

The Twickenham Tribune

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Flooding? What Flooding?!

Earlier this week the Thames (Thanes?) continued to confound all expectations and flooded. Perhaps this was a freak occurrence, confined to Twickenham? If only there were organisations able to advise on such matters called, say, the Environment Agency or the Port of London Authority. Perhaps the council could look into this?



Iceland always delivers



Death of an A-Class

*Click images above to view video
Videos above and image below by TwickerMan*



Photos below by Berkley Driscoll



The Easter weekend witnessed the (expected) return of flooding on Twickenham Riverside.

TwickerSeal joined many others to witness what has become a regular spectacle of car chaos at the bottom of Water Lane.

For some reason the council had decided to spend money moving the new green gates inwards by a couple of metres. This may have been better spent erecting signage advising motorists that they could exit via the (temporarily) open service road or even removing the sign explicitly refusing access.

The result? Cars making dangerous 3 point turns and driving the wrong way up Water Lane and some cars attempting to drive through the flood, some of which are now deceased cars!



TwickerTape - News in Brief

Twickenham Flooding

Jeremy Rodell sent us this shot taken from the East Twickenham end of Richmond Bridge at 5.50pm 3 April. Someone didn't look at the Tide Tables!



Udney Park Planning Application

Udney Park Playing Fields Planning Application

http://www2.richmond.gov.uk/PlanData2/Planning_CASENO.aspx?strCASENO=18/0151/FUL

Become A Lifeguard

Hampton Pool are offering courses to become a RLSS National Pool Lifeguard. Course starts 9th to 13th April 18.

http://www.hamptonpool.co.uk/5_c_nplq.php

Cabbage Patch Nominatd For Award

Stuart and the Cabbage Patch team have been nominated for The All-Party Parliamentary Beer Group's 'Charity Fundraising Pub of the Year' award

NPL Open Day

NPL is opening their doors to the public on Thursday 17 May 2018. Get your ticket here:

<http://www.npl.co.uk/open-house/>

Teddington Market

There has been a lot of discussion on Twitter recently about Teddington Market, with many concerned that its footfall is dropping. Some have suggested that the location is not ideal

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PART 69

THE RED LION AT HAMPTON

It has been a busy week or two in the postcard world with several Collectors fairs taking place around the Easter period. It was a pleasure to meet a number of Twickenham Tribune readers for the first time at the Tolworth fair on Monday. Thanks for coming to say hello and I hope you enjoy the local postcards that you purchased.

We have been wandering around St Margarets and Teddington in recent weeks looking at Schools, Colleges and Hospitals as seen on old postcards. It's about time we popped over to Hampton where we can take a look at another of the great British institutions – The Public House!

I have had at least one pint in almost every pub in the borough during my lifetime but unfortunately the Red Lion in Hampton is one that I missed.

It closed for the last time at number 1 High Street on the corner of Thames Street in 1979 having started life as the Shipp way back in the 16th century.

In 1851 the Red Lion Hotel and stables was a major element in the social fabric of Hampton and a stop off point for coaches and boats travelling west from London and Hampton Court. It was home to many local workers including a ladies maid, bar woman, cook, chamber maid, nursemaid, boots, potman and ostler to look after the horses. Day staff were also employed so the pub was a busy community hub.

Our first postcard shows the Red Lion going up in flames with the fire brigade and anxious crowds in attendance but as in many photographs taken in the last 150 years, life is not always what it seems! Let's get on the Tardis and travel back 110 years in time.



It is 10.30am on March 11th in 1908 and all is quiet in Hampton, then fifteen minutes later all hell breaks loose as an explosion tears through the Red Lion pub. Customers flee the bar and within minutes the fire has taken hold and Hampton Brigade is on its way. Not with blue lights and two tone sirens but with the rattle of horses reins and the clip-clop of horses hooves on the road surface. Ladders are placed against the building and the caretaker is rescued from what

seems imminent death. Firemen Bloxham, Jenner, Jennings and Brown climb into the burning pile and bring out the 'potman' F Garrett from a room under the roof. By now a huge crowd has gathered as news of the incident spreads. The crowd oohs and aahs and cheer as a young lad leaps from the building into a sheet, horses are rescued from the stables at the back of the pub and led to safety. Once everyone is accounted for the Brigade can begin the next stage and start to sweep the flaming building with jets of water. Within half an hour the fire is contained but one fireman sustains an injury and is removed by an ambulance.



Eventually the fire is put out and Captain Graham is complimented on the efficiency and bravery of his men. A job well done and no lives lost, a collection is taken for the Firemen's Widows' and Orphans' Fund in grateful thanks for their public service.

However, all is not what it seemed. The Red Lion was a historic hotel and was due to be knocked down and be rebuilt so, why not take advantage of the situation and have a full scale practice for the brigade. And that is what indeed happened! The remains of the building were torn down and a new Red Lion put up in its place. It opened later in 1908 and our other two postcards show the Red Lion viewed from Thames Street prior to the fire. By the 1980's the buildings were given over to offices. These days the site contains a number of apartments.



The Red Lion is the most common pub name in Britain I believe. It is such a shame that both Hampton and Twickenham have lost their Red Lions in recent years. The Stanley Road, Teddington pub is now the last remaining Red Lion in the old Borough of Twickenham.

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 alanwinter192@hotmail.com . I would like to see them and I pay cash!

POSTCARDS WANTED

Cash paid for Old Postcards

& postally franked envelopes.

Required by local collector / dealer.

Please ring Alan to discuss on

07875 578398

Arts and Entertainment

By Erica White



RSS are into final rehearsals for its production of **THE 39 STEPS** by John Buchan in an adaptation by Patrick Barlow. Performances **on Saturday 21-Saturday 28 April, at 7.45pm, Sunday mat at 3.00, no perf Wed.** at MWT, Embankment, TW1 3DU.

Info: richmondshakespeare.org.uk.

TTC opens its HHT doors for tours of the nooks and crannies of this purpose-built theatre on your doorstep at Hampton Hill High Street. Free coffee and cakes offered to all-comers. **Saturday, 7 April, 10.00am-noon.**

Info: www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk

YOUTH ACTION THEATRE (YAT) presents its Spring production of **WITCHES** by Roald Dahl at HHT in the Main Auditorium, **Wednesday, 11 – Saturday, 14 April at 7.30pm, and Saturday matinee at 2.30pm.**

Info: www.yat.org.uk/boxoffice

RICHMOND & TWICKENHAM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY Annual Exhibition is currently on show at LAC, Ferry Road, TW11 9NN **until Sunday, 8 March.**

Info: www.landmarkartscentre.org.uk

TWICKENHAM ART CIRCLE Spring Exhibition will be held on **Saturday-Sunday, on 14/15 April from 9.30am-5.30pm.** Affordable art in a wide range of media and styles on display.

Info: www.twickenhamartcircle.org.uk

The Hammond Theatre, Hampton School, TW12 3HD. Next 'Encore' screening direct from the Royal Opera House of their production of **MACBETH** will be shown **on Sunday, 8 April at 2.00pm.**

And **on 19 April, at 7.00pm** there is another chance to catch the 'Encore' screening of the exhilarating Bridge Theatre production of **JULIUS CAESAR.**

Info: www.thehammondtheatre.co.uk

POPE'S GROTTTO. Winter opening were so popular the PG Preservation Trust has planned a further 6 open days **from April-July.** First opening **Thursday, 12 April, (free to children) followed by Saturday mornings.**

Info: www.popesgrotto.org.uk

Richmond Concert Society (RCS): at St Margaret's Church, East Twickenham, **on Tuesday, 17 April at 7.45pm,** THE BUSCH TRIO plays Schubert's Piano Trio No.2 & Dvorak's Piano Trio No.3.

