

The Twickenham Tribune

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Eel Pie Island, Twickenham
Photo by Berkley Driscoll

Are minority groups calling the shots on Twickenham Riverside?

Following last week's update on Twickenham Riverside the "Twickenham Lido" petition, advocating sport and leisure on the disputed site became very active with an additional eighty people signing and making comments. These are individual residents - now 4,243 supporters of "Twickenham lido", who the Council do not seem to hear.

However, a question asked is *will the Council give in to public opinion* or will minority groups in a small area of Twickenham win the day?

The Council consultation at the moment consists of a "Stakeholders Group". Those of us interested in Twickenham Riverside are all stakeholders but a number of the groups invited to consult with the Council seem to be connected with Eel Pie Island - a car-free island, where people appear to want to keep vehicles on the Embankment rather than looking at alternative parking.

Remember that there are 66 parking spaces in the Civic Centre underground car park apart from alternatives such as under-podium parking on the Twickenham Riverside site.

So we have those in the "Stakeholders Group" invited by the Council to put their views on Twickenham Riverside and what they would like to see or not see - and almost 7,000 on two Change.org petitions whose views are being ignored.

Democracy?

A simple definition found on the internet "a government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them directly or indirectly through a system of representation."

One well-known journalist recently said that Councils in Twickenham are Voted Out but Not In and that the reason for this is that none of them, whatever the hue, listen to their residents. What do you think? Letters welcome.



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TwickerTape - News in Brief

Council slams MoneySuperMarket for publishing inaccurate local crime figures

In Tuesday's Evening Standard (15 January), MoneySuperMarket claimed that Teddington is the second most burgled place in the capital and the 19th in the UK. They made the claim following analysis of home insurance quotes on their website, rather than actual crime figures.

Richmond Council has refuted these claims, slamming the website for not researching their story properly before issuing what is simply scaremongering publicity.

More info: https://www.richmond.gov.uk/council/news/press_office/older_news/january_2019/council_slams_moneysupermarket_inaccuracy

Teddington Police were also quick to rebut MoneySuperMarket's claims <https://twitter.com/MPSTeddington/status/1085573686336389122?s=09>

NPL, Teddington, Measures Air Quality

The London Mayor has launched an air quality monitoring network in London

NPL will carry out calibrations for the high-accuracy instruments inside the Google cars to confirm the accuracy of the measurements collected. They will also provide the base for the cars, and run colocation studies to ensure that the Breathe London sensors are accurate.

<https://www.breathelondon.org/>

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The eclipse will occur when the Moon is at its closest point to Earth - making it a supermoon, so it will appear 14 per cent larger and 30 per cent brighter.

The supermoon coincides with high spring tides, so we may see more flooding on Twickenham’s riverside than normal.

The ‘Green Gate’ remains in place, blocking access to the service road from Water Lane via the Santander car park; get ready for the chaotic ballet of cars trying to reverse back to King Street!

TwickerSeal is still puzzled why the council has not opened up the service road access, which was closed off in some sort of Pyrrhic victory by the last administration.

Hopefully architects intent on entering the Twickenham Riverside development competition will be taking note.



PART 110 RUGBY GROUND ENTERS ITS 110th YEAR

In a few weeks, on Sunday 10th February England and France will take to the pristine pitch at what is now known as

Twickenham Stadium to kick off another year in this venerable old ground's 110th year.

In 1906, all-round sportsman and property entrepreneur, William Williams, was charged by the Rugby Football Union with finding a home ground for the England Rugby team. Before the ground was purchased, it was used to grow cabbages. So dubious was Williams' choice of site that it was immediately dubbed 'Billy Williams' Cabbage Patch.' Despite huge difficulties, two covered stands were eventually built east and west of the pitch and the ground was opened on Saturday 9 October 1909 to less than 2,000 spectators who turned out to see the new ground's tenants, Harlequins, beat Richmond 14-10.

Our first postcard dates from 1910 and was probably published around the opening date of the ground. Looks a bit different today doesn't it?

The first International match to be played at Twickenham took place a couple of months later on January 15 1910 when England beat Wales for the first time since 1898, ending a 12-year losing streak. The England side quickly found success in its new home at Twickenham and went on to win the championship, share it with Ireland in 1912, and go on to twice win the Triple Crown.

With the outbreak of war in 1914, the RFU suspended play for the duration and mothballed the stadium.



Our second postcard shows the unused ground being used as somewhere to keep horses. This card dates from 1915.

Now, 110 years since that first Harlequins match, England competes at the very top of World Rugby and Twickenham is known throughout the world as the Home of World Rugby. The town will shortly once again be taken over by people of all shapes and sizes wearing the colours of their teams and countries, drinking copious amounts of alcohol and averaging about three burgers per match!

Good fun though and it keeps the publicans and eateries happy!

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

Arts and Entertainment

By Erica White



Friday, 18- Saturday 26 January, at St Edmund's Church Hall Nelson Road, TW2 7UBB, St Edmund's Drama Society present ALICE IN WONDERLAND. Times of performances vary.
Box Office: 07765 6055374

Saturday, 19-Saturday 26 January at Mary Wallace Theatre, TW1 3DU, at 7.45 eves, Sunday matinee, 3.00pm. Richmond Shakespeare Society presents HEDDA GABLER by Henrik Ibsen, in Christopher Hampton's acclaimed translation. The drama of a strong-headed woman trapped in the cloying domestic setting of 19th century Norwegian society.
Info: <http://www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk>

Saturday, 26 January-Friday, 1 February, at Hampton Hill Theatre, TW12 1NZ, Teddington Theatre Club presents THE WINTER'S TALE by William Shakespeare. "A poignant tale of love lost and found" at 7.45 eves, Sunday matinee at 4.00pm.
Info: <http://www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk>

Wednesday 16-Saturday 19 January, at 8.00pm at The Noel Coward Studio, Hampton Hill Theatre, LIES LOW a one-act drama laying bare the inter-connection of three lives, each character concealing his/her true motives.
Info: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/lieslow>

Sunday, 20 January at 2.30. Classics in the Afternoon returns to Landmark Arts Centre, TW11 9NN when Cuban guitarist, AHMED DICKINSON CARDENAS & British-Korean cellist, CATHERINE LEE entertain with music by Piazzolla, JSBach, Li Lu, de Falla and Martin.
Info: <http://www.landmarkartscentre.org>

Don't forget to fit in a visit to STRAWBERRY HILL HOUSE where Horace Walpole's TREASURES are temporarily on view in their rightful setting. But only until the end of February. Time slips by so quickly, grab the opportunity to go as soon as possible.
Info: <https://www.strawberryhillhouse.org.uk>

