

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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22nd May 2020

T&RT

TickerTape - News in Brief

Richmond's First 'School Streets' to be in place by June

Richmond Council has used emergency powers to ensure that three local primary schools will be the first in the borough to receive 'School Street' status in time for the resumption of teaching in June.

A School Street is where a road(s) around a school temporarily closes to all motor vehicles except those of the immediate road residents; thereby becoming a pedestrian and cycle zone during the school's opening and closing times.

The three initial schemes will launch in the roads outside of the schools, with effect from Monday 1 June 2020 (Twickenham Primary Academy (GEMS), Orleans Primary School and St Stephen's Church of England's Primary School)

Council condemns playground vandals

Richmond Council has slammed mindless vandals who have torched the play equipment at Heathfield Recreation Ground.

On Sunday 24 May 2020, vandals set alight to safety flooring, two climbing posts and ropes in the play area.

The Council is working with the Police to identify those responsible. Even though the play area is temporarily closed due to COVID-19, the equipment will be replaced.

The Council's Park Guard service will work with police to co-ordinate joint patrols in the area and to discourage any further anti-social activity.

Anyone with any information regarding the crime is encouraged to contact the Police on the non-emergency line: 101.

New Champion for Dementia announced

Cllr Roger Crouch, ward Councillor for Twickenham Riverside, has been given the Dementia Champion role. The week of 15 to 21 May 2020 would have been National Dementia Week, however, due to the pandemic, this will now take place later in the year and will include events in the borough.

[Visit the News page for more stories](#)

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TwickerSeal decided to take advantage of the recently updated lockdown rules and meet up with TwickerDuck. As it was such a nice warm day, they decided to meet on Twickenham Green, giving TwickerSeal a chance to stretch his flippers and get a bit of exercise as well.

TwickerSeal had his broom with him, which coincidentally at 2m long was ideal for ensuring appropriate social distancing. Just as well as he had it as on arrival at the Green TwickerSeal was shocked to see every bin overflowing and litter strewn across the Green.

TwickerDuck said it was strange how people have been happy to sit in their cars queuing for over two hours to take their 'essential' waste to the Townmead Recycling Centre, but couldn't spare two minutes to put their rubbish in a bag and take it away to dispose of appropriately!



Borough View

By Graeme Stoten

'Poppy garden'

'Visiting The Terrace Gardens in Richmond, you will have no doubt have seen the special bedding floral displays to commemorate VE Day, but opposite alongside the river is a small poppy bed with a meadow like character.

Probably about to pass its best now, the dawn morning light earlier this week captured it in full glory!



COVID-19 – this week's updates

Teresa Read

As countries are easing lockdowns the World Health Organization has warned that the virus is still with us and outbreaks can spread quickly.

South Korea, a country which has been relatively successful in containing COVID-19, announced on Friday 29 May that schools will close once again and return to online teaching.

In the UK the government has embarked upon testing - and tracing contacts of those who receive a positive result for COVID-19

At the present time the most talked about vaccine research rests with AstraZeneca, the Anglo-Swedish pharmaceutical company which is working with Oxford University; Gilead's Remdesivir is a treatment which has shown promising results in trials, reducing time spent in hospital.

The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry website lists steps taken by pharmaceutical companies in the areas of Treatment Development, Vaccine Development and Diagnostics. ***“At the start of May there were over 100 confirmed vaccine projects in development globally. 8 of these were in clinical trials. 72% of confirmed vaccine projects were being led by the pharmaceutical industry with the remaining 28% by academic, public sector and other NPOs.”***

<https://www.abpi.org.uk/medicine-discovery/covid-19/what-are-pharmaceutical-companies-doing-to-tackle-the-disease/>

Local Statistics

The In Your Area website gave the following statistics for COVID-19 on Friday 29 May: 408 confirmed cases in Richmond upon Thames, 520 in Kingston-upon-Thames, 729 in Hounslow. Updates are also available from the BBC on their Coronavirus UK Map.

Number of Deaths from WHO Situation Reports:

At the time of writing the World Health Organization Situation Report for Friday 29 May 2020 gave the following details for countries with high death rates: 98,889 in the USA, 37,837 in the UK, 33,142 in Italy, 29,037 in Spain, 28,608 in France, 25,598 in Brazil, 9,388 in Belgium, 8,597 in Mexico, 8,450 in Germany, 7,627 in Iran, 6,799 in Canada, 5,903 in the Netherlands, 4,706 in India, 4,645 in China, 4,461 in Turkey, 4,266 in Sweden and a total of 357,688 deaths worldwide.

PART 181

FULWELL GOLF CLUB

This week I thought we could have a look at a large area of land in the Borough that is unknown to many local residents. The Fulwell Golf Club entrance is situated in Wellington Road Hampton Hill. I was a member there for a number of years and in that time must have walked around most of the course and the rough areas while looking for my lost balls most of which were never found!

The area was farmed during the 17th and 18th centuries and the present day golf course comprised part of Blackmoor Farm and most of Slade Farm. The farmhouse building for the latter, Slade Lodge, built c.1830 and Grade II listed in 1990, is now the course manager's residence. The area of the present day course formed part of a larger estate which was purchased in 1871 by property developer, Charles James Freake, and renamed Fulwell Park.



In 1904 a group of local golf enthusiasts established the club at Fulwell. Led by prominent local figure H. O. Stutchbury, they appointed former Captain of Mid-Surrey Golf Club, Harry Tomlinson, as chairman and leased 244 acres (99 ha) from the Trustees of the Freake Estate, using 210 acres (85 ha) for the course. Early club officials included Frederick Dixon-Hartland, Viscount Villiers and Dr Reginald Langdon Down, son of Dr John Langdon Down.

The initial course on the site comprised an "outer" 18-hole course for men and an "inner" for ladies and high handicappers. In 1921 Alister Mackenzie, the noted golf course architect, was contracted to extend and improve the outer course.



Our first postcard from the 1920s shows the approach to the green at the 18th hole as you finish your round next to the clubhouse.

Phil Gaudin was appointed as the first head golf professional at Fulwell in 1906, and he remained there until the start of World War I in 1914. George Oke became resident professional at Fulwell in 1921 and, soon after, a young school-leaver, Leslie Cotton, joined as assistant. In 1923 Leslie's elder brother, Henry Cotton, joined as assistant teaching professional. Henry Cotton soon moved on but Oke remained until 1946.

In 1934 a consortium of Teddington Council, London County Council and Middlesex County Council indicated its intention to purchase the land under the green belt scheme on expiry of the lease in 1941.

In 1939, The War Agricultural Executive Committee instructed the club to lay out the inner course to agricultural use. The resulting loss of half its membership revenue led to an agreement with the landowner, by then Middlesex County Council, to reduce the rent in return for opening up the remaining course to the public and with a commitment to reinstate the inner course after the war.

Three bombs, intended for the nearby National Physical Laboratory, Teddington fell in the course during 25 February 1944.

After the war, Middlesex County Council reinstated the course, contracting John Stanton Fleming Morrison for the design. He laid out the present day 18-hole course comprising eight of the original "outer" layout and ten new holes from the land returned from agricultural use. The par 71 course has four par 3, eleven par 4 and three par 5 holes. The new course opened in 1958 and the club was granted a further 21-year lease.

In 1946 Bill Cox succeeded George Oak as professional, establishing a successful teaching academy at Fulwell and remaining until 1975.

In April 1981 the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames purchased the freehold from the GLC for £159,750.

In March 1983 Richmond agreed to sell both the former Slade's Farm golf course site and adjacent Blackmore Farm site for a sum of £300,000 to D.J. Squires on a 999-year lease. Squires Garden Centre business was established on the Blackmore Farm site. The disposal was authorised both by the GLC and the Secretary of State for the Environment and the sale concluded in March 1986. Squires immediately reassigned the lease of the golf course to Fulwell Golf Club which continued the public play commitment established during the war through a reduced fee access agreement for local residents.

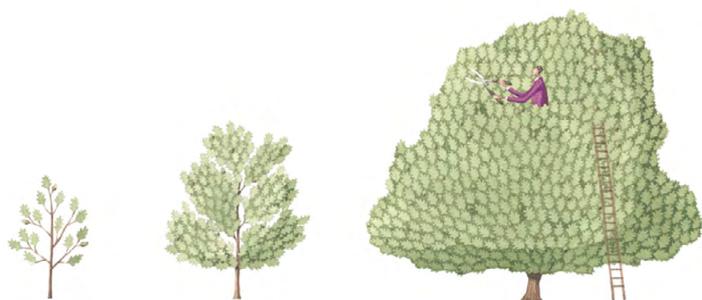
Today, Fulwell Golf Club is going through a very successful period. It is a championship length parkland course of 6,475 yards, par 71 with tree-lined fairways and quality greens. In recent years the club has been consistently voted one of the top two courses in Middlesex (I keep telling you Middlesex still exists don't!). The greens and fairway are in wonderful condition and the whole area is managed sympathetically for wildlife. I have seen hedgehogs, rabbits, owls, woodpeckers and parakeets regularly out on the course.



We leave the story with another view of the 18th hole approaching the green and club house as you would see it today (photo courtesy of Fulwell Golf Club).

With many of us confined to home at present it may be that you are using the time to tidy a few drawers or have a bit of a clear-out. If

you trip over any old postcards, old envelopes with stamps on, or photograph albums that you would consider parting with, I'd be very interested in arranging to see them. Please contact me on 07875 578398 or by email at: alanwinter192@hotmail.com I am happy to pay cash for anything like that which I find of interest. So don't throw old postcards etc. in the skip or recycling bins. Show them to me first! Thanks, stay safe and well.

