

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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Editors

Berkley Driscoll
Teresa Read



30th June 2023

T&RT

TickerTape - News in Brief

Teddington Society - hot drinks and pastries at Shambles

Come and join us for hot drinks and pastries at Shambles, Teddington on Tuesday 11 July from 10am to noon, £8.80 each payable directly to Shambles on the day. Both members and non-members of the Teddington Society are very welcome.

MPS Teddington - boats on the River Thames

We have been made aware of suspicious males using boats on the River Thames between Teddington & Hampton Court Palace in the early hours of the morning. If you see anything like this, let us know so we can deal with it Teddington@met.police.uk

Park Lane Stables receive planning permission

Park Lane Stables, Teddington, has received planning permission to refurbish and upgrade their stables in Teddington.

South Western Railway – Strikes

Industrial action by members of the ASLEF union will affect our network between Monday 3 and Saturday 8 July 2023. While no strike action has been called for this week, members are being instructed not to work any overtime or volunteer to work on rest days.

Usual hourly service with a small number of peak services removed

- Waterloo to Hampton Court
- Waterloo to Waterloo via Kingston
- Waterloo to Windsor & Eton Riverside
- Waterloo to Weybridge via Hounslow
- Waterloo to Reading

Usual service during peak hours, reduced to hourly service off-peak. some services via Twickenham will be cancelled

- Waterloo to Shepperton

No services to operate

- Waterloo to Waterloo via Hounslow

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Covid-19

By Teresa Read

World Health Organization

Weekly epidemiological update on COVID-19 - 29 June 2023

At the country level, the highest numbers of new 28-day cases were reported from the Republic of Korea (371,513), Australia (111,543), Brazil (77,022), France (45,306) and Singapore (40,531).

The highest numbers of new 28-day deaths were reported from Brazil (1,055), the Russian Federation (517), Australia (343), Italy (342), and France (285).

The European Region reported over 199,000 new cases, a 57% decrease as compared to the previous 28-day period.

The highest numbers of new cases were reported from France (45,306), the Russian Federation (35,536) and Italy (31,289).

The number of new 28-day deaths in the Region decreased by 62% as compared to the previous 28-day period, with 2,310 new deaths reported. The highest numbers of new deaths were reported from the Russian Federation (517), Italy (342), and France (285).

IN THE NEWS

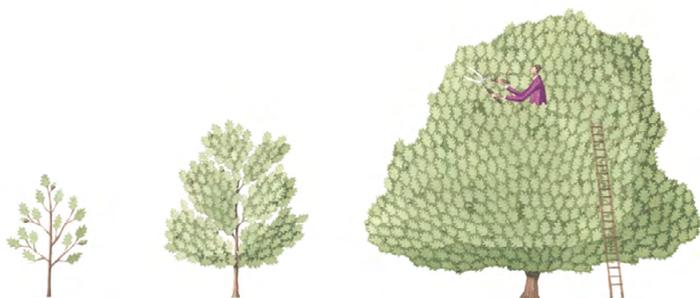
Nature: New COVID jabs are coming – who should get them?

Countries rolling out updated vaccines weigh whether to restrict them to high-risk individuals.

UN.Org: WHO: 'Long COVID' may obstruct return to normal life for 36 million Europeans

Sky News: COVID Inquiry: Why were we not prepared for a pandemic?

Aljazeera: Did COVID change the way we think about relationships and money?



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The Tree Agency

BY ALAN WINTER

THE KING OF PORTUGAL LIVED IN TWICKENHAM

Our local area has been and remains the home of many members of rock, sporting and literary royalty. Today we look at a real life King who made Twickenham his home and was an active member of our community for a number of years.

The first postcard shows a very young looking King Manoel and was posted on 17th November 1909 from Twickenham to Abergavenny when he was the reigning King of Portugal. This was one year before the Portuguese monarchy was dissolved. Manoel was clearly in London during November 1909 because the writer of the postcard says "This morning we went up to the City to see little King Manuel. We had a splendid view of him. He appeared to be such a child with such a baby face." In fact he would probably have been 18 years old when the photograph was taken in 1908 as he became King at that age.

Manoel II was the last king of the Portuguese monarchy reigning for two and a half years during 1908 – 1910. Born in Lisbon in 1889, Manoel ascended to the throne following the assassination of his father, King Carlos I. His reign ended with the dissolution of the monarchy in October 1910 when the republic was declared. His palace was shelled and he escaped with his family to England where he settled and remained in Twickenham for the rest of his life.



In exile in Twickenham, Manoel resided in Fulwell Park. He acquired the estate and lived at Fulwell Lodge from after his marriage in 1913 until his death in 1932. There were several attempts to restore him to the throne which all failed.

The second postcard shows the front of Fulwell Lodge in 1913 and was published during Manoel's residence.

Manoel was active in the local community, he attended services at the Catholic Church of St. James in Popes Grove and became godfather to several children. In 1932 he donated a

window to St James Church bearing the Braganza crest. A keen gardener, he was a member of the Hampton Garden Society and also became president of the Twickenham Piscatorial Society which held fishing competitions along the river and used the Barmy Arms as their headquarters. The Barmy Arms was named "the Queens Head" in those days. He was also a keen tennis player, regularly going to the Wimbledon tournaments and inviting friends to play at Fulwell Park where he built several tennis courts.



On July 1st 1932 he played tennis and seemed quite fit and well but the next day he died unexpectedly at Fulwell Lodge suffocated by an abnormal swelling in the vocal folds. Manoel was 43 years of age. The Portuguese government, at that time, authorized his burial in Lisbon. After a state funeral the body of the former King was interred in the Royal Pantheon of the House of Braganza in Lisbon.

Fulwell lodge was subsequently purchased by Wates the builders, demolished and the surrounding land between the Staines Road and River Crane redeveloped for housing. The Portuguese connection was marked in road names such as Manoel Road, Lisbon Avenue, Augusta Road and Portugal Gardens.

I am always on the lookout for postcards of any age or subject matter and I pay cash, so if you have any to dispose of, any questions on this subject, or ideas for future articles, please drop me a line at alanwinter192@hotmail.com

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Could you be our next Youth Theatre Leader?

Recognised as a leading amateur theatre company, Richmond Shakespeare Society (RSS) currently stages eight productions a year, including one by the Young Actor's Company at the Mary Wallace Theatre in Twickenham.

We are looking to appoint a new Youth Theatre Leader for the Junior Actors Company (9-14) and Young Actors Company (15-18).

They will be responsible for planning and delivering weekly classes (Wednesdays and Saturdays) during term time and for directing the annual production featuring members of the company at the theatre.

To apply and for more information contact Miriam King - secretary@richmondshakespeare.org.uk

Deadline:

Applications must be received by 9am, Monday July 10th, 2023.



Come along to the Affordable Art Tent fair

Join Arts Richmond at St Margarets Fair on Saturday 8 July 2023 for the popular Affordable Art Tent. The fair will feature over 400 original artworks by local artists.

The art will be available to purchase, with everything under £100. A number of new pieces from the recent photographic exhibition have also been added to the collection.

The Affordable Art Tent will be at Moormead, Moor Mead Road, St Margarets, Twickenham, TW1 1JS.

For more information, visit [Arts Richmond website](#).