Friday, 1 February: Alert All Artists. Final date for submissions for the DIANA ARMFIELD DRAWING COMPETITION. Take submissions to Arts Richmond at the ETNA Centre, East Twickenham.
Info: info@artsrichmond.org.uk

Thursday, 7 February at 7.00pm at St Mary's Church, Twickenham. ALEXANDER POPE ANNIVERSARY CONCERT will take place under the auspices of the Pope's Grotto Preservation Trust. Choral pieces by contemporaries, Handel, Purcell, Arne, Baidon & Bononcini will be performed by Petersham Consort & Radnor House School Choir.
Info: <https://popesgrotto.org.uk>

Saturday, 9 February at 7.30pm at Normansfield Theatre, AN EVENING OF CLASSIC ROCK AND POP, including a special P:ink Floyd feature played by Used Notes.
Info: <https://langdondowncentre.org.uk>

Friday, 26 January, at The Exchange, Twickenham, BBC4 QUESTION TIME, Jonathan Dimpleby presents debate on public's questions between Sir Rocco Forte, David Gauke, MP and others.
Info: <https://exchangetwickenham.co.uk>

Saturday, 26 January, 1.30-8.00pm at The Exchange, FREE YOUR FEET, TAKE II presented by Liberty School of Dance.
Info: <https://exchangetwickenham.co.uk>

Continuing exhibitions at the Orleans House Gallery; Stables Gallery until 24 February
BRITISH TAPESTRY GROUP: Sound and Weave/Rhythm of the Weave. In main gallery
COLLECTION CURIOSITIES, unknown treasures from the Borough Art Collection.
<https://www.orleanshousegallery.org>

Folk, Jazz and Rock enthusiasts who regularly attend The Cabbage Patch Pub in London Road are advised to visit the websites below to check what's on.

Sunday, 27 January at 7.45 Twickfolk are proud to present DAVE ELLIS & BOO HOWARD to showcase their new album WITH GREAT PLEASURE.
Info: <http://www.twickfolk.co.uk>

Tuesday, 5 February at 8.00pm. Twickenham Jazz Club presents the return of regular KELVIN CHRISTIANE 'ALLSTARS' BIG BAND.
Info: <http://www.twickenhamjazzclub.co.uk>

Thursday, 7 February, 9 .00pm. The Eel Pie Club present multi-award winning blues band, CATFISH, fronted by Matt Long.
Info: <http://eelpieclub.com>

Thursday 24 January and future alternate Thursdays at 8.00pm at The Turk's Head, Winchester Road, St Margaret's, the Pub Choir invites you to join in and relax. Sing your heart out with a glass of your favourite tippie in your hand!

Saturday, 16 February at 9.00pm. The MIDNIGHT RIVER BLUES BAND returns to the popular venue, The Prince Blucher, on Twickenham Green, TW2 5AG. Good grub beforehand to prepare for lively evening.



The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

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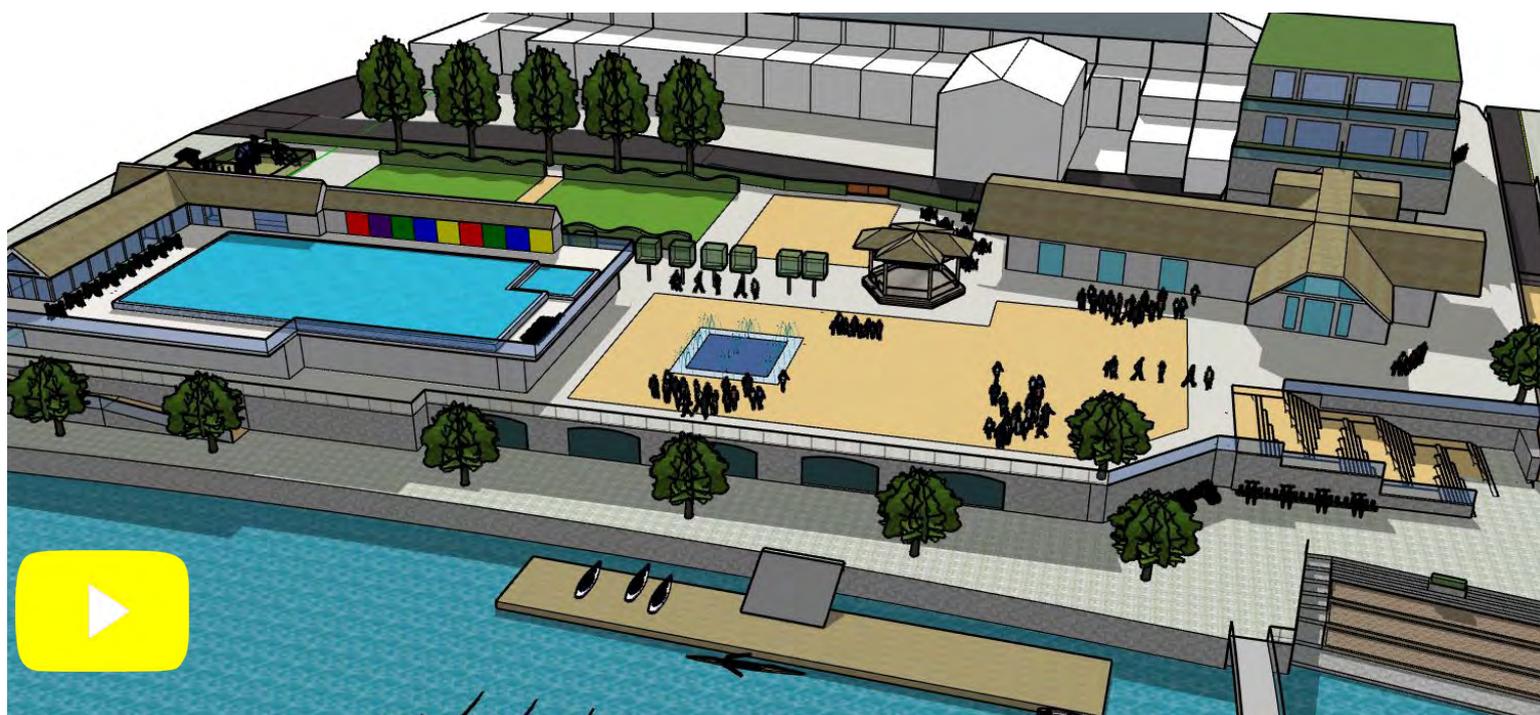
The Tree Agency

A CALL TO RETURN SPORT AND LEISURE TO TWICKENHAM RIVERSIDE

A Christmas and New Year festive ice rink on the new town square

Outdoor swimming and health spa with community cafe and restaurant

Stand Up Paddleboarding boathouses connect the complex to the River



Click image above to view video walkthrough

The front of the site, on King Street, has a complex for retail/commercial and residential use. An indoor market reminiscent of modern markets in European cities, such as the Mercato in the Termini in Rome or Sant Antoni Market in Barcelona, flows from the King Street units

There are also options for a pontoon and the bridge linking Twickenham with the other side of the river. Underground parking will be included.

