

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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23rd October 2020

T&RT

The Naked Ladies, York House Gardens

Photo by Berkley Driscoll

TickerTape - News in Brief

Council agree meal support for most vulnerable school children

Richmond Council is developing a COVID-19 half term food support package for vulnerable children, meaning that children from the borough's lowest income families don't go hungry over the schools' break.

With half-term about to commence, Achieving for Children will run a food voucher scheme to address the pressing issue of local hard-pressed and vulnerable families in the borough not being able to cover the cost of meals during the school holiday.

Guidance will be launched early next week to let eligible families know how they can collect their voucher.

Fourteen school streets now live in Richmond

Earlier this year, Richmond Council used emergency powers to ensure that three local primary schools were the first in the borough to receive 'School Street' status prior to the summer holidays.

Following this, other schools across the borough were also invited to apply. And from this month, using an Experimental Traffic Order, an additional 11 schools have also followed suit. As with the first three 'School Streets', the first six months of implementation will be a consultative period, where residents, parents and the school community can feedback their impressions. Should the trials be successful, the Order will be made permanent.

To give your feedback: www.richmond.gov.uk/consultation

York House exterior to be restored

York House, which is located on Richmond Road, is a Grade II*, historic building that currently serves as the municipal buildings for Richmond Council. Works commenced on Monday 19 October 2020 and include the repair and redecoration of the exterior and interior window frames. In addition, restoration works will be undertaken on the famous Naked Ladies fountains in the gardens, including the removal of moss and foliage.

[Visit the News page for more stories](#)

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Remember - The **clocks go back** this weekend!

The clocks only go back an hour, but looking at the clock in the picture of Twickenham Lido TwickerSeal can't help but wish the clocks could go back to before 1980! Then we would still have the much-missed Lido on Twickenham Riverside, back when there was something on the riverside for the community to enjoy and attract people from all over to come to Twickenham.

The council's plans for the riverside, which seemed to start so well, have unfortunately gone off the rails and the council is ignoring the previously much vaunted Stakeholder Reference Group. (What's that you say, the council ignores consultation when it doesn't like what its hearing? Surely not!). The council still seems determined to **get it done** rather than **get it right**, apparently driven by the political timetable.

TwickerDuck suggested it would be better to put the clocks forward, to May 2022, so we can remind the council what happens to administrations that ignore residents over Twickenham Riverside.

Photo by Frederick Wilfred, Copyright Russell Wilfred www.LidosAlive.com



Borough View By Graeme Stoten

'Early Autumn colour'

With temperatures in single digits, a dank overcast morning in Richmond Park can't escape the early arrival of autumnal colour and the seasonal shift of thinning canopy to leaf laden footpaths. This Autumn has been predicted to be a riot of rich colour, here's hoping!



COVID-19

Teresa Read

From the Director General of the World Health Organization this week:

“As the northern hemisphere enters winter, we’re seeing cases accelerate – particularly in Europe and North America.

We all have a part to play. Physical distancing, mask wearing, hand hygiene, coughing safely into your arm, avoiding crowds and meeting people outside where possible and when you have to be inside with others – open windows and ensure good ventilation with non-recirculating air.

I know there’s fatigue but the virus has shown that when we let our guard down, it can surge back at breakneck speed and threaten hospitals and health systems.”

Avoid places where the three C’s come together: Crowds, Closed spaces, Close contact; follow strict personal hygiene advice, wear a mask and DO IT ALL.

Cases of COVID-19

Total to 23 October 2020

1,745 Richmond-upon-Thames, 1, 649 Kingston-uponThames, 2,732Hounslow

Countries with High Numbers of Deaths Recorded by the World Health Organization

Deaths Worldwide 1,128,325

USA 219,497

Brazil 154,837

India 116,616

Mexico 86,893

The United Kingdom 44,158

Italy 36,832

Peru 33,875

Spain 34,366

France 33,766

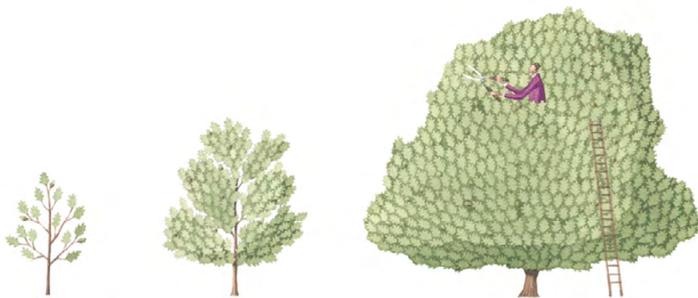
Iran 31,346

Colombia 29,272

Argentina 27,175

Russian Federation 25,242

South Africa 18,741



The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

The Treehouse
25 King Edwards Grove
Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9LY
Telephone 020 8274 0107
Mobile 07960 123580
Fax 020 8274 0119
info@thetreeagency.co.uk
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The Tree Agency

Churchill in the Park

By Simon Fowler

During the Second World War the military unit that made the most impact locally was undoubtedly the Anti-Aircraft Battery near Sheen Gate in Richmond Park. The guns were part of the plans to protect London from enemy air attack, although how successful they were is not clear, except in reassuring the population that they were being defended.

For most of the Blitz the guns were manned by men from 333 Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery. During this time the official unit war diary suggests they managed to hit just two enemy aircraft.

This was something that civilians were unaware of. Marie Lawrence's personal diaries are full of references to the noise made by the guns. On 8 September 1940 she wrote that a lone German raider had flown over:

We rushed downstairs and heard the AA guns pounding away like mad. Terrific noise.

We watched from our back windows and saw the shells burst. It was a wonderful sight.

They drove him off successfully after about five minutes fire.

In early October, a surprise visit was made by Winston Churchill, who during the Blitz loved nothing better than call at anti-aircraft batteries around London, causing his staff to worry about the prime minister's safety. The unit war diary records that he arrived at 2030 hours and spent about 75 minutes with the battery: 'The Prime Minister, Lt Gen Sir Frederick Pyle [sic], Maj Gen Crossman, with other visitors arrived and inspected all instructions on position. They watched unseen target shooting first with VIE [Visual Identification] and subsequently GL [gun laying]. Sir Frederick Pile was General Officer Commanding Anti-Aircraft Command and Crossman was the Officer Commanding 1 Anti-Aircraft Division.

The General wrote in his memoirs that 'I had seen to it that a tin hat had been brought for the Prime Minister but he would not wear it.' During his tour Churchill rejoiced to hear the guns. "This exhilarates me," declared the Prime Minister bouncing on his heels in the battery operation room. "The sound of these cannon gives me a tremendous feeling." Indeed, Churchill's wish to be as close to the action as possible, meant that he had to be ordered by George VI not to go to Normandy in the days after D-Day.

The unit was eventually replaced by 490 HAA Battery, which was the first mixed Anti-Aircraft unit: the women acting as range finders and plotters. According to Sir Frederick Pile: 'They became one of the wonders of the world. Women marching, eating, drilling, working with men!' He said that the only real problem had been with the head of the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS), which was the women's branch of the Army, who complained 'bitterly that our specially contrived living conditions [at the site] were "disgraceful"'. When Churchill visited in the summer of 1941, he 'seemed most impressed: he repeated several times that it was a remarkable and satisfactory innovation.' Indeed, the Prime Minister's daughter became an anti-aircraft gunner later in the war.



Members of the Anti-Aircraft battery near Sheen Gate relax for the benefit of the photographers, August 1940.
Credit: Imperial War Museum (ref H 1262)

Bulb planting and hope

By Kate Slack, Head Gardener, Marble Hill Park

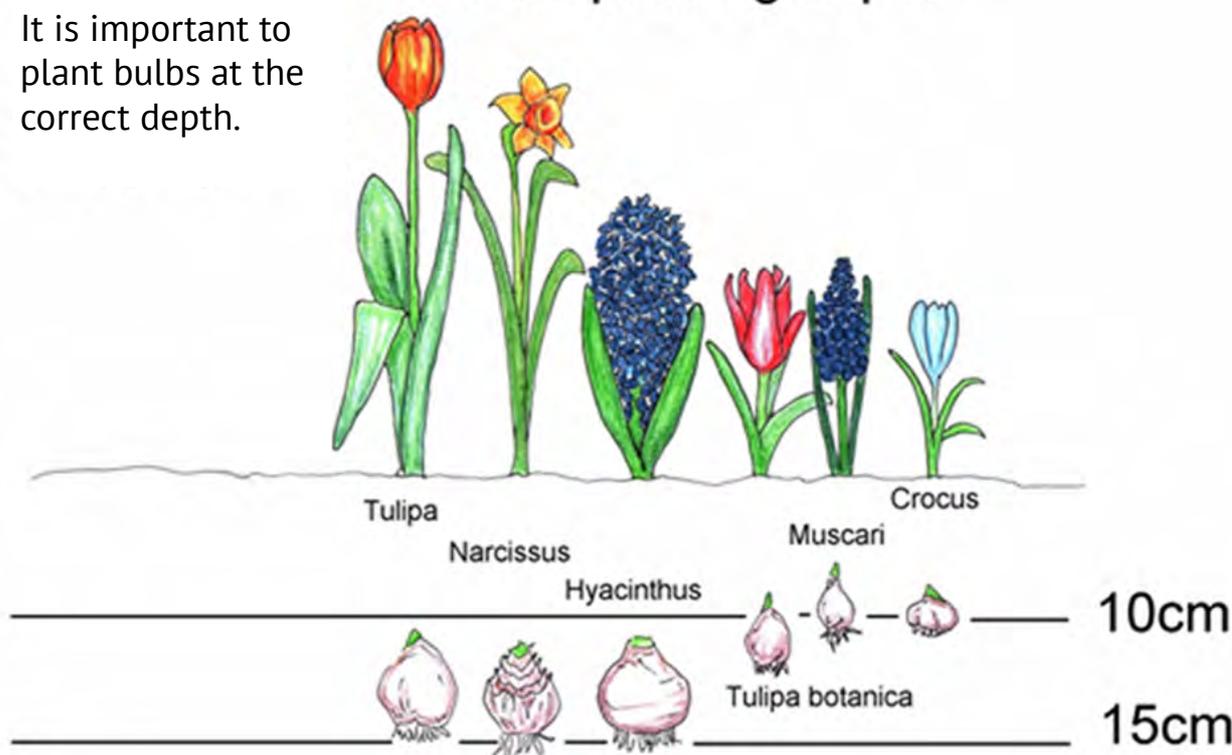
It's that time of year when we prepare for the spring by planting bulbs which can be one of the most positive ways to see in the start of the winter months. Although it takes some time and effort I think bulb planting is a wonderful act of hope and optimism as we go into winter.

