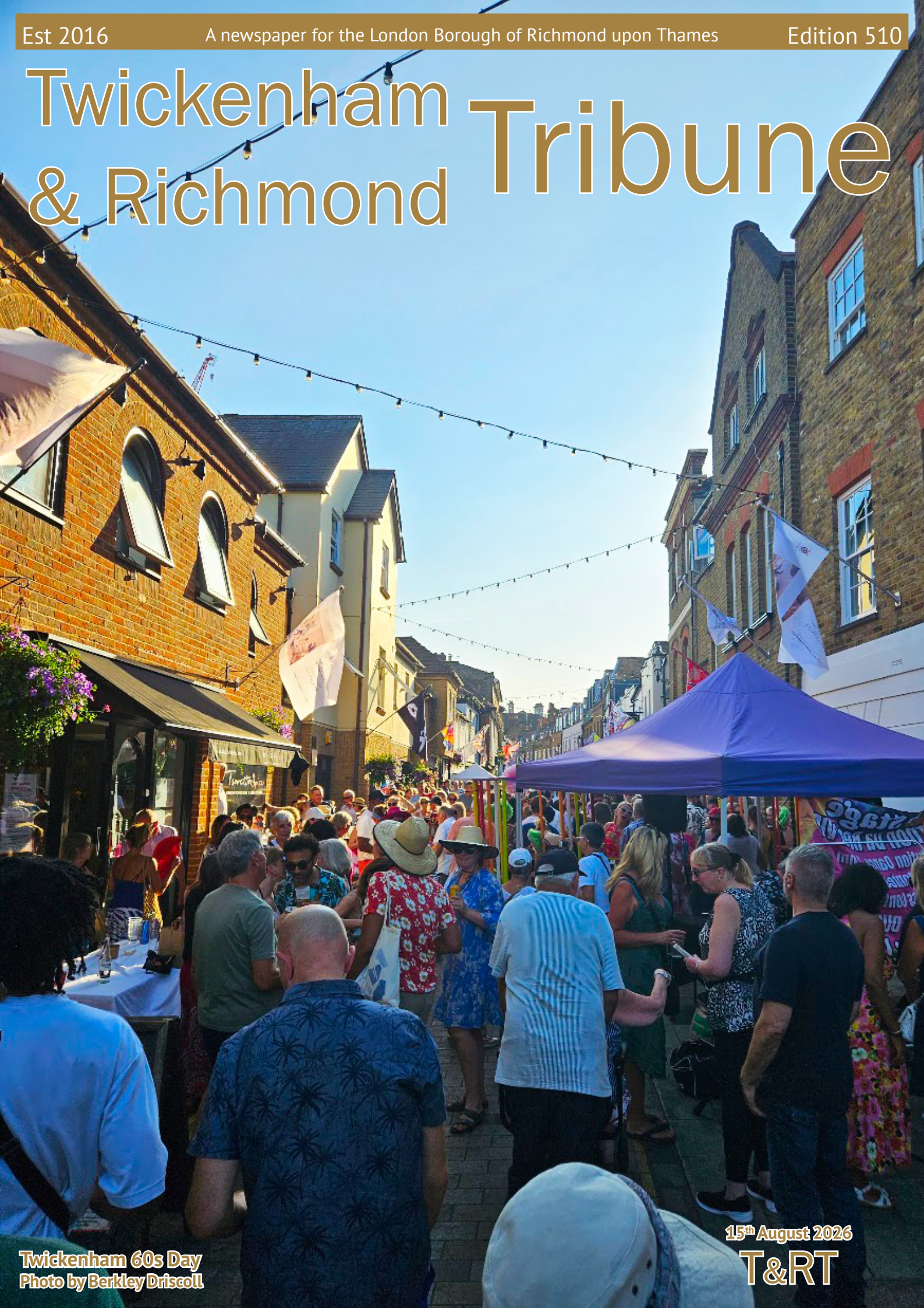


Twickenham & Richmond Tribune



Contents

Editors: Teresa Read, Berkley Driscoll

TickerTape

Fire contained at Central Depot in Twickenham

Richmond upon Thames students celebrate exam results success

Richmond Council

The Tree Agency

The Local Picture Postcard Page - Pearce Newsagents. 16, King St Twickenham

Alan Winter

Crusader Travel

Twickenham Returns to The Swinging Sixties

Doug Goodman

Richmond Has Dirty Streets. In Whitton, Residents Are Walking Past Festering Vomit

James Knight

Regal Spice Twickenham

Crusader Travel

Grimwood Garden Harvest Festival

Habitats & Heritage

Eclipse watchers on Richmond Hill

Bruce Lyons

Christina Gascoigne

Grange Park Opera

Growing skills and confidence at The Stud Nursery

Balance Support

Twickers Foodie: A Nod to The Hodd

Alison Jee

Gibraltar Sunborn - Dive Adventure

Sunborn Gibraltar

Eclipse Fever and we didn't even get totality!

Bruce Lyons

Mark Aspen Review: Love's Labour's Lost and Much Ado about Nothing

Patrick Shorrocks

Screwed - An original play by Juliet Cooper and Lilli Wenzel

Sheen Food Fest

St Mary's hosts successful BMC Grand Prix

St Mary's University

Richmond upon Thames College students celebrate outstanding exam results

Richmond upon Thames College

Irish Dancing Classes

O'Sullivan School of Irish Dancing

Three Thames Ultra Challenges will see thousands trek along the river this September and you can be a part of it

Ultra Challenge

Lynde House Summer Party Brings Residents, Families and Community Together

Lynde House Care Home

Borthwick names 25 players to receive enhanced contracts

RFU

Match Preview: Brentford v Eintracht Frankfurt

Brentford Football Club

Be Richmond Champions Local Charity Helping Residents Overcome Isolation and Rebuild Confidence

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TickerTape - News in Brief

Fire contained at Central Depot in Twickenham

From Richmond Council

Earlier today (Friday 14 August), a fire occurred at the Council's Central Depot in Twickenham.

The fire in the recycling area is now under control, but residents may see some smoke or soot in the surrounding area.

London Fire Brigade remains on site while investigations into the cause of the fire continue.

We would like to thank London Fire Brigade for its swift response and the emergency services and staff involved in managing the situation.

Richmond upon Thames students celebrate exam results success

From Richmond Council

Congratulations to the students across Richmond upon Thames who received their A-Level, BTEC, and T-Level results today.