Info: www.richmondconcerts.co.uk

Landmark Arts Centre, TW11 9NN plays host at a Supper Concert **on Friday, 20 April at 8.00pm** when MADDY PRIOR, (of Steeleye Span fame)with Hannah James (Lady Maisery) and Giles Lewin (Bellowhead/Carnival) will entertain.

Info: www.landmarkartscentre.org.uk

MIDNIGHT RIVER BLUES BAND makes a welcome return to the Prince Blucher pub, TW2 5AG **on Saturday, 14 April, at 9pm.** Parking restrictions lifted after 6.30pm. Pub grub available.

Info: email: www.shandy22ntlworld.com

As usual Folk, Jazz and Rock are also catered for weekly at The Cabbage Patch Pub, TW1 3SZ:

TWICKFOLK, **Sunday, 15 April, SINGERS**, two song spots with PA and lights.

Info: www.twickfolk.co.uk

TWICKENHAM JAZZ CLUB, **Tuesday, 10 April at 8.00-11.00pm,**

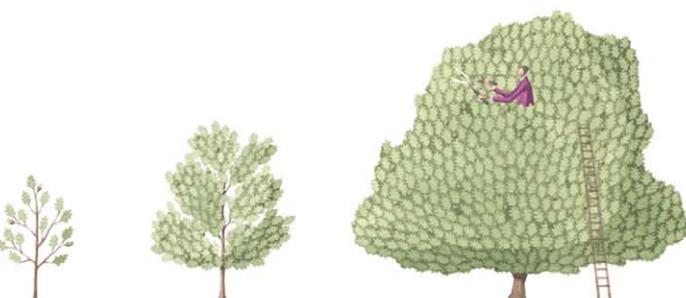
ZOE FRANCIS, JIM MULLEN, MICK HUTTON,

Info: www.twickenhamjazzclub.co.uk

EEL PIE CLUB: **Thursday, 19 April at 9.00-11.00pm:** JIM JAMMER'S ALL STAR CHICAGO BLUES REVUE.

Info: www.eelpieclub.com

Huge apologies to all my reader, well at least one of them, who spotted that I wrongly placed the lively, recently-opened EEL PIE ISLAND MUSEUM, open Thursdays-Sundays, noon-6pm, on the site of the old Gaumont Cinema. This, of course, as you probably all know, is now the site of the Shell Garage. The Museum is alongside, on the site of the old silent movie house, The Lyric Palace. That was in the olden, golden days when Twickenham had cinemas and a swimming pool.



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darryl parkin

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CHEERS! BELLA ISABELLA CELEBRATED

By Alison Jee

The Ivy Café has rapidly established itself as one of Richmond's trendiest places to be seen. The nearby Isabella Plantation in Richmond Park inspires the splendid décor – indeed, its lovely private dining room on the first floor is named The Isabella Room.

To celebrate the amazing floral display when the azaleas are flowering, the Ivy Café Richmond has devised two bespoke floral cocktails for guests to enjoy. Featuring Kew Organic Gin, the cocktails will comprise The Floral Dance (pictured here at £10, with gin, elderflower cordial, egg white, lemon juice and fresh mint) and the 1761 Gin Cosmo (£9, with gin, Kew Orangery Triple Sec, cranberry, lime, orange bitters and orange zest). Even if you can't get a reservation for a table in the café, you will be able to join in the spirit (if you'll pardon the pun) just by walking past, as the café will also be donning a beautiful external installation of flowers as a nod to the Isabella Plantation garden and its much-loved azaleas. These special cocktails are available from Monday 23 April only at the Richmond café.



EATING THE WIZ WAY

Anyone who knows our esteemed editor will have noticed that we've been seeing a lot less of her recently! That's because she embarked on a change of diet last summer for health reasons. And, because she is the sort of person who writes encyclopaedia on the web, as one does (!) at WorldInfoZone.com she was already in a great place to research the best way to adapt her eating habits. Having already studied food for every country, she produced an eating plan, and together with the publisher has produced a nifty little book as the result of her personal experience. **Eating the WIZ Way** is easy to follow, with economical recipes and expounds the mantra that fats, salt and sugar and processed foods can be substituted with wholesome ingredients, herbs and spices to provide an easy, tasty and healthy eating plan. The recipes are simple to follow, illustrated in colour and tend to use everyday ingredients that are readily available here in Twickers. And judging by the results obtained by the author, it certainly works. The book costs £7.95 (PPlus pst and packing £1.90) and is available from contact@twickenhamtribune.com

Win a copy of Eating The WIZ Way

Email win@twickenhamtribune.com and put **"The WIZ Way"** in the subject.

WIN A FABULOUS SPRING TIPPLE AT THE IVY CAFÉ

We've negotiated a competition for one lucky Twickenham Tribune reader to win! Those lovely people at the Ivy Café Richmond are offering a complimentary choice of one of the above cocktails for two guests plus truffle arancini to accompany it.



All you have to do to enter is go to the Ivy Café Richmond's website, check out the Isabella Room and find out how many people this private room can accommodate. <https://theivycaferichmond.com/>

Send your answer, plus your full contact details, with the subject header Cocktail to win@twickenhamtribune.com by noon on Friday 20 April 2018. Entrants must be 18 years of age or older. Terms and conditions apply. Entry is deemed to give permission to publish winner's details.

Monthly Photography Competition

Win an 18 hole round of golf for 4 at Strawberry Hill Golf Club
With a glass of wine or beer at the bar afterwards



Email your photo to win@TwickenhamTribune.com
(include your name and postcode) All 4 players must play the same round.

Photos of pets or wildlife, or any scenes 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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Email: secretary@shgc.net
To find out more visit: www.shgc.net

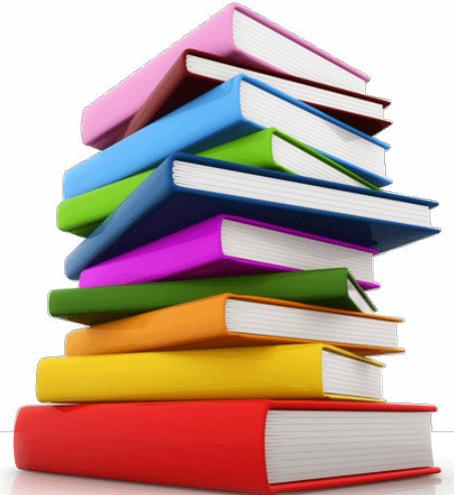


New look Whitton Library re-opens

Following a refurbishment, Whitton Library has reopened to the public. The Library was closed in January to enable essential repair works and improvements to take place and ensure the library is fully accessible.

Work includes: Roof repairs, Replacement of the ceiling, New lighting, Fully accessible entrance door, New shelving, Display units, Study area, Space for activities and events,

The children's area has been given a complete makeover, including a new Story Wall with a cheery woodland theme.



TRIBUNE BOOKS

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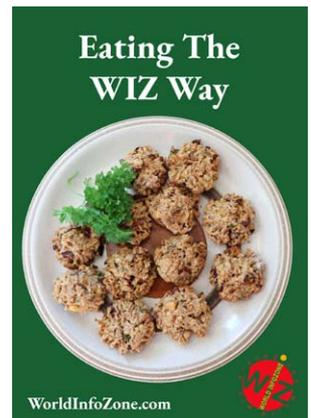
Eating the WIZ Way

With a background of research on food around the world - World InfoZone.com - this book looks at foods which come under the heading of "Healthy Eating". Easy and economical recipes are provided which have resulted in weight loss and associated health benefits.

