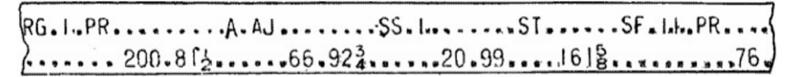
## Twickenham TRIBUNE & Richmond TRIBUNE





## TickerTape - News in Brief

## **ETNA Centre survey**

We would appreciate your feedback!

Please do take a moment to complete our survey to help us adapt our centre & give our community the best experience.

Your responses will be kept strictly confidential & used solely for the purpose of improving our services

More info and survey **HERE** 

## Strawberry Hill Golf Club

'Get Into Golf' at Strawberry Hill Golf Club, Twickenham offers Adult beginner golf coaching for only £40 for 4 taster sessions with our resident professional. Extra coaching is available via our Academy. Find out more and book a place HERE

## **Visit Bushy House**

We're counting down the weeks to the next Bushy House open day.

The house has an extensive history dating back to the 1660s before becoming the original NPL site in 1900. Discover its full story on 16 September.

Book your free tickets **HERE** 

#### Twickenham Stairwell sale

A disused staircase in Twickenham has been sold for £25,000. The staircase, behind Starbucks in Twickenham, is no longer connected to the block of flats behind it. The buyer, Mr Squibb, hopes to turn the staircase into a pop-up business hub.

#### **Barnes Common butterfly walk**

For our butterfly walk earlier in July, photographer <u>@wildlondonpics</u> & Karen Goldie-Morrison, Chair of Council at Butterfly Conservation put together an ID sheet for all 30 butterfly species that are seen on Barnes Common through the year. Download <u>HERE</u>

## skyelectrical

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## COVID-19 Teresa Read

## Weekly epidemiological update

**At the country level**, the highest numbers of new cases reported within the 28-day period were from the Republic of Korea (751,484), Brazil (45,642), Australia (30,144), New Zealand (23,443) and Singapore (23,216).

The highest numbers of new 28-day deaths were reported from Brazil (695), Peru (321), Australia (260), the Russian Federation (251) and the Republic of Korea (199).

**The European Region** reported over 60,000 new cases, a 66% decrease as compared to the previous 28-day period. One of the 61 countries for which data are available reported increases in new cases of 20% or greater: Kosovo (+29%).

The highest numbers of new cases were reported from the Russian Federation (15,091), Italy (13,533) and the United Kingdom (10,964).

The number of new 28-day deaths in the Region decreased by 75% as compared to the previous 28-day period, with 704 new deaths reported. The highest numbers of new deaths were reported from the Russian Federation (251), Italy (125) and Portugal (52).

#### **NEWS FROM THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION**

In the Solomon Islands, Many Rivers to Cross – illustrated with photographs. <a href="https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/in-the-solomon-islands--many-rivers-to-cross">https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/in-the-solomon-islands--many-rivers-to-cross</a>

"It takes two days' journey at least from Honiara, capital of the Solomon Islands, to reach the mountain village of Kuvamiti to provide and deliver routine health care and immunization for the people who live and work there."

More photographs of the Solomon Islands: <a href="https://worldinfozone.com/qallery.php?country=SolomonIslands">https://worldinfozone.com/qallery.php?country=SolomonIslands</a>



## The local picture postcard column Part 208

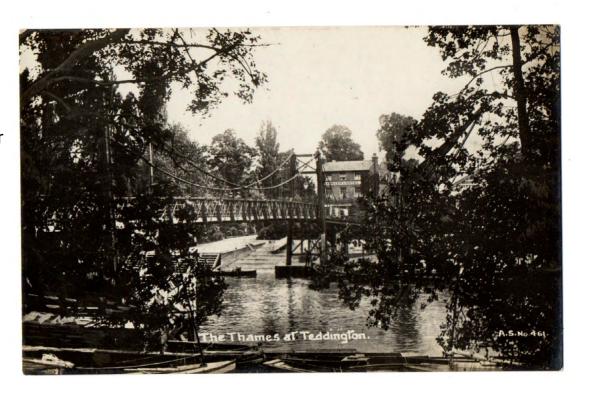
By Alan Winter

## The Anglers pub & restaurant-Teddington

The Anglers at 3, Broom Road, has existed since the mid 18th century in various forms – mainly as an Inn, Hotel and latterly, Public House. The place was popular among local fishermen, who would spend hours on the river shore. During the mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> Century the pub was also popular with many TV personalities and employees of Teddington Studios which was based a bit further up Broom Road. 2016 saw the demolition of Teddington Studios and its replacement with residential apartments.

Our first postcard shows the approach to the Anglers via the footbridge from Ham.

The pub is situated pretty much on the weir and locks area which marks the end of the River Thames tidal reach. In recent years seals have been known to reach this part of the river. A weir was in place on the Thames at Teddington by 1345, although it was destroyed about 1535.



A new lock was opened in 1811. Since 1811, the weir has marked the end of the tidal reach of the river. Prior to 1811, the tide used to go as far upriver as Walton, and occasionally even to Staines.

Teddington Lock is a complex of three locks and a weir, consisting of a conventional launch lock, a very large barge lock and a small skiff lock. Monty Python's Fish Slapping Dance was filmed at the Lock in the early '70's, it culminates with Michael Palin being whacked into the lock by John Cleese with a huge fish and is enormously funny. You can watch it on YouTube if you enter "Python fish slapping dance". I promise you will laugh!

Teddington Lock Footbridge consists of two separate bridges. There is a small island between the bridges. The two footbridges were built between 1887 and 1889, funded by donations from residents and businesses. They replaced a ferry which gave its name to Ferry Road at the bottom of the Anglers' garden. The western bridge consists of a suspension bridge crossing the weir stream and linking the island to Middlesex (this side). The eastern bridge is an iron girder bridge crossing the lock cut and linking the island to Ham on the Surrey bank.

The second postcard shows the side entrance to the pub via Ferry Road and the final postcard is of the pubs garden which dates back until about 1930.

Acquired by Fuller, Smith and Turner Brewery of Chiswick



around 2010 and one of Fuller's busiest pubs, everyone is welcome at the Anglers. It's family-friendly space makes it popular with parents in local neighbourhoods, providing an ideal place



for them to enjoy a quality meal. In the summer months, the large garden and outdoor bar is practically bursting with laughter and good-hearted fun, while the cosy fireplaces keep everyone feeling just as merry in the colder winter months.

I am always looking for old postcards, so if you have any that are sitting unwanted in a drawer, in a box in the loft or the garage or under a bed, do contact me on 07875 578398 or by email to <a href="mailto:alanwinter192@hotmail.com">alanwinter192@hotmail.com</a>

I would like to see them and I pay cash!

## Hampton Heath - Volunteers Wanted!

By Mark Sheldrake

Hampton Heath Friends is a volunteer community group founded in 2021 to protect and enhance a previously forgotten 5-hectare public green space on the borders of Hampton Hill, Hanworth and Hampton, between Uxbridge Road, Staines Road and Burtons Road.

For 25 years the site was little used, undervalued and certainly unloved. Just 18 months ago, this green space was blighted by rubbish and fly-tipping, but now its recovery is well underway – returning to its origins as part of Hounslow Heath - as a balanced, species-rich mosaic of wildflowers, grassland, scrub and woodland.



In that time, volunteers from Hampton Heath Friends have removed hundreds of sacks of litter, cleared paths and ditches, managed spreading scrub, and coppiced trees around the densely shaded pond - all to enhance wildlife, and public enjoyment. With support from Crane Valley Partnership, Richmond Borough and David Lloyd, further projects are planned this summer, with path improvements, new ponds, natural seating, and nest boxes. We are also monitoring and recording the wildlife, with well over 500 different species recorded so far. Our restoration programme is tackling the biodiversity crisis head on, by creating the conditions to support greater diversity, and even the re-establishment of heathland.

Hampton Heath is now an attractive, natural green space to walk or just sit and take in the surroundings.

We are always looking for new ways to improve the Heath, and if you would like to get involved, we would love to see you. We meet most Saturday mornings from 10am, followed by a well-deserved coffee at David Lloyd at about 12. There is never any pressure: do as much or as little as you want, as often as you wish. We provide tools, litter-pickers, rubbish sacks - whatever is needed on the day. It's a great and rewarding way to get out and about in the fresh air, to improve your local environment, and to meet people and enjoy a coffee maybe at the end of a rewarding mornings work.

If you would like to receive a free weekly update on our activity and our local wildlife, then get in touch.

You can email <a href="mailto:hamptonheathfriends@outlook.com">hamptonheathfriends@outlook.com</a> or visit <a href="mailto:www.hamptonheath.org">www.hamptonheath.org</a>



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## KEW VILLAGE MARKET

## Next Sunday, August 6th, 10am - 2pm

## Home & away

Summer holidays may be well under way but Kew Village Market will be happily open for business with around 35 stalls selling the best artisan food and hand-made crafts. And while it's a slightly slimmed-down market because some of our regulars are off with buckets and spades (check <a href="here">here</a> for who'll be with us) it's also given us the chance to invite a few new-to-

Kew traders.