Councillor Julia Cambridge, Chair of Education and Children's Services Committee, said: *"Congratulations to all students receiving their results today. This is a significant milestone for them, their families and their teachers. Some students may feel disappointed, but there are many routes to success, and we are here to support them as they take their next steps."*

"I wish every student the very best as they move on to the next exciting stage of their lives, whether that is higher education, an apprenticeship, further training or another opportunity. There are many options available here in your home borough, and we will support you to achieve your ambitions in any way we can."

For students who did not receive the grades they hoped for, careers advisers are available to discuss options, including university, employment, apprenticeships, or further training through [Work Match Richmond](#) and [Way2Work](#).

Students can also access [Kooth](#) for mental health support and for local job and training opportunities. You can also call [The National Careers service](#) helpline on 0800 100 900.



The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

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The Tree Agency

The Local Picture Postcard Page - Part 339

Pearce Newsagents. 16, King St Twickenham

By Alan Winter

A slight change this week where we can look at three postcards from the late 1950s and early 1960s which were all published by J.E Pearce who were newsagents and stationers based at 16, King Street at the time. They were situated where the Optical Gallery is today.

In my collection I have 9 different postcards all of the central Twickenham area published by Pearce at that time. They are all numbered either TW1-TW10 on the bottom front left followed by the title and have the publishers name and address on the reverse.

I am currently missing postcard number 6 from the series and have never even seen it so if anyone can tell me what the photograph portrayed I would be very grateful.

Pearce was unlikely to have been the photographer we think as some of these postcards have been found to have been published by other London based postcard publishers at the same time. The likelihood is that Pearce sold them from his shop in King Street. Postcards still sold well locally and were a regularly used tool of communication at that time. On the other hand, if Pearce did take the photos and publish them him-self he may well have sold the rights (negatives) to other larger postcard publishers in the London area.

So, let's look at postcard TW1 which is particularly interesting as Pearce's newsagent premises appear prominently Between Rayners the Butchers and F.W.Woolworth on the right hand side. There is a telephone book from 1960 that shows Pearce at number 16 complete with a Popesgrove telephone number.



The photographer would have taken this shot with his or her back to Barclays Bank looking west towards the Odeon Cinema at the far end of the Street. That means he (or she) was standing on Twickenham Junction. Note the overhead wires for the double decker trolleybuses of the day.

Moving on to postcard TW2 we are now looking at York Street. This photo was taken while standing in the road outside York House with Church Street on the left. Tamplins is at the bottom left of the street while in the bottom right-hand corner we see a dry-cleaners and the billiard hall. The photographer shoots toward the western end of York Street where Barclays bank was at the time.



Half- way up York Street on the right is Cromwell Road which has Shears Travel Agents on the corner.

And now to TW3, our third postcard in this series which shows the part of London Road looking toward Twickenham junction with Barclays Bank and the Kings Head Hotel at the southern end.

At this end where London

Road meets York Street and King Street you may remember the underground public toilets. Note the policeman standing in the middle of the road on point duty by the toilets. If we look at the premises on the left of the postcard we see United Dairies with Boots the Chemist next to it and the Trustee Savings Bank beyond it. Note the clock that survived throughout much of the 20th century which we seem to have lost about the time when the William Webb Ellis pub took over from the main Post Office.



We can see that there was a bus stop on both sides of the road. The one on the left was for buses going south and west through the junction and the one on the right went to Twickenham Railway station and beyond. The one on the left was outside the TSB (Trustee Savings Bank) while the one the other side was outside Bata the shoe shop. Next door but one to Bata was Macfisheries and almost next to that was the Black Dog pub. This is one of the latest photos I have of this pub while it still had the statue of the Black Dog high up on its plinth on the roof.

The Black dog and its plinth has been a story to itself in this column in recent times but many of you may remember it by one or more of its late 20th century names like "Twickers" "The Hobgoblin" "Filthy McNasty" or "The Grand Union". Its latest name after reopening recently is the Rose and Lion and it's owned by a pub division of Heineken.

So, if you can find me postcard number TW6. or happen to know where the original statue of the Black Dog is, please let me know on alanwinter192@hotmail.com

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Twickenham Returns to The Swinging Sixties

By Doug Goodman

Veteran vehicles gleamed in the sun, Vespas roared, or at least spluttered and rockers of all ages enjoyed Twickenham's 60s festival last weekend. Church Street was packed with visitors looking at the many market stalls, having lunch and enjoying a beer.

Groups played in several locations continuing the town's musical heritage, which began and developed on Eel Pie Island in the 1950s and 60s. A dance competition, 1960s fashions and activities for children in St. Mary's Church gardens drew huge crowds on a very sunny Sunday.





Richmond Has Dirty Streets. In Whitton, Residents Are Walking Past Festering Vomit

By James Knight

Residents say patches of vomit have remained on Whitton High Street for more than two weeks despite councillors knowing about the problem, raising questions about the effectiveness of Richmond Council's street cleaning service.

Last week it was Richmond, where residents were complaining about dirt and grime accumulating on the streets during the long spell of hot, dry weather. In Whitton, one of the borough's more working-class town centres, the problem has become considerably less genteel. Residents are walking past patches of vomit which have been left on the High Street for more than two weeks, with parts of the shopping centre now smelling as unpleasant as they look.

Six separate patches can be seen on the relatively short walk towards Lidl. In summer temperatures, this is no longer simply an argument about the appearance of York stone. Vomit left for weeks in summer heat is more than unsightly. It is an obvious hygiene concern, particularly where families, older residents and children are passing through every day.

Residents have noticed. Jax Campbell wrote on the Whitton Village Facebook group: "Couldn't agree more! Thought the same the other day as I headed in to Lidl! Other countries have proper road cleaning at night. The pavement is utterly gross!"

David Ernest was more succinct: "Whittons pavements are pitiful." Another contributor described the High Street as "disgusting to walk through", while Geri Morrissey supplied some bleak local humour when asked why people were vomiting there in the first place. "probably sick of the state of the street," she replied.

Councillors know about the problem

The difficulty for Richmond Council is that this is not a problem which has escaped its attention.

Councillor Nathanael Macdonald, one of Whitton's newer Liberal Democrat representatives, responded to residents in a courteous and practical manner. "I have re raised this with the councils cleaning contractor as well as highlighted the mess left by Network rail outside the station," he wrote, before advising residents that email was the best way of contacting him because he did not check Facebook every day. His response suggests a councillor attempting to get a council service to act. The more uncomfortable question is why, after the problem has been raised, so much of it apparently remains.

Councillor Michael Wilson, the Liberal Democrat councillor for neighbouring Heathfield and husband of Twickenham MP Munira Wilson, took a considerably more combative approach to the discussion. Wilson repeatedly returned to the decision by the previous Conservative administration to install York stone, accusing it of doing so "WITHOUT a maintenance and cleaning programme at the time". He also pointed to pressures on adult social care and children's services, the cost of regular cleaning and the need to conserve water during the current dry conditions.



