

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE



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Editors

Berkley Driscoll
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25th December 2020

T&RT

It could have been a white Christmas!

Photo by Berkley Driscoll

TickerTape - News in Brief

Further financial support for businesses now available!

Further financial support grants for businesses affected by COVID-19 regulations are now available in the form of the Local Restrictions Support Grant (Open) scheme, or LRSO (Open). This new Government scheme, which aims to support hospitality, hotels and leisure businesses that have suffered financial hardship due to the Tier 2 and Tier 3 COVID-19 restrictions, is now available.

Businesses are only eligible if they were not legally required to close when London first moved into Tier 2 restrictions on the 17 October and again following the end of the second national lockdown on 2 December 2020, but were still impacted financially.

Anybody wanting to make a claim will need to fill out the online form as well as providing supporting documents. [Details of eligibility and how to apply.](#)

Tick tock on deadline to apply for settled status!

EU nationals living in the borough are reminded to end the year with peace of mind that they can remain in the UK by applying for the European Union Settlement Scheme (EUSS). The Council is urging all residents from EU countries and eligible non-EEA nationals who want to stay in the UK to [apply to the EU Settlement Scheme as soon as possible.](#)

Resident donations provide vital mental health support

Two local mental health charities, providing support for young people, have received a funding boost – thanks to money donated by local people!

This year the Richmond upon Thames Voluntary Fund raised money for two local youth mental health charities, Off the Record and Richmond Borough Mind. Throughout 2020 so far over £110k has been donated, which has been split equally between the two organisations.

To find out more about the fund, or to donate visit the [Richmond upon Thames Voluntary Fund.](#)

[Visit the News page for more stories](#)



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Merry Christmas

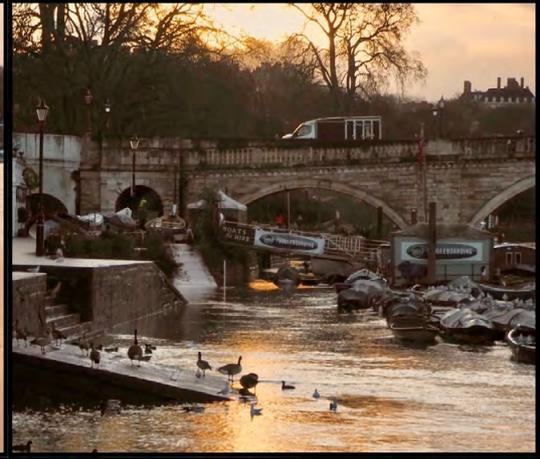
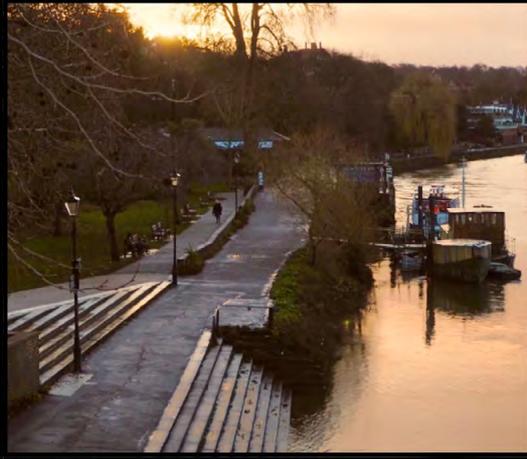
From TwickerSeal and his TwickerChums



Borough View By Graeme Stoten

'Boxing Day Walk'

The Richmond and Twickenham riverside path.



COVID-19

Teresa Read

This week's news

COVID-19 CASES GLOBALLY 22 December: World Health Organization

“Globally in the past week, new COVID-19 cases and deaths continued to increase to approximately 4.6 million new cases and over 79,000 new deaths. This brings the cumulative numbers to over 75 million reported cases and 1.6 million deaths globally since the start of the pandemic.”

From the BBC: Variant of the Virus Identified in the UK

“A new variant of the virus causing Covid-19, first spotted in Kent, could already be circulating - or have originated from - outside the UK.”

Prof Sharon Peacock, head of Covid-19 Genomics UK (COG-UK) consortium, said the UK’s high level of genomic surveillance meant “if you’re going to find something anywhere, you’re going to find it probably here first”.

Susan Hopkins, Public Health England, is reported in a BMJ article as saying “the UK does more genome sequencing (10% of testing samples) than any other European country, except for Denmark, so it may take some time to know the extent of the variant’s spread.”

From the World Health Organization (WHO): COVID-19 Variant

“On 14 December 2020, authorities of the United Kingdom (UK) reported to WHO that a new SARS-CoV-2 variant was identified through viral genomic sequencing. This variant is referred to as SARS-CoV-2 VUI 202012/01 (Variant Under Investigation, year 2020, month 12, variant 01). Initial analysis indicates that the variant may spread more readily between people. Investigations are ongoing to determine if this variant is associated with any changes in the severity of symptoms, antibody response or vaccine efficacy.

A total of 1108 cases infected with SARS-CoV-2 VUI 202012/01 have been detected in the UK as of 13 December 2020. The variant was picked up as part of an epidemiological and virological investigation initiated earlier in December 2020 following an unexpected rise in COVID-19 cases in South East England.

On average, between 5 - 10% of all SARS-CoV-2 viruses have routinely been sequenced in the UK and 4% routinely sequenced in South East England since the beginning of the pandemic.

Retrospective analysis traced the first identified variant to Kent, South East England, on 20 September 2020, which was followed by a rapid increase of the same variant identified later in November. Most COVID-19 cases from whom this variant has been identified have occurred in people under 60 years of age.

According to the Global Initiative on Sharing Avian Influenza Data (GISAID) database, this same receptor binding domain mutation has been independently reported in several countries including South Africa and Australia. Sequence analysis revealed that the [N501Y] mutation of the virus reported in the UK and South Africa originated separately.

The new VUI-202012/01 variant has been identified in several countries including Australia, Denmark, Italy, Iceland and the Netherlands.

Preliminary reports by the UK are that this variant is more transmissible than previous circulating viruses, with an estimated increase of between 40% and 70% in transmissibility.”

The BMJ has pointed out that the new variant may have a higher viral load. (“If you have a high viral load, you are more likely to infect other people, because you may be shedding more virus particles.” New Scientist).

Read more: <https://www.newscientist.com/article/2238819-does-a-high-viral-load-or-infectious-dose-make-covid-19-worse/#ixzz6hZk0bZiX>

Earlier this year it was announced that the World Health Organization will visit China to investigate the source of the virus which causes COVID-19. “The search will start in Wuhan – the Chinese city where the new coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 was first identified – and expand across China and beyond.” (Nature.com).

