

Twickenham & Richmond Tribune



16th August 2024

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Berkley Driscoll

Teresa Read

TickerTape - News in Brief

Beverley Brook sewage contamination

From the Royal Parks: Please be advised that Wimbledon and Putney Commons have been notified by Thames Water that following a mains failure, sewage has entered Beverley Brook on Wimbledon Common.

As the Brook flows through Richmond Park dogs should be kept out of the water until the situation is resolved.

Summer bank holiday waste and recycling collections

There will be no changes to the schedule of waste and recycling collections following the summer bank holiday on Monday 26 August.

LBRuT will continue to collect residential waste on your [usual collection day](#). You can find out your collection day by downloading the free [My Richmond app](#).

[Townmead Road Reuse and Recycling Centre](#) will remain open, and residents will need to book a slot in advance. Slots will be limited over the bank holiday weekend, so it is advised to book early.

The Full of Life Fair returns this autumn

The annual Full of Life Fair for older residents and carers is back at Twickenham Stadium on Friday 27 September from 10am to 4pm, to celebrate active, healthy lifestyles and provide direct access to local services and activities in Richmond upon Thames.

The all-day, free event will showcase more than 65 local stallholders representing health, care and public services, community and voluntary organisations, national charities and local businesses, as well as a full schedule of fun activity taster sessions and workshops to support physical and mental health, and an all-day café with free refreshments.

[Registration to attend is now open.](#)



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Local Picture Postcard Column - Part 262

By Alan Winter

Palewell Common - East Sheen

One of the rare occasions when I haven't lived in Twickenham was in the mid-sixties when I joined four other friends sharing half a house in Palewell Park, East Sheen for about a year and a half. A couple of us played tennis and pitch and putt golf several times at Palewell Common and this week's column has brought back very pleasant memories from those days.

Palewell Common is approximately 12 hectares of open space and woodland. It is flanked by Richmond Park and the Bank of England Sports ground.

The first known reference to Palewell Common, 'A place called the Pale', appears in 16th century manorial records. The Common land was part of the interests of the Lord of Manorship which fell to the Spencer family until those interests were transferred to other local landowners living to the west of the Common. In 1921, following a petition from local residents in 1913, the land was transferred to the council which has subsequently managed the area. The area known as the Fields formed part of the grounds of Clarence House in Priory Lane, Roehampton until they were purchased by the Council in 1920. Since the 1920's the facilities within the Common and Fields have changed and developed but the area continues to retain its unique character.



These days the Common features the following facilities

- A nine-hole pitch and putt course
- Pétanque piste with boules available for hire
- Football pitches
- Cricket pitch
- Play areas with a wheelchair accessible roundabout, DDA compliant swing seat, interactive play panels, basket swing and spinner bowl
- Paddling pool
- Café
- Changing rooms

This week's postcards are from the 1920's and 30's so are pretty much 100 years old.

I have taken some of the historical information from 'The Friends of Palewell Website' My thanks to them for that. You can access the site at www.palewellcommon.org.uk

My search for old postcards continues. I am always looking for old postcards and old photograph albums etc. The postcards can be British or Foreign, black and white or coloured and of places or subjects. If you have any that are sitting unwanted in a drawer, in a box in the loft or in the garage or under a bed, please contact me on 07875 578398 or alanwinter192@hotmail.com I would like to see them and I pay cash!



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Your Community Centre Week returns this September

From Your Community Centre Week

Between 16 to 20 September 2024, residents are invited to learn more about the fantastic community spaces Richmond upon Thames has to offer.



This year's [Your Community Centre Week](#) will have various activities on offer so you can truly experience the vibrant community spirit across the borough.

As part of the festivities, you can join a tour of your local area in a vintage Routemaster Bus, with a delicious cream tea made locally at Elleray Hall and live music.

Tours are available on:

- Tuesday 17 September – Tour of the local area, finishing at Greenwood Community Centre for cream tea and music. [Book tickets for 17 September](#)
- Friday 20 September - Tour of the local area, finishing at Kew Community Centre for cream tea and music. [Book tickets for 20 September](#)

Visit Richmond will be on board to provide informative commentary about the local area.

Both tours will start at Richmond railway station bus stop Z. Please meet at 1pm and be prepared to begin the tour at 1.30pm. Lifts back to Richmond town centre on the vintage bus will be available at 4pm.

Children are welcome but they must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets cost £8.

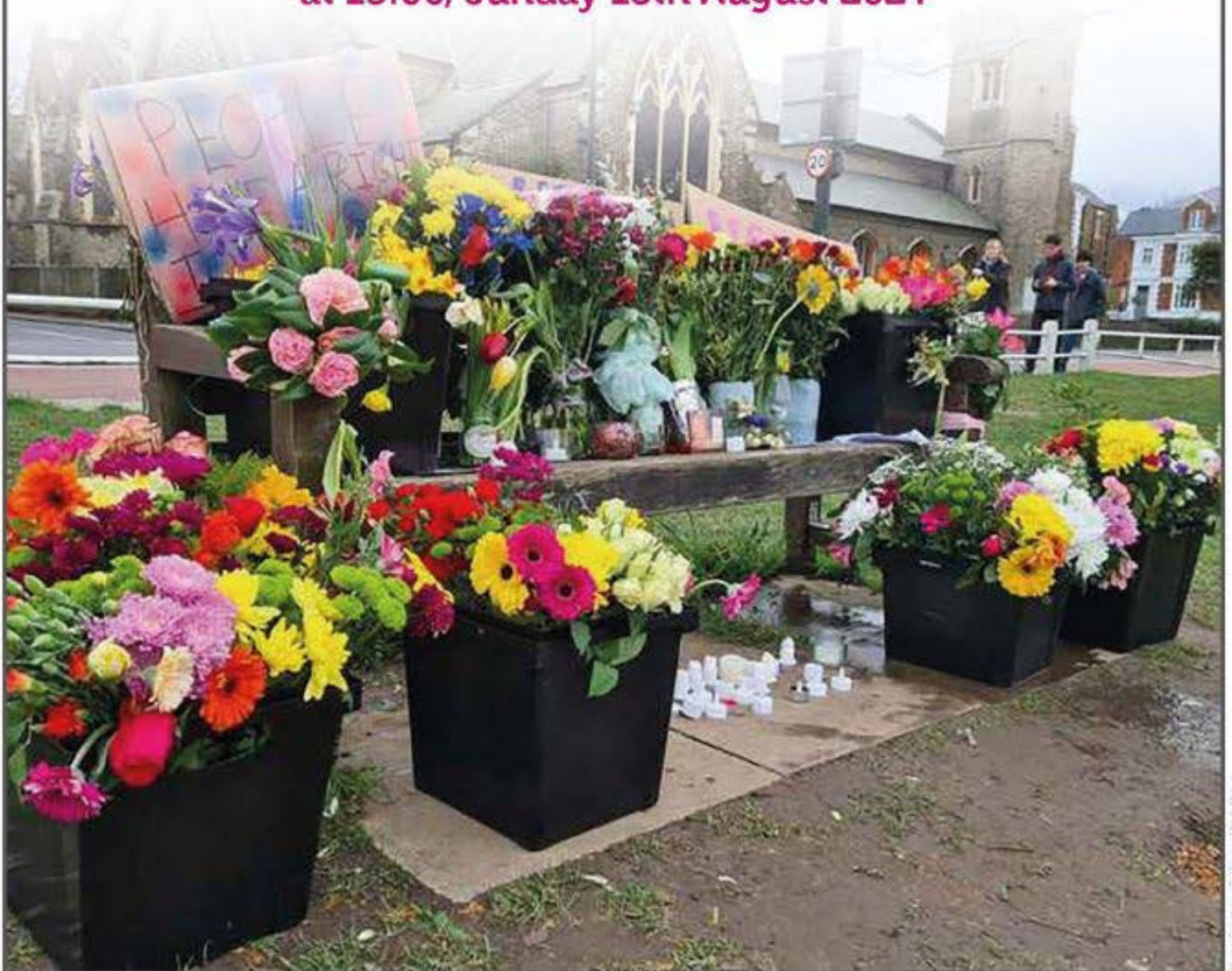
If you have any accessibility requirements, please email info@etnacentre.org.



Please join us to remember
Amelie Delagrangre
twenty years on

Join us as we continue to tackle violence against women and girls as a community in Richmond Upon Thames.

**Twickenham Green, Amelie's Bench
at 15:00, Sunday 18th August 2024**



Dear Tribune,

England's Green and Unpleasant Land!

Teresa Read's article in last week's Tribune about being threatened near Twickenham Green is most concerning. Let's hope the police and Council take it seriously.

Shortly after the terrible murder of Amélie Lagrange on the Green, I drove there at night to inspect the area. Poor Amélie made the easy mistake of crossing the Green at night. A mistake because, with the street lights in your eyes, the Green itself is pitch dark with nothing visible. What may be safe in daylight can be an extremely different proposition at night. We know the sad result.

I have spent all my life training in classical and modern Japanese martial arts, plus 17 years policing our streets, with invitations from the FBI Training Academy, and from Seattle and Los Angeles Police to patrol their cities, including at night in South-Central Los Angeles, a hostile area known for its high crime and far more dangerous than anywhere in the UK. I also have many years of instructing civilians and police in personal safety on the streets, yet I would not cross that Green at night.

In fact, I would not even walk through Twickenham and Richmond at night unless it was absolutely necessary. Or anywhere. It's simply not worth the risk.

In my considerable experience, most people do not take street safety seriously until they have been attacked – by which time it's too late. It doesn't require years of training to simply keep one's eyes open and avoid danger but most people never even think about it. That's quite apart from the fact that most have their heads down all the time looking at their phones. An easy target.