There are legitimate arguments in all of this. Councils face severe financial pressures and prolonged dry weather undoubtedly makes street cleansing more difficult. But resident Philip Collins identified the political difficulty neatly when he told Wilson: “while I understand you didn’t want the paving you can’t ignore it now it is your responsibility.”

A street cleaning complaint becomes a political argument

Elsewhere Wilson’s exchanges became more personal. When Daniel Jonas claimed that streets in neighbouring Hounslow were cleaner, Wilson replied: “Well, I’m very happy living in this borough, even if you’re not.”

When an anonymous contributor criticised councillors for appearing in photographs, Wilson challenged the person’s anonymity. Another resident responded: “why does it matter that they’ve said it anonymously? Slightly passive aggressive there Michael.”

Eventually Amisha Patel expressed the growing frustration directly. “Cllr Wilson’s replies are becoming ridiculous,” she wrote. Patel continued: “If councillors are aware that vomit has been left festering on Whitton High Street, have raised it with Council officers, and still cannot get something so basic dealt with, residents are entitled to ask a very simple question: Who is actually running Richmond Council?” That may be the more important question arising from an otherwise mundane street cleaning dispute.

Whitton councillors have asked for regular cleaning

There is a further complication. Whitton’s six Liberal Democrat councillors have themselves asked Richmond Council to introduce regular jet washing of the High Street, but the request has been refused. Instead, deeper cleaning has been authorised only on an occasional basis.

The explanation appears to lie partly in how cleaning elsewhere in the borough is funded. Regular jet washing in Richmond and Twickenham town centres is supported by their Business Improvement Districts, while Whitton has no equivalent arrangement. There is concern that if the Council began funding a regular programme in Whitton, the Richmond and Twickenham BIDs could reasonably ask why the authority was not also contributing towards schemes for which businesses in those areas are currently paying.

That may explain the financial dilemma, but it does not make the problem disappear. Indeed, it leaves Whitton’s councillors in an awkward position. They have asked for a more regular service, the Council has declined to provide one, and residents are now walking past the consequences.

A test of the administration

Again there is also an uncomfortable contrast within the borough. In affluent Richmond, residents have been complaining about general dirt and grime. Whilst in more working-class Whitton, people are walking past festering vomit. That does not prove Whitton is being treated differently, but it does raise a reasonable question about whether the same standards are being applied across the borough.

The wider issue is one of competence. Residents have reported the problem, councillors have acknowledged it and the contractor has apparently been contacted. Yet the condition of the High Street remains unchanged.

For an administration that controls every seat on Richmond Council, persistent failures in basic services inevitably become a test of its own competence. More than two weeks after councillors were alerted, Whitton is still waiting for the Council to clean up.

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Grimwood Garden Harvest Festival

From Habitats & Heritage

Everyone is warmly invited to Habitats & Heritage’s community garden on Grimwood Road to celebrate the Autumn harvest!

Join them on Sunday 20 September from 1 to 3pm for an afternoon of community spirit, local produce and seasonal delights alongside children’s activities and fun for the whole family!

They’ll be joined by:

- The Real Junk Food Project with delicious jams and chutneys
- Twickenham Beekeepers and The People’s Hive
- Refugees Welcome in Richmond
- Ham Harvest Urban Flower Farm with beautiful flowers
- Local growers and allotment holders sharing fresh produce
- And, of course, produce from their own community garden!



Find out more about the [Grimwood Garden Harvest Festival](#).

Eclipse watchers on Richmond Hill

By Bruce Lyons



Christina Gascoigne

1 February 1939 – 14 August 2026

From Grange Park Opera

We are very sad to bring the news that Christina Gascoigne died this morning at home in Richmond.



There was a lovely atmosphere there - lots of people wandering in and out, potters walking through to the pottery, people sitting for a while. There was talk around her and music. Christina was always listening and absolutely there. She was reciting a scrap of German literature to someone two days ago.

She beamed when people she loved came in.

There was something wonderful to see her amidst all the people who have come together because of her and Bamber; all the connections they have made.

There was great gentleness and positivity around Christina. She was calm and lovely.

Without Christina and Bamber, we would not have our magnificent Surrey opera house.

[HERE](#) are some pictures of our happy times.

We will all miss her.

Growing skills and confidence at The Stud Nursery

From Balance Support

For over a decade [Balance Support](#) has taken custody of The Stud Nursery, turning it into a skills development programme for adults with learning disabilities. Read on to step inside and discover how they help people flourish.

Nestled discreetly in the deer-peppered meadows of Home Park in Hampton Wick, The Stud Nursery could be easily mistaken as a fallow relic. However, the reality is that there is a hive of activity going on behind the tall Victorian walls.



Whilst activities are centred around horticulture, we also provide sessions in cooking and healthy living, art, drama, and woodwork, with practitioners often visiting to offer their skills to compliment the work of our staff and volunteers.



Client 'D' said: *"I find being around nature peaceful and it makes me feel good."*

Client Eddie said: *"In the time I've been coming to Stud Nursery, since February of 2025, I've been enjoying the people you meet, things you do, and events they have every few months. To anyone who's considering going to Stud Nursery, I'd*

certainly recommend it as there's always something to do and someone to talk to, and you'll always find a way to enjoy yourself, whatever you're interested in!"

Gardening is a highly effective way for someone to increase their level of movement, whilst simultaneously learning knowledge and skills in a subject which has infinite learning opportunities. As gardening can be curated into a gentle form of movement, it's ideal for people who perhaps do not usually gravitate towards more typical forms of perhaps more intense exercise. In addition to this, gardening does not discriminate and is often very accessible. For those with limited mobility, sessions can be designed in a way that suits that person, such as tabletop sessions and using raised





planters which do not require bending down to reach. At The Stud Nursery we try to accommodate everyone's needs, as diversity benefits all of us here and leads to much more interesting shared experiences, and we believe that everyone deserves to enjoy the outdoors.

In an era where we're becoming increasingly detached from the outdoors due to technology, it's vital that we stay connected to nature. Benefits of being in and around nature can be listed, but

they're better off being experienced, and gardening can provide that immersion. The greenery of The Stud, combined with the palpable community feel provided by the coming together

of clients, staff, volunteers and those we partner with provides an ideal safe space for trying new things, including new forms of exercise. This month we will be running yoga sessions and circuit sessions for our clients, as requested by them during our last monthly client forum, which will hopefully pave the way for future experimental sessions.



