

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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TickerTape - News in Brief

August Bank Holiday recycling one day later

Following the Bank Holiday on Monday 26 August, Richmond Council will carry out waste and recycling collections (including Garden Waste collections) for domestic properties one day later than usual. For example, Monday collections will take place on Tuesday and Friday collections on the Saturday.

Council leads the Capital in support for troubled families

Work by Achieving for Children’s social workers, on behalf of Richmond Council, to support troubled families in the borough has been praised highly by the Government. Phase two of the Troubled Families programme was launched in 2015. The aim of the programme is for Councils and local partner organisations to work together with local families who have multiple problems including crime, anti-social behaviour, truancy, unemployment, mental health problems and domestic abuse. The aim is to support families using local interventions and help ‘turn their lives around’. This could include getting children back into school, reducing youth crime and anti-social behaviour, putting adults on a path back into work and reducing the high costs these families place on the public purse. The Government has identified 650 families in Richmond that need specific support over a five-year period. In a recent review, the Government has found that Richmond has already helped 78% of families, placing the borough at the top of the league table in London.

Twickenham Riverside Parking

The Council has carried out a Transport and Parking Assessment for the Twickenham Riverside development (CPZ Zone D); a maximum of 78 spaces could be removed. Additional parking spaces will be created with some reallocation of current spaces. Depending on the plan implemented there may be parking on the site. Decisions will be made once a plan has been chosen by the Council.

There is also a “Plan B” proposal to use Holly Road and Arragon Road car parks if necessary. Directional electronic signage may be installed around the town centre.



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Transport, of one form or another, seems to be the hot topic in the borough at the moment.

There has been the 'controversial' proposed new low traffic neighbourhood in East Sheen, which has generated a great deal of Twitter traffic. The Council has carried out a Transport and Parking Assessment for the Twickenham Riverside development, which was presented to the Twickenham Riverside Stakeholder Group on Thursday. There is the TfL consultation on the proposal for a ['student-only'](#) bus in Barnes.

But most of all there is the continued hot topic of a new bridge for Twickenham. This discussion has been enlivened by the emergence of the [Twick'n'Ham Bridge](#) chaps, who propose a bridge "between Ham Street Car Park and the far western edge of Orleans Gardens". Our wonderful friends at Radnor Bridge are not too keen on this and have been at pains to explain why theirs is the only viable option.

When not using flipper power, or taking his bicycle across the easily accessible Teddington Lock Bridge, TwickerSeal finds a Paddleboard quite useful for crossing the river. Meanwhile, TwickerDuck thinks that a bridge as part of the new Twickenham Riverside Development should have been considered, but that would have required some joined up thinking. Whatever your view, TwickerSeal thinks all the bridges are too far.



Links Across the World

On The Richmond side of the Borough we have Bernado O'Higgins:

“This week the Mayor helped mark borough’s connection with Chilean hero”

Richmond upon Thames’ unique connection with Chilean hero Bernardo O’Higgins was marked at a ceremony in Richmond today (20 August).

Mayor of Richmond upon Thames, Cllr Nancy Baldwin joined delegates from the Chilean Embassy at O’Higgins Square in Richmond to mark the birth of one of the key figures in the Chilean independence movement and head of the country’s first national government.

Bernardo O’Higgins lived in Richmond for two years whilst he studied at Clarence House in The Vineyard, which used to be a private school. There is a blue plaque on the wall beside the house and a bust of O’Higgins in the square. www.worldinfozone.com/facts.php?country=Chile

On the Twickenham side of the Borough we have a link with Gibraltar at Gifford Lodge facing Twickenham Green.

The first Earl of Strafford, who negotiated the Treaty of Utrecht which ceded Gibraltar to Britain, was a former owner of the original house.

www.worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=StrawberryHillGifford

Neighbourhood Watch Big Curry

Neighbourhood Watch and The Soldiers’ Charity have announced a new initiative to bring neighbours together to share a meal while raising money for both charities.

Together for Good: The Neighbourhood Watch Big Curry will run for the month of September with supporters of both charities coming together to share a meal, swap their stories and build new friendships. Each meal will be a chance for supporters to give to each charity through small individual donations as well as getting neighbours talking to one another.



Events can be held on a small scale – taking place in someone’s living room with a handful of supporters to bigger events in a community hall where everyone in a street is invited, for example. The important thing is that people come together to get to know their neighbours over lovely food to raise money for two well-loved charities.

Will you commit to holding a Neighbourhood Watch Big Curry this September?

For more information, resources and recipe tips visit:

www.soldierscharity.org/big-curry/together-for-good/

Have your say on proposed new low traffic neighbourhood in East Sheen

Residents in East Sheen are invited to have their say on proposals that aim to reduce the impact of traffic on residential roads between Richmond Park and the Upper Richmond Road West. Residents in East Sheen are invited to have their say on proposals that aim to reduce the impact of traffic on residential roads between Richmond Park and the Upper Richmond Road West. In recent years, the area has suffered from an increase in traffic using local residential roads between Richmond Park (Sheen Gate) and the Upper Richmond Road West (South Circular).

Following a local petition, some initial traffic management restrictions were introduced in October 2018 on an experimental basis, to try to help discourage through traffic. Following the indefinite closure of Hammersmith Bridge, further experimental measures were introduced whilst a long-term series of options were being explored. Whilst these measures did show an initial 10% drop in overall traffic in the area, the emergency closure of Hammersmith Bridge has since resulted in further pressures on the local road network. Therefore, the Council has brought forward proposals for a new 'low traffic neighbourhood' that seek to balance traffic movements.

A low traffic neighbourhood is designed to keep through-traffic on the most appropriate roads and discourage drivers using residential roads. However, any proposal runs the risk of creating further challenges. The more one introduces effective measures to deter people 'cutting through,' the more local access is impacted. Finding the right balance between restricting through-traffic in an area whilst not inconveniencing residents and businesses is a challenging task. Therefore, the Council is presenting a series of proposals for residents to consider. Each proposal is a package of coordinated measures that have been designed to ensure that through-traffic is heavily restricted and that any displaced traffic is kept on appropriate routes.

Each package has several advantages and disadvantages and the Council is keen to hear from residents their view on each proposal. Around 3,000 residents have already been written to regarding the consultation, with a summary of each option.

Residents can [have their say](#) before 27 September 2019.

Alternatively, the Council is holding a drop-in session for residents on Thursday 12 September at All Saints Church, East Sheen Ave, London, SW14 8AX between 4 and 9pm. There will be a short presentation on the proposals from Cllr Alexander Ehmann at 8pm – with the chance to ask him questions.

Cllr Alexander Ehmann, Chair of the Transport and Air Quality Committee, said:

"The volume of through-traffic in this part of East Sheen has always been high. The closure of Hammersmith Bridge has intensified many of the issues, with some drivers using smaller residential roads as rat-runs in attempts to beat the traffic that is using more suitable routes. The Council heard the concerns of local residents about the very real impact that this traffic was having on many people's lives and it has drawn up a range of proposals aimed at decreasing instances of rat-running through the area. "Expert officers of the Council have analysed traffic management options and have created four sets of interventions for consultation. "We want to hear your views on these proposals, whatever your take on them."



