

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE



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Editors

Berkley Driscoll
Teresa Read



11th November 2022

T&RT

Twickenham War Memorial, Radnor Gardens, 11th November

Photo by Berkley Driscoll

TickerTape - News in Brief

Twickenham Riverside – Planning Committee Date

The planning department has informed (some) residents of the date for the planning committee hearing for the council’s controversial luxury housing development on Twickenham Riverside. The hearing has been set for Thursday 24th November, 7pm at York House. Details of the meeting can be viewed at the council’s calendar of meetings [HERE](#), and details of the planning application can be viewed [HERE](#)

Remembrance Sunday services taking place across the borough

This year Remembrance Day services are being held across Richmond Upon Thames on Sunday 13 November 2022.

Find details of the remembrance events across the borough [HERE](#)

Roadworks - A316 Lower Richmond Road and Chertsey Road Monday 14 until Wednesday 30 November

From 22:00 until 05:00 each Monday to Friday night between Monday 14 and Wednesday 30 November, essential maintenance works will be taking place on A316 Lower Richmond Road and Chertsey Road. The first section of these works will see a number of roads closed between Hospital Bridge Road and London Road from Monday 14 until Thursday 17 November, and between Clifford Avenue and London Road roundabout from Thursday 17 until Saturday 19 November, and on Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 November.

Get your free grit ready for winter ice

Residents are once again being offered free bags of grit and rock salt as part of Richmond Council’s annual winter initiative to tackle snow and ice.

The Council is once more offering borough residents up to 50 kilos of grit free-of-charge to help them clear frozen footpaths.

The rock salt will be available for collection from the Council’s Depot in Langhorn Drive, Twickenham, TW2 7SG, from Monday 14 November until Friday 18 November 2022 between the hours of 9am and 3pm.

As the depot is a secure area, you will need to sign in at the gate reception so please ensure you have photo ID and proof of address with you when you arrive.

The Council’s winter gritting service, which runs from October to April, will continue to keep main roads clear of any snow and ice and ensure entrances to important public buildings remain accessible.

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TwickerSeal gathered his chums at the wonderful Radnor Gardens in Strawberry Hill.

Earlier they had paid their respects at the War Memorial to commemorate Armistice Day, but TwickerDuck wanted to know why they were all still gathered.

TwickerSeal explained that the 11th of November celebrated a milestone for the Twickenham and Richmond Tribune.

You have probably forgotten, said TwickerSeal, but the first ever edition of the Tribune was published on Friday 11th November 2016.

Gosh, exclaimed TwickerSwan, so today marks the 6th birthday of the Tribune!

Yes, said TwickerSeal, and it has been published every Friday since then without fail.



Covid-19

Teresa Read

Weekly epidemiological update on COVID-19 - 9 November 2022

At the regional level, the number of newly reported weekly cases decreased or remained stable across four of the six WHO regions: the European Region (-39%), the African Region (-18%), the Eastern Mediterranean Region (-11%) and the Region of the Americas (-3%); while case numbers increased in the South-East Asia Region (+28%) and the Western Pacific Region (+10%).

The number of new weekly deaths decreased or remained stable across four regions: the European Region (-40%), the Region of the Americas (-21%), the Eastern Mediterranean Region (-14%) and the African Region (-4%); while the number of deaths increased in the South-East Asia Region (+535%:mainly due to batch reporting from India) and the Western Pacific Region (+8%).

At the country level, the highest numbers of new weekly cases were reported from Japan (401 693 new cases; +42%), the Republic of Korea (299,440 new cases; +24%), the United States of America (266,104 new cases; +5%), Germany (224,099 new cases; -40%) and China (219,102 new cases; -15%).

The highest numbers of new weekly deaths were reported from the United States of America (2,480 new deaths; -20%), India (1,484 new deaths; +2,598% mainly due to batch reporting), China (539 new deaths; +10%), the Russian Federation (484 new deaths; -15%) and France (404 new deaths; -20%).

European Region

The European Region reported just under 717,000 new cases, a 39% decrease as compared to the previous week. Two (3%) of the 61 countries for which data are available reported increases in new cases of 20% or greater, with the highest proportional increases observed in Uzbekistan (189 vs 139 new cases; +36%), and Cyprus (3,544 vs 2,821 new cases; +26%).

The highest numbers of new cases were reported from Germany (224,099 new cases; 269.5 new cases per 100,000; -40%), France (126,497 new cases; 194.5 new cases per 100,000; -44%), and Italy (110,988 new cases; 186.1 new cases per 100,000; -47%).

The number of new weekly deaths in the region decreased by 40% as compared to the previous week, with 2,679 new deaths reported. The highest numbers of new deaths were reported from the Russian Federation (484 new deaths; <1 new death per 100,000; -15%), France (404 new deaths; <1 new death per 100,000; -20%), and Italy (335 new deaths; <1 new death per 100,000; -40%).

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

BBC News (World): Cruise ship with 800 Covid cases docks in Sydney

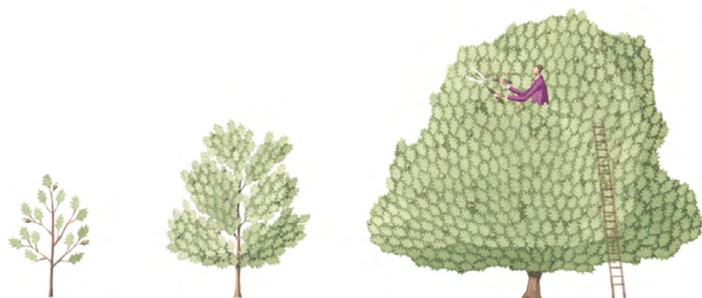
ALJAZEERA: Global air travel rebounds to 74 percent of pre-pandemic levels

Covid-19 Public Inquiry UK: the UK Covid-19 Inquiry opens its third investigation, which considers the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on healthcare in England

9NEWS: Queensland enters new covid-19 wave

SKY NEWS: No let-up in China's zero-COVID stance as cases surge to highest since Shanghai lockdown

CARICOM TODAY: Global disparity in access to essential vaccines, says WHO report



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darryl parkin

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The Tree Agency

He died too young

By Simon Fowler

Sunday is Remembrance Sunday marking British losses in wars since 1914. One of whom is Harry Thomas Green from Kew. He was one of perhaps 250,000 teenage boys who enlisted in the British Army during the First World War.

His military career was unknown until a chance discovery in a local newspaper revealed his story.

Born in 1899, Harry Thomas Green was the son of a fishmonger in Kew and attended King's School in the village. Later he became an electrician. He was also a member of the local Boy Scout troop.

Harry claimed he was aged 19 when he enlisted in the 9th Battalion East Surrey Regiment in January 1915, but was only 15. After basic training he crossed the Channel to France in August 1915 where he received further training surviving the front line.

And then into the bloody chaotic trenches themselves. Green's death on the night of 3 March 1916 came during a vicious artillery barrage on the British front line. The battalion war diary records that as a result the parapet was broken in many places. There must have been fears that this would lead to a German trench raid, but thankfully one did not materialise. Instead, soldiers worked tirelessly to repair the damage.

According to the officer writing the war diary the men were working on their own initiative and he commented that they behaved 'remarkably well'. One can imagine the panic and the frantic digging to shore up the defences. Seven men were killed, including Harry Green. Twelve others were wounded.

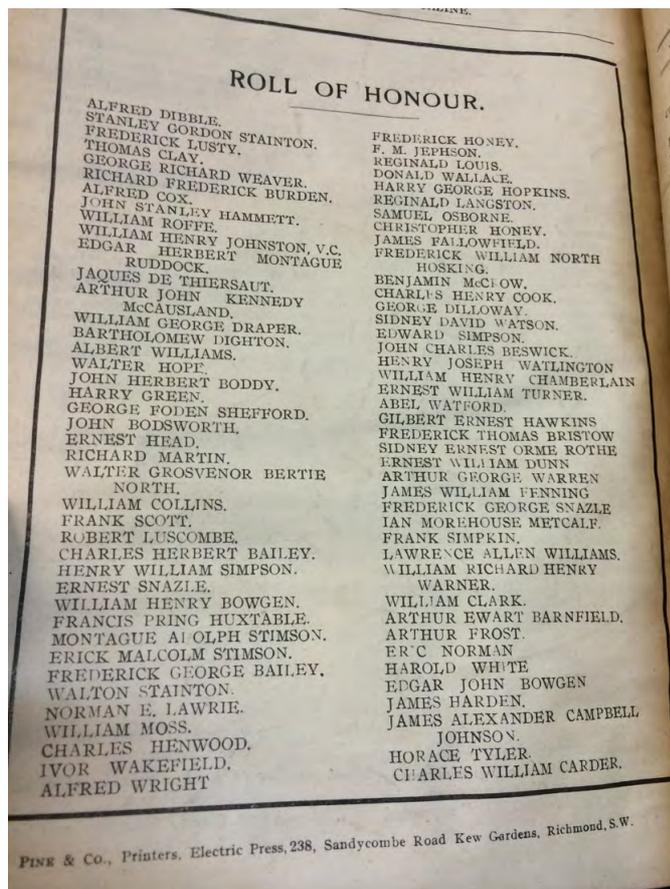
Most families received details of the deaths of loved ones in a letter or telegram, but it was not unknown for the news to come from a comrade. And this seems to be the case with Harry's parents. Within a week of his death, his father received a letter from Pte J B Bishop saying that Harry had 'died a hero's death. Going to help those who were wounded, he was killed himself. He died suddenly and mercifully.'

Green apparently was trying to save a man called Sutcliffe, probably Fred Sutcliffe from Accrington. Harry's sacrifice was in vain. Sutcliffe died that night, but was swallowed up by the mud as he has no known grave.

Green's story and Bishop's letter appeared in the local papers under the headline 'Kew Gardens lad doing a man's work'. The *Richmond and Twickenham Times* wrote of 'A touching but splendid story.'

Harry Green himself was buried in a cemetery near Ypres. The record of his death only gave the initials with no other details, which is perhaps why he had been forgotten for a century. He is also commemorated on a plaque to the war dead of the parish in St Luke's Church in Kew.

Thanks to James Castillo Olley



The men from Kew who died during the First World War. Green's name can be found half down the left hand column.

Progress, what Progress? MP Sarah Olney warns that Hammersmith Bridge solution which benefits Richmond Park residents is still out of reach

By Guy Leman

While Castelnau Road, which stretches from Hammersmith Bridge into Barnes, may be quieter these days with fewer motorists, in recent weeks noises from local residents, pressure groups and local and national government representatives have brought the issue back into the forefront of local politics. Indeed, while a change of leadership at the top of the country has offered some hope to those wanting to see action taken on bridge repairs, Liberal Democrat MP for Richmond Park Sarah Olney has warned that Richmond representatives and residents need to continue to fight for the right to be heard, in the hope that 'the community is not excluded from the decision making process.'

Hammersmith Bridge has been shut to motorists since April 2019 and only reopened, following on off closures, to pedestrians and cyclists permanently from the summer of 2021. While in recent months plans have been agreed on to reinstate motor traffic through the use of a double decker temporary structure to allow for work below, there remains large concerns in the Richmond community about how promises can be made into reality and whether as MP Olney mentioned, 'decisions [will] continue to be made behind closed doors' harming the interests of local residents.

In recent days I have been speaking to the spokesperson for HBSOS, Julia Llewellyn Smith, a pressure group set up to defend the interests of citizens on the Barnes side of the river and pressure local and national politicians to make progress with the repair process. Given the placards which populate much of Barnes (as shown below) which ask residents to scan to apply pressure it seems that locals are not content with the current process as it stands. Ms Smith argued that more than anything the group have been constantly 'disappointed with the lack of urgency from all stakeholders.' She further stated that despite 'enthusiastic noises' made by Richmond Council at a meeting in March there has been no attempt to meet with or survey local residents since.

However there remains the question as to how powerful Richmond council truly is when it comes to this issue. While residents are no doubt affected by the bridge closure, the three agreed funders of repairs are Hammersmith and Fulham Council, TFL and the Department for Transport. Local councillor Alexander Ehmann told me that while surveys could be undertaken he feared that as a 'non decision maker, [these] could result in false expectation.'

While councillors and locals may clash on this issue, they have both directed anger towards councils on the north side of the river and national politicians for as Ehmann put it, 'party politics...get[ting] in the way.' He further argued that recent developments should not be seen as a 'fundamental breakthrough'. This position is shared by HBSOS for although plans are in place such as the double decker proposal, the report needs to be 'signed off by Professor Steve Denton' while the idea of a toll, forgetting the debate around its fairness, will 'have to be

approved by all sorts of statutes and might take years.’

Stephen Cowan, a councillor for Hammersmith and Fulham spoke to me earlier this week to answer calls that his council were not stepping up to the task when called upon. He has argued that people can't blame his council, claiming they have 'put the money they don't really have' into the stabilization process. He quickly tells me that locals have in fact been let down by national government and former Transport Secretary Grant Schapps. The taskforce put together at national level to solve this issue hasn't met for a significant amount of time. Whether the new leadership will mean progress is something Cowan isn't hedging his bets on. He tells me that he fears the government may 'drag its feet to allow TFL to recover to pay its third of the cost' instead of covering that money as it usually would.

