

# Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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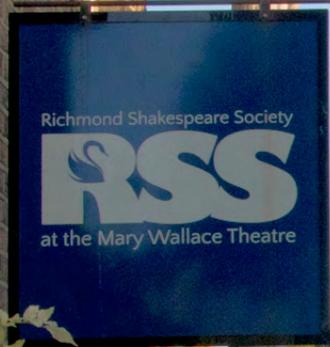
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- Emma Grey
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- Sammi Macqueen
- Alison Jee
- Michael Gatehouse
- Richmond upon Thames College
- Doug Goodman
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- LBRuT

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- Berkley Driscoll
- Teresa Read



Richmond Shakespeare Society



at the Mary Wallace Theatre

# TickerTape - News in Brief

## Twickenham Riverside Exhibition

The final two drop-in exhibitions are being held on the below dates in the Clarendon Hall, York House, Twickenham, TW1 3AA. • Saturday 21 September, 10am to 5pm • Tuesday 24 September, 6 to 8.30pm

## Community Conversation

**Hampton North and Hampton** (Wednesday 18 September) at The White House • **Mortlake and Barnes Common / East Sheen** (Wednesday 25 September) at All Saints Church • **Hampton Wick** (Tuesday 1 October) at Normansfield Theatre • **North Richmond and South Richmond** (Thursday 10 October) at RHACC • **West and South Twickenham** (Tuesday 15 October) at Waldegrave School

## Vote for the Fallen Oak in Richmond Park

We're asking the public to go online at [woodlandtrust.org.uk/treeoftheyear](http://woodlandtrust.org.uk/treeoftheyear) to choose their favourite, to ultimately find England's Tree of the Year for 2019

## Pope's Grotto Grant

The National Lottery Heritage Fund has awarded a grant to the Pope's Grotto Preservation Trust to help complete their conservation project and digital reconstruction.

[www.popesgrotto.org.uk](http://www.popesgrotto.org.uk)

## Mortlake Barrier Collision

On Thursday trains were disrupted following a vehicle collision with the railway barriers at Mortlake station

## Hampton Hill Explosion

On Tuesday night a suspected gas explosion closed Hampton Hill High Street, also causing power failures in the area. No injuries were reported.. 30 residents were evacuated

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This weekend is Open House London, giving free access to buildings and properties across London, many of which are not freely accessible for the rest of the year.

There are numerous buildings in our borough included, such as Bushy House, Kilmorey Mausoleum and Sir Richard Burton's Mausoleum to name just a few.

But, TwickerSeal is disappointed that Twickenham Riverside's 'Green Gates' remain resolutely locked, barring access to the service road, continuing the high tide traffic chaos that has become a regular spectator sport.

TwickerSeal presumes this will remain the case until construction supposedly starts on the riverside in Summer 2021?

This does seem ridiculous as it would take very little to open a useable access route. Perhaps the site is being preserved for archaeological research, digging up the failed promises for the riverside?



## PART 145 – TEDDINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Our two postcards this week are both from the Edwardian period in the 10 years or so before the first World War. The Wesleyan Chapel on both postcards was a huge building that dominated the junction of Hampton and Stanley Roads in Teddington. Sadly it was destroyed by a Second World War flying bomb in August 1944 (saving the Memorial Hospital in so doing) and the church was forced to commence worshipping in the Memorial Hall in Church House, Hampton Road. The Wesleyan Methodist Church was the name used by the majority Methodist movement in Great Britain following its split from the Church of England after the death of John Wesley.

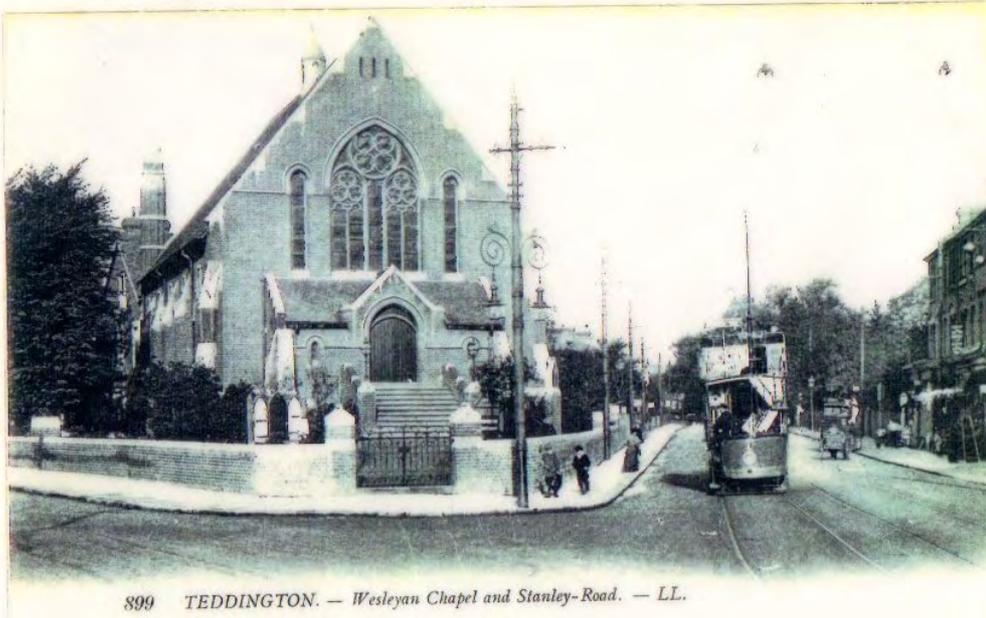
The first Teddington Methodist Church was situated in Clarence Road. Built in 1859, it was later known as Craig Hall which has now been redeveloped as housing.

The new building on the current site was opened on 1st July 1879 where it remained until the bomb destroyed it in 1944. Although the church itself was destroyed, the Sunday School buildings attached were still usable.



The postcards are both titled 'Chapel' and this is how it remained until 1932 when Methodist Union took place. The new 1879 church was a very imposing edifice, typical of Methodist chapels built around that time and was approached through a pair of wrought iron gates, onto a paved path leading to a flight of steps, which in turn led to the Chapel entrance.

Our first postcard is published as a real photograph which was probably taken by Richard Young. Richard owned the postcard publishers Young and Co. in Teddington High Street. Interestingly he played the organ during Sunday services in the chapel at that time in about 1908.



In 1939, just before war broke out, church membership stood at 145, and the Sunday School had 160 “scholars” and 40 teachers. Growing up in Twickenham after the war, it seemed to me that Sunday School was something that the majority of us kids attended. I’m not sure that is the case today.

By 1952, work on the re-building of the church in its present location had commenced. The foundation stone was laid on 6 October 1951 and the Church re-opened on 25 October 1952.