I always tell my students to NEVER use their phones in the street unless it's absolutely necessary or an emergency. If you must use it, then go somewhere safe to do so. In fact, forget your phone until you're home!

The authorities constantly tell us that personal attacks are rare but the facts tell a different story. In any case, crime figures mean nothing if you are attacked as ANY attack is 100% success for the perpetrator and misery for the victim.

People think it will never happen to them but the recent murders of three little girls in Southport together with this week's attacks at Leicester Square, Brent Cross and Marble Arch et al. prove it can happen to anyone, any time. And let's not forget the appalling stabbings of four women at Hampton Sainsbury's car park in 2016.

Keep your eyes open!

Michael Jay, Hampton

Dear Sir

Flies in the recycling bins

I am suffering from a plague of small black flies from my Council food recycling bins. The small green food bin is emptied every day into the larger outside food recycling bin, but both are filled with a swarm of small black flies, despite being locked securely with the handle.

I have used up quite a lot of fly spray to try to get rid of these pests but I am very annoyed that our Council, the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, has supplied indoor and outdoor recycling bins which are not fly proof – despite being properly locked, in fact, they encourage flies.

Surely the use of fly spray is bad for the environment, so it seems we are trading one environmental saving at the loss of another.

What is the Council going to do about providing **fly proof** recycling food bins – my bins are collected regularly each week but I pity the poor refuse collectors who run the gauntlet of countless green food bins emitting clouds of small black flies.

I have checked on the internet and it seems that these flies can be harmful:

“fruit flies can also transport bacteria (e.g., *Salmonella* and *E.coli*)”.

Sometimes, the seemingly answer to a problem can in fact cause other problems. Does our Council look at the pros and cons of their environmental decisions?

It is obvious that decisions made in the confines of the Council offices do not always pan out in practice.

Yours faithfully

Twickenham Resident
Name and address supplied.

Dear Tribune,

Down Under Does It Right!

The Australian city of Melbourne has now banned rental e-scooters because officials say they pose unacceptable safety risks. Melbourne’s mayor, Nicholas Reece, said he was fed up with the bad behaviour of some scooter users with too many people riding on footpaths and dumping them around the city like rubbish – just like here. And a report by the Royal Melbourne Hospital in 2023 said the majority of hundreds of e-scooter accidents involved intoxication, speeding and not wearing a helmet with some of these having caused deaths and brain damage – just like here.

Even Paris was the first city to end their trial early and banned them last year for exactly the same reasons. (90% of their citizens voted for their removal)

What a pity that Richmond’s mayor and Council don’t show the same concern for the welfare of their citizens. Richmond promotes itself as the ‘*Best Borough in London*’ so how about an official invitation from its Mayor and Council to their counterparts in Melbourne and Paris to come and teach Richmond how to do it?

That might just go some way to making Richmond’s streets and pavements decent again and gain some respect for the Council from us beleaguered pedestrians.

Resident of SW14
(Name and address supplied)

BARNES PLG MEETING

**Thursday the 5th of
September 2024, 7PM,
Jenner Place Hall,
Boileau Road, Barnes,
SW13 9DB**



Greens' general election result miscalculated due to Council spreadsheet error

From Chas Warlow, Councillor for South Richmond - Richmond & Twickenham Green Party

Richmond Council today said that an error in using a spreadsheet for the vote count had led to 688 votes being left out of the total for the Green candidate for the Richmond Park constituency, Chas Warlow. The corrected vote share put Mr Warlow into fourth place, lifting him ahead of the Reform UK candidate.

Chas said: "This result now makes a lot more sense – we can see now that we got 6.54% of the vote, almost the same as our result in Twickenham. This vote reflects the work done by the Green Group on Richmond Council: we've inspired the Council to become a social housing provider, we've pushed for more help for renters and we've been constantly pushing for better recycling and more help for residents to improve their homes' energy performance and keep bills down, as well as supporting residents who are facing regular anti-social behaviour. However, the Council has not covered itself in glory here and the processes must be reviewed urgently to ensure this never happens again."

Richmond Council has issued a press release of its own covering this story.



Celebrate the season with Kew Horticultural Society

On Saturday 24 August, residents are invited to join the 79th Kew Horticultural Society Summer Show on Kew Green.

The traditional produce fair will feature a glorious exhibit marquee bursting with vegetables, fruit, flowers, baking and crafts. There will also be horticultural-based stalls selling a variety of books, jewellery, plants, perfumes and more.

In addition to live music, Punch & Judy shows will be on stage throughout the day for the little ones. There will also be a food court selling delicious homemade cakes, tea, coffee and traditional lemonade.



Residents are welcome to join in the real fun by entering your homegrown produce, flowers, cakes or crafts into one of over 100 categories, with specific classes for children.

- **Date:** Saturday 24 August 2024
- **Time:** 12 to 5pm
- **Location:** Kew Green, Richmond, TW9 3BH

Find out more about [Kew Horticultural Society Summer Show](#).



Cremant: fab fizz at an affordable price

You've no doubt noticed that champagne tends to steal the limelight when it comes to French fizz. But lots of folk are unaware that many other regions in France produce excellent sparkling wines with equal care and attention. **Crémant** is crafted using the traditional method – just like the wines of Champagne. The process involves a second fermentation, which is what brings complexity and finesse to your glass.

Crémant is produced in eight wine regions in France: Alsace: Burgundy: Bordeaux: Jura; Savoie; the Loire; Die and Limoux. The geographic position and grapes result in different styles across the regions. These luxurious bubbles are a fantastic choice when you don't want to compromise on quality, so I've done some research to make your choice easier.

According to the drinks trade publication, The Drinks Business, the volume of Crémant consumed globally increased by 3.2% in 2023, as more budget-friendly alternatives to champagne were sought. According to the International Wine and Spirits Record, Crémant sales in 2022 were around 106.8 million bottles, which grew to 110 million bottles in 2023 (corresponding to +3.2% growth) worldwide. Companies such as **Les Grands Chais de France**, the only wine producer to own vineyards in each of the eight crémant appellations, have realised the appeal of Crémant, as have clever Brits, like me, who have champagne taste and crémant budgets!



Here are some to consider trying:

Alsace

Style: Citrus, apples, pears,

Arthur Metz Crémant d'Alsace This organic Crémant has flavours of citrus, apples, pears, complexity of flavour and fine bubbles. This wine is best served as an aperitif and also works with fish dishes. Price: £16, Ocado

ASDA Extra Special Crémant d'Alsace Brut A beautifully pale gold sparkling wine from Alsace. A subtle fruity aroma with notes of pear, apple and light roasted hazelnut. Vivid and fresh on the palate reflecting the green fruit notes, with persistent bubbles. Perfect as an aperitif or served with seafood. A bargain at £9

Loire

Style: Lemon, tangerine, exotic fruits,

LaCheteau Crémant de Loire Well structured, persistent effervescence. A touch of lemon and berry fruits. then lemon, tangerine, exotic fruits on the nose. Price: £16, **Ocado**

Prince Alexandre Crémant De Loire NV (12.5% abv)

Made in France in the exact same method as champagne, but without the price tag and with a subtly gentler fizz. Combining Chenin Blanc, Chardonnay and Cabernet Franc, it boasts a fresh elegant aroma of citrus and white stone fruit with hints of biscuity notes. It's a good value alternative to pricier sparklers. **£14.99 Waitrose**

Bouvet Ladubay Crémant de Loire Brut NV This is a sparkling wine from AOP Crémant de Loire, made using the traditional method, or Méthode Traditionnelle. Throughout its 169 years of history, Bouvet has been endorsed by Napoleon III and chosen as official supplier to the House of Lords. - **£14.99**

[House of Malt](#)



Gratien & Meyer Crémant De Loire Brut Elegant and authentic, this Crémant de Loire offers you a tasting of pure tradition. Chenin, Cabernet Franc, Chardonnay £13 Tesco

ASDA Extra Special Crémant De Loire Rosé Brut bursting with vibrant redcurrant flavours and notes of melon. Serve with smoked salmon canapés or a strawberry pavlova. On offer currently at £9



Bourgogne Style: Minerality, dry, fruity, *Suggested wine: Moillard Grivot Crémant de Bourgogne*

An elegant sparkling wine produced by a small family winery situated in the Bourgogne region. Good minerality combined with a pleasant dry fruity style, leading to a good length on the finish.

Price: £14.99, [Sandham's](#) Wine Merchants



Jura

Made using Chardonnay grapes Marcel **Cablier Crémant de Jura** An elegant and harmonious Crémant from the lesser-known region of Jura in the east of France. Perfect with fish or cheeses from the Jura region like Comté or Emmental. Price: £14.88, [Xtra Wine](#)

Bordeaux

Style: Yellow fruit and brioche.

Calvet Cremant Bordeaux Brut Rosé A fine, fruity wine. Highly aromatic, with a long and complex final. Perfect as an apéritif. Its fruity notes will also complement delicate tarts and fruit cocktails. Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot varietals. £12, **Ocado** Also **Calvet Cremant Bordeaux Brut** Beautiful golden yellow body with fine bubbles. Expressive nose of yellow fruit and brioche. Fresh and balanced palate. Merlot and Sémillon grape varietals. £11, **Ocado**



The Hound in Chiswick...Woof!