Cases of COVID-19

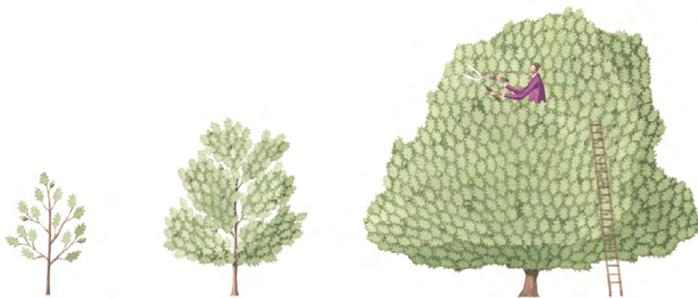
Total cases to 2 December 2020

4,505 Richmond-upon-Thames 5,342 Kingston-upon Thames 8,318 Hounslow

Countries with High Numbers of Deaths Recorded by the World Health Organization
Deaths Worldwide 1,724,904

USA 320,180
Brazil 188,259
India 146,756
Mexico 119,495
Italy 70,395
The United Kingdom 69,051
France 61,602
Iran 54,156
Russian Federation 53,096

Spain 49,698
Argentina 42,254
Colombia 40,931
Peru 37,218
Germany 28,770
Poland 26,752
South Africa 25,657
Indonesia 20,408
Belgium 18,939



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The Tree Agency

The Twickenham Puzzle

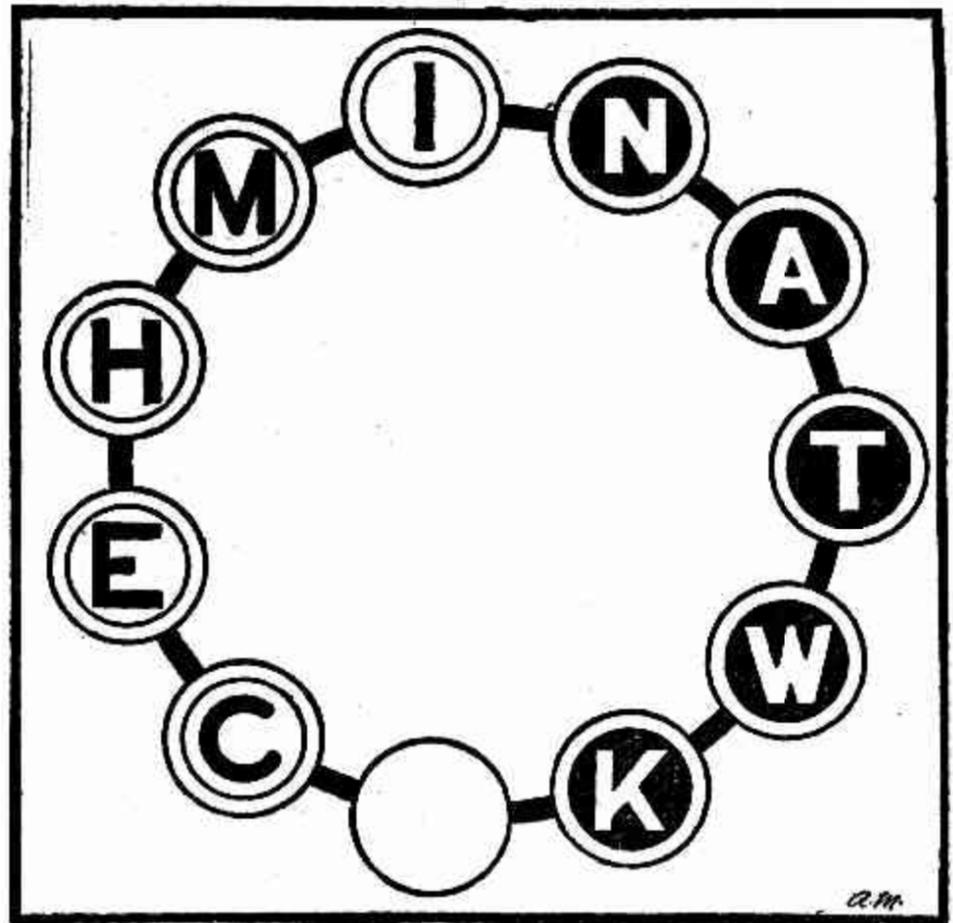
By Simon Fowler

Drained from too much turkey, tired of the telly, then why not tackle this teaser. Rather oddly the original puzzle appeared in the Sydney Daily Telegraph for 18 April 1928 in their daily puzzle column. The newspaper must have picked it up from an English paper.

The original instructions read:

The letters on the dark and light counters can be rearranged to spell TWICKENHAM. Our task is to rearrange the letters, so they spell TWICKENHAM around the circle in a clockwise direction by jumping the counters over one another in a certain way.

The dark counters move in the direction of the hands of a clock, the white counters move in the opposite direction. Any counter may jump over another of the opposite colour, provided there is a vacant circle to jump to, but never over one of its own colours...The puzzle is to be solved in this manner. It is possible to do it in twenty-six moves.



Cut out bits of cardboard of two colours or colour them up with your crayons and put the proper letters on each. Then arrange them around the circle as we have given them above and try your fortune. Always remember that the dark and the light counters move in opposite directions...and that that no counter can ever jump over another of its own colour. Also remember that TWICKENHAM must be spelled out so that it reads around the circle in a clockwise direction – that is from left to right.

Here's the solution:

Our problem was to move the letters shown above, the White ones counter-clockwise and the dark ones clockwise, so as to spell the word TWICKENHAM. Counters can move to any vacant circle, jump over one another, except that no counter can jump over one of the same colour. The puzzle was to be solved in twenty-six moves. This is how it is done: Move K C E K W T C E H M K W T A N C E H M I K C E H M T. The position will always make it clear when you must make a simple move or a jump.

Marble Hill Horticultural Marvels

There is an exciting project underway at Marble Hill. We are working hard to open up the house more often, revive the landscape, and - from the play area to the sports pitches - improve the facilities across the park. Key elements of our plans include the conservation and re-presentation of Marble Hill House ensuring it is open to the public, for free, five days a week for seven months a year. The project will see the opening up of more areas in the park and creation of new habitats to improve the park's biodiversity. We will also aim to improve the sports pitches and changing facilities, refurbish the café and create a new play area for children in addition to the dog free area that is already on site. We want to keep what makes Marble Hill so special but we also want to make it even better. We have been delighted to work with the Historic England's Archaeological Projects team to explore Marble Hill's past and understand the site a little more. Thomas Cromwell has been on site for a few months helping us unearth Marble Hill's history. He writes:

“Historic England Archaeological Projects Team has been involved with Marble Hill since the start of the Marble Hill Revived Project. The grant of over £4m by National Lottery, run by English Heritage has the aim of doing justice to both house and park through a series of £6m improvements. In the past four years we have looked for the demolished service wing east of the house, surveyed the landscape, probed the ground with geophysics, and carried out a number of excavation trenches to look for lost features that were shown on the 1749 estate plan.

Along the way we have searched for the “seat before the Ice House”, only to find unexpected evidence of later disturbance of the mound. We did find the Ninepin Alley! And trenching around the Grotto has revealed not only its true shape (which is bigger than the present hollow) but also the episodes of later dumping to fill it in when it was no longer needed in the late 19th century.



We've found that the curved arbours bracketing the central lawn have left raised earthworks to mark them out. One attempt at finding evidence turned up a hitherto-unnoticed brick greenhouse. We're not done yet – English Heritage has asked us to help them remove all the later fill from the Grotto to explore this site more.

It is good to see how our work on site is shaping features that will serve the community



for years to come! Features that disappeared by the start of the 20th century will be brought back to life for everyone to enjoy, and I was lucky enough to help make it happen. I look forward to sitting at the Ice House seat, strolling through the covering of the Arbour on my way to the Ninepin Alley, and immersing myself in the seclusion of the restored Grotto.”

The investment in Marble Hill will ensure we have a much more bio secure parkland area, where history and nature conservation can sit side by side.

