

The Twickenham Tribune



Contents

- [TwickerTape](#)
- [TwickerSeal](#)
- [History Through Postcards](#)
- [Arts and Entertainment](#)
- [Heathrow 3rd Runway](#)
- [River Crane Sanctuary](#)
- [Twickenham Riverside](#)
- [Twickers Foodie](#)
- [Film Festival](#)
- [MarkAspen Reviews](#)
- [Traveller's Tales](#)
- [Football Focus](#)
- [Rugby updates](#)
- [Crossrail](#)

Contributors

- [TwickerSeal](#)
- [Alan Winter](#)
- [Erica White](#)
- [Doug Goodman](#)
- [Sammi Macqueen](#)
- [St Mary's](#)
- [Alison Jee](#)
- [Mark Aspen](#)
- [Rugby Football Union](#)
- [National Audit Office](#)

EDITORS

- [Berkley Driscoll](#)
- [Teresa Read](#)

Contact

contact@TwickenhamTribune.com
letters@TwickenhamTribune.com
advertise@TwickenhamTribune.com



Published by:
Twickenham Alive Limited (in association with
World InfoZone Limited)
Registered in England & Wales
Reg No 10549345

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

RG. I..PR.....A..AJ.....\$S..I.....ST.....SF..I.t..PR....
..... 200.8¹₂.....66.92³₄.....20.99....16¹₈.....,76.

TwickerTape - News in Brief

May Bank holiday recycling and waste collection services

Following the Bank Holidays on Monday 6 May and Monday 27 May, Richmond Council will carry out waste and recycling collections (including Garden Waste collections) for domestic properties one day later than usual.

For example, Friday collections will take place on Saturday and Monday collections will take place on the Tuesday. There will be no change for those receiving commercial waste and recycling collection services.

Normal domestic collection schedules will resume a week later on Monday 3 June.

More details [HERE](#)

Are you registered to vote?

The deadline to register to vote in European Parliamentary Election is midnight on 7th May 2019. The Election takes place on Thursday 23 May 2019.

You can register to vote online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.

SWR Engineering Works

Holiday weekend Saturday 4 to Monday 6 May engineering works. Twickenham and Shepperton lines are affected. Find details [HERE](#)

Bushy Park Chestnut Sunday

This year's Bushy Park Chestnut Parade starts at 12:30pm on Sunday 12th May from Teddington Gate leading to the grass area in front of the childrens' playground.

More info at www.teddingtonsociety.org.uk

RFU - Army and Navy

Don't forget it's the Army & Navy game at Twickenham on Saturday 4th May. KO at 3pm

skyelectrical

Replacing your halogen recessed lights with LEDs will:

- ✓ **SAVE ENERGY**
- ✓ **SAVE YOU MONEY**
- ✓ **PROVIDE BETTER LIGHTING**

So...

- ✓ **CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE HOME ASSESSMENT AND QUOTE**

For a timed appointment please call Sky Electrical on 020 8894 1799

22 Fifth Cross Road, Twickenham, Middlesex, TW2 5LF

www.skyelectrical.co.uk

020 8894 1799

info@skyelectrical.co.uk





This week Richmond Borough's Liberal Democrat administration received some bad news, but they were later cheered by some good news!

On Wednesday 1st May, the High Court ruled in favour of the Government's Airport National Policy Statement and refused all the applications for judicial review against plans for a 3rd runway at Heathrow.

On Thursday 2nd May local elections were held across the country, although not in London, our elections having taken place last May. Our esteemed MP for Twickenham, Sir Vince Cable, will have been heartened by the river of orange that flowed across the country as the party he leads recorded gain after gain.



PART 125 – BEACONSFIELD ROAD – A SNAPSHOT

One of the most interesting aspects of studying local history through old postcards is the chance we get to compare photographs of the same place over a span of many years. What has changed and what has stayed the same?

Here is a great opportunity to do just that. This week's postcards show the junction between Beaconsfield Road and Amyand Park Road in St Margarets.

The first postcard dates from 1910 and so we are back in Edwardian times whereas the second card shows the same scene 70 years later in 1979.

This corner brings back fond memories for me as after early school days at Orleans Infants in Hartington Road during the 1950's we then moved up to our local primary school which was St Stephens in Winchester Road. At this age everyone walked to school

of course and the route took us across this junction and then over the footbridge crossing the railway into Winchester Road where we would buy our bubble gum cards of footballers at Smarts newsagent opposite the Turks Head pub. The school was (and is) next door to the pub and we would line up to walk into Winchester Hall for our school dinners. I seem to remember four years of mince and mash followed by something called semolina which is best forgotten. Winchester Hall is the Turks Head's function room of course and the Winchester Club featured in the popular TV programme Minder run by Dave the barman was allegedly named after a bit of a drinking school in the Turks Head which included Dennis Waterman who played Terry, the sidekick of George Cole's wonderful Arthur Daly character.



Back to the postcards and we see a scene from 1910. The children are all dressed in the Edwardian style of the day and there is a horse and cart approaching along Beaconsfield Road. Plenty of manure for the roses on the streets in those days!

Jump 70 years and we have two young ladies in the fashion of the day in the same place but this time the roads are becoming home to motor cars. The Edwardian children lived in a much different world. Street furniture has changed, some of the street trees are now much bigger but the houses in Beaconsfield Road are still the same.

This junction had shops on both sides of the road – (sadly all gone now) and the photographers are standing outside what was Bill and Ena's fish and chip shop in the 60's and 70's. They



were part of a parade that included a café, barbers, antique shop, off licence and grocers. The earlier postcard was photographed and published by Richard Young & Co. who were based in Teddington High Street in those days and who were responsible for some of the best early 20th Century photographs of this area.

My search for old postcards continues. I am always looking for old postcards and old photograph albums etc. The

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

Marathon Man from Hampton

Two weeks ago we wrote about Paul Cuddeford from Hampton and his plan to complete the London Marathon. Last Sunday he ran the course, in full Rhino costume, in just over 5 hours and has raised over £2,000 for Save the Rhino. Well done Paul and here's to your next Marathon which will be your 19th.



Shanawaz express
CONTEMPORARY INDIAN TAKEAWAY

Twickenham Green
TW2 5AH

020 88934881
www.shanawazexpress.co.uk

Health Conscious?
Why not have your dishes cooked with olive oil for an extra 60p

ALLERGY ADVICE
Please note that some of our dishes contain dairy, nuts, eggs and other allergens. If you suffer from any food allergies, please make sure to inform us before placing your order.

Arts and Entertainment

By Erica White



* denotes new listing

*Wednesday, 1-Saturday, 4 May at 7.45pm in the Main Auditorium at Hampton Hill Theatre. Youth Action Theatre presents OUR HOUSE: The Musical by Tim Firth. Explores the themes of love, family, growing up, learning responsibility and of making choices.

Info: <https://www.yat.org.uk>

Sunday, 5 May-Saturday, 11 May at The Studio, Hampton Hill Theatre, presented by Teddington Theatre Club. FRANKIE AND JOHNNY IN THE CLAIR DE LUNE by Terence McNally. Necessary to book early as this production is in the 50-seater studio theatre.

Info: <http://www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk>

*Saturday, 18-Friday, 24 May at 7.45, Sunday at 7.45, in the Main Auditorium at Hampton Hill Theatre. Teddington Theatre Club presents HANDBAGGED by Moira Buffini. You are invited to eavesdrop on the private conversations between Her Majesty and her Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher in their younger and older incarnations. Expect handbags at dawn.

Info: <http://www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk>

Saturday, 4 May, at The Mary Wallace Theatre, The Embankment, TW1 3DU Richmond Shakespeare Society present KINDLY LEAVE THE STAGE, by John Chapman, a comedy of love, life, reality and ... the stage.