On the crafts side it's hello to Lydia (London) whose witty illustrations, on the surreal side of whimsy, feature on stationery and homewares; and also to print-based artists collective Arty-Farty with their unique range of hand-made cards and artwork for sale and commission.

Our third newcomer will be Curry Bae with spicy Indian street food; and at



this month's free charity pitch you'll find Connection Community who work to help homeless people.

We'll also be welcoming a new act to our sunshine-yellow music marquee: singer-guitarist duo The Wandering String Band with both original numbers and rootsy covers, followed by regular favourites Banda Bomba whose salsa-style latin jazz always gets the party started...

Looking forward to seeing you on Sunday 6th August from 10am to 2pm



## The market is run entirely by volunteers and all the operating profits are ploughed back into the community

Since our first market back in October 2011 we have raised over £92,000 for local charities. However, we seriously need more volunteers so if you can help make the market happen please see <a href="here">here</a>.

## Twickenham Rocks!!!!

Photos and text by Berkley Driscoll

Sunday 30th July heralded some great live music for Twickenham. The highlight was the David McGeachie stage at the Barmy Arms on Twickenham Riverside. The bands included The Hornets, Breaking Blues, TJ Johnson Band, Dave Mac 4 and The Deputies.

There was also the Friends of Twickenham Green Fete, which made a welcome return after a three-year absence. I was pleased to see an old favourite of mine performing, Errol Linton.



It was wet and raining, but I (like so many others) were there to enjoy the wonderful live music scene we are privileged to experience on our doorstep. It will take more than a bit of drizzle to stop us!!









## Join the Mayor's visit to the Kempton Steam Museum

On Friday 18 August, The Mayor of Richmond upon Thames, Councillor Suzette Nicholson, will take a visit to the Kempton Steam Museum.

Come along and enjoy an afternoon with tea and cake with the Mayor. There will also be a chance to tour the museum. All proceeds from the event go towards the Mayor's chosen charities, Age UK Richmond and SEEN.

#### Event details:

• Date: Friday 18 August 2023

• **Time**: 2 to 5pm

 Location: Kempton Steam Museum, Snakey Lane, Hanworth TW13 6XH

Price: £20 for adults and £5 for children (under 18)

Tickets can be booked online.



## Join author Lavie Tidhar at Twickenham Library event

Join multi-award-winning author Lavie Tidhar (A Man Lies Dreaming, The Escapement, Neom) on a journey that will take us from the emergence of life itself to the very ends of the universe, all without having to leave the safety of Twickenham Library.

Come along on Saturday 19 August as we hear from the acclaimed author of literature, science fiction, fantasy and graphic novels.

Lavie Tidhar's books will be for sale at the event supplied by local Richmond bookseller, Books on the Rise.

#### Event details:

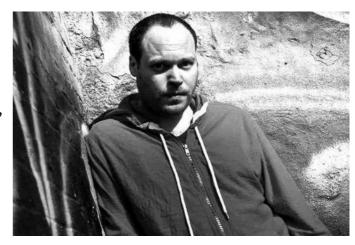
Date: Saturday 19 August 2023

• **Time**: 2.30 to 3.30pm

• **Location**: Twickenham Library, Garfield Road, Twickenham, TW1 3JT

• **Price**: £3

Get your tickets online or at your library.





## WILD DEER ARE RAIDING PICNICS



Deer have learned to approach people for food, because people are feeding them. This is dangerous to visitors, harms the animals, the environment and encourages pests.

If you are approached by deer, please:

- · cover your food and close any bags
- leave the food behind and move to a safe distance
- keep children and pets as far away from the deer as possible
- wait for the deer to leave before returning to your picnic spot

DO NOT shout or attempt to scare the deer, this could cause a stampede.

## **UK Sees Red!**

Red Admirals take surprising early lead in 2023 Big Butterfly Count

Wildlife charity, Butterfly Conservation, has today revealed a huge surge in sightings of the Red Admiral, a migrant species of butterfly, as the Big Butterfly Count enters its final week.

The Red Admiral is currently flying high with 170,000 sightings reported so far\*, an impressive increase of 400% on the same period last year.

It is definitely a 'Red Admiral year', with people throughout the country reporting seeing the butterfly while taking part in Butterfly Conservation's Big Butterfly Count.

The Red Admiral is a familiar and popular butterfly across the UK. It is a garden favourite and found in all types of habitat. However, what may come as a surprise to many is that this small but mighty butterfly is a migrant species, travelling to the UK from North Africa and continental Europe!

There can be no doubt that climate change is the driver behind a long-term increase in Red Admiral numbers.

Each spring, and continuing through the summer, Red Admirals migrate north where the females lay eggs. Consequently, there is an emergence of fresh butterflies from July onwards.



Red Admiral (c) Mark Searle, Butterfly Conservation

However, in recent years, scientists are seeing an indication that numbers have increased, and that the species is now overwintering in the UK, particularly in the South of England.

With temperatures increasing, the Red Admiral's need to return to its southerly winter habitat is reducing, which means it is possible we will see a greater number of the species spending the winter in the UK.

This year's early results show why the Big Butterfly Count is so important in helping scientists to understand how the weather and changing climate are affecting butterflies.

Dr Zoë Randle, Senior Surveys Officer at Butterfly Conservation explains: "We've been surprised to see the Red Admiral taking the lead, however with the increased frequency of warm weather, the UK may well become a permanent home for this species. The results so far show just how vital the Big Butterfly Count is. We couldn't get the depth and breadth of data we're collecting without the help of the general public. We're calling on people across the UK to please get out for the Count and record your butterfly sightings over the next few days. With climate change here to stay, we need people to take part more than ever before and help us understand how extreme weather is affecting our butterflies."

Butterfly Conservation's Big Butterfly Count isn't over yet! So far, citizen scientists across the UK have completed more than 85,000 Counts and recorded over 1 million butterflies and day-flying moths.

The Big Butterfly Count runs until Sunday 6 August and scientists at Butterfly Conservation are keen to see whether the influx of Red Admirals continues, and how they are dispersed around the UK.

Whether done with friends and family, or in a moment of quiet calm and solitude, the Big Butterfly Count is free, fun and takes just 15 minutes. It is open to anyone, of any age, in any part of the UK - towns, cities or the

countryside. No green space is too small - a back garden, a small terrace or balcony with some pot plants, a public park, allotment or country lane are all important spaces to explore, track and report.

For more information and to take part simply visit <u>www.bigbutterflycount.</u> org or download the free Big Butterfly Count app.





# THE EEL PIE ALL-STARS + Guests The Alix Anthony Band The Deputies

The Barmy Arms, Twickenham Embankment, TW1 3DU

SUNDAY, 13 AUGUST, 2023

Music 2-6pm. Drinks and food all afternoon. FREE. Dress 60s if you can!!

## RISE summer sports and exercise activities

The Sports Development Team is offering a range of summer sports, physical activity and exercise sessions over the summer within their RISE (Richmond upon Thames Inclusive Sports and Exercise) programme for people of all ages with special educational needs and disabilities.

There are multi-sports activities for those aged 8 to 15 years on Thursdays from 3.30 to 5pm, and 16+ on Mondays from 3.30 to 5pm. Beach play and games for younger children and young people and their families on various dates at Teddington Sports Centre.

Canoeing on Wednesdays from 4.30 to 6pm with Lensbury Watersports Centre, and a new yoga session for teens is running on Mondays from 3 3.45pm with Majestic Fitness in Richmond.



For more information and how to book view RISE summer activities.

## 2023 Royal Parks Half Marathon

Want to help protect London's eight beautiful Royal Parks, then why not run the Royal Parks Half Marathon?

Run and fundraise for The Royal Parks charity through the most scenic half marathon! This stunning race takes place on closed roads through four Royal Parks and past world-famous landmarks.

The famous Royal Parks Half Marathon takes you through some of the world's best known and loved Royal Parks, including Hyde Park, The Green Park, St. James's Park and Kensington Gardens. You'll need to apply and if you're successful, you'll join Team Royal Parks.

We have charity places up for grabs. Find out more, and register today for just £30, <u>HERE</u>



## Give your opinion and help improve the borough's night-time economy

We are working to make our borough a hive of economic and social activity that allows the local community to thrive, and this means we need to hear from you to help ensure our night-time economy works for workers as well as visitors.

From celebration and entertainment, work and rest, travel and safety, and enjoyment of public and green spaces, the night-time is a place for many things that cover all parts of life, so we want to develop a strategy that is equally far-reaching and responds to the feedback of those who live and work in the borough.

