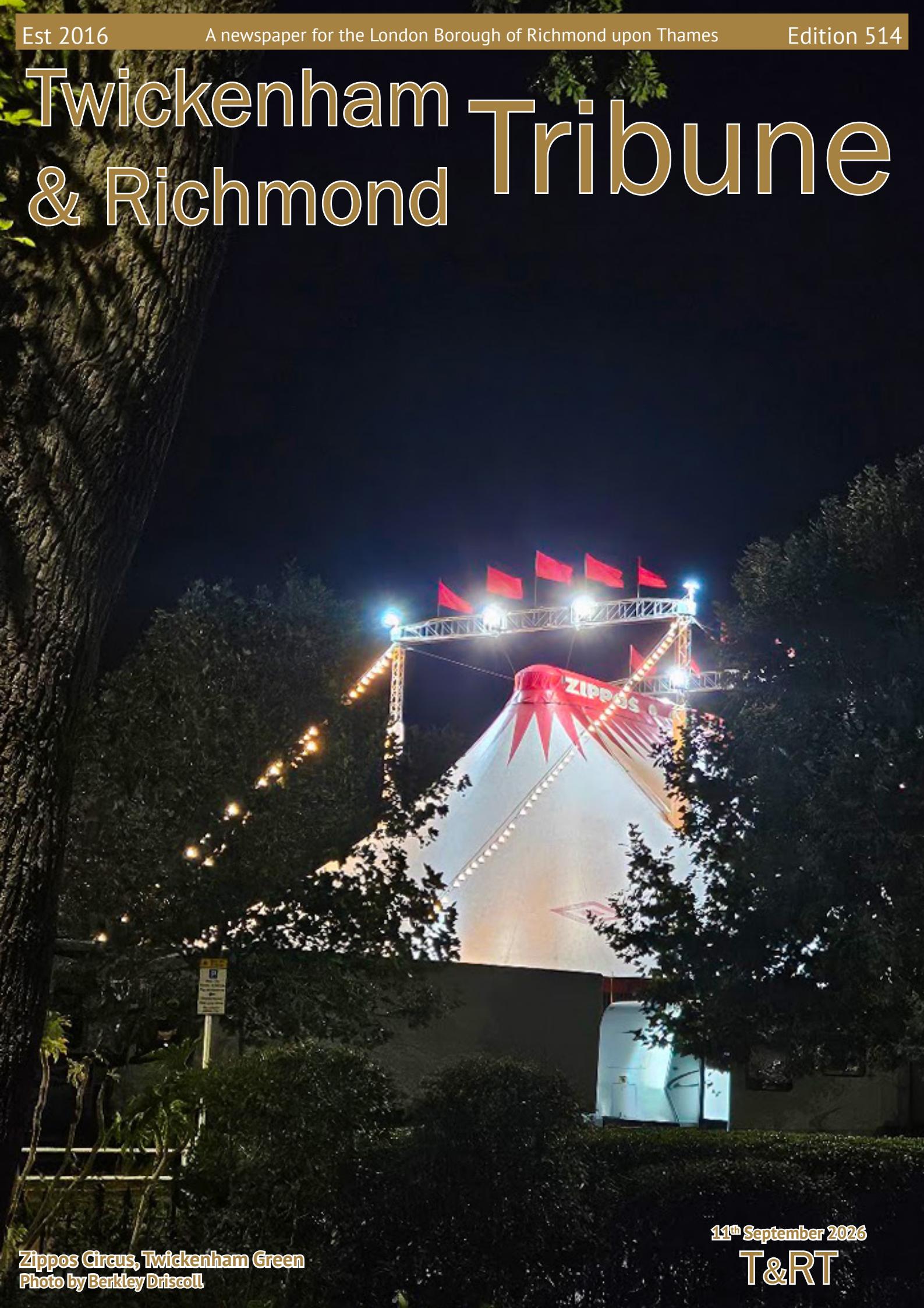


Twickenham & Richmond Tribune



Zippos Circus, Twickenham Green
Photo by Berkley Driscoll

11th September 2026

T&RT

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Hall & Woodhouse

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Guinness World Records

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TickerTape - News in Brief

Tourist Tax plans another 'kick in the teeth for Richmond', claims Council Leader

From Richmond Council

Council Leader Cllr Gareth Roberts has slammed today's Tourist Tax announcement, labelling it as another cash grab from the borough.

"The idea of a Tourist Tax has merit," said Cllr Roberts, "but for all of the money to be taken out of Richmond and grabbed by the Mayor of London to add to his already swollen coffers leaving nothing for the borough is simply wrong."

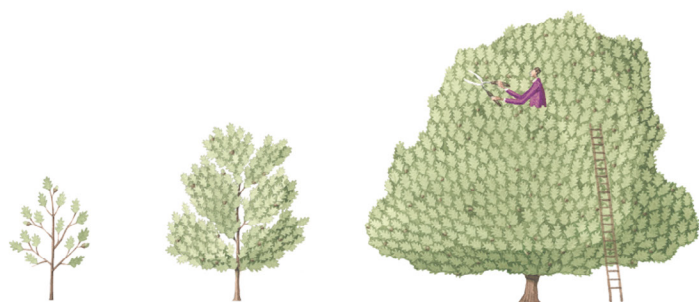
"We love being a beacon for tourists, but welcome as our visitors are they come with a price tag. More street bins need emptying, there's more wear and tear on our roads and pavements, more impact on our parks and open spaces – and that's before we consider how much we spend promoting the borough as a great place to visit. All this costs money, lots of money, so for the money which that is raised in Richmond from a Tourist Tax to go straight to City Hall is just another kick in the teeth for Richmond."

Cllr Roberts said the news of the Tourist Tax follows the recent government decision to strip Richmond of nearly 60% of funding to prop up councils elsewhere, and also follows the announcement of the Mansion Tax which will see owners of some borough properties being forced to pay extra with none of the money being earmarked for local services.

Cllr Roberts added: *"Whether we're talking about the 600,000 annual overnight visitors or the millions who flock to Richmond during the day, tourists are a welcome boost to Richmond, but it's one that comes with a price tag. All we're asking for is fairness, for the government to recognise that they're already stripping us of key funding and that this is one way in which we could have had some more money coming into the borough. Taking money away from boroughs and handing it to the Mayor make absolutely no sense for a Government that talks a big game on devolving powers. This just puts more power and more money into the hands of the Mayor who already has quite enough of both."*

Richmond welcomes around 4.5 million visitors every year. They come to Kew Gardens, Hampton Court Palace and Richmond Park, and to see a borough that has become an international filming location, including for Ted Lasso.

Around 600,000 visitors a year stay overnight. The rest are day visitors – but they still use our roads, parks, public spaces and local services.



The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

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The Tree Agency

The Local Picture Postcard Page - Part 343

Fountain Beefeater Pub Closed

By Alan Winter

That's another one gone then. The Fountain/Beefeater on the corner of Sixth Cross Road and Staines Road closed on Thursday this week.

Owners Whitbread had confirmed that all Beefeater restaurants in Britain would shut for good on 10th September. Plans were still unknown this week but I'm told that there is a possibility that the pub may be converted to more hotel rooms with a small restaurant for the Premier Inn next door.



The Fountain was a landmark road-house pub built in 1939. The pub was named after the two iconic circular fountains built at the time but long since removed.



Our first postcard is an aerial photograph which clearly shows the fountains way back in about 1940.

Whitbread changed it into a Beefeater Grill with a refurbishment back in 2011. For a while it prospered as a venue used for funerals after services at the Hanworth crematorium but it hasn't really been what most locals considered "a proper pub" for many years.

My thanks to CAMRA for the use of the second modern photograph this week.

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Alexander in Wonderland

By James Knight



Richmond's Transport Committee heard that School Streets do not cause material displacement, while considering an extension prompted by parking in neighbouring roads; that the borough does not have LTNs, only "traffic reduction schemes"; and that a scheme too undeveloped for detailed scrutiny could have its final design delegated.

There was something faintly Wonderland-like about Richmond Council's Transport and Air Quality Committee on 7 September. Not because its members were behaving irrationally, but because perfectly reasonable propositions became rather less straightforward when placed alongside one another. School Streets, councillors were told, have not caused "material displacement". Yet one is now proposed for expansion following parking congestion in surrounding streets.

Richmond does not deploy Low Traffic Neighbourhoods, according to committee chairman Alexander Ehmann, but it does have "traffic reduction schemes". A proposal was too

undeveloped for detailed questioning, while its final design and implementation could nevertheless be delegated.

The most revealing exchange concerned the proposed extension of the School Street at St James's Catholic Primary School. Councillor Michael Butlin looked at the map and suggested that the council appeared to be developing, under the School Street banner, something resembling a low-traffic network. Ehmann intervened immediately: "Well, I'll answer that. We don't deploy low traffic neighbourhoods in this borough. We do traffic reduction schemes."