[Read a selection of the 4,000+ petition comments HERE - See what Twickenham has to say](#)

[THE PETITION](#)

[History of Twickenham \[outdoor\] Baths closed 1980](#)

[History of the East Twickenham Ice Rink closed 1992](#)

Drawings by Berkley Driscoll © Berkley Driscoll

Local authority governance

Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General

The government should improve its oversight of the local governance system to help local authorities cope with increasing financial and demand pressures, according to today's report by the National Audit Office.



National Audit Office

Local authorities operate within governance frameworks of checks and balances to ensure that decision-making is lawful, informed by objective advice, transparent and consultative. Elements of these governance arrangements are defined locally, while others are overseen by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (the Department).

Since 2010, local authorities have faced significant challenges – funding has reduced, while demand for services has increased¹. For example, they have seen a real-terms reduction in spending power of 29% and a 15% increase in the number of children in care. These pressures raise the risk of authorities' failing to remain financially sustainable and deliver services, increasing the importance of having good governance arrangements.

The way authorities have responded to these challenges have tested local governance arrangements. Many authorities have pursued large-scale transformations or commercial investments that carry a risk of failure or under-performance and add greater complexity to governance arrangements. Spending by authorities on resources to support governance also fell by 34% in real terms between 2010-11 and 2017-18, potentially increasing the risks faced by local bodies.

Each year, external auditors publish a conclusion on an authority's arrangements to secure value for money, and can highlight weaknesses by 'qualifying' their conclusion. In 2017-18, auditors issued qualified conclusions for around one in five single tier and county councils. A survey, carried out by the NAO, of external auditors indicates that several authorities did not take appropriate steps to address these issues².

Some external auditors have raised concerns about the effectiveness of the internal checks and balances at the local authorities they audit, such as risk management, internal audit and scrutiny and overview. For example, 27% of auditors surveyed by the NAO do not agree that their authority's audit committees provided sufficient assurance about the authorities' governance arrangements. Auditors felt that many authorities are struggling in more than one aspect of governance, demonstrating the stress on governance at a local level.³

Some authorities have begun to question the contribution of external audit to providing

assurance on their governance arrangements. 51% of chief finance officers from single tier and county councils responding to our survey indicated that there are aspects of external audit they would like to change.⁴ This includes a greater focus on the value for money element of the audit (26%). External auditors recognise this demand within certain local authorities. However, their work must conform to the auditing standards they are assessed against and any additional activity may have implications for the fee needed for the audit.

The Department is responsible for ensuring that the local governance framework contains the right checks and balances, that it works, and for changing the system if necessary. However, the Department does not systematically collect data on governance, meaning it can't rigorously assess whether issues are isolated incidents or symptomatic of failings in aspects of the system. The Department can intervene both formally and informally in authorities where it has concerns about governance arrangements, but the process by which it does this is not always revealed publicly, meaning its scale and effectiveness is not open to scrutiny or challenge. The Department recognises that it needs to be more active in leading co-ordinated change across the local governance system.

The NAO recommends that the Department works with local authorities and other stakeholders to assess the implications of, and possible responses to, the various governance issues identified. It should examine ways of introducing greater transparency and openness to its formal and informal interventions in local authorities and should adopt a stronger leadership role in overseeing the network of organisations managing key aspects of the governance framework.

Amyas Morse, the head of the NAO, said today:

“Poor governance can make the difference between local authorities coping and not coping. Given the significant challenges these bodies face, the government needs to take the lead in addressing weaknesses in the local governance system to ensure that local arrangements function as intended and support local decision-making.”



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Sunday 20th January

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CALL FOR ENTRIES FOR THE TWICKENHAM FILM FESTIVAL 2019

TWICKENHAM ALIVE FILM FESTIVAL

www.twickenhamfilmfestival.com

The Twickenham Alive Film Festival is a community-based film festival inviting submissions of short films, up to 10 minutes, based on four categories:

- Films from within the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames
- Films from the United Kingdom
- Films from outside the United Kingdom
- Films by film students

The suggested theme for submissions is 'Where You Live' and the films can be on any aspect of the area, way of life, attractions, culture, sport or environment of the entrants' home area.

Please contact us if you need further clarification.

Films can be of any genre, such as documentary, drama or animation.

Click image below to view a previous entrant

School Run Strut

Filmmaker: Alban Low

Borough Animation Award 2013



River Crane Sanctuary



Snow Drops arrive as the weather gets colder and a prospect of real snow here

Nature offers something to cheer us all even in the rain and dark days and here are some of our recent favourite photos and a video of birdsong which we trust will bring a smile and optimism to readers. If you are getting ready for the Big Garden Birdwatch consider putting out a water dish and it may even bring in some beautiful and rare birds such as the Song Thrush below. The River Sanctuary Walk is full of delights for all the senses: hear the sounds of rain on the river and the water gently lapping; touch the bark of ancient trees; feel the soft earth beneath our feet on the wilder paths; smell the scents of leaves and plants. Sight is not the only sense! Take some time to be still and breathe in the wonders of wild places.



A recent birdsong video is available on page 37 of our Flickr photo album

The River Crane Sanctuary website <http://e-voice.org.uk/rcs/>

TASTER CRUISES – THREE OF A KIND

By Bruce Lyons of Crusader Travel

There are always curious travellers about – Often looking for a new experience and not too anxious to burn their hard earned holiday money in diminishing their cash. So, it's refreshing to find some taster cruises of 2 and three nights for them to experiment on at a modest cost. What is nice about this little selection is how different they are in size, style and itinerary. You don't see these short cruises often as basically they arise out of gaps in schedules and are constructed as "fillers" in the Calendar.

So let's take a look;

Wednesday 28th August

The Cruise and Maritime – Astoria

Small Cruise Ships sails ex Portsmouth to Rouen for 2 nights.

The River Seine, you can take an excursion to Monet's Garden @ Giverney

The Astoria is small enough for Estuary cruising. Estuary and River Cruising is the fastest sector of the cruising world today !

Larger vessels cannot enter these smaller ports .

