

The Twickenham Tribune

The Cabinet of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames met on 19 January to approve to undertake the design, development and preparation of a Planning Application based on designs by Francis Terry for the Twickenham Riverside site.

The report for Cabinet stated that the consultation work to date has indicated support for the latest concept proposals and went on to say that "It is therefore reasonable to assume the scheme will go ahead".

On the previous evening, Lord True, supported by Cllr Pamela Fleming, answered residents' queries in the Leader's Question Time in Twickenham. Twickenham Riverside was not on the agenda but questions were allowed at the end of the meeting. It was stated at this meeting, as in the Cabinet report, that the market research company, Snap Surveys, had not had time to analyse all the answers but 630 people had completed questionnaires and [as the Francis Terry plans were the only ones in the questionnaire] it was thought that the Council could go ahead with the preplanning consultation leading to a Planning Application this year.

When questioned about the 3,000 supporters for the Twickenham Lido project, during the Leader's Question Time, Cllr True turned towards Cllr Fleming and said that he was not aware of the overwhelming demand and asked whether she knew about it. Later Cllr True said that there was not overwhelming interest in the lido in the consultation but questions not pertaining to the Francis Terry plan had not been analysed. Additionally interest in the lido concept which had initially been reported from the summer Workshops and online survey reports had been forgotten.

www.richmond.gov.uk/twickenham_rediscovered_summary_of_feedback.pdf

Cllr True also said that he would not allow a third lido in the borough to compete with the two existing lidos. However, in the past there have been more than two lidos in the Borough including the original one on Twickenham Riverside. There were also tweets on Twitter in the summer when the two existing lidos had reached full capacity.

Editorial

It was most disappointing when, on 17th January, a vote was taken in full council to increase the amount of Council Tax payable by people on low incomes.

All 34 Conservative councillors voted in favour (party whip?), while 15 Liberal Democrat, and the only Labour, councillors voted against.

We are fortunate to live in a wealthy borough, but there are many living beside us who struggle daily.

Councillor Samuel may think of it as only a 10% increase, but for those affected it will make hard times much harder.

This may save £337,000 at the expense of the poorest, but compare that to the £480,000 budget currently being spent on delivering the unpopular Francis Terry designs for Twickenham Riverside

Cllr True and Cllr Fleming fail to see that the lido proposed is not just an outdoor swimming pool. The model is based on an extremely successful concept which would encourage visitors to the area and could help the much needed regeneration of Twickenham. The lido restaurant proposed is an award-winning food outlet and there is a welcoming community café. The ethos of the complex, which also has a spa, is relaxation and healthy living. Membership, as with most swimming clubs, is available but members of the public are welcome, including special sessions set aside for local people and children. The lido complex was put forward as it only takes up a quarter of the site leaving plenty of space for a town square and public space and complements riverside sports.

The Council Report for Cabinet also said that there had been a request to make Twickenham Riverside a "Destination". This was a statement in the original plan containing the lido (one of the plans in the Council's competition) and subsequently in the Twickenham Lido proposal and petition on Change.org



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THE LOCAL POSTCARD PAGE

By Alan Winter

PART 6 – KNELLER HALL – HOUNSLOW, WHITTON OR TWICKENHAM?

A very topical building features on these two postcards this week. We know about its past, but its future currently remains uncertain. The present Kneller Hall is the third house built on this site. The first house was built by Edmund Cooke (described as a gentleman) in the 17th Century and in 1664 was the fourth largest house in Twickenham. Today's building was rebuilt between 1847 and 1850. At this point it became a training school for teachers of paupers and criminal children.

On March 3rd 1857 the Royal Military School of Music opened at Kneller Hall and continues this function today. The school has opened its doors to many charitable concerts and community occasions over the years and many locals will treasure the memory of the Status Quo gig a few years ago. RIP Rick Parfitt.



The postcards shown represent examples of a frequently asked question. Exactly where is Kneller Hall? The coloured card which was posted in 1906 is titled as being in Hounslow whereas the black and white card which was posted in 1919 is captioned as Kneller Hall, Whitton. A previous commandant of the school when giving a talk to BOTLHS (Borough of Twickenham Local History

Society) <http://botlhs.co.uk/> last year, stated that it was in Twickenham these days. If anyone has the definitive answer please drop a line to the letters page.