Volunteer Sharon said: *"Volunteering at Stud Nursery is the perfect way to spend a Friday morning. I keep active without really thinking about it – whether I'm weeding, shifting manure, cutting back brambles, digging up grass to create new beds or helping build wooden structures. But what makes it really special is doing all of that alongside the wonderful*

Balance clients. It's a brilliant combination of being active, being sociable and getting that real sense of achievement from seeing what we've accomplished together."



Volunteer Carole said: *"From digging and lifting heavy bags of compost to reaching and stretching to weed, prune and plant, I get a full body work out when I volunteer at The Stud Nursery. I've never been particularly sporty and I find the gym incredibly boring, so it's perfect for me to be outside in all weathers getting my resistance training, weight training and aerobic*

work-outs ticked off whilst doing something that I absolutely love - gardening!"

If you or someone you know could benefit from joining The Stud Nursery, please get in touch or listen out for details of our next open day.

A Nod to The Hodd

I want to let you into a secret: I've discovered a fabulous pub, with rooms, that's really rather special. It's called **The Hoddington Arms** and it's tucked away in the heart of Hampshire countryside in a lovely village called **Upton Grey** (not far from Odiham). The pub itself is an historic, Grade II listed building that's had a full refresh after having to close temporarily earlier this year, due to a fire on the top floor. It's owned and run by husband-and-wife team **Chris and Fallon Barnes** alongside **Head Chef Tom Wilson**, and has earned consistent plaudits nationwide since opening.



On a swelteringly hot midweek afternoon we arrived and checked into one of the five modern rooms in an adjacent annexe called The Hideaway. Our room was called Den and it was very cleverly designed to maximise space and comfort. The bathroom had an enormous shower, and there are inset sensor lights in the walls to light your way to the loo in the dark without waking your companion. Fresh milk and chilled water awaited us in the fridge, and the window overlooked a newly planted area which offers privacy - and in time will create a courtyard feel.



A pre dinner drink in the garden was the perfect start to our evening. I tried a delicious G&T with the local gin - **Silverback** (made by **Gorilla Spirits**, a company that donates 10% of profits to protect endangered mountain gorillas). My husband very much enjoyed a 00 Cider locally made by **Hydes**.



We moved inside for our dinner and loved the quirkiness of the mismatched furniture, the exposed beams and 'Farrow & Ball' colourscheme. The dining room was busy, but the tables were well spaced. I enjoyed a glass of Hattingley Valley English sparkling - a new one to me and very impressive. It was dry with a very fine mousse and good length in the mouth. My husband was really peckish, so opted to try

the **Street Bakeshop Bread Board** from the Nibbles section of the menu. Reader, it was massive! It had a range of breads, including walnut bread, and was accompanied by extra virgin olive oil with balsamic vinegar as well as some really good butter. I couldn't resist the offer of Perello Gordal olives - deliciously large and piccante - and the perfect start.





Which brings me to the starters: **Twice Baked Tunworth Cheese Souffle** is apparently one of the signature dishes and it really appealed. My husband chose **Cornish Cod Goujons**. My souffle was accompanied by a house pickled shallot and parmesan salad and a rich cheese sauce. The souffle was piping hot and the crunchiness of the salad offset the richness of the sauce perfectly. The goujons... another incredibly generous portion, were served with curried mayonnaise, and a



minted pea and tomato salad. There is serious talent in the kitchen at The Hodd. Chris and Tom have kept the focus on much loved pub classics, traditional Hodd favourites, with an unwavering commitment to local, seasonal sourcing

My main course was **Fried Seabass Fillet** and it came with a warm salad of courgette, pea, green beans and cherry tomatoes, plus some delicious roast baby potatoes lined up like soldiers, and a smoked butter sauce. I'm not normally one who likes fish skin, but this was particularly good, well seasoned and really crispy. The smoked butter sauce was the perfect pairing for such a delicate fish. Sticking to the English wine theme, I enjoyed a glass of **Danebury Schonburger** which was the ideal fresh and light accompaniment for such a skilled dish.



My husband couldn't resist the **Stokes Marsh Farm 6oz flat iron steak**. It was served with skinny fries, a watercress and pickled shallot salad and a garlic and herb butter. He had a rich peppercorn sauce too and was really impressed with his steak - perfectly cooked and deliciously pink, served sliced. And again a really generous portion.

Not that we needed anything else, but in the interests of a review, I chose the **Zesty Lemon Posset**. It was served with a raspberry sorbet scoop on top and had jelly and a shortbread

crumble. To be honest, I felt it to be rather gilding the lily as the posset itself was so good, and didn't need any other elements. But that said, the sharpness of the lemon cut through the sweetness of the toppings well. My husband was rather boring, (and probably very full after his two massive courses) and just had a couple of scoops of vanilla ice cream.

After a really restful night's sleep and taking full advantage of the brilliant shower, and some great coffee, we went across to the dining room of the pub for breakfast. Here we met Fallon, whose attention to detail was very impressive. The other overnight guests had all arrived at the same time as us, but she was the height of efficiency and still had time to chat to everyone.

Along the lines of the massive bread board the previous evening, she served each table with a veritable 'bakery still life'; another board, beautifully arranged with toast, pains chocolat, and croissants. We both had the **Hodd Full breakfast** and I have to say, it was one of the best I've ever had. The quality of the produce was very evident, as was the skillful cooking. The mushrooms had been slow cooked with a slice of tomato and a hint of garlic - they were really tasty and I mentioned to Fallon that they would make a nice breakfast dish on their own in a larger quantity. Sensibly the breakfast menu was concise but had every option needed to satisfy a meat eater or a vegetarian, with avocado and smoked salmon options as well as a veggie full breakfast.



I'm so glad we discovered this fabulous pub - I know we'll be back to the Hoddington Arms soon, especially as they offer a really excellent value dinner, bed and breakfast package for £190 a room (this includes a £30 per head contribution to the dinner menu).

It's a great stopover if you're travelling west but as a destination in its own right there is a lot to see and do in the vicinity, including country walks, National Trust properties and lots more.

www.hoddingtonarms.co.uk

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Eclipse Fever and we didn't even get totality!

By Bruce Lyons

If you've missed it we have for the last months had a window on Solar Eclipse and whilst The Partial Eclipse here this week thrilled the entire population of the UK, well it was the biggest obscurity experience in the last 27 years it is nothing like you could experience on August 2nd, 2027. Astronomy is



gripping the media (I am not sure how you grip the media) But there is something amazing to be experienced next year. Up to 6 + minutes totality in Luxor, on the Nile and down on the Red Sea more than 2 minutes.

Here Spotify reported a huge upsurge in the playing of Bonnie Tyler's A Total Eclipse of the Sun.