Ultimately the infighting between groups, local and national politicians leaves locals hurt and more confused than they have been previously. I spoke to a local resident who lives next to the bridge on the south side of the river. He told me that 'it certainly doesn't seem like much progress has been made' and further stated that 'as long as pedestrians are allowed over, that's all I care about.' While the motorists versus pedestrian debate is another whole topic, what he did agree was that everyone in the area had hoped that action had been 'quicker.' It is thus perhaps a sad sight that while promises and plans have been made, political infighting, red tape and disputes across the board mean a concrete solution to Hammersmith Bridge seems as far away as it ever was.



Locals have become all too accustomed to this familiar sight over the last three years

Credit: Evening Standard

Signs like these line the streets of Barnes demanding action on the bridge

CHRISTMAS MINI DISCO! MARQUEE! DISCO LIGHTS!



SUN 20 NOV 3-6PM

(SUITABLE FOR 11 YEARS OLD AND UNDER)

**4.30pm: JOIN IN WITH THE BIG
TWICKENHAM LIGHTS SWITCH ON!**

DIAMOND JUBILEE GARDENS

**TWICKENHAM
EMBANKMENT**

FREE EVENT!



Dear Tribune,

Rotary Talk

Thank you very much to you for speaking to Richmond Rotary yesterday.

The Twickenham and Richmond Tribune is a local treasure, providing a genuine local forum, and local news, in a media world increasingly dominated by 'pseudo-local' media run by international conglomerates. We are grateful to you for providing it.

Coincidentally, yesterday was the sixth birthday of the Tribune, starting off a career of campaigning for local issues, as well as keeping us informed. I had not realised how hard you have worked to keep the Tribune going, and to maintain your high standards.

Rotary is also locally based, we aim to meet regularly as friends, have interesting speakers like you, and also to collect money for local charities and help them by volunteering.

Yours was the best attended talk we've had for some time!

With best wishes

David Upton
(Secretary, Richmond Rotary:
rotarychmond@gmail.com)

Dear Sir,

Letter in support of Sir Gavin Williamson

I was asked to interview Gavin Williamson at St Marys University, Twickenham, when he became Secretary of State for Education

I was impressed by his policies – as a former senior teacher – and wrote a positive article for the Twickenham & Richmond Tribune.

Gavin was accompanied by a number of aides. However, I forgot to pick up my umbrella when I left – only to hear Gavin calling me and running down the road with my umbrella.

Surely this says a lot for a politician who could have ignored the said umbrella or asked one of his aides to bring it to me.

I think this action says a lot for the sort of person Gavin really is and not as he is being portrayed by some of the media.

Teresa Read
World InfoZone www.worldinfozone.com

Madam/Sir,

Don't Be Vague, Blame William Hague

Having presided, in 1998, over the introduction of the Conservative Party's current rules for electing a leader, it has taken William Hague 24 years and one political disaster, in the form of Trussonomics, to state publicly that those rules are not fit for purpose and need changing. Why it took him so long is unclear, in spite of him setting out attempted explanation and self-justification in *The Times* (Nov 1).

He says things have changed since 1998, in that not so many people join political parties, but why the selection of a Prime Minister would have been acceptable by, say, 1% of the electorate, rather than by the present approximate figure of 0.3%, which the Tory party membership now comprises, is not explained - at least not convincingly.

He admits that he was, in 1998, "*conscious of the risk of a future crisis if the party members wished to elect or retain a leader who did not enjoy the confidence of MPs*" and identifies two measures that were supposed to guard against that risk. First, the membership's choice is restricted to two candidates: but that is patently of no assistance if the members' preference is not that of the MPs (a bad choice is a bad choice, whether from two or 10 candidates). Secondly, MPs could "*overthrow a leader who did not command their confidence*", the dislocation that would cause if the party were in government apparently not being of concern. So, far from things having changed, he accepts that he was aware from the outset of the 'ticking time bomb' that was eventually embodied in Ms Truss.

Hague refers only obliquely to the heart of the problem: that the rules fail to differentiate between the party in opposition and in government. In the former, it isn't disastrous (though undesirable) if the leader is chosen by party members, for that person will only become Prime Minister if the party is voted into government at a general election by 'the people'. In the latter case, however, party members will be voting, supposedly, to elect not just a party leader, but also the Prime Minister, as in the case of Liz Truss, who, to adopt Hague's words, "*did not enjoy the confidence of MPs*".

Although, in relation to the happily defused risk of Johnson being chosen by Tory members, Hague refers to "*the constitutional implications of a prime minister not truly enjoying the confidence of anywhere near a majority of the House of Commons*", he fails to identify those implications and ignores the essential point that the Sovereign's duty is, on advice, to appoint as Prime Minister "*the person who appears most likely to be able to command the confidence of the House*" [The Cabinet Manual].

Thus, Sunak (as the MPs' choice), not Johnson (as the members' choice), would have been the appropriate Prime Minister, just as Sunak (the MPs' preference), not Truss (chosen by party members), should have been appointed Prime Minister by the late Queen, who was unfortunately wrongly advised - primarily by the then outgoing Prime Minister, one Boris Johnson.

Yours

Jonathan Haydn-Williams
Richmond

Dear Sir

21/2758/FUL - 1-1C King Street, 2-4 Water Lane, The Embankment And River Wall, Water Lane, Wharf Lane And The Diamond Jubilee Gardens, Twickenham

As the first person to make a comment on the abovementioned planning application I have NOT been informed of additions to the planning application submitted by the Council; notice of the updated information was sent to me by a reader of the Twickenham & Richmond Tribune.

Further to this, I have today been sent additional information by a reader about this application, regarding a planning committee hearing (see PDF [HERE](#)) - unfortunately all that can be seen from the Council website is the following – with no further information at the time of writing.

[Special meeting, Planning Committee - Thursday, 24 November 2022 7.00 pm](#)

Is this what Council taxpayers in LBRUT expect? This leads one to question the transparency of the current situation.

Teresa Read
Twickenham

Twickenham Riverside Planning Committee Hearing Thursday 24th November, 7pm

Planning Application: [21/2758/FUL](#)



COVID-19 and flu vaccine pop-up returning to Twickenham by popular demand

Residents in and around Twickenham will again be able to access a COVID-19 or flu jab on **Friday 18 November 2022** at a pop-up vaccine clinic at York House, Twickenham.

Cold weather can make some health problems worse and even lead to serious complications, especially if you are 65 or older, or if you have a long-term health condition. Having a flu and/or COVID-19 jab can help make sure you and those you care for are well protected as we enter into the winter months.

The pop-up vaccine clinic will take place from **10.30am to 4pm**. The address is The Salon, York House, Richmond Road, Twickenham, TW1 3AA. York House is a short walk from Twickenham train station and bus stops with links to all parts of the borough.

Anyone aged 12+ who is due their first, second, or booster vaccinations will be able to have their COVID-19 jab. The seasonal (autumn) booster is only available for those aged 50+ or those considered clinically vulnerable. Flu jabs are available for those aged 50+ or anyone typically eligible for a free flu jab. More information on the eligibility for COVID-19 and Flu jabs can be found on NHS website. All other services are open for all ages.

No appointments are required, and people can just walk in. If you have recently tested positive for COVID-19, you need to wait before getting any dose of the vaccine and the number of weeks depends on how old you are. Find out more about [who is eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine](#).

If anyone is hesitant about the vaccine or has any questions, the pop-up clinics are an opportunity to speak to experts from the NHS in a private and confidential environment.



Rugby at Twickenham Stadium

England v Japan

Saturday 12th November, KO 15:15

Attendance: 82,000

Whitton, Rugby & London Roads close 13:15-15:15 and 16:30-19:00.

Full CPZ in operation 10:00-22:00.

Enjoy these upcoming talks from Richmond Local History Society

Learn more about the history of Petersham's Sudbrook Park and Richmond's water supply in the 1800s in these upcoming talks.

Sandra Pullen is an RLHS member and a long-standing local resident. She has an MA from the Institute of Historical Research in the history of landscape and garden history. She regularly lectures on various aspects of garden history and has also been a guide for several historic houses in the area.

[Sandra Pullen's talk](#) on Monday 14 November will chart Sudbrook Park's changing fortunes from the riverside home of John, 2nd Duke of Argyle and Robert Wilmot Horton, a 19th century public servant to the repurposing of the estate as a brickwork and, later, hydropathic establishment. Sandra will also present the results of her new research on the pleasure grounds and park.



Then on Monday 12 December, [Nick Higham's talk](#) will be based on new research which has resulted in a new book, published in April 2022, on a history of London's water. It opens with the story of Richmond's water supply in the 1870s, when the entire town was deliberately cut off by one of London's eight private water companies, and many residents had to wait up to a year to be reconnected to a piped water supply. The affair was a scandal, though one of those principally responsible for the mess was later knighted and is revered as a Richmond benefactor.

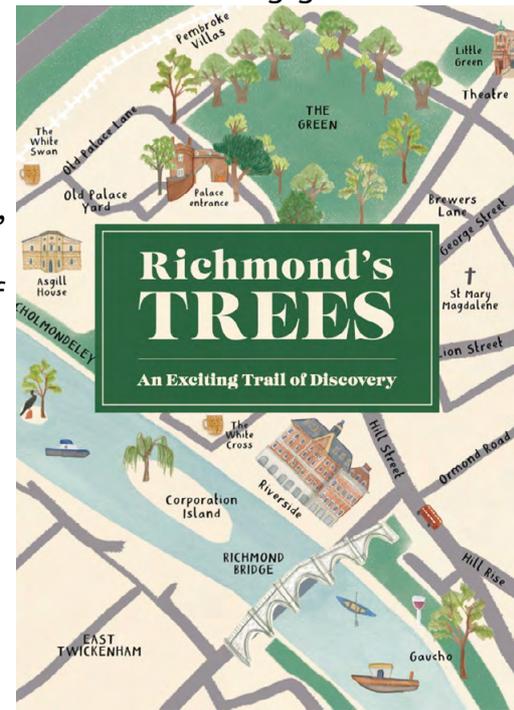
Richmond's unsung green heroes

The Richmond Society

Trees on Richmond Green, Riverside Path and Terrace Gardens - the town's unsung green heroes - are celebrated in a fascinating new handbook and trail guide.

Richmond's Trees gives details of 34 specimens on Richmond Green, along the Thames Path and in the hillside Terrace Gardens. It is beautifully illustrated and includes many practical, literary and scientific references. Each tree is labelled for easy identification by walkers who follow a leisurely two-mile trail of discovery.

The book was inspired by Lord Lee of Trafford. When he came to live in Richmond a few years ago he noticed that whilst the trees of Kew Gardens and Richmond Park were celebrated, those elsewhere in the town were relatively unsung.



“When I moved to Richmond from the North I was immediately struck by the magnificence and diversity of so many of our trees - what a story many of them could tell of life in Richmond over the ages and what they would have witnessed,” Lord Lee said. “However, I was surprised that there was no publication which covered these trees - yes, coverage of those in Richmond Park and in Kew Gardens, but not in Richmond itself.”

A small team of Richmond Society members was assembled - Linda Christmas, journalist and author; Patrick Eagar, professional photographer; and Nicky Wood, Chair of the Society's Landscape and Riverside Committee, to whom we are hugely indebted. Others who contributed advice and expertise were Livi Gosling, map and trail illustrator; Tony Kirkham, former Head of the Arboretum, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Craig Ruddick, Arboricultural Manager, London Borough of Richmond upon Thames; and Kate Wakeham, book designer.

Lord Lee and Craig Ruddick spoke about the project when the book was launched by The Richmond Society, the town's civic and amenity charity, on Thursday 10 November in the presence of The Mayor of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Cllr Julia Cambridge.

The 88-page book will make a wonderful gift for Christmas or at any other time of the year for anyone who loves Richmond and admires its trees. It costs £10 and can be ordered from The Open Book, 10 King Street, Richmond TW9 1ND.

Contact: 020 8940 1802 or theopenbook@btconnect.com
Proceeds go to The Richmond Society.



New technology helping tackle flooding in Richmond upon Thames

Cutting-edge, flood early warning technology has been working hard in Richmond upon Thames this week as heavy rainfall has seen surface water flooding in many parts of the borough.

Richmond Council is participating in a trial of flooding sensors, which are placed in 12 gullies across Richmond upon Thames, allowing council officers to monitor rising water levels and alert the borough's drainage contractors to respond quickly to any surface water flooding.

The new sensors are part of the South London Partnership's InnOvaTe Project. As well as allowing the Council to respond quickly to surface flooding which is not subsiding, the project will generate long term insights that will help understand and predict the impact of flooding on the drainage system.

Councillor Julia Neden-Watts, Chair of the Environment, Sustainability, Culture and Sport Committee, said:

"The reality is that climate change is making heavy rainfall and flash flooding more frequent. While in most instances any surface flooding usually recedes within a couple of hours, as these weather events become more frequent, the pressure on our drainage systems is going to increase. Using technology like this, we can get a better view of how the system is responding to heavy water flow and ensure officers can identify and attend to any serious issues quickly."



During a period of heavy rain last week (Wednesday 2 and Thursday 3 November 2022), the sensors issued five flood warnings and recorded four flooding events, with two locations recorded as not completely returning to pre-flood water levels.

