

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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- Berkley Driscoll
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5th March 2021



Did someone say Spring?

Photo by Berkley Driscoll

TickerTape - News in Brief

Remembering Trevor Baylis CBE

Today, 5th March, marks the third anniversary of the death of Trevor Baylis. Trevor was a much-loved fixture of Twickenham and Eel Pie Island and is sorely missed. The Tribune editors knew Trevor well and have fond memories of him at the various Twickenham Alive events each year, sitting in his blue convertible Jaguar E-Type, wearing a pith helmet and telling jokes about nurses! You can view a short article about Trevor [HERE](#)

Do you know someone who could help make Kneller Gardens more accessible?

The [Friendly Parks for All](#) project, managed by Richmond Council, want to hear from residents who have visual impairments to help improve accessibility in Kneller Gardens, West Twickenham.

Last year a consultation was carried out to understand how residents who are blind or who have visual impairments use the borough's parks and open spaces, what the barriers are to visiting them and what the Council can do to help.

Using this information, the parks team are beginning the design phase of the Kneller Gardens project and are looking to bring together a small group of people who are blind or visually impaired and their carers to discuss the proposals. This will happen remotely and will be integral in making Kneller Gardens more accessible.

If you know of someone who might be willing to help, please email parks@richmond.gov.uk or call 020 8401 6837.

Unauthorised travellers leave Ham

Following the legal warning from Richmond Council, an unauthorised traveller camp has left Riverside Drive in Ham.

The unauthorised camp arrived on Wednesday 3 March, and left yesterday afternoon before the 4pm deadline issued by the Council.

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



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You know what that means? Yep, crowds of people on Twickenham Green and Richmond Green enjoying the open air and lots of pints of beer and glasses of wine.

But what goes in must come out, so TwickerSeal worries that we will be straight back to the Anti-Social Behaviour of last year with 'caught-short' revellers looking for the nearest resident's garden, wall or garage that offers a suitable location for relief; of course, some of the more discerning have discovered the grounds of Holy Trinity Church on Twickenham Green.

And what have we heard from the council about dealing with this issue? Nothing. Obviously, all the discussions and Zoom meetings last year meant little; residents' calls for public toilet facilities continue to be ignored more than half a year later.

In case the council hadn't noticed, from March 29th groups of up to six people will be able to meet outdoors and from April 12th pubs will be able to serve in outdoor seating areas. The clock is ticking, but the council isn't listening.



Borough View By Graeme Stoten

View from The Wharf...

Overlooking Teddington Lock, the Thames embankment at Manor road is home to the Wharf riverside restaurant and bar and modern low-rise residential apartments. From here is an atmospheric open view upstream to Teddington footbridge and across to the Lock and neighbouring pontoons. A gorgeous sunny weekend kickstarts paddle boarders and boaters onto the river as winter layover comes to a close.



COVID-19

Teresa Read

From the World Health Organization:

Situation in the Region of the Americas

The Honduras Secretariat of Health has announced that the first doses of COVID-19 vaccines were prioritized for health care workers in Intensive Care Units (ICU). A total of 5,000 doses are available for 2,500 health care workers. 3 March 2021

On 1st March Colombia became the first country in the Americas to receive COVID-19 vaccines through the COVAX Facility, marking an historic step toward the goal of ensuring equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines in the region and worldwide.

The 117,000 doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine that arrived at El Dorado International Airport in Bogota, the nation's capital, mark the beginning of the deployment of COVAX-procured vaccines in Latin America and come about one year after the first case was detected in the region.

Following the recent WHO emergency use listing of two versions of AstraZeneca/Oxford's COVID-19 vaccine, all countries in Latin America and the Caribbean are expected to begin receiving the first doses of these vaccines through COVAX starting in March, if all necessary conditions are met. These vaccines are produced by AstraZeneca-SK Bioscience (Republic of Korea) and the Serum Institute of India.

Joggers and Cyclists Should Wear Face Masks

As mentioned in the Tribune recently there is growing concern that joggers and cyclists should wear face masks.

Articles have appeared in a number of newspapers and on news sites this week reminding us that the virus is airborne and that we can catch it if we inhale airborne droplets from an infected person. (We should remember that not all those who have COVID-19 display symptoms).

Trish Greenhalgh Professor of Primary Care Health Sciences, University of Oxford has published the following information:

“The exhaled breath of someone who is exercising vigorously has a different composition and different aerodynamic properties to that of someone who is not. As we all know, a passing jogger breathes heavily, generating exhalations with much higher momentum than occurs with resting breathing.

In cold weather, clouds of moisture-laden air become visible as the jogger exhales – and these clouds spread much farther than those exhaled by walkers. Formal studies of the aerodynamics of breathing confirm that heavy breathers emit turbulent gas clouds in which are suspended droplets and microdroplets of different sizes, some of which are carried considerably farther than two metres.”

COVID-19

Avoid places where the three Cs come together
Crowds, Closed spaces, Close contact

Follow strict personal hygiene advice, wear a mask
and keep indoor areas well ventilated

DO IT ALL

www.twickenhamtribune.com

Cases of COVID-19

Total cases to 5 March 2021

10,448 Richmond upon Thames

11,788 Kingston upon Thames

23,863 Hounslow

Countries with High Numbers of Deaths Recorded by the World Health Organization

Deaths Worldwide 2,564,560

USA 515,013

Brazil 259,271

Mexico 188,044

India 157,548

The United Kingdom 124,025

Italy 98,974

Russian Federation 88,285

France 87,371

Germany 71,504

Spain 70,501

Iran 60,431

Colombia 60,082

Argentina 52,505

South Africa 50,462

Peru 47,089

Poland 44,912

Indonesia 36,897

Turkey 28,839

Ukraine 26,763

Belgium 22,196

Canada 22,105

Czechia 21,325

Chile 20,838

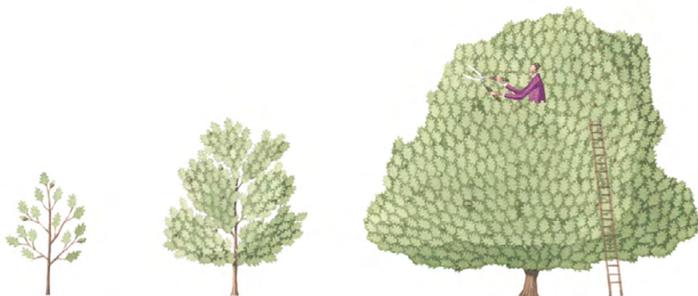
Romania 20,684

Portugal 16,458

Ecuador 15,959

Netherlands 15,730

Hungary 15,619



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

Andrew Watson

By Simon Fowler

Monday marks the centenary of the death of Andrew Watson of 88 Forest Road, Kew. By trade he was a marine engineer who spent most of his working life in Liverpool. We don't know why he came to Richmond, although it is possible that he retired here.

Andrew lies in Richmond Cemetery. A crowd-funding campaign has raised nearly £2500 to restore his grave. Had current circumstances been different, there would have been a memorial service his week to rededicate the restored gravestone. But it has had to be postponed until a more propitious time.

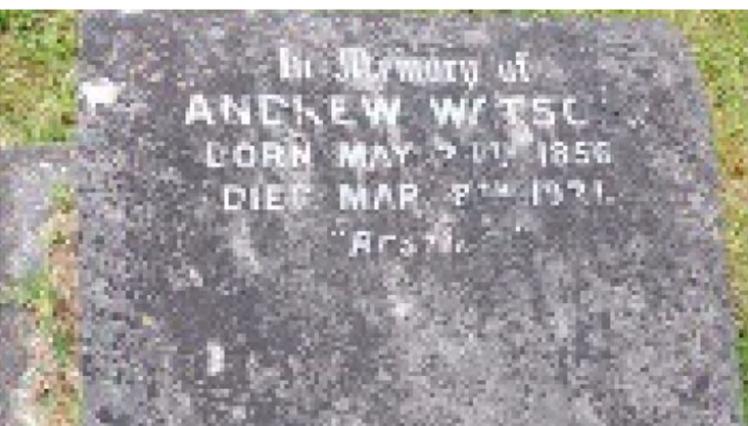
So why the fuss?

Watson was perhaps the greatest player during the first decade or so of Scottish soccer. And what's perhaps more remarkable he was the first mixed race player to play international football for Scotland.

He was born in 1856 in Georgetown, British Guiana to a wealthy Scottish sugar plantation

owner, Peter Miller Watson, and a local black Guyanese woman Hannah Rose. Andrew received a middle-class education at public schools in England.

From the mid-1870s onwards, Watson combined his business interests with a glittering football career. He played for Glasgow's elite club Queen's Park where he was also the match secretary. The *Glasgow Evening Post* described Watson as: 'One of the very best backs we have; since joining Queen's Park has made rapid strides to the front as a player; has great speed and tackles splendidly; powerful and sure kick; well worthy of a place in any representative team.' He also captained Scotland to 6:1 victory over England at Kennington Oval in March 1881 in which he scored. It would be 120 years before another black player would play for the country. Later he moved to England settling in Bootle, where he played for the local professional side for a short while before injury forced his retirement.



Watson's ethnicity never featured in match reports and there is no evidence of him being subject to racial discrimination from crowds. Thereafter he disappeared from football history. Andrew Watson's legacy was uncovered by Ged O'Brien, founder of the Scottish Football Museum, who discovered his story by digging into the player archives. Ged considers Watson to be one of the most influential players of all time.

"As far as I am concerned, he is greater than Pele," he says. "He helped change the direction of world football history. The world is full of tens of thousands of brilliant players in the last century-and-a-half, and it is down to his influence. This is because it was the passing and running Scottish style of football that was taken down to England and transported across the world. The entire DNA of world football originated with Andrew Watson."

Refurbishment of the York House Gardens Statues

By Paul Leonard

A summary of the restoration of the York House statues 'Naked Ladies', which has now been completed.



After Lockdown, must book her a haircut ..



