

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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Ticker Tape - News in Brief

General Election 2019 - Results

Twickenham Constituency

Munira Wilson Isobel Grant Ranjeev Walia Stuart Wells	Liberal Democrat Conservative Labour The Brexit Party	36,166 22,045 5,476 816
LD majority: 14,121		

Richmond Park Constituency

Sarah Olney Zac Goldsmith Sandra Keen Caroline Shah John Usher	Liberal Democrat Conservative Labour Independent Independent	34,559 26,793 3,407 247 61
LD majority: 7,766		

Voter turnout

Twickenham: 76.3%

Richmond Park: 79%

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Well it was a late-night last night, celebrating the outcome. Yes ... Cambridge won at the Varsity Match! Oh, and there was an election

too,

As Twickenham's pubs started to close amid the waving of light blue scarves, the rest of the country was being painted dark blue as the Conservative majority unfolded. But not everywhere. As expected, the Twickenham and Richmond Park constituencies were a solid Liberal Democrat yellow, despite the party's dire performance nationally.

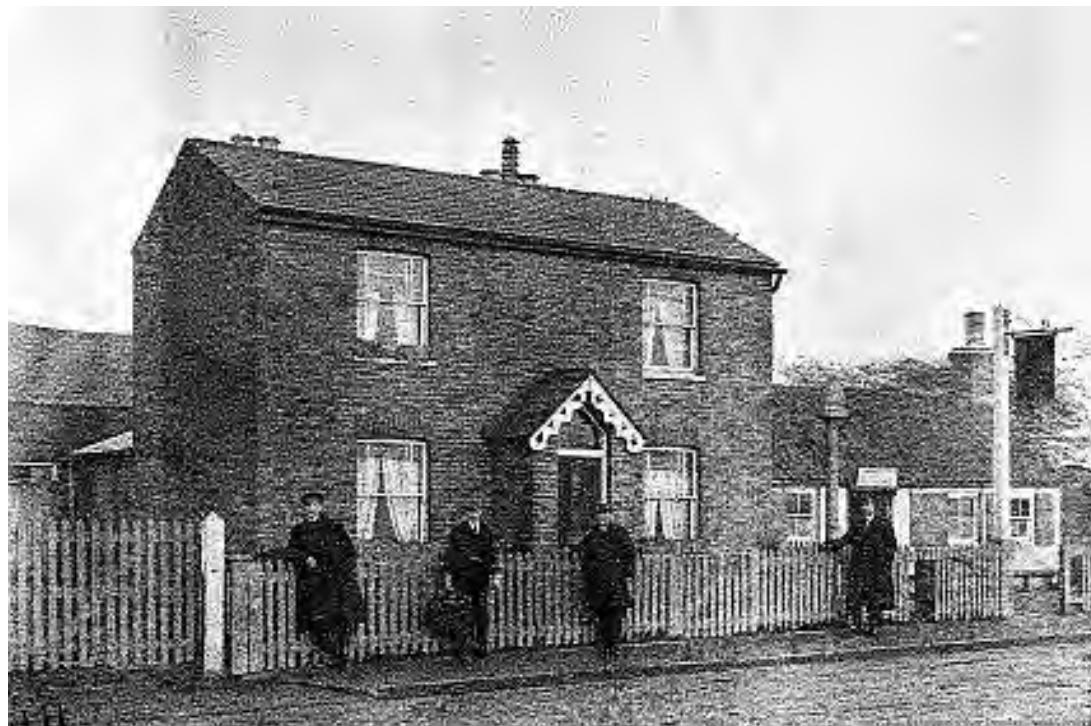
It was not long before Twitter was aflutter with talk of our borough declaring UDI or building a wall to guard us from the barbarians at the gate. TwickerSeal recalled the recent visit by his chum Nessie, who was on a secret mission from Nicola Sturgeon to cement relations with the burghers of Eel Pie Island.

The plans began to become clear ... the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames was going to secede and join with Scotland. Eel Pie Island would become the interim capital until a suitably grand seat of government could be built on Twickenham Riverside.



PART 157 BEEHIVES WITH NO BUZZ

It isn't surprising that the bee population is in decline when in this borough in our lifetime (or most of our lifetimes anyway) we have seen two huge Beehives disappear. They were of course pubs and unfortunately I haven't found either of them featured on a postcard yet. They have interesting histories though so we'll use a couple of photographs this week.



Our first Beehive public house was situated at 36, Railway Side, in Barnes. Originally opened as a beer house for market garden labourers in the 1860s. It closed as a Watney pub in the 1980s so was around for 130 years or so. A tiny pub, in the 1960s it was run by an elderly

lady and it seemed as if the bar was in her front room. A bench outside for the dry days and beer was served out of the window. The Beehive was also a popular jazz venue in its day. Railway Side runs into Beverley Path, which is an ancient route crossing land called 'The Goslings' where geese were once reared. Today the pub is a private cottage which is still named the Beehive. If any of our readers can come up with a photo or postcard of it as a working pub I will show it in this column. Equally, any stories relating to this pub or events held there would be of interest. Just send me an email (address below). Thanks.

Our second Beehive pub was also a Watneys pub at the end of its life and was at 11, Lower Richmond Road, at the corner of Marksbury Avenue, Richmond. There were entrances to the Public and Saloon bars, and the off-licence on Lower Richmond Road, and to the rear, an entrance to the Saloon bar from the car park, which was entered from Marksbury Avenue. At the back of the building was a large room, with its own bar, which could be rented for func-

tions, Richmond 18+ group used to meet in the room on Tuesday evenings. The pub had a thriving darts team playing in the local leagues in the 1960s and 70s.

Our first picture shows the pub in the early 1900s while the second, taken in the 1950s is of the North Sheen Manor football team who used the pub as a base.



Research shows that this Beehive first appeared as a beer retailer in 1850ish and that it was probably a converted farmhouse rather than a purpose built pub. It was refurbished by Watneys to a Beehive colour scheme and theme in the late 1970s. By 1987 it was re-named 'Caines' for a while but closed in 1989 and later redeveloped into flats and offices.

So let's all be kind to Bees and find a space for them in our world. It isn't their fault that their natural habitat and food-plants are being eroded by us humans.

Come on you Bees!

POSTCARDS WANTED

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& postally franked envelopes.

Required by local collector / dealer.

Please ring Alan to discuss on

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I am always looking for old postcards and old photograph albums etc. The postcards can be British or Foreign, black and white or coloured and of places or subjects. If you have any that are sitting unwanted in a drawer, in a box in the loft or in the garage or under a bed, please contact me on 07875 578398 or alanwinter192@hotmail.com

I would like to see them and I pay cash!

Christmas Concert
A European Christmas
Saturday 21st December 2019, 7.30pm

Carols for choir and audience, with organ, handbells,
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www.cantanticamerati.org.uk
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Arts and Entertainment

By Emma Grey



Theatre

Saturday 7 to 14 December. Richmond Shakespeare Society at the Mary Wallace Theatre, Twickenham, A Christmas Carol. Ebenezer Scrooge is a cruel and selfish money lender who on Christmas Eve is visited by four ghosts.

Saturday 25 January to Friday 31 January. Teddington Theatre Club, Hampton Hill Theatre: Main Auditorium. Amadeus by Peter Shaffer. Music, power, jealousy and the genius of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Music

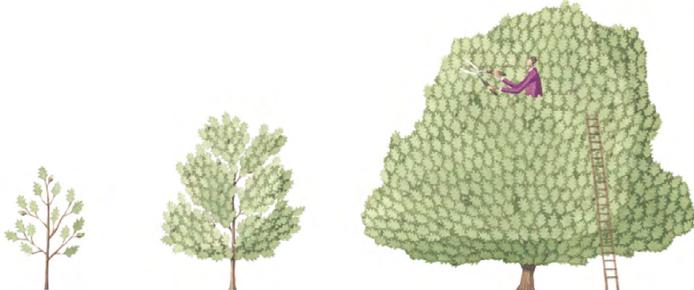
14th December, 9:00 pm, The Three Kings, Twickenham. The Midnight River Blues Band.

22 December 4 pm at the Landmark Arts Centre, Carols by Candlelight. (21 December “sold out”)

18 January 7.30 pm at the Landmark Arts Centre, The Songs of Leonard Cohen (Keith James).

Jazz, rock, and blues music enthusiasts who head to the bars at The Cabbage Patch Pub in London Road are advised to visit Twickfolk, Twickenham Jazz Club and Eel Pie Club websites to check what's on.

If you are interested in advertising an Arts & Entertainment event write to advertise@twickenhamtribune.com for further information.