Whilst night life is an integral part of Richmond upon Thames as a borough, as well as London as a city, the strategy also seeks to understand the details of night-time work and identify the services that should be provided or improved to ensure our local centres are vibrant, resilient and safe and attract talent.

One of the key priorities of the strategy is to explore the conditions for night workers, as well as the economic and cultural development of night-time activities. Nighttime workers make up nearly one-third (31%)



of London's working population and are key to the smooth running of the borough, even during the day. From healthcare workers to theatre ushers, night staff help ensure our family members are cared for and give us a chance to enjoy fantastic evening entertainment.

We know that our local businesses are already faced with challenges including high staff turnover, reduced footfall and delivery times. That's why we are eager to hear from businesses to help us learn more about how we can relieve pressure on the borough's infrastructure and boost local trade. By considering all of the active hours of our wards' high streets, we also have an opportunity to better showcase night work as good work.

We believe that Richmond upon Thames can provide so much more at night; more ways for you to engage in local decision-making, shaping and celebrating your neighbourhood's culture, heritage and character; more chances to discover what the local offerings are; more opportunities for businesses to develop, innovate and grow, boosting the local economy, creating jobs and investing in our communities.

Our borough should work for everyone, meaning there is enough provision of accessible facilities, commercial space and public realm that meets the needs of ages and disabilities at all times of the day, so we need to hear from you.

Have your say

LONDON BOROUGH OF RICHMOND UPON THAMES

## Twickers Foodie - By Mison Jee JULY FOOD AND DRINK NEWS

I found an interesting mix of products for you last month: a delicious new cheese; some health shots; a couple of new veggie ranges and a few fabulous tipples.

I've always been a fan of sheep's cheese and was delighted to discover that one of my favourites - **Parlick** - is now more widely available. With three hard and soft cheeses in the range, Sainsbury's has **Parlick Original**, Waitrose is stocking **Parlick Brie** and **Parlick Original** and **Parlick Olive** are available in Morrisons and Booths. RRP £3.50, 150g. Parlick takes its name from Lancashire's Parlick Fell, which is just five miles from Butlers' rural Lancashire dairy. Butlers handmake Parlick with fresh ewe's milk, giving the cheese a clean, fresh, nutty-sweet flavour. Naturally nutritious and rich in protein, sheep's milk contains all 10 essential amino acids, making it a 'complete' protein source. Many find it easier to digest than cow's or goat's because of its whey protein content.





**Tesco Finest** has launched a great new range of veggie ready meals. The launch comes as research from Tesco revealed that a third (34%) of the nation now limit or exclude meat from their diet, with a third (33%) of non-meat eaters saying they'd rather eat foods from whole foods like vegetables and plant proteins, than meat imitations. The range includes: Roasted Butternut Squash & Stilton Crunch; Sweet Potato & Tikka Marinade; Roasted Cauliflower & Bean Tagine; Tesco Finest Roasted Butternut Squash & Stilton Crunch; Butternut Squash Wedges with Garlic and Oregano; Flame Seared Peppers with Garlic &

Paprika and Chilli & Black Bean Vegetable Trio. They're delicious, easy, and at £4.50 a go, good value too.

Still on the veggie theme, have you tried pasta made from peas? I hadn't, until I was introduced to **ZENB.** This gluten free Yellow Pea Pasta range is Japanese in fact and the UK's first pasta to be made entirely from this small, but powerful legume. It's available in four familiar shapes: Spaghetti, Penne, Fusilli and Macaroni, and the company has also recently launched a range of ragu sauces (Aubergine with Basil & Olive Oil and Mushroom with Marjoram & Olive Oil) and instant pot



meals. Priced at £3.33 for a 250g pack (two servings of 125g) the two sauces and a whole host of other products are available from ZENB.co.uk and Amazon.

To kick start your day, try **MOJU**. These cold-pressed nutrition-boosting shots and juices are available in Ocado, Sainsbury's, Waitrose, Asda, Co-op, and Leon, and taste delicious. Choose from ranges including Vitality; Immunity or Gut Health. The new Immunity range combines



MOJU's vitamin C & D variants into one shot, providing a daily recommended intake of vitamin C, D, and zinc in one convenient dose. Meanwhile, the prebiotic Gut Health shot has a diverse prebiotic fibre blend to support overall physical and mental health. And the naturally energising (and my favourite) Ginger and Turmeric shots are in the Vitality range, perfect for a morning boost or a midafternoon caffeine free pick-me-up. Available in 60ml or 420ml (around £5 for a week's supply) in six flavours.

Perfectly timed for the BBQ season (when we get some better weather!) is the launch of **Cajun** seasoning from **Just Spices**.

The company produces a wide range of well curated spice blends that make it so easy to ring the changes and spice up your food. This smoky, spicy blend of garlic, onion, red pepper and three kinds of chillies will bring the taste of Louisiana straight to your plate. Perfect for gumbo, jambalaya, rice, fish or chicken dishes. £4,99 online from <u>Just Spices</u>, but you'll no doubt want to add some other blends too when you see the range!





I know one tends to think of whisky production being mainly in Scotland, but there's a new distillery, **Ad Gefrin**, a ground-breaking Anglo-Saxon Museum and Distillery in Wooler, Northumberland. It's launched its inaugural whisky blend **Tácnbora** and I've been able to try it: It's fabulous! **T**ácnbora has a strong Northumbrian provenance and made with a mix of malt and grain whiskies, aged in virgin American oak and Oloroso sherry casks. It's a distinctive, highly palatable spirit. On the nose, it has honey, vanilla, candied citrus peel and spices, and on the palate flavours of sultanas, cream soda and nutmeg. The finish lingers and coats the mouth with the tastes of honey, vanilla, and sweet citrus. It's 42.7% ABV and available at around £45 for 70cl from <u>Ad Gefrin Master of Malt and other quality online spirits outlets</u>.

How about trying some vodka from Texas? <u>Tito's Handmade Vodka</u> is distilled in Austin, Texas, using traditional pot stills and the finest corn sourced from local American farmers. With a meticulous six-time distillation process, Tito's has a deliciously smooth and clean flavour profile that's won the hearts of vodka enthusiasts worldwide, including me. It's gluten-free, fabulous neat on the rocks, or in a wide <u>range of cocktails</u>

and it's widely available from fine spirit outlets for around £30 a 70cl bottle.



And, finally, to a superb, great value champagne, that's now available at Marks & Spencer. **Champagne de Saint-**

**Gall** is the product of a historic winemaking initiative. Founded in 1966, Union Champagne is a 15-strong network of growing cooperatives that specialise in Premier Cru and Grand Cru vineyards across the region, guaranteeing Champagne de Saint-Gall grapes of the highest quality from iconic vineyards with distinctive terroirs. Marks & Spencer is stocking its Tradition Premier Cru and Premier Cru Rosé cuvées as part of the M&S Collection. Available nationally, both cuvées are available now for £28 a bottle at M&S.

## WIZ Tales: Gibraltar - oil spill

By Teresa Read

On Wednesday Lloyds List reported that port operations had been suspended in the British Overseas Territory of Gibraltar following an oil spill whilst taking on fuel.

The Gas Venus, owned by South Korea's KSS Line and sailing under a Panama flag, was bunkering fuel when the spill occurred. The ship has been detained, the captain arrested, and an investigation is taking place.



Old postcard of Gibraltar depicting Rosia Bay

The Gibraltar Port Authority and the Department of Environment deployed clean-up teams to clean the shores of Rosia Bay and Camp Bay before oil was washed out to sea. The spill involved between 1,000 and 2,000 litres of oil.

The Gibraltar Port Authority released a statement saying "early indications are that the impact of the oil spill has been limited to the area of Camp Bay and Rosia Bay. There have not been any sightings of any free-floating streaks of oil moving away from this area, however, this is being continuously monitored and may change with the tides".









Information and photographs of Gibraltar: <a href="https://worldinfozone.com/country.php?country=Gibraltar">https://worldinfozone.com/country.php?country=Gibraltar</a>

## Don't rain on my parade...(festival)

By Deep Patel

~ Through the Eyes of a Twickenham Shopkeeper ~

Last weekend Twickenham was super-excited to host a huge festival stretching from Twickenham Green to Twickenham Centre...the hype leading up to the week was phenomenal... but as the day came into being...the heavens opened and graced us with monsoon-like weather...but did that stop Twickenham partying it up?...

Well, if you live in Twickenham, you will know that Twickenham folk are not your average weak breed, they are militant, hard-core, nothing-will-stop-me kind of people...the festival just gone was nothing less than a testimony to this very fact. Customers have been coming into my shop talking about how great the festivities were, despite the rain...One lovely customer named Jo always has something interesting to say when she comes into my shop, and this week she was



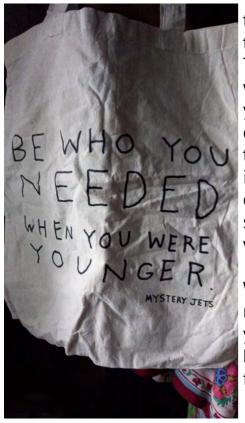
telling me all about her experiences of the festival...I wanted to share them here as I felt she had summed up what this festival was all about in the conversation we had in the shop following the festival.

