

The Twickenham Times

Feels like Christmas!

All the villages on the Twickenham side of the Thames have their lights switched on and Christmas trees are everywhere – in fact our mystery location in this week's competition has three Christmas trees!

To add to the enjoyment of the festive season The Twickenham Times has three exciting offers.

Identify the mystery pub from the three Christmas trees in this edition of The Twickenham Times (see page 5) and the following two editions and have the chance to win a bottle of Prosecco in the draw just before New Year.

The German Bakery in Twickenham is offering a hamper to the lucky winner in the draw to take place on 14 December and the Church Street Food Hall in Twickenham is offering a free mulled tea and mince pie to Twickenham Times readers who buy a hamper.

With so many Christmas trees in our villages perhaps we should think about the origin of the Christmas tree. Did you know that Tallin in Estonia claims to have started the Christmas tree tradition? www.worldinfozone.com/facts.php?country=Estonia



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Contributors

Erica White
Alison Jee
Shona Lyons
Mark Wing
Richard Woolf
Teddington Action Group
Gillian Bird
Berkley Driscoll

Contact

contact@TwickenhamTimes.com
letters@TwickenhamTimes.com
advertise@TwickenhamTimes.com

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Christmas Carols and Santa Claus Hampton Wick, Wednesday 14th December

Organised by The Hampton Wick Association

Just a week to go before Hampton Wick's favourite night of the year...

Next Wednesday evening come and join in the carol singing round the Hampton Wick Christmas tree. The Fulham Brass Band will be accompanying the carols.

And Santa Claus will arrive - in a VERY special car - with treats for all the children!

6pm - candlelit procession leaves Hampton Wick Library, led by the brass band.

6.05-6.15pm - carol singing round the Christmas tree (outside Sigma Sport / Foresters)

6.20pm Santa arrives!



St Margarets Winter Fair Sunday 11th December, 11am-4pm

This year we are turning Crown Road into a winter wonderland and would like to invite everyone to join in with our Christmas cheer!

All of the shops and small businesses of the area have decided to put on this extra special event this year, so it will be like nothing you've seen before.

To keep the feeling of the highly successful 'Crown Road Street Party' held in June (despite the rain) - we have added some extra touches to this year's event.

New 'never been seen before' stalls - all of whom can't wait to delight you with their Christmas offering and lots of mouth-watering food stalls.

Generally we hope to bring great shopping opportunities for the adults and magical stalls where the kids can spend their pocket money - there's something for everyone!

We will have live music, mulled wine, Santa's Grotto, kids entertainment /rides and much, much more.

The aim of the event is to bring joy to St Margarets and make our community stronger.

Look out for our leaflets and keep an eye on our social channels about the event and who/what to expect.

Be sure to tell your friends about this magical day. We will not be asking for money upon arrival but will be collecting for charity on the day.

Please do come along, rain, snow or shine to support us - as we know you will have a wonderful time regardless of the weather.

We look forward to seeing you there!

ARE YOU A LOCAL LANDLORD? SO AM I.

I set up Tenant Finder lettings ten years ago now and we are now well established and known for our 'No Annual Renewal Fees' offer to landlords. We have a proper High Street Office on Richmond Road, Twickenham and can provide many genuine testimonials from delighted clients.

Please call me and ask me for full details. Thank you for reading my advert.

David McGeachie



tenant finder

www.tenant-finder.co.uk 020 8891 2929

191 Richmond Road Twickenham TW1 2NJ

Also: David McGeachie Property Sales www.davidmcgeachie.co.uk

Arts and Entertainment

by Erica White


The panto season has high-kicked off with full houses for Cinderella at Hampton Hill Theatre, but on Saturday, December 10th, down at the little Mary Wallace Theatre on Twickenham Riverside, it's curtain up on Richmond Shakespeare Society production of **OH! WHAT A LOVELY WAR**, a lively musical satire based on World War 1. This runs from Saturday, 10-Saturday, 17th December at 7.45pm and at 3.00 on December 11th. Ring 020 8744 0547 for tickets from £12-£14.

Also on Saturday, 11th December at Normansfield Theatre, Kingston Road, Teddington there is a **Christmas Concert** by the Otakar Kraus Music Trust students and parents and the GoLocal Community Choir . Ticket £8 or £15 for family of 4. Call 8894 2007.

On Sunday 12th December Commedia Productions present **OPERA ENCORES**, an entertaining romp through the evolution of opera, accompanied by the Virtual Reality Orchestra. Tickets at £15/£12. Ring 0333 1212 300.