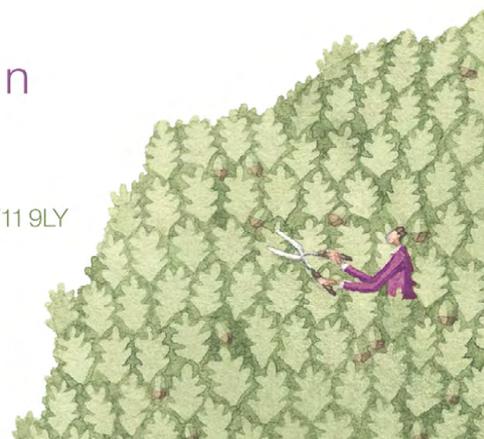


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darryl parkin

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RFS The Best of our Recent Historic Screenings

Issue 10, 29th May 2020

IDA

A new series for those of you who are missing Richmond Film Society's screenings or, indeed, trips to the cinema generally as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. Their committee is producing a number of weekly recommendations of films screened during the last 20 years that were extremely well received by their audiences. Should the notes reproduced below entice you to try and catch-up with this recommendation, then you should be able to do so, as it is available on streaming services and for purchase as DVD/Blu-Ray discs from the online retailers as indicated below.

RFS Context: **IDA** was 744th film screened by RFS on 17th November 2015. **Ida** was the fourth ranked film of Season 53, it got an approval mark of 93% from those attending (The top film from Season 53, **Wild Tales** and the second from top film **Salt of the Earth** have already featured in our Best of our Recent Historic Screenings as **Issue 5** & **Issue 8** respectively). **Ida** can be streamed from Amazon Prime and the discs are available from Amazon and others.

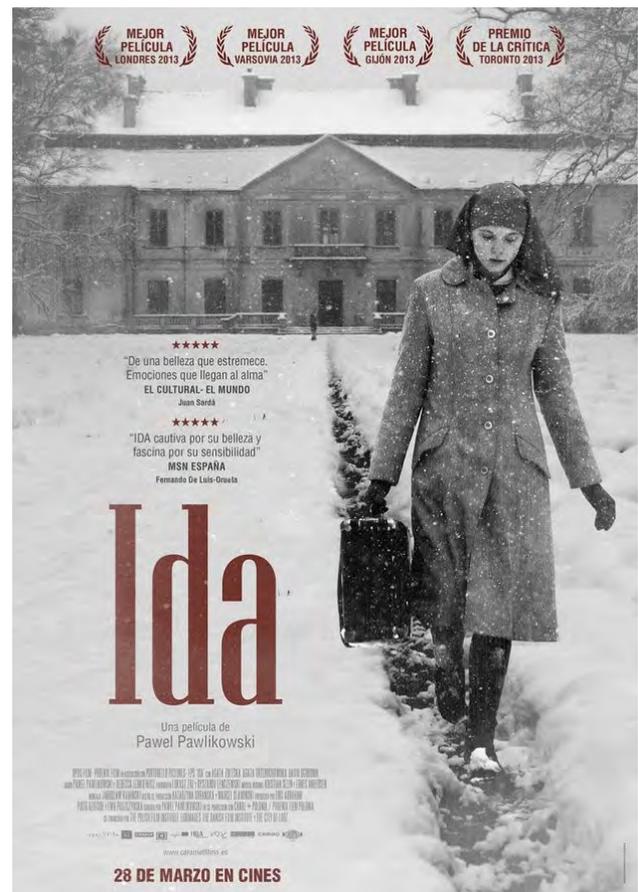
IDA

Country: Poland, 2013
Director: Pawel Pawlikowski
Screenplay: Pawel Pawlikowski & Rebecca Lenkiewicz
Editing: Jaroslaw Kaminski
Running Time: 82 mins, b&w
Cinematography: Ryszard Lenczewski & Lukasz Za!
Language: Polish
Music: Kristian Eidnes Andersen

Leading Players:

Agata Kulesza	(Wanda)
Agata Trzebuchowska	(Anna)
Dawid Ogrodnik	(Lis)
Jerzy Trela	(Szymon)
Adam Szyszkowski	(Feliks)
Halina Skoczynska	(Mother Superior)
Joanna Kulig	(Singer)
Dorota Kuduk	(Kaska)

Anna, an eighteen-year-old novice nun, has spent her entire life in the convent, having been taken there as a baby following the death of her parents. Shortly before taking her vows and at the behest of the Mother Superior, she meets her sole surviving relative, a dissolute aunt; together, they embark upon a road trip through early 1960s Poland to discover more of their family history.



Ida is a quiet, understated film, infused with a haunting quality and set against the austere backcloth of Poland's post-Stalinist dictatorship. It is in no sense plot-driven; rather, the story is economically told and much is left unsaid, with the audience being left to draw their own inferences from casual remarks and suggestions. Pawlikowski's approach is to use the juxtaposition of these two very different women to explore the underlying issues of identity and the ability (or otherwise) to come to terms with the past.

The film drew fine performances from the two leads, one of whom had no previous acting experience. It is also notable for its beautiful cinematography (for which it was Oscar nominated), with each shot resembling a perfectly framed black-and-white photograph. Critically acclaimed, *Ida* went on to win 63 awards, including the 2015 Oscar for the Best Foreign Language Film.

Peter Maguire with acknowledgment to RogerEbert.com

Council to begin legal process to remove squatters from future affordable housing site

Legal efforts to remove squatters from a derelict building in Twickenham, which is earmarked for vital affordable housing, will begin shortly.

The Mereway Centre on Mereway Road closed in 2007. Since then the site has become overgrown, dilapidated and run down, it has also been found to contain significant levels of asbestos which the Council is endeavouring to remove.

The Council has been working with a housing association to develop plans to provide much needed affordable housing to put the site to an alternative social housing use in order to provide genuinely affordable low-cost homes for local people.

It is hoped that the site could provide around 20 homes, suitable for social rent and low-cost home ownership for local people and their families. This is part of the Council's plans to utilise the limited land holdings it has to provide many more affordable homes than has been seen in recent years.

However, squatters have now illegally gained access to the site, encouraging residents to support their actions.

It is hoped that a planning application on the proposals for the site will be submitted later this year and subject to full public consultation.



REMEMBER. D-DAY



Next Saturday will mark the 76th anniversary of D-Day when allied forces landed on the beaches of Normandy

Along with so many other historical commemorations the annual ceremonies held in the UK and France to mark D-Day will not take place this year. But we must still remember the greatest invasion force ever assembled and the 4,414 military personnel who were killed on June 6th 1944. The invasion consisted of almost 7,000 ships, 11,590 aircraft, 3,500 gliders, 20,000 vehicles and 160,000 troops.

Les sanglots longs
Des violons
De l'automne

Blessent mon cœur
D'une langueur
Monotone.

Extraits de "La chanson d'automne", poème de Paul Verlaine

La première partie fut radiodiffusée sur la BBC dans la nuit du 1^{er} au 2 juin 1944 pour annoncer l'éventualité d'un débarquement allié en France.
La seconde partie fut radiodiffusée dans la soirée du 5 juin 1944.
Elle confirmait, auprès de la Résistance, l'imminence du Débarquement.

Code Word for French Resistance



Reunion at Pegasus Bridge

Last year, the 75th anniversary, saw massive parades in Normandy in the presence of heads of state and many of the 1944 veterans. Every landing beach has its own memorial and almost every town and village has a museum where the local inhabitants remember the part played by the British, American and Canadian troops. From Utah Beach in the west to Sword Beach in the east there's so much to see in the 50 miles of the landing zones. The museum at Utah tells the story of the US Marines who had the task of scaling high cliffs at Pointe du Hoc to neutralise enemy guns. At Arromanches the museum takes visitors through the invasion itself with the remains of the huge concrete 'Mulberry' harbours visible on the beach. At Pegasus Bridge, a vital river crossing point captured by British paratroops, the original structure can be seen in the museum.

Each year around June 6th the towns and villages near the invasion beaches come alive with re-enactors and vast numbers of military vehicles. Sainte Mere Eglise is the prime spot for seeing the re-enactors and their campsite where reunions take place and battles are refought on paper. The area resembles a film set with fleets

of jeeps, convoys of heavy trucks and a tank park watched over by men and women in uniform enjoying life under canvas. The town, with its shops selling wartime memorabilia, was the site of an American air drop of troops. Many casualties occurred as the German forces were based in Sainte Mere Eglise. In memory of the event a dummy soldier hangs in his parachute from the church tower.



Sherman Tanks



US Army Vehicles

As the number of D-Day veterans falls, those who are still able to return to Normandy do so each year to remember their comrades. Doug Goodman visited the D-Day beaches on June 6th 2018 as guest of The Liberation Route Europe – a remembrance trail connecting events, places and regions with the final stages of WW2. www.euoperemembers.com To reach Normandy you can take the DFDS ferry from Dover to Calais with a four hour drive or travel with Brittany Ferries from Poole to Cherbourg and Portsmouth to Caen.



Museum at Utah Beach



Veteran of WW2

The Dunkirk Rescue

Teddington's Contribution Of 120 Dunkirk Little Ships

By Mike Pemberton

As a Teddington resident a few years ago I decided to write a ballad to recognise the contribution of local townspeople in the commandeering, preparation and mobilisation of 120 boats as part of the "Little Ships Armada", and those who took them to the beaches of Dunkirk in May 1940 in the rescue of trapped troops.

