

# Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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## Contributors

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 Marble Hill House  
 Lucilius  
 TwickWatch  
 Alison Jee  
 Mark Aspen  
 Bruce Lyons  
 Doug Goodman  
 World InfoZone  
 Deep Patel  
 James Dowden  
 St Mary's University  
 RFU  
 Princess Alice Hospice  
 WHO  
 NAO  
 LBRuT

## Editors

Berkley Driscoll  
 Teresa Read



24th September 2021

T&RT

Indian Bean Trees at entrance to Diamond Jubilee Gardens

Photo by Berkley Driscoll

# TickerTape - News in Brief

## RIP Galen Rosenberg 1954 - 2021

The Tribune is saddened to hear of the death of Galen, well known to many, who until recently ran Maple Leaf Pharmacy on Twickenham Green (which had previously been run by his parents Paul and Doris Rosenberg since 1965).

## Set sail with the Mayor for a Fish and Chips Cruise along the Thames

Join the Mayor for a scenic cruise aboard the Southern Belle along the Thames on Wednesday 29 September. Tickets are priced at £30 and includes a fish and chip supper and complimentary drink on arrival. The cruise will board at St Helena Pier, Richmond at 6pm, departing at 6.30pm and return at approximately 9.45pm. This year's Mayor's charities are Habitats & Heritage and A Dose of Nature. The charities have been chosen to help raise awareness of the impact of climate change and biodiversity loss within the borough, while helping to raise awareness of the practical and realistic steps residents and businesses can take to make a positive difference. Book now [HERE](#)

## Do you have long COVID?

Richmond Council is looking to develop a series of video case studies around long COVID and would like to hear from local people who are suffering with the long-term impact of coronavirus. Whilst most people who have COVID-19 feel better after a few days or weeks, for some full recovery can take a lot longer. See symptoms of [long COVID](#). If you have long COVID, and the symptoms have impacted your life for example not able to work, play sports or socialise, please get in touch. We are looking for people from Richmond upon Thames who are willing to share their story and encourage other people to continue to take COVID-19 seriously as we head into winter, continue to follow the guidance and have the vaccination. Please email [Elinor.Firth@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:Elinor.Firth@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk) for more information.

## Richmond Rugby take on Nottingham this weekend at the Athletic Ground

Richmond Rugby will play their first home game of the season this Saturday (25 September). Come along and watch some live rugby this weekend the Athletic Ground in Richmond. Live rugby is back at the Athletic Ground this Saturday as Richmond go head to head with Nottingham in Round 2 of the RFU Championship. Kick-off is at 3pm. Book your match tickets for this must watch fixture [HERE](#). Tickets are available at the gate on the day but card payments only.



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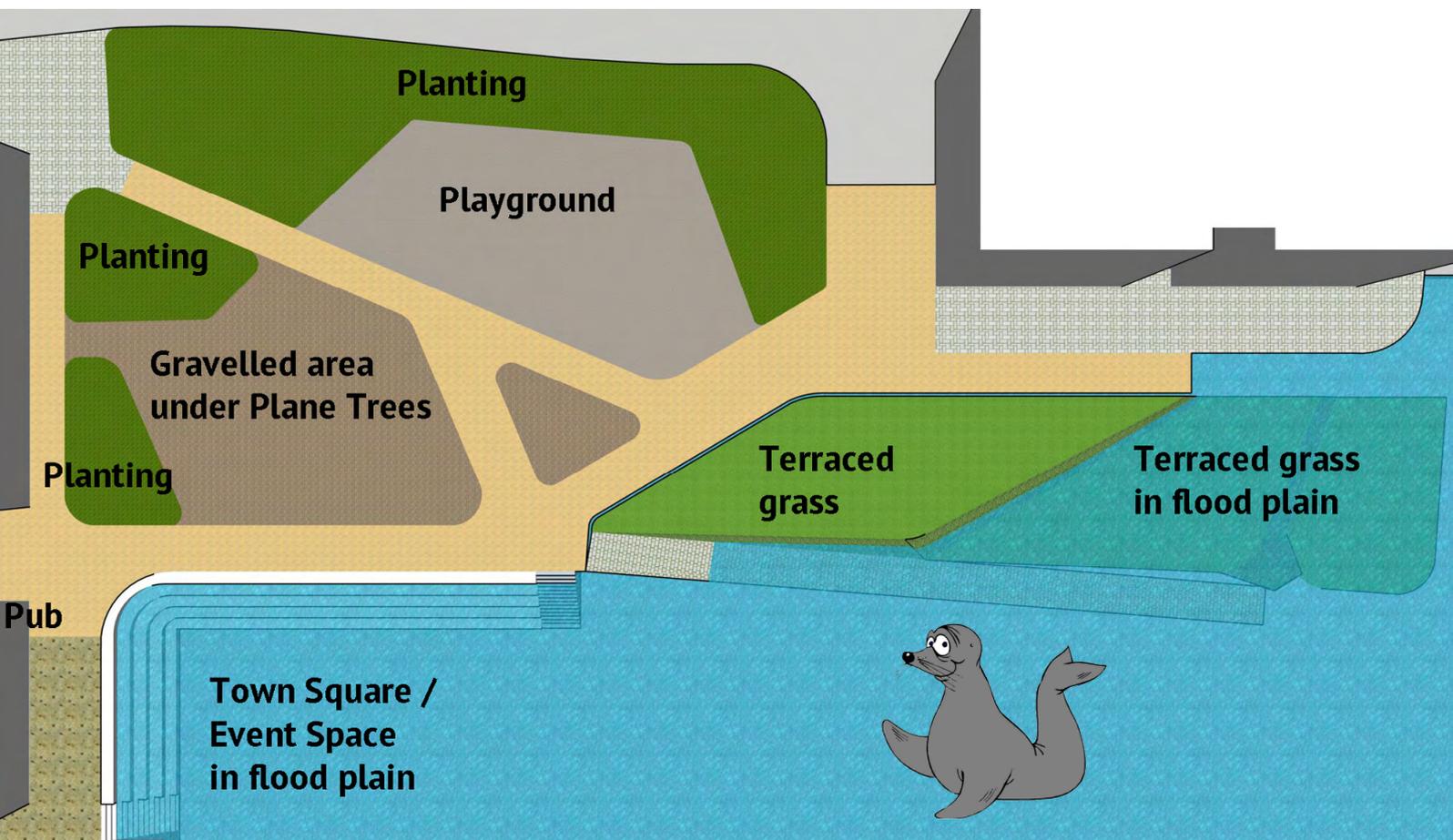
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There has been an extensive, and slick, campaign promoting the development by the Liberal Democrats. Residents have been bombarded by emails from the Twickenham and Richmond Liberal Democrats as well as separate emails from the Leader of the Council (sent as Leader of the Council, but the small print says "Printed, published, and promoted by Twickenham and Richmond Liberal Democrats"). As part of a significant social media campaign there is even a Facebook advert promoting the council's development which stated that it was paid for by a Twickenham Riverside Ward councillor on behalf of the Twickenham and Richmond Liberal Democrats! The web pages even provide a helpful button (leading to the planning comment site) exhorting recipients to "*Click to tell the Council – let's get this done*"; this probably explains the numerous support comments with that well known valid and material planning comment, er, let's get this done.

TwickerSeal has been reading through the various comments, and it is interesting how many objections to the council's planning application relate to the Diamond Jubilee Gardens. Many are naturally disgusted by the council's proposed tawdry land grab via a Compulsory Purchase Order, but many have, unsurprisingly, realised that the proposed 'reprovision' of the DJG is in no way '*equally advantageous*' to the people of Twickenham, and it falls far short of any supposed improvement.

Three patches of terraced grass (totalling approx. 486m<sup>2</sup>), two of which are in the flood plain, are a poor substitute for the safe, secure, level and flood free DJG; the other bits of greenery consist of 'planted beds'. There is a gravelled area under Plane Trees for Pétanque and a children's playground – all of which the DJG currently has. And the new pathways through the 'new DJG' will be a busy thoroughfare, losing the safe and secure environment of the current DJG.

Let's have less of the *get this done*; how about **get it right**?



# Covid-19

By Teresa Read

## World Health Organization

### Weekly Epidemiological Update

#### 21 September 2021

The numbers of weekly COVID-19 cases and deaths globally continued to decline this week, with over 3.6 million cases and just under 60 000 deaths reported between 13-19 September. This brings the cumulative numbers of confirmed cases and deaths globally to nearly 228 million and over 4.6 million respectively. While the Region of the Americas as well as the Eastern Mediterranean, South-East Asia and Western Pacific regions reported a decrease in weekly case incidence, the African and European regions reported a similar number of deaths as compared to the previous week

Similarly, COVID-19 weekly mortality decreased in the African, Eastern Mediterranean and South-East Asian regions over the past week, with the South-East Asia Region reporting the largest percentage decrease (27%). In contrast, the Western Pacific Region reported an increase (7%) in the number of deaths while the Region of the Americas and the European Region reported a similar number of deaths as compared to the previous week

### **Total cases to 24th September 2021**

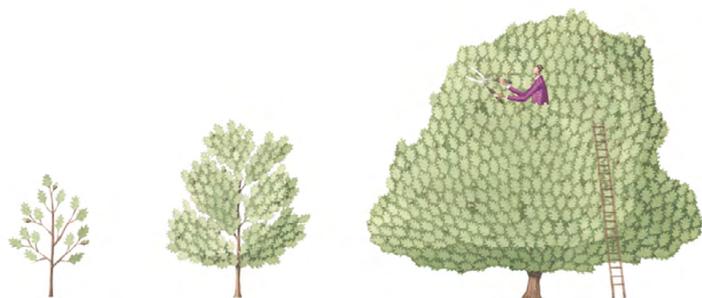
Richmond upon Thames 18,613

Kingston upon Thames 18,781

Hounslow 35,690

### World Health Organization: Countries with High Numbers of Deaths. Deaths Worldwide 4,724,876

USA	667,323	Turkey	62,524	Netherlands	18,144
Brazil	592,316	Ukraine	55,424	Viet Nam	18,017
India	446,368	Chile	37,410	Portugal	17,938
Mexico	273,391	Philippines	37,405	Myanmar	17,413
Russian Federation	202,273	Romania	36,109	Japan	17,375
Peru	199,108	Ecuador	32,661	Egypt	17,043
Indonesia	141,258	Czechia	30,451	Paraguay	16,138
The United Kingdom	135,803	Hungary	30,151	Thailand	16,016
Italy	130,551	Canada	27,537	Kazakhstan	15,503
Colombia	126,006	Pakistan	27,432	Sweden	14,813
Iran	118,191	Bangladesh	27,368	Greece	14,606
Argentina	114,684	Belgium	25,543	Morocco	14,040
France	114,166	Malaysia	24,681	Guatemala	13,185
Germany	93,303	Tunisia	24,654	Slovakia	12,594
South Africa	86,655	Iraq	21,993	Sri Lanka	12,448
Spain	86,185	Bulgaria	20,350	Nepal	11,081
Poland	75,551	Bolivia	18,681	Switzerland	10,592



### 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

# Education in wartime

By Simon Fowler

It goes without saying that schooling has been badly disrupted by the pandemic, with lessons being given remotely, constant testing and the wearing of masks. One cannot praise too highly the teachers and their pupils who have taken all this in their stride.

