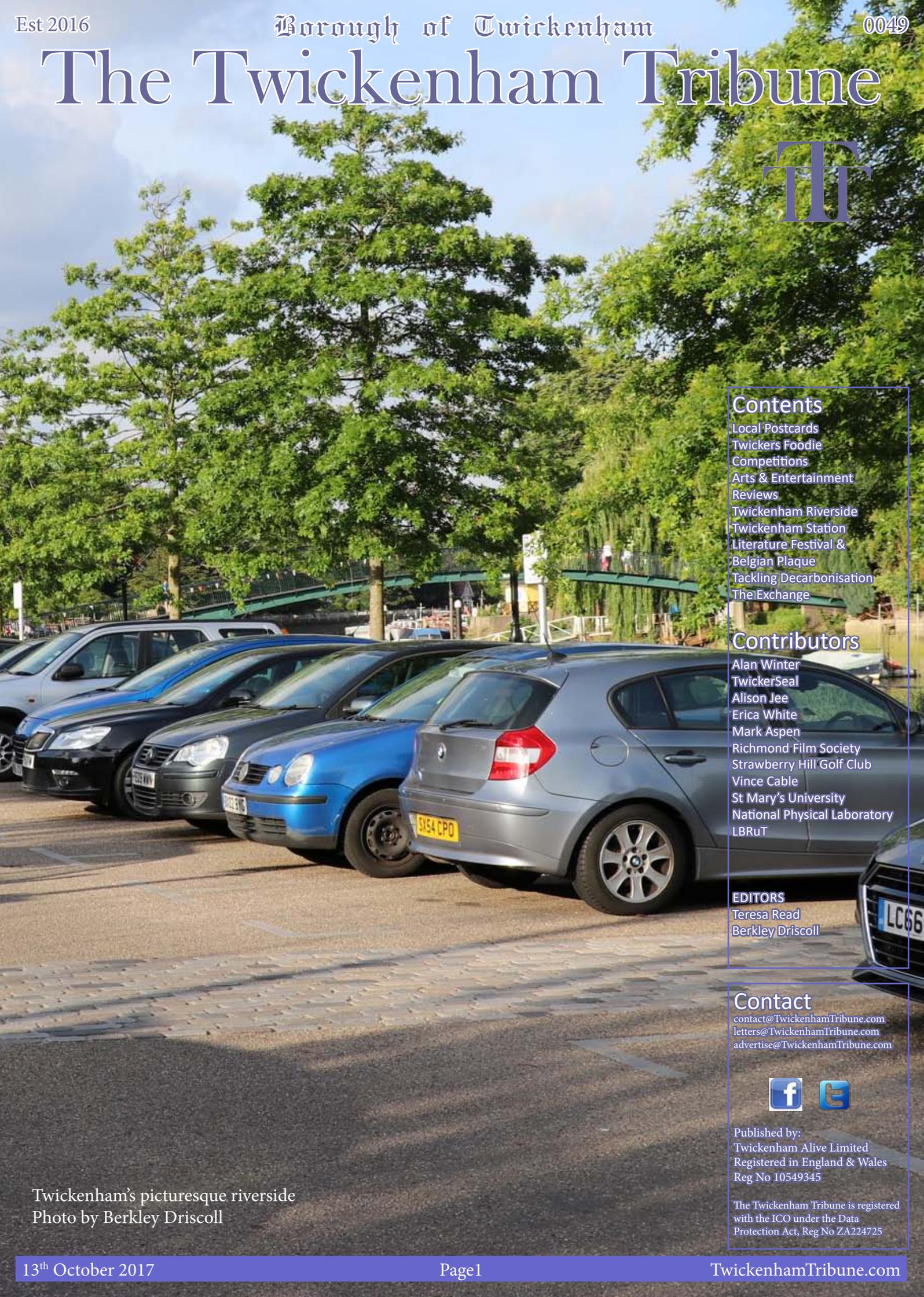


The Twickenham Tribune



Contents

- Local Postcards
- Twickers Foodie Competitions
- Arts & Entertainment Reviews
- Twickenham Riverside
- Twickenham Station Literature Festival & Belgian Plaque
- Tackling Decarbonisation
- The Exchange

Contributors

- Alan Winter
- TwickerSeal
- Alison Jee
- Erica White
- Mark Aspen
- Richmond Film Society
- Strawberry Hill Golf Club
- Vince Cable
- St Mary's University
- National Physical Laboratory
- LBRuT

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Published by:
 Twickenham Alive Limited
 Registered in England & Wales
 Reg No 10549345

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

Twickenham's picturesque riverside
 Photo by Berkley Driscoll

THE LOCAL POSTCARD PAGE

PART 44 – PEG WOFFINGTON COTTAGE - TEDDINGTON

By Alan Winter



One of many celebrities to live in the Tribune circulation area over the years was actress Margaret “Peg” Woffington. Born in Dublin in 1714 she began her career as a street singer. At the age of 10 she made her stage debut in a Juvenile production of ‘the Beggars Opera’. She made her name in Ireland as Ophelia in a 1737 production of Hamlet and came to London in 1740. Here she was an immediate success. One of her most celebrated roles was as Sir Harry Wilder, at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. She caused quite a stir in this part by wearing breeches.

Beautiful and celebrated, she met and fell in love with the actor David Garrick who was living in Hampton and they planned to marry. For whatever reason she left him in 1744 and moved to Teddington. She then spent time in Paris and Ireland before returning to Covent Garden in 1754 where she continued to work as an actress, occasionally with Garrick and also with Brinsley Sheridan.

Peg last appeared on stage at Covent Garden on 27 May 1757. She became paralysed while speaking the epilogue to *As You Like It*. The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography states that “she retired to the home she had purchased in the 1740s in Teddington, She died in Queen Square, Westminster, on 28 March 1760 and was taken for burial to St Mary’s Church, Teddington.”

It is thought the cottages became Alms houses at the behest of the actress who gave them to the poor of the parish.

Later in the 20th Century number 167 High Street, Teddington became the Peg Woffington Tea Rooms which traded successfully until its closure in approx. 2004

In 2009 the Teddington Society helped mark the 250th anniversary of Peg Woffington Cottage with a celebratory coffee, birthday cake and champagne morning party. My thanks to members of the Teddington Society and their website for assistance with dates and facts regarding the cottage.

A treat for any of you interested in local history through postcards or other ephemera is in store this Saturday 14th October when the West London Postcard Club has its Autumn fair at Teddington Baptist Church in Church Road. Open between 10.15 and 4.00 (get there early). I shall have my stocks of local postcards for sale and there are many bargains to be had from pennies to pounds. Come and say hello!

If you have any postcards to dispose of, any comments on this subject, or ideas for future articles, please drop me a line at

alanwinter192@hotmail.com

**THE WEST LONDON
POSTCARD CLUB FAIR**



“WE'RE ALL LOOKING OUT FOR YOU”
at
TEDDINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH
Church Road Teddington, TW11 8PF
SATURDAY OCTOBER 14th 2017

With 26 stalls of postcards & paper collectables.
Buy from (& sell to) top dealers from London, Surrey, Yorks, Devon, Essex, I.O.Wight, Sussex, Lincs, Northants, Kent.

*10.15am-4pm *Refreshments *Admission £1.00

EASY BY RAIL - Teddington (on Kingston loop from Waterloo).
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From Fulwell, Hammersmith, Hampton Court, Heathrow, Hounslow, Isleworth, Kew, Kingston, Richmond, Sutton, Tolworth, West Croydon.
EASY BY ROAD - From M3/A316.

Enquiries: 01372 725883

TwickerSeal

TwickerFox was very pleased that the new proposal for Twickenham Riverside included boathouses, giving residents the 'active riverfront' we had asked for (even though the development resembled a business park outside Slough!).

Imagine TwickerFox's surprise and disappointment when the lovely green boathouse doors wouldn't open when he tried to store his paddleboard. A passer-by told him that these were not real boathouses, but were there to disguise the private underground parking for the new residents in the development.



Twickers Foodie

CHOCOS AWAY

By Alison Jee

It's Chocolate Week and I love chocolate. That's it; I've admitted it. I am a self-confessed, non-recovering chocoholic! I tend to prefer dark chocolate, especially with cacao nibs and/or sea salt, but all good quality chocolate is more than acceptable. And a small piece of good dark chocolate is often enough to satisfy that chocolate craving.

I went along to a talk this week organised by the **Academy of Chocolate** about the health benefits of chocolate...yes, you read correctly, HEALTH BENEFITS, and there are lots! According to Professor Baukje de Roos (of the Rowett Institute of Nutrition and Health, University of Aberdeen), regularly eating small portions of dark chocolate (70 per cent cocoa or more) has many proven health benefits, including lowering blood pressure, helping avoid strokes and Type 2 diabetes. So, there you go, no excuse needed now!



This weekend it is the [Chocolate Show](#) at Olympia, where the top chocolatiers will be exhibiting their products (including our St Margarets-based local artisan company [Urban Village Chocolates](#) and the slightly larger [R Chocolate London](#)).



To celebrate Chocolate Week we have a competition from another award-winning company called [Chocolate and Love](#). (see offers below for entry details) A much bigger company than the two local ones mentioned above, it also sells premium, organic, Fairtrade certified bars, in stores such as Waitrose. They have such pretty labels – colourful, hand painted floral designs. Newly launched are gift packs, perfect for any serious chocolate lover. These are selection boxes of four 80g bars in Sea Salt, Creamy Dark or Rich Dark and also Panama Light (containing four 40g bars). There is a new Pomegranate 70 per cent bar with cacao from Madagascar with hints of citrus and natural sweetness balancing the slightly tart, fruity flavour of pomegranate. It is very unusual...and delicious. The bars are, incidentally, on offer this week in Waitrose at £2.40 (normally £3) for 80g.