Under instruction from the Admiralty the boats were assembled by Tough's boatyard, until 1996 just below Teddington Lock. Boatyard owner Doug Tough was the centre-point of the exercise and as there was little generally recorded about the four day episode I was enormously grateful to John Tough, grandson of Doug, for his family recollections and some photography.



Click image to view video

The Ballad of Teddington's Dunkirk Little Ships

by Mike Pemberton

May 27 1940 the Admiralty called
Doug Tough and your team we need for Dynamo
Seize seaworthy boats thirty feet or more
Take no excuse this is war
Cos half a million boys trapped on Dunkirk's beach
They're our lads with their backs to the wall

Cos the navy's big boats are all the wrong craft
We need little ships with shallow draught
Prepare in secret your yard and your men
To seize, then make ready boats at Teddington
For a journey unknown into shelling and bombing
It's going to be tough - we need Toughs to get going
The whole of Britain was holding its breath
For those lads with their backs to the wall

Till late that night and all next day
Tough's snatch squads made good headway
From Teddington to Windsor they freed those boats
With knives and cutters to serve Dynamo
Family boats, pleasure boats, steamers and ferries,
To save those lads with their backs to the wall

Down to Tough's yard to strip 'em bare
Motored or towed to get 'em down there
Teddington lock was a very busy sight
Unusually busy through that black, blacked out night
Secret though it was the word got out
Got to pull out the stops to save our lads
Got to do our bit to bring them home
Those lads with their backs to the wall

Doug Tough and his teams worked throughout the night
Eleven boats away next day at first light
One hundred and ten more were marshalled there
Out went pots, beds and tables those boats were stripped bare
Every foot could save another man's life
Those lads with their backs to the wall

Seaworthy checks for engines and boats
Fuel and water loaded and ladders of rope
Beer and whisky from The Anglers and Tide End
Sent with hope and prayers from the folk of Teddington
Hundred and twenty boats went from that harbour
To join six hundred others - a Little Ships armada
Then to a Dunkirk hell that no-one knew
Except those lads with their backs to the wall

The blocked harbour's black smoke guided them on
To where just one big ship was all that could get in
Down from the skies those Stukas came screaming
Bombs and bullets in a deadly streaming
Targeting the lines of battered survivors
Scared lads with their backs to the wall

So time and again Little Ships to the shallows
No thought for themselves only their fellows
Ferried them out to big ships in the deep
Then packed to the gunwales in a standing sleep
Of three hundred thousand plucked from the sea
Those Little Ships pulled out one in three
Churchill declared it "a miracle of deliverance" by those
Those Little Ships saving lads with their backs to the wall

It took Little Ships with great big hearts to drive that Dynamo
They drove in close in heavy fire their chances so low
They bobbed and weaved back and forth to the big ships in the deep
Then took those lads safely home - to tea Woodbines and sleep
Then they took those lads safely home - to tea Woodbines and sleep

© 2017 Mike Pemberton

I recorded "The Ballad of Teddington's Dunkirk Little Ships" a couple of years ago and felt it warranted film accompaniment which I undertook with a young filmmaker researching material from the Imperial War Museum, British Film Institute archive, newspapers and local sources. Local material was very limited for reasons of war-time security.

The seven minute ballad/film and is now accessible on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/DSXEzDIW5MU>

Richmond Park Cycling

By Richmond Cycling Campaign

What should happen to Richmond Park? Well, as the local representatives for London Cycling Campaign, you can bet we think people should be able to cycle there. And when the park closed to motor traffic, that's what people did in droves.

Which was unfortunate, because that weekend, the park was a disastrous show of poor observance of social distancing, whether it was people walking or cycling.

So the Royal Parks decided to ban cycling. And lots of people weren't happy. (Mind you, lots were ...) One park user was so disappointed he made a request under the Freedom of Information Act, and found out just how the Parks justified their decision.



Cycling in the park in happier times
Photo by Tim Lennon

And that's probably where it gets tricky. Because while park officers did observe some poor behaviour by people on bikes, and crowding at the gates, it isn't clear why banning cycling to anyone over 12 is what needs to happen. Their arguments, about seeing people on 'shopping' bikes, other people not wearing what parks officially incorrectly thought they needed to wear to be on a bike, and blaming people with bikes for crowding at the gates (maybe open a gate properly?) wasn't a good look.



Karmugil @carlmyhill · May 22
Replying to @carlmyhill and @theroyalparks
Here's the South Circular today.



*Close pass. Forced to ride on the A205
because the park is closed*
Image by Carl

No-one's seeking to defend the clear minority of cyclists who were flouting the rules - every day there's someone in Bushy or Richmond Park who can't follow the rules. But we do believe this is an over-reaction. With roads already getting busier, and public transport use discouraged, it's crucial that it is easier for people to get around by bike.

Some local forums have seen proposals that bikes shouldn't be allowed in the parks again because of claims of speeding, groups, and so on. Just as with dogs that attack deer, littering, or cars speeding, we think situations where people break the rules require enforcement. We've spoken to London Cycling Campaign, to local cycling clubs, and to

others, and we think it's unfair to punish everyone, for the offences of a few.

But probably worst? The vigilantes who now think they can stop anyone on a bike and presume to ask them whether they should be riding in the park. We know of key workers who no longer make their commute through the park because of such behaviour.

So what happens now? We're not sure - we've asked Royal Parks, and we've engaged with groups like Living Streets. Locals MPs and the council have also asked the Royal Parks to reconsider, so now it's a case of waiting to see ...

Marble Hill Horticultural Marvels

Gardens at Marble Hill

Hornbeam- (*Carpinus betulus*)

There are quite a few specimen hornbeam trees in Marble Hill park, particularly on the edge that runs along the riverside and there was quite possibly a hornbeam hedge here at some point. The timber of hornbeam is regarded to be some of the toughest timber available and the Romans used hornbeam to build their chariots because it is so hard.

Hornbeam is often mistaken for Beech because the leaves look so similar however there are a number of subtle differences which once you know you will always be able to distinguish the two. The main difference is that Hornbeam has a toothed edge to the leaves and Beech has a wavy edge (I did say it was subtle!)



When Hornbeam is used as hedging it keeps its leaf cover all year round providing an excellent habitat for wildlife and perfect feeding, roosting and foraging opportunities for thrushes, tits and small mammals. The leaves provide food for caterpillars which in turn provide food for birds and the seeds are eaten by Finches and Tits. At Marble Hill we have planted 2 double rowed Hornbeam hedges running around the garden quarters which will provide fantastic habitat and food for wildlife.

Like many of our native trees hornbeam has been used for its medicinal qualities, it was thought that a tonic made from Hornbeam was said to relieve tiredness and exhaustion. The leaves were also used like we use plasters today as it was believed they stopped bleeding and heal wounds.

When passing a Hornbeam tree this month, take time to stand underneath it and admire the



gnarled, sinewy trunk and branches and the fresh green of the leaves as they begin to unfurl at this time of year!



Council starts urgent work on first physically segregated cycle lane outside Kew Gardens

Under emergency powers, single yellow line parking will be removed from Kew Road outside of Kew Gardens and protective barriers will be installed to create a 24-hour mandatory northbound cycle lane - all as part of the Council's Post-Covid Transport Action Plan.

In light of the Government guidance encouraging local authorities to make active travel improvements and as part of Richmond Council's continuing measures to support walking and cycling in light of COVID-19, the parking will be removed on the Kew Road, outside of the Gardens.

The water barriers installed outside of Kew Gardens will be a temporary, and will be replaced with semi-permanent measures that will preserve the cycleway and will not reinstate parking.

The Council has engaged with Kew Gardens and have considered their emerging transport plan and their planned re-opening. The Council believes that these measures are crucial in discouraging unnecessary visits to the facility by car, as well as supporting much-needed cycling infrastructure at the same location.



Further upgrades to the cycling facility on Kew Road are part of the Council's imminent bid to TfL for infrastructure funding and further proposals will be published in the coming weeks.

Recognising that the change could have wider impacts (particularly as visitor numbers increase), within weeks of these emergency changes, the Council will be consulting residents and businesses across Kew about the future operation of the existing Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) and on the possibility of implementing a new CPZ in the area around Kew Green.

Cllr Alexander Ehmann, Chair of the Transport and the Air Quality Committee, for Richmond Council, said:

"This change is long overdue. Kew Gardens is a global beacon of sustainability, but immediately outside the walls of this amazing institution lies a road that has been allowed to become a car parking lot. All provided via the creation of a sub-optimal cycle lane. Today that comes to an end. Covid-19 has changed the way we travel and looks set to do so for quite some time. We are delighted that Kew Gardens will be imminently re-opening, but this Council believes that we need to 'build back better'. That means we need to back the role of cycling and walking with serious upgrades to our network.

"The measures on Kew Road are crucial. Even the interim arrangements with water barriers make this cycle route, Richmond's first-ever physically segregated cycle lane. I hope that this is the first of many such change and that cyclists – both new and old - will make use of this safer arrangement."

Not a lot of people know this!

By Sue Hamilton-Miller

I was saddened to read in last week's Tribune that Johnsons Shoes is in financial difficulties. They arrived in Twickenham at the same time as I did 50 years ago, looked after me and my children and now my grandchildren. Let's hope that they will find the means to continue or they will leave a large gap in very many town centres and will be sorely missed.

In Richmond House, in the middle of the 18th century, a resident with a similar sounding name, Janssen, also found himself having to file for bankruptcy, but he wasn't lucky enough to save his company. It was the Battersea Enamel company. Maybe not familiar to you now, but by the end of this article I reckon that you will all realise what I am talking about.