The council papers make Butlin's question harder to dismiss. The existing restriction covers the school entrance on Stanley Road. The proposed extension would take in Shaftesbury Way, Wellesley Crescent and Preston Close following concerns about increased congestion in neighbouring streets. Yet the same report says previous School Streets reduced traffic "whilst not resulting in material displacement or other problems in surrounding streets."

There may be a technical distinction between displaced traffic and displaced parking, but if parents respond to a School Street by parking in nearby streets and the response is to extend restrictions into those streets, something has plainly moved. The intervention is no longer concerned solely with keeping vehicles away from the school entrance; it is beginning to influence whether the school journey can conveniently be made by car at all.

That does not make St James's a conventional LTN. Its restrictions would operate only around school hours. But it makes Butlin's question entirely legitimate: where does a School Street end and a wider traffic-reduction scheme begin?

"All I can go with is what I see"

Butlin continued looking at the map and asked whether cameras might prevent vehicles passing through parts of the proposed area. Ehmann told him not to "assume anything" because the detailed design did not yet exist. When Butlin persisted, the chairman's previously conversational tone changed. "No, no, no. Councillor Butler, Councillor Butlin, I'm not having you leave a rhetorical question like that," Ehmann said. "We can't discuss detailed design."

Butlin made clear that he regarded School Streets as "an excellent idea". This was not opposition theatre. His objection was simply that he was being asked to consider a proposal without knowing what its eventual design would do. "All I can go with is what I see," he said.

There was an awkward procedural problem. The committee was simultaneously being asked to delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place and Growth to approve the "final designs and implementation", following discussions with the chairman and ward councillors "as appropriate." The detail was therefore too immature to scrutinise, but its eventual approval could be delegated. That is not unique to Richmond, but it illustrates a wider feature of modern local government: the moment when a proposal becomes sufficiently concrete for meaningful scrutiny is not always the moment when the full committee retains the greatest control over it.

The chairman's two hats

The exchange also revealed something about the way Richmond's committee system operates. Ehmann is both chairman of the committee and Deputy Leader of the Council. Normally his

chairing style is informal and collegiate, but when the LTN question arrived he did not first invite an officer to explain the distinction. “Well, I’ll answer that,” he said, before speaking for the administration: Well, I’ll answer that, Councillor Butler. We don’t deploy low traffic neighbourhoods in this borough. We do traffic reduction schemes.”

When Butlin continued challenging that answer, Ehmann switched back to the procedural authority of the chair: “I’m not having you leave a rhetorical question like that.” The chairman was therefore successively moderator, political spokesman and controller of the questioning. There is nothing improper about a chairman keeping a meeting moving, but the position becomes more interesting when the politician supplying the administration’s answer is also the person deciding when questioning of that answer has gone far enough.

That matters more because there is no opposition member on the committee. An all-Liberal Democrat committee can be remarkably relaxed, particularly where political groups have already had opportunities to discuss business beforehand. Paradoxically, that can make meetings more revealing. Members think aloud rather than deliver rehearsed attack lines, and awkward points sometimes emerge from inside the governing group itself. Butlin’s intervention had precisely that quality.

When the preferred modes collide

Another such moment came during discussion of Richmond’s replacement for its Active Travel Strategy. The new title is the Walking and Cycling Strategy, but the policy remains explicit. It seeks to make walking and cycling the “preferred choice of travel”, while the environmental assessment anticipates “modal shift away from cars and towards walking and cycling”.

Yet councillors themselves complicated the idea that non-car users form a single interest. One member warned that on busy routes “there are conflicts between dog walkers and cyclists and runners”. Ehmann agreed that “sometimes these modes can conflict”. It was a useful admission. Reducing the role of the car does not remove competition for public space. Pedestrians, cyclists, wheelchair users, runners and dog walkers can have competing interests of their own.

Independent of the Council?

The report also asks councillors to “note the success” of the previous Active Travel Strategy, citing the Healthy Streets Scorecard as being “produced independently of the Council”. That wording is accurate. The Scorecard is independent of Richmond Council, but it is produced by a coalition of campaigning organisations which advocate measures including School Streets, cycle infrastructure and Low Traffic Neighbourhoods. There is nothing wrong with that, and campaigning organisations can produce valuable evidence, but it is not quite the same thing as an assessment made independently of the policy debate itself.

The relationship became more curious when Ehmann criticised part of the Scorecard’s own School Street methodology as a “clunking fist approach”. Its conclusions could therefore be cited as independent evidence of Richmond’s success, while its methodology could be challenged when it did not reflect Richmond’s preferred approach. There was also an obvious irony in citing approvingly a system which promotes LTN provision shortly after the chairman had declared: “We don’t deploy low traffic neighbourhoods in this borough.”

The £170,000 question

Lane Rental provided the financial version of the same problem. Richmond proposes charging utilities for occupying designated roads at busy times, encouraging them to change when and how they undertake works. The business case forecasts an annual net benefit of about £170,000.

There is an inherent tension in that kind of forecast. If Lane Rental works exceptionally well as a deterrent, the behaviour generating the income should decline. If substantial income continues, the deterrent has been less effective. That does not invalidate the business case, but it makes the behavioural assumptions behind the £170,000 figure important.

Elsewhere on the same agenda, a useful warning was issued. CCTV was forecasting a significant adverse variance, partly due to income from solicitors and insurance companies coming in below budget following changes to charges. CCTV and Lane Rental are different services, but the lesson is common to both: forecasts based on how other people are expected to respond to council charges remain forecasts.

The contradictions add up

No single item establishes that Richmond's transport policies are wrong.

School Streets can improve safety, walking and cycling have obvious benefits and Lane Rental may reduce disruption. What was striking was the accumulation of contradictions. School Streets had caused no "material displacement", while parking in surrounding roads was helping drive an extension. Richmond did not have LTNs but had "traffic reduction schemes".

Detailed design could not be discussed because it did not yet exist, while approval of that final design could be delegated. "Active Travel" disappeared from the title while modal shift away from cars remained explicit.

A campaigning Scorecard provided "independent" evidence of success, while its methodology was criticised when inconvenient. Councillors considered a £170,000 financial projection while another expected income stream was already falling short.

That is where scrutiny matters. The question is not simply whether officials can provide a rational explanation for each proposition separately, but whether those explanations remain convincing when placed next to one another.

Perhaps that was the real Wonderland quality of the evening. Nothing said was necessarily untrue. It was the definitions, assumptions and boundaries that kept moving.

Butlin supplied the simplest test: "All I can go with is what I see." At Richmond's Transport Committee, it was probably the line worth remembering.



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Get a taste of Türkiye at ETNA

From ETNA Community Centre

Come and discover the flavours, traditions and warmth of Türkiye!

Join us for A Taste of Türkiye - a free community evening celebrating Turkish food, culture and heritage. Enjoy food, music and games, and learn about 10 iconic landmarks and UNESCO World Heritage Sites with an experienced teacher.

An event supported by the 'Loved & Wanted Here' campaign. Everyone is welcome and there's no need to book – just drop in!

Event details:

- **Date:** Friday 18 September 2026
- **Time:** 6 to 8.30pm
- **Location:** ETNA Community Centre, 13 Rosslyn Road, Twickenham TW1 2AR





Sunday 13 Sept
12 - 5 pm



DJ Dance Party
DJs Vernon Da Reel VIP & A+
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forecourt of Premier House

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street performers The Cabbage Patch
The Rose & Lion The Barmy Arms
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Grab some new wheels at the Barnes Charity Bike Sale

From Barnes Charity Bike Sale

There will be 200 pre-loved bikes for sale on Saturday 12 September at St Mary's Church, SW13 9HL from 9.30am to 12 noon.

A wide selection of bikes at great prices will be available, including lots of kids bikes. Arrive early for the best selection.

Event details:

- **Date:** Saturday 12 September 2026
- **Time:** 9.30am to 12 noon
- **Location:** St Mary's Church, Barnes, SW13 9HL

All proceeds go to charity.



Step inside Richmond's hidden gems this Open House Festival

From Open House Festival

Running from 12 to 20 September, Open House Festival celebrates London's special sites and neighbourhoods through free open days and events. Read on to explore what's on in Richmond upon Thames.

This year, over 20 venues in the borough are taking part in the annual Open House Festival, offering opportunities to explore some of Richmond upon Thames' most fascinating landmarks.

This year's programme features a wide range of activities.

You can:

- Join a guided tour of the Old Town Hall in Richmond
- Visit historic churches such as St Mary Magdalene and St Peter's
- Discover architectural landmarks including York House and Richmond Lock Building
- Explore the air raid shelter at St Leonards Court
- View botanical treasures at Kew Gardens' Herbarium
- Enjoy artist-led exhibitions at One Paved Court
- Join a guided walk through the Hampton Court Flood Meadows restoration project, and more.