If you have any postcards to dispose of, any questions on this subject, or ideas for future articles, please drop me a line at

alanwinter192@hotmail.com

POSTCARDS WANTED

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Please ring Alan to discuss on

07875 578398

CHINESE NEW YEAR – 28 January 2017, The Year of the Rooster

Kung hay fat choi 新年快乐 *See edition 10 for more on the Chinese New Year*

Email from children from China

We want to tell you something about the special snacks of our festivals. The most famous one is jiaozi. The history of jiaozi can be counted back to ancient times. During the Spring Festival making jiaozi has become the custom almost for all the Chinese, it started in the Ming Dynasty, about 500 to 600 years ago. The reason was quite simple. The shape of jiaozi looks like the gold or silver ingot used as money in ancient China. As the Spring Festival marks the beginning of a new year, people like to eat jiaozi [a dumpling] to bless themselves for good fortune in the new year. Although time has changed, the tradition has remained still. The fun of eating jiaozi lies not only in the delicacy itself but also in the process of preparing for it: everybody, the host and guests together, would roll up their sleeves and wrap the pancake to cover the fillings. They would talk and laugh at the same time.



And another festival is ...

DRAGON BOATS



Zongzi is the festival food of Dragon Boat Festival. Two thousand years ago, a loyal scholar who named QuYuan jumped into the Miluo River in the 5th day of the fifth lunar month because his country was defeated. People were steering boats to rescue him on the river and offering rice to protect his body so it wouldn't be eaten by fish. In order to prevent the dragon

from stealing them, the Zongzi consisted of bamboo tubes filled with glutinous rice. The custom of eating Zongzi and dragon-boat racing comes down to us because people wanted to remember his loyalty. There are many different kinds of Zongzi, each with its own particular flavor, shape, and type of leaf for wrapping. Zongzi is normally four-sided with pointed, rounded ends, or in pyramid shapes. Sometimes it is in the shape of a cone or cylinder. The glutinous rice mixture is wrapped in leaves of palm or bamboo. Bamboo leaf Zongzi is a specialty of South China.

worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=PartnersChina2&page=2

WIZ Facts

Fancy testing your knowledge with a quiz on China? Then have a look here:

worldinfozone.com/facts.php?country=China



TWICKERS FOODIE

A Fermentation 'Playday'

by Alison Jee

It all started on Streetlife. Someone put up a post asking if anyone knew of any classes locally where one could learn about fermentation, sauerkraut, kimchi etc. A couple of weeks later, I found myself in a flat in Sheen, with an interesting group of like-minded people. They ranged from IT professionals, to a special needs teacher and a hypnotherapist and we all wanted to learn more about fermentation and its benefits. We were to enjoy a tutored tasting and then a fun 'play session' where we all could make our own versions of sauerkraut to take home.



The facilitator was a lady called Sheila Gibbons, who has a website inspiringalchemy.com. A nutritionist, she eschewed the commercial business world some years ago when she discovered yoga and the spiritual and healing path. She has since travelled the world learning, and sharing her knowledge.

Sheila took us through the different types of fermentation: we started with a 'scooby' (Symbiotic Colony Of Bacteria and Yeast which appear as translucent granules which grow quickly when fed) then kefir in various forms – which tasted delicious and are so good for the digestive system; kombuchas; rejuvelac; kvass, which has no culture, just fruit or vegetables fermenting and finally krauts. We also tasted delicious crackers made by Sheila using her dehydrator, and she also makes living vegan cheeses.

We were taught handy tips - like using mango stones as weights to keep the fruit and vegetables fully covered during fermentation - and during our play session, we were even shown the best way to peel fresh ginger (with the edge of a teaspoon, if you were wondering!).



Time flies when you are having fun, and it certainly did! The afternoon opened my eyes to a world far more interesting and tasty than just plain sauerkraut. One of our party suggested that one of Sheila's sessions would be great for a company wanting to organise a team-building exercise – but whether you go on your own or with friends, you will have a fascinating afternoon!

Competitions and Offers

Win a selection of Chinese food, courtesy of The Food Sanctuary

Emily, from The Food Sanctuary, has put together this selection of delicacies which you could win and have your very own Chinese New Year celebration at home.



Just answer the following question:

At which festival in China do people traditionally eat Moon Cakes? *Chinese New Year or Mid Autumn Festival*

Send your answer to win@TwickenhamTribune.com
(include your name and postcode)

www.foodsanctuary.co.uk

Photography Competition

Win an 18 hole round of golf for 4 at Strawberry Hill Golf Club

Enter our monthly photographic competition.

Email your photo to win@TwickenhamTribune.com
(include your name and postcode)

Entries must be received by Tuesday 31st January 2017.

All 4 players must play the same round.



