

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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Editors

Berkley Driscoll
Teresa Read



29th April 2022

T&RT

TickerTape - News in Brief

ARMY v NAVY Rugby at Twickenham Stadium on Saturday

Saturday 30th April 2022

Kick off 1400

Expected attendance: 60,000

Whitton, London and Rugby Roads will close from 1200-1400 and 1530-1800, although we will reopen earlier if safe to do so.

A full CPZ will be in place from 1000-2200.

East Sheen Allotment Society to host Allotment Open Day

The BHAS Open Day takes place on Sunday 15 May from 2 to 5pm.

The Open Day is an opportunity to meet new plot holders, see what other members are growing and socialise with the allotment community. It also enables the wider East Sheen community to visit the allotments and get inspiration. It's a great family event and we will be selling afternoon teas too, so come hungry!

Find out more about the May Open Day [HERE](#)

No change to waste and recycling services following May bank holiday weekend

There will be no change to the schedule of residential waste and recycling collections following the May bank holiday on Monday 2 May.

Richmond Council will continue to collect residential waste and recycling on households' normal days of service. This also applies to garden waste collections.

Find your collection day [HERE](#)

Residents can report missed waste and recycling collections online [HERE](#)

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COVID-19

Teresa Read

World Health Organization Weekly Epidemiological Report

Overview 27th April

Globally, the number of new COVID-19 cases and deaths has continued to decline since the end of March 2022.

During the week of 18 through 24 April 2022, over 4.5 million cases and over 15 000 deaths were reported, decreases of 21% and 20% respectively, as compared to the previous week. However, an increase in the number of new weekly cases was reported from the Regions of the Americas (+9%) and the African Region (+32%), and the number of new weekly deaths increased in the South-East Asia Region (+41%), due to a delay in reporting of deaths from India, and in the Africa Region (+110%) As of 24 April 2022, over 500 million confirmed cases and over six million deaths have been reported globally

Total cases Locally

Richmond upon Thames	66,185 (65,836 previous week)
Kingston upon Thames	59,598 (59,278 previous week)
Hounslow	94,288 (93,832 previous week)
Wandsworth	116,248 (115,708 previous week)

COVID IN THE NEWS

New Scientist 29 April 2022: South Africa says it may be entering fifth coronavirus wave

Reuters 28 April 2022: COVID-hit Beijing increases curbs, fears Shanghai-like misery

Government of Western Australia 28 April 2022: WA Health is reporting a total of 8,889 new cases to 8pm last night (43,118 active cases in WA)

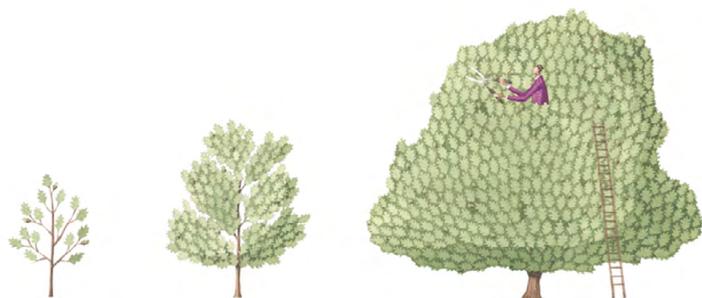
The Guardian 27 April 2022: Lack of testing leaves researchers blind to evolution patterns, WHO warns

Financial Express 27 April 2022: PM Modi says vaccinating children is a priority for govt, Covid-appropriate behaviour is a must (India)

CGTN 27 April 2022: Finland's President in hospital with COVID-19

The Star 27 April 2022: Three Covid-19 experts in Singapore knighted by French government

AllAfrica.com 27 April 2022: Africa: Continent Nears 11.5 Million Confirmed Cases of Covid-19



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darryl parkin

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The Tree Agency



Are we there yet?

By Simon Fowler

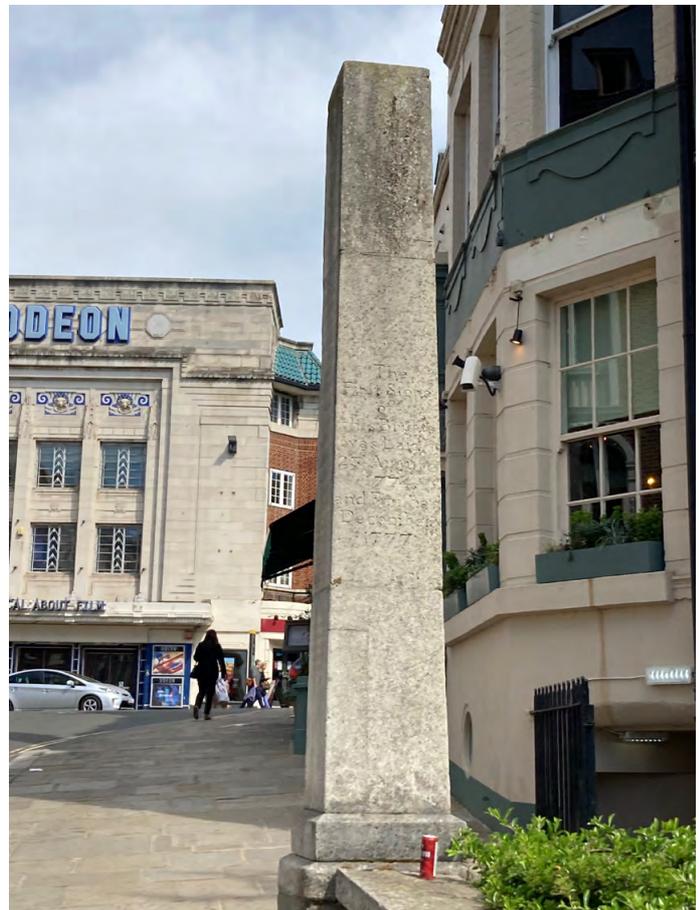
Some nine thousand eighteenth and nineteenth century milestones survive on the country roads of Britain. Many were erected by turnpike trusts which for the first time provided decent quality roads from the 1770s onwards. Oddly although several turnpikes crossed the Middlesex side of the borough, although with one exception, the surviving ones are all in Richmond, Kew and Sheen.

Two are in Kew Road. They were erected by George III as part of a complicated plan to enclose Kew Gardens. One lies opposite Holmesdale Road. It is badly weathered and looks more like a prehistoric menhir than a Georgian milestone. Some lettering could be read in the mid-1980s, but it has now disappeared.

Almost a mile south on the corner of Kew Road and Church Road (opposite the Orange Tree) is a milestone in much better condition, as it was restored in the late-1980s. It simply tells travellers that they are eight miles from Hyde Park Corner, which was the distance when crossing the Thames at Kew Bridge. Hyde Park was then the western edge of London

The largest milestone lies on the Surrey side of Richmond Bridge. Despite its size it is easy to miss. Until recently I had never noticed the obelisk despite having walked across the Bridge dozens of times! Purists might dispute whether it is a milestone altogether, as it gives the distances to various bridges on the Thames towards London Bridge ('XI miles one quarter') and to towns as far away as Hampton and Windsor ('XV miles three quarters'). It was erected in December 1777.

The other two milestones lie on the direct line between Richmond and London. A badly worn one can be found on the corner of Rocks Lane and the Upper Richmond Road. More interesting – and possibly the most important one in the Borough is the one which stands on Milestone Green, by the war memorial, on the corner of Sheen Lane and the Upper Richmond Road. The inscriptions look as if they should be read wearing 3D-specs, but are the results of having been badly carved and recarved in the past. They indicate that the stone is ten miles from 'the Standard in Cornhill'.



The Standard was not as might be expected a coaching inn, but a water well on the corner of Cornhill, Gracechurch, Bishopsgate and Leadenhall streets. The well had long disappeared by 1751, when the milestone was probably built, although distances continued to be measured from there.

An early nineteenth milestone can be found near St Albans Gardens on the Hampton Court Road directing travellers to Kingston Bridge and towards Windsor ('XIII miles')

If you want to know more the Milestone Society has a gazetteer of all known milestone and way-markers at www.milestonesociety.co.uk

Notice of application for a Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that English Heritage has applied to Richmond Council for a new premises licence at Marble Hill, Richmond Road, TW1 2NL for a variation to the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises from 1 April to 31 October each year is permitted on : Monday to Friday: 10:00 to 17:00 Saturday: 10:00 to 17:00

Any person who wishes to make a representation in relation to this application must give notice in writing by 12 May 2022 stating the grounds for making said representation to: Richmond Licensing Authority, Regulatory Services Partnership (Serving Merton, Richmond and Wandsworth Councils) Merton Civic Centre, London Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 5DX or by email: licensing@merton.gov.uk

The record of this application may be inspected Monday to Friday (except Bank Holidays) by prior appointment at the offices of Richmond Licensing Authority, Regulatory Services Partnership (Serving Merton, Richmond and Wandsworth Councils) Merton Civic Centre, London Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 5DX between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. Information on all new and variation applications received by the Licensing Authority can be viewed on the Council's website www.richmond.gov.uk

It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in or in connection with an application, punishable upon conviction by an unlimited fine.



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Home Straight

By Lucilius

The ceremonial elections for the Governor and Council of the Democratic Republic of Transfluvia, a traditional event held every four years, forms the only agenda item for a Cabinet meeting in the Katchwimen Palace. Cllr Rutt, Director of the Department of Heritage Destruction rides a new electric cargo trike, the Kakkoe Pike-E. Its 300 litres volume capacity cargo box is half full of election pamphlets. The other half of the load is Cllr Lickspital, Director of the Department of Information Obfuscation (which greatly exceeds the maximum load of 80kg). They have been playing their favourite game of running down pedestrians on the pavement, before coming to a halt and parking the trike in the flower bed of the Palace. Rutt struggles to get his breath back, as the batteries had run out near the stadium and he had had to cycle the last kilometre. Berlaymont, Governor Gobbets' personal coiffeur ("Be-Lay" Gobbets calls him/she/they) is hurriedly leaving the Parabolic Office as they arrive at the Palace for the meeting. Vice Governor Axel Hammer has just arrived with his alter ego, Herman the Rottweiler. Rutt and Lickspital knock, enter and genuflect.

Rutt: Oh, Governor Gobbets, you Excellency, you look a little out of sorts.

Hammer: Hermann has just torn the arse out of Berlaymont, the Governor's personal coiffeur.
[Hermann wags his tail.]

Lickspital: Oh dear, I do hope Be-Lay will be OK in time to fix your hair-do for the elections.

Gobbets: Yes, he'll be OK. It's just a bit awkward. President Mycronie recommended Be-Lay to me, you remember.

Rutt: But President Mycronie must be delighted. Your advice has just won the Presidential Election for him.

Gobbets: I was straight on the hot-line to him. I told how well I had done, and I was going to use the same tactics: steal the opposition's good ideas, blame them for your bad ones and above all, tell the people that they are going to have what is good for me. Great ideas, I said, what has won victory for you will win victory for me.

Rutt: What did he say?

Gobbets: Something about "tant pis". Google Translate says it means something about his aunt having too much to drink. Clearly he has invited me to toast both our victories when we next meet for a friendly game of underwater pétanque.

Lickspital: I ordered all the EU flags to be flown over Transfluvia, for Mycronie's victory, and ready for ours when we get the ceremonial stuff of the elections out of the way.