Discover Richmond's rich history, architecture, creativity and natural environment. Find out more about the [Open House Festival](#).

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Next Week at Richmond Council

By James Knight



Two Richmond Council committees meet next week, with decisions due on the future management of five sports centres, the Mayor of London's new housing targets and an opposed application for a new alcohol licence in central Twickenham.

Tuesday: Licensing Sub-Committee

Councillors will decide whether DGN Mobile & Vapes at 23 London Road, Twickenham should be allowed to sell alcohol for consumption off the premises from 9am to 11pm, seven days a week.

Some local residents oppose the application, raising concerns about crime, disorder, litter and the shop's proximity to the Holly Road playground, local schools and a nursery. One objection argues that the playground already attracts groups drinking and vaping, with bottles and other rubbish being left behind.

The shop also sits within Twickenham's **Cumulative Impact Zone**, where the Council's policy says new or varied licences should normally be refused following relevant objections unless the applicant can demonstrate that the premises would not add to the cumulative problems associated with licensed premises in the area.

The Metropolitan Police has not objected after agreeing additional conditions with the applicant, including CCTV, an incident log, and the retention of recordings for at least 31 days. The issue for councillors is therefore whether those safeguards are sufficient to address residents' concerns and to meet the additional test created by the Cumulative Impact Zone.

Tuesday 15 September, 11.00 am

Virtual meeting

For the papers & webcast, click [HERE](#)

Tuesday: Environment, Sustainability, Culture and Sports

Five Council-run sports centres could move to external management, while councillors will also agree Richmond's response to the new London Plan and consider flood alleviation works at the Leg O' Mutton nature reserve.

The biggest decision concerns the sports centres at Hampton, East Sheen, Teddington and Whitton. The Council is considering bringing all five into its existing contract with GLL, which already operates Pools on the Park and Teddington Pools and Fitness Centre. There is a financial case for change, as the directly managed centres are forecast to require a subsidy of around £397,000 this year. Yet memberships have risen by 10 per cent since December, and attendances are 14 per cent higher than in 2024/25. Councillors are being asked to authorise senior officers to proceed with a transfer if the final business case demonstrates best value. The question is whether they should hand over that decision before seeing the completed business case themselves.

Housing provides the sharper political argument. The Mayor's draft London Plan increases Richmond's target from 411 to 540 homes a year, a rise of 31 per cent, while the London-wide increase is only 7 per cent. Richmond has delivered an average of just 120 homes a year since 2021. The Liberal Democrat Council supports substantially increasing housebuilding across London but argues that the proposed increase for Richmond itself is unrealistic. That leaves an uncomfortable question: if London needs many more homes but Richmond should not provide this number, where should they be built instead?

Councillors will also consider a flood scheme at the Leg O' Mutton nature reserve in Barnes, using its lake to store surface water when heavy rainfall coincides with high Thames tides. The Council argues this will reduce flood risk while improving water quality and habitats. Because the works can proceed under permitted development rights there will be no normal planning application or statutory planning consultation, putting more weight on the scrutiny councillors give the scheme next week.

Tuesday 15 September, 7.00 pm

York House, Twickenham

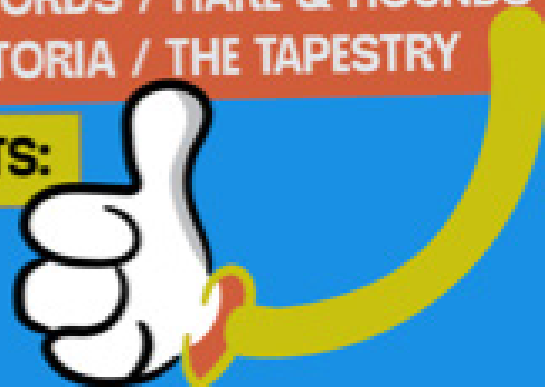
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The 250th Anniversary of Richmond Bridge

From The Richmond Society

A joint meeting with Richmond Local History Society to mark the anniversary of Richmond's iconic bridge, first opened in September 1776

This joint meeting with Richmond Local History Society marks the 250th anniversary of Richmond's iconic Grade 1 listed bridge, first opened to pedestrians in September 1776 and to other traffic in January 1777, and funded by tolls – from a halfpenny for a pedestrian to a half crown for a coach and horses. Designed by James Paine and Kenton Couse, it was described as “... a simple, yet elegant structure, and, from its happy situation, is ... one of the most beautiful ornaments of the river ...” The London Magazine, 1779.



Local author Mark Lucas tells the story of one of the Borough's finest and best-known architectural assets and the oldest surviving bridge across the River Thames in London.

The meeting will be at Duke Street Church, Richmond TW9 1DH on Monday 14 September at 8:00pm, with doors opening at 7:30pm. Wine and soft drinks will be available. The event will be streamed on Zoom – a link will be emailed to Richmond Society members shortly before the meeting. Free for members in person and online. Non-members welcome to attend in person for £5. More info and booking [HERE](#)



Give your items a second life at this month's Twickenham Repair Café

From Twickenham Repair Café

The next Twickenham Repair Café will be open on Saturday 19 September, for the repair of household items.

The café does not charge for repairs, but asks for a donation based on what you think their time and expertise is worth. There's no need to book ahead, just drop in (only one item per person for repair).

While you wait, you can enjoy the café inside the Repair Café, serving tea, coffee and a selection of homemade cakes.

Event details:

- **Date:** Saturday 19 September 2026
- **Time:** 10.30am to 12.30pm
- **Location:** St Margaret's Church Hall, Twickenham TW1 1RL

Find out more about the [Twickenham Repair Café](#).



Richmond vicar attempts 12-hour preaching marathon

From Richmond Preachathon

A remarkable event is taking place at St Mary Magdalene parish church in Richmond when the vicar will be preaching from dawn to dusk on 22 September. The Rev Robert Stanier has taken on the challenge to help raise money for new bells for the church and the Richmond Soup Kitchen.

Everyone is invited to drop in during the day to support Robert who will be joined in conversation by local personalities including Sophie Raworth, the Rev Dr Giles Fraser, Greg Dyke, Anne Sebba, the Mayor Nancy Baldwin and the Gruffalo illustrator Axel Scheffler.



Robert's preaching will explain and comment on stories from Adam and Eve to Jesus and his miracles. 'There is plenty of fascinating content and I want to show how it is relevant in the modern day' says the vicar.

Find out more about the [St Mary Magdalene preachathon](#).

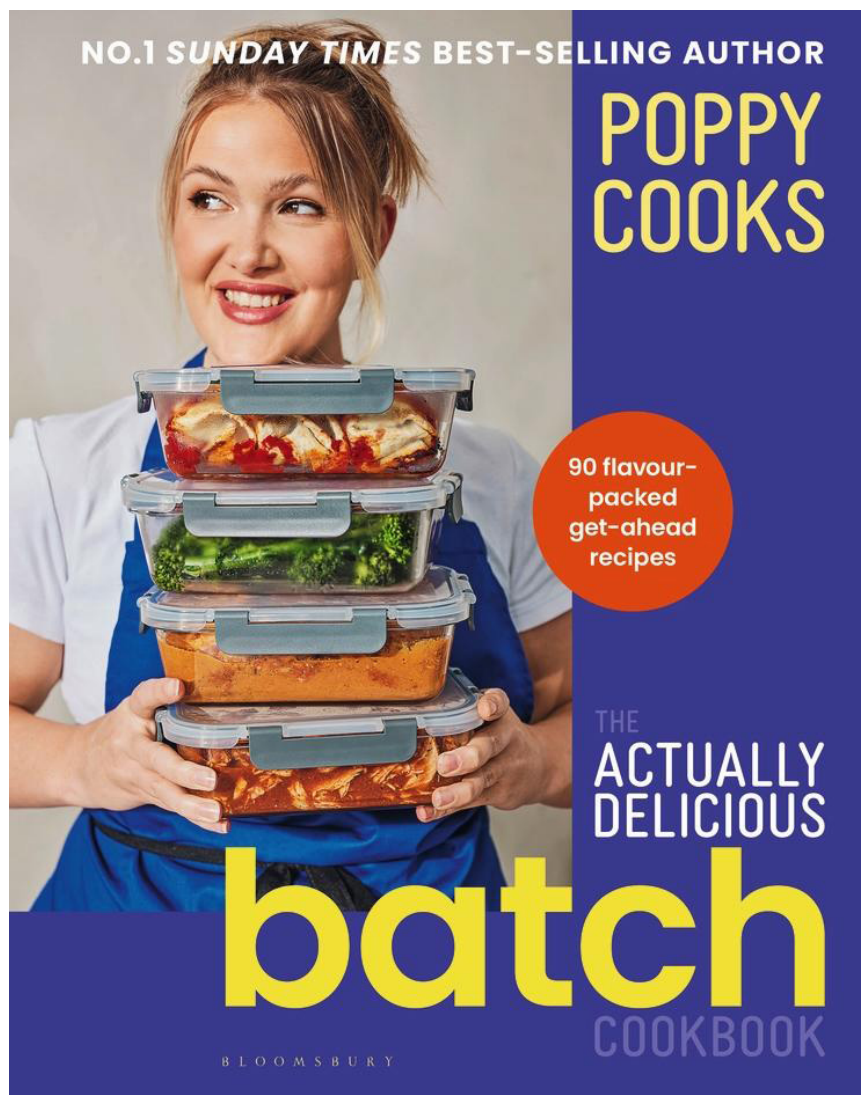
Poppy Cooks

Another Delicious Batch Book

You must know Poppy O'Toole. If you are on Instagram, watch Saturday Kitchen, This Morning or any other foodie TV show, I'm sure you'll recognise her. Poppy has over 5.5 million followers and is the self-titled 'Potato Queen'. She's delightfully self-effacing and her recipes are great.

