

# Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

## Contents

TwickerTape

TwickerSeal

Visit by the Secretary of State for Education

History Through Postcards

Twickenham Riverside

Consultation

Arts and Entertainment

The See-Saw Effect of Unpopular Developments

River Crane Sanctuary

Church Street Halloween

Twickers Foodie

Reviews

Traveller's Tales

Football Focus

Rugby updates

## Contributors

TwickerSeal

Alan Winter

Emma Grey

Sammi Macqueen

Shona Lyons

Alison Jee

RuTC

St Mary's University

Mark Aspen

Bruce Lyons

Doug Goodman

RFU

LBRuT

NAO

## Editors

Berkley Driscoll

Teresa Read



# TickerTape - News in Brief

## Don't forget to change your clocks

The clocks go back at 2.00am on 27 October 2019 – for future reference, it always takes place on the last Sunday in October. This signals the end of BST, or Daylight Saving Time (DST) and means the UK will revert to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), the standard time zone against which all others in the world are referenced.

## £50k for more cycle parking

New cycle stands and bikehangars will be installed around the borough, thanks to a successful application for funding to TfL. A further deployment of cycle stands will see more locations available for residents to safely park their bikes around the borough and the new provision of bikehangars will provide long-term cycle parking for residents near their homes, as well as offering an effective way to protect bikes from tough weather conditions and vandalism.

The Council recently approved the decision to consult with residents on potential locations for the bikehangars, with those sites getting the green light expected to be ready to use by Spring 2020.

## New disposal charge for DIY waste introduced

All residents wanting to dispose of construction and demolition waste (DIY waste) at Richmond's Household Waste and Recycling Centre in Kew will be charged from Monday 2 December 2019.

Currently residents are able to dispose of up to six 80 litre refuse sacks of DIY waste every month at the Townmead Road Centre without charge.

From Monday 2 December 2019 residents will be asked to pay £205 per tonne of DIY waste disposed, with a minimum fee of £41. Card payment options will be available at Townmead Road.

For further information visit [Townmead Road Re-use and Recycling Centre](#).

**skyelectrical**

Replacing your halogen recessed lights with LEDs will:

- ✓ SAVE ENERGY
- ✓ SAVE YOU MONEY
- ✓ PROVIDE BETTER LIGHTING

So...

- ✓ CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE HOME ASSESSMENT AND QUOTE

For a timed appointment please call Sky Electrical on 020 8894 1799

22 Fifth Cross Road, Twickenham, Middlesex, TW2 5LF

[www.skyelectrical.co.uk](http://www.skyelectrical.co.uk)



**020 8894 1799**

[info@skyelectrical.co.uk](mailto:info@skyelectrical.co.uk)



*All are equal, but some are more equal than others.* TwickerSeal seemed to remember reading that somewhere. It came to mind

following a chat with TwickerHorse.

TwickerSeal was saying how he had completed the council's online consultation for Twickenham Riverside and hoped his views would be treated equally by the Design Panel along with everyone else's. Oh no, TwickerHorse told him, it seems some of the Stakeholder Groups have submitted their views separately and these have been given directly to the Design Panel.

TwickerSeal thought this was a bit off, as surely the consultation was supposed to gather everyone's views anonymously and submit them collectively? I suppose at least all the Stakeholder Group members submitted their responses together, asked TwickerSeal? Oh no, said TwickerHorse, only submissions from some of the Stakeholder Groups were submitted; other members weren't even informed about this until after they had been given to the Design Panel.

TwickerSeal thought there was something very fishy about this!!



# The First Star Programme at St Mary's University in Strawberry Hill, Twickenham

Visit by the Secretary of State for Education during National Care Leavers Week

By Teresa Read

On Thursday I had the pleasure to meet Gavin Williamson, the Secretary of State for Education, who was visiting St Mary's University in Strawberry Hill to see for himself the university's First Star Academy.



First Star, a national public charity, was founded in 1999 in the United States with the aim of improving life for child victims of abuse and neglect. In 2017 First Star opened a pilot academy in Strawberry Hill at St Mary's University.

First Star academies aim to support local "Looked After Children" from the beginning of GCSEs and links them to a university where they are given additional academic support.



I also learned about the Care Leaver Covenant, another interesting initiative, set up by the government a year ago. Charities and government departments have signed up to the Covenant which provides work-based opportunities for young people leaving the care system. Businesses have also pledged to support "care leavers" through the government scheme launched to raise career aspirations and improve life skills.

This Care Leaver Covenant has expanded to provide employment opportunities in public services such as the police, fire service, NHS and civil defence (part of the armed forces). This initiative is particularly interesting as it can give young people a sense of place in society – sometimes difficult even after leaving university.

Speaking during National Care Week Education Secretary Gavin Williamson commented:

"Young people leaving care face enormous barriers in their lives as they move towards independence, from not having a trusted person in their life to rely on, to not having a safe home to return to at the end of the day.

Housing, healthcare and education are three of the biggest obstacles they have to overcome. We all have a responsibility to do better for them – so I'm bringing together colleagues from across government to join me in transforming the support we offer care leavers in all of these key areas to make the biggest difference in their lives.



This starts immediately, because we must raise the bar for these young people, to give them greater stability and a strong sense of purpose in adulthood."

**Further Reading:** First Star At St Mary's University

<https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/first-star/first-star-academy.aspx>

New Funding Announced during National Care Leavers Week

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/vital-new-support-for-young-people-leaving-care>

# PART 150. MOUNT ARARAT HOUSE

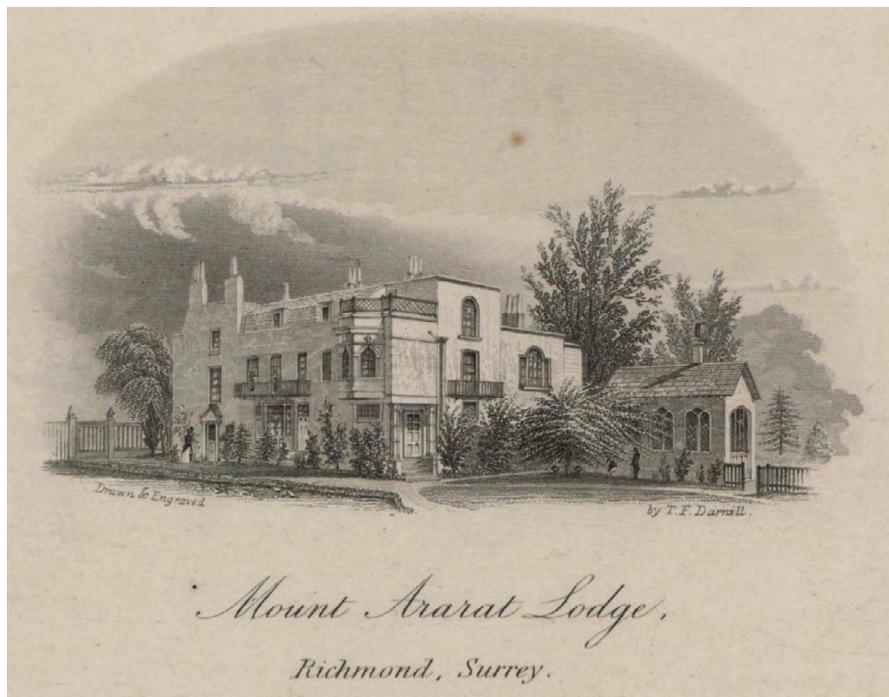
I don't have a postcard image of today's subject and in fact have never seen a postcard of either Mount Ararat House or its Lodge. The house was demolished in the 1890's and picture postcards were first used in 1894 and so it's possible that no postcards exist. If you know different then please let me know. I still thought that the subject was of interest however.

Mount Ararat was a large impressive mansion on Richmond Hill built in the 1740s for Thomas Warren. It was originally occupied by Daniel Wray, a trustee of the British Museum. By the early 1840s it was being used by Henry Hawkes described as a gentleman of independent means and his family.

According to the 1841 census, the Lodge in the grounds was used as Mount Ararat Lodge School. In promotional material from around this time it was referred to as 'Protestant,

French & German Finishing Establishment for Young Ladies' and outlined the terms, cost, courses offered and the ethos of the establishment in separate French and English texts. Harriet E. Price (unmarried) is listed as governess of the property in 1851.

By the late 1840s the house itself was occupied by Field Marshal Thomas Grosvenor who, as a junior officer defended the Bank of England during the Gordon Riots. Along with 6 servants it remained in the hands of the Grosvenor family after the field marshal's death in 1851.



BY ORDER OF TRUSTEES.

## RICHMOND, SURREY.

A Valuable Freehold Residential or Building Estate.

THE PARTICULARS, PLAN, AND CONDITIONS OF SALE  
OF THE COMMODIOUS AND SUBSTANTIALLY-BUILT

## FAMILY MANSION,

standing in delightful Grounds, and known as

## Mount Ararat House,

(The Residence for many years of the late Admiral R. F. STOPFORD, J.P.),

most advantageously situate in the CENTRE OF RICHMOND, being within a few minutes' walk of the Railway Stations, River and Park.

THE RESIDENCE

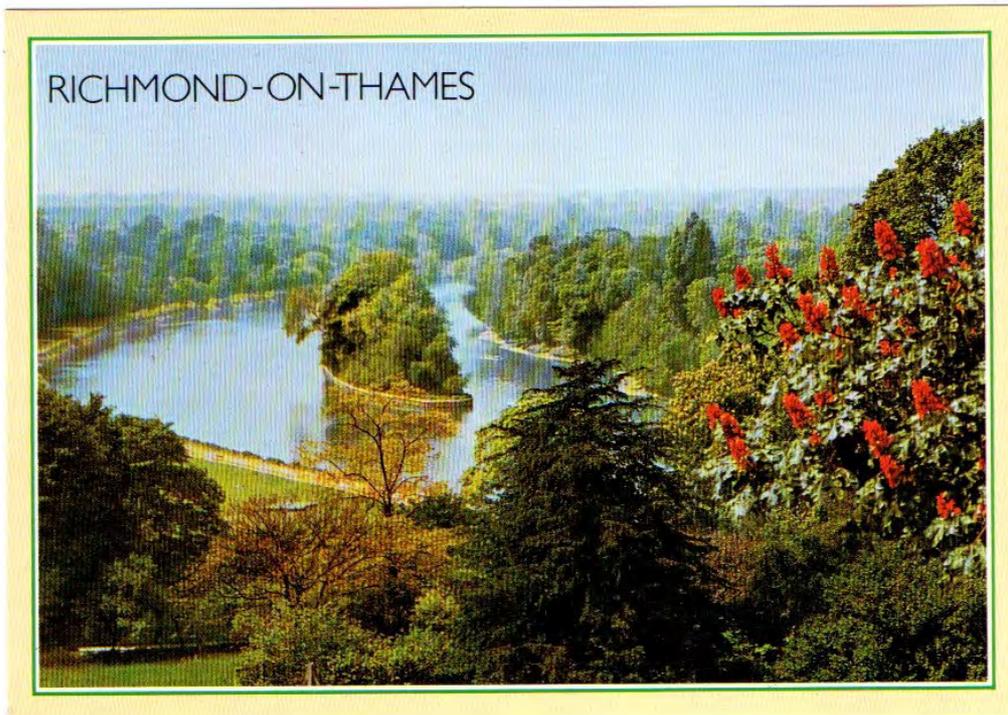
Its ownership then passed to Robert Stopford, a retired Vice-Admiral and a magistrate who had fought at the Battle of the Glorious First of June in 1794 during the French Revolutionary Wars. His wife 4 children and 9 servants lived in the house in the early 1870s and remained there until his death.