Today, services are held weekly on Sunday mornings and Sunday evenings. The church halls and worship area are used by many local groups for various community activities. “Teddington Voluntary Care” has its main office based in one of the rooms off the main hall.

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](mailto:alanwinter192@hotmail.com) I would like to see them and I pay cash!

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The next concert is on

**Tuesday 24 September, 7.45 pm**

A grand concert to kick off our new season

**The acclaimed Marmen String Quartet play  
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St Mary the Virgin Church, Riverside,  
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See our website for further details  
[www.richmondconcerts.co.uk](http://www.richmondconcerts.co.uk)

**Richmond Concert Society**

[www.richmondconcerts.co.uk](http://www.richmondconcerts.co.uk)

# Arts and Entertainment

By Emma Grey



Until Saturday 21 September: 7.45 (Sunday, 15: 3.00) 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.

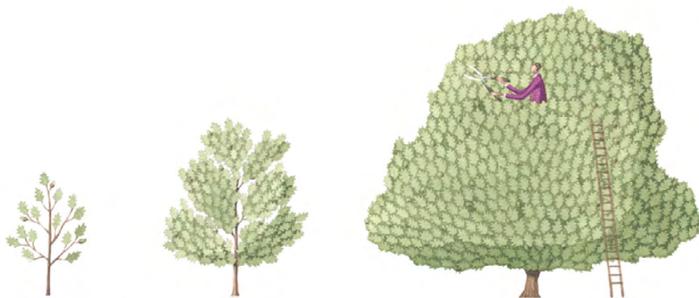
Friday 11 October, 7.30, Landmark Arts Centre. Sing Sistah Sing! Andrea Baker weaves together the stories of women including Nina Simone, Aretha Franklin and Billie Holiday.

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.

Wednesdays - Sundays until 22 September, 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.

Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 October 10 am – 5 pm Landmark Arts Centre. Autumn Art Fair.

***If you are interested in advertising an Arts & Entertainment event write to [advertise@twickenhamtribune.com](mailto:advertise@twickenhamtribune.com) for further information.***

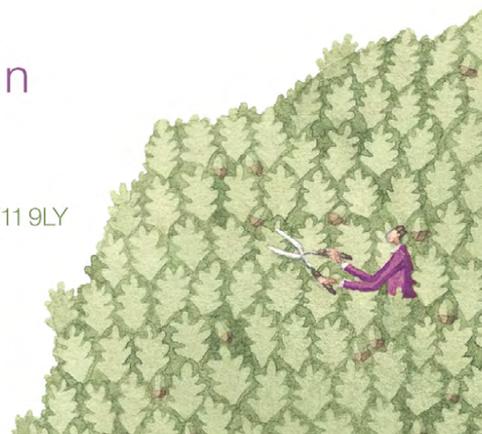


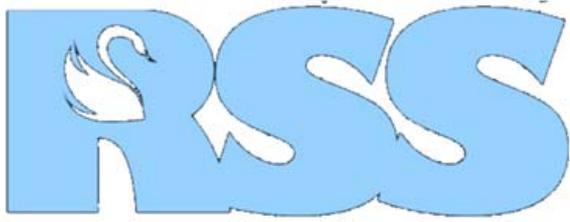
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darryl parkin

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**Richmond Shakespeare Society  
at the Mary Wallace Theatre  
2019-20 SEASON**

**BOOK ONLINE:**

[www.RichmondShakespeare.org.uk](http://www.RichmondShakespeare.org.uk)



**THE FATHER**

by Florian Zeller

**14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER**



**HAMLET**

by William Shakespeare

**26<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER to 2<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER**

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL**

by Charles Dickens (Ad. Asha Gill)

**7<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

**LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT**

by Eugene O'Neill

**18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020**



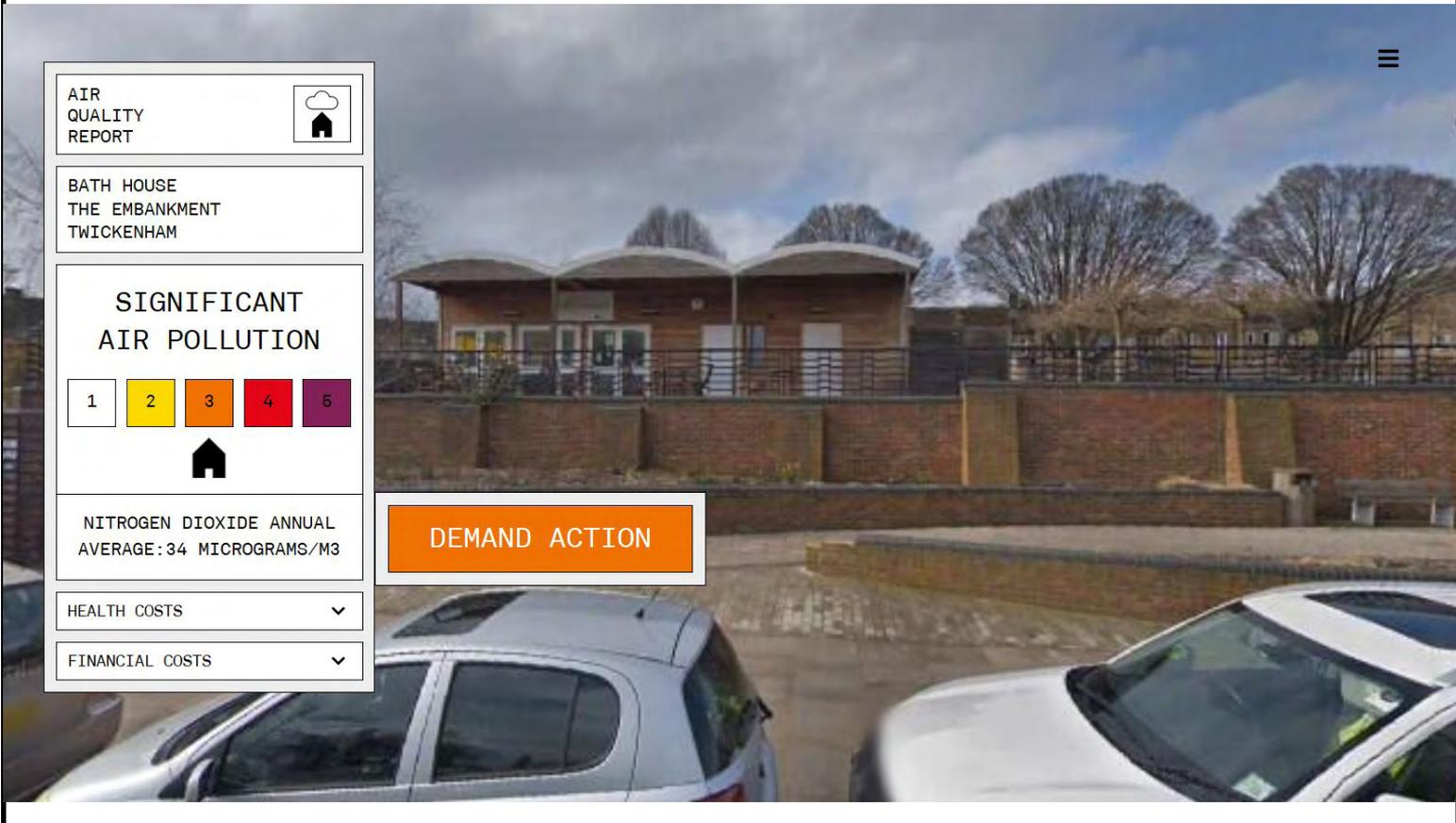
# Find your Air Quality level

A new website has been launched, which allows users to view a Nitrogen Dioxide/Air Quality report for any location in the UK; the reports use data from King's College London.