Poppy has just published her latest book: **Poppy Cooks Actually Delicious Batch** and it's fab. Published by **Bloomsbury Publishing** at **£22** for a beautifully photographed hardback, it gives stacks of ideas for plan ahead catering.

With simple instructions included for prep and storage, these grab-and-cook recipes make dinner time a breeze, however you want to cook them (slow cook, air fry or oven). Recipes include traybakes, fakeaways, pastas, a whole chapter dedicated to Poppy's signature potato recipes, grab-and-go lunch ideas and much more.



It's easy to follow, ideal for busy families who want to eat well but might not have a big freezer, and it's packed with food that's actually delicious. Whether making one and freezing one, or prepping ahead for quick midweek meals, the recipes are easily multiplied or divided so you can tailor them to how you cook and eat.

Here are a couple of taster recipes for you to try, that will, I'm sure, tempt you to buy the book.

Chicken fajitas - Serves 4

"As a child, there was no better feeling than when my mom said it was fajitas for tea. The sizzling pan, the DIY wraps and the overfilling when no-one was looking. Pure 00s nostalgia. Viennetta ice cream for pudding is mandatory."

- 6 skinless, boneless chicken thighs
- 2 red peppers, deseeded and sliced

- 2 red onions, sliced
- 3 garlic cloves, minced or grated
- 1 red chilli, sliced
- 1 tsp cayenne pepper, or to taste
- 2 tsp smoked paprika
- 1 tbsp taco seasoning
- 1 tsp ground cumin
- 2 tsp garlic granules
- 2 tsp onion granules
- 1 tbsp chilli sauce
- 1 tbsp tomato purée
- 1 tbsp runny honey
- 300g jarred salsa

To finish

- Juice of 2 limes, plus extra if needed
- Salt and pepper

Serving suggestions (optional)

- Flour tortillas
- Grated cheddar
- Guacamole
- Soured cream
- Tomato salsa

To prep

Tip all the ingredients into a large freezer bag, seal the top and freeze for up to 3 months.

To cook

1. Defrost fully in the fridge overnight. Pour the contents of the bag into the bowl of your slow cooker and season with salt and pepper, pop on the lid and cook for 3 hours on high or for 6–7 hours on low, until the chicken is cooked through and tender.
2. Stir in the lime juice and taste for seasoning. Adjust as needed with salt, pepper and lime. Remove the chicken from the slow cooker and slice before serving.

Vegan chocolate chunk and orange shortbreads - Makes 18

"We all love a bit of chocolate orange, don't we? In a shortbread as well, it makes for a lovely biscuit to dunk into tea. Or to just eat on its own. Oh, and it's vegan! Lovely for everyone."

- 350g plain flour
- 100g caster sugar



- 250g vegan butter, cubed and chilled
- 175g vegan dark chocolate, roughly chopped
- Zest of 2 oranges
- Pinch of flaky sea salt

1. Using your fingertips and thumbs in a large bowl, or pulsing in a food processor, combine the flour, sugar and butter until it looks like breadcrumbs.
2. Using your hands, press the dough together until it starts to clump, then add the chocolate, orange zest and salt. Bring it all together into a crumbly dough, then roll the dough into a sausage shape about 4cm in diameter. Cut the sausage in half and wrap both pieces tightly in cling film.

Eat now

Place one of the wrapped doughs in the fridge for 30 minutes. Meanwhile, preheat the oven to 180°C/160°C fan. Using a sharp knife, slice the chilled dough into 1.5cm-thick rounds and place the rounds on a parchment-lined baking tray. Bake for 15–20 minutes until the edges are lightly golden. Cool on the tray briefly, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.



Eat later

Freeze the remaining wrapped, unbaked dough for up to 3 months.

To bake from frozen, preheat the oven to 180°C/160°C fan. Unwrap the frozen log, leave it to stand for 5–10 minutes or so, and then slice it into 1.5cm-thick rounds. Place the rounds on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper and bake for 25–30 minutes until the edges are lightly golden. Leave to cool on the tray, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely. Store in an airtight container for up to 3 days.

Extract taken from Poppy Cooks: The Actually Delicious Batch Cookbook by Poppy O'Toole (Bloomsbury Publishing, Hardback, £22). Photographs © Haarala Hamilton.

High Five for Five Iron Golf

I was offered the chance to try out a new facility that has recently opened in the City of London. It's called **Five Iron Golf**, and while I'm not a golfer, my husband is, so we jumped at the chance. Little did I realise that as well as golf, Five Iron offers a whole range of other great sports simulations.

Five Iron Golf is the global leader in indoor golf and entertainment and its new **Broadgate** location is its first venue in the UK. Located at **1 Finsbury Avenue, just steps from Liverpool Street Station**, (or a short walk from Bank underground) the 6,900-square-foot venue is the first location to open under a landmark 10-site UK franchise agreement. Five Iron Golf combines industry-leading Trackman simulator technology with a full-service bar and restaurant to create a one-of-a-kind hospitality destination. The company started in 2017 in New York, where there are now seven sites in Manhattan alone and locations across 20 states. There are also sites in Dubai, Saudi Arabia and Madrid, so you can tell it's a clever and successful concept.

Each of the venue's eight **TrackMan** simulator bays gives a group of guests access to more than 440 iconic golf courses from around the world, while advanced swing analysis makes the experience equally suited for improving your game or simply enjoying a round with friends.

Add to that a full-service bar and restaurant serving tapas, artisan sourdough pizzas, gourmet burgers and shareable plates alongside craft cocktails, wine, champagne, spritzes and premium beers and you know it's destined for great success. Floor-to-ceiling windows, a private terrace and large-format screens showing live sports also create an inviting atmosphere for after-work drinks, celebrations, client entertainment and watching the big game.

We had a chat with Eric Parker, CEO of Five Iron Golf, who said: "The response since we opened our doors in London has been incredibly encouraging. We've loved seeing golfers, first-timers,





colleagues and groups of friends all embrace what Five Iron is about. We're building something that goes well beyond traditional golf, a place where people can play, eat, drink, compete and spend time together."

We started with golf, with me enjoying a relaxing G&T while watching my husband hit some rather wild shots into the rough, and the water, while he tried to find his past golfing prowess. There is access to more than 440 world renowned golf courses, so you can work your way around the globe if that floats your boat. The food is really good, and we enjoyed a selection of bar snacks, including delicious crispy popcorn chicken with gochujang BBQ sauce, Iberico Ham croquettes and some absolutely

delicious little sliders - beautifully pink burgers and top quality meat. Butchers Blend Smash Sliders: they were the best sliders I've ever tasted. The snacks are very reasonably priced too.



After the lovely Robyn had cleared away the food plates, we chatted to Hannah, the event sales manager, who told us that they already have lots of regulars who even store their own golf clubs there, and pop in for a quick swing most mornings prior to going into the office.



It's obvious that this is going to be a great success.

I was persuaded to have a go at clay pigeon shooting, which I thoroughly enjoyed, and then for a bit of fun before we headed home, we were introduced to a wild west saloon, given a pistol, and the chance to pop some shots at a group of very dodgy looking critters in a mock saloon bar.

It really is great fun and the food and drink is fabulous too.

I'd urge you to consider Five Irons for any kind of group activity - Christmas parties with a difference, hen nights, you name it, it will be fun at Five Iron.

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The Great River Race

12th September 2027

By Bruce Lyons

I wonder what a difference a year makes. Finally, the day has come - today is the Great River Race 2026 it'll start from the Isle of Dogs in the City and as always Row with the tide thru 17 Bridges - all manner of fixed seat rowing boats.



The weather looks perfect, for Rowers that is, not too hot, mainly sunny, perhaps a little rain.

Maybe in the 270 odd boats there is a record breaker but at 2hrs 1 minute it will need perfect conditions and a very fit crew, but they all will be competing for a myriad of Trophies, and most will row for their favourite charities.