If you thought you knew The Crown pub on Chiswick High Road, think again. It's now called **The Hound** and owned and run by **JKS** restaurants, who own Trishna, Kitchen Table, Gymkhana, Lyles, Hoppers, Bao, and Bibi, among others. This former police station (the cells are visible and used now as a wine store) is a large building with a spacious internal courtyard, with a roof that can be opened or closed, depending on the weather. The Hound's executive chef is John Sparks, who works alongside culinary director James Knappett of the group's two Michelin-star Kitchen Table in Fitzrovia, serving a diverse menu inspired by British pub classics.



It was busy the night we were there, and once seated at the side of the courtyard, we ordered our drinks. For me it was the usual favourite - a Negroni - and my husband was pleased to discover that they serve Lucky Saint on draught (a nod to the number of people now choosing to avoid alcohol). I'm not one of those though, and my Negroni was excellent and served with a giant ice cube that was branded The Hound - a nice touch I thought.

The menu is well composed and allows guests to choose just to have a snack or sandwich with a drink. We were pleased to see this, as too many local pubs have become 'fine dining' and expensive. We chose the Cauliflower & Onion Bhajis £8.50 (Chaat Masala, Tamarind chutney) to start and a portion of Salt Cod Croquettes £7.50 (lemon Aioli, cucumber). Other tempting starters included Black Pudding Scotch Egg, Grilled Red Prawns, Cornish Mussels and Pork Scratchings, ranging from £5 to £16, with some available as a main course portion too.



The croquettes were piping hot and really good, but rather frustratingly as they were so good, the portion was three, so not ideal for sharing. We did suggest to our waiter that perhaps they should offer them individually priced so folk can choose how many to order. The bhajis were a very generous portion and almost meaty in texture. I tried a bhaji with the lemon aioli too, and that worked really well.



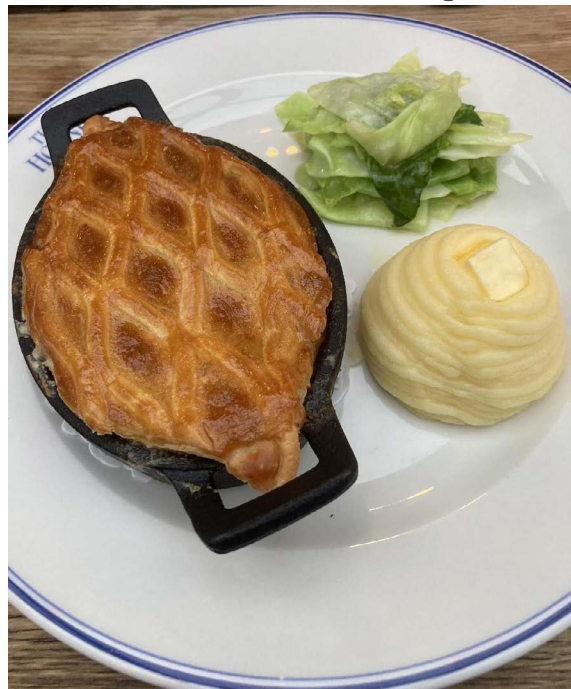


I had opted for another starter instead of a main course and had Steak Tartare (£15) with a side of green salad and we shared some chunky chips. My husband can never resist a good pie, so chose Chicken & Leek Pie with Mashed Potato and Buttered Greens £25.

I was in steak tartare heaven and particularly impressed also with my salad which was generous with lovely fresh lettuce leaves topped with fresh tarragon, chives and parsley.



The pie was a disappointment on presentation, as the pie itself was a tad on the meagre side, and to my husband's



chagrin, was just a topped pie, with no base. That said, it was well filled and tasty and the mash very smooth and buttery. The wilted cabbage was also excellent, so a well balanced, but slightly small serving.

The dessert menu is rather limited, with just four options, one being English cheeses. With another being Sticky Toffee Pudding with Cornish Clotted Cream £10, my husband was very easy to please! I was replete, so I didn't need anything else.

The wine list is well structured and I enjoyed a glass of excellent Rioja at £11.50. There are plenty of wines by the glass and half bottle, too, but only a few English wines, which I felt was perhaps a shame, as there are so many good ones available now.

The Hound is a great addition to Chiswick High Road, and is obviously already proving popular with locals. Service is excellent, with well balanced relaxed friendliness and professionalism. There are a couple of special inclusive Feast tasting menus at £55 and £45 (served family style for a minimum of four), requiring 72 hours notice but they sound delicious and will be ideal for a larger gathering.

And don't forget that you can hop on the 267 bus from Twickers if you're wanting a drink or three with your meal.

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Traveller's Tales 164

Sleepy Suffolk

Doug Goodman explores some of Suffolk's sites

It was only after taking two hours to drive from Twickenham to the beginning of the M11, around The North Circular, that I realised how well we are situated for quick access to a motorway – that is as long as you take the M3 to head in a south westerly direction. The M11 is a slow and very crowded road but on arrival at the pretty Suffolk village of Peasenhall and finding our holiday barn, the stress of a slow drive quickly vanished. The Manor House Barn is part of an ancient farm complex converted into a family home and accommodation for visitors. The conversion has been carried out with great care with original beams from the old building preserved and incorporated into a very comfortable holiday home. Surrounded by farm land and gardens with resident hares and guinea fowl the location was ideal for exploring the villages and main tourist sites. The village of Peasenhall has two shops: the post office combined with a general store and a much acclaimed deli, Emmett's. The White Horse pub in Sibton has an excellent menu with a wide choice of Adnams beer.



Village Sign



Holiday Home



Framlingham Castle



Framlingham Horse Show

PRETTY VILLAGES

Peasenhall has many attractive cottages along the main road including one whose peacocks take delight in sitting in the middle of the road. Framlingham, a short drive away, has an imposing and well preserved castle built by the Bigod family. The castle was home to the earls and dukes of Norfolk for 400 years and from here Mary 1 began her reign. Its museum displays items of archaeological and historic interest and the walkway around the walls provides views over the countryside once defended by the 12th century fortress. In the adjacent showground horse trials were underway showing the skills of hunting dogs and the local breed of large draught horses, the Suffolk Punch. The extensive ruins of Leiston Abbey are well worth visiting. Founded in 1182 on marsh land near the sea, the Abbey was rebuilt in the 14th century and suppressed in 1537 but remains one of the country's most spectacular monastic ruins. Aldeburgh, a popular seaside holiday destination, is famous for its music, art and history. Home to the composer Benjamin Britten, the summer arts festival established in 1948 by Britten held at The Snape Maltings, attracts visitors from around the world. Fresh fish cooked in huts on the shingle beach while you wait is an enjoyable form of lunch or dinner. Aldeburgh's wide main street has a big range of shops and some good pubs.



Leiston Abbey



Benjamin Britten in Aldeburgh



Finest Fresh Fish



Sutton Hoo



Great Beer



Orford



Orford Castle

SUTTON HOO AND ORFORD.

The most visited place in Suffolk is the Viking Burial in Sutton Hoo. The site of two Anglo-Saxon cemeteries from the 6th to 7th centuries, excavations began in 1938 when an undisturbed Viking Longship was discovered containing a treasure-trove of artefacts. Scholars believe it is the burial spot of Raedwald, king of the East Angles. The discovery of the site helped to uncover the history of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of East Anglia. The main treasures are in the British Museum but a replica gold and silver helmet is on display in the museum. A reconstruction of the ship is near the visitors' centre. Orford is a quiet little fishing village and boating centre with a castle dating from the late 12th century built by Henry 11. The keep is one of the most spectacular of any UK fortress and the views from the top are stunning. Orford Ness is a peninsular owned by The National Trust. The coastal nature reserve is only accessible by NT ferry from Orford quay on designated days. The area was part of a testing ground for military weapons and some of the blast-proof buildings can be seen. It was here that experiments with radio navigation were carried out which led to the development of radar so vital during The Battle of Britain in 1940.



Rich Farmland



Cambridge Kettle's Yard Gallery



Ely Cathedral

ON TO ELY AND CAMBRIDGE

Visits to Ely and Cambridge were planned after the week in Peasenhall. Ely has one of the most beautiful and important cathedrals in the UK. Its front is unmistakable and it has been the location for films: Elizabeth, The King's Speech, The Crown and many others. As a choir was practicing it was impossible to stand under the magnificent octagon. But tickets purchased for that evening's performance of Verdi's Requiem sung by 200 school children, gave us seats below the Octagon Tower. For the energetic there are 170 spiral steps to explore the wooden lantern, which has been a wonder of medieval England since completion in 1342. Cambridge has so much to see but with just a few hours to spare the choice was to head to Kettle's Yard. Changing works from artists around the world are on display in the adjoining gallery but the highlight is the home of Jim Ede and his wife Helen. They moved to Cambridge in 1956 and converted four small cottages into a home and place to display Ede's collection of early 20th century art. Visitors were given a personal tour of the house and students were allowed to borrow the treasures. Works by Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth, Miro, Ben and Winifred Nicholson, Brancusi, Christopher Wood and Alfred Wallis, among many others, make the home a very welcoming sanctuary.

Suffolk is a very pleasant county where people have time to talk to you and make visitors feel welcome.

Info: The Manor Farm Barn can be booked through Sykes Cottages: www.sykescottages.co.uk Framlington Castle: www.english-heritage.org.uk Leiston Abbey: www.english-heritage.org.uk Aldeburgh: www.visitsuffolk.com Orford Castle: www.english-heritage.org.uk Orford Nature Reserve: www.nationaltrust.org Sutton Hoo: www.nationaltrust.org.uk White Horse Inn in Sibton: www.sibtonwhitehorseinn.co.uk Ely Cathedral: www.elycathedral.org Kettle's Yard: www.kettlesyard.cam.ac.uk

But it's just a pigeon...