2nd February 2021

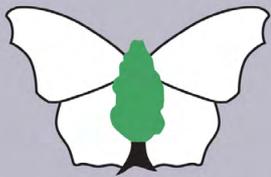
2nd February 2021

October 2020

It's now March, look out for these butterflies and moths in your gardens and local green spaces

Butterflies conjure up images of sunshine, the warmth and colour of flowery meadows, and summer gardens teeming with life. Sadly, four butterflies became extinct during the last 150 years. Three-quarters of British butterflies are in decline.

The 56 species in Britain and Ireland are under threat today from unprecedented environmental change. Butterflies and moths have been recognised by the Government as indicators of biodiversity. Their fragility makes them quick to react to change so their struggle to survive is a serious warning about our environment. www.butterfly-conservation.org



Butterfly
Conservation

Butterflies and Moths to see in March



Red Admiral



Orange Underwing moth



Peacock



Oak Beauty moth



Brimstone



Dotted Border moth



Comma



Early Thorn moth



Small Tortoiseshell

To the Editor,

Community responses to the Council's Twickenham Riverside proposals

Richmond Council announced at the start of the consultation in January: "We are determined to make this site the destination it should be and deliver a scheme that we can all be proud of and enjoy." But what have they actually delivered?

Let us be frank. The initial results of the consultation survey were not great, were they.

Just over half of those taking part in the survey said they were more likely to visit Twickenham's riverside, but nearly half did not. That does not look like a scheme that "we can all be proud of and enjoy" and it's not great news for Twickenham's local businesses, workers and job seekers either.

Astonishingly the Council proclaimed the results as a 'local thumbs up' and reported that the Council Leader welcomed 'the overwhelmingly positive response'. The fact is it was more like a 'thumbs down'. Then the Council Leader told us: "I am incredibly pleased that the results were so positive." To be honest, they were not.

The consultation itself was not what it promised to be. In June 2019 the Council announced that it had 'an emerging proposition' for the re-provision of Embankment parking, but 18 months on and that proposition had not 'emerged'. In a report last November the Director of Environment had stated that the design will be presented in full during a public consultation. So why did the Council choose to go ahead with the public consultation prematurely, without proper plans for traffic, access and parking, and why did they did not consult on the full scheme? Surely we should expect some transparency?

Seriously though, let's steer away from all the hype and also stay clear of making political capital out of the situation. Was it really in the public interest to charge headlong into a consultation when there were still so many gaps in the draft proposals? Why the undue haste, we ask?

The Twickenham Coalition is a growing number of residents and community groups who all want the best for Twickenham. We call on Richmond Council to pause, prepare proposals that will deliver what you said you would deliver and put them on the table for public scrutiny and consultation – and this needs to be done now, before preparing their Planning Application.

The Council promised to present the design in full for public consultation.

We are watching this space.

Yours sincerely,

The Twickenham Coalition – 'Love our town'

(Address supplied)

A response to Jeremy Hamilton-Miller about Twickenham Riverside: A Bright Future for our Town

Dear Jeremy,

The proposals for Twickenham Riverside (currently being developed to a level of detail to enable a full planning application), will massively improve this site for the benefit of 'everybody that it will serve' - young, old, pedestrian, cyclist, resident, visitor, worker and those "who only stand and stare" - but not the motorist who is very well served outside the site.

You go to considerable lengths setting out the numerous constraints to a 'whole site development' - such a 'glass half empty' approach! None of those that you list in such detail are unusual in developing a large and complex site such as this one. They are being addressed through the detail design development of the original concept design that quite rightly won the competition. This is entirely consistent with the architectural design process that is skilfully being employed by Hopkins Architects in consultation with the Council and stakeholders. So there is no 'pig in a poke'; more a case of 'head in the sand'.

The question as to whether the new gardens will be 'a fair swop' is one for the residents of Twickenham to decide. There are, however, some facts that should be considered with the new gardens: far easier access directly from the riverside and Water Lane to the gardens, far more trees (unlike the current gardens largely laid out over concrete there will be sufficient soil depth), flat grassed areas between the gently rising terraces (with more actual grass as opposed to the plastic grass over old concrete slabs in the current gardens) and a larger children's play area overlooked by a large family café (the current small café turns its back on the small playground).

As to examples of misinformation, the first would be the claim that the carpark along the riverside is essential to the boatyards. This is done by deliberately conflating 'servicing' and 'car parking'; the former is essential, the latter is not.

The boatyards were on the island long before any carpark was established on the riverside. The current servicing operations for the boatyards (including the largest boatyard that does the 'heavy' work) will be improved, as a dedicated facility will be provided for a range of service vehicles without competing with constant stream of through traffic and usurped parking (as is currently the case).

There is no doubt that the servicing of the boatyards is problematic. Large components are transported over a light-weight pedestrian bridge which was never designed for this purpose. This is an issue that needs to be resolved between the boatyard owners, the PLA, the Council and the people on Eel Pie Island. It is not an issue that can be resolved as part of the Riverside proposals - nor should it be.

A second example of misinformation is that a riverside road is essential for the movement of trucks servicing the boatyards and the King Street premises. The reasons given are:

- The claim that the 16.5 metre articulated trucks that very occasionally deliver to the large boatyard needs to exit via Wharf Lane. Why? It is entirely possible for such a vehicle to enter and exit via Water Lane with a much easier turning access into King Street than is the case from Wharf Lane; identically sized trucks regularly service Waitrose and Alsford Timbers with little difficulty in far more congested conditions than would be the case on the riverside;
- The claim that large delivery vehicles for the King Street shops (Iceland is often quoted) cannot access via Wharf Lane. The answer here is that the Council should insist that truck sizes be reduced in accordance with road sizes and capacities. 12 metre fixed body trucks are a decent size and perfectly capable of entering and exiting Wharf Lane without causing an obstruction to traffic as larger trucks currently do. It should also be borne in mind that there would be hardly any traffic in Wharf Lane with the removal of the riverside carpark. It would in effect entirely become a service road. Interestingly, this solution was proposed by the Council as part of the Francis Terry scheme in October 2017. To quote:
 - Access to the service road to the rear of King Street will be restricted to essential users with rising bollard/s (or similar) at the Wharf Lane end;
 - The size of vehicles as well as the time of day that vehicles have access will be restricted;
- The claim that emergency vehicles require a connection between Water Lane and Wharf Lane to access the site and buildings for emergency purposes. This requirement exists for all developments and has always been clearly understood. The site would be fully accessible for emergency purposes down Water Lane and across the riverside, and also down Wharf Lane, without the necessity for a vehicle connection across the public area in the south-west corner. The south-west corner is proposed to be a busy pedestrian area providing access to the river, boat storage/maintenance, public seating/eating connected to the pub/restaurant and access to the listed boathouse. The last thing we need is a roadway through the middle.

The current administration need to fulfil their promise to keep the riverside vehicle free. This key requirement is at the very heart of the Brief and all the short-listed competition entries that were submitted.

Almost 3,000 people have signed the Twickenham Riverside Park Team (TRPT) petition launched over three years ago which clearly sets out the principles that have largely been captured in the Hopkins proposals. By far the majority of those who signed the petition are Twickenham residents. The so-called Twickenham Alliance which has just been formed is a desperate attempt by a minority to thwart these plans. They are not even prepared to declare who they are.

The mass outcry against the final Terry proposals in 2017 (at the same stage as the Hopkins proposals are now) has not been forthcoming – primarily because the majority of Twickenham residents are satisfied with the Hopkins scheme. Of course there is more work to be done – but that is well underway. I for one am looking forward to what will be a new dawn and bright future for our town.

Kind regards,

Deon Lombard, Twickenham

An open letter to Councillor Roberts, Leader of the Council

Dear Councillor Roberts,

On 1st October 2019 the Twickenham Society wrote to the Council, saying that its members were unhappy about the following points in the Hopkins Architects' design for Twickenham Riverside:



- the height and density of some of the buildings
- the lack of empathy of certain architectural styles with the surrounding area
- servicing to Eel Pie Island not having been adequately considered
- the removal of visitor parking and its adverse impact on local businesses in the town and on Eel Pie Island

Eighteen months later the Council presented its final plan for consultation on Twickenham Riverside so once again we asked our members for the comments that they had made to the Council in the online consultation document.

Members liked the widened Water Lane and its restaurant.

However, many members raised similar concerns, and the comments received for the current scheme include:

The loading and parked-up servicing for Eel Pie Island (and in particular its boatyards and riparian clubs) must be given precedence and resolved to the Island's satisfaction.

The height, in particular of the 5 storey Wharf Lane block of flats, is inappropriate and overshadows the Diamond Jubilee Gardens.

The Water Lane buildings (4 storeys) are out of keeping with the surrounding houses and look agricultural.

There is no "destination" in these plans to attract people to Twickenham.

Where is the public square?

I'm sad at the loss of the Diamond Jubilee Gardens and its coherent, well protected, elevated, public open space. Why is it now inferior and so broken up?

Why has the children's playground been placed under trees and next to a service road and turning circle for lorries?

Why is there a shared pedestrian/cycle route through the Gardens?

What use is the terraced unmanageable grassed area?

Why is there little consideration of the needs of the elderly and disabled?

The removal of 82 pay and display parking places is unacceptable and will harm the Town Centre.

The cost of the development is much too high, especially as we are told that the scheme is not financially viable.

Why is the existing pleasant landscaped riverside walk, only recently built, being destroyed and rebuilt at extra cost?

Why are there more shops when so many have already closed down in the town?

Why hasn't the Council reprovided public toilets, including one for disabled?

With kind regards,

Doug Orchard, Chairman of The Twickenham Society

WIZ Tales

Teresa Read

This week's WIZ Tales is nearer to home. As we enter a new phase with the plans for Twickenham Riverside, I have been looking at photographs from the local area.

In 2009 the community of Twickenham and Strawberry Hill spontaneously raised thousands of pounds for a referendum on the fate of Twickenham Riverside. The story of residents' action to preserve this unique and idyllic spot can be seen on the World InfoZone website at the link below.

The Twickenham Riverside site is registered to the Mayor and the residents of the Borough (the burgesses) and was bought by the Council in 1924 for the purpose of providing "public walks and pleasure grounds".