Early booking offer starts from £159 per person

The Astoria takes just 550 guests



Friday 21st of June

The Swiss MSC (Mediterranean Shipping Company) Cruise Ship Livicia

A somewhat larger vessel @ 65,000 tonnes and taking some 2000 Guests sails out of Venice for a 3 nights cruise in the

Tirennian Sea stopping at Koper in Slovenia and Bari is on offer for Cruise Only from £299 What is especially exciting about

this cruise is you can add nights in Venice before or after for a

modest price and the embarkation location is a short distance from St Mark's Square , and we know lots of charming small hotels in Venice.

A Holiday to dream for !!



Tuesday 28th May

The Royal Caribbean's , Independence of the Seas

This is state of the Art vessel. 154,000 tonnes – 4000 passengers

Sailing from Southampton for 4 nights to Ireland with a call at COBH (CORK)

The Irish Explores is one of three Royal Caribbean short sailings this season

The other two, on the same vessel, are 3nts only , Channel

Island Delights on the 30th August, and Taste of Paris and Bruges on the 25th of May.

All sail from Southampton and the lead in price for all is from £449

Alltogether a wonderful short break offering you the taste of Cruising at affordable prices. If you want to know more of sailings from other UK Ports like Bristol, Dover, Tilbury, and more – just call us on 0208744 0474





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7 nights Half-Board in Eilat at the 4* Astral Avia Suites in a family suite for 2 adults and 2 children just £699 Half-Board with flights and transfers included. Other hotels available. Direct flights from Luton on the 17th of February. Eilat (Israel) is a great Seaside Resort in the Red Sea with some wonderful water-sport opportunities as well as Desert Adventures.



St Mary's University Update

St Mary's Nutrition Graduate's Debut Book Features in Amazon Top 10

Graduate of the MSc Applied Sports Nutrition at St Mary's University, Twickenham, Scott Baptie's debut book featured as Amazon's number one health and fitness book, and in the top ten overall, on its release day.

Scott's book entitled 101 Ways to Lose Weight and Never Find it Again debunks fat-loss myths and includes encouraging ways to make small changes to your lifestyle for long-term health and sustainable weight loss. His tips are based on effective, scientifically proven nutrition and fitness strategies, avoiding fads to deliver the results people want.

Having worked with hundreds of clients, including multinational companies and professional football clubs, Scott has refined his methodology to ensure it delivers sustainable and positive life-changing results.

Scott encourages readers to start off with just three changes to their lifestyle for the first 30 days, focussing on the most realistic, fun and enjoyable tips for them. After 30 days, they then add on another three

ways to the ones they've already been practising, and keep doing this every month. In choosing small habits to focus on every day, readers develop a level of consistency, which produces stunning results over time.



Speaking of Scott's success, Head of Health Science at St Mary's Gill Horgan said, "It's fantastic to see how well Scott has done since he graduated from St Mary's. He was an enthusiastic student and I'm looking forward to reading his new book, we hope to see him back on campus again in the future to inspire students on all of our nutrition programmes"



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University
Twickenham
London

Hedda Gabler

by **Henrik Ibsen**

(Translated by **Christopher Hampton**)

Directed by Harry Medawar

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If only ...

Coming to the Coward Studio at Hampton Hill Theatre in March, Teddington Theatre Club presents

LILIES ON THE LAND

By the Lions part
Directed by Linda Sirker

God speed the plough and the woman who drives it

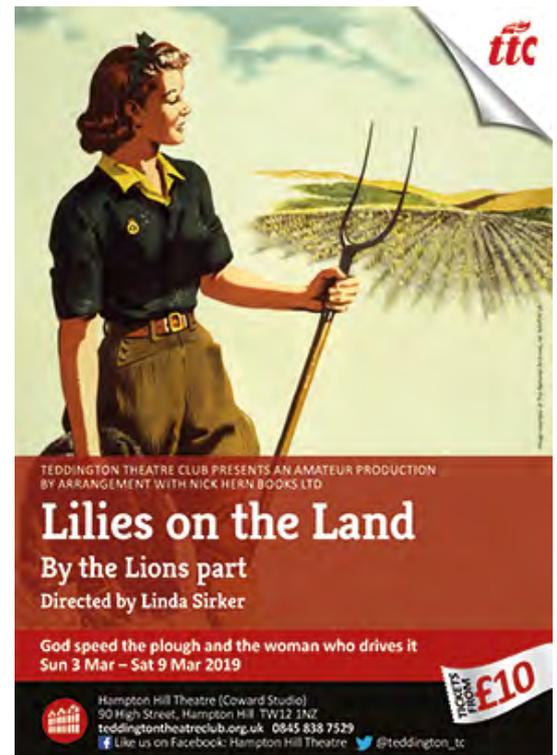
You had to be there to know. We lived it. The Forgotten Army. I'd do it all again.

To mark 80 years since the formation of the Women's Land Army, Lilies on the Land charts the personal journeys of four women who sign up during World War II. All are determined to work endless back-breaking hours on farms across the country in a bid to do their best for the war effort.

Playing dates: Sun 3 Mar – Sat 9 Mar 2019

Box office: Telephone: 0845 838 7529 (1-8pm – Mon to Sat)

Online: ttc-boxoffice.org.uk



<http://www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk/production/lilies-on-the-land>

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Twickers ‘MacFoodie’ and Power Balls

Next week brings us Burns Night, and if you want to indulge your ‘inner Scotsman’ you can find haggis in plentiful supply in most of our local butchers and supermarkets. Many local pubs have organised special Burns Night celebrations, complete with whisky pairings, or you can have a quiet night in, enjoying a haggis meal.



But what exactly is haggis? Contrary to popular Scots folklore, it isn't a low-flying bird. It's a savoury pudding, usually comprising a sheep's stomach filled with lamb offal, minced with onion, oatmeal, suet, spices and other flavourings, then cooked. Traditionally it is served with mashed 'neeps and tatties' (but it must be swede, not the white turnip). It is delicious! As someone who spent much of her childhood in Scotland, I'm ashamed

to admit that I actually like it with a large dollop of tomato ketchup too (those 'haggis suppers' from the local chippy in my teens!). And of course, haggis should be served with a 'wee dram' of whisky – the two pair surprisingly well. One can also buy vegetarian haggis, and Macsweens, the brand leader in supermarket haggis, says its veggie one is also suitable for vegans. So there you go! The Meat Room has a range of haggis, including slices... for anyone who doesn't feel up to cooking a whole one or wanting to try it for the first time.