PART 141 – HAMPTON'S FIRE STATIONS

Hampton established a fire brigade in 1886. In 1897, Hampton's first fire station was built at 42 Thames Street. Our first photo shows the date carved into the arch of the building. The "Fire Manual" up to that date had been housed behind the Bell public house.

Fire-fighting a hundred and twenty years ago was a very different matter without today's modern appliances and water supplies. The firemen were a voluntary body who, when the alarm sounded, would leave their work, or their homes if at night, and rush to the fire station - or at first, the shed where the appliance was kept, and harness, probably a pair of horses to the fire engine, having first of all borrowed them from a local tradesman. The appliance at first was nothing more than a manually operated pump, allowing as many as a dozen firemen to pump at once, being relieved by volunteers when they tired. The reward was payment by the insurance companies, or owner or occupier of the property, in proportion to the value of their services.



A new fire station was also built for Hampton Hill, in Windmill Road, on the site of what was to become the public library. Our second postcard shows the defunct fire station in Windmill Road after the premises had been converted to a library. The library transferred back to Hampton Hill High Street a few years ago.



Hampton and Teddington fire brigades were amalgamated with Twickenham in 1938 and were then administered by the Twickenham Borough Council until the Fire Services Act of 1947, when the Middlesex Fire Brigade was formed. The main fire station was at first located at 91 Queens Road, Twickenham Junction until the erection of the very modern station at 30 South Road, Fulwell in 1965.

For those readers who enjoy local history or who collect postcards or other paper based items,

there is a Postcard and Paper fair at Tolworth on Bank Holiday Monday this weekend (26th August). I shall be there with several tables of postcards as well as some books and photos of the local area. Why not pop along and say hello. I shall be buying as well as selling so please bring along any old postcards that you may wish to get rid of.

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!

Arts and Entertainment

By Emma Grey



Saturday 24th August, Midnight River Blues Band, the Prince Blucher on Twickenham Green.

Ongoing- 24 August. 9.30-6.00, (Mon-Fri, Sat.-4.00)

Riverside Gallery, TW9 1TP. Richmond Printmakers exhibit

TRANSFORMATION. Works of art from plain, unblemished wood, metal, stone, lino or silk.

All The World's A Stage at Richmond Theatre, Sunday 15 September, Tickets Free, 120 years of history of Richmond Theatre presented by Theatre Director Brendan Riding with Mark Fox of the Matcham Society and Paul Velluet of the Richmond Local History Society.

Saturday 14 – Saturday 21 September: 7.45 (Sunday, 15: 3.00) The Mary Wallace Theatre, TW1 3DU. Richmond Shakespeare Society's production of THE FATHER by Florian Zeller, translated by Christopher Hampton.

Saturday 28 September - Friday, 4 October: 7.45 (Sunday, 29: 6.00) At Hampton Hill Theatre, Main Auditorium: DAISY PULLS IT OFF by Denise Deegan.

Info: www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk

Ongoing. Orleans House Gallery: SUMMER EXHIBITION. Other exhibitions also continue.

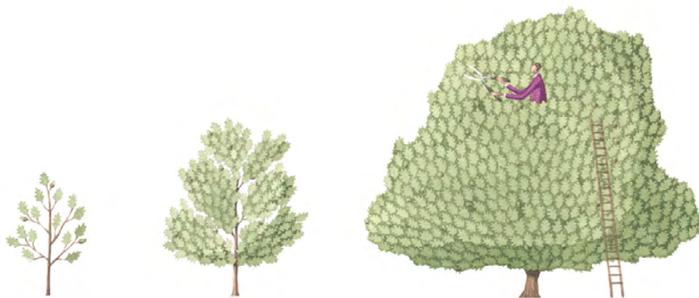
Ongoing. Wednesdays-Sundays, 12 noon-4.00. Turner's House. Exhibitions: MINIATURE LANDS OF MYTH AND MEMORY. Don't miss. Wander around the garden now in full bloom.

Info: www.turnerhouse.org

Jazz, rock, and blues music enthusiasts who head to the bars at The Cabbage Patch Pub in London Road are advised to visit Twickfolk, Twickenham Jazz Club and Eel Pie Club websites to check what's on. Sunday 28 July, Twickfolk invite you to another of its popular SINGAROUND when you can join in with your own song or not, or just sit and listen.

Until September. THE PUPPET BARGE returns to the Riverside at Richmond, opposite the Terrace Gardens, TW10 6UT. Three programmes on different dates through 3 months.

If you are interested in advertising an Arts & Entertainment event write to Emma at contact@twickenhamtribune.com for further information.



The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

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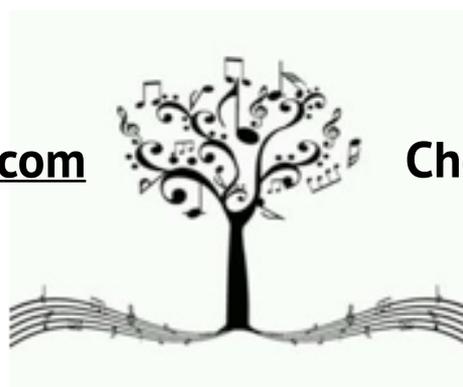
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Heathrow Expansion Consultation

Make your feelings known before it's too late!

You may have seen the notices about Heathrow's proposed expansion plans and wondered if you will be impacted by the changes:

- Twickenham and Teddington could become noise sewers affected by concentrated arrival and departure air traffic
- Increased air pollution for Londoners
- More congestion on local roads as Heathrow plans to double the amount of freight to 3 million tonnes and more vehicles will be used to transport all the extra passengers who can't get there by public transport
- Being asked about flightpaths in consultations without being told where they will be
- Our area will get a significant increase in early morning arrivals from 6am
- Taxpayers may be asked to pick up the tab as costs spiral and Heathrow's funds have been paid out in dividends to its foreign owners

Because expansion will have a devastating impact on Twickenham and surrounding areas, it is **vital** to communicate your views. There will be a consultation event run by the airport at York House, Twickenham on 30 August from 2pm till 8pm, where they will present the changes from Heathrow's perspective. Other locations/dates here: <https://aec.heathrowconsultation.com/events/>

Teddington Action Group (TAG) will be holding a public meeting on 5 Sep from 8pm to 10pm at Teddington Baptist Church, 17 Church Rd, Teddington TW11 8PT to point out what these changes could actually mean for our communities. Our MP, the Right Hon. Sir Vince Cable, will be speaking and a representative from Heathrow Airport has been invited.

TAG will also provide a paper copy of suggested answers to the Heathrow online consultation at the meeting.

You can respond online by the deadline of 13 Sep: <https://aec.heathrowconsultation.com/> or email: feedback@heathrowconsultation.com or send a hard copy to: Heathrow Community Relations, The Compass Centre, Nelson Road, Hounslow TW6 2GW

At a time when the Government has declared a climate emergency and the planet edges towards the point of no return with global warming, the last thing we need is 173 million more tonnes of carbon emissions from flights using a third runway.

Please see TAG's website for more details: <http://www.teddingtonactiongroup.com> or No 3rd Runway Coalition: <https://www.no3rdrunwaycoalition.co.uk/>



TEDDINGTON ACTION GROUP
Against Increased Aircraft Noise and Pollution

2019 or 1984?