There are some parallels with education in the Second World War. On 25 October 1940, at the height of the Blitz, the Richmond County School for Girls logbook recorded:

8.50-10.45 Enemy plane so low over the school. The markings were visible. The sirens went again at a minute to twelve midday while all the children were still in school. It is now 3.30 and the raid is still on. Some parents have taken the children away, but the majority are still here. All have eaten their iron rations, all the milk has been drunk and many Horlicks tablets consumed. All clear ten minutes to four.



Children in School at Gas Mask Drill by Alexander Macpherson  
Credit: IWM Art.IWM ART LD 1217

Each shelter had room for two classes. According to Margaret Scudamore, the School's headmistress:

The mistresses taking lessons found it easiest to teach standing back to back in the middle so that their voices travelled in opposite directions and as little as possible confused one another's classes. But it was very difficult because, as they did their work, the voices of the girls rang back from the close-set walls.

Children inevitably got thirsty and hungry or wanted to go to the loo:

Great pottery jugs were put near the entrance to each shelter with a tin plate on top to keep dust out, and with a tin mug on top from which to drink. The crates of milk bottles had to be brought over at break time. Dinners had to be taken on trolleys from the exit door of the dining room, round the gravel path, across the playground and through the doors in the wall to shelter tops. After the mid-day meal small groups of girls in turn had to be conducted to the lavatories in the lulls.

School leaving examinations were affected by the uncertainty. During the summer of 1944: The Higher School candidates were set up in one of the shelters, and their examinations proceeded without interruption. But there were far too many General School candidates for similar arrangements to be made for them. They had to be dispersed in two long rows from end to end of the lower corridor. I sat on the front steps facing up into the direction from which the doodlebugs came. The sound of the siren and the arrival of the bomb were almost simultaneous, at which moment I gave the word to down pens and make for the shelters. There the girls had to sit without talking... One three-hour paper was interrupted six or seven times.

## Shire horses at Marble Hill Park

By Kas Rasenberg

In the last couple of weeks, the long grasses of Marble Hill Park have been mown by a herd of Shire horses. These horses were labouring in the park for nearly six days. Most of their work has been done in the verges of the grass, where you could previously find a variety of flowers. The flowers, however, have already begun to disappear.

In A History of British Livestock Husbandry, Robert Trow-Smith noted that Shire horses did not receive their name until the middle of the nineteenth century. The large Old English Black and the sorrel-coloured Suffolk are said to be the only two varieties of farm horse that were recognised by Arthur Young. The English agriculturalist, who published The Farmer's Calendar in 1809, has stated that Shire foals should be carefully tended. How many foals, he wondered, have been lost on a Sunday morning, due to the farmer being an hour later than on the other days?



The Shire horses from Operation Centaur cutting the wildflower areas at Marble Hill Park

The horses of the British Isles have long carried out a variety of tasks for which our strength is not sufficient. They have pulled omnibuses and funeral cortege carriages, and have transported our harvest from the fields. They have cleared up our debris and have laboured in the coal mines. We have used both their manure and dead bodies, from which we have taken their hairs and bones and meat.

The Shire horses in Marble Hill Park are said to be the last working herd in the entire city of London. Their work has been incredibly beneficial to both the wildlife and the soil. Tractors leave behind a larger carbon footprint and may damage the growth of wildflowers. The horses have also helped many people in our local communities, about which you can read more on the website of Operation Centaur.

# Department of Heritage Destruction

By Lucilius

Somewhere in darkest Europe, there is a picturesque waterfront in an historic town on a most famous river; here the Department of Heritage Destruction has been plotting during a recent plague. Cllr Rutt has their final plan finished and is just checking with the governor, Ralph Gobbets, on some outstanding issues.

Rutt: There's this garden in the way, but it's held in trust by a charity for the enjoyment of the people. We need to negotiate with the trustees.

Gobbets: Surely we can expect a charity to be liberal with its assets. In any case, we **are** the trustees.

Rutt: But the charity can't sell it for over a century yet.

Gobbets: Then we'll make a Compulsory Purchase Order. And sell it to ourselves. And buy it from ourselves. Cheap.

Rutt: We must apply for planning permission. There's the Planning Committee to get past.

Gobbets: But we **are** the Planning Committee. We'll fast-track approval to yesterday.

Rutt: The people will be pleased to have some housing, of course, and pleased about the, the ... (I'm sure there must something else). They won't notice the lack of infrastructure.

Gobbets: Infrastructure? You've learnt some long words, Rutt. No, no, we'll price the housing way above what people hereabouts can afford. Then we'll sell them to our friends from Moscow or the Gulf. Who won't live in them, naturally. Then we won't need any infrastructure.

Rutt: There ought to be something in it for the people, or the Opposition will complain.

Gobbets: Opposition? What Opposition? Give the people a pub. That's something this town lacks.

Rutt: Perhaps we should have a Consultation. Give the people, what, seven days, chance to have their say.

Gobbets: That long? I'm beginning to worry about you, Rutt. You sound like you believe in democracy!

Rutt: Everyone says it, you are so brilliant.

Gobbets: I know ... .. I told them.



Dear Tribune,

### Twickenham Riverside development.

This week, on 23 September 2021, a Liberal Democrats newsletter was sent out signed by Council Leader Gareth Roberts and marking the end of the formal consultation period for their plans for Twickenham Riverside.

It included the words:

*'we now have a scheme to deliver what **countless residents** have told me they want to see; a car free heart for Twickenham which places the town's relationship with the river at its centre.'*

*'we will deliver on the wishes of **thousands of residents** in creating a riverside attraction where people, not cars, are the focus.'*

That is a highly commendable objective but, in my previous letter to the Tribune on 2 April 2021, I pointed out that from 6 January 2021 until 3 February 2021, Richmond Council ran a consultation asking residents about their views on the proposals for the Twickenham Riverside development.

Apparently, 829 people responded.

Of those 829 people, 73% agreed that: *'the proposed development achieves the ambition of high quality open space and pedestrianised priority'*.

Maybe it does, but 73% of 829 people is only 605 people.

The population of Richmond is about 196,000, meaning that 605 people is 0.3 %.

That is hardly *'countless residents'* or even *'thousands of residents'*.

CLLr Gareth Roberts was reported as saying:

*"Local residents like this scheme and they want to see it delivered. If the Tories think their path back to power in Twickenham will be by opposing public investment in this key site to create a beautiful riverside destination, and in doing so block **the first scheme ever that has had broad public support**, then they will find themselves losing at the next and subsequent local elections, and deservedly so."*

I am still puzzled as to how the Liberal Democrat Council can regard 0.3% of the population as 'broad public support'.

That's even less than in the Ultra Low Emission Zone survey (19%) or the 20 mph speed limit survey (5%).

What's next to be 'broadly supported'? Something that 0% vote for?

I can offer no views on the actual development because, like the other 99.7%, I was never consulted.

Not much liberal or democratic around here!

Michael Jay  
Hampton

Dear Editors,

### **The Embankment**

I'm not surprised that the Richmond Cycling Campaign is giving its full support to the Twickenham Riverside redevelopment plans. With car parking removed from Twickenham Embankment the cyclists will now be able to use it as a two way race track. Not only them, but electric scooters, skate boards and gangs of youths on BMX bikes will be able to hurtle down both Water Lane and Wharf Lane and along the Embankment, scattering everyone in their way.

Unless the cyclists are also banned from this car free area it will not be the riverside attraction that the Council describes as a place where people, not cars, are the focus.

I stress that I am not asking for cyclists to be banned, but I just want to add a touch of reality to the situation. Those who have been mown down by a cyclist will know what I am talking about.

With best wishes,

Sue Hamilton-Miller  
Twickenham

Dear Sir,

### **Twickenham Riverside**

The Council draws up the Design Brief for Twickenham Riverside for the RIBA architects to follow. The winning architect decides to ignore the Brief about the Diamond Jubilee Gardens to be "*positioned so as not to be affected by flooding*" and puts the Gardens down on what is already public open space on a road with traffic running through it and on the flood plain.

Does the Council tell it it can't do that? Not on your Nelly! Instead it slaps a Compulsory Purchase Order on it to protect the architect's plans. Why bother with a Design Brief in the first place if this is going to happen!

Yours Sincerely,  
Dave of Whitton (Name and address supplied)

Dear Editor,

## **Pavements**

I recently gave up my petrol driven car as I thought I should do my bit for the environment. However, travelling Green is not always easy in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames.

The state of the pavements where I live is disgraceful; it must be impossible for children to play "Mind the Cracks".

The pavements are uneven and some of my neighbours have taken to walking along the side of the road in some of the quieter areas. Of course, there is always the problem of a cyclist or e-scooter silently approaching from behind.

One of my neighbours has had a very bad fall after tripping up on a broken pavement and he has trouble using his arm.

I also noticed while walking along the high street that the Council is repairing pot holes in the road at the site of a very serious e-scooter accident.

If we are to travel Green, and not all of us can use bicycles and e-scooters, I think that the Council should systematically inspect all possible dangers such as cracked and uneven pavements as well as pot holes in the roads.

Surely this sort of program should be a priority.

Name and Address Supplied  
Twickenham

*Letters published do not necessarily reflect the views of the Twickenham & Richmond Tribune, its Publisher, its staff or its advertisers.*

*Letters of approximately 500 words of body text will be printed at our standard 14pt font size, which will publish as a single page.*

*All letters must be submitted by the end of Thursday, prior to publication the following day on Friday.*

*The Tribune prefers letters to include the writer's name, but will publish anonymously provided details are supplied.*

# Hampton Pool development nominated in New London 2021 shortlist

New London Architecture's (NLA) annual New London Awards, presented in association with the Mayor of London, celebrate all scales of projects, both built and unbuilt, that contribute to and enhance a vision for a New London.

The Hampton Pool Trust plans to update the facilities at Hampton Pool by making long-overdue improvements to the main building and the associated facilities. Improved changing areas for families, a covered seating area by the café, enlarged gym and studio spaces and disabled access throughout are all part of the plans, as are significant improvements to energy efficiency that will comply with the GLA's London Plan.



The project has been nominated in the '**Unbuilt**' category.

All shortlisted projects across the 13 categories and special prizes have been selected by NLA's team of London-based Expert Assessors. Each project will be presented to our International Jury ahead of the winners announcement in November.

Voting is now open for the People's Choice Award. [Vote for your favourite](#) from the shortlists.

The New London Awards will be celebrated at the Annual Awards Lunch in November where NLA will be announcing all winners, including the New London of the Year, People's Choice Award and many more.

## Mystery local celebrity to open new Sheen Common playground this Sunday

Residents are invited to the grand opening of the new playground which will take place from 3pm on Sunday 26 September with a special guest set to cut the ribbon.

Cllr Brian Marcel, along with a representative from Richmond Council and a mystery local celebrity will help to open the new playground for kids and families to enjoy. There will be kids entertainment from 2pm with Mr Twizzle.



To mark the opening there will be a special performance from the East Sheen Scout group. There will be drinks provided for adults at the event as well as a prize for the most rubbish collected at the end of the day.