The last contestant in the race will start of just around 14.00 so the best time to get over to Ham Tow Path, by Ham House will be around 16.00 (always a big end of race party) or watch from the Twickenham side in the park overlooking Hammerton's Ferry.

Next year's race is, as above 18/09/2027

Bruce @ Crusader Travel. 020-87440474

Witch

by Jen Silverman, after Thomas Dekker, John Ford and William Rowley
Teddington Theatre Club at the Hampton Hill Theatre until 12th September

Director Alessandra Marzocca and her team make the most of a very clever and unashamedly feminist script in their fabulous production of a witty modern take on the Jacobean tragedy, *The Witch of Edmonton*. Although the adaptation doesn't bear a great resemblance to the original, it still features a woman generally regarded as a witch and yes, it has a devil.

Here the devil is a beautifully crafted slick salesman, keen to meet his targets, and very good at his job. Here though, his sales targets are pitched at persuading the occupants of then rural sixteenth century Edmonton to sell their souls. It's an outstanding performance by Archie George as Scratch. Whether deviously discovering the price of a soul, flirting and falling for Elizabeth, or having a mid-life crisis, he is utterly believable. His victims can't help to fall under his charm, but all expect him to home in on Elizabeth, an outcast long seen as a witch. Amanda Adams' Elizabeth is far from the original's wizened old woman. Hers is a modern woman, able to stand her ground and take on the devil on his own terms.



Strong performances from all the cast make the play's twists and turns entertaining and very funny as they hint at their character's prejudices and passions. Jasper Loxton and Rosie Nash, as married couple Frank and Winifred, complement each other perfectly, as he overcomes his scruples to make his pitch to inherit the castle, while she, his wronged but never defeated wife, maintains her strength of character. Matt Tester plays the loyal Cuddy with empathy, as John Mortley's Sir Arthur's desperately attempts to keep everyone happy.

Emma Knight's perfect choreography, with its Salem-style dancing introducing the play, includes a minuet and some exceedingly clever manoeuvres with chairs. The fight scene is hilarious, thanks to arranger Dane Hardie.

The hauntingly beautiful music of Derek Baum's soundscape creates the atmospherics that seamlessly bring together the very modern themes and the historic setting, played out on the beautiful set with its autumnal floor.

The intimacy of the Coward Studio at Hampton Hill Theatre gives the production a mesmerising effect ... but maybe I've been bewitched.



Read Polly Davies' review at www.markaspen.com/2026/09/09/witch

Photography by Steve Sitton

ELVES, WITCHES.... and AGATHA CHRISTIE!

Currently playing at the Mary Wallace is Stephen Briggs's scintillating stage adaptation of one of Terry Pratchett's Discworld tales – **THE SHAKESPEARE CODEX**. Evil Elves, Granny Weatherwax and our own dear dramatist collide in an existential struggle to control Elizabethan England! A spectacle not to be missed by all Pratchett enthusiasts. Playing until September 19th and with a captioned performance on Thursday the 17th.



...and for our next RSS ALIVE! TALK, Dr Julius Green, author of Agatha Christie: A Life In Theatre will present **AGATHA CHRISTIE – The Most Successful Playwright of All Time** at the Mary Wallace Theatre. Though world-renowned for her novels, Christie's extraordinary contribution to the stage is less often acknowledged. Join us on September 21st at 7.45 to hear more about the Queen of the crime mysteries who became the world's most successful female dramatist. Tickets at £7.00

Booking now for both events at www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk

Find the Mary Wallace Theatre on Twickenham's Embankment, close to the Barmy Arms.

Photo credit : Simone Sutton





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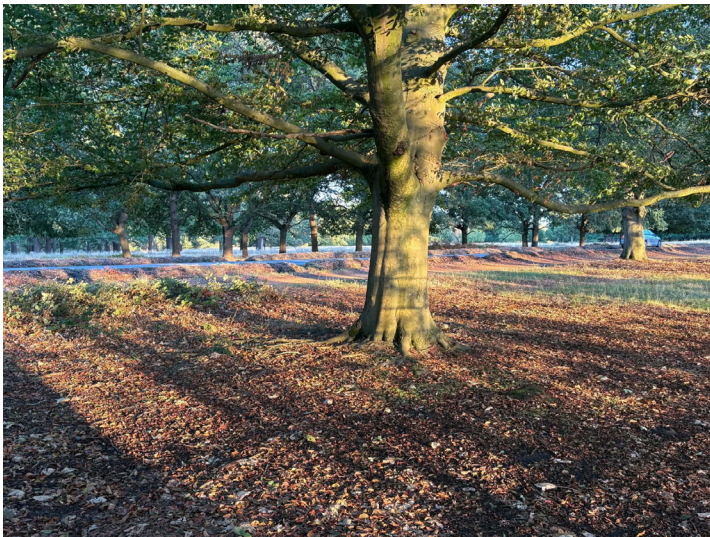
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www.hamptonchoral.org.uk

Richmond photos

From Shona Lyons

Richmond park on the way to Pembroke lodge, in the late afternoon, September, sun, the view from Pembroke lodge in the setting sun and the view of the Thames and Richmond bridge from tide tables



Air Raid Shelter: near Mortlake Station: Sunday 13 September 2026

From EastSheenMatters

Annual Open House Day at the Air Raid Shelter, St Leonards Court via St. Leonards Road and Palmers Road London SW14 7NG

The annual opening of the Air Raid Shelter to the public will take place on Sunday 13 September 2026 from 1pm to 5pm. Free entry. It is organised by the Mortlake with East Sheen Society (MESS).

Do come – and bring your friends.



The shelter is to the right of the photo beneath the grass area. The entrance is in the tower at the top right hand corner.

The shelter is down thirteen steps, so take care and hold on to the rail. The guide will have a large torch!

Since 2015 MESS has opened the shelter on Open House Day every September. The shelter cannot receive more than 15 visitors at a time and each visit takes 10 minutes, so we may have a queue of visitors awaiting their turn. While they wait, they are entertained with discussion of the site and maps of bombsites in the area.

In the last few years MESS has had tourists coming from the USA and various countries in Europe.

MESS also opens the shelter to local schools by appointment. See www.mess.org.uk

Teddington Author Brings Bushy House's Hidden History to Life

From Molly Gartland

Teddington author Molly Gartland will publish a new historical novel inspired by the remarkable history of Bushy House and its royal residents.

The Queen of Bushy House reimagines the extraordinary true story of Princess Adelaide – later Queen Adelaide – and Dorothea Jordan, the celebrated actress who made Bushy House her home for fifteen years with the Duke of Clarence, later King William IV.

The manuscript was shortlisted for the Historical Novel Society First Chapters Competition 2024.