More Christmas music mid-week, on Wednesday 24th December at 7.00pm at St Mary's Church, Church Street, Twickenham, where the Poppy Factory hosts **AN EVENING OF CAROLS AND READINGS** with Jamie Crick and the South London Military Wives' Choir, followed by a reception of wine and mince pies. Tickets £15. Information: www.poppyfactory.org

And for something different, at Arthur's on the Green on Sunday 11th, at 7.00pm the film, with 3 course meal and free tub of ice-cream, will be **DIE HARD**. A robbery and hostage film, claimed by some to be the "ultimate Christmas movie". The action takes place on Christmas Eve, so that's one qualification. Information at : arthursscreenonthegreen.co.uk or ring: 8893 3995.




The Tree Agency

(iTree consultancy) (eTree planting)
(eTree surgery) (iPlant landscape)

darryl parkin

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



Twickers Foodie

Church Street Food Hall

by Alison Jee

Many of us will have strolled down Church Street and seen the reincarnation of the former bookshop. Is it a wine shop? Is it a delicatessen? Is it a café? Or is it a restaurant? Actually it is all of the above, and more!



It is described by owner Colette Chesters as ‘your farm shop and country café right in the heart of Twickenham’ and that sums it up well. Carefully sourced produce - British and local where possible - fill the shelves and fridges, as well as a great selection of wines, from Borough Wines in Borough Market. Colette, a trained chef, qualified barrister (and pretty good barista too as the coffee there is delicious) was a finalist in Masterchef Live at Olympia a year or two ago, and prepares and serves much of the food herself.

The Twickers Foodie ventured in this week for a spot of brunch – and jolly good it was too.



A plate of home baked gammon, served with fried eggs and bubble'n' squeak at £7.95 was accompanied by Colette's homemade Piccalilli – and by jove it was tasty! The TF's other half had the ‘All Day Full English’, £8.95, which comprised fried egg, delicious herby, meaty sausages, thick rashers of back bacon, tomato and home made baked beans, served with a couple of slices of toast and a selection of artisan and



homemade preserves. It was a generous and substantial brunch and very tasty.

While you await your freshly cooked food, take time to browse the gastronomic paradise that Colette has created. Truffle oils, specialist mayonnaises, chutneys, teas, coffees, biscuits, seasonings, gluten free products, cheeses, charcuterie, chocolates (some made in Twickenham) and great wines, are all on display.

Special Twickenham Times Offer! Church Street Food Hall

You can **make up your own hamper** or food gift box as an extra special present for a foodie in your life. Colette has kindly offered anyone who **mentions the Twickenham Times a free cup of mulled tea and a mince pie** to enjoy while they select the items for their Christmas gift. She will then gift-wrap it beautifully for you to take away. They are open until and including Christmas Eve.



www.churchstreetfoodhall.co.uk

Win a selection of German Bakery products!



We've got together with The German Bakery to offer Twickenham Times readers a chance to **win a lovely prize of a selection of seasonal bakery products** – just in time for Christmas.

To find out more, visit our website twickenhamtimes.com

Win a bottle of Prosecco

Identify the location of the image shown right for a chance to win a bottle of Prosecco.

Further images (from the same location) will be shown in the next two editions and all correct entries will be entered in a draw to take place the week of 26th December 2016, to enable you to collect your bottle in time for New Year.

Send your answer (along with your postcode) to:

win@TwickenhamTimes.com



This is Twickenham

Church Street Festival of Lights

by Shona Lyons

At the Festival of Lights on the 2nd of December, the independent Traders of Church Street put together a feast of offers for the day and night and lovingly decorated their shops with thousands of sparkling lights! There was also a myriad of approximately 40 stalls



from unique and talented crafts people, artists, even a dog groomer from Twickenham Green.

Many Christmas Gifts were brought in the warm and inviting environment. Great live music from local bands and even the Kneller Hall Military band was listened to. A lovely Santa's Grotto was visited & many came to laugh at

Punch and Judy. Rumour has it, it even snowed. We have had really good feed-back, lots of congratulatory tweets, even one from Dr Tania Matthias MP "Outstanding Christmas event @ChurchStTwicker : unique shops, stalls & great local businesses" I think the local community had a really good time and many of the stall holders and the shops have told me what a good day they had too.

Next up is the French Market this weekend. It will be a great place to buy authentic French produce from onions & shallots, Vintage French Music, cheese, baguettes and much more! On Saturday it is open from 9am until 5pm and on Sunday it is open from 10am until 4pm.

They come all the way from France and visit Twickenham just once a year, so if you are looking for Christmas presents with a French twist or want to try some authentic French Street Food, make this your destination! There will also be live music from local bands. On Saturday from 12 midday until 1pm the Elastic (brass) band will be playing in the street followed at 2pm until 4pm by the Richmond Music Trust and on Sunday we have Saxanova in the street from 11am until 1pm and Shelle Luscombe from 2 to 3pm.