Info: <http://www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk>

Sunday, 5 May at 8.00 at The Landmark, TW11 9NN, STACEY KENT returns with her 5-piece band, featuring songs from her new album, I Know I Dream, including American standards, Bossa Nova classics and original songs.

<http://www.landmarkartscentre.org>

*Sunday, 5 May, 2.00pm at The Hammond Theatre, TW12 3HD, ROH live streamed: FAUST-OPERA IN FIVE ACTS.

Info: <https://www.thehammondtheatre.co.uk>

*Sunday, 12 May at 7.00 at the Normansfield Theatre, TW11 9PS Richmond Opera presents HANDEL IN LONDON: a narrated concert with highlights including Zadok The Priest, scenes from the great operas and extracts from Messiah, will full baroque orchestra.

Info: <https://richmondopera.org.uk>

or Info: <https://langdondowncentre.org.uk>

*Tuesday 14 May at 7.30 at The Hammond Theatre. Live CAROLINE PALMER RECITAL. Music by Debussy, Schubert, Ravel and Chopin.

Info: <https://www.thehammondtheatre.co.uk>

Sunday, 5 May, 6-8.30pm at The Adelaide Pub, TW11 0AU, poetry read from own works. Read or just go along to listen. Buy a drink before climbing to room above.

Info: warrina@blueyounder.co.uk

Tuesday, 7–Saturday, 22 May at RHACC, Parkshot TW9 2RE, Arts Richmond mounts PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION, with a MEET THE PHOTOGRAPHERS evening on Wednesday, 8 May, 6-8pm.

Info: info@artsrichmond.org.uk

Saturday, 11 May at THE RICHMOND MAY FAIR on Richmond Green, Arts Richmond once again mounts THE AFFORDABLE ART TENT. Original work and prints for considerably less than £100.

Info: info@artsrichmond.org.uk

Sunday, 12 May on Richmond Green, Arts Richmond hosts their popular BOOK PICNIC, with AR's President ROGER MCGOUGH as star of the show. He will be reading some of his own, often provocative work. Bring your own picnic and sit at table on elegant chairs to enjoy a sociable occasion.

Info: info@artsrichond.org.uk

*Thursday, 16 May at 7.00 at The Hammond Theatre, TW12 3HD. Live streaming of ROH ballet LIGHT PATTERN/WITHIN THE GOLDEN HOUR/NEW WORK by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui.

Info: <https://www.thehammondtheatre.co.uk>

Jazz, rock, and blues music enthusiasts who head to the bars at The Cabbage Patch Pub in London Road are advised to visit the websites below to check what's on.

Sunday, 5 May, Twickfolk have no programme because of rugby at RFU. Info: <http://www.twickfolk.co.uk>

Tuesdays: 7 May at 8 pm TWICKENHAM JAZZ CLUB: Kelvin Christiane's "All Stars" Big Band. Info: Info: <http://www.twickenhamjazzclub.co.uk>

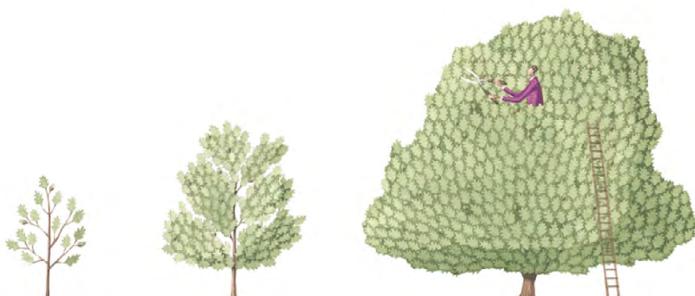
*Saturday, 18 May at 7.00 at The Exchange, TW1 1BE. MARTIN STEPHENSON & THE DAINTEES. Info: <http://www.eelpieclub.com>

Remember to check alternate Thursdays at 8.00pm at The Turk's Head, Winchester Road, St Margaret's, where the Pub Choir invites you to join in or just relax and listen.

*Friday evenings from 7.30 at Arthurs on the Green, TW2 Live jazz from THE BUCKINGHAM TRIO. Jazz and Italian grub. What a combo!

Saturdays and Sundays. Fun and games for all the family, at ORLEANS HOUSE GALLERY, Riverside TW1 3DJ.

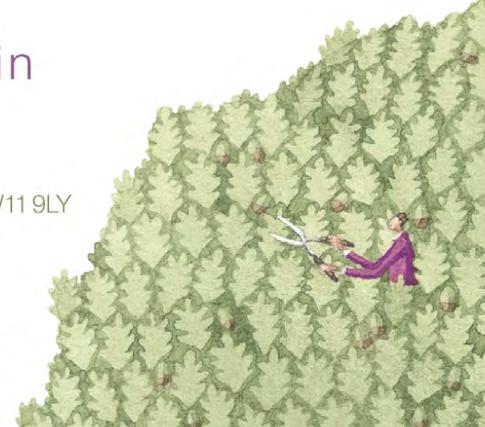
Info: <https://www.orleanshousegallery.org>



The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

The Treehouse
25 King Edwards Grove
Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9LY
Telephone 020 8274 0107
Mobile 07960 123580
Fax 020 8274 0119
info@thetreeagency.co.uk
www.thetreeagency.co.uk



The Tree Agency

Community Conversation - St Margarets, North Twickenham and Twickenham Riverside

Twickenham Riverside's Community Conversation this week was attended by around fifty residents.



Parking on the Riverside generally and parking on Water Lane was raised. A resident asked if the 'Santander Car Park' would be opened, but councillors said no due to cost factors and also suggested it would be counter productive to provide parking then remove it once development starts. We were informed that the Council has carried out Traffic and Parking Surveys around the Twickenham Riverside area and details will be released soon.

With regard to the Twickenham Riverside development, residents were told that the Council is willing to invest in the community and the development will not be a profit-making scheme.

An important issue mentioned during the meeting was the change from the Council's present Cabinet style decision making to a committee style of government; an explanation of this was published in the Twickenham Tribune in Edition 117; Paul Martin, our Chief Executive Officer was kind enough to allow the publication of an explanatory letter to a local resident, which can be seen [HERE](#)



KS Learning

Maths, English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and more.

All levels including GCSE & A level



Tuition and Mentoring

www.kslearning.co.uk

info@kslearning.co.uk

KINDLY LEAVE THE STAGE

by John Chapman

Directed by Scott Tilley

Richmond Shakespeare Society
RSS
at the Mary Wallace Theatre



*Will true love prevail? Is death on the cards?
Or is everyone just over-acting?*

**The Mary Wallace
Theatre**

The Embankment
Twickenham
TW1 3DU

**Saturday
27th April to
Saturday
4th May 2019**

**Box Office
07484 927662
(10.00 to 19.00)**

www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk

Tickets from £10

An amateur
production by special
arrangement with
Samuel French Ltd

Richmond Shakespeare
Society is a registered
charity No. 276271, a
member of the Little Theatre
Guild of Great Britain and
affiliated to artsrichmond



Councils disappointed by the court decision on Heathrow

Councils are disappointed in the High Court's failure to quash the Government's Airport National Policy Statement (ANPS), regarding Heathrow expansion. Councils argue this could bring long-term damage to the health of millions of Londoners. They warn that large areas of London and the Home Counties will be affected by noise from the north-west runway. For many London boroughs it means a substantial increase in the number of communities affected. The local authorities had argued that the third runway could only be built by demolishing thousands of homes, adding large increases in road traffic and making life noisier and unhealthier for millions of Londoners.

The court has refused all the applications for judicial review of the ANPS essentially because it has decided that at this policy stage the decision to support a third runway at Heathrow needs only meet a low level of judicial scrutiny.