Teresa Read

On Thursday evening at a Council meeting for Twickenham Riverside I was concerned when a senior officer told the assembled group that *the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames would use IP addresses to check consultation forms*. I think she may have heard an intake of breath as she hastily said it was to make sure that the consultation form was not being accessed multiple times by one person. There was an acknowledgement that people in the same location might use the same IP address.

An IP address (Internet Protocol) is a unique number which identifies a computer and may be used to identify a user. However, there are those who have more than one IP address for various reasons, for instance, when they were assigned in the early days of the internet.

This announcement reminds me how the Council views independent online petitions. I understand from a senior officer that they perceive some abuse of the system; thus, they ignore residents' comments referring people to the Council's petition system.

When I arrived home I immediately contacted someone I know in the field of data protection and received the following general information about Councils and IPs:

- Is the Council using IP addresses in any format elicited from communications with the Council?
- Is the IP address linked by the Council to anything that could be considered as personal data sent to them in external communications?
- Does the Council inform people before they respond to surveys or questionnaires online that their IP address will be used; for what purpose, and how long is the information kept?
- Is the extraction of IP address information in the Council's Records Retention Policy (https://www.richmond.gov.uk/council/open_richmond/data_protection) published online and what details are given under GDPR?
- Is the Council erroneous in stating from time to time that surveys and the like are anonymous and personal data/details are not used to retain that anonymity?
- Note that the Police require a court order to get details from an ISP of the details of an IP address.

I must say that I have not noticed the Council (LBRUT) stating on consultation forms that it will look at my IP address.

An enquiry to the Information Officer's Commission (ICO) this morning informed me of my "right to be informed" and for the use of IP addresses to be specified on consultation forms. However, it was mentioned that this could affect residents' participation; previously we were asked for a post code on the understanding that we would not be identified.

I was also asked whether I know if it is the Council's intention to do this for all consultations or just this one consultation, i.e, Twickenham Riverside. Unhappy with the IP situation I emailed a national journalist who has followed the Twickenham Riverside saga for many years. She replied "Yes, I agree with you but this is 2019".

2019 or 1984?

The Council states on its website **"You have the right to ask us to stop using your personal information for any council service." So, Richmond Council I request that you please leave my IP address alone.**

Twickenham Riverside Consultation

https://www.richmond.gov.uk/myvillage/twickenham_redevelopment/twickenham_redevelopment_background

Earlier this year, Richmond Council agreed to commission the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) to deliver an OJEU compliant design competition.

The Royal Institute has extensive experience and is a widely recognised provider of architectural competitions, delivering high profile selection processes for both private and public-sector clients.

They have supported the Design Panel to develop a new brief for the site, facilitating the evaluation of the expressions of interest. They will also support the evaluation of the final concept designs submitted by the shortlisted architects.

The first stage of the competition invited architects to come forward and express interest in working on the site. An impressive 54 architect firms subsequently applied.

The Design Panel, chaired by the Leader of the Council, leading Councillors for Environment and Businesses, a local ward Councillor, a representative from the Local Stakeholder Reference Group, a RIBA independent advisor and two local representatives with architectural experience, reviewed all the applications to ensure that they met the required criteria.

With the support of the RIBA, five companies will now move to the next stage of the competition and be asked to produce designs.

- Baynes and Mitchell
- Allies and Morrison
- Cullinan Studio
- Hopkins Architects
- Haworth Tompkins

A chance to have your say

From 5pm on 4 September until Wednesday 2nd October 2019 the Council will be inviting residents to let them know what they think of their designs. Feedback will help members of the Design Panel to understand the views of the community. Feedback may also be used in the next stage of development for the winning design.

This is not a vote on the 5 designs. The design competition is following official European pro-

curement regulations. This means that the final decision on the chosen design will be made in line with these rules, with the Design Panel scoring against an evaluation criteria which will consider a number of different factors including how well the designs respond to the design brief and the financial viability of the proposals. Feedback from the public will be made available to the Design Panel during their deliberations but will not determine the outcome.

The chosen architect will be announced in December. The winning design will go through a detailed process of development and engagement before a planning application is made.

Drop-in exhibitions are being held on the below dates in the Clarendon Hall, York House, Twickenham, TW1 3AA.

- Thursday 5 September, 12 to 8pm
- Thursday 12 September, 6 to 8.30pm
- Saturday 21 September, 10am to 5pm
- Tuesday 24 September, 6 to 8.30pm

Additional information from a Stakeholders' Meeting at the Council:

Residents will be asked what they like and what they do not like about the five plans. Comments on environment, uses and traffic flow will be of interest. Models will not be on display and there will be no architectural CGI fly-throughs.

The architects have interpreted the brief in different ways.

There will be no publicity of results and no vote. The designs have not been evaluated and any aspects thought not to be in the brief will be picked up in the formal evaluation process.

The Council wants to ensure that the engagement is wide reaching.

Information gathered will be presented to the Design Panel. The Council will also look at financial viability and social value.

The report will not be publicly available until the winner has been chosen.

Bridges or Trees?

Dear Tribune,

I read with interest the letters commenting on the Radnor Gardens Bridge article and note that yet again no mention is made by either of the writers, who purportedly seek balance, on the subject of environmental impact.

The emphasis is on human needs for quicker access to green spaces and between our communities on either side of the river.

I think there are good arguments on both sides for this to happen but I hope that the evidence of impact along the River Crane Corridor from the increase of human and domestic animals' footfall will be taken into consideration. i.e. The increased litter dropped into the river including plastic bags and bottles; vandalism issues on green space which can harm endangered species and most importantly the increased lighting needed for human safety.

Bats and other nocturnal wildlife use the river for foraging and need dark skies and some respite from human activity in such a dense urban environment.

I wonder if the Tree Planting project and Woodland Trust data, also highlighted last week, would be a better use of funds, better environmentally for all of us and wildlife and less disruptive during the installation. Bridges or Trees?

Sammi Macqueen, River Crane Sanctuary

www.e-voice.org.uk/rcs

Image of bridge & roundabout © Radnor Bridge



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(translated by **Christopher Hampton**)

Directed by Stephen Oliver

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"The shadows are closing in"

Richmond celebrates another successful GCSE year

Richmond Council has congratulated local schools following the publication of this year's GCSE results – with excellent outcomes maintained or improved upon in most schools.

Provisional figures show that 78% of pupils achieved a grade four or above in English and Mathematics, which is roughly equivalent to the old C grade or above. This represents a 6% point increase since last year and is well above the 2019 national average of 66%. 56% of pupils also secured a 'good' pass in both subjects, achieving a grade 5 or above.

In addition to the improvements seen in English and mathematics, performance in other subject areas has also remained strong. 77% of all pupils entered into history or geography achieved a grade 4 or above, while 82% of those entered into a language did so, both above 2018 national averages of 62% and 70% respectively.

Cllr Penny Frost, Richmond Council Cabinet Member for Schools, said:

“I would like to congratulate everyone who picked up their results yesterday. The strength of these results show another excellent year for education in Richmond upon Thames and are testament to the hard work of schools, teachers and tutors and their pupils. “They should all be very proud of their achievements – particularly with the additional challenge of changes to the grading system.

“These grades are a credit to the students and all those who have supported them, and I wish them the best of luck for the future.”