Hammer: Why do we have to waste all this effort on elections? Why don't we simply do the same as we do when we have the consultations, find out what the people want and then do the opposite? So much easier that way. In any case, we can run the meetings of the Grand Council as per normal. Turn off the opposition mikes ... and never allow a vote.

Gobbets: Yes, but it's all a nice bit of theatre. Keep the plebs happy. Let them think they count. They have a day out, meet their friends.

Lickspital: I've got the first run of election pamphlets down in the electric cargo trike; from my Department of Information Obfuscation, fully funded from taxes. Tells them what we've done.

Hammer: To business then, what'yer said?

Lickspital: Item 1, Handling of Pandemic. Painted nice rainbows in road instead of dowdy zebra

crossings.

Rutt: My idea, cheered 'em all up. Great use of Federation funds. Usual moaners though, those who got run over because motorists didn't seem to understand they were crossings.

Gobbets: Motorists! Why do we suffer them?

Lickspital: Item 2, 20kph Speed Limits. Popular with cyclists, protects them if they should need to get away from all the electric scooters on the pavements.

Gobbets: And we can easily overtake motorists without having to wait until they have to stop at red lights.

Lickspital: Item 3, Achieved Total CPZ. Under our administration, no motor vehicles can legally park in Transfluvia.

Rutt: Except demolition vehicles and Councillors' electric limousines.

Lickspital: Item 4, Pea Green Improvements. We have stripped out the trees to enable fully open-air latrines.

Hammer: We had some whingers about that too. Do you remember how we took a few crates of *Piat D'Or* best plonk down there to celebrate Transfluvia's application to join the EU?

Gobbets: *[Laughing]* What was it you said when the whingers complained?

Hammer: We were having a "pee at door"! It was so funny.

Lickspital: Hmm. Item 5, Doubly Joyous Gardens. Big one this. I've written how popular this is, except with the 3% don't knows and the 97% idiots who didn't want it. We've used their money, to buy their land, from their charity, and some are still ungrateful.

Rutt: Hard to believe isn't it? They are going to get lots of clean concrete instead of those filthy trees. We are bringing in nice rich people to buy flats there. Plus they get an exciting new bijoux underwater playground for the kids.

Gobbets: You've done a good job there. Are there any more Items?

Lickspital: Yes, 74. I've told them about how safe we've made Transfluvia. We've banned pedestrians from the pavements to make more room for electric scooters and motor bikes, made dangerous praying in public illegal, and warned them against the danger of men. My admirers in the Department of Information Obfuscation have said it is "pure hyperbole"

Gobbets: You've done a job to be proud of. But what about the Opposition's propaganda?

Hammer: They haven't got any. Can't afford it from their own money. Anyway they've only put up a few schoolboys and a couple of geriatrics. It'll be a push-over. Nevertheless, let's rub their noses in it and deliver your trike full of pamphlets, Lickspital.

Lickspital: Can't I afraid. The trike won't start. Not enough sun to power up the batteries.

Rutt: Maybe the turbines on the roof will start up. Lots of wind, that's what we need. A lot of wind to deliver that stuff.

Hammer: Right. Meeting officially closed at something a.m. Dammit, my solar watch won't work either.

Gobbets: Just going to give Mycronie a ring. I wonder if he would lend me his chest wig for the electioneering. Where's Be-Lay gone?



WHERE THE WILD THINGS LIVE

By Doug Goodman

If you go down to the woods today you'll be sure of a big surprise!



Just Emerged



The Male Relaxes

Twickenham resident Doug Goodman didn't need to go to the woods to get a surprise and there were no teddy bears having a picnic. What he saw at the end of his garden were four fluffy fox cubs emerging from their den in his neighbour's garden. It seemed to be the first outing for the cubs as they cautiously peered around watched by mother fox. Later they were spotted drinking at the bird bath on the patio.



Bath Water



First Drink



Tail End

At least four generations of foxes have been born in the adjacent, wild garden and Doug has watched and photographed them. Four cubs usually arrive each April and soon start digging in the vegetable patch and squashing the plants. While the female guards her family and finds 'take-away' meals, the male likes to sleep on the shed roof in the morning sun.

Dear Tribune,

“TwickWatch” Edition 285

It thought that the piece by “TwickWatch” in your last edition provided a very useful public service, particularly as the electorate’s knowledge about how our democracy works seems woefully thin.

Suggesting the sort of things that voters ought to consider and ask candidates about when choosing who to vote for at this local election was useful and commendably independent.

However, I was less comfortable when I came to TwickWatch’s own evaluation of the parties and selection of 2 councillors for special mention, especially as there was no mention of the Green Party which won 4 seats at the last election and may well be on course to become the official opposition after this one. The table showing the changes in the performance of the parties over time, how they rise and fall, was particularly interesting.

Two Green councillors, Andree Frieze and Richard Bennett, are seeking re-election alongside 4 other Green candidates. I believe that both meet the standards that you applied to Geoffrey Samuels and Martin Elengorn, although admittedly without the length of service they have given. Being a member of a small team of Councillors is particularly challenging as their time is spread thinly to cover all the committees and other duties. Andree and Richard’s attendance and performance has been exemplary and, with their Green colleagues, they brought a less adversarial, more collaborative tone to the chamber. If you were to pick one then maybe Richard’s support for your campaign to deal with anti-social behaviour on Twickenham Green, a cause close to The Tribune’s heart, might stand him in good stead. However, having a woman acknowledged might be fairer!

Regards,

Ben Makins, Strawberry Hill

Note from the Editor:

The Tribune also commends the excellent TwickWatch article in edition 285 of the Twickenham & Richmond Tribune “We the People” pages 6 and 7.

However, the editors would like to point out that TwickWatch is not written by the editors of the Tribune, but is contributed by a respected resident of our borough. The Tribune accepts articles from readers, including regular contributors such as TwickWatch and Lucilius, but have no editorial input.

I would draw attention to the reason the Tribune was first published on 11th November 2016:

The Tribune was founded as a local online newspaper for and by local people in Twickenham and the surrounding towns. A place where people can have their letters published, have their say and where their articles can be published online.

Dear Tribune,

Guilty until Proven Innocent

Jeremy Hamilton-Miller, in his letter to the Tribune on 15 April, asked: 'What are LibDems for?'

My experiences may go some way to answering this excellent question.

On 7 July 2020, Cllr Michael Wilson, Richmond Council's Cabinet Member for Equality and Communities, made a speech to the Council in which he stated: "The murder of George Floyd sent shockwaves around the world".

As it is an established principle of law that a person is innocent until proven guilty, I was shocked because that speech was made eight months before the trial and thus intention (Mens Rea) was yet to be proved, murder being the unlawful killing of a human being with malice aforethought.

The speech was published on the Council website and partially reproduced in the local newspaper so I immediately lodged a formal complaint with Richmond Council about the obviously prejudicial misuse of the word 'murder' by a public servant.

My complaint was upheld and the word 'murder' was changed to 'death' on the Council's website. No reason for the change was published with the website misleadingly stating that Cllr Wilson had used the word 'death'.

I then asked whether Cllr Wilson would publicly apologize at the next online Council meeting on 22 September 2020 but, instead of a simple apology which would have ended the matter, he refused, instead subjecting me to an aggressive, irrelevant tirade about the Black Lives Matter campaign.

Neither the chairman of the meeting, Mayor Cllr Geoff Acton, nor Council Leader Gareth Roberts who was also in attendance, made any attempt to moderate the unwarranted and offensive rant.

My attempt to reply was blocked by the meeting's chairman although I did manage to say that: 'ALL lives matter'.

On 8 March 2022, I answered my front door to find a female LibDem canvasser who asked me whether I would be voting for them. I asked what their plans were and she said: 'We want to improve things.' With that in mind, I recounted my experiences shown above.

Her reply, which astounded me even more than Cllr Wilson's original speech, was: 'Well, he was right in advance, wasn't he?'

Her two male colleagues said nothing. The question is, if he was right in advance, why did the American legal system bother with a trial costing some \$3.7 million?

The fact that the accused was eventually found guilty is completely immaterial because the presumption of innocence is an international human right under the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 11.

Even the Nazi war criminals who killed millions were given fair trials at Nuremberg after the Second World War. And in 1949, the editor of the Daily Mirror was sentenced to a three-month prison term for contempt of court for describing John Haigh as a "murderer" while the trial was still underway.

But it now seems that the Liberal Democratic Party finds it acceptable to not bother hearing the evidence before pronouncing someone guilty. Equality and Communities? A slippery slope indeed.

Just one instance of just one councillor, but the tip of the iceberg when considering some equally unpleasant examples from some other senior un-democrats on this Council.

Liberal? Democratic?

Now we know.

Michael Jay, Hampton

Dear Sir,

Nasty Tweets

"Frankly, if I was Amanda Plattell (sic) I'd be asking my plastic surgeon for my money back" tweeted Lib Dem Cllr Gareth Roberts - on 18 April 2013 - before he was their current leader - regarding Ms Platell's appearance on BBC TV's "Question Time".

Former Conservative adviser, Ms Platell had, indeed, seen a surgeon - a cancer surgeon - who had operated on an eye.

A year earlier, Cllr Roberts had got into a twitter spat with BBC London radio presenter Nikki Bedi - while she was on air - and - when the story was covered by a local newspaper - Ms Bedi was quoted as saying: *"it's not funny and he's just being incredibly rude to me, and a little bit nasty"*.

The recent hot topic about misogynistic comments - in the political arena - brought these tweets to mind.

Cllr Roberts should take heed of the wise words of the great Scottish poet Robert Burns who said: *"O wad some Pow'r the giftie gie us; To see oursels as others see us!"* in his famous poem "To a Louse".

Yours faithfully,

Teddington resident
(Name and address supplied)

Dear Editors,

Potholes

Have you noticed that in some areas of the Borough over the last month there has been a sudden flurry of pothole repairs in our roads?

Maybe we should have local elections every year, not every four years. That way we may have a chance of getting our broken pavements repaired as well!

Best wishes,

Name and Address supplied,
Twickenham

Dear Tribune

Liberal? No! Democratic? No!

Can anyone now be in any doubt that promises made by the current Council leaders count for nothing?

Not only do they make decisions based on so-called 'consultations' that never actually happen, but also fudge the figures to give the impression that the so-called 'majority' of constituents are happy. We are NOT!

Just look at the misery caused by the ruination of the borough, such as in Kew Road, where unnecessary road-narrowing cycle lanes, 20mph limits, road humps everywhere - all causing extra pollution, plus the loss of residents' paid-for parking spaces in their obsession to accommodate free parking for the e-scooters which have now proven to be so dangerous.

Cashless parking and the inefficient RingGo system force people to pay by phone app or credit card. It's not only the elderly who struggle with technology or don't have a smartphone so why should we all be forced online just for the convenience of Councils who collect huge amounts of money in fines as a result.

Whilst I appreciate that this is a London-wide problem, more and more services are declining cash, disenfranchising millions of older people because only 59% of people over the age of 65 use a smartphone. All ignored by our 'listening' council.

Shops and businesses are already suffering but our Council is making things even more difficult for them.

Why are we all subjected to this constant bullying by Richmond Council who should be there to serve residents, not fleece them and make life as difficult as possible?

Time for a change.

Time for a new Council.

Yours faithfully,

(Name and address supplied), East Sheen

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.

