will tell you, especially if you ever canvas on the doorstep.

*Photo by Berkley Driscoll*

# Borough's Best Banger Competition on Diamond Jubilee Gardens

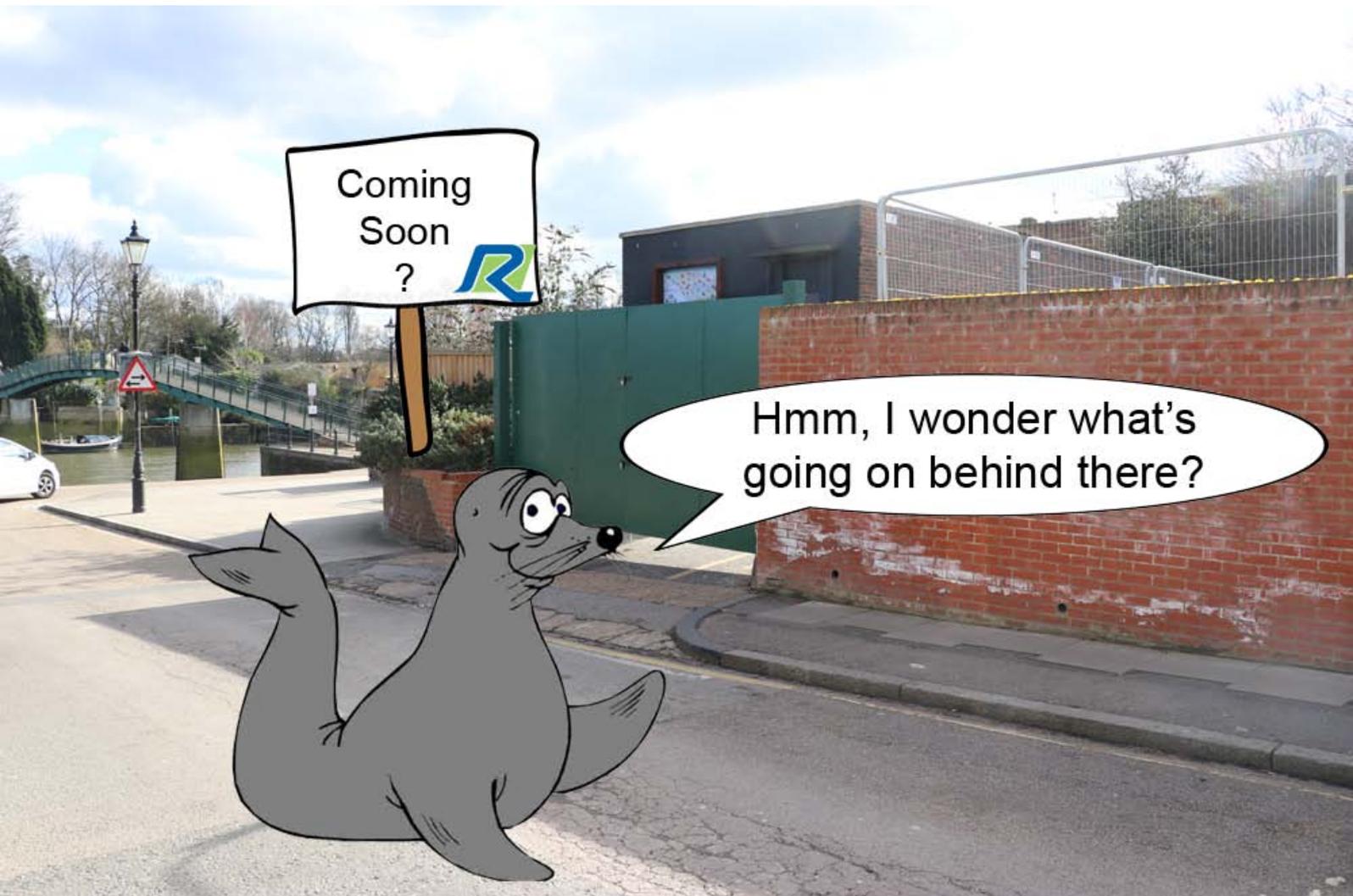
Sunday 10 June was a glorious sunny day, and people came onto the Diamond Jubilee Gardens on Twickenham Embankment to determine which local butcher makes the best sausage. Over the course of two and half hours more than 400 people tasted sausages and cast their votes, while local youth band Powerjam performed on stage. After a tense wait while counting was completed, Limpopo Biltong of Church Street Twickenham was announced the winner by Edward Davies, Chairman of Twickenham Riverside Trust. There was a dead-heat for second place between Bruce's and Armstrong's. The Mayor, Cllr Ben Khosa, presented certificates to all the competing butchers. Borough's Best Banger, now in its fifth year, was organised by Twickenham Riverside Trust, with help from the Borough of Richmond and Try Twickenham.



The last couple of weeks have seen quite a bit of chatter on Twitter regarding the Twickenham Riverside 'site'.

There is much speculation on what the next steps will be and when an announcement will be forthcoming.

TwickerSeal realises that it has only been just over a month since the elections, but in the absence of solid information the rumour mill will continue grow.



# TwickerTape - News in Brief

Actress Keira Knightly, a former Teddington School pupil - Stanley Junior School pupil has been awarded an OBE.

## Church Street Goes Green

As part of the Twickenham Festival this popular two-day garden event returns to Church Street, Twickenham. Come along for the Summer Fete atmosphere!

Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th June, 11:00 - 17:00

More info [HERE](#)

## Clean Air

Thursday 21st June is Clean Air Day

More info at <https://www.cleanday.org.uk/news/clean-air-day-2018>

## Art House 2018

The Art House Open Studios exhibition takes place over two weekends from Friday 22 June to Sunday 24 June, and from Friday 29 June to Sunday 1 July.

The exhibition will showcase a diverse range of crafts including painting, printmaking, wood sculpture, jewellery, ceramics, photography, tapestry, porcelain and digital art.

More info at

[https://www.richmond.gov.uk/media/15778/art\\_house\\_2018\\_brochure.pdf](https://www.richmond.gov.uk/media/15778/art_house_2018_brochure.pdf)

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# PART 79. RICHMOND BRIDGE

About a year and a half ago the editors of the Twickenham Tribune asked if I would contribute a postcard based article relating to the history of the old Borough of Twickenham. This set the parameters for the articles which evolved into this weekly postcard page. In 1965 the old borough of Twickenham was incorporated into the newly established London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. So my target area includes Whitton, the Hamptons and Teddington as well as Twickenham and is bounded by the river bridges we share with Surrey at Richmond, Twickenham, Kingston and Hampton Court.

I have several postcards of these bridges and given that by definition half of each bridge must be in our old borough, I thought we could take a look at them in future weeks starting with Richmond Bridge today.

Our first Edwardian postcard shows the bridge from the East Twickenham side with the Talbot Hotel sitting on the site of the current Odeon Cinema. It dates from about 1910. Other than the width of the bridge being widened and slightly flattened in the late 1930's, the view remains pretty much the same as it did over 100 years ago.



And talking of views, just take a look at the chap cycling over the bridge in the 1890's photo. From the high saddle on his penny farthing bicycle he can see clearly downstream. This is one of my favourite photos showing three types of bicycle crossing the bridge without an internal combustion engine in sight.