If you would like to hear more about the project and be added to our newsletter list, please do email MarbleHillrevived@english-heritage.org.uk or please do join us for the following free lectures across zoom. Once signed up, you will be sent the link an hour before the start of the lecture.

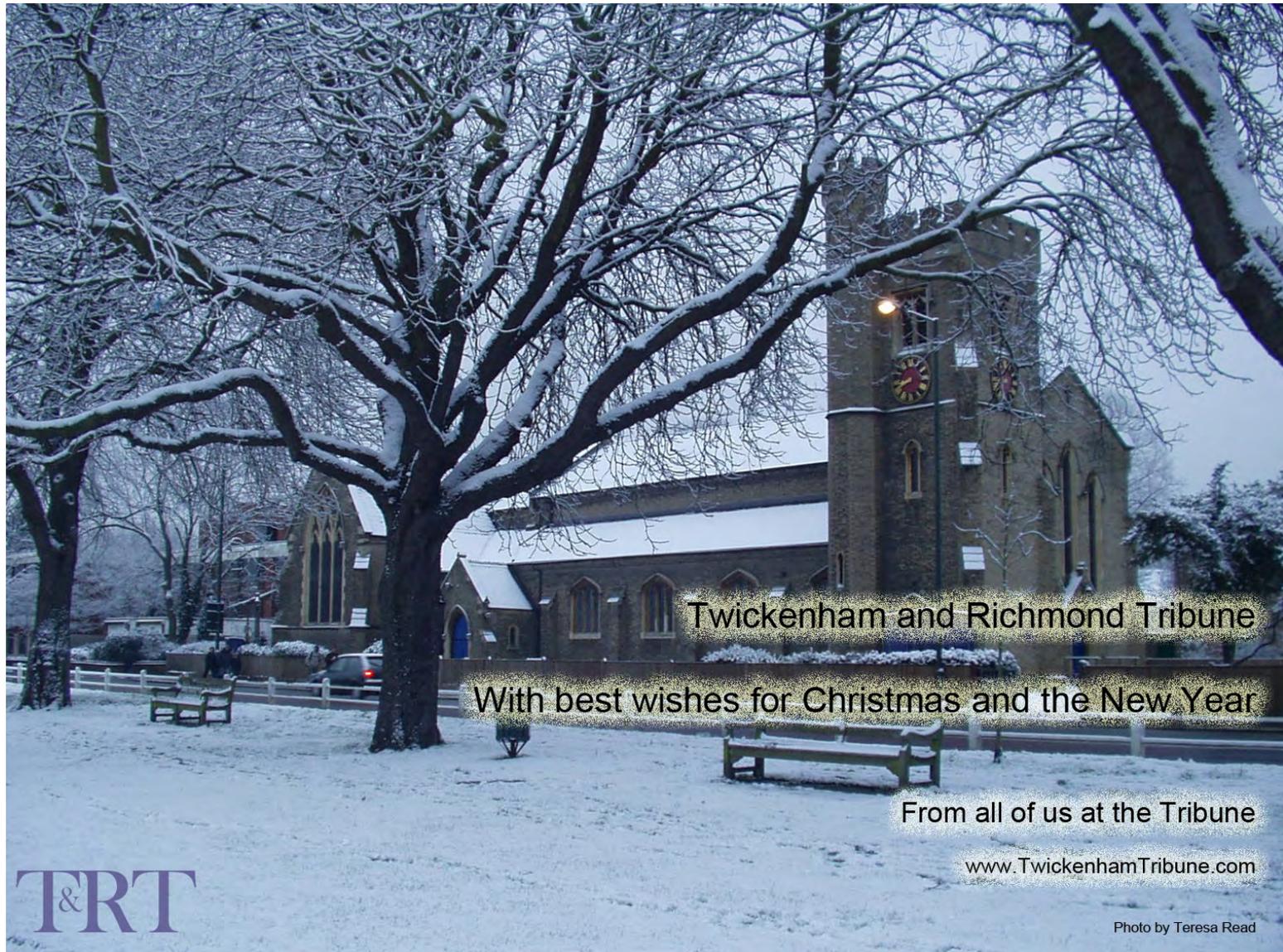
<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/whats-on/marble-hill-the-9-bin-bowling-alley-archaeology-lecture-18-jan-2020/>

<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/whats-on/marble-hill-illustrating-marble-hill-archaeology-25-jan-2021/>

<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/whats-on/marble-hill-archaeology-and-the-historic-landscape-lecture-15-feb-2021/>

Marble Hill is also working with eight other historic organisations to discover and explore the landscape of luminaries across the Thames.

Do join Turners House, Popes Grotto, Strawberry Hill, Ham House and Gardens, Boston Manor, Hogarth’s House, Chiswick House and Orleans Gallery to collectively explore our amazing local landscapes. To donate to all the organisations and sign up for the talks please go to <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/online/online/thames-luminaries-combined-ticket-for-all-nine-talks/e-krrdgd>



Twickenham and Richmond Tribune

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year

From all of us at the Tribune

www.TwickenhamTribune.com

Photo by Teresa Read

T&RT

Will you be a good neighbour this Christmas?

Richmond Council is encouraging residents to be a good neighbour this Christmas and check on the wellbeing of older people in their communities who live alone.

Hundreds of residents across the borough will be lonely and isolated this Christmas, many unable to see their friends and family because they are shielding from COVID-19 and the new Tier 4 restrictions.

Age UK estimate that on average, there are over 1.2 million older people in the UK are chronically lonely, which may contribute to the rise in the number of older residents who have to be admitted to hospital over the winter period through not looking after themselves. Here are some ways in which you can safely help keep your elderly neighbours well this Christmas.

Please remember that many older residents will be shielding, so it is important to make sure that you keep your distance and provide your help and support safely.

Should you have concerns about your vulnerable neighbour's health and wellbeing, please let us know so we can [help](#).

The Council secures large scale funding to tackle rough sleeping

A successful bid for Government funding will help the Council do more to reduce rough sleeping in Richmond upon Thames.

Through successful bids for Government grants, the Council has been awarded £111,468 short term Next Steps Accommodation (NSAP) funding to support rough sleepers during the pandemic and up to £546,631 long term Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme (RSAP) funding to implement the borough's first ever Housing First project for the next 4 years.

Since 23 March 2020, the Council, with the help of local rough sleeping charity SPEAR, has made an offer of self-contained accommodation to anyone sleeping rough in the borough. This followed the Government's 'Everyone In' initiative which sought to protect rough sleepers from COVID-19.

Cllr Liz Jaeger, Deputy Leader and Lead Member for Housing for Richmond Council, said:

"Sadly, the pandemic has forced some residents into street homelessness and the Council has been working hard through this year to accommodate them and other longer term rough sleepers and securing nearly £850,000 of funding to underpin ongoing efforts to avoid them returning to the streets is very welcome. If you wish to assist the Council, we suggest a donation to Spear, our key partner in this vital work, using [Virgin Money Giving](#)".



The short term NSAP funding will allow the Council to continue this accommodation offer until at least 31 March 2021. This will enable the Council to work with people who would otherwise be sleeping rough to ensure they are made an offer of settled accommodation instead of returning to the streets. This funding will also be used to employ a SPEAR support team manager to help coordinate and manage the SPEAR support services, including Housing First.

Through long term RSAP funding, the Council is excited to introduce Housing First, a housing and support approach to helping rough sleepers. This innovative project is designed to give people who have experienced rough sleeping and chronic health and social care needs a stable home from which to rebuild their lives.