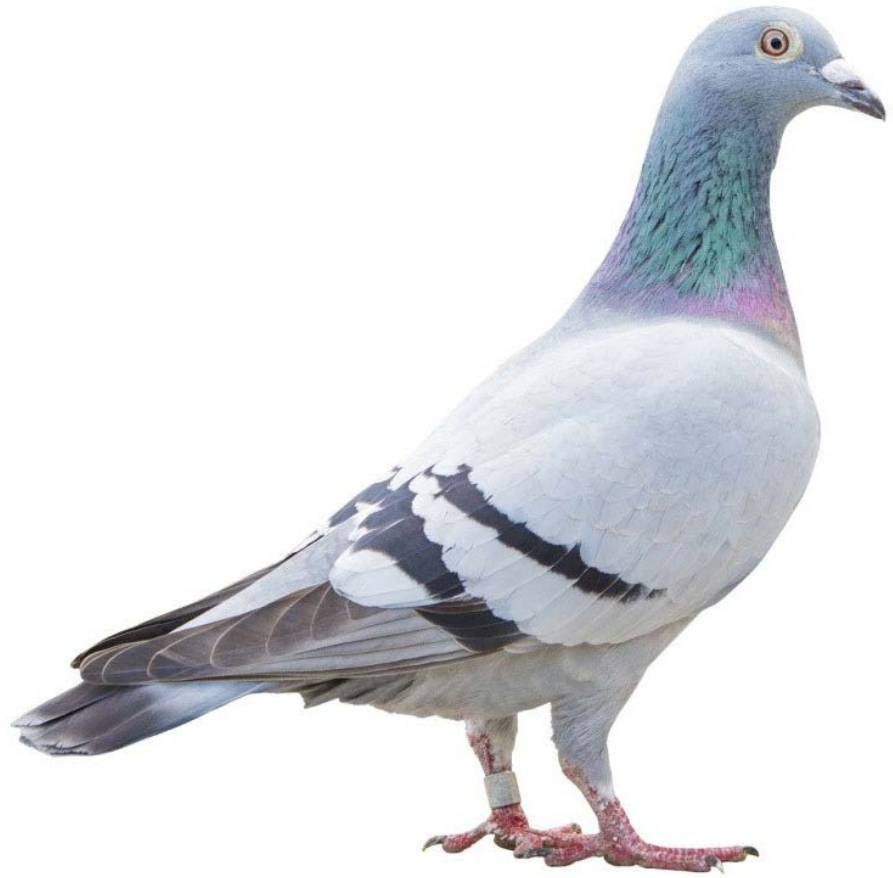
By Deep Patel

~ Through the Eyes of a Twickenham Shopkeeper ~

As many people may know, both myself, and my family have run Meet & Deep Newsagents in Twickenham, Hampton Road for the past 40 years and we absolutely love any activity that involves helping others and spreading good karma.

If you have ever walked past our shop, you may have noticed our window absolutely plastered with posters promoting the use of talcum or rosemary powder/white vinegar around where ants come (but not directly on them!) to stop them without killing them, live capture traps for mice/rats to release them in park lands far away instead of cruel poison and copper mesh (much better than the tape) wrapped vertically around 4 bamboo canes (one on each corner of your vegetable patch) to stop slugs and snails without the cruelty of poison, salt or beer drowning...and all in the spirit of compassion and good karma.

We even tell people to be careful not to over-sweep or hose down their patios too much (to avoid drowning the tiny lives we can't see...and to gently lift or waddle large pots if you need to move them rather than drag them (to avoid crushing the little life forms) ...but the guys are LWP are something above this even...



In doing everything that we try to do, we are still nowhere near as compassionate as the lovely people of LWP (London Wildlife Protection). In fact, we were so impressed with the extent of the compassion shown by these guys, that we decided to join them and volunteered to be a drop-off location for any injured birds and wildlife...these are the local unsung heroes of the wildlife world... the guys who will go to EXTRAORDINARY lengths to help the smallest of lives in their time of need...

We have all done it at some point in our lives... seen a sick looking pigeon and walked by either not quite knowing what to do or wondering if it is diseased and will cause us to die if we touch it...you have done it right? I know I have in the past...but it is our responsibility...all of us...I mean would we like it if one our family were unwell sitting on the corner of the street and others walked by thinking "not my responsibility"? I wouldn't like that for humans, so why do this to animals that can't talk, can't call an ambulance and can't take their own medicine? Just seems a little inhumane for humans to behave this way...and the volunteers at London Wildlife Protection would definitely agree...

There are 100 of these volunteers dotted around London...all working full time jobs or living full lives with family commitments etc but STILL managing to give up every minute of spare time to help rescue little lives that no one else will. In fact many of us will see an injured pigeon, or any bird and take it to the vets, thinking that we have “done a good deed” but unaware that sadly most vets and most rescue organizations see pigeons as “vermin” and put them to sleep without even giving them a chance, the same for many bird species...Many of us consider these things to be “vermin” but why? Because they are good at breeding? Because there are too many of them? Because they take food from us and dig up and mess up our land? If this is what we call “vermin” than surely humans should be considered the biggest “vermin” of all...as we do all of these things too...our species has pretty much ruined planet earth no?

Vermin-labels aside, whatever we want to call them. They are not “out to get us” but simply trying to feed themselves and their families...pretty much like the rest of us? They feel suffering too (like the rest of us) and can live long live too (a pigeon can live up to 20 years)...so next time you see a little “vermin” type creature suffering...or a young bird unable to fly and in danger of being attacked by a cat, dog or fox, please DON'T just walk by or leave it out overnight to be attacked, but instead grab a box with lots of holes in it and throw it upside down over the bird/animal (using the same technique you would to catch a spider in a cup!) and gently scoop it in the box, close the lid and keep safe indoors (so a fox or cat doesn't tear open the box after) and then contact London Wildlife Protection. They will endeavour to help the bird, treat it, rehabilitate it and release it into the wild again. If you don't have a box, ask someone to watch the bird or animal (so it doesn't get attacked or disappear) whilst you go to a local shop to find a box...you can temporarily use a recycling box and wedge something under the bottom to allow air in and weigh it down with something heavy so a fox doesn't turn it over, or use a laundry basket in the same way! If you are too scared to do this yourself, ask a local friend, neighbor or relative to come and help you contain the bird or animal safe...and not only will you be saving a little life (as all lives feel suffering like we do too)...but you will feel GREAT and you will have good karma and will be adding a little bit of compassion out there in a world that seriously needs it right now...be a hero today and save a pigeon! Please take a photo of the following poster and share it to your social media, WhatsApp groups and print it to put on your notice board at work...you never know who may notice it or what innocent little life you will be helping to save in the future...

Remember...

***“A life is a life...big or small...a life is still valuable...
the same creator made them all...”***

MY CREATURE-KINDNESS TIP OF THE WEEK...

STOP ANY INSECT KINDLY (GOOD KARMA): Sprinkle pure essential peppermint oil, Olbas oil, fine black pepper or white vinegar around places where you don't want them to come (but NOT directly on them) ...they will go without you having to harm them.

For ANY specific tip to stop any “pest” or insect KINDLY (for good karma/blessings), email me: InsectLoversUnite@gmail.com or join my Facebook page: “INSECT LOVERS UNITE”

Bruce's 90th Birthday! Thank you all for coming and making the day so special for him!



Lovely Party – Lucky it fell on a Sunday and we could close!!!
Yes, it is still work every day – but it is a pleasure, and no day is the same.
So, keep on coming down – we open every day from Monday to Saturday 11.00 through to 18.00
Church Street is a pleasure to work in, I count my lucky stars and I've got a great boss – Shona my daughter.

Injured bird?

Call London Wildlife Protection
Helping to save sick & injured birds

across London & further
that vets or other
rescues can't



Call:

LondonWildlifeProtection.org

07909 795 064

For foxes: contact "FOXANGELS" (Facebook)
or The Fox Project on 01892 824 111
For Squirrels contact: "URBAN SQUIRRELS"

FOR FREE HUMANE PEST CONTROL TIPS:
TheGoodKarmaGardener@gmail.com

The Barber of Seville

by Gioachino Rossini, libretto by Cesare Sterbini

West Green House Opera, Theatre on the Lawn, Hartley Wintney

The cast needs to be very sharp in *The Barber of Seville*, for it is a frenetic farce, furiously paced. Director Victoria Newlyn, who had great fun on the lake with [L'elisir d'amore](#) in 2022, lets West Green's production rip as a rowdy romp, played for laughs.

The troupe of musicians that Almaviva employs for his dawn serenade under Rosina's window have toreador(ish) costumes, part of the stylised bullfighting theme. Mudéjar architecture forms the latticework pattern, as Figaro's black and white reticulated frock coat, and Almaviva's checked calzoncillos echo the chequerboard floorcloth.

Arched doorcases, decorated with moustache scrolls, whizz around the stage on trucked platforms, as Newlyn's choreography emphasises the action. With the dizzying design, all this buzzy busy-ness overloads the senses, while the effervescent music sets the pace.



The eponymous barber is the energetic epicentre. Rossini gives Figaro two tongue-twisting arias to start. *Largo al factotum* is the best-known, Figaro telling how he enjoys being the best barber, gossip-monger, assignation broker and general fixer. Baritone Dominic Sedgwick tackles these vocal acrobatics with agility, and a self-satisfied twinkle and twirl ... eye and moustache respectively.

[Nico Darmanin](#) presents an Almaviva making an emotional transition from anxiety to full confidence in his noble standing. A measured lyrical tenor, he enjoys the role of the determined lover, disguised first as a drunken military

vet, later as a flower-power singing tutor. Katie Bray's Rosina is coy in her aria *Un voce poco fa*. Her beautiful soprano has gentle glissando stresses but increasingly decorated coloratura as the action progresses.