And what a bridge it is, with lots of history and its status as the oldest surviving Thames Bridge in Greater London. Richmond Bridge is an 18th-century stone arch bridge that crosses the River Thames at Richmond, connecting the two halves of the present-day

London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. It was designed by James Paine and Kenton Couse.

The bridge, which is Grade I listed, was built between 1774 and 1777, as a replacement for a ferry crossing which connected Richmond town centre on the east bank with its neighbouring district of East Twickenham to the west. Its construction was privately funded by a scheme, for which tolls were charged until 1859. Because the river meanders from its general west to east direction, flowing from southeast to northwest in this part of London, what would otherwise be known as the north and south banks are often referred to as the “Middlesex” (Twickenham) and “Surrey” (Richmond) banks respectively, named after the historic counties to which each side belonged.

Of course, Twickenham remains in Middlesex today but that can be another argument for another time!

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 please 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**

**& postally franked envelopes.**

**Required by local collector / dealer.**

**Please ring Alan to discuss on**

**07875 578398**



It looks as if Summer has arrived. Gardens large and small have been opened to the public displaying the efforts of skilled gardeners all over the borough. Imaginative designs transform the most ordinary spaces. The warm weather after a very wet spell has produced some glorious blooms. And along with the flowers come the Summer fetes, fairs and festivals.

TWICKENHAM FESTIVAL, 8-24 June started the ball rolling with a Tug-of-War in Church Street and The Wizard of Oz Summer Fair at St Mary's Church and ends with Crown Road's Fabulous Summer Fair, with loads of activities on every day in between: Films at The Exchange, visits to Alexander Pope's famous grotto, Radnor Cafe Festival; jazz, folk and even rock'n'roll with a band known as THE ROLLING STONES (anyone heard of them?) playing at the RFU stadium on Tuesday, 19 June.

For full listing get hold of the Twickenham Festival 2018 Guide from local shops and libraries.

Drama societies are rehearsing their end-of-season shows before taking a break throughout August. Booking offices are now open for A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, RSS's appropriate production in July in front of the mermaids in York House Gardens.

Info: [richmondshakespearesociety.org.uk](http://richmondshakespearesociety.org.uk).

Also appropriate in this year that we are celebrating the enfranchisement of women, TCC's July major production at Hampton Hill Theatre will be THE MATCHGIRLS, book and lyrics by Bill Owen, music by Tony Russell. A fight for justice; the original girl power musical.

Info: [www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk](http://www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk)

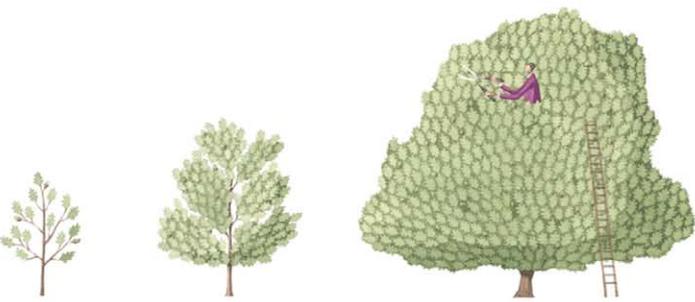
However, before the above, a studio production of THE COLLECTOR, adapted from John Fowles' novel by Mark Healy will be performed by TTC, Sunday, 24 June-Saturday 30 June at 7.45pm. Sunday at 6.00pm. Remember there is limited seating in the small studio theatre. So, hurry to purchase tickets.

Info: [teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk](http://teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk).

Please note that whilst TWICKFOLK and THE EEL PIE CLUB will hold their usual events at The Cabbage Patch Pub on Sunday and Thursday evenings, TWICKENHAM JAZZ CLUB will nobly refrain from putting on an event on Tuesday, 19 June, while there is an alternative gig at RFU Stadium. Meanwhile THE MIDNIGHT RIVER BLUES BAND will be warming up enthusiasts at The Prince Blucher Pub on Twickenham Green from 9.00pm on Saturday. 16 June.

Visual and Fine Artists will be opening their private studios throughout the borough at the end of month. For full listings of addresses and intact details get hold of brochures in local libraries or visit:

[richmond.gov.uk/arts](http://richmond.gov.uk/arts).

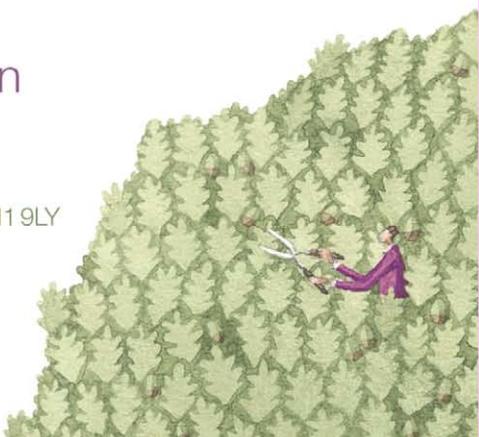


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# Walpole's Strawberry Hill House

Teresa Read

In March 2011 I was a guest at nearby Strawberry Hill House during its restoration. At the time I was a keen photographer and was thrilled when I was offered the opportunity to roam the house at will.

Strawberry Hill House was the project of Horace Walpole (1717-1797) the son of our first Prime Minister. Known as a man of letters and author of the Gothic novel, *The Castle of Oranto*, Walpole moved to Twickenham in 1747 and spent many years enlarging his estate and transforming his villa into a Gothic castle.

The Gothic novel was characterised by mystery, suspense and strange happenings. As the day wore on and darkness spread over unlit rooms I started to feel a little nervous. The building was new to me so at times I thought I had lost my way and had to tread carefully, especially where floor boards had been removed! However, it was certainly a fantastic opportunity and one I shall not forget.

During the restoration work, the exterior render was replaced to bring the building back to its original appearance and a number of rooms on the ground and first floors underwent extensive restoration.



Walpole was inspired by the architecture of Gothic style religious buildings; arches are used throughout the building for doorways, windows and bookcases.

The collection of painted Renaissance glass, which can be seen all over the house, has been restored through the efforts of those engaged in glass historical research and glass conservation. In fact, a whole host of professional restorers have been involved in transforming Strawberry Hill House including surveyors, restoration architects, guilders, upholsterers and fabric weavers.

The £9 million repair was undertaken by the Strawberry Hill Trust and supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund though, of course, the upkeep of such a building is formidable. In 2012 and 2013, together with Berkley Driscoll, a fellow trustee of a small char-

ity, I helped to raise considerable funds for Strawberry Hill House, supporting the Rugby Football Union (RFU), in the organization of the Strawberry Hill Music and Fun Day.



Following the very successful 2013 Music Day the RFU decided, for staffing reasons, that they had to completely withdraw from all organisation of the event and Berkley and I were asked to take over the music and fun day. If we had not taken on the task as organisers, this charitable event - which can expect to entertain up to sixteen thousand people - would not have continued.

The 2014 music and fun day raised a substantial amount of money for the maintenance of Strawberry Hill House and following the event the Director said "*it was great to see more families on site with all the impact that has on the appearance of the event and the enjoyable nature of the day*". Finally, we organised the 2015 event, this time raising another substantial amount for Strawberry Hill House even though there was rain on the day.