I have been busying myself finding cruises and packages for enthusiasts to experience the marvel. Cruises that are in the Med at the right time and place are a good, The Eclipse will start to evolve in the Atlantic, close to Gibraltar and move to hotter climes. There are quite a few cruises, most with space still and just this week Holland America made a special offer of £1,000 discount on their UK departure of the Nieuw Statendam 28-day Legendary Solar Eclipse and Cosmic Port Explorer departs 9th July, but there are shorter. We also have a really good value Beach & Solar week on the Red Sea (2 minutes + Totality and all the trimmings, an Astronomer on hand and star gazing and the famous Red Sea Coral to Snorkel and more. For the really dedicated and hardened travellers we also have some fabulous Nile Cruises., but bear in mind it will be as hot as here this week!!!!

It's still busy on the home front- late availability is strong with loads of Greek offers, and Tour Companies continue to make special offers - this week it is Newmarket who is offering 15% off most tours in 2026 & 2027.

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Love's Labour's Lost and Much Ado about Nothing

by William Shakespeare, adapted by Tom Littler

Orange Tree Theatre and Guildford Shakespeare Company at Thomas's College, Richmond until 22nd August

Adding *Love's Labour's Lost* as a prequel to *Much Ado about Nothing* is an audacious idea. Director Tom Littler concedes it requires a degree of what he engagingly refers to as 'stitching'. But it's not a bad idea to give Beatrice and Benedick some backstory, especially as Berowne and Rosaline are similarly sparing lovers.

Love's Labour's Lost is a strange play that opens frivolous and witty as the men swear to forsake women in favour of academic study. Their oath is however short-lived. But the play ends in a sort-of trial separation with the men reverting to their studies for another year.



Both plays are done with bags of charm, much aided by Matthew Floyd Jones's music and Neil Irish and Anett Black's witty sets and lavish costumes.

The Second World War problematically intervenes between the plays. Would these people have been so oblivious about the storm clouds gathering over Europe at the end of *Love's Labour's Lost*? Would they not be older, wiser, and more visibly damaged than they are at the start of *Much Ado*? The joins often don't work, notably John Longaville becomes villain Don John.

People can change for the worse in six years, but we should know why.

Owen Oakeshott is an older than usual Prince of Navarre - Don Pedro, and also plays the pedant Holofernes and manages the feat of conveying verbosity whilst delivering his lines with clarity and despatch. Sarah Gobran has stylish presence in the awkwardly different roles of Princess of France and Governor of Messina. James Sheldon's Benedick - Berowne is a fatuous plonker with the gift of the gab; Phoebe Pryce's sparky Beatrice surely deserved better. Joëlle Brabban plays the young lad Moth with great style as well as the jilted Hero - Katharine.

Much Ado also has problems. Claudio's brutal altar-side rejection of Hero should leave the comedy irredeemably broken; and its resolution remains unbelievable. Even after Littler's adept pruning, there are too many unfunny 'funny' turns. Congratulations to the cast for squeezing what comic milk there is from a very dry udder (Shakespeare being culpable).

Nevertheless, this is a joyous summer evening as full-on sunshine becomes twilight in the utterly entrancing setting of the college gardens.



Read Patrick Shorrock's review at www.markaspen.com/2026/08/09/lllmaan-ot

Photography by Harry Elletson

SCREWED.

*An original play by Juliet Cooper
and Lilli Wenzel*

Scratch Night

The Turks Head

TW1 1LF

Monday 17th August

7:30pm

The Bread and Roses Theatre

SW4 6DZ

Sunday 23rd August

7:00pm

The Libra Theatre Cafe

NW1 8AJ

Monday 24th August

4:45pm

Tuesday 25th August

2:30pm

 [screwed.show](https://www.instagram.com/screwed.show)



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St Mary's University

St Mary's hosts successful BMC Grand Prix

St Mary's University hosted its second annual [British Milers Club](#) (BMC) event with a Grand Prix on Sunday 9 August on the Sir Mo Farah Athletics Track, welcoming 135 athletes from across the world for an evening of high-level middle-distance races.

events providing athletes with opportunities to compete.

Event organiser, Craig Winrow, Centre Coordinator and Performance Coach at St Mary's said, "It was great to see athletes from

across the world compete on our Sir Mo Farah Athletics Track. Thank you to all those who came not just to compete, but to support. It was a night of amazing athletics with a huge number of PBs achieved, and I look forward to watching this event grow year on year".



The event saw 35 races across 800m-3000m, with international athletes from countries including the UK, Ireland, France, Spain, Finland, New Zealand, Tunisia, Iceland, Australia, Qatar, Belgium, Netherlands, Canada, and many more.

A number of current students and alumni from St Mary's [Endurance Performance Centre](#) (EPC), an England Athletics Talent Hub, competed throughout the evening, with several securing podium finishes and personal bests.

The event was also attended by St Mary's alumni, Sir Mo Farah, who watched the racing on the track named in his honour. Adelle Tracey, Olympian and St Mary's alumna, returned fresh from her competition in the Commonwealth Games, to race in the Women's 1500m A.

- Men's 800m A – Luca Hamblen – 1st
- Women's 800m E – Lottie McLaren – 2nd
- Men's 1500m A – Henry McLuckie – 1st
- Women's 1500m D – Lola Sutton – 3rd
- Women's 1500m E – Millie Jordan-Lee – 1st
- Men's 3000m B – Oisin McGloin – 3rd
- Women's 3000m A – Mia Waldmann – 3rd

The evening saw an impressive 130 personal bests (PBs) achieved, highlighting the quality and competitiveness of the racing.

The BMC is widely recognised as one of the leading organisations supporting middle-distance running in the UK, with its Grand Prix



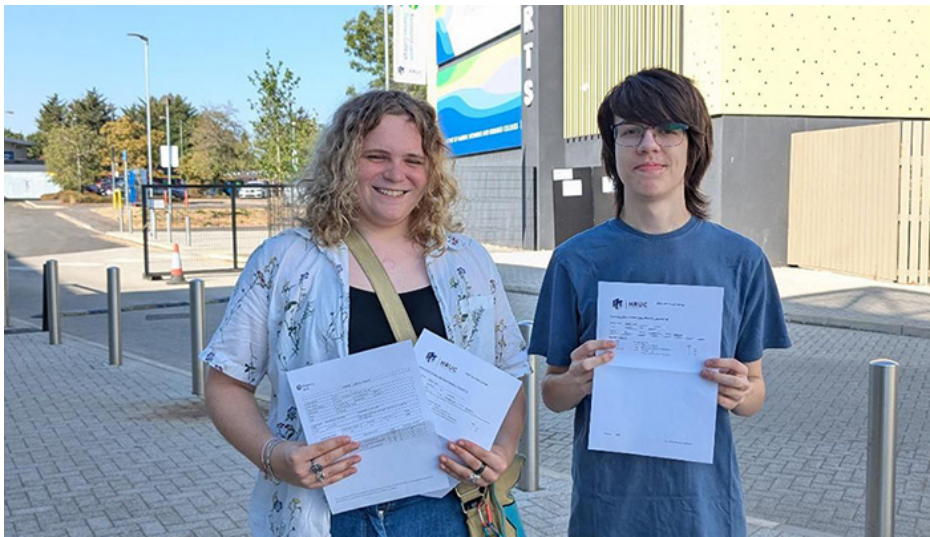
St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

Richmond upon Thames College students celebrate outstanding exam results

Richmond upon Thames College students are celebrating another year of excellent results across A-Level, BTEC, T-Level and University of the Arts London (UAL) qualifications.

