

Twickenham & Richmond **T&RT**

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TickerTape - News in Brief

Have your say on future of Kneller Hall

Residents are encouraged to help shape the future of the Kneller Hall site in Whitton, in a consultation on a new draft Supplementary Planning Document. In 2016 the Ministry of Defence (MoD), who own the site, announced their intention to sell Kneller Hall, as part of a wider estates optimisation programme, to meet the future needs of the armed forces. Earlier this year, the Council, in partnership with the Ministry of Defence, held an informal consultation with residents, businesses and local groups, on what their priorities might be for the future of the site. This feedback has now been considered and fed into the draft SPD. Before the proposed planning document is adopted by the Council, residents are invited to give their views. The Consultation will run from 13 December 2019 to 27 January 2020.

The Council is holding two **drop-in sessions** at the Community Room, Whitton Library, 141 Nelson Road, Whitton, TW2 7BB, where it will be possible to view and speak to representatives of the Council about the draft SPD:

- Thursday 9 January 2020, from 4 to 7pm
- Saturday 11 January 2020, from 12:30 to 3:30 pm.

You can find more information [HERE](#)

Our Parks continue to impress

Richmond Council's parks and open spaces continue to be highly valued by our communities according to the latest Parks Satisfaction Survey. The bi annual survey, shows 97 per cent of respondents thought the borough's parks and green spaces were either excellent, good or satisfactory. An increase of 1% on the previous survey two years ago.

Printed copies of the Tribune are available from Crusader Travel, Church Street, Twickenham



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We are coming to the end of yet another year and 2020, the year of specsavers, is almost upon us.

Our fearless leader has given his year-end roundup and you can view the critically acclaimed video in this edition (PG rated); forget Cats, this is the one to watch!

To summarise the year, the council has achieved many good things, such as working to reduce the borough's carbon footprint (except when it came to inundating everyone with Lib Dem election material), the introduction of idling fines (we believe the number fined has already made it into single figures), the introduction of a blanket 20mph speed limit (even though a majority of residents opposed it) and a concept for Twickenham Riverside that actually achieves more housing than proposed under Serge Lourie.

What a year!



PART 158 POSTCARDS ON CHRISTMAS DAY!

PAGE
By Alan Winter



Let's start off this Christmas postcard special with a great postcard of Father Christmas that was printed in Saxony in about 1904. Germany had better printing facilities than the UK in the Edwardian years leading up to the start of World War 1 in 1914 and so most UK postcard publishers used German printers in that period.

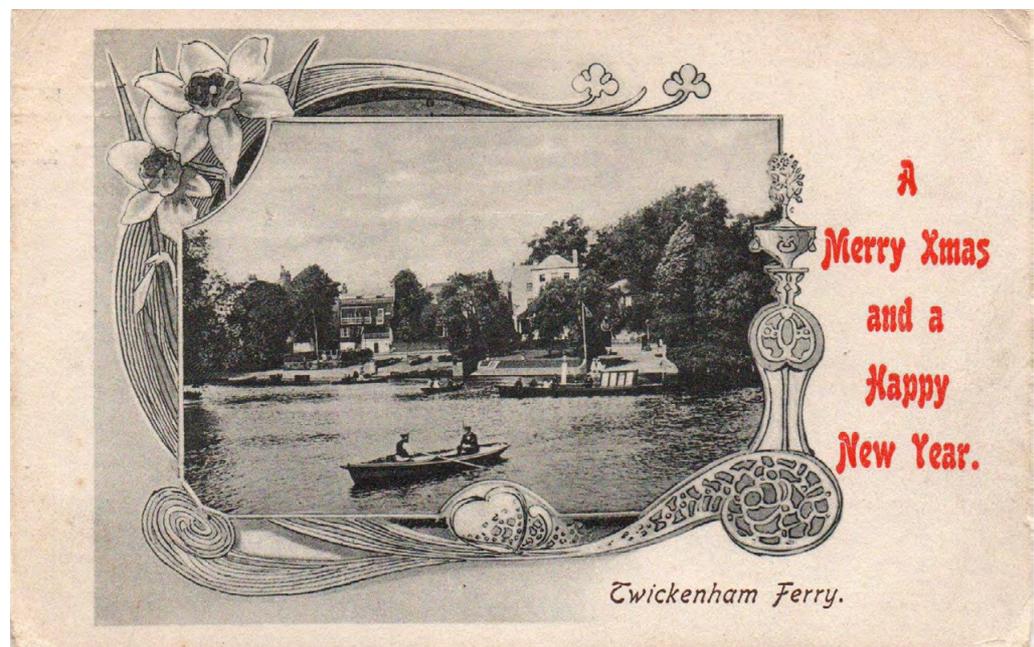
Imagine waking up on Christmas Day in Edwardian England. The postal service was far superior to its current day counterpart and households in the UK could look forward to several postal deliveries a day including weekends, bank holidays and even Christmas Day!

With no telephones or computers in those days the only method of communication was by post. The letterbox would rattle and quantities of Christmas postcards (Christmas cards came later) would land on the mat. If the postman got up early enough he would get home in time for his own Christmas lunch.

We can look at a few other postcards all posted locally around that period and carrying a printed Christmas message

The Christmas message on the second postcard shown was overprinted on a standard Twickenham Ferry card for the festive season. This was very common practice for local publishers and stationers to sell extra stocks of postcards at Christmas, New Year and Easter.

The 3rd postcard is a stan-



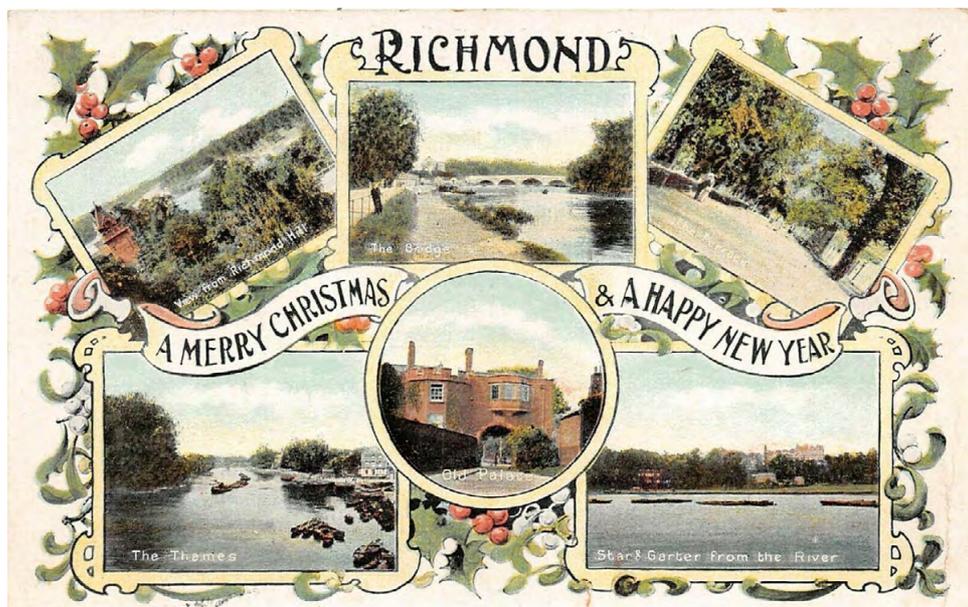


standard multi-view of the area with another seasonal overprint and the final postcard does the same job for Richmond.