The report is displayed in a similar manner to the energy efficiency ratings that are required when selling a property. The ratings are listed from 1-5, with levels of 3 and above exceeding legal limits.

You can view your readings by entering your postcode at the following website <https://www.addresspollution.org/>

An example reading for a well known Twickenham car park is shown below.



The screenshot shows a web interface for an Air Quality Report. The report is for 'BATH HOUSE, THE EMBANKMENT, TWICKENHAM'. It features a color-coded scale from 1 (white) to 5 (purple), with the current reading of 3 highlighted in orange. Below the scale, a house icon indicates the location. The report also displays 'NITROGEN DIOXIDE ANNUAL AVERAGE: 34 MICROGRAMS/M3' and a prominent orange 'DEMAND ACTION' button. At the bottom, there are dropdown menus for 'HEALTH COSTS' and 'FINANCIAL COSTS'. The background of the screenshot shows a brick building and a parking lot with cars.

## Applications sought for October summit on climate change

Residents are invited to apply to attend a summit and share their ideas on how the borough can fight climate change.

Following a decision by Richmond Council to declare a climate emergency in July, we are taking steps to combat what is the greatest challenge facing society today.

The summit will form part of the Council's wider engagement on its draft Climate Change Strategy, which is currently open for consultation.

Attendees will be selected to reflect the diverse range of community groups, age groups, interests and wards which make up the borough. If you are interested in taking part you are invited to [apply online](#).



## Inspirational group of people honoured in Community Heroes' Awards

Thirteen individuals and groups were honoured last night (Thursday 19 September) at Richmond upon Thames' annual Community Heroes' Awards.

Over fifty inspiring individuals, groups and businesses were shortlisted across eight categories, following 125 nominations.

The awards aim to highlight those willing to go above and beyond to make their communities better places in which to live, work and learn.

Nominees gathered at York House to celebrate achievements in everything from sporting activities and community events to care work.



The winners were:

- Business Contribution in the Community: One Paved Court
- Community Group of the Year: Richmond Talking Newspaper
- Community Project of the Year: Real Junkfood Project
- Community Spirit: Steve Mindel
- Carer of the Year: William O'Donnell, Jonathan Pile
- Lifetime Achievement: Karin Noble
- Outstanding Sporting Achievement: Nick Whitham
- Young Person Achievement: Jacob Heller and Sol Myhill

A special posthumous award was given to John Thompson. John passed away in April 2019. The East Sheen resident volunteered for over 30 years, was the Chair of Healthwatch Richmond and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of Richmond Carers Centre. The Council presented the award to Mr Thompson's family.

A Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Karin Noble to recognise her 40 year leadership of the Ham and Petersham Sea Scouts.

Two Bravery Awards were awarded to Briony Cole-Gibson and Eliada Idehen. Briony saved her sister's life during a bus accident. As a result of her actions, Briony went through the window at the front of the bus. Eliada volunteers with St Johns Ambulance and on the way home from working on the London Marathon came across a man who collapsed on the Underground after running the Marathon. She and two others looked after the man until paramedics arrived. They kept him alive as he had gone into cardiac arrest.

The final award was the overall Leader of the Council's Community Hero of the Year accolade to recognise the individual/s who stood out to the judges. This was awarded to Karin Noble, Jacob Heller and Sol Myhill.

Cllr Michael Wilson, Cabinet Member for Equality, Communities and the Voluntary Sector, said: *"I was truly inspired by the work being done by these amazing residents and was delighted we could bring them together to show our gratitude for the contribution they have made to communities across this borough. The evening was a wonderful celebration of community spirit – congratulations to everyone who was nominated and thank you to those who made submissions throughout the process."*

# River Crane Sanctuary



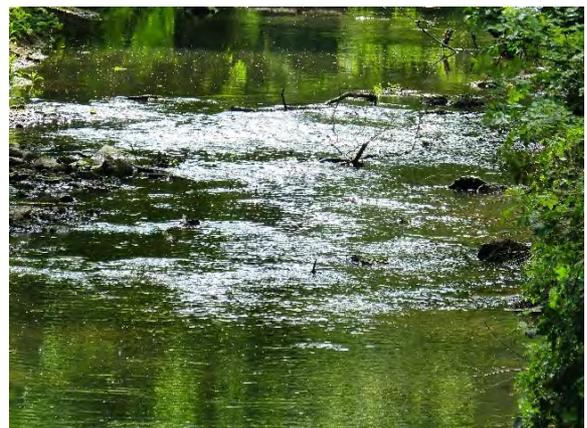
## Butterfly Rests

*This photograph of a white Butterfly made it into the SWLEN 2018 Photo competition final and some of the words that described the entry turned out to be quite prophetic.*

*"I liked the white flowing into the green which camouflaged the butterfly and made it almost invisible when you stepped away. Even though these white butterflies may not be endangered now it highlighted how they can disappear like so many other once common species in our gardens. Now you see me...Now you don't."*

The Big Butterfly Count results showed that our three common white butterflies which did well in the 2018 count have each declined by 42% in 2019 count and the Holly Blue and Common Blue by 59%. Luckily, we have seen many whites and some blues in the River Crane Sanctuary along with Speckled Woods which are also seeing a decrease elsewhere.

Red listed species (Song Thrush/Sparrow - seen here in our hedgerows and quiet spaces) depend on our Officers to enforce laws; some of which require discretionary powers. Are they aware of the importance of habitat protection over looks? Unfortunately, we had no response to a [request for a TPO on a river corridor](#) established hedgerow although over fifty people supported it and yet the South Road/Lidl site had one granted on their road side verge very quickly. Ah well...seems that Teddington/Fulwell has more clout than West Ward Twickenham Richmond RSPB celebrate their 40th year anniversary with a series of events and we are looking forward to hearing David Lindo speak again after his great talk at the Recorder's event last year in London. Come along on Thursday, 17/10/19 at 7.30pm at York House. Contact: [richmondrspb@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:richmondrspb@yahoo.co.uk)



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

# 7,000 street lights to be made more energy efficient

Over 7,000 street lights across the borough will be replaced with more energy-efficient LEDs from September.