There will be another stage where the damage caused to life and health and the environment by a third runway and its associated traffic (damage causing air pollution, noise pollution and contributing to climate change) will be more closely scrutinised. Objections to runway three must be heard then and any decision to approve it will be open to challenge through the courts. The councils said today that they would continue to explore every avenue possible to protect their residents from the health and environmental consequences of a third runway.

Commenting on behalf of the boroughs, Leaders commented:

Cllr Ravi Govindia, Leader of Wandsworth Council, said:

"Today's ruling is hugely disappointing for Londoners. It shows that the Government can drive through expansion plans without properly considering the full environmental and health impacts. But it does not mean the runway will ever be built. It still faces enormous legal obstacles particularly around air pollution."

The councils say that any new runway would run a very high risk of breaching air quality limits. There is still no evidence as to how air quality obligations can be satisfied. This makes it increasingly unlikely that a third runway could ever be built and opened.

The councils argue that no government could allow a runway to be built that would damage the health of 121,000 people in the area and contribute to thousands of premature deaths.

Cllr Gareth Roberts, Leader of Richmond Council, said:

"This is not the end of the matter. We defeated a previous government on Heathrow back in 2010. We won then for our residents and we can win again in the future. A runway that breaches legal air quality limits simply cannot be built and opened. Nothing in today's ruling changes that."

"The local authorities have fought a long battle to protect our communities from the airport's relentless demand for growth. If democratically-elected councils won't stand up for their residents' interests and protect their quality of life – who will?"

The councils have pledged to maintain detailed scrutiny of all aspects of the airport's planning application for the runway (Development Consent Order). This will include the detail of how the airport intends to meet its obligations in key areas such as noise, air quality and surface access. This detail will be subject to examination at the public inquiry stage with potential for further challenge in the courts.



Assembly response to High Court's Heathrow decision

The High Court has ruled against campaigners

challenging the legality of the Government's decision to allow a third runway at Heathrow Airport. The challenges included one from a coalition of objectors that included the Mayor of London.

LONDON ASSEMBLY

In response, Caroline Russell AM, Chair of the London Assembly Environment Committee, said:

"Although the Government's policy on Heathrow has survived this court hearing, it is still not the right course for London or the environment.

"The Government's own figures show that the extra traffic caused by expansion will worsen air pollution widely across London, shortening Londoners' lives. At the same time, 200,000 more people will be affected by noise from an expanded Heathrow.

"In light of the increasing evidence of an escalating climate emergency we again call on the Government to cancel Heathrow expansion plans before more money is spent and more damage is done."

The Chair of the London Assembly Transport Committee, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, said:

"It is bitterly disappointing that the High Court has made this decision. The London Assembly has long been opposed to the expansion of Heathrow - all advice from the Assembly, protestors and experts seems to have fallen on deaf ears.

"This Committee has consistently raised the issue of the Government's lack of planning for improving surface transport access to Heathrow Airport, yet the situation remains largely unchanged.

"The Government has persisted with this decision without proper preparation for the influx of people that would be travelling to and from Heathrow by car, train and many other means.

"Added to this pressure is the delay of Crossrail until possibly Spring 2021.

"The Government must now focus urgently on better public transport links to and from Heathrow."

Volunteer in Kenya



Porridge and Rice

Feeding for Education

Volunteering,
Internships,
and
Electives
available



Visit www.porridgeandrice.co.uk/volunteer_index.html

Local people will welcome the green light for Heathrow says campaign group

Back Heathrow, the campaign group which represents local businesses, trade unions and over 100,000 residents that support a new runway have welcomed the ruling in the Court today.

Back Heathrow's Executive Director, Parmjit Dhanda said: "No new runways have been built in London or the south-east since the Second World War.

"It was important today for the UK economy and for local jobs for the court to give expansion the green light. This decision does that, backing the views of over 100,000 local residents, the TUC and the CBI. The country has waited long enough."

"This ruling does raise some questions about how local authorities like Hillingdon, Wandsworth, Richmond and Maidenhead and Windsor have spent millions of pounds of taxpayers' money."

Twickenham Stoop Antique Fair Antiques, Art Deco, Vintage, Collectables Sunday 12th May

10am - 4pm. Entry £3, OAPs / Students £2, Trade Entry 9am £4
100 indoor stalls, Outside pitches. Free Parking. Café

Twickenham Stoop Stadium

The home of Harlequins Rugby Club

Langhorn Drive, Twickenham, Middlesex. TW2 7SX

Bookings/Information: 07519276507

Email: info@haddonevents.co.uk

Web: www.haddonevents.co.uk



Beatles in Twickenham Exhibition

The Twickenham Tribune was invited to a preview of the exhibition at The Exchange, which included a presentation with Q&A in the theatre



Photos by Berkley Driscoll

Beatles in Twickenham Exhibition Open to the Public

A free Beatles in Twickenham Exhibition has opened at the arts and community centre, The Exchange.

The exhibition will run from May 2nd to August 16th, 2019. The Exchange is operated by St Mary's University, Twickenham.

Since the plans for the Exhibition were announced in November, local residents and fans have sent in their photographs, memorabilia, and shared their memories of The Beatles filming in the Twickenham area.

The Beatles in Twickenham, is a project developed by The Exchange and St Mary's University, supported by Richmond Borough Council's Civic Pride Fund and Twickenham Studios. The project focuses on and celebrates a unique period in the 1960's when 'Swinging' London was at the heart of the pop, film, art and fashion worlds, and the Twickenham area developed a long association with the most famous pop group in the world.

The project has been timed to mark the 50th anniversaries of both the historic Hey Jude TV broadcast and the subsequent Let It Be sessions in January 1969, both filmed at Twickenham Studios. Before this The Beatles had already formed a strong connection with the area, making a number of their groundbreaking feature and promotional films in part at least, at the St Margaret's-based studios. Famous filming locations included a key sequence in Help! filmed on Ailsa Avenue, and Ringo's famous pub scene in A Hard Day's Night filmed in the Turks Head on Winchester Rd.



Stuart Hobday, Creative Director of The Exchange, said: "We're delighted to have the exhibition open and underway. We weren't sure what response we would have as The Beatles history and association with Twickenham is relatively undocumented."

"However, we have been delighted with the amazing photographs, memorabilia and memories that local residents and fans have shared with us and very kindly donated for the exhibition. Some of the photographs are rarely seen and we have even had a rare Beatles acetate recording loaned to us from a local resident, whose father worked as a sound engineer at Twickenham Film Studio's on the 'A Hard Day's Night' and 'Help' films". A photograph of the local resident with the acetate is featured at the exhibition.

There are 5 accompanying Beatles related events at The Exchange including a showing of the 'A Hard Day's Night' film on May 7th and a talk with Beatles expert Mark Lewisohn on May 17th.



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

River Crane Sanctuary



Monty Don gives the following advice in his chapter on Wildlife Gardening.

"The best thing you can do to encourage wildlife into your garden is to stop gardening. Let the lawn become a tussocky meadow and the borders strangle with weeds. Let brambles romp and nettles flourish. Hedges should go uncut and should fight it out with elder, self-sown ash and birch."

Down to Earth (published by DK)

The Dunnock in the Daisies seems to agree but it is not for everyone and a wild patch and some water is a good compromise in private gardens. Gaps in fences for nature highways are a real bonus. Hopefully, in areas where there are established habitats with recordings of red listed species we can rely on private owners and/or the authorities to be mindful of their responsibilities to safeguard our precious remaining wild spaces for the benefit of all.

How can you own a tree that has been growing for sometimes hundreds of years or the transient species that visit for food, rest and breeding?



Hawthorn in Wild Hedgerow



Speckled Wood – Butterflies love nettles



The Robin is usually the first bird to sing in the dawn chorus and can be tricked into an even earlier song when artificial light fools him as some of us have seen with lamp posts being serenaded in the early hours. Check out the RSPB website to hear their new record of the Dawn Chorus if you cannot get to a real one.