If you can find a bit of time next Sunday 29th December, you may like to pop over to the Tolworth Recreation Centre where a large postcard and ephemera fair is taking place (8.00 – 4.00).

Ideal for those with an interest in the past to wade through piles of ration books, old illustrated invoices, comics and magazines, cigarette cards, maps and postcards from all over the world.

I shall be there with tables full of postcards including many from our local areas so do come and say hello. Prices of second hand cards range from 20 pence each to a few pounds approximately. Very rare cards can fetch higher amounts. I will be buying postcards for cash as usual so if you have any unwanted postcards please bring them along or if it is easier we can arrange a suitable time for me to come and see them wherever you wish.



Meanwhile – Merry Christmas!

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 in the garage or under a bed, do contact me on 07875 578398 or alanwinter192@hotmail.com. I would like to see them, and I pay cash!

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Arts and Entertainment

By Emma Grey



Theatre

Saturday 4 January 8pm. Hampton Hill Theatre.
Lost Voice Guy presented by Outside the Box www.outsidetheboxcomedy.co.uk

Thursday 9 January to Saturday 11 January 7.30pm plus matinee. A Christmas Carol, a youth production presented by Step on Stage Productions
info@steponstageacademy.co.uk

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.

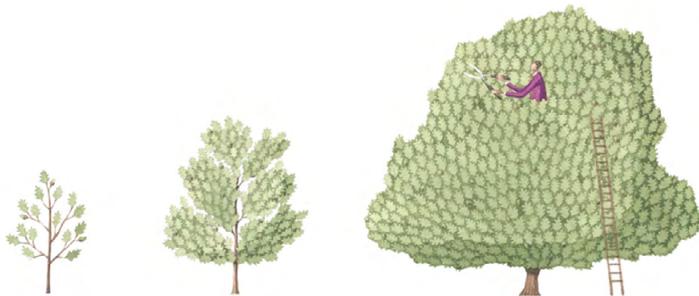
Music

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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by Eugene O'Neill

Directed by Simon Bartlett

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Scan me

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

John Edward Charles Perry

28th February 1930 - 24th November 2019

This afternoon friends and relatives said a final goodbye to John Perry who lived on Eel Pie Island for many years.

John spent his early childhood in Hong Kong and China. It was in Hong Kong at a very early age that John became interested in sailing, an interest which lasted all his life.

John, a lawyer, was a well known figure in the community involved in community politics and environmental issues.

An active member of the REIC (Richmond Environmental Information Centre) John served as Deputy Chairman of the charity.

A service to celebrate John's life took place at St Stephen's Church, East Twickenham, on Friday 20th December; tales of his sailing adventures reminded us all of his love of the sea.

"I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky, And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by (John Masefield – Sea Fever).

A conversation between John Perry and Jeremy Hamilton-Miller from Memories of Twickenham Riverside, a REIC Heritage Lottery project, can be seen to the right.

Click image to view video



CHRISTMAS DAY 1914

Jeremy Hamilton-Miller

The story of the World War 1 “Christmas Truce” on December 25 1914 is quite well known. First-hand accounts, however, are not so commonly seen. One who actually experienced this, a soldier from Richmond, recorded it in a letter home that was published in Richmond and Twickenham Times on January 2 1915. His story reads as follows:

Soldiers’ Christmas Day

--

English and Germans Fraternise on Trench Tops

--

Firing suspended

A brother of Mr Nelson Clarke, of Richmond, who is in the 16th County of London (Queen’s Westminsters), and is an old County School boy writes:

“...It’s a very funny Christmas Eve, for the order has just gone down the line that we are not to fire unless the Germans fire at us or attack us, but we had arranged before this between ourselves and the enemy not to fire at each other. There is a sharp frost out at night, and the mud in the trenches is drying up splendidly. Just in front of me, and behind the German lines, is a huge fire. It is a large building set on fire by shell fire last night.

“We can hear the Germans singing and shouting, and we are doing the same, and at intervals we applaud each other. There is one particular song we had made up which is rather catchy, and they have been trying to sing it after us.

“Have just finished Christmas dinner, consisting of tinned beef and vegetables, biscuits, and turkey and ham paste, and Christmas pudding. This is really a unique Christmas Day. In the morning everyone swarmed over the tops of the trenches and went half-way to meet the Germans, unarmed of course. They were a skinny looking lot, but I must say their grey clothes, if not their skin, were cleaner than ours; probably they have less mud in their trenches. I spoke to quite a young chap who knew English and who had come from America. I managed to get a cap and badge, a button, and a cigar as souvenirs and after a good walk round we returned to my home”



*A cross, left in Comines-Warneton (Saint-Yvon, Warneton) in Belgium in 1999, to celebrate the site of the Christmas Truce during the First World War in 1914. The text reads: **1914 - The Khaki Chum’s Christmas Truce - 1999 - 85 Years - Lest We Forget.***

Twickenham Resident Awarded Prize for Outstanding Work in International Aid

By Teresa Read

On Thursday the Twickenham Tribune had the pleasure to meet Chris Austin CBE, who works for the Department for International Development (DfID).

Chris, a long-term member of the DfID team, has just been awarded a prize by Lancaster University for excellence in his work in the aid sector overseas. <https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/news/alumni-awards-for-high-flying-lancaster-graduates>

Chris has lived in Twickenham for many years and, as well as being very active in local sports clubs, he was surprised to discover that the Tribune's Twickers Foodie is also known to him.

A highly regarded and experienced senior civil servant, Chris was responsible for leading the DfID Ebola response in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and prior to this Chris was deployed to the Caribbean where he led the UK's response to Hurricanes Maria and Irma as head of the UK taskforce (2017).

Chris also directed the Western Asia department, playing an important part in developing the UK's strategy to both Afghanistan and Iraq's reconstruction as well as DfID's Country Director in Bangladesh.

Chris was the principal private secretary to Clare Short when she became the first cabinet level Secretary of State for the Department of International Development (DfID).

Chris Austin was awarded a CBE for services to international development in 2017 and currently works as the Deputy CEO for the Africa Investment Summit at the Department for International Development (DfID). Chris said that he found this project, which works with businesses creating jobs in a number of African countries, the most interesting in his career. The project aims to repurpose the UK's engagement with African countries and reinforce the shift in the UK and Africa partnership – a long-term partnership of mutual interest looking at the economic and social picture.