Highlights across Harrow, Richmond and Uxbridge Colleges (HRUC) include:

- A-Level students across HRUC achieved a 99% pass rate, an increase from last year, with the number of A*-C grades also increasing this year
- BTEC students achieved a 97% achievement rate in the results received – another increase on last year
- Students on UAL courses, which include many creative arts subjects, achieved a 99% pass rate, with many courses seeing a 100% pass rate
- A strong performance in T-Levels with several courses achieving a 100% pass rate and a strong number of high grades.



Educational journeys continue

One of our A Level students, Yuto Seki, achieved an outstanding set of results with three A*s in Computing, Maths and Physics. He is now going on to study Physics at the University of York.

Olivia Skwarczowska studied T-Level 3 Education and Childcare.

She said: *"The teachers have been super supportive throughout my studies, and I feel like Richmond upon Thames College has provided me with lots of*

opportunities I would not have otherwise received. With my positive results, I am now able to go on to study Psychology at City St George's, University of London."

High expectations

Gavin Hughes, Principal of Richmond upon Thames College, said: *"Our students should feel extremely proud of all they have achieved and can now look forward to an exciting future thanks to their hard work and determination. With support from our fantastic staff, these results showcase our high expectations and exceptional achievement rates. Congratulations to all our students and we wish you the best of luck as you take your next steps."*

A bright and promising future

Dylan McTaggart, Group Executive Principal of HRUC, said: *"It's always a joy to celebrate our students' hard work and dedication on results day. Exam results at HRUC continue to improve every year, and 2026 is no exception. Many of our students are progressing on to top universities or apprenticeships or directly into employment. Their success showcases how HRUC guides our students to fulfil their potential and realise a bright and promising future."*

We're looking forward to welcoming our students this September.

For details of enrolment [click here](#)

If you studied at Richmond upon Thames College, we'd love to stay in touch. [Join our alumni network](#)



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Thames College**



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Three Thames Ultra Challenges will see thousands trek along the river this September and you can be a part of it

Three long-distance endurance events return on 11-13 September and will host thousands of runners and walkers as they trek up to 100km across London and along the Thames.



They form part of the Ultra Challenge Series that includes events with varying distances all over the country, with many participating to raise funds for causes close to their heart. Last year's series raised over £15m for charity.

The trio of Thames events are still available to sign up for this year and 2027 entries are now open. So, what's in store?

Thames Path Challenge, 12-13 September 2026

Over 3,000 adventurers are signed up to make their way along England's great river, with those taking on the full 100k

venturing as far as Henley-upon-Thames. Along with the full distance, there are 25k, 50k and 75k options as well as a Henley 10k route, providing options for everyone.

Thames Path Challenge starts on the Saturday, with some completing the 100k in one go, crossing the finish line in the early hours of Sunday, while some complete 50k on both days to make up the total distance.

It follows the famous Towpath, taking in Richmond, Hampton Court and Windsor having set off from Putney.

Thames Moonlight 10, 11 September 2026

This nighttime event takes place on the Friday, with a shorter, energetic 10k loop available in addition to an extended 10-mile route. Both pass famous sights like St Paul's, Westminster Abbey and the London Eye, setting off and finishing by The Oval.

It is a great way for friends, family or colleagues to take in our wonderful capital together, seeing the sun set and moon rise in a safe and rewarding environment. A lively finish line awaits with hot food, a glass of fizz and a special moon medal provided to every participant.

Thames Bridges Trek, 12 September 2026

The third event, on Saturday, rather does what it says on the tin. 2,500 walkers trek 25km from Putney Bridge zig-zagging their way over 16 historic bridges, stopping for a halfway rest at The Oval before finishing up in Southwark Park just after crossing Tower Bridge.

TV presenter, author and charity founder Katie Piper OBE will be taking part in the event this year, joining fellow burns survivors. Piper, who founded the Katie Piper Foundation following her own recovery from life-changing burns injuries, will be taking on the challenge with members of the Foundation's survivor community.

The organisers take great pride in ensuring the highest level of support for participants, with industry-leading rest stops, food and drink, medical teams, and fully marked routes providing a safe and encouraging environment throughout all three routes.

To sign up, visit: <https://www.ultrachallenge.com/>



Lynde House Summer Party Brings Residents, Families and Community Together

Lynde House Care Home in Twickenham hosted a wonderful Summer Party last Saturday, bringing residents, families, friends, staff, children and visitors together for an afternoon filled with sunshine, music, delicious food and plenty of smiles.



The garden was transformed into a colourful and welcoming celebration, creating the perfect setting for residents and their loved ones to enjoy precious time together and make special memories.

Guests enjoyed a delicious BBQ prepared by the Lynde House chef, refreshing cold drinks and Pimm's, alongside music, entertainment and activities throughout the afternoon.

The event was brought to life by the fantastic Nark Drool & The Shudders, who provided live music and filled the garden with energy and entertainment. Guests were also treated to plenty of magic and amazement from Tom Grubb, whose performance brought smiles and laughter to residents and visitors alike.

The Lynde House Activity Team also played a huge part in creating the atmosphere, decorating the garden with colourful and creative displays and helping to make the celebration a truly memorable occasion.





Alison McIntosh, General Manager at Lynde House Care Home, said:
"Our Summer Party was such a wonderful celebration of togetherness. Seeing our residents surrounded by their families, friends, staff and members of our wider community, enjoying themselves and sharing so many smiles and laughs, was incredibly special. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the day possible."

The Lynde House team would also like to thank all the staff who worked together behind the scenes and throughout the day, from preparing the garden and decorations to serving food, supporting residents and helping everything run smoothly. Their teamwork and dedication helped create a truly special celebration.