The Use of Social Media and Elected Representatives

By Teresa Read

The Council leader, Gareth Roberts, states on Twitter that he is the Leader of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames but a quick look at his Twitter feed before writing this article shows his ungracious attitude towards candidates of other political parties, re-tweeting the following comment:

I hoped there were byelaws against such undesirables in Richmond such as conservative candidates.

Perhaps this is meant to be amusing but looking at the use of social media by one or two councillors shows that this is only the tip of the iceberg.

There are times when the Leader of the Council, stating his position in the Council on Twitter, has also said that “his views are his own” but this is not acceptable from those in positions of authority. Likewise, Twickenham Riverside Cllr James Henry Chard who paid for an advertisement on social media supporting Council plans for Twickenham Riverside, although many residents he represents do not support his view.

Two years ago, following a Tweet, Cllr Ehrmann had to explain himself to Cllr Elengorn. He had tweeted about an application he had made for a large grant for a bridge, possibly between Ham and Radnor Gardens, without discussing the application with members of the Transport Committee. This situation occurred when I was a Committee Member of the Strawberry Hill Residents Association and received copies of the emails.

Of course, as we have seen in the media, Tweets can resurface, sometimes after years, causing problems for off-the-cuff remarks but perhaps those paid to represent us should be more careful.

And the last word goes to the Local Government Association on the Role of a Councillor:

“A councillor’s primary role is to represent their ward or division and the people who live in it. Councillors provide a bridge between the community and the council. As well as being an advocate for local residents and signposting them to the right people at the council, you will need to keep them informed about the issues that affect them.

In order to understand and represent local views and priorities, you need to build strong relationships and encourage local people to make their views known and engage with you and the council. **Good communication and engagement are central to being an effective councillor.**”

Make sure you use your vote!

Residents are reminded to use their vote in the local election on Thursday 5 May to decide who runs Richmond Council for the next four years.

The Council has issued almost 29,500 postal votes to electors who have requested to vote this way.

Residents issued with a postal vote should follow the instructions included with their pack and return their completed postal vote pack as soon as possible to ensure we receive it in time to include in the count which starts at 10pm on Thursday 5 May.

Unfortunately, any postal votes received by the Council after 10pm cannot be counted.

Poll cards have been sent to all eligible electors, however this is not needed to vote, it is for information only. For those voting in person, polling stations will be open from 7am to 10pm and electors must attend the allocated polling station for their address as shown on their polling card.

Locate your [polling station](#).

To find out more about how to vote, view [Casting to vote](#) or call the council on 020 8891 1411.

After polling stations close, make sure you [follow the Council on Twitter](#) to find out the latest information from the election count.



An On-going Problem for 3 Years And Now it's Election Time

Teresa Read

During the summer of 2019 residents in roads local to Twickenham Green were unexpectedly inundated with visitors to the Green using private property and roads for toilet purposes. This increased use of the Green in good weather continued with the pandemic resulting in outdoor living.

The Council has been asked to provide visible permanent signage for the Cricket Pavilion toilet, listed on the Council website as being in the LBRUT Community Toilet Scheme (CTS), for 3 years - as well as a request for permanent public toilets. Nothing has been done.

Enquiries to LBRUT Parks Department, Strawberry Hill Residents Association and Friends of Twickenham Green

I first brought this issue to the attention of the Council on 5 July 2019 as well as raising it at the Strawberry Hill Residents Association meeting of the same year as a SHRA Committee Member. Cllr Michael Butlin of the Friends of Twickenham Green was aware of the situation. Over one year more than thirty reports were made to the police about anti-social behaviour, mainly as a result of public urination by men and boys.

Request for Permanent Information Notices Ignored

Finally, in 2021 a paper notice was put in the notice board on Twickenham Green along with other notices. To say this was inadequate in view of the anti-social behaviour caused by the need for toilets is an understatement.

The Leader of the Council Makes His Views Known on Twitter

An Official Complaint to the Council proved ineffective. At a local zoom meeting the leader of the Council promised to look into the matter, and indeed temporary public toilets were finally provided for a time in the summer of 2021. But, Gareth Roberts, the Leader of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, in his own name, and likewise Twickenham Riverside Cllr James Henry Chard, Liked a Tweet of a graphic of **Le Piat D'Or** on Twitter which was tweeted to them with the suggestion: "Perhaps these new toilets need a little sign? **Le Pee at door**".

If this sort of thing was done by a person in central government it would be a very different story; the press would have a field day.

A LBRUT Community Toilet in the Cricket Pavilion?

However, it is good to know that some of the Twickenham Cricket Pavilion users of the Council's flagship "Community Toilet", are finally stepping up and helping people "caught short" - in extremis - but only for the next two Bank Holidays. I have requested for **three years for permanent signage for the CTS toilet, easily visible to visitors on Twickenham Green**, stating opening times for the "Community Toilets".

I was sent an email from the LBRUT Planning department stating that the application for the

Sports Pavilion or mixed-use Sports Pavilion and café had a covering letter with the planning application stating that toilets will be “made available to the general public when the pavilion is open for matches”.

Does LBRUT pay for the CTS in the Cricket Pavilion?

The Twickenham Cricket Club is listed on the LBRUT website under the Community Toilet Scheme (CTS); it states it is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday – there are no times. Community Toilet stickers should be visible on the building.

<https://www.richmond.gov.uk/services/spendapenny>

Payment for the CTS is based on the number of days that toilet facilities are available to the public with a minimum payment of £800 and a maximum of £1,000 (plus VAT) per annum.

Residents may wonder whether this money has been paid over the years since there seems to be little knowledge of this CTS facility that has no permanent signage of times of opening for members of the public clearly visible on Twickenham Green.

Do Users of the Cricket Pavilion Know they are part of the CTS?

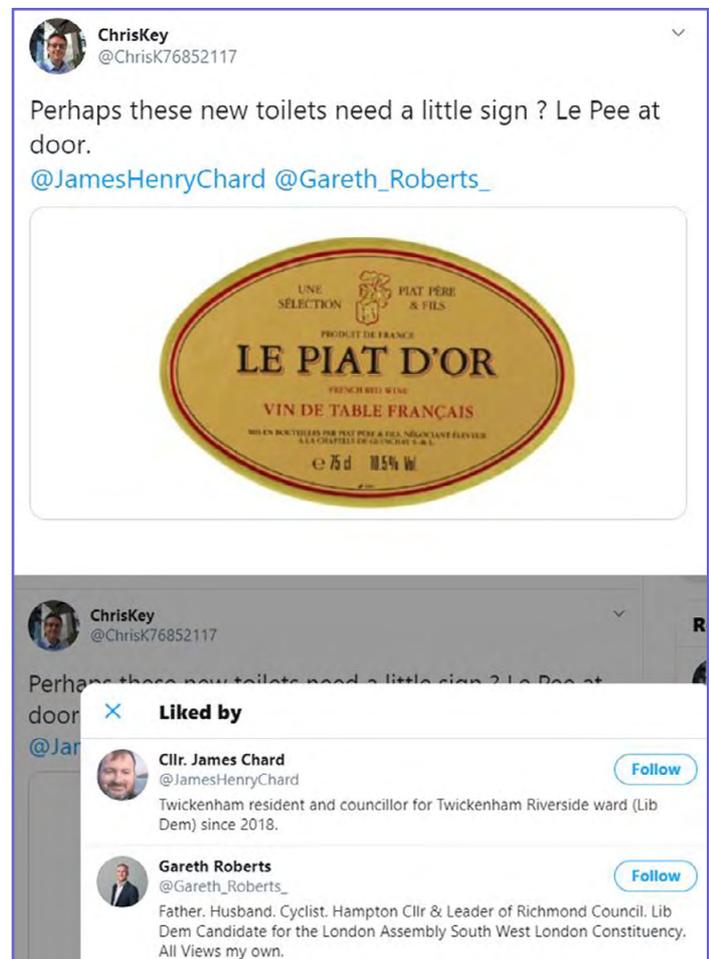
The Need for Public Toilets in LBRUT

Public toilets are needed in a number of places in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. Toilet facilities can be unobtrusive and self-cleaning; there was a self-cleansing toilet behind Arthur’s – perhaps the plumbing is still in place?

Amusing – Or A Tweet Too Far?

It seems from the Piat D’Or Tweet Liked by the Leader of the Council, Gareth Roberts, and Twickenham Riverside Cllr James Henry Chard that the need for public toilets is viewed with some amusement; as we have seen from the present Council’s Twickenham Riverside plan they propose to demolish excellent public toilets and suggest visitors and children use a pub toilet.

Eventually, the Council hired temporary toilets on Twickenham and Richmond Greens last year for a period of time, but this year it does not seem as though temporary toilets have been arranged, nor does it seem as though there are any plans in the future to reinstate permanent public toilets in the Borough, just a press release about the so-called “Community Toilet” in the Cricket Pavilion to say that they would be willing to help out if a person was “caught short” during the next two bank holidays. However, it should be remembered that organizations in the CTS are paid by the Council and many users of the Green pay Council Tax.



Four-day rail line closure between Barnes and Feltham this bank holiday weekend

Replacement bus services will run between **Barnes and Feltham via Hounslow** from Sunday 1 May through to Wednesday 4 May.

The rail line closures will allow Network Rail to carry out important infrastructure works which will help to improve reliability, journey times, and potential route capacity.

From the start of the day on Sunday to the end of the day on Wednesday, trains will not run between **Barnes and Feltham (via Hounslow)**. Rail replacement buses will run between these stations on this route.

On Sunday 1 and Monday 2 May buses will also run between **Barnes and Twickenham** on Sunday afternoon and evening while on Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 May buses will run between **Barnes and Twickenham via Hounslow** at peak hours. Trains will run as normal between **Barnes and Feltham via Richmond and Twickenham**.

If you are travelling [plan your journey](#) ahead of time.

This closure is part of the wider Feltham and Wokingham re-signalling project that will allow engineers to install over 10km of new cables and signalling equipment along this particular section of line.

The line will close again between Saturday 13 August and Tuesday 16 August, between **Barnes and Feltham** for further work on the Feltham and Wokingham re-signalling project.

Find out [more information about this major engineering scheme](#).



Hampton North Ward News

Councillors Geoffrey Samuel and Kate Howard

BURTONS ROAD

At the Council meeting held on 3rd March we asked as a question for written response ‘what is the current revenue received from PCNs from the Burtons Road scheme?’. The answer – presumably correct as on 3rd March – is £867,298. More recently a resident submitted an FOI {Freedom of Information} request to find out the cost of setting up the original scheme: the answer is £120,000. The new experimental scheme went live on 25th April. The Council has attempted to ensure that actual restriction signs are installed on site and correctly. Enforcement cameras will not be installed in their correct locations until early May. There will therefore be a period of no enforcement probably until ‘early Summer’. This new scheme is “experimental” and subject to review after six months. At the moment we are acting for: an **Uxbridge Road** whose garage doors open in Queens Road – but the turn from Uxbridge Road to Queens Road is forbidden: a **Longford Road** resident whose [more than daily] journey to vulnerable elderly parents involves a drive down Burtons Road – but has no “exemption”.

POLLING STATIONS – ALL SAINTS CHURCH and HAMPTON HIGH

Polling Stations will be open from 7am to 10pm on Thursday 5th May. In response to our request the Car Park at the Church is open on Polling Day, the Returning Officer reports that entry for pedestrians will be by the pedestrian driveway at the front of the Church with ‘crowd barriers’ to separate cars from pedestrians. As there will be a Wedding at the Church, part of the car park will be closed from 1230 to 230 with separate safety measures in place.