Brexit allows better trading opportunities and Chris aims to secure more investment from the City of London creating new business partnerships.



Leader of the Council thanks the borough for a great 2019

The Leader of Richmond Council, Cllr Gareth Roberts, reflects on all the positive things achieved this year – not just as a Council, but as a borough, and as a community.

Highlights of 2019 include:

- Taking steps closer to certainty around the future of Twickenham Riverside
- The introduction of idling fines and over 1,000 people, schools and businesses pledging not to idle in the borough
- Working to reduce the borough's carbon footprint
- Continuing to campaign against the expansion of Heathrow Airport
- Launching the Health and Care plan
- Investing more money in Community Safety activities
- Welcoming 1,395,000 visitors into our libraries
- 90% of students achieving A* to C at A-level

In the video Cllr Roberts said:
“As we come to the end of 2019, I want to say thank you to all of you for everything you do to make this borough so great.”

“It is an enormous honour and a privilege to be Leader of such a fantastic borough and to know that there are so many people living here who do so much for our community. How ever you are celebrating and wherever you are celebrating, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.”



Click image to play video

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LGA RESPONDS TO QUEEN'S SPEECH

Responding to the Queen's Speech announced today, Cllr James Jamieson, Chairman of the Local Government Association, said:

“The Local Government Association has long called for a cross-party consensus on how we tackle the adult social care crisis, and as a cross-party organisation, we will be happy to host the talks. We are pleased the new Government has committed to achieving this.

“While much of the immediate business for the Government will be around Brexit, it should not delay in delivering a long-term funding solution which secures the future of adult social care, alongside reform of children's social care.

“It should also build on previous work to transfer power to local communities to deliver on its pledge to move away from ‘Whitehall knows best’.

“Councils know their areas best and can make a huge difference to the lives of their residents and the communities where they live by creating more school spaces, building more homes, boosting economic growth, improving our roads and equipping people with the skills they need to succeed.

“Handing widespread powers to local areas and making sure they are adequately funded is essential if all parts of England can improve vital services such as housing, transport, and health and social care.

“We look forward to working with government as a vital partner to help deliver its commitment to levelling up powers and investment in local areas across all parts of the country.

“Now the new government needs to follow today's Queen's Speech by publishing the provisional 2020 Local Government Finance Settlement as soon as possible and no later than Parliament rising for the Christmas recess. This is critical if councils are to have the certainty and time they need to plan how to provide the vital local services our communities rely on next year.”





Woodland Gardens and Deer by Hampton Hill, New Gate into Bushy Park

Winter Solstice Another Solstice and memories of past walks on the first day of winter. We had a very snowy one in 2010 in Bushy Park and it was also very cold. The word Solstice, in Latin Sol "Sun" and Sistere "To Stand Still or "Solstitium" Sun-Stopping, is the day with the fewest hours of day/sunlight in the whole year. Many cultures celebrate this time of the darkest and longest night as a time of reflection and renewal as it also marks a new beginning as the days slowly become longer. Feasts and festivals abound and for some the beauty and magnitude of Nature's cycles is acknowledged and thanks given in rituals and ceremonies dating back centuries. We hope to meet you along the River Crane walk and our photos/news from the year are available on our [News Diary](#). Wishing all nature lovers strength to speak up in 2020 for local and global issues to protect our planet from greed and sound-bytes: "Do the right thing" "Get it done" "Fake News". How about "Stop Lying"



SWR service information for New Year's Eve / New Year's Day, 2 / 3 January and timetable changes (commencing Saturday 4 January 2020)

- **Amended timetable in place for New Year's Eve due to RMT strike action, with stations likely to be busy and queuing systems in place**
- **Last services will run from Waterloo before 11pm, with some extra services running after midnight on inner-suburban routes (early hours of New Year's Day) to help passengers attending Mayor of London's fireworks on the Southbank**
- **No post-midnight services beyond Basingstoke or Guildford on SWR mainline route**
- **Amended timetable will also be in place 1 – 3 January**
- **Journey times may change with the introduction of new SWR timetable on some routes from Saturday 4 January**
- **Passengers advised to check before they travel at [southwesternrailway.com/strike](https://www.southwesternrailway.com/strike) and follow @SW_Help for live updates**

South Western Railway will continue to run an amended strike timetable on New Year's Eve (Tuesday 31 December), with many services finishing earlier than normal.

Services running after midnight will run on some inner-suburban London routes to help take home passengers attending the Mayor of London's annual firework celebrations.

However, no post-midnight services will run beyond Basingstoke or Guildford on SWR mainline services. Full details of the timetable will be posted on [southwesternrailway.com/strike](https://www.southwesternrailway.com/strike) as soon as it is available.

An amended timetable will also run due to RMT strike action on New Year's Day.

On Thursday 2 and Friday 3 January, SWR will continue to run an amended timetable and passengers are urged to check before they travel on these days.

Despite these not being RMT strike dates, SWR will run an amended timetable to ensure that all those guards who did not work during 28 days of RMT strike action are properly refreshed in terms of all necessary safety activities.

With engineering work taking place on Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 January, the new timetable will kick off in earnest on Monday 6 January.

The new timetable will help provide 80 additional services a week, with improved journey opportunities across the SWR network. This builds on the successful May 2019 timetable changes, that saw more than 300 additional services introduced.

The changes will see later services from the West of England line to London, additional services on some suburban routes (Epsom, Dorking, Chessington, Hampton Court) and more peak and off-peak services on the Reading/Windsor line.

South Western
 **Railway**

Richmond Film Society - the Season continues on 7 January 2020

The second half of Richmond Film Society's 57th Season of World Cinema continues at The Exchange on 7 January with **'The White Crow'** (UK/Serbia/France), Ralph Fiennes' acclaimed biographical drama about the life Rudolf Nureyev.



See <http://www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk> for details of the programme.

Non-member tickets are £5 (full-time students £3) and can be purchased in advance from The Exchange's Box Office (subject to a cap of 70) - in person, by telephone on 020 8240 2399 or online at <http://exchangetwickenham.co.uk/events/> . A further 50 or so tickets will be available to purchase on the door on the night of screenings (cash only) on a 'first-come-first-served' basis.

Films are shown at 8.00pm sharp on alternate Tuesdays (no trailers and no ads) and are screened at The Exchange, 75 London Road, Twickenham, TW1 1BE. On screening nights, the Bar is open from 7.00pm and remains open after the film. Drinks can be taken into the auditorium and coffee, tea and snacks are also available. Film notes are provided for each screening and audience feedback is obtained via response slips.

RICHMOND FILM SOCIETY COMPETITION

Win a pair of tickets for any film of your choice in the second half of Richmond Film Society's 57th Season, which runs from 7 January to 16 June 2020.