Dear Editors,

Twickenham Big Screen - The Diamond Jubilee Gardens

The latest edition of the weekly Richmond Council News & Updates has an item announcing *Twickenham Big Screen Returns with Tennis and Films from Monday 3 July*. This will cover Wimbledon, and four films will be shown between Friday 7 and Saturday 5 July. Unfortunately, the item does not mention the venue precisely, but just says it is “by the river”. Your readers might like to know that this event is in The Diamond Jubilee Gardens.

Yours sincerely
 Jeremy Hamilton-Miller
 Twickenham

Dear Sir / Madam,

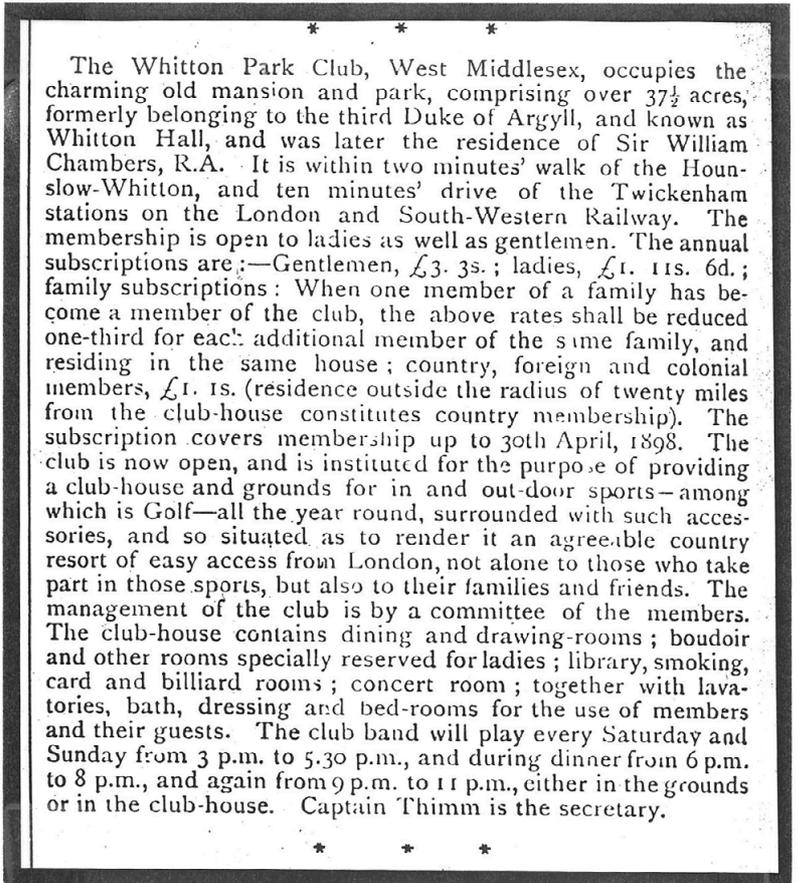
Whitton Park

With reference to your article on Whitton Park (Edition 346, Friday 23 June 2023).

It appears that a Whitton Park Club and mansion existed for sports, which included a golf course, and existed up to at least 1897.

See attachment, copied from ‘Golf’, which was printed 3 September 1897, which may be of interest.

Kind regards,
 Keith Fitzgerald

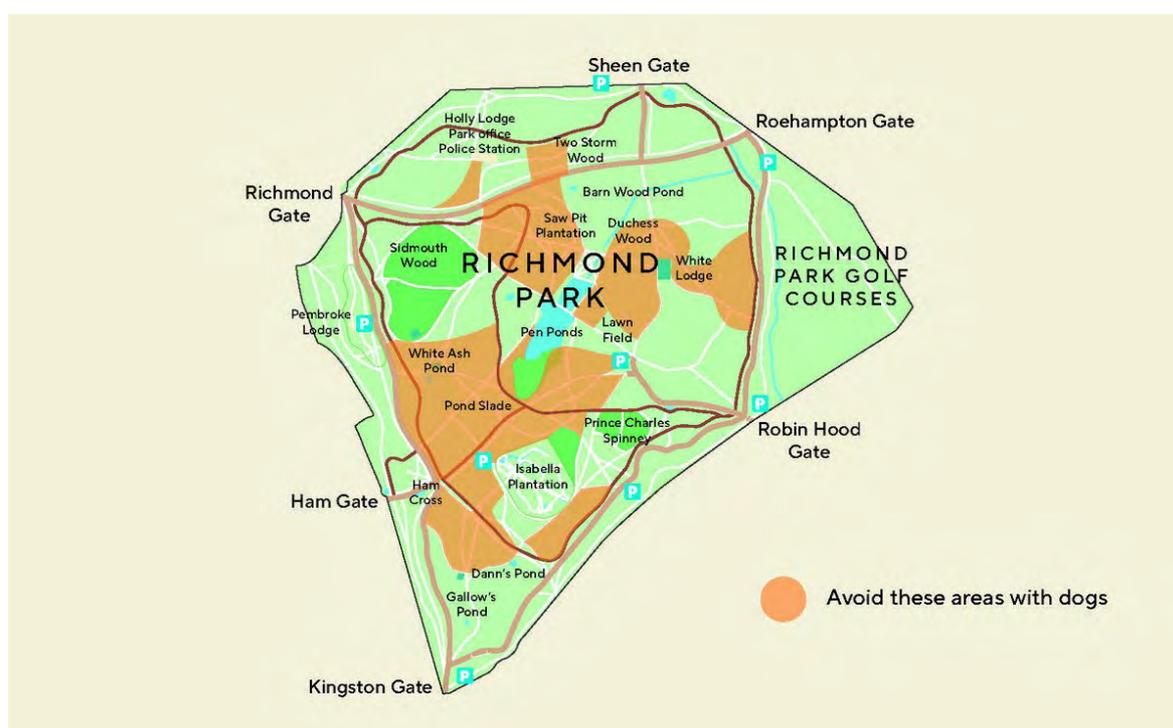
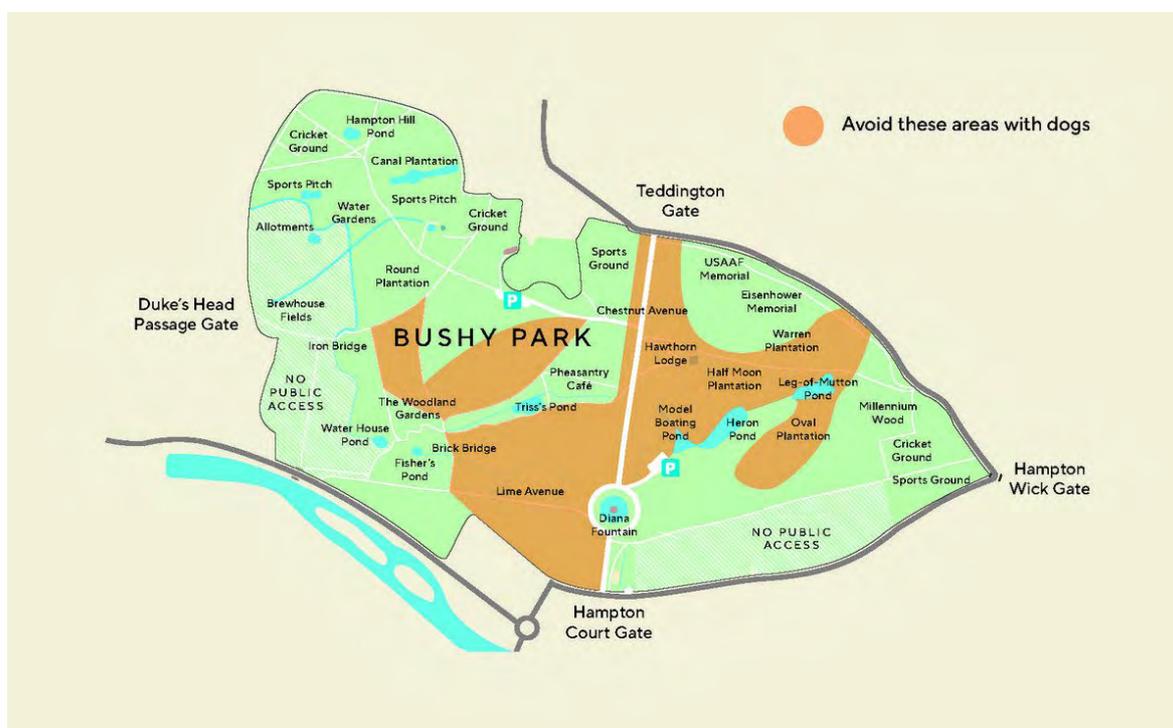