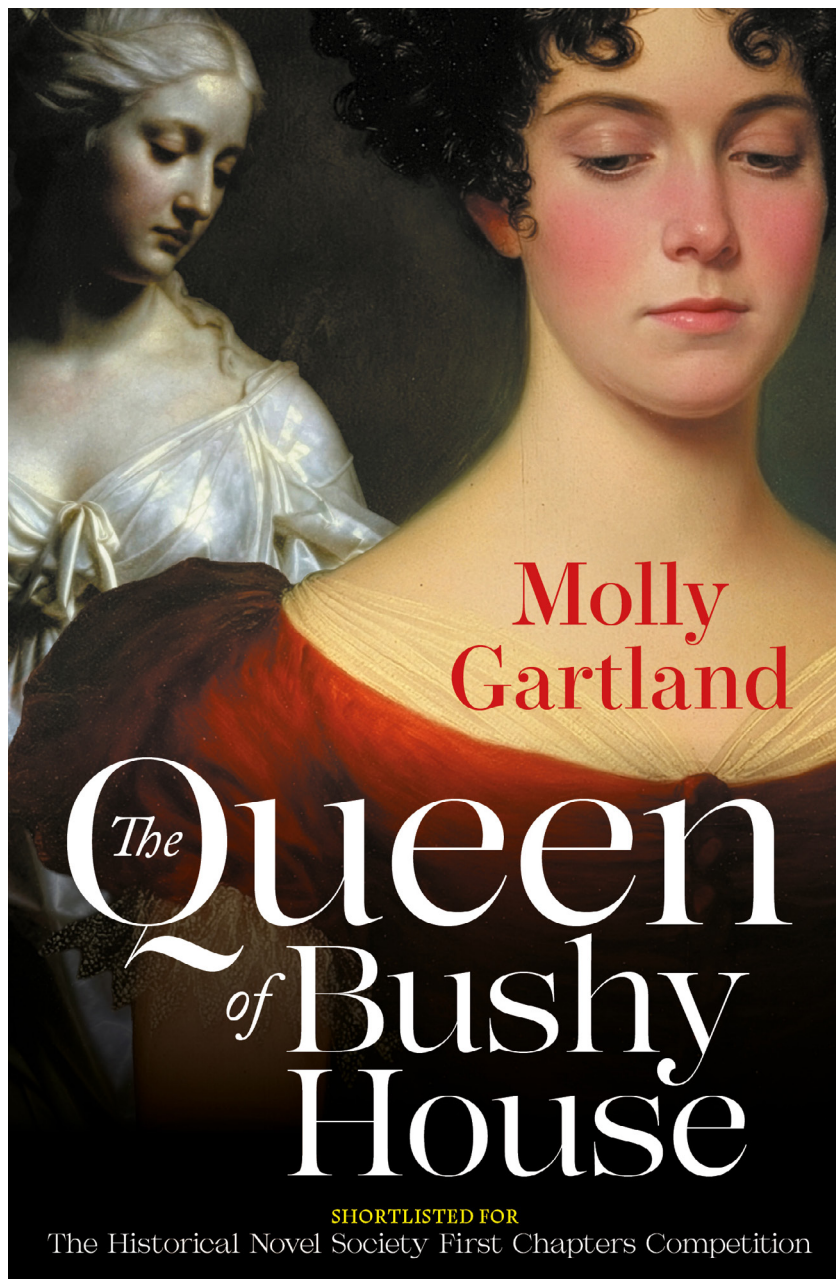


Set at Bushy House on the edge of Bushy Park, the novel explores love, loss, duty and legacy against the backdrop of Regency England, bringing to life a fascinating chapter of local history that many visitors pass every day without realising.

"I first discovered Dorothea Jordan and Princess Adelaide during a Bushy House open day," says Gartland, who lives within walking distance of Bushy Park. "Adelaide was half the age of the Duke of Clarence and only three years older than his eldest son. Imagine being a young foreign bride arriving at Bushy House, expected to replace a woman who had once captivated London. That's where my novel begins."

Originally from Michigan, Gartland has lived in the local area for more than twenty years. Her debut novel, *The Girl from the Hermitage*, was published in 2020.

The Queen of Bushy House is published on **23 September 2026** in paperback and e-book.





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St Mary's University

World Suicide Prevention Day: St Mary's academic helps workplaces start the conversation about mental health

As World Suicide Prevention Day takes place on 10 September, a St Mary's University academic is helping to develop new approaches to improving mental and physical health in workplaces across 11 countries.



[Dr Arlinda Cerga Pashoja](#), Associate Professor in Psychology and Director of the Research Centre [for Applied Health and Wellbeing](#) at St Mary's University, is the UK Principal Investigator of the [PROSPERH](#) project, which is developing evidence-based digital resources to help organisations create healthier and more supportive working environments.

The project's work comes as this year's World Suicide Prevention Day encourages people to "Start the Conversation" about suicide. The campaign highlights the importance of reducing stigma, encouraging open dialogue and creating environments where people feel able to seek support when they need it.

Alongside her work on PROSPERH, Dr Cerga Pashoja has contributed to Albania's **Suicide Prevention Programme 2025–2030**. The programme provides a national framework for suicide prevention and highlights the need for coordinated action across health services, communities, education, workplaces and

public communication.

Dr Cerga Pashoja is also working with [Mentbest](#) on initiatives promoting mental-health awareness and responsible public communication, including the recent launch of national media awards in Albanian that recognise journalism and media content helping to reduce stigma and support informed conversations about mental health.

"World Suicide Prevention Day is an important reminder that talking openly and responsibly about suicide can save lives," said Dr Arlinda Cerga Pashoja. "Contributing to Albania's Suicide Prevention Programme has reinforced the importance of coordinated action across policy, services, communities and public communication. Through PROSPERH, we are bringing these principles into workplaces by developing practical, evidence-based digital resources that can help organisations better support the health and wellbeing of their employees."

From November 2026, PROSPERH will begin an international intervention and research project involving workplaces across 11 countries. The research will evaluate digital resources designed to help employees and organisations improve workplace health and wellbeing.

Workplaces in the healthcare and construction sectors, as well as organisations employing remote, desk-based, teleworking or ICT-based mobile workers, are being invited to take part.

The trial will involve organisations across Ireland, Portugal, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Spain, Albania, Australia, Kosovo and Turkey.



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

Celebrating 17 Years of Dedication: Gitana Continues to Enrich Residents' Lives Through Creativity and Compassion

At our care home, we are proud to recognise the outstanding contribution of **Gitana, Head of Lifestyle & Enrichment**, whose passion and dedication have been transforming the lives of residents for the past 17 years.



With a genuine love for her role, Gitana has devoted her career to creating meaningful experiences that bring joy, purpose, and connection to those in her care. Through a diverse programme of activities, events, and personalised enrichment opportunities, she ensures that residents feel valued, included, and engaged every day.

"I genuinely love my job as a Head of Lifestyle & Enrichment Coordinator," says Gitana. "I love the achievements, the creativity, and most importantly, creating moments that bring smiles to our residents' faces."

Every day presents new opportunities and challenges, but Gitana's enthusiasm never wavers. Her commitment goes far beyond organising activities. She focuses on creating moments that encourage laughter, build confidence, foster friendships, and enhance residents' overall wellbeing.

"When I see a resident enjoying an activity, laughing, joining in, or simply having a good day because of something I've helped create, I feel like I've achieved something meaningful," she shares.

After nearly two decades in the profession, Gitana remains as passionate as ever. Her creativity, warmth, and person-centred approach continue to make a lasting difference in the lives of residents and their families.

"Every day is different, every resident is different, and every smile reminds me why I chose this job. It's not just about activities, it's about creating memories, bringing joy, and making every day count."

The entire team is grateful for Gitana's dedication and the positive impact she makes within our home. Her commitment to enriching the lives of residents embodies the values at the heart of quality care and demonstrates how meaningful engagement can help create a vibrant and supportive community.

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.



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Red Roses Team to Play Australia

Holly Aitchison is set for her 50th international cap when the Red Roses run out against Australia for the start of their WXV Global Series.

The Southport-born Sale Shark will achieve the milestone at the CorpAcq Stadium - less than 40 miles from her hometown club Firwood Waterloo RFC.

Fly-half Aitchison began her Red Roses journey in a win over New Zealand in 2021 and has accumulated 113 points over the past five years.

The 28-year-old is one of five changes to the side that began the Grand Slam-crowning Guinness Women's Six Nations win over France in May.

May Campbell comes in at hooker, packing down in the front row alongside Mackenzie Carson and Sarah Bern, while Delaney Burns and Lilli Ives Champion once again partner in the second row. Abi Burton, Sadia Kabeya and Maddie Feaunati complete the back row.

Tatyana Heard joins captain Megan Jones in the centre on her return from injury and scrum-half Natasha Hunt is also fit again to start. Wing Mia Venner is selected in the back three alongside Claudia Moloney-MacDonald and Ellie Kildunne.

Among the replacements, Bryony Field is set to run out in a senior England shirt for the first time. A Yorkshire-born hooker with four Under-20s caps, Field has been a stalwart in the JAECOO PWR for a number of years, winning last season's title with Saracens.

Hannah Botterman is in line for her first appearance in a Red Roses shirt since the 2025 Rugby World Cup final, and Morwenna Talling – another Sale Shark – returns to fold after injury.

Head coach John Mitchell said: *"I have very fond memories of the North West from my time with Sale Sharks so it's awesome to be able to take our game to this part of the country."*

"Playing in a different part of the country allows us to be present in the community and keeps the game healthy. You've not only got to be visible, but if you can actually be close to your community, I think that's even better."

"Connection is such an important part of life, but particularly in sport. The girls have worked hard in pre-season to deepen their bond and that will make us stronger on the field."

"We're excited to get our WXV Global Series underway and aim to excite and entertain."

Elsewhere, Kelsey Clifford has been ruled out of the Red Roses' home WXV Global Series matches.

The Saracens prop has sustained a hamstring injury and will be replaced by club teammate Liz Crake in the squad.

Clifford will remain as part of the training squad with a view of returning to play on the tour to North America in October.