Competition Question

'Which film topped the 2018 BBC Culture Poll of *'The 100 greatest foreign-language films'* ? Was it (a) 'Seven Samurai' or (b) 'Bicycle Thieves' ?

Please send your answers to win@twickenhamtribune.com , placing your answer in the email subject line. Correct answers will be drawn to determine the winning entry after the closing date of 4 January 2020.

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



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Never Mind - Never Mind - Never Mind

By:TwickWatch

With the implementation of 20mph speed limits in the Borough TwickWatch takes a look at speed limits. Advances in technology often bring challenges as well as benefits. Technology gave us the car allowing people more independence, removing the need for the upkeep of horses and later, stoking coal boilers and carrying water for steam.

The introduction of speed limits for “people carriers”, in the main, cars interacting with pedestrians and other road users, have been controversial ever since they were first introduced. They have either been opposed or supported from various sources; including motoring organisations, anti-motoring organisations and others who either considered them to be irrelevant, set too low or set too high.

The first speed limits in the United Kingdom were set by a series of restrictive Locomotive Acts (in 1861, 1865 and 1878 - (powered passenger vehicles were then termed “light locomotives”). The 1861 Act introduced a 10mph limit. Then in 1865 the ‘Red Flag Act’ reduced the speed limit to 4mph in the country and 2mph in towns and required a man with a red flag or lantern to walk 60 yards ahead of each vehicle and warn horse riders and horse-drawn traffic of the approach of a self-propelled machine. The 1878 Act removed the need for the flag and reduced the distance of the escort to 20 yards. The maximum speed limit was then increased to 14mph.

The speed limit for motor cars was raised to 20mph by the Motor Car Act 1903 which stood until 1 January 1931 when all speed limits for cars and motorcycles were abolished under the Road Traffic Act 1930 because they were so widely ignored. The Road Traffic Act 1934 made it unlawful for anyone to drive a motor vehicle on a road in a built-up area at a speed exceeding 30 mph. A road in a built-up area was defined as a road having a system of street lighting furnished by lamps placed not more than 200 yards apart.

World War II saw a 20mph night-time speed limit for built-up areas being introduced in 1940 as an attempt to halt the increase in the number of road casualties occurring during the World War II blackouts. The Road Traffic Act 1960 introduced the expression “restricted road” to replace “a road in a built-up area”.

As technology advanced, speed remained an issue with the introduction of new forms of motorised transport. Invalid carriages and mobility scooters became motorised requiring speed and usage rules. There are two classes of powered wheelchairs and powered mobility scooters.

- ‘class 2 invalid carriages’ - these cannot be used on the road (except where there is not a pavement) and have a maximum speed of 4mph
- ‘class 3 invalid carriages’ - these can be used on the road, and have a maximum speed of 4mph off the road, and 8mph on the road. When used on road users MUST follow the same rules about using lights, indicators and horns as for other road vehicles, if your vehicle is fitted with them.

Nowadays electric scooters, the “elite” of which can travel up to 40mph, are increasingly available and the subject of debate as to usage and speed rules, their legality itself being questioned. On 27 June 2019 a written reply in Parliament stated “Existing road traffic legislation applies to electric scooters. How the police enforce speed limits for electric scooters

is an operational matter for individual Chief Officers of police in conjunction with local policing plans”.

South Western Railway require passengers with electric scooters to have a permit but to date no penalties have been enforced. Electric invalid carriages can require permits to travel on trains of some companies, while motorcycles, mopeds, motor scooters and motorised cycles cannot be carried on any.

The initiative for widespread 20mph limits in the UK was based on experience internationally, which had demonstrated that lower speed limits could have safety benefits *when combined with traffic calming measures to ensure that vehicles maintained low speeds through the zone*. One of the first studies of pedestrian injury and car impact speed, found that at 20mph there was a 2.5% chance of being fatally injured, compared to a 20% chance at 30mph. People either like or dislike the current “trend” for the introduction of 20mph speed limits. On the face of it the idea seems eminently sensible. So why didn’t the Department for Transport impose a nationwide 20mph limit? Could it be that other considerations are felt necessary and not just a case of putting 20mph signs everywhere but of informed and thoughtful consideration?

A clue can be found in the Department for Transport’s current guidance as set out in [DfT Circular 01/2013](#), which encourages traffic authorities to consider the introduction of more 20mph limits and zones, over time, in urban areas and built-up village streets that are primarily residential, to ensure greater safety for cyclists and pedestrians.

It suggests that 20mph limits are appropriate for roads where average speeds are already low (below 24mph) or along with traffic calming measures. Ultimately the Local Authority is responsible for deciding which of these was the most appropriate. The majority of pedestrian casualties occur in built-up areas. Scotland has its own implementation guidelines.

The legislation made two distinct variations of a 20mph speed restriction possible:

- *20mph speed limit zones*, designed to be “self-enforcing” due to the traffic calming measures introduced along with the change in the speed. 20mph zones use traffic calming measures to reduce the adverse impact of motor vehicles on built up areas. The principle is that the traffic calming slows vehicles down to speeds below the limit, and in this way the zone becomes ‘self-enforcing’. Speed humps, chicanes, road narrowing, planting and other measures can be introduced to both physically and visually reinforce the nature of the road.
- *20mph limits* are areas where the speed limit has been reduced to 20mph but there are no physical measures to reduce vehicle speeds within the area. Drivers are alerted to the speed limit with 20mph speed limit repeater signs. 20mph limits are most appropriate for roads where average speeds are already low, and the guidance suggests below 24mph. The layout and use of the road must also give the clear impression that a 20mph speed or below is the most appropriate.

Simply changing the speed limit does not mean a change of driver character will follow automatically. Design that changes the character of a street can also change the perception of an appropriate speed in the minds of drivers. This was achieved in Kensington High Street with a decrease in casualties of an amazing 43% which remains impressive even when compared with a decrease across the capital of over 17% in the same periods. Whilst it is true that average vehicle speeds reduced in Kensington High Street, the casualty reduction *was achieved without imposing a 20mph limit*. Essentially, it comes down to a simple choice between small targeted schemes that work or large schemes that flop. I know which I prefer.

The French Market comes to town

(in English and French) by Shona Lyons

Today is the day that our French neighbours come to Church Street to sell their wares at the French Market! Will you brave the rain to come and see them? Hope to see you soon! Happy Christmas to everyone! This is the last fair of the year!

Aujourd'hui, c'est le jour où nos voisins français viennent à Church Street pour vendre leurs produits au marché français! Allez-vous braver la pluie pour venir les voir? A bientôt, j'espère! Joyeux Noël à tous! C'est la dernière foire de l'année! Je pense que je pourrais prendre des vacances :-)



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.