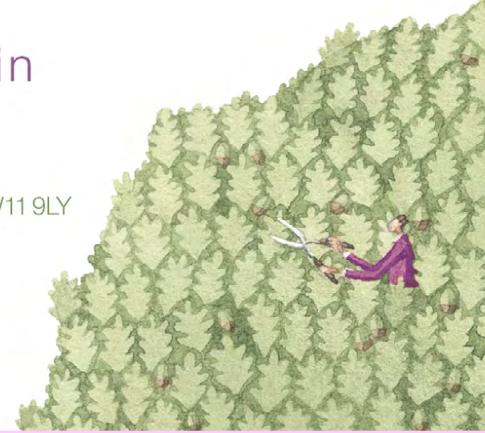


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Long Day's Journey into Night

by Eugene O'Neill

Directed by Simon Bartlett

Richmond Shakespeare Society



The Mary Wallace Theatre

The Embankment
Twickenham
TW1 3DU

Saturday 18th to
Saturday 25th
January 2020

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www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk

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Richmond Shakespeare Society is a registered charity No. 276271, a member of the Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain and affiliated to artsrichmond



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*"The past is the present, isn't it?
It's the future too."*

Help decorate Twickenham tree and show vandals they cannot ruin Christmas

Residents in Twickenham are invited to show their Christmas and community spirit by helping to decorate a new Christmas tree on Diamond Jubilee Gardens, following an attack by vandals.



Earlier this month (December 2019) the recycled Christmas Tree installed by the Twickenham Riverside Trust, was torched by vandals and the play area was attacked twice.

Richmond Council has stepped in and purchased a replacement tree, but is asking for the community to come together and help with the decorations.

From 1 to 4pm on Saturday 14 December 2019, supported by the Church Street Traders, join the Deputy Mayor of Richmond upon Thames and come along to Diamond Jubilee Gardens for a seasonal tree dressing. Bring decorations and help bring Christmas back to the Riverside. Please can decorations be suitable for all

weathers (for example not paper or card) and not be made of glass.

The community tree dressing will be accompanied with music, stalls, mulled wine and mince pies.

The event will also mark the installation of CCTV at the park, which will hopefully act as a deterrent to vandals in the future.

Cllr James Chard, Deputy Mayor of Richmond upon Thames, who is attending the community tree dressing, said:

"We were appalled by the mindless act of vandalism which saw the destruction of the Diamond Jubilee Gardens Christmas Tree. We hope that the whole community will come together to show that the spirit of Christmas remains undampened in Twickenham."

Marketing Techniques during the General Election

During the General Election some readers were surprised to have a number of communications addressed directly to them from a candidate.

The Tribune asked the Council whether the electoral roll was being used during the election; an officer said that it was and candidates were allowed to send one letter and one pamphlet directly to a person at their home, even if the addressee had ticked the box to opt out of receiving information from third parties.

One reader contacted the Council about the use of his personal data as he actually received a telephone call at home enquiring about his voting intentions and thought that this was breaking data protection law as well as being unfair to other candidates.

An officer at the Council gave the reader this link in answer to his enquiry

<https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/be-data-aware/political-campaigning-practices-direct-marketing/>.

And added “With regards to phone calls, this method may be used to contact you unless the organisation has grounds for believing you would not want any contact.” Surely ticking the Opt Out option when completing information for the electoral roll would be sufficient?

The following link was also given by the officer:

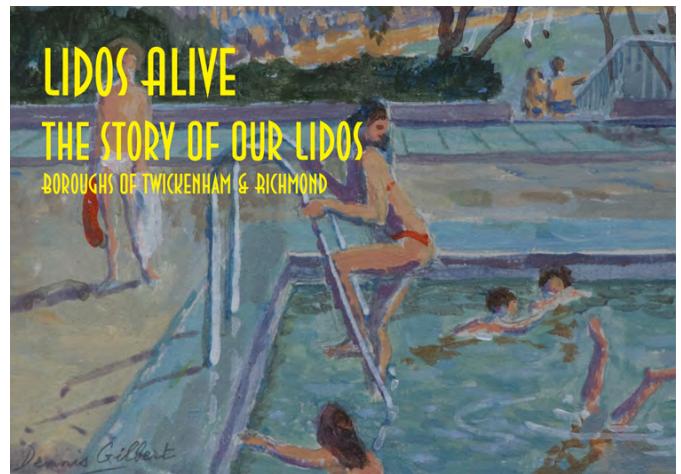
<https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/your-right-to-get-copies-of-your-data/>.

It would be interesting to know if all candidates were aware of this direct marketing and cold calling used by a political party and whether readers were aware of how their contact details are used during elections.

An Ideal Present for just £6

Lidos Alive – the Story of Our Lidos - is a 63-page A5 book with colour photos and illustrations full of interesting information about the history of outdoor swimming in the Borough and the rise of the lido. Contents include Mereway Bathing Place, pools in Bushy Park, Hampton Pool, Teddington Pool, Hampton Wick, Tagg's Island, Marble Hill, Twickenham Baths, Pools on the Park and other interesting stories.

Books can be purchased at Crusader Travel in Church Street, Twickenham and Premier Wines next to Strawberry Hill Station.



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River Crane Sanctuary



When the Red, Red Robin comes bob, bob, bobbing along! Carols are resounding everywhere we go and still in our heads if not in our ears. I write this before Thursday's election results so readers will know by now if it is a red, blue, green, yellow, orange or whatever colour win so there is no bias here; simply a wish for the environment to remain top of the agenda once they get our votes.

The name 'Dead Hedges' is a bit of a misnomer as they are full of life once they become established. However,

they are built with dead stuff and the local volunteers have been busy putting them in place all along the River Crane if you want to take a look and perhaps consider building one in your garden. We need insects and all wildlife need shelter and dark spaces to breed and flourish. The hedge can be smaller and built to fit the space available.

The Green Gym Poster states: "A Dead Hedge is built using two parallel rows of stakes and a few branches are woven to create sturdy sides and the space in between the rows is filled with dead material which comes from pruning or clearing activities. They are effective boundaries used as fences and excellent habitats for animals such as birds and hedgehogs which can be part of a beneficial "biological pest agents." Dead Hedges also recycle/re-use biomass without energy use to transport to landfills or by burning, reducing a carbon footprint impact."



The River Crane Sanctuary website <http://e-voice.org.uk/rca/>

Never Mind - Never Mind - Never Mind

By TwickWatch

Unsung heroes who work silently but steadily among us tend to be anonymous. People of solid virtues who can be admired for something more substantial than their media profiles often prove to be the unsung hero: the teacher, the nurse, the mother, the police officer, the hard worker at lonely, underpaid, unglamorous, unpublicised jobs. Some make people's lives better, some even save people's lives and carry out brave feats but as it's often just part of their job, they don't often get any special attention for it.



Lance Corporal
Cyril Bennett Lebon

Two such people were Lance Corporal Cyril Bennett Lebon and driver Arthur Kitchener Hartland of the 32 Bomb Disposal Company - Royal Engineers. They are part of a little-known story hidden for nearly 80 years. Both are buried alongside each other in Teddington cemetery.

They lie at rest among 68 other Commonwealth War Graves Commission burials at Teddington cemetery ([click on gravestone image for more details](#)).

The life expectancy of a Royal Engineers Bomb Disposal officer was just ten weeks at the height of the bombing raids. All Bomb Disposal personnel were allowed to apply for transfer to another service after 6 months of service in bomb disposal.

The night of 29 November 1940, when "the bomb" fell and failed to explode, was the night of the heaviest bombing over Teddington, and it is probable that the National Physics Laboratory was the principle target. 257 bombs were recorded with 150 houses destroyed and 43 killed, 31 in and around Church Road where the Willoughby Hotel and the Baptist Church were hit. The National Physics Laboratory escaped damage but an air raid shelter on site took a direct hit, with 6 women and children from nearby houses killed.

The bomb explosion occurred on 10 December 1940 when 725 Section of No 2 Bomb Disposal Company of the Royal Engineers, based in Balham, attended upon a site near the Diana Fountain where the enemy bomb had landed but failed to detonate. The squad consisted of Lieutenant K G Hope, Sapper J Darsley aged 19, Driver Arthur Hartland, Driver F Horton RASC, Lance Corporal Cyril Lebon aged 43, and Sapper Jimmy Hulme and another ten men.

It was a bitterly cold day and the hole was dug as quickly as possible; the sergeant and most of the men then moved on to their next bomb. The squad followed the standard practice of setting up camp a little way from the bomb. Sapper Jimmie Hulme had done this, lighting a fire and setting up a large dixie of tea. Hulme was going back to the camp to check on the progress of the tea when the bomb detonated. He was thrown forward by the blast and a piece of shrapnel hit him in the neck. The rest of the squad were killed outright. After a spell in hospital, Hulme re-joined his unit although he was left with a slight stammer.