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Environment Trust hosts two local events in SW London to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the start of WW2

Environment Trust, an environment and heritage charity in South West London, is running two events to tie in with the 80th anniversary of the start of World War Two in September, which will shine a light on how ordinary people in Richmond, Mortlake and East Sheen were affected by the war. The first is the opening of [St Leonards Air Raid Shelter](#) in Palmers Road, East Sheen with the support of [Mortlake with East Sheen Society](#) on 22nd September, as part of [Open House London](#). The shelter is one of the best preserved and evocative shelters in South West London having been almost untouched since the end of WW2. People can enjoy a free tour in small groups between 1pm and 5pm.

The shelter was first constructed in 1939 for the protection of the residents of St Leonards Court from aerial attack and protected residents from the Blitz in 1940-41, flying bombs in 1944 and then V2 rockets in 1944-5. Visitors will learn about the build up to the start of the war, the growing tensions across Europe that led to the demand to construct air raid precautions across the country, and life on the home front during the Blitz.

Following this Environment Trust is hosting a lecture entitled, [St Leonards Court at War 1939-1945](#) on 15th October from 6.30pm with noted local historian Simon Fowler, author of *Richmond at War*, talking about what the war was like for the residents of St Leonards Court as they hid in the shelter.

Simon will discuss how the war affected ordinary people, the reasons that such shelters were built, and the experiences of people who used them. In addition, he will discuss the air raids that took place in the area, the role that Richmond Park played in the war effort, and what it was like to grow up in Richmond during the War.

Emily Lunn, Environment Trust Heritage Project Manager said, *“Open House is a wonderful opportunity to find out about the history on your doorstep, and this year we’re delighted to open up St Leonards air raid shelter once again. September is the 80th anniversary of the outbreak of WW2 and it’s fitting to give people the rare chance to go into a shelter and see what life was like during war time. We follow this in October with a lecture from a wonderful local historian, Simon Fowler, who will share some fascinating insights and stories from this period. For those that visit the shelter this will have even greater impact, as they will have experienced first-hand what it’s like being in an air raid shelter. We hope those interested in history and their local area will show their support and come along to both events.”*

Tickets for the St Leonards Court at War 1939-1945 lecture on 15th October are £12 for members of the public and £10 for Environment Trust members. This includes a glass of wine on arrival. The lecture takes place at Vestry Hall, 21 Paradise Road, Richmond. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start.

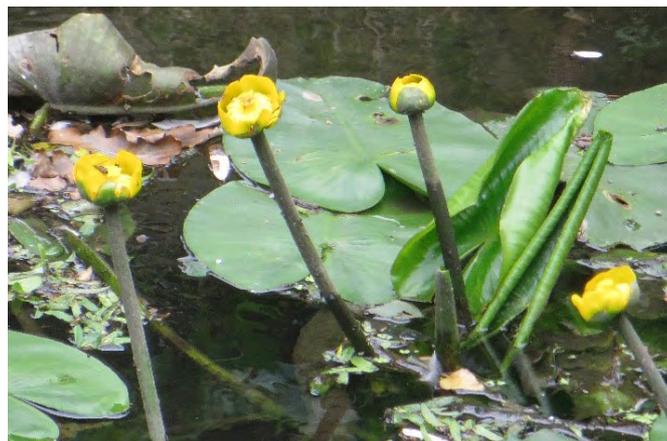
For more information and to buy tickets visit: www.environmenttrust.org/Event/lecture-st-leonards-court-at-war-1939-1945

As well as St Leonards Air Shelter, Environment Trust will also have Open House events at [Kilmorey Mausoleum](#) in St Margarets, Sir Richard Burton’s Mausoleum in Mortlake and Grove Garden Chapel in Richmond. For more information visit www.environmenttrust.org/Event/open-house-2019.

For more information about Environment Trust, including projects and forthcoming events visit www.environmenttrust.org



River Crane Sanctuary



Dragonflies and Damselflies are seen by the lily pads on the River Crane and they also frequent gardens and hedgerows nearby. The larger Common Aeshna - photo above - is the most widespread of our larger Hawker Dragonflies and they can be seen away from water too in July and August. Medium sized ones are called Darters from their habit of darting in and out of vegetation and the smaller species are Damselflies which are shown below. Apparently, the Male and Female Damselflies are different and the females have blueish or yellowish bodies but that is not easy to distinguish in real life situations.

Flight has always fascinated humans and led to the exploration of ways to get airborne and to eventually land on the Moon. These are fantastic achievements and a lot of pleasure and insights offered to many of us who embraced travel. Difficult decisions now have to be made personally and globally as the true cost of travel and means of travelling are highlighted by environmentalists.

The joy of watching our natural flyers – Bats, Birds, Bees, Butterflies etc...- still remains free of these concerns but their very survival is in jeopardy from climate change and other ecological factors which affect their habitats. Valuing these amazing lifeforms helps to create the will to change habits for their benefit even if it costs us something. See our Ecology page for links to many of the sites related to these 'Flyers' and in particular a link to 'Why Bats Matter' as there is a walk with Philip Briggs along the River Crane on Wednesday 28th August 2019. If the walk is already full you can always take your own walk and watch the dark sky for any sightings. Ecology page: [Why Bats Matter](#)



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

Twickers Foodie – By Alison Jee

An Awesome London Experience – on a Double Decker Bus!



Fancy a guided tour around our capital on a bus? With a delicious meal thrown in? Well, it's not at all what one might expect...and it is truly awesome! On our booking confirmation we were asked to wait at a specific point on the Embankment and along came our luxury, and I mean luxury (think Orient, not National Express) coach. We were escorted on board and seated upstairs in what is, effectively, a fabulous restaurant – but one with constantly changing views of town. Starting with a glass of champagne and some canapés, we moved on to the six-course tasting menu with

wines. Our menu included seared tuna, guinea fowl, a cheese course and a very good dessert. Reader, this food was seriously good, the service was excellent (amazing, considering the conditions), and we were looked after very well by our host Victor.

We headed east to Tower Bridge and then through the City and west towards the Albert Hall. The menu cards are cleverly designed with a route map onto which were special dots, where we could place our hand-held 'audiopens' and receive guided tour information with interesting facts, in numerous language options. We were tourists in our very own town, and what fun it was!



We went for dinner, but one can have lunch or afternoon tea, which is quite a lot cheaper. Prices and menus are on the website bustronome.com/london (it's a French idea, and started in Paris about four years ago) and are from around £60 for tea. The tours run all year round, and the cleverly-designed top deck offers 360 degree views of London in all weathers. Downstairs, there is a guest loo, cloakroom and kitchen. It was a very sociable experience and we chatted to other diners, who were a mix of locals celebrating special occasions, and tourists.



We will definitely be suggesting a tour to any future overseas friends visiting London. Vouchers would make a fabulous present. We were thinking that a winter afternoon tea tour, especially in the run up to Christmas with all the festive lights, will be amazing. I can't recommend the Bustronome highly enough, and would

urge you to book soon if you plan a trip around Christmas as I am sure word will spread soon and it will be booked up.

Follow Alison on insta:

[@theseasonedgastronome](https://www.instagram.com/theseasonedgastronome)



WIN A PAIR OF TICKETS TO THE HANDMADE FESTIVAL AT HAMPTON COURT

The Handmade Festival returns to Hampton Court Palace for the sixth year running from 13th to 15th September, where guests are invited to learn new skills or hone existing talents across an array of creative pursuits.