Of course, local people will know that the Music and Fun Day was not our only event at Strawberry Hill House. In September 2012 we launched our idea for a Twickenham Film Festival at an open air showing of the UK premiere of a British comedy *Borrowed Time* (starring Phil Davis, Theo Barklem-Biggs, Juliet Oldfield and Warren Brown) with Horace Walpole's Gothic castle as the backdrop. Stars of the film who attended the outdoor cinema were rewarded by a truly theatrical experience themselves with a tour of Strawberry Hill House at night.

At the request of the Director of Strawberry Hill House in 2014 and 2015 Berkley and I organised festive outdoor ice rinks, at Strawberry Hill House, to promote Walpole's Gothic castle to a wider audience. Strawberry Hill House was promoted daily for a number of months each season, on social media, websites, radio, television news, online video and in magazine and newspaper articles. Many people who had never heard of Strawberry Hill House saw it for the first time when they came to skate.

Looking back on my first visit to Strawberry Hill House in March 2011 I would not have imagined playing such a large part in supporting Strawberry Hill House, but I am sure that Horace Walpole would have been pleased to know that because of our efforts so many people have shared his dream and we certainly enjoyed playing our part.

*Photos © World InfoZone*

# Richmond College Students Win Gold Medals at National Wessex Salon Culinaire

At the end of May, catering students from Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) competed in the National Wessex Salon Culinaire competition at Brockenhurst College, New Forest.

Five students – three adult Patisserie NVQ Level 3 and two 16-18 NVQ Level 3 Professional Cookery students – attended the competition along with Catering Lecturer Neal Hook and Patisserie Lecturer Mitsie Butler, and were delighted to storm away with four gold medals and one silver medal. Patisserie Lecturer Mitsie commented, “I’m so proud of all the students who participated in the competition – they all did an amazing job.”

The Wessex Salon Culinaire is the largest live culinary competition in the UK and is organised by the Craft Guild of Chefs and offers participants the chance to show case their skills and expertise in front of a live audience of judges and food professionals.



RuTC Adult Catering Students  
Sherie Lam and Manza  
Sarpong



RuTC Catering Students  
Yunhao Bi, Matthew Haskins,  
Renelle Ly-Pearce



RuTC Student Sherie Lam

Professional Cookery NVQ Level 3 student, Yun Bi, walked away with a gold medal for Knife Skills after having 15 minutes to produce the French knife cuts Brunoise-Julienne-Paysanne and fine dice. Matthieu Haskins, another NVQ Level 3 student at RuTC, participated in the Live Hot competition, where chefs prepare a lamb main course in 30 minutes and won a silver for his dish.

RuTC adult students Renelle Ly-Pearce and Manza Sarpong, studying NVQ Level 3s in Patisserie, were the only two competitors to take home gold medals for preparing and decorating 12 cupcakes each. Their decorating and piping skills combined with their flavour combinations was described as “outstanding and faultless” by a team of judges considered the best in their industry - including head judge Corporal Ian Mark, who won the Bake off Crème de la Crème in 2017.



RuTC Student  
Yun Bi

Part-time adult Patisserie student, Sherie Lam, was awarded the final gold medal for her prepared pastries which demonstrated a wide variety of techniques and skills, making her the only chef to win gold in her category.

CEO and Principal of RuTC, Robin Ghurbhurun, said, “The Catering Department at Richmond upon Thames College put in a lot of work with our students, and the success achieved at this prestigious competition is evidence of the outstanding teaching and learning that takes place on our catering courses”.

# Udney Park Receives Historic Support.

As many of the Friends of Udney Park know, this wonderful set of playing fields set in the heart of Teddington is under threat from Bournemouth Developer Quantum, who want to build 107 expensive apartments on the site. Currently Quantum's plans are being considered by the Council.

The Friends say they are working non-stop to prevent this outrage happening in Teddington; Instead they will retain the entire site for the enjoyment of all the local community for sports and leisure activities. The Friends' mission we are told is that not one blade of grass is lost to development.

The Friends tell us this week that the original donor was the late Lord Beaverbrook who left Udney Park to St Marys University Hospital for the sole use of sport. His Grandson Jack Kidd a well-known professional polo player was extremely upset to find out his Grandfather's generous gift would be torn to shreds by the greed of wealthy developers.

In his personal objections to the plans submitted to LBRUTC. Jack wrote;

"I am outraged that Udney Park Playing Fields, given by my Grandfather Lord Beaverbrook, has been snatched by greedy property developers. This land was donated for amateur sport by my generous family and we will do everything in our power to prevent a developer smashing the covenants put in place to protect this gift to Teddington".

The Friends agree as they continue the "David and Goliath" battle to save Udney Park. A spokesman for The Friends stated that Lord Beaverbrook was a war time cabinet minister, instrumental in two World Wars and was considered Churchill's best friend. That legacy alone makes them want to fight to the bitter end and never give up. Just as these great men did for Britain.



View the latest FUPPF News Letter at:

<http://twickenhamtribune.com/PDF/Other/FUPPF%20Newsletter%2039%20Final.pdf>

# Local charity awarded prestigious Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

Me Too and Co held a Volunteer's Thank You Party on the 14th of June at Revolution Bar in Richmond where volunteers were presented with their commemorative badges by founder Anne-Marie Asgari. A video message from Patron Sally Phillips was played and we were joined by the Richmond Cllr for Children and Schools Penny Frost.



Photos by Berkley Driscoll

# WILL YOUR GARDEN GET A MERIT AWARD?

Pat Schooling



If your home is looking colourful with blooming flowers in the borders and hanging baskets on your frontage, it's time to make sure of your entry for a Merit Award in this year's Richmond Borough in Bloom competition.

It's getting near to the closing date: entries must be received by Friday June 22 and judging will take place in the first week of July.

There are 10 categories to choose from, covering residential gardens and frontages, estates and community buildings, environmental gardens, pubs, hotels and shops. The best in each category wins a coveted Borough in Bloom plaque to display and all entries are assessed for Merit Award certificates of gold, silver gilt, silver or bronze, judged to RHS standards.

Don't miss out. If you don't have a form handy, get it from a borough library or download it from [www.richmondboroughinbloom.co.uk](http://www.richmondboroughinbloom.co.uk).



# Teddington in Flower

Sheena Harold

The weather on Sunday 10th June was glorious and encouraged people to turn out in their hundreds to visit the 9 gardens opening for Teddington In Flower, an annual event run by The Teddington Society where normally unseen back gardens are revealed in all their glory. Organiser Sian Morgan greeted the new Mayor, Cllr. Ben Khosa and Mrs Khosa and showed them round a selection of properties including the gardens of Elleray Hall, Cromwell Road and St. Winifred's Road pictured here. Their tour of Teddington concluded at St Mary with St Alban Parish Church where the Mayoral party were treated to a performance of handbell ringing by the St. Mary's Bells and then had a go themselves.

In just 4 hours over £2,400 was raised from entrance fees plus sales of plants, refreshments, cards and jewellery which, when rounded up, will enable the Teddington Society to donate £1,250 each to the Landmark Arts Centre and Friends of Bushy & Home Parks to enable them to carry out gardening improvements.



Sian Morgan (in pink), the Mayor & Mayoress with Elleray Hall gardeners



With gardener Sarah Whiting



With gardeners Jane Maloney & Roy Greenhalgh



Grant O'Sullivan in St Mary's Parish Church

# Lidos Alive - the story of our lidos

## The Book Available Now

Lidos Alive, the story of our lidos, is one which has probably been replicated in places all over the country where there are bodies of water - and today has gone full circle with the interest in outdoor swimming.