Although your efforts are not immediately rewarded, as you rest your back after planting bulbs you know that you can spend the winter anticipating a sensational display of flowers from January through to May if you choose your bulb selection carefully. Snowdrops in January, joined by crocuses little later then daffodils and finally tulips will provide you with a thrill as each flower appears.

Planting bulbs is one of the simplest of garden tasks, the main thing is to plant the bulb at the correct depth as a bulb that is planted too deeply will generally only produce leaves and will lose its flower, too shallow and it is more vulnerable to the weather and being dug up and eaten particularly by squirrels. The general rule is to plant the bulb two to three times as deep as the bulb is tall, place the bulb in the hole with the nose (or pointed end) facing up and replace the soil back around the bulb firming gently.

Bulb planting depth

It is important to plant bulbs at the correct depth.



At Marble Hill Park we are planting over 3000 bulbs this year both in the newly restored woodland areas and around the park and are offering a 'Bulb buddies' activity for children to hopefully inspire the next generation of gardeners as well as having a community bulb planting day. So please perform your own little act of hope in these strange times and plant yourself some bulbs either in your garden or on a window sill to look forward to spring time. You will thank yourself in spring!

Virtual Discovery Week Hair-Raising Halloween

Sign up for our Free Virtual Halloween Discovery Week: 26th - 30th October



Explore the spookier side of the Royal Parks with a week of free virtual interactive activities led by our Learning, Mission Invertebrate and Brompton teams.

There will be something for everyone in the family, from underground bug hunts and creepy crawly storytelling to live themed craft-alongs. For those who do not scare easily, we will have virtual walking tours and live expert discussions on creepy histories; from rituals and symbolism in Victorian mourning in Brompton Cemetery to our Victorian Pet Cemetery, the first public Pet Cemetery in Britain, where over 1,000 pets have been buried.

<p>26th Oct - 11:00am</p>  <p>Hunting for Spooky Critters in Brompton Cemetery</p>	<p>26th Oct - 2:00pm</p>  <p>Up Close with Creepy Crawlies at Home</p>	<p>27th Oct - 11:00am</p>  <p>Storytelling with Super Spiders</p>	<p>27th Oct - 2:00pm</p>  <p>Hunting for Pond Critters in Hyde Park</p>	<p>28th Oct - 11:00am</p>  <p>Live: Brilliant Bats Craft-Along</p>
<p>28th Oct - 5:30pm</p>  <p>The Secret Pet Cemetery of Hyde Park</p>	<p>29th Oct - 11:00am</p>  <p>Makaton Storytelling: Harriet the Hedgehog</p>	<p>29th Oct - 5:30pm</p>  <p>The Good Death: Victorian Mourning in Brompton Cemetery</p>	<p>30th Oct - 11:00am</p>  <p>Live: Potent Potions Craft-Along</p>	<p>30th Oct - 2:00pm</p>  <p>Live: Spooky Spiderwebs Craft-Along</p>

We're bringing an exciting programme of Halloween activities directly to you at home. All activities will be in the form of videos, live recordings and downloadable pdfs. We will provide more information before hand on what materials you will need for that particular activity.

Visit [HERE](#) for details and booking.

Council to host first public meeting with Hammersmith Bridge Taskforce

Richmond Council will host a virtual public meeting with the Hammersmith Bridge Taskforce, the first since the group's formation last month.

Leader of Richmond Council, Councillor Gareth Roberts, will be joined on Wednesday 28 October, by the Transport Minister, Baroness Vere (Chair of the Taskforce), Project Director Dana Skelley, plus representatives from the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, the Greater London Authority, Transport for London, and the Port of London Authority.

The Hammersmith Bridge Taskforce was established by the Department for Transport in September 2020 following the complete closure of the bridge in August, due to structural issues as a result of a heatwave.

Residents will have the chance to pre-submit questions, which will be used to determine the topics for discussion.

Councillor Gareth Roberts, who represents Richmond Council on the Taskforce, said:

“The closure of the bridge in April 2019 to road traffic, was a huge blow to residents and businesses in Barnes, Mortlake, East Sheen and indeed across our entire borough. The complete closure this summer has been life-changing for many.



“This Council is doing everything in our power to lessen the impact, including the imminent deployment of Parkguard patrol who will be on the Hammersmith to Putney towpath from 3 to 7pm to make travelling around the area safer for school children.

“The Taskforce has also already committed to put in place a ferry service by early 2021. I welcome this opportunity for Richmond residents to receive a formal update on the wider progress of the project.”

The event will take place from 6.30 to 7.30pm on Wednesday 28 October 2020 and is open to anyone. Those wishing to attend must register by 5pm on the day of the event.

[Register to attend the public meeting.](#)

Hammersmith Bridge is owned and managed by Hammersmith and Fulham Council.

Find out more about the [proposed towpath safety measures.](#)



Glorious Trees are still holding on to their leaves and green colour but the weather is changing and we have the red/golds of autumn appearing on our walks along with all the berries needed for hungry urban wildlife getting ready for hibernation or hard times. We had a magical experience on a walk when an abundance of ladybirds suddenly appeared from a tree stump crevice and landed on us and children. These are likely to be Harlequin ladybirds forming a winter roost and *“they are migrants from Asia via the US in the 80s! Used to manage aphids in crops they have proved too successful in establishing themselves in the UK. They take over our native ladybird habitats and sadly eat them too (and each other!). Human interference once more.”*



Many thanks to Caroline Rose from my Instagram group who sent the above information. It seems that migration is the big topic in all areas and how we act to accommodate and mitigate problems will determine our ‘Humaneness’

Humane Definition: Characterised by sympathy, tenderness and compassion for people and animals, especially for the suffering or distressed.

River Crane Sanctuary

[Website](#)

[Instagram](#)

Petitions

Stop the introduction of parking charges in Richmond Park and Bushy Park

The Royal Parks intend to introduce car parking charges in Richmond Park and Bushy Park. This is an indefensible proposal, particularly at a time when the link between poverty, obesity and poor health has been so clearly highlighted by the impact of Covid 19.

Spending time in the park is one of the very few free and healthy options for families and individuals. It is essential for people's mental and physical well being that access to the parks is encouraged rather than restricted. If, as a society, we really want to fight obesity we must continue to provide spaces for free and healthy exercise.

During lockdown, a much more diverse and geographically widespread group of people discovered the joys of Bushy and Richmond Park; this is a cause for celebration and should be viewed as a positive and healthy development and encouraged as much as possible.

The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

Petition for Richmond and Twickenham

Provision of Public Toilets and Hand Washing facilities in Richmond & Twickenham
and enforcement of Anti-Social behaviour PSPO's

A petition has been launched seeking action from the council regarding anti-social behaviour, including public urination and defecation, in Twickenham and Richmond (particularly the greens).

On 23th August a call was made to hold an emergency meeting of the Council to discuss the growing problem; however, this was refused by the council delaying any discussion until late September.

Residents can't help but feel that the administration is kicking the can down the road. The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

Return the borough to 30mph

Petition the Council to restore the 30mph speed limit

There has been an increase in dangerous and aggressive driving since the introduction of the 20mph speed limit.

The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

The Role of the Leader of the Council

Our present leader of the Council will be known to many residents as an ardent and long-standing Tweeter and is particularly known to some for “policing” Twitter. Of course, this happens everywhere; we just have to look at Donald Trump.

The Leader’s Tweets, and indeed council press releases, appear to be increasingly party political and partisan.

But what are the qualities we would like to see in the Leader of the Council?

Looking at the London Borough of Richmond website we read that “The Leader represents the local community in negotiations with local, regional, national and international organisations, and seeks to develop strong relationships with relevant agencies whose activities affect or serve people in Richmond upon Thames.”

So, in representing the local community should the Leader act on residents’ views?

A good example where the Leader of the Council is not listening to residents is the current position with Twickenham Riverside, where a Council appointed Stakeholders’ Representative Group is complaining as a whole that the Leader is ignoring them, thus not representing the local community.