Jo said "well, I think there were a lot fewer people at the Green because of the weather unfortunately, but us hardy few braved it anyway", she went on to tell me how wonderful the community spirit was and how wonderful the stalls were and how the stall holders were all supporting each other. Jo and her friend bought dresses and jewelry from a lovely "Scottish lass" who then signed up to an organic dog food company and bought some lemony hand cream from another stall, the owner of which ran over afterwards to give her a choice of a free gift! Jo told me how wonderful it was to see everyone supporting each other...and to me, that is what being a community is all about isn't it? Other regular stalls were braving the rain, David Vaughan was there keeping it real and supporting the Friends of Twickenham Green as always.



There was an interesting group of dancers known as the Molly Dancers (a modern take on Morris dancers) and Sharon (one of the members of the group) explained to Jo that they had ditched the sticks and bells for what seemed to look like fishnet stockings and gothic style black makeup...which was interesting...Jo then bought herself some raffle tickets from the lovely RNLI, and chanced her luck with a few more to try and win the Stormtrooper helmet (I think for her lovely husband Kevin who always remarks about the Star wars shop on the green

how "you wouldn't get that in Wigan"). Jo and her husband carried on to enjoy a few bands at



the back of the Fox pub in central Twickenham and then made their way to the civic centre where it was absolutely heaving with Twickenham folk and others to watch a band named Mystery Jets which upon leaving the stage after with their instruments, Jo yelled "more, more, more" with a few others joining in and...they came back to perform more! Finally Jo purchased a tote bag from the group's merchandise store which had the words printed on it "be who you needed when you were younger" after which she complimented me saying that she felt that I was that person to so many young and old in Twickenham through my shop...what a wonderfully kind thing to say!

Well hopefully Jo's account of the festival has given those who missed it a taste of what it was all about...yes there was music... yes there was food...yes there were stalls and yes...there was booze...yes there was rain...and yes there were soggy bottoms from sitting on a soggy Twickenham Green...but do you know

what the most important thing was about this all? It was that this festival was yet another testament to show the world that come rain, or shine... nothing...absolutely nothing can stop Twickenham folk from having a good time...It is that attitude of the hard-core folk like Jo that makes me proud to be a shop-keeper in Twickenham and a reminder for me, and for anyone else who may need it to never let anything dull your sparkle...!



## Remember...

## "Never let anything dull your sparkle…"

## MY CREATURE-KINDNESS TIP OF THE WEEK...

## STOP BEETLES, MITES, SILVER-FISH & ANTS...WITHOUT KILLING!...

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## (UTTING LOGE

## Mark Aspen www.markaspen.wordpress.com Expressing the art of the theatre critic

## Sweeny Todd by Stephen Sondheim

West Green House Opera, Theatre on the Lake, Hartley Wintney

Picnics are a staple of the country house opera, but seldom do you see picnickers looking at their own meat pies with such circumspection before tucking in. You see, Sweeny Todd is as gory a morsel as you could shake a meat cleaver at ... an opera where the majority of the cast end up with sore throats.

The well-known tale of "The Demon Barber of Fleet Street", tonsorial terror of the penny dreadfuls, is a riotous rumbustious razor-fest, served up with wicked glee. Its gruesome Grand Guignol style in red and black makes a colourful feast for the eyes, and Sondheim's urgent thrusting music a feast for the ears.





Conductor Jonathan Lyness absorbs himself totally in the performance. The impulsion of Sondheim's score is delivered with gusto. He revels in the complex ostinato passages whilst capturing the lushness of lyrical contrasts. The orchestra enjoys itself.

Black humour doesn't get any darker than in Sweeny Todd. Yet while most of the characters garner the ghastly goings-on with undisguised glee, Sweeny himself is deadly serious, even in his humour. Matthew Sharp, playing the title role has an unnerving steely glint in his eye. His striking baritone vocal acrobatics come to the fore in the patterstrewn libretto. Mezzo Clare Presland as Mrs Lovett relishes the role of the pragmatically amoral pie-and-people dispenser and is equally adroit with the tongue-twisting libretto. Mrs Lovett is seductive in a black-widow spider way, with a sharp wit and quick mind. Their

duet, A Little Priest is outrageously funny, but not for the squeamish, as they discuss the merits as butcher's meat of the different jobs and lifestyles of their hapless victims.

However, Sondheim is a master in contrast, musically and in characterisation, and gutsy staccato passages are interwoven with a touching lyrical love story. Stuffed with ironies, Sweeny Todd is a musical feast, a banquet of black humour and mountainous meal of macabre melodrama. With its wicked word-plays, labyrinthine song patterns, and physical comedy it is enormously entertaining.



Read Mark Aspen's review at <a href="https://www.markaspen.com/2023/07/25/sweeny-todd">www.markaspen.com/2023/07/25/sweeny-todd</a>

Photography by Paul Reading

## STICKS AND STONES, BUT ...

## Word-Play by Rabiah Hussain

by Rabiah Hussain Royal Court Theatre, Chelsea until 26<sup>th</sup> August

Word-Play take a multi-layered look into how people in modern society relate to each other and how a simple word or phrase to one person can have outreaching connotations to another.

The play has a multi-sketch structure. Five actors skilfully jump between different roles. Each make the most of their scenes and show great dramatic range. Director Nimmo Ismail for the most part does a good job in nailing the tonal shifts of each scene.





There is an eighty-minute run time without an interval, perhaps symbolic of today's society, where there is a constant bombardment of words and information to the point where people cannot get a break from them. When the show is at its best it works extremely well, but what it accomplishes feels like it could have been done in a shorter time. The episodic structure has the basic feel of a series of consecutive short plays, but some of the offerings miss the



mark, or fail to fully land in the same ways others do, and these feel superfluous.

The number of different pieces contained in the show means it covers a lot of themes and styles. They range across the spectrum from those being amusing, satirical and light-hearted to those being tragic, dark and poignant. Some of these moments are done extremely well, but with there being so many different 'episodes' to each, it is hard for them to all maintain

the same high standard.

The technical team has designed some unique and innovate ways to construct a vibrant and evolving stage. An LED display indicates where each scene is taking place, and becomes a character in its own right, which increasingly draws more laughs from the audience as the show goes on.

Word-Play offers relatable tales on that are interesting, at times poignant, humorous; yet chilling and sharply dramatic.



Read Denis Valentine's review at <a href="https://www.markaspen.com/2023/07/27/word-play">www.markaspen.com/2023/07/27/word-play</a>

Photography by Johan Persson

## Inspiring Ensemble, Downbeat Musical



Mark Aspen
www.markaspen.wordpress.com

Expressing the art of the theatre critic

## No For An Answer

Music and libretto by Marc Blitzstein Grimeborn Festival at the Arcola Theatre

Marc Blitzstein is possibly best known today for his translation and adaptation of Brecht and Weil's *Threepenny Opera* rather than his own work. Tim Robbins' 1999 film *Cradle Will Rock* told of the struggle against censorship to put on his political opera, *The Cradle Will Rock*, which was directed by one, Orson Welles. Blitzstein seems to be one of those



people whose contribution to music theatre's overall development was more important than his own compositions. Most of the music in *No For An Answer* is musically rather dull and not on the level of his other operas. Even the programme note refers to the lethargic process of its composition.



The piece is not exactly riveting dramatically either. It tells of a social club for Greek workers who are, in many cases, out of work and for whom the club is a lifeline. It is in an area that is about to be redeveloped and the club's existence is threatened by police corruption, property developers willing to use violence to intimidate the owner, and the well-meaning but ineffectual efforts of middle class intellectuals to help. With its lengthy passages of spoken dialogue, it feels more of a musical than an opera.

However, *No For An Answer* has the courage not to be a feel-good musical, as it rubs at the sore place where the privileged want to use their privilege to help those who don't have it, but end up making a mess of it. It celebrates collective action, but shows that this is not enough to save the club against vested interests.

The large cast, under Mehmet Ergen's direction, are an ensemble of distinct individuals that works collaboratively together and impressively fills the whole theatre. The hard work and conviction on the part of all involved is rather more



inspirational than the work they are performing. I'm really rather sad that I'm not able to like the piece more.

Read Patrick Shorrock's review at <a href="https://www.markaspen.com/2023/07/28/no-for-ans">www.markaspen.com/2023/07/28/no-for-ans</a>
Photography courtesy of Arcola Theatre



Expressing the art of the theatre critic

## The Camden Fringe Festival, Opening Week Hen and Chickens, Rosemary Branch and Gatehouse Theatres

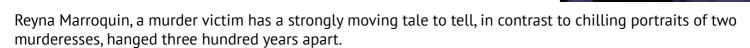
The Camden Fringe is London's answer to Edinburgh. Some of the opening shows include these interesting three.