GOLF
 SEPTEMBER 3 1897

'Dogs on leads' mandatory until the 31 July in Richmond and Bushy Parks

The Royal Parks charity is reminding people that 'dogs on leads' will be mandatory until the 31 July in Richmond and Bushy Parks, to protect both dogs and deer during the deer birthing season.

If you're planning to visit Richmond Park or Bushy Park then note deer birthing season is still ongoing. Until the 31 July, 'dogs on leads' will be compulsory in all areas. Check out these maps of areas of both parks to specifically avoid. Read more <https://bit.ly/3L5dQhj>



Might or Right?

Teresa Read

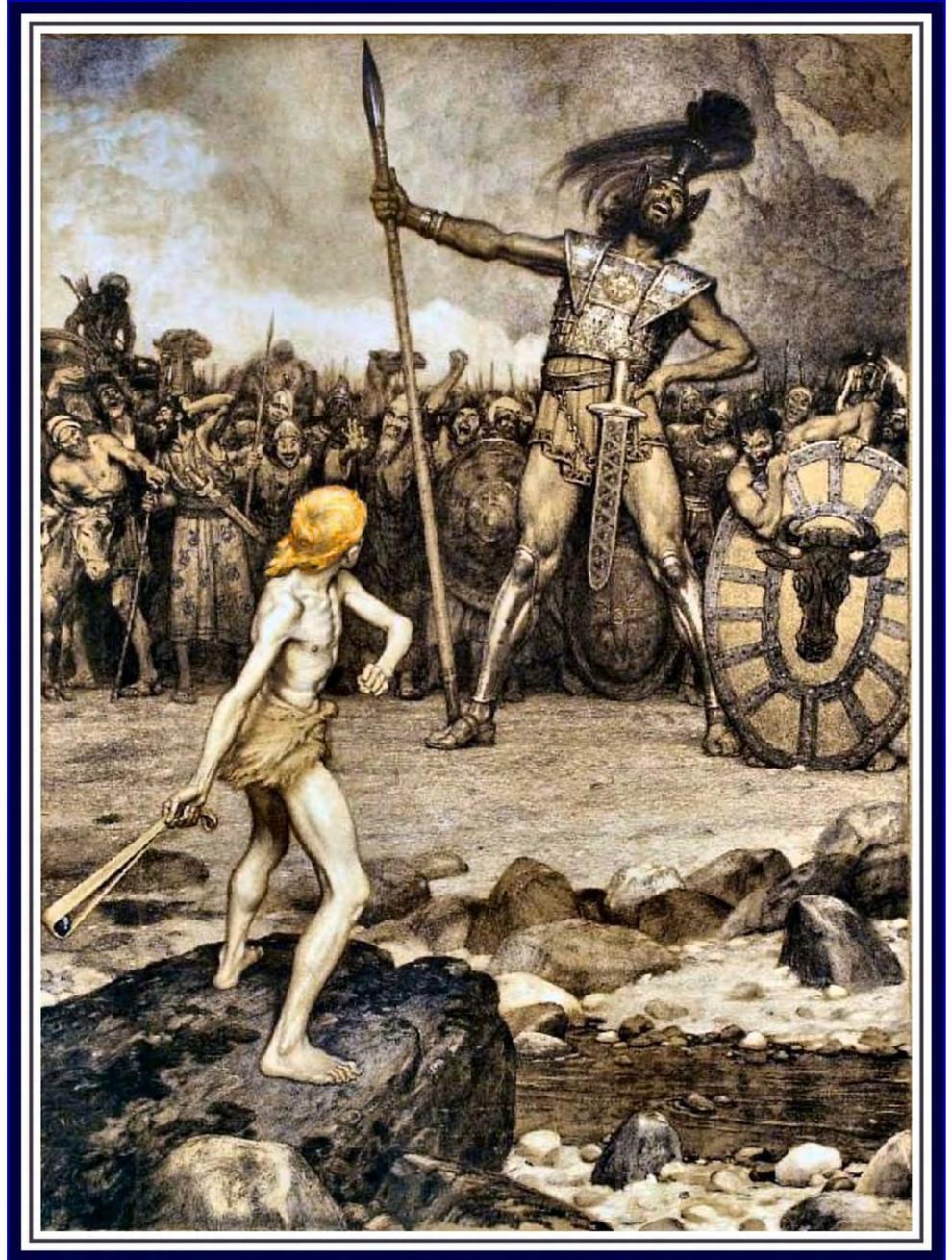
On Monday residents who have taken part in the Public Inquiry will walk around the Diamond Jubilee Gardens on Twickenham Riverside with the Public Inquiry Inspector before he makes his decision: has the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames won the battle to enforce a Compulsory Purchase Order on Diamond Jubilee Gardens? Land coveted by the Council for luxury flats – flats too expensive for those in need of housing.

It has been a long battle, a fight between David and Goliath; we have yet to see whether the Philistines win or will the metaphorical sling and five stones hit their mark?

The Council has the might and a large budget to fight the Trust, and no doubt they are factoring in the thought of the high Council tax due from flat owners. But will one of the best views of the Thames offset the prospect of the melodic sound of Sweet Caroline once the rugby crowds arrive at the establishment selling alcohol below their windows?

Now it only remains to be seen whether might or right will win and whether Goliath will be felled by one of David's stones.

And not to worry about the rugby crowds, the estate agents who have had input into the Council plans publish this information of their website: "residential developments have long enjoyed welcoming international buyers through their doors." Their italics not mine.



David and Goliath, a color lithograph by Osmar Schindler (c. 1888)

HAMPTON NORTH WARD

Councillor Geoffrey Samuel

THE WHITE HOUSE-

The Council's proposals were presented to the June meeting of the Education Committee. Until the March 2020 Lockdown YMCA Management ran it as a Community Centre with a popular café and a wide range of courses, classes and activities. It has never since re-opened with the same offering. Indeed it has been operating at 15-20% of its potential although a small number of outside-provided services eg the Food Bank take place. It is regrettable that the Council has not found a way to bring back the YMCA. However the proposal to hand it over to AfC [Achieving for Children – our Education service] has some advantages. At present there are three distinct services on Hampton Square – The White House, the huge Youth Centre and a Family provision. Kate and I have long advocated a 'campus' approach which would bring together all three services and this is the intention of AfC – to create a 'Family hub'. This initiative has possibilities. However the report to June Committee made no acceptable mention of the three aspects which I believe to be essential – providing a full range of courses, classes and activities for adults, re-opening the café as a real community centre and bringing back into use the now almost derelict MUGA [Multi-Use Games Area]. I am not a member of the Education Committee – [and was on holiday at the time] but I understand that these issues were raised and I will continue to press for all three of these requirements to be delivered.