On 12th May 1892 Mount Ararat House was put up for auction. Details on the auction flyer

described the house as follows. 'Approached up a long private carriageway, contains fourteen bedrooms, a dressing room, four large reception rooms, a fine entrance hall and range of domestic offices. It has good stabling and a coach house. The property has frontages facing the following 3 roads. Mount Ararat Road is 250 feet away. Onslow Road is 224 feet away and Vineyard Road is 470 feet away.

Eventually, the house was sadly, demolished circa 1897. Its location is today marked only by the surviving Mount Ararat Road.

The image of the house was drawn and engraved by T.F. Darnell, circa 1850. It is currently in the care of Orleans House Gallery.



My thanks to various sources for assistance in pulling this article together.

Because this column is based on local history through old postcards I thought we had better show at least one postcard this week. So here it is – the most common view of Richmond of course and the subject of countless postcards over the last 120 years or so. 'The view from Richmond Hill'.

My search for old postcards continues. I am always

looking for old postcards and old photograph albums etc. The postcards can be British or Foreign, black and white or coloured and of places or subjects. If you have any that are sitting unwanted in a drawer, in a box in the loft or in the garage or under a bed, please contact me on 07875 578398 or [alanwinter192@hotmail.com](mailto:alanwinter192@hotmail.com) would like to see them and I pay cash!



Twickenham Green  
TW2 5AH

**Shanawaz  
express**

CONTEMPORARY INDIAN TAKEAWAY

**Health Conscious?**  
Why not have your dishes cooked with olive oil for an extra 60p

**020 88934881**  
[www.shanawazexpress.co.uk](http://www.shanawazexpress.co.uk)

**ALLERGY ADVICE**  
Please note that some of our dishes contain dairy, nuts, eggs and other allergens. If you suffer from any food allergies, please make sure to inform us before placing your order.

## Is There Confusion Over the Twickenham Riverside Consultation?

We are all familiar with the saga of the catalogue of ill-fated plans for Twickenham Riverside since the Twickenham outdoor pool closed suddenly in 1980, but this time we have a consultation process and a Stakeholders Group appointed by the Council to pass on views from particular sections of the community.

Before the architects taking part in the competition were chosen by the Council a Stakeholders Group was formed to liaise with the Council's Design Panel. However, one flaw in this process was that the Stakeholders Group was composed of a number of people who belonged to more than one group, rather than a more varied group of residents; thus, some individuals had a stronger position from day one.

Over the last few days there has been some confusion with regard to what will happen to the consultation results but this seems to have finally been made known following a problem which arose last Saturday - 19<sup>th</sup> October.

Unexpectedly an email arrived in the evening – sent to a number of members of the Stakeholders Group. In this email Stakeholders Group members were informed that in preparation for a meeting of the Design Panel with the five architect finalists, the Council had shared letters from some of the groups within the Stakeholders Group with the Design Panel.

This was a surprise as it was not the process expected and here the confusion starts.

The Stakeholders Group had not been asked to submit letters but were directed by a Council officer on 24 September to take part in the anonymous consultation which was open to all residents.

Stakeholders Group members were all told that there were only two ways of submitting view-points, either by an online form or requesting a paper copy of the online form.

There were only two questions on the consultation form: 1. What do you think are positive elements [of each of the architect's plans] and why? 2. Can you suggest any improvements or anything for further consideration?

<https://haveyoursay.citizenspace.com/richmondce/twickenham-riverside/>

So, it seems that some members of the Stakeholders group had been allowed to send letters to the Council rather than taking part in the anonymous consultation; these letters were accepted by Council officers and shared with the Design Panel without the knowledge of all Stakeholder Group members.

### **So what will happen to the consultation?**

An officer said “I would like to be clear that none of the engagement material has been, or was ever intended to be, shared with architects.”

And, of course, we do not get a vote on the final choice for our Riverside. A spokesperson from the Council said:

“The public has been consulted along the way (with a period of engagement on the five designs from the 4<sup>th</sup> September to the 2<sup>nd</sup> October) but the public’s opinion will only help inform decisions and questions, it will not determine the decision and was not part of the marking criteria. This is following the OJEU process and was made clear from the start of the competition.”

### And What Next?

**Following the evaluation of the proposals, a report outlining the preferred and recommended bidder will be submitted to the Finance, Policy and Resources Committee in January. The Committee will review the recommendations and be asked to agree that the Council enter into a legal contract with the preferred bidder. The report is published prior to the Committee Meeting and members of the public are able, and encouraged, to attend all Council committees and make representations.**

A member of the Council added “And then the Council and preferred bidder will submit a detailed planning application to the Council and the formal planning process will begin, including consultation, culminating in an open meeting of Planning Committee.

# Light Up At Night!!



**Stay Safe**  
When cycling at night  
always use a light

A Twickenham Tribune Campaign  
[www.TwickenhamTribune.com](http://www.TwickenhamTribune.com)



## Theatre

Saturday 26 October to Saturday 2 November at the Mary Wallace Theatre. Hamlet by William Shakespeare.

Sunday 17 November to Saturday 23 November at Hampton Hill Theatre. Pornography by Simon Stephens. 2005, London in crisis. Stories of euphoria, fantasy and despair.

## Music

Sunday 17 November, 2.30 at the Landmark Arts. Centre Classics in the Afternoon, Roman Rudnytsky.

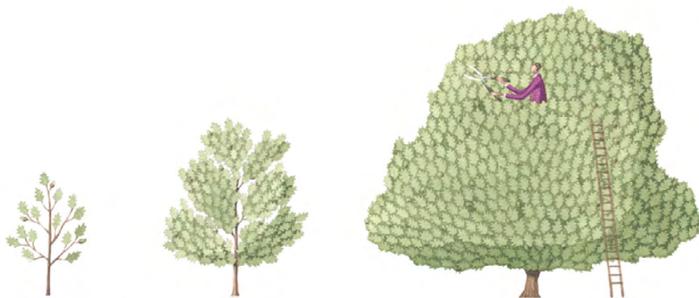
Jazz, rock, and blues music enthusiasts who head to the bars at The Cabbage Patch Pub in London Road are advised to visit Twickfolk, Twickenham Jazz Club and Eel Pie Club websites to check what's on.

## Talks

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November at the Salon at York House, 8pm. Alan Winter will be giving a talk to the York House Society. Alan is the weekly Twickenham & Richmond Tribune contributor "History Through Postcards".

10 Minute Lunchtime Talks at Turner's House, Sandycombe Lodge, Twickenham, Starting at 12.45. Turner the Fisherman – 7th November, Turner's Women – 5th December. Book in advance.

***If you are interested in advertising an Arts & Entertainment event write to [advertise@twickenhamtribune.com](mailto:advertise@twickenhamtribune.com) for further information.***



### The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

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

# The Tree Agency





**Richmond  
Concert  
Society**

**The next concert is on**

**Tuesday 5th November 7.45pm**

**Explosive virtuosity from the Fournier Trio**

**The internationally award-winning piano  
trio plays works by Beethoven, Brahms and  
Arensky**

**St Margaret's Church TW1 1RL (opposite St  
Margaret's station)**

**See our website for further details**

**[www.richmondconcerts.co.uk](http://www.richmondconcerts.co.uk)**

# Is there a “See-Saw Effect” on our local elections?

Teresa Read

It seems that throughout the years our Council administrations have changed after residents have become very dissatisfied with Council development plans. This definitely appears to be the case with the old pool site on Twickenham Riverside but other development issues have also played a part.

“Twickenham Riverside” has been a contentious site since its closure in 1980. The history of the site and immediate area was recorded by the Richmond Environmental Information Centre (REIC) during a two-year Heritage Lottery Fund project and can be viewed at <http://www.memoriesoftwickenhamriverside.com>. Our primary historical research goes back to 1662!



However, back to more recent times ....

In 1980, while under a Conservative administration which lasted until 1983, the very popular Twickenham [outside] Baths was suddenly and unexpectedly closed for “refurbishment” and never opened again. You can read and hear people’s memories which were recorded by the REIC on the Lidos Alive website <http://lidosalive.com>.

It is interesting to note that in January 1982 the Council’s Planning Committee Minutes recorded that the Council’s view was there should be no housing development on the site.

In 1990, whilst there was a Liberal Democrat administration, there was a scheme put forward for a Marks & Spencer store but permission was refused following the intervention of the Department of the Environment and a Public Enquiry in 1991 – “Commercial ambitions were to be kept subordinate.” (Twickenham Museum).

This particular scheme was of some interest to me as I used the proposal in a business studies case study for a group of my pupils at a local school. After preparing their questionnaires we went to Twickenham High Street where the students interviewed shoppers about what they would like to see on the old pool site. The overwhelming result was positive for Marks & Spencer – no doubt as Twickenham High Street left much to be desired as a destination for shoppers. And, it is still in need of regeneration!

(If I may digress, again, it should be remembered that the East Twickenham ice rink closed in 1992, another REIC Heritage Lottery project [www.icerinx.com](http://www.icerinx.com). For many years the Council promised a new rink, suggesting different sites but it was never going to happen as the money was not there; the developers of the site had negotiated a more advantageous deal.)

To return to Twickenham Riverside ... In 1996 the Council held a competition for plans for the Twickenham Riverside site. There were five schemes and it was hoped that there might be some lottery funding but this was refused.

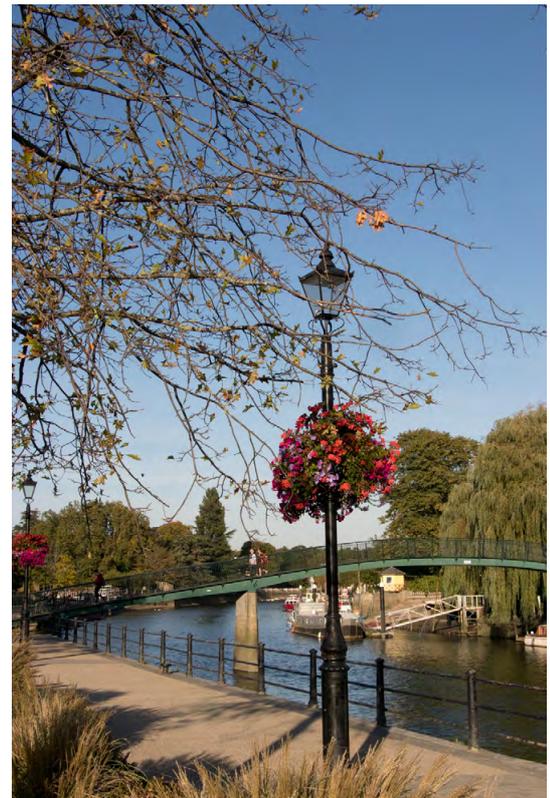
1999 saw a proposal for the Twickenham Riverside site for thirty-nine flats, six restaurants, shops, an auditorium for over four hundred and fifty people, three cinemas and very limited parking. This was considered to be “over development” and following public outcry the Council asked for a smaller version; there were various rethinks but nothing came of any of the proposals.