There is also a pretty tin of 'napolitains', available in either Sea Salt or Rich Dark, containing 30 x 5.5g pieces. This is the ideal stocking filler and also helps fellow chocoholics with portion control.

Don't forget that chocolate is highly toxic to dogs – especially dark chocolate - so make sure you store it somewhere safely, where prying paws can't reach.

Offers and Competitions

Win a Selection Box and Tin of Napolitains from Chocolate and Love:

One lucky winner has a double treat, courtesy of Chocolate and Love. A selection box (4 x 80g bars) and a tin of napolitains is the prize.

To enter, just visit the Chocolate and Love website and check out the country from where the company sources its 80 per cent bars.

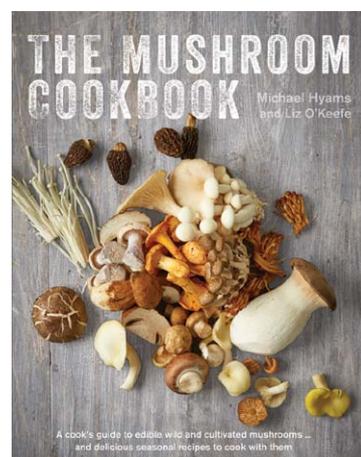
Send your answer to win@twickenhamtribune.com with "Chocolate" in the heading, and don't forget to put your name and postcode in the contact details.

Entry deems permission to publish the winner's details in the paper. The prize is as stated and no cash alternative is available. Closing date: Midnight Sunday 22 October.

Winner of The Mushroom Cookbook

IS

Bridget Jones
Hampton TW12



Monthly Photography Competition

Win an 18 hole round of golf for 4 at Strawberry Hill Golf Club
With a glass of wine or beer at the bar afterwards

Email your photo to win@TwickenhamTribune.com
(include your name and postcode) All 4 players must play the same round.

Photos of pets or wildlife, or any scenes taken within the local villages, ie Twickenham, St Margaret's, East Twickenham, Strawberry Hill, Teddington, Hampton Wick, Hampton, Hampton Hill and Whitton/Heathfield

This competition is run in conjunction with [Strawberry Hill Golf Club www.shgc.net](http://www.shgc.net)



Arts and Entertainment

by Erica White



Just time to make your way to HHT to catch the last performance of DIAL M FOR MURDER, by Frederick Knott, presented by OHADS on Saturday, 14 September AT 7.45. Tickets: £14 Tel: 07546 2007 192, or on door.

Final weeks of rehearsal are in progress for RSS' production of RICHARD III by William Shakespeare which will be presented at MWT, Embankment, Twickenham, from Saturday 28 October-Saturday, 4 November at 7.45 each eve. (NB: Sun. mat, is at 3.00pm, no perf on Weds) Tickets: Tel: 8744 0547: online: richmondshakespeare.org.uk.

PULL UP YOUR SOCKS: 3 Vintage Comedies by Gertrude Jennings will be performed by OPTIC THEATRE on Wednesday, 18- Saturday 21 October at 7.30 at SSs Philip & James Church, Whitton TW2 7DY. Tickets: £10, £5 under 16., Info: www.gertrudejennings.com.

Musical theatre comes in the form of THE LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, presented by HLOC at HHT on Wednesday, 18 - Saturday, 21 October at 7.45. Sat. mat. at 2.30. Tickets: £16. Tel: 07957 368644, online: www.ticketsource.co.uk/HLOC.

Rather more social-realistic is BROSTC's production of MADE IN DAGENHAM, also at HHT on Tuesday, 31 October - Saturday, 4 November, at 7.45, Tickets: £16 Tel: 0800 689 0751

There is COMEDY AT THE BREWERY to look forward to on Saturday, 14 October at 8.00pm at Twickenham Fine Ales, 18 Mereway Road, TW2 6RG. Tickets: £10 on door or £8 online: <http://twickenham-fine-ales.co.uk/comedy-brewery/>.

More comedy at LAC on Tuesday at 12 noon where babies are welcome at a grown-up comedy club. Soft flooring, buggy parking and baby changing available. Tickets: Tel: 8977 7558 (babies free); online: byobcomedy.com: for further info: info@lanmarkartscentre.org.

RFS continues its international film season on Tuesday, 17 October at 8.00pm with the Iranian film, THE SALESMAN, and on Tuesday 31 October, at 8.00pm with THE CLUB from Greece at its usual venue, Room G5 at SMU, Waldegrave Rd, TW1 4SX. Tickets: £6. Tel: 8893 3503, online: <https://www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk/>.

EEL PIE CLUB, TWICKFOLK,, and TWICKENHAM JAZZ CLUB continue their seasons of Jazz, Folk, and Rock'nRoll at THE CABBAGE PATCH at 67 London Road, TW1 3SZ on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

MNBB entertain with their eclectic mix at THE BLUCHER PUB, Twickenham Green, TW2 5AGa on Saturday, 28 October at 8.30.

CANTANTI CAMERATI show off their **CHORAL TAPESTRY** on Saturday, 21 October at 7.30 at ST JAMES'S CHURCH, Hampton Hill, TW12 1PD. "Rich musical threads from Tudor Anthems to American Folksong settings. Tickets: £12 or £15 on door, under 16 free. online: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/GMMIMI>, or from Hillsound Musical Instruments, 24 High Street, TW12 1DQ.

A live streamed performance from the ROH of **ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND** will be shown in cinemas around the country, and locally at THE HAMMOND THEATRE CINEMA Hanworth Road, TW12 3HD: Info: thehammondtheatre.co.uk. Off-street car parking plentiful.

At the YMCA WHITE HOUSE at 45 The Avenue, Hampton, TW12 3RN THE HAMPTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION presents an **ART EXHIBITION AND SALE** of over 150 paintings in watercolour, oil and acrylic, on Saturday, 21-Suknday, 22 October, 11.00-4.30pm. Tickets: £1, children free. Tel: 8979 1884 online: <http://www.ymcalsw.org/home/our-centres/ymca-white-house/>.

Finally, prepare for the November litfest running throughout the borough next month by picking up a copy of **RUT LITERATURE FESTIVAL**. To be found in public libraries, the Town Hall, Adult College, Parkshot and Orleans Gallery.

Abbreviations

BROSTC: Barnes & Richmond Operatic Society Theatre Co.

HHT: Hampton Hill Theatre

HLOC: Hounslow Light Operal Co.

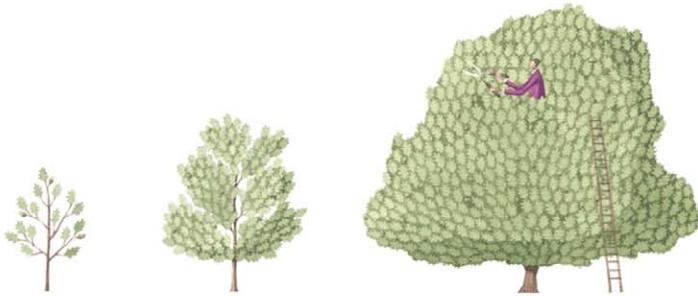
OHADS: Old Hamptonians AmDram Society

LAC: Landmark Arts Centre

MWT: Mary Wallace Theatre

ROH: Royal Opera House

MNBB: Midnight River Blues Band



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darryl parkin

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You Know What I Mean

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat



Mark Aspen

www.markaspen.wordpress.com

Expressing the art of the theatre critic

by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber

Bill Kenwright Ltd

at Richmond Theatre until 14th October, then on tour until 31st December

Review by Mark Aspen



Before going off to review Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat at Richmond Theatre I rummaged through my wardrobe and dug out the most multi-coloured jacket I had. Was I upstaged! (It was Harris Tweed.) There is so much colour in this production (maybe the clue is in the title) that I should have brought along the darkest of my sunglasses.

As a staple in the repertoire of producer and director, Bill Kenwright, for over 35 years, his experience in developing Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat really stands out in this show with many stars.

One of the stars is the design, and the combination of Sean Cavanagh's set, Nick Richings' lighting and Alex Stewart's costumes is kaleidoscopic. The lighting is vivid saturated gels, vibrant with colour, giving a constant changing interplay with the flamboyant costumes. At the opening, a hieroglyph bedecked gauze reveals a multi-level set that is full of grandiose drop-in pyramids, sphinxes and massive jackals' heads. But the design knows itself and is full of self-deprecating touches such as "cardboard cut-out" camels and goats and rather listless inflatable sheep that don't quite inflate. All this adds to an open sense of fun.



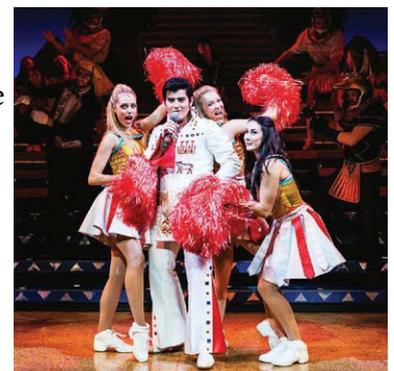
The ensemble approach of the designers off-stage is certainly matched by the ensemble approach on-stage. The bedrock of the production is the eleven brothers of Joseph, a compelling chorus, hearty and energetic in their acting, singing and dancing. With fraternal versatility, many of the brothers also double in other roles or lead various musical numbers.