Photos can be of any subject taken within the local villages, ie Twickenham, St Margaret's & East Twickenham, Strawberry Hill, Teddington, Hampton Wick, Hampton, Hampton Hill and Whitton/Heathfield

This competition is run in conjunction with [Strawberry Hill Golf Club www.shgc.net](http://www.shgc.net)

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for returning/new/
novice golfers

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- Rules and etiquette
- Social membership
- Access to golf course

For further information:

- Club Manager: Jon Wright 020 8894 0165
- Professional: Peter Buchan 07795 973926



Strawberry Hill Golf Club
Wellesley Road, Strawberry Hill, Twickenham TW2 5SD
Tel: Club Manager 020 8894 0165
Email: secretary@shgc.net
To find out more visit: www.shgc.net



Arts and Entertainment

by Erica White

FRIDAY, 20 JANUARY: at 7.30 at the Landmark Arts Centre, Teddington, [VIVE LA FRANCE QUIZ NIGHT](#). Fund raising event. Tickets include a light supper at £13.50 (£11.50 members). Further information, ring: 8977 7558.

FRIDAY, 20 JANUARY-SATURDAY 28 JANUARY: at St Edmunds Church Hall, Nelson Road, Whitton, [PINOCCHIO](#). Family pantomime. For times and tickets prices, ring Box Office: 07765 605374 (6.00pm-9.00pm)

SATURDAY, 21-SATURDAY 28, at 7.45pm at Mary Wallace Theatre, Twickenham Riverside, Richmond Shakespeare Society presents [THE WEIR](#) by Conor McPherson. Please note there is no performance on Wednesday 18th, and on Sunday 22 performance will begin at 3.00pm. Tickets: Box Office: 020 8744 0547 (10am-7pm)

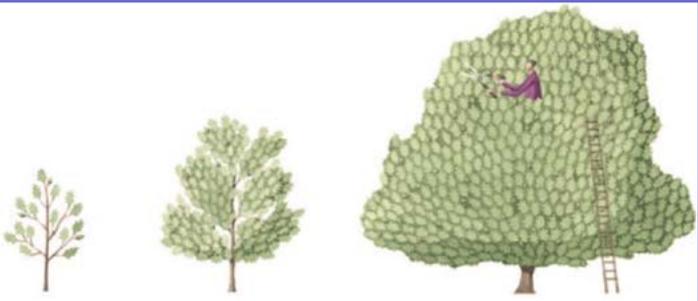
SUNDAY, 29 JANUARY-SATURDAY 4 FEBRUARY: Hampton Hill Theatre, Hampton Hill High Street, Teddington Theatre Club present [A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE](#) by Tennessee Williams. Please note opening performance on Sunday, 29 January is at 4.00pm. Rest of run at 7.45pm. Tickets, £12 (members £10). Box Office: www.ttc-boxoffice.org.uk, or phone 0845 8387529.

SUNDAY, 22 JANUARY, Twickfolk @ The Cabbage Patch have [ROBB JOHNSON](#), a master songwriter, in a programme of love and politics. Info: twickfolk.co.uk

THURSDAY, 26 JANUARY at 7.45pm at the Cabbage Patch, the Eel Pie Club are hosts to [THE BLUESCLUB BAND](#). Info. visit: eelpieclub.com

SUNDAY 29 JANUARY, at 7.45pm Twickfolk @ The Cabbage Patch offer [SINGERS NIGHT](#), 2 song spots on stage with amplification. Info: twickfolk.co.uk

TWICKENHAM MUSEUM. Current exhibition: [WORKING FOR A LIVING IN THE OLD BOROUGH OF TWICKENHAM](#), from earliest recorded times up to the modern day. Open Tuesdays and Saturdays, 11am-4pm. Sundays, 2pm-4pm. Admission free. Visit: twickenham-museum.org.uk

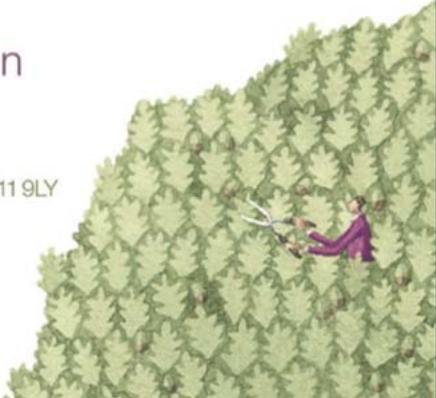


The Tree Agency

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

darryl parkin

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Review

Ensemble 96

Richmond Concert Society at St Mary's Church, Twickenham, 17th November

Review by Mark Aspen

Arctic Cathedral ... now there's a concept to inspire awe! I used to work in Norway, and last night's concert by the Norwegian choir, Ensemble 96, evoked many connections with that country of grandeur and mystery. The Arctic "Cathedral" stands several hundred miles north of the Arctic Circle and is a wonderful modern building in concrete and aluminium that resembles an iceberg turning on edge. It is actually a parish church, whilst Tromsø Cathedral is a few miles away in the centre of the town. This is an elegant early eighteenth century building almost contemporaneous with the nave of Twickenham Parish Church, where our concert took place. Apart from the dedication to St Mary, which they share, both have long histories stretching back to mediaeval times.