Over the years Twickenham Riverside has hosted many large community events on the Embankment, Diamond Jubilee Gardens, and on the Thames.

The Richmond Environmental Information Centre (REIC) project "Memories of Twickenham Riverside" uncovered much of the history of Twickenham Riverside including the hitherto unknown history of one of the most famous houses in its time, Richmond House (primary research by Sue and Jeremy Hamilton-Miller). Of course, the story of the much-loved Twickenham [outside] Baths which was built on the site in the 1920s is legendary.

The view of Twickenham Riverside can be seen from Radnor Gardens and Horace Walpole's description of his "sea-port in miniature" - as seen from Strawberry Hill House - is well known.

It is worth noting that the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames has produced a planning document to protect views and vistas: https://www.richmond.gov.uk/media/15400/strawberry_hill_village_planning_guidance_supplementary_planning_document.pdf

Policy LP 5 'Views and Vistas Seeks to protect the quality of views, vistas, gaps and the skyline that contribute significantly to the character and quality of the local and wider area. Within the existing Development Management Plan the equivalent policy is DM TC 7.



Charlie Shore Dance



Ponies in Statue Gardens



Twickenham Alive Riverside Festival



Twickenham Alive Riverside Festival



Twickenham Alive Riverside Festival



Twickenham Alive SUP races



Twickenham Alive DJG Fair



Twickenham Alive Ice Rink

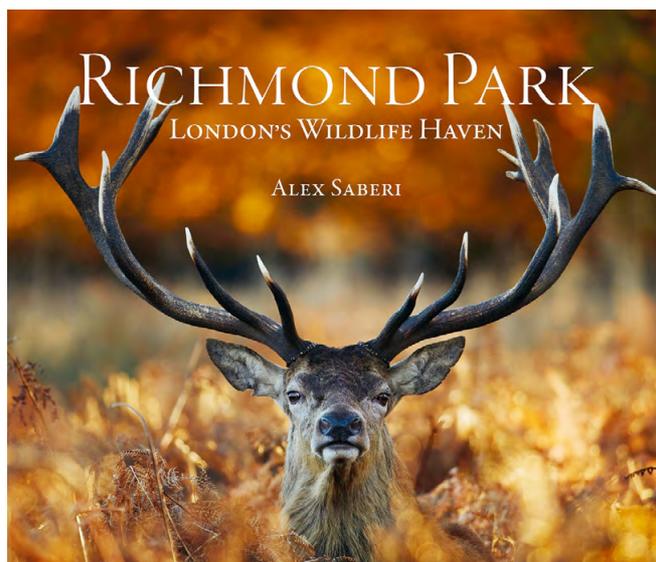
The story of Twickenham Riverside can be seen here on the World InfoZone website.

<https://worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=SavingTwickenhamRiverside>

Richmond Park – London’s Wildlife Haven

The new edition of Richmond Park – London’s Wildlife Haven by photographer Alex Saberi is a visual celebration and tribute to the capital’s largest park.

Saberi has spent years photographing the wildlife and habitat of this vast green oasis, just eight miles from the centre of London. His photographs have featured prominently in the Guide to Richmond Park, published by Friends of Richmond Park, alongside countless national media.

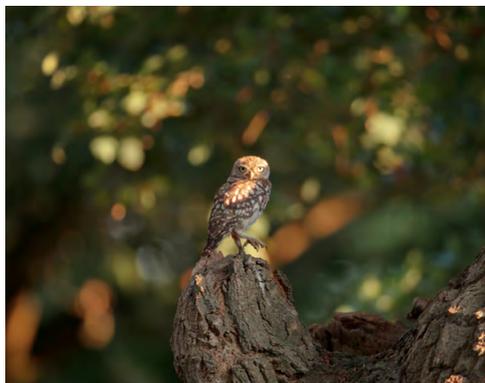


Richmond Park – London’s Wildlife Haven follows the lives of the park’s diverse natural inhabitants, plant life and rolling landscapes, an ecological pearl in the midst of sprawling urbanisation, throughout the seasons of the year.

In Winter, with branches bare, the park’s many bird species, from balletic swans to the vibrant red of a robin, are all caught in Saberi’s patient lens. Elsewhere in the 96-page book, Richmond’s huge herd of fallow and red deer are presented in all their statuesque beauty against ethereal backdrops of misty woodlands and stretches of rusty bracken.

From a crow perching on a bench in the morning haze to a foolhardy Labrador, breaking impatiently away from its owner, across the book Saberi’s photographs capture the park’s inherent beauty created by its light, location and atmosphere, as well as those rare moments of wildlife action and majesty that only yield themselves to the most patient and knowledgeable of observers.

The photographer’s stunning shots of fauna – encompassing resident badgers, ducks, and owls, to foxes, heron and red squirrels – are accompanied by text from John Karter, former writer for The Sunday Times, The Times and Independent, who captures the changing seasonal landscape with wonderfully evocative descriptions.



Richmond Park – London’s Wildlife Haven is available from 1st April, published in hardback by ACC Art Books, RRP £14.95. ISBN 9781788840903. See more of the book [here](#)

Photos taken from the book 'Richmond Park', published by ACC Art Books. alexsaberi.com

Hampton North Ward News

Councillors Geoffrey Samuel and Kate Howard

WELCOME!

We were very pleased to meet the new Vicar of All Saints Church in her first week. Rev. Donna Williams, previously a Curate in St Margarets has just taken up residence in the Vicarage. She has told us that she is delighted to come to Hampton: she looks forward to moving ahead with the development which will provide a Church Hall to serve the community. It was because of this commitment to reach out into the entire community that led us many months ago to support the Planning Application. We welcome her to All Saints!

SUCCESS!

Our February edition led with a plea to support the Stables which was threatened with the loss of its 'home'. We applaud the contribution which it makes to disabled children. In a period of 56 days the appeal raised £1.3m from no fewer than 31,508 supporters. We thank all our readers who contributed.

A PITCH ON HAMPTON COMMON?

Some months ago we reported on a proposal to provide a pitch for girls' football on the Common. We announced our support if it was acceptable to local people. In fact 151 residents 'voted' in favour with 88 against. Whilst maintaining our position we do not ignore the 88. Now the Council proposes a different location for the pitch – but without consultation on this change. We invite comments.

We are pleased to print an extract from this piece submitted by a local resident with which we agree:

“BURTONS ROAD CLOSURE – STOP THE TRIAL !

“The 6 month trial ends on 21st March and if you want your views to count you must submit your representations **by 21st March**..... When the Committee met to discuss Burtons Road on four options and nothing more, they did not agree to displace traffic to roads which already record Air Quality that exceeds legal limits of pollution under cover of the pandemic. Submit your representations to Nick.O'Donnell@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk and tell your neighbours to do the same”

At the outset we opposed this scheme largely because of its effect on Uxbridge Road and neighbouring roads and supported a 300+petition from local residents. In the consultation 14% of residents supported this scheme: just under 50% of Burtons Road residents were in favour

THE WHITE HOUSE

We welcome the return of the YMCA and look forward to working with them to provide courses, classes and activities for our local residents. We also look forward to bringing back the MUGA [multi-use Games Area] into public use.

COUNCIL QUESTIONS

In answer to our questions at the last meeting we learned that the Council had “no current proposal to develop the MUGA”. The Council also stated that as there was no penalty for possession of nitrous oxide cylinders which is not illegal [although supply for human consumption is] the cylinders would be “treated as waste material”. We learned that attendance at “virtual Borough Community Conversations was 1254 from an eligible 199,157 population [0.6%]. In response to our question about offensive and defamatory language the Leader agreed that Councillors’ comments on Planning applications should be confined to planning considerations.

At the March meeting we are asking for support for the Shooting Star: a programme for dealing with potholes: and CCTV or relocation for the recycling centre on Hampton Square which is currently such a problem

SHORTER ITEMS

- We have passed to the Council residents’ complaints about the recycling centre at the **Windmill Road** junction
- The open space in **Arundel Close** a little known attraction which now needs proper attention
- We have referred to officers complaints that the refuse collection is still mixing food and waste in the same place on vehicles
- When last children were in school there was not a proper return service for the **285 bus**. At our request the Council is raising this with TfL
- A pensioner couple were left without heating or cooking for over three days. This was sorted out after we became involved.
- We have referred to the Council complaints about the state of the path from **Fearnley Crescent** to **The Square** via **Stanborough Close**
- We have told the Housing Association about problems for a neighbouring road from their trees in **Chichester Close**
- The HMO which is run as a Children’s Home in **Morland Close** continues to provide problems for residents and the police.

Keep in touch – tell us of issues that concern you – suggest some ideas for improvement...we are here to listen and to help.

(Councillor) KATE HOWARD

(Councillor) GEOFFREY J. SAMUEL



River Crane Sanctuary



We are so excited to announce that [David Lindo, The Urban Birder](#), is now our 'Bird' Patron and offers his expertise to help us with questions and advice as we go forward with our Sanctuary group of neighbours, friends and nature lovers visiting the River Crane Corridor here in Twickenham. We met him first at the GIGL Recorders' event at the Natural History Museum and then again at the Local RSPB York House talk. We love his inclusive attitude, humour and passion and look forward to inviting him to one of our walks/events or taking our group to join him at one of his own.

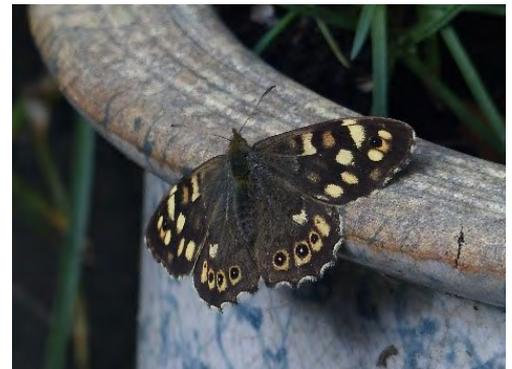


[The Hidden Messages in Water](#) – **prophetic words?** “Perhaps we are finally beginning to see that the direction we are moving in leads nowhere. We have sacrificed too much in order to secure the riches of life. Forests have been destroyed and clean water lost, and we have cut up and sold the earth itself. What the world needs now is gratitude. We must begin by learning what it means to have enough. We need to feel gratitude for having been born on a planet so rich in nature, and gratitude for the water that makes our life possible. Do we really know how wonderful it is to be able to breathe a big breath of clean air?” **c. 2004 Dr Emoto**



Photo: Table Mandala in February Ice Beautiful photos of Ice Crystals in this Book and ideas, imagination and thought-provoking spiritual/consciousness theories for those who want to dream a little and not accept mass ideology and 'scientific' proofs which bear further scrutiny.