By monitoring water levels, the sensors can highlight both localised issues (such as leaves blocking a gully or drain) or more significant system blockages, which need attention from Thames Water.

Councillor Gareth Roberts, Leader of Richmond Council and Chair of the South London Partnership, said:

"We know that flooding is becoming a more frequent occurrence at all times of year. At best floods are an annoyance, at worst they can cause serious damage to people's property and impact people's lives. If you have experienced flooding at your home or business you should let us know – this will help us prepare for and manage future flood risks across the borough.

"We also really need people to continue to tell us about blocked gullies on public highways or surface flooding that does not subside after a couple of hours. Our highways and street cleansing teams work hard to keep on top of this, but it helps us to hear from residents if there are significant issues in any locations, so officers can prioritise clearing these as quickly as possible."

There are sensors in 12 locations in Richmond upon Thames:

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Castelnau | Strawberry Vale/ Cross Deep | Burtons Road |
| Church Road (Barnes) | High Street (Hampton Wick) | Heath Road |
| Nassau Road | Kew Road | Sydney Road, Richmond |
| Station Road (Barnes) | Kew Road | Lincoln Avenue, Twickenham |

You can use the online forms to report:

[An issue with a gully/drain](#) or [A flooding event](#)

Barnes PLG

Come and join us on our next
Police Liaison Group (PLG)
meeting.

To Discuss

- Antisocial Behaviour
- Other Crime
- Your Policing Issues

On the 5th of December 2022
1900 at Jenner Place Hall,
Boileau Road
SW13 9DB

Barnes SNT

We look forward to your participation



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**



@MPSBarnes



Barnes@met.police.uk

INFLATION. IT COULD BE WORSE

By Doug Goodman

As our economic situation deteriorates we are seeing and hearing the word inflation more and more. Inflation describes rising prices. The rate of inflation is measured by how fast prices rise. Our latest rate of inflation is at 10.1 percent. But it could be so much worse. Ninety nine years ago on November 15th 1923 inflation in Germany reached a peak with the Mark standing at four trillion to the US Dollar. It had been at 24 Marks to the Dollar in 1921. The printing presses couldn't keep pace with the demand for more high-denomination banknotes.



Germany. A note of 20,000,000 Marks and one of 500,000



Greece. Five million Drachma

In Greece the same situation occurred in 1944 after the country's liberation. Notes of five billion Drachmas were in circulation and didn't buy a day's shopping.

In Zimbabwe in 2008 a 50 billion Dollar roll of notes would get you a good dinner but diners were advised to pay before they finished their meal as the price was likely to have been much higher at the end. In a single month prices increased by 80 billion percent. As a result people refused to use the Zimbabwean Dollar. The economy collapsed and the country adopted the American Dollar.



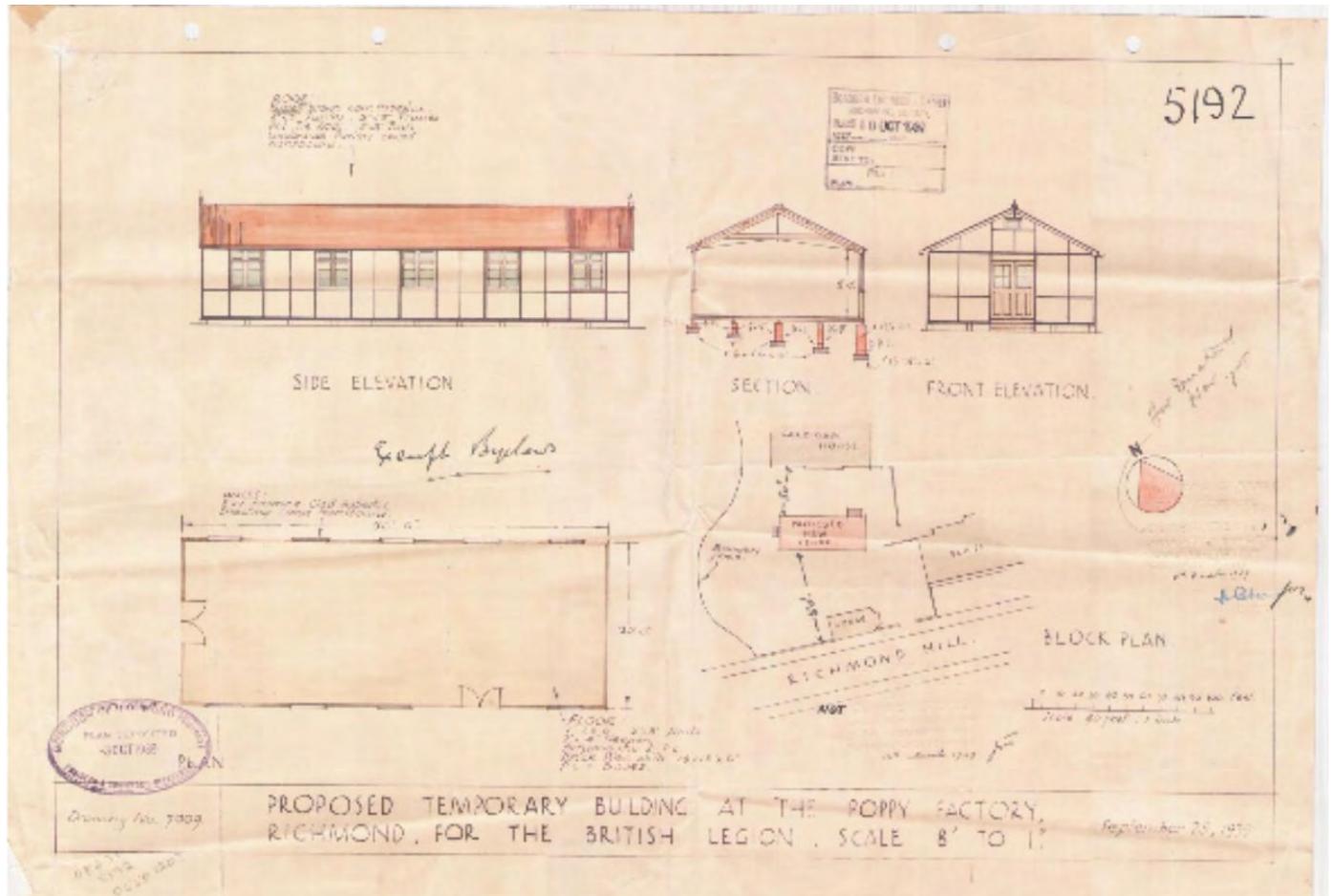
Zimbabwe. Enough to Pay for Dinner

Poppy Factory celebrates its 100th Birthday

Richmond upon Thames Libraries

This year The Poppy Factory celebrates its 100th Birthday. The factory in Richmond has been operating since 1932, and our Local Studies & Archive has materials from throughout its history including these plans from 1939. Reference number: PLA/08231

https://www.richmond.gov.uk/local_studies_collection



Volunteer at Twickenham Museum

We are looking for volunteers! Do you love history? Like talking to the public? Can spare a few hours to help out at Twickenham's best museum?

Then we would love to speak with you!

Email me at housemanager@twickenham-museum.org.uk for details.

We would love to have you onboard!



Monthly Yaffles Nature Club at Barnes Common

Barnes Common

Come along next Saturday, 19 November at 10:15am and join Yaffles, our monthly nature club. We will be getting out and about exploring the wonderful outdoors at Barnes Common - all are welcome!

Book [HERE](#)



Older residents encouraged to take part in walking rugby

Over 55s can participate in free walking rugby organised by Richmond Rugby every week.

Looking to get more active? Residents can join in on walking rugby sessions. Running is forbidden as is passing the ball higher than shoulder height and there are no tackles, making it perfect for all abilities.

Event details:

- **Date:** Every Thursday **Time:** 10 to 11.30am
- **Location:** Richmond Athletic Ground, The Athletic Ground, Kew Foot Rd, Richmond TW9 2SS

Sessions are open to everyone with free refreshments (tea, coffee and biscuits) available.

To register your place please contact the Head of community, Ed Roberts on 07947990857 or email our community department at communitydept@richmondfc.co.uk



Special thanks to Richmond Parish Lands Charity for funding the walking rugby initiative.

Men of Valour

The Second World War

Poetry by Brian Hodgkinson

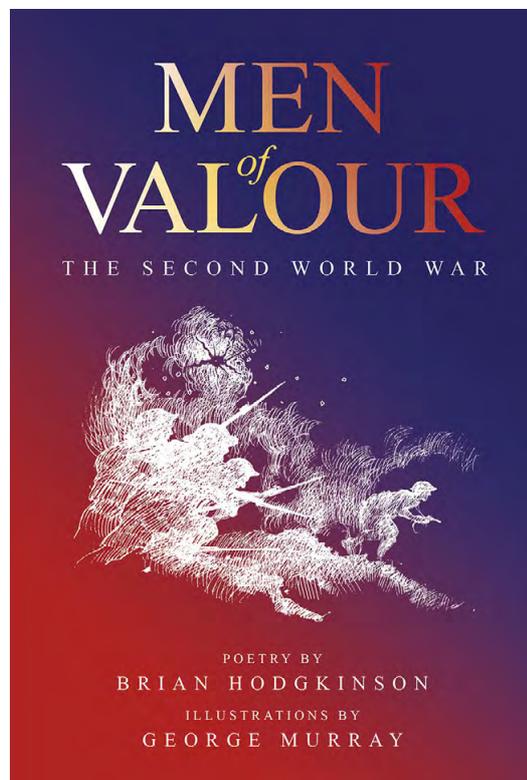
Illustrations by George Murray

Based on the Second World War, this narrative poem, with its evocative drawings, (illustrated by local Twickenham artist George Murray -he has now passed away - who was a part-time teacher at Twickenham school of art) captures the devastation of this global war and the dramatic events that took place. It is the author's dedication to the courage displayed by men and women of every participating nation, but especially by those who fought for the ideals of freedom and justice against tyranny and humanity.

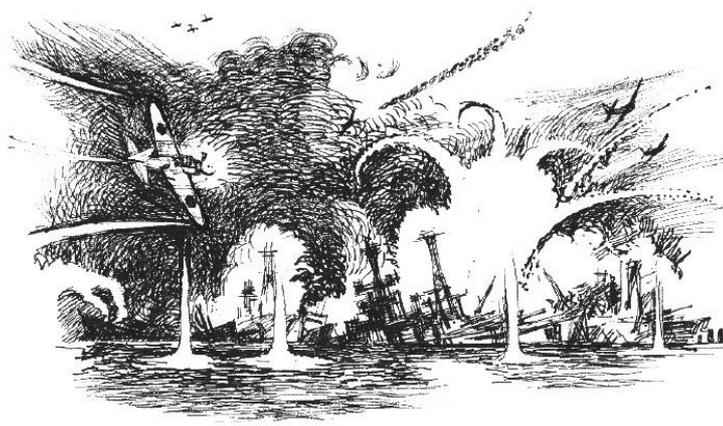
This narrative poem seeks to give a comprehensive view of the most extensive and devastating war that has ever occurred. It deals with both the West, where fighting was prolonged in Europe, North Africa and on the sea, and also the Far East, where predominantly American forces fought the Japanese. The British role includes accounts of the Dambusters' raid and General Slim's campaign in Burma.

The chronological narrative recounts major events, such as the fall of France, the battle of Britain, Hitler's invasion of Russia, the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour, the battle of El Alamein, the fall of Italy, the Normandy invasion, far eastern naval battles, the final collapse of Nazi Germany and the dropping of atomic bombs on Japan. Its focus on military strategy, tactics and descriptions of battles is enhanced by details relating to the war conferences between the Allied leaders. Integral features of the war such as the atrocities against the Jews, the efforts of the French resistance and the Stauffenberg plot to kill Hitler are not overlooked.

The inspiration that motivated the writing of the book was not only the courage displayed by men and women fighting for freedom and justice, but also the moral principle that drove the war to its conclusion in the defeat of the Nazis and the Japanese warlords; namely the belief that civilisation depends upon the defence of the traditional values of respect for law, representative democracy and, ultimately, upon love of one's neighbour.



Monte Cassino



The Japanese Onslaught

Find more information [HERE](#)

Why have the pavements of Twickenham been covered in worms after recent rainy nights?

By Deep Patel

It's okay...you can relax...it's not an alien invasion of worms from outer space and it's not raining worms either...

This November is so far officially the wettest November on record in the UK EVER...and few people may know that the many worms we are seeing wriggling about on our pavements are not from nearby gardens, but actually live at the sides and between the cracks of our pavements...so what the heck are they doing out on the pavements where commuters are rushing for buses and children going to school are stampeding? Well...the answer is quite



simple...following heavy rains, the little wriggly worms homes are completely flooded and it's either drown in their own homes, or come out to get some air...they manage to come out, through the little cracks at edges of the pavements, but then cannot find their way back down to their homes due to the hard paving slabs...the end result?...they end being half trodden on and left to die slowly in suffering, or they end up scorching to death slowly in the sharp winter sun...both equally as awful as the other...so why am I telling you this? How can you help the situation?