Christmas and New Year waste and recycling collections

Normal collection day	Revised collection day
Monday 23 December	Monday 23 December
Tuesday 24 December	Tuesday 24 December
Wednesday 25 December	Friday 27 December
Thursday 26 December	Saturday 28 December
Friday 27 December	Sunday 29 December
Monday 30 December	Monday 30 December
Tuesday 31 December	Tuesday 31 December
Wednesday 1 January	Thursday 2 January
Thursday 2 January	Friday 3 January
Friday 3 January	Saturday 4 January

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.

For more information, go to the [Collection days page](#).

FESTIVE FOODIE

Well, this time next week it will all be over! And we will have New Year to look forward to. If you are planning to go out for Christmas lunch I hope you have already booked!

I was invited to attend a lovely evening this week for the ball committee and ‘challengers’ of The Victoria Foundation, an excellent local charity for which I have been a proud ambassador for some years now. The evening comprised a wonderful, relaxed wine tasting at the home of Edwin Doran (who, of course, had the travel company locally). Edwin and his son Tom (a chef) share a passion for food and wine. We enjoyed a range of wines from the Doran Family Vineyards, bought by Edwin when he sold his travel business a decade ago. The vineyard is in Paarl in the Voor-Paardeberg region. The grapes are grown on bush vines with Cabernet Sauvignon, Cab Franc, Merlot, Syrah, Pinotage and Grenache Noir as well as three white grapes. Many of the wines are named after family members: Rosie D (Edwin’s wife) and Arya and Romy after his grandchildren.



The wines are fabulous. We were introduced to each wine and given generous tasting samples while enjoying a range of Tom’s delicious canapés and taster portions of food chosen to pair perfectly with them. These included Sea Bass, pickled chilli, shiso as well as Manchego, chorizo, rocket. The Manchego came in the form of a tiny cheesy panne cotta (see photo) and was divine, Oxtail with mashed potato was a rich combination that showed how well the wines (in this case Romy D 70/30 Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot) match a strongly flavoured meat dish. Tom uses local suppliers and feels strongly about supporting our independent shops. If you haven’t tried Doran wines, you should check them out – the 2018 Pinotage will go beautifully with Christmas dinner! Premier, Ricardo’s Cellar and Hampton Cellar stock the wines. And you can enjoy them at One One Four in Teddington.

The Doran food and wine pairing events run once a month in Teddington, but they also run private events covering all things food and wine either in people’s homes, or offices. Tom also does catering for other functions. For more info contact Tom on **07949028590** or you can email him at tom@doranfamilyvintners.co.uk



Enough about wine, if your chosen festive tippie is a rich, creamy liqueur, check out a new one called Coole Swan, a rather superior mix of Irish whiskey, chocolate and cream. Available in John Lewis at £24 for 70 cl (some gift packs available too) this premium Irish liqueur makes a pleasant change. And you could order it online and collect from Waitrose!



Another great tippie to enjoy over Christmas is Mermaid Gin from the Isle of Wight. Available in Marks & Spencer - £45 for 70 cl - it makes a fabulous Christmas gift for any gin lover. It comes in a very striking and rather tactile bottle, is plastic-free and uses entirely recyclable materials. It's smooth, yet complex, featuring lemon zest, peppery notes in grains of paradise and a hint of sea air from fragrant rock samphire. The latter, foraged from the Isle of Wight's cliffs, is known locally as 'Mermaid's Kiss', hence the gin's name!

As they say... "Let the festivities be-gin!"
Merry Christmas to one and all.



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



Ravens: Spassky vs. Fischer

by Tom Morton-Smith

Friedman Productions at the Hampstead Theatre until 18th January

The eminently historical and dramatic 1972 World Championship in chess, which took place between the mentally unhinged American, Bobby Fischer, and the Soviet gentleman-professional Boris Spassky, has filtered into the general public knowledge and mythos of chess. Allowing for artistic licence, this is the subject of *Ravens*, now in its World Premiere.

Fischer's exact mental health issues are unknown, but he was very prone to delusions and paranoia, with many suspecting he was schizophrenic. The presence of the audience unsettled him, but so did the proximity of the pot plants in the room, the contrast between the squares on the chessboard, and he claimed to hear the ultrasonic frequencies from the television cameras.



Infamously, Fischer was an eccentric character who was vehemently anti-Communist, and anti-Semitic, albeit having Jewish ancestry himself. But Fischer was equally anti-American, subscribing to outlandish conspiracy theories, such as the USA being ran by a shadowy cabal of Svengali-like Jews.

Fischer is convincingly, and disturbingly, portrayed by Robert Emms as an immature and arrogant savant, descending into a madness where winning is the only thing of value, as a flawed genius, whose unique talent for the game is marred by

his erratic behaviour. Whereas Boris Spassky is shown as a more straightforward individual, a consummate professional and a gentleman. Ronan Raftery portrays him in this vein, magnanimous and humble in defeat, and reluctant to directly criticise Fischer.

Much of the drama on the Soviets comes from the unique political pressures. Initially cool, composed, and calculating, Spassky's entourage eventually succumb to the anxiety about the KGB, looking for espionage bugs, or radiation-emitting devices in the lighting system, or believing that the orange juice may be doped. Their paranoia is ultimately based more in reality than Fischer's is, although questions are raised as to whether there may be more it than meets the eye

Eugene Broad is an opera and drama critic, but also writes extensively about chess, read his review at

www.markaspen.com/2019/12/11/ravens

Photography by Manuel Harlan





The Snow Queen

by Ciaran McConville, based on Hans Christian Andersen

RTK and Rose Youth Theatre at The Rose Theatre, Kingston until 5th January

An adaption of the classic story, *The Snow Queen* is Kingston's Christmas show this year. The story is about a girl called Gerda and one of her close friends, Kai who have to fight to save the world from the Snow Queen and eternal winter.

The action starts with elves preparing gifts for Christmas, but one young girl called Joy (Emily Porter) finds a mysterious shard mirror. The older elves recount the tale to Joy of the mirror, a creative



and clever way to tell the story of Gerda and Kai.



This is the first Christmas show since the rebuilding the auditorium, but losing the pit area, which was used as floor seating in previous years. Nevertheless, the cast still managed to interact with the audience by inviting children onto the stage to put a present in a pile, a very creative direction by Ciaran McConville. However, the magical snow showers which before have cascaded onto the audience, delighting the younger children, now only fall on the stage, which was a shame.

Bancu stole the show with his amazing comic timing and animated voice. Bancu was a reindeer puppet, led by Francis Redfern, who made the audience laugh till they had stiches.

Jack Wolfe and Parisa Shahmir played Kai and Gerda convincingly with strong voices, conveying their strong emotions, mutually and towards others, which was very engaging for the audience who felt their shared love was real. Parisa carried the story of her journey, as her energy never faded, while Jack supplied emotion and a switch in mood. Kai pulled our heart strings as he talked about wanting to bring his mum back



Milly Stephens is one of our younger critics at 14 years old, and you can read her review at www.markaspen.com/2019/12/14/snow-queen

Photography by Mark Douet and Pam Wade



Treasure Island

by Robert Louis Stevenson, adapted by Bryony Lavery

Putney Theatre Company at Putney Arts Theatre until 22nd December

Jim Hawkins goes to sea in search of buried treasure, and discovers storms, mutiny, pirates, and adventure. Stevenson's 1882 adventure novel invented many of the tropes we've long come to associate with pirates and their grog-swimming, parrot-perching, treasure-burying, map-making ways, and the PTC production of *Treasure Island* embraces them unashamedly.