[Grant Doyle](#)'s Dr Bartolo balances the lustful guardian with the irascible local worthy. There is comedy in his vanity. Taking a pratfall over the pouffe, he tumbles into turbo-patter. As spin-doctor Don Basilio, [Trevor Eliot Bowes](#)'s combination of creepiness, craftiness and comedy is priceless, and his resonant bass voice is as acrobatically amazing as it is musically mesmerising. Versatile soprano [Jeni Bern](#) has a delicious cameo as the idiosyncratic housekeeper Berta.

Quartets and quintets enrich the musicality of the piece, as [Matthew Kofi Waldren](#) joyfully conducts the West Green Orchestra. The elopement scene's musical interlude evokes an impressive thunderstorm, showcasing lighting designer [Sarah Bath](#)'s skills with impressive lightning flashes inside and outside of the auditorium.

Busy-ness is Rossini's hallmark. He wrote *The Barber of Seville* in just thirteen days. So, West Green's frantic merry-go-round fits the maestro's mood, with panache.

Read Mark Aspen's review at www.markaspen.com/2024/08/02/barber-seville-wgo

Photography courtesy of WGHO

Der Vampyr

by Heinrich August Marschner

Gothic Opera, Grimeborn Festival at Arcola Theatre, Dalston

This year's Grimeborn Festival gets off to a splendid start with this revival of Gothic Opera's production of [Marschner's Der Vampyr](#). The tartan, the enforced wedding, the lavish coloratura, and big ensembles reminds one of Donizetti's [Lucia di Lammermoor](#) (which didn't receive its first performance until seven years after *Der Vampyr*).

The music has a brittle charm and the focus tends to be on ensembles rather than arias. Conductor Kelly Loveday's witty arrangement for a small band includes whistles and a [sousaphone](#) and is an imaginative delight, looking forward to Mahler as well as back to Weber.



The music may not be in the same league as *Lucia*, where laughs are in much shorter supply, but is a piece that isn't spoilt by having a bit of fun. Gothic Opera kicks toxic masculinity in the balls, but with a twinkle in its eye along with (rather too many) demonic cackles. You could say that director Julia Mintzer goes a bit far with a feminist reworking of the ending, buckets of blood, a ginormous teddy bear, and a set that consists basically of a coffin. But this is better than treating this neglected piece with kid gloves, which would have killed it faster than anything.



These small niggles don't prevent a talented cast from creating an impact. Giuseppe Pellingra with his long hair, unbuttoned shirt and cool shades perhaps has more rock star charisma than vocal heft in the title role. Jack Roberts wields a fine tenor in the slightly thankless role of Aubrey, his rival for Malvina, played by Milena Knauß, who makes the most of her coloratura opportunities as the heroine. Connall O'Neil displays a good voice as the oppressive father keen to marry his daughter off to the Vampire – no questions asked as he had an aristocratic title – and Madeleine Todd and Amber Reeves do a nice job with the Vampire's other victims.

Gothic Opera's next offering comes locally ... at Halloween !!

Read Patrick Shorrock's review at www.markaspen.com/2024/08/15/vampyr

Photography by Craig Fuller

Barnes Safer Neighbourhoods Team

Crime Update August 2024



For the past four weeks, where has it happened?

Burglary X5

- Business & community, 8/7, 23:00 hours, Castelnau, SW13.
- Residential burglary, 10/7, 04:00 hours, Madrid Road, SW13.
- Residential burglary, 26/7-29/7, 13:00-08:50 hours, Cartwright Way, SW13.
- Attempted burglary, 12/7, 01:45 hours, Nassau Road, SW13.
- Attempted burglary at venue, 6/7, 21:16 hours, Madrid Road, SW13.

Vehicle Crime X11

- Theft from motor vehicle, 4/7, 20:45 hours, Ferry Road, SW13.
- Theft from motor vehicle, 4/7-5/7, 22:00-10:15 hours, Trinity Church Road, SW13.
- Theft from motor vehicle, 11/7, 11:00-13:00 hours, Lonsdale Road, SW13.
- Theft from motor vehicle, 20/7, 03:50-03:55 hours, Boileau Road, SW13.
- Theft from motor vehicle, 20/7, 04:05-04:10 hours, Lowther Road, SW13.
- Theft from motor vehicle, 20/7, 13:59 hours, Ranelagh Avenue, SW13.
- Theft from motor vehicle, 26/7, 14:00-16:00 hours, The Crescent, SW13.
- Theft of motor vehicle, 7/7-8/7, 23:00-08:00 hours, Lonsdale Road, SW13.
- Theft of motor vehicle, 8/7, 17:12 hours, Melrose Road, SW13.
- Theft of motor vehicle, 10/7-11/7, 21:00-01:30 hours, Lonsdale Road, SW13.
- Theft of motor vehicle, 17/7, 22:00-23:35 hours, Glenthams Road, SW13.
- Criminal Damage X3
- Criminal damage to dwelling where value of damage is under £500, 24/7, 20:15 hours, Suffolk Road, SW13.

- Criminal damage to motor vehicle, rear driver side window smashed, 2/7, 19:19 hours, Lonsdale Road, SW13.
- Criminal damage to vehicle where value of damage is under £500, 21/7, 00:15-00:30 hours, Alderbury Road, SW13.

Robbery X0

Violent Offences X3

- Assault occasioning actual bodily harm, 16/7, 13:59 hours, Washington Road, SW13.
- Assault occasioning actual bodily harm, 28/7, 22:30 hours, Jenner Place, SW13.
- Assault without injury, 29/7, 20:01 hours, Jenner Place, SW13.

Drugs X10

- Unlawful importation of a controlled drug, 5/7, 20:03 hours, 16:23 hours, Oriel Drive, SW13.
- Unlawful importation of a controlled drug, 8/7, 11:50 hours, Castelnau, SW13.
- Unlawful importation of a controlled drug, 12/7, 12:09 hours, St Anns Road, SW13.
- Unlawful importation of a controlled drug, 10/7, 00:01 hours, Brasenose Drive, SW13.
- Unlawful importation of a controlled drug, 23/7, 18:35 hours, Castelnau, SW13.
- Unlawful importation of a controlled drug, 23/7, 15:16 hours, Barnes High Street, SW13.
- Unlawful importation of a controlled drug, 26/7/ 00:01 hours, Castelnau, SW13.
- Unlawful importation of a controlled drug, 26/7, 00:01 hours, Church Road, SW13.
- Unlawful importation of a controlled drug, 11/7, 10:33 hours, St Edmunds Square, SW13.
- Unlawful importation of a controlled drug, 28/7, 00:01 hours, Walnut Tree Close, SW13.

Officers covering Barnes

PS Michael Hirsch
 PC Darren Meakins
 PC May Moody
 PCSO Matthew Morbey

We had a good turnout for Junes Police Liaison Group Meeting the next meeting is now confirmed for Thursday the 5th of September at 7pm in Jenner Place Hall, Boileau Road, Barnes, SW13 9DB. For any resident who needs to speak with Barnes SNT our office number has changed and is now 02078072014

*Also included is the ward panel survey link included below, the survey only takes 5 minutes to complete and all results are anonymous. Also if you would like to submit questions ahead of the PLG please send them to the Barnes Police Liaison Group Chair at bplgchair@gmail.com.
<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/KYL7HE/>*

Or you can send us an email to; Barnes@met.police.uk
 Or for enquires you can call; 02078072014

ALWAYS 999 FOR EMERGENCIES



St Mary's University

St Mary's Athletes See Success at Paris Olympic Games

St Mary's University, Twickenham (SMU) has seen twelve former and current students and athletes selected to compete at this year's Olympic Games in Paris, with alumni Beth Potter and Aaron Grandidier bringing back three medals between them.

St Mary's University, Twickenham (SMU) has seen twelve former and current students and athletes selected to compete at this year's Olympic Games in Paris, with alumni Beth Potter and Aaron Grandidier bringing back three medals between them.

SMU and Endurance Performance Centre (EPC) alumna Beth Potter won [two Bronze medals](#) for Team GB in the Women's Triathlon and Mixed Relay Triathlon events. Paris was Beth's second Olympic Games, having competed in the women's 10,000m at Rio 2016. Beth changed discipline to Triathlon following Rio, becoming World Champion at the World Triathlon Series in 2023.

The Paris Olympic Games also saw EPC alumni Revée Walcott-Nolan and Elliot Giles reach the semi-finals for Team GB in the Women's 1500m and Men's 800m races respectively. Elliot Giles was called up a week before the Men's 800m events after SMU associate Jake Wightman had to pull out due to injury.

SMU and EPC alumna Adelle Tracey also competed in the Women's 800m and 1500m events for Team Jamaica.

Three alumna and one current student at SMU competed for Team GB in the Women's Rugby 7s tournament. Former student Emma Uren was named captain of the squad, with current master's student Lauren Torley and alumnae Ellie Kildunne and Abi Burton joining her. The team reached the quarter finals and finished 7th overall.



St Mary's will see alumna Corrine Hall compete at her third Paralympic Games later this month for Team GB. Corrine is a tandem pilot for Lora Fachie, with the pair already having won two Gold medals, a Silver, and a Bronze at the Rio and Tokyo Paralympics. Corrine will be competing in all four of the Women's B Road and Track Cycling events in Paris.

SMU associate David Weir will also be competing in the Paris Paralympic Games. David regularly

trains and undertakes testing at St Mary's world class facilities. He has been selected for his seventh Paralympics for Team GB, having previously won four Gold medals at Beijing, and a further two Golds at the London Games.