During the year 2000 a proposal for a Heritage/Arts Centre was put forward and a three-screen cinema but this was not supported by the Council.

In 2001 a planning application was submitted by Dawnay Day. The Council gave the go-ahead for forty flats, shops, a restaurant and a health and fitness centre – some people have been heard to say that one of the current plans looks like the Dawnay Day development, I must say that comparing both sets of plans that I agree. However, a Public Enquiry put a stop to the Dawnay Day proposal; an Environmental Impact Assessment was requested but seems not to have taken place.

Serge Lourie became the leader of the Liberal Democrats in 2001 but the Conservatives gained office from 2002 to 2006. Perhaps this was the see-saw effect of unpopular proposals for Twickenham Riverside and maybe the final realization that there would not be a replacement ice rink?

In 2005 the Jubilee Gardens playground and café were opened; the first positive steps since the pool site closed in 1980 but the art deco building had been demolished. (Note: it seems that the swimming pool may still be under the surface of Diamond Jubilee Gardens!).



During these years the Twickenham Challenge for Twickenham Riverside appeared. One of the members of the REIC was very interested in a Duke of Edinburgh Award Centre; other proposals were the Environment Trust’s proposal for a River Centre, the Busen Anglo-Japanese Club and the Laura Sevenus Swimming School (another pool!!).

From 2006 to 2010 the Liberal Democrats took office. Four housing developments were put forward in 2008 (along with the Environment Trust’s River Centre) – Countryside was chosen as the developer by the administration.

There was huge opposition to housing on the site and I decided to become a client of Electoral Reform Services (ERS) to find out what residents wanted (Serge Lourie refused to carry out a referendum).

Four thousand people in the Parish of St Mary’s, radiating out from the Twickenham Riverside site, were sent a voting form by ERS. 41.7% voted and the result was 93.5% against housing on

## Twickenham Riverside.

At the local election, following the referendum, the Liberal Democrat administration gave way to a Conservative administration led by Nick True - later Lord True (eventually Paul Hodgins became leader). The Conservative administration lasted for two terms of office (2010 – 2018).

(It is also interesting to note that during the period between 2006 and 2010 there was another very prominent campaign against development, this time on Twickenham Green. This was successfully fought by the Gifford House Action Group and resulted in residents writing a Planning Brief and a building which was acceptable to residents. The Council officer involved in dealing with this issue commented later that it was one of the best organised campaigns in the Borough. <http://worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=StrawberryHillGifford>)

In 2015 another competition for the Twickenham Riverside site took place. I took part in preparing one of the four schemes with my colleague, Berkley Driscoll and a prominent global company. However, this plan had a lido and health spa on part of the site and never saw the light of day – and the Council's chosen architect for the site eventually went the way of all the others.



However, this Council had made itself very unpopular for refusing to listen to residents and the “see-saw” effect of the old pool site brought the Liberal Democrats back to office once again; this time with Gareth Roberts as leader of the Council.

We are now in the “consultation” phase for the plans of five firms of architects – one of which has a natural pool. Of course, none of the councillors or officers wants to reinstate the popular outdoor pool, despite the comments of over four thousand people online – present and past residents - who hold Twickenham Baths close to their hearts.



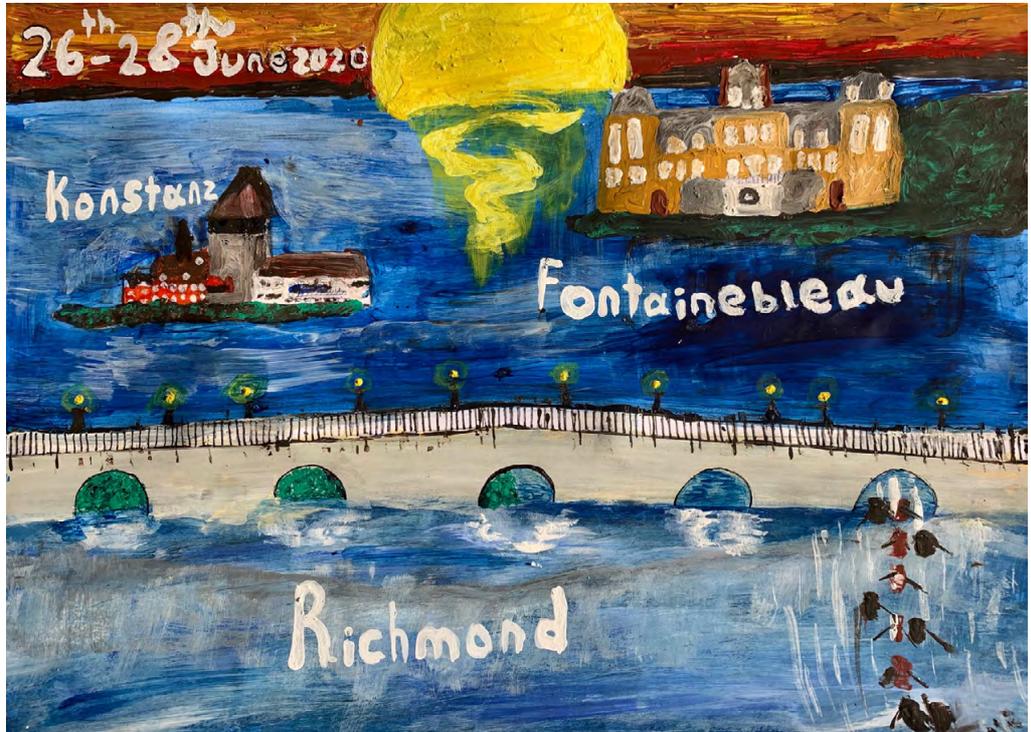
So, we see that the electorate eventually votes against administrations who propose unpopular development, presumably a “see-saw” effect which will continue - but it takes time to vote them out.

# Celebrating Friendship with France & Germany

The Salon, York House, Twickenham  
Tuesday 19th November  
7.30 p.m.

Representatives of your club, association, society, business or school are warmly invited to an information evening in the Salon, York House, to discover how you can be involved in celebrating our friendship with France and Germany in 2020.

Richmond will be hosting the reaffirmation of our twinning with Fontainebleau, France and Konstanz, Germany from 26th-28th June 2020. A full programme of sporting and cultural events is planned, and hundreds of guests from France and Germany are expected to visit to take part. The long weekend provides an



*The official 2020 poster designed by Selim Bener (aged 11)*

exciting opportunity for all members of our community to be involved and to plan their own activities and events to celebrate all things French and German.

This information evening is hosted by the Richmond in Europe Association, a voluntary group which promotes sporting, cultural & educational links with the rest of Europe, and supported by Richmond Council.

The Mayor and Leader of the Council will be attending.

Please RSVP to this event by 12 November, by emailing:  
[partnerships@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:partnerships@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk)

For further details please go to:  
<https://richmondineurope.com/2020-reaffirmation/>  
or email  
[richmondineurope@hotmail.com](mailto:richmondineurope@hotmail.com)



## Prime Minister expresses ‘lively doubts’ about third runway as hearings on Heathrow Judicial Review Appeals conclude in the High Court

London. Today the Royal Courts of Justice held the final appeal hearings for four Judicial Reviews of the government’s Aviation National Policy Statement, brought by the following appellants –

- Greenpeace UK, Hillingdon, Wandsworth, Hammersmith and Fulham, Richmond upon Thames and Windsor and Maidenhead councils, joined by the Mayor of London.
- Friends of the Earth
- Plan B
- Heathrow Hub Ltd.

The cases cover what the appellants say are fatal flaws in the environmental assessment and decision to back Heathrow.

The appellants claim the Transport Secretary (then Chris Grayling) should have taken the Paris agreement into account, was wrong to rule out Gatwick as a less harmful alternative and failed to notify the proposed policy to the public in areas which could have 65 decibel planes flying overhead every minute or two (e.g. Knightsbridge and Camden).

During PMQs this week, in response to an MP’s question, Prime Minister Boris Johnson said –

“As for the Heathrow third runway, it remains the case that I have lively doubts about the ability of the promoters of that scheme, as I think he does, to meet standards on air quality and noise emissions, and we will have to see how the courts adjudicate in that matter.”

John Sauven, Executive Director of Greenpeace UK, said –

“When the ship of state is steaming at full speed, it takes a while to turn. Heathrow’s expansion scheme is on a collision course with environmental limits where the government’s slow reactions could prove very costly. There is no way the proposed runway can fit within our environmental obligations, particularly the net zero target for carbon emissions. Boris Johnson says he has ‘lively doubts’ over where this project is heading. He has also threatened to lie down in front of the bulldozers. So it would be far better for everyone if the government made a prudent decision to change course now instead of ignoring the iceberg and waiting for the impact.”

The Greenpeace logo is displayed in a bold, green, sans-serif font. The word "GREENPEACE" is written in all capital letters, with a slight shadow effect behind the text.



**A Firecrest visits the River Crane** and we have this photo for the first time to share with bird enthusiasts. We have seen Goldcrests before but not one of these and they are very tiny and very fast but maybe if you stay still and look into the hedgerows and pine trees you will spot one too. We enjoyed the local RSPB talk by David Lindo in York House last week and his new book: *How to be an Urban Birder* gives some good tips and we were happy to read that we are already following most of the ideas in our awareness raising campaigns to promote more participation and understanding in nature activities in our own backyards.

The Wren is thought by most to be our smallest garden bird but the Goldcrest is only 9cm followed by the Firecrest and then the Wren at 10cm. [More photos](#) are on our webpage and some water, planting a tree and berry rich bush will attract these beauties into your garden.



Kestrel spotted with its kill high up in the trees. We hoped it was not a vole in its talons but could not tell for sure. The Kestrel belongs to the Falcon family, hovers and hunts small rodents whilst the Sparrowhawk has a 'flap and glide' flight and as its name suggests hunts small birds! Watch [Greta Thunberg/George Monbiot](#) on Nature and importance of Trees.



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

# The Royal Parks wishes farewell and good luck to Bushy Park's 'Ray of Sunshine'

The Royal Parks wishes Bushy Park's manager, Ray Brodie, a very happy retirement after 38 years' dedicated service, working in a number of roles across the organisation.

Ray joined The Royal Parks straight from school in 1981 as a horticultural apprentice. He began his career in The Royal Parks' tree maintenance team in 1985, spending five years looking after the trees across the central Royal Parks: St James's Park, Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens and, Buckingham Palace Gardens, which at the time fell under the organisation's remit.