Just remember my little rhyme:

“See a worm, pick it up, then all day you’ll have good luck”

It is as simple as that. Worms have feelings too, just different to ours, and they are only trying live like the rest of us are. So next time you see one stranded on the hard pavement, don't just walk by, be a hero and using a nearby leaf, move it over a wall and instantly you've saved a little life from suffering a horrible death...and you will have good karma too...A life is a life after all...big or small.

Like I always say, even picking up a slug off a pavement with a leaf and moving it over a wall counts as a good deed... choosing a kind way to stop ants (like talcum powder around where they come but not on them) counts as a good deed. Ditching the mouse poison and using a live capture trap to release them away in a wooded area counts. Even avoiding sweeping/washing the garden patio too often helps save countless tiny almost invisible little lives that live there (particularly under large pots in the garden, hence I say gently lift the pots if you need to move them rather than dragging them to avoid crushing little lives). Avoid sweeping too close to the edges of the garden borders as that's where lots of little lives live...for every life you save...you will accrue good karma that will unexpectedly help you when you least expect it in your own lives...

So there we have it...the key to our own happiness lies in the happiness of others...humans and insects...big and small...until the next time...have a lovely week and look out for the little wriggles dear folk of Twickenham...and the universe will look out for you. For further tips, check out my Facebook page “Kind World”. Peace and Love to all X



River Thames Scheme goes on show

The [River Thames Scheme](#) (RTS) is launching a [six-week consultation](#) this autumn for people to have their say on new plans which respond to the challenges of flooding and creating more access to open green spaces and sustainable travel routes.

The scheme which includes a new flood channel will reduce the risk of flooding to homes, businesses, and infrastructure, while also providing habitat for wildlife and a new feature in the landscape for recreation. The channel will be flanked by new areas of public green open space, for recreation and spending time with nature.

New footpaths and cycleways will also run along the channel and through the new public spaces, linking different elements of the scheme with communities and providing better connections within and across the area. Areas of new and improved habitat for wildlife and nature recovery will connect with existing nature sites and wildlife corridors to provide a new nature recovery network along the length of the channel that supports even more biodiversity.



The plans which will be going on display include:

- Capacity increases around the weirs at Teddington, Sunbury and Molesey and around the Desborough Cut
- A new river channel built in two sections – one section through Runnymede (between Egham Hythe and Chertsey) and one through Spelthorne (between Littleton North lake and the Desborough Cut)
- Improved access to quality green open space and connections with wildlife, in addition to supporting a more sustainable travel network
- A network of high-quality habitat to achieve a biodiversity net gain

The consultation will run from Tuesday 8 November until Tuesday 20 December 2022 with the new plans taking into account feedback from a previous consultation in 2016.

Find the full details of the [consultation events](#) and how to get involved online or call the Environment Agency National Customer Contact Centre on 03708 506 506.

The [River Thames Scheme](#) is a multi-agency partnership, with development led by the Environment Agency and Surrey County Council.

The scheme is part of the Environment Agency's wider flood management strategy along the River Thames. It is also part of Surrey County Council's county-wide flood resilience strategy.

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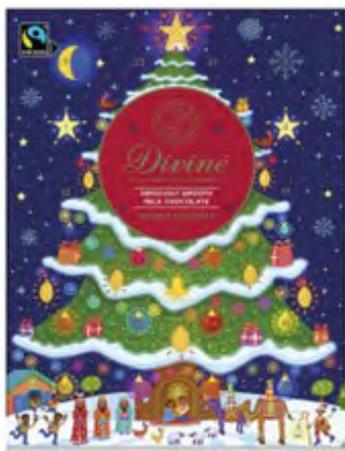
Package is subject to availability. Cannot be combined with other bookings. Reservations must be made direct via phone or email and cannot be made via third parties. Pre-payment is required and bookings cannot be cancelled or modified

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COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS WITH A CHOCOLATE ADVENT CALENDAR

Christmas will soon be upon us once again, and every year there seem to be more and more ‘Advent’ or Christmas countdown calendars available. With a view to indulging a foodie family member, (or yourself!) here are a few of the more interesting ones containing chocolate that I’ve selected for you.

There’s something rather nostalgic about the whole German Christmas markets and for me the epitome of this is this wonderful bumper-sized **Nideregger** Advent Calendar. Packed with a generous assortment of marzipan, pralines and truffles, each day it gives you one or more of these treats. £30 from JohnLewis.com

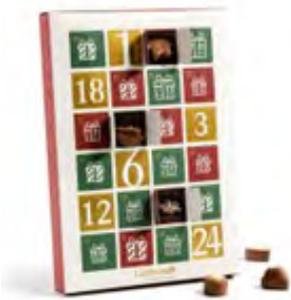


Still looking at chocolate treats, of course there is the **Divine** Advent Calendar, actually the only one I find that has any kind of reference to the whole meaning of Advent. It’s Fairtrade, organic, available in dark or milk chocolate, and owned by the cocoa farmers themselves, it’s also great value at £5 from Oxfam. Or if you fancy ordering a few and some extra goodies for Christmas go to divinechocolate.com where there’s free delivery for orders over £30

Serious chocolate aficionados will enjoy the **Pierre Marcolini** Advent Calendar. It contains 24 beautiful Belgian chocolate creations presented in a box depicting a warm gathering in an enchanted forest, with pralinés, caramels, and grand crus chocolates. It ain’t cheap, folks, but it is rather special. Available online [here](#) or from Harrods, Selfridges or the Pierre Marcolini boutique in Marylebone for £54



Another seriously special Advent calendar is from Läderach, the Swiss chocolatier. With branches in Regent Street, Harrods and Westfield, one can also buy online. There are a number of different calendars available ranging from £26-54, but I rather like this one at £36, containing 24 alcohol free pralines.



If you’re vegan, or planning to give an Advent calendar to a vegan, I’d urge you to consider this one from **HIP oat milk chocolate**. I’m generally not a great fan of vegan chocolate, but HIP is different...and delicious! And at £10 it’s also great value. It contains squares of Creamy original plain, gingerbread, salted caramel and white chocolate, all made from single origin, Colombian cocoa. Available online [here](#) or from Ocado or WH Smith.



And last, but by no means least on the chocolate Advent calendar front, is Montezuma’s. You can really indulge any peanut butter fan with this Butter Nutter calendar containing 25 milk chocolate peanut butter truffles. At £21 from Ocado and Montezuma shops around the country. But also have a look at the exclusive Montezuma range in John Lewis.

NON CHOCOLATE ADVENT CALENDARS FOR FOODIES

Not everyone enjoys chocolate, and some folk find that it just doesn't agree with them. As one now can buy an Advent calendar for all manner of tastes, including some amazing sounding beauty ones. I've done some research for you into alternatives for foodies:

For anyone who enjoys preserves, the **Bonne Maman** Advent Calendar is a must. The 24 doors offer 23 mini jars of seasonal flavours of jam - each one different - along with two special surprise gifts on day one and day 24. This year's calendar features a Christmas carousel, centred around a Christmas tree laden with decorations and gifts. The first 23 doors hide a mini jar of jam or marmalade, every one different or unique flavour created specially for Christmas 2022. Available from Ocado, Fenwick and WH Smith plus other specialist stores - also to order online bonnemaman.co.uk at £25.99 + p&p.



Fancying spicing up those pre-Christmas meals? Then a **Just Spices** advent calendar is perfect. Available in large and small, Just Spices Advent Calendars are new to the UK this year, and a great way to jazz up a jaded spice cupboard. They feature a variety of spice blends: Bolognese Seasoning; Pasta Allrounder; Coffee Kiss; Chips Seasoning and more. The small Advent Calendar contains 24 sample size sachets, and one full-size can of special edition Avocado Topping. Available at £35 via www.justspices.co.uk.

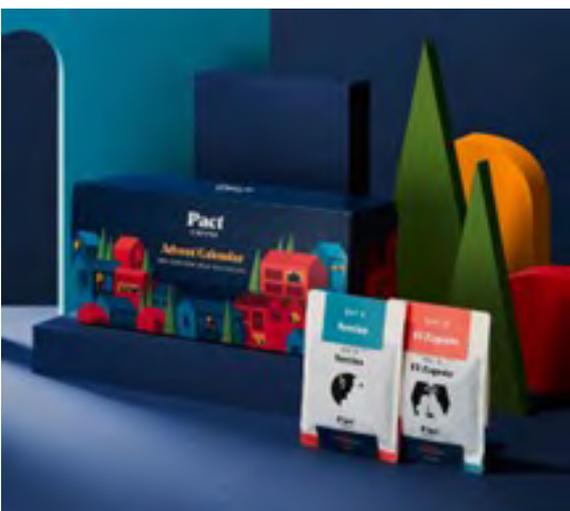
For the really ambitious, there's a larger version with 24 full sized cans, a voucher and a complimentary cookbook, worth £25, but it does require a rather serious spice investment of £110.

Perhaps tea's more to your taste? Well, there are numerous tea Advent calendars available. If you like some of the rather weird and wacky flavours, look no further than **Bird & Blend Tea Company** for its unusual calendars [here](#). Available in decaffeinated too and there's also a matcha version (£38 and £52 respectively).



And more traditional perhaps is the **Whittard** range of Advent calendars - available in tea or hot chocolate versions and while not cheap at £70, they do comfortably cater for at least two people! It comes in a rather magnificent box that can be used afterwards for storing all manner of small items. www.whittard.co.uk

Another great way for tea lovers to countdown to Christmas is this fun new calendar from the fine tea experts at **Ahmad Tea**. There are 24 diverse blends to try, from classics to more exotic flavours. £13.99 from uk.ahmadtea.com or Amazon. One of the things I like about Ahmad Tea is that the brand donates 20% of profits to local grassroots projects to help communities in need, from working with Children In Need India to delivering clean water to hundreds of thousands in Niger affected by soaring temperatures.



Coffee more your thing? Then check out **Pact Coffee's** calendar.

It includes 25 unique speciality (the best of the best) coffees sourced from seven different countries – four limited editions, 14 micro-lots (rare coffees made on tiny pieces of land), new arrivals and something very exciting reserved for Christmas Day. £29.95 online [here](#)

How about indulging in an alcoholic cocktail gummy



each day? **Smith and Sinclair** has created delicious edible cocktail sweets, which come in a smart gift box containing 24 x alcoholic cocktail gummies with a subtle kick at 5% ABC. £50 from [Smith & Sinclair](#)

And last, but by no means least, the beer lover in your household will be overjoyed to receive the **Flavourly 2022 CANvent Calendar**, a festive voyage of discovery of small batch beers.

Apparently it's already selling out fast, due to the pre-order discount price of £47.95. Packed with 24 different, full sized, (330 ml) premium craft beers from a variety of different breweries - the majority of them being new and exclusive brews launched in 2022 delivered alongside seven of the company's top rated favourites.

Flavourly's CANvent calendar is great value,

and includes beers from some of the most notable independent breweries in the UK, including; Brewgooder. Siren and Loch Lomond. Flavourly has added almost 100 new beers to its offering this year alone, many of them small batch gems. I'm personally not a beer drinker, but my husband is, and he really rates Flavourly!



Lots of retailers, such as Marks & Spencer and Tesco have an excellent selection with products suited to all budgets, ages and foodie (or boozy) tastes.

The Importance of Being Earnest

by Oscar Wilde

English Touring Theatre at the Rose Theatre, Kingston until 12th November

Oscar Wilde's madcap masterpiece, *The Importance of Being Earnest* is still a favourite of theatre-goers more than a century after it was first performed on Valentine's Day 1895. Now director Denzel Westley-Sanderson and his all-black cast have great fun parodying this classic comedy and debunking dated attitudes to class, gender and sexuality, caricaturing the well-known protagonists, and firing up this slick, sharp farce.

Entering the Rose Theatre, where the show concludes its tour, one may wonder where the ensuing action is about to take place: the set resembles a modern art gallery, complete with carefully placed pieces of African artwork. However, spats and silver-handled canes, Martinis and cucumber sandwiches declare a certain class. It is soon revealed that this is the Mayfair home of Algernon Moncrieff, a black Victorian gentleman, the nephew of Lady Bracknell. He's a foppish lovable cad, a dilettante artist played with assurance by Abiola Owokoniran, in this his professional debut.



Our critic Gill Martin observes that actresses have “delivered that memorable line ‘A handbag?’ with degrees of dismay, disbelief, outrage or horror. Now Daniel Jacob takes on the role with the panache gained from international recognition as his drag queen alter ego Vinegar Strokes, who lumbers like a tank on manoeuvres. Far from spinning in his grave I reckon the wonderfully witty Wilde would have relished re-telling this play with a drag queen as star turn.”

Meanwhile David Stephens recommends “if you see nothing else this year, go and see this.... I'm seriously considering a second visit. From the moment the play began, with all characters appearing on stage in a cleverly choreographed intro sequence, to the moment the proverbial curtain falls, displaying a life-sized group photograph, the performance is flawless and fast-paced and the cast's energy and focus a delight to behold”.