Speckled Wood appears and these butterflies feed on the sugary substance made by aphids and not nectar. Another good reason to be



pesticide free! Visit Friends of the Earth information on: [Bees and Neonicotinoids and link](#) to sign the petition for a strong pesticide action plan. [Website](#) [Instagram](#)

Without urgent action, skylark could be lost from Richmond and Bushy Parks

The impact of increased footfall to the Royal Parks during this latest lockdown could lead to the parks' iconic skylark being lost if the nests are trampled on or disturbed by dogs.

The parks have remained open throughout the pandemic to provide vital green space and welcome people to the park to take exercise, engage in nature and boost their physical and mental wellbeing.

But certain areas of Richmond Park – designated a National Nature Reserve and Site of Special Scientific Interest, and Bushy Park - also a Site of Special Scientific Interest, are host to many important wildlife species, such as skylark.



Skylark are small, streaked brown birds, larger than a sparrow but smaller than a starling. They are ground-nesting birds, which breed from March to September. They are

distinguishable by a spectacular song-flight, during which the bird rises almost vertically with rapid wing-beats, hovering for several minutes and then parachuting down. Song-flights of up to one hour have been recorded, and the birds can reach 1,000 feet high before descending.

For many years, The Royal Parks has asked people to avoid harming the nests by keeping dogs on short leads on paths within skylark breeding territories. The perimeter of these areas is marked by signs.

But greater visitor numbers walking off paths and dogs not on leads is putting this species at risk.

Simon Richards, Park Manager, Richmond Park, said: *“Richmond Park has been busier than we have ever seen it before – with recent visitor numbers greater than a ‘normal’ Spring Bank Holiday weekend. We welcome everyone to enjoy the natural environment, however increased footfall and disturbance to the environment can have a detrimental impact on wildlife.*

“Skylark nest in the acid grassland of the park and their nests can be located in areas just off the paths. These birds are in decline nationally and the nests can be destroyed if trodden on by accident or disturbed by dogs. We conserve areas for skylark and count them. There were a total of only 18 pairs observed attempting to breed in the park in 2020 – and no skylark managed to establish territories in one of the previously populated areas of the park.

“Without urgent action, this species may be lost from the park for ever. This would result in the loss of one of the few remaining populations of skylark in London and we don’t want to add them to the list of wildlife that’s no longer here.”



Richmond residents throw away over 14,000 tonnes of food each year... but recycle less than a fifth of it

Richmond upon Thames residents are being urged to make efforts to reduce their food waste and recycle everything they don't eat, as the truth about Richmond's food waste habits have been revealed in the Council's latest Talk Richmond podcast episode.

In 2020, Richmond Council and West London Waste Authority carried out waste composition analysis to look at what Richmond households are throwing away in their rubbish bins or black sacks and what could have been recycled using the Council's recycling service.

The analysis looked at general waste from around 200 households who have access to the Council's kerbside food waste recycling service. It found that almost a third of what people are throwing away in their rubbish bins is food waste - all of which could have been recycled using food waste caddies and bins. This equals around 80% of the total amount of food wasted by Richmond households - meaning only 20% is recycled by people proactively using the Council's food recycling service.

Of the food waste not recycled, well over half was food that could have been eaten, as opposed to unavoidable food waste like egg shells, tea bags and banana skins. Much of this food was also still in its packaging.

In the Talk Richmond podcast episode, West London Waste Authority Managing Director Emma Beal talks about the findings of the analysis, what happens to our food recycling and the huge impact food waste has on our carbon emissions. She is joined by Katie Allen, Founder of Food For Thought Heathfield, who talks about the simple habits, such as storage and planning, that can help residents reduce the amount of food they waste at home.



Cllr Julia Neden-Watts, Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee, said:

'Richmond residents waste over 14,000 tonnes of food each year. The figures from the waste analysis are shocking, especially for a borough lucky enough to have a food recycling service. It's not all bad - compared to our neighbouring boroughs, Richmond upon Thames does put less food waste in with general rubbish. But this borough has declared a climate emergency and we should all be doing more to reduce that 30% figure to zero.'

'This is a distressing level of food waste originating from land that should be used productively to feed people - not the incinerator! To tackle food waste, we need to acknowledge its existence and try our best to change our behaviours. Even something small each week, like being creative with leftovers or sticking to your shopping list, will make a difference.'

'Some food waste is inevitable, and this is where our food recycling service comes in. If you have access to food recycling at your property, please make sure you have ordered a free food recycling bin from the Council and are using it each week, along with your choice of kitchen caddy. You can of course also compost your fruit and vegetable waste, which is a great way to recycle within your own garden, if you have one!'

'We will be running this waste analysis again later this year, so I look forward to seeing the evidence that Richmond residents are making positive changes to address the food waste problem.'

Visit the [food recycling page](#) to check recycling information and to order free food waste bins and kitchen caddies.

Listen to the latest [Talk Richmond podcast](#).

A pest prophecy: The Brown marmorated stink bug spotted in the UK

Originating from South East Asia, the Brown marmorated stink bug (*Halyomorpha halys*) is considered a widespread pest by fruit farmers and homeowners across the US and some parts of Europe. As part of a wider study, scientists at the Natural History Museum and the horticultural research institute NIAB EMR have found evidence of the stink bug in multiple areas of the UK.

When asked about the possible arrival of the Brown marmorated stink bug in 2014, the Natural History Museum's Senior Curator in Charge, Coleoptera Max Barclay said it would only be a matter of time before the stink bug made its presence known in the UK.

The stink bug gets its name from the ability to produce an unattractive distinctive almond like smell which the species uses as a defense chemical. The species is known to hibernate in buildings, and there have been previous reports in the US of tens of thousands of them entering a house in the winter, clustering around window frames. Stink bugs can reduce the sell value of crops such as grapes, melons and cucumbers by piercing holes in the fruit, making them less aesthetically pleasing for buyers. This scent can affect the flavour of products such as wine if the bugs are found in the grapes used. The study found that a combination of global warming and the ease of opportunity to travel abroad is giving the species the ability to spread quickly across the globe.



Photo: T. Haye, CABI

The Natural History Museum's Max Barclay made the prediction in 2014 following a trip to the US, where he noticed the similarity in climate. Mr Barclay said: *'Stinkbugs breed very fast, have a long life, and the adults can fly. They aren't harmful, just mildly unpleasant. They have the opportunity to invade as part of their biology, because they hibernate during the winter, if they hide in wooden pallets or shipping crates, they might hide in something which can subsequently be moved abroad.'*

As part of the study the research team predicted where in the UK the stink bug is likely to be found. The London area and eastern areas of the UK are susceptible to the stink bug in the near future, if not already. Since writing the study, a member of the public from Surrey has been in touch with one of the Museum's experts via a Facebook group and found that she had one in her home.

Mr Barclay continues: *'They'll establish pretty quickly, we've seen this in a lot of invasive species before. You find one or two and then they are everywhere. The harlequin ladybird from China arrived in 2006, and now they are enormously abundant.'* The scientists worked closely with Dr Glen Powell at NIAB to increase UK surveillance of the invasive insects. The Museum's Wildlife Garden was used as one of the trapping sites in which one of the specimens was found.

The Museum's Wildlife Garden Manager Tom McCarter said: *'The brown marmorated stink bug was found on one of the hottest days of August 2020. It's very handy to have an urban green space in close proximity of the expertise of 300 scientists. We use trapping methods in the wildlife garden as monitoring devices, they are a great way to detect the presence of a new species.'*

The Museum's Max Barclay is keen to get the public involved as an act of citizen science, members of the public are invited to reach out if they believe they have spotted a Brown marmorated stink bug in their local area. Images can be posted on the Museum's [NHM UK biodiversity Facebook](#) group where the Museum's scientists can help with enquiries.

The paper was published in the British Journal of Entomology and Natural History on 1st March 2021.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Who'd have imagined that, one year on, we would **still** be locked down, and unable to take our mothers out for lunch – or even visit them, unless they live locally and we are in their 'bubble'. Even more restricted than last year, we do now at least have the option of a whole range of new delivery services that have sprung up due to Covid-19, and people's resourcefulness. Many of us are getting used to the idea of 'finish at home' restaurant meals provided by those clever members of our poor, beleaguered, hospitality industry while it limps along, waiting to be allowed to reopen.

I've done some research for you, and there are a number of local options for a cooked meal delivery or 'finish at home'. If you fancy treating her (and the rest of the family) to an Italian feast, have a look at a new local delivery service called **Come a Casa** that will bring you a very reasonably priced complete meal. The Mother's Day Menu (for four) starts at under £20 each for three courses, including delivery. It sounds divine: it includes burrata, fresh handmade pasta and blood orange and polenta cake – a refreshing change from the usual heavy roast - and all prepared by Italian chef Daniele Ciniglio. Check the [website](#) for prices, delivery postcodes and more info.



Lots of places are offering meals for Mother's Day - some for delivery and lots for collection (and don't forget to check out what your local pubs are offering). I'm rather surprised that so many companies are offering a Mother's Day lunch **for two** – surely unless it is just a couple with a small baby it should be a family meal? That said, there's a raft of options from well known names such as **GaUCHO at Home** offering an Argentinian Sunday roast (£60 for two) and **M Restaurants** Fillet of beef Mother's Day box (£70 for two). Rick Stein is offering **Stein's at Home** with a curiously named but delicious sounding 'Mother's Day coq au Riesling' menu (£82.50 for two), for three courses plus a bunch of tulips. And **Oakman at Home** (of Beech House Hampton Hill fame) is sensibly offering a three-course meal for four (from £90) that also has a great vegetarian option for starter and main (pide – Turkish 'pizza') and then mushroom wellington for main course. These are all national delivery so you could send a very special gift.