Sir Stephen Janssen was the son of Sir Theodore Janssen, a financier who was one of the founder members of the Bank of England. Sir Theodore was also a director of the South Sea Company but lost his considerable fortune during the South Sea Bubble, as did many residents of Twickenham at the time. He had four sons, the youngest of which was Stephen, who was born in 1705.

Sir Stephen was a London stationer, based in St Paul's Church Yard, an area dominated by publishers and booksellers. He was Master of the Stationer's Company from 1749-1751.

He was elected an Alderman of the City of London in 1749-1765, Sheriff of the City of London 1749-50, and Lord Mayor of London for 1754-55 when he was living in Richmond House. He was also the Member of Parliament for London from 1747-1754 and Chamberlain of London from 1765-1776. In 1750, with Admiral Vernon, he also founded the British Herring Fishery Company. So quite a busy and important man!

Sir Stephen was a considerable patron of the arts, liked the company of artists and engravers and, when given the opportunity to establish an enamelling business in Battersea, he jumped at the idea.

In 1753 he provided the financial capital and went into partnership with potter Henry Delamain and printer John Brooks to set up a factory in York House, Battersea, on the south bank of the Thames in London. There they created decorative boxes and small objects composed of soft white enamel over a copper ground, with designs that were either applied by hand or transfer.

Horace Walpole, who collected them for their novelty interest, gave them as presents to his friends. In 1755 he wrote to his friend Richard Bentley "I shall send you a trifling snuff-box only as a sample of the new manufacture at Battersea which is done with copper plates". We know that a kingfisher and a duck are in the Walpole collection at Yale University and there is mention in a Strawberry Hill catalogue of him owning items decorated with pictures of George II and Frederick, Prince of Wales.

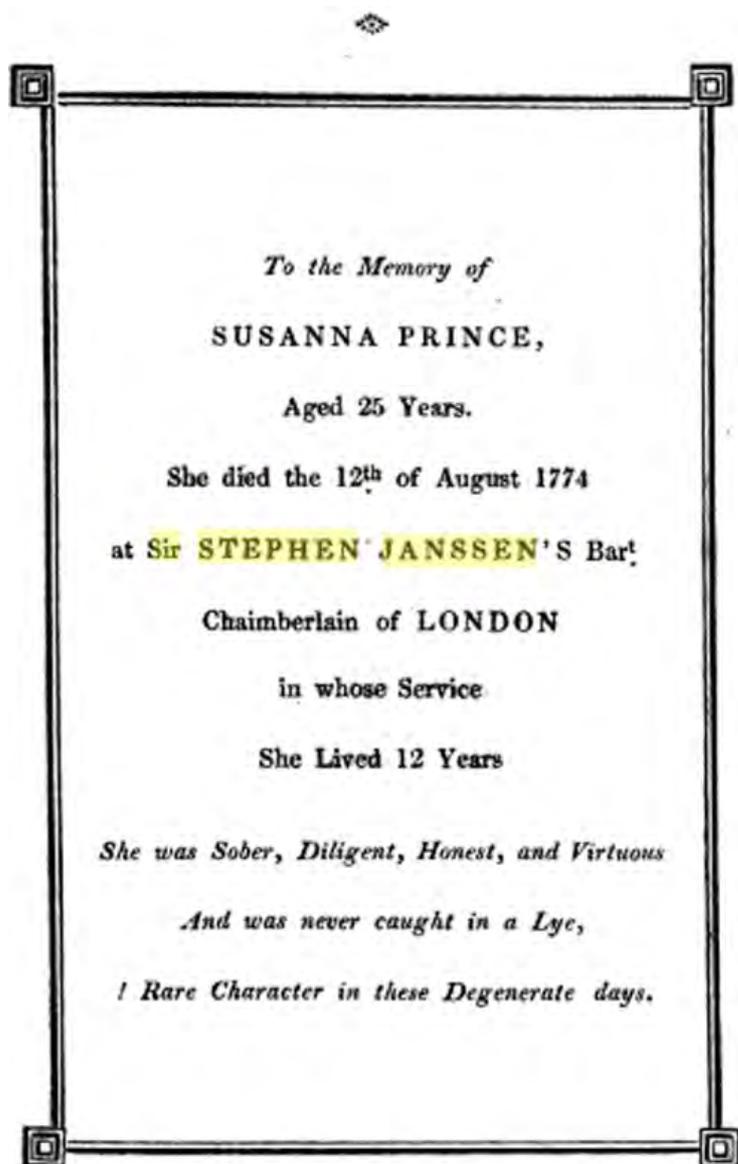
After 3 years the factory went into liquidation and its contents, including the metal shapes and the engraved plates for the designs, were sold off by private auction and snapped up by competitors who proceeded to manufacture very similar articles over the following decades, in particular the Bilston factory.



The original Battersea snuff and patch boxes, etui cases, candlesticks, wine labels, novelty boxes etc were costly to produce, exquisitely finished and tiny treasures because of their intricate detail. The genuine articles, which weren't signed or dated, are sold for eye-wateringly high prices (I've seen several thousands of pounds paid for a single box) so there are many fakes about. Each box needs to be viewed through a magnifying glass to appreciate the extremely fine details and most items can apparently be checked out against a list made at the York House Bankrupt sale.

In 1950 a company called Halcyon Days was set up to revive the craft of enamelling on copper, and now reproduce the Bilston and Battersea enamel boxes as well as extensive creations of their own. I'm sure that you have all seen examples either in shops, antique shops or charity shops and many of you will have at least one of them in your homes. Halcyon Days now operates in a shop in the Royal Exchange in the City of London as well as having a showroom in Knightsbridge.

Following the bankruptcy in 1756 Sir Stephen Janssen retired with his wife Catherine Soulégre (whom he had married in 1750), his daughter Henrietta and 3 servants to Hertfordshire where they lived very simply. His relatives gave him £600 a year of which he used one-fifth to live on (he paid £36 a year for his house) and the remaining four-fifths he used to discharge his debts. His wife died two years later so he moved back to lodgings in London, costing him 18 shillings a week (90p), and he lived there with no servants, no new clothes and "*in my diet I have been as sparing as any mechanic*". That way he paid back all his debts. In 1765 he was made Chamberlain of London and once again earned an income. I came across a memorial dedicated to one of his servants who died while working for him which I think might amuse you.



Sir Stephen died in 1777 and was said to be "*universally respected for his many public and private virtues*". Possibly he is buried in the family vault in Wimbledon.

But the Janssen story and the family's connection with Richmond House doesn't end there. Sir Stephen's daughter Henrietta married a man called Colonel Lorenzo Moore of the Battleaxe Guards in Dublin (the equivalent of the Yeoman of the Guard at the Tower of London) and their home was Riverside House on Twickenham Embankment, next door to Orleans House. Sir Stephen's niece, Williamza Damer, (daughter of his brother William Janssen) was the wife of the Hon. Lionel Damer and she and her husband moved to Richmond House in Twickenham to be near her cousin, Henrietta. She much admired Henrietta's home, Riverside House, so she pulled down the first Richmond House and, using an inherited fortune, built the second Richmond House, almost as an exact replica. When she died she left the house to Henrietta's daughter, also Williamza, along with a chunk of her considerable fortune, on condition

that "*she shall not be subject to the control debts or engagements of her said present or any future husband but shall be for her sole and separate use*".

Williamza Moore (Sir Stephen Janssen's granddaughter) married Captain John Budgen and continued to live in Richmond House on and off from 1825 until 1866, letting it out to many extremely interesting people until their deaths in Jersey in the late 1860s.

The Royal Parks welcomes cyclists back into Richmond Park at commuter times

Richmond Park is partially re-opening to cyclists from Tuesday 2 June, initially on weekdays only, before 10am and after 4pm. This follows the temporary cycling suspension, which was introduced at the end of March to support the Government's social distancing guidelines, maintain public safety and prevent serious congestion at park gates. The Royal Parks will undertake a managed re-introduction of cycling back into Richmond Park to provide access for weekday Richmond Park commuters. This will allow The Royal Parks to monitor and measure the impact of the re-introduction and whether any further measures are required.

Key workers commuting to work will still be permitted to cycle through the park at any time during park opening hours. Children aged 12 and under will also still be able to cycle at any time and, from 2 June, their immediate family will also be permitted to cycle with them.

The park roads on the Eastern side of the park around Priory Lane and Broomfield Hill will be temporarily suspended to adult cyclists at all times, in order to maintain safety and provide a safe area for children and families to play.



A Royal Parks spokesperson, said: “We are looking forward to welcoming cyclists back to Richmond Park from Tuesday 2 June. We’ve been working hard to find a way to allow cyclists to return to the park that supports their safety and the safety of other park visitors. This interim measure will allow us to fully assess the impact of lifting restrictions, including whether any further safety measures are needed. By re-opening in a limited capacity, we will be able to accurately monitor the impact of the re-introduction of cyclists on the park, and on other park visitors, informing any future decisions around opening the park more widely to cyclists.

“We would like to thank everyone who has supported the temporary restrictions which have been in place during these unprecedented times, in order to enable the park to stay open for everyone who needs it. We would also like to thank all those cyclists, cycling groups and other park users who have given constructive feedback and suggestions on how to re-open the park safely.
Royal Parks

“Richmond Park is an outstanding and well-loved place and a National Nature Reserve. We look forward to continuing discussions with our different visitor groups as we seek to improve the park experience for all our visitors and protect this beautiful and important park for all to enjoy”.