#### Glad To Be Dead? by Donna and Jade Flack

Gothic, chilling ... and totally absorbing, Glad To Be Dead? is on tour until 8th October.

Long dead characters, some well-known, some not, are confined in limbo. They can look out of a window that only allows them to see so far.

Casper is a ghost who longs for a visitor. By happenstance, he is visited by Oscar Wilde and later by Robert Louis Stevenson ... and an impressive Anne Boleyn.



## Maybe I Do ...? by Cova Camblor



Carmen, in full white wedding regalia, waits to get married ... on Zoom. However, Stuart is her real love. Amongst misunderstandings and heartbreaks she takes us on her bittersweet quest for love and fulfilment. Despite painful lessons, Carmen keeps her humour and exuberance.

Maybe I do...? is an intelligent production. The writer herself acts the role of Carmen, a Spanish girl living in London, with honesty and conviction. With culture clashes, language barriers and other bumpy rides, no detail is spared.

Carmen's is a painful journey, but maybe it will pay dividends, for our heroine stays optimistic.

#### This Girl by Mike Howl

This Girl, which also features eight brand-new songs and vibrant choreography, tells the Beatles story from the viewpoint of the late Cynthia Lennon.

With clever references to iconic Beatle numbers, we meet circa 1957, a group of plucky young Liverpudlians.

Standing out among the new songs is Cynthia's moving *His Cyn*. Equally poignant is a duet with Stu, the ill-fated fifth Beatle,

promising a togetherness that was cut short.

Cynthia predicts her marriage to be on a losing streak. Although only barest references to Yoko Ono, her presence is strong, and the divorce sordid. John Lennon's dark side is shown without overkill.

#### Read Heather Moulson's reviews at:

www.markaspen.com/2023/08/01/glad-dead-cf; www.markaspen.com/2023/08/01/maybe-cf and www.markaspen.com/2023/08/03/this-girl.



## ARTS RICHMOND 'COME AND SING'

Bernstein & Sondheim's 'West Side Story' Saturday Sep 23rd St Richard Church, Ham TW10 7NL

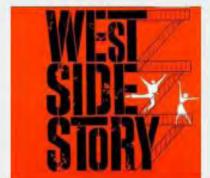
A chance to let your musical hair down singing stunning songs from this exciting, iconic show!

To find out more, visit our website **HERE** 



@artsrichmonduk

## 'Come and Sing' Choral Workshop



Saturday 23rd

September St Richard

Join us for a chance to let your musical hair down singing stunning songs from an exciting, iconic show! Release your inner Maria (or Tony!), feel pretty and be in America all in a day...



Leonard Bernstein & Stephen Sondheim's 'West Side Story' Conductor: Richard Harker Accompanist: Jonathan Booth

9.30am: Registration

10am: Singing

12pm: Lunch (bring your own)

12.30pm: Networking with local choirs & choral societies

1pm: Singing 3pm: Break

3.30pm: Performance for friends and family

4pm: Finish

Church, Ham TW10 7NL

Ticket £25 (Includes score hire: West Side Story Choral Selection arranged by William Stickles)
Friends & family tickets £5 (Available on the door and online)

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OSO Arts Centre, Old Sorting Office, 49 Station Rd, SW13 0LF

## WIZ Around the World - The Early Days

Extracts from the 25th anniversary book of an internationally acclaimed internet project from Twickenham

World InfoZone WIZ Around the World

Teresa Read

In 1996 as a teacher of IT in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames I organized a regular internet link with some of my pupils and pupils in Queen's College in Hong Kong carrying out a year-long project.

In 1997 I took my group of pupils to Hong

Kong to meet teachers and students from Queen's College and various schools; this was just before the Handover of Hong Kong to China. We were in Hong Kong during Handover preparations and the arrival of the royal yacht Britannia.

On my return to Twickenham I began the World InfoZone project lasting over ten years, working with a great many individuals and organizations around the world. <a href="https://worldinfozone.com/about.php">https://worldinfozone.com/about.php</a>























World InfoZone was one of the earliest websites in the UK; in the mid-1990s websites were few and far between throughout much of the world. World InfoZone (originally the WTech Gateway) was one of the first 10,000 websites in the world - and one of the highest ranking; by the end of 2018 there were around 1.94 billion websites worldwide. Wikipedia did not start until 2001, so World InfoZone was a pioneer of worldwide collaboration to produce encyclopaedic information via the internet. Over a ten-year period, contact was made with almost every country of the world.

Students who initially participated in this project took part in one of the very first school internet partnerships. For many years the project was actively involved with the Global Junior Challenge in Rome and the Stockholm Challenge with visits to meet with other educators, students and innovators. There were also invitations to attend conferences from governments in Italy, South Korea and Mexico, and World InfoZone was in the news, on television programmes about the worldwide web and recommended by national newspapers.

There have been a lot of changes since the mid-1990s and time flies on the internet. It is also interesting to note that Tim Berners-Lee, the founder of the World Wide Web, spent his early life in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames so we have a bit of internet history of our own. And, yes, I did get to "Meet Bill" at the Science Museum in Kensington.

World InfoZone, or the WTech Gateway as it started out, was in the news listed as a recommended website in various national newspapers. In fact, one well-known tabloid even used it for a daily quiz although forgot to ask permission and ended up paying for an Intellectual Property lawyer to provide the website Disclaimer & Legal Conditions WIZ still uses today.

As well as being listed as a recommended website various organizations promoted the site; it was on one of the very early Click Online television programmes and additionally one or two TV crews came along to film an interview. There were articles in The Teacher and Merlin-John Online (editor of the Times Educational Supplement) also provided an article, "This Site Is A WIZ".

It was then that I became aware of the Global Junior Challenge in Rome which had a category suited to the website so, in 2002 I went to Rome for the first time with another IT teacher who lived locally.

Review from The Teacher magazine: "The World InfoZone (WIZ) site has visitors from around the world. Brazil to Japan. Why? It highlights world issues and has special features on regions such as Europe, the Middle East and southern Africa. There is information covering over 200 countries".

To be continued ... The Next Ten Years

## St Mary's University

## St Mary's Appoints New Head of Student Experience

St Mary's University, Twickenham (SMU) has appointed Claire McLoughlin as its new Head of Academic Student Experience and Enhancement.



The Head Academic Student Experience and Enhancement is responsible for, and provides expert leadership on, the delivery of student outcomes and the associated measures of success that

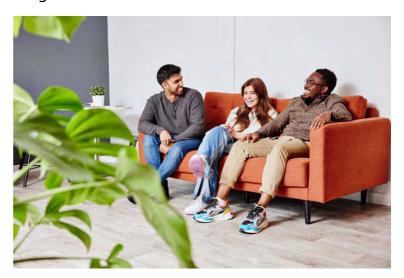
enables, enhances, and enriches the overall Student Experience at SMU.

St Mary's Vice-Chancellor Anthony McClaran said, "The experience of our students is at the core of all we do as a higher education institution. I am delighted that from a strong field of candidates we have appointed Claire to lead on this moving forward, and I am excited to see what brilliant initiatives she will be bringing forward in the near future to enhance our students' time at St Mary's."

Speaking of her appointment, Claire McLoughlin said, "I am delighted to have been appointed to this new role here at St Mary's. We have an amazing culture of student-centred learning here at St Mary's which is reflected in our NSS results. I am looking forward to further promoting the enhancement of student experience across the University and working with all our amazing colleagues to continue and build on our previous successes."

Claire McLoughlin is an Associate Professor in Sport Rehabilitation, gaining her MSc from

SMU in 2008. Most recently, Claire held the role of Associate Dean for Student Experience in the Faculty of Sport, Allied Heath, and Performance Science (SAHPS). In this role, she was responsible for overseeing and coordinating the Faculty's National Student Survey (NSS) campaign 2021-22, in which St Mary's improved on its ranking to sit in the top ten in the UK, and the overall SMU NSS campaign 22-23 where there has been an 10% increase in participation to 82% of eligible students.



Claire has a passion for fostering student success, enhancing the student experience, and providing strategic leadership to support the overall well-being and development of students. Having worked at St Mary's for 20 years she has built a strong collaborative network with various colleagues, including students, academic staff, and professional services, to coordinate and oversee initiatives that positively impact the student lifecycle.



## Conservation Volunteering

Help improve habitats for wildlife, gain experience in practical conservation and enjoy some time outdoors!

Join us at Jubilee Meadow (accessed via Heathfield Recreation Ground)



Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2-4pm

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2-4pm



For any queries, please email: gaby.docker@lgoal.org.uk

No registration required- drop by and join in

We suggest wearing clothing and shoes you don't mind getting muddy.

Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the session.