# WIZ Tales: Finland - the land of outdoor activities

Teresa Read

This week I have been looking at Finland, a country where the outdoors life and the environment is important. During my years working with the Stockholm Challenge and the Global Junior Challenge in Rome I met a representative from Finland, who was presenting environmental projects, a number of times. Back in Twickenham one of our residents who is a very keen outdoor swimmer, and who went to live in Finland, provided photographs for the Heritage Lottery project “LidosAlive” of swimmers at Twickenham [outdoor]



baths; photography was also a part of his family heritage. He now swims in Finland’s lakes.

Living in Finland provides many opportunities for those who enjoy the outdoor life - and swimming in open water. There are hundreds of thousands of wooden holiday homes near lakes, forests and the sea where Finns spend their leisure time enjoying outdoor activities. Finland is known as “the land of a thousand lakes” - said to be an understatement; plenty of opportunities for outdoor swimming.

Together with outdoor swimming the sauna has been used in Finland for over two thousand years.

One of the World InfoZone team relayed this information from Helsinki:

*“As Finland is the home of the sauna, we decided to visit a sauna in the afternoon. Most Finns have their own saunas at home so finding a typical public one was quite hard. The tourist information bureau gave us a list of several and we chose to visit the ‘Sauna Bar’. Here, retro 70s leather arm chairs surround a huge fish tank, to the side of which is a shower area and sauna. When I told a friend back home that I had been to Helsinki, he immediately asked if I had been to the ‘coolest bar on earth’ - the Sauna Bar.”*

“Helsinki” is linked to this Gallery page:

<https://worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Finland>

Heritage Lottery Fund project (photos from our photographer in Finland): Lidos Alive:

<https://lidosalive.com/photos.html> Photographs from Russell Wilfred.



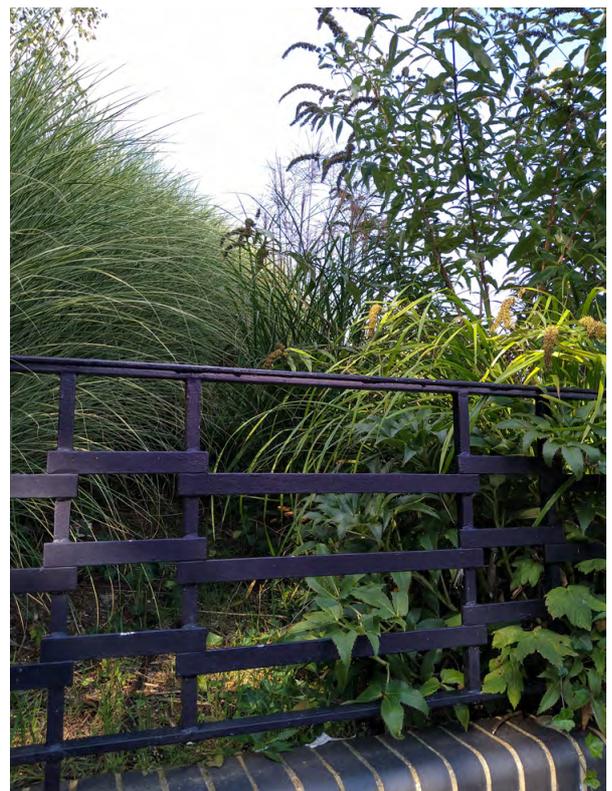
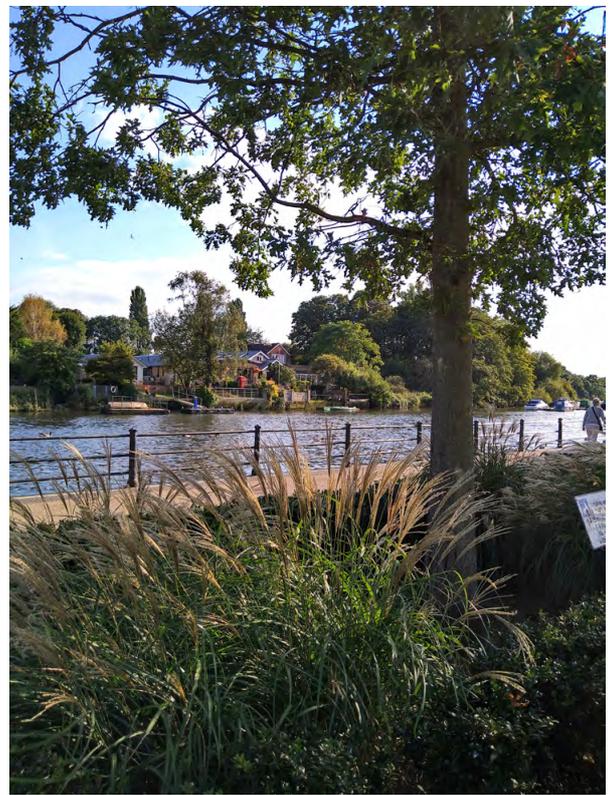
## And Back to Twickenham

Like the Finns, there are many of us in Twickenham who wish to preserve our environment, our trees and natural habitats for wildlife.

It is with great regret that we see the prized Twickenham Riverside public open space “up for sale” by our Council.

The party with the present majority of the Council administration has sent out many emails to people in the borough stating that Twickenham Riverside has been neglected for 40 years.

Yesterday I took photographs of this very same area so I leave it up to the reader to decide on the veracity of this statement.



# Effective Consultation – or is it?

By: TwickWatch

How many times have friends, colleagues and neighbours uttered things such as? “They call that a consultation! Everyone I know objected! Nothing has changed! Clearly they don’t know anything and didn’t listen anyway!”. If people have these perceptions it could suggest there was something lacking with the consultation.

Put simply, effective consultation should allow a council to make informed decisions on matters of policy, to improve the delivery of public services, and to improve their accountability. Consultation is a two-way process. It is technically any activity that gives local people a voice and an opportunity to influence important decisions that may affect their lives. It involves listening to and learning from local people before major decisions are made or priorities are set. The decision-makers are not necessarily experts on all the issues on which they are deciding or debating and should welcome constructive and skilled input.



Most of us have expectations, based on our own beliefs how a consultation should be conducted, the information to be provided and how the results should be used. How sound are our assumptions?

The Government and many councils have published codes of conduct or consultation tool kits [themselves formulated as a result of public consultation] for enabling transparency and managing the expectations of citizens. To date Richmond Council has not apparently seen fit to do this.

There are no statutory “rules” as to how consultations should be actually administered although a “duty” to consult may arise under varied circumstances.

- Where there is a statutory duty to consult
- Where there has been a promise to consult
- Where there has been an established practice of consultation
- Where, in exceptional cases, a failure to consult would lead to conspicuous unfairness.

If done poorly, public participation processes can result in, for example, loss of faith in the Council. A negative experience of the process may lead participants to have negative perceptions of the outcome, and they may be less likely to participate in future processes. Public participation can be any process that directly engages the public in decision-making and gives full consideration to public input in making that decision. ... Rather, the public consists of a range of stakeholders holding an array of views, often expertise and concerns on an issue.

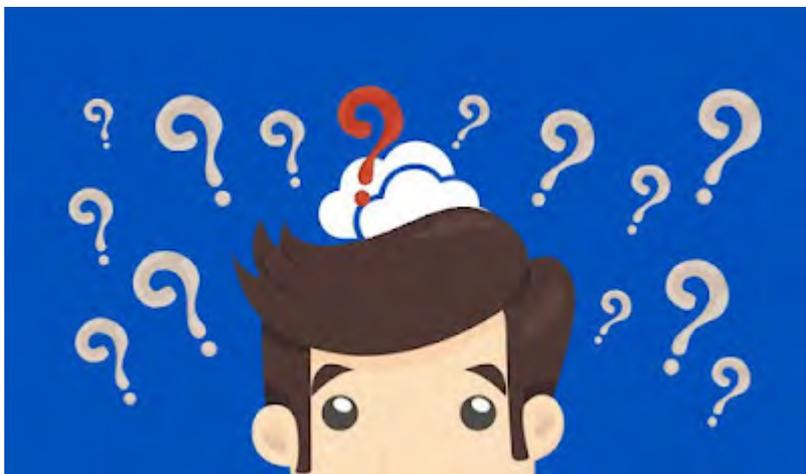
So, what are reasonable expectations for a consultation? The Government exemplary guidelines, which one would hope would be incorporated by all local councils, state that when Government consults it must:

- build a realistic timeframe for the consultation, allowing plenty of time for each stage of the process
- be clear as to who is being consulted, about what and for what specific purpose
- make sure the document is as simple and concise as possible - it should include a summary and clearly set out the questions it wishes to address
- always distribute documents as widely as possible, using electronic means (but not at the exclusion of others)
- *make sure all responses are carefully and open-mindedly analysed and the results made widely available, with an account of the views expressed and the reasons for decisions finally taken*

*Government guidance can be referenced at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/100807/file47158.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/100807/file47158.pdf)

Where you feel past consultations have been lacking or confusing for you, think of seeking pre-consultation clarity next time. It is more important than ever, that you question and hold to account your elected representatives on an ongoing basis and not just at election time or consultation time. You have a right to constructive and informative replies to your questions, as long as they are constructive and not vexatious. It is you taking time and interest doing them a favour not them doing you a favour!



There is no common law duty for public bodies to consult but there is common law established on various past legal challenges to consultations undertaken. A public body cannot avoid the legal requirements regarding how to consult if it elects to carry out a consultation, even in circumstances where it has no duty to consult. From time to time challenges are made in court creating new case law and the judgements only serve to reinforce the need for councils to get it right first time and for consultees and interested parties to be aware and wary as case law often gives “wriggle room”.

Some judges’ comments are shown below which highlights the importance for consulting bodies to have a transparent and detailed code of practice.;

- *At [59] the judge emphasised the comments of Sullivan J in R (Greenpeace) v Secretary of State for Trade and Industry [2007] Env LR 29, at [62]:*

“62 ..... Even a consultation exercise which is flawed in a number of respects is not necessarily so procedurally unfair as to be unlawful. With the benefit of hindsight, it will almost invariably be possible to suggest ways in which a consultation exercise might have been improved upon. That is most emphatically not the test. It must also be recognised that a decision-maker will usually have a broad discretion as to how a consultation exercise should be carried out....”

- *Anand v Kensington and Chelsea RLBC [2019] EWHC 2964 (Admin)*  
“In this case, the Council had a wide discretion as to how to frame the 2019 consultation document, including how much information to provide to consultees about the position of the Gurdwara and other religious institutions. The consultation document contained a link to the report of 17 January 2019, in which the Council informed consultees of the letter of objection received from the faith groups (which were listed), and explained that differing faiths worshipped on different days, including weekday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays.... In my judgment, the Council’s decision to summarise the position of the faith groups in this way was not so unfair as to be unlawful, applying the Greenpeace test.”
- *Lord Woolf MR’s comment in Coughlan at [112] that it is not necessary to publish everything relied on by the decision-maker:*

“consultation is not litigation: the consulting authority is not required to publicise every submission it receives or (absent some statutory obligation) to disclose all its advice. Its obligation is to let those who have a potential interest in the subject matter know in clear terms what the proposal is and exactly why it is under positive consideration, telling them enough (which may be a good deal) to enable them to make an intelligent response. The obligation, although it may be quite onerous, goes no further than this”.