The popularity of bathing has come and gone with even fear during Elizabethan times that it might be harmful to health.

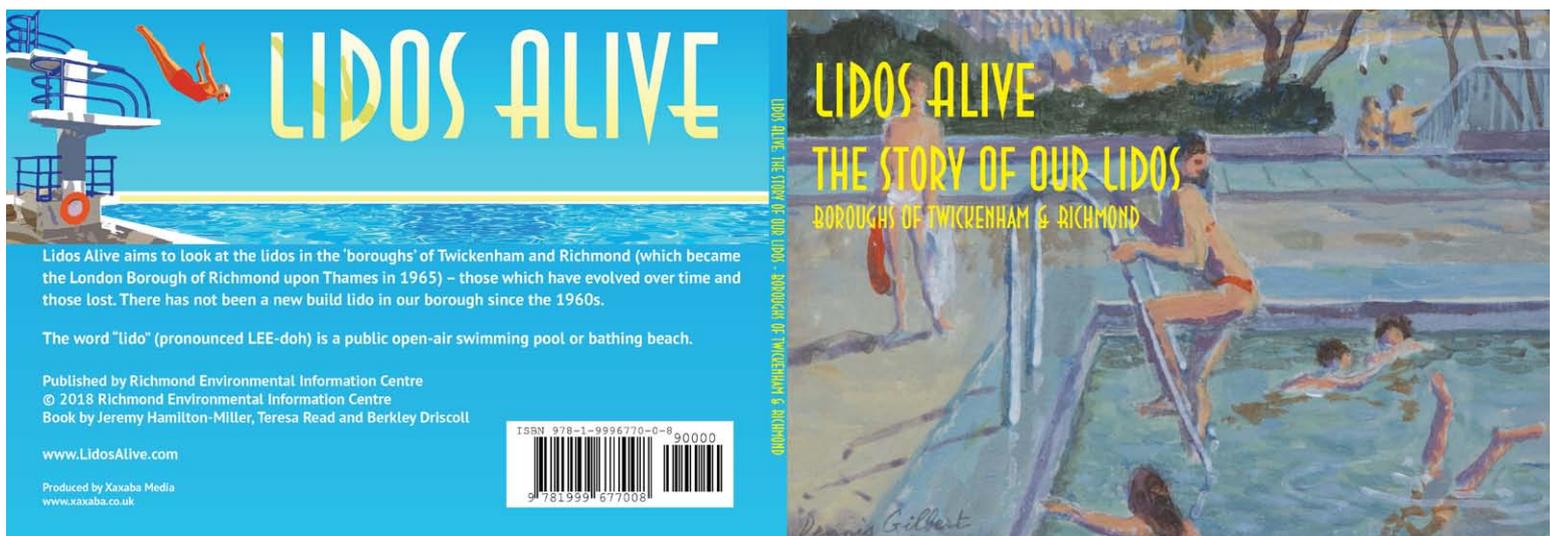
On the Thames, concern over naked bathing in the nineteenth century led to building structures to fence off areas. The "health, comfort and welfare" of the public began to be of concern and baths and wash houses were provided by public bodies.

Of course, the 1920s and 30s were the heyday of the lido movement; Lidos Alive traces the development of lidos in the Borough of Twickenham, later the London Borough of Richmond, from the very first organised public bathing place on the River Crane at Mereway Bathing Place to eleven other lidos, mostly now part of our history.

The book also looks at lidos further afield and a glimpse of what could be built in the future is provided by architecture students from our local college.

Lidos Alive is full of interesting photographs of our lidos and outdoor swimming paintings by artist, Dennis Gilbert.

AVAILABLE from Crusader Travel, Church Street, Twickenham at the special price of £6.



**Funding raised by  
The National Lottery**  
and awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund



# ST MARY'S UNIVERSITY UPDATE

## St Mary's Director of Enterprise and Innovation Awarded OBE

Director of Enterprise and Innovation at St Mary's University, Twickenham, Rt Hon Jenny Willott has been awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

Jenny was awarded the OBE for Services to Political and Public Life. Prior to joining St Mary's, she was the Liberal Democrat Member of Parliament for Cardiff Central, serving in the coalition government from 2012-2014.

During her time in government, Jenny first served as an Assistant Whip, before serving as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Employment Relations, Consumer and Postal Affairs, and Women and Equalities.

During her time at St Mary's, Jenny has overseen a number of big developments, including the partnership between Richmond Council and the University over The Exchange. This has seen the University become responsible for the management of The Exchange, which opened to the public in October 2017.

The Exchange is a newly built venue in the heart of Twickenham with a 300 seat theatre, 5 studio rooms, a cafe and a bar. It is the building directly opposite the entrance to Twickenham station. It has seen a highly successful first six months, welcoming major speakers and acts including David Starkey, Germaine Greer, Jason Mansford, Adam Kay, and Robert Winston, with more to follow in the coming months.

She was also heavily involved in setting up the St Mary's First Star Academy, working with young people in care to help prepare them for University. The academy, which hosted its first cohort of students in Summer 2017, was awarded the Best Prospective Student Engagement Award at the Whatuni? Student Choice Awards in April.



Speaking of her award, Jenny said, "I'm delighted and amazed to be honoured in this way. It came as a complete surprise! I loved my time in Parliament and in Government, and I am now enjoying working here at St Mary's. St Mary's is such a special place to work and I am very lucky to have a role that brings me into contact with fantastic staff all across the University."



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London

# ST MARY'S UNIVERSITY UPDATE

## St Mary's Shortlisted for National Award

St Mary's University, Twickenham has been shortlisted for the British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) Workforce Programme of the Year for the second year running. The nomination recognises Sport St Mary's and the Students' Union's joint sport strategy More Than a Game, which has expanded the volunteering and coaching opportunities offered to students and enabled them to improve their employability skills.

This year the initiative has seen more than 80 students benefit from bursaries that have helped them develop their skills through coaching, umpiring or earning first aid qualifications.

This year, exactly 300 students have been involved in some form of sports leadership role through the University's sports programmes, gaining more than 13,100 hours of experience in the process.

Director of Sport at St Mary's Andrew Reid-Smith, said, "The volunteering and coaching our students undertake helps their personal development and is

invaluable in supporting many local young people to get involved in sport. This is about students fulfilling their potential and benefiting others and it's wonderful that their efforts have been reflected, in being shortlisted for this prestigious BUCS award."



St Mary's is one of three Universities shortlisted for the award and the winner will be announced at the BUCS Awards on Thursday 12 July at the University of the West of England (UWE) in Bristol.



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London

“A light broke in upon my brain, it was the carol of a bird; it ceased, and then it came again. The sweetest sound ear ever heard.” Lord Byron

Birdsong is everywhere in the Sanctuary now as fledglings take to wing and feed along this beautiful River Crane corridor. It is vital that we value green spaces in our built up areas, especially if they can be shown to have a history of wildlife habitation and endangered species presence.

Video early birdsong: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/18554479@N05/41719401965/in/album-72157680139604143/>



Blue tit calling for mum



Magpie youngster just fed and now bathtime



Long-tail tit - parent and fledgling



Robin

The River Crane Sanctuary Under Threat

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

# Hall & Woodhouse pub 'calls time' at the bar to tackle litter

On Monday 11th June, Hall & Woodhouse managed public house, Eel Pie in Twickenham took to the Thames on stand-up paddleboards to tackle litter in the local area.