CIC Registration number 9435120

Working in partnership with Richmond Borough Parks Team

## Carnival comes to Surbiton care home

A care home in Surbiton is celebrating its tenth birthday with a Caribbean-themed open day.

The Carnival Open Day will bring the sounds, scents and flavours of the Caribbean to Royal Star & Garter on 22 August, from 2-4pm, and is also open to the public.

Royal Star & Garter provides loving, compassionate care to veterans and their partners living with disability or dementia. The charity also has Homes in Solihull and High Wycombe.

The open day will see the award-winning Home open its doors and showcase the outstanding person-centred care it provides.

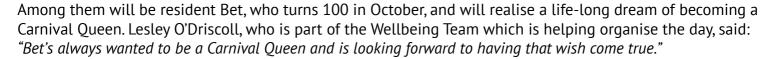
Staff opted for a Caribbean theme after asking residents how they would like to celebrate the Home's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They spoke of their wish to attend Notting Hill Carnival, which takes place on the streets of West London in August. As residents are too frail to attend Notting Hill, staff decided to bring the Carnival to the Home. The celebrations also tie-in with the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of HMT Empire Windrush docking in England in 1948.

The Carnival Open Day will include a procession and Carnival Queen, steelpan drum band entertainment, Caribbean food truck and fruit punch.

The Deputy Mayor of Kingston, the Police, the Fire Brigade service and Air Cadets will also

be attending, as will children from a nearby nursery who will be dressed for the Carnival celebration.

Residents, family, staff and volunteers from Royal Star & Garter in Surbiton will also enjoy the event.



Home Manager Helena Maher said: "We were thinking of ways to celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> birthday, and residents said they'd like to attend Notting Hill Carnival. That's not possible due to their complex care needs, so we decided to bring the Carnival to the Home. We're all looking forward to it, and to welcoming people from the local community who would like to join us and who are interested in looking around the Home."

She added: "It also gives us a chance to celebrate the arrival of HMT Empire Windrush 75 years ago, the generation of people that came to this country from the Caribbean, and the great contributions they have made to our society."

Royal Star & Garter staff come from diverse backgrounds, and the Surbiton Home recently celebrated the Philippines' Independence Day and Black History Month. The charity has also organised activities to explore other cultures.

The Carnival Open Day takes place from 2-4pm. Entry is free but spaces are limited and must be booked in advance. To do so, please <u>click here</u>.

Alternatively, email <u>Surbiton.enquiries@starandgarter.org</u> or call 020 8339 5100.

Royal Star & Garter is welcoming new residents. For more information on this, or to work for the charity, go to <a href="https://www.starandgarter.org/surbiton">www.starandgarter.org/surbiton</a>



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**Royal Star** 



# MET In the Dark

Monday 21st August 2023 Old Deer Park, Richmond

12 Noon to 6:00 PM



Come along to meet:
Firearms officers,
Territorial Support
Group,
Police Horses
& Dogs,
RNLI,
London Fire Brigade,

St Johns Ambulance, Harlequins RFU and

Face Painting!



## BORTHWICK NAMES ENGLAND TEAM FOR SUMMER NATIONS SERIES OPENER IN CARDIFF

England men's head coach Steve Borthwick has named his match day 23 to face Wales at the Principality Stadium in Cardiff (kick-off 5.30pm).

Loosehead prop Ellis Genge (Bristol Bears) will captain England in the 140th meeting between the two nations as both teams play their first game of the Summer Nations Series ahead of Rugby World Cup 2023 in France which starts in September. Alongside Genge, hooker Jamie Blamire (Newcastle Falcons) joins tighthead prop Will Stuart (Bath Rugby) to complete the front row.

Elsewhere, David Ribbans (Toulon) partners George Martin (Leicester Tigers) in the second row, with the uncapped Tom Pearson (Northampton Saints) packing down on the openside flank, linking up with Saints teammate Lewis Ludlam who starts on the blindside. Alex Dombrandt (Harlequins) rounds off the pack at No.8.

Harlequins duo Danny Care and Marcus Smith feature in the half-back berths, with Guy Porter (Leicester Tigers) partnering Joe Marchant (Stade Français) in midfield. Joe Cokanasiga (Bath Rugby) lines up on the left wing, opposite Max Malins (Bristol Bears) on the right, and Freddie Steward (Leicester Tigers) is at fullback.

Amongst the replacements, Saracens teammates Theo Dan and Tom Willis will win their first England caps should they take the field, while Bevan Rodd (Sale Sharks), Kyle Sinckler (Bristol Bears), Jonny Hill (Sale Sharks), Jack van Poortvliet (Leicester Tigers), George Ford (Sale Sharks) and Henry Slade (Exeter Chiefs) will all be hoping to make an impact off the bench.

"England versus Wales in Cardiff is always an exciting and keenly contested fixture," said Borthwick.
"I am sure this Saturday will be no different as a tremendous first Test match of the Summer Nations
Series. "We have been impressed with how the whole squad has applied itself both on and off the field
over this training camp. We are now looking forward to returning to Test match rugby as we continue our
preparations for the Rugby World Cup in France."

Saturday's clash against Wales is England's first of four Summer Nations Series fixtures which will be shown live and exclusively on Amazon Prime Video.

#### **WALES v ENGLAND**

Saturday 5 August 2023, Principality Stadium, Cardiff, Kick-off: 5.30pm

- 15. Freddie Steward (Leicester Tigers, 22 caps)
- 14. Max Malins (Bristol Bears, 18 caps)
- 13. Joe Marchant (Stade Français, 15 caps)
- 12. Guy Porter (Leicester Tigers, 4 caps)
- 11. Joe Cokanasiga (Bath Rugby, 14 caps)
- 10. Marcus Smith (Harlequins, 21 caps)
- 9. Danny Care (Harlequins, 87 caps)

- 1. Ellis Genge © (Bristol Bears, 48 caps)
- 2. Jamie Blamire (Newcastle Falcons, 6 caps)
- 3. Will Stuart (Bath Rugby, 25 caps)
- 4. David Ribbans (Toulon, 5 caps)
- 5. George Martin (Leicester Tigers, 1 cap)
- 6. Lewis Ludlam (Northampton Saints, 19 caps)
- 7. Tom Pearson (Northampton Saints, uncapped)
- 8. Alex Dombrandt (Harlequins, 14 caps)

#### Replacements:

- 16. Theo Dan (Saracens, uncapped)
- 17. Bevan Rodd (Sale Sharks, 2 caps)
- 18. Kyle Sinckler (Bristol Bears, 61 caps)
- 19. Jonny Hill (Sale Sharks, 19 caps)

- 20. Tom Willis (Saracens, uncapped)
- 21. Jack van Poortvliet (Leicester Tigers, 12 caps)
- 22. George Ford (Sale Sharks, 81 caps)
- 23. Henry Slade (Exeter Chiefs, 56 caps)

## Match Preview: Brentford v Lille

Including pre-match analysis with L'Equipe journalist Romain Lafont and a statistical deep dive with Playmaker's Alex Lawes, we've got you covered ahead of Brentford's final pre-season clash of the summer against Lique 1 side Lille

Written by Brentford Football Club

Brentford take on French side Lille in their final friendly of the summer on Saturday 5 August (4pm kick-off).

After a successful tour of America, the Bees will be looking to finish their pre-season campaign on a high, before their first Premier League fixture of the season against Tottenham Hotspur at Gtech Community Stadium a week later.

Tickets for Saturday's game are still available. Click here to find out more.

#### The Opposition

Les Dogues target another year of improvement



Last season had the feeling of a rebuild for Lille.

In 2020/21, under Christophe Galtier, Les Dogues had won Ligue 1 for the first time in a decade and for the fourth time in their history.

The next season, Jocelyn Gourvennec guided the club to 10th - and its lowest finish since 2017/18 - in his first and only campaign in charge at Stade Pierre-Mauroy.

Last summer, the club generated around €100m in transfer revenue, but lost their stars in the process. Sven Botman joined Newcastle, Zeki Celik went to Roma, Domagoj Bradaric signed for Salernitana, Renato Sanches joined PSG and Amadou Onana came to the Premier League with Everton.

After a year out of the game, following a two-year spell at Roma, Paulo Fonseca was brought in to fill the managerial role vacated by Gourvennec and, with a new-look squad, managed to get Lille back on the right track.

Aside from a humiliating 7-1 home defeat to PSG in the opening month of the season, the remaining eight league defeats suffered by Fonseca's side each came by only a one-goal margin.

Their home record of 13 wins and two defeats in 19 games was bettered only by Lens and Rennes. Had their form on the road been just a touch more inspiring, who knows what might have been.

But, most importantly, their fifth-place finish represented a vast year-on-year improvement, which has given them a benchmark to try and better this season coming.