Funding will enable two Housing First Workers to provide intensive, person centred, holistic support to ten rough sleepers who will be offered social housing tenancies. Specialist support to tackle the drivers of homelessness and to prevent people returning to the streets has also been secured with some £178,895 awarded to the Council from the Rough Sleepers Drug and Alcohol treatment fund 2020/21.

Currently the Council is directly housing around 50 rough sleepers in temporary accommodation and will be looking to rehouse them by the end of March next year if possible.

The Royal Parks' media office wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Richmond upon Thames wins GOLD in the London Youth Games Virtual Cross Country!

The Nike x London Youth Games Virtual Cross Country event took place from earlier this month with four different age groups competing in the London-wide competition.

30 boroughs took part with a total of 3,894 young runners. Approximately 600 of these runners represented Richmond upon Thames – a huge turn out that saw the borough soar to the top of the leader board!

As well as excelling in participation, Richmond's young runners also performed remarkably well and claimed about 25% of the top finishing spots. For example, in the U17 male category, 25 Richmond runners finished in the top 50 and in the U15 female category, nine Richmond runners finished in the top 50!

Special mention goes to Siena Lepine who finished first in the U13 female category and to Jonny Brook who also finished first in the U17 male category.

Siena Lepine, the U13 female winner, said:

"It was exhausting yet exhilarating to push myself to the limit, achieving a personal best. I was happy to learn it was also the winning time! I am thankful to LYG that in these difficult times, we can still compete in events, even if virtually."

Cllr J-F Burford, Lead Spokesperson for Sport, said:

"It's great to have some good news and I would like to congratulate each one of the young runners who helped the borough top the leader board! Well done!"

To find out more and to get involved in future events head to [London Youth Games](#).

This Christmas Weekend Richmond Police are urging residents to take care of their home and make sure it's secure if they leave the house

This week officers urge residents to stay aware of their home security even as we enter Tier 4. Many will be at home more often, but it's important to remember home security if you leave to shop or exercise. Leaving valuables in sight of the street, or where someone can easily access can attract burglars. It's might feel festive to keep your presents under the tree ahead of Christmas Day, but if they can be easily spotted by burglars it could make your home an attractive target.

Burglars commonly use windows as entry points as they are often less secure. Take a good look at your windows from the outside and remove potential access points where you can. Are there walls, bins or garden furniture that could be used to reach windows? If the answer is yes, move them away. Whenever you go out, it's important to leave your home secure. Getting into an 'exit routine' can help ensure that you don't forget home security which could ultimately prevent your home from being burgled.

Some tips to keep your home safe this Christmas:

- Don't leave packaging from your Christmas presents on the doorsteps. Boxes for items such as electronics will advertise to burglars what new gadgets are in your home.
- Set a timer for your lights. If you are going to be out when it's dark, leaving a light on in the home gives the impression that the house isn't empty.
- Close and lock all your doors and windows, even if you're only going out for a few minutes.
- Double-lock any door.
- Keep bags away from the letterbox or cat flap and hide all keys including car keys, as a thief could hook keys or valuables through even a small opening.
- Never leave car documents or ID in obvious places such as kitchens or hallways.
- Make sure the side gate is locked.
- Lock your shed or garage.
- Lock your bike inside a secure shed or garage, to a robust fitting bolted to the ground or wall, like a ground anchor.

For more information about crime in your area, and to contact your local neighbourhood team visit: <https://www.met.police.uk/a/your-area/>. Call 101 to report crime to our non-emergency number.

Always call 999 in an emergency."



**Looking for
your local
Neighbourhood
Policing Team?**

<p>Hampton</p> <p>Hampton@met.police.uk 07768 178523 @MPSHampton</p>	<p>Hampton North</p> <p>HamptonNorth@met.police.uk 07879 430704 @MPSHamptonNorth</p>	<p>Teddington</p> <p>Teddington@met.police.uk 07768 178924 @MPSTeddington</p>	<p>Hampton Wick</p> <p>HamptonWick@met.police.uk 07879 430359 @MPSHamptonWick</p>	<p>Whitton</p> <p>Whitton@met.police.uk 020 8247 7132 @MPSWhitton</p>
<p>Twickenham Riverside</p> <p>TwickenhamRiverside@met.police.uk 0774 707 0801 @MPSAbbeyVW</p>	<p>St. Margaret's</p> <p>StMargressandNorth@met.police.uk 0208 247 7142 @MPSSStMargarets</p>	<p>Barnes</p> <p>Barnes@met.police.uk 07768178731 @MPSBarnes</p>	<p>East Sheen</p> <p>EastSheen@met.police.uk 0208 721 2929 @MPSEastSheen</p>	<p>Mortlake & Barnes</p> <p>MortlakeandBarnes@met.police.uk 0207 161 8040 @MPSMortlake</p>
<p>Ham & Petersham</p> <p>HamandPetersham@met.police.uk 0208 247 7074 @MPSHamPetersham</p>	<p>South Twickenham</p> <p>SouthTwickenham@met.police.uk 0208 247 7015 @MPSSTwickenham</p>	<p>West Twickenham</p> <p>WestTwickenham@met.police.uk 02082477017 @MPSWTwickenham</p>	<p>Heathfield</p> <p>Heathfield@met.police.uk 0208 247 7185 @MPSHeathfield</p>	<p>Fullwell & Hampton Hill</p> <p>FulwellandHamptonHill@met.police.uk 07879431303 @MPSFulwell</p>
<p>Kew</p> <p>Kew@met.police.uk 0208 0721 2930 @MPSKew</p>	<p>North Richmond</p> <p>NorthRichmond@met.police.uk 07879 433 390 @MPSNthRichmond</p>	<p>South Richmond</p> <p>SouthRichmond@met.police.uk 07843 291152 @MPSStthRichmond</p>		<p>nextdoor</p>



HOWARD GREENWOOD, BEM

4 OCTOBER 1929 - 30 November 2020

Howard Greenwood, who has died aged 91, was awarded, in the Queen's Birthday Honours of 2019, the BEM for services to music and to the community in Richmond-upon-Thames. This honour was richly deserved as he was heavily involved in many local societies and causes, in particular the Richmond Concert Society. He died peacefully at home with Mon, his wife of 67 years, by his side.

It is as a founder member of the Richmond Concert Society, now in its 59th season, that Howard will always be remembered. Under his leadership the Society has become one of the best concert societies in the country. He was involved with the organisation of the Society from its opening concert in 1962, and in order to save money for the fledgling society he himself played the piano in early concerts. As his 'day job' in the City became more stressful, Howard gradually gave up giving piano lessons and concentrated on German lieder. In particular he regularly accompanied the tenor Richard Gandy and the successful international bass-baritone Raimund Herinx. While countless members of the Executive Committee have come and gone over the years, Howard has been a constant presence, taking on the additional role of Chairman from 1966 to 1979. He served continuously as Music Director from the first season until the 48th season when he became Artistic Advisor, a post he held until his death.

Howard used his knowledge of the music world to select the best musicians, whilst at the same time he gained particular satisfaction from giving a helping hand to young musicians at the start of their careers, many of whom have gone on to become distinguished performers. He was also the first to admit when his choice of programme or musicians did not live up to the high standards which members had come to expect. The contacts he maintained from his Guildhall days and beyond, together with his loyalty to friends, meant that when a booked artist could not perform Howard could call up a substitute at very short notice. These skills also helped when sponsorship became an issue, the first sponsors, in the early 1980s, being the company for whom he worked. They have continued sponsorship for nearly 40 years, while other sponsors have also continued for many years. It was Howard who in 1969 invited his friend Sir Andrzej Panufnik to be the first RCS President. On his death in 1991 he was succeeded by his widow, Lady Panufnik, who has been a constant supporter of the Society and remains President to this day.