PITCH ON HAMPTON COMMON

We supported the provision of a new Pitch, designed principally to enhance Girls’ Football, provided that local residents who were most affected were in favour. Residents now tell us that there have been only five matches played – none with Girls’ Teams. They are understandably concerned that there is no provision for toilets: the Council ‘believes’ that players use the White House but has not checked that it is actually open. There will be a review of the provision at the end of the season but we are most unhappy that the Council does not propose to consult residents

FULMER CLOSE

We were pleased to have our regular meeting with a Director of PA and raise a number of issues of concern to residents. Still on the table are Council proposals for double yellow lines which would make it impossible for some car owners to park their cars on site. We were pleased that PA taking some measures to help residents struggling with the increases in the cost of living. The eviction of a seriously anti-social tenant is delayed due to the backlog of cases at the County Court

SHORTER ITEMS

[a selection of issues we have tackled this month]

- Residents have reported dead rats by the recycling Centre at **Tangley Park** and we are urging the Council to take overdue action to deal with problems at this site
- Acting on behalf of residents of **Wordsworth Road** upset by the noise of recycling bins being changed very late at night we contacted Sainsburys Head Office and they agreed to reinstate a fence and carry out no action after 9.30pm
- Residents report that the bus service to the new site for **Turing House School** is inadequate. At our request our GLA Member, Nick Rogers, is dealing with this
- There have been further issues with the 'Children's Home' in **Morland Close**. In response to our personal request to the Head of Children's Services to address the matter he has taken up the problems with Empower who run the Home
- Residents in **Bishops Grove** were unhappy with the unkempt state of a grassed area at the junction with Dean Road. This turned out to be the responsibility of RHP and, after our intervention, the area has been improved
- We still continue to receive complaints about missed collections of waste and recycling. Among other complaints which we passed to senior officers was missed collections in **Morland Close**
- Residents in **Gloxinia Walk** have been upset by dog fouling on a grassed area outside their house: they wonder whether this is a problem experienced elsewhere.
- Among other traffic issues we are addressing are the right turn out of **Gresham Road** and the exit from the slip road at the top of **Uxbridge Road**
- At our request LEH is dealing directly with a resident of **Hanworth Road** who has problems with their planning application
- And there are current failures! At present we are unable to help a resident of **Briar Close** who cannot get a renewed licence from DVLA: two residents suffering from eggs thrown at their properties: the removal of an anti-social RHP tenant. But we do our best!

Keep in touch with us by phone or gjshn@btinternet.com: tell us of issues which concern you: we are both here to help

FOREVER

OZ

19th-22nd May
OSO ARTS CENTRE
Barnes, London
oso.arts.org

Return to the land beyond the rainbow
Where the only limit is your imagination...

Kew Village Market

This month's market takes place on Mayday – 1 May - between 10am and 2pm in the streets around Kew Gardens Station. The volunteers are always being asked where the Gardens are.



The market is unique in many ways. One of which is the tradition of live music. For many years visitors to the Market have been entertained by soloists, duets and even on one memorable occasion the London Welsh Male Voice Choir. This month come and enjoy two terrific acts. First up at 10.30 is soulful singer Luke Corbett, fronting a family band, followed at 12.30 by the oomph and oompah of the ever-popular St Margaret's Elastic Band.

But the main activity of course is shopping. We're delighted to say hello to new-to-Kew McLaren Fine Foods who'll be bringing scrumptious cinnamon buns and their signature doughnuts with deliciously different fillings (salted caramel popcorn, anyone?).

And now that spring has finally sprung it seems only fitting that KVM's free charity pitch should host Kew Horticultural Society who'll have green-fingered advice and home-grown plants for sale.

KEW VILLAGE MARKET

RHS Garden Day

Kick-start National Gardening Week and get out and garden with us on Monday, 2 May 2022



What is RHS Garden Day?

The first day of National Gardening Week, we want to spread the joy of gardens and gardening far and wide on RHS Garden Day. That's why this year, on 2 May, we're calling on you, and your community, to get out in your green spaces and experience the feel-good power of plants. Create floral crowns at the RHS Gardens, prune, weed, plant or simply have a cuppa outside, and celebrate as we unveil four new RHS Community Gardens.

Garden, relax and enjoy time outside...the possibilities are endless

For added inspiration look what's on at your local RHS Garden or RHS Partner Garden. Find out more [HERE](#)



Barnes Safer Neighbourhood Team

Crime Update May 2022

For the past four weeks, where has it happened?

Residential Burglary X2

- Friday the 1st of April, 09:00-10:00 hours, Nowell Road, SW13
- Saturday the 16th of April, 02:00-03:00, attempted Burglary Queensmere Court Verdun Road SW13.

Vehicle Crime X11

- Theft from Motor Vehicle, Thursday the 31st of March-1st of April 11:00-18:50 hours, Stillingfleet Road, SW13.
- Theft from Motor Vehicle, Tuesday the 5th of April, 11:30-11:40, Trinity church Road, SW13.
- Theft from Motor Vehicle, Tuesday the 5th of April, 11:00-15:50 hours, Queen Elizabeth Walk, Wetlands Centre, SW13.
- Theft of Motor Vehicle, Tuesday the 12th of April, 00:19 hours, Westmoreland Road, SW13.
- Theft from Motor Vehicle, Tuesday the 12th of April, 00:01-19:00 hours, Castlenau Gardens, SW13.
- Theft from Motor Vehicle, Wednesday the 13th of April-15th, 23:00-08:30 hours, Glenthams Road, Glenthams Cottages, SW13.
- Theft of Motor Vehicle, Sunday the 17th of April-18th, 23:55-08:30, Baronsmead Road, SW13.
- Theft of Motor Vehicle, Sunday the 17th of April-18th, 19:00-11:30 hours, St Anns Road, SW13.
- Theft of Motor vehicle, Thursday the 21st of April, 01:34 hours, Glebe Road, SW13
- Theft from Motor Vehicle, Tuesday the 19th of April-22nd of April, 21:00-11:05 hours, Verdun Road, Queensmere Court, SW13.
- Vehicle Interference, Wednesday the 27th of April, 03:40-03:50 hours, Westmoreland Road, SW13.

Criminal Damage X2

- Under £500, Monday the 4th of April, 00:01-13:00 hours, Lowther Road, SW13.
- Under £500, Saturday the 16th of April, 17:01-17:10 hours, Lowther Road, SW13.

RobberyX0

Violent offences X3

- Common Assault, Sunday the 3rd of April, 20:05-20:10, Lonsdale Road, the Bulls Head, SW13.
- Common Assault, Tuesday the 19th of April 15:00 hours, Verdun Road, SW13
- Common Assault, Monday the 18th of April, 12:00-15:00 hours, Tesco Express, Castlenau, SW13.

Drugs X2

- Possible Cocaine, Thursday the 21st of April, 23:30-23:35 hours, Lonsdale Road, SW13.
- Possible cannabis, Saturday the 23rd of April, 03:30-03:45, Church Road, SW13.

We have a small bike marking event happening outside the BCA building Church Road on Friday the 13th of May at 09:00 hours for any interested residents. PC Charlie Adkins shall be leaving Barnes SNT and transferring to Twickenham Police Station at the end of the month.

Barnes@met.police.uk



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

MAY FOOD AND DRINK NEWS

Well, summer's finally on its way, and what a summer it promises to be! Here are a few suggestions for summer goodies, for picnics, festivals, boat trips, or just enjoying anywhere in the sunshine.

Ready made cocktails are in vogue, and I discovered a great new company called [Moore House Cocktails](#). Based in London's Notting Hill, it's a small, independent maker of award-winning luxurious cocktails; ready to shake or stir... so perfect to chill and take on a picnic! They make great gifts too (Fathers' Day next month perhaps?). Shipping is UK nationwide (£6.75 or free for orders over £50) and next day delivery can also be arranged. A gift card can be included and personalisation's available on all 100ml and 200ml bottles. For larger gatherings 500ml bottles are ideal. (a 500ml Negroni for example is £32.50)



On the subject of cocktails, it's soon National Paloma Day and Cinco de Mayo (5 May). The traditional Mexican holiday is celebrated in Mexico and the US - and now here, as Brits look for reasons to celebrate. Sales of tequila, Mexico's national drink, are growing as tequila steps away from its 'bad-boy party image' with premium brands being sipped or used in cocktails. **Maestro Dobel's** award-winning **Diamanté** is now available in Waitrose (£52 for 70cl). It's the world's first clear, multi-aged tequila - a blend of 100% Agave Reposado, Añejo and Extra-Añejo (aged for more than 5 years) resulting in a very smooth tequila. And look out for the smoked one too - Maestro Dobel's Humito - it's fab!



To enjoy with your cocktails, or with almost any meal, **Ramona's Kitchen** is a delicious range of Middle East inspired dips and snacks. The houmous is available in great value 500g pots at just £3 - perfect for a crowd. There are three flavours: Original, Jalapeno and Red Pepper. They're vegan too, as are the company's delicious frozen falafel (rrp £3.25 Original or Spinach & Kale) and the new chilled original or quinoa falafel. The houmous is great as a dip with the falafels! Available in Tesco, Sainsbury's, and Ocado.

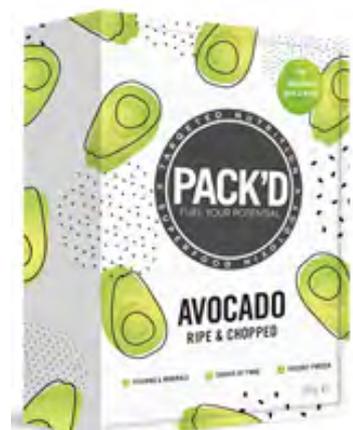


Another fab product for a mezze or to include in a wrap - or just devour - is

Aivar. The Pelagonia brand is my favourite for this sweet pepper dip and I'm pleased to say it is widely available (around £3.50 a jar). The company produces a host of other great products, dips, tapenades, grilled aubergine or courgette slices, but they aren't always as widely available. Do look out for the latest introduction, a goat's cheese aivar - seriously fabulous and hopefully will soon available everywhere!



For those times when you fancy avocado, but the one lurking in the fridge has gone manky, **PACK'D** is the perfect solution. This frozen, ripe, chopped Hass avo is a great freezer standby. Available in Ocado, Sainsbury's, Amazon Fresh at just over £3 for a pack containing two sachets.



If you're into smoothies, do check out the website [here](#) where there are lots of other great products available.

MAD ABOUT MADHU'S!

You may have heard of Madhu's, especially if you've been to a big Asian wedding, or dined at what was formerly The Brilliant in Southall, now called Madhu's. The Anand family is synonymous with award-winning Asian catering and I was delighted to learn that, as well as having a branch in Harvey Nichols, the company has just opened a brasserie in Richmond, on Sheen Road. Needless to say I was keen to check it out and having recently dined there, I'm pleased to report that I think it's destined for great success.



Situated on a corner, the brasserie's stylishly decorated with an open kitchen and a robata grill. For added theatre, customers can sit at the counter, overlooking the tandoor oven and watching the chefs at work.

The menu is well composed, with a dedicated section for the signature toasted wraps, served warm in a soft roti or naan. Fillings include chilli chicken, marinated paneer and minced lamb. At £9 each they will make an excellent light main course - probably needed after the generous portions of wonderful starters!