Read David Stephens's review at www.markaspen.com/2022/11/02/earnest-ett-ds, and Gill Martin's review at www.markaspen.com/2022/11/03/earnest-ett-gm

Photography by Mark Senior



Spike

by Ian Hislop and Nick Newman

Karl Sydow and Anthology at Richmond Theatre until 12th November then on tour until 26th November

To describe the whirligig imagination of the genius that was Terence Alan Milligan is no easy task. Overcoming the challenges, *Spike* conjures up a hugely entertaining and at times suitably surreal play with music. Taking its title from Milligan's self-elected nickname, is centred on his master-work, *The Goons*, the BBC radio comedy which ran for around ten years and for which Milligan produced over 200 scripts.



As well as Milligan's battles with mental health and with the BBC for more money and proper recognition from 'Auntie', *Spike* includes glimpses of Milligan's war years (in the Royal Artillery with Harry Secombe) and his first marriage, both of which have the potential for rather deeper exploration.



As well as writing *The Goons*, Milligan starred alongside Secombe and Peter Sellers. *Spike* covers the golden years of *The Goons*, after the departure of Michael Bentine. Robert Wilfort is a Tati-esque Milligan, and the stylish Sellers is played by Patrick Warner, while Jeremy Lloyd almost steals *Spike* with his superb impersonation of Secombe.

The Goons wasn't just about comic lines and situations. Milligan's scripts were peppered with what one critic described as "some of the most extraordinary sounds ever heard". Channelling Joyce Grenfell, Margaret Cabourn-Smith is hilarious as the unsung technician required to bring to life the bizarre effects conceived by Milligan.



Hislop and Newman's script is peppered with jokes and the last line is one of Milligan's finest: in his long and varied career he wrote thousands of lines - if not hundreds of thousands - but this one was improvised in 1994 at the British Comedy Awards where Ian Hislop was among the audience.

Spike is a loving portrait of an incredibly influential programme and it provides a flavour of the scrambled mind behind it: much recommended.

Read Louis Mazzini's review at www.markaspen.com/2022/11/09/spike

Photography by Pamela Raith



Great Expectations

by Charles Dickens, adapted by Neil Bartlett

Putney Theatre Company at the Putney Arts Theatre until 12th November

Review by Eleanor Lewis

In London in early November, while the sun streams through the trees, warming everything and everyone as if it's someway into March, it's unnerving to see dozens of productions of *A Christmas Carol* springing up everywhere, reminding everyone that it is in fact not long until Christmas despite the alarming weather. Amidst this sea of spring-like, festive Dickens it's also comforting to see a production of *Great Expectations* for the sake of variety, aside from anything else.

Neil Bartlett's adaptation of this classic tale is pure theatre. *Great Expectations* is a big story with lots of depth and lots of extra little stories going on within it. Bartlett has distilled the main storyline, included directly pertinent bits and found a way for nine actors to communicate the whole thing to great effect. Told with humour and some speed, (there's a tinge of Patrick Barlow's 2005 hit *The 39 Steps* about it), it's quite a challenge to produce the work without sliding completely into pantomime (*some* parody being intended) but Putney Theatre Company managed to stay just the right side of the line.



Director Ian Higham and Set Designer Lexa Barbulescu staged the production on a main playing space flanked by nine actors sitting either side until they were required to take part in the action centre stage. A huge book formed a back to the stage and opened to reveal the striking form of Miss Havisham seated high up in her ragged wedding dress, looking down on the boy Pip and anyone else when they visited her. Put together with Martin Jessop's lighting, the overall effect was atmospheric and suitably Dickensian.

Nine actors all played more than one role in this production. This in itself is admirable and all made good use of their skills, but notable amongst the performances was Lois Savill who, as Mrs Joe (and several others) brought an element of poignancy with the smallest of gestures to a woman otherwise best described as a bully. Similarly, Clare Wall David as Miss Havisham managed to pull off menacing, creepy *and* betrayed bride all at the same time without going over the top, which is quite an achievement. The scene in which Miss Havisham is involved in a huge fire (avoiding spoilers, but I think this story is well-enough known) was striking in its visual drama.

Graham Kellas' Magwitch I found quite endearing quite quickly, perhaps it was directed to be so, but a little more unhinged, terrifying rage would have been good. Katerina Spiga's young Pip also seemed quite a confident 21st century child who wouldn't be taking any nonsense from anyone, but then again the more reserved, courteous Pip we are possibly used to can't be the only way to play him.

Overall, Putney Theatre Company's *Great Expectations* is an atmospheric, entertaining and highly enjoyable production of a refreshing version of a Dickens classic, suitable for all the family.

<https://markaspen.com/2022/11/09/gt-expectations-ptc/>

Photography by Steven Lippitt





The Yeoman of the Guard

by Arthur Sullivan, libretto by W.S. Gilbert

English National Opera at the London Coliseum until 2nd December

The Yeomen of the Guard is arguably Gilbert and Sullivan's most dramatic work and almost certainly their most moving. The tale of impending execution, mistaken identity and strolling players, all set within the walls of the Tower of London is reminiscent of Shakespeare. However, director Jo Davies has placed this period piece somewhere in the middle of the 20th century and it does not sit well there.



Anthony Ward's stark stage design is impressive and effective but the costumes are low key, the post war austerity only brightening with the

entrance of strolling players Elsie Maynard, in a 50's "swing dress" and Jack Point, in an ageing Teddy Boy get up.



This is a production struggling to find its way. The music under the baton of Chris Hopkins is glorious. The chorus singing and orchestra, as always at the ENO, are sublime and there are some beautiful moments throughout. But the overall concept is not fully thought through.

Gilbert's lyrics are regularly changed at the whim of directors. They are changed here, with a bespoke version of what now seems the obligatory "matter" song from *Ruddigore* ... and a predictable reference to Brexit!



And what of Jack Point, the comic-tragi-hero? Poor Richard McCabe, one of our finest actors, is the victim of stunt casting. He is hampered by that all-encompassing decision to set everything in the 1950's. As soon as he is given a marotte and the opportunity to perform a "turn", he flies. This is the Jack Point the audience has been waiting for.

Sadly this production robs the audience of the pathos written into the original script. *The Yeomen of the Guard* does not have a happy ending; it deals with serious issues. Despite some highlights, ENO's production does not give it the respect it deserves.

Read Lottie Walker's review at www.markaspen.com/2022/11/04/yeoman-guard-eno

Photography by Tristram Kenton

This Is Your Trial

by David Allison

BCP at the OSO Arts Centre until 5th November

The classic Monty Python phrase of 'and now for something completely different' definitely applies to the idea behind *This Is Your Trial*.

Upon entering the 'courtroom' audience members are given sheets to fill in to accuse each other of 'crimes' whilst also giving details and evidence on the case. The sheets are handed in to the ushers, quickly vetted in the back, the night's players enter and proceedings get underway. As with a lot of impro' shows, what then unfolds is reliant on a game audience that it is willing to immerse themselves in what the actors have in store. As the show relies on the cases that its audience members have chosen to submit, each performance will be very different and requires not only good performers but also a good crowd.



The loose fun tone of the night is set well by the 'Prosecutor' Steve Bannell who enters with a bottle of beer in hand, to remind everyone that they are all there for a bit of enjoyment. Ushers Patrick Van Der Bergh and Jonathan Simmonds do their parts well, with some funny one-liners whilst swearing in those involved in the next case.

With Bannell as the prosecutor up against the Defence team of Judy Ranjeed in the first half and then Alexa Bushell in the second, all three have good moments of humour and come up with some great on-the-spot moments to keep things lively and a bit different each time.

'Judge' Rodger Hayward Smith does a good job with his sentencing and does very well with a timely reminder to the audience that, although getting involved is what is intended, constant heckling will disrupt things in an adverse way.

This Is Your Trial works as a lovely reminder that sometimes theatre and drama can just be a good bit of fun and a chance for everyone to play.

Read Denis Valentine's review at www.markaspen.com/2022/11/07/your-trial

Photography by Mac



Giselle

by Akram Khan, music by Vincenzo Lamagna, after Adolphe Adam

English National Ballet at Sadler's Wells until 28th September, then on European tour until 18th July

Walls, walls that contain, walls that exclude have made potent socio-political statements throughout history from Hadrian's Wall or the Berlin Wall to modern divides such as those in Israel or along the Mexican-USA border. Such a wall is the overarching presence in Akram Khan's *Giselle*.

Khan has reworked the 1841 romantic ballet into a topical parable of today's displaced peoples. It is set outside of an abandoned clothing factory, from which its former workers are excluded, shut off from employment or return to their own dispersed communities. Beyond the wall, which divides society, wealth from poverty, the Landlords live in luxury.



From its thunderously dramatic opening with its overwhelming heartbeat music, this is a piece that packs some punch. Full of energy and dark excitement, the tension and threatening nature of the story is retold in a way that takes it far away from the 1841 chocolate box ballet to something much deeper and intense.

The setting, by designer Tim Yip of Athens Olympics closing ceremony fame, has a clear feel for the monumental, and his *Giselle* design paradoxically combines large scale with a feeling of claustrophobia. Yip's costume design lifts the period into an indeterminate unworldliness of all-time.

Akram Khan's trademark fusion of contemporary dance with both classical ballet and Kathak allows for an expansive mixed palette of choreography and leads to a remarkably enthralling experience. It opens percussively, then broadens to show the migrants' plight through the metaphor of the movement of fleeing animal herds. The lyrical *pas de deux* are pure classical ballet. The *corps de ballet* are continuously *en pointe*, but the effect is mesmerising, as they flutter across the stage with a fragile lightness. However, Khan's Wilis are far from fragile, they are terrifying!



Read Mark Aspen's review at

www.markaspen.com/2019/09/23/giselle

Photography by Laurent Liotardo

WIZ Tales: Malawi - Cholera 2022

Teresa Read



Cholera is endemic in Malawi with seasonal outbreaks during the wet season. Relief Web states that Malawi is currently experiencing one of the worst cholera outbreaks in years.

The World Health Organization has reported on the outbreak which started in March 2022. Tropical storm Ana in January 2022 and Cyclone Gombe in March 2022 caused floods leading to displacement of a population with low immunity and low access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene.



Statement from UNICEF: “ Since the declaration of a cholera outbreak in March 2022, UNICEF and WHO have been working closely with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Water and Sanitation, district authorities, health centres, partners and community members in developing a response plan and coordinating the response ensuring the delivery of essential supplies and services to the families and communities in cholera-affected districts in Malawi.”



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

Match Preview: Man City

All you need to know ahead of Brentford's final Premier League game until Boxing Day against Manchester City

Written by Brentford Football Club

Analysis, team news, officials and statistics. Here's everything you need to know ahead of Brentford's Premier League game against Manchester City.

Brentford's final action before the World Cup break could hardly be much tougher, with a trip to the reigning Premier League champions Manchester City.

The hosts are just two points off top spot heading into the game while the Bees can move back into the top half by taking all three points.

The Opposition

Manchester City

How do you improve a side that has won four of the past five Premier League titles? Give them the hottest goalscoring talent in world football.

Speculation about how Erling Haaland would adapt to the English game was the big talking point around Manchester City over the summer and, so far, it's been a resounding success.

The 22-year-old is on track to smash the Premier League's scoring records, having netted 18 goals, with three assists, during his first dozen top flight games in England.

Haaland scored three hattricks in his first eight Premier League matches and it was he who grabbed the late winner last weekend against Fulham which saw ten-man City keep pace with leaders Arsenal.

With so much focus this season on one man, it's easy to overlook the vast array of talent that Pep Guardiola's side has elsewhere on the pitch.

Manchester City lead almost every positive individual and team statistic going this season. They are the league's top scorers with 39 goals while they, and Ederson, have kept a joint League-high six clean sheets.

Kevin De Bruyne has contributed the most assists with nine while, not surprisingly for a team that's averaged 66 per cent possession in matches this term (another league high) Rodri has had the most touches and made the most passes in the top-flight.

On a team level, City average the most shots on target per game (6.3) and give up the fewest shots per game (7.1).

Away from the Premier League, City cruised through their Champions League group. They took

14 points from a possible 18, scoring 14 goals along the way, to qualify with a game to spare and set up a last 16 tie against RB Leipzig.

They are also still in the hunt for a fifth EFL Cup title in six years after seeing off Chelsea 2-0 at the Etihad on Wednesday night. Their reward for that victory is a home last 16 tie against Liverpool next month.

That win over The Blues kept up City's remarkable record at home, stretching back to April. Since being held 2-2 by Liverpool in the Premier League, City have reeled off 16 straight home wins in all competitions, scoring 61 goals and conceding 15.

All bar three of City's first team squad will be heading off to Qatar for the World Cup after tomorrow's game; Haaland, Riyad Mahrez, and Sergio Gomez the exceptions. City are the biggest contributor to Gareth Southgate's England squad with Kyle Walker, John Stones, Calvin Phillips, Phil Foden and Jack Grealish all receiving their Three Lions call-up on Thursday.

The Gameplan

With Manchester Evening News journalist Simon Bajkowski

Simon Bajkowski of Manchester Evening News assesses goalscoring phenomenon Erling Haaland in Hot off the Press: "He is just out of this world and I do not think I have seen a striker like him in the Premier League before. His work on the ball is tremendous, but it is also his work off the ball, with the way he terrorises defenders simply by being there, which has helped his team-mates as well. He has added a lot more than even people at City were expecting him to add."