Taking part were:

Emily Moran, Eel Pie Pub

George Farrell, Eel Pie Pub

Cerys, Eel Pie Pub

Ryan Cobb, Hall & Woodhouse Brewery

Mike Owen, Hall & Woodhouse Brewery

Alex, Vape Shack Twickenham

Ben, Vape Shack Twickenham

Daniel Benson, Mint Hairdressers & Spa

Ben, local resident

Chris, local resident

Violet, local resident



*Click image above to view video  
(They try to fall in - but will they?)*

Emily Moran said “Every year, Hall and Woodhouse organises a Founders Sweepers event in conjunction with Keep Britain Tidy in the Public Houses to clean up the local area of rubbish and litter. Living & working in the beautiful LBRUT, we wanted to organise a river clean-up as we are concerned about the waste (particularly plastics) that goes into our river Thames, Ryan Cobb, our colleague from The Brewery in Blandford linked up with EPIC SUP to organise a litter pick on the Thames. James from EPIC SUP and Ryan gave us some basic training and we were out on the river collecting many items that had ended up in the river. The Megaboard was such fun and the team enjoyed getting together and doing a fun activity as a group. I would recommend it to any local business that wants a fun couple of hours on the river”

George Farrell, Deputy General Manager of The Eel Pie – “It was so much fun on the Megaboard – definitely recommend it”



Photos by Berkley Driscoll

<http://epicsup.org/>

# Steam, Steel and Shells - 13

By Helen Baker

Autumn 1915, and the Pelabon “Belgian Village on the Thames” had been born in Twickenham and Richmond. With nearly 2000 munitions workers in the towns plus some other refugees in different occupations, the Belgians now formed a distinct community and made a striking impact on the townscapes.

As you can see from these rows of Belgian shops at the foot of Richmond Bridge in East Twickenham, opposite the side street where all the Pelabon workers streamed out at the end of their shifts creating a captive market most profitable for the shops.

The Belgian daily *L'indépendance Belge* was cried for sale at the foot of Richmond Bridge. It was said that at shift times you could hear the hubbub of French, Walloon and Flemish on the streets, but not a word of English.



Belgian shops in Richmond Road, East Twickenham, at the foot of Richmond Bridge.



Another row of shops in Richmond Road, also near the Pelabon Munitions Works.

*Photos from the Royal Military Museum-War Heritage Institute, Brussels (image not to be used without prior consent)*

Twickenham-Richmond Belgians were now a distinct community alongside the English, living their own way of life. Moules et frites, the prime Belgian delicacy (mussels and chips) were sold from Au Java, the Belgian café by Richmond Bridge, and the Belgian delicatessen stocked Ardennes ham and paté. Further down the road on the other side, the Belgian butcher, who scandalised the conventional English locals by providing horse-meat for his Belgian customers.

© East Twickenham Centennial Group (Heritage Lottery Funded) and Hollycombe Steam Museum.

Think Portugal, think what? The Algarve, a couple of footballers, Carmen Miranda, a jellyfish, some custard tarts. WRONG! You think wine. Lots of excellent wine. There has always been a significant wine industry but for ages the reds were made in a pre-historic style and you only saw the venerable Mateus Rose on the supermarket shelves here. But enough of the nostalgia and on to the good stuff. There's Port, of course, from the Douro Valley, and Madeira, and there are now wonderful table wines from Lisbon, from Alentejo, Dow, Bairrada. There's wine from Vinho Verde, the Algarve and the Azores. Top quality wine is made the length and breadth of Portugal. Like all the other major wine producing countries in Europe, Portugal has it's own appellation system, from DOC wine at the top down to the country wine Vinho de Mesa, which admittedly might be of questionable quality, although probably honest, and would fall into the category of delicious whilst watching a Mediterranean sunset but not quite so much on a rainy evening in the UK.

It's the mid price wines that I think are worth talking about. There's a marvellous 2013 red from Douro called Vega at £10.99 which is full bodied, rich and smooth and masquerading as a £15 bottle. Just about perfect with sausages and steaks; the Touriga Nacional grape giving it weight and complexity. Coreto Tinto (£8.99) is an interesting wine: created in the Lisboa region, Europe's most westerly, Coreto is again full bodied, with brambly fruit and hints of spice, but the alcohol content is only 11.5%. A winner, if you like your head at default setting in the morning! A seriously serious wine, however, is Monte Cascas Reserva 2014 from the Alentejano region in the southern half of Portugal at £17.99. Smoky, spicy, strength and power. I did read a tasting note for this wine which claimed 'notes of wet soil'. It's worth trying a bottle for that alone.



Vinho Verde is perhaps Portugals best known white wine and this really is perfect summer drinking. The grapes are Trajadura, Loureiro, Arinto and Azal; fresh, crisp, bright, clean. Casal Garcia Vinho Verde is fantastic value at £9.99, ticking all the boxes of summer fun with its eyes shut.

Explore Portugal this summer by enjoying its wines.

## SUMMERTIME AND THE LIVING IS EASY

Well, summer certainly seems to be here now, and everything is now in full swing. Next week is Royal Ascot, and it won't be long till Wimbledon. There are school fairs to cook for, and lots of summer events and other outdoor music. Our friends at Paul Cooper's, and other independent greengrocers have some superb soft fruit at the moment and at very reasonable prices. Or you may be growing your own of course. Here is a lovely take on a classic dessert that lends itself to tea parties or dinners...or even picnics. What's more, the choux buns can be made in advance, kept in an airtight container and filled at the last minute. If you don't want to make choux pastry, you can always take the easy route (like me!) and use shop bought pastry cases or little tartlets – the filling works just as well with them.

This filling uses sweet, seasonal berries and a crème Anglaise, plus Bonne Maman strawberry & wild strawberry conserve. This recipe is courtesy of Bonne Maman, but you could of course use home made or other shop bought conserves.

### **WILD STRAWBERRY PROFITEROLES** (makes 12)

250g tub mascarpone cheese

175ml ready-made chilled crème Anglaise or vanilla custard

4 generous tbsp. Bonne Maman Strawberry & Wild Strawberry Conserve

200g mixed fresh summer fruits

icing sugar, to dust

### **For the choux pastry**

60g strong plain flour

50g unsalted butter, diced

2 large eggs

## Method:

1. Heat the oven to 200C, fan oven 180C, gas mark 6. Line 1 or 2 baking sheets with baking parchment.

2. To make the pastry, sift the flour onto another sheet of parchment. Put the butter in a small saucepan with 150ml cold water. Heat gently until the butter has melted, then bring to the boil. When the liquid is bubbling furiously remove the pan from the heat and pour in all the flour off the paper. Beat with a wooden spoon until the flour has been blended into the liquid. Gradually beat in the eggs until the mixture is a thick, smooth and glossy paste.



3. Drop tablespoons of the choux paste onto the baking sheets, leaving about 2.5cm between them.

4. Bake the choux buns for 25 – 30 minutes or until golden and crisp. Turn off the oven, make a small slit in each bun and return to the oven for a further 2-3 minutes to dry out. Cool on a wire rack.

5. Meanwhile, put the mascarpone in a bowl and gradually beat in the custard until smooth.

6. When ready to serve, halve the profiteroles and put 1 tsp of conserve in the bottom of each one. Fill with the mascarpone custard and top with a mixture of fruits. Replace the tops and dust with icing sugar. Serve straight away.