With these thoughts in mind of comfortable blends of modern with traditional and of nature with spirituality, I approached a concert which billed Stockhausen and Cage with nine Norwegian composers also of the twentieth century, contemporary but with strong folk music roots. The choir has twenty-four singers, of a wide spread of ages and vocal ranges. They come many from the Oslo area, a long way from Tromsø, but this only served to underline the oneness of Norway as a country with the oneness of this outstanding ensemble. The other Norwegian trait that came across very strongly was the friendliness and openness of the group that brought the group immediately to the audience, who remained totally engaged throughout. The choir was conducted by the energetic Nina Therese Karlsen, and was joined on this occasion by violinist Mari Skeie Ljones. She normally plays the Hardingerfele, a folk fiddle with a short neck and sympathetic (ie resonating) strings. Classically trained Ljones prefers to call all her instruments fiddles, as a tribute to the folk inspiration of her style.

Ensemble 96 brought a freshness and scintillating clarity to singing that was as innovative and inspiring as it was intricate and interwoven.

The choir assembled in a broad spacious arc and opened with ... silence ...

Mark Aspen
January 2017



Mark Aspen

www.markaspen.wordpress.com

Expressing the art of the theatre critic

See full review at:

markaspen.wordpress.com/2017/01/18/songs-that-came-out-of-the-cold-ensemble-96/

Introducing Strawberry Hill Golf Club



Strawberry Hill is your local nine hole golf course, just a couple of minutes' walk from the train station. We're owned and run by our members but open to anyone wanting to pop in for a game. And more and more local people are doing so. That is maybe because a round at Strawberry Hill, while still as challenging as one of our larger neighbours, will normally take less than half the time. Or it might be because, conscious of the image of golf clubs, we go out of our way to be informal, friendly and don't take ourselves too seriously – it's supposed to be fun after all. We believe that the fact that women make up almost half of our members, the highest percentage of almost any club in the country, contributes in no small part to our unique relaxed atmosphere.

To judge from the comments of visitors as well as members, the course is in the best condition for years, with greens that match the best in the county. It may be over a 100 years old but it's clearly stood the test of time.

Over the last 18 months, we have been making greater efforts to introduce golf to a wider audience, and, in addition to a very vibrant and hugely popular junior section, we have introduced our Academy section. This is a sort of half-way house between introductory lessons which we provide as part of the national Get into Golf scheme (£30 for 4 hour lessons) and full membership. The attraction of the Academy is that it allows beginners to become more familiar with the club and the game over a year when they pay much less and still receive regular coaching from our professional. We know playing on the course can be daunting for beginners but those joining our Academy last year voted it a success and are now playing regularly. Look us up on www.shgc.net or just pop in and have a look round.

To book a tee time or function call 020 8894 0165 email secretary@shgc.net for further details or you can download our free new App from Google play or the App store just type in strawberry hill golf and download its free and easy and gives you the latest offers, news and tee times booking

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Word On The Street

Did you know?

SWLTV – Peter Fison

An article from Edition 8 has been selected by SWLTV (South West London Television) for inclusion on their website southwestlondon.tv/watergate-in-richmond-last-christmas



We told you so!

On 16th December 2016 (edition 6) we reported a rumour that St Mary's University was to take over the management of Twickenham's new Art Centre at Brewery Wharf. Yesterday this was confirmed by the council and St Mary's. See story in this edition.

Leader's Question Time Works!!

On 11th January the Leader's Question Time came to Strawberry Hill. One of the topics, towards the end of the meeting, was about the poor state of the Spencer Road pavements. One resident said that the pavements had not seen any form of maintenance in decades and that when it rained it was like dodging a multitude of swimming pools (or little Lidos?).



But lo and behold, the day after the meeting Spencer Road residents were sent a letter stating that work would commence on the pavements on 30th January!!

Up Twickers!- (*LBRuT ignore Lido*)

A film not coming soon, not starring Frankie Howerd

They said nay, nay
and thrice nay.

And it came to pass.



RichDance 2017 – time is rapidly running out to apply!

Time is rapidly running out to make some moves at this year's RichDance 2017 – nominations close next Wednesday so don't miss out!