Aaron Grandidier, alumnus and former rugby academy scholar at SMU, [took the Gold medal](#) in the Men's Rugby 7s at the Games with France. The French side faced Fiji in the final, with Aaron scoring two tries to help secure a 26-14 win and the Gold medal.

Alum Emile Cairess became Team GB's [best Olympic marathon finisher](#) in 20 years after placing fourth in the men's race in Paris. Emile, an EPC alumnus, ran the marathon in a time of 2:07:29, just 29 seconds behind Kenya's Benson Kipruto who took the Bronze medal. Earlier this year, Emile ran the [second fastest British marathon time](#) ever after fellow SMU alum and four-time Olympic Gold medal winner Sir Mo Farah.

St Mary's has a history of success at recent Olympic and Paralympic Games. Athletes, alumni, and students from SMU have won a Gold medal at every Games since Beijing 2008. In total the University has seen 51 athletes take part in the last four Olympic and Paralympic Games, with some representing multiple events, winning 17 medals for their nations prior to Paris 2024.



Waldegrave students celebrate outstanding A-level results

Congratulations to Waldegrave A-level students who have again obtained excellent results across all subjects. Of all grades awarded, 9% of these were A*/A and 66% A*-B. 17% of students achieved three A grades or above.

Commenting on the results Ms Tongue, Headteacher, said *"I am immensely proud of all of our students. The results that the students have achieved today are a result of incredible effort and determination,"* Ms Tongue continued. *"In addition to congratulating our students, I would like to thank the school staff for their expertise, enthusiasm and commitment to the students. We are grateful that our parents and carers have also been unstinting in their support and ambition for the students. Students were very well prepared and are now ready for their next steps, whether that be in Higher Education or employment."*



Waldegrave's sixth form was established 10 years ago and has consistently achieved excellent results; a testament to the strong relationships between students and teachers.

We are delighted to congratulate the following students that have secured places on the most competitive courses and institutions:

- Gabriel Bistrot, Oxford University, Physics
- Mimi Boker-Price, Oxford University, Classical Archaeology and Ancient History
- Emily Buckler, University of Nottingham, Veterinary Science
- Isabella East, Liverpool University, Veterinary Science
- Hisha Kasi, Direct Line, Data Science Degree Apprenticeship
- Fatima Khemache, Queen Mary University of London, Medicine
- Zoha Malik, King's College London, Dentistry
- Orlaith Rees, Leeds University, Medicine
- Miranda Radford, Trinity Laban Conservatoire, London
- Rishaan Shafi, London School of Economics, Management
- Charlotte Thomann, Cambridge University, Modern and Medieval Languages



Additional, congratulations to the following students who achieved at least **3 A*/A grades**:

Aadye Apte	Isabella East	Ruby Ridd
Mia Archdeacon	Charlie King	Isis Schevernels
Solenn Buckingham	Emily Monk	Kiera Smith
Hana Bye	Nell Mummery	Greta Spahiu
Caity Coleman-Halvey	Eddie O'Leary	Daisy Tolchard
Emma Craig	Juliet O'Riordan Santos	John Toska
Ruby Davies-Hawtree	Meera Pancharatnam	Joe Wallis
Lindsey Dawe	Ella Pitzer	Holly Wiseman-Lee

Mr Bannister, Head of Sixth Form said *"The results achieved today demonstrate Waldegrave students' hard work and commitment to their studies and the school is incredibly proud of them all. At Waldegrave we endeavour to support each student in their aspirations so it is incredibly exciting to see the wide range of courses and careers that students have chosen to pursue this year including Architecture, Global Development, Costume Design & Construction, Sports Design Engineering, Human Neuroscience and Crime & Security Science."*



RuTC Students Celebrate A-Level, BTEC and Vocational Results

Hundreds of students at Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) are celebrating another extraordinary set of results in A-Levels, and vocational qualifications with some incredible individual successes and high grades.

This year's results, released Thursday 15 August, have further improved on last year's outstanding results and demonstrate the talent of our many students and the support they received throughout their time at the College from our dedicated teaching staff and pastoral care teams.



This year's cohort of over 115 students who sat A-Level exams with RuTC achieved a 57% pass rate at grades A*-C.

Vocational results, which include a range of qualifications, such as BTEC and UAL, were also strong with overall results higher than the previous year and 100% pass rates on many courses across HRUC.

This is testament to the hard work and commitment of our students, supported by our industry specialist staff who have prepared them for their first career. Many students will progress with their chosen subject at a higher level, either at the College or at university

or through an apprenticeship programme with Harrow, Richmond and Uxbridge Colleges (HRUC).

Gavin Hughes, Principal at Richmond upon Thames College said, *"I am absolutely delighted with our A Level and vocational Level 3 results this year. This year's results demonstrate our students' continuing hard work, resilience and determination to achieve their full potential, along with the commitment from staff to ensure students were well supported, achieved well and fulfilled their future ambitions. We are particularly proud of the 120 A*, A and B grades awarded to students in their A-Levels. We currently have large numbers of students progressing to university, starting apprenticeship programmes or going directly into employment and we wish them the best in achieving their ambitions in the future."*

Emerging BTEC results look strong for 23/24 and significant numbers of students are choosing to study with us and benefitting from amazing facilities and the knowledge and skills of our industry specialist staff. We are delighted that so many students are progressing onto courses at the College and through HRUC's very own West London Institute of Technology, as well as other universities.

Keith Smith - CEO, HRUC said: *"HRUC's A-Level, vocational and T-Level results have continued to improve again this year and I am really proud of our students and staff.*

HRUC is an extraordinary place to learn and progress. Every student has been on their own individual journey and our results are a culmination of their dedication, along with the support our staff have provided to ensure their success. Our colleges excel in providing opportunities for everyone and enabling students to reach their full potential and work towards their career aspirations through a wide range of high-quality study programmes.

Students benefit from being taught by teaching staff that share their skills and expertise and are based in amazing facilities using kit and equipment that provides a realistic working environment in preparation for their next steps.

I am delighted that so many students have achieved strong results in the qualifications they have been working towards and are progressing onto their next positive destination. With Fantastic academic opportunities and extraordinary technical qualifications, HRUC is a place where students succeed and these results demonstrate our values and commitment to delivering and outstanding learner experience and opportunity for all."

A-Levels and vocational qualifications are available to start this September. To join us visit www.rutc.ac.uk/students/enrolment for more details on how you can get started.



**Richmond upon
Thames College**

Richmond Gymnastics Association's acrobats to represent Great Britain

Between 9 to 23 September, 14 gymnasts from Richmond will represent Great Britain at the World Acrobatic Championships in Guimaraes, Portugal.

Richmond Gymnastics Association (RGA) is delighted to announce that their acrobats will proudly showcase their spectacular sport at the upcoming championships. The acrobats are:

- Senior Men's Group: Louis Alexander, Freddie Turner, Rex Booth and Samuel Ditchburn
- Senior Women's Group: Michaela Cook, Amber Harvey and Sophia Gold
- Junior Mixed Pair: Toby Cooper-Driver and Leela Ramini
- 12-18 Age Group, Women's Group: Chloe Bartholomew, Charlotte Dawson and Isla Henderson
- 12-18 Age Group, Mixed Pair: Christoph Tilroe and Louisa Szalacsi



Attending the World Championships is self-funded, covering everything from entry costs to travel, accommodation to competition attire and more. To support RGA, visit their [JustGiving page](#) for more information.

Founded in 1992, [RGA is a local charity](#) delivering gymnastics to over 1500 children and young people in the borough.



South Western Railway partners with Scotty's Little Soldiers to support bereaved military children

South Western Railway (SWR) has partnered with the charity Scotty's Little Soldiers on a new campaign to raise awareness of their support for bereaved military children. Every year, it is estimated that 2,100 children experience the death of a parent who has served in the British Armed Forces.

Scotty's Little Soldiers was founded by British Army widow Nikki Scott in honour of her husband, Corporal Lee Scott, who was killed in Afghanistan in July 2009. Seeing the effects that Lee's death had on their two young children, Brooke and Kai, Nikki launched Scotty's Little Soldiers 14 years ago in August 2010.

The charity helps bereaved military children through activities, gifts and group events; information and guidance for parents and carers and one-on-one professional bereavement support; and education and development opportunities. Scotty's Little Soldiers can support any child or young person aged 0-25 who are bereaved of a parent that has served in the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force, in the Regular or Reserve forces.

So far this year, Scotty's Little Soldiers has supported more than 700 children, and the charity hopes to support over 1,000 children a year by 2030. By raising awareness of the charity across its busy network, SWR aims to help them achieve that goal.

Posters are now on display at SWR stations across the South of England, which show bereaved children proudly holding photographs of their loved one. By scanning the QR code on the posters, customers will be able to donate to the charity. Special announcements will also play at stations on the SWR network. In them, Nikki tells the story of Lee and why she set up the charity.



A video about Scotty's Little Soldiers can be watched [here](#).

Peter Williams, Customer and Commercial Director of South Western Railway, commented:

"We've been really inspired by Nikki's story and the stories of the children and young people Scotty's Little Soldiers has helped since it was founded 14 years ago. Experiencing the death of a parent at a young age is devastating, so we are proud to have Scotty's Little Soldiers as one of our official charity partners and to help raise awareness of the fantastic work they do to support bereaved military children. We hope that this campaign will help them reach their goal of supporting 1,000 children and young people a year by 2030."