Red Roses team to play Australia

- 15 Ellie Kildunne (Bristol Bears, 62 caps)
- 14 Mia Venner (Gloucester-Hartpury, 4 caps)
- 13 Megan Jones (Trailfinders Women, 38) – captain
- 12 Tatyana Heard (Sale Sharks, 36 caps)
- 11 Claudia Moloney-MacDonald (Exeter Chiefs, 40 caps)
- 10 Holly Aitchison (Sale Sharks, 49 caps)
- 9 Natasha Hunt (Gloucester-Hartpury, 89 caps)
- 1 Mackenzie Carson (Gloucester-Hartpury, 28 caps)
- 2 May Campbell (Saracens, 5 caps)
- 3 Sarah Bern (Bristol Bears, 84 caps)
- 4 Delaney Burns (Bristol Bears, 6 caps)
- 5 Lilli Ives Champion (Loughborough Lightning, 8 caps)
- 6 Abi Burton (Trailfinders Women, 9 caps)
- 7 Sadia Kabeya (Loughborough Lightning, 32 caps) – vice captain
- 8 Maddie Feaunati (Exeter Chiefs, 27 caps)

Replacements

- 16 Bryony Field (Saracens, uncapped)
- 17 Hannah Botterman (Bristol Bears, 62 caps)
- 18 Maud Muir (Gloucester-Hartpury, 53 caps)
- 19 Morwenna Talling (Sale Sharks, 29 caps)
- 20 Marlie Packer (Harlequins, 116 caps)
- 21 Lucy Packer (Harlequins, 44 caps)
- 22 Zoe Harrison (Saracens, 70 caps)
- 23 Helena Rowland (Loughborough Lightning, 51 caps)





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Match Preview: Bournemouth v Brentford

Written by Brentford Football Club

Brentford face Bournemouth at Vitality Stadium in the Premier League on Saturday afternoon (3pm kick-off BST).

Keith Andrews' side have drawn their last two league outings following an opening-day victory against Tottenham Hotspur, while the Cherries have two points from their first three fixtures.

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

Pre-match analysis

Stephen Gillett, *Playmaker Stats*: Midfield battle could be key at Vitality Stadium

Brentford travel to Vitality Stadium this Saturday for what promises to be a typically high-intensity encounter against Bournemouth - despite the Cherries' high-profile managerial change in the summer.

After three successful seasons at Bournemouth, Andoni Iraola moved to Liverpool in the summer on the back of leading the south coast club into Europe for the first time in their history. The Spaniard's intense pressing style won plenty of admirers and his replacement Marco Rose has built a similar reputation for high-energy, aggressive football.

The 49-year-old played under Jürgen Klopp at Mainz and has previously stated that "emotionality, hunger and being active" are the key tenets of his preferred playing style.

Despite leading in all three of their Premier League games this season, the Cherries still await their first win, having followed a loss to Manchester City with successive draws against Everton and Newcastle.

Rose has nevertheless made a positive impact and the early signs are that Bournemouth will continue to play on the front foot under the German - who secured his first win as Cherries head coach courtesy of a 4-0 Carabao Cup victory over Lincoln on Tuesday night.

Unbeaten against Bournemouth since their promotion to the Premier League, with five wins and three draws going back to 2022/23, Brentford have shown a propensity for high-octane football themselves this season.

The numbers underline the Bees' physicality and appetite for duels. No team has averaged more aerial duels won (22.3 per 90) or interceptions (11.3 per 90) than Keith Andrews' side, who notably also lead the Premier League charts for fouls committed (16.3 per 90).



A midfield pivot of Vitaly Janelt and Mamadou Sangaré has given Brentford real bite in the middle of the park, and that duo's tussle with Alex Scott and Tyler Adams could be one to keep an eye on.

Scott is blossoming into one of the Premier League's best young midfielders and he has started the current campaign strongly. He is joint-top among Bournemouth players for tackles and leads the Cherries for interceptions, and looks to be developing the attacking side of his game: supplying four key passes, in addition to his goal in the 1-1 draw against Everton at the end of August.

The combative Adams, meanwhile, has ranked among the top 10 midfielders in the division for tackles won per 90 over each of the past two seasons.

Both sides will look to test the other's midfield foundations, but the most exciting matchups could come in wide areas. Bournemouth possess real quality out wide in the shape of Marcus Tavernier - who has two Premier League strikes already this season - and Rayan, who is a good out-ball for the Cherries and got off the mark himself this week against the Imps.

Brentford, meanwhile, have two former Cherries vying for a start on the right flank: Dango Ouattara and Jaidon Anthony, the latter having bagged a hat-trick of assists when the Bees stuck six past Birmingham recently.

Heading into the contest, the number of late goals Bournemouth have conceded this season will not have escaped Andrews' attention. Four of the five strikes conceded by the Cherries have arrived from the 84th minute onwards.

Last season, only Liverpool (20) scored more Premier League goals between 76-90+ minutes than Brentford (19) - although, curiously, all five of the Bees' Premier League goals this term have been scored prior to the 80-minute mark.

Scout report

Dan Long, *Sky Sports*: An exciting time to be a Bournemouth fan

Bournemouth's 0-0 draw against Brentford at the Vitality Stadium on 3 March left them on 40 points with nine games left to play. But they felt they could and should have had two more.

[Michael Kayode](#) caught Marcus Tavernier on the Achilles in the box, but though VAR Darren England reviewed the incident, no penalty was awarded. *"It's impossible not to see it live. I cannot accept it,"* said a visibly frustrated Andoni Iraola.

Still, it extended the Cherries' unbeaten run in the Premier League to nine games. Iraola had a tendency to play down talk of European qualification, but there was no doubting his side were right in among it.

There was always a chance that push could have been derailed by the announcement on 14 April that he would leave in the summer once his contract expired. Bournemouth were 11th at that point, but just three points behind Chelsea in third.

Instead, it had the opposite effect. Bournemouth appeared galvanised.

They won three of their last six and were only denied two more wins by Sean Longstaff's 97th-minute equaliser in a 2-2 draw with Leeds United and Erling Haaland's 95th-minute equaliser in a 1-1 draw with Manchester City.

If they had picked up those four extra points, they would have pipped Liverpool to a Champions League spot.

That was quickly forgotten. Iraola's side had gone unbeaten in their final 18 games, broken their record points tally again (from 56 to 57), finished in their highest league position ever in sixth and, crucially, qualified for Europe for the first time in their history.

"I knew it would be almost impossible to get Europe... but I wanted Europe," said Iraola after the 1-1 draw with Nottingham Forest on the final day of 2025/26. *"This is just one way of thanking everyone."*

As Iraola departed the south coast a hero, his successor Marco Rose was already planning for 2026/27, having signed a three-year contract a month earlier. *"I'm looking forward to working together and to accomplish maybe other big things next season,"* the former RB Leipzig boss said in an interview with the club.

The challenge, then, for Rose is not simply to replace Iraola. His is an eye-catching appointment and one born out of ambition to take another significant step forward.

His former Mainz manager Jürgen Klopp said of him in 2019: "Marco can have any job and do any job. He's really the most hyped guy of all right now. Everyone asks me about him." High praise indeed.

His side may not have picked up their first league win yet, but they have taken the lead in all three games to date, and only once have they conceded prior to the 84th minute.

Finding a way to kill off games is the next task - then comes the adventure of away trips to Real Sociedad, Sparta Prague, Celta Vigo and Lillestrøm, not to mention the visit of none other than AC Milan on 22 October.

There has never been a more exciting time to be a Bournemouth fan.

In the dugout

Marco Rose

Marco Rose started out at VfB Leipzig - now known as Lokomotiv Leipzig - in his home city as a youngster in the late 1980s. He made his league debut for the club in the 2. Bundesliga in November 1997 and played 58 times in all, before leaving for Hannover in the summer of 2000.

The left-back played 24 times across two seasons before leaving for Mainz, who were managed by Jürgen Klopp. Rose was a regular under Klopp and made 32 league appearances as Mainz were promoted to the Bundesliga for the first time in 2003/04.

In an interview with Sky Sport Austria in 2019, Klopp recalled how, during the promotion celebrations, he told Rose and team-mate Sandro Schwarz - current manager of Dynamo Moscow - they would both become coaches. Rose retired in 2011 and took on his first managerial role the following year, back where he started at Lokomotiv Leipzig.

The return lasted just one season, however, and Rose moved to Red Bull Salzburg. First, he worked with the Under-16s, then the Under-18s, before he was appointed head coach in July 2017.

His first season went like a dream, as his side won the Austrian Bundesliga, finished as runners-up in the Austrian Cup and reached the Europa League semi-finals, where they were beaten 3-2 after extra-time by Marseille.

A second Bundesliga win followed in 2018/19, before he returned to Germany with Borussia Mönchengladbach. Two seasons there preceded one campaign with Borussia Dortmund and a return to the Red Bull group with RB Leipzig in September 2022. Die Roten Bullen finished third and won the DFB-Pokal in 2022/23, then finished fourth and won the DFL-Supercup in 2023/24.

Rose was dismissed in March 2025 but was out of a job for just over one year as, on 20 April, he was announced as the successor to Andoni Iraola, who left Bournemouth at the end of his contract.



Hall & Woodhouse opens all-day bar and café, The Dockhouse, in Brentford

The Dockhouse, a brand-new bar and café, is now open on the riverside at The Brentford Project in Brentford, West London.

The new venue, by family brewer and pub company, Hall & Woodhouse, operates all day from 10am, with food and drink available throughout the day.