But that's enough of meals, what about other 'foodie' gifts? For an alcoholic choice (gift, not mother!) I discovered a fabulous English sparkling wine recently, produced by the Dorset **Langham Wine Estate**. Its multi award winning [Corallian](#) non-vintage knocks the socks of many French champagnes. Like champagne, it's a blend of Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier with a fine stream of bubbles and great length. And at £27.50 a bottle it's a steal. From [langhamwine.co.uk](#) it's a perfect mail order gift for a far flung fizz-loving mother! (or, if local, maybe order a few bottles for yourself and take one to her)

Still on the subject of Chardonnay, I also tried an excellent **Jacob's Creek Double Barrel** recently that is currently on offer at Sainsbury's at just £7.50 a bottle (from £12). It's the first one aged in Scotch whisky barrels and surprisingly rich and complex. This would be a very acceptable gift – take it chilled and you might be lucky enough to be offered a glass or two!





As well as the ubiquitous daffs for Mother's Day, you could consider a special rose to grow in a pot or the garden. **Squires Garden Centres** is promoting 'Mum in a Million' a pink, highly scented, rose at £15.99. And you could always present it with a bottle of rosé cava or prosecco for maximum impact. (Delivery available within 5-7 mile radius of your nearest Squires branch).

Of course, there are numerous hampers available in all price ranges. Depending on your budget, you could choose something indulgent from locally based mail order company **Kings**



Fine Foods to spoil her rotten! From real caviar to the most wonderful looking and fun Amedei mixed chocolate pralines packed in a 'caviar' tin (£12.95) to their [Mother's Day Hamper](#) at £150 that will provide endless luxury treats!



Marks & Spencer has really pushed the boat out this year, with a range of online Mother's Day gift hampers (Luxury Breakfast in Bed £30) that offer great value for money. Pre-order online from 12 March. And in store, there are numerous options, in all price ranges. How about a Connie the Caterpillar cake? Connie has



been given a Flower Power makeover and is a fun cake with edible flowers at £10.



If your mother is a bit of a chocoholic (and who isn't!), there is always the **Divine** range. Widely available and also online, the packs of Divine chocolate hearts will show her that not only is she divine, but that you love her! Or you could indulge her with a selection of bars in various flavours.

On the subject of chocolate bars, **Seed and Bean** has an incredible range of flavours and if you're in Sainsbury's buying your groceries, you

could pick up a bar or two. Then you can apply to be one of the company's official chocolate tasters! More information, plus a range of gift options online at seedandbean.co.uk



Finally, a word of caution if you're planning to order a gift - or meal - online. Do get your act together sooner, rather than at the last minute, as companies will be ultra-busy due to lockdown, and I'd hate you or your mum to be disappointed by leaving things too late!

Mother's Day in Church Street

By Shona Lyons

Church Street even in lock down is gearing up for Mother's Day! Not to be defeated we are all pretty much contactable and can supply all kinds of meals & treats and lovely gift vouchers for special meals, spa events, hair styling etc.



If you would like to pamper your mum and let her put her feet up on the day, Masaniello has a great deal of 4 pizzas with a complimentary bottle of house white or red for take away or delivery and if you like Pizza, then this is really the best pizza you will find in Twickenham! Maybe even in South West London! They will be open all the weekend from 5 until 9pm. Or on the other hand Pulcinella

will also be open the whole weekend for takeaway (12 & 13 March 5 till 9pm and Sunday 14 12pm to 8pm) and delivery and offering a special Mother's Day menu and also the regular items on their menu. Tsaretta Spice is offering Mother's Day Gift cards so you can treat your mother to a promise of lunch and dinner that you would have had if we hadn't been in lock down and the purchase even includes a fabulous bottle of prosecco! T&Cs apply. <http://www.tsarettaspice.com/twickenham-mothersday> On



the Mother's Day Weekend they will also be open for takeaway (12 and 13 March) from 5.30 to 9pm and serving a delicious selection of dishes from their Indian Tapas and a la carte menus. <https://tsarettaspice.com/twickenham-takeaway> If you

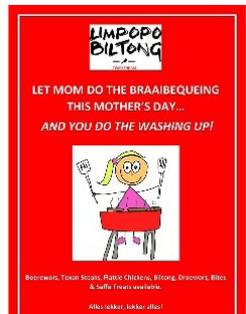
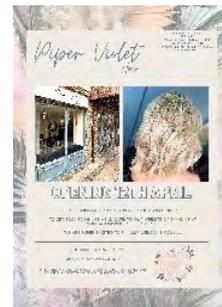
wanted to buy your mum a bottle of bubbly then Ricardo is offering a complimentary wrapped cheese with all purchases over £20. Eel Pie Records have a great record selection if its beautiful tunes you wanted to give her and they also offer local delivery and click and collect.



The Bloomery is offering Mother's Day hand tied bouquets from £39.99 and Spring bouquets from £36. Orders can be made online at www.thebloomery.co.uk for delivery and click and collect on Saturday and Mothering Sunday.

Our new and exciting Hair salon, Piper Violet is offering gift Vouchers and also long established

Mint Hair Dressing and Spa Boutique is offering a lovely range of gift vouchers for hair and spa treatments.



The gift shops are offering click and collect and Julie at Allissias Attic even has a special selection of gifts for the day at <https://allissiasattic.co.uk/collections/occasions-mothers-day>

Crusader Travel is also offering gift vouchers for Spa Breaks and weekend breaks away, just email shona@crusadertravel.com for details. And if you do want your mum to do the cooking, then Limpopo has a great range of BBQ meats and you can always offer to do the washing up 😊



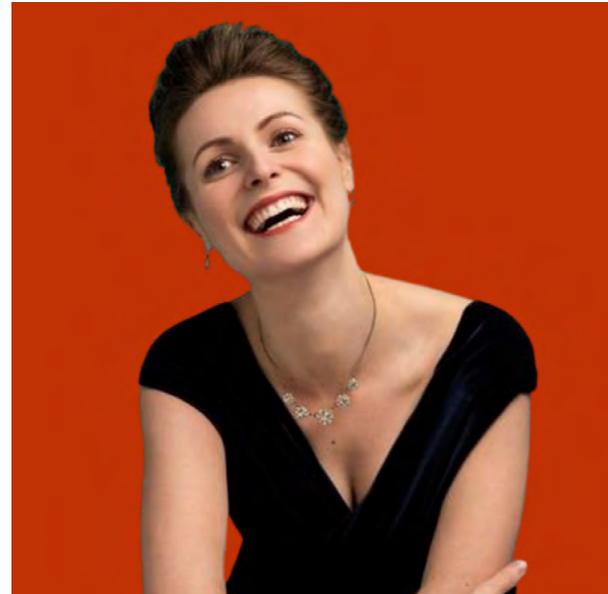


Milly Forrest

Opera Live At Home, On-line from 23rd February

For almost a year now, the pandemic has deprived performers of their ability to share their talents; audiences too of their passions and imaginations. I for one have particularly missed the spontaneity of live music. I admire how all creative artists have maintained their motivation, and have come together in innovative and inspiring ways to support each other and continue to entertain.

Opera Live at Home is no exception to this ingenuity. We were treated to an hour of arias by emerging soprano Milly Forrest, accompanied sympathetically by Ian Tindale on piano. She was singing from St Michaels and All Angels, Chiswick – a church blessed with great acoustics.



Introduced by Helen Astrid, founder of [Opera Live at Home](http://www.operaliveathome.com), Milly gave us a variety of arias, some old and familiar and some newer to her repertoire. Starting with *Wo bin ich, wach ich* from Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*, and confidently demonstrating the beautiful sonority of her voice, she ventured into the baroque, with a number of arias from the operas of Handel. Charming us through *Crudele? Non mi dir* from (Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, she finished this delightful evening by bringing a real fun to the *Frère, voyez le beau bouquet!* – Sophie's aria from Massenet's *Werther*.

However, the standout performance of the evening was *Lullaby - Vendulka's* aria, from Smetana's *The Kiss*, to which Milly brought a real, truthful and contemplative mood.

Of course such a musical evening would not be possible without the accomplished and sympathetic accompaniment of Ian Tindale. Strikingly, they had not had the opportunity to rehearse several of these works 'live' prior to the performance – *bravi* to them for developing such a clear understanding rapport so swiftly.

A unique opportunity arose after the performance to share the experience and cross the divide between audience and performer in a way that we would have never previously experienced



Read Claire Alexander's review at www.markaspen.com/2021/02/26/milly-forrest

Photography Brian Tupper



Cart Noodle Show

ShumGhostJohn, DARE Festival, Upstart Theatre, Shoreditch, On-line until 28th February

Last night I went to the theatre in Shoreditch. Pity I didn't have time to look around the gallery, or have a drink in the lounge; I could have chatted about the *Dare Festival*. I hurried to the auditorium, an usher checked my ticket, and I took my seat. The show started ... by Zoom. You see, I was actually over fifty miles away at home. Watching a show on-line has become commonplace these last twelve months, but thanks to new technology I visited the theatre too!!

Better known for their [highly innovative contemporary dance](#) productions, the Hong Kong trio of Shum, Ghost and John took on the challenge of a Zoom show with creative gusto with the highly effective *Cart Noodle Show*, part of the *Dare Festival*, hosted by the Shoreditch Theatre via *Gather*, a new on-line platform that enables you to visit a theatre virtually and ticket-holders to enter the virtual auditorium to see a show on-line.



Technology in lockdown has become almost surreal. And so was ShumGhostJohn's show.

We were asked if we had ever had Cart Noodle, and they didn't mean the pot noodle, those ghastly tubs of gunk, popular with students. We were introduced to the original Cart Noodle as it developed in the street markets of Hong Kong when it was served in metal trays.