Hedgehog Awareness week: 5th to 11th May Hedgehog Street website has a lot of information on how to help our prickly friends and answers all those questions too. Enjoy the outdoors at May Fairs and Local Events and

maybe we will see you there or along the River Crane Sanctuary walk. Bring your camera and share your photos of nature on our site. Take a look at recent postings on the Flickr albums. David took a wonderful Kingfisher.

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

St Mary's University Update

St Mary's Continues Rise Up University Rankings

Following today's publication of the latest Complete University Guide ranking, St Mary's University, Twickenham has continued its rise up the university league tables.



In the 2019 table, the University climbed seven places into the top 100 of the Complete University Guide for the first time since joining the ranking.

This is the fifth consecutive major ranking in which the University has seen significant growth; it jumped up 25 places in last year's Guardian University Guide and has now risen 22 places in the last two iterations of both the Good University Guide and the Complete University Guide.

Data released from the 2018 National Student Survey (NSS) saw

overall student satisfaction at St Mary's University, Twickenham rise to 88%, the highest rated amongst institutions with university-status in London, and in the top 20 nationally. The Good University Guide found that the NSS ranked St Mary's ranked as no 1 in London for Student Experience and Teaching Excellence.

Speaking of the University's performance in the ranking St Mary's Vice-Chancellor Prof Francis Campbell said, "It is fantastic to see that St Mary's has again seen progress in the Complete University Guide. At St Mary's, we put the student experience at the heart of all we do. Our outstanding student satisfaction scores and the continuing upward trajectory in all league tables are a clear recognition of the dedication and professionalism of all our staff, who ensure the best outcomes for all our students."



**St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London**

Twickers Foodie – By Alison Jee

YOUNG'S SPRINKLES ITS MAGIC DUST AT THE PARK

After the news that Young's had taken over the Park Hotel in Teddington, we thought we'd better check it out. Wow! What a transformation! This place has lost its cold, neutral, semi modern look and feel and is now a stylish, cosy, busy, friendly local pub. And one that serves great food!

We started with our usual: beer (a Proper Job) and G&T (Beckett's – a nice 'local' gin; with juniper from Box Hill and mint from Kingston). The Park is dog friendly in the bar section, so the hound came along too and thoroughly enjoyed meeting some of the other dogs which were there too.



As it had just been the Easter bank holiday weekend, they had sadly run out of scallops and mussels (both of which I had hankered after!). So after a quick re-cap on the menu, we were served Sauté mushrooms & wild garlic on toasted sourdough and a salad of Watercress, roasted beets & blood orange salad, pomegranate dressing and dukkah. The assortment of mushrooms was good well-seasoned, piping hot, tasted fabulous, and at just £7



makes a very nice light lunch dish too. The salad was excellent, prettily presented and the beetroot and blood orange was declared 'a marriage made in heaven'. It was a nice touch to serve grilled blood orange as garnish too.



Next my husband opted for Young's beer battered cod, pea purée, triple cooked chips and tartare sauce which was obviously made on site. It was first-rate, and again piping hot. As there were no mussels, I chose Breaded chicken escallop, Nutbourne tomatoes and baby kale salad with citrus dressing. It was good, but would have benefitted from a wedge or orange of lemon as the citrus dressing was not very 'citrusy'. The chicken breast was a generous portion, and again piping hot, but was rather let down by the salad – the Nutbourne tomatoes were lacking in flavour, which was a shame as they are much lauded. I felt the salad needed another element or two to liven it up. A glass of Picpoul was the perfect match though, and my husband stuck to the Proper Job that



obviously hit the spot.

We were decidedly replete, and just had enough room for an ice-cream and a portion of Cointreau blood oranges and sorbet. Chelsea, the assistant manager, and our server Madison, looked after us admirably, and we will definitely return. It's a great place to meet Teddington-based friends.

The Park is launching Sip & Supper, a series of supper clubs that will be hosted by gin distillers, wine producers and beer brewers. The price is £40 and includes a special three course menu and tastings of 'their finest drinks' – first one is on May 27 and looks at rosé wine – sounds interesting. For more info contact parkevents@youngs.co.uk or call 07854 775231 and speak to Vikki.

WIN TICKETS TO THE FOODIES FESTIVAL IN SYON PARK

It's that time of the year again, when we have to rely on our unpredictable British summer weather to behave itself for the many outdoor events coming up. The Foodies Festival visits Syon Park again at the end of this month – Bank Holiday weekend 25-27 May. The festival line up of chefs this year includes MasterChef 2019 winner Irini Tzortzoglou who brings a Cretan flavour to the demonstration theatre. Also John Partridge, from East Enders who was Celebrity Masterchef winner last year.



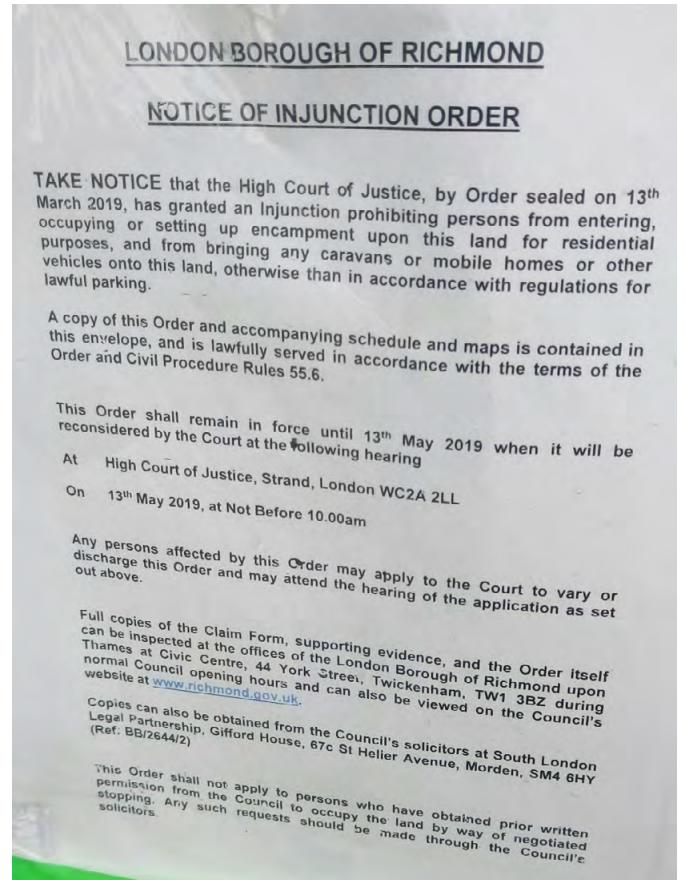
We have a pair of family tickets worth £38 each (admits 2 adults and up to 4 children under the age of 18) to attend on their chosen day so the winner can come along with another family to make a fun day out, or decide to visit on two different days.

To enter, send an email to win@twickenhamtribune.com with the name of the character in East Enders that is played by John Partridge in the subject header. Closing date: Friday 10 May at noon.

Twickenham Green Injunction

There are a number of notices posted around Twickenham Green stating that the High Court of Justice “.... granted an injunction prohibiting persons from entering, occupying or setting up encampment upon this land”

The order is to remain in place until 13th May when it will be reconsidered by the Court.



(Above) Boys and Girls Gala at Mereway Bathing Place

We Need Your Memories!

We will be installing a display board to commemorate Mereway Bathing Place and if you have memories, photos or memorabilia that can be used for the board, then please contact us at the email below.

contact@LidosAlive.com

Mereway Bathing Place

The First Public Swimming Venue In Twickenham

Mereway Bathing Place, used as a lido between 1895 and the 1930s, was at the top of Mereway Road on the River Crane. It was a bathing place from the 1890s and was used by Twickenham Swimming Club and the venue for school swimming galas.