Hermes too swift for planning? Council to take enforcement action

The Mystery of Who Arranged the Installation of the Hermes Cabinet at Strawberry Hill Station

On 24th May the Tribune published an article about the large Hermes metal box, which suddenly appeared outside the entrance to Strawberry Hill Station. (View article [HERE](#))
Strawberry Hill Station

A search of the LBRuT Planning site did not reveal a planning application for a delivery/returns cabinet by Hermes, or their agents, outside Strawberry Hill Station.

Following the Tribune's investigation, the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames has opened an enforcement case in connection with the large metal cabinet, which last week appeared on the footpath adjacent to a disabled parking bay and the entrance/exit of Strawberry Hill station.

A senior planning officer told the Tribune "we have decided to open an enforcement case in connection with this".

A local resident said that she was "surprised that such a large company as Hermes would install such an obstruction in an area which is used by so many people during the day".



Out of this world rockets win prizes

Inspired by local astronaut – Helen Sharman - over 100 children across the borough took part in a creative competition to make their very own model rockets, with three chosen as the best.

Last month, Helen Sharman shared her experiences as the first British Astronaut in space, with young people across the borough. Children submitted their questions to Helen by video, looking at areas such as dealing with isolation, missing friends and family and how to exercise in a confined space. Helen responded in a video on the Council's YouTube channel.

Following this, Richmond Council invited children inspired by Helen, to create their own rockets – using items that are due to be thrown away or recycled at home. One hundred and eight children took the challenge and became creative with toilet roll tubes, used plastic bottles, old newspapers and boxes. Rockets ranged from replicas of Helen's own vessel to creative interpretations of how the young artists would like to travel into space.

Submissions were sent to Helen for review and she selected three winners. All winners will receive a globe signed by Helen:

Winners:

Zoe (9)
Quinn (9)
Henry (7) and Elsie (6)

Runners up:

Dhruv (6)
Emi (9)
Amelia and Gregory (6 – twins)
Lee (9)
Alice (10)



Firefighters share their barbecue safety tips after a fire in Richmond Park

London Fire Brigade urges the public to take care when enjoying our open spaces after four fire engines attended a fire at a golf club in Richmond Park on Wednesday. Part of the living grass roof of the building was damaged by the fire, but there were no reports of casualties.

The fire is believed to have been caused by a discarded Fire Engine disposable BBQ. Fire crews from Wandsworth, New Malden, Fulham and Kingston fire stations attended.

A London Fire Brigade spokesperson said: “During this warm weather that we have been having, the ground becomes extremely dry and grass can burn quickly.

“Disposable barbecues can cause fires when smouldering ash and embers are carried by the wind onto areas of dry grass.

“Disposable barbecues that have been discarded and abandoned can still end up causing a fire as they will continue to retain heat after use – they need to be put right out and cooled before being thrown away.

“Always make sure barbecues are not left unattended and check barbecues are completely out when you have finished and never leave it to smoulder as they stay hot for a long time.”

Barbecue safety tips:

- Never use a BBQ – including disposables – indoors, on flat roofs or on your balcony.
- Be careful where you position your BBQ – we suggest on level ground, well away from anything flammable like sheds, fences, trees or tents.
- Avoid having barbecues in parks and public spaces.
- Don't use petrol, paraffin or any flammable liquids on your BBQ – firelighters are a much safer option.
- Carefully supervise children – little ones can all too easily trip and fall, while older children might hurt themselves trying to help.
- Be pet-aware – dogs (and some cats!) love to snaffle sausages and can cause accidents getting under your feet.



Britain's Friendliest Street

Cedar Avenue in Twickenham has been shortlisted to be crowned as one of the Friendliest streets in Britain They are the only street from London to be shortlisted

A campaign has been launched to find 'Britain's Friendliest Street. Communities that have a 'fantastic spirit', have Cedar Avenue Britain's Friendliest Street'come together' or even just looked out for one another during the last few months are being encouraged to submit nominations in a hunt for the cheeriest neighbourhood in the country. The shortlist of ten are now looking for votes to determine who is crowned 'Britain's Friendliest Street' and Twickenham needs your help!

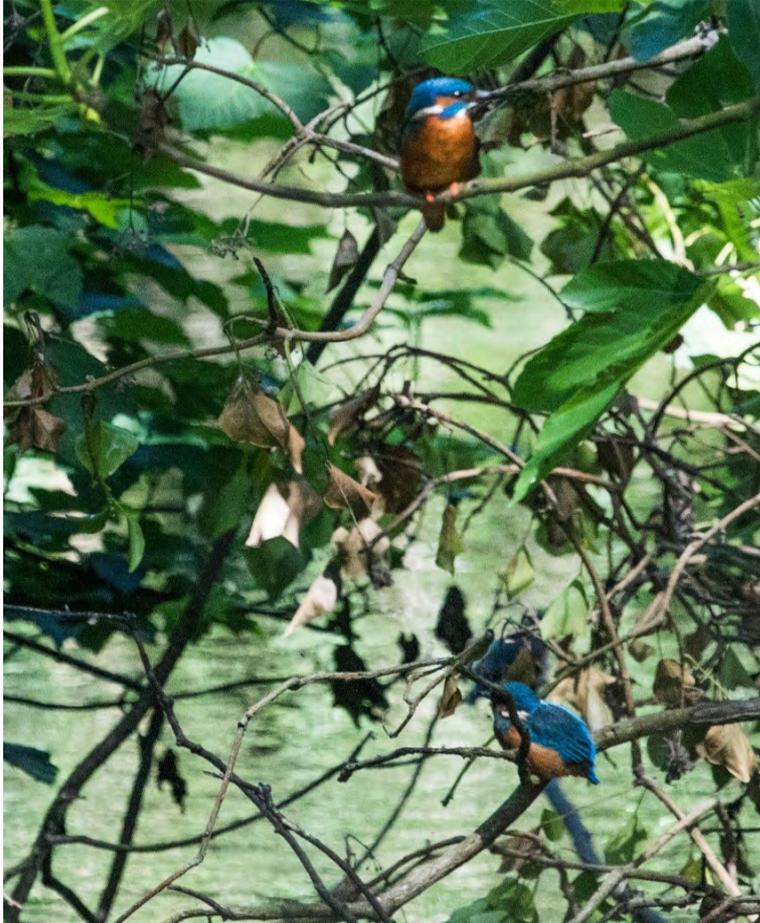
A Cedar Avenue resident said "We have an amazing bunch of lovely residents here on Cedar Avenue. We have organised street parties, decorated our houses on Halloween and lit up the street over Christmas. The real community spirit came into action during the pandemic. Those shielding were checked on, weekly shops were made and a weekly gift was given to show they are not alone. If anyone needed anything from garden items to flour a resident would always offer. With a Paramedic, nurse and physiotherapist dealing with Covid 19 patients we clapped for them. To win this competition would be amazing and the posters for the streets would be a constant reminder of what we all went through and the sacrifices we all made during this Pandemic and not to forget that we should continually be kind and show support for each other. Therefore, your vote will be mean more than a vote to the residents of Cedar Avenue!"

The entry for Cedar Avenue states: "Our beautiful tree lined street has around 65 houses the residents of 40 we have in a Cedar Avenue what's app group where we arrange social gatherings, buy/ sell giveaways, a book club, street party's and raise money for charity and local food banks. We have several NHS frontline workers on our street including nurses, paramedics and physiotherapists dealing with COVID patients. Every Thursday everyone comes out to clap For our NHS staff and they are regularly left gifts of cakes on their doorstep. Those shielding in our street get a weekly gift of chocolate, flowers or something similar to let them know we are thinking of them. Despite the size of the street everyone stops to chat and are there for help whenever they can. Your amazing artwork would look great in our street and would be appreciated by all those that live on this street and other streets who walk down our street to the nearby park."



Voting closes Sunday 31st May

Vote [HERE](http://www.ingoodcompany.vote)



“Nay, lovely bird thou art not vain; Thou hast no proud, ambitious mind; I also love a quiet place that’s green, away from all mankind; A lonely pool, and let a tree sigh with her bosom over me.”

W. H. Davies *The Kingfisher poem* and can you see two or three here?

What a wonderful sight to see new life on the River Crane. **John Ritchie** took this photo and shared it with our group so we thank him and pass it on for Tribune readers to enjoy. So many young birds are fledging on the River Corridor now and we observed a group of long tail tit fledglings which stayed preening and sunbathing for a while to brighten our day.



Being still and staying in the present moment brings many joys to all the senses and a deep relaxation as everyone is telling us now and nature lovers have known all along.



JAPANESE FOOD MADE EASY

I was told last year that for this year, our over-riding theme for food, drinks, homes and more was likely to be Japanese. Of course, this was because we were all looking forward to the 2020 Olympics this summer in Japan...but now this has been paused, like so much else that we were eagerly anticipating. Well, not the publication of a fabulous new cookbook that, in my opinion, will inspire even the most inexperienced cooks among us to try this delicious and healthy cuisine. **Aya Nishimura's** book *Japanese Food Made Easy*, published by Murdoch books this month at £14.99 (paperback), will dispel any myths you might have had about needing stacks of special ingredients and convince you enter a whole new world of cuisine. If you do need to purchase one or two special ingredients, you will probably find they are stocked in the larger supermarkets or Ocado. Aya is a Japanese-born chef and food stylist, who's been working in London for a number of years now with many well-known chefs and newspapers.