Setting the mood wonderfully, the foyer is dressed as an island, with a pre-show magician. A fiddler (Stan Stanley) plays a long medley of sea shanties live music, and there's grog sold at the bar.



The Admiral Benbow inn is assembled from a few wooden barrels, pewter tankards and a door frame. Later on, the same simple set elements will be reconfigured into a coach, and the *Hispaniola*. The ensemble really sell the illusion with slick, energetic, and confident scene changes. In the inn, live foley Paul Graves starts to come into his own at his desk on stage left. While initially limited to providing sound effects for the inn's bell for each new arrival, he quickly begins to steal the show with the sound of swords being drawn, bubbling mud, storms, tin skulls, and more.

Although it is young Jim Hawkins' story (and Flavia Di Saverio carries the show), the limelight is of course hijacked by the one-legged pirate-turned-chef-turned-pirate, Long John Silver. This larger-than-life buccaneer demands a charismatic performance, and Charlie Golding more than rises to the challenge. His Silver is often quiet and calculating, with an easy charm. Silver's malevolent parrot, Captain Flint is a wonderful wooden puppet, complete with punctuating squawks. Long John Silver struts the stage in "the finest wooden leg in Brizzle", a splendid steampunk-style prosthetic



Read Andrew Lawston's review at www.markaspen.com/2019/12/18/tr-island

Photography by Benjamin Copping

St Mary's University Update

St Mary's Hosts Erasmus+ Kick Off Meeting

The Institute of Education at St Mary's University, Twickenham recently hosted a launch event for the Innovative Pedagogies for Teaching with Geoinformation (GI-Pedagogy) Project.

The GI-Pedagogy project will produce a toolkit of resources for teaching with GIS in the most effective way. This will be refined through continuous feedback

between teacher training and research institutions, frontline educators and professional geographers. Surveys will also be used to monitor experiences of participating teachers at our two partner schools as well as other associate institutions.

This EU and British Council grant, worth €350,000, is a part of a highly competitive funding scheme which

has been awarded to St Mary's as the Lead Institution. The grant will allow the project to develop resources to support teachers, which will be freely available on the project website and disseminated via in-person training events to be held across Europe.

Speaking of the project and launch, St Mary's Project Leader and Senior Lecturer Sophie Wilson said, "We were delighted to welcome our partners to St Mary's to celebrate the launch of this fantastic project, which will deliver resources for teachers across Europe and ultimately enhanced outcomes for geography pupils."



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London



Guests at the launch came from countries across Europe, including Belgium, Spain, Romania, Austria and the UK. The aim of the three-year EU Research Project, funded by the British Council, is to build on past work done on the use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) in secondary schools, with a specific focus on Pedagogy and Teacher Training for Early Career and Trainee Teachers.

The meeting provided the opportunity for Partners to meet and plan out what needs to be done, to support and equip teachers to bring GIS into the classroom in innovative and effective ways, by reviewing existing approaches and developing new ways of incorporating web-based mapping software into the Geography Curriculum.

Destiny's a strange phenomenon!

BY Bruce Lyons



Do you enjoy watching “Who do you Think You Are ?” or My Grandfathers War well I do and the one makes me really curious and the other amazes me (like it does to the



Grandchildren in the programme) as to how little we know about our Grandfather who somehow seems to flit in and out of my life

recently. When I met Hedda it was at a reunion from a trip in the 60's to Israel and I was then planning to spend the rest of my working life promoting Desert Tourism, Hedda was from Jerusalem and it was only when I invited her to see “My Grandfathers Etchings” that I became aware that they were drawn in 1917

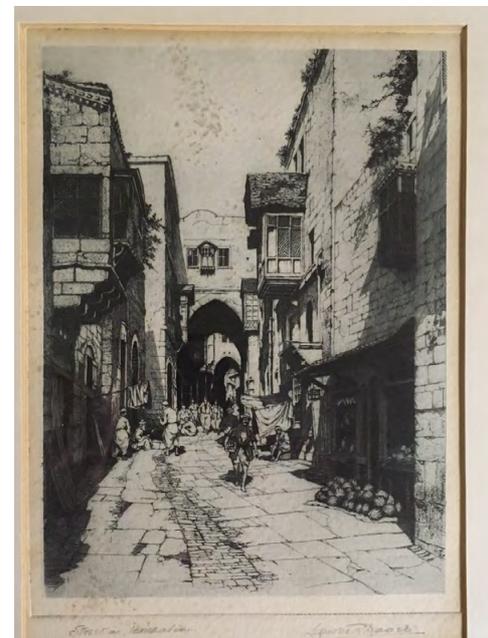
and even then the significance didn't really dawn on me .

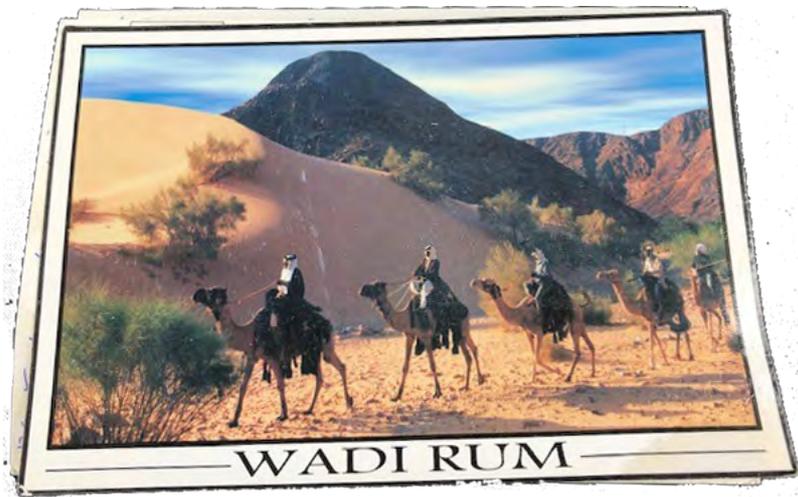


My Grandfather was with Allenby and the Expeditionary Force the relieved Jerusalem- Now I wonder what his journey was like

Did

he travel up the Sinai , as I have often , did he meet Lawrence in Jordan, another strange link in that the Travel Company I first worked for was engaged, at that time , in arranging the transportation of Sam Spiegel's Film of Lawrence of Arabia and I worked on that , wonder what Grandfather would have thought about that? Or the journey that Hedda and I had with Desert Tourism, first to Eilat (opposite Aqaba) and then all through the Sinai to St Catherine's Monastery, and with Dive Safaris up and down the coast before it became a





famous tourist destination. I often , now, wonder did he, my Grandfather, pass this way and what would he think of it now , I wonder too how David Roberts, whose pictorial drawings of the Holyland from the 18th century are renowned would think about all this area today, with its burgeoning Tourism and Desert Agriculture, hope he wouldn't turn in his grave!