Graves of Lance Corporal Lebon and driver Arthur Hartland - Teddington Cemetery



Seen today, bomb crater in Bushy Park from 10 December 1940

A Bomb Disposal Squad consisted of an officer, a sergeant and 14 men. Normally the sergeant and most of the section would dig a hole to reveal the bomb, and then most of the men would move on to the next bomb. The officer alone would then disarm the bomb. For a time-fuse bomb this involved fitting a very strong electro-magnet around the fuse to “freeze” the clock working mechanism. By December 1940, this was a well-established process. The officer and the remainder of the squad would then lift the bomb out of its hole for removal (in the case of West London – to a quarantine area in Richmond Park).

Unexploded bombs were categorised as needing immediate disposal (Cat A), delayed disposal (Cat B) or blow up on site or move it to safety (Cat C). In early 1940, time delay bombs had two fuses. The first was a clockwork one that ran for up to 80 hours but could jam and restart when moved. The second was an anti-movement fuse that went off if the bomb was moved; this was powered by a capacitor which lasted 60 hours and then went dead. A Cat B bomb was left for 96 hours and could then be tackled as the timeclock would have run down and the capacitor would be dead. This fits the timeline of the bomb dropped on 29 November, with disposal attempted on 10 December.

By June 1940 the first two pieces of bomb disposal equipment became available, these were the Crabtree and Universal Key. The Crabtree was a device like a clamp that attached onto the fuse boss, it depressed the charging-plungers & allowed the charge from the fuze (fuse) to short-circuit until the condensers were discharged rendering the bomb relatively safe. A piece of string could then be tied around the Crabtree enabling the BD engineer to pull the fuze from the fuze pocket at a safe distance. The Universal key was a steel bar which could be slid two adjustable lugs that could be fitted into the key-ways of the locking-ring. By turning, the operator unscrewed the ring so the fuze and the gaine could be removed.

In late 1940, the Germans had introduced a new version of the anti-movement fuse, which had a long-life battery rather than a capacitor so that it did not become “dead” after 60 hours, or even several months. By early December, this had not yet been discovered by the British. In the first two weeks of December 1940, more bomb disposal soldiers were killed than in the preceding six months. This is probably the cause of this particular explosion. All but absolutely vital bomb disposal was suspended in late December, until a solution was found in January 1941. Alas, too late for the men of 725 Section.

As the war progressed the techniques and methods of dealing with unexploded bombs changed considerably. The men of the Royal Engineers were engaged in a constant battle of science between the developers of the Luftwaffe electrical bomb fuses and the boffins on the unexploded bomb committee - the men of Royal Engineers Bomb Disposal were at the sharp end and many paid the ultimate sacrifice. Despite these dangers and terrifying odds these men performed their job with extreme calmness and dedication to their duty.

Thanks go to Douglas Craik who researched this story, originally attributed in error to occurring in Osterley Park. As vice-Chairman of the Friends of Osterley Park he contacted Chris Ransted , the author of the piece about the bomb in the first place. After publication of his book entitled, “*Bomb Disposal and British Casualties of WW2*”, Chris said he was contacted by a relative of one of the unit that was killed, who had the Death Certificate of the soldier which gave Place of Death very clearly as “Lime Walk Bushy Park”. He was also contacted by the great grand-daughter of Jimmy Hulme, who lived on the south edge of Bushy Park and she verified that the explosion had taken place in Bushy Park.

Thanks also to Ken Howe (author and local historian – howe64@btinternet.com) who published and brought the original story to light and allowed it to be the basis of this article.

No one will ever know the full extent of the bomb squads’ contributions to the war, or how many lives they saved and how many deaths they prevented. Have they been left behind by history, and their efforts and sacrifices forgotten?



FRENCH MARKET



SATURDAY 21st DECEMBER

9AM - 5PM

SUNDAY 22nd DECEMBER

10AM - 4PM

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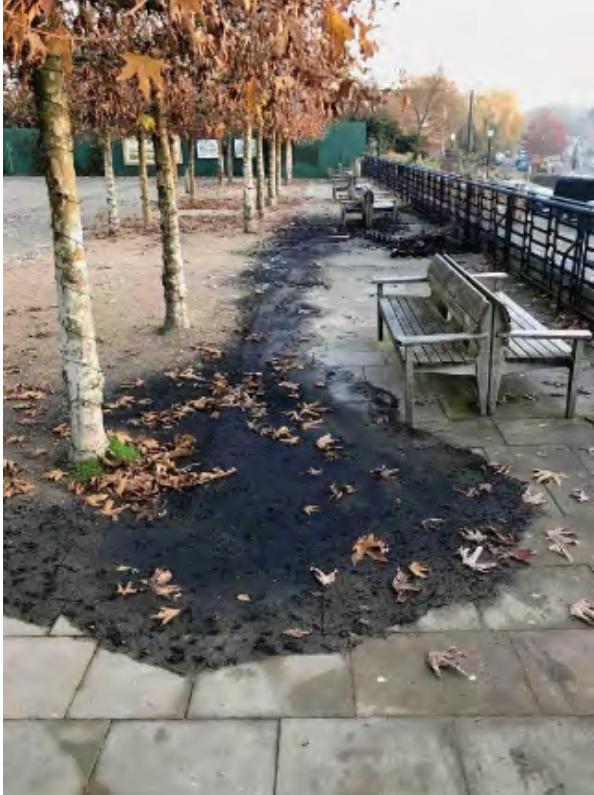
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14 Dec 1 until 4pm Xmas Tree Decorating Event at Diamond Jubilee Gardens

By Shona Lyons



Today will be the day I help the council with this event they have dreamed up in response to the vandalism of the Xmas Tree and Playground in Jubilee gardens about 2 weeks ago. To be honest it was waiting to happen, with the riverside having become a meeting point for local disaffected youths who don't have anything better to do, the gardens are also quite neglected. The Twickenham Riverside Trust has been granted the lease of these gardens in perpetuity by the council. They run a few events a year here but the rest of the time there is just the café and a playground for young children. It could be a wonderful space for the public but it feels very barren and sadly neglected so it isn't really surprising that the group of youths decided that it would be easy to destroy the play area and the tree one early evening this December.

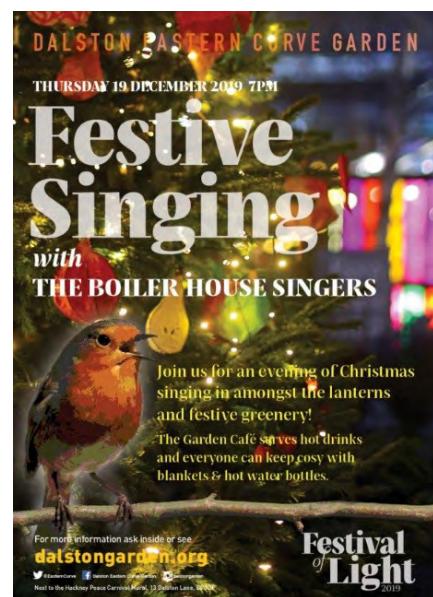
We were actually walking home after work when we saw the fire engine coming down from Water Lane to put out the Flames.

We had just organised an impromptu fair in Church Street on the 24th of November because the BID had decided to concentrate all the Lights on activities at Twickenham Green and the Twickenham Public and Church Street Traders were really upset about that, so

we made quite big effort to put together a fair at the last minute, helped by the council who waived the usual need to submit trading applications 28 days prior and also offered to pay for the entertainment!

So maybe it was because we managed to pull that off at the last minute that the council approached us about 10 days ago after the tree was burnt and the play area vandalised and told us about their idea to donate a real tree and have a public tree decorating event. Their idea was to have a few stalls selling mulled wine and gifts and have the public decorate the tree but I told them that just 2 or 3 stalls (which is what the Trust told the council was the limit) would not really be offering the community much in the way of an event, and really not one gift / craft stall would like to be there if they were there alone, so they agreed that they would be happy with the 10 or so stalls selling local crafts, gifts, jewellery, pottery (and also the famous Simon and Sheba artists from Eel Pie Island) and have a few stalls selling samples of the best food and drink from Church Street with Corto offering Italian Hot Chocolate and Panetones, The Brewery Market offering hot mulled Ginger Beer and Riccardo's cellar offering hot mulled wine and mince pies. We will also have the much loved French Creperie that comes to all our events in Church Street and 2 craft making stalls for the children including decorations that they will be able to make for the tree. The very talented Roger Perrin has also managed to get a great band together at the last minute and will be serenading the goings on all afternoon with Christmas tunes.