The continuing success of the Society, with its currently just under 500 members and concerts given by top professional performers, owes everything to the foundation laid by Howard and sustained by him throughout. His enthusiasm was utterly infectious, and he was always around, wearing whilst he was Music Director his trademark green jacket. He was an inspiration to musicians and members alike, and all were made to feel welcome. He always maintained that the members of any society are what makes it, and he was an advocate of keeping the subscription low, so that the Richmond Concert Society should remain open to everyone.

Although it is the RCS which is most closely associated with Howard, he was involved with many other local societies and causes. He was adept at making connections between his various interests work for the good of the community, and believed that friendship was a major factor in the success of any organisation. On retirement from the City in 1989 he took up the chairmanship of Richmond upon Thames Arts Council, later to become Arts Richmond. He had previously been involved with this organisation in its earliest years in the 1960s but as his responsibilities in the City increased he had resigned, not without regret. He was probably the last surviving of the original members, and was proud to be asked to be joint President, with Sara Burn Edwards, in 2016, its 50th year. He also became a lifelong Patron.

Through his chairmanship of Richmond upon Thames Arts Council Howard ran the youth orchestra, and later became a Trustee of the newly formed Richmond Music Trust, which continues to work with schools in the borough. The nurturing of young musicians was always a cause close to his heart, and he worked tirelessly on their behalf. Local issues in general, particularly those involving Twickenham, were also always an important part of Howard's life. He spent six years as Chairman of the Twickenham Town Committee. He also served as Chairman on the RFU Community Committee, during which time he helped to initiate a ballot for local residents which ensured that tickets for important rugby matches were made available to them.

It is certainly true to say that the local community, for which he worked with great energy for so many years, owes Howard Greenwood a great debt of gratitude.

Jill Warner
Membership Secretary, Richmond Concert Society



*“All that is gold does not glitter,
Not all those who wander are lost:
The old that is strong does not wither,
Deep roots are not reached by the frost.” J.R.R. Tolkien*

Boxing Day ends a week which has been up and down for many of us but we trust that readers will enjoy the Robin and Wise Words above and look forward to a better New Year. Robins remind us of our dear Dad,



Neville, and always brings a smile now instead of sadness. We have birds ‘allocated and named’ after all our departed loved ones which help us and our children cope with losing a beloved person in our lives. Perhaps this simple activity will help those who have lost someone cope with their grief and loss.

The Winter Solstice on Monday 21st December also saw Jupiter and Saturn align in the night sky closer together than they have been for 400 years. Interconnectedness is the way forward. Nature and the natural world are truly wonderful. River Crane Sanctuary [Website](#)



Christmas support for the borough's most vulnerable

Vulnerable, isolated residents and those classed as clinically extremely vulnerable will still be able to get emergency support over the Christmas period from the Council's Community Hub.

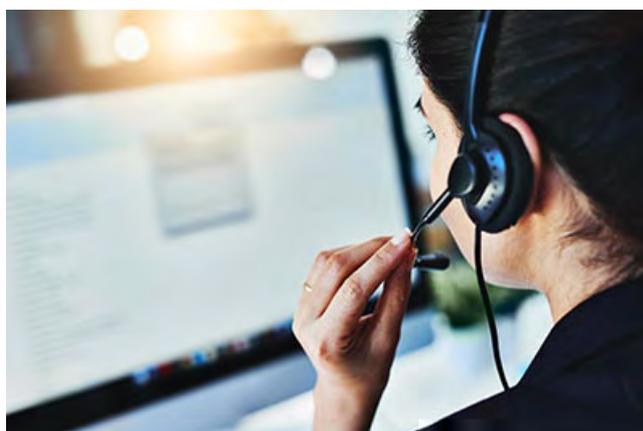
The Community Hub was set-up in March to co-ordinate the support being offered by the Council and Richmond's many voluntary organisations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since its launch, the Hub has taken thousands of calls from residents who do not have access to the internet. It is a first response for residents, particularly those elderly and/or vulnerable without support networks, who need support to access medical/care services and food supplies. It is designed to help those most in need stay safe and well while they self-isolate at home.

If you are vulnerable and need help, [go online](#). If you do not have access to the internet, you can call the Hub for emergency issues over the Christmas period on 020 8871 6555.

The Hub will be open:

Day	Opening hours
Boxing Day	10am to 3pm
Sunday 27 December	10am to 3pm
Monday 28 December	10am to 3pm
Tuesday 29 December	9am to 5pm
Wednesday 30 December	9am to 5pm
Thursday 31 December	9am to 2pm
Friday 1 January	10am to 3pm
Saturday 2 January	10am to 3pm
Sunday 3 January	10am to 3pm



Santa says....

 **KEEP
RICHMOND
UPON THAMES
SAFE**



2 m
6 ft

2 m
6 ft

SOCIAL DISTANCING

The year that was! In Church Street Twickenham

By Shona Lyons

Well it's been quite a year for us all here in Church Street.

We had to cancel all our events because of Covid with crowd and social distancing concerns. We worked with the council on their plans to pedestrianize the street, again because of Covid and Social Distancing requirements. Al Fresco was delayed because of Covid with many of the many restaurants and pubs struggling to work with all the new and forever changing protocols,

But everyone rallied to the challenges and we have been able to remain vital to our community with many traders still now open and offering take away and click and collect.

Our street traders have proved to be very resourceful and adaptable and the street is still a delight to behold with all the Christmas Lights on, the fantastic window displays and all the small lit Christmas trees above the shops.

Most of our traders are still soldiering on and just closed for the main holiday days (25 and 26 Dec)

We hope you all have a very Happy Christmas & New Year.
We look forward to seeing you all again soon.



TWIXMAS FOOD IDEAS

Despite the fact that we are living through nightmare times and most of us are missing seeing family members and friends this Christmas, we can still look forward to 2021. A new year; new vaccines and – hopefully – new freedoms, and with any luck another much-needed, proverbial ‘shot in the arm’ for our poor independent retail and hospitality industries. And we have Dry January and Veganuary to kick start the year – more of those later!

But first, here’s something for those in-between ‘Twixmas’ days when we have had our fill of rich food for a while, before another feast at New Year. This is an easy and tasty idea from Opie’s for using up leftover Christmas turkey that a lot of us will have, especially now that plans for sharing our feast have sadly been wrecked...

Turkey Casserole

Serves 4

Preparation time: 10 minutes Cooking time: 40 minutes

Ingredients:

8 **Opies Pickled Walnuts**, halved
50g Butter
50ml Oil
2 Onions, sliced
250g Lardons
25g Flour
650g Cooked turkey, shredded
200g Carrots, sliced
700ml Chicken Stock
250ml White Wine
Salt and Black Pepper
100g Frozen Peas



Method:

Pre-heat the oven to 180°C.

Heat the butter and oil in a shallow pan. Add the onions and lardons, fry until the onions have softened and the lardons have browned.

Place in a casserole dish together with the turkey, walnuts and carrots.

Stir in the flour well and pour over the stock and wine. Season to taste.