By installing more LED street lights in Richmond upon Thames, the Council hopes to be able to make financial savings, whilst saving 1,000 tones of Co2 each year.

In 2016 the Council began a programme of replacing the concrete lighting columns and sodium street lights with new mild steel lighting columns and LED street lights. The scheme will now be extended to replace all remaining street lights across the borough.

The street lighting works will include the replacement of 7,000 mild steel lighting columns and 10,000 LED street lights over a period of five years.

The new LED street lights will be designed to be monitored by the Council's computer management software and will have much lower running costs using up to 60% per cent less energy than a conventional sodium street light. They will save 1,000 tonnes of Co2 per kwh per annum.



The LED street lights will have a colour rendition of 4000k as this provides the optimum ability to reduce the lighting levels at night time and they are designed to produce the same lighting levels as the existing bulbs. There are no changes to the hours of light operation, with lights programmed to switch on at sunset and off at sunrise.

The new lights also have an average design life of 25 years, compared to about six years for traditional bulbs.

For those keen to have their street lights replaced with alternative 'heritage' style columns, the Council is offering the opportunity for roads to request these upgrades on the basis that residents fund the additional costs.

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

*"Many of our street lights are nearing the end of their life and will need replacing so it makes good sense to replace them with the latest technology. We have already replaced around 4,000 street lamps with the new energy efficient bulbs so I am delighted that we are now in a position to roll this out to every area of the borough."*

*"Last week we launched a consultation on our Climate Change Strategy and Air Quality Action Plan, and this is just one of the things we are doing to become as clean and green as possible. In addition, the cost to maintain them is lower, which is a welcome benefit for local tax-payers."*

Find out more information about [replacement street lights](#).



# Nature trail fun coming to Sheen

A small natural play area and nature trail could be coming to Sheen Common, subject to a public consultation.

In partnership with the Friends of Sheen Common, the Council is proposing to install natural play equipment in an area of woodland to the south of the football pitch and west of the pavilion on the Common.

The suggestion is for a small number of natural play structures aimed at children of up to 10 years old and would consist of a mixture of basket swings, a small climbing tree frame, small multi-play units and a balance beam.

In addition, a nature trail could be installed with features such as stepping logs, small wooden bridge and balance beams.

In both the play area and nature trail, the proposal is to install interpretation boards to inform visitors of the history of the site and to give information on local flora and fauna, and birds and beetles etc. All materials used in the equipment and features would be sympathetic to, and in keeping with the identity of Sheen Common.



Cllr Martin Elengorn, Chair of the Environment, Sustainability, Culture and Sport Committee for Richmond Council, said:

“We want to make nature accessible for all and this is another example of Richmond Council protecting and celebrating our wonderful natural environment.

“I hope that residents see the proposals and agree that these proposals would be a positive addition to Sheen Common.”

Have your say [HERE](#)

Deadline for feedback is Sunday 13 October 2019.



# Discovery of fragments of a Gorgoneion: a ceramic representation of the Gorgon Medusa from Gorham's Cave

By Teresa Read

One of the classic stories in Greek mythology is the beheading of the Gorgon Medusa by Perseus.

This story tells how Perseus finds his way, with the help of the gods, to the lair of the Gorgon sisters and decapitates Medusa, the most evil of the three.



According to tradition, the lair of Medusa appears to have been set within the confines of the Strait of Gibraltar and adjacent regions of North Africa.

At the 2019 Calpe Conference archaeologists revealed the discovery of fragments of a Gorgoneion, a ceramic representation of the Gorgon Medusa, from [Gorham's Cave](#) in Gibraltar.

The Gorgoneion, found in the deepest part of the cave, may indicate the myth's location.

The discovery is an interesting breakthrough in the link between the mythology and archaeology; in the eyes of mariners of the 8th and 7th centuries BC, Gorham's Cave, situated at the base of one of the Pillars of Hercules, was the home of the Gorgon Medusa.

***We would like to thank the press office at No 6 Convent Place, HM Government Gibraltar and the Gibraltar Museum for the photograph and information.***

***Photograph Copyright Gibraltar Museum***

World InfoZone: [Gibraltar](#)

# Twickenham Riverside Plans

Teresa Read

I seem to remember the present Council administration saying early on that there were a number of schemes for the Twickenham outdoor swimming pool site in the public domain which they would consider.

The previous administration did not show the competition plans until after they had made their choice. These plans are now on the LBRUT [website](#)

Of course, there is the popular [Twickenham Lido concept](#) which has around four and a half thousand supporters. This plan presents a site which can bring back an outdoor pool and provide a space for a festive ice rink - as well as an indoor market, boathouses, some housing and much more.

I understand that there has been a lot of chatter on Twitter about entries for the current competition plans. The current plans and consultation form are [online](#)

Fifty-four architects put forward their details for the present competition (no plans at this stage) and five were chosen. There were local architects but none of these were chosen by the Council. I believe that at least four of the fifty-four had plans to return an outside pool to Twickenham Riverside but the Council had no knowledge of this when they chose the competitors to go forward.

**Exhibitions at Clarendon Hall are on 21<sup>st</sup> September 10am-5p and 24<sup>th</sup> September 6pm-8:30pm.**

Further reading [Lidos Alive](#) - a history of outdoor swimming in LBRUT and [The Most Famous Ice Rink in the World](#) - Heritage Lottery projects



# What's on listings for Teddington Theatre Club

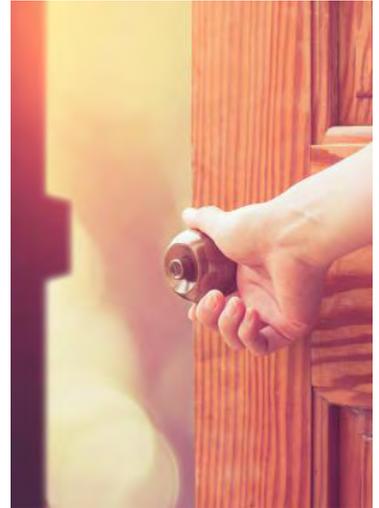
## *Marvin's Room*

Who will care for the carer? A dark comedy tale of two very different sisters, the play sheds light on family tensions and exposes the delicate balance between caregiving and selfishness.