Team News

Thomas Frank's pre-match press conference

Christian Nørgaard and Vitaly Janelt are both available but Pontus Jansson (hamstring), Kristoffer Ajer (knee), Thomas Strakosha, Aaron Hickey (both ankle), Shandon Baptiste and Charlie Goode (knee) are all sidelined.

Erling Haaland is an injury doubt due to a foot injury while Aymeric Laporte went off as a precaution on Wednesday night during City's Carabao Cup victory over Chelsea.

Calvin Phillips did return in that game but Kyle Walker, who was also named in England's World Cup squad, hasn't featured since early October. Joao Cancelo is available after serving his one-match suspension in midweek.



Community Sports Trust celebrated

More than 200 people gathered at the Gtech Community Stadium to celebrate the launch of the Brentford FC Community Sports Trust's latest impact report, *Changing Horizons*

Written by Brentford Football Club

Brentford FC Community Sports Trust marked the launch of their latest impact report *Changing Horizons* on Monday 7 November.

More than 200 people - including Club and Trust staff, partners and politicians - gathered for an event at the Gtech Community Stadium, which featured a panel discussion with head coach Thomas Frank, chief executive Jon Varney and Community Sports Trust chief executive Lee Doyle.

On the night, the trio spoke about the importance of a football club being active in its community; the impact that players can have by engaging in Trust activities; and how the performances of the team on the pitch can inspire those away from it.

Frank was then joined on stage by Shaun Preddie - brighter futures and peace coordinator at the Trust - along with two young Trust participants, who spoke about their experiences with the Trust, the common challenges that are facing local young people, and how important a role coaches and youth workers have in the community.

Speaking at the event, Frank said: "I know we all celebrated the promotion to the Premier League, it was a fantastic day, but everything that the people at the Community Trust do is what really matters. They are the real heroes."

The Trust has established itself as a pioneering organisation for the local community, which uses the power of sport to educate, motivate and inspire people from all backgrounds.

Changing Horizons covers their activities from April 2020 to March 2022 and focuses on the successes and challenges throughout their 35-year history.

The opening of the Trust's new offices and sports facilities at Gunnersbury Park has helped them work with more than 12,000 local people over the past year.

The Trust delivers a range of programmes that aim to create life-changing impact, which includes working with more than 170 local primary and secondary schools.

Doyle added: "We've got a model that is potentially as good as anywhere in the world. That's a big statement, but you just have to look at our community set-up, the proximity and the scope of Gunnersbury, and then the Gtech Community Stadium.

"I'm so proud of the work we've done, but also the relationships and the people - they're all so passionate.

"I'm proud of our team and how we've progressed - the volunteers, the trustees - and it's also now about what we can do moving forward."



England team announcement

England v Japan



Eddie Jones has named his 23-player team for England's match against Japan at Twickenham Stadium on Saturday [12 November, 3.15pm KO].

David Ribbans will make his England debut after being named at lock. He will play alongside Jonny Hill (lock), while props Ellis Genge (vice-captain) and Kyle Sinckler and hooker Luke Cowan-Dickie will complete the tight five.

Sam Simmonds comes in at No 8 with Maro Itoje and Tom Curry staying as flankers.

There is a return for Jonny May, following injury, for the first time since November 2021 on the left wing. Jack Nowell (vice-captain) is at right wing and Freddie Steward is full back.

Owen Farrell (inside centre) will again captain the side for his 99th cap. Guy Porter comes in at outside centre.

Jack van Poortvliet will start at scrum half and Marcus Smith stays at fly half.

Jamie George also returns from injury and is named as finisher, alongside Alex Coles who could add to the debut cap he won last week. They are joined by Mako Vunipola, Joe Heyes, Billy Vunipola, Ben Youngs, Henry Slade and Manu Tuilagi to complete the 23.

Eddie Jones said: *"We've worked hard this week to improve on last week's performance. We've taken a good look at our preparation and we are happy with our position going into the game.*

"We've made a few changes to the side as we play these four games in November. In particular with Manu we are balancing his workload.

"Japan are a very good and intriguing side. They play a unique type of rugby based on continuity and team cohesion and we'll have to be at our best against them at Twickenham on Saturday."

England v Japan is live on Amazon Prime Sport and talkSPORT.

ENGLAND XV

15. Freddie Steward (Leicester Tigers, 14 caps)
14. Jack Nowell (Exeter Chiefs, 43 caps)
13. Guy Porter (Leicester Tigers, 2 caps)
12. Owen Farrell (C) (Saracens, 98 caps)
11. Jonny May (Gloucester Rugby, 69 caps)
10. Marcus Smith (Harlequins, 14 caps)
9. Jack van Poortvliet (Leicester Tigers, 4 caps)

1. Ellis Genge (Bristol Bears, 40 caps)
2. Luke Cowan-Dickie (Exeter Chiefs, 38 caps)
3. Kyle Sinckler (Bristol Bears, 53 caps)
4. David Ribbans (Northampton Saints, uncapped)
5. Jonny Hill (Sale Sharks, 16 caps)
6. Maro Itoje (Saracens, 59 caps)
7. Tom Curry (Sale Sharks, 42 caps)
8. Sam Simmonds (Exeter Chiefs, 15 caps)

FINISHERS

16. Jamie George (Saracens, 69 caps)
17. Mako Vunipola (Saracens, 71 caps)
18. Joe Heyes (Leicester Tigers, 6 caps)
19. Alex Coles (Northampton Saints, 1 cap)

20. Billy Vunipola (Saracens, 65 caps)
21. Ben Youngs (Leicester Tigers, 118 caps)
22. Henry Slade (Exeter Chiefs, 49 caps)
23. Manu Tuilagi (Sale Sharks, 47 caps)

Red Roses name matchday squad to play New Zealand in Rugby World Cup final

Head coach Simon Middleton has named his matchday squad for England's Rugby World Cup final against New Zealand at Eden Park (Saturday 12 November, kick-off 7.30pm local time/6.30am UK time and live on ITV).



Sarah Hunter captains the side at number eight with outside centre Emily Scarratt vice-captain. Ellie Kildunne (full back), Lydia Thompson (right wing) and Abby Dow (left wing) are the back three. Saracens duo Zoe Harrison (fly half) and Holly Aitchison (inside centre) form the 10-12 axis with club team-mate Leanne Infante at scrum half.

There are also starts for Alex Matthews (blind-side flanker) and Marlie Packer (open-side flanker) as well as Abbie Ward (lock) and Zoe Aldcroft (lock), who was player of the match in the team's semi-final victory over Canada last weekend. Vickii Cornborough (loose-head prop), Amy Cokayne (hooker) and Sarah Bern (tight-head prop) make up the front row.

Loughborough Lightning's Cath O'Donnell returns to the matchday 23 and is among the finishers alongside Lark Davies, Maud Muir, Shaunagh Brown, Poppy Cleall, Sadia Kabeya, Claudia MacDonald and Tatyana Heard. Meanwhile, Hannah Botterman and Helena Rowland miss the game due to injury. Prop Botterman suffered a knee injury in training last week while back Rowland sustained a foot injury in last Saturday's semi-final.

Middleton said: *"I could not be any prouder of the squad, how we have conducted ourselves and how we have performed. We set ourselves an objective to leave this country a better squad than when we arrived and regardless of what happens on Saturday we will do that.*

"The way the squad and staff have come together both on and off the field has been fantastic to be a part of and will be a huge part of this team's legacy after the World Cup.

"You are always striving to create something special in team sport and we have done that with this group of Red Roses. We know in our heart of hearts that this will more than likely be the last time this group all come together, but what they have created and achieved will live on for a long time.

"With success comes scrutiny and the inevitable pressure that brings with it. This squad has stood up to all of that and more and that is testimony to their ability, resilience and unwavering belief in each other. When things get tough, this team knows how to get going, that is why we are relishing Saturday and all that it will bring.

"There can be no bigger challenge in sport than to play the world champions in their own backyard in front of a sell-out crowd - 99.9% of which will be forming part of the opposition.

"Great teams don't fear those challenges, they embrace them, and meet them head on, that's what we intend to do."

England team to play New Zealand

15. Ellie Kildunne (Harlequins, 30 caps)
14. Lydia Thompson (University of Worcester Warriors, 57 caps)
13. Emily Scarratt (VC; Loughborough Lightning, 107 caps)
12. Holly Aitchison (Saracens, 14 caps)
11. Abby Dow (Wasps, 29 caps)
10. Zoe Harrison (Saracens, 45 caps)
9. Leanne Infante (Saracens, 57 caps)

Finishers

16. Lark Davies (Bristol Bears, 43 caps)
17. Maud Muir (Gloucester-Hartpury, 16 caps)
18. Shaunagh Brown (Harlequins, 29 caps)
19. Cath O'Donnell (Loughborough Lightning, 23 caps)

1. Vickii Cornborough (Harlequins, 74 caps)
2. Amy Cokayne (Harlequins, 69 caps)
3. Sarah Bern (Bristol Bears, 51 caps)
4. Zoe Aldcroft (Gloucester-Hartpury, 37 caps)
5. Abbie Ward (Bristol Bears, 60 caps)
6. Alex Matthews (Gloucester-Hartpury, 55 caps)
7. Marlie Packer (Saracens, 88 caps)
8. Sarah Hunter (C; Loughborough Lightning, 139 caps)

20. Poppy Cleall (Saracens, 62 caps)
21. Sadia Kabeya (Loughborough Lightning, 7 caps)
22. Claudia MacDonald (Exeter Chiefs, 23 caps)
23. Tatyana Heard (Gloucester-Hartpury, 8 caps)

RFU joins forces with the International Working Group on Women and Sport

New partnership to drive forward gender equality in rugby union in the lead up to Rugby World Cup 2025

The RFU will join the International Working Group (IWG), to further focus on advancing gender equality in rugby, in line with the union's goal to develop the sport for women and girls.

The commitment to working jointly saw the RFU come together with IWG to sign the Brighton plus Helsinki Declaration, an international treaty that has become a road map to support the ongoing development of a fairer and more equitable system of sport and physical activity, fully inclusive of women and girls.

The Declaration was signed today in New Zealand at an event ahead of the 8th IWG Conference that



will bring together 1,500 delegates committed to furthering equality in women's sport. Signatories included Bill Sweeney, RFU CEO, Sue Day, RFU COO and CFO and Steve Grainger, RFU Director of Rugby Development.

Focus areas for the partnership will be aligned to 'Every Rose' the RFU strategy for women and girls, covering all aspects of the sport with an aim to accelerate the pace of change for women's rugby. The priority areas are:

- Driving equal access to pitches in England for women and girls, as part of Rugby World Cup legacy commitments: enabling women and girls to play at the time that best suits them and supports the growth of the game. This includes working with rugby clubs and Constituent Bodies (grassroots geographic representatives) to look at best practice.
- Accelerating development of female leaders in universities and community clubs, also part of Rugby World Cup legacy activity.
- Working to provide a leading voice to lobby and advocate with other stakeholders to fully support women and girls' sport.
- Working together with IWG and other groups working on behalf of women's sport to continue to build actionable insights, develop resources and lobby cross sport collaboration on women's sports policy.

Bill Sweeney, RFU CEO said: *"Commitment to growing and developing the women's game has been a huge priority in rugby union for some time. The RFU is pleased to be joining with IWG in a strategic partnership that will, through our collective voice and action, accelerate the development of the sport for women and girls as we look towards the 2025 Rugby World Cup in England."*

Sue Day, RFU COO and CFO said: *"It's fitting that we're signing the declaration on the eve of the Rugby World Cup final; a competition that will have inspired many women and girls to get involved in the sport. We recognise the power big global events such as this have in driving awareness and look forward to harnessing that impact as we build up to the 2025 Rugby World Cup."*

Lisa O'Keefe, Secretary General at IWG said: *"I am delighted that the RFU is today signing up to the Principles of the Brighton Plus Helsinki Declaration, reaffirming their determination to not only deliver the RFU Strategy for Women and Girls but to accelerate the pace of change. I look forward to working with the RFU, helping share knowledge and learning throughout the IWG network globally."*



Brett Hodgson to join England coaching staff

England have appointed Brett Hodgson as defence coach to start after the Autumn Nation Series.

Anthony Seibold will leave at the end of the series to join NRL side Manly Warringah Sea Eagles where he has been appointed head coach.

Hodgson has joined up with the wider staff at Pennyhill Park, Bagshot where England are preparing for this weekend's game against Japan at Twickenham Stadium (Saturday 12 November, 3.15pm KO). He will shadow Seibold in the upcoming weeks.

Hodgson enjoyed a distinguished playing career, making more than 200 appearances in the NRL in his native Australia, before moving to England where he won the prestigious 'Man of Steel' award with Huddersfield Giants in the Super League.

He moved into coaching in 2013 with Hull and Widnes Vikings. He subsequently joined Wests Tigers before returning to England as Hull head coach in 2020.

England take on the Brave Blossoms at Twickenham Stadium on Saturday 12 November (3.15pm)

Eddie Jones said: "I've known Brett for a few years now. He first visited us in Bristol in 2018 and I've been to Hull on a few occasions. He was an outstanding league player and he's a talented, hard-working young coach who is developing.

"He will continue the good work that Anthony Seibold has done since he joined us.

"We are disappointed to lose Anthony but we are really pleased for him as a career move. It's great to see assistant coaches move on to head coach roles.