A special thank you also goes to all the relatives, friends and visitors who attended, including past residents' relatives and former members of staff who took the time to return and celebrate with the Lynde House family. Their presence made the occasion even more meaningful.

Most importantly, the day was all about the residents. Their smiles, laughter and enjoyment were at the heart of the celebration.

The Summer Party was more than just an afternoon of entertainment – it was a celebration of friendship, family, community and togetherness, reflecting the warm and welcoming spirit of Lynde House.

What a beautiful Summer Party to remember!

Lynde House Care Home is run by Barchester Healthcare, one of the UK's largest care providers, which is committed to delivering high-quality care across its care homes and hospitals. Lynde House provides nursing care, residential care, respite care.



Borthwick names 25 players to receive enhanced contracts

England Men's head coach Steve Borthwick has named the 25 players who will receive enhanced Elite Player Squad (EPS) contracts for the 2026/27 season.

The contracts form part of the Men's Professional Game Partnership, supporting the preparation and development of the England Men's team.

The 25 contracted players are selected from the wider 50-player EPS squad.

England Men's enhanced EPS contracts:

Seb Atkinson (Gloucester Rugby)
Fin Baxter (Harlequins)
Ollie Chessum (Leicester Tigers)
Alex Coles (Northampton Saints)
Luke Cowan-Dickie (Sale Sharks)
Tom Curry (Sale Sharks)
Ben Earl (Saracens)
Immanuel Feyi-Waboso (Exeter Chiefs)
George Ford (Sale Sharks)
Tommy Freeman (Northampton Saints)
George Furbank (Harlequins)
Ellis Genge (Bristol Bears)
Jamie George (Saracens)
Joe Heyes (Leicester Tigers)
Maro Itoje (Saracens)
George Martin (Saracens)
Alex Mitchell (Northampton Saints)
Asher Opoku-Fordjour (Sale Sharks)
Guy Pepper (Bath Rugby)
Henry Pollock (Northampton Saints)
Henry Slade (Exeter Chiefs)
Fin Smith (Northampton Saints)
Marcus Smith (Harlequins)
Will Stuart (Bath Rugby)
Jack van Poortvliet (Leicester Tigers)



Match Preview: Brentford v Eintracht Frankfurt

Written by Brentford Football Club

Brentford complete their pre-season preparations against Bundesliga side Eintracht Frankfurt at Gtech Community Stadium on Saturday afternoon (3pm kick-off BST).

Keith Andrews' side host the German outfit in their final fixture before the 2026/27 Premier League campaign begins at home to Tottenham Hotspur, giving supporters one final chance to see the Bees in action before the new season gets underway.

Analysis, team news, match officials and more, here's everything you need to know ahead of the game.



Tickets are available for Saturday's final pre-season fixture at the Gtech. [Secure your seat here.](#)

Pre-match analysis

Stephen Gillett, *Playmaker Stats*: Why Frankfurt will provide a high-intensity final pre-season test

Brentford take on Eintracht Frankfurt in their final pre-season friendly of the summer, and the intensity should ramp up a notch just a week out from the Bees' Premier League opener against Tottenham Hotspur.

Frankfurt finished eighth in the Bundesliga last season after a topsy-turvy campaign which saw them part company with Dino Toppmöller and later Albert Riera, before reappointing Adi Hütter at the end of May.

Despite losing Omar Marmoush midway through the 2024/25 campaign and Hugo Ekitiké the following summer, Eintracht bagged a respectable haul of 61 goals last term, but their efforts in attack were undermined by issues at the other end of the pitch.

Only two teams, Heidenheim and Wolfsburg, shipped more goals than Frankfurt (65) over the course of the season, with the German side's vulnerability on the break underlined by the 10 goals they conceded from counter attacks.

Frankfurt's expected goals against (xGA) figure of 50.90 suggests the underlying defensive picture wasn't quite as bleak as the raw total, but Hütter will nevertheless look to shore things up before his side's first competitive fixture of the season against SC St. Tönis in the German Cup.

There have been encouraging signs so far in pre-season for Eintracht, who have combined positive results with a strong defensive record.

Tactically, Hütter favours flexible football with an emphasis on vertical attacks and intense pressing, and last

season's numbers suggest some of those foundations are already in place.

Only four sides recorded a lower passes per defensive action (PPDA) figure than Eintracht in the German top flight in 2025/26, so Brentford's backline should expect to be pressured in possession on Saturday. PPDA measures how many passes a team allows their opponent before making a defensive action, with a lower figure generally indicating a more aggressive press.

In terms of personnel, Eintracht have a couple of exciting forwards to keep Keith Andrews' side on their toes.

Although he missed large chunks of the season through injury, Jonathan Burkardt established himself as one of the Bundesliga's sharpest finishers last term, with his 13 league goals arriving at an average of one every 103 minutes.

The Germany international has been joined this season by 23-year-old signing Noel Futkeu, who finished last season as the top scorer in Bundesliga 2. Futkeu hit 19 goals for a struggling Greuther Fürth side in the second tier, with seven strikes from inside the six-yard box illustrating his ability to sniff out high-quality opportunities at close range.

Eintracht may have seen Nathaniel Brown join Bayern Munich for big money this summer, but they have retained some highly regarded defensive talent in the shape of Nnamdi Collins.

Linked with a host of Premier League clubs, including Liverpool, the 22-year-old is robust defensively and measured in possession. A good battle should be in store against Igor Thiago, who scored in his first pre-season appearance for the Bees in last weekend's 4-2 win over Rennes.

Scout report

Dan Long, *Sky Sports*: How Frankfurt are rebuilding after a season of upheaval

A little more than a year ago, Eintracht Frankfurt were celebrating.

Under Dino Toppmöller, they had finished third in the Bundesliga, equalling their best-ever finish in the competition and securing their highest placing since 1992/93.

Marmoush had earned a January move to Manchester City following an astonishing return of 20 goals and 14 assists in just 26 games in all competitions, but Ekitiké remained at the club and spearheaded the attack.

That feeling of celebration must have felt like a lifetime ago last term.

Ekitiké was sold to Liverpool in July 2025 and the demands of Champions League football soon caught up with Eintracht. They started with a 5-1 win over Galatasaray, but picked up just one more point across their remaining seven league-phase games, conceding 20 goals along the way.

Before their participation in Europe ended, though, Toppmöller was sacked on 18 January, when Eintracht were seventh. Dennis Schmitt took charge in the interim and oversaw four games, all of which ended in defeat.