When I wake up at 5am tomorrow and start carrying over all the weights and gazebos and tables I need, I won't worry because I know I am doing it for a good cause. Hopefully it will be the start of a new phase for the gardens when they will be enjoyed all year long by the community and the open riverside space used by everyone in the best way possible to enhance their lives. Maybe even those disaffected youths will be encouraged one day to get involved with events and activities there instead of torching the place. You should look up the Dalston Eastern Curve in Hackney to see how public space meant for the community can really be lovingly used to really involve everyone young and old with really creative low cost events with pizza and cinema nights, pumpkin carving nights, magical lanterns, hot water bottles, warm blankets, hot drinks, vegetable growing etc that just create a beautiful space all year round for all to enjoy. www.dalstongarden.org why can't we have that? See the event at Dalston – this is just one example of what they do all year.



Posh Parrots

By Doug Goodman

The national press and TV carried stories on Thursday about the origin of the noisy green birds that congregate over Twickenham. Some 8.000 pairs of Parakeets are living in the UK, mostly in the south-east bringing colour and the sounds of the jungle to our gardens. Twickenham resident Doug Goodman photographed these birds in his garden in the week.

It was thought that the parakeets started breeding after Jimi Hendrix released his pets in London or that some had escaped from the film set of *The African Queen* made in 1951 in Isleworth.

The probable reason for their acclimatization, research has shown, is because during the 1930's and 50's there was a parrot disease scare when owners released their birds. The great storm in 1987 destroyed aviaries thus setting free the parakeets. In the meantime we just have to accept that they are here to stay.



Light Up At Night!!



Stay Safe
When cycling at night
always use a light

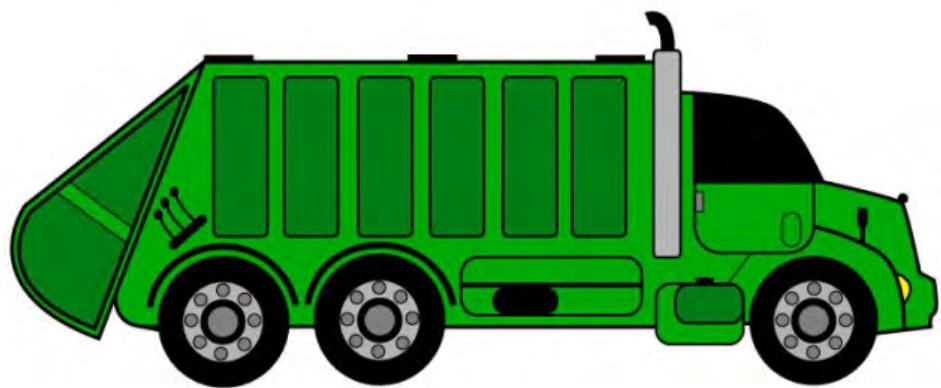
A Twickenham Tribune Campaign
www.TwickenhamTribune.com

Christmas and New Year waste and recycling collection arrangements

Residents are being reminded that their collection times will be subject to change over the Christmas and New Year holiday period.

On the 23 and 24 December, normal day collections will take place. From Christmas Day (Wednesday 25 December), Richmond Council will carry out waste and recycling collections from domestic properties, two days later than usual.

Normal day collections will take place on 30 and 31 December and collections scheduled for 1, 2, 3 January will take place a day later than normal from New Years day onwards. Normal collection days will resume on Monday 6 January 2020.



Residents are asked that if they have excessive paper or card collections which cannot be deposited in their recycling containers, they are asked to consider taking this to a local street recycling site or to the Household Waste and Recycling Centre at Townmead Road, Kew.

Recycling Box Deliveries, Bulky Waste Special Collections and Garden Waste Collections will continue through until 20 December 2019 and will recommence on 6 January 2020.

Real Christmas Trees will be collected between 6 January and 17 January 2020.

Find more information [HERE](#)

THE EASY WAY THIS CHRISTMAS

We're at home this year for Christmas; the first time in quite a few years, and I'm rather looking forward to it. I want a relaxing time with my family and friends, and I have to admit that I am planning to invest in quite a few shortcut dishes from the supermarket to save time and effort.

There is such a range of turkeys available this year and it can be confusing deciding whether to spend around £80 for a deluxe bird or go for a cheaper supermarket free-range or even frozen specimen. But do order in advance to avoid disappointment! We have Sandys, of course, where the queue of people collecting their turkey just before Christmas is legendary. But wait, there's a new butcher on the block, right next door to Sandys in fact! It's called Brown's, and looks set to be a real asset to Twickers, so do check it out.



I've been impressed with the extensive range of pre-prepared dishes available this year from all the supermarkets. Marks & Spencer has a great range (but you may need to go to Kingston, Richmond or Teddington for certain products).

Some products are to order for collection, like a smoked salmon, king prawn and terrine platter (serves eight) £30, an indulgent shellfish platter (serving four) £50, or dressed lobster – perfect for a busy Christmas Eve. Order online or in store, but you will need to get your skates on - last ordering date is this Sunday, December 15. Marks also has some good offers on basic veg at the moment, from about 40p a pack.

Supermarkets are all pushing the boat out this festive season. Lidl's decadent **Deluxe Large Baking Camembert** (£5.99) available with Chorizo or Fig, Maple & Pecan, looks fun for a crowd. Its Christmas cheese range also includes gin infused Wensleydale and a Christmas tree smoked cheddar... sure to be a talking point!



It's worth stocking up now on wines and spirits as there are some good offers and it's one less thing to worry about. The Coop has a particularly acceptable Bordeaux - Château Senejac Haut-Médoc, 2015 - at £17 that will make a lovely present, or a great accompaniment to that turkey (or beef)! If your budget doesn't run to champagne for Christmas Day or New Year, maybe check out the Calvet Brut Crémant de Bordeaux, 2016 at £11.95 from Ocado or Tesco, as it is far nicer than prosecco!

And to get ahead, prepare and freeze things like red cabbage, and make fresh cranberry sauce soon, as it keeps for ages in the fridge or freezer.

What is it about Christmas though; everyone seems intent on buying enough food to feed an army for a week, when in fact the shops are only shut for one day!

Follow Alison on insta: [@theseasonedgastronome](https://www.instagram.com/theseasonedgastronome)



Dear Editors,

Twickenham Riverside

Last week's Tribune asked some sensible questions about the new Twickenham Riverside development.

In relation to affordable homes, these were a key part of the Design Brief to which local stakeholder groups made a great contribution. As a local councillor, I take the view that projects on Council-owned land should include homes (including affordable ones) where possible given severe housing shortages. Homes, as well as things like restaurants, also help design out crime and antisocial behaviour by ensuring there is life and activity well into the evening. That is important in light of recent serious incidents of vandalism in the vicinity. "Affordable housing" is defined in section 3.10 of the London Assembly's London Plan. The definition is complex, but includes socially rented housing, and housing rented by housing associations to those eligible for social housing. Affordable housing in an expensive area like Twickenham is not necessarily cheap, but does provide an option for families on incomes well below the local average.

The Tribune also asked about getting the balance right between public aspects of the site (open space and community use buildings) and private aspects (commercial property and homes). The current process represents a radical break from the past in that respect. This Council administration is keen to make a capital investment in Twickenham, taking full account of social benefits, so the Design Brief very deliberately did not require break-even in strict financial terms.

The proposals of the chosen architect, Hopkins, not only substantially increase and improve public open space, giving a fantastic opportunity for Diamond Jubilee Gardens to go from strength to strength, but also propose a Winter Gardens, pontoon, and community use buildings. Commercial and residential aspects will make a partial contribution to covering costs, as residents across the Borough would quite properly expect from a fiscally prudent Council. As importantly, however, they will create new jobs in the heart of Twickenham, and provide things like restaurants and cafes which people can visit as they spend time in a revitalised town centre enjoying, in my opinion, the most beautiful riverside view in the whole of London.

You can never please everyone, but I am delighted (and relieved!) to say that the RIBA process produced high-quality and varied designs, and that the chosen Hopkins scheme enjoys strong public support. I know this having attended each of the well-attended public drop-in sessions and had conversations with as many visitors as possible. I have also had positive reports from colleagues attending the additional sessions with local schools and youth groups. The message is very clear – this is a widely supported plan which will provide enormous public benefits, so let's put politicking aside and come together to get the job done.

Best wishes,

Cllr. James Chard
Councillor for Twickenham Riverside ward

Dear Twickenham Tribune

Fox attack

I am very concerned that foxes are becoming ever more present, and fearlessly aggressive, in our suburban streets.

Recently at approximately 16.45, I was attacked by a fox as I walked up Royal Road in Teddington.