We had a portion of Palak Patta Chaat (£9.50) and a Chilli Paneer (£9.50). The chaat was not only visually magnificent, but tasted fab too. Samphire and crispy battered spinach leaves with chilli, turmeric, fresh coriander, dressed with yoghurt and tamarind...it was great. The paneer was marinated in ginger and garlic, and tossed with green chillies, onions and peppers: rich, smokey and subtly spiced. The portions are large enough for two or three people to share. The menu clearly highlights all allergens and is great for vegans and vegetarians. If anything it was a tad scant on fish and seafood, with a prawn moilee curry (£25) the only pescatarian choice on the menu. Thali's are a signature dish at Madhu's and we were shown a beautiful curved, copper thali platter, apparently designed for the Prince of Wales. The idea of being able to try lots of different dishes appealed, so I chose the non-vegetarian thali (£29.50). It was good, a gastronomic adventure on a tray, but slightly heavy on the carbs with naan, rice and a creamy dal. It was very generous, and I couldn't really do it justice after the wonderful starters.



I would have liked another meat such as lamb or perhaps a few prawns, as the only meat with a thali was chicken. My husband very much enjoyed his fragrant Karai lamb (£19.50) and I struggled to let him allow me to taste it! He commented that the grilled vegetables had cleverly been added to the sauce later, allowing the flavours to shine through and complement the incredibly tender lamb.

The idea of a dessert after all this food didn't seem like a good one, but Salma, our lovely waitress, persuaded us to share a tasting portion of the Gajar ka Halva (caramelised carrot with butter, sugar and fresh cream) and some Badam Kulfi (ice cream made with cream and almonds). All desserts are £6.50. Reader, it was surprisingly light, while also rich, and very good indeed.



Drinks vary considerably in price, with a limited, but well planned menu. If you choose carefully, you can enjoy house white wine at £26 a bottle, but the cocktails at £14 each and a 330ml Cobra at £5 might be okay in Harvey Nichols but in residential Richmond seem slightly steep. Strangely a glass of champagne (Laurent Perrier Brut) at £12 was reasonable. The ubiquitous Whispering Angel is £55 a bottle, but if you stick to the excellent house red or white, you can quaff well with your meal.

I loved Madhu's, and look forward to going back; I want to try the wraps next time, but will definitely choose the same starters. Sadly it's not yet open at lunchtimes, but evenings 5-11 pm and closed on Tuesdays. Takeaway is available (collection only)



The Incident Room

by Olivia Hirst and David Byrne

OHADS at Coward Studio, Hampton Hill

With police desks covered with typewriters, wireless radios, and rotary dial telephones, *The Incident Room* recreates the increasingly desperate attempts made to track down the Yorkshire Ripper. Now an arrest has been made, and Megan Winterburn and Dick Holland pack up the eponymous incident room where dedicated years have been spent processing the vast



quantities of reports, statements, and leads. Despite Holland's advice to put the case behind her, Winterburn reflects on the past years and we flashback to 1976, with a new team assembled. Although these officers feel like the lead characters throughout, as they occasionally pause the action to comment on what might have been, or to correct each other's recollections, this is very much an ensemble piece.

Despite the high stakes of the serial killer stalking Yorkshire this is really a character piece, directed with intensity by Harry Medawar. When it comes to the extensive television news items, as well as short scenes from other locations, these are pre-filmed and projected on the back wall of the set. This sensible step keeps up the show's pace by avoiding awkward transitions, and makes the play feel thoroughly immersive. These segments are produced with great attention to detail, even down to the faded colour grading of late 1970s television.

Every time the Yorkshire Ripper's real name comes up, most of the audience recognise it at once. The play exploits the murderer's notoriety as a rich source of irony right up to the reveal. As Winterburn starts to reflect, the Yorkshire Ripper isn't truly a monster, he's a journalistic creation. The man they are chasing is an ordinary man in many respects, and that is the most terrifying thing about him.

Read Andrew Lawston's review at www.markaspen.com/2022/04/20/incident-rm

Photography courtesy of OHADS



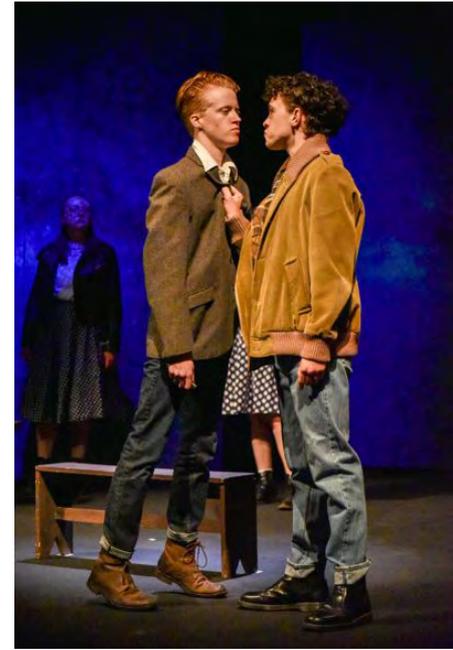


Rebel Without a Cause

by James Fuller

YAT at Hampton Hill Theatre

The iconic film of the same title, shown in the 1950s, which I still remember with much affection, set thoughts running: how would a theatre production of *Rebel Without A Cause* stand up to the film classic. Any concerns I had soon disappeared as the atmosphere of the theatre, combined with the minimal set, dimmed lighting and large screen projections, all created an enthralling and tense theatre experience. Once going, the play moved along with tremendous energy and pace and with some outstanding performances by actors.



Essentially the play tells the story of Jim Stark, a lonely, conflicted character who comes from a good home and wants for nothing except the advice and understanding he craves for from his parents. His mother is domineering, and his father is incapable of answering questions and making decisions. New to the district and to the school, he finds difficulty making sense of everything. Trouble comes to him in a big way. In a period of just twenty-four hours he discovers violence, true love and calamity.

The actual staging of this production, including simplicity of set, lighting, screen projections, sound effects and music were superb. There were four scenes that I found particularly memorising: the scene inside the planetarium where tension and drama unfurls against a screen projection of stars and planets; the race scene - this worked so well with spectators collaborating together as a group and responding to the highs and lows of the race, building up to the moment when the car goes over the cliff; inside the large mansion house with the gang circling Plato, like animals advancing on its prey before the kill.



Without doubt the two co-directors, Rick de Kerckhove and Rowan D'Albert had a firm grip for this production was brilliantly directed. Actors and audience were very much in the moment, carried along by its strength.

Read Celia Bard's review at www.markaspen.com/2022/04/28/rebel-cause

Photography by Jojo Leppink, Handwritten Photography



The Misfortune of the English

by Pamela Carter

UK Première at the Orange Tree Theatre Richmond until 28th May

Three schoolboys bound on to the Orange Tree's stage, full of vigour and exuberance, to tell the audience about their walking holiday in Germany. Schoolboy banter is largely timeless, and school uniforms don't tend to change much either, so it takes a while before the truth of the trip sinks in. The school trip is taking place in 1936, in Nazi Germany, just before Adolf Hitler's birthday.



And as they narrate the start of their walk from Freiburg, and the first references are made to rain, storms, and sleet, it becomes clear that this is not the carefree stroll in the woods that the boys are anticipating.

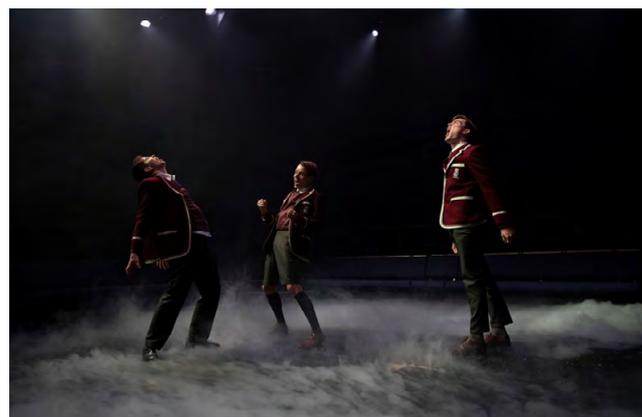
Pamela Carter's *The Misfortune of the English* contains much food for thought. Sometimes moving, sometimes troubling, often very funny, the play dramatises a real tragedy when a school party became lost in a mountain snowstorm. Several of the boys died as a result of their ordeal, but the survivors found themselves used as political pawns. Local Hitler Youth brigades were credited with their rescue, and they joined the parades to celebrate Hitler's birthday.

As the situation becomes truly desperate and the storm closes in, Eva Magyar's strident Tour Guide finally appears in person in a glorious climactic interlude, to lecture the boys and the audience on geography.

War is everywhere in the play. The references to life in Nazi Germany appearing relatively normal "all things considered" suggest that the boys are anticipating war. They proudly tell us that The Strand School was set up to train boys to administer and run the British Empire. That they gather to celebrate and remember the dead of the First World War. After the weather turns, a snowball fight turns into a slow-motion mock gun battle. The aggression that runs beneath the surface of this hiking trip is palpable throughout the play.

Read Andrew Lawston's review at www.markaspen.com/2022/04/29/misfortune

Photography by Ellie Kurttz



Sheila's Island

by Tim Firth

Yvonne Arnaud Productions at Richmond Theatre, then on tour until 14th May

Billed as a “sparkling, sharp-witted new comedy”, this “world premiere production” is actually a rewrite of Tim Firth’s three-decade-old hit *Neville’s Island*. The idea of making an all-female version came from Joanna Read, director of *Sheila’s Island* and CEO at Guildford’s Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, where this production originally premiered.

The play focuses on four women embarked upon an ‘outward bound’ team-building weekend-gone-wrong. Marketing Manager Sheila has been elected team captain and has then, using her cryptic crossword-solving skills, managed to strand them on a small Derwentwater island. As mobile phones die, and cold, hunger and night-time encroach, the hapless heroines are reduced to waving sparklers in a vain attempt to attract the attention of a passing party boat and then, next morning, to salvaging waterlogged slices of pizza deposited by said craft.



Firth himself acknowledges that it’s a “low-stakes situation with high-stakes emotion”. He certainly delivers the former, but not necessarily the latter. There’s simply no real ‘jeopardy’, as Hollywood scriptwriters would say. The play’s journey takes a while to get going, wanders off in various vague directions via mildly diverting japes, before, far too suddenly, reaching the end of the road. Things do get a little dark toward the end, but not for long and far too late in the play.

Firth and Read, and indeed the audience, are partly saved by having a capable company of accomplished comic actors on-board. The quartet play together in more than decent harmony, bouncing brickbats, banter and banalities between them with bravado. Just as their characters are forced to improvise with whatever they find in their backpacks, the actors ransack their own armouries for every trick, tool and technique to inject sense and verve.

Sheila’s Island is the theatrical equivalent of a long-lasting loaf: convenient, commercial, just-about-edible, aimed at the mass market and not too nourishing nor nutritious. Sheila’s team might be shipwrecked in a vaguely alien place, but the play secures its audience in a very familiar one. Resolutely middle-class, middle-aged and middle-management, it’s as safe as shopping at John Lewis.

Read Daniel Wain’s review at

www.markaspen.com/2022/04/28/sheilas-island

Photography by Craig Fuller



WIZ TALES - DENMARK

Teresa Read



Last week it was announced that Denmark is in talks with Rwanda about setting up a migrant scheme similar to the one under discussion between Rwanda and the UK government (mentioned in editions 284 and 285 of the Tribune).