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For more information and to book tickets, please visit www.thehandmadefestival.com

TO ENTER, tell us who Kirstie Allsopp's co-presenter is in the popular TV series Location, Location, Location. Send your answer in the subject header to win@twickenhamtribune.com and don't forget to include your other contact details. Closing date: noon Friday 30 August

Terms and conditions:

Prize is for two pairs of entry only tickets to The Handmade Festival at Hampton Court Palace so there will be two winners. Prize is valid on any one day of the Festival, 13-15 September, subject to availability. Prize is non-exchangeable and non-transferable. Does not include any travel or accommodation or expenses. Prize does not include workshops or talks – workshops and talks are available to purchase on the day or online additionally, subject to availability. Not all experts appear on all days. Details correct at time of print.



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WIN TICKETS TO SEE ZIPPO'S CIRCUS 2019



The brilliant **Zippo's Circus** - "London's Favourite", and several times voted "Britain's Best Circus" – is coming to **Twickenham Green** with a brand-new 2019 production titled 'The Magnificent Top Hat'.

Enter our competition to win one of **five Family Tickets** (2 adults and 2 children)

The sparkling new show celebrates 21 years since The World's Greatest Ringmaster Norman Barrett first appeared at Zippos Circus in his distinctive top hat and red coat. The thrilling Brazilian Lucius Team of five motorcyclists in the famous Globe of Death will take centre stage. And back by popular demand is Paulo Dos Santos – a brilliant 3 foot 6 inches (107cm) tall aerialist, acrobat and physical comedian. They will be joined by a colourful troupe of artists from all around the world including foot jugglers, Kenyan tumblers, Cuban springboard acrobats, knife throwers, contortionists and dancers.

Zippos Circus comes to Twickenham Green from Thursday 12th to Tuesday 17th September. Discount tickets at www.zippos.co.uk or book by phone on 0871 210 2100.

To be in with a chance of winning one of the prizes, just answer this simple question:

Who is the 3 ft 11 inches showman and acrobat in Zippo's Circus?

Send your answer to: win@TwickenhamTribune.com to arrive by the closing date of **Friday 30th August 2019**.

Don't forget to include your name, email, and a phone number!

ZIPPO'S CIRCUS WILL NOTIFY WINNERS AND WILL ARRANGE THEIR PRIZE SEATS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. THE ORGANISERS' DECISION IS FINAL. THERE IS NO CASH ALTERNATIVE. DATA PROTECTION NOTE: IT IS A CONDITION OF ENTRY THAT COMPETITORS PERMIT THE CIRCUS TO HOLD THEIR CONTACT DETAILS.





Marie Lloyd Stole My Life

by J. J. Leppink

Kemp's Jig

by Chris Harris



Blue Fire Theatre Company at the Mary Wallace Theatre, Twickenham until 27th July, then at the Edinburgh Fringe until 17th August

Nelly Power, a popular entertainer of the music hall in the 19th century, and Will Kemp, who worked alongside William Shakespeare in the 16th century. What, you may ask, do these two performers have in common, apart from their respective reputations as artistes?

Both were figures larger than life on and off the stage. They were innovative, fearless of authority, hugely talented, but suffered the humiliation of being eclipsed by contemporaries – in Nelly's case by her young admirer, Marie Lloyd, who would bring flower posies to her

dressing room, and in Will Kemp's case by William Shakespeare, a writer and small-part actor for the Lord Chamberlain's Men, a company in which they both held shares.

Charlotte Walker takes on the role of Nelly in *Marie Lloyd Stole My Life*, giving an interesting interpretation of this character, not going for the full-throttle burlesque characterisation, but a reflective interpretation, showing Nelly's vulnerability. But when Charlotte sings as Nelly, we are transported into the music hall and witness the powerful presence of a star performer, an artiste who connects strongly with that audience, encourages them to sing along with her, which they do!

Will Kemp, a comedian and dancer, was famous for his often bawdy stage jigs. Falling out with Shakespeare, Kemp undertook remarkable publicity act of Morris dancing from London to Norwich in nine days. This well-crafted monologue, depicting the different episodes of life on the road during Kemp's nine days' endurance feat, provides a suitable vehicle to showcase the comedic skills of the hugely talented actor Steve Taylor. The joyous expression his face on achieving his character's ultimate goal and arriving in Norwich is a sight to behold, transporting the audience back to this wonderful moment in time.



Read Celia Bard's review at

www.markaspen.com/2019/07/28/marie-lloyd-stole-my-life-kemps-jig

Photography by Blue Fire



Sense and Sensibility

by Jane Austen, adapted by Fiona Hatcher

Youth Action Theatre at Hampton Hill Theatre, then at The Space, Edinburgh until 24th August.



The Dashwood sisters, Elinor and Marianne, must find their way through the delicate rules and salacious gossip of Regency society in this lively adaptation of the Jane Austen classic. Lasting no more than an hour, the show treats us to a series of highlights in a flurry of well-paced and well-structured scenes.

The opening tableau at the funeral of John Dashwood senior of members of the Dashwood clan is very atmospheric. The characters, dressed in funeral attire, hold static, photographic positions, while in the

background is heard the singing of the Benedictus. The scene ends sharply, and within seconds the main characters have cast aside their mourning garb and we are in the feminine, pink drawing room of the family home, enjoying the witty but calculating manipulation of John Dashwood junior by his wife Fanny as she plots to remove mother and sisters from the estate.

John, played by Timothy King, is suitably pliant, putting up little resistance to his wife's callous demands. Zofia Komorowska as Fanny gives an interesting performance: her characterisation reflects Fanny's striking appearance and her manipulative, snobbish, self-centred qualities.

The three sisters Elinor, Marianne and Margaret, played respectively by Jennie Hilliard, Emmy Coates and Meaghan Baxter, give strong and compelling performances. The two older sisters Elinor and Marianne are complete contrasts. Jennie gives a controlled performance as Elinor, ruled by her head and showing little emotion until near the end of the play when she gives full vent to her emotions. In contrast, Marianne is played by Emmy as spontaneous and romantic. She attacks her performance full-on, gripping the audience with her volatile personality. Meaghan Baxter as the youngest of this trio is just charming as Margaret Dashwood. Delightfully childlike, her running commentary helps move the action along at a bouncy pace.



Read Celia Bard's review at www.markaspen.com/2019/08/14/sense-sensibility

Photography by Jonathan Constant

Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg

by Richard Wagner

Fulham Opera, Greenwood Theatre, Southwark, until 17th August

The full four and a half hours of Wagner's work is presented in Paul Higgins's new production of Wagner's comic opera *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*. Fulham Opera has updated the 16th century setting to the grass, trestle tables and wellies of a 21st century music festival. Jessica Staton's simple set, embellished by back-projected images, allows for rapid scene changes and draws the audience's eye to the performers.



From the opening, where Walther von Stolzing (Florian Thomas, giving an impassioned performance throughout) tries to attract the attention of Eva Pogner (Philippa Boyle, a hugely powerful voice from whom we definitely wanted to hear more) during a church service, the orchestra, conducted by artistic director Ben Woodward, gamely filled the venue with a broad sound that constantly suggested a far larger ensemble. Given its sheer length and the size of its cast, Woodward is probably right to describe

this production as 'surely the maddest thing ever attempted by a fringe opera company', but dedication, skill, and passion have combined to produce a truly remarkable production.