Japanese Food Made Easy showcases favourite recipes such as ramen, gyoza, teriyaki and tonkatsu, as well as Japanese dishes generally eaten at home, such as grilled peppers with bonito flakes, kakiage fritters and homemade fried tofu. You'll discover how to make your own teriyaki sauce, tonkatsu sauce, miso dressing and shichimi togarashi (seven chilli mix) - these homemade versions are a healthier alternative to store-bought and will bring instant flavour to the simplest dish. There are also recipes for making dashi broth, sushi or sashimi from scratch, for those who want to try making more traditional Japanese food. During lockdown it is the perfect time to hone your culinary repertoire and start cooking. I've chosen a couple of recipes from the book that I trust will whet your appetite...

HOMEMADE ATSUAGE (FRIED TOFU)

Serves: 2-4 Preparation: 20 minutes Cooking: 15 minutes

Although you can buy atsuage (chunky fried tofu) in some supermarkets and health-food stores, I have found that the atsuage from Asian grocery stores is of better quality.

- 640 g (1 lb 6 oz) firm tofu (also called momen tofu), cut into 8 large cubes
- 200 g (7 oz) cherry tomatoes, quartered
- 2.5 cm (1 inch) piece of fresh ginger, finely grated
- 3 cups (750 ml) sunflower oil, for deep-frying
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 2 teaspoons soy sauce
- 2 large pinches of sea salt

Wrap the tofu in a clean, thick, cotton tea towel and place it on a baking tray for some of the excess liquid to drain away.



Heat the sunflower oil in a deep saucepan over medium–high heat until it reaches 180°C (350°F).

While the oil is heating, prepare the sauce. Mix the tomatoes, ginger, olive oil, soy sauce and salt together in a small bowl.

Deep-fry two to three tofu cubes at a time for 3 minutes until golden brown. Turn every few minutes to get an even golden colour on each side. Using a slotted spoon, carefully lift out the tofu and drain on paper towel.

Serve the tofu hot with the tomato and ginger sauce (grated daikon radish and soy sauce also works very well).

SAKE-STEAMED CLAMS

Serves: 4 Preparation: 10 minutes, plus 1 hour standing Cooking: 5–10 minutes

This is a wonderful dish that can be made with very little effort if you are short on time. However, it's important to prepare the clams properly to remove all grit and sand.

- 1 kg (2 lb 4 oz) clams
- 30 g (1 oz) fresh ginger, peeled and cut into thin matchsticks
- 8 spring onions, cut into 5 cm (2 inch) pieces and sliced into long thin strips
- 30 g (1 oz) sea salt
- 150 ml (5 fl oz) sake

To remove the grit from the clams, mix 4 cups (1 litre) cold water with the sea salt in a large bowl and stir until the salt has dissolved.

Place the clams in a large deep tray and pour the salted water over the clams until they are almost covered. Cover the tray with a tea towel and leave it in a dark, cool place for 1 hour (or in the fridge overnight).

Drain the clams in a colander and wash them in cold running water. Check the clams – they should be tightly closed. Discard any half-opened clams or any that don't close when tapped.

Combine the clams, ginger, spring onion and sake in a large saucepan or wok and cover the pan with a lid. Cook the clams over medium–high heat for 5–10 minutes. Remove the lid and check the clams. If all of the clams are wide open, the dish is ready. Discard any unopened shells.



Follow Alison on instagram: [@theseasonedgastronome](https://www.instagram.com/theseasonedgastronome)

PROVENCE ROSE – WHILE THE SUN SHINES

By Michael Gatehouse

Rose wine made in Provence, that enchanted bit of South East France, is not a new thing. The Greeks made Rose here two and a half thousand years ago. They were trying to make red, but maceration techniques (which gives the red grape its colour) didn't exist, so they had to make do. Nowadays, more than half of vineyards in Provence are dedicated to making Rose, and it's turned into a global industry as more and more wine drinkers appreciate its unique style and qualities, and discover more and more food matches. Provence Rose is evocative, too, of the climate and lifestyle of the Cote d'Azur, of Nice, St Tropez, the fragrant spices in the air, warm Mediterranean, and fabulous light in the evening sky.



Of course it helps us appreciate this wine more if the sun is shining. Imagining you're on the Riviera isn't so easy with the cold rain lashing down on a November evening, and this is probably why Provence Rose is such a seasonal drink. People drink more Rosé in warmer months. But Rosé is not just a summer wine as sales are now significant throughout the year. Wines from Provence are made predominantly from Mourvèdre, Grenache and Cinsault and have a lovely pale, translucent salmon pink so attractive to consumers.

The bottles themselves have become more attractive as well. Inspired by Art Deco designs, some of this glassware is very fancy and gives the impression of opulence and luxury. Try Estandon Reflet, from vineyards in Coteaux Varois en Provence, with its beautiful designed bottle. At £13.99, it's bang on the money. Bright, shiny pale pink hue. Great finesse on the nose, with notes of citrus, and pink grapefruit flesh. Silky and smooth on the palate with a lovely balance. This wine won a bronze at the Decanter World Wine Awards 2019.

Next up, and a pound more at £14.99, is the wine from Domaine de la Vieille Tour, situated in the best area of the AC Côtes de Provence with a very particular micro-climate and sandstone clay soils. Delicate aromas are followed by lovely sweet fruit from Grenache grapes. Clean and well balanced with good depth.

And finally, £24.99 gets you the Whispering Angel Rose from the Chateau d'Esclans, arguably the world's greatest Rose.

"It's hard to find fault with this sensational Rosé"

The Times

Enough said.





my three wheeler is blue with some yellow too

by Angus Strachan

i pedal for miles and miles
 looking for other children
 my head hurts so much and cement is grey
 and i must find some children to play with
 or become that cement
 somehow my older sister is hiding
 in a shoe box inside a cupboard
 in the bottom of a wishing well
 all crunched up below the sea but not me
 why my mother never thought
 of looking for her there is a mystery i think
 my sister is tops but she doesn't talk much
 but i can't think about this now
 as i wake up and jump out of bed
 it's time for kings of the road
 first i have to yawn
*mother's struggle with their daughters
 more than their sons*
 nanna said to aunty pat
 who we never see anymore
 because there'd been a war
 which means no more cousin becky for me
 mother is good at that
 on a hair trigger says mrs. albert from next door
 none of this matters right now
 i finish my yawn and i'm raring to
 get out on the track
 with my yellow and blue hellcat
 holy cow i'm breaking
 the donald campbell land speed record
 screaming out our side gate rat-a-tat
 that poor man sure has met his match
 when i step on the gas at twilight
 before anyone else is awake
 it's dark and the stars are just starting to say
 goodbye and the shadows whisper to the moon
 i might climb every tree for ten city blocks
 the leaves never sleep they just shake and say
 how are you then sigh as i ride away

Angus Strachan's is a writer, film producer and actor working in New York and London. Read his full poem at www.markaspen.com/2020/05/23/3wheel-blue

Images by Cinzia Fabrizio and Lion's Mane Theatre Arts



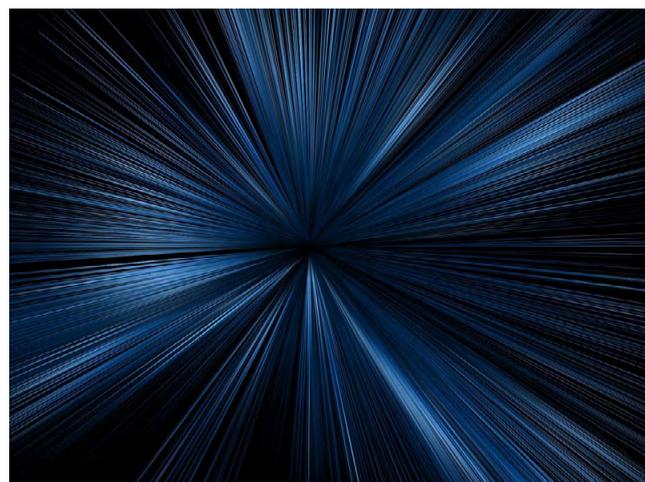


A Critique *March 14*

By Anne Warrington

Infinity: now there's a big thing. This thing called infinity has troubled philosophers and mathematicians since at least classical times.

Anaximander, in the sixth century BC was pondering the idea of endless space that will last for ever. Two centuries later Aristotle was having a field day with the concept of infinity, and it was part of the staple diet of mediaeval philosophers. Early Greek mathematicians rigorously studied infinite processes, laying the foundations for Newton and Leibnitz, to develop the calculus which relies on infinite series.



3.14159265358979323846264338327...

Artists love to try to depict infinity, and naturally poets adore such an ineffable and transcendent concept. William Blake in *Auguries of Innocence* ponders an

ultimate truth in seeking to “Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand/ And Eternity in an hour”.

Now, of course, the infinite infinity is God. Christian tradition, the well-rehearsed Ontological Argument forms the basis of its theology. In 1078 St Anselm, later the Archbishop of Canterbury, defined God as “being than which no greater can be conceived”.

So we come to Anne Warrington's piece [March 14](#). Its theme of infinity brings together theology and mathematics, through the medium of poetry. If that sounds daunting and dry, then STOP: it is not! *March 14* brings these approaches together, with a very light touch and a huge dollop of humour.

We are taken right back to Genesis. We are in the Garden of Eden. God has made man and woman. But, whoops! They have eaten the apple. Everlasting bliss has been swapped for toil and pain. Here we enter the poem. An angry God alliteratively comes “Whooshing out great gusts of wind”, while “Adam and Eve shivered and shook”. Oh, dear!

What do Adam and Eve do. Typical of couples hitherhereafter, they bicker until they fall asleep. When they wake, they think they have been forgiven, for God has given them an Apple pie!