The Local Government Association recommendation on the role of Council Leader is: to “*impartially exercise responsibilities in the interests of the local community*”



CORONAVIRUS CASES ARE RISING: PLEASE FOLLOW THIS ADVICE

 **LOCAL COVID LEVEL
HIGH ALERT**



Take extra precautions if you need to visit vulnerable people



Only socialise indoors with people you live with or those in your bubble



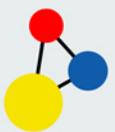
Work from home if you can



Travel less



You can socialise outdoors with people who are not in your bubble or household in groups of up to 6

 **KEEP
LONDON
SAFE**

NHS

Test and Trace

Have your say on improving Barnes High Street

Residents in Barnes are invited to have their say on a host of improvements that will reduce traffic and improve air quality in the town centre.

Over the past few months the Council has been working closely with community representatives and ward councillors on the series of changes, which include:

- Widening a section of the southern footway for pedestrians
- Improving the turnover of shoppers' parking spaces
- Regulating loading provision
- Improving access to public transport

The scheme involves the removal of all parking activity along the north side of Barnes High Street; the introduction of a new eastbound bus stop; lengthening the footway on the south side of Barnes High Street and providing a new loading bay outside of Marks & Spencer.



Parking controls would be adjusted to operate Monday to Saturday 8am to 6.30pm and several parking spaces would be reassigned to improve parking turnover.

View details of the above proposed measures and complete the online survey [HERE](#)

Please respond by **Friday 20 November 2020** when the consultation closes. If you require a paper copy of the questionnaire, call 020 8891 1411.

Light Up At Night!!



Stay Safe
When cycling at night
always use a light

A Twickenham Tribune Campaign
www.TwickenhamTribune.com

Dear Editors,

Twickenham Riverside

People may be wondering what is happening on the long running saga of the redevelopment of Twickenham Riverside. The Twickenham Society has just sent out an update to its Members and we believe that it might be of interest to many of your readers. Our letter is below:

Dear Twickenham Society Member,

As you all know, in 2019 the Council launched an RIBA competition for the redevelopment of Twickenham Riverside (the site of the old swimming pool on Twickenham Embankment opposite Eel Pie Island and where the Diamond Jubilee Gardens now are). A Stakeholder Group was established by the Council to help develop the Brief for the competition, and a Design Group was formed to judge the competition.

The Stakeholder Group is made up of two representatives from each of the following: Eel Pie Island Association, Richmond Cycling Campaign, The Twickenham Society, Twickenham Riverside Trust, Twickenham Alive, Twickenham Riverside Village Group, Twickenham Riverside Park Team, Riverside Action Group and the York House Society. Paul Velluet (an architect and long standing member of The Twickenham Society) and I represent The Twickenham Society.

The Design Group consists of an architect chosen by the Stakeholder Group as their representative, two local residents with architecture/design experience, the Leader of the Council and the three Riverside Councillors.

The competition was won by the highly acclaimed Hopkins Architects with a concept that included a reconfigured Diamond Jubilee Gardens, a Winter Garden, buildings that could be used for a pub, cafe, museum, children's nursery, shops, work space, possible river related spaces under the Wharf Lane building, a jetty and 54 flats. All parking was removed from the Embankment between Water Lane and Wharf Lane.

New stringent regulations for flooding are being enforced by the Environment Agency and this has forced Hopkins to rethink radically the original design. In revised plans shown during Zoom meetings, the Stakeholders were told that the

popular Winter Gardens had disappeared, Wharf Lane and Water Lane had been widened significantly, and the reconfigured buildings (reduced by 30%) could contain a pub, cafe, retail and work space and 54 flats. The Council is planning to “freeze” this design in November, suggesting that any further changes in the design by the Architects will incur extra cost.

The Stakeholders are ALL united in asking the Council to defer the “freeze” and have a rethink about the scheme, for the following reasons:

The design as it now stands no longer reflects the one that won the RIBA competition. The new flooding regulations have imposed constraints not previously known about and have caused the removal of the more attractive elements of the design.

With the Embankment road closed and parking removed there is no safe entry and exit for the articulated and large lorries that are needed by Eel Pie Island and its boatyards, as well as a parked up area for deliveries of steel girders, refuse collection, plumbers, carpenters, district nurses, house removals, caterers for functions at the Rowing and Yacht Clubs etc. etc. (The owners of the boatyards at the Council’s Finance, Policy and Resources Committee in February stated that the plans as they stood would force the closure of their businesses . This must be strongly resisted). This access and servicing problem has not yet been sorted out, and yet we are expected to accept the current plans.

There is now very little to attract people to the Riverside over and above what is already there. There is still no Social Impact Assessment to justify the substantial elimination of the existing car-parking provision along the Embankment and its potential dispersal elsewhere in the Town. This is needed in order to demonstrate that its removal would not have a damaging affect on those working and living on Eel Pie Island and in the surrounding roads, and the effective functioning of the area economically.

If the Council would allow the Design Group and all the Stakeholders to work together with Hopkins Architects, we are sure that we could come up with something special that really would enhance Twickenham Riverside whilst responding to the scale and character of this part of Twickenham. All we are asking for is that the Council defer the “design Freeze” in order to achieve this.

With best wishes,
Sue Hamilton-Miller
Secretary of The Twickenham Society

HAMMERTON'S-FERRY



TWICKENHAM

**TIMES ARE HARD, LIFE HAS
CHANGED, OUR SPIRITS WERE
LOW BUT WITHOUT YOU WE
WOULD BE NO MORE.**

**ON BEHALF OF ALL AT
HAMMERTONS WE WOULD LIKE
TO THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR
LOVE AND SUPPORT DURING
THIS TRICKY SEASON.**

**SO NEXT SPOOKY SATURDAY
31ST OCTOBER WE WOULD LIKE
TO TREAT YOU TO A DAY OF
FERRY TRIPS TO HAM AND BACK,
ON US, TO END THE SEASON.**

Sir,

School Streets

Whilst we all want a safer environment for children going to and from school, the effect on residents living on roads just outside of these zones must not be ignored.

I live in the next road to a 'safer school streets zone' and from the very start, we have been seeing some 60 displaced vehicles a day zooming along our road at drop off and pick up times. Parents are also doing 3 point turns on a dangerous corner and stopping on double yellow lines and in front of driveways to drop off their children as close as they could to the school. One parent told me it was because it was raining. A large number of vehicles, including taxis bringing children have zone permits and as such, children who think it's safe to walk in the road have to suddenly jump out of the way at an intersection with traffic coming from three different directions. Hardly a safe environment.

The traffic monitoring cables already across our road were removed a day before the start of the 'safer school streets zone'. Some might question the timing of that decision... Therefore, residents, with the assistance of the Marshalls, have been logging the traffic and found that most of the vehicles, many of which drove at speed along our 20mph road, were driven by parents / carers.

The road in which I live is home to many young families who walk to school. Ironically many attend the school in the zone and there have been a number of near misses as parents try to carry out dangerous manoeuvres. Our road is also far more polluted as a result of these displaced vehicles.

We had to repeatedly ask the Council to reinstate the traffic monitoring cables so they would have the data to back up our concerns regarding the effect this initiative is having on our lives and our road. After three weeks of the 'safer school streets' being in operation, the cables have been re-instated – just in time for Half Term....

In the Council Press Release (22.10.20) Cllr Alexander Ehmann the Chair of Richmond's Transport and Air Quality Committee, said:

"From a standing start, I'm delighted to see that this borough now boasts 14 school streets. This is yet another clear message that Richmond now puts the safety of our youngest (and most vulnerable road users) first."

Well how about putting the safety of the youngest and most vulnerable road users in displaced roads second? I am pleased there is a consultation regarding this initiative but will the Council listen and act if the results are not what they hoped for? I don't hold out much hope.

Concerned Resident

Name and address supplied

FOOD & DRINK NEWS SNIPPETS

A TASTY GIFT IDEA

Remember those great children's books that you could order with the child's name and friends included? Well, now you can go to the next level with a great idea - a **Tasty** one too! With **MyTastyCookbook** you customise a cookbook (from a catalogue of 300+ recipes). Select your own recipes, personalised cover - with recipient's name added - and it can even be delivered in a gift box with personalised gift-wrap. **Tasty™** is the world's largest social food network. There are lots of different covers and gift options to choose from too. Check it out the options at tasty.mybespokegift.com



AN A-PEELING PRODUCT

There's the old adage 'you get what you pay for' and when it comes to kitchen equipment I think it certainly rings true. Having learned the hard way over the years I now know is that it pays to invest in the best...like this fabulous new Professional Serrated Peeler from Microplane. It really is the 'bee's knees' when it comes to peeling. The balanced design is ideal for peeling soft-skinned fruit such as kiwis and soft vegetables like peppers and tomatoes. It is slightly heavier than your average peeler, and the blades can be moved back and forth, with little pressure, in one movement. Available from hartsofstur.com and other good kitchen retailers at £19.95



AUTUMN FLAVOURS IN A JAR

With the clocks going back we're now heading downhill to the depths of winter. But autumn has its benefits and one of them is this delicious **Special Edition English Hedgerow Jelly** from Tracklements. It includes fruits from the hedgerow and garden including rich, sweet damsons and juicy blackberries as well as Bramley apples to give the tiniest hint of tartness. Fabulous with cheese, meats, ice cream or almost anything!