The well-known story from Genesis of Joseph's coat of many colours marks an important point in Bible history. It is a story that fascinates children, partly because of the appeal of the glitzy garment, but also because it involves family and in particular the youngest of Jacob's sons, Joseph and Benjamin (beautifully acted by Joseph Peacock - what a look of terror when the "stolen" gold cup is found in his bag). Can you think of a better form of biblical teaching for children than a sung-through family musical?

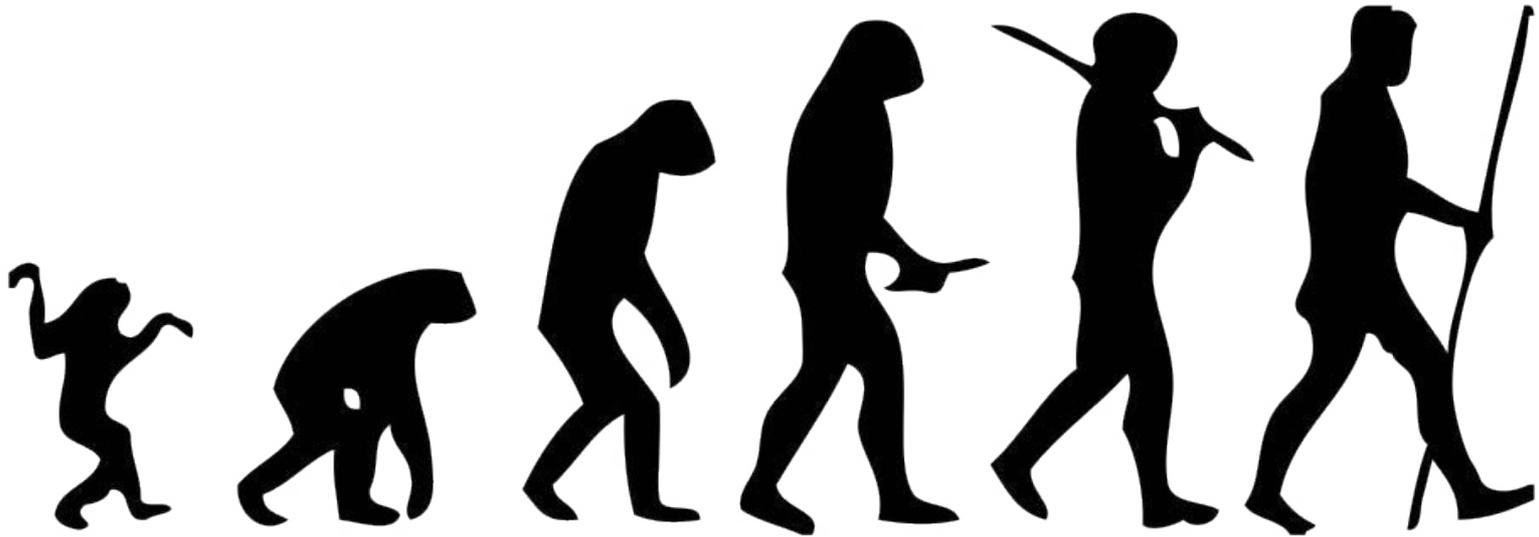
Guiding us through the story is the sung narration of Trina Hill. Lissom, light and lithe she steps through the story with bell-like clarity across an extensive vocal range, helped by a charming children's community chorus drawn from local stage schools.

See full review at www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2017/10/11/joseph

Photos by Mark



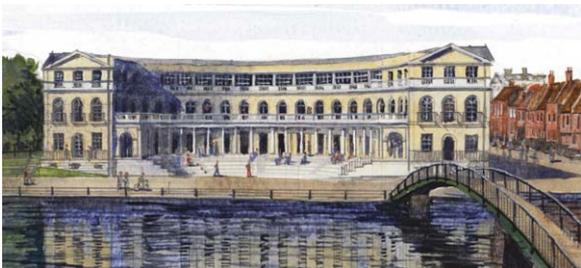
The rise and fall



We are all familiar with the 'March of Progress' by Rudolph Zallinger (shown above). It helps demonstrate how over time we have evolved and (hopefully) improved.

Normally we expect to see a progression as we learn and develop for the better. Somehow the proposals for Twickenham Riverside have taken a different direction, heading for the Nadir rather than the Zenith.

It seems as if the designs for the riverside had started with a vision of grandeur and extravagance and ended with as bland and forgettable a design as possible



First proposal



Second proposal



Third proposal

Final proposal



Note boathouses clearly shown in the last three proposals.

SAVE TWICKENHAM RIVERSIDE – THE SOUL OF TWICKENHAM

During the last week the Tribune has received emails expressing dismay that a lido is not in the Council's proposal for Twickenham Riverside. After all, in the last Council consultation the results from the only "free form" question box showed that 20% of the four hundred or so respondents wanted a lido (even though it was not in the Council plan) second only to the 66% against parking on the riverside.

Boathouses were also of great interest in the earlier public Workshops and it had been expected that boathouses would be in the Francis Terry plan, especially since the drawing of the development showed green boathouse doors just where expected. But No! these doors do not lead to boathouses where rowing boats and paddle boards might be stored. Instead, most are fake and do not open, with parking spaces the other side (for the new luxury flats overlooking the river). There is also one "seasonal storage unit" whose purpose Cllr Fleming is keeping close to her chest!

Many people in Twickenham are outraged, horrified and despondent about the situation which someone on Twickerati has called "a mess". Add to this the enormous amount of money which has been spent on trying to persuade us that we want one of Francis Terry's many tries at getting it right.

Should we go back to the drawing board or should we look at plans which are already in the public domain? One such plan, which included a lido and also had to follow the Council Brief, is available to see on the internet:

http://www.richmond.gov.uk/media/7145/twickenham_riverside_itt_atkins.pdf

A lido has 3,368 supporters on the Twickenham Lido Change.org petition with thousands of positive comments. Despite propaganda a lido and its restaurant and café would be open to all with concessions for the pool for residents - and it would not take too much imagination to provide additional water facilities for young children.

<http://twickenhamlido.com>

The use of lidos and outdoor swimming has always been popular on the Twickenham side of the river and our history can be seen at <http://lidosalive.com> which is currently recording people's memories. However, there is little evidence as yet of outdoor swimming on the Richmond side of the river so maybe that is why the Richmond councillors, who are the majority in our Council, do not understand why Twickenham wants its lido back. It would definitely act as a magnet to help regenerate Twickenham town centre and offer the opportunity of sport and leisure provided by the sports clubs operating from "real boathouses".

Residents' descriptions for the current plans the Council want to push through to planning include Awful, Ugly, Horrific, A Mess, Ghastly, Out of Sympathy with the Riverside, Stalingrad and Alcatraz.

I think many of us are now considering that once again we need to Save Twickenham Riverside from Richmond Council! Where are those green car stickers?

Consultation on the present plans continue at Clarendon Hall on Saturday 14 October 11 – 4, Monday 16 October 6 – 8.30 and Thursday 26 October 6 – 8.30.

The plans are also online – beware of fake boathouses!

http://www.richmond.gov.uk/myrichmond/all_in_one/my_richmond_villages/all_twickenham_villages/twickenham_rediscovered/twickenham_rediscovered_background

And you can complete an online consultation form which has one "free form" box where you can HAVE YOUR SAY: Question 10 states: Please use the space below to let us know if you have any further comments or suggestions.

When is a boathouse not a boathouse?

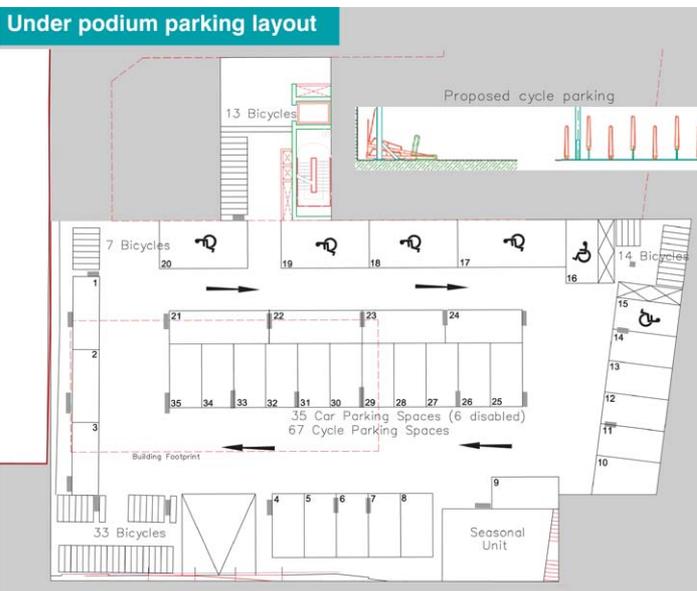
When it's shown on the council's latest plans for Twickenham Riverside!



A recurring feature of the 'consultation' process, including the workshops, over the last two years was residents' desire for an 'active waterfront'; particularly through the provision of boathouses. It appeared that the council had listened and boathouses seemed to be included in the council's proposals, especially the latest designs which clearly show a number of green doors leading to what purport to be boathouses.

However, this a clear deceit architecturally and against our understanding of the council's intentions. The 'doors' are only for decoration as there are no boathouses and they merely disguise the car parking behind them, reserved for the residents of the new luxury flats. I suppose the private parking goes some way to mitigate against living in the ghastly neo-80s blocks?

Parking layout shown at bottom left, 'boathouses' shown in images above and bottom right.