CALL FOR ENTRIES FOR THE TWICKENHAM FILM FESTIVAL 2019



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.

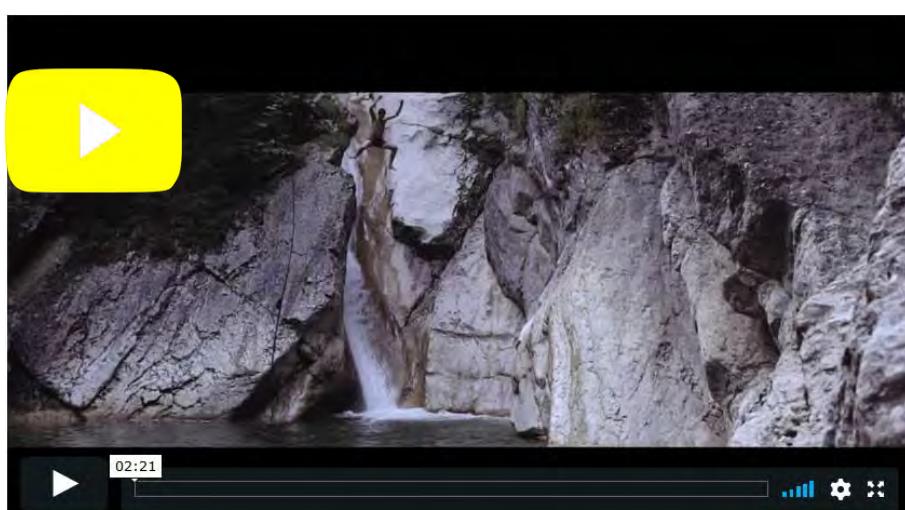
Click image below to view a previous entry

Italia

Filmmaker: Jordan McKellar

Award Winner 2016

A snapshot of a visit to Italy





Kindly Leave the Stage

by John Chapman

Richmond Shakespeare Society at the Mary Wallace Theatre, Twickenham until 4th May

Kindly Leave the Stage, is amusingly brought to life as a cleverly crafted and light-hearted satirical *mise en abyme*. The outer story, the framing device, tells of Rupert and Sarah whose marriage has broken down. Their friends, Charles, and Madge, both connected with the law, agree to handle the threatened divorce.

Then Rupert suddenly stutters and repeats his words. His forgetfulness, however, is the beginning of the play's inner story in which our leading man is having to act with the full knowledge that Madge, his real wife, is having an affair with Charles. Rupert's anger, jealousy, and rage spill over into the framing story, as the audience watch bemused as Rupert picks up a knife and threatens to kill Charles, who takes refuge in a trunk, whilst the rest of the cast try to continue with the play. "Is there a doctor in the house?"

Read Celia Bard's review at www.markaspen.com/2019/04/28/kindly

Photography by Rishi Rai and Pete Messum



King Charles III

by Mike Bartlett

The Questors at Judi Dench Theatre, Ealing until 4th May

Neither tragedy nor comedy, Mike Bartlett's *King Charles III* blends both genres to offer us a history – or rather, an ahistory, given that it depicts a possible future spun from the state of the nation some five years ago. While the exact details do not thus correspond with 'true events' as they say, it's remarkable that Bartlett is successful at hitting its beats: a female PM, Harry consorting with a commoner and, most notably, a constitutional crisis.

Questors' eminently watchable, pacey production honours these intentions in the observance rather than the breach. It plays out dynamically, in front of a minimalist set: one door to No. 10 and another into Buckingham Palace. A suggestion of scene is projected, the funeral with which the show opens, the House of Commons, or the interior of the Palace itself. The latter is lit effectively to suggest the window through which Charles looks out on the kingdom he inherits – and divides.

Read Matthew Grierson's review at www.markaspen.com/2019/04/27/king-iii-q



Our House

By Tim Firth, music by Madness

YAT at Hampton Hill Theatre until 4th May 2019

Review by Wendy Summers

As possibly the only person in the audience not overly familiar with the work of the band Madness, I was pleasantly surprised to recognise most of the songs in this not-quite juke box musical.

The show is an interesting piece with a complex plot involving the same characters in two parallel and very different plotlines; it's a sort of *Sliding Doors* meets *Top of the Pops*. Overall it works, but is difficult to follow. It is Marc Batten's characterisation of Dad we have to thank for keeping us up to date amidst energetic dance routines, some scarily fast quick changes and frenetic projection-based scene changes. Dad's commentary on the action provides a constant calm and reassuring presence amongst the organised chaos that Madness brought to the popular culture of the 1970's and '80's and YAT gloriously brings to Hampton Hill.

At first look *Our House* appears to be a light-hearted, simple and straightforward piece. It is far from it. It deals with very real social issues and is surprisingly thought-provoking. No "built" set means very complicated projection is required and all credit to director Bill Compton who must have taken days to design, programme and, most importantly with a musical, to time all the projection cues.

The cast are uniformly enthusiastic and obviously having great fun. Unusually the YAT membership has been augmented by more mature actors in the roles of Dad and Mum, but the key thing being celebrated on stage is the exuberance of youth. Each and every one of the seventeen strong cast is lively, engaged and engaging. They all work extremely hard and there are some really good performances amongst both main characters and ensemble. No individual plays less than two characters; some considerably more. It is exhausting to watch them.

Read Wendy Summers' review at
www.markaspen.com/2019/05/02/house

Photography by Rebecca Dowbiggin





Edmond de Bergerac

by Alexis Michalik,

Adam Blanshay Productions at Richmond Theatre until 4th May

Review by Mark Aspen

Panache! Now this play about a play about a playwright certainly has panache, and tons more beside. It dissipates more energy than an explosion in a caffeine factory and it fairly buzzes with *joie de vivre*.

Panache as a word jumped into English following the popularity of Edmond Rostand's *fin de siècle* verse tragi-comedy *Cyrano de Bergerac*, about the eponymous French playwright, who died 245 years before. Alexis Michalik's super-successful *Edmond*, about the bumpy gestation of Rostand's play, has won five Molière Awards, but Jeremy Sams' translation keeps all the feel, the verse patterns and the hilarity of Michalik's *tour de force*,

while director Roxana Silbert's frenetic *Edmond de Bergerac* draws a generous kaleidoscopic cornucopia of sheer panache.

Ooo, la, la! It's the Naughty Nineties. Robert Hopkins design captures the Parisian life in an inspired design of mahogany arcades, which swivel and swirl like a showgirl's skirts to form theatres, cafés, nightclubs, restaurants, hotels and trains.

Actor-manager Constant Coquelin is "the greatest theatrical figure of the age". He needs a successful

show not only to feed his unquenchable appetite to perform but also to get the rent-hungry theatre proprietors off his back. Edmond Rostand is a hitherto successful playwright, but needs a new style, not only for verisimilitude, but also to feed his wife and two children.

The plot of *Edmond de Bergerac* is not simple. Indeed, that is one of its joys, for it is comedy, it is tragedy, it is romance, it is satire, it is farce. Everything is played big in this production, for everything is larger than life. The biggest thing of all is Cyrano de Bergerac's famous nose, which it is a triumph in itself.

Edmond is bemused and battered by the whirlwind of action that his creativity has unleashed, riding the whirlwind, trying to keep up with events. Here is a man who ends up in a brothel ... to drink camomile tea!

Read Mark Aspen's review at www.markaspen.com/2019/05/01/ed-berg

Photography by Graeme Braidwood





Baal

by Bertolt Brecht

Impermanence at Bristol Old Vic until 25th April

Impermanence, the company that produced *Sexbox* and *Da-Da Darling*, tackles an innovative, new adaptation of the Bertolt Brecht's *Baal*, the first full length play by the German Modernist playwright, written in 1918.