Government measures in Denmark to reduce immigration date back over twenty years; border controls in 2011 sparked controversy.

Denmark is in Northern Europe, a link between Europe and Scandinavia. The land border is with Germany and its coastline is with the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. The country consists of a peninsula and many islands including Zealand (Sjælland), Fyn and Bornholm. The island of Greenland in North America, one of the world's largest islands, is self-governing but a territory of the Kingdom of Denmark. The eighteen Faroe Islands are also an autonomous region of the Kingdom of Denmark.

Danes colonised Denmark around 500 AD. The ninth century saw Danish and Viking expansion; Vikings from Scandinavia sailed as far as Greenland, Southern Europe and North Africa.

Vikings began to settle in other countries particularly England. At first they were confined to the North and East of England (the region called the Danelaw). The English resisted but by the beginning of the eleventh century all the country was under the rule of the Danes. In 1016 Canute, later King of Denmark and Norway, became King of England.



Thank you to Visit Denmark for the photographs

Information about Denmark: <https://worldinfozone.com/country.php?country=Denmark>

Mexican restaurant tackling world hunger opens in Twickenham

Zambrero, Australia's largest Mexican quick-service franchise, which donates a meal for every burrito or bowl purchased, has opened its third UK restaurant this week in Twickenham.

Offering a fresh take on Mexican favourites, with a focus on 'fusion' flavours and modern superfood ingredients, the restaurant opened on Thursday 28th April, at 30 London Road, Twickenham.



UK Chief Executive Officer, Emily Teh, said, "We're thrilled to now be open in Twickenham and were delighted by the welcome we received from the local community on our opening day. We're particularly grateful to the Twickenham community for the interest and support they've shown us with respect to our Plate4Plate program."

With a mission to stop world hunger, Zambrero donates a meal to someone in need for every burrito or bowl purchased through its Plate4Plate initiative.



To date, Zambrero's global network has donated over 56 million meals via its humanitarian partner Rise Against Hunger.

For more information about Zambrero please visit:

zambrero.co.uk

Marble Hill Opening Weekend

DATE: Sat 21 & Sun 22 May 2022

TIME: 10am-5pm

Join us for the opening of Marble Hill and meet Henrietta Howard, Countess of Suffolk, as she strolls around the beautiful gardens and parkland. The house was built for Henrietta, a remarkable woman of letters and friend of some of England's greatest writers.



During the weekend visitors will be able to tour the house, enjoy music and theatre productions in the gardens and take part in family-friendly activities.

Book tickets [HERE](#)

Tickets now on sale for the Mayor's charity lunch and summer jazz garden party

Join the Mayor of Richmond upon Thames for two special events taking place in May in aid of this year's Mayor's charities; Dose of Nature and Habitats & Heritage.

The Mayor will host a special charity lunch at Twickenham's Le Salon Privé restaurant on Thursday 19 May.

Tickets for this event include a delicious three course meal, a glass of prosecco on arrival, and a talk by guest speaker Professor Alexandre Antonelli from Kew Gardens. The event runs from 1 to 3pm with tickets priced at £35.

[Book your tickets for the charity lunch.](#)



Meanwhile on Saturday 21 May the Mayor invites residents to join him for a summer jazz garden party in the beautiful gardens of Trumpeter's House in Richmond.

Tickets for this event include a welcome drink on arrival, sandwiches, cakes, and drinks and are priced at £25. The event runs from 3 to 5pm.

[Book your tickets for the summer jazz garden party.](#)

SHEEN FOLK/BLUES FESTIVAL 2022



MAYDAY WEEKEND



SUNDAY 1ST MAY

A feast of music across the Folk-Blues-Country-Rock spectrum -
- featuring local bands and special guests

The Home Guard Club 1.30-6.30pm

76A Richmond Park Road East Sheen SW14 8LA

**Mad Stick Dog + Stiff Joints + The Hornets
+ Ted Humphreys & Nina + Guests**

Open Air Event, Admission Free, Drinks-Food-BBQ, Stalls,
Raffle, Tombola, Children-Friendly

Followed by Open Mic at The Pig & Whistle 7.30-10.30

St Mary's University

St Mary's Sports Journalism Student Wins National Award

Student on the MA Sports Journalism at St Mary's University, Twickenham Yara El-Shaboury has won the prestigious Vikki Orvice Award at the Football Writers Association's annual Football Writer Awards.



Yara won the award for her investigative article on the impact of the takeover of [Newcastle United Football Club on Yemeni Football](#), which explores how con men are exploiting young footballers who dream of competing in the European leagues. She was one of over 700 writers to enter the awards, and was shortlisted for the award with nine other student journalists. Alongside the trophy, Yara has won a £500 cash prize and a work placement in Brighton Football Club's Communications Department.

Sports Journalist Ian Ridley, Vikki Orvice's Widower, said on Twitter "Congratulations to all three [award winners] but especially Yara El-Shaboury, who wrote a brilliant piece on

the exploitation of young Yemeni footballers, on winning the Vikki Orvice prize. Vikki would have been most impressed."

Yara was joined in the shortlists by fellow St Mary's student Mary Akinsola. Mary was shortlisted for the Unheard Voices Award for her article [Race, Outrage, and the complexities of Cat Kicking](#), which looks at the wider implications of the response to the footage of Premier League footballer Kurt Zouma abusing his family cat.

Jim White of the FWA's National Executive Committee said of Yara, "Her superb investigation into predatory con men preying on young Yemeni footballers keen on making their way in Europe by pretending to be agents was a tough read, but magnificently put together."

Speaking of the Award, Sports Journalism Programme Lead Dr Daragh Mingoue said "Everyone on the programme is delighted for Yara, her article was thought provoking and shone a light on a really important issue.

"This is also a really special moment for us, as Vikki Orvice was a huge supporter of the women on our course. She started at The Sun as a football writer in 1995, one of the few women to write about sport in a national newspaper at the time and was heavily involved in establishing the Women in Football organisation, as well as serving as the vice-chair of the Football Writers' Association. She was a mentor for many of our former female graduates."



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

Fine Art students create inspired artwork for campus building

Paintings created by Richmond upon Thames College's (RuTC) Level 3 Fine Art students are currently being displayed in various spaces on the ground and first floor of the college's new campus, the Richmond Building.

The students were commissioned by Executive Director of Business Development and Innovation at RuTC, Sheila Fraser-Whyte, to create pieces of art for the college walls that reflected the college's identity and core values of trust, excellence and integrity.

Students initially began to explore different ideas around what the themes meant to them as students of RuTC. They also explored different activities to generate imagery to use for the paintings.



Following this creative process, students worked in groups to create the large-scale paintings. Each painting is 5 x 4 ft in size, with all pieces focusing on different aspects including college community, diversity, and the positive impact of education.

Take a look at the [gallery for a collection of images taken during the creation of the project and finished pieces.](#)



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ROCKINTHELOCKIN

Next Up: Manchester United

Monday Night Football for Brentford next week

From [Brentford FC](#)

Brentford are now in to the final month of their first Premier League season, looking to continue a fine run of form. The Bees have lost just once in seven matches and have won five of them. They take that run to Old Trafford next and face Manchester United at the start of next week.



The match will take place at 8pm on Monday, 2 May, and is set to be a landmark one for Brentford. It will be the first time The Bees have played on Sky Sports' flagship Monday Night Football. It is also likely to be the highest crowd any Brentford side has played a competitive match in front of.

Brentford will head to Manchester on the back of a 0-0 draw with Tottenham Hotspur on Saturday, 23 April. That completed an unbeaten month for The Bees, who had previously beaten Chelsea, West Ham United and Watford

in consecutive weeks. Only Leicester City have beaten Brentford since the end of February.

Brentford ended that game 11th in the table but now sit 12th. Brighton and Hove Albion, with a draw against Southampton, climbed above The Bees on Sunday. Brentford are in a group of five teams separated by just three points but play after everyone around them next weekend.

Manchester United were beaten 3-1 by Arsenal on Saturday and sit sixth in the Premier League table. They face Chelsea on Thursday, 28 April, but will remain in sixth no matter the result of that game. The loss at Arsenal's was Manchester United's fourth in a row away but they have not been beaten at home in the Premier League since 3 January.

Manchester United beat Norwich City in their last home match. They have won three and drawn three of their last six at Old Trafford. Brentford's visit does, because the Chelsea match has been shifted from later in May, their last home game of the campaign.

Brentford were beaten 3-1 in the reverse fixture in West London in January. The Bees had the better of the first half but could not score and conceded three times in quick succession after the break. Ivan Toney scored for The Bees.

The teams also met in an entertaining pre-season friendly in July. The game finished 2-2 with The Bees coming from behind twice thanks to goals from Shandon Baptiste and Bryan Mbeumo. Before January, the sides had not met in a competitive game since United won a League Cup tie in 1975.

The last league matches between the teams before this season were in Division One in 1946/47. United won at Old Trafford and drew at Griffin Park and have been victorious in five of the last six games between the teams. Brentford did win five of the six matches between the sides before that.

All tickets for the match have been sold but it will be live on Sky Sports in the UK and Brentford fans can also listen live on Bees Player. Full information on the service can be seen [here](#). Bees fans living overseas should check [this page](#) to see if they can watch the game live.



Discounted bank holiday football at Hampton & Richmond Borough FC

The club have announced a number of special ticket prices for this weekend's final home game of the centenary season.

Hampton and Richmond Borough FC will take on Slough Town at The Cleo Saul Beveree Stadium on Monday 2 May.

All tickets prices have been reduced to mark the final home game of the season. Come and support your local football team and enjoy the friendly family atmosphere.



Adult tickets are only £10, with concession tickets on sale for £5. Youth tickets (13 to 17) are priced at only £1 while under 12s go for free!

In order to allow the club to prepare as best as possible and reduce congestion on the day, the club is encouraging all supporters to purchase tickets in advance via the ticket shop.

Book tickets [HERE](#)

As well as the specially priced tickets, the club are rewarding season ticket holders by allowing them to bring a guest along to the fixture for free. To take advantage of the offer, season ticket holders just need to turn up with their guest via their usual entrance on the day.



England Women Sevens squad for Langford named

Head coach James Rodwell has named his England Women Sevens squad for the forthcoming HSBC World Sevens Series tournament in Langford (30 April-1 May and live on www.World.Rugby).

Drawn in Pool C, England face New Zealand, Fiji and USA at Starlight Stadium.

Abbie Brown captains the group with core players Ellie Boatman, Abi Burton, Heather Cowell, Grace Crompton, Alicia Maude, Isla Norman Bell, Emma Uren and Amy Wilson Hardy also included.

Jodie Ounsley is set for her first sevens appearance since February 2020 while Worcester Warriors' Jade Shekells, Exeter Chiefs' Merryn Doidge and DMP Durham Sharks' Lauren Torley are set for their World Series debuts and maiden England Sevens caps.

Rodwell said: "We have some really talented players in the under 20s programme who have joined us in camps in recent weeks which has made selection tough for Langford.

"We have real quality coming through within the women's game and English rugby and it's been exciting to see them in camp with us.

"We have some new faces in the squad among some familiar names. Jade (Shekells), Lauren (Torley) and Merryn (Doidge) all fully deserve the opportunity to represent England sevens and I'm really excited to see them play and what they can do on the pitch.