Work on Twickenham Station is well underway

The rusty bridge has gone, but there is still a long way to go!

Photo by Berkley Driscoll



TWICKENHAM STATION UPDATES

Details of the Waterloo & Vauxhall engineering works

September - November can be found at the following link:

www.southwesternrailway.com/plan-my-journey/planned-improvements/waterloo-and-vauxhall-engineering-works

Information on Twickenham Station upgrade can be found below

www.twickenhamforward.com/latest-news.html

TwickerTape - News in Brief

RG. I. PR. A. AJ. SS. I. ST. SF. I. PR.
200.81². 66.92³. 20.99. 161⁵. 76

A controversial application for a new dentist practice in St Margarets was given planning permission this week.

As a woman was savagely gored by a rutting stag this week, park goers are reminded to keep their distance from the stags, at least 50m.

There has been upset over plans to take away parking from Teddington high street, with many residents taking to Twitter to express their opposition.

The Teddington branch of NatWest closed on Thursday.

Richmond Council has stepped in to help find temporary accommodation for Turing House School offering the use of nearby school site, Clarendon School, in Hanworth Road, Hampton.

On Wednesday Waldegrave Road, Teddington was closed following a four car accident.

This week Twitter has featured many complaints from residents about the loud sound levels of Twickenham Station's PA system, dubbed "Shouty McShoutyFace"

Twickenham's Tesco Express in Heath Road is closed for refurbishment 8th October to 27th October, while Iceland in King Street is closed until 30th November.

A new Controlled Parking Zone will be implemented in West Twickenham following a consultation with residents earlier this year.

Children's Residential Home Teddington. The decision delegated to the Strategic Cabinet member for Children's Services and Schools and the Joint Deputy Leader / Strategic Cabinet member for Environment, Business & Community at the Cabinet meeting on 20th July has now been published on the Council's website and can be viewed here:

<http://cabnet.richmond.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=41339&Opt=0>

At Wednesday's planning committee permission was granted for four shops to be converted to a single large retail unit with 7 residential units on the High Street, Hampton Hill. This was despite much opposition; the application received 40 objections and 1 letter of support. Details at <https://cabnet.richmond.gov.uk/documents/s69748/16.2288.FUL%20179%20-%20181%20High%20Street%20Hampton%20Hill.pdf>

Literature Festival gets moving with screening of dance performance

The first public screening of 'Memories Flow through Me like a Boat Floats down the River' will take place at 3pm on Sunday 29th October at Orleans House Gallery.

The piece depicts the history of the Belgian refugees who lived and worked in East Twickenham during World War I, and is told through dance theatre.

The original performance in July, funded by the Arts Council, was incredibly popular and the screening will be followed by a discussion with historian Helen Baker and the creative team behind the project.

Cllr David Linnette, Cabinet member for Arts, Culture and the Voluntary Sector said:

"This is a wonderful opportunity for people who missed or loved the original performance to see it again, as well as giving an insight into the creative process behind the performance.

"The screening is part of this year's literature festival, another sign of this year's programme being the most diverse yet."



Tickets are free but booking is essential. For more information and to book visit www.richmondliterature.com or call 020-8831-6494

"The Belgian Village on the Thames", the unique community of Belgian refugees who lived in East Twickenham, Twickenham and Richmond during the First World War. Brought here by the work of one man, Charles Pelabon, a Belgian-trained French engineer who built a vast Belgian munitions factory here beside the River Thames.

October 1914. With the fall of the port of Antwerp, thousands of Belgian refugees fled by boat to England, among them Charles Pelabon, his managers and his key workers. Dynamic and resourceful, Pelabon was producing munitions for the Belgian Army within 2 weeks. Not here though, his first factory was a disused boat engine workshop near Teddington Lock.



© Royal Museum of the Army and Military History, Belgium



© Royal Museum of the Army and Military History, Belgium
A sorry glimpse of the factory on the river side. Belgian soldiers worked in the factory as well as civilians, but this soldier may be English.



© Royal Museum of the Army and Military History, Belgium



© Eddy Lambrecht
Male and female 'On War Service' badges as worn by Aileen and Julia Billan at the Pelabon Works.



The Belgian Village on the Thames East Twickenham & Richmond upon Thames' Unique History



© Royal Museum of the Army and Military History, Belgium
The front of the Pelabon Works in Cambridge Road. The factory had six large workshops covering the whole area in front of you, now Richmond Bridge Estate (7.5 acres). The workshop on the left of the photo (your left) had been the roller-skating rink, running like its twin from Cambridge Road to Clevedon Road. Only one building (the one which later became Richmond Ice Rink) stood on the river side of Clevedon Road.



© Royal Museum of the Army and Military History, Belgium

So many Belgians thronged the High Street at the foot of Richmond Bridge that it almost looked Belgian: rows of Belgian shops in Richmond Road. These shops are still here today (2017).



© Royal Museum of the Army and Military History, Belgium



© Royal Museum of the Army and Military History, Belgium
The Pelabon workforce, or rather, about half of them, this is just the day shift. The factory employed about 2000 workers, mostly Belgians. Charles Pelabon on the front right in coat and white hat.

Six thousand Belgians lived across most of Twickenham and Richmond, also in Teddington, the Hampton and Kew. East Twickenham together with Richmond Centre and Hill Rise remained their focal point. Workers and their families lived in working-class streets in St Margarets, Twickenham and Richmond.



Armbands worn at work by Josef Billau



© Royal Museum of the Army and Military History, Belgium
Notably philanthropic, as expected of men of prosperity, Charles Pelabon provided a pharmacy for his workers and schools for their children. The Richmond Belgian Primary School (above) was at 8 Warrington Road (above), still standing (2017) very near Richmond Bus Station. The boys-only secondary school was in Onslow Hall, Little Richmond Green, now offices for Barclays Bank. All the Belgian children from Twickenham went to the special Belgian Department opened within Orleans School, St Margarets, with M. Pelabon overseeing the Council element of the cost.



© Mrs Hestia Cleaveland
(Above) Pelabon lived well in "Parkhome", File Road, East Sheen, with views of Sheen Common and Richmond Park. His home is now two quite separate houses (2017), 28 and 30 File Road.



© Royal Museum of the Army and Military History, Belgium
Above Pelabon set up his Company Offices across the river in Richmond, Heron House, Heron Court; still here (2017) within Quaden Terry's Riverside Development.



© Lige, Museum of Fine Arts (The Boverie), James Emser, Portrait of Paul Gerardy, 1994.
The Pelabon Works were the heart of Belgian social life, with social and cultural clubs and sports teams. The philanthropic association took great pride in the 'Soldiers' Home' (right) which it ran for Belgian soldiers on leave. The house still exists (2017), Montague Road at the back of Richmond Hill.



© Guy Pelabon
Belgian refugees lived everywhere in the UK but some places had more than others. Richmond and Twickenham were a major node in a lively network of Belgians along a South West Thames London corridor from Chelsea and Kensington to Weybridge and Thames Ditton, and from Shepherds Bush and Faling to Windbarn. Remembering the 'Village on the Thames', we remember the wider community as well.



© Royal Museum of the Army and Military History, Belgium

Belgian men on the shop floor (left), and (right) Belgian women working together with chemicals turned yellow and were called 'sunny girls'. This was risky but there were no known deaths.



© Royal Museum of the Army and Military History, Belgium

Memorial inscription by Isabel Hester (April 11, 1914) on the Pelabon Works. Photo and French inscription by Dr Christophe Delbecq. Concept of the artistic results of these activities in Belgium and Britain (signifying communication) from St. Barbara. The monument and building were the Belgian Embassy by Aristide Brasseur, Ghent, Belgium. Translation by David Smith of Wilton, Gloucestershire.

Supporters of the Memorial to the Belgian Village on the Thames: administering the First World War Belgian Refugees of Richmond, Twickenham, and other neighbourhoods of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and the 1917 Thames Cavalry Regime Order to Thames Ditton and Teddington.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Edward Ludlow Woodall | Lady Hill |
| Helen and Gerald Babin | Henry Matthews |
| Yves Pierre de Perceigneux-Jacques | 1917 The Challenge |
| Christopher Barry | Chris and Marjorie Nelson |
| St Barbara | Catherine and Maurice Perry, Weybridge |
| Borough of Twickenham Local History Society | The Pelabon Club of Twickenham |
| Guy Clarke | Barbara Babin |
| Elizabeth Lantry | Hendrik B. Babin |
| Mark A. Clarke | Managing Agents, Richmond Bridge Estate |
| David Clarke | Richmond Bridge Bookshop (London East) |
| Dr Christophe Delbecq | Richmond and Heron House |
| Alan de North Hill | Shelby and Richard Hayes |
| St Hilda's | Historical and Historic Society |
| Sam Hume | Chamberlain Square |
| John Kirkpatrick | East Sheen |
| Margaret Lamberton | St. U. Thomas |
| St. Alban and St. Michael's | St. John and St. White |
| | Robert Woodcock |



Board produced by Twickenham Alive

RICHMOND FILM SOCIETY COMPETITION

Win a pair of tickets for any film of your choice in Richmond Film Society's 55th Season, which opens on 19 September with Pedro Almodóvar's 'Julieta' and runs until 24 April 2018.

Competition Question

'Who has directed the most Best Foreign Language Film Academy Award-winning films? Is it (a) Ingmar Bergman or (b) Federico Fellini?'

Please email win@twickenhamtribune.com with your answer, name and postcode and with Richmond Film Society in the subject line.