SHOOTING STAR

Kate and I have been strong supporters since it opened – with donations, fundraising – and Kate ran a Marathon! It suffered during the Pandemic but we were pleased that the Government raised its contribution from 10% to 30%. I have invited the Shooting Star to tell us what is going on....

“This purpose-built children's hospice in Hampton opened in 2005. It is our Outreach, Therapy and Family Support centre where families can access bereavement support, counselling, therapies, drop-in sessions, sibling groups, family activities and interactive play sessions, and meet our team of family support workers.

“We can't do any of this without you.... It costs £10m a year to run [two] Shooting Star hospices, so we rely on our supporters to keep the service running. For every pound the government gives us, we have to raise two. For further information about fund-raising in aid of us, contact emily.mccorrey@shootingstar.org.uk.”

FOR OLDER RESIDENTS

Under the 2020 Equalities “age” is a “protected characteristic”. Many elderly residents either do not have access to a computer or [like me !] have limited facility with modern technology. I have just acted successfully for a 92-year old resident who was threatened with Court action over Council Tax although she always pays the tax in full – but at her own timing. And now many Parking meters do not take cash. Ministers recently warned against “older people becoming digitally excluded” Let me know if you are – or know – an elderly resident who has difficulty with modern technology.

OAK AVENUE

Following a review the Council has concluded that speeds have dropped and that no action is needed. However as a result if a petition which I supported the Council has found that traffic volumes are very

high. On that basis it is prepared to consider a crossing [which the petitioners and I requested]. There will therefore be a consultation on a pelican crossing at the 'only feasible location' – just south of **Langridge Mews** and some 130 metres from the **Victors Drive** crossing. As always on traffic matters I will support whatever the majority of affected residents want.

FULMER CLOSE PARKING

I did not support the Council when it painted a large number of double yellow lines – more than residents wanted. As I expected some residents are now parking in **Fearnley Crescent** [to the annoyance of local people], key workers returning home after dark cannot find a parking space and the enforcement of the new rules is spasmodic and inadequate. I am urging the Council to work with PA and residents to review every aspect of parking in the Close

DO YOU HAVE A GREEN WHEELIE BIN ?

When the bin of a resident of **Broad Lane** sprang a leak he asked for a replacement but when he asked whether the damaged bin would be collected he was told either to keep it and use it for something else or to cut it into pieces and put it in his refuse bin. I await officers' response to my complaint 1.

ELECTRICAL CHARGING POINTS

A resident of **Longford Close** has complained to me that although he [and others] have contacted the Council several times over the past two years "they don't respond, there is no one to speak to and it is impossible to get any information from them". I have now discovered that of the £581,000 allocated in the last budget for 'Electric Vehicle Charging Points' only £152,000 [26%] was actually spent. I am investigating!

HAMPTON CEMETERY

In response to my complaint on behalf of residents about the state of the Cemetery in Hollybush Lane officers report that the Operations Team "partially cut through the cemetery on 26th May leaving the grass cut and will cut any wild flowers which have finished flowering".

WORDSWORTH ROAD

For three years some residents have alleged problems that are the responsibility of the Housing Association, Inquilab. I have regularly received assurances from their officers [who always seem to change!] but little action. I have just – with difficulty – been given another contact name and hope that action may follow.

I regret that owing to pressures of space there is no room for many 'Shorter Items'.
As always I will follow up every matter reported to me on gjshn@btinternet.com and may forward your letter/e-mail to officers unless you instruct me not to. Please use this e-mail address only

Eco Church Award for St. Mary's Church

By Liz Webborn

Liz Webborn, speaking on behalf of the thriving Eco Group at St Mary's Church Twickenham last Sunday was able to share the brilliant news that the church has achieved the Eco Church Silver Award.

The Eco Church initiative is an award scheme run by the non profit making Christian organisation A Rocha whose overall aim it is to celebrate the ways that church communities have been engaging with and caring for the earth as a key part of their Christian faith. Churches are encouraged to look at five key focus areas; Worship and Teaching, Land, Buildings, Lifestyle and Community and Global Engagement each centered on the same thing; and that is looking after Gods Creation whether it be from an individual, a national or a global perspective and always from our position as custodians of God's Earth.

The whole church community at St Mary's have been working towards achieving Eco Church status by taking small incremental steps in those areas and have been considering how they can live more ecologically sustainable lives. Sharing ideas about energy and water saving strategies, creating a management plan for the local Oak Lane Cemetery and installing bird and bat boxes there too flagging up warm spaces in the winter months, collecting for the local food bank, having a team of green fingered volunteers to look after the Memorial Garden, setting up a way to recycle old pens, batteries and spectacles, encouraging participation in national strategies such as the Great Garden Bird watch and supporting other local charities such as The Real Junk Food Project are just some of the many ways that highlight our commitment towards achieving our goals. "We believe that the ethos of Eco Church is a reflection of who we are as a church and are keen to keep on growing in our awareness and are now going to put our collective heads together and go for gold! Watch this space!"



Liz Webborn



St. Mary's Church



St Margarets

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 **The TURKS HEAD**

Builders prosecuted and fined for repeatedly breaching planning permission in Richmond

A construction firm has been convicted and fined £15,000 after Richmond Council took them to court for breaching planning permission conditions for the private redevelopment of Richmond Royal Hospital.

CLlr Julia Neden-Watts, Chair of Richmond Council's Environment, Sustainability, Culture and Sport Committee, said:

"We don't tolerate behaviours like this from developers or their contractors in Richmond upon Thames. New homes are very important for our borough, but they must come with minimal disruption to the existing community – that is why we have planning regulations and are able to apply conditions to planning permission.

"I'm pleased we have been successful in court and I hope this serves to demonstrate how seriously we take breaches of our planning consents."

Planning permission for the development, a mixed-use building comprising 71 homes (15 affordable) and a ground floor space for health services, was granted on condition of compliance with a Construction Management Plan, which set out how construction should take place to minimise disruption to neighbours and the local road network.



Henry Construction

Ltd started work on site in January 2021 and the Council began to receive reports of the designated access route not being followed, as well as other breaches of the management plan.

Despite repeated warnings and meetings with Council officials, Henry Construction Ltd continued to breach the plan, leading to the Council serving a formal Breach of Condition Notice on them in February 2022. On 20 June 2023 Henry Construction Projects Ltd was convicted, in absence, for six instances of breaching the notice, fined the maximum amount of £15,000 and ordered to pay the Council's costs.

JUNE FOOD AND DRINK NEWS

Summer is, at long last, here and seems to be rushing by! Here are some of the new food and drink products that I've recently discovered and wanted to share with you:

I try to avoid eating too many crisps, but these two new flavours from **KETTLE® Chips** are just far too good to resist! **Sriracha Mayo** and **Dill Pickle & Jalapeño**. These moreish crisps draw inspiration from the company's US roots, and, trust me, they are seriously delicious! KETTLE® Chips are hand cooked in small batches in Norfolk, 100% of the potatoes used are British, and contain no artificial flavours, MSG or colours. Around £2.40 for a sharing bag from Waitrose, Tesco and other stockists.