Nikki Scott, Founder of Scotty's Little Soldiers, commented:

"Thank you so much to South Western Railway for supporting Scotty's Little Soldiers by helping to raise awareness of our work. We currently provide support to over 700 children and young people who have experienced the death of a parent who served in the British Armed Forces. All our members have been through so much and we are honoured to be able to provide them with support and guidance throughout their childhood and reassure them they aren't alone. With support from South Western Railway, we hope to be able to help many more bereaved military young people."

On Monday 5 August, it was also announced that SWR has received the Silver Award as part of the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme. This award recognises the commitment and support that SWR shows for the Armed Forces and veterans, aligned with the values of the Armed Forces Covenant.

SWR has been building its reputation as a strong supporter of the Armed Forces and its people – signing the Armed Forces Covenant, supporting the Coronation of The King and Queen, fundraising during Armed Forces Week and naming a train for the 80th anniversary of D-Day.

**South Western
Railway**

COVID-19

Teresa Read

World Health Organization

During the 28-day reporting period (24 June to 21 July 2024), the European Region reported over 129,000 new cases, a 43% increase compared to the previous 28-day period. Nine countries reported an increase in test positivity: Republic of Moldova, Belgium, Switzerland, Netherlands, Czechia, Greece, Germany, Ukraine and Norway.

Fifteen countries showed elevated SARS-CoV-2 activity in the final week: Republic of Moldova (75.0%), Belgium (66.7%), Switzerland (40.0%), Spain (39.3%), Netherlands (33.3%), Greece (31.3%), Czechia (25.0%), Germany (20.8%), Norway (18.6%), Denmark (16.9%), Ireland (15.4%), Turkey (15.3%), The United Kingdom (15.1%), Luxembourg (10.7%) and Ukraine (10.0%).

Sixty-two countries for which data are available reported increases in new cases of 20% or greater, with the highest proportional increases observed in the Republic of Moldova, North Macedonia, Liechtenstein, Romania, Italy, Malta, Austria, Cyprus, Poland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Hungary, Norway, Sweden, Belgium, Iceland, Azerbaijan, Slovenia, Lithuania, Slovakia, Ukraine, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czechia, Switzerland, Georgia, Bulgaria, Ireland, the United Kingdom and Portugal.

The highest numbers of new cases were reported from Italy (27,376), the Russian Federation (22,574) and the United Kingdom (19,788).

The number of new 28-day deaths in the European Region increased by 31% as compared to the previous 28-day period, with 730 new deaths reported. The highest numbers of new deaths were reported from Portugal (298), Italy (130) and Greece (114).

Globally, the highest numbers of new 28-day deaths were reported from the United States of America, Portugal, Italy, New Zealand and Greece.

Variants of Interest and Variants Under Monitoring

WHO is currently tracking several SARS-CoV-2 variants and Variants of interest (VOIs): BA.2.86 and JN.1

Variants under monitoring (VUMs): JN.1.7, JN.1.18, KP.2, KP.3, KP.3.1.1 and LB.1

Brentford partners with automotive platform MOTORS

Written by Brentford Football Club

Brentford announce a new partnership with automotive search platform, MOTORS; with their head office based locally in Richmond, MOTORS will engage with the local community through both the club and the Brentford FC Community Sports Trust, as well as opportunities for fans to enjoy competitions, giveaways and matchday activities.

Brentford FC is pleased to announce a new three-year agreement with MOTORS, as the club's new official automotive marketplace partner. MOTORS aims to help people make the right decision about their next car by simplifying the search process. Individuals looking to buy a used car can access MOTORS' network of over 5,000 dealerships across the country, as well as see guides, advice, tips and reviews to help find the right car.



This new partnership will see the brand's core messages brought to life through content featuring Bees' stars, with fans also set to enjoy competitions, giveaways and matchday activities.

With their head office based locally in Richmond, MOTORS will engage with the local community through both the club and the Brentford FC Community Sports Trust.

Brentford's commercial director, Fran Jones commented on the new partnership: *"We're really excited to have MOTORS join the Brentford family. They are a business that is headquartered locally and one that is focused on providing a great service.*

"Their approach and values really align with ours here at Brentford. We look forward to seeing our partnership grow over the coming seasons and, particularly, as we work together in our local community and with the Brentford FC Community Sports Trust."

Lucy Tugby, marketing director of MOTORS said: *"Our new partnership with Brentford FC marks a first for MOTORS, giving us an exciting opportunity to create exciting content to reach Brentford fans and football fans across the Premier League.*

"We believe it will open new opportunities to put our brand in front of used car buyers in the stadium, on television and online; driving awareness of the MOTORS brand and leads to our dealer partners across the UK.

"With Brentford's stadium just a few miles from our Richmond head office, the MOTORS team is also looking forward to supporting the club's many community projects."



Match Preview: Brentford v Crystal Palace

Analysis, team news, match officials and more. Here's everything you need to know ahead of Brentford's opening game of the Premier League season against Crystal Palace on Sunday (2pm kick-off GMT)

Written by Brentford Football Club

Brentford begin their 2024/25 Premier League campaign with a London derby against Crystal Palace at Gtech Community Stadium on Sunday (2pm kick-off).

Keane Lewis-Potter gave the Bees an early lead when the sides last met in December, but Palace went on to win 3-1 at Selhurst Park.

Fábio Carvalho could make his debut for the west Londoners having completed a transfer from Liverpool on Monday, while Thomas Frank confirmed that striker Ivan Toney is also contention.

Pre-match analysis

Alex Lawes, Playmaker Stats: Eagles soaring following Glasner's appointment

The Bees have had a busy week in which the arrival of Fábio Carvalho was confirmed from Liverpool on a permanent basis, becoming their second signing of the summer transfer window after the arrival of Igor Thiago from Club Brugge.

Crystal Palace were one of the most entertaining and generally effective teams in the Premier League last season as they propelled themselves into the top half under the management of Oliver Glasner.

With a balance between an intense press and slick, patient and cohesive passing

football, the Eagles performed extremely well following Glasner's appointment.



Head to Head

	Comparisons	
56	Goals	57
65	Goals Conceded	58
353	Shots	325
45%	Possession	42%
89	Yellow Cards	69
2	Red Cards	2



The most impressive piece of underlying data for Palace last season was that they enjoyed an impressive expected goals difference of 3.35 with only Manchester City and Aston Villa having better records than that.

With their steady and balanced back three, Palace also performed extremely well defensively with just 12.1 shots conceded per match with only the top four from last season - Aston Villa, Liverpool, Manchester City and Arsenal - allowing fewer shots than that.

So, quite simply, Crystal Palace have enjoyed one of the tightest defensive records and styles of football under Glasner, as well as being one of the most effective and efficient attacking sides in the league.

Brentford, though, underperformed their expected goals somewhat last season so they will be expected to revert to the mean this season, lifting themselves away from the bottom three and the relegation places.

A tactical difference between the two sides would be that Palace perhaps rely more on individual brilliance with nine successful dribbles per game, whilst Brentford, on the other hand, have had just 6.4 dribbles per game, which was the lowest of any team in the top flight.

That would suggest that if Brentford and Thomas Frank are able to cultivate a style of football that limits the opposition's individual talents then they will have some real joy.

Palace showed they are more than just an off the cuff group of players but they are coming up against a side that, when in form, have one of the most resolute and flexible, all-round tactical philosophies of any team in the Premier League in Brentford.

Scout Report

Dan Long, Sky Sports: Palace aiming for top-half finish despite summer of transfer speculation at Selhurst Park

Over the course of the first few months of 2023, Crystal Palace were on a hiding to nothing.

They sat 12th when Patrick Vieira was sacked on 17 March which was, on the face of it, was nothing new for a club who had only finished in the top half of the Premier League once in 13 seasons to that point.

Yet, the truth was that they had started the year with a 13-match winless run in all competitions and one of nine teams firmly embroiled in a battle to retain their place in the division for another season. Just three points separated them from Bournemouth in 18th.

Palace needed a firefighter but, fortunately for them, time was on their side. There were 10 games left, many of which pitted them against their closest rivals.

Step forward Roy Hodgson.

The former England manager had left his role at Selhurst Park 22 months earlier but had refused to rule out retirement, and managed Watford for a short spell between January and May 2022. Turning down another call from his boyhood club was out of the question.

He delivered what was asked of him - Palace picked up 18 of the last 30 points on offer and finished comfortably in 11th, 11 points clear of the relegation zone - so there was little surprise when the Premier League's oldest-ever manager agreed to take charge for 2023/24.

"We have set ourselves the target of a top-half finish, which we believe is eminently achievable with such a fabulous group of players and the most magnificent supporters who get behind the team, week in, week out," Hodgson said, when the news was confirmed in July 2023.

Wilfried Zaha's departure to Galatasaray arguably hindered him from the start, though. Without their talisman, who so often dug them out of trouble, they were quickly back in the familiar surroundings of mid-table.

After a run of 10 defeats in 16 games between October and February - and shortly after an unplanned stay in



hospital - Hodgson stepped down, 38 games into his second spell at the helm and after 200 in total. *"It may be prudent at this time for the club to plan ahead,"* he conceded.

Speculation had already begun to swell about potential replacements and, the same day, 19 February 2024, Oliver Glasner replaced him on a contract running until the end of the 2025/26 campaign. He came with solid pedigree, having won the Europa League with Eintracht Frankfurt in 2021/22.

There was a sense of déjà vu as Glasner had come in to finish the job, as Hodgson had done the previous year. The Austrian took 24 points from the last 39 on offer - including winning six of the last seven games - which helped Palace to 10th, their joint-highest Premier League finish in history.

Michael Olise's departure to Bayern Munich has boosted the coffers - but will certainly hurt - while the futures of prized Eberechi Eze, Marc Guéhi and Adam Wharton - who only joined from Blackburn earlier this year - continue to feature heavily on the back pages at the time of writing.