The first half of the fifteen film season comprises the following six films:

17th October – The Salesman (Iran)

A traumatic event shatters the wellbeing of a middle-class couple and reveals tensions and fissures within their marriage. An absorbing psychological drama from Iranian auteur, Asghar Farhadi, and winner of the 2016 Foreign Language Oscar.



31st October – Chevalier (Greece)

On a fishing trip, six men in a boat decide to play a game to discover which one of them is the "best man", with funny, absurd and troubling consequences. An acute study of what happens when masculinity is allowed to run rampant in a confined space. Winner of the Best Film Award at the 2015 London Film Festival.



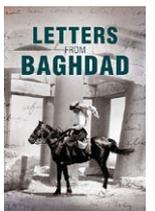
14th November – Tangerines (Estonia)

In 1992, Abkhazians are fighting a bloody conflict to break free from Georgia. In a deserted Estonian village, Ivo and Margus have stayed behind to harvest the tangerine crop. Two wounded men from opposite sides are left at Ivo's door and he is forced to take them in. An Oscar nominated and remarkable piece of anti-war cinema.



28th November – Letters from Baghdad (UK)

Voiced by Tilda Swinton, this documentary explores the extraordinary life of English writer, archaeologist, diplomat and spy Gertrude Bell. Openly critical of colonialism, Bell offered a counterpoint to typical British all-male power; and her views on the future of the Middle East were prescient.



12th December – The Other Side of Hope (Finland)

A poker-playing restaurateur meets a Syrian refugee just arrived in Finland. Kaurismäki creates a drama/comedy around Europe's immigration issues in his characteristically lugubrious and deadpan style.



See www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk for details of the full 2017/18 Programme and membership, which is £60 (i.e. £4 per film). Tickets are available on the night for non-members at £6.

ACROSS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1) Kind of arrest or step | 39) Arduous journey |
| 6) Cricket sound | 40) Phonograph needles, e.g. |
| 11) Emulating a fox | 42) Some car parts |
| 14) Scottish families | 44) Popular pond fish |
| 15) Vibes from people | 45) Hal of "Barney Miller" |
| 16) Athletic supporter? | 47) Withdraw, as from a union |
| 17) Entry on a tax form | 49) Man "for hire" in a '80s TV show |
| 19) Egg cells | 51) On top of the world |
| 20) Legendary actress Bette | 52) Crave |
| 21) Tile setter's time-saver | 53) Slangy potato |
| 23) Chromosome container | 55) Do a summer's work? |
| 26) Listen, old-style | 56) Balance provider, for short |
| 27) Worshiper, essentially | 61) "Adolescent" lead-in |
| 28) Globetrotter's home? | 62) Entanglement |
| 29) PC linkup acronym | 63) Items on a busy one's list |
| 30) Portly | 64) "Always" poetically |
| 32) Hitches | 65) Yukon carriers |
| 35) Large copiers? | 66) SUV part? |
| 37) Throat ailment, for short | |

DOWN

- 1) TV monitor?
- 2) In the fashion of
- 3) Something you stand to lose?
- 4) Baseball Hall-of-Famer Duke
- 5) Subjects of wills
- 6) Colombian city
- 7) "Kisses" partner
- 8) Bank offering
- 9) Aggressive poker player
- 10) Foreign correspondents?
- 11) It has its ups and downs
- 12) Riverside embankment
- 13) Be wistful
- 18) Heads off
- 22) "Looks ___ everything"
- 23) Some grand opening events
- 24) Assimilate
- 25) Pawnbroker, e.g.
- 26) Abominates
- 28) Second largest of the Great Lakes
- 31) Word with "worldly" or "woman"
- 33) Crystal-lined rock
- 34) Did half a biathlon
- 36) Creep furtively
- 38) Former Spanish currency
- 41) Web victims?
- 43) Culls
- 46) Lose track?
- 48) Drive-in employee of old
- 49) Good thing to get into
- 50) Man with a mission
- 53) Sound of a fall
- 54) Intensifies (with "up")
- 57) Perceive
- 58) Ringing endorsement?
- 59) "Neither rain ___ sleet ..."
- 60) Plus-or-minus fig.

INCOMING

By Timothy E. Parker

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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52						53	54						
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61				62					63				
64				65					66				

Solution on Page 32

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Places People Play



Feel good about fitness and pay nothing until the end of the year!

Thinking about joining a gym? Gearing up to lose a few pounds before the Christmas festivities start? Why not sign-up to Feel Good Fitness now and pay nothing until the end of December?

With everyone's wallets being a bit squeezed, Richmond Council has launched a special offer to enable those who live, visit, work and learn in the borough, to join their local sport and fitness centre and delay payment until the end of December.

The membership programme includes:

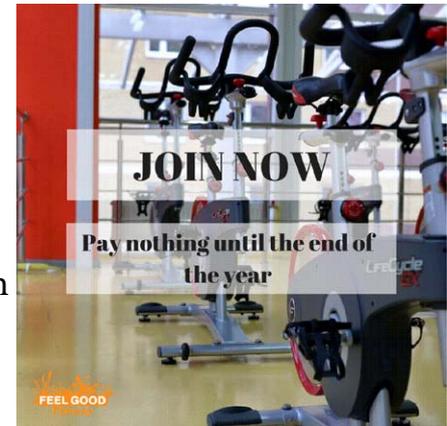
- Six sports centres
- 4 pools, 5 gyms and over 200 fitness classes
- Fully staffed state of the art gyms with qualified instruction
- Specially tailored services for those new to exercise
- Complimentary personalised programmes every 14 visits
- Regular instructor led abdominal training services
- Specifically tailored services

This fantastic offer is available from 16th October and through until 14th November. Joining fees apply. Cllr David Linnette, Richmond Council Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and the Voluntary Sector, said:

“This time of year everyone is focused on saving for Christmas and for many the thought of joining a gym is put on hold until the New Year. This fantastic offer will enable you to ‘get active’ now!”

For more information visit www.richmond.gov.uk/fgf_offers

This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.



Could Twickenham have the best pub chef in the country?

The deadline for nominations (which has to be made by an MP) for the best pub chef in the country is the 27th October, so anyone wanting to nominate any chefs in Twickenham should drop an email to Vince Cable by 21st October. Vince.cable@parliament.uk

Vince Cable, Twickenham's local MP, is keen to hear from pub staff and local residents as to who they think is the best pub chef locally so as to nominate him or her for a national award.

The British Beer and Pub Association and the All-Party Parliamentary Beer Group have now launched the 2018 Parliamentary Pub Chef and Young Pub Chef of the Year award. The prestigious awards recognises a pub chef or chefs, who are renowned for their great food. The winners receive a cash prize of £500.

Explaining why he is keen to hear of ideas who he should nominate Vince Cable said:

“Twickenham has a great number of excellent pubs, many of them serving great food as well.

“I might be biased, but I think there is a very good chance that the best pub chef in the country is working locally.

“If pub staff or clientele think a local chef should be nominated for this national award please get in touch with me and I will nominate them for this national award.”

Pedestrianise
the riverside?

Ooh, matron,
you're having
a laugh!!!

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"IT'S REALLY NOT FUNNY."

A RESIDENT

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Construction of two local schools reaches key milestone

Construction of the newest secondary school in the borough and new facilities for a local SEN school, reached a significant milestone on Wednesday 11th October when a topping out ceremony took place. The Richmond upon Thames School (RTS) opened this September. It is governed by The Richmond upon Thames School Trust, made up of partner organisations including Harlequins, Haymarket Media Group, Richmond upon Thames College, Achieving for Children and Richmond Council.

The school is part of the Richmond Education and Enterprise Campus. And, whilst the building work is underway, they are based in interim accommodation inside Richmond upon Thames College.

Adjoining RTS will be Clarendon School's Secondary Centre – a day special school for pupils with complex learning difficulties. The school is currently located in Hampton. From September 2018, a brand new, purpose built building on the Education and Enterprise Campus will provide facilities and teaching spaces specifically designed for the particular needs of the school's cohort, including those with autism.

Just six months after the first sod of turf was cut to signal the start of the construction, a special ceremony has been held on the site.

Known as the 'topping-out' ceremony, it is a traditional construction milestone to mark the highest part of the structure being completed.

Guests from both schools invited to witness the occasion were asked to sign a piece of steel that will be installed into the roof of RTS.

In addition, the current year seven pupils from RTS were also invited onto the site and given a tour of their future school facilities.

The ceremony was organised by leading UK construction company Willmott Dixon, who presented each school headteacher with a commemorative trowel to remember the occasion.

Kelly Dooley, Headteacher of The Richmond upon Thames School, said:

"Our founding staff and students have been enthusiastically watching the building going up.

"Next summer we move to our new school and the future Year 7 intake will start secondary school in the school's new building. Our permanent building will enable us to further contribute to the excellent secondary school offer in the borough. Our co-location with a range of education and enterprise partners will continue to offer unique opportunities to students, staff and the local community."

John Kipps, Headteacher of the Clarendon School, said:

"Today's ceremony marks an important step in ensuring that Clarendon's pupils have the school buildings they deserve. Staff, pupils and governors can't wait to move in, and are excited to be working with our friends and colleagues at RTS and across the partnership to provide both a learning environment that supports our curriculum and greater opportunities for our pupils to reach their potential."

Roger Forsdyke, Managing Director from Willmott Dixon, said:

"We are proud to be part of such a fantastic project and working as one team, we are excited to deliver a building that will leave a lasting legacy for students, staff and people in the community to enjoy for many years to come."