Ray became park supervisor at Kensington Gardens in 1992, and took on responsibility for events of national importance, such as the management of the park during the funeral procession for HRH Diana Princess of Wales. And in August 1998 he was appointed manager of Bushy Park, where he has led a team over the last two decades.

During his tenure, Ray's team has implemented several major transformative initiatives to protect the park's natural environment and heritage, and to bring the community together through sporting and celebratory events, providing a vital local asset.

This includes delivering a major programme to restore and enhance Bushy Park between 2002 and 2011, part-funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and comprising 67 individual projects. This saw the restoration of the Upper Lodge Water gardens, a Baroque-style collection of pools, cascades, basins and a canal which had disappeared beneath undergrowth and silt during the 20th century; the restoration of The Diana Fountain, a bronze statue of the goddess on a marble and stone fountain; the creation of the Pheasantry Café and Welcome Centre, and the restoration of the park's



*Ray Brodie being awarded The Royal Parks Guild Outstanding Contribution Award 2019. He is photographed with The Royal Parks' chairman, Loyd Grossman. Copyright D Ivison*

Woodland Gardens.

Ray's leadership has ensured the natural environment of the park has gone from strength to strength, from the management of the park's herd of wild deer to the management of the historic Longford River, constructed on the orders of Charles I to deliver water to Hampton Court.

Thanks to the team's dedication, expertise and hard work, Bushy Park was officially recognised as being one of the most important places for wildlife in England: designated as a new Site of Special Scientific Interest by Natural England in 2015.

Ray's efforts have made great strides in opening up the history of the park to the public. The park's traditional celebrations of the first chestnut blossoms on Chestnut Sunday continue to be a popular attraction. And this year, the park marked the 75th anniversary of the role of Bushy Park in planning WW2's D-Day.

Tom Jarvis, director of parks, The Royal Parks, said: "Ray and his team have made an enormous contribution to Bushy Park over the last two decades, ensuring that it is a treasured destination for locals and tourists seeking to engage in the park's rich heritage and natural environment. Crucially, Ray has ensured that the community is always at the heart of the park, providing a park that is truly for the people: it was thanks to Ray's vision that Parkrun started in Bushy Park in 2004 as a small community event, something that has flourished into a global phenomenon.

"We will miss Ray hugely, not only for his leadership, vision and dedication, but also as a wonderful colleague and friend. We wish him all the best for the future and a very happy retirement.

A new manager for Bushy Park will be announced in due course.





# HALLOWEEN IN CHURCH STREET TWICKENHAM

31 OCTOBER 5PM until 9PM



  
CHURCH STREET  
*Twickenham*



**TWICKENHAM**  
**BUSINESS** ASSOCIATION TOWN



APPLE BOBBING  STALLS  TRICK & TREAT

 PUNCH & JUDY  STREET FOOD  MUSIC

FANCY DRESS  FAIR RIDES  POTIONS

BALLOON MODELLING  TREASURE HUNT

 [WWW.TWICKENHAMTHETOWN.ORG.UK](http://WWW.TWICKENHAMTHETOWN.ORG.UK) 

# Halloween in Church Street 2019

by Shona Lyons



Halloween in Church Street is quite a party these days. It is a great space for children to dress up, go trick and treating in a safe environment and with their parents on this night of fun, passing from shop to shop and picking up all kinds of goodies on the way. We will have our treasure hunt (forms to be picked up from Crusader Travel) and they will need help probably again from their parents to decipher all the clues on their way to find their treasure. John Chippy Wood will be making his appearance with his wizard costume and skull crook and will delight everyone young and old with his violent Punch and Judy Puppet show in the square at 6, 7 and 8pm. At 8pm there will also be the judging of the fancy dress competition at Mint. The Bloomery will be making potions, the Eel Pie will have a Halloween Deal or No Deal Brexit game, and there will be a mini fair ground at the bottom of the road. The Richmond Music Trust are also putting in an appearance. Why



not try apple bobbing at Riccardo's cellar where you might also find some mulled drinks of some kind. Ghoulish balloon modelling is back by popular demand and your children might be one of the lucky ones to take home one of their masterful creations! Mint is also holding a raffle in aid of surfers against Sewage, and The Brewery Market will celebrate their



anniversary with spooky surprises, treats till late, and horrific tattoos for the trick and treaters. There will also be gift stalls to browse and street food to keep everyone's hunger at bay. Basil and Ruby are offering free candy and doggy treats and are of course having a Halloween dog fancy dress contest. All the traders will be getting into the spirit with their wonderful carved pumpkin creations and you are sure to find all kinds of Halloween themed items on Mojo's, Allissias Attic and Miss Pretty's shelves. Last but not least a lot of the restaurants will have a Halloween themed menu. It will be a big party for adults and children with lots for everyone to enjoy and a special evening that families can enjoy together.



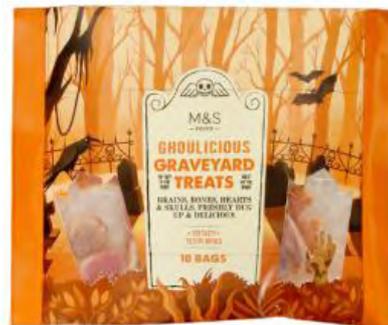
## HUBBLE, BUBBLE, TOIL AND TROUBLE

I hate Halloween. There you go; I've said it now. It comes at a time when the evenings have just drawn in, and we have winter on the horizon. I hate the fact that it has become so horribly commercialised – and what on earth are pubs and other places thinking when they put up signs saying 'Happy Halloween!'

But I accept that children like it – if they aren't too scared by it – and it's an excuse for shops to cash in with a range of bespoke Halloween items. Also, it might take our minds of the shenanigans currently taking place in Parliament!

So, let's go with the flow and have a look at some seasonal products and recipes.

If you fancy a jaunt into Kingston or across to Hounslow, then **Aldi** has some interesting Halloween drinks on sale – but not for children unfortunately. There's a **Toffee Apple Cider** at £4.49 for four 275ml bottles. Talking of toffee apples, Waitrose has mind boggling **Sticky Toffee Apple Wensleydale Cheese**, no less!



**Gail's Bakery in Richmond** has some fun ready-made biscuits at just over £1 each that will make nice gifts for trick or treaters or for a party.

**Marks & Spencer** has a great range of Halloween products, of course, including bags of 10 mini packs of '**Ghoulicious Graveyard Treats**' for giving to Trick or Treaters – great value at £2 a bag

**Lidl** has fun recipes on its website [here](#) including a very easy recipe for 'fake fingers' using cheese strings and ketchup (yuk! But very effective!)

The UK grows around 10 million pumpkins – 95% of them bought for Halloween lanterns or home decorations. But once we've removed the guts and seeds, 60% of us fail to do anything with the flesh, which simply gets chucked in the bin. This dreadful waste leads to an annual throwaway of around 8 million pumpkins or 18,000 tonnes of edible pumpkin flesh, according to environmental charity Hubbub.

So, let's not waste that pumpkin that you no doubt plan to buy and carve! [BBC Good Food](#) recommends cleaning the seeds then boiling them for ten minutes before draining them. Add some olive or rapeseed oil, place on a baking sheet and bake at 120 degrees for 45 minutes. Toasted pumpkin seeds...no need for those expensive snack packs. You can season them with all manner of savoury flavours, not just salt and pepper.

And **pumpkin soup** is delicious and so easy to make! BBC Good Food has rounded up its favourite recipes [here](#) but one of my favourites is the Thai Pumpkin Soup which takes just 25 mins to prepare and 40 mins to cook and serves four.

1.5kg pumpkin  
4 tsp sunflower oil  
1 onion  
1 tbsp grated ginger  
1 lemongrass, bashed a little  
3-4 tbsp Thai red curry paste  
400 ml can coconut milk  
850 ml vegetable stock  
lime  
1 red chilli, sliced, to serve (optional)



### Method

- 1.Heat oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6. Toss the pumpkin or squash in a roasting tin with half the oil and seasoning, then roast for 30 mins until golden and tender.
- 2.Meanwhile, put the remaining oil in a pan with the onion, ginger and lemongrass. Gently cook for 8-10 mins until softened. Stir in the curry paste for 1 min, followed by the roasted pumpkin, all but 3 tbsp of the coconut milk and the stock. Bring to a simmer, cook for 5 mins, then fish out the lemongrass. Cool for a few mins, then whizz until smooth with a hand blender, or in a large blender in batches. Return to the pan to heat through, seasoning with salt, pepper, lime juice and sugar, if it needs it. Serve drizzled with the remaining coconut milk and scattered with chilli, if you like.

## WIN TICKETS TO THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS FAIR, OLYMPIA

Have Christmas all wrapped up at the UK's biggest high-end Christmas shopping event! [Spirit of Christmas Fair](#) returns to Olympia London for its 19th year from Monday 4 til Sunday 10 November.

Uncover exquisite gifts, with exciting new collections from 900 independent boutiques and designer makers. Visitors will be spoilt for choice with the collection, encompassing hundreds of boutiques and designer makers that you won't find on the high street.

There's something for everyone: homeware, fashion, baby & child, decorations, health & beauty, food & drink and stunning jewellery. From grand, show-stopping pieces to the quirky and beautiful, discerning shoppers will find endless never-before-seen items across the seven days. You can also pick up invaluable tips from the fantastic line-up of experts leading the interactive workshops.

After some retail therapy, you can indulge at one of the three stylish Champagne Bars. The delectable treats don't end there, as the food hall is a foodie's heaven, bursting with delicious festive food and drink. For more ticket options and information visit [www.spiritofchristmasfair.co.uk](http://www.spiritofchristmasfair.co.uk)

We have a pair of tickets valid any day of the fair to win in this week's competition.

To enter, check out the website and then let us know the brand which is running the champagne bars. Put the answer in the subject heading and send your contact details to [win@twickenhamtribune.com](mailto:win@twickenhamtribune.com) Closing Date Thursday 31 October at noon.



**Spirit**  
of **Christmas** fair  
HOUSE & GARDEN | 4-10 NOVEMBER 2019 | THE TIMES & THE SUNDAY TIMES  
OLYMPIA LONDON

# Richmond upon Thames College supports Colleges Week 2019

Following on from the success of last year's 'Love Our Colleges' campaign, Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) participated in the Association of Colleges' (AoC) national Colleges Week from 14 to 18 October and highlighted the amazing work colleges do and why long-term investment is crucial for the future.



RuTC works with local businesses and helps to educate and train many young people and adult learners each year. Despite this, RuTC and other colleges in the country have had to deal with an average of 30% cut to its funding over the last decade.

Leading up to Colleges Week, RuTC hosted an Open Event on Saturday 12 October to show prospective students

the amazing things that the college can offer them. In addition, the college is proud to work closely with the AoC in various other areas. In October, RuTC student and Students' Union vice president Hasti Rezvan has been selected as a 'This Girl Can Ambassador' by AoC Sport. In this role, she will be planning activities to engage female students in a variety of sports.