So there you go; you can still enjoy haggis if you are vegan or just doing 'Veganuary', but I'm sorry to say that I haven't yet found anyone doing alcohol-free whisky, so you will have to drink something else if doing Dry January.

On the subject of drinks, not all wines are vegan or even vegetarian-friendly, due to animal products being used in the clarification and a process called 'fining'. Nowadays many producers are using vegetarian and vegan options including bentonite clay, limestone or plant protein. Vegan wine is becoming more widely available, with many large supermarkets now stocking a good selection. I had a very nice vegan Viña Del Cura Gran Reserva Rioja from the Tesco Finest range over Christmas, which, at £11 a bottle, wasn't cheap, but definitely worth that little bit extra. And if you are sherry fan, Tesco Finest's Fino Sherry is also vegan. To spot a vegan wine, look for the word 'unfiltered' on the label, or check for the vegan symbol.

Still in the spirit of 'Veganuary' I thought you might like to try this recipe for delicious **Matcha Pistachio Protein Balls** from Teapigs. Matcha is a super powered green tea from Japan. Unlike regular green tea, it is grown under shade so increasing the chlorophyll content (the bit of the plants with all the antioxidants and nutrients). The leaves are then ground into a fine powder that you can whisk straight into liquids (so you consume all of the goodness rather than throwing lots away with the teabag). You can buy Tea Pigs matcha sachets in most of the larger supermarkets.

These are a great snack to boost your energy levels. You can add any of your favourite dried fruits too. Recipe makes 12 balls.

Matcha Pistachio Protein Balls

75g cashews
40g desiccated coconut
1 tbsp chia seeds
2tsp matcha powder, plus extra for rolling
2 tbsp coconut flour
30g protein powder
2 tbsp coconut oil
4 tbsp runny honey or date syrup
3-4tbsp water
30g finely chopped pistachios



1. In a food processor or blender, blitz the cashews, coconut, chia seeds, matcha powder, coconut flour and protein powder.
2. Melt the coconut oil in a small saucepan over a low heat and add to the blended mixture with the honey and the water. Blitz briefly until you have a dough, Add a little more water if it's too dry – you want it to stick together.
3. Divide the mixture into 12 equal –sized portions and, using your hands, roll each one into a ball.
4. Roll the balls in the pistachios and some matcha powder, then chill in the fridge until cool and firm. You can store them in an airtight container.

PS: I think they'd be lovely coated in melted dark chocolate before rolling them in the matcha powder!

The wine world is full of surprises.

There's a scene in the James Bond film "From Russia With Love" where the villain (disguised as a British agent) orders a Chianti to go with his fish. From this Bond realises he is a Russian spy as no Englishman would drink red wine with fish.

Premier Wine

But how was he to know it wasn't a rare white Chianti being asked for?

As it happens, there isn't a white Chianti; at least not since 1398, when early records indicate the first Chiantis were white. However, there is a white Chateauneuf du Pape, which is a bit of a surprise since the red is so famous and recognised as one of the worlds best wines. Whereas the red has as many as fourteen grapes in its construction, the white has only five permitted; Clairette, Roussanne, Grenache Blanc, Picardin and Bourboulenc.

Gloriously rich and opulent, white Chateauneuf is quickly gaining a cult following. Try the organic Chateau Maucoil; at £29.99 it's not cheap, but you'll remember it all right.

We are all familiar with Cotes du Rhone; a spicy, fruit driven red from the Rhone Valley. The French have a marketing campaign: "Think Red; Think Cotes du Rhone." But did you know there's a Cotes du Rhone white? Guigal makes a stunning white at £13.99. Wonderful freshness marked by the distinctive aromas of white flowers, apricot, acacia and white peach.



Sancerre; elegant, crisp Sauvignon Blanc from the Loire Valley. Famous the world over. But 20% of production is red, made from Pinot Noir, and there is some Sancerre rose as well. Joseph Mellot Sancerre Rouge Le Rabault £19.99; notes of black cherry and blackberry on the nose, whilst the palate is a wonderful expression of Pinot Noir with gorgeous mouth-feel and silky smooth tannins.

One of the most recognised names in wine is Rioja. The best known Spanish wine, made from Tempranillo grapes (with a bit of Garnacha) has been around since we can remember. But white Rioja, although not widely known, has been established for as long as it's more famous red twin.

Created from The Viura grape, it is crisp and elegant, and perfect with shellfish or garlicky tapas dishes. Try Vina Real Rioja Blanco at £10.99. Beautifully balanced and quite delicious with floral and citrus aromas leading into a rounded, creamy rich palate.

Learn all this by heart if you're a British agent...



Antiques, Art Deco and Vintage at The Stoop.

This Sunday 20th January sees the return to 'The Stoop' for the popular Antique & Art Deco Fair.

This fantastic fair at Twickenham Stoop Stadium is one not to miss, bringing together a collection of 100 exhibitors inside, from far and wide, plus outside drive in stalls selling all manner of antiques, art deco, Vintage and Collectables.

This is a must attend event for any antiques enthusiast, whether you are a well travelled collector or just looking for that interesting piece for your home.

Items on sale will include Antiques, Art Deco, Vintage, Furniture, Collectables, Silver, Memorabilia, Architectural, Jewellery, Militaria, Ephemera, Bronze, Retro, Interior Design, Glass, Ceramics, & More. The event will also feature some of the best Art Deco dealers in the country.



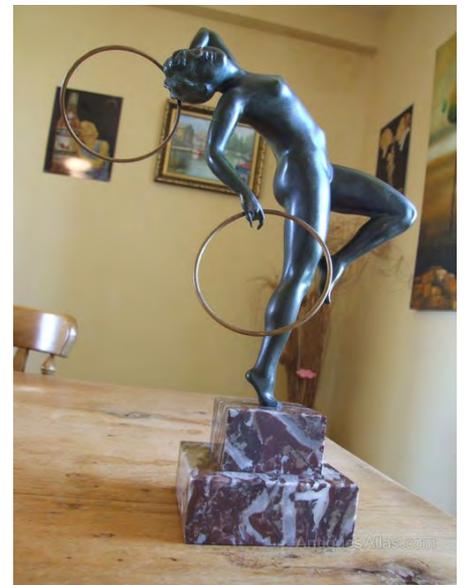
The fair will be located beneath the stands in the fantastic modern setting of the player's bar and lounges. The outdoor pitches will be located just outside of the grandstand. There is a large free car park and a cafe serving light snacks and drinks.

Haddon Events, who run the event, have a good reputation for delivering good quality antique and vintage events all over the home counties.