At £3.35 for 220g, it's available from fine food delis and farm shops nationwide or online at www.tracklements.co.uk



WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Sacla is undoubtedly the main name when it comes to pre-prepared pesto and if you love pesto, and want to try one with an extra 'kick', check out the company's Wild Garlic Pesto. Use just like any other pesto, but enjoy an extra flavour dimension. You can also spread it on toast and top with scrambled egg...yum! £2.50 a jar from Tesco and most leading supermarkets.



SHAKEN NOT STIRRED - AND UDDERLY DELICIOUS

Milk shakes are just for kids? Wrong! Shaken Udder produces the most divine milkshakes that are a hit with all the family. And, despite tasting so delicious, they're not that horrendously fattening. I found myself liking the banana flavour best, which surprised me, as it is not something I would normally choose, but I was in milkshake heaven! Widely available in supermarkets in six flavours (including salted caramel) at around £1 for a 330ml bottle or £2 for 750ml - go on, buy the big one, you won't regret it!



THAT'S AMORE, I MEAN AMARO!

Amaro Montenegro is a multi award-winning, bittersweet Italian drink that anyone who likes Campari and Negronis will really appreciate. Richer, fuller, but highly versatile, it can be served straight, on the rocks or included in a whole range of cocktails. It's a great winter drink: herby, yet spicy and with a hint of orange. Around £19 a bottle, it's available from Ricardo's in Twickenham or Amazon, Master of Malt and The Whisky Exchange.



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Holiday
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HELP OUT

2 - 8 NOVEMBER

HolidayToHelpOut.com



Phantasmagoria

The nights are turning colder, but what caused that shiver in that warm room? The sinister ambience of the building's fading facades? Or the date at the end of October calendar? Halloween brings up conflicting thoughts. Is it another transatlantic import; or am I just being a rotten spoilsport? Is it silly superstition; or is it dallying dangerously with the occult? Do you eat the centre of the carved pumpkin; or do you throw it away?



What gets forgotten is that Halloween is a contraction of All Hallows' Eve, the day before All Saint's Day, the Christian celebration of saints and martyrs, gathering them up into a magnificent miscellany.



In contrast Halloween seeks to sweep away evil things to clear the way. If we remember the origin of Halloween, we answer the second question. As for the first, the festival goes back to the seventh Century, so clearly Halloween predates America as we now know it.

Lighting gathering gloom at Halloween, the candle traditionally frightens away evil spirits. In mediaeval times it was in a turnip. The pumpkin, like tomatoes and potatoes, is an American import. So, the third question, what to do with the middle bit. Pumpkin is the most versatile of vegetables for cooking sweet or savoury goodies, from pumpkin jam to pumpkin pasties. Try pumpkin chips with your battered cod. The *sine qua non* is Michelin chef Pascal Aussignac's *pumpkin barigoule*. While we are busy cooking barigoule and chips, the children are donning their macabre togs, and transmogrifying into vampires and witches. Let them have fun, but before midnight remind them that good overcomes evil.

Meanwhile before the witching hour settle down to TTC's *Auditorium!* This podcast series kicks off with its spooky collection [13 Frights of Halloween](#). Director, Nigel Cole says, "... pictures are better on the radio ... you just need to stimulate the imagination." In other words, he going to scare the *!#*s out of us!! Will it be a trick or a treat?

If you really want to test your nerve at Halloween, then you can go into a real theatre, Ealing's Judi Dench Playhouse, where Questors are presenting their [Horror Stories for Hallowe'en](#). You may be masked, sanitised and one-way-ed, but remember it's a theatre: you are in the dark. You can be really brave and ask for a single seat with no-one to hold your hand!

When you go out on Halloween night, know that the most fearful of the evil spirits by the name of Covid 19 !

Read Thomas Forsythe's preview at www.markaspen.com/2020/10/23/phantasma



Photography by Woodchester Mansion Trust, Fra Angelico and Club Gascon

St Mary's University Update

Alumnus of St Mary's University, Twickenham, Joe Wicks has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours

Joe, who studied Sport Science at St Mary's, was awarded his MBE for Services to Fitness and Charity in the UK and Abroad. The award was given after he made headlines around the world during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) lockdown for hosting daily PE lessons to keep children fit and healthy whilst they were out of school.



Alongside the daily PE lessons, Joe also donated the advertising revenue from the videos to the NHS, raising £580k.

After graduating from St Mary's, Joe worked as a teaching assistant and personal trainer before launching the Body Coach – his weight loss programme, which combined high intensity interval training with bespoke recipes. Joe has gone on to publish nine books and makes regular TV appearances.

Joe returned to St Mary's in 2017, to speak to graduating students from his Faculty, you can find the full speech on the [University's YouTube Channel](#).

Speaking of the award, Deputy Provost Prof Symeon Dagkas said, "Joe has been an inspiration for our students for many years, and a number of St Mary's colleagues joined him every morning during lockdown to stay fit and healthy. We were delighted to hear that he has been awarded this honour by the Queen and we look forward to seeing what he does next."

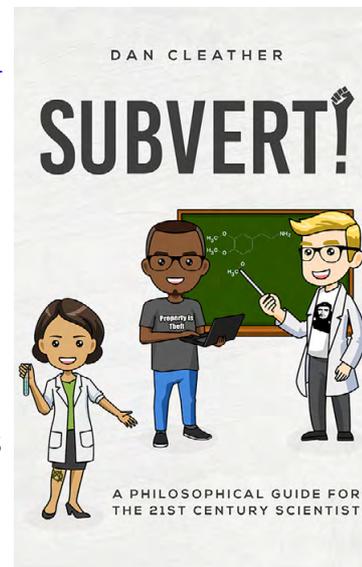


St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

St Mary's Academic Publishes Philosophical Guide for Scientists

Programme Director for the Masters in Strength and Conditioning Science (Distance Learning) at St Mary's University, Twickenham, Dr Dan Cleather has published a new book about the philosophy of science.

The book, entitled [Subvert! A Philosophical Guide for the 21st Century Scientist](#), explores the open science movement, and is particularly relevant in the contemporary context where post-truth politics is challenging public trust in scientists and private corporations restrict access to scientific research in order to protect their profit margins.



In Subvert!, Dan demonstrates the practical importance of philosophy for the modern scientist. Drawing on the ideas of a wide range of thinkers, from 19th century anarchists like Mikhail Bakunin and Petr Kropotkin, to philosophers of science like Karl Popper and Paul Feyerabend, the book is essential reading for all scientists.

Subvert is a book in two parts. The first half is an account of the injustices and inequities that are present in contemporary scientific society, whilst the second half is an analysis of the scientific method with a focus on revealing how much of today's custom and practice is based on ideology.

Speaking of the book Dan said, "Writing Subvert! was an immensely enjoyable task and I hope that it is able to open people's eyes to some of the problems with modern science."

Subvert! is available to buy now on Amazon, and has received a number of five-star reviews, with one reviewer noting, "This is a great book for those with an interest in science and research. Dan's writing approach is easy to understand and offers a fascinating insight to areas of science you didn't know you needed to know about. Fully recommend."

Dan also recently appeared on the Ask me, I'm a Scientist! YouTube channel, discussing [Does Academia need Anarchy?](#)

New faces join local charity



Eight new Trustees have joined the Twickenham Riverside Trust after five founding members of the Trust, having served the Charity-Commission recommended maximum nine years, recently stood down.

The retiring Trustees are Edward Davies, Lady Sheila Hale, Professor Jeremy Hamilton-Miller and Adrienne Rowe. Anne Perry is also retiring as a Trustee but will remain as the Trust's Honorary Secretary for the next 12 months.

Outgoing Chair and retiring Trustee Edward Davies commented:

"The Trust was formed in 2011 through the coming together of a disparate band of local campaigners, all of whom had been long committed to achieving the best for Twickenham Riverside. It's time to hand over the reins to a new generation of Trustees equally invested in opening up Twickenham Riverside, not only to residents from all corners of our borough, but also to visitors from wider London and beyond."

The new Chair of the Trust, Hugh Brasher, has been a Trustee since 2012.

He reflected on the hard work and input from the departing members and welcomed the new faces: *"I want to thank the five departing Trustees for everything they have done as part of the Twickenham Riverside Trust. Their invaluable contribution has laid extremely strong foundations to help us to play our role in realising the full potential of the riverside."*

"We are also welcoming some fantastic new additions to the Trust with an excellent mix of skills and experience. They were chosen from an incredibly high quality pool of applicants, highlighting just how much local people care and are dedicated to making Twickenham Riverside the best possible place it can be."

The new members will join Brasher and the three other existing Trustees – Ted Cremin, Celia Holman and Matt Maher.

The new additions are Mark Brownrigg, Martin Cox, Ali Donnelly, Janine Fotiadis Negrepointis, Sam Kamleh, Luke Montgomery-Smith, Kasia Oberc and Cathy Stewart.

The Trust would like to acknowledge the invaluable support provided by the Richmond Council for Voluntary Service during the new Trustee recruitment process.

Their advice and assistance resulted in a large volume of expressions of interest and a very high standard of applications, the latter very much reflected in the calibre of the Trustees welcomed to the Board.

The newly formed Board:

Hugh Brasher

Event Director of some of the largest mass participation events in the UK including the London Marathon and RideLondon. Previously owner of Sweatshop, a chain of specialist running shops which he built from one store to 43 over a period of 30 years.