Sun 15 Sept – Sat 21 Sept 2019

Mon-Sat 7.45pm Sun 4pm

Hampton Hill Theatre



[www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk/production/marvins-room](http://www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk/production/marvins-room)

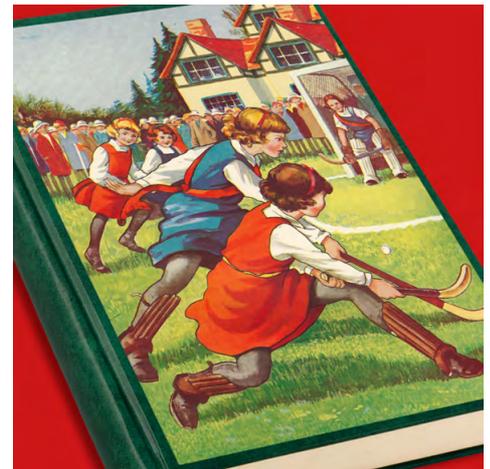
## *Daisy Pulls it Off*

When Daisy Meredith wins a scholarship to an exclusive school for girls, she is forced to face and overcome snobbish prejudice from the more privileged pupils. A ripping yarn where right triumphs over adversity

Sat 28 Sept – Fri 4 Oct 2019

Mon-Sat 7.45pm Sun 6pm

Hampton Hill Theatre



[www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk/production/daisy-pulls-it-off](http://www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk/production/daisy-pulls-it-off)



Readers' Offer

# Free Tickets to the London Homebuilding & Renovating Show

The London Homebuilding & Renovating Show is the go-to exhibition for self-builders and renovators. Plotting a dream: discover steps to making your property ambitions a reality at the London Homebuilding & Renovating Show 4-6 October 2019, ExCeL, London



**Twickenham & Richmond Tribune readers can obtain up to two free tickets (worth £36);** simply register using the link below you will receive your free tickets by email.

[www.Homebuildingshow.co.uk/twickenhamtribune](http://www.Homebuildingshow.co.uk/twickenhamtribune)

The essential homebuilding and renovating event in the heart of London

[www.homebuildingshow.co.uk/london](http://www.homebuildingshow.co.uk/london)

## Open House - Free entry to London's best buildings

This weekend, 21-22nd September, sees the return of the popular London Open House weekend. You can view the 2019 building listings [HERE](#), which includes an interactive map and search options.

Bushy House and gardens will be open to the general public from 10 am to 5 pm., along with many other buildings of interest in the borough.

## IT'S NICE WITH RICE!

Apparently, this week is **National Rice Week** (yep, there is a week for almost everything nowadays!), but it reminded me just how useful rice is as a store cupboard standby. The Rice Association is inviting everyone to Rice Up Your Life and with so many different kinds of rice to choose from including basmati, long grain, fragrant, risotto and pudding, there are almost endless ways to enjoy this nutritious and versatile grain.

I always like to keep a few of those pouches of ready cooked Pilau or other types of rice handy. They are so quick and you can use them for speedy paella (as highlighted by Jo Pratt in her lovely book *The Flexible Pescatarian*, which I reviewed in my column in April). These pouches keep for yonks and are often on special offer in the supermarket.

Here are a couple of recipes from The Rice Association that I thought ideal for this time of year. A simple risotto (check out the range at Paul Cooper's) and a rather yummy sounding dessert, but I wouldn't serve them at the same meal!

### **EASY-PEASY MUSHROOM RISOTTO**

**Prep: 25 minutes, Cook: 30-35 minutes, Serves 4**

30g dried porcini mushrooms  
50g butter  
2 shallots, diced  
2 cloves garlic, finely chopped  
250g chestnut mushrooms, sliced  
250g arborio risotto rice  
100ml dry sherry  
500ml vegetable stock

To serve: grated Parmigiano Reggiano and chopped parsley



Preheat the oven to 160°C, gas mark 3.

Soak the dried porcini mushrooms in 400ml boiling water for 15 minutes, drain reserving the juice and chop.

Melt the butter in a large frying pan and fry the shallots, garlic and both mushrooms for 3-4 minutes. Add the rice and stir to coat in the buttery juices. Stir in the sherry and reduce by half then add the stock and reserved porcini liquid. Bring to the boil and transfer to a casserole dish.

Cover and bake for 30-35 minutes until the rice is tender, but there is still some free sauce. Serve scattered with cheese and parsley.

## OLD FASHIONED CLOTTED CREAM RICE PUDDING SQUARES

Prep: 10 minutes, Cook: 1½ hours, Serves 8

25g butter + extra for greasing  
150g short grain pudding rice  
100g caster sugar  
75g raisins  
227g tub of clotted cream  
2 medium eggs  
700ml whole milk  
½ tsp grated nutmeg

Preheat the oven to 160oC, gas mark 3. Butter a 2 litre ovenproof rectangular dish. Melt the butter in a saucepan and add the rice, sugar and raisins. Stir in the clotted cream until it has melted. Whisk the eggs and milk together and add to the pan. Bring to just below boiling, stirring.



Transfer to the serving dish making sure the rice is evenly distributed on the base of the dish, sprinkle with nutmeg and bake for 1½ hours. Allow to cool slightly before cutting into squares and serving with extra clotted cream.

**Cooks tip:** Great served with clotted cream ice cream. Swap the raisins for your favourite dried fruit such as cranberries, cherries or sultanas.

Cover and bake for 30-35 minutes until the rice is tender, but there is still some free sauce.

Serve scattered with cheese and parsley.

**Cooks tip:** Try adding some diced chorizo for extra flavour.

There are more recipes at [www.riceassociation.org.uk](http://www.riceassociation.org.uk)

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

# BIG WHITES

By Michael Gatehouse

Premier Wine

It's that time of year again – kick the flip flops under the bed. Recycle the sun cream. Keep the sunglasses out, and a pair of shorts, as we can still dream of an Indian summer. But maybe stop thinking about light crisp Italian white wines to go with summer salads, and start considering tasty, chunky, flavoursome whites for autumn.



*Domaine de la Motte*

Grape varieties are key for flavour. Summer whites are thirst quenchers, perfect for long hot days, with light fish dishes, salads and so on. But notice a chill in the air, and the palate subtlety changes. Tuna steaks and grilled chicken with mushrooms and tomatoes creep into my thoughts at this time, along with thoughts of Chardonnays and Viogniers. The bigger the food, the bigger the wine, they say.

Chardonnays can be tricky. Huge, juicy, fruity monsters at times; subtle, austere and crisp at others, depending on what country you're in. A decent

Chablis from France is a good example of a wine made with a big tasty grape that actually combines richness and power with a crisp minerality and elegance, and is a nailed on match for substantial dinners. Domaine de la Motte Chablis at £17.99 is a lovely wine, and typical of Old World Chardonnay. From the New World, try A Growers Touch Chardonnay from South East Australia. £11.49 gets you hints of nectarine, peach and orange blossom, with a touch of oak and spice. Wonderful vibrant tasty wine.

The Viognier grape makes heady, aromatic wines, full-bodied and complex, with significant alcohol. Found in the Rhone Valley and the Languedoc in France, and also in California, Australia and South Africa, this grape needs a lot of heat to ripen, and when it does, the results are stunning. Domaine Mas Bahourat in the Languedoc produces an amazing Viognier of intense power, character and zest; soft apricots, honeydew melon with notes of chamomile tea are followed by a rich palate and long perfumed finish. Ideal with roast pork on an autumn evening.