That said, one would imagine the direction of Lille's season will somewhat depend upon the future of Jonathan David. The Canadian forward, 23, only turned professional in 2018 and, during time spent with Belgian side Gent and Lille, he has scored 95 goals in 219 appearances, never once ending the season with a single-figure goal tally.

David - who has two years remaining on the five-year contract he signed when he joined the club in August 2020 - has been courted by Europe's elite over the past few seasons as a result, yet has not been prised away. It is thought he is valued at just shy of £50m and Tottenham are the latest to have shown an interest at the time of writing.

Should they retain him for another year, the feeling will undoubtedly feel not too dissimilar to signing a new player and their chances of challenging for a top-six spot will be handed a significant boost - on paper, at least.

Should David depart, though Lille will have a hefty war chest to secure an apt replacement with, with their second-highest scorer Remy Cabella having only scored seven times last term, their new central striker will have large - maybe even too large - boots to fill.

#### In the Dugout

Paulo Fonseca

Paulo Fonseca retired at the age of 32 in 2005 and immediately set about carving a career for himself as a coach by taking on youth coaching responsibilities at the final club of his playing career, Estrela Amadora.

Across the next six years, he also learned his trade at Portuguese lower league clubs 1° Dezembro, Odivelas and Pinhalnovense, before taking on his first role in professional football with Aves in 2011/12; a season that ended with Fonseca's side missing out on promotion to the Primeira Liga by just two points.

Fonseca was in the top flight the following year, however, after being appointed Pacos de Ferreira manager, and his stock continued to rise after a third-place finish, which saw Porto bring him in as Vitor Pereira's successor in June 2013. He started by guiding the club to the Portuguese Super Cup, but lasted only nine months in the role.



A season back at Pacos de Ferreira followed, with a season at Braga in 2014/15 after that - where he won the Taca de Portugal - before he ventured abroad for the first time to take charge of Ukraine's Shakhtar Donetsk, where he guided the club to three successive Ukrainian Premier League and Ukrainian Cup doubles, as well as the Ukrainian Super Cup in 2017.

His most recent role before joining Lille last summer came at Roma, where he spent two seasons, guiding the Serie A club to the Europa League semi-final during the 2020/21 campaign.

Upon leaving Stadio Olimpico, Fonseca was linked with Tottenham, Newcastle and Aston Villa, though a move to the Premier League did not materialise, before he was appointed Roma head coach.

#### **Pre-match analysis**

Alex Lawes, Playmaker Stats: Goals expected at the Gtech

Brentford's four friendlies this summer have yielded a total of 15 goals and their final pre-season fixture ahead of the 2023/24 Premier League campaign promises further entertainment.

Managed by former Shakhtar Donetsk and Roma manager Paulo Fonseca, Lille finished fifth in Ligue 1 last season to qualify for the UEFA Europa Conference League and they should prove tricky opposition.

Ligue 1 winners as recently as 2021, Lille arguably underachieved over last season as a whole, but their easy-on-the-eye style under Fonseca has won admirers and they finished strongly, losing just two of their final 14 matches.

In Fonseca's preferred 4-2-3-1, Lille like to dominate possession via patient passing sequences, usually from deep, and no team in Ligue 1 averaged a higher possession share last season than Les Dogues (60.9 per cent).

Dictating play and controlling match tempo has obvious defensive advantages and, notably, Lille conceded under nine shots (8.7) per game last season - fewer than any other team in the French top flight.

Although Lille's critics argue that their possession-based style can be ineffective, they fired off 14.7 shots-per-game last season. Only Ligue 1 champions Paris St Germain firing in more shots on average (as might be expected with a strike force of Mbappe, Messi and Neymar!).

Dead-balls could well be important in this one, as Brentford - as mentioned in other previews - had a lot of joy from set-pieces last season, and Lille managed 149 shots from corners, throw-ins and free-kicks in 2022/23: the most in Lique 1.

In terms of players to keep an eye on, Remy Cabella and Jonathan David fit the bill for Lille.

Former Newcastle United midfielder Cabella scored seven goals and supplied 11 assists in Ligue 1 last season, and was also the only player in the French top flight to record more than 100 key passes (101).

Currently linked with a transfer to Inter Milan, David has hit 52 Ligue 1 goals in 112 appearances over three seasons for Lille and is a dead-eye from the penalty spot. The Canadian scored 10 goals from 12 yards last season, missing just once (a 91 per cent conversion rate).

From a Brentford perspective, it will be interesting to see if Shandon Baptiste and Josh Dasilva can build upon promising pre-season performances.

Both players scored in the Bees' 3-3 draw with Aston Villa last time out and their stats from last season underline their quality: Baptiste with the best pass completion percentage (86%) of any Bees player in the Premier League last season, with Dasilva (83%) not far behind him.

Saturday's clash between an adaptable Brentford side, who are comfortable being direct, and a relatively slow and controlling Lille outfit should be an intriguing one.

### The Gameplan

With Romain Lafont of L'Equipe

From Paulo Fonseca's preferred way of playing to the ones to watch for Les Dogues, *L'Equipe*'s Romain Lafont brings us up to speed on all things Lille in <u>Hot off the Press</u>.

"Brentford should expect a team that want to seize control of the ball at every moment of a game. Fonseca wants to produce a beautiful game and he always takes a lot of risks to ensure that.

"It is really pleasant to watch, but it means that the team is often vulnerable as a result."

When asked about the players Brentford need to keep a close eye on this Saturday, he added: "I would say Hakon Arnar Haraldsson. He scored five goals in the two friendly games he played within the first 10 days of arriving at the club and he is certain to be a threat.

"In addition, young box-to-box midfielder Carlos Baleba has a profile that would be a great fit for the Premier League and he has a lot of potential for the future."



## G7+ oil price cap continues to pile pressure on Putin six months on

- The oil price cap is significantly impacting Russia's ability to use oil to finance its illegal war.
- 45% plunge in Russian Finance Ministry energy revenues.
- UK continues to monitor effectiveness of the cap alongside its Coalition partners amid expected market price fluctuations.

## UK-backed price cap on Russian oil and oil products is successfully undermining Putin's ability to fund his illegal war in Ukraine, according to official data collated six months on from implementation.

Russian government income declined by over 20% between January and March 2023 compared to a year ago. The Russian Ministry of Finance posted a 45% plunge in government energy revenues in the same period.

According to the International Energy Agency's Oil Market Report for July 2023, Russian oil export revenues were down by \$1.5 billion month-on-month in June to \$11.8 billion (down \$9.9 billion year-on-year).

Independent research by the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air has estimated that the price cap on crude oil is costing Russia around €160 million per day.

#### **Treasury Lords Minister Baroness Penn said:**

"The oil price cap is succeeding in its dual objectives – bearing down on Putin's most lucrative source of revenues that could otherwise be used to fund his illegal war, while ensuring that vulnerable countries can continue to secure affordable oil.

"The oil price cap forms a critical part of the largest and most severe package of sanctions ever imposed on a major economy. We will continue to keep the pressure on Russia alongside our international partners."

The G7 and Australia (G7+), who collectively constitute the Price Cap Coalition, agreed to cap the price of Russian seaborne oil and refined oil products in September 2022 as a way to undermine Putin's ability to fund his illegal war in Ukraine through inflated global oil prices, while ensuring that third countries can continue to secure affordable oil. The crude oil price cap and high- and low-value refined oil price caps (collectively referred to as the G7+ oil price cap) were introduced on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and 5<sup>th</sup> February 2023 respectively.

UK guidance has been periodically updated to assist market participants with implementation of, and compliance with, the cap, and OFSI will continue to engage collaboratively with industry partners to ensure as much clarity is provided as possible.

Recent routine fluctuations in oil prices have seen the average price of Urals rise above the G7+ cap level. For any above-cap trades, Russia will face significant headwinds in securing alternative service providers, with data from market intelligence provider Argus indicating that the cost to Russia of moving its product is considerable. This added burden on Russia will continue to contribute to depressed revenues.

The Price Cap Coalition continues to monitor the effectiveness of the price cap and is prepared to review and adjust the measure as appropriate to ensure that it continues to meet its twin goals.

The cap sits alongside an extensive range of measures the UK has taken against Russia. The UK has sanctioned over 1600 individuals and entities involved in Russia's invasion and sanctioned over £20 billion of UK-Russia goods trade compared to 2021.



## Chancellor statement on de-banking

Urgent review into the matter of de-banking

Speaking to broadcasters today, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Jeremy Hunt, said:

"Free speech is a fundamental human right. You can agree or disagree with Nigel Farage, but everyone must be able to express their opinions.

"In today's society, you need a bank account function and so a threat to be de-banked is a threat to your right to express your opinions. We have regulations – Regulation 18 of the Payments Accounts Regulations – that ban this so called de-banking of people for their political views.

"I've written to the regulator – the Financial Conduct Authority – they have the right to fine banks very large sums of money if they find this practice is widespread. I want to know if it is, and I want to know what they are doing about it."