The book costs £7.95 plus £1.90 p+p

Contact: Contact@TwickenhamTribune.com

Review: <http://www.worldinfozone.com/>

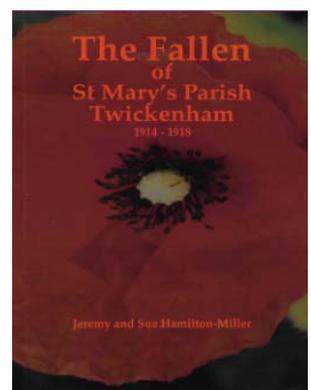


The Fallen of St Mary's Parish Twickenham 1914-1918

By Sue & Jeremy Hamilton-Miller

The book costs £8 plus £1 p+p and is available from the Local History Society's website at

www.botlhs.co.uk

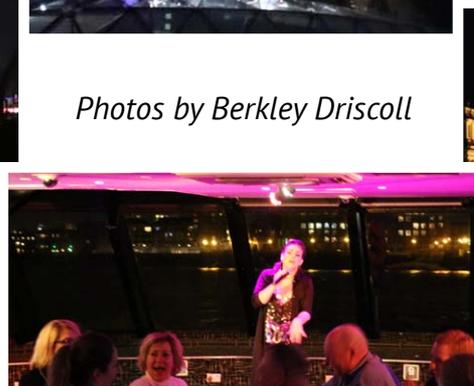
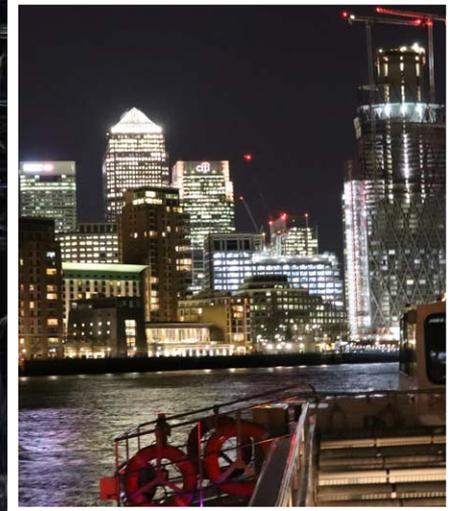


A Cruise Along The Thames

The London Showboat Cruise from [citycruises.com](http://www.citycruises.com), Westminster Pier

On arrival, guests were greeted with a sparkling glass of wine before enjoying a four course meal with wine (half a bottle of wine for each person). Special diet requirements should be requested when booking. A vegetarian option is available.

As you can see from the photographs it is a great opportunity to see London at night. There is also live entertainment with popular songs and hits from West End musicals.



Photos by Berkley Driscoll

<http://www.citycruises.com/london-thames-experiences/showboat-dinner-cruise>

River Crane Sanctuary



What is your favourite tree? Perhaps we do not know the name of the tree but we can still enjoy walking in the woodland and along the River Crane Corridor and listen to the birdsong coming from their branches. Let us acknowledge the relaxing rustle of windsong through the leaves and the health value of these ancient trees oxygenating the air that we breathe, absorbing pollution and minimising flooding for all our benefit. For Photos and videos of this walk visit: <http://www.e-voice.org.uk/rcs>



This stretch of the River has native trees including the Oak which supports more lifeforms than any other native tree. The row of Ash trees by Trafalgar School, the Meadway, and the Alders by the Meadway bridge provide food for caterpillars of several moths along with catkins (an early source of nectar and pollen) for Bees and Seeds for birds/food for butterflies. The wood of the Alder becomes as hard as stone when submerged in water and much of Venice was built on Alder Wood. The green dye of the alder flower was said to colour the clothes of Robin Hood!

If you want to know more then visit the Woodland Trust who are experts and offer free packs for growing trees for Schools/Communities along with information for individuals to plant even a single tree which is available to buy from them with the knowledge that it is sustainably sourced and grown in the UK to minimise the risk of importing and spreading tree pests and diseases. <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/>

Weather watchers look out for the first buds from the Ash and Oak trees. Folklore predicts a dry summer if the Oak buds first and a wet one if the Ash wins!



The River Crane Sanctuary Under Threat
<http://e-voice.org.uk/rcs/>

Remembering Uncle Alec

By Doug Goodman

On 15th September 2016 in a place called High Wood on The Somme in Northern France Alec Reader was remembered exactly 100 years after his death and within 100 meters from where he was killed. Alec was a private in The Prince of Wales Own Civil Service Rifles.1/15th Batt., 47th London Division tasked with clearing the wood of well established enemy strong points after three months of bitter fighting. It was an historic day as 15th September 1916 was the first time tanks were used and the last time the cavalry were involved in a major charge.

The private wood, about one km. square, was never completely cleared after WW1 and it's estimated that over 8000 British and German soldiers died there. The remains of Private B A Reader, 3623, were never found and his name is inscribed on The Thiepval Memorial along with nearly 75,000 others with no known grave. His parents pleaded in vain through letters to The War Office to be allowed to visit the spot where their son died and correspondence continued for five years after the war.

Roger and Doug Goodman found 77 letters written by Alec from the trenches to his mother – their grandmother – and their interest began in tracing their uncle's military career. Much research was involved in plotting Alec's movements from the time he enlisted in 1915, under, age until his death.



Alec Reader in 1915 with his parents, brother and three sisters. The girl on the right is the mother of the writer, Doug Goodman. The family lived in Wandsworth and Alec trained in Richmond Park.

He was within two weeks of release following a government ruling that those who had enlisted under age could leave the army but he decided not to leave his mates. The brothers visited many regimental and military museums, assembled documents, press cuttings and medals as well as maps. The very first of many strange coincidences

occurred on the first visit to the Public Records

Office when it was hoped that a trench map of High Wood might exist. Doug casually picked up a map left out on a table which was dated 14th September 1916 and showed the exact positions of British and German troops in High Wood the night before the final attack. Copies of all the letters and documents were placed in the archives of The Imperial War Museum in London for researchers to access and this resulted in Alec's history appearing in six books to date.

One of these books – The Unknown Soldier by Neil Hanson – was read by the son of a soldier who had served alongside Alec and kept a detailed diary. And the name, Alec Reader, appeared in the book, and in the diary, and were linked by the reader. A heart-stopping email with a diary extract answered the final question about Alec. The place and time of his death were well documented but how he died was not known. The extract described the precise moment Alec died as Private Wilkinson was beside him. "Young Reader fell at the side of me with a groan and blood rushed from a wound in the head. I just turned to glance at him and could see that death was instantaneous and so passed that cheerful spirited lad to whom everything was very cosy." If only Alec's parents could have received that slightly comforting news.

Another amazing event occurred when the brothers met the daughter of Alec's Commanding Officer, Capt. G G Bates MC, and showed to her the hand written letter he wrote to Alec's parents which began like so many letters to next of kin....Dear Madam, it is with my deepest sympathy.....



*Ceremony at High Wood with three generations of the Goodman family.
Left to right: Charles, Paul and Doug*

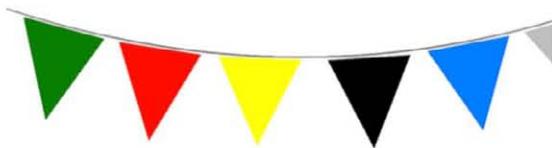
And so in a now tranquil farming region in northern France, once totally devastated, eight relatives and friends held a ceremony on the spot in the wood where Alec was shot. A wreath was placed on the memorial by High Wood to the 47th London Division and three generations of the Goodman family – nephew, great nephew and great, great nephew took part in the commemoration at The Thiepval Memorial to remember those who had fallen on 15th September 1916.

Twickenham Festival 2018

TWICKENHAM
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TWICKENHAM FESTIVAL
GUIDE 2018



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- Half page LANDSCAPE - £200
96mm high x 136mm wide
(No bleed required)
- Quarter Page PORTRAIT - £150
93mm high x 65mm wide
(No bleed required)



Twickenham Festival 2018

The 8th until the 24th of June



Not the Time for the Stiff Upper Lip – the Heathrow Third Runway

Did you know that having the proverbial British “stiff upper lip” can cause deafness, heart attacks, respiratory difficulties and even mental illness? Well, if you live under Heathrow flight paths and don’t act to prevent the proposed 3rd runway bringing 270,000 additional flights per year and reduce the scheduled (but not delayed) night time flights only to the hours of midnight to 04.30, then health officials predict you will suffer these illnesses.