I was aware of the fox as I turned into the street, hence I was wary and alert. Almost home there was a tug at my leg; fortunately I was wearing jeans. I managed to shoo the fox off, albeit it was very stubborn and lingered.

Next there was a strong tug at my shopping bag. Alarmed, I was concerned that I might not reach the short distance to my house without further 'attack'.

I was fortunate to be rescued by a neighbour having banged on his door. However, the fox still lingered, but my neighbour ensured my safe passage home.

Much to my embarrassment the fox had broken through my bag and pierced a bottle of milk, which was now over my neighbour's floor. Apart from the milk, I had no food in my bag that would have been an enticement.

We have several young families in our area with very small children who are often running or scooting either ahead or behind parents. Whilst I do not wish to be alarmist, or spoil their fun, they are vulnerable.

For many years we have had problems with foxes. I am sure people must be feeding them as their presence increases. The Council really does need to take action against fox feeding. Yes we are near a large park, but we have lived here for over 20 years and the fox problem was never at this level in the early years. It is one thing, albeit distressing, to have our gardens trashed by foxes. The danger to young children in particular is a serious risk to injury and, at worst, life.

I do hope you find this worthy of raising awareness.

Rosemary Vaux, Teddington



Carpe Diem! - Notes from my week in Church Street

By Bruce Lyons

This week has flown by and it is not just because Election Day coincided with the Varsity Match and the town was abuzz but a lot of other distractions crept in to this busy week. But first a word about the Election and BREXIT ! the instant reaction was a surge in the exchange rate and as a result our UK£ is stronger by 10% + against both the Dollar and the Euro but I wouldn't rely on that lasting in tablets of stone as there a lot of water to pass under the bridge before the deal is done – and in the meantime dear reader you better start to think about Validity of Passports ,international driving licences and goodness knows what else- all will be revealed – it will be just like the good old days –wont it .

Now we have downsized to one shop front (more manageable rent wise) I keep dreaming of how to get more people into our street and was particularly cheered by a letter yesterday in the Telegraph entitled; Give Your High Street a Festive Boost

"London is a patchwork of villages woven together by the growing city. The health of their historic centres is what keeps it a vibrant place to live. Shuttered shops don't just deprive us of places to buy things, they sap the life out of the communities. If we could all commit to buying some of our Christmas presents on the High Street it would give a much needed boost." Sentiments I totally emphasise with!! So, dear reader – we are waiting for you.

What else! Well on the very same day as the Match and the Election the CEO of our group of 1500 travel agents popped down to see us, I don't really know why as he is a busy guy , but we decided to introduce him to Simon's Tsarett Spice for a spot of lunch the food was superb and it was cosy with all those big Rugby Fans having lunch. Have you tried Tsarett Spice, you should - something entirely different for Twickenham! Don't just take my word for it, Alison Gee said it was delicious – so it must be!!

At Lunch our CEO, Gary, told us that next year's Association Conference was to be in Jerusalem "Next Year in Jerusalem" as the Jews in the Diaspora used to say. Welcome news to Hedda as that is her home town and I too have fond memories and it will give us an extra opportunity to see Dafna and Craig and our grandchildren – All dedicated Rugby supporters , they live in Eilat and run their Dive Centre there and across the border in Taba , Egypt. Many of my years in travel have been spent on organising travel to Egypt, Israel and Jordan and we would be happy to plan your trip there – but more important is that 1500 travel agents will be getting interested throughout 2020 in this region and Tourism is a wonderful boost to local economies

Luckily for us in Church Street we don't have a community event in the street this week, so when the Leader of the council sent Shona (she organises all the street events) an SOS to help with tomorrow's "last Minute" Tree Replacement ceremony on the Diamond Jubilee Gardens (as you will have read the Tree was torched and the playground trashed) Shona set to work with organising stalls et al – she doesn't know half measures ! So we hope to see you there armed with your Mulled Wine, Mince Pies and children decorations for the tree.

See you there!!!

Don't forget; if each and every one of you, dear readers, buy a present in our street there will be a great welcome for you in 2020.

Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to one and all.





King Arthur in Space

by Loz Keal

Teddington Theatre Club at Hampton Hill Theatre, until 14th December

When England's need is greatest, King Arthur will rise again. And so – long, long ago and yet somehow in the future, as the scrolling, *Star Wars*-style intro wittily puts it – Arthur King is roaming the stars in search of the evil Mrs Morgan, who has fled the Earth she has despoiled and polluted.

I hope this précis is of benefit, because it's about as much plot as *King Arthur in Space* provides. I bring this up as I overheard two parents trying to puzzle out what

was going on, which gave me occasion to think about how much narrative you want in your panto.



The show is as choc-full of clever ideas as a Christmas selection box. It offers plenty of the expected spectacle, with high-energy dance numbers hot on the well-drilled heels of one another. The costumes of Mags Wrightson are an entertaining mish-mash of science fiction styles. These are helpfully colour-coordinated into a cool blue pastiche of the *Star Trek* uniform for the *Camelot* crew, something redder and more steampunk for the denizens of the planet Boogie

Woogie, and a purple Goth-inspired look for (boo-hiss) Morgan and henchpersons.

Fiona Auty's set design takes a similar tack, with the *Camelot* control room and the villains' lair comprising antiquated computer keyboards and monitors, sci-fi bric-a-brac such as an R2D2 statue, and tinsel – so much tinsel – and pop-up puppetry.

In the same way memorabilia are strewn across the stage, the script is liberally scattered with quotations from sci-fi films and TV programmes. This is a bit like a game of bingo for a middle-aged nerd such as me, mouthing along with the recycled *Doctor Who* dialogue, but the kids certainly enjoy the show, and by the end wave inflatable lightsabres with gusto. It may not always be moving at warp speed, but *King Arthur in Space* is at least a bold go at somewhere panto has never gone before.

Matthew Grierson's review at

www.markaspen.com/2019/12/08/king-a-space

Photography by Joe Stockwell





A Christmas Carol

by Charles Dickens, adapted by Asha Gill

Richmond Shakespeare Society at Mary Wallace Theatre, Twickenham, until 14th December

Opening in what is emphatically a Victorian office, we encounter Ebenezer Scrooge played with great feeling by a wonderfully bewigged John Mortley. As the start of the Christmas holiday approaches, Scrooge does not miss an opportunity to torment his loyal clerk, played by a delightfully timorous Paul Grimwood.

The Mary Wallace is a small theatre and I have never seen its stage busier but director Asha Gill choreographs as well as she directs and, while some of the entrances are a little slow, the transitions and on-stage movement are smooth. Though the set is simple, it morphs cunningly around the actors; now a street; now a shop; now Scrooge's lonely home.



Sometimes one forgets that there are in fact four ghosts in *A Christmas Carol* but here the ghost of Scrooge's partner Jacob Marley - played by a honey-voiced Michael Andrew - is absolutely unforgettable, gleaming like a human firework as he erupts from the stage in a blaze of dry ice and silvery chains. The clock is ticking and, as Marley explains to Scrooge, time has at last caught up with him and he will yet encounter three more ghosts.

The first is the Ghost of Christmas Past, gently portrayed by Clare Farrow, who recounts with much kindness the circumstances that have led Scrooge to where he is now. So far so traditional but, as the director reminds us in a programme note, *A Christmas Carol* is a genuinely timeless tale and, as such, "there is no period". The meaning of this becomes apparent with the appearance of the Ghost of Christmas Present – Terry Bedell in a rumbustious performance of blessed proportions

Read Louis Mazzini's review at
www.markaspen.com/2019/12/09/ch-carol-rss

Photography by Pete Messum





Nutcracker

by Wayne Eagling, music by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

English National Ballet at the London Coliseum until 5th January

For a ballet critic, *Nutcracker* fatigue can easily set in ... but after a few years of slim fasting and a guilty panic about my lack of Christmas spirit, it only takes the first few notes of Tchaikovsky's giddily excited overture to transport me right back to childhood memories. ENB's wholesome concoction of sweet delights is just the thing to get the festive season into gear.

We meet young Clara and her family as they are getting ready to host their Christmas party, older



sister Louise vainly checking her appearance while Clara and her brother Freddie playfully annoy each other as siblings do and watch the ice skaters doing their elegant turns on the lake just outside the window. Inside, the vast stage of the Coliseum is transformed into a cosy salon brimming with activity. The child performers from various London dance schools give solid performances throughout, with individual personalities shining through. One little girl was tirelessly jumping up and down in anticipation of her present, the spitting image of my own five-year-old niece. The eccentric Uncle

Drosselmeyer performs magic tricks to the delight of the children (and probably the cringe of the adults). There's one in every family!