The abstract work monitors the notoriously flawed central protagonist, Baal, its thematic focus tracking his ill-fated journey through solipsism, violence and manipulation to his pre-destined destruction. The performers unleash themselves in bestial forms. The women role play matadors as the men act out a bull fighting duet, challenging the stereotypical expectation of sexes in the dominant and submissive roles. The same red scarves used to provoke the animalistic performers here are later used to symbolise the blood and subsequent death of Ekart, a friend murdered by Baal. In a grotesque display, the characters create discomforting images across the stage suggestive of rape and lascivious seduction.



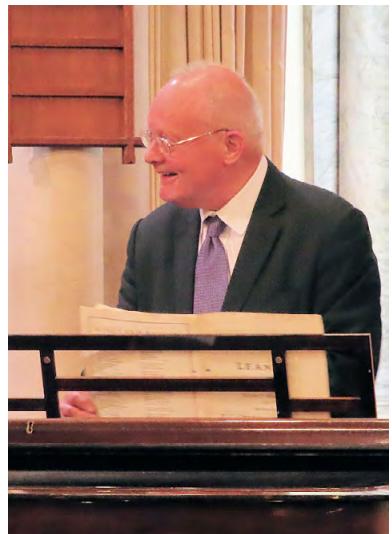
Read Sophie Chinner's review at www.markaspen.com/2019/04/29/5126

English Song

by Roger Martin and Martin Pagnamenta

Good Seeds at St Mary's Church, Hampton, 27th April

In the dim and far distant past, I recall standing in the school hall with other short-trousered boys and singing *Linden Lea* or other such pieces of beautifully bucolic whimsy. For many of the audience this was a similar plucking of the strings of innocence from decades ago. Or was it? Listening carefully to this nostalgia-fest, did we detect that the English countryside of yore was far from innocent?



Shakespeare featured largely and he is always good for a robust look at life, but Benjamin Britten's arrangement of the folksong *The Foggy, Foggy Dew* beats "come up and see my etchings". A bachelor remembers "a fair young maid" who "knelt down by my side, when I was fast asleep" ... "So all night long I held her in my arms, to keep her from the foggy, foggy dew". Well I never, he now looks at his son and apprentice and can't quite remember why the boy looks so much like the fair maid.

Read Thomas Forsythe's review at www.markaspen.com/2019/05/02/eng-song

Photography by Maurizio Martorana and Lewis Lloyd

TRAVELLER'S TALES 29

June 6th the 75th Anniversary of D-Day

Doug Goodman recalls his visit on June 6th last year to the Normandy Beaches.



What struck me on my visit last June to the invasion beaches and towns was the vast volume of military vehicles, re-enactors, parades, museums and monuments commemorating the D-Day landings along the French coast. This year there will be even more activities and events as the 75th anniversary takes place. Portsmouth will have air displays, parades and fleets of ships while in Normandy heads of state will meet veterans, watch parachute drops and join with thousands of visitors attending the momentous day. In every town and village people will gather to pay their respects to those who died during the Normandy battles.



Mulberry Harbour at Arromanches



American vehicles



Gun Truck

Shortly after midnight on June 6th 1944 the biggest invasion force ever assembled began the liberation of France and the rest of Nazi dominated Europe. Nearly 25,000 troops parachuted or landed by glider near St. Mere Eglise and around the Caen Canal while at 06.30 the first landing craft hit the Utah and Omaha Beaches.

DETAILED PLANNING

The planning and execution of Operation Overlord was incredibly complex when you realise that on June 6th alone more than 6,800 vessels, 11,590 aircraft, 3,500 gliders, 20,000 vehicles and 132,000 troops were involved in the invasion on the five beaches. From the remains of the Mulberry Harbours to the many museums there's so much to see. From Utah Beach in the west to Sword in the east the distance is about 50 miles and you'll need a week to visit the key sites. This will provide time for a leisurely drive through the attractive countryside and the chance to enjoy the culinary delights of the region such as its Calvados and Camembert.



Tank Park



Jeep convoy



German Cemetery

Begin your tour at the Utah Beach Museum which takes you through the events of D-Day to the battle's final outcome. Nearby is St. Mere Eglise the scene of a parachute drop right into the town's main square. Normally a quiet town it comes alive for a few days around each June 6th.

It was like a film set with hundreds of re-enactors in military uniforms, convoys of jeeps and a huge tented camp packed with heavy vehicles. Arromanches still has the remains of the giant Mulberry Harbour towed from the UK to offer speedy landing facilities. The comprehensive museum is well worth a visit. At Juno Beach I watched a parade by veterans to commemorate the 45,000 Canadian troops who gave their lives in the war and later visited the first house to be liberated on June 6th – now called Canada House.



Utah Beach Museum



Utah Beach memorial



Veterans on Parade

The sombre German cemetery at La Combe with its black crosses contrasted with the American cemetery at Colville-sur-Mer where flowers cover many of the 9,387 white crosses to the US troops.

Sword was the eastern-most invasion beach where the Third British Infantry Division landed in order to join up with the airborne troops at Pegasus Bridge. The bar and restaurants are a popular meeting place for veterans and re-enactors and in the museum the original bridge can be seen.

In four week's time Normandy will experience another invasion so avoid the week either side of June 6th and plan your trip for a quieter time, although you may miss the jeep convoys and the sight of tanks revving up but the friendliness of all the locals will still be there.



Pegasus Bridge



D-Day



Commemorating the fallen

The Liberation Route Europe is a remembrance trail connecting events, museums, regions, countries and people with the final stages of WW2. Founded in 2008 in The Netherlands its aim is to remember and honour soldiers and civilians of all nations who gave their lives for freedom. www.europremembers.com

Information

Getting there: A car is essential to visit the sites. DFDS has ferries from Dover to Calais (www.dfdseaways.co.uk) and it's a 4 hour, mainly motorway, drive. Brittany Ferries go from Poole to Cherbourg and from Portsmouth to Caen. (www.brittany-ferries.co.uk) www.normandydday75.com and www.ddayfestival.com

FOOTBALL FOCUS

By Alan Winter



BRENTFORD FC

GAME AT BOLTON CALLED OFF SO WHAT NOW?

At the time of writing this column, the game at Bolton Wanderers due to take place last Saturday had been called off due to their players refusing to play as they had not been paid since February. The club is in the middle of a possible change of ownership and the EFL (English Football League) has informed Bolton that they expect the game to be played. Laurence Bassini intends to complete his proposed takeover of relegated Bolton and believes the postponed Championship match with Brentford will be played this week. It's all very messy so who knows?



We do know however that the Bees will play their final home game of the season tomorrow (Sunday 5th May) at Griffin Park against Preston North End. Kick off is at 12.30 for this one. I'll summarise Brentford's season next week by which time we should know what happened with the Bolton Wanderers situation. All good fun isn't it?

Come on you Bees!

HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH FC

EX-BEAVERS PILE ON THE MISERY FOR HAMPTON IN FINAL GAME OF THE SEASON

WELLING UNITED 4 – HAMPTON AND RICHMOND 0

Welling proved to be too good for the Beavers as the season ended in a disappointing away defeat.

Goals from Gavin McCallum, Nassim L'Ghoul and ex-Beavers Brendan Kiernan and Mohamed Bettamer were enough for the hosts, despite an improved second half performance from the visitors.

Hampton were nearly caught cold straight away when ex-Beaver Brendan Kiernan made a driving run down the left-hand side before picking out Danny Mills who put a header on target to test Tom Lovelock.

Hampton did not heed the early warning and found themselves a goal down in the third minute. McCallum jinked past a couple of defenders before having his shot blocked by Casey McLaren but he could not get the ball away and McCallum picked up possession again, jinked past another defender and smashed his shot into the far corner of the net from outside the box.