Now in its 16th year, RichDance is the borough's annual platform for new dance and will take place on Friday 3 March and Saturday 4 March at the Hammond Theatre, Hampton School. RichDance will also feature at this year's Richmond Music and Drama Festival 2017 which takes place throughout March.

RichDance is open to all forms of dance and we are looking for a wide-ranging variety of styles to showcase over the two performance days. Applications are welcome from dance schools of all ages, community groups, professional dance companies and choreographers.

Richmond Council's Cabinet Member for Arts and Culture, Cllr Meena Bond, said:

“RichDance is as fabulous as it is flamboyant so don't miss your chance to take centre stage and apply to showcase your prodigious dance talent today. It's one of the highlight's of the borough's social calendar and now in its 16th year the dance event to end all dance events promises to be bigger and better than ever.”

To apply visit www.richmond.gov.uk/richdance

TWICKENHAM ALIVE FILM FESTIVAL 2017

The Twickenham Alive Film Festival is a community-based film festival inviting submissions of short films, up to 10 minutes.



The theme for submissions is 'Where You Live' and the films can be on any aspect of the area, way of life, attractions, culture, sport or environment of the entrants' home area. Entrants in the student category may choose their own theme, which should be explained in the synopsis. Please contact us if you need further clarification.

Films can be of any genre, such as documentary, drama or animation. The central theme is 'Where you live', but there are other categories including travel, sport, animation, music and junior.



To make an entry contact film@twickenhamalive.com or visit www.TwickenhamFilmFestival.com

A video from the 2016 festival

Dawn Westlake, California
Through the Pane

Running time 6' 21"

The pain of loss reflected through a pane of glass.



A Connection which Spreads Across the World

When we started The Twickenham Tribune we anticipated our readership to be completely local. How wrong can you be when a publication is on the internet.

As well as thousands of local readers we now find that The Twickenham Tribune is of interest to people in Tucson Arizona, Charlestown in South Carolina, Tampa Florida, New York and Sydney Australia, not to mention nearer home in Portugal, Spain and Switzerland.

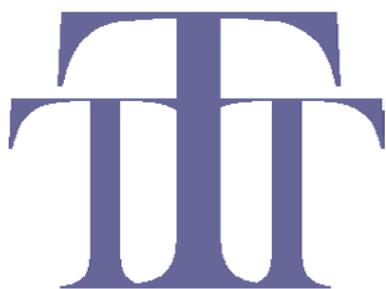
	USA	27
	Portugal	8
	Spain	4
	Switzerland	1

Why one might ask are our towns on the Twickenham side of the Thames of so much interest? Some of these readers will be our friends and relatives, others might just see similarities on our way of life, or perhaps they just like reading our articles.

The Twickenham Tribune has promoted the history of the area and relevant websites; we have been and are known as international centres for ice skating [in the past], and rugby, and Twickenham is a place where famous bands such as the Stones and the Who made their early appearances.

Recent studies of the little known Richmond House on Twickenham Riverside have uncovered an intriguing past where the rich and titled lived for around two hundred years. Early inhabitants included members of the Middleton family; some of whom eventually moved to America where one member of the family was a signatory of the Declaration of Independence. The Duchess of Cambridge was very pleased to learn about this connection with Twickenham.

So the Twickenham side of the River Thames is starting to become known in many places around the world - people learning about our way of life, our concerns and our history. With the help of our contributors The Twickenham Tribune will continue to publish topical articles which we hope will be of interest to people everywhere.



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Contact: advertise@twickenhamtribune.com

St Mary's University, Twickenham Update

St Mary's Physiotherapist to run Marathon Des Sables

Setting yourself a challenge for the New year can mean different things to different people. For St Mary's physiotherapist Rory Brown it means running 250km in the desert over Easter. The Marathon des Sables (MDS) is an annual event attracting over a 1000 like-minded individuals from around the world to Morocco, where they take on the heat and sand dunes of the Sahara.

"Most people think I am crazy, but I have been a runner for many years covering all the normal distances and have always been fascinated by the challenge of the MDS" says Rory.



Rory will receive months of support and training from the resources and staff here at St Mary's university, ranging from nutrition advice to strength and conditioning work.

To find out more about Rory's training, read his blog on the St Mary's website.