"We are in a tough pool where we welcome New Zealand and Fiji back to the World Sevens Series and for us as a group this is another chance for us to learn and grow together as we build throughout the season towards the Commonwealth Games."

England Women 7s squad for Langford

Ellie Boatman
Abbie Brown (C)
Abi Burton
Heather Cowell
Grace Crompton
Merryn Doidge

Alicia Maude
Isla Norman-Bell
Jodie Ounsley
Jade Shekells
Lauren Torley
Emma Uren
Amy Wilson Hardy

Pool C Schedule

Saturday 30 April

England 7s v New Zealand 7s – 09.52 local time/17.52 UK time

England 7s v Fiji 7s – 12.56 local time/20.56 UK time

England 7s v USA 7s – 16.00 local time/ 00.00 UK time (Sunday 1 May)



Children in custody: secure training centres and secure schools

The opening of the first secure school, intended to improve the life chances of children in custody, has been delayed by approximately three years, according to the National Audit Office (NAO).

Most children in custody in England and Wales are placed in a young offender institution (YOI). Those who are too vulnerable are placed in either a secure children's home, or a secure training centre (STC).

The 2016 government-commissioned *Review of the Youth Justice System in England and Wales* recommended that the Ministry of Justice should address longstanding concerns about the welfare of children in custody by opening secure schools. The Ministry accepted this recommendation and committed to delivering two secure schools.

The Ministry and Her Majesty's Prison & Probation Service (HMPPS) expect the number of children in custody to more than double by September 2024, after a long-term decline. The forecast is based on the collective impact of recruiting 23,000 additional police officers, reversing COVID-19 court backlogs, and tougher sentencing following the passing of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Reform Bill.

Certain groups of children are increasingly over-represented in custody. In the year ending March 2021, on average 53% of children in custody were from ethnic minority groups, compared to 32% in the year ending March 2011.

The proportion of black children in custody increased from 18% to 29% during the same period. The small number of girls in custody are more likely to have experienced sexual and physical victimisation, and relationship difficulties.

Government initially contracted out STC provision and considers that management failed to meet good standards. Inspectors have persistently raised concerns over the welfare, safety, and outcomes for children in England's three STCs, rating them as 'requiring improvement to be good' or 'inadequate' in every year since 2017.

HMPPS terminated its contract with the private sector contractor, MTC, for the management of Rainsbrook STC in December 2021. It is also considering how the terms of its contract with G4S Care and Justice Services UK Limited, the private sector contractor managing Oakhill STC, can be used to achieve improvement. Medway STC was under the management of HMPPS when it was closed in 2020.

STC failures have resulted in children being moved to areas of the youth custodial

estate that had previously been judged as less suitable for their needs. When Medway STC closed, around one-third of the 35 children were moved to a YOI, around a quarter were moved to another STC, and a small minority transferred to the adult estate. When Rainsbrook STC closed, around a third of the 33 children were transferred to a YOI, and a very small minority were transferred to a secure children's home, or Oakhill STC.

The first secure school was originally due to open at the Medway STC site in autumn 2020 but has been delayed until November 2023. Progress has been slower than hoped because of assumptions made about timescales at the start of the project, changes HMPPS needed to make to meet Ofsted's advice on the standards for secure children's homes (SCH) registration, and the time it took to establish the basis on which a charity could run a secure school.

The cost estimate for converting the Medway STC site to a secure school rose from £4.9 million to £36.5 million, due mainly to significant design revisions after due diligence. Due to wider financial constraints, HMPPS has not started work on the second secure school.

The Ministry and HMPPS expect secure schools to accommodate any children regardless of level of need, but the provider will ultimately decide which children it accepts. In July 2019, the Ministry appointed the Oasis Charitable Trust (Oasis) to establish a Secure Academy Trust to run the first secure school which is expected to provide 49 places.

Under these arrangements, managers of the Secure Academy Trust, like SCH managers, will be able to reject the placement of children if it considers that it cannot meet their needs while also meeting the needs of other children. HMPPS is considering how its funding agreement with Oasis can be used to ensure that there is a placement available for every child.

The Ministry and HMPPS recognise that significant work is required to improve the youth custodial estate if it is to meet the increased demand for places and children's needs. As at January 2022, the Ministry's proposals included: opening the first secure school and securing funding for the second; improving existing YOI and STC provision; and possibly re-opening Rainsbrook STC.

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



National Audit Office

Investigation into government's actions to combat waste crime in England

Government does not have the data it needs to assess the scale of waste crime in England, and the incentives for criminals to enter the waste market have increased, according to the National Audit Office (NAO).

The 25-Year Environment Plan, published in 2018, states government's ambition to eliminate waste crime and illegal waste sites in England within 25 years (by 2043). The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) set out its approach to tackling waste crime in the Resources and Waste Strategy (the Strategy), and the Environment Agency (the Agency) is responsible for investigating waste crime.

The Joint Unit for Waste Crime (the Joint Unit) was established in January 2020 to tackle serious and organised crime in the waste sector and consists of nine strategic partner organisations.

Defra and the Agency understand the nature of waste crime but recognise that the data they collect does not reflect its full extent. They have committed to improving how they measure waste crime, including through electronic tracking. Today's NAO report finds:

- The number of active illegal waste sites in England known to the Agency has reduced from 685 in 2018-19 to 470 in 2020-21. However, travel restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in fewer cases being identified.
- The number of fly-tipping incidents reported by local authorities has risen most years since 2012-13 and reached 1.13 million in 2020-21 - at a cost of £11.6 million to clear large-scale incidents. Most incidents involved household waste, and the most common place for fly-tipping to occur was on highways.
- Based on a 2015 estimate, the Agency believes that there is widespread abuse of exemptions from environmental permits for certain waste operations.
- The Agency does not know the scale of the illegal export of waste that may cause serious harm in the countries it is sent to. Since 2013-14, the number of containers intercepted and found to contain waste being exported illegally has varied between 200 and 500 containers per year.

The large rise in the standard rate of landfill tax has increased the returns criminals can potentially make from certain types of waste crime. The rise in landfill tax saw the amount of waste sent to landfill reduce by 75% between 2010-11 and 2020-21.

At the same time, there has been an increase in the money criminals can make by avoiding landfill tax through the misdescription of waste, illegal waste sites, and some types of fly-tipping. HM Revenue & Customs estimates that in 2019-20, £200 million of landfill tax was not

paid through non-compliance.

Organised crime groups have become more involved in waste crime. The 60 organised crime groups monitored by the Joint Unit have extensive involvement in other types of crime - 70% are involved in specialist money laundering. Over the first half of 2021-22, the Joint Unit led or took part in 24 coordinated days of action with partners to prevent and disrupt the involvement of organised crime groups in the waste sector, resulting in 35 arrests.

The most common actions that the Agency takes in relation to illegal waste sites are issuing advice and guidance (52%) and sending warning letters (37%). The Agency's response to investigations into breaches of environmental permit conditions and major fly-tipping incidents follows the same pattern.

The number of times the Agency has prosecuted organisations for waste incidents has dropped from a 2007-08 peak of almost 800, to around 50 per year in the period running up to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Progress against the actions in the Strategy has been slower than Defra anticipated. Defra told the NAO that the COVID-19 pandemic meant that resources had to be diverted, and though some actions in the Strategy have been completed, many are at the consultation stage. An evaluation of the Strategy's progress has been commissioned and will be published in **2027**.

The Agency has received ringfenced government funding to combat waste crime as incentives for criminals have increased, but many other organisations involved in tackling waste crime have not. The Agency's spending on enforcement and waste crime rose from around £12 million in 2010-11, to £17 million in 2021-22 in cash terms.

During the same period local authorities and the police have been making resource decisions in the context of shrinking budgets. The Joint Unit and its partner organisations do not receive any dedicated funding from government.

Gareth Davies, the head of the NAO, said:

“Defra and the Environment Agency agree that their data significantly understates the scale of some types of waste crime. The evidence available shows that waste crime is increasing, and organised criminals are becoming more involved.

“Government needs to target resources effectively and understand what progress it is making towards its aim of eliminating waste crime by 2043. To do so, it will need a robust set of performance measures to identify when actions are off-track.”

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



National Audit Office

Multi-country outbreak of *Salmonella* Typhimurium linked to chocolate products – Europe and the United States of America

Outbreak at a glance

On 27 March 2022, the United Kingdom notified WHO of a cluster of cases with monophasic *Salmonella* Typhimurium sequence type 34 infection. Investigations linked the outbreak to chocolate produced in Belgium, which have been distributed to at least 113 countries. A global alert was released by INFOSAN on 10 April, initiating a global product recall. To date, a total of 151 genetically related cases suspected to be linked to the consumption of the implicated chocolate products have been reported from 11 countries. The risk of spread in the WHO European region and globally is assessed as moderate until information is available on the full recall of the products.

Outbreak overview

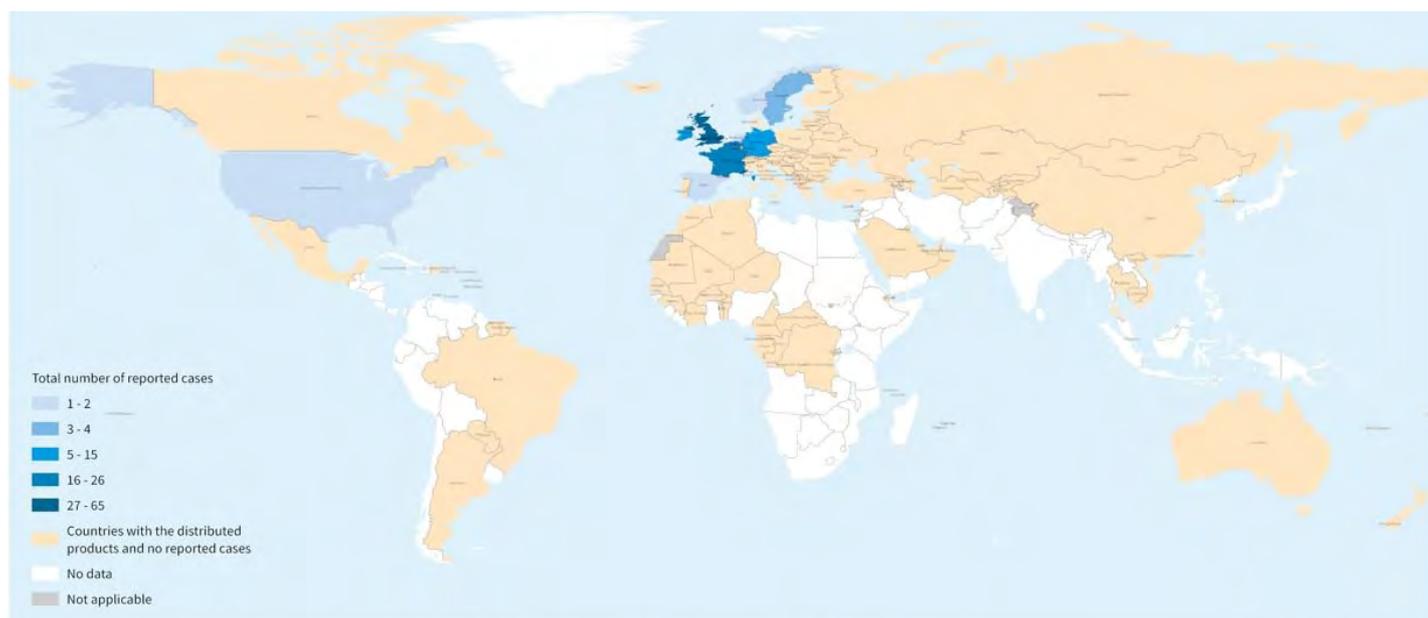
On 27 March 2022, WHO was informed by the IHR National Focal Point of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the United Kingdom) of a widely distributed cluster of *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium (*S. Typhimurium*) with an unidentified source. Molecular typing confirmed isolation of the bacteria *S. Typhimurium* sequence typing (ST) 34 and epidemiological evidence has subsequently linked the outbreak to chocolate products from Belgium, which, as of 25 April 2022, have been found to be distributed to at least 113 countries and territories across all WHO Regions.