Mark Brownrigg

Former chief executive of the UK shipping industry's trade association, with extensive experience of national and international policy-making and government relations, Mark is more recently the co-owner of small family artisan chocolate business, including exporting to Switzerland. Locally, he is former Chair of the ETNA Community Centre and of the St Margarets Fair.

Martin Cox

Martin Cox is a practising solicitor in the City. He loves being outside and is a member of a local cycle club, often heading into the Surrey Hills or out west following the Thames. He recently moved to the area with his young family, returning to the riverside of his forebearers (one of his relatives was the Teddington lock-keeper in the late 1800s).

Ted Cremin

Works with the world's largest consulting firm, specialising in outsourcing services and project management. Ted is also a keen musician who enjoys organising performances and events in the Diamond Jubilee Gardens.

Ali Donnelly

Executive Director of Digital, Marketing at Communications at Sport England, Ali leads teams which deliver campaigns like This Girl Can and is heavily involved in work that helps keep people involved in sport and physical activity. Ali has worked in communications across government, including as a spokesperson for the Prime Minister, as well as with organisations such as the BBC. She started her career as a journalist in Ireland.

Janine Fotiadis Negrepontis

With a degree in Journalism and an MA in Investigative Journalism, Janine is particularly interested in open democracy and is currently undertaking a PhD in Public History at St Mary's University. She also is committed to raising awareness of environmental issues and has been involved in fundraising for local charities. She enjoys being active on and around the river with her young family.

Celia Holman

A former children's book publisher and television producer, Celia has been active in the voluntary sector for the past 15 years in London and New York, to include fundraising and event planning. Currently a volunteer at the Twickenham Museum and the Eel Pie Island Museum.

Sam Kamleh

Sam Kamleh is an Architect and Director of Architecture WK Ltd since 2003, graduating from the RCA, followed 10 years later by an MBA from Imperial College. She was a member of the RIBA's Chartered Practice and Disciplinary Committees and ran The Architect's Gallery in Teddington for 10 years. Sam is also a member of Richmond Borough's Design Panel and of the Strawberry Hill Residents' Association.

Luke Montgomery-Smith

Luke has organised a wide range of events from immersive cinema shows in London to a festival in the Sahara desert. Currently co-founder and co-CEO of Malhemy Ltd building a portfolio of forward thinking food and drink brands, Luke loves messing about in boats and would love to help get more people out enjoying the river.

Kasia Oberc

Currently undertaking an MSc Psychology of Education at UCL's Institute of Education, Kasia was most recently EMEA Brand, Marketing and Communications Lead at EY, having started off in law. Competent in six languages, three of which she speaks fluently, she is a former director of the London Rollergirls, and is a current Governor of Meadlands Primary School. Encouraging enjoyment and use of Twickenham riverside is close to her and young family's heart.

Cathy Stewart

A chartered architect experienced in leading design teams to deliver large, innovative, complex projects including the New British Library, airport developments and award-winning university buildings. Past board director for an international architectural practice and past National Chairman of the Association Women in Property. Also a qualified business coach.

Matt Maher (Trustee appointed by the London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames)

Head of Community and Partnerships at Richmond Council. Matt is the Council's lead on engagement, strategic partnerships, community and voluntary sector relationships, is the commissioner for both Citizens Advice Richmond and Richmond Council for Voluntary Services, and a Non-Executive Director on the Achieving for Children (AfC) Board. Previously a Policy Team Leader at the Department of Community and Local Government (now MHCLG), and a consultant for the Improvement and Development Agency.

Church Street, the beating heart of Twickenham

By Shona Lyons



Whilst Covid-19 has presented unprecedented challenges for our busy little street, the traders are still trying to bravely soldier on. Not least for the Remembrance Day celebrations which will see a mass of poppies & flags organised by the Church Street Association, on the lamp posts & flag poles. We will be proudly commemorating our armed forces, the wounded, injured, sick or destitute. We will remember the fallen, and hold the torch high.

& not forgetting the young. Here is some Halloween Fun! You and your children can take part in Church Street's Percy Pumpkin Halloween Trail.



This year the Church Street Traders have been scratching their heads thinking of how they can amuse the local children now that we can't have our usual big party and we have come up with the Percy Pumpkin Halloween Trail!

It is a fun kind of treasure hunt and you can find the forms in participating shops or download it from here. It is a visual delight with fantastic illustrations by the talented Eel Pie Island artist Simon Cassini.

The competition will run from 23 October until the 8th of November and all correct forms will win a voucher for a special bag of sweets from Sweet Memories of Church Street. So what are you waiting for? Download that form from the Church Street of Twickenham [Facebook](#) page or pick one up from the traders in Church Street. Organised by the Church Street Association, you can also email newsletter@crusadertravel.com for a form.

TRAVELLER'S TALES 82

LIVELY LILLE



Doug Goodman recommends France's Northern city for a short break

Lille is only 80 minutes from London by Eurostar which makes a day trip perfectly feasible. I used to hold staff Christmas lunches there combined with some shopping. At the moment there's a restricted rail service from London and a requirement to quarantine for two weeks on return to the UK. But rules may well change in time for a trip to enjoy the Christmas market in the city centre.



Grande Place



The Opera



Old Stock Exchange

Fifty years ago, long before the Channel Tunnel was opened and the A25 and A26 motorways were built, it wasn't so easy to reach Lille. Visitors tended to avoid the city and nearby Lens on account of the run-down state of the region. The closure of the coal mines and fall in the production of cloth contributed to the economic decline and poverty in Northern France. From the 80s onwards the government provided financial support and resources to stop the decline and rejuvenate the area. This plan was championed by former Prime Minister of France, (1981- 1984), and Mayor, Pierre Mauroy. By 1994 Lille was a major hub for rail travel throughout France and eventually a connecting point for the whole of Europe. From the massive rebuilding and upgrading of services Lille became European City of Culture in 2004. It's the capital of Flanders and the main city in the Hauts-de-France newly- created 'departement' as well as being France's fourth largest urban region.



Town Hall



Indian Exhibition



Saatchi Show

HISTORIC CITY

With archaeological excavations suggesting that the area was settled around 2000 BC, Lille has always been a trading centre between France and Flanders. It was controlled at various times by Burgundy and Spain. In the north of the city you can see the vast Citadelle – a fortress rebuilt in 1667 by Louis XIV from the designs of France's greatest military architect Vauban. It's surrounded by the canal and river Deule. The island was called

L'Isle from which came the name Lille. The Citadelle remains under military control so there's no chance to go inside. Lille is a thriving city with a large student population amongst its 232,000 population. The number of sites to visit will fill a long weekend break. The choice of top restaurants serving good, hearty Flemish dishes and bars offering fine local beers is enormous. The first thing you spot after the ten minute walk from the station, past the huge Eurolille shopping centre, is the strong Flemish influence in the architecture. It's an extravagant and imposing style with sculptures and bright colours making it attractive. In La Grande Place you'll see The Opera House, Town Hall, Belfry and Old Stock Exchange with bookstalls in the decorated courtyard. Visit the pedestrian shopping area behind the square to buy local produce. Then relax with a coffee at the famous Meert Café. It has served gaufrettes – filled waffles and chocolate pastries since the 1760s. A light lunch of local ham, bread and cheese accompanied by a glass of Ch'ti beer will fortify you for sightseeing.

Don't miss two magnificent museums: Musee des Beaux Arts and Musee de L'Art Moderne. Head to Vieux Lille to see De Gaulle's birthplace and to admire the cobbled streets with restored bourgeois houses. I stayed at the Hermitage Gantois, a former hospital, which was listed in 1924. It has a tranquil courtyard and fine restaurant.



Local Beer



WW1 Occupation



La Piscine Museum

GOOD CONNECTIONS

Lille has excellent public transport. Take the tram to Roubaix to see La Piscine Art Museum: a n Art-Deco former municipal swimming pool which has exhibits of 19th and 20th century sculpture and paintings. The gift shop has a fine selection of art books and posters. A big attraction is La Braderie where, on the last weekend of August around two million people gather at the 10,000 stalls and displays to buy anything you can imagine. This market dates from the twelfth century. Lille is well known for its themed exhibitions when the whole city takes on a foreign guise or an historic period. The city was transformed into Bombay when the 'Bombaysers de Lille' was inaugurated. Exhibitions, parades. Indian food, music and dance filled the streets and parks with an exotic atmosphere. Later there was The Saatchi 'manifestation' with modern art installations filling the galleries.

The nearby town of Lens, once the centre for coal mining, has a museum dedicated to the town's past and best of all it has The Louvre Lens with items from Paris and regular exhibitions. Have a beer at the Page 24 brewery. Traces of World War 1 can be found in the countryside with numerous museums and cemeteries. Lille was on the 'wrong' side of The Western Front and suffered huge damage and deprivations during the German occupation from October 1914 to October 1918. The city suffered again during the German occupation in WW2.

Lille is a modern, fun city with so much to see and do. Its bars and restaurants assure visitors of a lively night life with plenty of day-time culture, A city pass for 35 Euros gives you 48 hours of unlimited entry to major places of interest, while an open-top bus tour for 14 Euros provides a great panoramic view of the sights. There's also a beer tour when you can sample some of Flanders' magnificent strong beers.