*There are lots more recipes available on [www.bonnemaman.co.uk](http://www.bonnemaman.co.uk)*

# Offers and Competitions

## WINNER OF TEA FOR TWO AT THE PETERSHAM

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Paul Campbell  
TW1



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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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## Agrippina

by George Frideric Handel, libretto by Vincenzo Grimani

The Grange Festival, The Grange, Northington until 6<sup>th</sup> July

A review by Mark Aspen

Sex, wealth and power are often said to be the prime motivators of the human psyche. This is indisputably the case for the protagonists in Handel's opera, *Agrippina*, set in the court of the Roman Emperor Claudius in AD54. So, when the curtain opens and the audience sees a set that is a mirror image of the auditorium, it could be asking the question, could we, even we, act in this way if we had power, power moving towards absolute power?



The story, told straight, would horrify and disgust even the most worldly, but Handel's trick is the broad use of satirical comedy to ridicule their excesses. The Grange Festival has taken the intention and has run with it in a wonderful concatenation of surprises, using imaginative settings and superb singing that well understands the brilliance of Handel's music in underlining the dissembling nature of almost all of the protagonists. For here we have a hornet's nest of double-dealing schemers, morally starving but egotistically over-fed.



We meet Agrippina in the stalls of the theatre, already scheming, for her husband Claudio (Claudius) is reported to have been drowned at sea, and she sees that she can seize the opportunity to have her own son Nerone (Nero), a pampered 17 year old, declared Emperor. Agrippina has a great line in playing one end against the other. So she enlists the aid of the courtier Pallente with promises of exclusive sexual favours. She then enlists the aid of another courtier Nasisco with equal promises of exclusive sexual favours.

You see, this theatre she is in could be figuratively a theatre of war, or an operating theatre, or possibly a lecture theatre, for Nerone enters and she now explains to him what he must do to secure the backing of the people ... bribe them. But, hold on, they are Us, the real audience of The Grange Festival. Nero scatters his largesse amongst us, a few fat envelopes (tickets to The Grange?) and we are bought. Meanwhile Agrippina flicks cigarette ash down from the stage.

Read Mark Aspen's full review at [www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/06/10/agrippina](http://www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/06/10/agrippina)

*Photography by Robert Workman*



## Royal Weddings Come in Pairs

By Keith Wait

SMDG at Garrick's Temple to Shakespeare, Hampton, 9<sup>th</sup> June

A review by Didie Bucknall



Keith Wait has given us yet another enlightened historical insight into history in his latest presentation set in Georgian England in the early 1800's. *Royal Weddings Come in Pairs* was performed by members of St Mary's Drama Group at Garrick's Temple to Shakespeare.



The scene is set in the dying embers of the reign of George III, with the assumption of the Regency by Prinky, the future King George IV, and the tragic curtailment of nations' hopes for the future of the monarchy by the death in bungled childbirth of Princess Charlotte. As all the remaining Princes had been happily sowing their wild oats with unsuitable women, the Royal Succession was in peril. Of Queen Charlotte's 15 children, only 12 are alive. The Queen bewails the fact that she has 56 grandchildren, none of whom are legitimate. The race was on to find suitable princesses for the royal dukes to marry and produce an heir to the throne.

In 1830, the Duke of Clarence, the soon to be King William IV was to lay the foundation stone of the rebuilt church as we know it today. He also presented the church with the magnificent now newly-restored organ and he and Queen Adelaide were regular worshippers at St Mary's.



Topical references and jokes abounded. There were preposterous suggestions that one of the Princes might marry an American. Divorced women were completely discounted as suitable wives. There were worries that we could be ruled by Brussels and that the Napoleon was trying to block our trade with Europe but that Admiral Collingwood was successfully preventing the French from fishing in our waters.



The pair of marriages of Duke of Kent with Princess Victoria and the Duke of Clarence with Princess Adelaide took place in 1818 and, drawing on yet another parallel with Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, a maid spilt the beans to inform us that there had indeed been another royal wedding, that of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex but, as their marriage had not received the royal assent, it had been annulled; their heirs were declared illegitimate and their line would die out, so there could never be another Duke of Sussex.

Read Didie's full review at

[www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/06/10/royal-weddings-come-in-pairs](http://www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/06/10/royal-weddings-come-in-pairs)



## Il Barbiere di Siviglia

by Gioachino Rossini, libretto by Cesare Sterbini

The Grange Festival, The Grange, Northington until 30<sup>th</sup> June

A review by Mark Aspen

Moustaches, moustaches everywhere! Go to The Grange and you will see medium-sized moustaches on the ground-rows that hide the footlights, large moustaches on the candelabra, an enormous moustache-shaped hedge, and even a titanic moustache of woven willow bedecking the staid façade of The Grange itself! We are prepared; we know that we are in for some moustachioed merriment. Even the most sober-sided opera-lover would not fail to enjoy the playfulness of The Grange Festival's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*.



*Il Barbiere di Siviglia* premiered in Rome in 1816, but had been sabotaged by a rival. Its British premiere was in March 1818 and The Grange Festival production celebrates this bicentenary with a projected strapline, "The Barber of Seville in Britain 1818 to 2018".

When the curtain opens we see front of Doctor Bartolo's house fashioned as a giant bust of Rossini, an inspired homage to the composer. This house in an eye-opener in more than one sense for, when there is a knock on the door, then to the delight of the audience, Rossini's eyes open as the round windows to Rosina's bedroom. Moreover, the house is mounted on the revolve and when it turns to show the interior, we see Bartolo's study at ground floor. Upstairs is an exuberant Rocco chamber for Rosina, in the form of a golden circular pergola complete with swinging perch. *She's only a bird in a gilded cage*: the analogy hits one, well ... in the eye. The Grange Festival's imaginative production is musically alive, with acrobatic singing and great comic timing. In its witty setting, the cast are clearly enjoying their roles, and that enjoyment is infectious. It is a rollicking fun production, enjoyed by cast and audience in equal measure. There have been some brilliant productions of *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, but this one beats them all ... by a whisker!



Read Mark Aspen's full review at [www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/06/12/barber](http://www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/06/12/barber)

Photography by Simon Annand



## 84 Charing Cross Road

by James Roose-Evans, from the book by Helene Hanff

Cambridge Arts Theatre Productions at Richmond Theatre until 16<sup>th</sup> June, then on tour until 30<sup>th</sup> June

Review by Mark Aspen

When I was a student in London in the 1960's, I used to visit the bookshops that were a feature of Charing Cross Road (sadly almost all now gone, trampled by the Amazon behemoth). I even started a small collection of 17<sup>th</sup> Century books (it was possible then for a few shillings). The familiar ambience of these treasure-troves came flooding back to me when the curtain opened on the Cambridge Arts Theatre's



amazingly authentic set for *84 Charing Cross Road*, which takes place from 1949 to 1969. The meticulous period detail is spot on in every particular. I was of one accord with the character in the play that describes the shop as smelling "musty, dusty, oaky", an aroma of the imagination.



*84 Charing Cross Road* tells of real a real-life correspondence, which lasted all of those twenty years, between Helene Hanff, an American writer, and Frank Doel, the chief buyer of Marks and Co, antiquarian booksellers, whose shop was situated at the eponymous address.