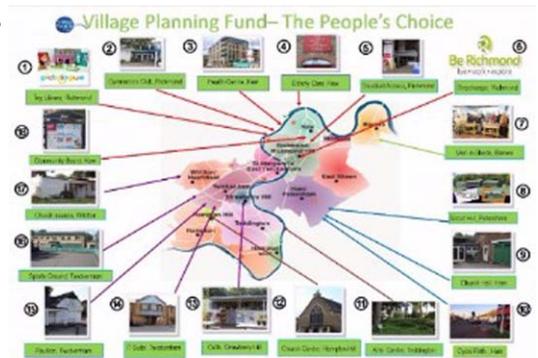
Village Planning Fund - The People's Choice

Eighteen community projects from across the borough are out for public feedback and the Council is asking for public support as to which should receive funding. You can help by reminding your members, supporters and networks to have their say.

Earlier this year the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames invited local communities to submit their ideas for projects which could receive part of the £1m Village Planning Fund. The Council received a total of 35 applications and 18 have gone through to this next stage.

The borough's residents, students (18+) and employees have until Friday 27 October 2017 to go online, review each proposal and tell us which projects they support:

http://www.richmond.gov.uk/myrichmond/village_plans/village_planning_fund



Paper copies are available at (and can be returned to) any library.

Community Links Officers are also available to assist with the completion of questionnaires, so contact the team on 07943 555676 to arrange this

Vince Cable continues to push Richmond Council to end its 'jobsworth' approach of seeking to ration the amount of exercise on Twickenham Green

Twickenham MP Vince Cable has responded again to Richmond Council urging them to reconsider their current approach of seeking to cap the number of people who can use Twickenham Green for exercise.

Having approached Richmond Council Vince Cable said Richmond Council are still stubbornly insisting on a cap of 20 people being able to take part in outdoor exercise run by the One Element Bootcamp.

Commenting on the continued stance of Richmond Council Vince Cable said:

"I find it quite unbelievable that the council is trying to ration the amount of exercise on Twickenham Green by local residents who cause no damage whatever to the surface and merely want to use part of the Green for a short period of outdoor exercise.

"The response I have so far received from the council demonstrates a 'jobsworth' approach and is simply pathetic."

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St Mary's University Update

Drama St Mary's Welcomes Five Professional Directors

for Annual T Junction Festival



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

The St Mary's University, Twickenham campus will once again become a hub for drama talent this October, as the fifth Annual T Junction Festival takes place in the Drama St Mary's Theatre, each production will also this year benefit from the guidance of a professional director.

Over just ten days from 30th October to the 8th November 2017, Drama St Mary's will feature five productions, showcasing the talent of St Mary's final year drama students.

This year those supporting the festival include Jesse Jones, current member of the Old Vic 12 where he is developing two new shows. Jesse has recently finished as Resident Director at Royal and Derngate, Northampton, where he won the Regional Theatre Young Directors Scheme award.

Other directors lined up for the festival include: Ellen Havard, who has extensive experience in developing outreach and participation programmes and worked for National Theatre Learning, and whose Staff Director credits include Young, Jonathan Kent, National Theatre, in July 2016; and Madelaine Moore, an arts practitioner and freelance theatre director, specialising in developing new writing, and founder and Artistic Director of The Thelmas, a new writing company committed to discovering and developing female writers.

The two directors making up the full complement of five are: Rebecca Hill, former Director in Residence at the Almeida Theatre, Award-winning playwright whose work has been seen at Edinburgh Fringe Festival; and Glynne Steele, actor, workshop leader, and emerging director. A current St Mary's Visiting Lecturer, Glynne also most recently directed 'Empty Beds' a double award-winning new play by Julia Cranney.

Patsy Gilbert, St Mary's Academic Director for Drama commented, "This is another fantastic line up for our T Junction Festival which grows in strength year upon year.

"We are always looking for ways to expose our students to individuals who are creating exciting and innovative work in the professional world – I know our students benefit from working with these directors greatly. We welcome Jesse, Ellen, Maddy, Rebecca and Glynne to Drama St Mary's and can't wait to see final productions."

Plays running over the course of the festival are:

- Never had a dream come true, directed by Jesse Jones;
- Lysistrata; the sex strike, written by Germaine Greer, directed by Ellen Harvard;
- Widows, written by Ariel Dorfman, directed by Madelaine Moore, with movement direction from Charlotte Maltby;
- Basset, written by James Graham and directed by Rebecca Hill;
- Revolt. She said. Revolt Again, written by Alice Birch, directed by Glynne Steele

For more information regarding ticket sales, please visit: dramastmarysreservations.weebly.com.

Patsy Gilbert added: "Last year, our final year students produced exciting, vibrant performance across a wide range of performance material and we're sure this year will be no different.

"For my team and I, it will be a great opportunity to see the 30 hours a week we dedicate to each of our students here, across 30 weeks of the year, pay off."

St Mary's offers a variety of undergraduate programmes, including BA Acting and BA Technical Theatre, in addition to its flagship MA Theatre Directing programme, run in collaboration with Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond, unique to any institution in the UK.

The University underpins its academic courses with a particular focus on technical skill, all driven by a team of experts across all aspects of theatre.

Twickenham's Twin Town Triumph

40th Birthday of Town Twinning with Fontainebleau, France

Twickenham set the scene for weekend celebrations of the 40th Anniversary of Richmond upon Thames' Town Twinning with Fontainebleau in France.

Visitors from Fontainebleau and jointly-twinning town Konstanz, Germany, were dazzled by the splendour of Strawberry Hill House twice over. They first joined a Richmond in Europe tour of the house and gardens led by REA Chairman Alan Mockford. The magnificent Waldegrave drawing room then housed the evening dinner hosted by The Mayor, Councillor Lisa Blakemore, on behalf of Richmond upon Thames. Richmond Council were providing the formal programme for the weekend's events with the support of REA.

Elegant harmonies from the accomplished young people of The Saul String Quartet matched the grand surroundings perfectly. Then in a brief pause, Richmond's Mayor warmly welcomed her own twinning partner, Frédéric Valletoux The Mayor of Fontainebleau, and Konstanz's chief executive responsible for international relations, Claus Dieter Hirt. To mark the twinning, the Mayors exchanged gifts of books.

Richmond and Fontainebleau's friendship was cemented further between courses. A new Pledge of Understanding and Friendship was signed by the leaders of the two twinning support associations: Alan Mockford for Richmond in Europe and Evelyne Wenzel, Président, for ARCIF Fontainebleau. Commemorative plaques were presented by Richmond Music Trust director Chris Cull to the heads of the four music schools from which the European Youth Orchestra are drawn.



An international & multi-lingual congregation filled St Mary's Church Twickenham for a service of thanksgiving for the long-lasting friendship between Richmond and Fontainebleau led by the Rev Jeff Hopkin Williams. The sermon highlighted the benefits of working together in harmony.

A short walk down The Riverside in warm October sunshine to the almost forgotten Town Twinning Garden in Orleans House.....

A fanfare and the two National Anthems from St Margaret's spirited Elastic Band....

And with the help of Monsieur Valletoux, Richmond's Mayor unveiled a new plaque to Richmond upon Thames' town twinings, specially engraved to mark the 40th Anniversary.

The Elastic Band swung on with a mix of English themed pieces and jazz classics while guests and passers-by admired the plaque and the accompanying exhibition which filled The Stables Education Centre.

Richmond in Europe Association had collected memorabilia, illustrations and photos from its members and from its colleagues in Fontainebleau, all expertly arranged by Secretary Carol Wain. The Mayor displayed former commemorative gifts to the Council; further material was shown by Arts Richmond and Richmond Local Studies, drawn from their own resources.

Richmond Council treated the official delegations to a tour of Hampton Court Palace on Sunday afternoon. The weekend's events were then brought to a stupendous finale in the Live Room at Twickenham Stadium where the European Youth Orchestra performed before a packed international audience. The sixty young musicians were brought together from Richmond, Fontainebleau, Konstanz and Fontainebleau's other twin, Lodi in Italy. Conductors Fabrice Fortin (France), Sorin Dimutru (Germany), Matteo Cremonesi (Italy) and Christopher Cull (Richmond) took turns with the baton to conduct pieces from each of their respective European countries which might have been written to bring out the stunning gifts of their students. Their audience left walking on clouds, eager for the next big town twinning events: the European Youth Council in Konstanz this November, and the quinquennial Reaffirmation of the Town Twinning of Richmond, Fontainebleau and Konstanz to be held in Richmond in 2020. More information on www.richmondineurope.com

Teddington lab welcomes the Clean Growth Strategy to tackle decarbonisation & grow the UK economy

The UK Government unveiled its Clean Growth Strategy on Thursday, which sets out how the UK will stimulate economic growth while reducing carbon emissions over the 2020s, meet its 2032 carbon budget of a 57% reduction on 1990 levels, and stay on track for its 2050 target to reduce emissions by at least 80% on 1990 levels.

As the UK's National Measurement Institute, NPL in Teddington is supporting the transition to a smart, clean and resilient UK energy system. It is working with industry to accelerate the development and uptake of innovative clean technologies, and is providing confidence in measurements of climate change, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. With more than a century of experience in developing cutting-edge measurement science, engineering and technology, NPL will play a vital role in achieving many of the actions highlighted in the Clean Growth Strategy, including:



Photo by Jason Blackeye

- Supporting the transition to a low carbon economy. The Clean Growth Strategy brings together £2.5 billion for innovation to transition the UK to a low carbon society. Measurement is at the heart of delivering clean growth and plays a significant role in providing testing and verification of new low carbon technologies to support their route to market. In the renewable sector, corrosion research is helping to extend lifetime of offshore wind turbines, testing and modelling tools are helping to improve solar PV efficiency, and smart grid research is enabling improved stability of the electricity grid by monitoring power quality. In addition to furthering these areas, NPL's engineering and technology expertise is also supporting and accelerating the commercialisation of new hydrogen technologies such as fuel cells, electrolysers and hydrogen purity, and provides the only internationally-accredited capability to measure all impurities in hydrogen fuel to EU standards.