For more information: www.lilletourism.com

Two good guides in the Bradt Travel Series:
'Nord Pas de Calais' by John Ruler. 'Lille' by Laurence Phillips.

PANDEMIC SNAKES & LADDERS!!!!

BY Bruce Lyons

One thing for sure you need to keep your wits about you!!!

The Rt Hon Grant Shapps, Secretary of State for Transport can be relied on for a Thursday surprise in his weekly bulletin and so it was no surprise that this week he generously added new corridors, so

CrusaderTravel 
020 8744 0474 Escapology Experts
crusadertravel.com info@crusadertravel.com 

BREAKING NEWS! New Travel corridors announced today!



WE ALL NEED A HOLIDAY!



We have been working throughout the Pandemic and have a great deal of Experience of travel—Covid related or otherwise. Call or email us for all your holiday needs.



NOW it is OK (that means the Foreign Office doesn't disapprove of you jetting off for a bit of sun and your insurance remains valid! to go to the Maldives or The Canary Islands (that's all of them please note) and Denmark as well, but the sun is going down there! So that makes 19 Countries you can Safely travel to in Covid-19 times – And dear reader some of them are HOT which I guess is what some of you are yearning for?

More News!!

Bad News is that if you are coming from Germany you now have to quarantine. Good News is that Barbados, who has had a corridor for some time, has corrected its protocol, in line with other Caribbean Islands that insist on negative valid PCR tests before boarding- a much wiser policy.

More news for those sun starved itchy travellers – Our Trade Media has persuaded nearly 100 tour operators to promote “special offers” to people who book in the week of the 2nd to 9th November for holidays all over the world and

for at least the next year and more the only snag is you can only get the “special” offers if you book through your local travel agent – and dear reader that is Crusader Travel in the Square, Twickenham – where the Chess set is- so keep an eye on your social media and remember Crusader !

Post script. By the time you read this on Saturday morning our stubborn (not to be put off) Clients who were to go today to the Red Sea (no corridor – so it got cancelled) and switched to Sardinia (corridor cancelled) and then switched to Crete (not very diving mind you – unless you are into SPONGES) will have taken off – so I am sure you will all join us in wishing them a sunny, trouble free and fun week . Well done to them for their patience & resilience!

Happy travelling all.



WIZ Tales - Anguilla

By Teresa Read



This week we have photographs of one of the warmer places in the world and another of the UK's fourteen Overseas Territories.

Anguilla is a long thin island called Malliouhana, the sea serpent, by early Amerindian inhabitants.

Christopher Columbus, an Italian navigator in the service of Spain, sighted Anguilla in 1493. Anguilla is the word for eel in Italian and Spanish.



More photographs of Anguilla: <http://worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Anguilla>



RFS The Best of our Recent Historic Screenings

Issue 31, 23rd October 2020

THE SECRET IN THEIR EYES

A new series for those of you who are missing Richmond Film Society's screenings or, indeed, trips to the cinema generally as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. Their committee is producing a number of weekly recommendations of films screened during the last 20 years that were extremely well received by their audiences. Should the notes reproduced below entice you to try and catch-up with this recommendation, then you should be able to do so, as it is available on streaming services and for purchase as DVD/Blu-Ray discs from the online retailers as indicated below.

RFS Context: TEHRAN TAXI was 756th film screened by RFS on 4th October 2016. **Tehran Taxi** was the top ranked film of Season 54, it got an approval mark of 92% from those attending.

RFS Context: THE SECRET IN THEIR EYES was 675th film screened by RFS on 15th March 2011. **The Secret In Their Eyes** was the third ranked film of Season 48, it got an approval mark of 95% from those attending; from season 48 we have also already featured its top two ranked films **An Education** and **The Counterfeiters**, as **Issues 44 & 27** respectively). **The Secret In Their Eyes** can be streamed from Amazon Prime plus the discs are available from Amazon and others.

THE SECRET IN THEIR EYES (El secreto de sus ojos)

Director: Juan José Campanella
Country: Argentina/Spain, 2009
Screenplay: Juan José Campanella & Eduardo Sacheri
Running Time: 129 min., colour
Editor: Juan José Campanella
Language: Spanish
Music: Federico Jusid & Emilio Kauderer
Cinematography: Félix Monti

Leading Players:

Soledad Villamil	(Irene Menéndez Hastings)
Ricardo Darín	(Benjamín Esposito)
Carla Quevedo	(Liliana Coloto)
Pablo Rago	(Ricardo Morales)
Javier Godino	(Isidoro Gómez)
Bárbara Palladino	(Chica Piroppo)



The Secret in their Eyes, from Argentine director Juan José Campanella, triumphs on two fronts simultaneously, as both a love story and a thriller.

Benjamin Esposito (Ricardo Darin) is a retired federal justice officer in 1999 struggling to begin a novel. Its opening scene is about a man poignantly recounting the last day with his adored new wife before she was murdered. Esposito can't quite get the telling right: something is unresolved, and he must revisit the case that inspired it to work out what it is.

That also means re-encountering his former superior at work, Irene (Soledad Villamil), a stylish, well-connected woman with the uneven beauty of a Picasso portrait and a formidably Latin spirit. She remains the object of Esposito's unwavering, undeclared love, despite her marriage and children. When they speak, there is a charged undercurrent of familiarity, fury and flirtation, which further suggests that every in-tray in Esposito's life, personal or professional, is bursting with unfinished business.

The bulk of the film, however, is told in flashbacks which reveal Irene, Esposito and his beloved alcoholic colleague Pablo Sandoval (a superb Guillermo Francella) working on a case in 1974. When Liliana Colotto, the young wife of Ricardo Morales (Pablo Rago), was raped and murdered, it was Esposito who first lit upon an oddball called Gomez (Javier Godino) as a suspect, by noticing that his gaze was always fixed on Liliana in group photographs.

A man-hunt for Gomez ensues, during which Esposito performs the role of straight cop and Sandoval that of the drunken visionary. In a thunderously exciting chase scene through a Buenos Aires stadium during a heated soccer match, Benjamin and Sandoval hunt their prey, only to find him given shelter by the corrupt government of the new Argentina. For years, Esposito never knew whom Gomez will come after next.

Above all, one feels for its central characters struggling to remain honest in a world warped by the grubby alliances of Argentina's Dirty War during the Seventies.

Adapted from a Seven Magazine review by Jenny McCartney

Big Smoke Brew Co. to donate 1000 free, healthy lunches over half term

In light of the government's recent vote against extending free school meals to support disadvantaged children during the holidays, independent brewery **Big Smoke Brew Co** - who



have six pubs across the South West of London - will be offering 1000 free, healthy lunches to anyone who needs them. The meals will be available to collect from all six of their pubs and will be provided cold, in recyclable packaging, to be reheated at home.

Rich Craig, who launched Big Smoke Brew Co with his business partner James Morgan in 2014 said: *"In response to the government's decision not to help feed kids whose parents are struggling over half term, we have decided to*

contribute in our own small way. We'll be donating 1000 free, healthy, lunches to anyone who needs them, no questions asked."

Big Smoke Brew Co has undergone a period of rapid growth in the last year and half. The company now operates six pubs, a gin distillery and a brewery producing a wide range of modern beer styles from their base in Esher, Surrey. More info on the location of the pubs can be found [here](#).





BRENTFORD FC

Brace from Toney sees Bees ease past Coventry

Brentford 2 – 0 Coventry City

Brentford returned after the international break with a convincing victory against Coventry City courtesy of a two goal haul from summer signing Ivan Toney. The Bees had failed to break the deadlock in the first-half but ten minutes into the second-half the Bees were two goals to the good and from then on never appeared in danger of surrendering their advantage.

The Bees made an assured start in their ever more familiar home and Toney drew a fine save from Marko Maroši in goal for the Sky Blues. Latching onto a weak clearance Toney chested the ball down before striking a curling shot with the outside of his left foot which did well to tip the ball away one handed at the expense of a corner.

From the resulting corner Ethan Pinnock rose the highest to knock the ball down into the path of his central defensive colleague Pontus Jansson. From inside the six-yard area the Swede instinctively shot first time but Maroši was there again to deny Brentford.

The Bees did eventually open the scoring through Toney with just a minute on the clock in the second-half. The move started with Josh Dasilva on the half-way line who passed to Emiliano Marcondes with space in the middle of the pitch. Marcondes in turn fed Bryan Mbeumo, who capitalised on a slip from Ryan Giles, to ghost into the box and shot. His shot however turned into an assist for Toney as the striker toe poked the ball in from close range.

His second and Brentford's second of the afternoon arrived nine minutes later when Rico Henry cut out a clearance from the Coventry backline. The ball was worked out to Marcondes on the left hand side who cut inside and delivered a perfect cross to the back post for Toney to score with an athletic diving header.

The visitors nearly found a way back into the game via a corner when David Raya could only palm the ball under pressure into the path of Matt Godden in a good position close to the penalty spot. The Sky Blue player unleashed a right footed strike on the half-volley that rebounded downwards off the crossbar but was scrambled away from danger.

Late on Coventry nearly halved the deficit when Ben Sheaf found a half space inside the Brentford box but his left footed shot was saved comfortably by Raya to ensure the Bees kept a clean sheet.

Toney double sinks Sheffield Wednesday

Sheffield Wednesday 1 – 2 Brentford

Ivan Toney scored his second brace of the week as the Bees continued their fine recent form with a third consecutive league victory in a row. Toney scored either side of a goal for the hosts from Callum Patterson to claim all three points in a prolific start to the season from the striker which has seen him score seven goals from eight appearances.