Cover tightly and bake in the oven for approximately 20 minutes.

Remove from the oven and stir in the frozen peas. Re-cover and return to the oven for 10 minutes.

Serve immediately with delicious, crispy and buttered jacket potatoes.

Hints and tips: Swap cooked turkey for leftover roast chicken.

Where to Buy: Opie’s Pickled Walnuts are available from most major supermarkets from £2.75.

Easy New Year Catering?

We are being inundated with advertisements and e-shots for meal deliveries, recipe box deliveries and offers in the supermarkets (for those able to head to the shops). I would suggest we try to support our local shops, restaurants and pubs, which are struggling to survive in this awful lockdown.

To help you focus on your party, be it with your bubble at home, or virtually, alongside friends, local chef **Tom Doran** will prepare a menu for you to finish on New Year's Eve. The food will come with simple step-by-step instructions to allow you to 'finish' the cooking. It will be easy for those with all levels of cooking experience, and allow you to enjoy restaurant quality food in your own home. He can cater for vegans too, and prices start at around £50 a head for three courses. And of course, being a Doran of [Doran Vineyards](#) too, he will also be happy to recommend one of their lovely wines to accompany your chosen meal. Last order date for deliveries is 28 December so call Tom on 07949 028590 if you are interested.

Fizz to add Sparkle to a fresh New Year



Pop those corks, there's a celebration to be had, finally! The much-awaited **Prosecco DOC Rosé Millesimato 2019** has arrived in the UK and you're officially allowed to be happy about it. It's a great addition to the UK wine scene and available to buy at a number of UK supermarkets, as well as having tremendous uptake in the UK hospitality scene, which we'll all be able to enjoy again I hope, post-lockdown. After several years of development and consultation, the Italian government approved production of the Prosecco DOC Rosé wines in August, and the EU approved the new, sparkling, wines at the end of October this year.

With a brilliant rose hue and bubbles that dance in the glass, the flavour of Prosecco DOC Rosé retains the freshness associated with Prosecco DOC wines. It's floral and fruity on the nose, with notes of cherry blossom, wild berries, strawberries and roses. An elegant balance of sweetness and acidity makes it fresh, clean and lovely to drink. Great with food, it is ideal as an

aperitif, and also pairs well with fish dishes, cheeses, and charcuterie. Widely available, from Waitrose, Marks & Spencer, Tesco and most supermarkets it's good value for money and allows us to say goodbye to 2020 and welcome 2021 with rose tinted glasses!

And, if rosé isn't to your liking, I would urge you to try another sparkling – one that is relatively unknown, but very delicious and also excellent value: **Maison de la Rougerie Crémant Blanc Brut** Sémillon, Muscadelle £8.75 from Iceland (supermarket, not the country!) This sparkling Bordeaux is a perfect aperitif, or can be paired with a rich savoury starter such as a warm wild mushroom tartlet. It's fresh and bright with flavours of green apple, blossom and brioche, with a fine attractive mousse. Perfect for a New Year toast!



Christine Buras and Thomas Ang

Opera Live At Home, On-line from 18th December

Suzanne Frost writes from Germany

Singing it seems is highly dangerous and is contagious, not for the joy it may spread but its viral loads. However Richmond-based Helen Astrid's [Opera Live at Home](#) feels like the 2020 version of the *Hauskonzert*, a Christmas staple in itself, and the wonders of technology allow us not to make music for the handful of people we used to invite into our homes (remember that?) but to reach a global audience who form their own online bubble for the duration of one hour. Soprano Christine Buras and pianist Thomas Ang are in Hampstead Church,



Christine sparkling as bright as the festively decorated Christmas tree behind her. Many of Christine's loyal American fan base have tuned in from the states. I myself am miles away in Germany, in my quarantine sweatpants, in a rented flat in Berlin where I am currently isolating in order to be able to see my parents come Christmas Eve.

Rusalka's *Song to the Moon* is one of my most favourite arias in the world. Actually it is my grandma's favourite, and it instantly makes me think of her, only a few minutes' drive away in theory, but locked up in her care home where last week they found a handful of positive cases. After making the dangerous journey over here, I will not be able to see her after all, but in my mind I can summon the image of her gently waving her head saying "Hach!" – which is a very German kind of sigh made up of equal parts melancholia and making yourself pretty comfortably at home in that sweet sadness (like Marlene Dietrich, who sang "If I were *too* happy, I'd get homesick for my sadness")

Then the rich *Klangteppich* of von Weber's *Freischütz* suddenly burst through my screen - in German too! It feels startling and warm, and somehow incredibly kind and generous as well. Although the silence after each piece of music is deafening, we make our appreciation known by using the clapping hands emoji ... and there is the joy.

Read Suzanne's review at

www.markaspen.com/2020/12/19/ch-buras-ang

Photography by Christine Buras and Ken Ilad



IT'S NOT ALL OVER YET!!

Even if the Fat Lady IS singing

By Bruce Lyons

For months now Covid-19 has taken over our lives. Indeed since March, apart from personally taking time off to have Covid, it has been a rollercoaster journey of cancelations, deferments, refunds and endless negotiations with our suppliers some of which are on-going.

BUT over Christmas and New Year in our industry we usually have the "PEAKS" that's a 6 week or so promotional period, where the industry and the travelling public engage with incentives to create an early booking season and to secure Summer Bookings.



A BIG challenge this year, you may say and you wouldn't be wrong. But there always people out there to take advantage of a really good offer – especially if it is ring fenced to safeguard your money – meaning you get your money back if the trip is affected by a Covid-like condition that makes travel impossible (Covid wise) to go ahead. I am writing this as yesterday we tweeted some offers and got admonished for even thinking it was responsible and we shouldn't encourage people to travel at all! But the fact is some of us have travel in our DNA, it's in the genes they say and different cultures and a change of scenery are a vital tonic! Some of these dazzling promotions are out there to take advantage of –

who knows instead of the Balearics you may end up in Japan!!

The Best Buy by far is the Wendy Wu offer of FREE Flights on 30 of their most popular authentic escorted tours across 2021 & 2022 and all with their low deposit of £99 they cover Japan, China, South Korea, India, South East Asia, The Middle East and on their No Single Supplement they include most of the same range and have added Myanmar, Oman & Latin America and this offer is OK to book by 31st Jan.

On the more standard Family Sun, Sea and Sand style vacation there are super Early Bird offers of £100 and £110 per person reductions on Easy Jet Holidays (April to Oct Departure) and Jet2 Holidays – Summer 2021 and both with only £60 deposits – Between them they cover All of Europe and the Mediterranean and all our Covid Protected.

There are also some 2 weeks for the price of One to enchanting Greek Islands – River Cruises in Europe with up to 20% off for early bookings, Canal Boats in England and Europe with up to 20% off for early booking. Also all the adventure companies are offering low deposits and up to 15% discounts on early bookings. Soon the world will be open again and we will all forget about the Disastrous time some of us have had and let's hope the vaccine is successfully delivered soon to protect the most vulnerable.

In the meantime, we would like to tease you with some "carrots" to get you on your way, maybe to a place you always wanted to visit but couldn't afford it. www.crusadertravel.com

Rediscover
TRAVEL WITH US

TIS THE SEASON TO
BOOK A HOLIDAY!
WITH
£110 OFF
PER PERSON ON ALL HOLIDAYS*

BOOK NOW, SAVE BIG!