As is a white Rioja. Made from the Viura grape, Vina Real Blanco is beautifully balanced and quite delicious with pure, floral and citrus aromas leading into a fat rounded, creamy rich palate. Toast and biscuit flavours from being fermented in new American oak barrels. £10.99 and fabulous with full-flavoured fish or turkey.

Go big and tasty this autumn!



# Richmond upon Thames College's Art and Design students display their work in Shoreditch

Over the summer, four of Richmond upon Thames College's (RuTC) students had their work selected for the prestigious Origins Creative Arts Festival held at The Old Truman Brewery on Brick Lane in Shoreditch.



Every year, the University of the Arts London (UAL) selects the most exciting work from students across the country who have completed their UAL courses. Art & Design Level 2 UAL Diploma students Jack Blanks and Emily Gachette as well as Art & Design Level 3 Extended Diploma UAL students Daniel Velosa and Faith Pedroso had their work included in the exhibition.



Jack made a 12-panel painting exploring various religious symbols and iconography using acrylic paint and ink. Emily made a series of lino prints on cotton, using a range of overlapping, dream-like colours to explore the theme of connectivity and spirituality.



Daniel's project consisted of a variety of textile patterns that can be used for interior surface décor such as wallpaper, curtains, bedlinen, upholstery and tablecloths. It used organic forms alongside geometric shapes, tessellated layers and colour patterns, intended to appeal to all

genders. Faith designed her own stationery brand targeting young audiences, taking a minimalistic approach in contrast to the trend of loud designs in current existing brands.



Toby Rye, Art & Design teacher at RuTC, said, "The whole group made an exciting and diverse range of work for their final project in response to the theme of 'Journeys'. We started the project by going on a research visit to Greenwich and the National Maritime Museum. All the students independently researched and developed their own ideas and exhibited their final work in the end of year show. A number of our students were selected for the prestigious

Origins exhibition, which showcases the most interesting and challenging work from courses across the country and did Richmond upon Thames College proud with their paintings and prints respectively."



**Richmond upon  
Thames College**

# St Mary's University Update

## St Mary's University Highlights



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London



Olympic Silver Medallist, Botswanan athlete Nijel Amos trains at St Mary's ahead of the Doha 2019 World Athletics Championships



Students celebrate the end of welcome fortnight with St Mary's first ever petting zoo



St Mary's Chelsea FC Foundation Football Foundation Degree students visit Stamford bridge as part of their induction



Cardinal Vincent Nichols presents awards to the winners of the inaugural Institute of Theology essay writing competition



## The Father

by Florian Zeller

Richmond Shakespeare Society, Mary Wallace Theatre until 21<sup>st</sup> September

Florian Zeller's *The Father* is about an elderly man descending into dementia. Understandably this is not the most attractive of opening lines, nor is dementia as subject matter likely to have audiences rushing for tickets, which is a shame as RSS's current production of this clever play is well worth a look.



The staging is highly effective. Visually the production is striking, the bright light of the scenes in which people talk, contrasted with the softer, total black indicating a scene's end, and then the dim, flickering while changes take place, like an old film. Crucially though, it made you *think* of confusion without actually confusing you - clever.

Events are viewed solely from Andre, the father's, point of view. Andre is cared for by his daughter Anne, apparently in his flat in Paris. However, nothing is straightforward. Andre is not necessarily where he thinks he is. Or is he? Anne may not be Anne. She may or may not be married and Andre is unclear as to which man might be her husband. Zeller shows us the disintegration of the father but also the strain on the people who love him, but who must carry on their lives while trying to

care for him. There is humour here too, gentle and sometimes poignant but present. As Andre flirts with his new carer, we have glimpses of the man he was.

Chris Haddock's performance as Andre must have connected with anyone who has had dealings with dementia. Characters like Andre, who are not so much individuals as representatives of something, could be oversimplified or bland. Chris Haddock however, played an endearing, flirtatious and witty version of Andre, which made his personal losses so much more affecting ... ..



Read Eleanor Lewis's review at [www.markaspen.com/2019/09/16/father](http://www.markaspen.com/2019/09/16/father)

Photography by Sally Turnstill



## Marvin's Room

by Scott McPherson

Teddington Theatre Club, Coward Studio, Hampton until 21<sup>st</sup> September

In this dark comedy in two acts by Scott McPherson, you would be forgiven if you thought *Marvin's Room* a hybrid of Samuel Beckett and Tennessee Williams. Without the pregnant, awkward pauses à la Beckett, the American accents were not quite as far South as a Williams play.

Playwright and author McPherson is also an actor who shares his own personal experience of being HIV positive and of the various family breakdowns and dynamics as a consequence of his illness. Brought up a devout Roman Catholic, religion permeates *Marvin's Room*, a play which focuses on the reunion of two estranged

sisters. We never see Marvin, Bessie's father; we only hear his painful groans offstage, leaving our imagination to determine his aged physical appearance. He has been dying for the past two decades and Bessie, played by Linda Hansell, is his full-time carer. As is often the case in such situations, the carer needs caring for! She herself becomes ill and requires a bone marrow transplant, but is unable to find a suitable donor.



The intimate setting of the Coward Room was perfect for this kitchen-sink drama directed by Eirin Compton. Susan Gerlach as Lee and Daniel Baldock as Dr Wally were excellent; the two sons, Alex Rand as Hank and Ben Jeffrey as Charlie gave fine performances. The latter bears an uncanny parallel to Christopher in Mark Haddon's *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*.

Atmospheric lighting and smart screen projections set the many different scene changes with precision; these were swiftly executed by nurses in uniform accompanied by well-known song clips ranging from Simon and Garfunkel to George Michael ... ..

Read Helen Astrid's review at [www.markaspen.com/2019/09/16/marvin](http://www.markaspen.com/2019/09/16/marvin)

Photography by Jojo Leppink (Handwritten Photography)





## A Woman of No Importance

by Oscar Wilde

Classic Spring at Richmond Theatre until 21<sup>st</sup> September, then on tour until 9<sup>th</sup> November

What *is* important in *A Woman of No Importance* – apart, of course, from the eponymous Mrs Arbuthnot? If we are to believe Dominic Dromgoole's production, it is cementing Wilde's reputation as a wit of the first order. Most of the opening two acts play as though excerpted from a dictionary of quotations, with characters speaking aperçus in the rhythm of the machinegun: each of the miscellaneous aristos seems to be seeking to outdo another by trumping a preceding bon mot.



You sense that Wilde has set it up so that we are at once bamboozled by the whirligig of lords and ladies to which we are introduced while being dazzled at their brilliance. But if 'the clever people never listen, and the stupid people never talk', as Mrs Allonby smartly observes, where does this leaves a speechless audience? Well, at least we're laughing.