The Bees made a fast start in Yorkshire and took the lead inside the opening seven minutes of the game. A throw in by the left wing from Rico Henry was worked inside to Saman Ghoddos who pulled the ball back to the edge of the area. Henrik Dalsgaard arrived onto the pass to take and touch and shoot right footed from distance. Cameron Dawson in goal for the Owls could only parry the ball into the path of Toney following in and the striker was rewarded for his tenacity with a finish from close range.

In an open start to the game Brentford counterattacked from a defensive clearance that was flicked by Toney into the path of the onrushing Bryan Mbeumo. Mbeumo checked inside and continued the break, passing the ball to Ghoddos. The Iranian found Toney in space on the left wing and Toney's powerful strike flew just past the post and into the side netting.

At the other end, the home side went Adam Reach nearly took advantage of a slip from Dalsgaard when turning to skip inside and shoot from close range but David Raya did very well to get down low quickly and palm the ball away.

The hosts however did make it count and equalised through Paterson. A high lofted ball from midfield by Barry Bannan to Kadeem Harris. With Ethan Pinnock closing the Owls player down the midfielder delivered from the right and found the run of Paterson who scored with a diving header.

Sheffield Wednesday were on equal terms for just five minutes as the Bees retook the lead soon after. New signing Vitaly Janelt claimed a debut assist as he whipped in a corner that was met with a powerful header by Toney at the near post that beat Cameron Dawson.

The Bees had an excellent chance before the interval to create a two goal cushion but were denied by a good save from Dawson. Free-flowing interplay between Mbeumo, Ghoddos and Toney saw Mathias Jensen played through but the Dane's attempt was blocked by the alert Dawson.

After the interval Brentford continued to produce the better chances and Toney came close to claiming the match ball. Fresh on as a substitute Sergi Canos escaped his marker and on the by-line pulled the ball back. Toney miscued the ball on his left foot though and the ball crept narrowly wide of the post.

The hosts offered very little in the second-half and struggled to deal with Brentford's attacking football. Josh Dasilva went close for the Bees when cutting inside from inside the box but his shot drifted wide. In the end it proved a mere footnote as Brentford moved into the final play-off birth in seventh place.

UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Game 1

Opponent: Stoke City (A) Saturday 24th October 15:00 Bet365 Stadium

Nickname: The Potters

Competition: Championship – Matchday 7

Manager: Michael O'Neill

Opponent record: P6 W2 D3 L1 GF6 GA5 (10th in Championship)

Interesting fact: Sir Stanley Matthews holds the record for the oldest ever player to feature in England's top division. His appearance for Stoke City against Fulham in February 1965 came shortly after his 50th birthday.

Game 2

Opponent: Norwich City (H) Tuesday 27th October 19:45 Brentford Community Stadium

Nickname: The Canaries

Competition: Championship – Matchday 8

Manager: Daniel Farke

Opponent record: P6 W3 D1 L2 GF6 GA5 (8th in Championship)

Interesting fact: The Norwich fans' song "On the Ball, City" is the oldest football chant in the world, written in 1890 and still sung today.

Come on you Bees!

Hampton & Richmond Borough



Hampton awarded money from National Lottery

Hampton & Richmond will receive funding from the National Lottery as part of a support package from the government. Due to the classification of the National League South as 'elite' football Hampton are unable to

welcome fans into their ground unlike other non-league clubs and so the National League is to distribute a support package based on average attendances.

Hampton will receive £30,000 a month with the first payment to be received from next week. This is part of a wider £10 million fund that will give assistance to all 67 clubs in the National League, National League North and National League South.

UP NEXT FOR HAMPTON

Game 1

Opponent: Hemel Hempstead Town (A) Saturday 24th October 15:00 Vauxhall Road

Nickname: The Tudors

Competition: FA Cup Fourth Qualifying Round

Manager: Lee Bircham

Cup fixtures: Dunstable Town (2-1), Boston United (walkover)

Interesting fact: Hemel Hempstead's all-time record appearance maker is John Wallace who made an incredible 1,012 appearances for the club.

Game 2

Opponent: Eastbourne Borough (H) Tuesday 27th October 19:45 Beveree Stadium

Nickname: The Sports

Competition: National League South – Matchday 3

Manager: Danny Bloor

Opponent record: P3 W1 D1 L1 GF5 GA5 (10th in National League South)

Interesting fact: At the end of the 2007/08 season Eastbourne Borough beat Hampton & Richmond 2-0 in the Conference South play-off final in a game played at Stevenage's ground, Broadhall Way, to send them into the Conference for the first time in their history.

Come on you Beavers!

Quilter Cup England v Barbarians Fixture Cancelled

The RFU has today cancelled the Quilter Cup England v Barbarians fixture scheduled for Sunday 25 October.

As part of its ongoing investigation into a breach of the Covid code of conduct that took place on 21 October, the RFU has today discovered there was an earlier undisclosed breach that took place on 20 October when a number of Barbarians players left the hotel bubble without permission and without informing organisers about their whereabouts.

The RFU has concluded that the players leaving their Covid-secure environment on 20 October without then isolating from the rest of the group on their return has resulted in the bubble environment being compromised, with the potential risk of Covid transmission from individuals outside the bubble to everyone in the Barbarians team and management.

The RFU is therefore left with no alternative but to cancel the game.

Bill Sweeney, RFU CEO said:

“We are incredibly disappointed to be calling a halt to this fixture, we know how much fans were looking forward to seeing the teams play. However, our priority is to protect the health and safety of the England squad and the other international teams they will go up against this Autumn.

There has been a great deal of effort put into Covid codes of conduct and planning for games, including cooperation with Premiership Clubs to release additional players to fulfil the fixture safely, and we are all incredibly frustrated and disappointed that the actions of a number of Barbarians players mean we no longer feel it is safe for the game to go ahead.”

The RFU investigation is ongoing and no details on individuals or numbers of players involved will be confirmed until the investigation is concluded.



50 million trees in five years – the Woodland Trust sets out ambitious aim to help tackle climate change

The UK's largest woodland conservation charity is announcing a pledge to plant 50 million trees by 2025 to help tackle climate change.

The Woodland Trust is sending more than 600,000 free trees to community groups and schools in the next few weeks and is backing up this commitment to tackling climate change with an initial Emergency Tree Fund of up to £1m to help local authorities plant trees and create woods.

In addition the charity is urging the nation to join with it by launching The **Big Climate Fightback**. It is calling on millions of people to plant trees throughout November – building support to sustain

the biggest mass planting campaign the country has ever seen over the next few years.



Credit Phil Formby

Covid-hit 2020 has been a tough year for so many, not least in woodland conservation where UK tree planting is down (by 30 per cent in the first quarter of 2020 compared to 2019) and with more challenges on communities to get out to plant in large numbers.

All this despite the desperate need for more trees in the ground to fight climate change. Last year the Government committed to plant 50 million trees each year until 2050 to achieve net zero carbon. Now is the time to turn words into action. The **Trust's CEO Darren Moorcroft** wants the Trust to continue to lead by example and is urging others to also demonstrate their commitment with action.

Dr Moorcroft said:

“A year on from many big promises and statements about the need for more trees in order to achieve carbon net zero by 2050, they mainly remain just that, words.



Credit Phil Formby

set out by the Government.

“2019 saw the Woodland Trust plant more than four million trees. It was a great achievement but even that is well below what is needed in the UK to meet climate change targets.

“Today I outline our commitment to establish 50m trees by 2025 to achieve our ten year aim of a tree for everyone in the UK. This would more than double our most successful year ever and state our ambition to plant 10m trees a year to 2025 and further, 20 per cent of the entire UK yearly target as

“Our new Emergency Tree Fund is another bold step to achieving our tree planting aim – by offering local authorities an opportunity to get on board and join The Big Climate Fightback. But we will require people from across all sections of society to help us achieve our ambition and today we start to mobilise that army.

“Our role in tackling the climate crisis won’t rest - we know the clock is ticking and we must act now. Trees are nature’s most powerful weapons in the fight against climate change. Together we can achieve remarkable things and I ask people today, please do your bit, join our climate change army, plant a tree in November, use your voice for trees and woods, support our cause and help us to continue our collective Big Climate Fightback.”

The Emergency Tree Fund will be initially offered to 12 local authorities as part of a pilot and if successful could be rolled out further.

In the Big Climate Fightback 2020, which is supported by players of People’s Postcode Lottery, people are urged to plant trees but if they can’t do that then one of a series of actions, including lobbying their local politicians on green issues, donating money to the campaign, or sharing their support across social media platforms.



Credit Phil Formby

A host of celebrities have already given their backing for the BCF 2020 including Woodland Trust President and presenter Clive Anderson, JLS singer, presenter and farmer JB Gill, former Coronation Street actress Debra Stephenson, former Game Of Thrones actress Bella Ramsey and former Doctor Who and current The Great actress Charity Wakefield.

Charity said:

“I couldn’t be more excited to help spread the word about Woodland Trust’s aim to plant millions of trees. Climate change affects all of us and I think we are all beginning to recognise that it is everyone’s responsibility help our environment repair and regrow. 2020 has been such a tough year for us all, but I know so many people, myself included, have found solace in reconnecting with nature. I am so happy we can provide a way to put that connection into action, and by planting a tree in the Big Climate Fightback give people the chance to get outside and do something really positive. It’s a wonderful thing to do, especially in the autumn and winter”

Trees are seen as nature’s answer to climate change – they soak up carbon dioxide and deliver oxygen.