## El Niño: Public Health Situation Analysis

This Public Health Situation Analysis (PHSA), covering July-September 2023, identifies the current and potential health impacts that vulnerable populations may face as a result of the global El Niño climate event, and describes health systems' capacities to respond.

The ongoing El Niño is highly likely to have wide-ranging health implications on a global scale. In the coming months, the most severe health threats are likely to arise from malnutrition due to ongoing food insecurity compounded by the effects of El Niño, heat stress, environmental pollution, cholera, and other diarrhoeal diseases.

Detailed information on key health threats and at-risk countries is presented throughout the document. WHO acts as part of a UN-wide coordination and monitoring mechanism for El Niño, and supports countries through programmatic work to address key health threats, and via direct support to countries

Link to PHSA

WHO-WMO Technical brief: Health and the El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO)

DG remarks on El Niño



## NPL and STFC's RAL Space to deliver stateof-the-art facility for small satellites

The new facility to support UK in becoming the global home for trusted earth information services

Scientists and engineers at NPL are working with colleagues at Science and Technology Facilities Council's (STFC) RAL Space to deliver a small satellite calibration facility.

The new facility is being designed, manufactured and tested at NPL's Teddington site in South West London and will be located at Harwell Campus, and will draw on expertise from NPL's STAR-cc-OGSE facility, which provides innovative solutions for calibrating scientific instruments on satellites before their launch into space.



It will provide a state-of-the-art solution to instrument calibration and characterisation, ensuring the required performance for both full satellite payloads and components is achieved.

The facility is intended for use by small satellite providers at short notice to perform essential pre-flight calibration and characterisation tasks for individual satellites. This will ensure the end-to-end performance of a satellite instrument is understood before it is launched, which is a critical task for any space mission. By checking that all on-board instruments are correctly calibrated before launch, the new facility ensures that the satellite will collect reliable, accurate and trusted earth observation (EO) information that can be used by governments to make informed decisions on policies relating to climate change and emission reduction.

The new facility forms part of the UK Government's Department for Science, Innovation and Technology's £200M 'Earth Observation Investment Package' that was launched last year to drive innovation in the UK EO sector. It will build on NPL's and RAL Space's existing programmes that support the UK's thriving EO sector, with a particular focus on how EO technology and data can help solve global challenges such as climate change. These programmes also aim to create attractive opportunities to encourage individuals to develop their skills and build their careers here, and exploring exciting new international collaborations.

The facility will support the government's aim for the UK to become the global home for trusted climate and earth information services.

## UK Minister of State at the new Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, George Freeman MP said:

"Small satellite companies often struggle to find affordable and accessible calibration facilities, limiting the prospect of innovative new companies thriving in the UK's fast growing space sector now worth £17.5bn.

"This new facility will provide a much-needed service to level the playing field for these companies, while driving economic growth in the UK. Such companies are playing an increasingly important role in monitoring our planet and collecting vital data on climate change, emissions and sustainable development.

"By ensuring that these satellites are properly calibrated, we can be confident that the data they collect is accurate and reliable – helping us to make better decisions about how to protect our planet, through means such as monitoring Earth's temperature levels. This is the UK delivering on our commitment to support the UK Earth Observation sector."

The 'new space' sector is developing small satellite instruments that operate in a range of wavelengths for various Earth Observation (EO) applications. Calibration of these sensors is essential in ensuring the usefulness of data collected by these missions.

Large satellite missions developed under international space agency programmes may invest in bespoke calibration equipment solutions which would be a significant barrier to smaller private companies. These companies typically do not have the capability, budgets or expertise to individually develop their own pre-launch calibration testing facilities and programs. However, this facility, supported by experts from NPL and RAL Space will provide state-of-theart calibration to these companies at short notice and at a relatively low cost.

**Dr Emma Haynes, Partnerships Director, NPL said:** "This new facility forms part of NPL's commitment to delivering the UK's National Space Strategy. Space technology, as well as trusted earth observation data, is intrinsic to addressing challenges, such as climate change, on a global scale. By supporting companies in developing and measuring the performance of their instrumentation we're ensuring they can be used with confidence."

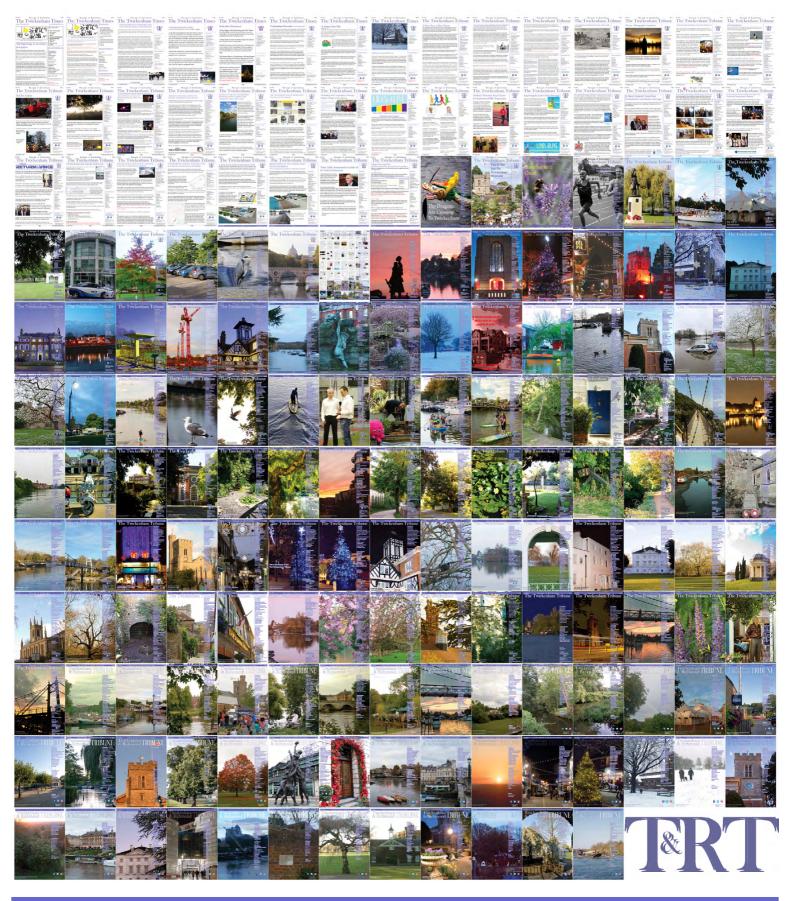
**Dr Sarah Beardsley, Director, RAL Space said:** "We're thrilled to be delivering this new facility to support the UK's thriving Earth observation sector. Thanks to the expertise of RAL Space and NPL staff, the Small Satellite Calibration Facility will play a pivotal role in allowing companies to enhance the quality of their satellite data for a growing user community, at lower cost."

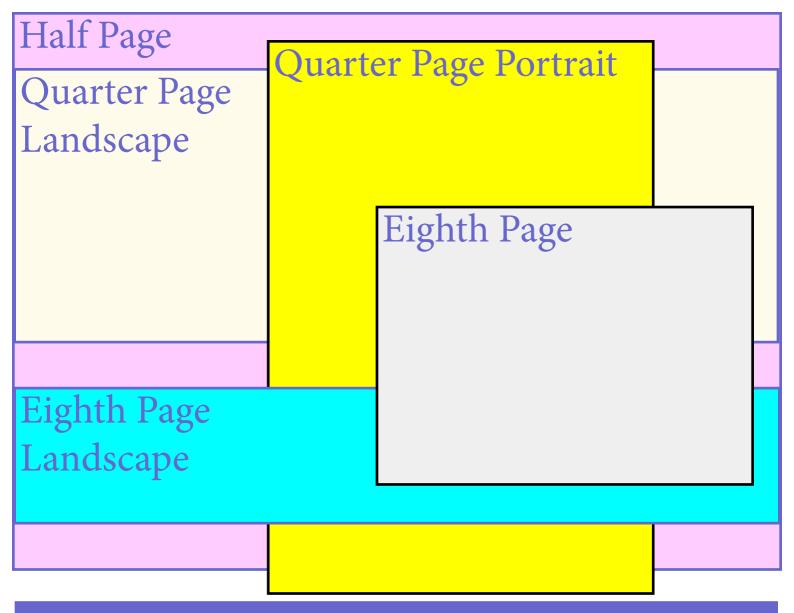
Harshbir Sangha, Missions and Capabilities Delivery Director at the UK Space Agency, said: "The UK has a rich heritage in satellite manufacturing and Earth observation technology, with innovative start-ups and space companies developing powerful capabilities that would have been unthinkable only a decade ago.

"Thanks to government funding, this new small satellite calibration facility will open up access to NPL's world-leading calibration expertise to even more companies, supporting the continued growth of the UK's vibrant Earth observation sector and increasing the value of the data it provides on our planet."

**National Physical Laboratory** 

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