One week to go to have your say on future of Twickenham Riverside

Over the past three weeks, Richmond Council has been consulting residents and businesses in Twickenham on proposals for a new 'village feel' for the development on King Street / Water Lane and Twickenham Riverside.

The pop-up shop exhibition is open until Thursday 15th December, with the online survey available until midnight on Friday 16th December.

Following the consultation, one of the proposals will be developed in more detail and further consultation will be carried out in 2017. Additional studies and technical assessments will also be carried out.

The pop-up shop on Church Street will be open until Thursday 15 December:

- Tuesday / Wednesday and Friday from 11am to 4pm
- Thursday from 11am to 7pm
- Saturday from 11am to 5pm

To see the proposals and opening hours of the pop-up shop, go to: www.richmond.gov.uk/twickenham_rediscovered_have_your_say

Quantum Public Exhibition



FORMER IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON
PRIVATE GROUND

TEDDINGTON TW11 9BB

INVITATION TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION

You are warmly invited to our second public consultation to view the initial design proposals for the former Imperial College London private ground in Udney Park Road, Teddington.

As you may be aware, our vision is to use a portion of the site for elderly care and community healthcare facilities. The majority of the land will be gifted to the public for sport, recreation and community use.

Since our first exhibition in March 2016, we have been meeting with many local residents and associations, listening to feedback and keeping everybody informed of our progress.

We do hope that you and your family can attend, and members of our team very much look forward to meeting you.

🕒 WHEN:

Thursday 8th December 2016 – 11am to 4.45pm

Friday 9th December 2016 – 2pm to 8pm

Saturday 10th December 2016 – 10am to 2pm

📍 WHERE:

The Clubhouse, Former ICL Private Ground,
Udney Park Road, Teddington TW11 9BB.

If these times are not convenient, please let us know, as we can arrange an alternative time to meet with you that is more convenient.



If you require further information, please contact Naomi Shinkins, Community Engagement Manager T: 07585 622674 E: ns@quantumgroup.org.uk.

Or visit our website www.quantumcommunity.co.uk/former-icl-private-ground

Have your say - Bridging the divide

by Mark Wing and Richard Woolf

The Radnor Bridge proposal continues to gather momentum. Perhaps encouraged in part by the planned redevelopment of the Ham Close area.

This much needed housing improvement will see the number of homes in that area grow from the current 192 housing units to a planned 425, in part through the development of new modern and better equipped six story buildings. In association with Richmond Housing Partnership (RHP) this development will form part of Richmond Council's Uplift programme, which seeks to regenerate the areas of Whitton, Hampton North, Barnes, Mortlake, Ham and Hampton Hill.

The planning committee has promised to adhere to five key principles;

1. Any resident of Ham Close wishing to remain in the community will be able to do so.
2. Retain and enhance green space.
3. Create a heart to Ham Close and Ham, retain and support a village feel.
4. Better integrate Ham Close.
5. Improve community facilities. For instance by co-locating the youth centre, clinic and library.

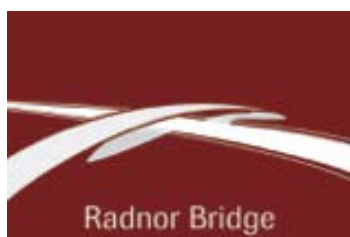
Traffic and Transport is bound to be an important consideration for the development. And therefore, should the redevelopment go ahead, the developers have promised to bring about improvements to cycle routes as part of their plans.

Obviously Radnor Bridge should be considered essential to delivering this plan. After all, it will provide the necessary strategic solution to serve at least four of the uplift zones (Whitton, Hampton North, Ham and Hampton Hill), while connecting two halves of the borough. And it will help deliver on #2 and #4 of the key principles above and also contribute much to the village requirements outlined in #2.



There is an alternative idea, called The Quiet Way, which proposes using the Teddington Lock bridge. Nothing new there then!

Radnor Bridge is the 'big idea' the borough needs to underpin all its plans for the future. This is essentially because only Radnor Bridge will deliver the improved cycling infrastructure the borough is crying out. And at the same time it will gift a powerful legacy to future generations. The increasing population size and need for improved access that comes with this means the Borough can no longer ignore this proposal.



Please demonstrate your support by keeping up to date with our news on the Radnor Bridge blog radnorbridge.blogspot.co.uk or by following and contributing to our posts on the Facebook page www.facebook.com/RadnorBridge

Crime prevention week

I have been asked to make you all aware of PC Kumorek's Crime Prevention Week she has planned starting from Monday 12th December – Friday 16th December. I have attached where the crime prevention bus will be at different locations and times. There is also a list below of some of the things available.