It was the hosts that would score the next goal, after a lucky bounce following an attempted clearance from Simon Downer the ball fell to Kiernan who continued his run into the box and slotted the ball past Lovelock.

Craig Dundas had a great chance to reduce the deficit, but he fired his effort wide when it looked easier to score.

The second half continued in a similar vein when Maclaren found himself free just inside the box following Sotiriou's lay-off, but he dragged his shot inches wide.

Sotiriou then had a couple of opportunities himself, first getting the ball caught under his feet before firing into the keeper's arms.

Hampton were spared the pain of a second ex-Beaver scoring when Tom Lovelock got himself behind Mohamed Bettamer's free-kick and managed to hang on to it at the second time of asking with Welling's strikers closing in.

This was only a brief rest-bite though as Bettamer was found by McCallum's through ball, he saw off the challenge of Sprague as smashed home when one-on-one with Lovelock.

The score line took another hit when Nassim L'Ghoul was credited with the goal after McCallum's shot took a wicked deflection to beat Lovelock. L'Ghoul had started the move as well with a strong run down the left.

Hampton did their best to hit back and created their best chance of the game when Zak Joseph made clean contact with Harry Crawford's cross to force the home keeper into a fine diving save.

Welling went straight back up the other end and nearly made it five though. L'Ghoul was sent free in the box but Lovelock produced an excellent save with his legs to keep the score at four and that was the end of the season.

My thanks to the fine folk at the HRBFC Press Team for the above report.

So an interesting season with Hampton and Richmond Borough finally finishing 15th with 49 points. At one point they looked as if they would be challenging for promotion. Towards the end of the season they were anxiously looking over their shoulders as they found themselves a bit too close to the relegation tussle for comfort. Who can forget the great FA Cup run finishing at Beveree on a passion filled night when Oldham Athletic only just got the result after the Beavers had been ahead for most of the game. So close to a record breaking win but it was not to be.

That's football for you – We'll be following Hampton here at the Twickenham Tribune again next season. If anything happens in the close season then you can read about it here. Enjoy the summer.

The most capped rugby sevens player of all time James Rodwell will retire from professional rugby at the end of the 2018/19 season.

In January this year Rodwell broke the HSBC World Rugby Sevens Series appearance record by playing his 90th tournament in Hamilton, overtaking New Zealand's DJ Forbes who had featured in 89 by the time he had retired. Rodwell became England Sevens' most capped player when celebrating his 71st appearance at the Cape Town Sevens in December 2016 where his team defeated South Africa in the Cup final to win gold.

At the 2014 Hong Kong Sevens where England played in the Cup final Rodwell had reached 50 consecutive World Series appearances. He then went on to set the record number of consecutive appearances of 69 two years later at the 2016 Singapore Sevens. Rodwell was a pivotal member of the Team GB squad for the Rio 2016 Olympics where rugby sevens made its Olympic debut. Rodwell scored two tries for Team GB in the tournament and helped his side take home the silver medal.

As well as featuring in the Delhi 2010 and Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, Rodwell helped England to bronze medal success at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games 2018 where they defeated South Africa to earn their spot on the podium. After making his first Rugby World Cup Sevens appearance for England in Dubai in 2009, Rodwell also represented his country at the Moscow Rugby World Cup Sevens in 2013 where England were defeated by New Zealand in the final. Last year Rodwell played in his last World Cup tournament in San Francisco where England won silver after losing out to New Zealand again in the final.

Commenting on his retirement at the end of the season, Rodwell said: "It's been an amazing journey from when I first started playing sevens – I would never have imagined that I'd pull on an England jersey this many times. The pleasure that I still get from representing my country is incredible and it's still a huge honour to wear the England shirt.

"The game of sevens has grown so much in the 12 years that I have been involved. It began with part-time players coming together for tournaments and now has players on fully-professional contracts and is about to feature in the Olympics for the second time – I'm very proud to have been a part of that.

"As well as my family there are lot of people that I have to thank for my career over the years – going all the way back to my school, university and Moseley coaches who believed in me before the likes of Ben Ryan, Russell Earnshaw and Simon Amor who have all given me so much support within the England Sevens programme. The level of detail that Simon Amor puts into getting players into the right place both physically and mentally has played such a huge part in me being able to have played for such a long time.

Head of England Sevens Simon Amor commented: "I have been so fortunate to have worked with Rodders for almost six years and it has been a real pleasure to coach someone who's not only so detailed in his thinking and so knowledgeable about the game, but who has continually strived to be truly the best player he can be.

"It is difficult to overstate the impact he has had in the England Sevens programme but unfortunately retirement comes to everyone in the end – but reaching 91 tournaments is testament to the exceptional athlete he is. "He is a very rare breed and while Dan Norton might be eyeing up his overall number of tournament caps, one that will certainly not be taken from Rodders is 69 in a row – phenomenal achievement!"

Rodwell's rugby career started at the age of seven at Tring RFC and at Berkhamsted Collegiate School from the age of ten. He then went on to play for the U19s at Moseley Rugby Club where he played at county level for the Midlands before going on to be selected for Birmingham University's first team. Rodwell's England Sevens debut came in 2008 when he ran out against the United States at the Dubai Sevens. He was later offered a professional contract with England in 2010 ahead of the Delhi Commonwealth Games.



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

14th May, 8:00PM

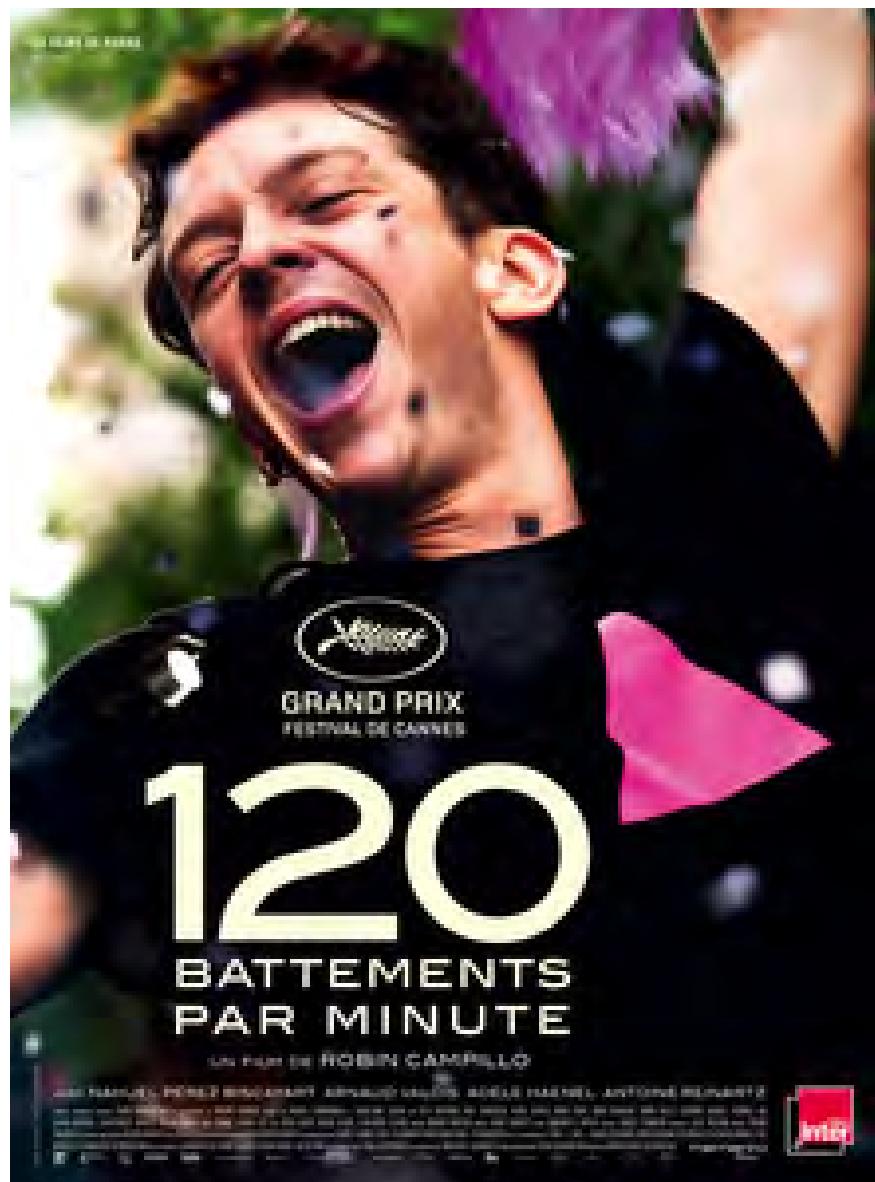
120 BPM (Beats Per Minute) (France)