- Improving energy storage and transport. The UK's electricity grid is in need of modernising to support increased renewable generation and shifting demand with the electrification of transport. The Clean Growth Strategy commits the government to spending £1 billion to support the uptake of ultra-low emission vehicles and £246 million for electric vehicle battery investment through the Faraday Challenge. In order to ensure the UK is a leader in battery technology, we need to better understand their failure mechanisms, improve the modelling of battery performance and develop quicker and more effective ways to test new

battery technology. NPL is working in all these areas to improve the safety and performance of batteries, helping to promote further uptake for grid storage and the development of electric vehicles.

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The Clean Growth Strategy recognises the need to accelerate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions to meet the UK carbon budgets. Achieving this requires accurate measurement and robust inventories to track progress and support effective policy. This will include developing and using a range of monitoring technologies, from high accuracy mapping of emissions, to low-cost sensors suitable for continuous monitoring. The Clean Growth Strategy also sets out £20 million of funding for a carbon capture and utilisation demonstration programme. With our expertise in emissions measurements, knowledge of corrosion mechanisms and gas purity analysis, NPL can support the development of next generation CCUS technologies.

- Reducing uncertainty in climate data. The Clean Growth Strategy reiterates the UK's position as a global leader in climate science. From improving our understanding of climate change, to adding value to climate services, it is essential that the vast quantities of environmental data collected are reliable and trusted. NPL works with the international community to improve the accuracy of Earth observation satellite data and validate the data that underpins climate services, contributing to the UK's continued leadership in this area.

- Developing innovative solutions for nuclear decommissioning. The Clean Growth Strategy pledges £460 million in the nuclear power sector, and new technologies and processes are needed in order to help industry reduce the cost of nuclear decommissioning. NPL is developing image-based technology to enable robots to conduct hazardous activities to reduce risk to workers; assessing the use of graphene for water decontamination and radiation detectors; and providing the reference materials and support needed to ensure that measurements of the radioactivity content of waste materials are accurate, consistent and independent, which will help achieve this goal.

Dr Peter Thompson, CEO of NPL, said: “NPL welcomes the Clean Growth Strategy to stimulate economic growth in the UK while tackling the decarbonisation challenge. With £2.5 billion in investment for innovation, the Government recognises the importance of excellent science and engineering to deliver extraordinary impact for the UK. We are working across the energy and environment sector to support the growth of clean industry, promote the uptake of innovation in the UK economy and enable new technologies to reduce the cost of energy and its impact on the environment. After a century as the silent partner to industry, NPL is ready to be the underpinning force that will enable the targets outlined in the Clean Growth Strategy to be successfully achieved.”



A Classic of Its Time

Dial M for Murder

by Frederick Knott

OHADS at Hampton Hill Theatre until 14th October

Review by Eleanor Marsh



Mark Aspen

www.markaspen.wordpress.com

Expressing the art of the theatre critic

Having recently seen the professional tour of Frederick Knott's *Wait until Dark*, with which I was distinctly underwhelmed, it was with some trepidation that I anticipated OHADS' *Dial M for Murder* by the same author. This fear was compounded by a Sunday afternoon viewing of the Hitchcock movie of *Dial M for Murder*, which even Hitchcock himself did not rate as one of his best. I needn't have worried. Where the professionals tried to be far too clever and tricky, hamming up the tension until the play bordered on farce, and quite frankly confusing the audience, OHADS, under the direction of Asha Gill, opted for a more traditional approach. This style was pitch perfect for what is a classic of its time.



From the moment one steps into the theatre disbelief is - as it should be - suspended; Junis Olmscheid's magnificent set takes the breath away, both in terms of scale and attention to period detail, from the tennis rackets on the wall and display of sporting trophies to the drinks decanters. Costume and lighting design and some very atmospheric piano music all add to the period feel and combine to build up the tension of this classic thriller in all the right places. There were, however some pretty long scene changes where nothing much was changed and perhaps an extra member of stage crew would have speeded up the action.

There is certainly capacity for boredom to creep in to this play for a modern day audience whose attention span may not be quite the same as that of its mid-20th Century counterpart, especially in the first act, which is predominantly a scene-setting duologue. Terry Bedell as Tony Wendice and Neelaksh Sadhoo as the unfortunate Captain Lesgate succeeded in keeping the audience engaged and are to be commended for their storytelling skills. This kind of exposition is rare in modern theatre but it does force the audience into concentrating and also covers up any plot holes that we might otherwise ponder.



As Sheila Wendice, Dionne King was alternately glacially sophisticated and desperately distraught, never going over the top in her portrayal of a basically decent woman caught in a love triangle. The love triangle itself however was never totally believable, with little chemistry between Sheila and Max Halliday the lover fresh from the US. In fact Matt Ludbrook's Max seemed to have a much better relationship with husband than wife and had I not known the outcome in advance I could have imagined quite a different end to the play! Every thriller needs its detective and in this case Maida Vale Police Station's Inspector Hubbard was brought to us with aplomb by Daniel Wain. Wain channelled a tidier version of Peter Falk and it did cross my mind that perhaps this could be where the Columbo character originated, thus possibly proving the theory that there are no new ideas....

See full review at www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2017/10/11/dial-m

Photography by Asha Gill

Loving or Losing - The Real Thing

by Tom Stoppard

Co-Production by RTK, Theatre Royal Bath and Cambridge Arts Theatre

at The Rose Theatre, Kingston until 14th October, then on tour until 11th December.

Review by Mark Aspen



Mark Aspen

www.markaspen.wordpress.com

Expressing the art of the theatre critic

Is it ...? Everyone who has been in love, or thought they might be in love, asks themselves, "is it the Real Thing?". But in Tom Stoppard's densely interwoven play, *The Real Thing*, the question is extended to ask, might it be ..., or even, could it be ...? With typical intellectual gymnastics, Stoppard writes about belonging and betrayal, about jealousy and forgiveness; but with atypical humanity he writes about the agonies caused by infidelity. However, he extends the question further to ask about the Real Thing in writing, in music, in politics, as a metaphor for the lives of the characters of the play. It is a theatrical riddle, constantly keeping us guessing.



The Real Thing has been viewed as a coded autobiography, albeit a somewhat uncomplimentary exposé. It concerns Henry, a skilled playwright, who is so enthralled by his lover Annie that he finds that he cannot write meaningfully about love. Annie is an actress for whom he has left his wife Charlotte. Annie divorces her husband Max and marries Henry.



However, at the play's opening Stoppard teases us with a scene in which Max and Charlotte appear to be married and Max accuses her of adultery. We then discover that this is a play within a play. It is Henry's play *House of Cards*. There are two other plays within the play that Stoppard uses to create the hall of mirrors in which we remain unsure what is fiction and what is the Real Thing. Is Annie rehearsing a production of 'Tis Pity She's A Whore up in Glasgow, or is she having an affair with Billy, a fellow actor, on the Glasgow train? Is Annie having an unwelcome discussion with a fan on a train, or is she acting in a play about Brodie, a resentful anarchist and convicted arsonist, whom Annie is championing as an ill-judged political cause? Adding to the smoke and mirrors, Henry has been coerced by Annie into ghost writing Brodie's play.

These artful games could be Ayckbourn-esque parlour pastimes, but in Stoppard's hands there is a subtle development of the drama into an erudite examination of emotions, but with a deep understanding of the impact of loss and of the value of lasting love.



Designer Jonathan Fensom's set reflects Henry's personality. His home is depicted as without any lived-in feel, although it speaks loudly of the stylistic aspirations of the 1970s (the play premiered in 1982) all G-plan, Ercol and Trimphone. However, the costumes seem more Wilson era than the power-dressing early Thatcher years.

Even without the power-dressing, the power of the production comes from Flora Spencer-Longhurst, whose freewheeling flirting Annie, one moment kittenish sensuality, the next misplaced political zeal. Spencer-Longhurst has vivacity and a vigour that lifts the pace, although sometimes at the expense of over-stating the role.

The opposite can be said of Laurence Fox, in the lead role as Henry, who seems to be very much under-stating the role. Maybe it is just his affecting a plummy voice for Henry, but at first I found Fox's dictation unclear. Henry is a sardonic, laid-back, cynic, which suggests a languid delivery, but then again the quick-fire intellectual aerobatics and scintillating wit of Henry's penetrating dialogue implies a delivery with more zing. Maybe this is the acting equivalent of too posh to push

Read full review at www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2017/10/05/real-thing

Photos by Edmond Terakopian

Crime Prevention Event

Wednesday 18th October 10am — 12 noon
Whitton Social Centre



For over 50s

Come and hear crime prevention tips with the Safer Neighbourhood Team to help increase your safety

**DOORSTEP CRIME / KEEPING YOUR PURSE SAFE SHOPPING
CASH MACHINE CRIME / TELEPHONE SCAMS / BANKING**

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL

Refreshments available

**Contact Sue Hollins on 020 8744 1965 or email
communityservices@ageukrichmond.org.uk**



Tragic Triangle in a Silken Spectacle

Aida



Mark Aspen

www.markaspen.wordpress.com

Expressing the art of the theatre critic

by Giuseppe Verdi, libretto by Antonio Ghislanzoni

English National Opera at The London Coliseum until 2nd December

Review by Mark Aspen

Take the eternal triangle, set it during a war, add in passion and sacrifice for love, and you have the perfect recipe for the grand romance. But when the setting is ancient Egypt, you can cook up a spectacle. Such is Aida, the operatic epitome of romantic spectacle. The appetite for spectacle has brought live horses and even elephants to early productions and has attracted filmmakers, notably Fracassi's 1953 version with a lip-synched Sophia Loren.