Anything truffle flavoured always appeals to me, and **Hunter & Gather**, the brand behind the UK's first and only avocado oil mayonnaise range, has launched a limited edition, delicious, truffle mayonnaise. **Avocado Oil White Truffle Mayonnaise** is made in the UK with absolutely no seed or sunflower oils, sugar, grains or added nasties. The result is an exquisite, creamy mayonnaise that's the perfect accompaniment to summer salads, steaks, or sweet potato fries. Or just use it as a dip for raw veg, or make the most wonderful egg mayonnaise! Available to buy from the new **Hunter & Gather app** and online at www.hunterandgatherfoods.com. £10 for a 250g glass jar.

On a hot summer day, a really refreshing and easy breakfast is a smoothie. **Naked Smoothies** has just launched two new flavours: Strawberry & Banana (with strawberries, banana, apples and sour cherries) and Pineapple & Passionfruit (pineapple, passionfruit, apples and banana). They're really rather good and pack a flavour punch, with no added sugar or nasties. Available in 300ml and larger 750ml bottles (perfect for sharing), at Tesco, Sainsbury's, and independents priced at around £2.50 and £3.75 respectively.



I've just returned from a lovely week in Spain and I'm delighted to find that one of my favourite white wines - Viñas **del Rey Albariño** is available in the **Tesco Finest** range. It's such an elegant wine, with aromas of apricot, honeysuckle and notes of fresh grapefruit and mandarin. £10.50 a bottle (and currently on the Clubcard 25% offer).

Inspired by the traditional French dessert: Liégeois, new **Bonne Maman Coffee Crème dessert** is a sumptuous, aromatic creamy café au lait style dessert with a rich and creamy coffee crème, topped with a light Chantilly cream. The company has also launched a **Dark Chocolate Crème dessert** that's equally scrumptious. They really



are extremely good and provide a superb summer finale to a lunch or dinner (or a picnic). They contain no artificial colours, flavours or sweeteners. In packs of 2 x 90g pots, they're available initially at Sainsbury's and Waitrose stores nationwide at £2.55 rrp.



I'm generally not a fan of 'flavoured' gins or vodkas, but I've found one of each that I heartily recommend you try. The first is an Indian Mango flavoured vodka from **Desi Daru** that's so good, it's won countless awards, including **World's Best Flavoured Vodka at the World Vodka Awards!** Desi Daru is owned by British-born Indians, who celebrate the best of the two countries they call home, using ingredients from the Himalayas to the jungle plus our own English countryside. It's a newly-launched brand, just a year old, but it's certainly going places, and certainly one to watch! **Desi Daru's Alphonso Mango-flavoured vodka** is seriously fabulous - either served neat on the rocks, or in a cocktail. The brand also produces the **Desi Daru Original**, distilled using English winter wheat and the purest water from the snow-capped Himalayas. Available from around £35 a 70cl bottle from [The Whisky Exchange](#) or Amazon.

This gin is one that's so summery, I really feel I need to drink it in the garden! **Chase Pink Grapefruit & Pomelo** is the perfect summer tippie for a gin lover like me. It has powerful notes of pink grapefruit combined with subtle hints of juniper and lime zest. Made with classic gin botanicals distilled with grapefruit peel it's wonderfully zesty. Serve with lots of ice, tonic and a slice of grapefruit. It's also won multiple awards and is made at the Chase Distillery in Herefordshire. Try it too in a delicious [Pink Grapefruit and Thyme Cocktail](#). Around £29 for 70 cl from [Sainsbury's](#), Waitrose or Amazon or online from [Chase](#)



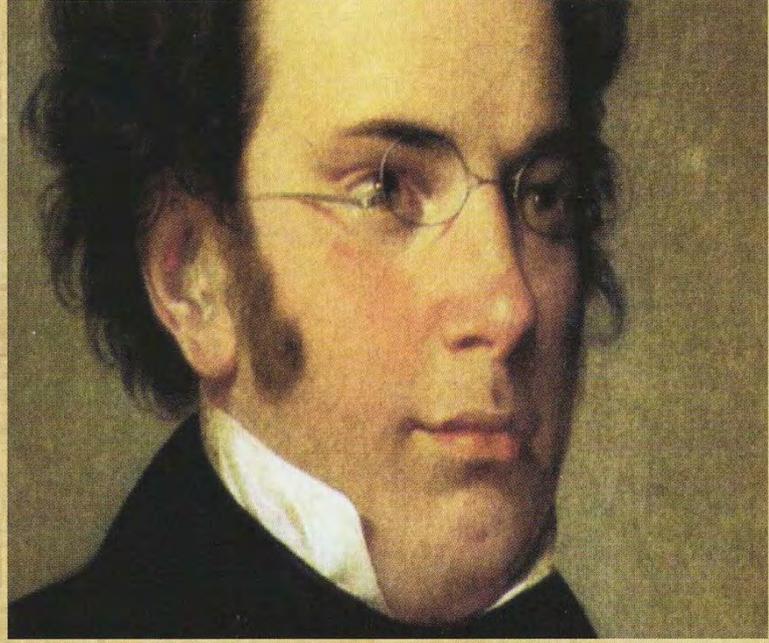
While on the subject of grapefruit, here's a rather special wine. Boutique Chilean winery **Leyda's new 2022 Reserva Sauvignon Blanc Garuma** is the ultimate summer sauvignon and pairs well with fish and shellfish. This lovely Chilean wine starts with notes of fresh grapefruit, joined by lime as it slowly warms. Lime and lemon zest move centre stage as the grapefruit wanes, with nice acidity and a medium-length finish delivering a well-rounded experience. A perfect summer wine at a great value price! Exclusively available from **Tesco** from at £10.00 per bottle (£8.00 when on motion. from 26th June to 16th July)



And finally, if you are visiting any food festivals this summer, do look out for **Marshall & Co** chocolate. I met them at the **Foodies Festival** and the products are excellent. The founder has a family history of confectionery - originating from his great, great, grand aunt who ran a sweet shop in Todmorden, Yorkshire at the turn of the last century. And in whose AGA the cocoa beans are roasted to this day. This bean-to-bar vegan chocolate is really good. There are six different bars available on the website [here](#)



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TRAVELLER'S TALES 148

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DOUG GOODMAN SEES SOME OF THE DUTCH MASTERPIECES

Ever since I saw 'The Girl with the Pearl Earring' in Amsterdam some years ago, Vermeer has been my favourite Dutch painter. When the city's Rijksmuseum announced an exhibition of 27 of the 37 works by Vermeer, gathered from galleries around the world, here was an opportunity not to be missed. But due to the huge demand and popularity all tickets sold out immediately. Even with extended dates and longer opening hours it still proved impossible to obtain tickets. Despair: until an advertisement was spotted for a one-off Dutch canal cruise taking in the main art galleries and guaranteed entry to the Vermeer exhibition. There were a few cabins left on that unique May trip but then I saw that it was a Saga Cruise. 'They'll all be old people' I exclaimed not realising that the majority of art-lovers would be younger than me.