The fair is open to the public from 10am until 4pm. Entry is just £3 for adults, with concessions at £2 for over 65s and Students. They also offer an Early Trade Entry for early risers, at 9am, which is £4. The stadium offers free parking and there is a cafe on site.

Here is the full address of the venue: Twickenham Stoop Stadium, Langhorn Drive, Twickenham, Middlesex, TW2 7SX

To contact the organisers please email: info@haddonevents.co.uk. Telephone: 07519276507. Web: www.haddonevents.co.uk





Lies Low

by Rian Flatley

Clariann Productions at Hampton Hill Theatre until 19th January

A review by Eleanor Lewis

Lies Low, on the face of it, is a love triangle. It is the usual love triangle format, a man and two women and it occurs to me in passing that I can't recall a love triangle drama involving a woman and two men and it's probably time someone wrote one, but I digress.

Love triangle aside, there is a great deal more to the lives of the three characters in *Lies Low* than their relationship issues, which is quite frustrating because the potentially interesting plot lacks a director. Directors have specific skills and they're really useful. They haven't written the play which makes them objective about it and therefore likely to produce it in the most effective way. If you've written, your role as the writer is to produce the food while the director gives the dinner party.



Lies Low has the type of story arc that requires a build-up of tension and a drip-feed of information. The soundtrack itself was an asset, being gentle and complimentary to the drama, as was the lighting which darkened effectively at appropriate moments.

However, a couple of lengthy sections produced some heroic acting from Clare Gollop who was left alone on stage, more than once, with little to do other than look around a flat for what felt like a very long time. Kate Winder's reaction to discovering the truth about her lover amounted to: "just really shout a lot", but dramatically there are a lot of opportunities for channelling venom as a scorned woman and really getting under his skin. Andrew McDonald's portrayal of a confused rather than particularly complex middle-aged man was a little monochrome. His character's relentlessly aggressive and irritated attitude towards his wife needed a little tempering in order to make him sympathetic in any way at all.

Producing theatre, particularly new writing on a low budget, is both difficult and a good thing to do, and *Lies Low* has a lot of potential, but would greatly benefit from some tweaking and trimming when a nice little thriller would hopefully emerge.

Read Eleanor Lewis' full review at www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2019/01/18/lies-low

Photography by Clariann Productions



Goodnight Mr Tom

by David Wood adapted from Michelle Magorian

Step on Stage Productions at Hampton Hill Theatre until 12th January

A review by Matthew Grierson

There is such an exuberance among the young cast of *Goodnight Mr Tom*, but given the task of channelling their enthusiasm, directors Emma McCauley-Tinniswood and Maria Austin manage to ensure that the beats of the story are clear while also allowing us to warm to the characters.

Energy and choreography are alike apparent from the start, with the large ensemble briskly milling around on stage to signify the hustle of a railway station in 1939: parents are seeing their children off as they are evacuated to the countryside. Their enforced cheeriness comes through in a rousing chorus of *Wish Me Luck as You Wave Me Goodbye*, one of a number of wartime standards that recurs throughout the production to showcase the all-round talent of the cast.



The mood is dampened by the appearance of Mrs Beech (Hope Groizard) like a stormcloud across the back balcony, and the singing falls silent as she escorts her son William (Jasper Simmons) on to the platform. Her performance is legitimately terrifying, irrationally snapping at her son and completely dismissing his story of friendly country folk.



However, once William is out of his mother's shadow he begins to bloom, and in the care of elderly widower Tom Oakley (Andrew Rhodes), finds a place he can call home among new friends and surrogate family. As the titular Mr Tom, Rhodes communicates his brusqueness and initial distance from his charge at first, but once he softens, it means his relationship with William is that of an older brother with his junior sibling. When Tom puts a friendly, consoling hand on William's shoulder, the moment feels well earned

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Read Matthew Grierson's full review at www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2019/01/11/mr-tom/

Photography courtesy of Step on Stage Academy



Resolution 2019 (Triple Bill 1)

<p>Void by Jane Chan Jane Chan</p>	<p>Blacklist by Joshua Nash Joshua Nash</p>	<p>No Sudden Moves by Victoria Fox TRIBE//</p>
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Resolution at The Place, Euston, 11th January,
The Festival of New Choreography continues until 23rd February
A review by Mark Aspen

Tension, conflict, aggression. Surging into The Place, London's sanctuary of contemporary dance, it could be the zeitgeist of the opening days of 2019. The triple bill that formed the first night of *Resolution 2019*, introduced three new choreographers with the unstated theme of conflicts of identity.

Void, performed by Hong Kong choreographer Jane Chan has a frustrated fluidity as its narrative illuminates the entrapment of a failing mind struggling within the encompassing coils of Alzheimer's disease. For Chan this has a personal resonance as her grandmother succumbed to this dreaded and dreadful affliction. White clad within a cell of white light, she writhes within the blockades of its burgeoning assaults



There is a more visceral attack in Joshua Nash's *Blacklist*. Two dancers, naked to the waist, strut around each other, with the watchful aggressiveness of a pair of cockerels. How are they related? They look the same, same mannerisms, same topknot. They may be brothers, but Nash's co-performer, Jordan Douglas, emerges as his alter ego



There is a distinct feral feel in *No Sudden Moves*, a dystopian piece by Brighton-based TRIBE//. A huddled pile of unkempt bodies opens the piece, which explodes into high energy exposition of urgent menace. The five dancers include the choreographer Victoria Fox, who has created impressively tightly coordinated expressions of surging masses, restless and lawless

Read Mark Aspen's full review at www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2019/01/13/res19-bill-1

Photography by Simon Richardson and Camilla Greenwell



Resolution 2019 (Triple Bill 3)

Proxy
by Wayward Thread

Shifted
by nat.co

Taffeta Dreaming
by Trah and Chips Theatre and Dance Ensemble

Resolution at The Place, Euston, 15th January,
The Festival of New Choreography continues until 23rd February



The explicit question “Who are you?” is impossible to answer, but experimental choreographer Si Rawlinson puts it to his dancers in *Proxy*. His eclectic approach explores semi-scripted dialogue and infra-red imaging, but the title delivers the answer: we are what others make of us. Laura moves as Dan imagines her movements; Dan speaks as Laura manipulates his face, and they do dance in the dark as we watch through spy cameras. For technology rules OK: all the audio visual paraphernalia is on stage and the auto-voyeurism of the ubiquitous selfie is lasciviously demonstrated.