Directed by Robin Campillo

Robin Campillo's drama on AIDS/HIV activism in early nineties Paris focuses upon the 'Act Up' group and meshes the political with the personal to powerful effect. Winner of 47 awards worldwide, including the 'Grand Prix' at Cannes.

www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk

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.

Completing Crossrail

In a report, published today, the National Audit Office (NAO) states that Crossrail is past the point of no return; nearly £16 billion has been spent, tunnelling was completed in 2015, trains have been ordered and some are already in service.

The way Crossrail has been delivered has driven unnecessary costs and damaged public value. Until the Elizabeth line opens it is not possible to determine the overall value for money for taxpayers. In April 2019, Crossrail Ltd announced that it plans to introduce Elizabeth line services on the central section between October 2020 and March 2021. However, Crossrail Ltd has not yet completed its assessment of the impact of this opening schedule on costs and it is still unclear when the full Elizabeth line service will start. Crossrail Ltd must now focus on completing its plans and delivering against them.

In February 2019, the NAO published a memorandum on Crossrail for the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) which examined the project's overall progress, costs and potential for future delays. PAC concluded that final costs remained uncertain and that there was no date for when the railway would be fully operational.¹

In today's report, the NAO has further identified how the programme ran into difficulty, which has so far led to £2.8bn of additional financing for the programme, including around £2 billion of loans from the government to the Greater London Authority and Transport for London. A compressed schedule, the contractual model, the loss of downward pressure on costs, and the absence of an achievable plan were set against an atmosphere where "can do" became unrealistic.

Key facts



£14.8bn

funding agreed for Crossrail in 2010, including contingency

£17.6bn

current total funding package for Crossrail, including contingency, an increase of 19%. As at March 2019 Crossrail Ltd expects the overall programme to cost around £17 billion

£2.8 bn

increase in available funding for the Crossrail programme to cover cost increases and remaining risks

The programme has been dominated by a fixed completion date of December 2018 set by Crossrail Ltd and the joint sponsors, the Department for Transport (the Department) and TfL. This date drove much of Crossrail Ltd's decision making. Aiming for December 2018 meant multiple activities ran in parallel. The delivery approach, delays to some contracts and the decision to set and then stick to the December 2018 opening date, increased risks.

Despite this deadline, Crossrail Ltd did not start to produce a sufficiently detailed delivery plan against which to track progress until late 2018. Consequently, Crossrail Ltd had a gap in its understanding of delivery risks and the likelihood of meeting the December 2018 opening date.

By 2015, problems started to emerge on Crossrail and opportunities to change approach were missed. The sponsors had few effective contractual levers to enable them to take action as they had provided Crossrail Ltd with a high degree of autonomy to deliver the programme. Changes required to the design and to contractors' delivery schedules has increased costs on most of the 36 main contracts. These changes resulted in increased contract costs of around £2.5 billion between 2013 and 2018, of which £900 million was through the renegotiation of contracts to settle historic contractor claims.

October 2020 to March 2021	revised target period for opening services on the central section of the Elizabeth line
Yet to be announced	opening date of full Elizabeth line services
December 2018	date, announced in 2010, when the Crossrail sponsors and Crossrail Ltd expected to start running services on the central section of the railway
£600 million	assumption in 2018 Transport for London's (TfL's) business plan of revenue losses to Transport for London (TfL) between 2019-20 and 2023-24, as a result of delays to the opening of Crossrail services. To be reviewed in line with opening dates announced on 25 April 2019
£2.5 billion	increase in the cost of contracts between 2013 and 2018 due to design and contract changes
£2.05 billion	value of loans from HM Government to London, including £1.3 billion to the Greater London Authority and £750 million as contingency to TfL to cover the increased cost of Crossrail

Pressures on the programme continued to escalate through to the end of 2018. Between February 2017 and December 2018, for example, the forecast final cost of the contract to install track and key systems in the tunnels increased by 80% from £532 million to £956 million.

Crossrail Ltd also made decisions that drove unnecessary cost. In early 2018, Crossrail Ltd began carrying out train testing and construction activity in alternating time periods, to allow for early sight of potential train and signalling system issues. However, this testing was of limited use and took any spare time and space from construction workers on site. Crossrail Ltd also reduced the size of its central programme and risk

management teams during 2018, in anticipation of the programme reaching completion in December 2018. It is currently attempting to rehire these personnel.



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

"Throughout delivery, and even as pressures mounted, Crossrail Ltd clung to the unrealistic view that it could complete the programme to the original timetable, which has had damaging consequences."

"DfT and TfL must support the new Crossrail Ltd executive team to get the railway built without unrealistic cost or time expectations."

"While we cannot make an overall assessment of value for money until Crossrail is complete, there have been a number of choices made in the course of this project that have clearly

Read the full report [HERE](#)



National Audit Office

Assembly response to NAO report on Crossrail

A National Audit Office (NAO) report released today finds that extra costs occurred on the

LONDON ASSEMBLY

Crossrail project because of a variety of issues, including an aspirational style of management. One of the issues the report highlights is that Crossrail had a fixation on the December 2018 opening date which influenced decisions. This comes after the London Assembly Transport Committee published its report 'Derailed: Getting Crossrail back on track', which analysed how a range of factors contributed to the delay, including an "obsession" with opening the new line in December.

In response to the NAO's report, Deputy Chair of the **Transport Committee, Caroline Pidgeon MBE, said:**

"This report from the NAO reinforces our findings that bad management of Crossrail caused huge damage.

"The Transport Committee report 'Derailed: Getting Crossrail back on track' also highlighted how the obsession with a December 2018 opening date clouded all judgement, despite red flags showing up as early as January 2018.

"Going forward Crossrail, TfL and the Mayor must be realistic, pragmatic and honest with themselves and Londoners about any issues that occur and deal with them accordingly. They should not be afraid to face the music if a big stumbling block threatens the timing of delivery. "Crossrail is a huge and complex project and it is understandable that not everything will go to plan. However, we must leave behind the days of chasing an opening date and focus on the successful delivery of a new line for Londoners."

[Correspondence between the Mayor and the Transport Committee](#)

A ROOM WITH A VIEW

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



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

Half Page

Quarter Page Landscape

Quarter Page Portrait

Eighth Page Landscape

Eighth Page

Why Advertise with
the Tribune?

Example advert sizes shown above

Thousands read The Twickenham Tribune

If you are reading this you could be advertising your business with
The Twickenham Tribune. Community rates are available

Contact: advertise@twickenhamtribune.com

View ad details at www.twickenhamtribune.com/advertise

©Twickenham Alive Limited. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be used or reproduced without the permission of Twickenham Alive Limited. While we take reasonable efforts, this online newspaper cannot be held responsible for the accuracy or reliability of information. The views and opinions in these pages do not necessarily represent those of Twickenham Alive Limited or The Twickenham Tribune. [Terms & Conditions](#)