Hanff was an anglophile and obsessed with English literature and the classics. When the correspondence began, she was an earnest 33 year old, then living a reclusive life as a literary hack in New York City, ensconced in an old and cold apartment block. Doel was a married man from suburbia, eight years her senior. He was a modest man, somewhat reticent, whose only interest outside his work and family was committee membership the Society of Antiquarian Booksellers' Employees, sometimes known jokingly (presumably they sometimes let their hair down) as "The Bibliomites".

Twenty years of pen-pal letters between an ascetic and impoverished spinster and a reserved and ostensibly dull middle-aged man hardly seems the stuff of gripping theatre.

BUT, with inspired directing and cracking first-class acting, *84 Charing Cross Road* becomes a beautiful and engaging gem of theatre. Certainly, it is almost entirely plotless, and every character is so dammed nice, but freedom from overarching dramatic tension releases it to be what it is, a gentle and subtle mood-piece.

Read Mark Aspen's full review at

[www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/06/13/84-ch-x-rd](http://www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/06/13/84-ch-x-rd)

Photography by Richard Hubert Smith



The original girl power musical is coming to the main auditorium of Hampton Hill Theatre in July

## THE MATCHGIRLS

Book & Lyrics by Bill Owen, Lyrics by Tony Russell  
Directed by Marc Batten

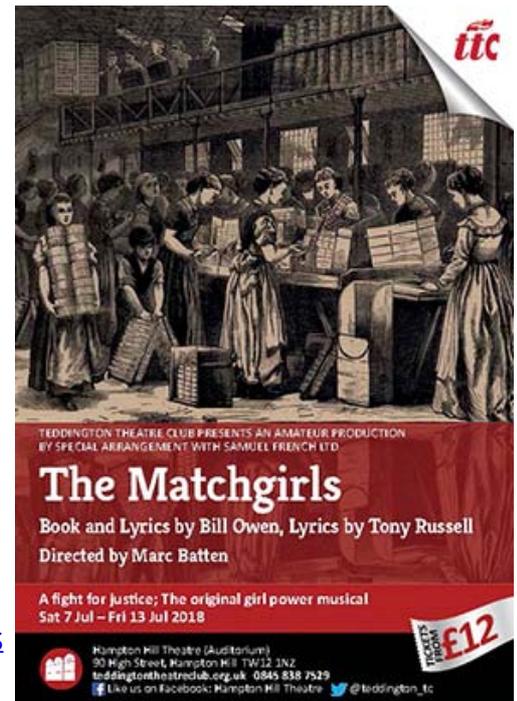
A fight for justice; the original girl power musical Spring 1888. Frustrated by their terrible working conditions, a group of angry female match factory workers discuss their treatment by the factory owners. Anger soon turns to strike action and with the help of liberal reformer Annie Besant, they do battle with a callous and brutal management. But strike leader Kate is soon forced to choose between a new life in America with her fiancé or fighting on till victory.

Dates: Sat 7 Jul – Fri 13 Jul 2018

Performance times: Sunday 6pm - Weekdays 7.45pm

Website link

<http://www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk/production/the-matchgirls>



### Sarah Chapman - A Matchgirls Strike Leader

Thanks to finding a thirteen-year-old post by Dr Anna Robinson on Ancestry, in September 2016 I discovered that my Great Grandmother was a Matchgirl. It also led me to her grave in Manor Park Cemetery, Forest Gate.

Sarah was a leading member of the Strike Committee and was in the newly formed Union Committee. She was the first worker from the Bryant and May factory to be elected as a delegate to represent the Union at the TUC – firstly with Annie Besant in London, 1888, and then with D. Taylor in Liverpool, 1890 where she seconded a motion on the Truck Act.

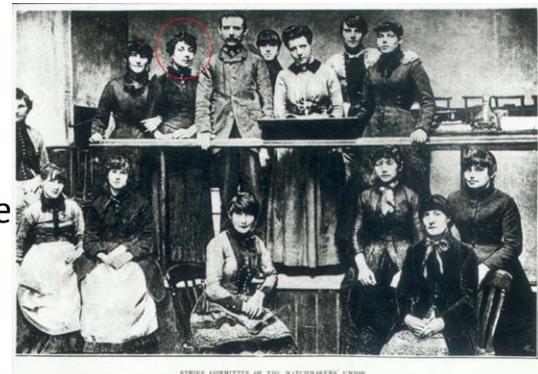
Her grave is an unmarked paupers plot and is threatened with 'mounding'. We have made progress negotiating for a gravestone but the threat of mounding remains.

To mark this years' 130th anniversary of the Strike we organised a Commemorative Walk on the 7th July, from Mile End to Bouverie Street, just as the Matchgirls did, to meet Annie Besant. Sarah was one of three workers to see her in her office.

The Matchgirls were the vanguard of 'New Trade Unionism'. Social reformer Clementina Black had spoken on 'Female Labour' at the Fabian Meeting that led to their support for the Matchgirls. Their achievement inspired her to use their success to call for women's trade unions, and promote equal pay for women and men. The next year, the 1889 Dockers Strike was built on their example.

To mark this we are in talks with an internationally known sculptor with a view to producing a statue to the Matchgirls in the East End.

If you would like to know more and support us, please contact me at [samdearman0411@gmail.com](mailto:samdearman0411@gmail.com).  
*Samantha Johnson*



# Your local community project needs your vote!

Richmond Council have reached the public consultation stage of the Community Fund where we encourage Richmond Borough residents to give their support for up to 2 of the 10 projects across the Borough that have successfully passed the first round of validation.

## The projects you can vote on are:

Crane Park Island Nature Trail,  
Heathfield

A Village Green for Whitton,  
Whitton

Community Kitchen, East  
Twickenham

Playground for Suffolk Rd.  
Recreation Ground, Barnes

Feasibility study to enhance St  
Richard's Square, Ham

Grey Court School community  
sports changing facility, Ham

Rebuild of the Teddington Cricket  
Club Pavilion, Teddington

Creation of a youth Centre,  
Hampton North

New build of Oldfields Pavilion,  
Hampton

A Place to Go – community space,  
Hampton Hill

The polling period is between Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July and all you need to do is follow this link [www.richmond.gov.uk/consultation\\_fund](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/consultation_fund), read the project descriptions and then choose up to 2 projects that appeal to you. Your vote will go towards the final decision to be made by Councillors as to which project are awarded funding in 2018.

Your community projects will really appreciate your support and be able to offer even more opportunities to residents.



# New technique paves the way to a global underwater earthquake monitoring network

Taking advantage of the vast undersea telecommunications cable infrastructure, a global network for underwater earthquakes could be implemented using laser-based techniques

LONDON 14 June 2018 – Scientists at the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) and Istituto Nazionale di Ricerca Metrologica (INRiM, Italy) have developed an innovative method of detecting underwater earthquakes, using undersea cables usually used for communication purposes.

Whilst approximately 70% of the surface of the Earth is covered by water, the large majority of earthquake monitoring stations are on land because it is too costly to install them on the sea bottom. A network of seafloor stations large enough to cover most of the Earth's waters is estimated to cost between \$700 million and \$1 billion. A large fraction of underwater earthquakes go undetected, limiting our ability to investigate the Earth's interior.