Amsterdam’s Schiphol airport is busy, but many flight paths are over the English Channel so they don’t cause noise to residents. However, on April 4th, people living around Schiphol filed a legal suit asking the court to force Schiphol to properly monitor air traffic noise pollution because the results weren’t being measured properly and to punish any violators.

By contrast, Heathrow’s 740,000 planes fly over Europe’s most densely populated towns and yet Chris Grayling and Heathrow owners claim that noise isn’t a problem.

Despite 4 years of protests from community groups, the issues of loud noise from low flying planes, excessive night flight violations and illegally high air pollution levels haven’t diminished – let alone gone away. Now the Dept. for Transport (DfT) and Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) are trying to introduce Performance Based Navigation (PBN) technology that will enable planes to fly closer together, thus concentrating flights to accommodate more planes (and noise and pollution).

They believe that consulting people endlessly will mitigate the anger and any legal challenges because they and Heathrow plan to say that the “consultation” indicated that people preferred planes to fly over parks rather than houses [without indicating that you MUST fly over houses to get to parks or that people go to parks for peace and quiet]. Also, that the consulted communities preferred that planes fly over other communities rather than their own. Where were the options of

- fewer planes operating from Heathrow and better use of regional airports so that ALL the UK would be open to business
- no night flights from 11pm to 7am to get 8 hours of quiet and sleep and
- planes taking off at steeper angles like every other airport in the world to lessen the noise!!!

And forget any respite if there is a 3rd runway. And heaven forbid the catastrophic disasters resulting from the ever-increasing rogue drones around Heathrow or the idiots shining lasers into the pilots’ eyes. Changes to airspace usage and expansion at Heathrow cannot be justified in the name of overall UK commercial (but unproven) economic advantage and technical improvements to plane engines that won’t happen until 2040.

Wikipedia says a “stiff upper lip displays fortitude in the face of adversity... and has traditionally been used to describe an attribute of British people, who are sometimes perceived by other cultures as being unemotional.”

Please don’t think that you won’t be affected or that it isn’t polite to speak up – or in fact you will need to keep that stiff upper lip when faced with the significant negative impacts of an expanded Heathrow on your health, your family and your home.



Teddington Based Portrait Artist Dennis Gilbert



Friends 25 x 30 ins (oil)



Harry 36 x 24 ins (oil)



Father Christmas 20 x 16 ins (oil)

DENNIS GILBERT
NEAC

Exhibited: Royal Academy, Paris Salon, Royal Society of Portrait Painters, and in many commercial galleries in England and abroad.

Member of the New English Art Club, past President of the Contemporary Portrait Society and past President of the Small Paintings Group.

Enquiries

dennis@dennisgilbert.net
www.dennisgilbert.net

DENNIS
GILBERT



Ann 40 x 30 ins (oil)

Portrait
Painter



Breakfast on the balcony 24 x 36 ins (oil)



Polly and turkish coffee 20 x 30 ins (oil)



Leticia 14 x 10 ins (pastel)



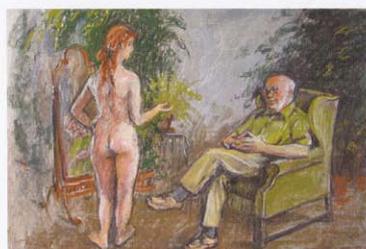
Athena 8 x 6 ins (oil)



Christina playing Rachmaninov 10 x 8 ins (pen and watercolour)



Cali 24 x 16 ins (oil)



Conversation 17 x 23 ins (pastel)



Nick composing an Easter mass 14 x 21 ins (watercolour)

ST MARY'S UNIVERSITY UPDATE

St Mary's Alumni and Athletes Selected for Gold Coast Commonwealth Games



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

15 alumni, students and Endurance Performance and Coaching Centre (EPACC) athletes from St Mary's University, Twickenham have been selected to represent their respective countries at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

The competition, which takes place every four years, is being hosted on the Gold Coast, Australia in April. The Games bring together the leading athletics talent from across the Commonwealth compete in a range of both point scoring and non-point scoring sports.

Amongst the athletes representing Team St Mary's in the point scoring sports are six Rio 2016 Olympians and seven competitors from the London 2017 World Athletics Championships, with Rowan Axe and Elliot Dorsey making their major championship debut. Andrew Osagie meanwhile will be making his first major outdoor championship since the 2013 World Athletics Championships in Moscow, where he placed fifth in the 800m Final.

The 15 athletes competing in Australia matches the number of St Mary's athletes who competed on Glasgow 2014, up on the nine who competed in Delhi 2010.

Team St Mary's Athletes at the Games:

- Simon Amor (England) - Men's Rugby 7s Coach (Rio 2016)
- Rowan Axe (Wales) – Men's 1500m
- Elliott Dorey (Jersey) – Men's 1500m
- Elliot Giles (England) – Men's 800m (Rio 2016, London 2017)
- Charlie Grice (England) – Men's 1500m (Rio 2016)

- Jade Lally (England) – Women's Discus (Rio 2016, London 2017)
- Andrew Osagie (England) – Men's 800m
- Paul Pollock (Northern Ireland) – Men's Marathon (Rio 2016)
- Beth Potter (Scotland) – Women's 10000m, Triathlon, and Team Triathlon (Rio 2016, London 2017)
- Joe Townsend (England) Para-Triathlon (Rio 2016)
- Adelle Tracey (England) – Women's 800m (London 2017)
- Steph Twell (Scotland) – Women's 5000m (Rio 2016, London 2017)
- Lennie Waite (Scotland) – Women's 3000m Steeplechase (Rio 2016, London 2017)
- Jake Wightman (Scotland) – Men's 1500m (London 2017)

Speaking ahead of the Games, Director of Sport Andrew Reid-Smith said, "St Mary's EPACC athletes and alumni are well represented in the national squads that have been selected. Beth's selection is worthy of special mention as she's the first Team Scotland athlete in history to be selected for two different sports at a Commonwealth Games. We are looking forward to watching all the athletes compete and wish them every success."



Steam, Steel and Shells – 3

By Helen Baker

When Germany invaded Belgium on 4th August 1914, Hollycombe's steam engine was no more than a gleam in its maker's eye.

French engineer Charles Pelabon – never dreaming he would soon become her owner in East Twickenham – was then Director of the Franco-Belgian Society for Construction and Tooling by Compressed Air in Ruisbroek, near Brussels (La Société Franco-Belge de Construction et d'Outillage à Air Comprimé). The photo probably doesn't actually show Monsieur Pelabon's Ruisbroek factory but it does show old industrial Ruisbroek very nicely.

Charles Pelabon's Ruisbroek factory was adapting pneumatic hammers to be used with compressed air within the mining industry. By Pelabon's later standards the factory was small, with probably some 50-80 men. Industry was paternalistic in those days and the company regarded itself as something of a family.

Again this photo of a vintage engineering workshop in the general area of Pelabon's factory isn't the factory itself, but his workshop would have looked quite like this one.

© ETCG (Heritage Lottery Funded) and Hollycombe Steam Museum



*Factories on the Charleroi Canal at Ruisbroek.
Photo: East Twickenham Centennial Group*



*Photo: © Guido Vanderhulst,
[www.coop.brussels/decouverte/stations/little-manchester/#prettyPhoto\[rel-images\]/29/](http://www.coop.brussels/decouverte/stations/little-manchester/#prettyPhoto[rel-images]/29/)*

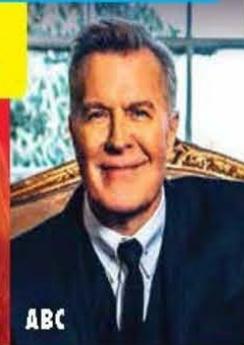
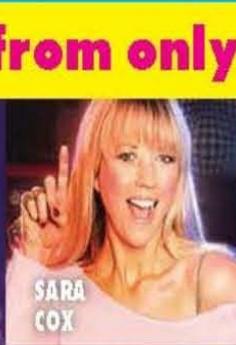
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TWICKENHAM FESTIVAL TIME AGAIN!