The plot of *Die Meistersinger* is light – a knight must be accepted as a master singer in order to win the hand of the girl he loves – but even the lightest plot needs a villain, and this role is pulled off with gusto and relish by Jonathan Finney as ageing hipster Sixtus Beckmesser, Walther's unlikely love rival. It's hard to completely dislike Sixtus in this production, as his attempts to serenade Eva in Act II are consistently frustrated by Hans, mischievously hammering at his shoes.

A highlight of the production was Keel Watson's performance as shoemaker-poet Hans Sachs, his rich voice and controlled gestures bringing this rather sad and philosophical man to life wonderfully.

Veit Pogner, the town's goldsmith and Eva's father, is portrayed with great dignity by Gerard Delrez. His wonderful voice even manages to smooth over the eyebrow-raising crack in the plot that Pogner intends to marry off his daughter to the winner of a song contest!



Read Andrew Lawston's review at

www.markaspen.com/2019/08/12/die-meistersinger-von-nurnberg

Photography by Matthew Coughlan

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TRAVELLER'S TALES 44

FIRST NATION

DOUG GOODMAN CONTINUES HIS EXPLORATION OF CANADA'S PACIFIC COAST



The days spent on Cortes Island overlooking Desolation Sound passed too quickly: gathering oysters, drinking delicious wine from the Okanagan region and reading the history of the west coast was time well spent. Friends Doug and Carol, in whose cabin we stayed, talked about the original inhabitants of the vast Pacific Coast called First Nation, who unlike the nomadic, prairie people found further east and throughout America, were fairly static and relied on hunting and fishing along Vancouver Island's coastline. Cortes Island had been populated by the Coast Salish Peoples for centuries until the logging companies arrived in the last century. Today the First Nation people are disadvantaged, suffer from high unemployment and try hard to hold on to their traditional way of life.



View over Desolation Sound
from Cortes Island



Cortes Island



Telegraph Cove

TRADITIONS REVIVED.

Many of the First Nation live in reserves – fishing communities or villages where they manage their own affairs and hold special hunting and fishing rights. Over 1600 reserves exist in British Columbia but in 1991 only a quarter were occupied. The First Nation population is about 170,000 and the 197 bands or tribal groups use their rights and Canada's legal system to their advantage to obtain concessions from the Government. Traditional art is big business and newly carved Totem Poles sell for thousands of Dollars to corporations anxious to identify with the First Nation. It's only been in the last 40-50 years that cherished and almost forgotten language, art and colourful ceremonies have been revived. A great place to learn about the traditional way of life is at the cultural centre and reservation at Alert Bay on Cormorant Island. Two ferries and a 125 mile drive north from Campbell River to Port McNeill through dense forests and empty roads took us to the crossing point for Alert Bay. It's home to about 1,300 of the First Nation Namgis People. The two important sites are the U'mista cultural centre and the burial ground dedicated to the Kwakwaka'wakw people. The centre displays masks, carvings and regalia and like many establishments in Canada is trying to get back the treasures stolen and dispersed since the arrival of the first settlers.

WHITEMAN'S WAY OF LIFE.

Vividly portrayed in the centre is the treatment suffered at the hands of the Indian Agents and the tragic dispersal and destruction of historic items. A letter from George Blenkinsop, Indian Agent, in July 1885 says, "The tribes now assembled have been notified that on their dispersion, no further gatherings will be allowed without incurring the full penalty of the law". Another proclamation from agent William Halliday says, "The Indians are beginning to awake to the

fact that they must conform more to the whiteman's way of life". In 1921 forty five people were charged with holding an illegal Potlatch ceremony – a celebration lasting days with much alcohol consumed when a significant event was marked by the host, who would give away his possessions to indicate his status. The Indian agents outlawed the Potlatch as it caused drunkenness and absence from work. Indian children, taken from their parents, were placed in 'special' schools and prevented from learning their own language and studying their history and culture. This policy of segregated education continued until the end of the 1950's.



Whale Watching



First Nation Art



Carving a Totem Pole

TOTEM POLES

Totem Poles are believed to form a link between humans and the spirit world and commemorate a significant event in family life. The decorations show human figures, animals and supernatural beings and in the Namgis burial ground you'll see 20 of them. The short visit to the reservation at Alert Bay left many questions unanswered. Local First Nation people were friendly and keen to discuss their situation. They spoke of the 'sad times' and one carver said that the Government had 'stolen the soul of the Indian People'. "We are second class citizens", said another, "and now although our children are being taught our language, customs and the history of our great ancestors, there's still a long journey to be made". The final proclamation I saw on display at the centre was from the chief of the Kwagu't. "Do we ask the whiteman do as the Indian does? It is a strict law that bids us dance, that bids us distribute our property amongst our friends and neighbours. Let the whiteman observe his law, we shall observe ours. And now if you come to forbid us to dance, begone. If not you will be welcome". That was written in 1894 but somehow it seemed much more recent. I wonder how much has changed since my visit 15 years ago? Meeting the First Nation people and learning about their problems had been memorable and much more time could have been spent with them but we had more destinations to visit.

WHALES IN FRONT.

We visited Telegraph Cove for a whale watching cruise and encountered many of the creatures close up. A drive through huge forests took us to Tofino for a night at the famous Wickaninish Inn with its 360 degree observation area for storm watching. A nice touch was the provision of waterproof clothing for guests who wished to experience Pacific storms up close. Our room overlooked the ocean where sea otters played on the rocks below. You need to enjoy fish to eat well on Vancouver Island as I had never seen a menu with salmon prepared in so many ways. Crossing Vancouver Island once more we headed for Port Hardy to take a float plane to The Great Bear Reserve.

Next week it's black bears up close and the Inland Passage to Prince Rupert.

FOOTBALL FOCUS 51

By Alan Winter



BRENTFORD FC

Not a great week for the Bees as a home draw and away defeat leaves them in 18th place. New players are still getting familiar with the way that Brentford play and after all, we are still above QPR! - Have faith!



KOLBEINN BIRGIR FINNSSON SIGNS FOR BORUSSIA DORTMUND

Brentford B forward Kolbeinn Birgir Finnsson has joined Borussia Dortmund for an undisclosed fee, subject to international clearance. The 19-year-old agreed terms with German giants the BVB last week, before flying over to complete a medical and sign the paperwork.

Kolbeinn joined The Bees in the summer of 2018, signing a two-year deal from Groningen in Holland. He went on to make 45 appearances for Brentford B, scoring nine goals.

An Iceland youth international at every level from Under-16 to Under-21, last season he was called up to the senior national team for the first time, winning two full caps against Sweden and Estonia. In doing so, he became the first B Team player to win an international cap without playing in Brentford's First Team.

BRENTFORD 1 - HULL CITY 1 Attendance 11.000

Brentford came from behind to earn their first home point of the 2019/20 season against Hull City last Saturday. The Bees fell behind at the start of the second half but fought back and levelled inside the final 20 minutes. Ollie Watkins scored for the second successive week to earn his team a point, the least they deserved from the game.

It was an entertaining afternoon at Griffin Park with Hull showing ambition to win the game and attacking even when they had the lead. Both teams will feel they could have won the contest and there were chances at either end. Brentford had, perhaps, slightly the better of it but a draw was hard to argue with.