Not quite what you thought and understood the consultation process to be?

# Drinking fountain on Richmond Green restored with funding from Civic Pride Fund

A 19th century drinking fountain on Richmond Green has been restored after the Friends of Richmond Green were awarded funding through Richmond Council's Civic Pride Fund.

The Civic Pride Fund aims to improve local areas by enabling local people to develop and deliver their own responses to local issues while making public places more attractive and enjoyable for residents and visitors.

In recent years the water fountain on Richmond Green, which dates back to the 1860s, became badly damaged, cracked and stained with moss. It was last refurbished in 1977 for the Queen's Jubilee.

Following an application from the Friends of Richmond Green, the Council awarded £5,000 from the Civic Pride Fund towards renovating the facade of the fountain. This funding, along with donations from film and television productions filmed on Richmond Green, and contributions from other grant funders, including Heritage of London Trust, has enabled the fountain to be brought back into use. It now dispenses clean drinking water allowing residents to refill their water bottles which will benefit residents and visitors to the Green for years to come while enhancing the look of Richmond Green.



The drinking fountain was officially unveiled by the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Suzette Nicholson, Council staff and representatives from the Friends of Richmond Green at a special opening ceremony which took place on Thursday, 16 September.

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Cllr Julia Neden-Watts, Chair of the Environment, Sustainability, Culture and Sports Committee, said: *"On average, adults in London each buy more than three plastic water bottles every week. That's an awful lot of plastic. But visitors to Richmond Green can now access free drinking water from the fountain, and I hope this will help reduce the amount of single-use plastic bought. I'm delighted that the Friends of Richmond Green have done such a great job restoring the fountain for residents and visitors to enjoy."*

Vivien Harris, Chair of the Friends of Richmond Green said:

*"The restoration of the drinking fountain has been an aim of Friends of Richmond Green for several years. What started out as a simple refurbishment to the stonework soon developed into the more major project of restoring water to the drinking fountain and replacing the existing red block paving with York stone. We finally achieved our goal in March 2020, only for the COVID-19 pandemic to stop its use but this month we were delighted to turn the water back on and celebrate its official opening."*

Find out more about the [Civic Pride Fund and how to apply](#).

## Complaints to The Twickenham & Richmond Tribune: Twickenham Riverside Planning Application

On Thursday 23 September the Comments For and Against the Council planning application for Twickenham Riverside showed many residents Against the current plan for Twickenham Riverside.

However, on Thursday night a number residents wrote to the Tribune to complain that they had received a letter from the Leader of the Council from the address of the Liberal Democrat Party at SW14 8TN; one resident complained about unwanted spam emails.

This follows on from unsolicited emails sent out previously, showing photographs of the boarded-up Council owned car park to depict their statement of "40 years of neglect".

Is this a fair use of email addresses especially if you are not sure how you came to be on the list?

## Orleans House Gallery launch Families in the Forest tour

Families in the Forest is an interactive experience for families to explore the Orleans House grounds through a series of encounters with inhabitants past and present.

Walking through the grounds you will encounter ancient trees, flowers, bats, moles, squirrels, even an antelope. Each plant and creature offers an invitation to us to consider their experience in the space by changing our own.

Each inhabitant will guide our interactions with the space and help us to reconsider our own role in the natural world by better understanding theirs.

This session is free and runs during the school holidays and on weekends.

Find out more and check available dates on the Orleans House Gallery website [HERE](#)



## Register for the Full of Life Online Fair and discover what else is happening in the borough to celebrate Silver Sunday

The annual fair for residents aged 55 and over will take place online on Friday 1 October from 10am to 3.30pm with various activities and informal talks to choose from.

There are various free events happening across the borough including a singalong session, open days with taster classes at various social centres, dance fitness classes, afternoon teas and arts and crafts.

View full details of events [HERE](#)



# Share your views on new improvements for pedestrians in Richmond Town Centre

Have your say on suggested improvements in Richmond Town Centre including two new crossings and an upgrade to footways and greenery along Hill Rise.

As part of its effort to assist local businesses and residents returning to using town centres after the COVID-19 pandemic's lockdowns, Richmond Council formed a working group comprised of local stakeholders, ward members, Council officers and consultants to decide on how to improve Richmond Town Centre.



These improvements are centred around making Richmond Town Centre safer, easier and more enjoyable for residents, visitors and businesses.

Three of these proposed improvements are:

- 1.The installation of a zebra crossing near Richmond Bridge between the Pitcher and Piano pub and Bills Restaurant.
- 2.The installation of a raised crossing point on Parkshot Road outside Merevale House to assist students and pedestrians.
- 3.Upgrading the footways and parking bays, as well as installing planters, between the junction of Hill Rise and Petersham Road up to the Vineyard Road.

Richmond Council is inviting residents to share their feedback on the proposed measures by visiting the [consultation](#) page where you can have your say and view the full details and drawings.

The consultation closes on 10 October 2021. If you require the consultation on paper, please contact 020 8891 1411.

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

*“We want people to feel safe when walking around Richmond Town Centre and to enjoy spending time there.*

*“We hope that residents, visitors and businesses benefit from safer crossing points and the upgraded stretch of footways and parking bays, as well as the new parklet. Please share your feedback.”*

## Twickenham

### **High Tide Festival – Sunday 26 September 2021**

High Tide will again be a brilliant day of top-quality musical entertainment spread over an expanded 10 performance areas.

It will include nationally known artists like The Desmond Dekker Band feat. Delroy Williams, Binker Golding, Stick In The Wheel, Deschanel Gordon and Salad as well showcasing young artists curated by The Basement Door youth charity.

Find details and timings [HERE](#)

## Kew

### **Explore the plants, art and culture of Japan this autumn at Kew Gardens**

Visit Kew Gardens this autumn to explore the fascinating plants, art and culture of Japan at their new trail and displays.

Opening from Saturday, 2 October Kew Gardens' brand-new festival will delight your senses, with an autumnal Momijigari Trail, stunning artistic displays and mesmerising soundscapes by Japanese artists.

The trail is open all day from Saturday, 2 October to Sunday, 31 October 2021. Entry to the trail is included in general admission tickets to the gardens.

Find out more about [Kew Gardens autumn festival](#)

## Teddington

Calling all green fingered gardeners! Volunteer at Age UK's Teddington allotment  
If you are a keen gardener and have some spare time or are looking to get involved in a gardening project, Age UK Richmond want to hear from you.

Volunteer a few hours of your time each week at Age UK Richmond's beautiful allotment in Teddington and help them get the allotment ready for this autumn and winter.

If you are interested in lending a hand, please email [volunteering@ageukrichmond.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@ageukrichmond.org.uk).

## SEPTEMBER FOOD AND DRINK NEWS SNIPPETS

Developed by a mother, wanting healthier, happier food choices for her own children and others, the **Fearne & Rosie** range of jams and spreads contains more fruit, less sugar than conventional jams - and no 'nasties'. What's more, they're delicious – and not just enjoyed by children! From Waitrose and Ocado, at around £2.50 for a 227g jar.



Something else sweet, that'll also appeal to adults and children alike, is the fabulous range of honeys from **St Lawrence Gold**. This honey is so pure, sourced from Canada's Winnipeg, and unlike anything else on the market. The beautiful grassland prairie in the Province of Manitoba provides a haven for bees, with little human interference and undisturbed soils and the flavours are superb. Two new flavours Blueberry Blossom and The Prairie Wildflower are available in Waitrose at £5.99 for a 330g jar

I'm really impressed with the **Unearthed** range of products. The Spanish Omelettes are really tasty, and make an excellent easy meal with salad or a delicious addition to a packed lunch. The company also produces selection platters of charcuterie from a number of European countries – the French Torchon ham is fabulous, and still in French mode, do try the Pork Rillettes; a real taste of France. The Unearthed range is available in Waitrose and Ocado and well worth checking out, especially if you didn't manage a foreign trip this summer!



It was recently Negroni Week, and as it's one of my favourite cocktails, I was pleased to discover a London bar called **Untitled**, producing a great range ready-to-pour drinks, including a range of Negroni blends, available online.

I tasted the **Negoni Arancia Verde** (£36.95 for 70cl) and it was stonkingly good. When one considers the price of a cocktail in a bar or restaurant, these are really good value. You could even go the whole hog and order a mixed set of four for £145 and throw a Negroni party! [Untitled-drinks.com](http://Untitled-drinks.com)

With a host of accolades, **Gusto Organic** boasts an eight-strong range, perfect as a thirst-quenching treat or as a mixer. Each offers a unique blend of flavours, from ingredients ethically sourced from around the world, free from artificial colours, sweeteners or preservatives. The range includes **Sicilian Blood Orange**, **Sicilian Lemon with Yuzu** and **Fiery Ginger with Chipotle** and a trio of colas.

They really are rather special! Available from Sainsbury's, Abel & Cole, Ocado, Holland & Barrett, Wholefoods and other premium natural trade retailers. RRP £1.89



16 September was Mexican Independence Day, and the Mexican spirit Mezcal, an agave-based liquor, famously used to make tequila, is a new discovery of mine. Incredibly versatile, Mezcal can be sipped straight, and used in cocktails. Their smoky and fruity nuances also mean they're great when matched with food. A new five-strong selection of top quality authentic Mezcal is now available in **Master of Malt**, ranging in price from £34-57 and yes, there is also one complete with the maguey worm! The authentic Mezcal brands to look out for are **El Recuerdo** and **Zignum**.

There's a new range of sugar alternatives now available in health food shops, Waitrose and Amazon. The **BONRAW** range includes Silverbirch (Xylitol, a product long enjoyed by the Scandinavians), Panela, (raw dried cane juice from Colombia) or Coconut Blossom (made from the fresh sap). Low GI, versatile, and great tasting, with no aftertaste, they are a vast improvement of some of the other sugar alternatives we've been using.



We've still got the hope that we will be able to enjoy a wonderful Indian summer (after all, we deserve it!). **Canvino** is a really simple and easy way to transport a decent serving of vino, and a taste of Italy to boot. Canvino grapes are sourced from a family-owned vineyard in Lombardy and the two sparkling wines (Bianco and Rosé) are easy to drink and most enjoyable. And they're all natural, vegan-friendly and of course the cans are 100% recyclable... as if we needed any more excuses! You'll be able to find them on sale at festivals or online (Amazon and [Canvino.com](http://Canvino.com)) for you to enjoy at home.

And while you're sipping on wine, Negroni or Mezcal, how about a healthy, really tasty snack to accompany it? Look out for a new Dutch vegan brand called **BitesWeLove** that has launched a range of Crunchy Peas snacks (£1.50 for a 100g bag) in selected Sainsbury's on the Taste of the Future Trial Bay nationwide. The three flavours: Sea Salt & Black Pepper, Smoked Paprika and Sour Cream & Jalapeño are nutritious, plant-based, vegan, high in fibre and with 60% less fat than most comparable products, they're fabulous.