For more on the Big Climate Fightback 2020, visit woodlandtrust.org.uk/bigclimatefightback, follow the campaign online #BigClimateFightback



**WOODLAND
TRUST**

Implementing employment support schemes in response to the COVID-19 pandemic

The National Audit Office (NAO) reports that the government quickly developed schemes to protect jobs and support businesses financially during the COVID-19 pandemic, but the pace at which they were designed and implemented means there is a risk of considerable levels of fraud and error, particularly for the furlough scheme.

On 20 March 2020, the government announced the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) to provide grant payments to employers to cover part of the wages of furloughed employees. This was followed on 26 March by the Self-Employed Income Support Scheme (SEISS) to provide grant payments to self-employed individuals whose businesses had been adversely affected by the pandemic. On 24 September 2020, the government announced a new Job Support Scheme (JSS) and an extension to SEISS until April 2021. On 9 October, an extension to the JSS was announced to support companies legally required to close as a direct result of COVID-19 restrictions. Total spending on CJRS and the initial SEISS scheme is forecast to reach almost £70 billion by the end of October.

HM Revenue & Customs and HM Treasury (the Departments) implemented both schemes ahead of their schedules, with CJRS available from 20 April and SEISS by 13 May. Given the compressed timeframe to design each scheme, the Departments could not follow standard processes comprehensively, such as producing business cases, options appraisals and detailed cost-benefit analysis.

Implementing the schemes quickly was a significant challenge. This was potentially increased by the lack of pandemic contingency planning or existing employment support schemes that the Departments could easily adapt.

The schemes have been largely successful in protecting jobs in the period to October 2020, with at least 12.2 million people benefitting from support. The CJRS scheme supported 9.6 million jobs and, at its peak in May, around 30% of the UK workforce was furloughed. The SEISS scheme supported at least 2.6 million self-employed, around 77% of the 3.4 million people potentially eligible for the scheme. Over half of respondents to a NAO survey of UK employees said that their main job had been impacted by COVID-19, more than a quarter said they had been placed on furlough and 4% said they had been made redundant between March and June.

As many as 2.9 million people were not eligible for the schemes, either because of ministerial decisions about where to focus support, or because HMRC did not have data needed to properly guard against the risk of fraud. This includes 1.1 million people estimated by third parties to be ineligible for CJRS because HMRC had limited data to validate claims or determine eligibility. HMRC estimates that around 1.6 million self-employed people did not meet the criteria for SEISS, for example because most of their income did not come from being self-employed (1.4 million people) or their trading profits exceeded £50,000 (200,000 people). Third parties estimate that a further 200,000 were ineligible for SEISS because they were newly self-employed in 2019-20 and had not yet submitted a self-assessment return.

When designing the schemes, the Departments considered the equality implications of their design decisions, including carrying out equality impact assessments. They identified a high proportion of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) people were self-employed and undertook work to raise awareness of the SEISS scheme with stakeholder groups. HMRC data shows that a greater proportion of younger workers were furloughed. A greater proportion of men were furloughed initially, but this reduced over time and by September there was little difference between men and women.

There is considerable risk that some employers committed furlough fraud by keeping employees working in lockdown, against the rules of the scheme, or by claiming payments and not passing them on to employees in full. HMRC's fraud hotline has received over 10,000 reports, many referring to cases where employees worked despite their employer claiming for them as furloughed staff. The NAO found that 9% of people it surveyed admitted to working in lockdown at the request of their employer, and against the rules of the scheme. HMRC concluded it would tackle fraud through whistleblowing and retrospective compliance work. However, employees would not have known if their employer was part of the furlough scheme unless their employer had informed them. HMRC intends to publish the names of employers claiming the new JSS scheme and to notify employees through their personal tax accounts when an employer has claimed JSS.

The scale of total fraud and error is likely to be considerable, particularly for CJRS, but HMRC will not know the actual levels until the end of 2021 at the earliest. In September HMRC's assumption was that fraud and error could range from 5-10% on CJRS, which would equate to £2.0 billion to £3.9 billion. For the first SEISS grant, HMRC's planning assumption was that fraud and error could range from 1-2%. Given the lack of available data, both these estimates were necessarily assumption-based rather than evidence-based. HMRC is developing its understanding of the full scale of fraud and error, and believes it will need to redeploy staff from tax compliance work to tackle fraud and error on the schemes.

The NAO recommends that HM Treasury and HMRC should consider how to ensure that reliable information, covering as many people as possible, can be used to determine eligibility so that fewer people suffering loss of income are excluded from similar schemes in the future. The Departments should also accelerate programmes to assess the total value of fraud and error, and ensure sufficient resources are committed to recover overpayments and fraudulent payments on both schemes where it is cost-effective to do so.

Gareth Davies, the head of the NAO, said:

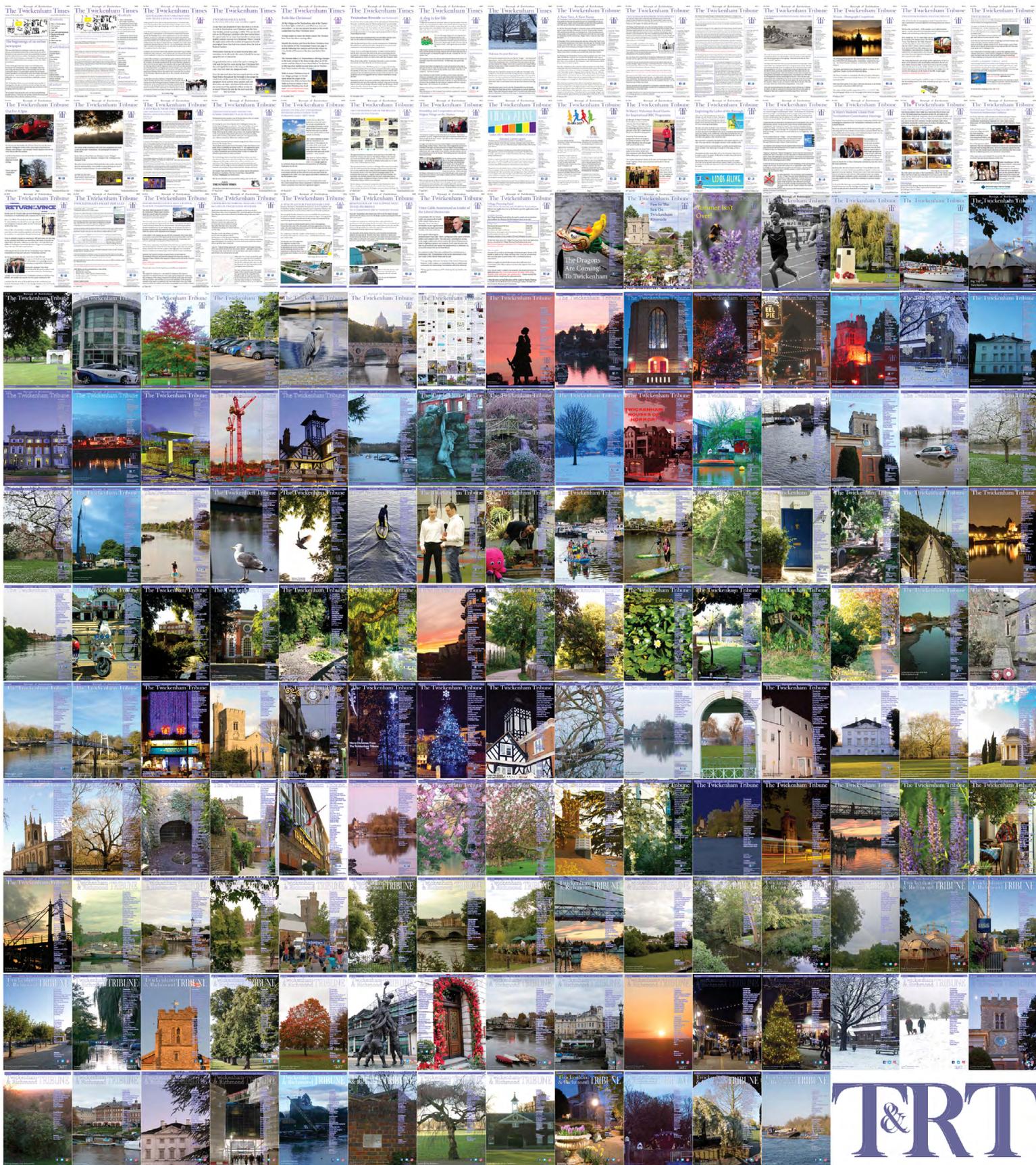
"HM Treasury and HMRC met their objective to rapidly implement the schemes and the civil service should be commended for making these available ahead of schedule. Indications are that the schemes helped to protect jobs in the short-term, but it is also clear that many other people have lost earnings and have not been able to access support.

"It appears that the scale of fraud and error could be considerable, particularly for the furlough scheme. HMRC could have done more to make clear to employees whether their employer was part of the furlough scheme. In future, the Departments should do more while employment support schemes are running to protect employees and counter acts of fraud."



National Audit Office

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