Hull went into the lead at the start of the second half. A corner was half cleared and fell to Stewart, his shot was bravely blocked by Nørgaard, but Lopes reacted as Brentford regrouped and his pass put Bowen in on goal in the inside right channel and he smashed it past Raya. It was a superb finish from the Hull man as Brentford lost their defensive shape after the corner.

It took The Bees a few minutes to regroup – and Bowen had another chance later on when he lashed over from distance – but once they did, they set about finding a way back in to the game. With Hull sensing a second goal may kill the game, and was a real possibility, there were gaps for The Bees and chances came. Mbeumo had a great chance to equalise when Watkins battled for possession in midfield and he had space 18 yards out, but he curled the shot over the bar. Canós then shot wide before getting on the end of a move that involved Jensen, Mbeumo and Watkins and seeing an effort deflect inches wide.

With 20 minutes to go, Brentford changed it up and immediately got their equaliser. Saïd Benrahma and Josh Dasilva were introduced with Canós shifting to right wing back and it was from that position the equaliser came. Jensen played a pass to the right and Canós created the space to cross low, Watkins got there ahead of Long and the ball bounced in off the far post.

That left 18 minutes for either team to find a winner and Brentford went looking for it immediately. Another great cross from the right by Canós was met on the volley by Watkins and Long saved superbly to his right. Jensen had a shot blocked before a great run by Canós enabled him to slip a pass in to Benrahma, the attacker seemed set to score but a combination of Long and his defenders stopped the shot coming in and the ball would not fall for the arriving Marcus Forss.

Forss had a low shot saved soon after and Brentford should have grabbed the winner from the resulting corner. The first ball was half cleared but space was created for Dasilva to deliver and his superb cross was met ten yards out by Jeanvier, but he headed it wide with the goal at his mercy. And that was as close as Brentford came to winning it.

Brentford: Raya; Jeanvier, Jansson, Racic (sub Benrahma 70 mins); Dalsgaard, Jensen, Nørgaard (sub Dasilva 70 mins), Henry; Canós, Watkins, Mbeumo (sub Forss 82 mins)

LEEDS UNITED 1 – BRENTFORD 0 Att. 35,004

Thomas Frank made one change to the side that drew 1-1 with Hull City last time out; Ethan Pinnock, an enforced withdrawal during the second half against Middlesbrough earlier this month, was deemed fit enough to return to the Bees' backline.

The two sides both had chances in an exciting encounter but on 81 minutes, Arsenal loanee Nketiah made his presence felt four minutes after taking to the pitch. The fresh legs of fellow second-half substitute Costa proved too much for Pinnock as the winger advanced into the area and rolled across the six-yard box for Nketiah to apply the simplest of finishes.

Saïd Benrahma could have snatched a point for Brentford deep into stoppage time but, having been found deep in Leeds territory with a long throw, ballooned his effort over the crossbar and into the fans behind the goal.

Head Coach Thomas Frank said there was plenty of positives to take from Wednesday night's game despite falling to the late defeat at Elland Road. The Bees had the better of the first-half; Bryan Mbeumo inches away from opening his account with a curling effort that crashed back off the post.

Brentford: Raya; Jeanvier, Jansson, Pinnock (Marcondes 89); Dalsgaard, Nørgaard, Jensen, Henry; Mbeumo (Dasilva 67), Canós (Benrahma 78), Watkins

Speaking after the game, Thomas Frank felt that Brentford are moving in the right direction and now it's all about the game away to Charlton Athletic today (August 24th). Next Saturday (August 31st) Brentford are back at Griffin Park to take on Derby County.

Come on you Bees!

HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH

BEAVERS CHALK UP FIRST POINT

HAMPTON & RICHMOND 1 – BILLERICAY TOWN 1 Att. 424



Hampton finally picked up their first point of the season as they put together a solid, hardworking display performance against Billericay Town.

Both sides had early chances, In-form striker Tyrone Lewthwaite was having to play in a lone striker role, and he was causing a few tricky moments for the visitors' defence, and Julian was quickly again called upon to push a shot away as the Beavers settled into the game.

A tricky run by Ryan Hill drew a rash challenge in the box from Jordan Parkes as the midfielder looked for an opening to shoot and the referee pointed to the spot. Cole Brown took the responsibility for the kick and slammed it calmly past Julian's right hand into the corner.

Billericay tried to come straight back and for the rest of the half, laid siege to the Hampton goal, Laurie Walker making a great reaction save to deny Gunning before pushing away Rhead's attempt almost immediately afterwards. Billericay were now on a charge and Gunning's diving header went just wide of the post as Hampton were having to work hard in defence. Early in the second half, Billericay's Moses Emmanuel held off the pressure from the Hampton defence to lift an instinctive chip over Walker for the equaliser.

Both sides began to attack, but the respective defences were giving nothing away. The Blues had another sight of goal through striker Matthew Rhead, who had caused problems all afternoon for the Beavers back four, but he couldn't get the shot on target and dragged it wide.

Added time was looming as Lewthwaite and Miller-Rodney combined to set up Cole Brown, but the shot had power but no direction and it went over the bar. The game was deep into the seven minutes of added time when Sam Deadfield forced a great save from Julian, but in the end, both teams had to be content with a point.

My thanks to Rob Overfield from the Hampton press team for this report that first appeared on the HRBC website.

Today (Saturday 24th August) Hampton are at away to Dorking Wanderers in a league game. On Bank holiday Monday afternoon (26th August), they are at home to Chippenham Town. Why not get down to Station Road, Hampton to give them a bit of support. Kick Off is at 3.00 and don't forget to buy a burger!

Breaking News

BRENTFORD SIGN INTERNATIONAL STRIKER!

Brentford have signed Greek international striker Nikos Karelis, subject to international clearance. Nikos has been a regular for his country, playing for them at Under-17, Under-19 and Under-21 level before making his full international debut in 2014. He has scored three international goals in 19 senior games, including one on his debut against Finland. In 62 games for Greece at all levels he has scored 18 goals.

He was a free agent after leaving KRC Genk in the summer. He was at Griffin Park to watch the game against Hull City on Saturday and agreed a one-year deal to join The Bees, with a Club option for an extra year. He signed his contract today, Thursday 22 August, after completing a medical and will train with his new teammates tomorrow.

Nikos, 27, spent last season on loan at PAOK Football Club in Greece having played for Genk since 2016. He scored 23 goals in the Belgian top flight in two-and-a-half seasons that were affected by injury. He played 75 games in all competitions for Genk and scored 33 goals, including in the Europa League. A left-footed player who has been primarily used as a central striker joined Panathinaikos in 2013. In three years with Panathinaikos he scored 36 goals in 113 games in all competitions, including 19 in 2014/15, his last full season in Greek football before a move to Belgium in January 2016.

Thomas Frank, Brentford FC Head Coach, said: "Nikos is a player that will reinforce our options in attacking areas. We were looking for an extra player before the transfer deadline earlier this month and now we have a very good addition. Nikos hasn't played as much football as he would have liked in the past two or three years, and that is one of the reasons we were able to get a player of his calibre into the Club. "Earlier in his career he showed everyone what he was capable of, but injuries have held him back a bit. He is fit now and while he may take a while to be 100 per cent ready to start in the Championship, I know he will have an impact. He is a striker that suits the way we want to play. He can link with the midfield and makes intelligent runs on and off the ball to help the attack. He is also very good out of possession and will help our pressing game. I look forward to welcoming him to the squad."