If you attended the Moormead Fair at St Margaret's this month, you will probably have seen the **Mejuicer** stand, and may even have tasted one of Joe Roberts-Walker's lovely cold pressed fresh juices. He produces a range of delicious products, including seasonal specials and, better still, delivers them around a wide area locally! He reuses all his glass and doesn't use any single use plastics in any of the packaging. When he delivers a fresh batch of juice he'll collect the empty glasses from the previous order, much like a milkman. None of the by-product pulp is thrown away. Instead, it's delivered to local stables and farms to be consumed by horses and

livestock. Further info on instagram [@mejuicer](https://www.instagram.com/mejuicer) or call Joe on 07856943403

And last, but by no means least, local wine company, **Doran Vineyards**, has just won an award for one of its latest iconic wines, the Rosie D. Named after Edwin Doran's wife, this lovely rosé has just won a gold award in Rosé Rocks, a top competition in South Africa, where the wines are all produced. Look out for their wines online and in good wine shops locally such as Premier Wines and Ricardo's Cellar or contact Tom Doran directly at [tom@doranfamilyvintners.co.uk](mailto:tom@doranfamilyvintners.co.uk)





## Roger McGough Poetry Celebration

Arts Richmond at the Exchange Theatre, Twickenham

Poetry is for everyone, so two different reviewers give their impressions of the [Roger McGough's Poetry Celebration](#), the culmination of the highly anticipated Roger McGough poetry competition, now in its second year. [Entries on the theme of "Identity" were drawn from poets nationwide.](#)

Experienced actor and drama critic Denis Valentine commented:

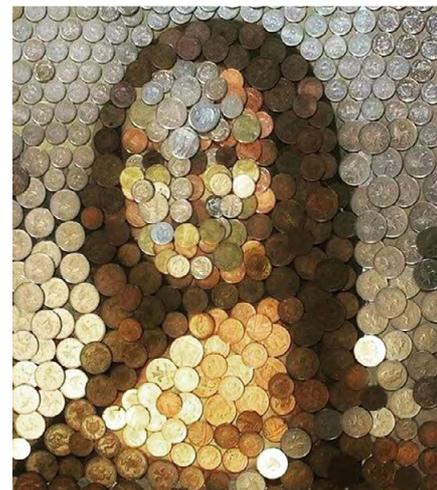
Each poem read in their category complements the others, as they all offer an insight into a different aspect of the topic. Each offers another perspective on the spectrum that it's covering. The journey of finding one's own self in the "Identity" group leads to exploring matters of breeding and purpose. Issues of blatant racism in the "Differences" category are followed by that of accents and misplaced remarks between classes. Across the range, some make their points with humour whilst other pose much darker questions and concepts.



Simone De Almeida, aged thirteen, is an Arts Richmond Young Writers Laureate:

The concept of identity being so fundamental to our very sense of self, one would think that we would consider it far more frequently than we do. I for one spend far more time contemplating the character of others than I do myself ... ah, the burden of the introvert! I can only imagine the level of self-reflection and introspection it must have taken in order to capture such honest, raw reflections on who they are, and where they've come from.

Interestingly, both were attracted by two poems in particular. One of the Third Prize-winners, Tony Trafford in *Riding Tandem* nostalgically regrets lost opportunities, "a harsh reminder of both the beauty and pain which coexist in our world, leaving both fond memories and heartbreak in their wake". Stuart Fortey won First Prize for *(Self) Portrait 1503*, a speculative tease on the world's most famous portrait, written from the viewpoint of the sitter, giving a "deeply touching backstory that truly moved me – and much of the audience too I'm sure".



Read Denis Valentine's review at

[www.markaspen.com/2021/09/12/rog-mcg-celeb-dv](http://www.markaspen.com/2021/09/12/rog-mcg-celeb-dv)

and Simone De Almeida's at

[www.markaspen.com/2021/09/12/roger-mcg-celeb-sda](http://www.markaspen.com/2021/09/12/roger-mcg-celeb-sda)

Photography by Francis Dupli



## The Children

by Lucy Kirkwood

Richmond Shakespeare Society at the Mary Wallace Theatre until 25<sup>th</sup> September

A remote cottage on a ramshackle coast, where an incident has led to a radioactive leak at a nuclear power station: such is the setting of RSS' *The Children*, directed by Michelle Hood. It opens with the arrival of Rose at the cottage of her ex-colleagues Hazel and Robin, recently retired nuclear physicists. Rose's quest is to persuade them to return with her to the power station and endeavour to make it safe.



The emotional twists and turns of their previous and present relationships grip our attention from start to finish by excellent and well matched performances. One way to judge a character is to see if you care for them whether the person portrayed is good or bad ... I did care deeply for all three.

Rose's apparent initial calm, attempting to make her visit appear as if to just meet up with old friends, to slowly revealing a passion for Robin and then her real reason, to persuade them to go with her on a dangerous mission, was all conveyed by Susan Reoch with subtlety and quiet sincerity.

Robin's opening engaging jocularly and enjoyment with his mode of life to slowly descend into anger at having to clear up all the mess of dealing with love and family and at the same time hiding the fact of his terminal illness, was touchingly portrayed by Vaughn Pierce.



Hazel's manic approach to life, centred on salad, yoga and her children (roughly in that order) gave Clare Cooper an opportunity to demonstrate her ability to present a character almost on the spectrum. At times one wanted to shake her, laugh with her, then hold her.

The play ends with their decision to return, and the ominous ticking of a Geiger counter tells us they will not be with us much longer.

Read Patrick Adams' review at [www.markaspen.com/2021/09/20/children-rss](http://www.markaspen.com/2021/09/20/children-rss)

Photography by Simone Germaine

# Three Cheers for the Stars and Stripes

Travel News by Bruce Lyons



Finally, we can make plans to visit our “Cousins” in the U S A. Did you know what the 13 stripes stand for – Well, they stand for the British Colonies that fought for Independence in The War of Independence in the 1770’s and that’s only one of the reasons for the Special Relationship. So, from early November we’ll be able to visit the USA. We know that we’ll need to be double jabbed, and it looks that the AZ vaccine will be OK for that too! but as pre-pandemic you’ll need a visa and we haven’t yet been told if that will be as before – Digitally, as for the last year or so Business Trips, Compassionate and Educational have all had to apply for visitors by appointment at the Embassy and that has been very challenging.

Even as the news was coming thru we were busy cancelling for the third and fourth time trips of families visiting for weddings, christenings, even Funerals and Hospital visits so you should be putting your plans together now – many are and be sure to check your passport validities – in the next few days fuller details will be available.

Whilst it won’t be ready to travel for School Break this October, Christmas and New Year will be an option as well as ski-ing in Aspen. Already Ski-ing in Canada is OK to book and very good value too.



But back to School break, since last week’s news there has been a lot of activity for October – The Red Sea and Oman are “Amber” as is Turkey and Sri Lanka and the Maldives – so Winter Sun is on the Cards and some are well priced as they are anxious to get their tourism up and running again. Only today I was in touch with one of our Dive Centre friends in the Red Sea and they are really busy from November onwards – what good news – and what a destination for Christmas and New Year. Great place for teenagers hankering for a chance to learn to dive!

Nile Cruises are busy again, only today a friend who specialises in Nile Cruises was writing saying that October 2021 and 2022 are really busy with “stop sale” on may boats – as he said other countries have been sending tourist for quite some time now.



The latest news today is that Australia is planning to open by Christmas – Another vital destination in the Travel Economy with so many families with relatives there.

One small problem is you MUST check the rules of where-ever you go – just because our Government says it is OK, that doesn’t necessarily mean that you can visit without any disciplines and the destinations vary – enormously. Please check with us we are happy to help out but I do ask – please book your travel with us – we are not just an information office – and we need your business & we will look after you I promise! We have filled in peoples forms where they can’t and goodness knows what else and we are always here in emergency either on the email /mobile/or land line and in the office too.

By the way there are still some amazing offers in price and in quality for Greece this October, including the school break. Just ask us for details.

Looking forward to seeing you  
Bruce and the family.

# TRAVELLER'S TALES 106

## PLACES AND PEOPLE

Doug Goodman recalls some of the places he has visited and people he has met

Visiting new places and meeting people during my 50 years of globe-trotting has provided some wonderful experiences. I've been fortunate to see so many historical sites, geographical regions and different cultures but it's the local people I've come across and interacted with that made a place come to life and left lasting memories. So often the only people you meet are holiday reps or hotel staff who rarely have the time to talk with you. If you have friends in different places or have the opportunity to sit and talk with locals you can learn so much more about their way of life. Once you get talking to people, show an interest in them, ask where they live and what they do, I've found that they are almost always happy to answer questions and sometimes offer traditional hospitality. Taking a picture of them and offering to send a copy is always welcomed.

Here are some of the people I've met in my favourite places.



Kerala India. Kathikali Performer. It takes hours to apply make up and the male performers follow traditional face movements. The popular show can last all night.



Cambodia Lake Tonle Sap. Keep Fit Fanatic, Fisherman and Future Film Star.



China Xian. Pretty Home-Made Pandas.



China Terracotta Warriors. 'Genuine' Hand-Made Souvenirs. I bargained and got the horse for the equivalent of 20p.



Siem Reap Cambodia. War Veteran at the Military Museum with an AK 47. He had an artificial leg after being shot by the Khmer Rouge.



Laos Luang Prabang. Mine Clearance Team. During the Vietnam War America dropped over two hundred million bombs over Vietnam and Laos of which some seventy million still need to be cleared. The officer in charge told me that it can take one man a day to clear 100 square meters.



India Karnataka. I was invited to the home of the driver who took us to see the beautiful temples in The State of Karnataka.



Russia Volga Cruise. Captain of Viking Cruise Ship Rurik posed for pictures after letting visitors tour the bridge.



Russia Uglich. After tea in this lady's wooden house on The Volga she showed off her skills at making dolls.



Russia Moscow Pet Market. The man told me his pet, a nutria, was for sale for 100 Rubles. The creature was a coypu.



Russia Moscow Revolution Day Parade. I wasn't allowed to speak to the soldier to ask why he looked so anxious.



Kenya Masai Mara. This Masai family were happy to pose for visitors but for a fee.



Greece Mt. Athos. Two monks in Kayries on the Holy Mountain. Some 2,200 monks live in 20 monasteries on the Athos Peninsula where women are banned.



Romania Transylvania. Guide to the castles on the Dracula tour.



Morocco Marrakech. This water seller in traditional costume wasn't very pleased when I refused to buy a drink from him.



Turkey Istanbul. The proud owner of this ceramic shop showed me a picture of The Queen when she visited his shop. I bought one of his beautiful plates.



Israel Jerusalem. The man leaving the Western Wall explained to me the rituals of the Holy spot.



France Reims. The processes involved in the production of champagne were explained before I was offered a glass.



France Chalons. Star truffle hunter Angie is rewarded by her owner after finding a large one.



Stratford-upon-Avon. At Mary Arden's Farm in Wilmcote life in Shakespeare's time has been recreated. Ancient farming methods, animals and mural painting are on show.



London Parliament. Introduced to Margaret Thatcher as a holiday expert, the former PM asked me what a package holiday was.