Clara herself develops a little girl crush on Drosselmeyer's grown up nephew – quite understandable when danced by the handsome Francesco Gabriele Frola. The Nutcracker Clara receives as a Christmas gift provokes some delighted giggles as he starts walking on his little motorised legs, looking a bit like a transformer doll.

As Clara drifts off to sleep, she is rather elegantly swapped out for first soloist Erina Takahashi, and the mouse that Freddie placed under Clara's bed to scare her is transformed in her dream into the mouse king

Read Suzanne Frost's review at www.markaspen.com/2019/12/12/nutcrack-enb

Photography by Laurent Liotardo





Rinaldo

by George Frideric Handel, libretto by Giacomo Rossi after Torquato Tasso

Glyndebourne Opera, New Victoria Theatre, Woking, tour continues until 6th December.

Testosterone on the rise, fantasies afire, esteem uncertain - the mind-set of the pubescent schoolboy – just the thing to rescue a concept from the disapprobation of twenty-first century moralists. Who in today's brittle politico-religious world could mount an opera about hero crusaders triumphing against evil Saracens? Well, Glyndebourne can. In its reimagining of Handel's 1711 extravaganza in the form of an Eagle comics gung-ho adventure, Glyndebourne triumphs in a magnificently self-deprecating romp. With Rinaldo the hero knight recast as a schoolboy, it cuts back to the idea that the heroic epic is all about seeking and finding one's true worth.



Not only does the Glyndebourne production neatly sidestep any PC dilemma, but it also pushes it onto another level. Counter the schoolboy's crushes and innocent puppy-love with a bit of lip-smacking sado-masochism and bondage and you get ... a triumphant spoof that surprisingly succeeds. And is Handel's music lost? Not a jot, all the jaunty energy of the work is there and its moments of soaring beauty shine through.

As Armida, the powerful shape-shifting sorceress, Jacquelyn Stucker steals the show as a latex-clad dominatrix, a Miss Whiplash schoolboy's wet-dream and Stucker savours it as a gift of a

role. She gives real oomph to the part in arias such as *vo' far guerra*, (I want to make war), giving full vent to her *spinto* soprano as she vents her rage on cowering St Trinian's goths, flogging the Furies. In contrast, her wonderfully lyrical pleading *cruel, il pianto mio!* (cruel one, my tears ...), as Rinaldo rebuffs her advances. Silly boy, why didn't he just lie back and think of England?



Read Mark Aspen's review at

www.markaspen.com/2019/11/30/rinaldo

Photography © Glyndebourne Productions Ltd. by Bill Cooper

St Mary's University Update

St Mary's Student Retains European Cross Country Title

Student of St Mary's University, Twickenham Anna-Emilie Møller has retained her U23 title at the European Cross Country Championships.



Hosted in Lisbon, Portugal on 8th December, the Championships brought together the leading athletics talent from across Europe to compete on a tough course. Anna was joined at the championships by five fellow Endurance Performance Centre (EPC) Athletes from St Mary's.

This is the second year that Anna has won the U23 title at the European Cross Country

Championships, and joins the 3000m Steeplechase and 5000m titles that she won on the track at the European U23 Championships in July. Anna completed the 6225m course in 20:30, 39 seconds quicker than second place.

In the Women's U20 race, EPC Athlete Izzy Fry ran as part of the British Team who won the team competition and was the fastest athlete in the team. She completed the 4225m course in 14:33 to finish sixth overall.

Speaking of their performances, Head of Sport at St Mary's Andrew Reid-Smith said, "Anna produced a very impressive run to break up the field and retain the title. It was also great to see Izzy's run, a positive and assured performance that she should be very proud of."



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

TRAVELLER'S TALES 60

VENICE COVERED

DOUG GOODMAN HAS A SPECIAL BIRTHDAY IN VENICE.



Venice has been in the news a lots lately and not always for the right reasons. The city suffered severe flooding last month from exceptionally high tides: proposals to ban large cruise ships from entering the Lagoon have floundered and plans to complete a flood barrier are way behind schedule.



Lagoon



View from Hotel



Grand Canal



Rialto Bridge

Venice is well used to high tides: duckboards are set up when St. Mark's Square is under water and the locals seem to carry wellies all the time. But the height of the floods in November was unexpected with about 80% of the city inundated and tourists kept out of the main square. The water level rose to 1.87 meters above normal – the worst for 50 years. It was back in 1966 when the flood level reached 1.94 meters but the damage caused to St. Marks Basilica, shops, hotels and homes during the recent four high tides was exceptional. The mayor estimated that repairs will amount to over €1 billion and take years to complete. Fifty churches were damaged and the Basilica, the most visited place in the city, suffered enormously. The 50 thousand Venetians and regular visitors are accustomed to using the wooden walkways and take flooding in their stride. Boards for protecting the buildings are kept handy and given sufficient warning people can clear their ground floors and move furniture to safety. However it was the speed of the rising, dirty water caused by the combination of heavy rain, surge tides and strong winds that brought havoc. Many factors contribute to the rising water levels in the city: global warming, the dredging of deep channels to allow giant passenger ships to moor in the city, which undermine buildings' foundations and the pollution from ship's engines.



Mouth of the Grand
Canal



Basilica San Marco



Imposing Canalside
Palaces



Gondola

A major factor in the protection of Venice is the giant flood barrier begun in 1984 and way past completion date. Indecisions, corruption and increasing cost mean the project may not be finished until 2021. The barrier consists of 28 submerged platforms which can be raised to prevent surge tides from The Adriatic entering the Lagoon. Then there's the problem of handling the 25 million tourists who descend on Venice each year – the majority as day trippers. The city simply cannot cope!

A SPECIAL DAY IN VENICE.

I had a great birthday celebration in Venice starting with drinks in the famous Harry's Bar and followed by the best pizza I've ever eaten. A boat trip to Murano to see the glass artists at work and tea in St Mark's Square were followed by a Vivaldi concert. Quite a memorable day indeed. We stayed at the Pensione Wildner just by the water bus terminal and had a stunning view across the Lagoon. Gondolas are rather expensive to hire but the public water buses and tourist Vaporetti offer good sightseeing opportunities. Venice is a big open-air museum and perfect for exploring on foot. Gondolas in your photos somehow add colour and charm to the shot. And it's quite hard to avoid photographing the traditional boats. The mouth of the Grand Canal from Ponte dell' Academia and the view from the Rialto Bridge are the most iconic scenes in the city. But everywhere you look there are grand imposing buildings lining the canals. It is possible to escape from the tourist hordes by walking to the Castello district and to the north in the Cannaregio. Local restaurants away from the tourist spots serve superb food and the wines from the Veneto – Bardolino, Valpolicella, Soave and the ubiquitous Prosecco taste so much better when drunk on the spot.



Waterside Pensione



St. Marks Square



Narrow Channels



Gondola Race

Venice is built on 100 low lying islands in a swampy lagoon. It's easily explored on foot but take it slowly, sit at a bar by the canal side and watch the day trippers, who only see the sites through their camera lens. Visit the art galleries, churches, museums and palaces and savour the atmosphere of a beautiful but endangered city.

FOOTBALL FOCUS

By James Dowden



BRENTFORD FC

Fletcher at the double to down the Bees

Sheffield Wednesday 2 – Brentford 0

A second-half double in quick succession from Sheffield Wednesday striker Steven Fletcher saw the Owls come from a goal down to triumph against the Bees as Brentford were pushed out of the playoff places;



A long hopeful ball over the top from the Wednesday keeper was not dealt with by Rico Henry at fullback for Brentford and Josh Murphy pounced to drive the ball low in across the penalty area. Ethan Pinnock in defence for the Bees sliding in, diverted the ball away from David Raya but a timely intervention from Julian Jeanvier saved Brentford.

Bryan Mbeumo then opened the scoring for the Bees with a glancing close-range header, following a corner from the right-hand side by Josh Dasilva, for the Frenchman's sixth goal of the season.

Wednesday hit back and through Fletcher they nearly scored a brilliant equaliser. A cross from the left was not fully cleared by Christian Nørgaard and it found its way to Fletcher. With his first touch he superbly controlled the ball on his chest before his left footed effort on the swivel had Raya scrambling towards his post.

Brentford though failed to heed this warning and soon after another cross from the left-hand side via Kadeem Harris hit a back-peddling Henry on his arm and a penalty was awarded. Scottish international Fletcher duly converted with a cheeky finish down the middle of the goal, as Raya dived to his right.

Just four minutes later it was a case of history repeating itself for Brentford as yet another cross from the left found Fletcher breaking into the penalty area. He once again controlled the ball on his chest before dispatching the ball through Pinnock's legs and complete the Owl comeback.