*T&Cs apply

WIZ TALES

Teresa Read

Christmas Island - Kiritimati

Christmas Island, in the Pacific, is said to have been named by Captain Cook on Christmas Eve in 1777; the atoll is known as Kiritimati (Christmas).

Kiritimati is one of many coral islands within the Republic of Kiribati, the land area covering 388 square kilometres (150 square miles).

Kiribati (formerly the Gilbert Islands) and Tuvalu (formerly the Ellice Islands) came under a British Protectorate in 1916. The islands of Tokelau were also annexed to the Protectorate.

In 1957 the United Kingdom tested the hydrogen bomb near Kiritimati (Christmas Island). Nuclear tests were also carried out in the area by the United States of America in 1962.

The whole island is a wildlife sanctuary with access to five particularly sensitive areas restricted.



More photographs:

Kiribati: <https://worldinfozone.com/facts.php?country=Kiribati>

Tuvalu: <https://worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Tuvalu>

Tokelau: <https://worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Tokelau>

Note: there is also a Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean



A TALE OF TWO TABBY CATS

By Doug Goodman

One December morning Polly woke up really early, yawned, put on her slippers and looked out of her bedroom window. Her garden had mysteriously turned white. Boris, her brother, woke with a start as he had been dreaming about a fierce, monster cat. They chatted for a moment before deciding to explore the strange white stuff. Polly sneezed and hoped that she wouldn't disturb their staff. They unlocked the cat flap and put their paws slowly into the snow. Soon Polly got very cold feet and tried to balance on the stones in the garden. They played in the snow, tried to walk in each other's paw prints, climbed trees, came across a rather cold heron and exchanged greetings with two foxes. Then they heard sparrows chattering in the bird box and thought the poor creatures must be cold. So Polly rushed home to fetch hot water bottles for their friends.

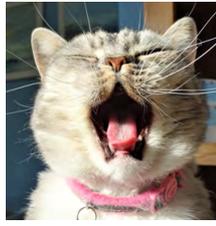
Polly and Boris soon felt tired and decided it was time for a snooze. After all they they had got up early with only 18 hours sleep in the past 24. Polly remembered that she had to finish decorating the Christmas tree while Boris watched his favourite film. Polly fell asleep and began to dream about her next holiday in the sun and soon she was flying away. Boris dozed on his chair but felt cold as the staff had not turned on the central heating and the temperature control was a little too high up for him to reach. So he decided to snuggle up to Polly to get warm.

When the staff come down to prepare breakfast for the two tabby cats, Polly and Boris were too tired to get up to eat. 'You lazy moggies go out and get some exercise,' said Mr. servant. Polly just raised a whisker as if to say 'if only you knew what we've been up to'.

The following day Boris found that he had hurt his foot. Their kind vet bound it up and assured Boris that it would only take a day or two to mend but to stay in their warm house. Polly spent the time doing a jigsaw which she had been working on for two years.



I'm Tired



Big Yawn



Monster



Peering Out



Come on Let's Go Out



Sneeze



The White Stuff



Follow Me



Paw Prints



Slowly



I'm Stuck



How do I Get Back



So Cold



I'm up Here



Come up Here



I'm Stuck in the Tree



I Can See You



One Cold Foot



Hello Foxes



I'm Going Home



Keeping Them Warm



Exhausted



Christmas Decorations



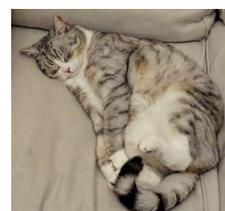
Favourite TV Programme



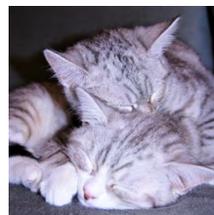
Holiday Dreams



Flying to the Sun



Favourite Seat



Warm at Last



It Doesn't Really Hurt



I've Lost a Piece

Petitions

Stop the introduction of parking charges in Richmond Park and Bushy Park

The Royal Parks intend to introduce car parking charges in Richmond Park and Bushy Park. This is an indefensible proposal, particularly at a time when the link between poverty, obesity and poor health has been so clearly highlighted by the impact of Covid 19.

Spending time in the park is one of the very few free and healthy options for families and individuals. It is essential for people's mental and physical well being that access to the parks is encouraged rather than restricted. If, as a society, we really want to fight obesity we must continue to provide spaces for free and healthy exercise.

During lockdown, a much more diverse and geographically widespread group of people discovered the joys of Bushy and Richmond Park; this is a cause for celebration and should be viewed as a positive and healthy development and encouraged as much as possible. The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

Accept the proposal to reinstate a Lido on Twickenham Riverside

During consultations with local stakeholders it has become clear that there is a wish to bring back a Lido on Twickenham Riverside.

A Lido on Twickenham Riverside would provide a leisure and sport facility for the people of Twickenham and surrounding areas.

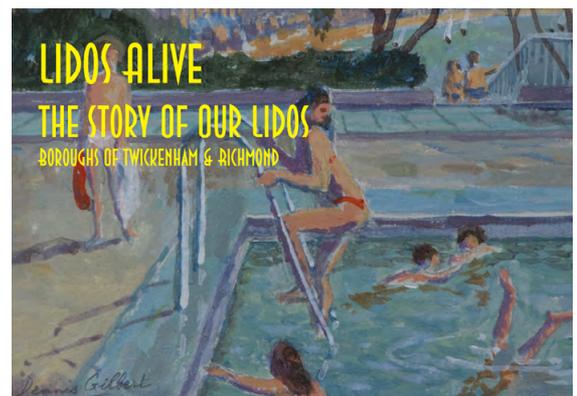
More importantly though, it provides the local people with an everyday escape from modern life, an accessible urban retreat.

Such a facility on Twickenham Riverside would act as a Magnet and contribute to the rejuvenation of the town. The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

An Ideal Present for just £6

Lidos Alive – the Story of Our Lidos - is a 63-page A5 book with colour photos and illustrations full of interesting information about the history of outdoor swimming in the Borough and the rise of the lido. Contents include Mereway Bathing Place, pools in Bushy Park, Hampton Pool, Teddington Pool, Hampton Wick, Tagg's Island, Marble Hill, Twickenham Baths, Pools on the Park and other interesting stories.

To purchase a book contact info@TwickenhamTribune.com





RFS The Best of our Recent Historic Screenings

Issue 40

25th December 2020

STILL LIFE

A new series for those of you who are missing Richmond Film Society's screenings or, indeed, trips to the cinema generally as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. Their committee is producing a number of weekly recommendations of films screened during the last 20 years that were extremely well received by their audiences. Should the notes reproduced below entice you to try and catch-up with this recommendation, then you should be able to do so, as it is available on streaming services and for purchase as DVD/Blu-Ray discs from the online retailers as indicated below.

RFS Context: **STILL LIFE** was 741st film screened by RFS on 6th October 2015. **Still Life** was the equal third ranked film of Season 53, it got an approval mark of 93% from those attending; from season 53 we have also already featured its equal third ranked film **Ida**, as **Issue 10** and the first and second ranked films **Wild Tales** and **Salt Of The Earth**, as **Issues 5 & 8** respectively). **Still Life** can be streamed from Amazon Prime and Curzon Home Cinema plus the discs are available from Amazon and others.