David Hughes, Chief Executive of the AoC, said, "The £400m funding boost announced in the spending review and the Secretary of State's speech at the Conservative Party conference showed that the government is committed to investing in further education and skills. However there are many funding and policy challenges to grapple with to ensure colleges can thrive in the long term. Now more than ever we need highly skilled, well-educated workforces to deliver for our economy and country."

"Colleges Week this year is about celebrating the amazing work colleges do, educating 2.2 million people every year, including more than 600,000 16 to 18-year-olds. Colleges have been neglected in recent years and proper funding for adult education is still urgently needed. This week is about making our voices heard and campaigning with partners to make sure colleges continue to be a serious political, economic and social priority."



**Richmond upon  
Thames College**



## Sweeney Todd

by Stephen Sondheim

BROS Theatre Company, Hampton Hill Theatre, until 19<sup>th</sup> October

Sondheim's "little horror show", *Sweeney Todd* is a gruesome and gripping tale, which was originally set in Victorian London. BROS' slick and innovative production by Paul Turnbull has a modern approach. The plot revolves around a vengeful barber who is on the hunt for the evil Judge Turpin. Turpin, having designs on his wife, had transported Sweeney to Australia for a crime he didn't commit. Revenge and punishment are central to the plot.



The opening ensemble number *The Ballad of Sweeney Todd* immediately transports us to Fleet Street, where the demon barber resides making a heinous living. BROS Theatre Company displayed a strong, committed and mature approach with a dynamic cast led by Sam Sugarman in the title role, who enjoyed brandishing his glistening blade with purposeful viciousness.

Jonathan Warriss-Simmons as Anthony sings and acts with conviction as the love-struck hero and displays control and command particularly in his song *Joanna*. Georgina Skinner as Joanna is the perfect heroine who also has some great tunes, at times soaring to top B flats displaying pure dulcet tones.

The boisterous and effervescent Mrs Lovett was superbly performed by Aggie Holland; her *By the Sea* was both impressive and touching.

Milly Pickworth gives a fine performance as Tobias Ragg whose *Not While I'm Around* is delivered with charm and clarity of tone, while Faye Brann gives the unforgiving role of the Beggar Woman a splendid performance.

Nigel Cole is cunning as the self-righteous Judge Turpin whom we finally see gets his just deserts. As with all good shows, there's a moral to be learnt and *Sweeney Todd* is no exception. Some scenes though may be unsuitable for children, so adults too beware!

Read Helen Astrid's review at [www.markaspen.com/2019/10/16/sweeney](http://www.markaspen.com/2019/10/16/sweeney)

Photography by PND

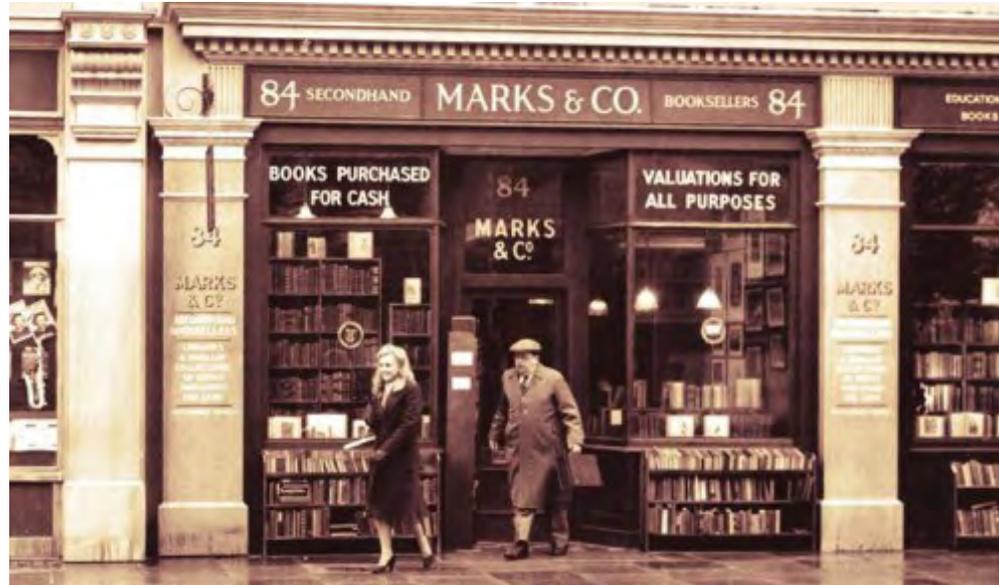




## 84 Charing Cross Road

adapted by James Roose-Evans from the book by Helene Hanff  
SMDG, Hampton Hill Theatre, until 26<sup>th</sup> October

*84 Charing Cross Road* is one of those mysterious dramas which is difficult to 'sell' to someone who knows nothing about it. Helene Hanff, a writer in New York, corresponds, over a period of twenty years with Frank, the manager of a bookshop in Charing Cross Road from whom she is buying books. What happens? Through their letter writing Helene and Frank become friends. That's it really, but to those familiar with it it's so much more. It is difficult to identify exactly why it is so uniquely engaging, but one element may be because it's not a love story, it's a friendship story and those don't get told very often.



*84 Charing Cross Road* is precious material to those who know it and St Mary's Drama Group has done justice to a small but greatly valued gem of 20<sup>th</sup> century writing, and with some style. The stage at Hampton Hill Theatre is gently divided into two sections with the bookshop occupying the larger area. The shop, furnished with dark brown furniture including desks and well stocked bookshelves, is suitably atmospheric. Soft lighting completes the look and even the vast, strangely coloured green doors don't look out of place.

Miss Hanff (Jooz Connery) sits at her typewriter in her messy, New York apartment on a raised platform on the other side of the stage. She and Frank (Andy Smith) in turn read out the letters they send to and receive from each other, each interaction perfectly paced. Frank reacts to each letter either to himself or sometimes with the staff in the shop. Helene reacts to herself, engaging the audience but without breaking the fourth wall. They are in a kind of suspended conversation without directly, physically addressing each other ... ..



Read Eleanor Lewis's review at  
[www.markaspen.com/2019/10/24/chrg-x-rd](http://www.markaspen.com/2019/10/24/chrg-x-rd)

Photography by Bill Bulford



## The Mask of Orpheus

by Sir Harrison Birtwistle, libretto by Peter Zinovieff

English National Opera at the London Coliseum until 19<sup>th</sup> November

Exotic, excessive, eccentric ... and that was just the audience! The buzz at the first-night of ENO's ambitiously flamboyant new production of Birtwistle *The Mask of Orpheus* was electrifying.

The opera has not been seen for a third of a century, since it is a monumental piece, 3½ hours long, musically and technically demanding. The story of



Orpheus striving to rescue his wife Eurydice from hell is retold through different "what-if" scenarios, such that the narrative moves in concentric circles. Moreover, the opera explores three manifestations of each of the three main characters, as a human, a myth and a hero, who each act out their own versions of the story simultaneously. To call it complex would be an understatement.

Birtwistle sets his extensive score for an orchestra bereft of its bowed string section, but with a battery of percussion instruments, guitars and harps, augmented by electronic music. The traditional and contemporary sections each has its own conductor.

For director Daniel Kramer, this epic production forms his swansong with ENO and, my, is he going out on a bang! *The Mask of Orpheus* is an extravaganza that overwhelms the senses with its

lavish opulence and sheer scale. It is very much design-led.

Motivated by multiple visual symbolism, the set incorporates many eclectic elements, Japanese screens, water dispensers, coffins. Peter Mumford's lighting throbs with vibrant fluorescence, dynamically changing from cool delicacy into vivid saturated colour. However all this is trumped by cult stylist Daniel Lismore's costume designs. Outrageously camp and glitzy, they dominate the production with their eye-catching self-indulgence. Nearly **half a million** Swarovski zirconia are stitched into the costumes in an overdose of bling. And we have glittering diamond skull that would make Damien Hirst envious. We can safely say that Lismore's design is brilliant!

Read Mark Aspen's review at

[www.markaspen.com/2019/10/19/mask-orph](http://www.markaspen.com/2019/10/19/mask-orph)

Photography by Alistair Muir



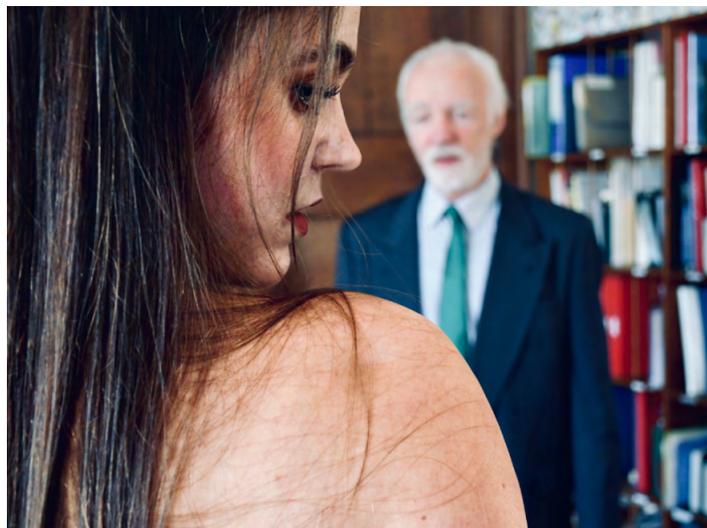


## Integrity

by Vaughan Evans

Krimson Kestrel at OSO Arts Centre, Barnes until 25<sup>th</sup> October

We are in the murky world of Westminster politics, where it would appear, “integrity” is a dirty word. Ostensibly a play about the 2010 Coalition Government and the Liberal Democrat’s policy on tuition fees, the play also tries to tap into the #MeToo movement that arose at the same time following the Harvey Weinstein scandal.



Krimson Kestrel’s production values are excellent. It is an uncommon pleasure to see a black-box space used effectively with minimal furniture and the lighting and sound effects are effective and unobtrusive at the same time. Scene changes are slick and fast.

Clare Farrow’s Vicky plays the entire piece as a *femme fatale*, which takes away any element of surprise when she is revealed as a sexual predator, whereas Francesca Stone’s Tanya is glamorous, knowing and manipulative. Richard Scott does a good job with George, the chauvinist, who shows himself to have the closest thing to integrity of anyone in the play. The fun second act cameos by Marie Bushell and Jenni Fownes bring some much-needed light relief.

However, the play is directed by the author, who also acts as one of the man protagonists. The cast are all capable actors and work very hard to breathe life into their characters, but their performances suffer from direction by someone who is too close to the piece. *Integrity* debuted at the Edinburgh Fringe in 2018. It is perfect Fringe material; it deals with “issues”, has a fair amount of angst and lasted an hour. The first act is a complete play in itself with a definite conclusion. This new, full-length version has a second act bolted on ... it doesn’t work.



Read Wendy Summers’ review at

[www.markaspen.com/2019/10/23/integrity](http://www.markaspen.com/2019/10/23/integrity)

Photography courtesy of Krimson Kestrel

## Toast

by Henry Filloux-Bennett, based on the book by Nigel Slater

PWP and Karl Sydow, Richmond Theatre, until 26<sup>th</sup> October, then on tour until 7<sup>th</sup> December

In the sixties, long before British people had iPhones and Instagram and emojis, the only way they could express their feelings was through food. Yet the humble national palate, all bread and baked goods and biscuits, proves highly articulate in this impressive, life-affirming adaptation of cook Nigel Slater's hit memoir.