By Bruce Lyons

Now in its 22nd Year

Twickenham Festival 2018

The 8th until the 24th of June



We've got to looking back at the Festivals Origins and Ethos, and I thought I would share some of our findings with you.

The Festival was born out of a "Think Tank" that many towns engaged at the time. It had the mind-blowing dazzling title "Unitary Development Plan or UDP in short. In 1995 ours was chaired by none other than our very own Pat Schooling – Yes that's right the lovely lady who brought our borough "Street Scene" and all the Garden Competitions that brighten up our locale. There were several sub-committees, and mine was supervised by Colin Connolly, the then Tourism Officer for LBRUT (he resigned almost at the start and went off to somewhere on the South Coast (Pastures New), but the kernel of the idea was sewn.

See below a quote from the '96 review.

The Think Twickenham Festival May 25th – June 15th 1997

"It was not long before the growing team of energetic people in the Events Working Group felt ready to plan the first Think Twickenham Festival , a totally different , as it turned out, from the style of the former, now defunct, Twickenham Week.

The Festival aimed to create awareness of local amenities within the local community. By and large the Working Group intended not to organise events themselves, but to provide a publicity platform to focus upon existing events and venues already operating in the Twickenham area. In addition, scores of local societies were contacted and invited to take part in the Festival by originating (Showcasing) their own special activities. There was an enthusiastic response and the task of co-ordinating all the information proved to be a major undertaking for our comparatively small group, most of whom also had their own businesses to run at the same time. Nevertheless we also originated and ran a number of special events. Among these were the Cricket Match at Marble Hill Park

(Councillors v Taxpayers) , The Twickenham Green Picnic held in association with Friends of Twickenham Green and the special opening of Popes Grotto and Turner House. A strong contribution to the Festival Programme came from the Council`s Leisure Services Department who arranged a special programme of activities highlighting the sporting facilities and incorporating wide ranging series of events run by them in conjunction with the department.”

Overtime the organisation and responsibility for running the Festival has moved between the Church Street Association, The Town Centre Management Board and the Town Centre Manager and now the TTBA – The Twickenham Town Business Association though from the beginning till now I have always been heavily involved and more recently my daughter Shona has taken over the main share of the organising work. To celebrate our 22nd year we are going back (as much as possible) to our original ethos and introducing many more new innovative events (to highlight parts of the community that even Heineken can't reach) Take a look at the provisional what's on calendar on the www.twickenhamthetown.org.uk web site

And there more to come as we are still waiting for firm dates from the Twickenham Riverside Trust for their Dog Show and Banger Competition and new events from the Eel Pie Museum and others. In the past we ran a raffle in aid of a local charity and would again (in the past we have raised over £5K) if a hard working charity with as strong group of volunteers that would be able to cover all events with ticket sellers put a proposition to us – but be quick as it takes time for you and us to get it organised.

TWICKENHAM FESTIVAL GUIDE 2018



A5 portrait booklet

Prices and Specifications for adverts:

- Full Page - £320
210mm high x 148mm wide
(Please add 3mm bleed all round)
- Half page LANDSCAPE - £200
96mm high x 136mm wide
(No bleed required)
- Quarter Page PORTRAIT - £150
93mm high x 65mm wide
(No bleed required)



The ever popular programme (30,000 copies) gets wide Door to Door distribution (25,000) and the extra 5000 are in the pubs/cafes/libraries and shops and there is also a lot of social media activity too to add to the publicity/ The programme has 52 pages of Events, Editorial and What's ON and there are still adverts spaces available – though more than 75% is already booked, if you are interested email Shona shona@crusadertravel.com and you can see details of the costs below.

*Join us in our Festival and celebrate this engaging vibrant town and it's community. It is **Your Town** – & It's come a long way since 1996*

Freeze slices to make Toast

Every day 24 million slices of bread are thrown away across the UK because households don't use them in time. That means the average person in the UK throws out more than half a loaf of bread every month!

But it doesn't have to be that way. Instead of throwing away bread because you can't use it, why not put it in the freezer instead – that way it keeps for longer and you can use it straight from frozen to make toast.

The advice comes as part of Love Food Hate Waste's campaign to get people thinking about creative uses for your food. Find out more about their tips for creative toast, all in an effort to cut the amount of food waste generated in the UK.

<https://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com/toast>



In the Coward Studio at Hampton Hill Theatre Teddington Theatre Club brings you two actors in 16 roles. A West End hit and an acting tour-de-force – can they do it?

STONES IN HIS POCKETS

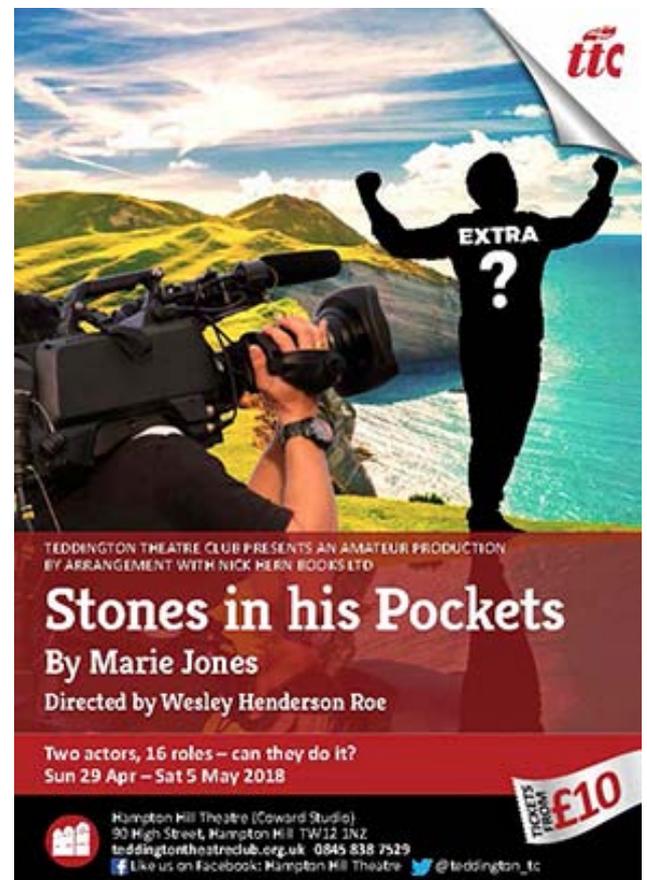
By Marie Jones

Directed by Wesley Henderson Roe

When Charlie, from Co. Antrim, and Jake, from Co. Kerry, meet as extras on a Hollywood film shoot in Ireland they strike up an unusual friendship. As the days tick by and their pay adds up they learn more about themselves, their local community and the people who have arrived in it than either would have imagined.

Dates: Sunday 29th April – Saturday 5th May

Performance times: Sunday 6pm, weekdays 7.45pm



<http://www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk/production/stones-in-his-pockets>

THE MARY WALLACE THEATRE THE EMBANKMENT TWICKENHAM

By Shona Lyons

The Mary Wallace Theatre on the Embankment Twickenham is the home of the Richmond Shakespeare Society (RSS) one of the most popular and respected amateur theatre companies in the London Borough of Richmond and a member of the Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain

The RSS was founded in 1934 by Gladys Eriksen, former actress and dancer, with a production of Shakespeare's 'Much Ado About Nothing' performed in the old St Mary's Hall in Twickenham.