Brentford fought back and in the latter stages had chances of their own to score though Mbeumo, Said Benrahma and Henry but it proved in vain as the usually Brentford flair and spark that has been present for much of the season could not be found.

Speaking after the match Brentford manager Thomas Frank said "We lacked quality and decision-making and that extra good touch or pass to make it two-nil."

"Then after the equaliser from a strange penalty, we needed to stay in the game. We were

absolutely sleeping from that quick throw-in."

FT Sheffield Wednesday 2-1 Brentford

(Fletcher 69', 73' Mbeumo, 29')

Attendance: 22,475

Brentford clip the Bluebird's wings

Brentford 2 – Cardiff City 1

Brentford bounced back from their disappointing defeat to Sheffield Wednesday with a gutsy performance to see off fellow playoff challengers Cardiff City at home.

In a fast-paced contest Brentford nearly opened the scoring within the first fifteen seconds of the match as an innovative training ground move saw five Brentford players sprint immediately towards the Cardiff goal. Said Benrahma took the initiative and dribbled straight from kick-off and despite a Cardiff clearance, the ball found its way back to Benrahma whose left footed strike flashed agonisingly past the post.

Bryan Mbeumo then scored for the third game in a row to put Brentford ahead on twenty-five minutes. Just beyond the halfway line Jensen found Benrahma who magically turned away from Marlon Park as he powered into the edge of the box. He then clipped the ball to the side of the Bluebird's defence to find Mbeumo, who made no mistake with his first time finish past Neil Etheridge.

Benrahma, buoyed by his earlier displays of brilliances, cut in from the left just before halftime and whipped a shot which Etheridge could only parry. Ollie Watkins on the follow up could only see his effort excellently blocked by Curtis Nelson at the back post.

The Bees then found their killer instinct after the interval and scored just and minute into the second half via the head of Watkins as his thirteenth of the season proved unlucky for Cardiff. Mbeumo continuing his fine form in picking up the assist.

Cardiff equalised midway into the second half with a well-worked freekick routine. Lee Tomlin rolling the ball across the middle of the pitch, before Marlon Pack produced a powerful strike that clipped the post and nestled in the corner.

Late on Tomlin had the best chance for Cardiff to snatch a point from their midweek travels but his dipping effort was well palmed over the bar by Raya to seal Brentford a narrow but crucial win.

FT Brentford 2-1 Cardiff City

(Mbeumo 25', Watkins 46', Pack 64')

Attendance: 10,417

DASILVA NOMINATED FOR AWARD

Brentford midfielder John Dasilva's impressive recent string of performances has seen him been

nominated on the four-man shortlist for the Championship player of the month award.

Dasilva played in every Brentford game during the month and marked the month by scoring four goals and claiming one assist.

The last Brentford player to win the award for the Bees was Scott Hogan back in 2016 and Dasilva faces competition from fellow Championship players Brice Samba (Nottingham Forest), Jarrod Bowen (Hull City) and Jack Harrison (Leeds United).

UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Next up for Brentford at Griffin Park is a huge game in the form of a West London derby against Fulham. The game takes place today (Saturday 14/12) with a 3.00pm kick. Tickets are sold out for this one as Brentford try to claim the bragging rights against their local rivals and try and break into the playoff prices.

Come on you Bees!

HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH

Hampton recover to draw with the Saints

St Albans City 1 – 1 Hampton

Hampton toiled for much of their match against St Albans City but a spirited second half performance saw the Beavers claimed a point from their travels to Hertfordshire, despite having to play the last twenty-five minutes down to ten men.

The first chance of note fell to the Beavers following a high and looping ball from the right. Unsurprisingly Charlie Wassmer was on hand to make headed contact with the ball, but his effort looped up rather than down and the St Albans keeper Dean Snedker.

A bright run from Ryan Hill then saw Snedker produced a decent save to divert the ball away and around the post.

The key moment of the half the game when St Albans were awarded what appeared to be a soft penalty following a challenge between central defender Wassmer and Sam Merson (the son of former Arsenal player Paul) in the Beaver penalty area. Tom Bender calmly struck the ball to the left and St Albans had the advantage as the half drew to a close.

Hampton were determined to fightback and restored parity just nine minutes into the second half. Fullback Matt Young popping up inside the six-yard box to coolly sweep the ball, following good work by Ruaridh Donaldson.



The game changed on 65 minutes as Wassmer was sent off to compound a difficult afternoon for the player, picking up a second yellow card for yet another tackle on Merson.

Both sides pressed on though and in truth both sides had chances to win it. Merson hit the post with a header for the saints, whilst Young nearly claimed his brace, only to be denied by Snedker this time.

As the clocked ticked into added time St Albans substitute and attacker Josh Oyinsan had a gloriously chance to win it at the death but he couldn't divert the ball from a flicked cross.

The Beavers breathed a sigh of relief.

FT St Albans City 1-1 Hampton & Richmond
(Bender 41', Young 54')

MALCOLM DICKSON: A TRIBUTE

It is with sadness that we report of the death of one of Hampton's best-known former players. Malcolm Dickenson signed for Hampton as they were then known in the 1983/4 season before going on to clock up over eleven years of service to the club. He became a stalwart at fullback and was recognised for his determination in defending and tackling. He made over 452 appearances for the club, placing him 5th in the all-time list, and scored 23 goals during his time at the Beveree.

He was granted a testimonial game in 1992 against an Arsenal XI and was called up to represent the Middlesex Wanderers representative side in 1988. His father, Dennis, was the groundsman and the Beveree for many years and was always a keen follower of his son.

The club recently unveiled a mural in the clubhouse which features Malcolm as part of the montage- a fitting tribute to a player and man who will be greatly missed.

UP NEXT FOR HAMPTON

Up next for Hampton is an away trip to Kent, to Tonbridge Angels for the First Round Proper of the FA Trophy in a 3.00pm kick off.

Hampton edged out the Angels with a last-minute goal at home in the sides only league meeting this season and so it promises to be a tense game.

The winners of the First Round will receive £4,500 whilst the losing side will receive £1,750. This is also the last regionalised round and so the Beavers could be in for a possible rare northern away trip should they progress!

Come on you Beavers!

England Women Sevens squad named for Cape Town

Head coach Charlie Hayter has named his England women sevens squad for the HSBC Cape Town Sevens.

There's a return for Beth Wilcock, who missed last weekend's tournament in Dubai due to illness while Katie Mason (Wasps FC Ladies/Lions Sports Academy) is once again included.

England take on Australia and the USA before being reunited with Ireland, who they overcame in the ninth place play-off last weekend.

Heather Fisher, Amy Wilson Hardy and Deborah Fleming [x2] all crossed in that victory and the experienced trio are selected for the maiden women's tournament at the Cape Town Stadium.

Hayter said: "We've had an amazing welcome here this week, the locals have been great in making us feel unbelievably welcome and there's a buzz around the tournament this weekend.

"We can't wait to get out there and play in front of the crowd.

"In terms of building from Dubai, it's great for us to have another opportunity to right some of the wrongs from last week and keep learning and progressing on the journey we're on this year."

Squad list

Abbie Brown (C)

Abi Burton

Heather Fisher

Deborah Fleming

Megan Jones

Alex Matthews

13th player: Helena Rowland

Katie Mason (Wasps FC Ladies/Lions Sports Academy)
Jodie Ounsley
Celia Quansah
Emma Uren
Beth Wilcock
Amy Wilson Hardy

Schedule

Friday 13 December

v Australia Women 7s [Pool C – 14.00pm local time/12.00pm GMT]

Saturday 14 December

v USA Women 7s [Pool C – 09.07am local time/07.07am GMT]

v Ireland Women 7s [Pool C – 14.35pm local time/12.35pm GMT]



Dubai Sevens: England men win bronze

England men sevens secured bronze at the Emirates Airline Dubai Rugby Sevens following a three-try victory over Samoa.

Day three kicked off with a quarter-final meeting against France where Will Muir's last-gasp try secured a 12-19 victory.

In a typically tight contest between the sides, France edged a cagey first half with Jean Pascal Barraque's try and conversion the difference despite Les Bleus being reduced to six just shy of the break.

England's response was good as Mike Ellery crossed from the restart but Terry Bouhraoua replied soon after. Dan Norton scored his fourth try of the tournament before Muir crossed at the death.

Next up, England were edged out by New Zealand [12-19] in a last four thriller.

Norton opened the scoring before Andrew Knewstubb reduced the deficit on the stroke of half-time. Regan Ware put the All Blacks Sevens ahead for the first time before the skilful Harry Glover touched down but Salesi Rayasi's try clinched victory.