Drama St Mary's Production of Blue Stockings

A promotional image for the drama 'Blue Stockings' by Jessica Swale. It shows four women in 19th-century attire (long dresses and hats) standing in a room. The text 'Blue Stockings by Jessica Swale' is written in a cursive font. A circular logo says 'MADE IN DRAMA ST. MARY'S'. At the bottom, it lists the dates and times: '31st January at 7.30pm' and '1st February at 2pm and 7.30pm'. It also mentions 'BA (Hons) Theatre Arts Students', 'Drama St Mary's Theatre', and 'St Mary's University, Twickenham, TW1 4SX'. At the very bottom, it says 'TICKETS £5' and provides social media handles and a website: '@DramaStMarys', 'Drama St Mary's (Official)', and 'www.dramastmarysreservations.weebly.com'.

Jessica Swale's Blue Stockings coming to Drama St Mary's Theatre this January 31st and Feb 1st. It is Girton College in 1896 and the first female students at Cambridge University are ferociously studying to match their male peers grade for grade, but at the risk of losing their reputations. The women know that whilst the men will graduate, they will leave with nothing but the stigma of being a 'blue stocking' – an unnatural, educated woman who is unsuitable for marriage. However, Principal Elizabeth Welsh is determined to win the girls the right to graduate.

Buy tickets here:

www.ticketsource.co.uk/stmarysuni



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

Leading local university to manage Twickenham community building

St Mary's University will take over the management of the borough's newest community building in Twickenham, it was announced last night.

In 2014 Richmond Council granted Planning Consent for the redevelopment of the Post Office site in Twickenham. As part of the permission, the developers, St James, agreed to build a new Community Building on the Brewery Wharf site – opposite Twickenham Train Station.

The landmark facility, which will be finished this Spring, comprises a theatre space for an audience of nearly 320 people seated, a further six multi-purpose studio rooms, a large conservatory area and various back of house and ancillary rooms.

Over the past 18 months, the Council has been working on the plans for how the new centre should be used, looking for a partner who would be able to manage the building and ensure it:

- Provides a commercially viable business. The Council's aim has been that the facility is financially self-sufficient and runs without a Council subsidy.
- Meets the needs of Community Visitors. Providing a varied programme of entertainment, cultural, community and business interests, including a local cinema.
- Create a community venue that is well managed and a benefit to not only the local community but beyond.

At last night's Leaders' Questiontime event at The Stoop, Lord True announced that subject to final approvals and contracts, it is the Council's intention to lease the building to St Mary's University.

The University has been working with the Council to develop a plan that would enable them to use the building for:

- Academic Tuition for St Mary's students, both undergraduate and postgraduate. Along with training courses for local residents and local businesses
- Room hire for community groups, local residents and local businesses
- A Café in the Conservatory that will be open to the public
- The hosting of local arts, music and literature festival events
- Theatre performances
- Cinema showings, band nights, comedy nights
- Conference and event hire



Members will now discuss the proposal at a Cabinet Meeting in February.

Lord True, said:

“This is an important partnership deal that secures a long-term future for the community building. We will work to ensure wide access, all without any continued revenue costs to the tax payer.

“St Mary's has a long history of academic excellence and has been based in and contributed to the Borough since 1925. This will be a facility that will not only benefit students, but also the wider community, acknowledging and providing space for, the exceptional arts groups and organisations we have in our borough.

“This is one more stage in the improvement and enhancement of Twickenham to which this Council set itself in 2010. I hope thousands of local people will enjoy the new facilities that are created. This significant regeneration project is going to bring a community heart to a piece of land that has been derelict for so long.

“Over the past year we have all watched the building go up. And, when it opens, this new building will bring more entertainment to people of all ages in the borough, giving arts and culture a welcome boost.

Francis Campbell, Vice-Chancellor of St Mary's University, said:

“We are delighted to be able to partner with Richmond Council on such an exciting project. I look forward to seeing this facility develop under our leadership and seeing both students and the local community alike enjoy all that it has to offer.

“St Mary's already welcomes thousands of local residents to our Strawberry Hill campus through our sporting, cultural and education activities. We're committed to expanding our links with the local community and businesses, and this facility provides a fantastic location in the heart of Twickenham to take that ambition forward, whilst developing more cutting edge teaching facilities for our students.”

Sean Ellis, Chairman of St James, commented:

“This facility is an integral part of the area's regeneration, designed and built to give this former industrial site a real identity and put it back into the use of the wider neighbourhood. The community building presents a fantastic opportunity, and I look forward to seeing this realised by St Mary's University.”

St Margarets author in six-figure novel deal

St Margarets author David Young has just signed a six-figure deal for three new books in his East German-set crime thriller series – and has celebrated by buying an East German police car.

Mr Young, 58, published the first in the series, *Stasi Child*, last year.

The novel has been sold in ten territories round the world, selling more than fifty thousand copies, and reaching the official paperback top twenty in the UK. It won the Crime Writers' Association History Dagger for the best historical crime novel of the year and was long-listed for the Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year.