There followed an annual open air production still continuing to this day – initially in the Terrace Gardens in Richmond, then at Marble Hill House and now in the Fountain Gardens of York House.

After a precarious wartime period, the RSS found its base at Cardigan House, under the auspices of the British Legion, and there created a Little Theatre and performed there for some twenty years. As a result of the redevelopment of this site in 1966, Cardigan House was demolished and replaced by a modern block which included an auditorium. This, however, proved to be so unsatisfactory that the first positive moves were made by the RSS towards finding a home of its own.

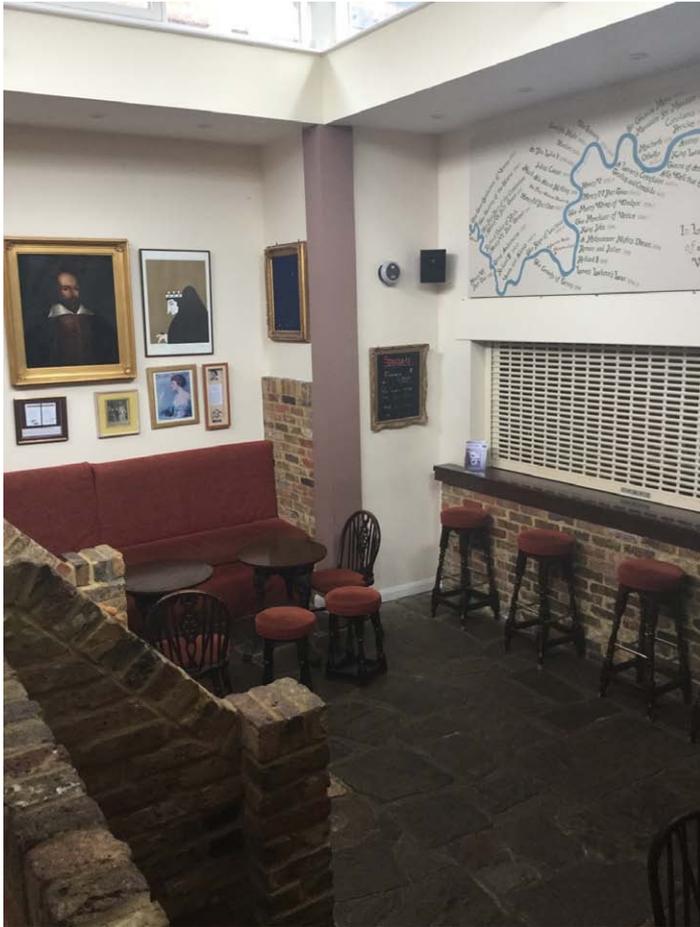


The untimely death, in 1977, of Mary Wallace, Secretary to the RSS for 17 years, proved to be a watershed. Her whole estate was bequeathed to the RSS, and this enabled the RSS to accept an offer from the Local Authority to acquire and convert the old Mission Hall on the Embankment into the theatre you see today.

The Mission Hall had had a varied life being built in 1870 as a Mission Hall to St Mary's Church on land donated to the church in 1869. In 1892, an annexe serving as a soup kitchen was built. In its time, the building had been used as

a private residence, a school and a Scout Hall. The Mission Hall was eventually acquired by the Local Authority as part of a larger proposed development which did not proceed.

Following its acquisition, the RSS embarked on a fund raising campaign to raise funds to complete the conversion of the building into a theatre incorporating stage, auditorium, bar/foyer and dressing rooms and the Mary Wallace Theatre was formally opened by HRH Prince Charles in 1981 on his visit to Twickenham .



Since then the RSS has gone from strength to strength and produces nine plays a year including a Youth Theatre production – such productions covering all periods and types of drama (not just Shakespeare !).

The RSS has a thriving membership and new members are always warmly welcomed.

The next production of the RSS at the Mary Wallace Theatre is the award winning “The 39 Steps “based on the classic novel by John Buchan and the film directed by Alfred Hitchcock and adapted by Patrick Barlow. Playing dates are 21to 28 April (excl. 25) and ticket information is available at www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk

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Places People Play



Saved for the nation: J.M.W. Turner's House benefits from £2.4 million restoration revealing surprises from Turner's original design

J.M.W. Turner's country villa, Sandycombe Lodge has been undergoing a £2.4 million conservation programme that finally returns Turner to Twickenham, a place beside the Thames that he loved. This spring the final touches will be put to this project when the garden design and planting scheme is completed.

The Turner's House Trust undertook this project to preserve Turner's architectural vision and original design for his small country retreat, for use by him and his father, to escape the hectic London art world and the hurly-burly of his own household. It unveiled a surprise brick exterior, which we now know was Turner's intention when he built the house c.1813. With later additions and alterations removed, and the original external brick fabric of the building revealed, Sandycombe Lodge now reflects Turner's original intentions. This draws on the evidence of his own later sketches, the William Havell drawing c.1814 and the evidence visible in the building itself.

A meticulous scrutiny of the construction of this Grade II* listed building has revealed unexpected features of Turner's architectural vision. The now refurbished original brick exterior may be a shock to those familiar with this house and its old white rendered finish. The appointed conservation architect, Gary Butler of Butler Hegarty Architects, explains: "As our 'creative demolition' work progressed we revealed clear evidence of the earlier form of the building. Scars in the brickwork illustrated the location and pitch of lower roofs. Varying brickwork confirmed our initial suspicion of later changes and structural addition. But the first real surprise occurred once we took down the ceiling of the rooms in the raised wings, revealing the original flank walls of the main block of the house, which had remained hidden for almost 200 years.

"Instead of finding render or stucco, these walls were facing bricks with penny-line pointing that had been neither rendered nor painted. Later we found the same type of work behind the plaster finish of the upper rooms and wings. Penny-line pointing is a method used only when it is intended to be seen. In addition the uncovered brickwork was consistently multi-coloured, with a predominant deep plum-coloured brick, more typical of late 18th century brickwork and similar to bricks used by Turner's friend Sir John Soane for numerous projects and the courtyard of his own house, 13 Lincoln's Inn Fields. "I am therefore in no doubt that, before later additions were added, all the walls of the building were fair-faced brickwork," Gary stressed.

The fabric of Sandycombe Lodge had deteriorated badly and in 2013 it was placed on Historic England's Register of Buildings at Risk. As well as the surprising exterior 'reveal', the internal features have been fully restored, following intensive research into the internal fabric, wall coverings and colours.

"This little house is of worldwide importance as a work by J.M.W. Turner, England's greatest landscape artist and, unusually, it is one in three dimensions," said Catherine Parry-Wingfield, chairman, Turner's House Trust. "We are proud that, thanks to the support of our major funder the Heritage Lottery Fund, other foundations and local supporters, we have been able to conserve Sandycombe Lodge for the benefit, enjoyment and education of future generations.

"We are also immensely grateful to the previous owner, Professor Harold Livermore who left the house to the Trust so that it could be appreciated by generations to come."

“We are delighted that Turner’s country villa, Sandycombe Lodge, has opened to the public, beautifully restored,” said Alex Farquharson, director Tate Britain. “Designed by Turner himself, it is his largest work of art. It will provide a fascinating insight into his life, throwing light on his character, family and friends. Turner’s paintings and drawings housed at Tate Britain show what this great artist produced throughout his prolific lifetime but the Lodge will reveal a more intimate and domestic side of his important and complex story.”

Notable features

Some fascinating objects were found within the wall space of the first floor corridor, including fragments of children’s drawings and toys from a later period than Turner’s occupation.

Most interesting was a scrap of early wallpaper, incomplete and very dirty, but sufficient to be confirmed as of the period of Turner. Based on this scrap, hand blocked wallpaper has been hung in the large bedroom, its design meticulously recreated by Robert Weston. Paint historian Helen Hughes’ detailed analysis of many layers of paint and paper has determined the dining room’s original wall colouring and the delicate painted marbling of the vestibule, corridor and staircase. Where paint colours were not retrievable appropriate early 19th century shades have been chosen.