Knutsford. Two cats are better than one for company I was told, especially when they are brothers.



Belgium Ypres. WW1 veteran in 1991 on a 'Back to the Front' remembrance trip to the battlefields. He was one of 18 who fought in Belgium and France between 1914 and 1918 on the visit I organised



London Chelsea. Immaculately turned out this member of the Royal Chelsea Hospital was happy to explain the rules and regulations which the famous 'Pensioners' must observe.



Dorset Bridport. Lyme Bay Arts Centre at Symondsburry with painter and gallery manager.

# BRACE YOURSELF TWICKENHAM...

**FLYING "DADDY LONG LEGS" & SPIDER SEASON IS ABOUT TO START... BEFORE REACHING FOR THE SWATTER, PLEASE CONSIDER BEING KIND IN THE INTEREST OF GOOD KARMA...**

By Deep Patel of Meet & Deep Newsagents, Twickenham.

Here are some facts you may not know about spiders as well as top tips on stopping them WITHOUT having to harm them (you'll get back good karma in return!)

The silk in a spider's web is actually an incredible FIVE TIMES stronger than a strand of steel of the same thickness. It is also believed that strands of spider web silk bundled together to form a cable as thick as a pencil could stop an aeroplane in flight! Current research has used the structure of spider web silk to create bullet-proof vests and parachutes!! Pretty amazing right?

Spiders actually taste things with their feet...and they HATE peppermint!! To stop them, simply mix 40 drops of pure essential peppermint oil with one cup of water and put into a spray bottle. Spray in areas where they come but NOT directly on them. Keep peppermint away from pets as it can irritate some animals too. Reapply this regularly around areas they come and you will stop them coming without having to kill them and you will have good karma for choosing a kind way too.

Also try using plug-in electronic deterrents, they are harmless and emit a high frequency sound humans cannot hear but spiders, mice, ants, flies, rats and virtually ALL insects HATE...they don't need replacing and keep working to keep all creatures away. But decent ones from decent places with good reviews and check that the ones you get are ok for your pets if you have any. We also stock them at Meet and Deep Newsagents if anyone wants to see them or you can get them online, but read reviews to find which ones are good.

Flying daddy long-legs will soon be out too...but don't worry... although they look like mosquitos, they DON'T bite and only have a short life, so please be kind to them too.

Sometimes the things that we least feel like being kind to are the things that deserve our kindness the most... spiders actually are the "good guys" controlling creatures that cause allergies in our homes, so they actually help us ...

Late September is a time when spiders become more visible around our homes due to weather changes... Please spare a thought for them and don't reach for you shoe to squash them!! They don't mean to harm us and they are more afraid of us then we are of them (it's worth remembering we are giants to them!)

I always like to advocate kindness and good karma towards all life forms. I recommend many ways to achieve this, such as avoiding walking on overgrown garden or forest areas to reduce stepping on the many hundreds of little, innocent lives living there to remembering when cooking with home-grown leaf vegetables or harvesting home grown flowers, to shake them hard outside upside down to release and save 100s of tiny almost invisible harmless insects living in them before you wash them for good karma. Choose kind ways of stopping ants and plant insects without killing them using talcum powder or fine black pepper powder around where they come (not directly on them) or moving slugs and snails off pavements with a phone torch and leaf on dark nights so people don't step on them, or copper mesh to stop them eating plants kindly (also available online or at Meet & Deep Newsagents) and choosing humane live capture traps a d release in parkland, or decent electronic plug deterrents instead of mouse poison as it is poisonous to wildlife and pets as well as causing terrible suffering to the creature itself...white vinegar in empty bottle tops also keeps them and foxes away kindly...

Thank you for reading this, please share with your friends to share kindness and good karma, the little acts of kindness we carry out today may help bring about a better tomorrow for ourselves and our community.

For further information and specific tips on stopping "pests" in kind and good-karma ways, you can email [thedeepatel@gmail.com](mailto:thedeepatel@gmail.com) or join the Facebook group "KINDNESS GUY".

Hi, I'm a tippie, NOT a mosquito. You kill me without me being a danger to anyone, actually I'm a help. I don't suck blood, but I feed on the nectar of flowers helping to pollinate them. Now that you know me please don't kill me, if I mistakenly enter your house, walk me out, don't be like everyone who destroys what they can't understand.



*Seen Crane flies/Tipples? ("flying daddy-long legs")? Read this...*



## BRENTFORD FC

### **Brentford win first away game of the season**

#### **Wolverhampton Wanderers 0-2 Brentford**

Brentford continued their fine start to the season with an impressive 2-0 away victory on Saturday lunchtime at Molineaux. A penalty from Ivan Toney set the Bees on their way and they took a two-goal advantage into the break when Bryan Mbeumo finished from close range. Brentford however would finish the game with ten men when Shandon Baptiste was sent off for a second bookable offence, but they saw the game out to get the win.



In a lively first-half it was Brentford who made the better start and they thought they had taken the lead when Toney turned away to celebrate after he had swept the ball in via the post and past José Sá. Mbeumo had done well initially after picking up the ball and driving towards goal. He in turned picked out Tony in the box but the celebrations were cut short as the goal was ruled out for offside.

Brentford did soon however take the lead with just under half an hour played. A corner from Sergi Canós caused problem at the back for Wolves and Toney was hauled down in the box by Fernando Marçal for a penalty. Toney then picked himself up to calmly send Sá the wrong way for the opening goal.

At the other end Wolves nearly levelled straight after when Adama Traoré latched onto a long kick from Sá and fired in a shot from just outside the area. With David Raya well beaten the ball came back off the underside of the crossbar and Brentford kept their lead.

Brentford then once more though they had scored after putting the ball in the back of the net, only for it to then be ruled out. After a bit of pinball inside the area the ball eventually broke to Toney who backheeled the ball in from virtually on the goal line. This time however after an intervention from VAR Toney was adjudged to have handle the ball and consequently the goal was chalked off.

Toney was at the heart of everything for Brentford and it came as no surprise when he turned provider for the second goal. Toney outpaced Max Kilman down the left flank and made his way inside. Lifting his head up he then slid the ball across the face of goal to the unmarked Mbeumo who turned the ball in to double their lead.

In the second-half Brentford were reduced to ten men when Baptiste was sent off. Having been booked earlier in the game the midfielder pulled back Francisco Trincão on the halfway line and was promptly dismissed.

Down to ten men Brentford defended deeper and looked to play more on the counterattack. On one break Mbeumo picked up a through ball from Vitaly Janelt and raced cleared of the Wolves defence. Having broken into the box his curling shot hit the crossbar as he couldn't cap off the perfect away performance from Brentford with one final goal.

## **Brentford in seventh heaven as they smash Latics**

### **Brentford 7 - 0 Oldham Athletic**

Marcus Forss scored four goals as Brentford ruthlessly dispatched Oldham Athletic at the Brentford Community Stadium to progress into the Fourth Round of the League Cup. The Finn opened the scoring from the penalty spot as the Bees emphatically beat the side from League Two with Yoane Wissa helping himself to a brace and an own goal from Raphael Diarra capped off a hammer for the away side.

The game was just three minutes old when Wissa was fouled by Carl Piergiani as the Brentford attacking nipped in to get on the end of a cross from Mads Roerslev to give them an early chance to take the lead. Forss then confidently put his penalty down the middle to get the Bees up and running.

Ten minutes later Brentford doubled their lead, and it was once again Forss who was turning away to celebrate. Tariqe Fosu slipped a pass through to Wissa who then drove at goal. The attacking then curled a shot goalwards that hit the post and it was Forss who reacted quickest to stab the ball past Jayson Leutwiler.

At the other end a speculative shot from range by Jamie Bowden was then saved easily by Álvaro Fernández as Oldham struggled against their Premier League opponents.

Mathias was then instrumental as Brentford scored their third of the evening. The Dane showed great energy and anticipation to pick up a loose ball in midfield and he then drove forwards, before picking out an inch perfect through ball to Wissa to slot home.

Things got even worse for the visitors as Brentford then scored two goals in two minutes on the stroke of half time. The first came after good pressure by the Bees high up the pitch to win the ball back and the ball eventually came to Saman Ghoddos who sent a first time cross across the box that Diarra inadvertently turned into his own net. Then Forss completed his hattrick before half time as some incisive passing from Wissa and Ghoddos opened up the Latics and Forss made no mistake when clean through.

On the hour mark Brentford scored their sixth of the evening as Forss scored yet again on a remarkable night for the Finn. Roerslev combined with Ghoddos on the right wing and the defender then made an overlapping run where he was passed the ball. Roerslev then crossed to the near post where Forss rifled the ball into the roof of the net to give Leutwiler no chance.

The rout was then completed three minutes from time, and it was the best goal of the night. Ghoddos clipped in a lovely weighted cross but Wissa then produced a moment of magic to bicycle kick the ball in and round of the perfect evening for Brentford.

## **Brentford drawn against Stoke City in League Cup**

Brentford will travel to play Stoke City following the draw for the Fourth Round of the League Cup. The tie will be played on October 27th with a 19:45 kick off at the Bet365 Stadium.

Stoke City have progressed through by beating Fleetwood Town, Doncaster Rovers and Watford to reach the Fourth Round.

Brentford meanwhile after receiving a bye in the first round progressed through after beating Forest Green Rovers and Oldham Athletic.

For Brentford this is just the fourth time in their history they have reached this stage of the

competition, which they reached the semi-final stage of last season where they were defeated by Tottenham Hotspur.

## UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Opponent: Liverpool (H) Saturday 25th September 17:30 Brentford Community Stadium

Nickname: The Reds

Competition: Premier League – Matchday 6

Head Coach: Jurgen Klopp

Interesting fact: In order to raise funds for the cost of the public inquiry into planning permission for a new stadium a fund-raising appeal known as the Alive and Kicking Fund was started, with everything from nude Christmas Cards featuring the players to a CD single being released to raise cash. On 9 January 2005 this fund-raising single 'Tom Hark' went straight in at number 17 in the UK chart, gaining it national airplay on BBC Radio 1.

### Thomas Frank pre match quotes:

#### On whether the Premier League still feels new:

“For me it will always be new until potentially we are going into the second time, we face Liverpool. Until then it's new opponents all the time, new stadiums and still all this circus everything. So, it's very much still new.”

#### On looking forward to the test against Jurgen Klopp:

“Massively, it's a big test. For me it's not only Jurgen Klopp. I'd admire him very much as a coach. I think he's a fantastic coach. One of the greatest of all time. For me it's the test of the club, the team, the manager and the players and we are looking forward to that.”

## Hampton & Richmond Borough

### Beavers progress through in FA Cup

#### Walton Casuals 0 – 3 Hampton & Richmond Borough

Hampton & Richmond made it through to the FA Cup Third Qualifying Round after a victory against local side Walton Casuals. Goals from Jerome Slew, David Fisher and Sam Deadfield ensured the Beavers avoided an upset against their lower division opponents although they were made to work for it.

Walton made a strong start on their 4G pitch and Hampton & Richmond keeper Alan Julian was forced into an early save to keep them out from close range with defender Charlie Wassmer then backing it up with a good block.