The show hinged around a competition, with a luxury trip to Hong Kong as the prize. We were tasked with finding specific items within a set time. These games were interspersed with videos named after various ingredients of a Cart Noodle. Did it matter that some were incomprehensible? The hand dance entitled *Pak Choi* was impressively expressive

As the show progressed, various audience members had their right to vote arbitrarily removed. The tasks became harder and harder until they were impossible. It was interesting to note how disillusionment quickly set in. One of the presenters rebelled, and walked away. The remaining presenter, crestfallen, was then ordered by a disembodied voice to make the game a success.

ShumGhostJohn's *Cart Noodle Show* is a clever and subtle allegory on the Chinese state and Hong Kong. It worked very, very well. We could feel it.

Read Nick Swyft's review at www.markaspen.com/2021/02/27/cart-noodle

Photography courtesy of Ghost and John

St Mary's University

Alumni selected for the European Indoor Athletics Championships

Two alumni of St Mary's University, Twickenham and the [Endurance Performance Centre](#) have been selected to compete for their countries at the European Indoor Championships between Thursday 4th – Sunday 7th March.

Hosted in Torun, Poland, the Championships will be hosted this year without fans but with a full schedule of 26 events in line with Covid-19 guidelines.



Jack Rowe, a graduate of our [Sport and Exercise Science BSc](#) programme, has been selected to represent Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the 3000m.

Elsewhere, fellow alumna Georgie Hartigan has been selected for the Irish team. Georgie graduated from the [MSc International Business Management](#) last year and will be competing for Ireland in the 800m. This is both Jack and Georgie's first senior track call-up for their countries.

Recent British record-setting 800m runner and St Mary's alumnus Elliot Giles was also selected for the British European Championship team, but has withdrawn in order to focus on the outdoor season and upcoming Tokyo Olympics.

St Mary's Performance Coach Craig Winrow said, "St Mary's EPC wish them all the best at the Euro's and I am sure all the EPC athletes will be cheering them on."

St Mary's Alumnus Secures Top Two Spots on the Big Top 40

Tom Grennan, a Drama and Physical Theatre graduate of St Mary's University, Twickenham, has secured the top two spots on the Official Big Top

40 chart.

Grennan's collaboration with Ella Henderson 'Let's Go Home Together' secured the Number 1 spot on last night's Big Top 40, with his solo track 'Little Bit of Love' jumping 32 places to second place. The Official Big Top 40 is now the most listened-to chart in the UK, with 1.5 million listeners tuning in each week. Chart positions are based on an algorithm that includes a mix of streaming, digital sales and radio airplay across that week. 'Little Bit of Love' is taken from Grennan's upcoming album 'Evering Road'. This follows the immense success of his debut album 'Lighting Matches', which made the Top 5 on the UK Albums Charts when released in 2018 and received Gold certification last year after reaching 100,000 sales.

Grennan studied with the [Drama St Mary's](#) department at the University between 2013-16.



He has previously spoken about his time at St Mary's saying that he chose to study here because of the "family feeling" of the University and that graduating from St Mary's sits alongside the success of his debut album as one of his proudest moments.

Mark Griffin, Head of Drama, said "What an amazing achievement for Tom. Everybody at Drama St Mary's is buzzing with the news. He's an incredible musician and one of the hardest working artists in the industry, nobody deserves it more. He's also a true Simmie who has done huge amounts of work in his community during lockdown and is always encouraging future creative talent. He's inspirational and we're very proud of him."



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

The Road Map out of Lockdown (& how to find a bit of fresh air)

By Bruce Lyons



Book with Confidence Simon Caldwell says, and book now! But for later on!

It was interesting to listen to Simon (BBC Travel Adviser) this morning discussing the news from the Cypriot Government, that vaccinated Britons can vacation there without restrictions from MAY- He did add that for the moment it was still ILLEGAL however Dear Reader.

There are breaks that you can do here in the UK from April 12th and that is still in the School Break for most Golfers, Hikers, Cyclists, Climbers, Kayakers; Sailing; SUP (stand up paddle boarding) Rowing and more. This can all be done in a Bubble up to 6 – just has to be in Houses, Mobile Homes etc.

And Alfresco (outside catering) is allowed also from the 12th so there will be no problem finding food supplies & pubs can open for outside catering and drinks also 😊

Need a House by the Beach? In the Lake District or the Cotswold call Crusader.

Maybe you would like to Row the Thames – that's possible -you will need to camp but we have done that (at Easter) As did “Three men in a boat “ and Montmorency their Dog - though they weren't too keen on the Camping bit.

But I can tell you – it is a trip like no other – a real adventure- and we get the TOW to a UK river destination and Boat organised!

There is even a new itinerary with Great rail Journeys. “A Castle on the shores of Loch Fyne” 7 Days with Rail and Boat trips stating from Glasgow from £995.



Then hopefully from the 17th of May UK hotels will open their doors – so for now whilst there are only STAYCATIONS in England - as we don't even know when the devolved parts of the UK will open yet Yet alone when European countries and other overseas destination will get all the procedures together – but get them together they will – as most of our neighbours are desperate to get their Tourism open again.

HOWEVER, in the meantime there have been some creative thinking in the UK Tourism front and as no doubt many of you have noticed, there has never – ever been so much time devoted to Travelogue programmes on the Tele- so much that I think next week I will give you all a QUIZ to get your head around!

Further on as the summer comes – The Tour companies have created packages that are ring-fenced from your money Protection point of view so you can go ahead and book and furthermore, the suppliers are encouraging people to do just that with really favourable rates as, naturally, some are hesitant. Basically if the lockdown swings around and the Govt doesn't allow overseas travel the tour companies cancel and refund the monies. So as Simon says **BOOK NOW WITH CONFIDENCE** You won't regret it as some packages are really affordable to places you have always wanted to go to but just couldn't afford the price. www.crusadertravel.com



RFS The Best of our Recent Historic Screenings

Issue 50

5th March 2021

TANGERINES

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: **TANGERINES** was 774th film screened by RFS on 14th November 2017.

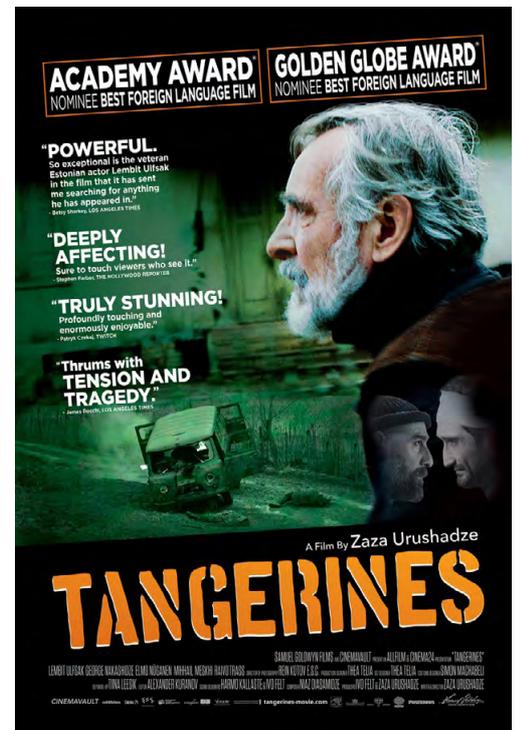
Tangerines was the third ranked film of Season 55, it got an approval mark of 92% from those attending; from season 55 we have already featured its first, second and one of the three equal fourth placed films: **A Man Called Ove**, **Julieta** and **The Other Side of Hope** as **Issues 42, 48** and **43** respectively. **Tangerines** can be streamed from Amazon Prime plus the discs are available from Amazon and others.

TANGERINES

Country: Estonia/Georgia, 2015
Directors: Zaza Urushadz
Screenplay: Zaza Urushadz
Editing: Alexander Kuranov
Cinematography: Rein Kotov
Running Time: 87 min., colour
Language: Estonian/Russian/Georgian
Music: Niaz Diasamidze & Levan Kikvidze

Leading Players:

Lembit Ulfsak	(Ivo)
Giorgi Nakashidze	(Ahmed)
Elmo Nüganen	(Margus)
Misha Meskhi	(Nika)
Raivo Trass	(Juhan)
Zura Begalishvili	(Aslan)



Tangerines is the Oscar-nominated Estonian film from Zaza Urushadze, based on the Civil War in the Apkhazian region in 1992-1993, following the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Estonian actor Lembit Ulfsak plays Ivo, a carpenter whose family and their community have fled back to Estonia. His reasons for staying are unclear, only to help his farmer friend Margus (Elmo Nüganen) and his tangerine crop. Ivo ends up taking the last men alive from the warring Chechens and Georgians into his house. The Chechen is Ahmed (Giorgi Nakahshidze), and the more seriously wounded is a Georgian, Niko (Mikheil Meskhi). Both are in no fit state to fight, but that doesn't stop them threatening each other to the death.

Ivo may be old and hospitable, but in his house it's his rules, and since he saved them both he wants unquestioned civility at all times. The soldiers agree, and thus ensues a series of scenes

that are as tense as they are entertaining. Ivo knows that once the both of them recover, as soon as they leave his house they will fight to the death. Naively, he thinks that he can persuade these enemies to co-exist through his acts of kindness.

It's an effective ploy by Ivo, and Urushadze delivers his naturalistic anti-war message by focusing on the humanity of all the characters. As funny as some of the exchanges are, all the actors play it straight and sincerely. The big surprise is that for a film that covers so much, remarkably its only 84 minutes long. Ivo exposes the pointlessness of war and fighting for land. The final scene is particularly moving, and Ulfesak is superb as the man who speaks so simply that anyone can understand the futility of war.

After Amazon

The Park Lane Stables art draw. And the winners are...

It's a double celebration – not only have the Park Lane Stables raised more than £1 million to avoid their permanent closure, but the winners of a fundraising draw have also been announced.

Teddington Society



Kitty Wass, one of our leading local artists and a long-term member of the Teddington Society, generously donated an original painting and five prints to the 'Save Our Stables' appeal.