Conservation on the laylight above the stairs was expertly carried out by Holy Well Glass and, with its coloured glass now in full glory, is unrecognisable from the dirty glass across which squirrels used to scamper.

There are new features to help explain the house, hidden inside older features. The longcase clock in the dining room uses digital technology to provide a soundscape of chatter among the friends known to visit Turner for fishing and picnics. A telescope recreates the view that Turner would have seen from his bedroom window. A view from the Little Parlour window superimposed on the window gives the rural view that Turner would have gazed out upon. Following conservation, a number of prints after Turner’s paintings have been hung, including a number from his celebrated Liber Studiorum series. Many of these come from the late Professor Livermore’s collection, which he left to Turner’s House Trust as part of his bequest; others come from a subsequent generous donation.

Furnishings

Early 19th century furniture has been purchased, following hints of old-fashioned items in the inventory of Turner’s London house after his death in 1851, which also led the Trust to purchase ‘Turkey’ rugs for the floors.

It is known that Turner owned ship models and two splendid examples made by Kelvin Thatcher are now in place in the sitting room where he had them.

In Turner’s inventory a ‘quantity of old chintz’ is listed. With expert help from Annabel Westman and craftsmanship from Ian Block, red moreen curtains hang in the dining room. Glazed cotton curtains for the bedroom are of the same fabric used on the hangings of the bed, with its handsome mahogany Regency bedposts.

turnershouse.org



TURNER'S HOUSE
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The Crucifixion

by John Stainer, libretto by William John Sparrow-Simpson

St Mary's Extended Parish Choir, St Mary's Church, Hampton, 25th March

Review by Mark Aspen

Under the inspired leadership of St Mary's Choir Director and Organist, David Pimm, an occasional series of sacred choral music, requiems and oratorios has gained a wide following amongst music lovers and those who are moved by these remarkable works.

Musically, the Palm Sunday concert was magnificent. Even before entering the church, the evening's music was embellished by ringing of the changes by an extended team from the Middlesex Bellringers on the church's Major of eight bells, cast by Thomas Mears in 1831. This was a significant year. The organ, restored in the summer of 2017, was a gift from King William IV, and the present church was consecrated on 1st September 1831, exactly one week before William's coronation. Not only is the organ an outstanding instrument, but for Stainer's Crucifixion it was played by Nat Keiller of the Royal College of Organists, who played from Charles John Stanley's Ten Voluntaries for Organ (1748) as introductory music before the service.



Stainer's Crucifixion is a wide-ranging piece for the organ, with a number of virtuoso passages. Whilst in the format of the various Passion oratorios by Bach and others of a century and a half previously, Stainer's Crucifixion is typical of the expressive church music of the late 19th century, with its unshakably ardent belief in the Gospel. It is this that makes the piece so remarkable in its range from aching tenderness, through painful despondency, to majestic triumph.

Just a day before Palm Sunday 2018, when the extended choir of St Mary's performed Stainer's oratorio, at a supermarket near Carcassonne, the French gendarme Arnaud Beltrame offered himself instead of a woman hostage of a terrorist gunman, and was brutally killed as a consequence. In a reflection in the brief mediation that preceded the oratorio, Ben Lovell, the Vicar of St Mary's paid homage to Beltrame, whose actions mirrored the even greater sacrifice of Christ, which would be marked that coming Friday. On Good Friday, Christ offered himself for all of mankind, as God's gift at Easter.

Read Mark Aspen's full review at www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/03/30/crux

Photography courtesy of Hampton Parish Church

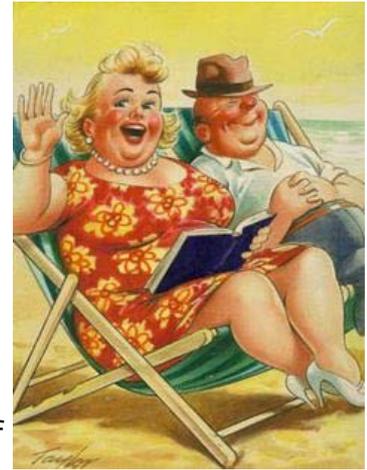


September in the Rain

by John Godber

OHADS, Noel Coward Studio, Hampton Hill Theatre until 7th April

Review by Mark Aspen



As I drove through the grey Berkshire countryside to visit cousins this Easter Monday, I mused how typical an Easter Bank Holiday it was, cold, blustery, raining, floods. So how fitting then that OHADS opened its production of Godber's compact two-hander, *September in the Rain*, the day after a very very wet Bank Holiday. You see, this delightful nugget of nostalgia is set at the British seaside during a series of holidays in the decades after the war. To those of a certain age, it is a damply cosy and all-too familiar scene.

It is both certain and familiar to the married couple, bluff Yorkshire coalminer Jack, and his wife Liz, a working class housewife, indelible stamps of their time and place. For their holidays, the hesitant highlight of each year, they unwaveringly head for Blackpool, brash, big, and bold, a town, even now, totally unapologetic for being what it is, as proud as its famous Tower.

However, under John Godber's skilful pen, Jack and Liz's annual trip to Blackpool is more than a holiday: it is a metaphor not only for their marriage but for their life as a whole, and, by extension, to the marriages and lives of all of us. This bitter-sweet comedy holds up a mirror to us, truthfully and uncomfortably. After all, what married couple has not squabbled over trivia, regretted it, and then enjoyed the making-it-up-again.

With a backdrop of stars or raindrops and a hint of the Blackpool illuminations we follow the hopeful journeys to "get away from the Bingo and the slops", journeys which are the source of many squabbles. A prang in a downpour when stuck in a crawl through the "Preston bottleneck" gives Jack chance to vent some aggro on the following lorry driver.

Within the times and the culture, feelings are repressed, left bottled up; although sometimes vented through metaphoric Preston bottlenecks. Jack resents the decades of working "in a hole in the ground", his hands that the fortune teller would not be able to read through the calluses, the blue steaks of coal dust ingrained in his back which, even on a beach holiday, he is loath to expose to the sun.

Liz's repressions are of a different nature. Queuing for an ice-cream gives an opportunity to eye up the physiques of young men passers-by, and she even dares a little flirting. However, when she casually comments favourably on the good looks of the waiter in the Tower tearooms, we see the green-eyed monster just squinting into the picture.

In this finely crafted mood-piece, the thin vein of sadness that runs through the hefty seams of saucy seaside postcard humour is the irony that Jack cannot allow himself to express his feelings for Liz, whereas Liz, who needs that expression, cannot allow herself to expect it ...



Read Mark Aspen's full review at www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/04/04/sept-rain

Images courtesy of OHADS



George's Marvellous Medicine

by Roald Dahl adapted by David Wood

RTK and Curve at The Rose Theatre, Kingston until 7th April, then on tour until 21st April

Review by Mark Aspen

Do not do this at home! This was how I was going to begin this review immediately we got into *George's Marvellous Medicine*. Then the show concluded with the cast singing together "Do not do this at home". I was upstaged. Nevertheless, I am going to reiterate: DO NOT DO THIS AT HOME!



The theme of Roald Dahl's *George's Marvellous Medicine* is the power of imagination. You see, George Kranky only has his imagination to keep him company during the school holidays, as he lives away from town in an isolated farmyard. And what a farmyard it is! A funky towering edifice, mischievously metastable, with creative props, puppets, wardrobe and more in a set that combines a kitchen, milking-shed, bedroom, caravan, and porta-loo.

The whole Kranky family muck-in contentedly into the daily chores of a working farm, and there is much excitement, ranging from birthing piglets ("all squelchy") to capturing a raging bull. However, for George there is usually time to settle his imagination into a good read, between spells as midwife or matador.