The second book in the series, *Stasi Wolf*, is published on February 9th. The new deal means he will have five books under contract with the British subsidiary of Swedish publishers Bonnier.

The novels feature the struggles of female murder squad head Karin Müller, whose People's Police team finds itself up against the feared East German secret police – the Stasi – as well as murderers and villains.

As part of his promotional efforts, Mr Young has just bought an old East German Wartburg estate, and is converting it into an authentic-looking Volkspolizei squad car. He's already added logos and resprayed the lower half of the car in People's Police olive green, and has made East German number plates and secured genuine blue lights from old communist stock.

'The car's not quite finished but it's already attracted a lot of interest when it's been parked outside the house. Some Polish builders saw it and couldn't believe their eyes.' Although there are several old East German police cars still on the road in Germany itself, Mr Young's car is believed by the Wartburg and Trabant owners' club to be the only one of its kind in the UK.



'I just need to remember to take the number plates off and cover up the blue lights when I'm on the road – otherwise no doubt the Metropolitan Police will be contacting the People's Police with stern words to say at the very least.'

Noisier Actually...

by Teddington Action Group

Noisier Actually...

Data from monitors installed by Heathrow confirms that A380s are noisier than the supposedly “noisier” planes they are replacing (contrary to DfT claims)

Corroborating the experience of overflown residents, research conducted by Teddington Action Group (TAG) has established that the new generation of supposedly “quieter aircraft” are in fact noisier than the planes they are replacing.

The research relies on data from noise monitors, installed by Heathrow, at the National Physical Laboratory and Strawberry Hill House, to the South West of London.

The data, gathered between March to September 2016, shows that “quieter” A380s departing directly over the monitors achieved an average noise of 76.5 decibels, compared to an average of 73.8 dB for “noisier” Boeing 747s.



Moreover, TAG has discovered that the Civil Aviation Authority and Department for Transport have used “double counting” to manipulate elements of the very same data, so to create an artificially low noise average for the A380s.

A TAG representative said:

“We now know that the Airbus A380 is noisier than all the planes it is replacing, including the Boeing 747-400 and Airbus A340.

“The DfT argues that Heathrow expansion is made possible by a new generation of quieter aircraft. It's one thing to learn that this platitude is as fallacious as overflown residents have long known. But quite another to learn that data has been self evidently manipulated by the authorities to shore up the fallacy.

For more information

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Zac Goldsmith to join the fight against Heathrow

Former Richmond Park MP Zac Goldsmith, has been appointed as a spokesman and organiser for the four-council anti-Heathrow expansion campaign for Richmond, Wandsworth, Hillingdon and Windsor and Maidenhead councils, it was announced last night.

The appointment was announced at Richmond Council's full council meeting on Tuesday 17 January. At the meeting, Lord True tabled a motion that endorsed the appointment of Zac Goldsmith as an unpaid, spokesman and organiser for the public and legal campaign being waged by the four councils against the expansion of Heathrow.

Lord True said:

“This was the first time that we've met as Council since what I consider to be the devastating news that the Government has accepted the preferred recommendation of the Davies Commission and decided to support a third runway at Heathrow.



“It is absolutely right that we should commit our resources to fighting the expansion of Heathrow and it is our duty to the residents of this borough who voted no to a third runway. We have always been opposed to a third runway at Heathrow. We say no and we have always been united against this threat.

“We have launched legal action on a decision that is so flawed. This is only the beginning of the fight.

“Everyone knows Heathrow fears Zac Goldsmith most of all. I am pleased to say that following an approach from Hillingdon, supported by Richmond, Wandsworth and Windsor and Maidenhead councils, he has agreed to be a spokesperson and adviser, supporting our opposition to the expansion of Heathrow on behalf of all four Councils. All of us must make our voices heard. I welcome the role of Zac Goldsmith - a great campaigner for green causes.”

Zac Goldsmith added:

“The arguments against Heathrow expansion are overwhelming, but alone they aren't going to win this campaign. That's why the legal action launched by the four heroic councils is so crucial. I am honoured to have been asked to support their campaign, and will do all I can to ensure we win. I am confident we will.”