Adam Little had a good chance to put the home side ahead when he latched onto a goal kick from Leighton Fanshaw, but he could only shoot into the side netting from a promising position.

Walton then went even closer, but they were unlucky to be denied by the woodwork as a shot from Zidan Akers came back of the post to keep the scores level.

Hampton & Richmond then made Walton pay for their lack of finishing when Fisher scored just before



half time to give the Beavers the lead. A free kick from Kyron Farrell found the head of Wassmer in the box and initially being cleared at the near post the ball then came to Slew who volleyed in from the edge of the six yard box.

It took until the second half for the Beavers to double their lead and it came via Fisher. A long ball over the top from Farrell was flicked on by Nathan Minhas but a poor header back to Fanshaw was intercepted by Fisher who then delicately clipped the ball in.

Walton were not out of it though and they came again with Julian again having to be called into action to keep them out, this time saving from Akers.

Hampton & Richmond's passage was then secured into the next round when Tarik Moore-Azille was penalised for a handball inside the area and consequently a penalty was awarded. Deadfield on his return from injury picked up the ball and convert to seal the victory.

## **Beavers make further transfer activity**

Hampton & Richmond Borough have announced a couple of signings as well as a departure as Gary McCann looks to improve and manage his squad.

Arriving to the club is 22-year-old goalkeeper Rhys Forster to challenge regular first choice Alan Julian. He appeared in pre-season for the club as well as in the recent friendly defeat against Brentford B.

As a result, fellow goalkeeper Myles Bowerman had left the club in order to seek more first team footballing opportunities.

At the other end of the pitch, it has been announced that striker Kylian Kouassi has joined on loan from League Two side Sutton United for a month.

Speaking to club media about the signing McCann said, "He's one I've been trying to get in for a while, and for various reasons from both sides it's just not quite happened, so I'm pleased to get him in. He offers us something different up top, he's raw, he's physical and has scored goals against teams at our level in pre-season for Sutton. We're looking forward to working with him and he gives us another option."

## **UP NEXT FOR HAMPTON**

Opponent: Oxford City (A) Saturday 24th September 15:00 Marsh Lane

Nickname: The Hoops

Competition: National League South – Matchday 7

Manager: David Oldfield

Interesting fact: In 1979 Bobby Moore was appointed manager of the club with Harry Redknapp as his assistant.

# Jones names squad for training camp

England men's head coach Eddie Jones has named a 45-player squad for a short training camp.



The group will meet at The Lensbury, Teddington on Sunday 26 September – Tuesday 28 September.

It will be the first time England's new coaching staff will work with the players, after the appointments of Richard Cockerill, Martin Gleeson and Anthony Seibold over the summer.

There are eight uncapped players named in the squad (Mark Atkinson, Jack Kenningham, Louis Lynagh, Gabriel Oghre, Raffi Quirke, Sam Riley, Bevan Rodd and Ollie Sleightholme).

Nine players who made their debuts in England's summer series of fixtures have also been selected (Jamie Blamire, Trevor Davison, Alex Dombrandt, Joe Heyes, Lewis Ludlow, Adam Radwan, Harry Randall, Marcus Smith and Freddie Steward).

There are returns to the squad for senior and experienced players, including England's second most-capped player Ben Youngs (109 caps), alongside Owen Farrell, Courtney Lawes, Joe Marler, Jonny May and Anthony Watson – all of who have more than 50 caps.

The camp will form part of England's preparations for the Autumn Nations Series in November. England will host Tonga [Saturday 6 November, 3.15pm KO], Australia [Saturday 13 November, 5.30pm KO] and world champions South Africa [Saturday 20 November, 3.15pm KO]. All matches will be live on Amazon Prime.

Jones said: *"This is an exciting squad made up of experienced players and young guys who did well in the summer and have earned their place again. We have left out some experienced players but we're really clear that the door isn't closed to them, and we're looking forward to seeing them work hard to get back into contention. We have five campaigns now until the 2023 World Cup so each one counts, and this is a chance for this 45 to impress the new coaching staff."*

Tickets for England v Tonga are on general sale priced from £37 for adults and £22 for children. Tickets can be bought via [www.EnglandRugby.com/Tickets](http://www.EnglandRugby.com/Tickets).

Tickets for England v Australia and England v South Africa are on sale now to the rugby family.

<b>Forwards</b>		
Jamie Blamire (Newcastle Falcons, 2 caps)	Joe Heyes (Leicester Tigers, 2 caps)	George Martin (Leicester Tigers, 1 cap)
Callum Chick (Newcastle Falcons, 2 caps)	Jonny Hill (Exeter Chiefs, 9 caps)	Beno Obano (Bath Rugby, 3 caps)
Luke Cowan-Dickie (Exeter Chiefs, 31 caps)	Ted Hill (Worcester Warriors, 2 caps)	Gabriel Oghre (Wasps, uncapped)
Tom Curry (Sale Sharks, 33 caps)	Maro Itoje (Saracens, 48 caps)	Sam Riley (Harlequins, uncapped)
Trevor Davison (Newcastle Falcons, 1 cap)	Jack Kenningham (Harlequins, uncapped)	Bevan Rodd (Sale Sharks, uncapped)
Alex Dombrandt (Harlequins, 1 cap)	Courtney Lawes (Northampton Saints, 87 caps)	Sam Simmonds (Exeter Chiefs, 7 caps)
Charlie Ewels (Bath Rugby, 23 caps)	Lewis Ludlam (Northampton Saints, 10 caps)	Kyle Sinckler (Bristol Bears, 44 caps)
Ellis Genge (Leicester Tigers, 30 caps)	Lewis Ludlow (Gloucester Rugby, 2 caps)	Will Stuart (Bath Rugby, 12 caps)
	Joe Marler (Harlequins, 72 caps)	Sam Underhill (Bath Rugby, 24 caps)

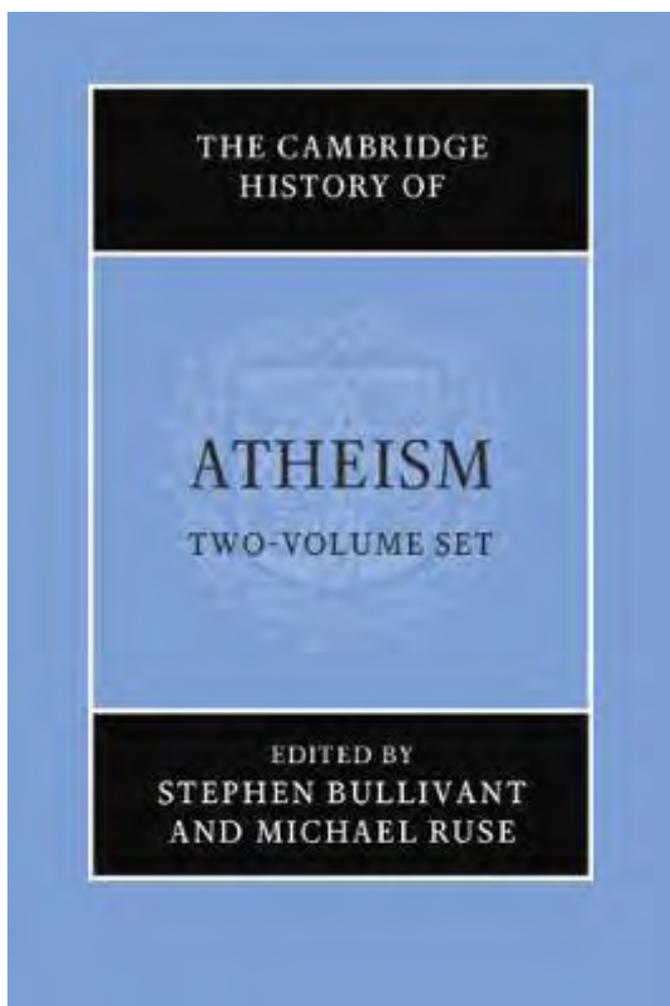
<b>Backs</b>		
Mark Atkinson (Gloucester Rugby, uncapped)	Joe Marchant (Harlequins, 6 caps)	Henry Slade (Exeter Chiefs, 40 caps)
Owen Farrell (Saracens, 93 caps)	Jonny May (Gloucester Rugby, 66 caps)	Ollie Sleightholme (Northampton Saints, uncapped)
George Furbank (Northampton Saints, 4 caps)	Raffi Quirke (Sale Sharks, uncapped)	Marcus Smith (Harlequins, 2 caps)
Ollie Lawrence (Worcester Warriors, 7 caps)	Adam Radwan (Newcastle Falcons, 1 cap)	Freddie Steward (Leicester Tigers, 2 caps)
Louis Lynagh (Harlequins, uncapped)	Harry Randall (Bristol Bears, 2 caps)	Manu Tuilagi (Sale Sharks, 43 caps)
Max Malins (Saracens, 8 caps)	Dan Robson (Wasps, 14 caps)	Anthony Watson (Bath Rugby, 51 caps)
		Ben Youngs (Leicester Tigers, 109 caps)

# St Mary's University

## St Mary's Theologian and Sociologist Publishes New Book

Director of the Benedict XVI Centre for Religion and Society at St Mary's University, Twickenham, Prof Stephen Bullivant has published a new book on the history of Atheism.

The two-volume Cambridge History of Atheism is co-edited with esteemed philosopher Dr Michael Ruse and offers an authoritative and up to date account of a subject of contemporary interest.



Comprised of sixty essays by an international team of scholars, this History is comprehensive in scope. The essays are written from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, including religious studies, philosophy, sociology, and classics.

Offering a global overview of the subject, from antiquity to the present, the volumes examine the phenomenon of unbelief in the context of Christian, Islamic, Buddhist, Hindu, and Jewish societies. They explore atheism and the early modern Scientific Revolution, as well as the development of Charles Darwin's theory of evolution and its continuing implications.

The History also includes general survey essays on the impact of scepticism, agnosticism and atheism, as well as contemporary assessments of thinking. Providing essential information on the nature and history of atheism, The Cambridge History of Atheism will be indispensable for both scholarship and teaching, at all levels.

Speaking of the book's publication, Prof Bullivant said, "This is the second big project I've co-edited with Michael, after 2013's The Oxford Handbook of Atheism, and like its predecessor this has been several years in the making. We're just very proud to be bringing all this new, innovative, up-to-date scholarship on the history of atheism together in one place."

The book is available to [purchase online](#) now.



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London

# Princess Alice Hospice celebrates 20 years of success of European Certificate in Essential Palliative Care course

Princess Alice Hospice provides expert end of life care and support to people at the Esher-based Hospice and in their own homes. Education and Research plays an important role in the Hospice's success and is integral to one of their current strategic goals, which is to "share our knowledge and expertise".

This year the Education and Research team celebrated twenty years of the European Certificate in Essential Palliative Care (ECEPC) course which was founded at Princess Alice Hospice. In 2001, the course launched with 31 candidates; in 2021 it is projected to reach in excess of 7,000 candidates.

The course runs as an eight-week distance learning qualification, aimed at healthcare professionals new to palliative care. Candidates are supported by a facilitator, provided with an extensive course handbook and given access to a comprehensive virtual learning site, which has been developed continuously in format. Learning culminates in a mandatory assessment day, which in recent years has taken place simultaneously across multiple, global sites. Since the start of the pandemic, the day has been held online via Zoom, with over 350 people joining the most recent assessment from national and international locations.