At the start of February, Riera signed a two-and-a-half-year contract to succeed Toppmöller. The former Liverpool, Manchester City and Watford player had been coaching for four years and his appointment created intrigue. He had enjoyed success in Slovenia, but had never managed in one of Europe's top five leagues.

But he could only win four of the 14 Bundesliga games he took charge of, which saw Eintracht fall away from contention for European qualification, then miss out altogether. They finished eighth, 15 points off qualifying for the Europa League and 18 off qualifying for the Champions League.

Bundesliga and European football pundit Ronan Murphy suggested [in his opposition insight](#) that "a personality clash" was a factor in Riera's exit. He left by mutual consent the day after the 2025/26 season ended.

And so the club moved swiftly to secure the return of Adi Hütter as head coach on a three-year contract.

He had managed the club between 2018 and 2021, taking them to the Europa League semi-finals in 2018/19, the DFB-Pokal semi-finals the following season and a fifth-place finish in the Bundesliga in 2020/21.

“For me, it’s very special and emotional to be coach at Eintracht again,” he said. “The time we had together left a big impression on me and has always stayed with me. Looking back, I always had the feeling of having unfinished business.

“We will do everything to ensure that the team delights the fans next season.”

Qualifying for Europe, in whichever competition that may be, will remain the aim for Eintracht Frankfurt next season. It will be a welcome challenge, given the speed at which that target ebbed away last time around.

And with a familiar face at the helm and fewer games to juggle following their failure to qualify for Europe, they should be in an ideal position to make that ambition a reality.

In the dugout

Adi Hütter

Adi Hütter had a long playing career in his native Austria, spanning just shy of two decades.

There were three separate spells at Grazer AK and he also spent time at LASK, Rheindorf Altsch, Kapfenberger SV and Red Bull Salzburg Juniors.

But the most successful period came with Austria Salzburg, prior to their rebrand as Red Bull Salzburg in 2005. Between 1993 and 2000, Hütter played more than 250 times, winning three Austrian Bundesliga titles and three Austrian Supercups. During that time, he also earned 14 senior caps for Austria.

He retired in 2007, but continued with Red Bull Salzburg Juniors, first as assistant, then as head coach in his own right the following year.

Next came a return to former club Rheindorf Altsch in 2009, where he secured two straight second-place finishes in the Austrian second tier, before being sacked in April 2012 when promotion again looked unlikely.

He achieved promotion with SV Grödig in 2012/13, before taking them to third in the Austrian Bundesliga the following season.

A return to Red Bull Salzburg followed, with Hütter overseeing a Bundesliga and Austrian Cup double, but he left by mutual consent in the summer of 2015 and was appointed head coach of Young Boys that September.

There were two second-place finishes in the Swiss Super League, then a first league title in 32 years. He ended on the highest of highs before taking up his first role in Germany with Eintracht Frankfurt in July 2018.

That season, Hütter took the club to the semi-finals of the Europa League, while securing a seventh-place Bundesliga finish. He stayed for three years before leaving for Borussia Mönchengladbach, but departed by mutual consent at the end of a disappointing 2021/22 campaign.

He ticked off a fourth league in July 2023 when he took over at Monaco. There was a second-place Ligue 1 finish in 2023/24 and a third-place finish in 2024/25, but just seven games into the 2025/26 season, he was sacked.

Hütter remained out of work until May, when he signed a three-year deal to join Frankfurt for a second time.



Be Richmond Champions Local Charity Helping Residents Overcome Isolation and Rebuild Confidence

Be Richmond, the Business Improvement District (BID) for Richmond town centre, continues to champion local charities that strengthen community wellbeing and provide vital support to residents across the borough.



As part of its ongoing Charity Spotlight initiative, Be Richmond is highlighting the work of Shepherd's Star, a locally founded charity dedicated to reducing social isolation and empowering adults facing life's challenges to build confidence, develop skills and access new opportunities.

Founded in 2021 by six Richmond residents who came together during the COVID-19 pandemic, Shepherd's Star has grown from a grassroots community response into a

charity delivering life-changing support for adults experiencing loneliness, unemployment, mental health challenges, disability and housing insecurity.

Fay Cannings, Chief Executive of Be Richmond said: *"At Be Richmond, we're passionate about supporting organisations that make a genuine difference to the lives of people in our borough. Shepherd's Star is a fantastic example of how community-led initiatives can create lasting impact, helping individuals overcome isolation, build confidence and access new opportunities. Through our Charity Spotlight series, we're proud to help raise awareness of their work and encourage local businesses to get involved in supporting a stronger, more connected Richmond."*

Supporting People Every Step of the Way

Shepherd's Star delivers a range of programmes designed to reduce isolation, build confidence and create pathways to opportunity.

- **Good Friday**, a weekly community hub providing shared meals, wellbeing activities and access to support services.
- **Explore**, a six-week personal development programme focused on confidence-building and employability.
- **Shine**, an accredited barista training programme helping participants gain skills and work experience.
- **Table of Hope**, community dining events designed to combat loneliness and strengthen social connections.

- **Holiday Christmas Box**, a volunteer-led initiative supporting local families during the festive season in partnership with Achieving for Children.

Together, these projects help residents build skills, strengthen connections and take positive steps towards greater independence.

From Isolation to Employment

The impact of Shepherd's Star is reflected in the journeys of the people it supports.

After being referred to the charity while experiencing anxiety, depression and social isolation, Edward joined the Explore programme to rebuild his confidence and reconnect with others. He later progressed onto the Shine barista training programme and secured volunteer opportunities through the charity's network.

Today, Edward is employed in a local café and continues to volunteer, supporting others who are beginning similar journeys. His story highlights Shepherd's Star's ability to help individuals move from isolation to independence through tailored support, skills development and community connection.

How Richmond Businesses Can Support

As part of Be Richmond's Charity Spotlight series, Shepherd's Star is encouraging local businesses to get involved in supporting its work across the borough.

Businesses can contribute by sharing professional skills and expertise, volunteering their time, providing in-kind donations such as food, clothing or venue space, and supporting community events and seasonal campaigns. Organisations can also help raise awareness of the charity's work and encourage employee volunteering.

By partnering with Shepherd's Star, businesses can play a direct role in helping residents build confidence, develop skills and access new opportunities.

Building a More Connected Richmond

Shepherd's Star envisions a Richmond where nobody feels invisible or excluded; a borough where individuals facing adversity can access the support they need to rebuild confidence and contribute meaningfully to their communities.

For local businesses, supporting charities like Shepherd's Star represents more than corporate social responsibility. It is an investment in the people, resilience and wellbeing that underpin a thriving local economy.

By working together, Richmond's businesses, charities and residents can continue to create a borough where everyone has the opportunity to belong, contribute and flourish.



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