Shifted is supernal. Natalie Bell’s intricately choreographed depiction of displacement is riveting throughout. The piece is double-defined by the distressful dichotomy of what is taken and what is left when humanity is uprooted. *Shifted* opens with an image reminiscent of a sea-anemone wafted by the currents. Is the creature confined or firmly rooted? A dynamically depicted journey follows the turmoil of fleeing, at sea and on land. Precisely coordinated athleticism of the dancers underlines the agitation in this timeless study of expulsion and exile.



Now for something entirely different. Alex James-Cox’s characters in *Taffeta Dreaming* are displaced from their northern hometown to the relentlessness of London. Their story has open humour tinged with sincere pathos. Daisy is very fond of Isaac ... but he is, however, a bisexual who is “trying to get to like girls”. The story unfolds in a robust blend of contemporary dance with stand-up! The characterisation is spot-on: the awkwardness of encounter, the embarrassment of getting it wrong, the

disappointments are all neatly portrayed, as brassy petulance and coy withdrawal fight for the moment.

Read Mark Aspen’s Full Review at
www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2019/01/18/res19-bill-3

Photography by Dan Lowenstein, Dougie Evans and Tom Gimson

Traveller's Tales 13

Doug Goodman Revisits Romania After 40 Years

We sat in complete silence for nearly an hour not daring to move. And then, as our small group was beginning to fear he'd never show up, someone whispered 'bear'. Something in the wood startled the large brown bear feeding outside our hide and we had to wait a while until the somewhat threadbare creature settled down. He was moulting I learned later from our armed guide who kept us in a tight group as we walked back to our mini bus through the dark forest. The highlight of our visit to Romania's Carpathian Mountains had been a great experience. Over 6,000 bears exist in the mountains because Ceausescu was the only person allowed to hunt them.



Farmers' transport



Dracula souvenirs



People's Palace in Bucharest

We toured the Capital Bucharest and saw the balcony from which dictator Ceausescu had been forced to flee during the Peoples' Uprising in 1989. The stark Peoples' Palace, the world's second largest building, contains 1,000 rooms most decorated and furnished in exquisitely bad taste. After a visit to North Korea and inspired by that country's architecture the dictator started to destroy vast area of the city described as The Paris of the East. Luckily civil engineer E. Iordachescu saved many of the most important churches by moving them to a safer location. But back in 1979 on my first visit to the Communist country, at the height of Ceausescu's power maintained by The Securitate, bulldozers were devouring the city. Happily the old town survives with a wide choice of bars, restaurants and night life.

INTO THE CARPATHIANS

A drive north into the Carpathian Mountains provided some excellent scenic views over the fields devoid of hedges towards the snow-capped mountains. Sheep and cows were tended by shepherds and farmers transported their crops in the traditional one or two horse carts.

We stayed in a beautiful B & B in Moeciu set in a flower-filled meadow in a green valley that could have been straight out of Switzerland.



Transylvania Bran Castle



Threadbear



Brasov Town Square

Transylvania is famous for its castles and we visited the former Royal residences of Peles and Pelsor and the forbidding hill top fortress at Bran. Bran was built in 1377 to defend the pass between Transylvania and Wallachia and later to collect taxes from goods passing through. It's also associated with Dracula, as Bram Stoker is believed to have based part of his book on this castle although he never even visited Romania. The Romanians revere their national hero Vlad Tepes who fought invaders from every neighbouring country. He earned the name Vlad the Impaler from his habit of impaling his enemies on stakes. Thus the Dracula legend came about. Romanians are somewhat bemused at all the things foreigners associate with the book and horror films but are prepared to manufacture Dracula souvenirs.

Brasov, the regional capital, has very strong German influence in its architecture – it was once the German city of Kronstadt. A tour of the old town with lunch in the sunshine in the pretty town square accompanied by excellent half litres of Cuic beer (less than £1 a bottle) was a very pleasant way to start site seeing; the Black Church, The Synagogue and location of the first printing press. Romanian food is wholesome and the local wines are good but best of all you can eat very cheaply

The four-night tour passed far too quickly. But as the group was dropped off at Otopeni Airport we headed back to Bucharest for the night in order to catch an early train for the six hour trip to Suceava near the Ukrainian Border. Our plan was to meet a local historian to see and gain access to the Painted Monasteries in Bucovina. We hoped to explore 11 of the Unesco World Heritage Site monasteries dating from the 15th and 16th Century but without a guide finding the magnificent buildings let alone staying in one would have been impossible. Next week we remain in Romania visit the working monasteries and stay at Dragomirna.

<http://worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Romania>

FOOTBALL FOCUS

By Alan Winter



BRENTFORD FC

TOP PERFORMANCE FROM BEES GETS THE POINTS

BRENTFORD 3 – STOKE CITY 1 Attendance: 9,439



A great performance from Brentford last Saturday as they played Stoke City off the park with a wonderful display full of energy, creative football and one touch passing. Head Coach Thomas Frank has now presided over six games unbeaten since he tweaked the team to play with three at the back supported by two wing backs.

An own goal from Stoke's Ryan Shawcross and a superbly executed goal, finished by Saïd Benrahma, gave Brentford a lead they never looked like relinquishing. When Stoke pulled one back they had hope but Brentford sealed the game with a superb strike from Rico Henry. And the 3-1 win was every bit as conclusive as the score line suggested. Brentford dominated from first whistle to last, hit the woodwork twice and created enough chances to win two or three games. The goals they scored verged from the sublime, as Henry weaved past a posse of defenders to score, to the ridiculous, as Shawcross got in the way of a clearance and saw the ball cannon in off his head. They didn't let Stoke in to the game and the win was well-deserved. A fourth goal might have been a more accurate reflection of the game, but Brentford didn't need it to take the points with their third win in a growing unbeaten run. Brentford: Bentley; Konsa, Jeanvier, Barbet; Dalsgaard, Mokotjo, Sawyers, Henry; Watkins (sub Ogbene 89 mins), Maupay, Benrahma (sub Canós 78 mins) .Subs (not used): Daniels, Odubajo, Mepham, McEachran, Dasilva

Brentford B team player Kolbeinn Finsson has made his first start for the senior Iceland national team. The 19-year--old made his debut on Friday during Iceland's 2-2 draw with Sweden. He also played the full 90 minutes against Estonia on Tuesday to earn his second cap. Kolbeinn has two caps at Under-21 level and 32 caps at Under-16, Under-17, and Under-19 level, where he has scored five goals.

Congratulations to Peter Gilham who this year enters his 50th season as "Mr Brentford" the man with the microphone who MC's Brentford's home games. Peter also does a lot more than that at Griffin Park as he chairs the successful Lifeline Society as well. The voice of Griffin Park since 1969, Peter is in his 49th season as the Club's matchday Announcer. Peter is the longest-serving Announcer in the country and combines his voluntary role on matchdays with player liaison duty at Jersey Road.