Last week, Sheena Harold, chairman of the Teddington Society, drew the winning names – and on Monday, Kitty Wass presented Jacky MacKenzie (whose name was first out of the hat) with an original painting, *And ARE There Polar Bears?* The presentation took place with Melissa Sims, who displayed the prints and painting in the window of Sims Opticians in The Causeway for several weeks.

Jacky, who lives in Harrowdene Gardens, Teddington, runs a professional pet care company, Paws for Thought. *"I stopped to admire Kitty's lovely pictures in the window of Sims Opticians" she said, "and then I noticed the Draw poster. So this was a wonderful way to support Natalie and Park Lane Stables and get the opportunity to win such a wonderful prize.*

"Natalie and her team are such an asset to the community, and I know them well – she allows my clients to take their puppies to the stables and introduce them to the ponies there, so the puppies are less reactive when encountering them out in Bushy Park or around Teddington."



Other prize draw winners, who received Kitty Wass prints, are Margaret Ballantyne, Leslie Bossine, Mick Delaney, Nigel Duffin and Diane Howell. Congratulations to them all.

Image shows Jacky MacKenzie (left), with Kitty Wass and Melissa Sims (right).

Petitions

Stop the introduction of parking charges in Richmond Park and Bushy Park

The Royal Parks intend to introduce car parking charges in Richmond Park and Bushy Park. This is an indefensible proposal, particularly at a time when the link between poverty, obesity and poor health has been so clearly highlighted by the impact of Covid 19.

Spending time in the park is one of the very few free and healthy options for families and individuals. It is essential for people's mental and physical well being that access to the parks is encouraged rather than restricted. If, as a society, we really want to fight obesity we must continue to provide spaces for free and healthy exercise.

During lockdown, a much more diverse and geographically widespread group of people discovered the joys of Bushy and Richmond Park; this is a cause for celebration and should be viewed as a positive and healthy development and encouraged as much as possible. The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

Accept the proposal to reinstate a Lido on Twickenham Riverside

During consultations with local stakeholders it has become clear that there is a wish to bring back a Lido on Twickenham Riverside.

A Lido on Twickenham Riverside would provide a leisure and sport facility for the people of Twickenham and surrounding areas.

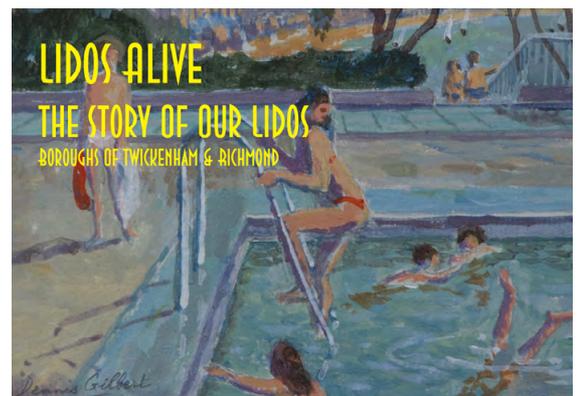
More importantly though, it provides the local people with an everyday escape from modern life, an accessible urban retreat.

Such a facility on Twickenham Riverside would act as a Magnet and contribute to the rejuvenation of the town. The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

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.

To purchase a book contact info@TwickenhamTribune.com





BRENTFORD FC

Bees come from behind again to win

Brentford 2 – 1 Stoke City

Brentford recovered from falling behind inside the opening minute against Stoke City with goals from Vitaly Janelt and Ivan Toney guiding them to victory at the Brentford Community Stadium and help strengthen their Premier League ambitions.



The game was just 30 seconds old when the opening goal came as Stoke City capitalised on an error from Brentford goalkeeper David Raya as he tried to play out from the back. His pass was intercepted by Tommy Smith who then nipped in ahead of Raya and Smith then pulled the ball back for Jacob Brown to convert into an unguarded net.

Raya made up for his error soon after when a free-kick from deep eventually found its way to Nick Powell, who on the turn managed to flick the ball goalwards but Raya was out quickly to make the block and Brown on the follow up sent his shot wide.

The home side's first chance came via a set piece when an out swinging corner from Saman Ghoddos found Winston Reid just outside the six-yard box. The central defender got up early and was unmarked but was unable to divert his effort on target as his header sailed over.

The Bees then had a chance to equalise before half-time when Bryan Mbeumo outpaced Harry Souttar down the left wing and passed the ball back inside to the onrushing Josh Dasilva, but shot was blocked by his own teammate in the form of Tariqe Fosu.

Brentford were on level terms not long after half-time courtesy of a thunderbolt of a strike from Janelt. Fosu had picked up the ball and dribbled infield before his cross was deflected into the path of the German, who curled the ball into the top corner from outside the box to give Angus Gunn no chance.

Toney then nearly made in two goals in a shot space of time when substitute Mathias Jensen released Sergi Canós into space in the box who in turn played the ball along the ground to the back post, but Toney was just unable to latch onto it as the ball rolled behind.

Gunn was then also forced into a good save to deny Saman Ghoddos after the Iranian had disposed Joe Allen as he tried to play out and his long range drive was pushed over.

At the other end of the pitch Winston Reid produced an excellent goal line clearance with his head after Jordan Cousins had looped a shot goalwards but under significant pressure from Powell he climbed highest to come to Brentford's rescue.

The turnaround was then completed with just under ten minutes to play as Championship top scorer Toney popped up in the six-yard box to claim all three points. There didn't appear to be much on when Henrik Dalsgaard floated a hopeful through ball over the top but a flick on from Mbeumo allowed Toney to ghost in behind Souttar and Danny Batth and poke the ball beyond Gunn into the bottom corner and seal the victory.

Buendía strike the difference in battle at the top

Norwich City 1 – 0 Sheffield Wednesday

A curling strike from Emi Buendía midway through the first-half at Carrow Road proved to be the difference as Brentford were beaten by the Championship league leaders 1-0. The Bees went into the game in second place but now find themselves 10 points off the Canaries with 12 games to play.

The home side very nearly found themselves ahead within the opening two minutes when Buendía slipped Teemu Pukki through but with David Raya coming off his line the Canaries chipped his effort off target.

Sergi Canós then had a couple of chances at the other end to put Brentford ahead. First he cut infield and struck a dipping shot that Tim Krul had to deal with and then he went even closer when Bryan Mbeumo nutmegged Dimitris Giannoulis and pulled the ball back across goal, but from the edge of the six-yard box Canós couldn't turn the ball in.

Ivan Toney then went close after a quickly taken free-kick was launched forward but after escaping the clutches of the Norwich defensive pairing of Grant Hanley and Ben Gibson, but on the stretch was unable to get enough power on the shot to trouble cruel.

The goal came though a moment of individual brilliance from Buendía. The Norwich midfielder skipped inside a number of Brentford challenges before curling the ball into bottom corner and past the dive of Raya for an excellent goal.

Things could have got worse for Brentford just before half-time when Pukki was once more played through clean through on goal. This time Raya stood strong and was able to make the block to keep the Canaries lead to one.

During the second-half Norwich continued to press for a second goal and went close on a number of occasions. Pukki cut in from the wing and curled a shot towards the near post that Raya did exceptionally well to tip around the post one-handed and Gibson had a free header from the edge of the six-yard box following a free-kick that he should have got more power on.

For Brentford Henrik Dalsgaard rose highest in the box to meet a cross from Mads Roerslev but couldn't divert it on target and they also had appeals for a penalty turned down when Mbeumo went to ground inside the box following a challenge with Hanley.

Late on as the Bees pushed for an equaliser Raya was sent up from the back in order to try a salvage something. It nearly worked as a corner was eventually worked to substitute Marcus Forss, but he was penalised for a foul as his header was magnificently cleared off the line by

Jacob Sørensen to deny Brentford a share of the points.

Brentford v Rotherham United postponed due to coronavirus

Brentford's Championship fixture against Rotherham United has been rescheduled following a number of positive tests in the Rotherham side. Regular EFL testing revealed that the Millers had three positive test ahead of the originally scheduled game on Saturday 6 March and so in line with government and EFL regulation the fixture has been postponed. The new date for the fixture has also been confirmed and will take place on Tuesday 27 April with a 7pm kick off.

The EFL issued a statement in relation to the postponement which stated, "Rotherham United's Sky Bet Championship fixture against Brentford on Saturday 6 March has been suspended.

[Rotherham] informed the EFL that they would be unable to fulfil the fixture following recent positive Covid-19 tests and the requirement for players and staff to self-isolate as per EFL and Government guidance in order to mitigate against the risk of further infection.

The circumstances surrounding the postponement will now be the subject of an investigation in accordance with EFL Regulations."

Brentford's next game with therefore be away to Blackburn Rovers on Friday 12 March with a 19:45 kick off.

UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Opponent: Blackburn Rovers (A) Friday 12th March 19:45 Ewood Park
Nickname: Rovers

Competition: Championship - Matchday 35

Manager: Tony Mowbray

Opponent record: P33 W11 D7 L15 GF46 GA39 (15th in Championship)

Interesting fact: After winning the FA Cup from 1884 to 1886, Blackburn Rovers became the second club to win three consecutive FA Cups and remain the only club still in existence to win "three in a row" to this day, as Wanderers, who achieved the feat 6 years earlier, were disbanded in 1883.

Come on you Bees!

Grassroots rugby set to return from 29 March

The 2021 Return to Community Rugby Roadmap can be found [HERE](#)

A video with RFU Rugby Development Director, Steve Grainger discussing the roadmap is [HERE](#)

Following the government's announcement that organised outdoor sport can resume from 29 March, the RFU has today published a new 'Return to Community Rugby Roadmap'. The roadmap summarises the plan for a phased return to full contact rugby, subject to each step on the government roadmap being met.

A six-stage process has been created to guide rugby coaches and players through the return process from Stage A now, to Ready4Rugby, O2 Touch and limited contact training sessions at the end of March, to full contact matches anticipated in June. As previously confirmed, the 2020/21 league structure has already been cancelled. However, as in normal years, rugby clubs will be able to host friendly fixtures in the adult game during summer months if they wish. As long as Covid-19 infection rates are kept under control, all adult and age grade competitions are expected to start in September, as normal, under full laws.