Engaging with our public providing crime prevention advice on various matters such as

Burglary

Scams

MV crime

Counter Terrorism

CSE

Crime prevention products



A number of crime prevention leaflets will be available along with offering bike marking by Safer transport team, Kids colouring in with stickers and badges.

Crime prevention freebies

Immobilise – registering mobile phones

NHW information

Monday 12 December, 12pm-3pm: Sainsbury's Hampton

Tuesday 13 December, 10am-1pm: Whitton Town Centre

Tuesday 13 December, 2pm-5pm: David Lloyds, West Twickenham

Wednesday 14 December, 10am-1pm: Squires Garden Centre

Friday 16 December, 10am-1pm: Teddington Town Centre

We hope you can attend one of the sessions provided and will find them useful. Please send out to members of neighbourhood watch.

Katherine Ivens-Barnes

PCSO 7215TW

West Twickenham Safer Neighbourhood Team

41 London Road Twickenham TW1 3SY

T0208 247 7017

POSTCARDS WANTED

Cash paid for Old Postcards

& postally franked envelopes.

Required by local collector / dealer.

Please ring Alan to discuss on

07875 578398

Have your say - Sky's the Limit or Pie in the Sky?

by Teddington Action Group

For the benefit of anyone who missed the 'Sky's the Limit' campaign launched last week by NATS (the partly privatised air navigation service), we are led to believe that the UK airspace is facing gridlock because the projected number of flights per year could be 3 million by 2030. But don't worry folks, the problem can be solved by airspace modernisation or the Future Airspace Strategy (FAS). By designing new routes with steeper climbs and descents, and aircraft flying routes with greater accuracy (i.e. concentrated flight paths), NATS will be able to pack in more and more flights with a miraculous reduction in the number of people impacted by noise. There will also be the possibility of multiple routes to distribute noise.

Who knew? The solution to the problems of noise and air pollution is to cram more and more planes into streamlined superhighways and, of course, NATS gets paid by airlines for air traffic services... kerching! Under this divide and rule approach, NATS keeps very quiet about the impact on those unfortunate enough to live under the concentrated routes whose lives and communities will be blighted.

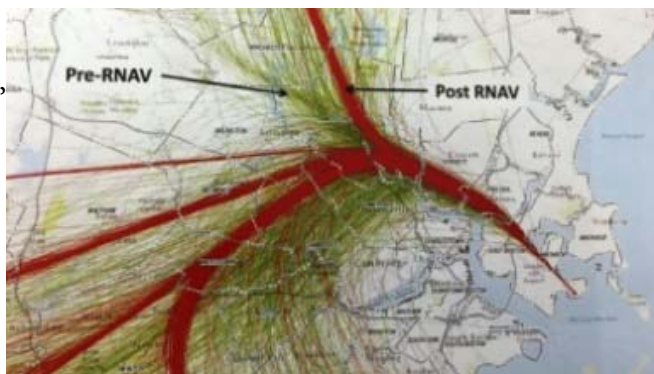
So, how's it going elsewhere?

Gatwick Airport In 2014, changes to flight paths were made as part of airspace modernisation. Some residents were so unhappy they took the Government to court over the changes and Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign wrote to MPs asking for a change in the law, to provide compensation to residents where they have been adversely affected by new flight paths. The Land Compensation Act 1973 provides compensation for people whose houses are devalued (according to a surveyor's report) by the building of a new runway but not by new flight paths based on existing runways.

Frankfurt Airport In 2011, a 4th runway was opened adding new flightpaths and making changes to existing ones. Immediately people began protesting as the noise stopped them sleeping, prevented them enjoying their gardens, and their homes lost value - some by up to 40%. Every Monday evening for the last four years, between 600 and 3000 residents march through Terminal 1, banging and chanting.

USA Airspace modernisation and concentrated flight paths introduced at Boston, Charlotte, Chicago, New York, Phoenix, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle and Washington DC have resulted in lower, louder planes and many unhappy residents.

Boston (right) - red lines show concentrated flight paths



Heathrow The FAS has now been delayed while a new airspace and noise policy is developed. Aviation companies are trying to panic the Government by insisting time is running out. This is nonsense. The Government needs to stop, take stock and remember that its legally binding emissions commitments mean that aviation demand must be managed rather than increased.