The relationship between young Nigel (Giles Cooper) – clad in sleeveless pullover and shorts à la *Blue Remembered Hills* – and Mum (Katy Federmen) is one based on their shared experience at

worktop and hob. The son's enthusiasm makes up for the avowed shortcomings in his mother's expertise, and the baking of jam tarts and mince pies binds them together. Dad (Blair Plant) meanwhile has fussy rules about what and how one should eat, even identifying confectionery as either 'boy' or 'girl' sweets.



The second-act appearance of Dad's fancy woman Joan (Samantha Hopkins) on the scene then gives rise to a cookery conflict between son and stepmother, escalating from condiments to entire dessert trolleys. There's even an excruciating but hilarious moment where Dad and Joan eat walnut whips in a manner bordering on the erotic, much to the embarrassment of Nigel. But we can tell how much he still cares for his Dad in the form of the impressive wedding cake he makes the couple, a gesture all the more poignant because he has used the Christmas cake recipe he and his mother once shared.

If the food of love is incomplete without its music, and *Then He Kissed Me* is an effective score for Nigel's first romantic encounter, and *Psycho Killer*, soundtracking his culinary arms race with Joan, can be forgiven because it is such fun.

Read Matthew Grierson's review at [www.markaspen.com/2019/10/22/toast](http://www.markaspen.com/2019/10/22/toast)



Photography by Piers Foley

# THE KINDRED SPIRIT BAND



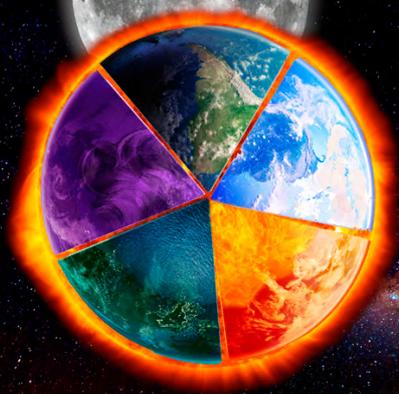
“FOLK ROCK MEETS CLASSICAL  
WITH A SCIENTIFIC EDGE”

RACHEL MANN PROG



photo Prog Stan S

## ELEMENTAL



ELAINE SAMUELS & KINDRED SPIRIT BAND

### HAVE A STUNNING NEW ALBUM

FEATURING ANGELS, DAEMONS, MYSTERIES  
MIRACLES, DISCOVERY AND INSPIRATION

TITLE TRACK  
THE ALCHEMYST  
FEATURES ON  
PROG MAG NO 102

SALES OF THE ALBUM  
AT THE LAUNCH CONCERT  
ARE RAISING MONEY FOR  
CHARITY HOME START



Richmond, Kingston  
& Hounslow  
Helping struggling  
families with young  
children

SUPPORT SWEDISH SINGER SONG WRITER SAGA



LAUNCHING

## SATURDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

WITH A SPECIAL CONCERT AT: ALL HALLOWS CHURCH HALL,  
ERNCROFT WAY, TWICKENHAM, TW1 1DA

DOORS 7PM.

FIND OUT MORE

TICKETS £8

# WWW.KINDREDSPIRITBAND.CO.UK

# IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR.....

By Bruce Lyons



As the Sun goes down and the Autumn leaves turn to Gold and we (Shona and I) don't see anyone on the Thames on our Early Dawn rows I know it's the time .....

Yes it's the time for me to look around and see what's happening in my Favourite area of the world – Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia and the Lebanon

For Travellers from Northern Europe (that's us!) this is the perfect time to Visit the Levant and Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco. The weather is perfect Warm , even Hot but not burning in the Sun, so you can enjoy fully the Cultures and the Cuisine and the Great Cities and their Treasures as well as the Beaches of the Red Sea , with it world famous snorkelling on Pristine Coral and the colourful Exotic Marine life or enjoy the world class Scuba Diving – even learn to Dive in Eilat “The Underwater Classroom of the World



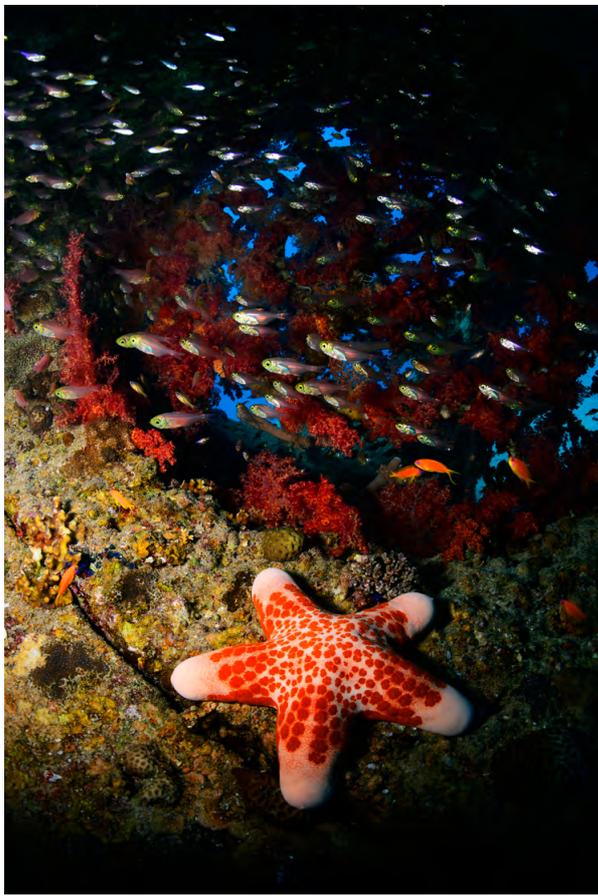
Many of the most famous Underwater Explorers, like Hans Hass or Jack Cousteau (to mention just two) made the Red Sea their home, perhaps you may follow in their Fins!!

Visit Jordan, see Jerash and the world's most intact Amphitheatre , and it's less well known Holyland sites, as well as Kerak the Famous Crusader Castle that fell to Saladin, Petra the

Fortress city of the Nabateans and Wadi Rum home to the Bedouins but immortalised by Lawrence of Arabia , from here you can Stargaze the sky is crystal clear !

Israel, a land of contrasts with lively cities like Tel Aviv and Jaffa, Tiberias on the Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem the capital of the Religions. Cross over





to the Sinai Desert from Israel to Egypt at the Red Sea Port/resort of Eilat, (not before you visit King Solomon`s ( of Queen of Shaba Fame) Mines and you enter the Sinai Mountain region running down the Red Sea towards Mount Sinai and Mount Moses and St Catherine`s home to the Greek Orthodox Monastery of the same name world renowned for its Icons . Cross over (Like Moses – the other way) from Sharm el Sheik to Hurghada on the Western Desert, a region known now for its beaches and the Diving but in Bygone times home to seafarers brings victuals to the Nile Cities of Thebes/Luxor and Aswan in the Nile Delta. Today River Cruises ply these waters immersing their guests in the Pharonic History of those times.

Soon to come back to the traveller`s fold is Lebanon the Land of Cedars, and Byblos and the Bekaa Valley where some of the finest wines come from, like Chateau Musar

Visit Tunis and see the famous Mosaics in the Capital city or take a weekend break in Marrakech a city of the senses

And now dear reader you may ask why am I going on so? Well there are many new flights to this magical playground, this winter. We have now flights to Aqaba and Amman in Jordan; Beirut I the Lebanon has several daily flights, all of these last are from London only, But Tel Aviv has many flights from London as well as Manchester, Morocco had both London and Regional to Marrakech , but also flights to Fez, Agadir, Casablanca ; Egypt has regional to Hurghada but many London flights to Hurghada, as well as Luxor,Cairo and now Sharm –again.



So whether you want to Fish on Lake Nasser for the World Famous Nile Perch, cruise down the Nile in the footsteps of Agatha Christie , tour the Holyland like David Roberts the 18<sup>th</sup> Century Artist Now is the Time and dear reader I doubt if you will hear the BREXIT word in all your travels what a peace !!!

[www.CrusaderTravel.com](http://www.CrusaderTravel.com)

# TRAVELLER'S TALES 53

## THE SPLENDOURS OF ST. PETERSBURG



Doug Goodman ends his Russian cruise in St. Petersburg

Russia is the world's largest country at over six million square miles with 11 time zones, borders with 14 countries and 27 regional languages. Of its 143 million population 78% live in Western Russia. On our 12 day cruise with Viking, ([www.vikingcruises.co.uk](http://www.vikingcruises.co.uk)), we had covered just over 800 miles on the Volga, on lakes and canals between Moscow and St. Petersburg and explored the towns and villages of a vast historic and fascinating land. As Viking Rurik moored alongside its four sister ships at the river station in St. Petersburg we had three days to see some of the city's splendid sites.

### DRAMATIC CHANGES

Russia's second city had changed since my last visit in 2002 but nowhere nearly as much since my first visit in 1964: the contrast 55 years on was dramatic. As a student in Leningrad I remember how drab the people looked, how the buildings were in such a poor state and the queues at every shop: it was, after all, only 19 years since the massive destruction and siege of WW2. The city suffered 900 days of attacks by land and sea by the Nazis and the ensuing famine and fighting killed a million people.



Catherine Palace



Peter The Great



Peterhof Fountains

In 1703 construction of the city began with the Peter and Paul Fortress and building rapidly spread along the banks of the River Neva. Peter the Great had visited Western Europe and was determined to drag Russia out of its medieval existence, create a 'window' on the West and make the new city Russia's capital. Constructed on former swamp land the city is criss-crossed by canals with palaces and grand houses along its banks: it's often called the Venice of the North. Today St. Petersburg has its original name but during the revolution it was changed to Petrograd and then Leningrad. It's an elegant city with brightly coloured buildings, golden domes, superb museums and art galleries, pavement cafes, designer shops and, sadly like Moscow, huge traffic jams and pollution. But it's a litter-free place and easily negotiated on foot, by bus or metro.

### PALACES

A tour to The Hermitage with our guide from the ship enabled us to get in promptly to see the art treasures within. Built by Catherine the Great in 1771 to house her huge art collection, it's one of the world's largest and most famous museums with treasures gathered from every continent. We left the group tour early, crossed Winter Palace Square and saw the Impressionists in the General Staff Headquarters gallery. The Palaces of Peterhof on the Gulf of Finland and Catherine's Palace at Tsarskoe Celo were built during the last 200 years of Romanov rule and show the extravagant life at court and the empire's great wealth at that time. Huge gilt mirrors, gold leaf, paintings and furniture and the fabled, reconstructed Amber Room combined to show the palace in its original state. Occupied and destroyed by the invading German troops in WW2 the palace was restored down to the tiniest detail: except for the original Amber Room, which legend suggests, is buried in a tunnel somewhere in Eastern Europe awaiting discovery.