New research from NPL and INRiM, in collaboration with the British Geological Survey, and the University of Malta, detected earthquakes using land-based and underwater fibre optic links of lengths up to 535 km and ranging from 25 to 18,500 km from the earthquake's epicentre. Optical fibre has previously been used to transmit data between earthquake-detecting devices, but in the new method the fibre itself is used for detection. The researchers used the land-based and undersea cables as 'acoustic sensors' – detecting earthquake-induced vibrations along the length of the cable. By using this technique on the existing undersea telecommunications network, a global network for underwater earthquake monitoring could be implemented, without the need to install additional devices on the seafloor.

The undersea cable network, which currently accounts for over 1 million km of optical fibre, already spans the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and is rapidly expanding due to an exponential rise in mobile services and the Internet. Taking advantage of this vast network could enable the detection of huge numbers of underwater earthquakes that are currently missed as well as furthering our understanding of the Earth's interior. By integrating this approach with the current seismometer-based networks, the global earthquake monitoring infrastructure could be significantly expanded and strengthened, on both land and sea. Utilising the existing cable infrastructure means that the associated costs will be substantially lower than installing new sensors on the seafloor.

In the future, the technique could potentially even be used to ensure precious life-saving warning time in the event of tsunamis caused by underwater earthquakes, or even changes in volcanic structure. Although the innovation has not been tested in this area, the ability to detect underwater earthquakes close to the epicentre, rather than after they are picked up by on-land seismometers, presents an exciting and crucial future opportunity.

Giuseppe Marra, Senior Research Scientist at NPL and lead author on the paper, said:

“Detecting underwater earthquakes is crucial to understanding how our planet works, but installing a large array of ocean bottom sensors is a very challenging and expensive task. We have now discovered there is a solution at hand, which relies on existing infrastructure rather than on new installations. A great new tool for research in geophysics and other areas of science.

We made the first detection of seismic events whilst running frequency metrology experiments not designed to detect earthquakes. I am delighted to see two scientific areas, frequency metrology and seismology, meeting in such an unexpected way.”



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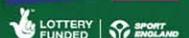
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**Email:** [secretary@shgc.net](mailto:secretary@shgc.net)

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



Places People Play



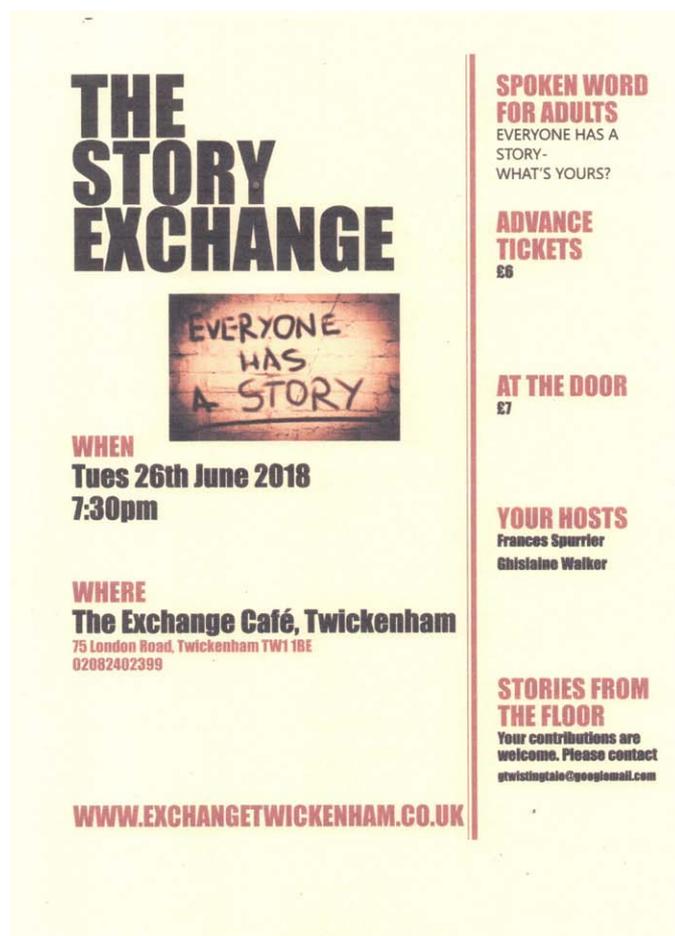
# The Story Exchange

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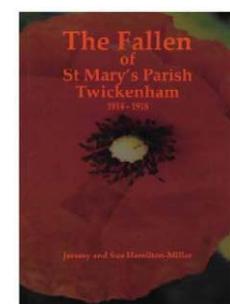
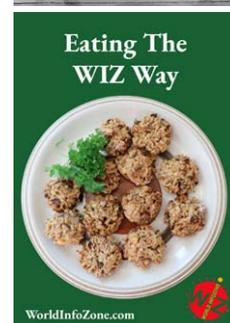
Review: <http://www.worldinfozone.com/>

### The Fallen of St Mary's Parish Twickenham 1914-1918

By Sue & Jeremy Hamilton-Miller

The book costs £8 plus £1 p+p and is available from the Local History Society's website at

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



## Elevated podium provides platform for Twickenham station transformation

A new concrete podium more than half the size of Twickenham's rugby pitch has been successfully lifted into position over the platforms at Twickenham station as part of a major redevelopment project which will deliver a new station, homes and businesses to the area at no cost to the taxpayer.

The podium was installed over a single weekend and represents a major milestone in the station's exciting transformation.

The Twickenham redevelopment project is being delivered by Solum, a partnership between Network Rail and Kier Property, with contractor Osborne delivering the building works.

When complete the new station will feature a host of benefits including a significantly larger ticket office and lifts to the platforms. The redevelopment will also provide a brand new gateway to the area, delivering 115 new homes and transforming the surrounding space with a new public plaza, shops, additional cycle parking, and a new pedestrian walk way along the River Crane.



Leigh Thomas, Director at Kier Property and a Solum Board Member commented:

“The installation of the podium marks the completion of a significant milestone in the transformation of Twickenham station. We are delighted with the collective efficiency and skill of the whole project team in completing this enormous engineering challenge. With the podium complete, work has now started on the new station building that will sit on top of it.

“Solum would like to thank residents and commuters for their patience and understanding, as we work to deliver a new, modern and larger station for Twickenham.”

Twickenham station is one of a number of projects Solum is bringing forward for development across London and the South East to deliver new homes and station improvements around transport infrastructure. The 115 homes above Twickenham station are part of a pipeline of over 1,000 new homes that Solum is delivering. This is part of Network Rail's ambitious plans to release land for around 12,000 new homes nationally by 2020, across almost 200 sites.

David Biggs, Managing Director at Network Rail Property said:

“Network Rail is committed to releasing land for new housing and transport improvements across the country and we are pleased with the progress that is being made in Twickenham.

“Solum was established to attract private investment into the railway, providing funding for improvements to stations and their surrounding environments at no cost to the taxpayer and at Twickenham we are doing just that.”

“When completed, the scheme will deliver significant benefits to station users and the local community, including a brand new station as well as new housing, jobs and new businesses.”

The podium works were carried out between 1.20am on Saturday 28th April 2018 and 4:20am Monday 30th April.

Chris Hickman, Senior Project Lead for Osborne added:

“The installation of the podium required over 120 people working a combined total of 1850 personnel hours over a 48-hour period. We are proud of the collective efforts of our whole team who successfully completed this essential piece of the puzzle quickly, efficiently and ahead of schedule.”

*A sales launch is planned for later in 2018, with the first 1, 2 & 3 bedroom homes due to be completed in 2019.*

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