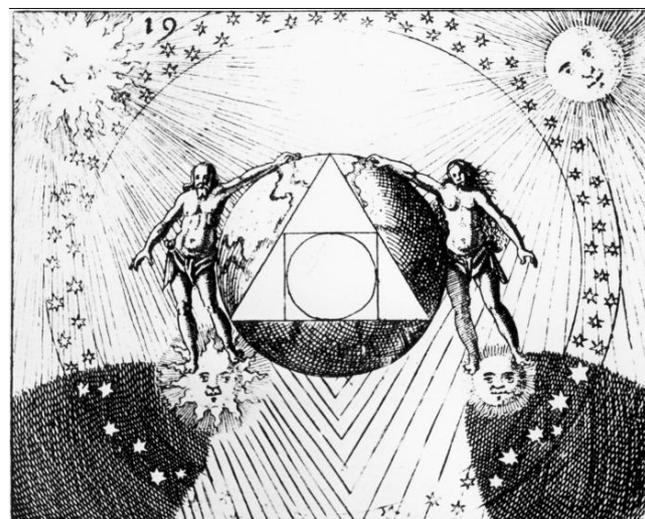
Then comes God's Big BUT

Read Anne Warrington's poem at

www.markaspen.com/2020/05/20/march-14 and

Quentin Weiver's critique at www.markaspen.com/2020/05/22/march-14-critique

Images by M.C. Eschler and Germán Martínez



St Mary's University Update

St Mary's Appeal for Photographs of Old Running Track Update

The appeal launched by St Mary's University, Twickenham earlier this month to the local, alumni and athletics communities for photographs of its old running track, which was replaced with a floodlit synthetic track in 2004/05 has produced an excellent response.

All of the photographs received by St Mary's are being added to the University archive.



Andrew Reid-Smith Head of Department for Sport St. Marys said "On behalf of Sport St Mary's I'd like to thank everyone who sent us their photographs. All of them have enhanced our archive and we're very grateful for the support.

"The old track was laid in the 1960s, it was made of melted tyres and tarmac and was the first artificial track in the country. Professor Dick Fisher was the driving force behind the development of the modern track, which was put in place in partnership with the London Marathon and Sport England."

"The old track was used by several world class athletes who studied at St Mary's including Dave Bedford, Gordon Pirie, John Bicourt and a visiting Emil Zatopek. George Gandy who went on to be the UK National Endurance Coach,

would also have been here during this period whilst he trained to be a PE teacher."

"The new track has supported a large number of nations preparing for Olympic and World Championships and has been trained on by numerous world stars of athletics including Usain Bolt, Mo Farah, Vivian Cheruiyot, Sonia O'Sullivan, Jo Pavey and Nick Willis. In addition, the St Mary's Endurance Performance Centre has helped develop numerous Team GB internationals, all of them students, including Andrew Osagie, Steph Twell, Andy Vernon, Charlotte Purdue, Charlie Da'Vall Grice, Adelle Tracey, Elliot Giles and others. Alongside this, thousands of school children use the track to access weekly athletics coaching from our highly-qualified students through our SIMMSport programme, as members of St Mary's Richmond AC and for school sport days and the annual Borough sport day".



Any further photographs can be sent to: marketing@stmarys.ac.uk

For any information on St Mary's University please visit: www.stmarys.ac.uk



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

PLAN FOR THE WORST- HOPE FOR THE BEST

By Bruce Lyons

10 WEEKS ON! A LOT OF AMAZING SURPRISES

Well dear reader, it's been a Roller Coaster ride - nothing like anything we've experienced in our 54 years in Travel and always in Church Street, and we have seen some!!

We started self-isolating on the 21st March, me looking forward, hopefully to fine weather and a bit of gardening on Eel Pie, days later (7) we, Hedda and I went down with COVID - bad, really bad we thought, but mercifully not nearly as bad as others had it, as we all know now. I think we make the biggest "clap" on Eel Pie.



So, staff furloughed all Easter Holidays cancelled, Shop, like most, closed. Difficult times ahead Fortunately before we had to shut down all the Easter break cancellations had Been cancelled, or deferred to 2021, but as we surfaced from our COVIT in early April and were convalescing the full impact only then dawned on us, Shona had stayed on till the end of March handling last minute issues but was also from then on caring for us too!!

Then then I picked up remotely "the ongoing issues, like May dates and further on, as well as the refunds and deferred holidays all bringing with them massive amounts of "housekeeping"

But we have had such amazing experience with our wonderful clients, in these dark times they were inspirational. When you read the media and watch TV you get a picture of the Public at large picketing agents and writing thousands of emails to the travel world demanding their money. That is not all our experience, difficult these times are, we have found customers wonderful to work with and even though everyday produces new deferred or cancelled holidays, by and large our clients have generously deferred to later 2020 or 2021, and some have even helped us get hotel refunds.

As were we swamped by the sheer volumes, it is interesting to note that policies have changed from the culture of DRCN's deferred refund credit notes) to cash refunds as time has gone on, as the industry and our overseas suppliers have got to grips with the crisis, some countries have introduced GOVT policies, probably partly funded, to refund cancellations from COVIT. But the clients are the biggest help for is, as despite Business grants, business retakes honeymoon and any other savings you can make with your suppliers as well as taking a bounce back loan, we would not survive without the help our customers have extended to us, something that is very humbling and we want to thank you all for this token of support. Of course, we are no different to most Travel Agents, we have no New Business for the summer and most bookings from early March to middle summer have been cancelled, and all these rearrangements require a lot of work. There are Green Shoots, so for the future we are "HOPING FOR THE BEST"

There is the outside chance of late Summer holidays especially in Portugal, Greece, Croatia and Spain but neither the UK or these countries have finalised any of the details, but we are optimistic. But new bookings are coming in for the Winter, Christmas and New Year as well as 2021 So a big thank you to all our clients and readers. If you have a query don't hasn't ate to email us: info@crusadertravel.com Or leave us a message on our answerphone :02087440474 we will be in touch within 24hrs One last thank you for all the support STAY SAFE - TRAVEL SOON !

This week WIZ Tales looks back at photographs from 2005-6 of the neighbouring countries of Colombia and Venezuela which were under Spanish rule for around three hundred years. The Spanish were lured to South America by the legend of “El Dorado” which originated from the ceremony of the Gilded One - a chief was ceremonially covered with gold powder before diving into Lake Guatavita in Colombia.

Spanish rule finally ended when Simon de Bolivar, who was born in Caracas in 1783, spearheaded the expulsion of the Spanish from Bolivia, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela.

The photographs of Colombia and Venezuela were kindly provided by supporters of the World InfoZone project, Daniel Obregon and Ray Radloff.



Allegorical sculpture, in Barcelona, by Frederic Mares of a woman sitting on a horse holding a Spanish galleon above her head



<http://worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Colombia>



<http://worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Venezuela>

Spain:

<http://www.worldinfozone.com/facts.php?country=Spain>

The Twickenham Festival that wasn't

By Shona Lyons



Design & artwork: Simon Cassini. www.bitterandtwisted.org



Design & artwork: Simon Cassini. www.bitterandtwisted.org

Some time ago I commissioned Eel Pie Artist Simon Cassini to produce the cover for the Festival Guide that publicises all the festival events that take place in Twickenham for most of the month of June. Everything was pretty much ready to go to print. We had a wide range of events taking place all over Twickenham, starting with the Tug of War in Church Street and even the Strawberry Hill Music day was in the Festival, Art House Open studios & Eel Pie Island open studios were within the dates, we had plenty of stalls for all the church street events, we had booked the boat for the river wine tasting cruise and also had a local vineyard doing the wine tasting which would have been a real treat, plenty of sponsors and advertisers, we had booked the print run and the door to door distribution and then Covid 19 came.

At first we were not sure what to do as I needed to send all the copy to our designer in March but by then it was in the news all the time with all these directives at first just telling people that they needed to buy sanitizers and wash their hands, and sneeze into a tissue etc and there was more and more panic with people panic buying and shops running out of everything and eventually when the government started telling the pubs and eventually non-essential shops to close & people to stay home, I realised that it probably wasn't going to be possible and eventually I wrote to our designer telling him we weren't going ahead with it. Funnily enough

he wrote straight back telling me that he had been thinking of the best way to tell me that he probably couldn't have done it as he was sick with the virus and so was his daughter and that he was in quarantine trying to manage everything with great difficulty.

I was also worried that my parents might get sick, as so many people in their 80s had succumbed to it and I was worried that they might get really ill and I also wouldn't have been able to manage both the publication of the guide, running quite a few events myself and also trying to look after them. As it was they did get sick but luckily weren't hospitalised but caring for them did take all my time so it was the right decision I made.

It is sad though for a lot of people I think. Just today I sent off lots of checks refunding the stall holders for their street trading permits I didn't take out for them. A lot of them would like to have the fairs but in this small street I just can't see how we could manage the crowds that these events attract and also adhere to social distancing rules. The council told me some time ago that all these events had to be postponed anyway for the time being and they would let us know if and when they would allow such things to go ahead which they haven't yet, and I feel stupid to ask them when they are telling us that the shops should have no more than 2 people in at a time and people need to queue outside with a distance of 2 meters between them so how would a fair work? Bruce was laughing, when someone emailed me to say that street markets were allowed now, and he said yes, we would need a bouncer at each entrance telling people to queue and only letting in 10 at a time.

We will just have to see what happens. There are all kinds of rumours that the council may want to if there is a majority in favour, pedestrianize the street to take the carriage way away from the cars and have more room for people to easily socially distance and with the cafes and restaurants having enough space to put tables and chairs that also adhere to the guidelines so that Al Fresco Dining could still go ahead.