If Glasner can keep hold of even just one of that trio and harness the quality at his disposal, he might be able to mastermind a climb to somewhere new.

In the Dugout

Oliver Glasner

Barring a short loan spell at LASK in the 2003/04 season, Oliver Glasner spent his entire 19-year playing career at SV Ried in his native Austria, from 1992 to 2011, where he holds the record for the most appearances made for the club with 571 in all competitions.

During his time at SV Ried, he won the Austria Cup in 1998 and 2011, as well as helping the club to achieve promotion to the Austrian Bundesliga in 1994/95 and a decade later in 2004/05.

In August 2011, he suffered a brain haemorrhage and, after an operation, was advised to end his playing career at the age of 36.

After his enforced retirement, Glasner spent two years as assistant to Roger Schmidt - now in charge at Benfica - at Red Bull Salzburg.

When Schmidt later left for Bayer Leverkusen, Glasner made his return to SV Ried. During his one and only season in charge, the club secured a fourth-straight sixth-place finish.

Next was a return to LASK. Glasner spent four seasons at Raiffeisen Arena and enjoyed plenty of success.

The club finished second in the second tier in his first season and were promoted as champions in 2016/17. Back in the top flight, they then finished fourth, before finishing second in 2018/19 - their highest finish since winning the Staatsliga in 1965.

Glasner then moved across the border to Wolfsburg in July 2019, where he found reasonable success and, two years later, joined Eintracht Frankfurt.

He could not guide the German club to any higher than seventh in his two seasons in charge, though he did mastermind the Europa League triumph in 2021/22, where Frankfurt beat Barcelona, West Ham and Rangers on their way to glory.

He departed Frankfurt in the summer of 2023 and joined Crystal Palace as Roy Hodgson's successor seven months later.



WHO Director-General declares mpox outbreak a public health emergency of international concern

WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has determined that the upsurge of mpox in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and a growing number of countries in Africa constitutes a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) under the International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR).

Dr Tedros's declaration came on the advice of an IHR Emergency Committee of independent experts who met earlier in the day to review data presented by experts from WHO and affected countries. The Committee informed



the Director-General that it considers the upsurge of mpox to be a PHEIC, with potential to spread further across countries in Africa and possibly outside the continent.

The Director-General will share the report of the Committee's meeting and, based on the advice of the Committee, issue temporary recommendations to countries.

In declaring the PHEIC, Dr Tedros said,

"The emergence of a new clade of mpox, its rapid spread in eastern DRC, and the reporting of cases in several neighbouring countries are very worrying. On top of outbreaks of other mpox clades in DRC and other countries in Africa, it's clear that a coordinated international response is needed to stop these outbreaks and save lives."

WHO Regional Director for Africa Dr Matshidiso Moeti said,

"Significant efforts are already underway in close collaboration with communities and governments, with our country teams working on the frontlines to help reinforce measures to curb mpox. With the growing spread of the virus, we're scaling up further through coordinated international action to support countries bring the outbreaks to an end."

Committee Chair Professor Dimie Ogoina said,

"The current upsurge of mpox in parts of Africa, along with the spread of a new sexually transmissible strain of the monkeypox virus, is an emergency, not only for Africa, but for the entire globe. Mpox, originating in Africa, was neglected there, and later caused a global outbreak in 2022. It is time to act decisively to prevent history from repeating itself."

This PHEIC determination is the second in two years relating to mpox. Caused by an

Orthopoxvirus, mpox was first detected in humans in 1970, in the DRC. The disease is considered endemic to countries in central and west Africa.

In July 2022, the multi-country outbreak of mpox was declared a PHEIC as it spread rapidly via sexual contact across a range of countries where the virus had not been seen before. That PHEIC was declared over in May 2023 after there had been a sustained decline in global cases.

Mpox has been reported in the DRC for more than a decade, and the number of cases reported each year has increased steadily over that period. Last year, reported cases increased significantly, and already the number of cases reported so far this year has exceeded last year's total, with more than 15 600 cases and 537 deaths.

The emergence last year and rapid spread of a new virus strain in DRC, clade 1b, which appears to be spreading mainly through sexual networks, and its detection in countries neighbouring the DRC is especially concerning, and one of the main reasons for the declaration of the PHEIC.

In the past month, over 100 laboratory-confirmed cases of clade 1b have been reported in four countries neighbouring the DRC that have not reported mpox before: Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda. Experts believe the true number of cases to be higher as a large proportion of clinically compatible cases have not been tested.

Several outbreaks of different clades of mpox have occurred in different countries, with different modes of transmission and different levels of risk.

The two vaccines currently in use for mpox are recommended by WHO's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization, and are also approved by WHO-listed national regulatory authorities, as well as by individual countries including Nigeria and the DRC.

Last week, the Director-General triggered the process for Emergency Use Listing for mpox vaccines, which will accelerate vaccine access for lower-income countries which have not yet issued their own national regulatory approval. Emergency Use Listing also enables partners including Gavi and UNICEF to procure vaccines for distribution.

WHO is working with countries and vaccine manufacturers on potential vaccine donations, and coordinating with partners through the interim Medical Countermeasures Network to facilitate equitable access to vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other tools.

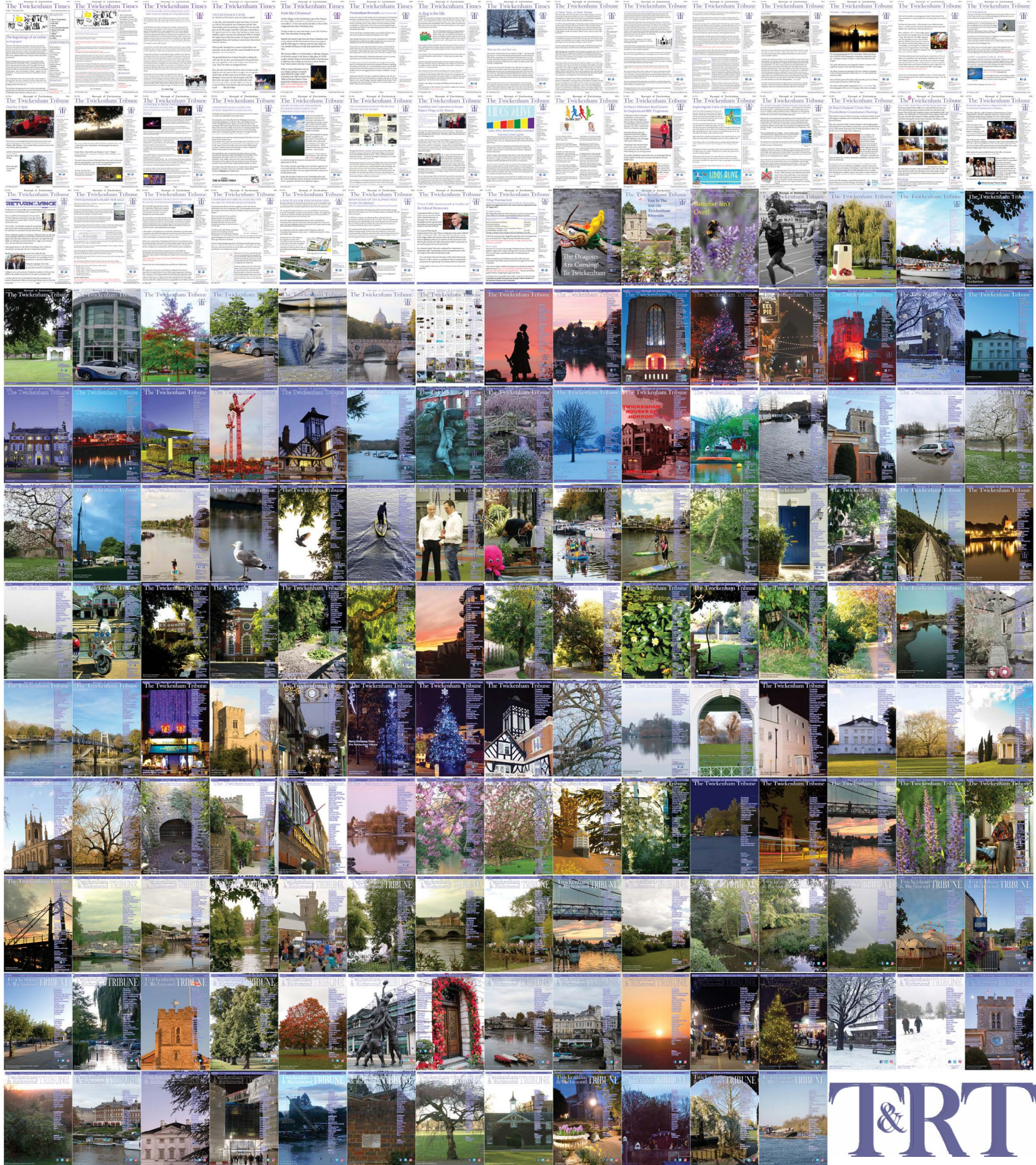
WHO anticipates an immediate funding requirement of an initial US\$ 15 million to support surveillance, preparedness and response activities. A needs assessment is being undertaken across the three levels of the Organization.

To allow for an immediate scale up, WHO has released US\$ 1.45 million from the WHO Contingency Fund for Emergencies and may need to release more in the coming days. The Organization appeals to donors to fund the full extent of needs of the mpox response.



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Published by:

Twickenham & Richmond Tribune (in association with World InfoZone Limited)

Registered in England & Wales

Reg No 10549345

The Twickenham Tribune is registered with the ICO under the Data Protection Act, Reg No ZA224725

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