The pacy delivery and light tone allow the stars – of which we are reminded that there are 'a great many' – to shine. Isla Blair is a naturally dry and authoritative Lady Caroline, and holds court for much of the first half of the play by looking up from her embroidery to issue pronouncements or reproach her husband (John Bett on amusing form as the dodderly Sir John). Liza Goddard is meanwhile effortlessly genial as hostess Lady Hunstanton, a character unflappable other than when failed by her own memory. The most impish and impressive of these important women is Mrs Allonby, in a charismatic performance by Emma Amos, swishing among the seated matriarchs and gainsaying anything that can be gainsaid – and, with the appearance of Lord Illingworth (Mark Meadows), sparking an illicit chemistry ... ..



Read Matthew Grierson's review at [www.markaspen.com/2019/09/17/importance](http://www.markaspen.com/2019/09/17/importance)

Photography by Robert Day

# TRAVELLER'S TALES 48

## CRUISING THE BACKWATERS



### DOUG GOODMAN CONTINUES HIS TRAVELS IN KERALA

On the drive back to Cochin from The Western Ghats the roads were rough and narrow. Cattle drives from the adjacent State of Tamil Nadu to the markets were underway causing long traffic jams. We stopped in a little town to let the columns of beasts with brightly painted horns get well ahead of us and found a restaurant for lunch. The establishment had a choice of dining rooms: with or without air conditioning. Cutlery was not provided. A delicious vegetable curry with nan bread and soft drinks cost £4 – for six of us!

We stayed at the Kumarakom Lake Resort which offered plenty of sporting activities, talks on the region's wildlife and walks to the local villages. There was a happy mix of guests with the newly emerging Indian middle class well in evidence. Our villa had an open-air bathroom with a huge bathtub on a plinth surrounded by flowers.



Cattle Drive



Our Floating hotel



The Backwaters

### BACKWATERS

Our final three days in Kerala were spent cruising the Backwaters – a vast range of canals, rivers and estuaries stretching for over 500 miles. Our Kettuvalam was moored by our villa on Lake Vembaned and we were welcomed aboard by the captain, engineer and cook. Our route was discussed, what we would like to see on the Backwaters and the menus planned. We would stop at villages, farms and schools to meet the local people and learn about their way of life. The comfortably furnished houseboat contained three bedrooms, a dining area and outside viewing platform. The captain explained that the Kettuvalam was made entirely of wood without using a single nail in its construction. The boats – some new but many older, converted vessels, were once the main means for transporting goods such as rice, coconuts, food supplies and post. There was plenty of traffic on the Backwaters and we were fascinated by the snake boats which were used for races and during festivals rowed by 90 oarsmen. Stops were made at a wood carving enterprise, a coir village where treated coconut fibre was spun into long ropes, mats and wall hangings. A farmer welcomed us to his home and discussed the crops being grown to ensure self-sufficiency.



Dinner on the Boat



Catch of the Day



Wash Day

I asked what the local brew was knowing that while alcohol was not banned it had to be carried concealed in a bag. The cook took us to a shack on the riverbank displaying a hand-drawn sign 'Toddy Bar'. Toddy is made from fermented coconut water and the juice is collected by agile tappers. It was almost drinkable, very intoxicating and at about ten pence a glass quite affordable for the locals.

The opportunity to dangle your toes in the warm water while still in bed was a delight. Dawn on the boat was the time to admire the rising sun reflected in the water, listen to bird song, spot monkeys swinging from the trees and enjoy hot, sweet tea and a traditional spicy breakfast.



Wood Carvers



Double Decker. Rice Boat



Messing about on the River

Our cruise ended at Alappuzha, a town at the southern end of the Backwaters and also a beach resort on The Lakshadweep Sea. It had been a wonderful opportunity to see rural life in India up close and to spend the most relaxing three days of my life.

Our independent trip was organised by Avion Holidays. ([www.avionholidays.co.uk](http://www.avionholidays.co.uk))

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## BRENTFORD FC

### POOR PERFORMANCE AT PRESTON

#### PRESTON NORTH END 2 - BRENTFORD 0 Attendance 12,873

A goal inside the first five minutes from Preston North End sent Brentford on the way to defeat at Deepdale last Saturday. The Bees fell behind after a fast start from the home side and were never able to get back on terms. They created openings, particularly in a spell around half time, but Preston held firm and got a second goal to seal the points after the break.



The game started in the worst possible fashion for The Bees as they found themselves a goal down before they had any sort of possession. The home side forced a series of early corners and scored from the third of them. The goal came when a deep delivery was half cleared despite three or four attempts from The Bees to remove all danger, Ryan Ledson took the time to deliver and found Sean Maguire unmarked and the Preston attacker took a touch before finishing. As much as any goal can be fully deserved after four minutes, that one was. The Bees had been forced back, unable to clear their lines, and as ball after ball came in to the box, it seemed a matter of time before one found a target.

What makes it even worse is that Preston goal-scorer Sean Maguire is the nephew of Ken Maguire, the popular landlord of the Prince Albert in Hampton Road, Twickenham and this is my local pub!

Preston's second goal seemed to kill Brentford off completely. The Bees were unable to put together any sort of attacking play in the later stages and grew increasingly frustrated with the situation. Henry saw a shot blocked when a corner was half cleared but Brentford offered nothing else and Preston took the points. I think this was one of those games that has to be forgotten quickly!

Brentford: Raya; Dalsgaard, Jansson, Jeanvier; Canós, Nørgaard, Jensen (sub Dasilva 73 mins), Henry; Mbeumo (sub Mokotjo 65 mins), Watkins, Benrahma

### BEES HOME TO STOKE CITY TODAY

Brentford are back at Griffin Park today (Saturday 21st September) after what seems to be an eternity away. They will hope to put last week's defeat at Preston behind them as Thomas Frank and his men will look to repeat their last result against The Potters in January, when goals from Said Benrahma and Rico Henry helped the Bees secure a 3-1 win.

***Come on you Bees!***

# HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH

## SLOUGH TOWN 3 - HAMPTON & RICHMOND 1

A result that has to be put down as one of those days. Hampton had 3 goals disallowed and hit the woodwork twice as lady luck turned her back on them. Goals from Sam Togwell, Dan Roberts and Josh Jackman helped Slough to a home win and propelled the Rebels into eighth place in the National League South.



## HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH TEAM

Laurie Walker (c), Matt Young, Ruaridh Donaldson, Jake Flanigan (Bobby Mills 63), Dean Inman, Charlie Fox, Ryan Hill, Tyrell Miller-Rodney, Danilo Orsi-Dadamo, Jefferson Louis (Louis Stead 63), Sam Deadfield (Zac Joseph 75). Unused substitutes: Chris Paul, Bradley Pearce.