There is considerable evidence that aircraft noise affects cardiovascular health, mental health and impacts children's learning. What sort of world do we live in when children in schools round Heathrow must shelter in earthquake huts in their playgrounds, to avoid the deafening roar of aircraft? The demand of frequent flyers for more choice and cheaper flights cannot be justified at the expense of our right to breathe clean air and to sleep undisturbed by aircraft noise.

TAG's actions does not mean job losses. The focus is to preserve the quality of life for local residents. If you want to help, email: info@teddintonactiongroup.com or just follow TAG on Twitter [@teddingtonTAG](https://twitter.com/teddingtonTAG) or [Facebook.com/TeddingtonActionGroup](https://www.facebook.com/TeddingtonActionGroup)



UK CAT KILLER

by Gillian Bird

Many of you will now hopefully be aware of the animal serial killer that is mutilating cats, pet rabbits and foxes. The killer was initially nicknamed the Croydon Cat Killer where most of the attacks occurred. Following publicity, people came forward to report more victims whose injuries matched the MO and it wasn't long before the killer became known as the M25 cat killer. Ever widening his reign of terror and following attacks in Maidstone, Brighton, St. Albans, Northamptonshire, Birmingham, Manchester and Liverpool, he is now referred to as the "UK Cat Killer". (I can say 'he' as Police have evidence to believe this is the work of one man). The killer has also struck in Richmond on Thames, Kingston on Thames (twice) and very recently for a suspected third time in Feltham. If you live in Greater London, you are currently living in a high risk area for these killings.

South Norwood Animal Rescue & Liberty (SNARL) is a small animal rescue run by Boudicca Rising and Tony Jenkins in South London and it is thanks to them that this has become a criminal investigation, with Police fearing that someone who enjoys mutilating and displaying animals could go on to prey on humans.

The couple are working alongside the police and the RSPCA to catch the "UK Cat Killer". There are currently 31 cases confirmed by post mortem, with around 90 since Feb 2016 which bear the hallmarks of what is believed (through forensic evidence) to be the same killer - decapitations/ removal of tail/ removal of paws/ any combination of these. The killer returns and displays the bodies or body parts close to where they were taken, or sometimes in very public places such as playgrounds or outside schools.

If you see anyone behaving oddly around cats, foxes or birds they are asked to call this into police via 101 with a full description of the person and what they are doing, and quote Operation Takahe in the call. Where possible get vehicle registration details. Please then send us the police or CAD reference number.

If you see anyone catching a cat, kidnapping a cat or fox or bird, hurting, kicking, standing on or otherwise causing harm to a cat or fox or bird in the same geographical area, that same advice applies except that's a 999 call. If you have any information about who might be committing these offences, please call the team running Operation Takahe on 0208 6490216

If you find a body which bear the injuries listed or body parts (heads, legs, paws or tails) please call SNARL on 07961 030064 or 07957 830490 immediately. Please stay with the body/parts if you can and prevent any council or waste services from touching or removing it and anyone from photographing it. Vital forensic evidence and has been lost as a result of Council waste services disposing of bodies.

The advice to cat owners living in the greater London area is to keep their cats indoors as much as they can and let them out only during the day when they can be supervised and to definitely keep them in at night.

It is likely to be through more public awareness and vigilance that this killer will be caught, so please share their pinned post and poster as widely as possible.

More information on the case, posters and updates can be found on South Norwood Animal Rescue and Liberty Facebook page or www.snarl.org.uk.

Letters

Lido lovers

My wife and I had visited the pop up shop on Church Street to view the architect plans including a lido. Unfortunately there wasn't one. Upon enquiring we were informed by the staff present that the Lido was not an option and was a passing suggestion by residents who proposed it at a time when the weather was warmer. Since then it hasn't been raised and so is not being considered.

If this is true it is a travesty, not only for my wife and I, Twickenham residents, but for the generations of residents not yet old enough to express their interest. I sincerely hope the member of staff at the pop up shop was misinformed and that they did not dissuade others of expressing their interest in a lovely Lido in Twickenham.

Name and address supplied (Twickenham)

Where's the Lido?

Dear Sir,

I would also like to add my complaint that at the previous pop up shop consultations I said I definitely wanted a LIDO and I completed their little stickers and stuck them on the wall saying LIDO option. I also stated I wanted a LIDO option when I completed the forms. This was not a passing comment and there were others in the shop at the time who agreed with the LIDO option. I remember saying to the officers in the shop that no doubt when I left they would take my comment cards off the wall. At this latest 'consultation' I pointed out that there was no mention of a LIDO and was told that it wasn't an option as no one was interested in a LIDO!! So much for listening

J. Whittaker, Twickenham

If you would like to contribute a letter, then please email to letters@TwickenhamTimes.com

Please send your letter before 12 noon Friday

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