Spirit of the Rhine



Crew and Staff of Spirit of the Rhine



On the Bridge



Fine Dining

GREAT CARE

As part of its service Saga provides taxi transfers to the departure point of the holiday. For us it was a 6.30 am check in at St Pancras for the four hour Eurostar ride to Amsterdam. Reps met the guests, who had chosen the train instead of the plane, at Centraal Station, collected luggage and arranged taxis for those who didn't wish to make the ten minute walk to The Spirit of the Rhine. From the pre-departure joining instructions to the very end of the week's trip the emphasis was on passenger comfort and safety. Every excursion was described in minute detail: the number of stairs or lift to be used, the exact distance and time required and the type of surface to be walked on. There were two guests with wheel chairs, a few walking frames and a forest of walking sticks, But everyone managed very well. Captain Peter and his second in command Captain Bart along with Saga staff, Jean the cruise director, Anna, Roko and Norman, were always on hand to sort out problems and answer questions. They all mixed with guests during the social events and lectures. Breakfasts, lunches and dinners had a wide choice of dishes with waiter service at main meals on beautifully set out tables. Vegetarians were well catered for and so were drinkers. Wines, especially some Austrian varieties, beers spirits and soft drinks were provided free at all meals and at any time the bar was open. So attentive were the staff that by the fourth night I didn't need to ask for a gin with tonic as one appeared whenever I approached the bar for a pre-dinner drink. For a special meal with an appealing gourmet menu, guests could book dinner on one occasion at no extra cost in the Rheinfels Restaurant.

After-dinner talks were held by guest lecturers Adrian Sumner and Rupert Maas from The Antiques Road Show. An expert on Vermeer from The Rijksmuseum told us what we would see

in the coming days. Staff described the following days' activities and the highlights of each city. The cabin was small but well-appointed with sliding windows to give panoramic views of the rivers and canals and the giant ships using the waterways. Luckily our top-deck cabin was almost always on the 'sea-side' as opposed to being alongside a jetty. Although this was a waterways cruise, we sailed for only about 20 hours during the week. . But then the whole point was to visit the art galleries in the major cities from a floating hotel.



Cruise from Centraal Station



Smokers' Hot Spot



Canal Tour



Main Canal

EXCURSIONS

Jean, the cruise director who had spent 12 years on ocean cruise ships and five on river cruises, told me that the ship was Swiss registered in 2021. There were 95 cabins for a maximum 190 passengers with 48 crew. The average age of Saga passengers was around 70 and while most people go to see a destination, our cruise was a specialist art cruise appealing to like-minded people. Excursions were included in every port visited. In Amsterdam visits to the art treasures were being saved for the return in five days time. A bus tour of the city and a canal boat cruise helped to orientate us before enjoying two typical 'tourist' excursions. A visit to Simonehoeve to see the processes involved in making Edam cheese was fascinating. Twenty seven varieties are made, taking six weeks to mature, before they are coated with the familiar red and yellow wax. I tried several types and found the stinging nettle cheese quite tasty. Clog making was demonstrated and several visitors bought pairs – probably to use as plant containers. After a long day sightseeing it was very pleasant to arrive back at the ship in good time to shower and change for dinner. A daily programme, detailed the following day's events arrived each evening and I noted that the vessel would sail to Utrecht after breakfast. The art galleries were fast approaching.



Say Cheese



Clog Maker



Green Fields Below Sea Level

Next time Utrecht and The Hague are visited.

Information: Saga river cruises call 0800 300 400 or book online at saga.co.uk/rivercruises.

The Solomon Islands and China's Influence in the Pacific Region

The Solomon Islands are situated in the South Pacific Ocean, to the east of Papua New Guinea and north-east of Australia.

Honiara on Guadalcanal is the capital city and a port. Many of the islands are mountainous and some are coral atolls.

In the mid-1880s the UK and Germany divided the Solomon Islands between the two countries but in 1899 Germany ceded most of its islands to the United Kingdom. Following Japanese occupation during the Second World War the UK resumed control.

The Solomon Islands became self-governing in 1976. Independence was achieved in 1978. The country is a member of the Commonwealth and the monarch of the United Kingdom is the Solomon Islands' Chief of State.

Australia has a long security relationship with the Solomon Islands but concerns have been raised over the growing influence of China.

In May 2022, the Solomon Islands drafted a security arrangement with China; in February 2023, the leader of the Solomon Islands' primary island, Malaita, was removed from office because of his opposition to the agreement.

On 29 June 2023 it was reported that the prime minister of the Solomon Islands called for a review of the country's security treaty with Australia in view of the competition in the region between China, the USA and its allies.



All that glitters is gold...?

By Deep Patel

~ Through the Eyes of a Twickenham Shopkeeper ~

“All that glitters isn't gold”

We all love gold things...rings, necklaces, shoes, photo frames, watches and...moths?

Yes, you read right...if we are a nation obsessed by gold then why so much hate for the little gold moths that we all see in our homes from time to time...well...they are gold too...? This week a customer asked me about moths...Ok, maybe many hate them as they think that they eat holes into their best cashmere jumper that their favorite great aunt gifted them? Well that's understandable, but did you know you would be only semi-right...yes...because those little gold moths DON'T eat your woolens at all...in fact they don't actually have mouths to eat anything at all and live for a few weeks only, so let's be kind and let them live their short lives out...so where do the holes come from? It's their babies that eat our woolens (larvae hatch from their eggs which they lay on natural fabrics...mainly wool based fabrics).

But does any living creature deserve DEATH for simply being hungry? We wouldn't dream of doing that to a human that was hungry would we? Then why to an insect, why to a moth? They want to live too and they are capable of feeling suffering just like we are...so is it really necessary to hang those cruel sticky tape traps for them to get stuck onto and die slowly suffering until they starve to death? Not kind...and definitely not good karma lets put it that way...

So, what could you use instead? You know...to be the kind human you are? For GOOD karma? Or just to avoid killing a life? Well, try this...mix 30 drops of PURE ESSENTIAL LAVENDER or CIRONELLA or PEPPERMINT OIL into a cup of water and then into a spray bottle and spray ALL your soft furnishings and inside your cupboards and drawers once a week (not on the moths though!). This will not only stop moths laying their eggs in your woolens, but also make your clothes smell bloody marvelous...the smell of good karma too!

Remember...

“All things bright and beautiful...all creatures great and small...”

MY CREATURE-KINDNESS TIP OF THE WEEK...

MICE CAUSING YOU ISSUES?

Place empty bowls filled with white vinegar around where they come and they will stop coming without you having to harm them...you will get blessings in your life or have good karma for choosing a kind way too! This remedy also works to deter virtually any insect without harming them...like it & share it! For ANY specific tip to stop any “pest” or insect KINDLY (for good karma/blessings), email me: thedeepatel@gmail.com or join my Facebook page: “KIND WORLD



Kind way to stop moths & protect wool

Soak cotton balls in lavender oil and leave in wardrobes and cupboards to deter moths kindly... top up with new oil regularly...

Wrap wool items in plastic bags and tie securely to protect them from moths

Don't kill moths... be kind and let them fly away instead, all lives feel suffering...being kind to all creatures is best 🙏😊



We don't have to use cruel ways... being kind means protected wool and good karma

Please share these cruelty-free tips



West End Showcase

Dramacube Productions, at the Wonderville Theatre, Haymarket

The Wonderville Theatre is just a stone's throw from His Majesty's Theatre, currently home of *Phantom of the Opera*, and opposite The Theatre Royal Haymarket. Competition for a full-house was always going to be tough here in the West End, but this was no problem for Dramacube's young casts, with every seat taken. Inside, there was a quite a buzz in the Wonderville's impressive auditorium.