Monophasic *S. Typhimurium* matching the human outbreak cases were identified in buttermilk tanks at the Ferrero Corporate plant in Arlon, Belgium in December 2021 and January 2022. After implementing hygiene measures and negative *Salmonella* testing, the implicated products (all Kinder products manufactured at the implicated facility (Arlon) including Kinder Surprise, Kinder Mini Eggs, Kinder Surprise Maxi 100g and Kinder Schoko-Bons) were distributed across Europe and globally.

According to the analyses of the United Kingdom Health Security Agency (UKHSA), the outbreak strain is resistant to six types of antibiotics: penicillins, aminoglycosides (streptomycin, spectinomycin, kanamycin, and gentamycin), phenicols, sulfonamides, trimethoprim, tetracyclines.

As of 25 April 2022, a total of 151 genetically related cases of *S. Typhimurium* suspected to be linked to the consumption of the implicated chocolate products have been reported from 11 countries (Figure 1): Belgium (26 cases), France (25 cases), Germany (10 cases), Ireland (15 cases), Luxembourg (1 case), the Netherlands (2 cases), Norway (1 case), Spain (1 case), Sweden (4 cases), the United Kingdom (65 cases) and the United States of America (1 case).

Figure 1. Geographical distribution of reported *Salmonella* Typhimurium outbreak cases (n=151) and countries where implicated products have been distributed (n=113), as of 25 April 2022.



The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of WHO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

Data Source: World Health Organization
Map Production: WHO Health Emergencies Programme

 World Health Organization
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Symptom onset dates of cases ranged from 21 December 2021 to 28 March 2022. Children under 10 years of age (n=134; 89%) were disproportionately affected and females represented 66% (n=99) of reported cases. Information on reported symptoms and severity were available for 21 cases, and of these, 12 (57%) reported bloody diarrhea and nine (43%) were hospitalized. As of 25 April 2022, no fatalities associated with the outbreak has been reported.

Epidemiology of Salmonellosis

Salmonellosis is a disease caused by nontyphoidal *Salmonella* bacteria. While approximately 2,500 serotypes have been identified, the majority of human infections are caused by two serotypes of *Salmonella*: Typhimurium and Enteritidis.

Salmonellosis is characterized by acute onset of fever, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea that can be bloody as reported in most of the cases in the current outbreak. The onset of symptoms typically occurs 6–72 hours after ingestion of food or water contaminated with *Salmonella*, and illness lasts 2–7 days. Symptoms of salmonellosis are relatively mild and patients will make a recovery without specific treatment in most cases. However, in some cases, particularly in children and elderly patients, the associated dehydration can become severe and life-threatening.

Salmonella bacteria are widely distributed in domestic and wild animals, such as poultry, pigs, and cattle; and in pets, including cats, dogs, birds, and reptiles such as turtles. *Salmonella* can pass through the entire food chain from animal feed, primary production, and all the way to households or food-service establishments and institutions. Salmonellosis in humans is generally contracted through the consumption of contaminated food of animal origin (mainly eggs, meat, poultry, and milk). Person-to-person transmission can also occur through the faecal-oral route.

Public health response

- Food chain investigations were performed by countries where cases were identified and risk management actions were taken, including withdrawal of all product lines produced in the implicated production facility and extensive product recalls, supported by news alerts and advice for consumers.
- The World Health Organization/Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN) issued a global alert on 10 April notifying Member States of the outbreak and sharing information about implicated products linked to the outbreak to initiate a global recall. The INFOSAN Secretariat provided distribution details and sought information on risk management measures implemented and further distribution of the implicated products from Member States.
- WHO Member States were encouraged to report through INFOSAN the identification of distribution of new implicated products not yet reported, and/or the identification of cases possibly linked to the outbreak.
- The INFOSAN Secretariat will continue to update affected Member States, directly and through the INFOSAN Community Website, as more information becomes available, and continues collaborating closely with various partners (e.g. European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), European Commission, etc.) at the regional level to complement investigations and facilitate information exchange.

WHO risk assessment

Salmonella infections are typically mild and do not require treatment, however, children and elderly individuals are at greater risk for severe complications related to associated dehydration. To date, most cases have been in children under 10 years of age which may be due to the implicated product being targeted at children.

While there have been no fatalities associated with the outbreak reported as of 25 April 2022, among the cases with information on symptoms and severity (n=21), a high hospitalization rate (43%; n=9) was observed. Further information is needed to allow for a more accurate assessment of the severity

associated with this event, including data on symptoms.

The outbreak has been epidemiologically and molecularly linked to chocolate produced in Belgium and distributed globally to over 113 countries and territories across all WHO Regions. While 150 of 151 known cases have been reported in Europe, one case has been reported in the United States of America and there is the likelihood of additional cases being reported from other countries given the broad distribution of the products during the Easter holiday which may lead to increased consumption of the implicated product or transportation of the implicated product to additional locations as a result of holiday-related travel.

Given that the identification of existing cases was through advanced molecular techniques, which are not routinely used in all countries, there is a likelihood that some proportion of cases will go undetected.

The risk of the event spreading within the most affected WHO Region, the WHO European Region, as well as globally is assessed as moderate until information is available on the full recall of the implicated products. Countries that have reported cases have good capacity for case management; however, information on disease severity associated with this event is still limited.

WHO advice

Prevention of salmonellosis: Prevention requires control measures at all stages of the food chain, from agricultural production, to processing, manufacturing and preparation of foods in both commercial establishments and at home.

General prevention measures for the public also include: handwashing with soap and water in particular after contact with pets or farm animals, or after having been to the toilet; ensuring food is properly cooked; drinking only pasteurized or boiled milk; avoiding ice unless it is made from safe water; washing of fruits and vegetables thoroughly.

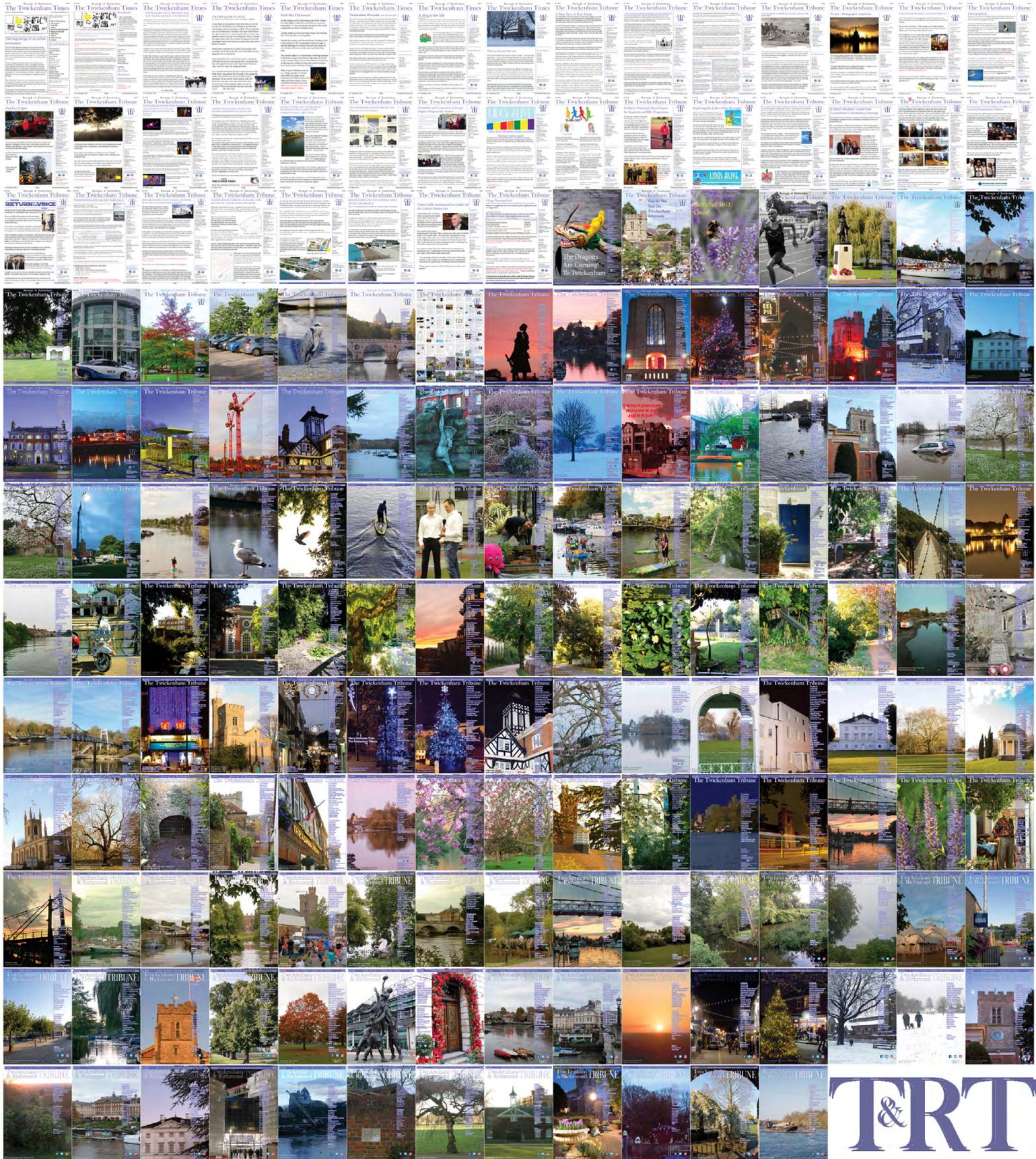
WHO recommends the general public to follow the information provided by their national governments to get more information about the outbreak and implicated products.

Surveillance:

- WHO Member States for which implicated products have been distributed should investigate and report to WHO cases caused or suspected to be caused by the outbreak *Salmonella* strain. Enhanced public health surveillance activities are also recommended to be initiated.
- Member States with insufficient or no Whole Genome Sequence (WGS) capacity should be on the alert for, and investigate, human infections with *Salmonella* Typhimurium strains that have multi-drug resistance profiles, particularly showing resistance or having resistance markers to kanamycin/gentamicin, trimethoprim or co-trimoxazole (trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole), and chloramphenicol.

Treatment: Routine antimicrobial therapy is not recommended for mild or moderate cases in healthy individuals. This is because antimicrobials may not completely eliminate the bacteria and may result in resistant strains, which subsequently can lead to the drug becoming ineffective. Treatment in severe cases is electrolyte replacement (to provide electrolytes, such as sodium, potassium and chloride ions, lost through vomiting and diarrhoea) and rehydration.

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