As of 29 March, community rugby clubs may hold contact training sessions, excluding scrums and mauls, and host Ready4Rugby, O2 Touch and Tag rugby matches between clubs. This applies to adult and age grade players. Contact should be built incrementally and RFU guidance states that training sessions should not exceed 20 minutes of contact at this stage.

After four weeks of contact training to enable players to build fitness levels and condition themselves physically, matches with adapted laws (no scrums or mauls) will be permitted against other clubs from 26 April (Stage D2 on the roadmap). It will be clubs' and players' individual choice as to whether they play adapted contact or continue with Ready4Rugby, O2 Touch or Tag rugby.

When Step Three on the government roadmap is reached, it is planned that Community Rugby will move to full contact training, including scrums and mauls. This is Stage E1 on the roadmap. Two weeks after Stage E1, full contact matches can begin (Stage E2 on the rugby roadmap).

Community Rugby will move to the final Stage, F, when the government roadmap reaches Step Four, provisionally in June, at which time we anticipate all remaining restrictions will be lifted.

The current age grade match season will end on 31 May, however the age grade out of season regulations will be suspended for 2021 and replaced with a range of permitted non-contact and contact training and playing. The purpose of this is to support player safety, contact preparation and player retention for any out of season age grade activities.

The process for 17-year-olds playing adult rugby is suspended from now until Saturday 1 January 2022. These are some of the players at greatest safety and retention risk due to the rugby they have missed. In season 2021-22, the shift to the next set of age group rules is delayed until Saturday 1 January 2022. (E.g. U10s in 2021-22 will play U9 rules before Christmas and U10 rules after Christmas.) For girls that are in the multi-age U13, U15 and U18 bandings, they will move into that age band and play to those rules from September. Training and playing guidance will be provided to ensure safe progression and transition.

RFU Rugby Development Director, Steve Grainger said: *"This is fantastic news for the community game and we are pleased to be able to publish our plan for a phased return to full contact rugby. It's wonderful to see light at the end of the tunnel and we are as delighted as clubs and players across the country that they will soon be able to resume training and, subject to each step on government's roadmap being achieved, progress towards an exciting season of rugby for 2021/22 from September. Over the next couple of weeks, we will share detailed stage-by-stage guidance to make the return to rugby as simple and as safe as possible as we progress through the stages. As during lockdown, we will continue to run webinars for coaches, players, match officials and volunteers to prepare for the return. Guidance will include advice for coaches on how to gradually and safely reintroduce contact, as well as ways to re-engage players and develop their skills over the coming months. As more guidance is published by government, we will provide facilities guidance to ensure clubs are in the best possible position when they're able to re-open their clubhouses."*

Until 29 March, adult and age grade rugby remains at Stage A on the Rugby Roadmap, meaning individuals can exercise alone or with one other from another household. An exception to this are age grade players involved in school or college organised activity who are permitted to follow the Stage D1 guidance from 8 March.



RFU Appoints Tom Ilube CBE as Chair and Polly Williams as INED

The RFU Council today ratified the appointments made by the RFU Board to appoint Tom Ilube CBE to become successor to Chair, Andy Cosslett and Polly Williams to take over as Independent Non-Executive Director from Helen Weir. Both appointments will undertake a thorough induction and hand over before formally taking on their new roles from 1 August when the current post holders' term comes to an end. The appointments are to be put for final ratification by the member clubs at the RFU's AGM in June.

Tom Ilube CBE has had a 30-year career in the UK technology sector including roles at PwC, Goldman Sachs and the London Stock Exchange. He was Chief Information Officer at Egg Banking plc, the UK's first internet bank, founded venture capital backed tech start up Garlik which was acquired by Experian and was an MD of private equity backed Callcredit (now TransUnion). In 2014 Tom founded Crossword Cybersecurity Plc where he remains CEO of the AIM London Stock Exchange listed company.



Tom was the Founding Chair of Hammersmith Academy, the UK's first digital and creative media academy, and has been a Governor of several secondary schools from Darwen in Lancashire to Brighton in Sussex. He is also Chair of the African Science Academy, Africa's leading all girls science and technology school.

Tom has been a Non-Executive Director of the BBC since 2017. He is a Fellow of St Anne's College, Oxford and Jesus College, Oxford. In 2018 he was awarded a CBE for services to technology and to philanthropy and he became a Non-Executive Director of FTSE100 global advertising agency WPP plc in 2020.

A keen rugby enthusiast Tom commented; "My rugby career started on the pitches of Teddington School and London Welsh rugby club back in the early 70s. Although my professional career has taken me in different directions, thanks to my son who was part of the Wasps Academy before moving on to represent his university, I have had the pleasure of being involved in the community game for the past 15 years. I'm a passionate fan of both England Rugby and the community game and am honoured to be joining the RFU at such a pivotal time for the game. Our immediate priority after such a challenging year in lockdown will be to ensure we do everything we can to maintain and grow participation across all levels of the game."



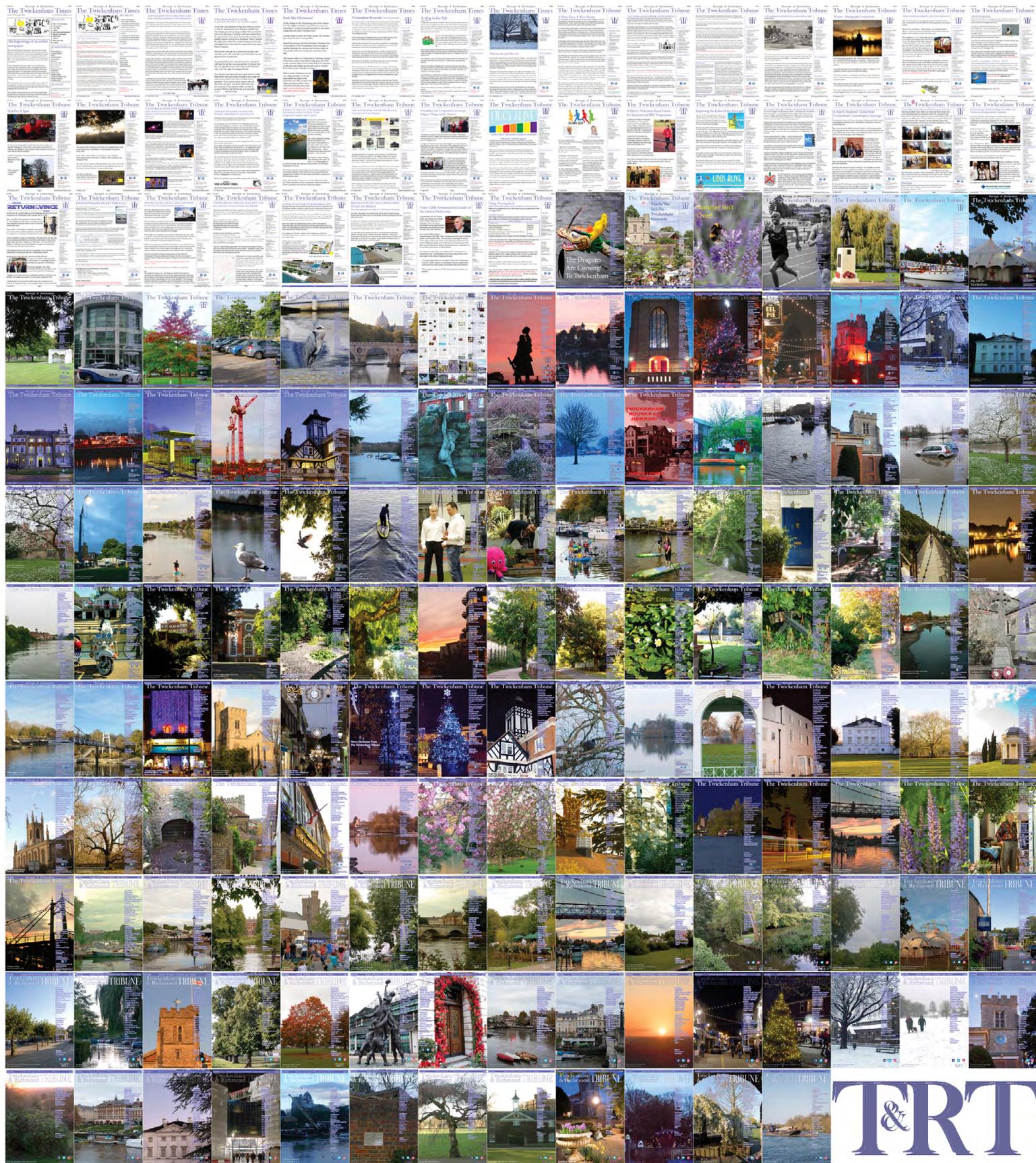
Polly Williams is a qualified chartered accountant who spent five years as a Partner at KPMG. She is an experienced board member and is Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee at Jupiter Asset Management, Chair of the Audit Committee at TSB Banking Group and a Senior Independent Director at The Royal Bank of Canada Europe. Outside of the financial services sector she is a Non-Executive Director of XP Power Limited and a Trustee for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

Polly was a keen rugby player during her time at university, she also spent 14 years as a Governor at Rugby School, most latterly as Deputy Chair. As a Twickenham Stadium debenture holder she is a firm England fan. Speaking about her appointment she said "I'm excited to be joining the RFU ahead of a World Cup year for the Red Roses in New Zealand and with the challenges of getting the game back up and running fully next season. We have a lot to do and to look forward to."

The recruitment process for these two positions was led by Dominic Proctor, Senior Independent Director of the RFU and Chair of the Board Nominations Committee, he said; "We were delighted by the volume and exceptional quality of the applications for both of these positions. The level of interest was a testament to the role rugby plays in communities across the length and breadth of England. I would like to thank the four Council members who were part of this thorough recruitment process and the Council for their full support in endorsing these appointments. The Board is very much looking forward to Polly and Tom joining and I'm sure they will provide a valuable contribution to the growth of rugby in England in the years ahead."



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