English National Opera's past-master in spectacle is Phelim McDermott, directing epic productions such as Phillip Glass's operas Satyagraha and Akhnaten, the latter, also based in ancient Egypt, earning him an Olivier Award for Best New Opera Production. So there was much expectation of innovative spectacle from ENO's new production of Aida with McDermott again at the wheel.

However, McDermott's wanted spectacle is much subdued: the visual fireworks being more from the colour fountain box than the rockets and bangers box of Satyagraha. The design, by ENO veteran Tom Pye, is based on an Egyptian hieroglyph, which we first see as light escaping from the swaged front curtain as it is slowly lifted; and on an ubiquitous obelisk. Apart from these images, most of the design references are difficult to unravel, in particular Kevin Pollard's flamboyant cleverly-crafted costumes: eclectic, anachronistic and with much emphasis of the outpourings of a turbo-charged millinery department. In an early appearance of Princess Amneris, she wears a dress that resembles a giant merengue, and the Egyptian temple guards look like Star Wars' Stormtroopers.



The baffling extravagance of the design is redeemed by the interplay of large-scale silks, the work of the appropriately named Basil Twist, a "silk effects choreographer", which give an ethereal feel and soften the angular architecture of the set. Aerial silk is ubiquitous: in billowing swells, it comments on Radamès' declaration of love of Aida which opens the opera; it forms zephyrs of incense smoke when Amneris is led to prayer; and, at its most fantastical, forms the streaming crimson gown of the High Priestess. This is a fiery placenta bringing forth a brood of priest-ette attendants, fluidly multi-tasking as they tumble, march

and dance with banners, poi, and silk streamers. These, performed by the dozen strong female acrobats of contemporary circus-skills company Mimbire within the opera's ballet sequences, were designed by movement choreographer Lina Johansson.

The score of Aida is recognised as one of Verdi's best, and conductor Keri-Lynn Wilson tackles it with emotional verve, bringing out all the nuances and all the story-telling potential from the music. The prelude opens very quietly and the opera concludes quietly, but in between there are wonderful full-on moments, the concertato moment being after the famous Grand March when voices and music combine to celebrate the victory of the Egyptians over the Ethiopians. The fanfare is with on-stage trumpets, an exciting opening

... .. Read more at www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2017/10/04/aida

Photographs by Tristram Kenton

A Parody of Faith and History

The Life to Come

by Frederick Knott

by Louis Mander, libretto by Stephen Fry based on a short story by E.M. Forster.

World Premiere at The Harlequin Theatre, Redhill, then on tour until 29th October

Review by Thomas Forsythe



Mark Aspen

www.markaspen.wordpress.com

Expressing the art of the theatre critic

Opera, whilst presenting a heightened exposure of emotions, often has a clear moral message. In its earliest forms it grew out of the long tradition of sacred church music, music that looks towards the lux aeterna. Louis Mander's *The Life to Come*, however, offers neither message nor light, eternal or otherwise. Quite the opposite, instead it merely comprises a relentless polemic against established religion, and the Church of England in particular, and presents a barren, negative view that is devoid of any light.



The premiere of the opera, which took place this week in the municipal space of The Harlequin Theatre at Redhill, was produced by Surrey Opera, a well-regarded semi-professional company. Musically the production is admirable, but one wonders why the company has taken such a risk on a piece that is clearly designed to inflame controversy.

The story tells of the attempts of a group of Anglican missionaries to convert an African tribe, where "Catholics and Methodists have failed". Along comes a young missionary, Paul Pinmay, confident that God has told him to "take love to the darkest jungle". Pinmay goes forth, to meet the recalcitrant chief Vithobai. However, Pinmay and Vithobai have crossed interpretations of the message of the scriptures, resulting in Pinmay being sexually compromised. Although Vithobai is converted, Pinmay is consumed with guilt.

Swedish tenor, Martin Lindau gives a very strong performance as the eager and zealous Paul Pinmay. Lindau has a powerful and clearly defined voice and contrasts Pinmay's torment of shame against his fiery-eyed fervour of conviction. Themba Mvula is convincing as the trusting Vithobai. Here the contrast is between Vithobai's kingliness and his naivety, and Mvula's remarkable vocal range is well demonstrated in making this distinction. Together they give an effective portrayal of a clash of cultures and personalities.

Mander's score is expertly handled by conductor-director Jonathan Butcher, Surrey Opera's artistic director, with a well-paced and expressive approach. His thirty-piece orchestra includes, unusually, the celeste and the harmonium, providing a sense of contrasting spiritual detachment and of mission-hall reminiscences respectively. The lyrical overture features clarinet and oboe, and throughout the piece the mood is underlined by cameos from variously flute, harp, piccolo and the exotic end of the percussion section.

However, the musical artistry is blighted by the text. Librettist, Stephen Fry, has taken a short story by E.M. Forster and stripped it of any degree of subtlety and restraint

Read full review at www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2017/09/30/life-to-come

The Exchange is a newly built venue owned by Richmond Council and leased to St Mary's University under an agreement that the building will be used for a mixture of University use, Community Group use and public events. The building has a 300 seat theatre, 6 studio rooms, a cafe and a bar. It is the building directly opposite the entrance to Twickenham station.

The Twickenham Tribune has had a preview of the facilities:

www.exchangetwickenham.co.uk

TwickerPuzzle Solution 6

INCOMING By Timothy E. Parker

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Letters

Dear Twickenham Tribune,

We are looking to galvanise support for the Friends of Radnor Gardens to secure funding from Richmond Council's Village Planning Fund. They would like to put an awning on to the café so that it can be utilised year round. Voting closes on the 27th October. As our only truly local newspaper I wondered if you could help with this by putting something in your paper and using your digital channels to spread the word? I have attached a flier we have developed.

Many thanks in advance

Kindest regards,

Colin Cooper

Chief Executive, South West London Environment Network (SWLEN)



Friends of Radnor Gardens **Radnor Gardens Café** **Please Support Us!**

Love the Radnor Gardens Café but hate drinking coffee in the rain?

Richmond has a Village Planning Fund for investment into local projects. The Friends of Radnor Gardens (FoRG), working with the café, have applied to it for a pergola awning which will provide all year round weather protection for you to enjoy your coffee whatever the weather.

Very exciting news - we have been shortlisted with a chance to receive funding!

The next stage includes a public consultation whereby local residents vote for their favourite projects. So we need sufficient support from all of you to get to the top of the list and secure funding.

The consultation ends on the 27th October but please vote today and ask your neighbours and friends to also vote for us.

INFO here - http://www.richmond.gov.uk/village_planning_fund

To VOTE here - <https://goo.gl/mLXGVZ>

No internet access? Come and vote at the café 9am – 5pm (weather dependent)

Twickenham, East Twickenham, St
Margarets, Whitton and Heathfield,
Strawberry Hill

Total amount of funding available: £77,801

Project: Radnor Gardens Café protective awning

Group: Friends of Radnor Gardens

Amount requested: £20,000

The erection of a pergola awning on the existing Radnor Gardens Café to provide all year round weather protection. The café is placed next to the playground and bowling green, but at present is limited to summer opening only due the lack of shelter. The café provides a community hub and the awning would be beneficial to both young and old to further enjoy the café facility.



Classifieds



Share your memories of the Borough's Lidos Twickenham, Teddington, Hampton, Mereway, Richmond
www.LidosAlive.com

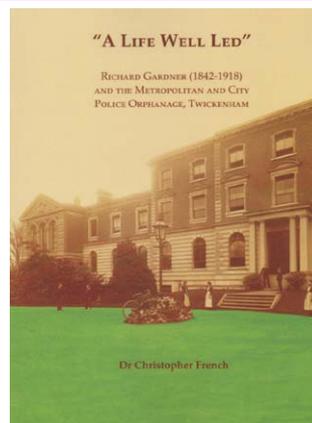
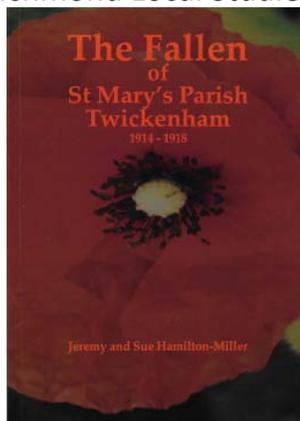


Stand Up Paddleboarding Club based at Eel Pie Island
www.EpicSUP.org

THE FALLEN OF ST MARY'S PARISH TWICKENHAM 1914-1918

By Sue & Jeremy Hamilton-Miller

The book costs £8 plus £1 p+p and is available from the Local History Society's website at www.botlhs.co.uk. – click on 'Publications'. It can also be read and purchased at Twickenham Museum and Richmond Local Studies Library.



"A Life Well Led": Richard Gardner (1842-1918) and the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage, Twickenham

by Christopher French

www.botlhs.co.uk/portfolio-tags/publications

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