Then this ramshackle idyll is shattered by the news of the imminent arrival of George's Grandma. This is not exactly welcome news for anyone in the family, who all know her to be a cantankerous, selfish bully, "with a mouth all puckered up like a dog's bottom". Panic ensues as a taxi disgorges Grandma, who makes an impressive entrance like Mad Max on a mobility scooter. She bosses George and bullies him, using her lazy-tongs like a Kalashnikov and summoning him with a loudspeaker. Lisa Howard has a ball as George's Grandma and she gives it full welly, full of luscious loathing, savouring her succulent spitefulness.

Then she goes too far, and George's imagination takes a flight into pharmaceutical fantasy: a concoction brewed up in replacement for her own medication, every liquid, powder and paste, garnered for every room and outhouse; sanitary, culinary, toiletry, and veterinary. The result is momentous

Read Mark Aspen's full review at www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2018/03/29/geomedma and see also [Evie Schaapveld's review](#))

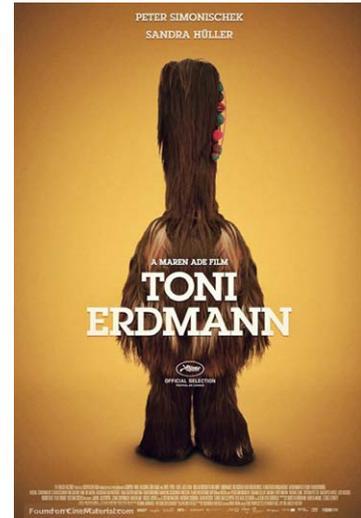
Photography by Manuel Harlan



The second half of Richmond Film Society's Season comprises the following eight films at The Exchange:

10th April – Toni Erdmann (Germany) - Directed by Maren Ade

A father, concerned about his career-obsessed and apparently joyless daughter, deploys his dishevelled prankster alter ego, Toni Erdmann, to make mischief, travelling to her workplace and posing as an executive 'life coach'. A startlingly original and uproarious comedy, suffused with pathos and tenderness. Oscar-shortlisted and winner of 73 awards worldwide.



24th April – A Man Called Ove (Sweden) - Directed by Hannes Holm

Short-listed for the 2017 Foreign Language Oscar, Ove is the archetypal angry old man who spends his days enforcing block association rules and visiting his wife's grave. After reaching a life changing decision, an unlikely friendship develops and life takes a new path. A funny, tragic and heart-warming transformation of an angry, solitary and regimented old man.

8th May - Hotel Salvation (India) - Directed by Shubhashish Bhutiani

Convinced that his end is near, 77-year-old Daya resolves to spend his last days in the holy city of Varanasi and insists upon his dutiful son, Rajiv (an overworked accountant), accompanying him to a hostel on the banks of the Ganges where elderly believers go to die and find salvation. In the event, the atmosphere has a restorative effect and the scene is set for a beguiling, tender and humorous tale of self discovery, tradition and modernity, family ties and reconciliation.

22nd May - Le Havre (Finland) - Directed by Aki Kaurismäki

When a young African stowaway arrives by cargo ship in the port city of Le Havre, Marcel, an ageing shoe shiner takes pity on the child and, with the assistance of friendly neighbours, hides him from the police.

Like 'The Other Side of Hope' - which proved hugely popular when screened earlier this Season by RFS - 'Le Havre' is another instalment in Kaurismäki's proposed trilogy about life in port cities. Once again, it deals with immigration and attitudes to refugees but it does so with all of Kaurismäki's trademark lightness of touch, drollery and deadpan humour. The result is an offbeat, warmhearted and charming film, which garnered fifteen awards worldwide, including at the 2011 Cannes, Chicago and Munich Film Festivals.



<https://www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk/>

Deadline: An Opportunity for Richmond

As nominations for May's local elections close, Liberal Democrat and Green candidates will campaign jointly in six Richmond wards.

Liberal Democrats will field two candidates in Ham, Petersham & Richmond Riverside, Hampton Wick, Fulwell & Hampton Hill, South Richmond, South Twickenham & Barnes Wards. The Green Party will field a single green candidate in these wards and concentrate their efforts on winning these seats. The Liberal Democrats will field three candidates in all other wards across the Borough, in their bid to wrest control of Richmond Borough Council from the Conservative Party.

Leader of Richmond Liberal Democrats, Cllr Gareth Roberts, said:

“This is an opportunity for progress in Richmond. We have seen in the General Election and the Richmond Park By-Election that voters respond positively when they see two parties who are willing to reach out beyond their narrow trenches.

“Coming to an accommodation with the Green Party seemed to be the logical choice as we share many of the same goals at local level. Of course there will be differences on some policies but we have shared values and a shared objective to see a fairer Richmond.

“With Labour in third place in Richmond elections, we are the challengers to a Conservative Party which has lost voters' trust and let residents down.

“In power the Richmond Conservative Party has tripled council tax for the most vulnerable residents and scrapped school uniform support for the least well-off parents. They believe an affluent Borough can ignore the 6,000 children here living in poverty. A Liberal Democrat council will change people's lives in Richmond for the better.”

Green Candidate for Ham, Petersham & Richmond Riverside, Andree Frieze added: “Our parties both believe elections should be fought on a fair voting system, with more candidates and parties representing voters. Until that happens, we are working with the Liberal Democrats to ensure Richmond is a fairer Borough after the May elections and a wider range of representation on the Council.”



RICHMOND UPON THAMES LABOUR PARTY LAUNCHES LOCAL ELECTION MANIFESTO

Richmond and Twickenham Labour Party has launched its local manifesto, ahead of the council elections taking place on May 3rd. With just one month to go, Labour is looking well placed to make historic electoral gains in the Borough, as well as across London.

The manifesto includes policies on housing, air quality, education and youth services, care and preventative services, outsourcing and the local economy.

Commenting on the manifesto, the Leader of the Labour Group on Richmond Council, Cllr

Jennifer Churchill, said:

“This manifesto clearly articulates the ambitions of the Labour party for Twickenham and Richmond. It is based on comprehensive local knowledge and shaped into workable, realistic policy proposals for a fairer borough for everyone.

“Council funding has been cut by more than 40 per cent by this Tory government. And Richmond’s Tory council has passed on the impact of these cuts to the least able to pay and those who need services most. It doesn’t have to be like this.

“Building Council Homes is one of our top priorities. Richmond has the worst record of any London Borough for providing affordable housing. We would borrow to invest in building high quality social homes, creating valuable community assets that generate long term income for the Council through social rents. And, unlike the local Tories, we will ensure all new developments incorporate at least 35 per cent social and affordable homes.

“Radical action is needed to tackle very high pollution levels. As has been implemented by Labour councils in London, we will introduce a diesel levy and the money raised will be used to pay for cycling and electric vehicle infrastructure, as well as a diesel scrappage scheme.

“One in seven children are living in poverty in Richmond. Social care and mental health budgets have been cut to the bone.

“We would invest in Richmond’s young people, who have suffered most of the cuts to preventative services in health, cuts to youth services, and the loss of school support systems. This council has been making young people pay for the reckless, short-sighted behaviour that brought us the financial crisis. That must end, now.

“Finally, we would end poverty wages by becoming a London Living Wage Accredited Council, so all staff employed on council contracts would receive the London Living Wage. At present, the largest group being paid low wages are those working in social care, mostly women. Showing respect for care workers must be the first step in delivering care services fit for the 21st century.

“These are ambitious proposals – we would secure their success through sensible, strategic and bold year on year budgets. We are clear on our priorities, formed through listening to the concerns of thousands of residents. Vote Labour on May 3rd and let’s make Richmond upon Thames somewhere we can all be proud to call home.”

http://www.twickenhamlabourparty.org.uk/labour_s_local_manifesto



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