Although playing on the theatre's thrust stage, with its close proximity to the audience, there was no sign of nerves from the Twickenham Blue, Green and Purple casts' medley of West End and Broadway hits which were delivered with gusto and glee! In rep the next night, the Hampton Hill Red and Yellow casts and the Esher Orange cast, were equally impressive as they performed in brilliant brightly coloured T-shirts reflecting each cast's colour code.



A totally engaged audience saw scenes and songs from shows including *Six*, *The Greatest Showman*, *Matilda*, *Mean Girls*, *Heathers*, *Wicked*, *School of Rock*, *Encanto*, *Moana* and *Beauty and the Beast*.

As with all Dramacube shows this was truly an ensemble piece and every young actor lit up the West End stage with energy, commitment and zest. A special mention is due to Ramona Sleight in *Candy Store*, Huey Chalmers in *Revolting Children*, Judith Kuhnel in *We Don't Talk About Bruno*, Hannah Kuhnel in *School of Rock*,

Florence Bastin and Grace Young who opened the Sunday show with *Defying Gravity*.

Impressively, the production was put together in just four weeks by Director Matthew Bunn and choreographers Heather Stockwell and Rory Cubbin.



After the thrill of performing at a West End theatre, these talented students have more excitement ahead, Dramacube having just announced their autumn season which includes the Christmas classic *Annie* and the hugely popular *Little Mermaid*. Both are shows to look forward to!

Read Sadie Williams' review at www.markaspen.com/2023/06/20/w-end-show

Photography by Csilla Horvath Photography



The Complete Works of Shakespeare

by Adam Long, Daniel Singer and Jess Winfield

Teddington Theatre Club at the Hampton Hill Theatre until 1st July

What can one say about a play that promises to deliver *The Complete Works of Shakespeare* in 97 minutes ... and does? Well ... it kind of does, but it isn't really the texts that matter, but how this talented cast get round them.

Three vibrant actors work at a wracking pace, starting from the evangelical theory that the Bard's comedies are of more or less the same plot, to cleverly combine them in minutes.

Alice Langrish is the first to brave the audience with safety measures, and with comedy that charms from the start. Then Ellie Armstrong with her exuberant appeal and intellectual handle that bemoans how unappreciated our great writer was. September Taliana-Carey, better known as Temmy, gives a potted biography of Shakespeare from her phone, which overlaps Adolf Hitler's!



Julius Caesar is defined by Caesar's death, followed by a very abridged version of *Antony and Cleopatra* and the ultimate production of the Scottish play ... in grim accents. *Hamlet* caused the threesome mayhem and a mass walkout – well, two of them anyway.

A last minute emotional return by the actors saves the audience from having to amuse itself with all Shakespeare's 154 Sonnets, but not from participation in a significant scene from *Hamlet*, working backwards, and smashing the fourth wall.

Cleverly combining platforms for two players, Fiona Auty's Agatha Christie style set, with dusty books and authentic subdued lighting by Bill Compton, is extraordinarily atmospheric and very apt.

By virtue of the slick direction by Dane Hardie, the production design, and naturally the sheer magnetism of the three performers, the show really pulls together, telescoping the Bard's oeuvre as promised and more than.

The Complete Works of Shakespeare is a compact, yet very vibrant piece. Give this one a shot.



Read Heather Moulson's review at www.markaspen.com/2023/06/28/complete-wks-shakespeare

Photography by Sarah J Carter

Out of the Deep Blue is coming to Twickenham

York Street will be closed from London Road to Arragon Road between 8am and 7pm on Saturday 1 July as Out of the Deep Blue comes to Twickenham.

As part of the Arts and Ideas Festival, Discover Twickenham are bringing an outdoor family spectacle featuring a 13-foot-tall sea giant puppet and a dancer.

Come down to York Street to experience an interactive walkabout with Eko and a little girl called Violet. The show tells a moving tale about our earth's climate emergency told through dance, movement and masterful puppeteering.

Show times are 11.30am, 2pm and 4.30pm including a half an hour promenade around the local streets leading to a static performance back on York Street.

York Street will be closed for this spectacular performance, bringing the action right into the centre of Twickenham. It is the focal point of the A Taste of Twickenham event taking place that day.

York Street will be closed from London Road to Arragon Road between 8am and 7pm. The diversion route for traffic will be: London Road, A316 Chertsey Road, St Margarets Road.

With the closure of two bus stops on York Street, TfL buses will divert via Arragon Road/London Road.

Find out more about [Out of the Deep Blue](#). The show is free to attend so don't miss it!



Windham Nursery School celebrates its 75th anniversary

Windham Nursery School celebrated its 75th anniversary with a summer fair at its grounds, which all past, current and future families were welcome to join.

Windham is the only maintained nursery in the borough of Richmond and has been consistently rated by Ofsted as Outstanding since 2002.

The fair was also attended by members of the school's governing body, who took the opportunity to bid farewell to Windham's two longest serving governors, Steve Tedbury and Cherry Baker, who are stepping down at the end of the academic year; between them, they have served more than 70 years as governors at Windham.

This year also sees another milestone for Windham Nursery, as Jo Berry will be stepping down from her role as Head of Jigsaw after 20 years.

She has been instrumental in the creation of Jigsaw, Windham's SEND provision.

Local families who would like to send their wishes can contact the nursery at info@windham.richmond.sch.uk.



Brentford sign Ji-soo Kim

Ji-soo Kim arrives from K League Two side Seongnam for an undisclosed fee; young South Korean defender signs four-year contract with a club option of an additional year; Giles: “Ji-soo is an excellent prospect”

Written by Brentford Football Club

Brentford have signed Ji-soo Kim from K League Two side Seongnam for an undisclosed fee on a four-year contract with a club option of an additional year, subject to international clearance. The 18-year-old will join the B-team staff and his new team-mates upon their arrival for pre-season training this week.

Kim joins having made 19 appearances in his debut season for Seongnam following his promotion to the first team in January 2022.

He has also made 29 international appearances across three different age groups for the South Korean national team, most recently featuring for his country in the Under-20 World Cup where they achieved a fourth-place finish.

Brentford director of football Phil Giles said: “Ji-soo is an excellent prospect who was in demand from many teams in Europe this summer.



“He performed very well at the U20 World Cup recently so it’s a great credit to Lee Dykes and the recruitment team that we managed to sign him.

“We will give Ji-soo all the time he needs to learn English, adapt to life in England and grow into our club in the B team, and like all of our B-team players he will earn the opportunity to train and play with the first team based on his performances.”

The highly rated centre-back rose through the ranks in Seongnam’s youth system before signing a professional contract.

His impressive performances during the 2021/22 campaign earned him a place in the K League All-Star team which faced Tottenham Hotspur in July 2022 in front of more than 60,000 fans.

The young defender completed a medical and signed a contract late last week. He will now make the switch to west London where he joins the B team to begin preparations for the 2023/24 season on Thursday.



More needs to be done to prevent knife crime, says Ben Kinsella Trust

CEO Patrick Green told Nigel Farage that loss of 20,000 police officers was 'a big mistake'

MUCH more needs to be done to curb soaring knife crime according to the CEO of the Ben Kinsella Trust.