H&W invested £1.8million into The Dockhouse to create a space inspired by the dock's history and nearby canal; artwork from local artists adorns the walls, green foliage and leafy houseplants bring the outdoors in, while a mix of reclaimed and modern furniture creates a casual, welcoming atmosphere. The Dockhouse's expansive south-facing terrace overlooks the riverside, creating a vibrant social hub with seating for 100.

Mark James, Property Director at Hall & Woodhouse, said: *"We're so proud to open The Dockhouse and to welcome guests into our fabulous riverside bar and café. Our south-facing terrace is made for long summer lunches and after work drinks, so we've worked hard to get the doors open for people to enjoy the warm weather. The Dockhouse perfectly complements our other venues in London, including The Eel Pie just along the river in Twickenham and the famous Ship & Shovell in Charing Cross. Each H&W pub has its own unique character inspired by its setting, history, and surrounding and they're designed to become welcoming community hubs. All of our venues also reflect our almost-250-year brewing heritage too, with many of the beers on tap brewed from our very own Badger Brewery in Dorset."*

The Dockhouse serves coffee and brunch from 10am, and from 12pm light lunches, sharing plates, through to after-work drinks and dinner. A variety of classic pub dishes such as chargrilled rump steak, burgers, and fish and chips are featured on the menu, alongside contemporary favourites including the Signature Seafood Pie and Nourish Bowl.

H&W has created 30 new jobs for local people at The Dockhouse, including Carlos Gomez, who has joined the team as General Manager.

Carlos added: *"Our purpose as a company is to make people's day and enrich our communities from generation to generation, so I'm very much looking forward to welcoming more of the community into The Dockhouse. The feedback we have received from guests since opening has been fantastic, we couldn't have asked for a better response. The Dockhouse is a brilliant addition to Brentford; a homely, welcoming space perfect for coffee with friends, somewhere to catch up on emails and do some work, or celebrate with family over a hearty meal. I know I am biased, but our terrace really is the perfect spot for cocktails or a cold pint of Hall & Woodhouse's own Badger Beer on a sunny day."*

The Dockhouse is offering 2 for £20 on summer spritz drinks to celebrate its opening.

The Dockhouse, Brentford is open from:

- Mondays to Saturdays: 10am - 11pm
- Sundays: 10am - 10.30pm

Food is served daily from:

- Every day: Brunch is served from 10am – 12pm
- Mondays to Saturdays: 12pm – 9pm
- Sundays: 12pm- 8.30pm

Please visit www.dockhouse-brentford.com to reserve a table. Follow @dockhousebrentford on Instagram and @TheDockHouseBrentford on Facebook for information on all the latest news, events, and offers.

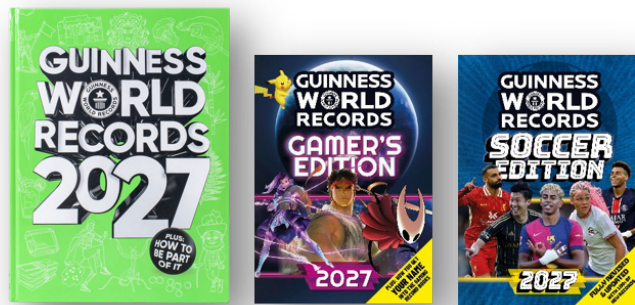


Guinness World Records 2027

From the world's tallest horse to a giant hairdryer: meet the UK stars of Guinness World Records 2027

GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS (GWR), the global authority on record-breaking achievements, reveals the stars of **GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS 2027 (GWR2027)**.

Guinness World Records opens a new chapter of record breaking with the latest edition of their famous annual. Amongst the records are an array of new, talented individuals that GWR hope will inspire readers to be part of it and start their own record-breaking journey.



From Britain's tallest horse and a fully functioning giant hairdryer to a 4,550-piece My Little Pony collection and a London-based foot juggler spinning a table at record speed, the latest edition celebrates the extraordinary people and animals proving anyone can "Be Part of It".

MEET THE UK RECORD-BREAKING STARS OF 2027

Hugo (UK) - Tallest horse - 199 cm (6 ft 6.3 in)

Hugo, a four-year-old Shire horse from Towcester, Northamptonshire, holds the Guinness World Records title for the tallest horse living, measuring an incredible 199 cm (6 ft 6.3 in) to the withers.

Despite his extraordinary size, Hugo's parents were both fairly average in stature, making his rapid growth something of a surprise. His owner, Lisa Masters, describes him as "a big softie, like an oversized dog." Hugo's height was officially assessed by a veterinarian, with the giant horse measured without shoes to ensure an accurate result.

He is one of the remarkable new record holders featured in Guinness World Records 2027, joining extraordinary people and animals from around the world in this year's edition.

Ruth Amos (UK) - Largest hairdryer - 1.7556m long x 1.6m tall (5ft 9in x 5ft 3in)

36-year-old entrepreneur and inventor Ruth is best known as the co-founder of Kids Invent Stuff, which turns children's wildest invention ideas into real working builds. The giant hair dryer was inspired by a challenge that received more than 5,000 ideas from children aged 4–11, with the winning concept transformed into a fully functioning record-breaking creation.

Built using an industrial fan, heating elements and a hand-shaped outer shell, the finished hair dryer measures 1.7556 m long x 1.6 m tall and is capable of actually drying hair.

Ruth hopes the project shows children that engineering is about imagination, problem-solving and bringing ideas to life. A lifelong Guinness World Records fan, she says being featured in Guinness World Records 2027 is a huge honour and hopes it inspires young readers to think: "Maybe I could build something amazing one day too."

Miranda Worby (UK) - Largest collection of My Little Pony memorabilia- 4550

43-year-old Miranda's love of My Little Pony began when she was just three years old. After asking her parents for a real horse and being told no, she spotted a My Little Pony toy in a shop and instantly fell in love. Her first pony was a pink figure called Snowflake, which she still owns today.

What began as a childhood passion grew into a serious collection in the late 1990s, when Miranda realised just how many My Little Pony items existed around the world, including country-exclusive releases that were difficult to track down before the internet made international collecting easier. By 2018, her collection had grown so large that she had to move house in order to properly display it. Miranda says getting into GWR2027 means “everything” to her and her advice for other collectors is “never be embarrassed for collecting what you love! There are plenty of other people who love it too, so be proud and never ashamed of what you adore”.

Emma Phillips (NZ, currently based in London) - most foot juggling spins of a table in 30 seconds – 77

36 year-old Emma first began exploring foot juggling in 2009, before travelling to China to train intensively at specialist acrobatic schools. For the record, she lies on her back in a specialist chair and spins a nearly 10 kg wooden table on her feet at maximum speed for 30 seconds - a challenge she describes as “extreme cardio”.

Although she now performs the skill eight times a week, Emma says the record required a completely different level of intensity, with total focus on her speed, breathing, core strength and control.

A lifelong Guinness World Records fan, Emma grew up reading the books “religiously” in New Zealand and says being featured in Guinness World Records 2027 is a childhood dream come true. She hopes her achievement will also shine a light on live performance and inspire young readers to think: “Maybe I can too.”

Other incredible record holders from around the world are:

- Andrea Marazzi (Italy) – Narrowest driveable car – 50.20cm (19.76in)
- Phoenix Giselle Hicks (USA) - Youngest yoga instructor (female) - 5 years and 337 days old
- Christian Schafer (Germany) - most decimal digits memorised underwater - 87
- Susan Burgos (USA) - Largest collection of frog related items – 13,201
- Fred Blijden (Netherlands) - most standing backwards somersaults in 30 seconds (male) – 22
- Kyle Landi (Canada) – Heaviest deadlift (male) (112) - 117.38kg (258.80lb) & Most weight deadlifted in one minute (male) (112) - 2301.80kg (5074.60lb)
- Remy Schofield (Canada) - Most tattooed person living (multiple layers) (male) - 90% of his body, 40 layers

Craig Glenday, Editor-in-Chief, Guinness World Records says: “The best-selling annual book is back! Last year, we set the world a challenge - Be Part of It - and I’m pleased to say that the world responded! Our Records Managers have sifted through tens of thousands of applications from wannabe record breakers to bring you Guinness World Records 2027, a fully updated compendium of stats, facts, figures and photographs celebrating the most incredible achievements on Earth... and beyond. From the unmissable vibrant green cover through to the extensive sports-reference section at the back, the book showcases remarkable stories of bravery, determination, passion and joy that should inspire us all to just get out there and have a go, whatever your age, ability, experience or background.”

What you’ll find featured in the book:

- This edition goes green! From the dazzling neon-green cover, to a spotlight on GWR’s biggest green stars including frogs, emeralds, Yoda, the Incredible Hulk and *Wicked*’s Elphaba
- Meet eight more incredible young achievers –under 16s that are defying their age to break remarkable records
- The newly selected GWR ICONS are unveiled –record holders who embody the spirit of record breaking who are rewriting the rulebook in their respective fields

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