Simon Amor's side then contested the third placed play-off against Samoa. Tom Bowen gave England an early lead before Alamanda Motuga and Paul Scanlon responded.

Brought into the final day's squad following an injury to Ethan Waddleton, Richard de Carpentier crossed to ensure England held a narrow advantage at the break. The second period was a closely fought affair, Tofatu Solia edging Samoa ahead before Muir had the final say.

"I'm really delighted to get on the podium for the first tournament, particularly with the lack of training time a number of these players have had," Amor said.

"There wasn't much left in the legs in that last game as the guys gave absolutely everything in the first ones. With five out of the six games being one-score games, it shows just how tight the World Series will be this year and how important the effort was that the players continually showed. We did some good stuff on occasions but probably made quite a few mistakes and didn't quite click as a team but I think that'll come with time. It's a good start for the team on the World Series."

England Dubai 7s day 3 squad

Dan Bibby
Tom Bowen
Phil Burgess (C)
Richard de Carpentier
Mike Ellery
Tom Emery

Harry Glover
Ben Harris
Charlton Kerr
Ollie Lindsay-Hague
Will Muir
Dan Norton



Eight thousand reasons why the RNLI in London needs your help this Christmas

The RNLI's busiest lifeboat station, located next to Waterloo Bridge in central London, has just launched its lifeboat for the 8,000th time since opening on the Thames in 2002.

The 8,000th shout followed reports of a person in the water. The crew, which is on call 24/7 and made up of RNLI staff and volunteers, launched in 90 seconds and sped to the scene, near Westminster Bridge. The call turned out to be a false alarm with good intent and the lifeboat returned to station.

Tower Lifeboat Station, along with RNLI lifeboat stations at Gravesend, Chiswick and Teddington, were opened on Jan 2, 2002 following the inquiry into the Marchioness disaster in August 1989. Fifty-one lives were lost when the boat, which was full of partygoers, was in collision with a dredger.

The station's crew has launched 520 times this year and saved 20 lives. This latest shout means, that on average, volunteers at the station have launched more than eight times every week since it opened seventeen years ago. In that time the four RNLI stations on the Thames have launched 14,448 times, saved 587 lives and aided 5,017 people.*

Tower Lifeboat Station manager, Kevin Maynard, who has been at the station since it opened, said the 8,000th launch underlined how vital the London RNLI lifeboat stations are to saving lives in the capital. But he warned that the charity's lifesaving work was coming under increasing pressure:

'Across the RNLI we are launching more times than ever, more people need our help, but our income is falling,' he explained. 'We are calling it the Perfect Storm and we desperately need more support from the public.'

'Tower Lifeboat Station is a classic example. We are based on a floating pier which is more than 100 years old, but it needs £3 million spent on its moorings to prevent damage caused by the constant bumps and jolts. That's money we need even before we look at the cost of keeping the lifeboat running and the crew equipped and trained.'

Over the past year, rescues by the crew at Tower Lifeboat Station have included rescuing a woman who fell into the river and became trapped alongside a barge and was in danger of being crushed or drowned. The crew also saved a man's life near Woolwich Pier, just seconds after he disappeared beneath the water.

As Christmas approaches, new figures show volunteer lifeboat crews at the charity's 238 lifeboat stations are more than 600% busier over the festive period compared with 40 years ago. During the festive period** last year, RNLI volunteers launched to the rescue 155 times compared with just 21 call outs in 1979. During the festive periods dating back to 1979, RNLI volunteers have rescued 1,453 people and saved 299 lives.

On Christmas Day, like any other day of the year, crew and volunteers will be on standby at Tower Lifeboat Station ready to response at a moment's notice to anyone in difficulty on the Thames.



Photo © RNLI

London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames: Public Consultations from 13 December 2019 to 27 January 2020

Public Consultations from 13 December 2019 to 27 January 2020 on the:

- **Draft Kneller Hall Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**
- **Draft Transport Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**
- **Draft Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**
- **Draft Sustainable Construction Checklist Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**
- **Ham & Petersham Neighbourhood Forum application for re-designation**

The Council is asking for views on these five separate consultations in which you may be interested.

Draft Kneller Hall Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

The Council is disappointed at the decision by the Ministry of Defence to sell Kneller Hall in Whitton, however through the One Public Estate programme the Council has been working in partnership with the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO). Following informal consultation earlier in the year, the draft SPD sets out a future planning framework for the site. It provides strategic level development principles and parameters, with further design guidance for the sub areas within the site.

Draft Transport Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

The draft Transport SPD provides further detailed guidance to support the adopted Local Plan policies, to promote safe and sustainable transport choices.

Draft Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

The draft Planning Obligations SPD provides further detailed guidance to support the adopted Local Plan policies with regard to the planning obligations that are sought from developers to mitigate the impact of developments in the form of Section 106 agreements. This update to the existing SPD (2014) is to reflect new or updated requirements in the Local Plan for planning obligations in relation to Local Employment Agreements, affordable workspace, trees, air quality, sustainable design and construction, carbon off-setting, biodiversity, and social infrastructure (including education and health facilities).

Draft Sustainable Construction Checklist Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

The draft Sustainable Construction Checklist SPD describes the key principles of sustainable design and construction and forms part of the assessment for planning applications for new build, conversions and extensions. This update to the existing SPD (2016) also reflects the Council's recent climate emergency declaration and the ambition to seek the highest standards of design and construction to improve the environmental performance of developments.

Availability of SPD consultation documents

You can view the draft SPDs on the Council's website at www.richmond.gov.uk/draft_supplementary_planning_documents

There are reference copies to view at the Civic Centre. The topic based SPDs are in all of the borough's libraries, while the Kneller Hall SPD is available to view at Whitton library. Details for the libraries are at: www.richmond.gov.uk/branch_libraries

Ham & Petersham Neighbourhood Forum application for re-designation

The Ham and Petersham Neighbourhood Forum (H&PNF) was designated on 16 January 2014 as the Neighbourhood Forum for the Ham and Petersham Neighbourhood Area. The designation lasts for a

period of 5 years. During this time, the H&PNF prepared a Neighbourhood Plan which was approved at a local referendum on 18 October 2018, and subsequently adopted by the Council on 22 January 2019. The H&PNF is now applying for the renewal of the designation in order to support the ongoing implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan. Details of the re-designation application can be viewed at: www.richmond.gov.uk/ham_and_petersham_neighbourhood_planning

Let us know your views by 27 January 2020

We would welcome your views. ***Please make clear in your response which consultation(s) you are responding to.*** You can respond in the following ways:

- By email to LocalPlan@richmond.gov.uk or
- By post to Policy and Design, London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Civic Centre, 44 York Street, Twickenham, TW1 3BZ.

Please note that your response will not be treated as confidential and any anonymous responses will not be accepted.

Also note that there will be two consultation events / drop-ins on the draft Kneller Hall SPD at the Community Room Whitton Library on 9 and 11 January. For further details including times see www.richmond.gov.uk/draft_supplementary_planning_documents

What happens next

A summary of responses to each consultation will be made available following the consultation period. These responses will be fully considered and if appropriate, changes will be made to the final version of the SPDs prior to their adoption by the Council. For the re-designation of the Ham & Petersham Neighbourhood Forum, a decision statement will be issued by the Council.

If you have any queries about these consultations, please contact us.

Progress on Local Plan and other documents

- Statement of Community Involvement: now adopted following public consultation earlier in the year and is available at: www.richmond.gov.uk/media/18317/statement_of_community_involvement_december_2019.pdf
- Local Validation Checklist: following public consultation, the adopted version came into effect on 9 December 2019 and is available at: www.richmond.gov.uk/make_a_planning_application#step3
- Development of a new Local Plan: We are in the early stages of developing a new Richmond Local Plan. The first public consultation is planned in spring 2020, and we will be in touch with you nearer to then to seek your views on the issues that a new Local Plan should address. Further details on the proposed timetable for the new Local Plan are set out in the revised Local Development Scheme, available at www.richmond.gov.uk/local_development_scheme
- Other Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs): The Council is expecting to adopt the Air Quality SPD in February 2019, taking account of received consultation responses. A draft Refuse and Recycling Storage Requirements SPD is being produced. For the progress on other SPDs, please have a look at the website: www.richmond.gov.uk/draft_supplementary_planning_documents
- Update on Local Plan legal challenges in relation to St Michael's Convent (Ham) and Udney Park Playing Fields (Teddington): Inspector Paul Griffiths BSc (Hons) BArch IHBC from the Planning Inspectorate is proceeding with his report – this will not be issued during the pre-election period. Further details, which will be updated with the next steps, can be found at: www.richmond.gov.uk/local_plan_examination#legal

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Quarter Page Portrait

Eighth Page

Eighth Page
Landscape

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