Today most of my near family live in Eilat, a very different town from those times – gateway to the Sinai and Beyond. For 35 years and more Hedda and I worked, as I had hoped , in Desert Tourism and travelled throughout Egypt, Israel and Jordan and for years the area was highly sought after in the UK market place with planes to local Israeli, Jordanian and Egyptian resorts as well as the cities – then came the Arab Spring and over some three years much of it disappeared. True there were still flights to the capitals of the three countries but not till now have many of the resort town flights returned



Hopefully 2020 will improve on what we already have and we will see more routes returning, but we already have winter flights back to Aqaba and Sharm el Sheik – the biggest gap is a direct flight to Eilat . but it is easy to reach from Tel Aviv



When I last printed (it is a poor print) my Grandfathers etching a reader sent us an amusing picture of the “Surrender” of the Ottomans to the Expeditionary force (not the official surrender) which can be seen in the American Colony Archives in Jerusalem , so I often wonder if in2020I will find out more of his journey and whether it will cross with mine

For now though, dear reader, enjoy the new flights and get off in the new year on a voyage of discovery be it the Sinai or Judean Desert, the Hills of Jerusalem or the Nile and Aswan and the High Dam – all worth a visit and it is warmer there too

TRAVELLER'S TALES 61

MINEFIELDS

DOUG GOODMAN RECALLS HIS TIME SPENT WITH BOMB DISPOSAL TEAMS



The story last week in the Twickenham Tribune about the Royal Engineers' brave bomb disposal squad and their work in Bushy Park during WW2 reminded me of the research I carried out some years ago for a military history magazine.



El Alamein



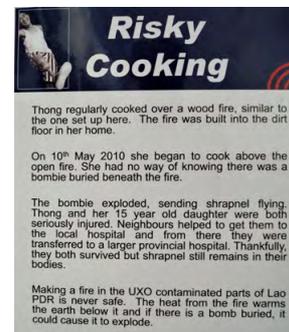
Laos



Mine Clearing Team in Laos



Open Air cooking



Warning

Who cannot forget that iconic picture of Princess Diana walking in a minefield in Angola in 1997: an act that did so much to raise awareness of the dangers of mines still present in many countries. In September this year Prince Harry visited the same minefield, clad in protective gear, 22 years after his mother's visit in order to continue the campaign to ban such terrible weapons of war.



Mine Victim



Cluster Bombs



Artificial Limbs



Cleared Minefield

Mines have been used for centuries: when castles were besieged the attackers would dig under the foundations and set explosives to breach the defences to gain entry. In modern warfare a minefield is a cheap and very effective method of defence. Large numbers of soldiers are not required to guard an area when an enemy knows that a minefield has to be crossed. Just a warning sign can often be a sufficient deterrent. When a conflict ends weapons can be 'switched off' but mines continue to function. During WW1 a few thousand mines were used but in the Second World War tens of millions were sown. Mines can be destroyed with comparative ease but it's the searching that takes time and presents great danger. Clearing undergrowth from an area and then sweeping it with detectors can take one trained person a day to clear 100sq. meters. In 1945 an estimated 100 million mines had to be cleared throughout Europe and North Africa. Prisoners of war were often forced to clear mines with the knowledge that they would be made to march over the area once they had declared it safe. The UK coast was heavily mined in WW2 with civilian deaths still occurring in the late 1950's. In Third World countries there are around 1000 deaths and 4000 injuries caused each year by mines whose presence has never been located.

TRAGEDY OF THE VIETNAM WAR.

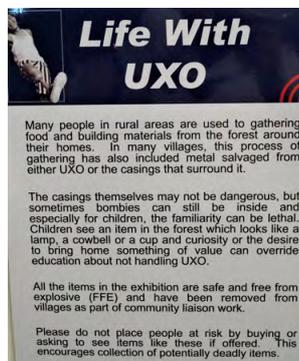
During the conflict in Vietnam the Americans developed air- dropped mines which could never be marked for future clearance. Cluster bombs held in a canister of 540 and dropped from bombers would spread over a wide area in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia and it's thought that of the 240 million bombs dropped 80 million await clearing. Although Laos and Cambodia were not directly involved in the conflict the US bombed their territory because the supply route from North to South Vietnam – The Ho Chi Minh Trail - passed through these two countries. The Vietcong retaliated by planting mines so well hidden that they caused huge damage to American vehicles and about 30% of the injuries to troops.



American Anti-
Personal Mines



The Author in
Cambodian Military
Museum



Living with Danger



Heavy Bombing of
Laos

In Luang Prabang in The People's Democratic Republic of Laos I visited the mine clearing centre and met some of the de-miners. Squads of trained men with equipment are called out weekly to disarm unexploded ordnance in the villages. Tragedy still occurs when children find items in the countryside, when farmers plough their fields and when cooking pots are placed on an open fire beneath which is buried a mine. Education is vital and in schools and community centres in Laos posters warn about the dangers still present and films and lectures are arranged. In Vientianne, the capital, I was shown around the education and rehabilitation centre where victims are provided with prosthetic limbs and given support.

In Cambodia, one of the world's poorest countries, I visited the mine clearance museum in Siem Reap. Sheds full of defused bombs, weapons and vehicles used in the civil war were on display with English speaking guides to explain what happened during the terrible time when The Khmer Rouge controlled the country. I asked my guide if he had suffered any injuries: he lifted his trouser leg and showed me his wooden limb!

On a visit to Egypt ten years ago with a press group we drove 300 kms. from Alexandria along the Mediterranean coast to meet the governor of Marsa Matruh. Terrorist attacks might occur so cars with heavily armed police escorted us all the time. During the war in the Western Desert the Germans, Italians and British forces used millions of mines to defend their positions. From the coast up to 60 kms inland there are still vast numbers of mines that need to be discovered. Notices along the route warn of the dangers of walking too far from the road. The museum at El Alamein gives a detailed account of the Desert War.

The dangerous work of mine clearance will continue for many years to come. Both local civilian and military personnel are being trained but the Western World, with the exception of New Zealand, seems reluctant to provide essential support. Diana's involvement in 1997 provided the impetus for nations to agree on a policy of banning the use of mines. Today 164 countries have signed the treaty with 32 States outside the treaty and the notable absence of the USA, Russia, China, India and several other prominent countries.

From today Traveller's Tales will appear every two weeks.