Chloe and Clair

On 16 September, Education colleagues, and healthcare professionals from different settings gathered in person at the Hospice and online from as far as Australia, to celebrate twenty years of success. Betty Riddle, a longstanding volunteer at the Hospice, was in attendance too, in recognition of the many years of dedicated service she has provided to the Education team since the early days of the course.

At an evening reception, Nicki Shaw, Chief Executive, welcomed everybody and introduced Jane Berg, Deputy Director of Education and Research, to say a few words. Attendees heard recollections from course co-founder, Max Watson, Project ECHO Programme Director at Hospice UK, about the first ten years. Clair Sadler, ECEPC Course Lead and Senior Lecturer at Princess Alice Hospice, went on to explain how the course has evolved and increased in scope as an increasingly globally recognised qualification through the proceeding ten years. Guests were then invited to watch [this](#) video animation. The presentations were followed by a social gathering over drinks, canapes and celebratory cake, which gave guests an opportunity to share personal reflections and memories. During this time, people were invited to offer up three words to sum up the ECEPC course; words included 'care', 'knowledge', 'professional', 'confidence', 'collaborator', 'holistic' and 'community'.

Clair Sadler said:

*"20 years of the ECEPC is a significant milestone. We are so proud of the course and the candidates who have completed it. We believe that the course enhances the care that candidates offer their patients as they approach the end of their lives - regardless of the setting in which they are cared for. We are confident that the course will continue to be responsive to changing needs for many more years."*

Further information about the ECEPC course can be found at [European Certificate in Essential Palliative Care \(ECEPC\) - Princess Alice Hospice \(pah.org.uk\)](#) or by emailing [europcecertificate@pah.org.uk](mailto:europcecertificate@pah.org.uk) [www.pah.org.uk](http://www.pah.org.uk)



# New storybook to help children stay hopeful during COVID-19

## Resource for parents, teachers and health professionals follows hugely successful first edition

A new book published today aims to help children stay hopeful and positive during the COVID-19 pandemic. The story is a sequel to '[My Hero is You: how kids can fight COVID-19!](#)', published in April 2020.

Both books have been released by a collaboration of 60 organizations working in the humanitarian sector, including the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the MHPSS Collaborative for Children & Families in Adversity.

'My Hero is You 2021: how kids can hope with COVID-19!' draws on the daily realities of millions of children since the beginning of the pandemic. For many, the pandemic continues to disrupt their education, recreation, and time with friends, family and teachers.



The story – aimed primarily at children aged 6-11 years – sees the return of Ario, a fantasy creature who travels the world helping children to find hope in the future and joy in simple pleasures. Together with old and new friends, Ario addresses the fears, frustrations and concerns children are facing in the current phase of the pandemic, and explores the various coping mechanisms that they can use when faced with difficult emotions like fear, grief, anger and sadness.

The new story drew from responses to a survey of more than 5000 children, parents, caregivers and teachers from around the world who described the challenges they continue to face in the second year of the pandemic.

### Reaching children everywhere

The book is currently available in Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Swahili. Its predecessor is now available in more than 140 languages, including sign language and Braille, and in more than 50 adaptations, in animated video, read-aloud, theatre, activity books and audio formats. Examples include an adaptation for Native Americans, a colouring book for children in Syria, and an animation developed by a team led by Stanford Medicine in the USA.

Since April 2020, governments, universities, nongovernmental organizations, media outlets and celebrities have joined forces with the United Nations to facilitate a truly global distribution of the first book in the series. Initiatives include the roll-out of audio versions and workshops relating to the book among refugees in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh; the broadcasting of an animated version on Mongolian national television; and the inclusion of the book as a free supplement with a national newspaper in Greece.

The new storybook can be used by parents and teachers in conjunction with a guide entitled 'Actions for Heroes', released by the same group in February 2021. Already available in more than a dozen languages, the guide advises parents, caregivers and teachers on how to create the right conditions for children to openly share their feelings and worries related to the pandemic and includes activities based on the books in the series.



**World Health Organization**

# Investigation into the underpayment of State Pension

The Department for Work & Pensions (the Department) estimates that it underpaid 134,000 pensioners over £1 billion in State Pension. This was due to repeated human errors over many years, some level of which was almost inevitable given the complex rules and high degree of manual review necessary when assessing claims, according to the National Audit Office (NAO).

The errors affect pensioners who first claimed State Pension before April 2016, do not have a full national insurance record, and should have received certain increases in their basic State Pension.

The errors were brought to the Department's attention by individual pensioners, concerned experts and the media. The Department started exploring the 'potential for error' from April 2020 and confirmed that there was a significant issue in August 2020. It started to review cases from January 2021 and will contact pensioners if it finds that they have been underpaid.

The Department estimates that it will need to pay the affected pensioners it can trace a total of £1,053 million, representing an average of £8,900 per pensioner affected. The Department has not assessed the demographics of pensioners likely to be affected, but most are likely to be women. The Department's estimates are highly uncertain and the true value of the underpayments will only become clear once it has completed its review of all affected cases.



The errors occurred because State Pension rules are complex, IT systems are outdated and unautomated, and the administration of claims requires a high degree of manual review and understanding by case workers. This makes some level of error in the processing of State Pension claims almost inevitable. The Department's caseworkers often failed to set (and later action) manual IT system prompts on pensioners' files to review the payments at a later date, such as their spouse reaching State Pension Age or their 80th birthday. Caseworkers also often made errors when they did process prompts because frontline staff found instructions difficult to use and lacked training on complex cases.

The Department's approach of measuring, identifying and tackling the largest causes of fraud and error means it missed earlier opportunities to identify underpayments. It does not have a means of reviewing individual complaints or errors, such as how many people are complaining about the same issues, to assess whether the errors have a systemic cause. Quality assurance processes focused on checking changes to case details, such as a change of address or the death of a spouse, rather than the overall accuracy of the payments.

In January 2021, the Department started reviewing cases at risk of underpayment in a Legal Entitlements and Administrative Practices (LEAP) exercise. This exercise was originally expected to take over six years to complete, but following a ministerial decision to recruit additional staff, the Department revised the completion date to the end of 2023. The Department expects to increase the number of full-time staff working on the LEAP exercise from 184 in March 2021 to 544 by the end of January 2022. It expects the administration of the LEAP exercise to cost £24.3 million in staff costs.

Between 11 January and 5 September 2021, the Department reviewed 72,780 cases it had identified as being at risk of having been underpaid or who contacted it querying their payment, and paid £60.6 million of arrears to 11% of these cases. The Department is prioritising individuals who fall into "at risk" categories, such as those who are widowed or over age 80.

The Department may find it particularly difficult to correct underpayments of pensioners who have died. It does not know how many pensioners who have died have been underpaid as, for data protection reasons, it does not usually keep records for more than four years after a pensioner's death, and if married, their spouse's death. As at August 2021, the Department had not approved a formal plan to trace the estates of deceased pensioners.

Gareth Davies, the head of the NAO, said:

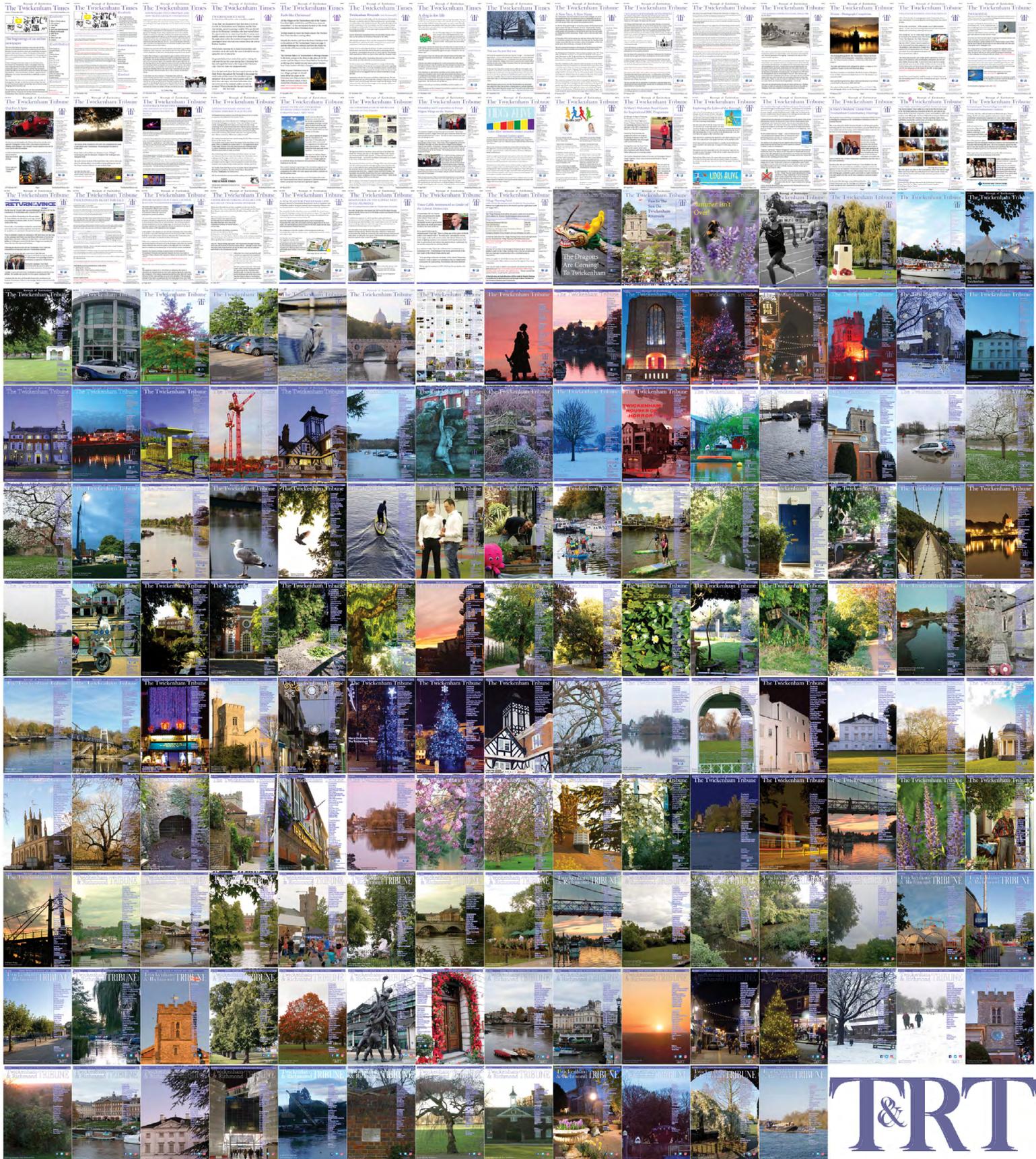
"The impact of the underpayment of State Pension on those pensioners affected is significant. It is vital that the Department for Work & Pensions corrects past underpayments and implements changes to prevent similar problems in future."

Click here for the [full report](#) and here for the [PAC Chair's statement](#).



National Audit Office

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