Speaking 15 years since the murder of Ben Kinsella, Patrick Green told [GB News](#):

"The Ben Kinsella Trust is educating young people away from knife crime. I'm amazed about young people's thinking about knives, and how they think that a knife will protect them and they can carry a knife and they will be safe.

"We all know that's a myth. It's an absolute myth. It puts you in greater danger. But that myth is growing."

In a discussion with Nigel Farage, Mr Green continued:

"Social media plays a massive part, they're seeing feeds on the social media feed which show these knives being used. They show the gangster lifestyle, people carrying guns, and this is then perpetuated through peers.

"There isn't a strong counter narrative, which is what we do in education to help young people understand that this is all rubbish. If you carry a knife, you're putting yourself in greater danger and this is one of the biggest challenges we face.

"It pains me to say that the online harms bill which has been inching its way through Parliament for years, with still no sign of it coming out the other end, is hugely important in tackling rogue behaviour from social media companies."

He added: "Now we've got to go the other way. We've got to do far more to early intervention and prevention to stop bad crime. Too often we're dealing with the aftermath.

"The police need to be properly resourced in terms of tackling this. One of the big mistakes we've made in the last ten years is losing 20,000 police officers. That was crazy.

"Another big mistake we've made in the last ten years is to take money out of the way from youth clubs. Close youth clubs, close all the positive activities that young people can go, and take away police numbers, and you're creating an environment which is perfect for gangs."



BRITAIN'S NEWS CHANNEL
www.RichmondTribune.com

Rocket boost for UK economy as Financial Services and Markets Bill receives Royal Assent

A landmark Bill to regain control of the financial services rulebook has been granted Royal Assent today (Thursday 29 June).

The Financial Services and Markets Act 2023 is central to delivering the Government's vision to grow the economy and create an open, sustainable, and technologically advanced financial services sector.

It seizes the opportunities of Brexit by tailoring financial services regulation to fit UK markets. The Act bolsters the competitiveness of the UK as a global financial centre and delivers better outcomes for consumers and businesses.

It contains new powers – available due to Brexit – that will set the path for reforms to Solvency II, which will unlock around £100 billion for productive investment and help cultivate innovation and grow the economy.

The Act also introduces new secondary objectives for the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority – to facilitate the growth and international competitiveness of the UK economy. This will be backed up by changes to enhance the scrutiny and accountability of the regulators, including ensuring regular reporting and a greater focus on cost-benefit analyses.

Economic Secretary to the Treasury, Andrew Griffith, said:

“2023 is proving to be a banner year for reforming our financial services.

“This landmark piece of legislation gives us control of our financial services rulebook, so it supports UK businesses and consumers and drives growth.

“By repealing old EU laws set in Brussels it will unlock billions in investment – cash that can unlock innovation and grow the economy.”

The changes enable the delivery of key Edinburgh Reforms, putting the UK on course to be the most dynamic and competitive financial services hubs in the world. This includes enabling the implementation of Lord Hill's UK Listing Review which simplifies the UK prospectus regime – making the UK a better place for companies to IPO.

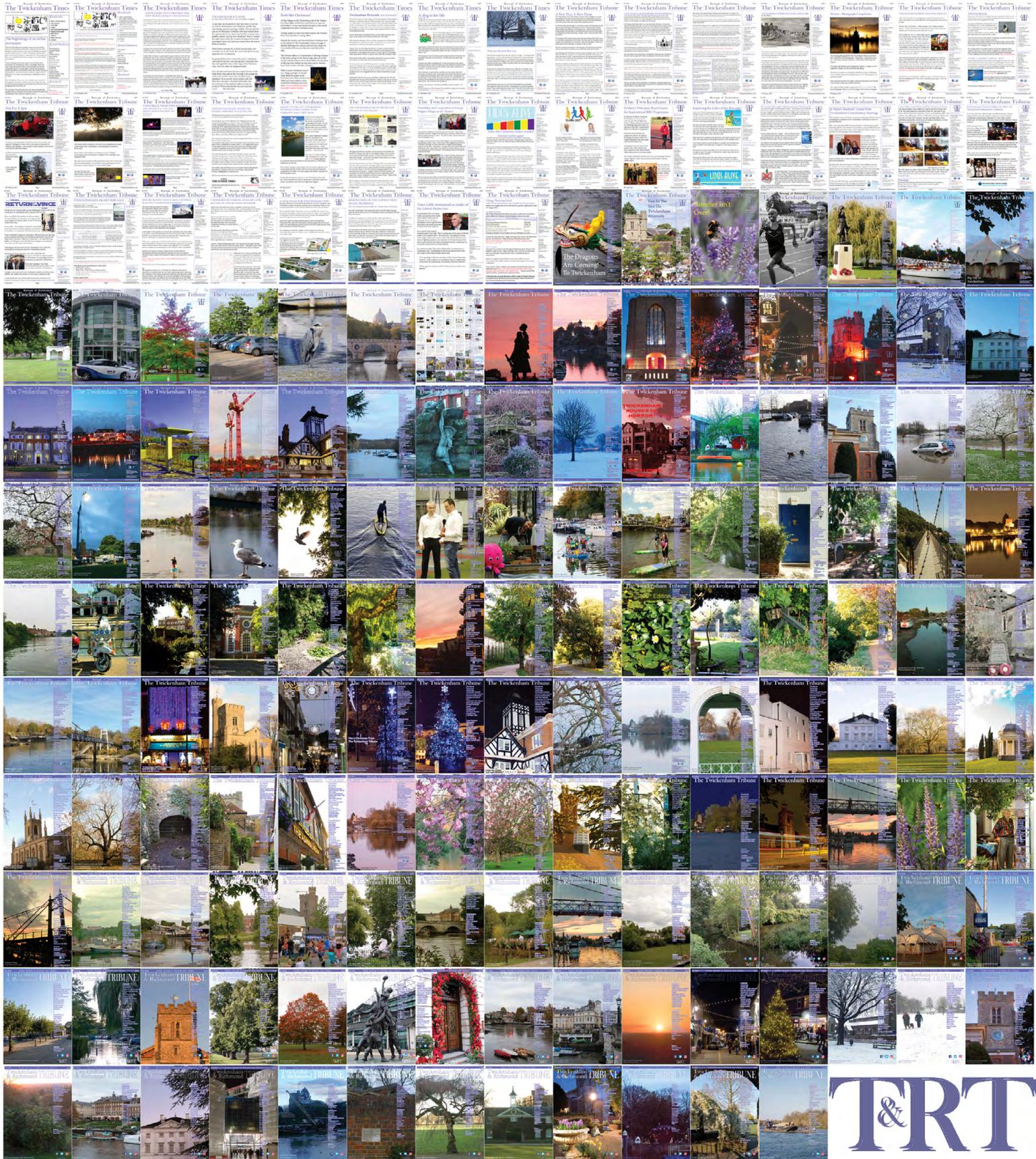
Today's ground-breaking Act also:

- Enhances the scrutiny of the financial services regulators to ensure clear accountability, appropriate democratic input, and transparent oversight.
- Removes unnecessary restrictions on wholesale markets – implementing the key outcomes of the Wholesale Markets Review.
- Protects free access to cash in law and introduces crucial protections for victims of Authorised Push Payment scams.
- Enables the regulation of cryptoassets to support their safe adoption in the UK.
- Establishes 'sandboxes' that can facilitate the use of new technologies such as blockchain in financial markets.



HM Treasury

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