Winter Palace Square



Cruiser Aurora



Daily Ration During the Siege

You can take a hydrofoil from the city centre to Peterhof but we drove there through pretty villages and woodlands accompanied by our guide Maria. The palace's fountains draw big crowds who gasp at the cascades of water and sparkling golden statues. Beautiful gardens and walks along the water front offer an escape from the bustle of the city and a chance to relax. But be careful where you sit as hidden, trick fountains may spring to life and soak you!

## THE SOVIET ERA

The city's main street has souvenir shops, bars and a lively atmosphere. We visited Kazan Cathedral and saw a long line of young and old people waiting to kiss the miracle-working icon Our Lady of Kazan. The Cathedral was once a museum of atheism. My favourite shop is Dom Knigi-the House of Books. In Russia books, postcards and guides are very good value with beautiful illustrations. Lunch at Katusha in Nevski Prospect consisted of beetroot soup-the famous borscht, blinis-salmon filled pancakes accompanied by Russian beer.



Political History Museum.  
Lenin's Office



Cossack Dance



Nevski Prospect

The afternoon was devoted to places not normally on the tourist programme. We saw the Cruiser Aurora, the vessel that fired the shot to set off the Revolution. At the Museum of Political History it was enlightening to see today's interpretation of life under Communism with its accompanying purges, terror and famine. Under Stalin, I was told, 1.7 million citizens were arrested and 700,000 executed. The military leadership too was decimated. The Cold War, the times under Krushchev, Brezhnev, Andropov, Chernenko and Yeltsin right up to Gorbachov's Perestroika were explained in great detail. Lenin's office was on show as well as a communal kitchen, which was used by many families who lived in the Soviet-style apartment blocks. The Museum of the Siege of Leningrad was the final visit. Dedicated to the troops who defended the city and the citizens who suffered such hardships, the tour was sombre. Food was so scarce that people ate grass and leather and resorted to cannibalism. The food ration was 500 grams of bread a day and the piece of black bread on display was horrifying. The life-saving ice road across Lake Lagoda, which kept the city supplied in winter, was portrayed along with military heroes of the Soviet Union.



Peter and Paul Fortress



Catherine and Peter the Great

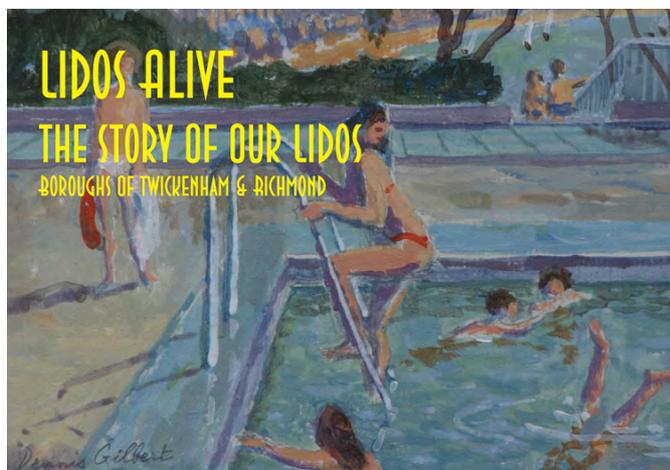


Viking Russian Fleet

Our visit to see Swan Lake and a Cossack dance performance on the quayside alongside Viking Rurik ended our three hectic days. A last-minute shop for vodka, chocs and souvenirs from a well-stocked supermarket brought our holiday to an end. We had seen so many historic places, enjoyed Russian hospitality and met happy and friendly people.

## An Ideal Present for just £6

Lidos Alive – the Story of Our Lidos - is a 63-page A5 book with colour photos and illustrations full of interesting information about the history of outdoor swimming in the Borough and the rise of the lido. Contents include Mereway Bathing Place, pools in Bushy Park, Hampton Pool, Teddington Pool, Hampton Wick, Tagg's Island, Marble Hill, Twickenham Baths, Pools on the Park and other interesting stories.



Books can be purchased at Crusader Travel in Church Street, Twickenham and Premier Wines next to Strawberry Hill Station.

# FOOTBALL FOCUS

by Alan Winter



## BRENTFORD FC

### GREAT WEEK FOR BRILLIANT BEES

Six goals and six points propelled the Bees into the top half of the Championship table after two top performances in four days. An amazing win at home to Millwall last Saturday was followed by a comfortable victory at Swansea on Tuesday night. With an away game to come at local rivals Queens Park Rangers in the televised game on Monday, the Bees season has really taken off.



### BRENTFORD 3 – MILLWALL 2 ATTENDANCE 10,886

A year from now, Griffin Park will be no more. It has seen some remarkable days and nights since Brentford took up residence in 1904. But, perhaps none like this. With six minutes remaining, Brentford trailed 2-0 to Millwall, having missed a penalty and seen their centre forward removed on a stretcher. That they won 3-2 will live long in the memory of everyone who saw it. Even years after Brentford have moved to their new home next summer.

The broad facts are that Ollie Watkins, who had earlier seen a penalty saved, scored four minutes in to stoppage time to win the game after Josh Dasilva and Bryan Mbeumo had come off the substitute's bench to reduce Millwall's lead to rubble. That lead had looked rock solid after they had scored just before the interval, after Watkins had seen a spot kick saved, and then converted their own penalty early in the second half. But Dasilva's goal restored belief, Mbeumo levelled it up and Watkins, somehow, won it for The Bees.

With 84 minutes gone and Millwall 2-0 up, Brentford suddenly found a breakthrough and the game was alive. A throw caught Millwall out, Benrahma set up Dasilva and he fired low in to the net from 18 yards. Bialkowski seemed to be beaten by the pace and placement of the shot and Brentford had hope. And four minutes later, they were level. Brentford played out from the left side of their defence and Benrahma fed the ball down the line for Mbeumo to run on to. With Dalsgaard haring up in support and players in the middle, Mbeumo cut back and his deflected shot flew past Bialkowski and in to the net.

With Brentford playing in a blue kit to commemorate their first ever win at Griffin Park – over Millwall in 1904 – a point would have seemed like a victory but that was not the end by any means. Jed Wallace was, perhaps, fortunate to escape with just a booking after putting his studs in to the chest of Raya and Jeanvier was also booked for his part instigating the melee that followed. Thompson was also booked while Cooper and Hutchinson – who had already been cautioned, joined players from both teams in getting involved.

When referee Mr Attwell calmed everything down and handed out his punishments it still left time for a winner and Brentford went looking for it. Dasilva swung a pass out to the left to give Henry a chance to attack the box, the low cross reached Mbeumo at the far post and when he

knocked it back in, Watkins lashed home. Griffin Park erupted. If you were there and left early you now know never to leave a game until the final whistle! Wow – what a finish!

Brentford: Raya; Dalsgaard, Jansson, Jeanvier, Henry; Mokotjo, Nørgaard (sub Dasilva 72 mins), Jensen (sub Valencia 81 mins); Watkins, Karelis (sub Mbeumo 45 mins), Benrahma

### **SWANSEA CITY 0 – BRENTFORD 3 Attendance 15,875**

And so to Wales on Tuesday night to play a Swansea team sitting third in the table and against whom Brentford have failed to beat in recent years.

After an even start to the contest, Brentford took control with two goals in six minutes just past the half hour and Swansea could find no way back. Bryan Mbeumo added a superb third goal in the second half to seal a well-deserved win.

While Swansea may point to the chances created, Brentford were superb at both ends of the pitch. They blocked a series of shot and when David Raya was called upon, he did everything he needed to keep a clean sheet. Saïd Benrahma opened the scoring late in the first half and a Jake Bidwell own goal doubled that lead soon after. Mbeumo put the icing on the cake and Brentford made it back-to-back wins after coming from 2-0 down to beat Millwall on Saturday.

Brentford counter-attacked ruthlessly and Benrahma finished brilliantly to grab his first goal of the season and put The Bees in front and it was two soon after. Watkins intercepted a poor Peterson pass and raced forward, he tried to find Mbeumo breaking to his right but ex Bees skipper Jake Bidwell – who scored only three goals in 211 Brentford games – was there to poke the ball past his own goalkeeper. Goalkeeper Woodman had no chance and Brentford were two up.

The home side made two substitutions at the interval as they attempted to find a way back in to the contest.

A stretched game suited The Bees. Watkins, in particular, was finding pockets of space and linked up well with Mbeumo, Benrahma and the roaming Dasilva.

Ten minutes in to the second half, the goalkeeper was left helpless by the brilliance of Mbeumo. The young attacker got on to a loose pass from Joe Rodon and darted towards goal, he let fly from 20 yards and watched as the ball whistled past Woodman and in to the net.

That goal seemed to knock the stuffing out of the home side, who were playing in to Brentford's hands and kept giving the ball away. They tried to attack but got no joy against the brilliant Jeanvier and even when Raya dropped a cross it was a Brentford man who reacted first. And The Bees continued to go forward, looking for more goals.

Benrahma shot wide before producing a moment of magic that would have lit up any game in the world. The Algerian magician produced a flick that defies explanation to take two defenders out of the game and then got on to a reverse pass from Watkins, also flicked through his legs. Benrahma tricked his way to the edge of the penalty area and curled a shot past Woodman but inches past the far post. It would have been the goal of any season if it had bent a fraction more but those in attendance could still marvel at what had been produced.

Benrahma gave way to Jan Žamburek in the dying stages. He was applauded from all four sides of The Liberty Stadium as he made his way off, the game well won. The later chances fell to Swansea, but they could find no way through, and Brentford celebrated a very satisfactory evening in South Wales.

Brentford: Raya; Dalsgaard, Jansson, Jeanvier, Henry; Dasilva (sub Jensen 75 mins), Nørgaard, Mokotjo; Mbeumo (sub Valencia 70 mins), Watkins, Benrahma (sub Žamburek 88 mins)

### **BEES AWAY AT QPR IN TELEVISED GAME**

Brentford's attempt to charge up the table continues on Monday night (28th Oct) with the Bees at London rivals Queens Park Rangers. This is the Sky TV Big match and kicks off at 7.45.

***Come on you Bees!***

## **HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH**

Hampton's scheduled league match at home to Dartford last Saturday was postponed (until November 5) as Dartford were playing in the FA Cup. Instead, manager Gary McCann took his first-team squad to Wingate & Finchley, of the Isthmian League, last Saturday for a friendly. The friendly offered the chance of game time for squad members who have not been featuring much recently, and an opportunity for some of the Academy boys.



### **BEAVERS AT HUNGERFORD TODAY**

The Beavers are away at Hungerford Town today (Saturday 26th October). Kick-off is at 3.00. Next Saturday (2nd November) Hampton are at home to Maidstone United with a 3.00 kick-off.

### **FOOTBALL REPORTER WANTED!**

Hello, I'm Alan Winter and I have been writing this weekly Twickenham and Richmond Tribune Football Focus column featuring Brentford and Hampton & Richmond Borough football clubs for a year or more.

It has been great fun but I now need to take some time out. This is your big chance!