"Anthony leaves with everyone at England Rugby's thanks and we wish him all the best in his new role."

Brett Hodgson said: "I'm really excited about opportunity to join with England, especially in a Rugby World Cup year.

"I'm really looking forward to working with the staff and this group of players. There is some real talent here and it's something I feel I can make a contribution to in helping this team succeed."

Anthony Seibold said: "It has been a tremendous experience working for one of the world's best coaches in Eddie Jones and with the England Rugby team over the last 16 months. The mentorship that Eddie has given me is something I will take forward into my next role.

"The relationships I have developed with both staff and players alike has created many fond memories with the series winning tour to Australia a real coaching highlight.

"The players have been a wonderful group of men to work with and I will watch with great interest their growth over the next 12 months as they head towards success at the Rugby World Cup in France."

Following the Japan fixture, England will host New Zealand (19 November) and South Africa (26 November) at Twickenham Stadium. All matches are live on Amazon Prime Sport and talkSPORT.



The team behind #CookforSyria launch #CookforIran this November 2022 in support of women in Iran

Yotam Ottolenghi, Nasim Alikhani, Najmieh Batmanglij and Nilou Motamed are just some of the leading chefs and food personalities from across the world supporting #CookForIran – a NEW global advocacy initiative that raises awareness of the Iranian people’s call for human rights and freedom.

Curated by Layla Yarjani, Gemma Bell, ClerkenwellBoy, Piers Zangana, and Omid Scheybani, the initiative aims to use food as a vehicle to amplify the voices of those who have been campaigning inside Iran since the middle of September.

As part of the campaign, restaurateurs, chefs, bakers, café owners and food writers from around the world are invited to take part in #CookForIran by sharing Iranian recipes, putting an ‘Iranian inspired twist’ on one of their favourite signature dishes, creating a new dish, or showing support via social media platforms.

The global campaign launches this November 2022 with leading chefs from the US and UK joining the campaign, sharing recipes as well as special one-off events.

Major names from the hospitality world who have already pledged their support include:

- **Yotam Ottolenghi** – Chef & Owner, *Ottolenghi*
- **Nasim Alikhani** – Chef & Owner, *Sofreh*
- **Nilou Motamed** – Judge, *Netflix’s Iron Chef*
- **Kian Samyani** – Chef & Owner, *Berenjak*
- **Nieves Barragán Mohacho** – Chef & Owner, *Sabor*
- **Didier Elena** – Chef, *Hogsalt*
- **Najmieh Batmanglij** – Author, *Food of Life*
- **Sally Abe** – Chef, *The Pem*
- **Ayesha Nurdjaja** – Chef & Owner, *Shuka and Shukette*
- **Imad Alaranab** – Chef & Owner, *Imad’s Syrian Kitchen*
- **Leyli Homayoonfar** – Chef & Owner, *Babhaus*
- **Noda Marvani** – Chef & Owner, *Koocha*
- **Philip Juma** – Chef & Owner, *Juma Kitchen*
- **Cyrus Todiwala** – Chef & Owner, *Cafe Spice Namaste*
- **Farokh Talati** – Chef & Author, *Parsi: From Persia to Bombay*
- **Carousel London** – Restaurant Group
- **Andy Baraghani**, Author, *The Cook You Want to Be*
- **Noor Mourad**, Chef & Author, *Ottolenghi Test Kitchen*
- **Fernando Trocca**, Chef, *Sucre and Mostrador*

#CookForIran is primarily a campaign focused on maintaining attention on the human rights issues in Iran. Similar to #CookForSyria and #CookForUkraine, this campaign is built around culture, food and community – raising awareness and keeping the movement alive while Iranians find a path forward.

Iranian cuisine (Iran is modern-day Persia and the food and culture is also called Persian) is one of the oldest in the world and reflects the country's rich cultural heritage with influences from across the Middle East and beyond.

Key ingredients in Iranian cuisine include saffron, pomegranate and pomegranate molasses, pistachios, dried rose petals, rose water, walnuts, fresh herbs and turmeric.

Free Recipes and 'How to Host a Supper Club' videos and toolkits will also be shared on the [@CookForIran](#) [instagram page](#) for the public to host their own dinners.

The campaign has already had widespread support with contributions from top food writers and food bloggers from around the world – including Najmieh Batmanglij (*"The grande dame of Iranian cooking"* - Washington Post), Mersedeh Prewer (Saffron and Herbs), and Shary Jahangiry (Modern Persian Kitchen).

"We hope that through the #CookForIran campaign we will raise further awareness and support for the current movement around the world, demanding human rights and women's rights for the Iranian people."

"Our goal is to keep the movement alive while the Iranian people and the community find a solution."

"Through cooking, sharing recipes and the power of social media, we invite everyone to help keep attention on Iran as the country goes through this period of change toward a free future."



Freemasons partner with Royal British Legion to mark Remembrance Sunday

To mark this November's Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday, the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) has created an exclusive poppy pin badge in partnership with the Royal British Legion (RBL) to support their annual Poppy Appeal fundraising campaign.

In addition to donating all the proceeds from this exclusive poppy, the Shop at Freemasons' Hall is selling [Brothers in Alms](#) books for £5, with a portion of the proceeds going to the RBL.

For the third year in a row, there will also be a display projected onto Freemasons' Hall from 11:00pm on 10 November to 11:59pm on 13 November, featuring falling poppies and the commemorative RBL/Freemasons' pin badge.



Inside Freemasons' Hall, the ['Brothers in Alms - Peace through sacrifice'](#) exhibition showcases rare photographs spanning the period from the second Boer War through to the end of World War Two, and features those who led as well as those who served on land, sea and in the air. It portrays the great landscape of the conflicts across all continents and the diversity of the participants.

The exhibition includes images of Freemasons who held a large range of military positions, including Herbert Kitchener, 1st Earl Kitchener

who was Secretary of State for War at the start of the Great War and is depicted on the famous 'Your country needs you' recruitment poster of 1914. It also highlights the great charitable work by Freemasons both during and after the wars, in building and supporting hospitals and rehabilitation housing, and providing pensions for ex-servicemen.

When visiting Freemasons' Hall, which was originally built as the Masonic Peace Memorial in 1933, members of the public will be able to see a bronze poppy that is permanently situated in the Vestibules as a symbol of reflection and contemplation for those men and women who have served and sacrificed.

In 2021, His Royal Highness, The Duke Of Kent on behalf of the United Grand Lodge of England signed the Armed Forces Covenant to promote their welfare, support and respect.



Motorists are advised to take extra care on the roads this Friday afternoon, as it's a peak time for accidents

Drivers on the road this Friday afternoon should take extra care, as new data reveals that between 3pm-5pm, on Fridays, in November is the peak time for road traffic accidents. Ahead of Road Safety Week 2022 (14th-20th November), national law firm [Simpson Millar](#) analysed the latest accident data from the Department for Transport to find when the majority of accidents take place across Great Britain.

[The data](#) revealed that in 2021, the majority (55%) of reported road traffic accidents took place at low speeds of just 21-30mph. They were also more likely to occur on single-carriageway roads, as 72% of reported accidents happened on these types of roads, with almost half (45%) also taking place on A roads. Despite having a higher speed limit, motorways saw the fewest number of reported accidents (3%). The data also revealed that accidents were most likely to happen on days when the weather was 'fine' (82%), with just 11% of accidents taking place on rainy days and less than 2% happening in fog/mist or snowy conditions.

Perhaps unsurprisingly due to the easing of Covid-19 travel rules, road traffic accidents were found to be on the rise again across Great Britain, as there were 11% more accidents last year than in 2020. In 2021, nearly a quarter (23%) of all road traffic accidents in Great Britain occurred in London, more than five times the amount that was reported in the whole of Scotland or Wales. The North East had the lowest number of reported accidents, with just 3,024 taking place in 2021, accounting for 3% of the total across Britain.

Percentage of England accident total by region (2021)

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| London (23%) | South West (9%) |
| South East (17%) | West Midlands (8.5%) |
| North West (11%) | East Midlands (7.8%) |
| Yorkshire and the Humber (10%) | North East (3.2%) |
| East of England (10%) | |

Simpson Millar also used Crash Map to identify accident hotspots on A roads in different UK cities. A high numbers of accidents was discovered on the A38 in Cornwall, with 99 accidents (including seven serious and four fatal) reported in the last five years between Nottor and Trerulefoot. Another hotspot was on the A52 Derby Road in Nottingham, with 89 accidents (including four serious and one fatal) reported between the roundabout with Middleton Blvd and Clifton Blvd and Priory Roundabout in the last five years. The A4044 in Bristol was also found to be a hotspot, with 85 accidents (including three serious) occurring between The Bearpit and the traffic lights with the A4032 over the same time period.

When comparing data from each country in Great Britain, the study found that Scotland has seen the biggest drop in road traffic accidents over the last 20 years, with accidents in 2021 down 73% compared to 2001 numbers. Wales has also seen a decrease, with 65% less accidents happening in 2021 versus 2001. When looking at all English regions, accident numbers have decreased across the country since 2001, with the North West and North East seeing the biggest decreases of 66% and 63%, respectively.

Susan Vanden, Road Traffic Accident Technical Manager at [Simpson Millar](#) commented: "As we reach the peak time for road traffic accidents it's important to remember to take care on your trips. The aftermath of any accident can be traumatic and so it's key to surround yourself with a team who can support you and make things easier. If you find yourself involved in an accident you can seek legal advice on your road traffic accident claim, regardless of whether you are the driver or a passenger. You can also put in a claim for compensation if you're a cyclist or pedestrian that has been injured by another road user. This compensation can allow you to get the care, support and treatment you may need after an accident and help you get your life back on track."

Further information about this study can be found at: <https://www.simpsonmillar.co.uk/media/road-traffic-accidents/friday-afternoon-is-peak-time-for-rtas/>

Emergency Care in crisis as more patients than ever before face dangerously long waits in Emergency Departments

Responding to the [latest Emergency Department performance figures published by NHS England for October 2022](#), Dr Adrian Boyle, President of the Royal College of Emergency Medicine, said:

“The crisis in Emergency Care is dire. October saw nearly 44,000 patients face a 12-hour DTA wait – we know 12-hour waits measured from decision-to-admit are just the tip of the iceberg and hides the reality. We know far more patients wait for 12-hours measured from their time of arrival. NHS England and the Department of Health and Social Care will still not commit to publishing this data, despite it being collected by all Trusts. We believe this is a barrier to tackling the root of the crisis.

“We know excessively long waits and [dangerous crowding are associated with patient harm and increased risk of mortality](#). Scientific studies have shown that there is [one death for every 67 patients waiting between eight and 12-hours](#) from their time of arrival in the Emergency Department. The ONS continue to report worryingly [high excess mortality figures](#) and we believe that dangerous crowding, long delays, and the crisis in urgent and emergency care are contributing to a significant proportion of these excess deaths.

“We are increasingly concerned about the winter and the health system’s ability to cope. We are already at 94.3% bed occupancy for all general and acute beds and each month patients face the longest waits on record. The system is failing in its core function – the quick and effective delivery of emergency care.

“We need meaningful action now – sticking plasters like setting up tents or handover units will do nothing to resolve these long-waits and may actually cause more harm to patients. We know we need to be able to admit patients, we know ambulances need to handover patients quickly, we agree that it is vital that ambulances must return to Urgent and Emergency calls in the community - but to achieve this we must tackle the issue of poor flow in our hospitals.

“Many patients in hospital no longer meet the criteria to reside, they are occupying beds to which we could be admitting patients. Around 13,000 people are in hospital unable to be discharged. We urgently need an effective social care workforce to help with the discharge of these patients, so we can admit patients, receive patient handovers promptly, and get ambulances back out to the community.

“It is crucial that those in power understand that this is not a demand issue, attendances are not causing crowding and long waits. Crowding and long waits are a consequence of the inability to move patients through the hospital, a consequence of patients who are unable to be discharged because of severe cuts to social care. If you can’t discharge patients, beds are indefinitely occupied and the whole system is blocked. The government must get a grip of the social care crisis to fix flow.”

Commenting on the news that the RCN have voted in favour of strike action, Dr Adrian Boyle said:

“In Emergency Medicine there is a retention crisis, particularly amongst our nursing colleagues. Emergency Medicine nurses are a critical part of the workforce – EM is a team sport. We know and understand that many EM staff, including nurses, are burned out, exhausted and overwhelmed. They are skilled, competent professionals who deliver excellent care for our patients. It is vital that our nursing colleagues feel valued and appreciated.”



Royal College of
Emergency Medicine

Immediate global action required to prevent Famine in the Horn of Africa

A 5th consecutive season of drought has been set in motion by a poor start to October – December rains, and below average rainfall is also considered likely to continue during the March – May 2023 season; a humanitarian catastrophe is occurring now, and more funds are crucial to save lives

Global solidarity is urgently needed to help vulnerable communities in the Horn of Africa survive a rapidly unfolding humanitarian catastrophe, driven by the longest and most severe drought in recent history that is expected to continue well into 2023.

Humanitarian and development actors must urgently prepare for the continuation of life-saving assistance in response to extremely high humanitarian needs through to next year.

The Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia drought response plans are only 50 percent funded despite escalating needs, severely limiting humanitarian agencies' capacities to respond. More funds are required immediately to save lives before it is too late.