## GARY McCANN SIGNS FOOTBALL LEGEND

Hampton are delighted to announce the signing of veteran striker and football legend Jefferson Louis. Jefferson had left FA Cup opponents Chesham United last week and Gary was quick to sign him as cover up front as Tyrone Lewthwaite has only just started light training. It was Jefferson who actually recommended Tyrone to Hampton in the summer, so to also have him in the club to mentor the club's young strikers will be a big bonus. The Beavers will be Jefferson's 38th different club as he shows no signs of stopping, despite reaching the age of 40! Jefferson played his first game for Hampton in last Saturday's defeat at Slough Town.

Today (Saturday 21st September), Hampton are off to Chesham in the 2nd qualifying round of the FA Cup. They had a good run in the cup last year culminating in that televised live match against Oldham Athletic at the Beveree. Let's hope for another!

## A ROOM WITH A VIEW

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



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

# England Men's Sevens squad for Oktoberfest confirmed

John Brake has named his England Men's squad for the Oktoberfest Sevens [Saturday 21 September-Sunday 22 September].

Brake, who coaches across the men's and women's sevens programmes, will lead the team, which features a mix of invitational and contracted England 7s players for the pre-season tournament.

The tournament, held at the Olympic stadium in Munich, made its debut in 2017 and attracted a crowd of 20,000.

England take on Australia, South Africa and New Zealand in Pool A.

Femi Sofolarin was part of the academy set-up last season and returns for the trip to Germany, while Alex Harris [Apache 7s], Hamish James [Apache 7s], Noah Sixton [Ramblin Jesters] and Ronnie Du Randt [Chester RUFC] are also included.

If England finish in the top two of Pool A, they will progress to the Cup competition on day two, with third and fourth placed teams entering the Plate competition.

Brake said: "We are excited for the challenge ahead.

"With a number of our senior players currently rehabbing injuries, the Oktoberfest 7s presents a brilliant opportunity for players on the fringes of the contracted squad to compete against some of the world's best.

"For some players this will be their first time representing their country which is an exciting prospect."

## **Saturday 21 September - Pool A matches**

England v Australia [14.44]

England v South Africa [17.29]

England v New Zealand [20.36]

## **Squad list**

Jamie Barden [University of Nottingham]

Will Hendy [England 7s Academy]

Ronnie Du Randt [Chester RUFC]

Will Edwards [England 7s]

Hamish James [Apache 7s/University of Southampton]

Tom Bowen [England 7s]

Femi Sofolarin [Newcastle University]

George Barber [Loughborough University]

Toby Venner [Hartpury University]

Alex Harris [Apache 7s]

Noah Sixton [Ramblin Jesters]

Oli Hobman [Old Elthamians RFC/St Marys University]



# The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2020

London universities continue to bookend the new UK university rankings published by *The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2020*, with three institutions in both the top and bottom 10s. Imperial remains the top university in London, ranked fourth overall, whilst Ravensbourne finishes bottom for a second successive year. Despite these non-movers, the London universities have seen significant shifts elsewhere, most notably with the University of West London jumping 31 places to rank 52nd. Whilst the London universities continue to score poorly for student satisfaction, taking eight places in the bottom 10 for satisfaction with teaching quality, the trend is bucked by Royal Holloway, part of the University of London, ranked 25th in the UK for student satisfaction with the university experience there.



The new edition of *The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2020*, a free 96-page supplement will be published this weekend in The Sunday Times (September 22). It provides the definitive rankings for UK universities and the most comprehensive overview of higher education in Britain. It includes profiles on 134 universities and the definitive UK university rankings, making use of the latest data published in the past two months. A fully searchable website with university profiles and 67 subject tables will be published at [www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/gooduniversityguide](http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/gooduniversityguide) on Sunday for subscribers to The Times and The Sunday Times.

## Top universities in London

	University	National rank	Last year's national rank	2019 National Student Survey teaching quality (%)	2019 National Student Survey student experience (%)	Graduate prospects (% in professional jobs or graduate-level study)	Completion rate (%)
1	Imperial College	4	4	75.1	77.9	90.4	96.5
2	London School of Economics	6	9	72.3	68.5	86.2	95.4
3	University College London	9	8	74.7	75.4	83.8	94.5
4	Royal Holloway	19	24	81.3	80.6	73.5	92.1
5	King's College	30	35=	74.3	72.5	84.5	91.8
6	SOAS	44	53	75.5	71.2	70.9	81.4
7	Queen Mary	49	46=	73.5	74.3	78.7	89.9
8	West London	52	83	85.7	84.7	74.0	78.1
9	St George's	67	80	71.9	71.9	93.8	93.3
10	Goldsmiths	68	71	76.5	72.0	58.3	78.5
11	Roehampton	69	70	79.2	77.2	72.2	74.3
12	City	73	68	76.2	77.1	73.4	88.5
13	Arts, London	79=	94=	76.3	70.1	72.2	86.2
14	Greenwich	84	100	79.9	78.4	70.3	82.0
15	St Mary's, Twickenham	85	77	82.2	79.0	72.6	81.0
16	London South Bank	86	107	80.4	77.9	87.7	77.5
17	Brunel	100	76	73.1	73.4	70.9	86.5
18	Kingston	106	110=	79.3	78.3	64.5	84.1
13	Middlesex	107	110=	75.5	74.0	73.5	78.9
20	Westminster	119	114	75.2	75.1	70.4	81.7

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

24 September, 8pm

## 'Shoplifters' (Japan)

**RFS's season continues with Hirokazu Koreeda's Palme d'Or winning drama. After a shoplifting trip, Osamu and his son run into a homeless girl shivering with cold. Osamu's wife is not keen to take her in, but she feels sorry for her and eventually relents. Then an incident unveils a secret that tests their bond. Winner of 43 awards and shortlisted for the 2019 Foreign Language Film Oscar.**

[www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk](http://www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk)

Non-member tickets are £5 (full-time students £3) and can be purchased in advance from The Exchange's Box Office (subject to a cap of 60) - in person, by telephone on 020 8240 2399 or online at

[www.exchangetwickenham.co.uk/events/](http://www.exchangetwickenham.co.uk/events/). A further 50 or so tickets

will be available to purchase on the door on the night of screenings (cash only) on a 'first-come-first-served' basis.

Films are shown at 8.00pm sharp on alternate Tuesdays (no trailers and no ads) and are screened at The Exchange, 75 London Road, Twickenham, TW1 1BE. On screening nights, the Bar is open from 7.00pm and remains open after the film. Drinks can be taken into the auditorium and coffee, tea and snacks are also available. Film notes are provided for each screening and audience feedback is obtained via response slips.



Half Page

Quarter Page  
Landscape

Quarter Page Portrait

Eighth Page

Eighth Page  
Landscape

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