Firstly let me explain how this will affect your life. You will need an hour or two each week to stay on top of match reports, forthcoming fixtures and player and club news. You don't necessarily have to be at games as you can pick up all the content you need from the respective club web-sites. Having said that, it would be nice if you support either club or have an interest in them. Your weekly copy should be emailed to the Tribune by Thursday night which gives you time to cover Wednesday evening games should they occur.

As is often the way with digital journalism, you will receive no wages, expenses or other perks from the Tribune although you will probably be able to get into Hampton games for free and have a nice seat as a member of the local press.

You will also start to develop a modicum of local fame or notoriety from the Tribune's ever-growing readership.

I have met many people who have genuinely appreciated catching up with the local football news each week and I have also been accosted with "You're the bloke who writes that rubbish about Brentford aren't you!"

Anyway, if you are interested, send me an email at [alanwinter192@hotmail.com](mailto:alanwinter192@hotmail.com) or give me a ring on 07875 578398 and we can talk it through and answer any questions you may have.

# Rugby World Cup 2019 - Jones names England team to play New Zealand

England men's head coach Eddie Jones has named his team to play New Zealand in the Rugby World Cup 2019 semi-final at Yokohama Stadium (KO 5pm local time, 9am UK time).

Captain Owen Farrell is named at inside centre with George Ford selected at fly half and Manu Tuilagi at outside centre. Billy Vunipola will play in his 50th Test match for England with Sam Underhill and Tom Curry also named in the back row.

Jonny May will start on the left wing with Anthony Watson named on the right and Elliot Daly at fullback. Maro Itoje and Courtney Lawes are named in the second row while Mako Vunipola, Jamie George and Kyle Sinckler make up the front row.

Jones said: "Preparation has been good this week after a solid win against Australia. When you get to this stage of the World Cup it is all about focusing on being in the moment and getting yourself physically right.

"The squad has approached the game well with real maturity. It has helped having players here who have been on the Lions tour and played against New Zealand. They have been involved in some of the biggest games in world rugby so this semi-final won't phase them.

"New Zealand is a great team, they have an impressive winning record since the last Rugby World Cup. Like any good team, you have to take away time and space from them and you have to find areas you can pressure them. We believe we have identified a number of areas where we can do that."

Jones added on Vunipola's 50th cap: "It is a great achievement for Billy to reach 50 Test matches for England and something that is very special for the team. I know his family will be very proud of him and even more so to play the game alongside his brother Mako."

## England starting XV

15 Elliot Daly (Saracens, 37 caps)  
14 Anthony Watson (Bath Rugby, 40 caps)  
13 Manu Tuilagi (Leicester Tigers, 38 caps)  
12 Owen Farrell (Saracens, 77 caps) C  
11 Jonny May (Leicester Tigers, 50 caps)  
10 George Ford (Leicester Tigers, 63 caps)  
9 Ben Youngs (Leicester Tigers, 93 caps)

1 Mako Vunipola (Saracens, 56 caps)  
2 Jamie George (Saracens, 43 caps)  
3 Kyle Sinckler (Harlequins, 29 caps)  
4 Maro Itoje (Saracens, 32 caps)  
5 Courtney Lawes (Northampton Saints, 79 caps)  
6 Tom Curry (Sale Sharks, 17 caps)  
7 Sam Underhill (Bath Rugby, 13 caps)  
8 Billy Vunipola (Saracens, 49 caps)

## Finishers

16 Luke Cowan-Dickie (Exeter Chiefs, 19 caps)  
17 Joe Marler (Harlequins, 66 caps)  
18 Dan Cole (Leicester Tigers, 93 caps)  
19 George Kruis (Saracens, 39 caps)

20 Mark Wilson (Sale Sharks 16 caps)  
21 Willi Heinz (Gloucester Rugby, 8 caps)  
22 Henry Slade (Exeter Chiefs, 25 caps)  
23 Jonathan Joseph (Bath Rugby, 45 caps)



# Investigation into pre-school vaccinations

In its report published today, the NAO finds NHS England has missed the Department of Health and Social Care's (DHSC) performance standard for the uptake of nearly all pre-school vaccinations in England in 2018-19. Uptake of nearly all pre-school vaccinations has declined since 2012-13 and in 2019 the World Health Organization withdrew the UK's measles elimination status.<sup>1</sup> NHS England data shows regional variations in uptake of vaccinations, with particularly low levels in London.

NHS England and Public Health England (PHE) have identified several potential causes for the decline in pre-school vaccination rates but cannot say which are having the greatest impact, according to the National Audit Office (NAO).

In July 2019, PHE estimated that around 90,000 children in England (1 in 7) had not had both doses of MMR at the age of five. Current levels of uptake of the second dose of the Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccination (MMR) are 86.4%, below the 95% recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) to give herd immunity.

Most parents have confidence in vaccines. PHE conducts an annual survey into the wider public's and parents' attitudes to vaccinations. This survey in 2019 found that 95% of parents said they had confidence in vaccinations and only 3% had refused one or more vaccine. NHS England and PHE are alert to the need to emphasise the positive case for vaccination. Of the potential causes identified by NHS England and PHE, no factor on its own explains the decline in pre-school vaccination rates since 2012-13. NHS England and PHE do not know the relative impact of each potential cause. There is evidence that the 2013 health system reorganisation in England resulted in fragmentation in the way the vaccination programme has been delivered.

The way healthcare professionals remind parents to vaccinate their children is inconsistent. Parents are contacted to book an appointment through being called and recalled by healthcare professionals. When primary care trusts were abolished in 2013, NHS England took responsibility for commissioning call/recall, but has not set out the requirements of GPs for call/recall under the new arrangements. This has led to inconsistencies in how the system works in different parts of the country.

Some parents have reported finding it difficult to access vaccination services due to the timing and availability of appointments. There are also communities which are "under-served" when it comes to healthcare, such as travellers, which may also affect their vaccination rates. Since 2018, NHS England and Public Health England have been developing a plan to improve uptake of vaccinations. NHS England is creating an MMR catch-up programme for children aged 10-11 and published guidance in August 2019 for regional teams on how to improve uptake of MMR vaccination. In July 2019, DHSC announced that it would launch a new strategy on vaccination by spring 2020 and the Prime Minister has since requested it be brought forward to Autumn 2019.



National Audit Office

# Gerald's on the run again – at 89!

Once bitten, twice shy is not something you can say about Gerald Pratt. At 89, bitten by the fun run bug last year, Gerald is among the first to sign up to this year's Princess Alice Hospice Santa Fun Run in December.

Former machine shop foreman Gerald, who hails from Whitton, has been walking regularly in Richmond Park and Bushy Park for the best part of two years, having joined the Princess Alice Hospice Walk and Talk group after the death of his wife Margaret.

They both worked at the Wilson and Kyle factory in Brentford; Margaret starting at 14 and Gerald at 17.

They married in 1958 and moved to a house in Whitton the day they were married, where they raised a family and where Gerald still lives. He's been retired 24 years.

He was inspired to join the Santa Fun Run last year by a new friend he made while on the regular Princess Alice Hospice Walk and Talk strolls in Bushy Park. That same friend, Barry, will be joining him again this year, along with fellow Walk and Talker Sylvia – who last year cheered them on but is joining in this time.

A grandfather of seven, Gerald reckons he will be taking the fun run at a leisurely pace – hopefully a fast walk – and finish under an hour.

When he's not out and about on his favourite walks, Gerald can be found in the Hospice Man Shed, which he joined after last year's Santa Fun Run.

Here he can put his skills to use in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere – designing and making wooden toys and games, planters and other items.

***If you would like to join Gerald and our other Santas in one of our upcoming Santa Fun Runs in Painshill Park, Richmond Park and Bushy Park, sign up at [pah.org.uk/santafunrun](http://pah.org.uk/santafunrun) or call 01372 461808. There's a 20% Early Bird discount if - like Gerald - you book before October 31***



## **SUP-YOGA & SUP-PILATES CLASSES IN TWICKENHAM**

SUP-Yoga & SUP-Pilates classes offer a unique, dynamic and fun way to challenge your fitness on water! The sessions are taken on anchored paddleboards floating on water. The buoyancy of the water adds intensity to every movement and makes a refreshing change from usual mat classes. The classes suit all levels and abilities. EPIC SUP are running SUP-Yoga and SUP-Pilates classes from Twickenham Rowing Club, this summer.

To book or for enquiries contact: [coach@epicsup.org](mailto:coach@epicsup.org)



# Richmond Film Society's 57th Season of World Cinema continues at The Exchange, Twickenham

5th November, 8.30pm

## 'The Happiest Day in the Life of Olli Mäki' (Finland)

Based on a true story, Olli is unexpectedly given the chance of a bout with the American 1962 World Featherweight Champion. To win would establish Finland's global prestige but his romantic life begins to hamper his preparations. Involving and moving, with hints of Truffaut and Kaurismäki. Winner of the Un Certain Regard Prize at Cannes.

The film will be preceded by the RFS AGM at 8:00pm and the screening will commence at 8:30pm.

[www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk](http://www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk)

Non-member tickets are £5 (full-time students £3) and can be purchased in advance from The Exchange's Box Office (subject

to a cap of 60) - in person, by telephone on 020 8240 2399 or online at [www.exchangetwickenham.co.uk/events/](http://www.exchangetwickenham.co.uk/events/). A further 50 or so tickets will be available to purchase on the door on the night of screenings (cash only) on a 'first-come-first-served' basis.

Films are shown at 8.00pm sharp on alternate Tuesdays (no trailers and no ads) and are screened at The Exchange, 75 London Road, Twickenham, TW1 1BE. On screening nights, the Bar is open from 7.00pm and remains open after the film. Drinks can be taken into the auditorium and coffee, tea and snacks are also available. Film notes are provided for each screening and audience feedback is obtained via response slips.



Half Page

Quarter Page  
Landscape

Quarter Page Portrait

Eighth Page

Eighth Page  
Landscape

Example advert sizes shown above

Thousands read The Twickenham & Richmond Tribune

If you are reading this you could be advertising your business with  
The Twickenham & Richmond Tribune. Community rates are  
available

Contact: [advertise@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:advertise@TwickenhamTribune.com)

View ad details at [www.TwickenhamTribune.com/advertise](http://www.TwickenhamTribune.com/advertise)

**Contact**

[contact@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:contact@TwickenhamTribune.com)

[letters@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:letters@TwickenhamTribune.com)

[advertise@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:advertise@TwickenhamTribune.com)



**Published by:**

Twickenham Alive Limited (in association with World InfoZone Limited)

Registered in England & Wales

Reg No 10549345

The Twickenham Tribune is registered with the ICO under the Data Protection Act, Reg No ZA224725

©Twickenham Alive Limited. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be used or reproduced without the permission of Twickenham Alive Limited. While we take reasonable efforts, this online newspaper cannot be held responsible for the accuracy or reliability of information. The views and opinions in these pages do not necessarily represent those of Twickenham Alive Limited or The Twickenham & Richmond Tribune. [Terms & Conditions](#)