BRENTFORD FC

Mbeumo gives Bees Derby Day Delight Brentford 1 – Fulham 0

A sole first half strike from Bryan Mbeumo gave Brentford the bragging rights in West London, as the Bees leapfrogged their visitors to climb to fourth in the Championship table.



On a chilly day at Griffin Park the opening chance fell to Fulham.

Picking the ball up on the left-hand side, Neeskens Kebano skipped infield and his driven effort towards goal struck the base of the post in an open warning shot to the Brentford defence.

Brentford dominated the opening half and were duly rewarded in the twenty second minute through Mbeumo's fourth goal in as many matches. A long ball from Mathias Jensen found its way to Ollie Watkins, who found himself without support up against the Fulham defence. Watkins then showed supreme skill and strength as he flicked the ball over Alfie Mawson and powered past him, before sliding the ball into the path of Said Benrahma. Benrahma dribble into the box and teed up Mbeumo to crash the ball in at the far post to give Brentford the lead.

The Bees should have doubled their lead inside the opening half hour but were denied by the woodwork. A turnover of possession in midfield allowed Jensen to slide the ball on the turn to Mbeumo who despite a sliding challenge from Mawson regained possession to cross for Watkins in the centre. Alas his effort sliding in bounced back off the post and Josh Dasilva could not steer the ball on the follow up on target.

Brentford were left cursing their luck again as Fulham earned a second reprieve via the woodwork following a corner. Jensen from the left was met by Pontus Jansson through the middle and the Bees defender was cruelly denied by the post as the ball rebounded out and was cleared away by the revived Fulham defence.

In the second half Brentford continued to dominate and create chances, with Fulham's best effort coming through Cyrus Christie – a swerving right footed effort from twenty yards which David Raya parried at, before being hacked away by Ethan Pinnock.

The Ealing Road Terrace then nearly thought Brentford had doubled their lead but were yet again denied by the post. Jensen picked up the ball on the edge of the area and his strike was palmed onto the post by Whites keeper Marek Rodák. The ball then trickled agonisingly along the goal line before Rodák managed to recover.

In the end it did not matter as the Bees held firm to move up into the top four in the

Championship for the first time since September and make it four derby games unbeaten against Fulham.

Speaking after the match Brentford manager Thomas Frank said “Wow! What a performance from the players. Tonight I will watch it after a glass of wine and agree it was magical and at times, beautiful.

FT Brentford 1-0 Fulham

(Mbeumo, 22')

Attendance: 12,305

UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Next up for Brentford is a huge game against league leaders West Bromwich Albion. The game takes place today (Saturday 21/12) with a 3.00pm kick off at the Baggies Hawthorns ground. Brentford are return to Griffin Park on Boxing Day (Thursday 26/12) against Swansea City with a 3.00pm kick off in what is the traditionally very busy Christmas footballing schedule.

Come on you Bees!

HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH

Hampton overcome the Angels in FA Trophy replay

Hampton 2 – 0 Tonbridge Angels

A professional performance at home from Hampton saw them score twice en route to booking their place in the next round of the FA Trophy. Goals from Danilo Orsi-Dadomo and Ruaridh Donaldson ensured there was no repeat of the previous Saturday's events, where Tonbridge had scored twice in injury time to force a replay.

As in the original tie Hampton took a quick lead inside the opening eight minutes via striker Orsi-Dadomo. Having been played through from the centre of midfield he escaped the backline of Tonbridge and produced a trademark finish, rounding the keeper and squeezing the ball in from a narrow angle.

Donaldson then did well to win a corner down the left-hand side when surrounded by a wave of Angels defenders. The resulting corner was met powerfully on the edge of the six-yard area from Dean Inman and agonizingly sailed past the outside of the post.

A Ryan Hill burst down the right wing nearly led to a second for the Beavers as the ball



eventually fell into the path of Orsi-Dadomo. However, he was denied brilliantly by Jonathan Henly in the Tonbridge goal to keep the contest alive.

Dan Lincoln then saved easily from Tom Derry following a cross from Khale Da Costa and the referee remained steadfast against claims for a Tonbridge penalty before half time.

A second goal for the Beavers fifteen minutes into the second half sealed the tie and provided the confidence to see the result out. Hill drove at the defence and released Donaldson, who continued his recent spell of form by producing a smart finish into the corner and through the legs of the defender giving the Tonbridge keeper no chance.

Hill continued to provide impetus to the Beavers performance and had blocked efforts of his own as well as teeing up Orsi-Dadomo late on, but the Beavers held firm to march on to the next round.

FT Hampton & Richmond 2-0 Tonbridge Angels

(Orsi-Dadomo 8', Donaldson 62')

Attendance: 238

BEAVERS OFF TO SOMERSET IN THE FA TROPHY

Hampton & Richmond have been drawn to away against Yeovil Town in the second round of the FA trophy and will travel to Huish Park on the 11th January 2020.

The Glovers were playing in the Championship (the second tier of English football) as recently as 2014 but have spiralled down the divisions in recent years and currently find themselves in the National League (the fifth tier) and one division above the Beavers.

The winners of the tie will receive £5,250 and the losers £1,750. The Beavers have already progress through two rounds to reach this stage, having knocked out Billericay Town and Tonbridge Angels.

UP NEXT FOR HAMPTON

Up next for Hampton is a return to National League South action as they face Slough Town at the Beveree.

Slough are the form side in the division having lost just once in their past ten games, but the Beavers will take heart from the fact that they are on an unbeaten streak of their own.

With adult tickets from just £12 why not come down and support your local non-league team as they bid to push into the playoffs.

Come on you Beavers!

Richmond Film Society's 57th Season of World Cinema continues at The Exchange, Twickenham

7th January 2020, 8.00pm

'The White Crow' (UK/Serbia/France)

Ralph Fiennes' acclaimed biographical drama captures the raw physicality and brilliance of Rudolf Nureyev, whose escape to the West stunned the world at the height of the Cold War. The film tells Nureyev's dramatic story from his humble beginnings to his defection in 1961, when he was the world's most famous male ballet dancer. The period is immaculately reconstructed.

www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk

Non-member tickets are £5 (full-time students £3) and can be purchased in advance from The Exchange's Box Office (subject to a cap of 70) - in person, by telephone on 020 8240 2399 or online at www.exchangetwickenham.co.uk/events/. A further 50 or so tickets will be available to purchase on the door on the night of screenings (cash only) on a 'first-come-first-served' basis.

Films are shown at 8.00pm sharp on alternate Tuesdays (no trailers and no ads) and are screened at The Exchange, 75 London Road, Twickenham, TW1 1BE. On screening nights, the Bar is open from 7.00pm and remains open after the film. Drinks can be taken into the auditorium and coffee, tea and snacks are also available. Film notes are provided for each screening and audience feedback is obtained via response slips.



Half Page

Quarter Page
Landscape

Quarter Page Portrait

Eighth Page

Eighth Page
Landscape

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