Farewell to Alan Judge who has signed for Ipswich Town this week for an undisclosed fee. The midfielder has had five good years at Brentford and has fought back to fitness following a career threatening injury. Gaining several full caps for Ireland during his time at Griffin Park, Alan will be fondly remembered for his skill, work-rate and his many spectacular goals.

Lots more transfer rumours this week and at the time of writing (on Thursday) it seems that Bees Welsh International centre-back Chris Mepham may be on his way to premier league Bournemouth in a deal worth in excess of £15 million. The centre-back, 21, made his Bees debut in January 2017 and has played 48 times for Brentford.

Premier side Southampton are rumoured to be looking to sign Ollie Watkins and Neal Maupay

while Nico Yennaris is said to be discussing a possible move to China. Only two weeks to go until the transfer window closes and we can get on with the football again. Today (Saturday 19th January) Brentford are away to Rotherham United in the Championship. Kick off in Yorkshire is 3.00. Come on you Bees!

HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH FC

EARLY GOALS AS BEAVERS CLAIM FIRST WIN IN SIX!

HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH 2 – DULWICH HAMLET 0 Following a run of five straight defeats over the Christmas, there was a degree of optimism at the Beveree Stadium last Saturday as lowly Dulwich Hamlet came to town. Numerous player changes in and out of Hampton’s dressing room of late meant that Roy Sylva and Nana Kyei both made their debuts. It was through the middle of the park, which Sylva patrolled for 90 minutes, which led to Matty Wichelow dribbling into Hamlet’s box and rifling the ball into the top corner in the fifth minute.



The lead was doubled just six minutes later when debutant Kyei ran down the left flank and picked out Chris Dickson – who managed to get ahead of his man at the near post and tap it in. Chances at both ends on and off throughout the match but it seemed that despite giving Dulwich every opportunity to get back into the game – they were incapable of taking any of their chances. Dulwich were clearly a side on a poor run of form as well. An invaluable three points for the Beavers who now sit 16th in the table. Hampton and Richmond Borough are away to Hemel Hempstead who are one place above them in the table today. (Saturday 19th January). Kick off at 3.00.

A ROOM WITH A VIEW



Africa and Europe from a penthouse veranda at the Elliott Hotel, Gibraltar

<http://worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=Gibraltar>

Guinness Six Nations: England squad named ahead of Ireland Test

England men's head coach Eddie Jones has named a 35-man squad to begin preparations to play Ireland in their opening Guinness Six Nations match in Dublin on 2 February 2019 (kick off 4.45pm, live on ITV). Props Mako Vunipola (Saracens) and Ellis Genge (Leicester Tigers), second row Joe Launchbury (Wasps) and number eight Billy Vunipola (Saracens) all return from injury having not played for England since the South Africa tour last season. There are also recalls for Jack Clifford (Harlequins) and Ollie Devoto (Exeter Chiefs) who have not featured in an England shirt since 2017 and 2016 respectively due to injuries.

Dan Cole (Leicester Tigers), who has played 82 Tests for England, returns having last played for his country against Ireland in last season's Six Nations. Ollie Thorley (Gloucester Rugby) is included for the first time and is one of four uncapped players selected alongside Ben Earl (Saracens), Dan Robson (Wasps) and Jack Singleton (Worcester Warriors). The 22-year-old Gloucester winger has made 39 career appearances for his club and was part of England's U20 team that won the World Rugby Under 20 Championship in 2016.

Singleton, who also won the World Rugby U20 Championship in 2016, has previously toured with England to South Africa and Argentina with Earl and Robson joining the squad in the three-Test series against the Springboks in June. Co-captain Dylan Hartley (Northampton Saints) is not included in the initial squad due to a knee injury so Owen Farrell (Saracens) will captain the side in his absence.

Eddie Jones said: "We are very happy with the squad and have a number of players who have come back from long-term injury. We are looking forward to getting across to Portugal and having a good ten-day preparation for the Ireland game."

The squad will travel for Portugal on Wednesday 23 January to begin their preparations. A squad of 25 players will depart for Dublin on Thursday 31 January.

Forwards

Jack Clifford (Harlequins)
Dan Cole (Leicester Tigers)
Luke Cowan-Dickie (Exeter Chiefs)
Tom Curry (Sale Sharks)
Ben Earl (Saracens) *
Ellis Genge (Leicester Tigers)
Jamie George (Saracens)
Nathan Hughes (Wasps)
Maro Itoje (Saracens)
George Kruis (Saracens)
Joe Launchbury (Wasps)
Courtney Lawes (Northampton Saints)
Ben Moon (Exeter Chiefs)
Brad Shields (Wasps)
Kyle Sinckler (Harlequins)
Jack Singleton (Worcester Warriors) *
Billy Vunipola (Saracens)
Mako Vunipola (Saracens)

Harry Williams (Exeter Chiefs)
Mark Wilson (Newcastle Falcons)

Backs

Chris Ashton (Sale Sharks)
Mike Brown (Harlequins)
Joe Cokanasiga (Bath Rugby)
Elliot Daly (Wasps)
Ollie Devoto (Exeter Chiefs)
Owen Farrell (Saracens) captain
George Ford (Leicester Tigers)
Jonny May (Leicester Tigers)
Jack Nowell (Exeter Chiefs)
Dan Robson (Wasps) *
Henry Slade (Exeter Chiefs)
Ben Te'o (Worcester Warriors)
Ollie Thorley (Gloucester Rugby) *
Manu Tuilagi (Leicester Tigers)
Ben Youngs (Leicester Tigers)

Richmond Film Society's 57th Season of World Cinema continues at The Exchange, Twickenham

22 January, 8PM

Zama (Argentina)

In a remote Spanish colony we find 'corregidor' Zama who has seen better times. We observe as he seeks favours to regain prestige and be reunited with his family. Will the Fates let him succeed?

Films are screened at 8:00pm at The Exchange, 75 London Road, Twickenham, TW1 1BE. Members go free. Non-member tickets are £5 (full-time students £3). Tickets can be purchased on the night (cash only) or in advance from The Exchange's Box Office – in person, by telephone on 020 8240 2399 or online



Facilities include a very comfortable, tiered 285-seat theatre, lifts, disabled access, a bar and a café. Films are shown at 8.00pm sharp, with no trailers and no ads. On screening nights, the Bar is open from 7.00pm and the auditorium opens at 7.30pm.

Half Page

Quarter Page Landscape

Quarter Page Portrait

Eighth Page Landscape

Eighth Page

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