Already, 20.9 million people are highly food insecure (IPC Phase 3+) due to the two-year drought, including 3.4 million people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) in Kenya and Somalia and 300,560 people in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) in Somalia.

In southern Ethiopia, IPC-compatible analyses show widespread Emergency (IPC Phase 4) area classifications and indicate that there are likely households in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). In Somalia, parts of Bay region are projected to face Famine (IPC Phase 5) while several other central and southern areas face a Risk of Famine by the end of the year.

Significant increases in severe acute malnutrition admissions to nutrition treatment programmes have been observed across the region. Overall, 7.46 million children under the age of five are estimated to face acute malnutrition, including 1.85 million facing its severe form. Increases in child deaths have also been observed. For example, the recent Somalia Post-Gu assessment found under-five death rates exceeding 2/10,000/day amongst four surveyed population groups.

About 23.75 million people face daily household water insecurity. This increases their vulnerability to water-borne diseases, and forces women and children to travel long distances to fetch water, exposing them to heightened risks of violence and exploitation.

The drought impacts on health risks are also significant, and multiple ongoing disease outbreaks, including measles and cholera, for which health outcomes are worse when combined with malnutrition, are major public health concerns.

Facing severely limited access to food, water, and other resources, 1.77 million people have fled their homes, becoming internally displaced, and over 40,000 have sought refuge in neighboring

countries since the start of 2022.

The situation is deteriorating due to the poor start of the October – December rains, particularly in Kenya and southern Somalia. From 1 October to 15 November, these areas are expected to receive rainfall totals that are less than 60 percent of average, with some worst-affected areas, particularly in Kenya, experiencing the poorest start of season on record.

Worryingly, there is a broad consensus across meteorological agencies that the probability of continued below-average rains through the remainder of the season is high, resulting in an unprecedented fifth consecutive poor season.

Preparations should be made for the likelihood that the March to May (MAM) 2023 rainy season is also below average, which, should it materialize, would culminate in a record sixth consecutive poor season. Over the past 25 years, climate change and variability have contributed to a high frequency of below-normal rainy seasons in the Horn of Africa.

Analyses of forecast sea surface temperatures in relevant parts of the Pacific Ocean are also consistent with those of past dry MAM seasons. Although long-lead forecasts have an inherent level of uncertainty and therefore need to be closely monitored, the current consensus among experts is that below-average rainfall is considered likely to continue during the MAM 2023 season.

Regardless of next year's rainfall performance, recovery from a drought of this magnitude will take years, with extremely high humanitarian needs set to persist and even increase in 2023. Many people have completely lost their livelihoods and coping capacities and are relying heavily on assistance to meet basic needs, which will challenge the drought recovery.

Despite the intrinsic uncertainty of rainfall forecasts, there is solid certainty about the urgent need for global support and solidarity to avert a Famine (IPC Phase 5) in the months ahead. During the 2011 drought, 260,000 people died in Somalia, with the majority of deaths occurring before a Famine (IPC Phase 5) was declared.

The world should not allow a repeat of what occurred in 2011. Given rising death rates in many areas, the size of the affected population, and the likely duration of the crisis, the cumulative levels of excess mortality could become as high as in 2011.

We cannot—and must not—wait for a Famine (IPC Phase 5) to be declared, or for additional rainy seasons to fail, to act.



**World Health
Organization**

Ebola disease caused by Sudan ebolavirus – Uganda

Description of the outbreak

From when the outbreak was declared on 20 September until 7 November, a total of 136 confirmed cases, 21 probable cases, and 53 confirmed deaths (CFR 38.9%) from Ebola disease caused by the *Sudan ebolavirus* (SUDV) have been reported, representing an increase of 18% and 66% respectively since the last [DON](#) published on 28 October 2022. In addition, 21 probable deaths have been also reported since the beginning of the outbreak, with the last probable death notified on 29 September. Three additional cases and three additional deaths have been reported among healthcare workers since 28 October, resulting in a total of 18 cases and seven deaths among these workers.

Since the last DON, one newly affected district has been reported (Masaka), leading to a total of eight districts reporting cases. The most affected district remains Mubende with 63 (46%) confirmed cases and 29 (55%) confirmed deaths, followed by Kassanda with 46 (34%) confirmed cases and 19 (36%) confirmed deaths. Two districts, Bunyangabu and Kagadi, have not reported cases for more than 40 days.

As of 7 November, a total of 1386 contacts in seven districts are currently under surveillance, with a follow-up rate of 92%. In the week commencing 31 October, an average of 1586 contacts were followed up daily, a decrease of 16% from the previous week (week commencing 24 October) when a daily average of 1896 contacts were followed up. A total of 34 contacts developed symptoms during the past week. Since the beginning of the outbreak, 3867 contacts have been registered, of which 2237 (68%) have completed the 21-day follow-up period.

As of 7 November, at least 2835 alerts have been received at a daily average of 71 alerts. Approximately 94% (n=2671) of all alerts received were investigated within 24 hours, of which 1120 were validated as suspected cases. The proportion of alerts investigated within 24 hours has been steadily increasing, and in the week commencing 31 October, nearly all alerts (657/659) were investigated within 24 hours, of which 31% (n=203) were validated as suspected cases.

Since the beginning of the outbreak, a total of 2139 samples were collected (suspects, repeat samples, swabs), of which 419 in the week commencing on 31 October (+11% increase as compared to the previous week when 377 samples were collected and tested).

Public health response

For further information on the public health response in Uganda by the Ministry of Health, WHO and partners, see the latest situation reports jointly published by the Ministry of Health and the WHO Regional Office for Africa: <https://www.afro.who.int/countries/publications?country=879>.

Partners in the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) have deployed staff to support the response activities in Uganda, primarily for case management, infection prevention and control and WASH, epidemiology and surveillance, laboratory, Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) and Safe and Dignified Burials (SDBs).

Preparedness and operational readiness in neighboring countries

The Ministry of Health in the six neighboring countries (Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, and the United Republic of Tanzania), in-country and international partners, and WHO are supporting SUDV readiness actions. These include the activation of multi-sectoral coordination mechanisms for SUDV; refresher training of rapid response teams; refresher laboratory training; infection prevention and control at health care facilities; activation/strengthening of surveillance systems for SUDV; community engagement and risk communication; screenings at points of entry (PoE) and assessment and reinforcement of case management capacities, among other activities.

Countries are requested to cascade the operational readiness activities to sub-national levels in high-risk districts/states to stop the introduction of SUDV into their communities. A new online preparedness assessment

tool has been developed to measure key performance indicators to quantify and document the functionality of preparedness capacities in multiple high-risk districts in Uganda and six countries neighboring Uganda to facilitate real-time monitoring of the actual readiness status.

In addition, external stakeholders in these six countries will jointly assess preparedness. The Joint Assessment Missions (JAM) will evaluate preparedness at the national level as well as in high-risk subnational-level districts/states. The JAM reports will provide a detailed picture of preparedness capacities in all pillars and in all subnational areas that are at risk.

WHO risk assessment

On 1 November 2022, WHO revised the risk assessment for this event from high to very high at the national level, and from low to high at the regional level, while the risk remained low at the global level.

The estimated very high risk at the national level is based on a combination of several factors including the lack of licensed medical countermeasures; the late detection of the SUDV outbreak and its spread to multiple districts (including to larger cities like Kampala, with a population of more than four million people and travel connections to many neighbouring countries); a highly mobile population with reports of some high-risk contacts and symptomatic cases traveling between districts using public transportation; despite significant case-finding efforts, there is a possibility that some contacts may have been missed; reported challenges with community engagement in affected districts; many cases have presented at various health facilities with suboptimal infection prevention and control (IPC) practices.

The current outbreak is the first outbreak of *Sudan ebolavirus* in Uganda since 2012. Uganda has developed an increased capacity to respond to Ebola outbreaks over recent years and has a local capacity mobilized and organized with available resources to provide a robust response, but the system could be overwhelmed if the number of cases continues to rise and the outbreak spreads to other densely populated districts, as the country is simultaneously responding to multiple emergencies including outbreaks of anthrax, COVID-19, Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever, Rift Valley fever and yellow fever, as well as prevailing food insecurity.

At the regional level, the risk has been assessed as high due to the lack of licensed vaccines and therapeutics, mass population movements within and across neighbouring countries, along with weak cross-border surveillance that further amplifies the risk of disease spread, and health systems that respond to multiple emergencies. The risk will be continuously assessed based on available and shared information.

WHO advice

Successful SUDV outbreak control relies on applying a package of interventions, including clinical management, community engagement, surveillance and contact tracing, and strengthening laboratory capacity.

Implementation of IPC measures in health care (e.g., hand hygiene, training of health workers, adequate personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies, waste management, environmental cleaning, and disinfection etc.) with ongoing monitoring and supervision for implementation is required to reduce risks of health care facilities amplifying the outbreak. Ensuring the provision of safe and dignified burials, supporting IPC in community settings (including adequate WASH facilities, hand hygiene capacity and safe waste management) and community engagement and social mobilization are essential to prevent and mitigate ongoing transmission.

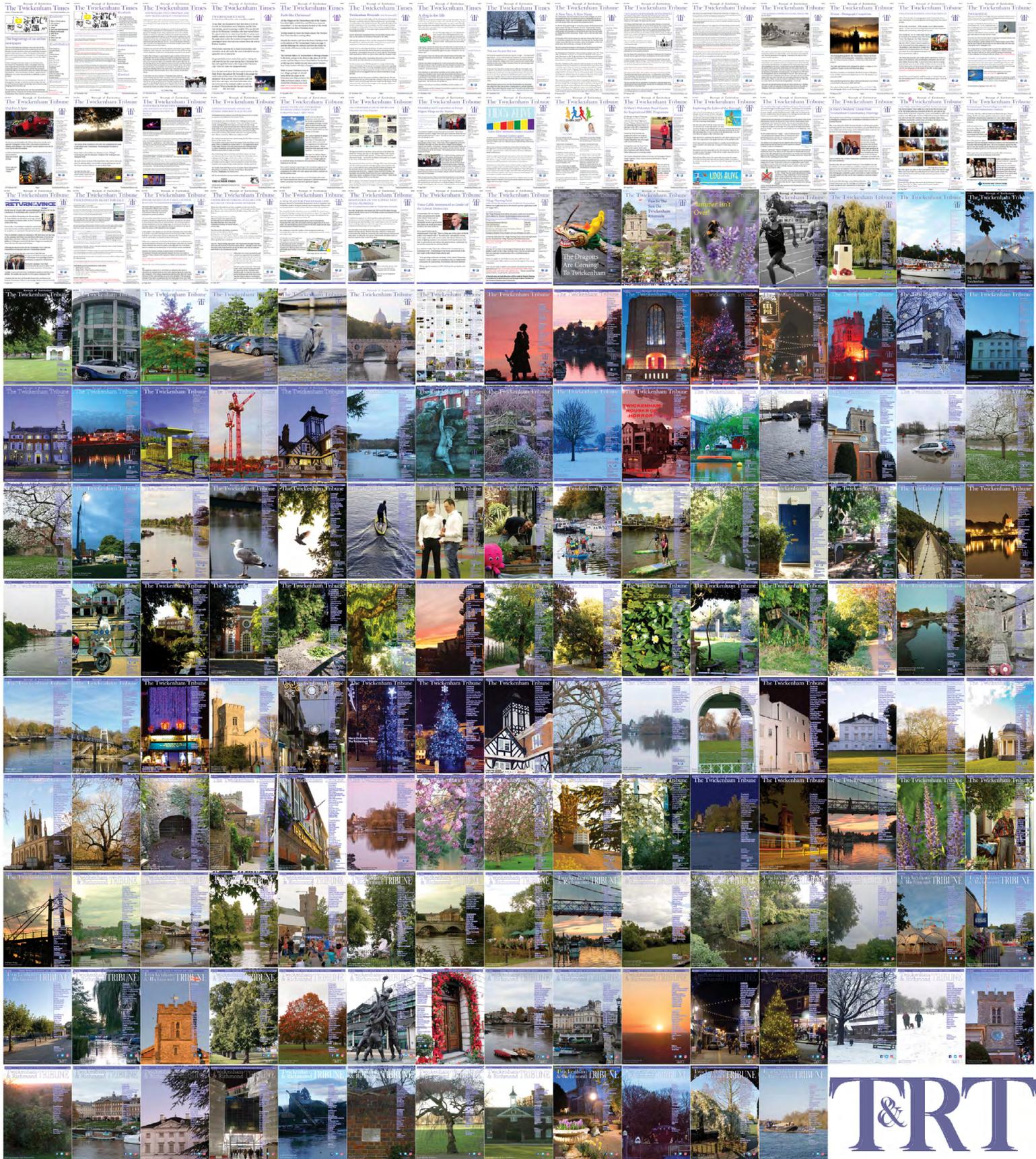
Upon case identification, early initiation of supportive treatment has been shown to significantly reduce deaths from SUDV.

Establishing active surveillance at points of entry is an essential component of the outbreak response to mitigate the risk of international spread due to the high cross-border mobility between Uganda and neighbouring countries.

WHO advises against any restrictions on travel and/or trade to Uganda based on available information for the current outbreak.



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