New Gates for Hampton and Richmond Borough Football Club Thanks to Volunteering Project

Hampton and Richmond Borough Football Club in London has had new gates installed at the grounds thanks to a volunteering programme between home improvement retailer, Wickes, and social enterprise, VIY (Volunteer It Yourself).



Four volunteers from nearby Feltham Young Offenders Institute worked with VIY mentors over two days to construct two sets of large double gates to create a separate entrance and exit for the home fans at the club. HM Prison Feltham works to rehabilitate the lives of those aged 15 – 21. This project allowed the volunteers to give back to the community while gaining practical skills for the future.

The project was supported by the Wickes store in Hanworth which donated all the tools and materials required, together with covering the cost of professional tradespeople to act as mentors on the ground.

Alan Dalton, Lead VIY Mentor said: “It’s been great to work with these young men and helping them to learn new skills which will help turn their lives around. They’ve done a great job working with each other to get the job done and to give back to their community.”

Michele Glassup, from the Resettlement Support Team said: “For our boys to volunteer alongside others makes them feel like more than just a prisoner serving a sentence. It allows them to give back to the community, which every volunteer knows gives you an enormous sense of well-being and achievement. Over the two days they were able not only to pick up valuable skills that will enable them to complete DIY on release, it also supported life skills including teamwork and leadership. The team as a whole - mentors and participants - had mutual respect and understanding for each other and the days were filled with positive conversations and smiles.”



Jones names England team to play Ireland

England men's head coach Eddie Jones has named his squad to play Ireland as part of the Quilter Internationals on Saturday at Twickenham Stadium (KO 3pm live on Sky Sports).

A different selection strategy for the weekend will see a number of changes to starting XV who faced Wales in Cardiff last weekend.

Captain Owen Farrell (inside centre), Manu Tuilagi (outside centre) and Ben Youngs (scrum half) start their first match this series. Jonny May will make his first appearance this season on the left wing with Joe Cokanasiga switching to the right wing.

Jamie George, Joe Marler and Kyle Sinckler are named in the front row. Tom Curry and Sam Underhill return from injury to play in the back row alongside Billy Vunipola while George Kruis starts in the second row alongside Maro Itoje. Mako Vunipola has been named as a finisher following his recovery from long-term injury.

Jones said: "The players have come back in a very good physical and mental state and we have had a good preparation this week. We purposefully made the week short looking ahead to the World Cup where this might happen beyond our control.

"It is the third of four games for us and come the 8th of September, when we get on the plane, we want to be ready to go. This is another step forward for us.

"This weekend we will be looking to gain more game fitness and testing different sorts of game strategies. We have a specific way of how we want to play and the focus is very much on ourselves."

On England's last game at Twickenham before heading to Japan, Jones added: "We have been so appreciative of the support we have had at Twickenham this year and this is our last match there before the tournament, so we look forward to playing well in front of our fans."

England starting XV v Ireland

15 Elliot Daly (Saracens, 32 caps)
14 Joe Cokanasiga (Bath Rugby, 6 caps)
13 Manu Tuilagi (Leicester Tigers, 34 caps)
12 Owen Farrell (Saracens, 71 caps) C
11 Jonny May (Leicester Tigers, 45 caps)
10 George Ford (Leicester Tigers, 57 caps)
9 Ben Youngs (Leicester Tigers, 87 caps)
1 Joe Marler (Harlequins, 60 caps)
2 Jamie George (Saracens, 38 caps)
3 Kyle Sinckler (Harlequins, 23 caps)
4 Maro Itoje (Saracens, 28 caps)
5 George Kruis (Saracens, 34 caps)
6 Tom Curry (Sale Sharks, 11 caps)
7 Sam Underhill (Bath Rugby, 9 caps)
8 Billy Vunipola (Saracens, 43 caps)

Finishers

16 Luke Cowan-Dickie (Exeter Chiefs, 13 caps)
17 Mako Vunipola (Saracens, 53 caps)
18 Dan Cole (Leicester Tigers, 87 caps)
19 Courtney Lawes (Northampton Saints, 73 caps)
20 Mark Wilson (Newcastle Falcons/Sale Sharks, 13 caps)
21 Willi Heinz (Gloucester Rugby, 2 caps)
22 Piers Francis (Northampton Saints, 6 caps)
23 Jonathan Joseph (Bath Rugby, 42 caps)



RFU confirms process for next phase of Tyrrells Premier 15s

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) has today confirmed the process for finalising the next three-year structure of the Tyrrells Premier 15s – the top-flight women’s domestic rugby competition in England. In the first half of the upcoming season (2019/20) the RFU will audit all ten existing Tyrrells Premier 15s clubs on a combination of their ability to deliver the Minimum Operating Standards and their on pitch performance.

This audit will be independently verified and the clubs ranked from 1 to 10 based on the audit results. Following this, the top six ranked teams will be invited to join the next three-year league structure covering seasons 2020/21 to 2022/23. The bottom four ranked teams will be invited to re-tender for a place in the competition should they wish to do so. At the same time, applications for tender will open to all clubs that wish to apply. Expression of interest letters are being issued this week to all RFU member clubs, universities and colleges in England. All tenders will be assessed by a selection panel and a shortlist will be created.

The original four Tyrrells Premier 15s teams who were invited to tender and the winners of the Championship North and Championship South divisions will be automatically shortlisted provided that they choose to tender to join the next three-year competition structure. They will be joined by any other teams meeting the shortlist criteria. All successfully shortlisted clubs will be invited to interview and assessed by the selection panel. The best four teams selected by the selection panel after the interview and assessment stage will then be invited to join the league starting from the 2020/21 season. The new structure will be maintained for three years and then reviewed again for the 2023/24 season.

This proposal means that potentially a maximum of four teams could be removed from the Tyrrells Premier 15s at the end of the 2019/20 season. These teams would then be included within the Women’s Championship competition by increasing the pool size of Championship North and Championship South to a maximum of 10 teams each.

Nicky Ponsford, RFU Head of Women’s Performance said: *“We are delighted by the progress made by Tyrrells Premier 15s clubs over the last two years and by their commitment to driving the programme forward. This process allows us to recognise the input of the clubs but still open up the league to potential new entrants with a geographical spread maintained where possible. This keeps the focus on minimum standards and ensures we continue to raise the bar and increase performance.”*

Nigel Melville, RFU Professional Rugby Director added: *“The commitment and dedication from all clubs as well as the standard of rugby over the first two seasons has been fantastic. “The league was initially set up for three years to give clubs a chance to embed, grow, invest and develop support services. It also coincides with World Cup cycles so there’s minimal disruption to players. We always felt this was the best time to review as we aim to create the best domestic 15s women’s competition in the world which will give us the winning advantage on the world stage. The purpose of the league will remain the same. It’s a competition at the highest domestic level of the women’s game which continues to support the overall objective to produce winning teams for England Women 15s and 7s teams. We want the women’s game to continue to flourish at all levels and know a strong domestic game is imperative in increasing participation and interest.”*



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