HAVE YOUR SAY

How a Twickenham Lido designed by Francis Terry could look

On 13 February 2015 Twickenham Alive and its team of architects were invited to take part in the Council's competition for Twickenham Riverside. Twickenham Alive was the lead local stakeholder with a brief to consult locally - the lido idea which later became Twickenham Lido, with its petition of 3,000 supporters, came from that initial consultation. The incorporation of boathouses into the scheme can be seen in the plan for Twickenham Riverside in which Twickenham Alive participated. Boathouses, a Twickenham Alive proposal, are now accepted by the Council although the lido has a way to go ... despite 3,000 supporters. All the plans submitted to the Council are available from this link:

www.richmond.gov.uk/twickenham_rediscovered_architects_competition.htm



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[3,000 people support the Twickenham Lido project](#). Comments can be read on the Change.org petition site. TwickenhamLido.com 300 people support the scheme the Council is putting forward for Twickenham Riverside.

Some comments from the petition:

S, Twickenham

I think a Lido would be a very healthy and sociable meeting place for all.

G, Twickenham

Multi community use far superior to flats or empty offices or shops

M, Twickenham

We need more imagination and glamour in Twickenham, whilst respecting our local history.

H, Twickenham

I think this is a wonderful idea to really make the most of our riverside. I love living in Twickenham and we are so lucky to have such gorgeous surrounding a stones throw away. This could really boost Twickenham's tourism, bring money into local business and in general make are river side even more usable ... I spend a lot of time walking along the river side- it would be so brilliant to have a Twickenham lido! It's a great opportunity and the river side and community would really benefit!

M, Twickenham

I'm signing this petition because building a Twickenham Lido will enhance our local community in so many positive ways. Let's make it happen!

M, Twickenham

I live in Twickenham and think it would be an asset drawing people to Twickenham and meeting the needs of local people as well as invigorating the use of the riverside.

M, Richmond

I want this once in a lifetime opportunity not to be missed which will provide a positive addition to the attraction of Twickenham promoting its economy in a way which will exploit this unique site to its maximum for public benefit.

S, Hampton Hill

It would be the perfect solution to this troubled site. It's a fantastic idea and would bring much needed vitality to this beautiful riverside spot.

C, Twickenham

It's the best plan yet to rejuvenate the town and attract people to the area whilst also giving locals an option to increase their feeling of well being.

S, Twickenham

I love the Bristol lido and think it would be fab to have one in my hometown.

M, Twickenham

I feel there is no heart in Twickenham and this project would bring a centre where I could meet friends, get some exercise and enjoy the riverside views. I love Twickenham but there's no incentive to go there at the moment, apart from quickly passing through.

A, Teddington

I support the need to bring something of interest to Twickenham. At present it is a town people pass through on way to Richmond or Kingston. The river area is beautiful and it needs regenerating.

F, Twickenham

Twickenham needs more amenities for local residents to regenerate the heart of the town. This is in keeping with the original use of the site both in terms of function and scale, unlike the Council's preferred option which is essentially an ugly, old-fashioned looking block of flats which would dominate the riverside rather than open it up.

K, Twickenham

A Lido would regenerate and revitalise Twickenham in so many different ways that would benefit the whole community. The town would come alive. This is a wonderful opportunity that must not be missed.

R, Twickenham

It would be an excellent asset for the people who live and pay council tax in Twickenham and for local businesses benefiting from the extra footfall.

C, Twickenham

We lost the pool years ago also the ice rink, let's have something for all the family to enjoy. People used to come from all over to enjoy the old swimming pool, and ice rink.

Letters

Sir

At last night's Council / Public Meeting, convened to discuss "Twickenham Village", I asked the Panel to confirm how the Twickenham Arts Centre (the rather large oval shaped building opposite Twickenham Station) came to be built, who owns it, what the management plan is and whether it will be affordable for rental by community led initiatives, such as Twickenham Cinema Club.

Having been asked to submit my question in advance, Lord True was well briefed and responded to my question. It seems that the preferred "bidder" dropped out early in 2016 and as no other bidder had come forward, negotiations had commenced with St Mary's University and it is highly likely they will take over much of this space for University activities. It was hoped though that community organisations would liaise with St Mary's regarding the hire of parts of the building.

My supplementary question was whether it would be run for profit, as surely there was very little chance that local groups could afford the hire charges - especially the cinema, which was a huge space to fill. Lord True was unable to answer this but confirmed that there would have to be some profit made via hire charges.

The Chair of the Meeting, Robin Ghurbhurun, Chief Ex and Principal of Richmond College also confirmed at the Meeting that the College is building a huge media centre and cinema on the campus, so the likelihood of the Twickenham Arts Centre being used for film screenings looks even less likely.

I worry that St George's, who built this huge building for Twickenham Town (in gratitude for planning permission for their very large development?) has left Twickenham with a rather large white elephant that in reality will not be affordable to local groups, or an attractive proposition to outside management companies and will just end up as an extension of St Mary's University or empty potential office space.

Julie Hill

Twickenham Riverside Ward

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