Personally I think it's a great idea. It is a very small street of just 150 meters in length and only about 6 meters wide! It is crazy to have cars driving down it, and for deliveries it has many arterial roads and the drivers would just need trollies which many use now anyway to make the last 30 or 40 meters by foot. That happens in pedestrianised areas all over the world.



I can see a future where we don't have all these events all the time (they are incredibly hard work and I actually have a day job too that is very demanding, as well as elderly parents and I am in dire need of some of my own time!) – I have been doing this for years now but I see a future where Church Street being the quaint little street it is will be pedestrianised with plenty of footfall and won't need all that razzmatazz, with people comfortably strolling down it, browsing the shops, getting drinks and snacks from the many restaurants and cafes or enjoying Al Fresco Dining.

Dear editor

Environment Trust - Correction

I wonder if I might correct something you ran in the Richmond and Twickenham Tribune this weekend? Your story about the new Mayor's charities incorrectly stated that Environment Trust has recently merged with SWLEN. This is not the case.

Environment Trust and SWLEN are planning to merge but haven't done so yet. Originally it was hoped that we would be able to launch the new charity in June but because of the COVID-19 crisis, we have had to delay, probably until the autumn. You can read more about the merger plans here

<https://www.environmenttrust.org/environmental-charities-to-join-forces>

I appreciate the mistake will have come from the Mayor's office, not you. However I am keen to have it corrected if possible, to minimise confusion. Is there anything you can do to help us on this?

Environment Trust has some great new projects in the pipeline and our work very much continues, despite the challenges of 'lockdown'. For example, we have recently won a grant from the People's Postcode Lottery to support local groups in creating Green Hubs that will act as 'stepping stones' for urban wildlife, helping to combat the effects of habitat fragmentation and increase biodiversity. And we are just starting a viability study for the restoration of the Grade II Listed Thames Eyot boathouse in Twickenham. We are issuing a press release tomorrow on all this, which I will be pleased to send you.

If you'd be interested in running a longer story about the Trust and some of our other more creative 'lockdown' projects I'd be happy to provide additional information.

Many thanks and kind regards,

Rachel Owen
Trustee, Environment Trust

London now a target area for COVID-19 convalescent plasma donations

London has been identified by NHS Blood and Transplant as one of three key target areas for convalescent plasma donations from people who have recovered from COVID-19.

The blood donor centres in Edgware, West End and Tooting have been remodelled to greatly increase the capacity for plasma donations.

Over the next fortnight (from the w/c May 25), there are 250 plasma donation appointment slots at Tooting Donor Centre, 673 at the West End Donor Centre, and 56 at Edgware Donor Centre.

Nationally, there is a particular need for people to come forward as donors in Manchester, London and Birmingham.

NHSBT is collecting convalescent plasma for a major coronavirus treatment trial, and if the trial is successful, widespread use in hospitals. The antibody rich plasma of people who have recovered can be transfused into people are struggling to develop their own immune response.

The number of appointments in London will increase further as the national plasma programme expands.

NHS Blood and Transplant is asking people from London who have recovered from COVID-19 following a test or isolating due to the symptoms to offer to donate by calling 0300 123 23 23 or visiting www.nhsbt.nhs.uk

People who are male, aged over 35, or needed hospital treatment, are most likely to have the highest antibody levels. Their plasma is most likely to be able to save lives.

Prof David Roberts, NHS Blood and Transplant's Associate Medical Director for Blood Donation, said: *"Please help your NHS fight COVID-19. Convalescent plasma donation is safe and easy and you could save lives. If you get the call, please donate."*



Blood and Transplant

Tyrrells sponsorship of the Premier 15s comes to an end

Premier 15s title sponsor Tyrrells will end its sponsorship of the top tier of the women's club game at the conclusion of its three-year contract (August 2020). Tyrrells, owned by KP Snacks, has reviewed its sponsorship commitments, and has taken the decision to redirect its marketing spend in line with overarching business objectives.

Kevin McNair, Marketing Director, KP Snacks says: "Tyrrells has enjoyed three hugely rewarding years as the title sponsor of the Premier 15s. We are proud to have been the inaugural title partner for the tournament and help aid the significant growth of the women's game during this period."

"Following a recent review of our plans we have taken the decision not to continue with our sponsorship programme as we look to align all our brand sponsorship arrangement with the business's overall focus. We wish the teams every success and look forward to seeing the women's game continue to break boundaries and records in the future."

Simon Massie-Taylor, Chief Commercial Officer, England Rugby commented: "We would like to thank Tyrrells for their significant support in championing the women's game over the past three years as the first ever title sponsor of the women's top league. The partnership saw record viewing figures and attendances at matches and more importantly created a lasting legacy, inspiring more women and girls across the country to get involved in the game."

"We are actively exploring new partners for the top-tier tournament and are confident the title sponsorship of the England Women's Premier 15s game will be an attractive proposition."

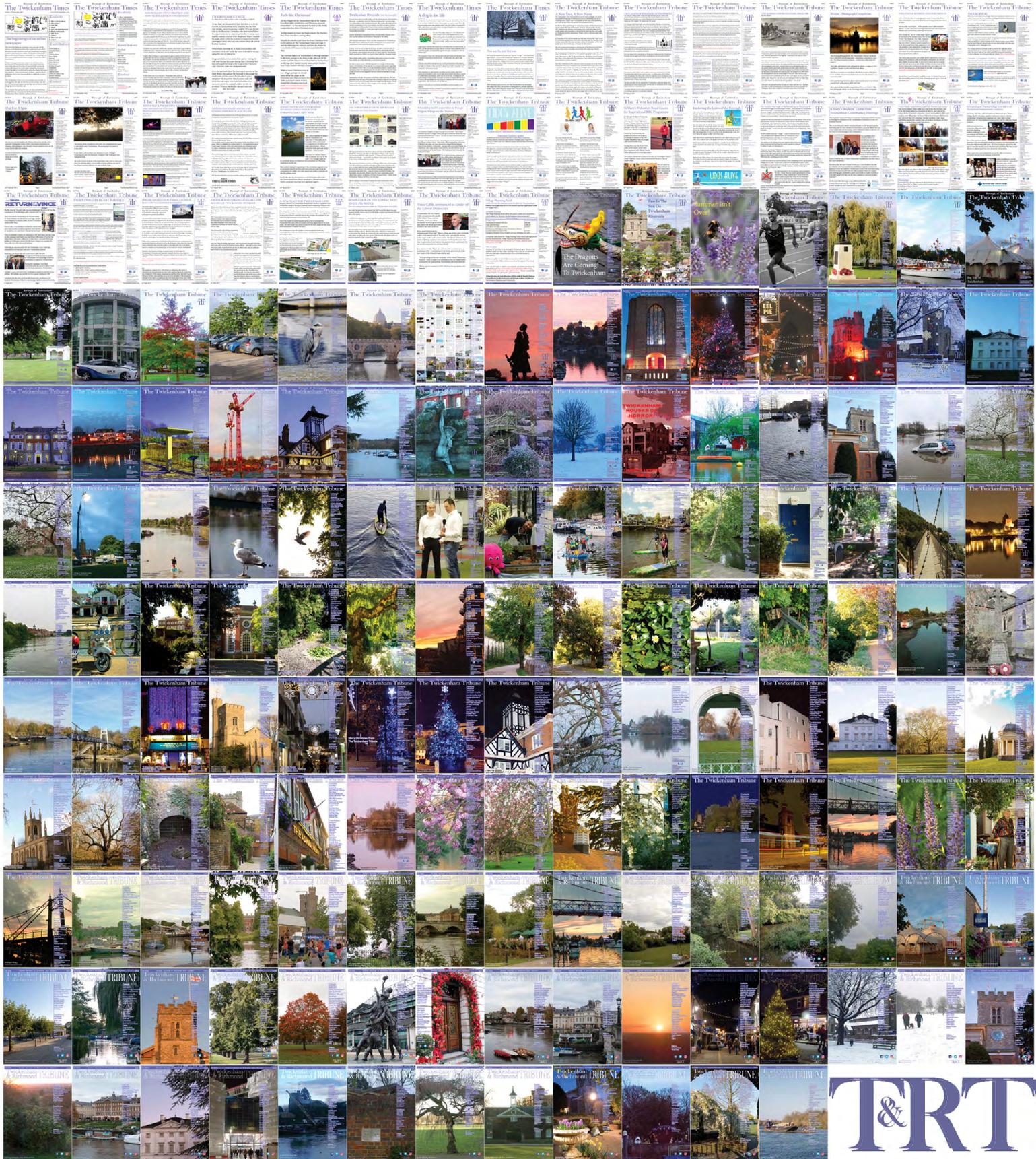
Aided by Tyrrells, the women's game has experienced huge growth in recent years with Tyrrells Premier 15s having been on track to break attendance records this year prior to the early end to the season. Peak viewing figures of the 2019 final were more than double those of 2018 with live attendance up 27%. Meanwhile, throughout the 2019/20 season, 462,385 people tuned in to watch live Premier 15s action.

In other success during this time in the women's game, the Red Roses have also celebrated record attendances with multiple sell out games, having taken the World Title in 2014, leading to being crowned double grand slam champions in 2017 and 2019.

Seeing more professional women play has undoubtedly inspired more people to get involved and give the sport a try with participation in the women and girls game reaching over 37,000 registered players, and over 18,000 women attending over 500 England Rugby entry level Inner Warrior camps during the last three years.



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