STILL LIFE

Country: UK, 2013
Music: Rachel Portman
Director: Uberto Pasolini
Editing: Gavin Buckley
Cinematography: Stefano Falivene
Running Time: 92 min., colour
Language: English
Screenplay: Uberto Pasolini

Leading Players:

Eddie Marsan	(John May)
Joanne Froggatt	(Kelly Stoke)
Karen Drury	(Mary)
Andrew Buchan	(Council Manager)
Neil D'Souza	(Shakjthi)
Davis Shaw Parker	(Billy Stoke's Caretaker)
Michael Elkin	(Caretaker)
Ciaran McIntyre	(Jumbo)



Any film starring Eddie Marsan is usually well worth viewing and this is certainly no exception. Uberto Pasolini's very sparse and precise direction, won him best director

and best film at the Venice Film Festival (2013). Pasolini also wrote the screenplay. Eddie Marsan took the best actor award at Edinburgh International Film Festival (2014), and Stefano Falivene took the best cinematographer award at the Golden Globes, Italy (2014). All in all this film garnered 17 awards around the world.

I can do no better than Mark Kermode in the **Observer** who describes the film thus:

“There are few faces more forlorn than that of Eddie Marsan in this painfully melancholic tale of half-lives and lonely deaths. He plays John May, a civil servant whose thankless job is to locate relatives of the recently deceased and perpetually unloved. To his superiors (and indeed everyone else), these poor unfortunates are just numbers, but John takes an all-too-personal interest in their passing – lovingly pasting their photos into his own family albums, while eating tuna and toast at home alone. Facing his final case, John embarks on an odyssey through the land of the living that brings him into contact with the fractured friends and acquaintances of a previously unnoticed neighbour. It’s touching stuff, Rachel Portman’s plaintive score plucking endearingly at our heartstrings, Marsan’s worried demeanor dripping with an almost Chaplinesque sense of pathos. For a while, it seems as though we’re heading toward clichéd resolution in the form of Joanne Froggatt’s angel of grace. But I was unprepared for the transcendent final moments, which left me suddenly and unexpectedly in tears.”

Yes me too.

Mike Day

WATCH OUT

Several Catalytic converter thefts have occurred in Teddington. What is it, and what can you do to prevent it?

Catalytic converters are parts of a car exhaust used to decrease harmful emissions. The precious metal in catalytic converters has led to an increase in their theft. To keep yours safe:

- Ask your car dealer if they can give you any advice on locks or guards that are approved by the vehicle manufacturer.
- Try to make sure your vehicle is parked in a garage overnight, or if you have a commercial vehicle park it in a secure compound. If this isn't possible, park in an area that's well-lit and overlooked and try to park so that the converter can't be easily reached by potential thieves. Vehicles that sit high above the road are particularly vulnerable.
- You should also register your converter and mark it with a forensic marker, which will make it harder for thieves to dispose of.



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

BE SAFE





BRENTFORD FC

First-half salvo seals three points for Bees

Brentford 3 – 1 Reading

Three goals inside the opening half an hour ensured that Brentford stretched their unbeaten run to 13 as the convincingly defeated Reading 3-1 at the Brentford Community Stadium. The game was 11 minutes old when an error from Royals' keeper Rafael allowed Mathias Jensen to open the scoring and the game was secured soon after when Bryan Mbeumo scored twice in six minutes. Sone Aluko pulled a goal back for the visitors with a second-half header but the Bees held firm to move into 4th in the Championship table.



Brentford got off to the perfect start against a side inside the playoff places ahead of kick-off. Rico Henry went on a driving run from fullback and played the ball ahead of him onto Sergi Canós. Canós cleverly scooped the ball inside to the advancing Jensen who shot straight at Rafael, but the Brazilian couldn't keep out the attempt and the ball trickled over the line.

The first chance for the visiting side came via a set piece when a corner from Michael Olise was played short to Liverpool loanee Ovie Ejaria. Ejaria lofted a delivery to the back post where captain Liam Moore met the cross on the volley but David Raya in goal for Brentford was equal to the attempt.

Mbeumo hasn't quite been able to score as frequently for Brentford this season as last but the forward had put the ball in the back of the net twice before the half was finished. The move once again initiated with Henry who intercepted the ball from Sam Baldock and recycled the ball back to Josh Dasilva. Dasilva then flighted a wonderful crossfield switch to Mbeumo on the right wing. Mbeumo then cut inside and scored a trademark curling strike into the far corner, giving Rafael no chance, as the Bees doubled their lead.

Things would get even better for Mbeumo and the home side as minutes later he was once again turning away to celebrate after scoring. A throw in from Henry found Ivan Toney with space and the Brentford striker returned the ball to Henry, who in turned fed the ball up the line to Canós. Toney meanwhile had continued his run and received the ball from the winger before releasing Mbeumo through the middle. The Frenchman still had a lot to do after picking up the ball with both Moore and Tomás Esteves in close company, but he controlled and then finished superbly into the far corner to give Brentford clear daylight.

The closest the Royals went to scoring the first-half came when Josh Laurent found space inside the box and got a curling shot away but Raya was able to palm the ball into the air as the Bees took their commanding lead into the interval.

Raya was called upon once again in the second-half when Baldock pulled the ball back to Ejaria in space inside the area but the Spaniard was once again alert to the danger and pushed the ball away for a corner.

There was a glimmer of hope for Reading just after the hour mark when Aluko glanced in a header to reduce the deficit. Patient build up play in the final third saw the ball find its way to Olise, who took

a touch and crossed into the area where Aluko found space in between the Bees' defence and headed into the bottom corner past Raya.

Reading could have further reduced the deficit when Ejaria once more drew a save from Raya at close range and in the same phase of play Tom Holmes outjumped Tariqe Fosu at the back post but saw shot blocked by Emiliano Marcondes and then gathered in the air by Raya.

Marcus Forss entered the pitch as a replacement for Canós with just over ten minutes to play and the extra pace and energy helped the Finn to win a couple of corners in the closing stages. From the first, Ivan Toney only narrowly headed wide from a Vitaly Janelt cross and for the second it was the same two players combing once more as Toney saw his header come back off the crossbar. Forss on the rebound could only divert the ball into the side netting but it didn't matter as Brentford recorded an impressive victory and once again avoided defeat in the league.

Dasilva inspires Bees to history

Brentford 1 – 0 Newcastle United

A talismanic performance from Brentford midfielder Josh Dasilva, capped off by a nicely worked goal, helped the Bees into the semi-final of a major domestic cup competition for the very first time in the club's history. Dasilva's strike came midway into the second-half but the Bees were the better side throughout and once more showed their class against Premier League opposition in the League Cup.

Underneath the lights Brentford made the better start of the two side to the cup tie and early on Miguel Almirón bundled over Sergi Canós to give the Bees an early free-kick. Saman Ghoddos stepped up to deliver and his cross was deflected behind for a corner. Ghoddos once again was on set piece duty as he delivered an in swinging corner to the near post where Ethan Pinnock headed over from inside the six yard box.

Luke Daniels was then called into action for the first time in the game as Mads Bech Sørensen was unable to deal with a long ball over the top from DeAndre Yedlin. Callum Wilson was able to escape his marker and fire a powerful goal bound effort that Daniels got a strong hand to. As the ball broke on the rebound Pinnock reacted quickest to clear the ball away from danger.

Brentford were then denied by the closest of margins as a shot from Ghoddos ricocheted off the crossbar. A high press from the Brentford forward line saw Canós intercept the ball and pass to Emiliano Marcondes. Marcondes released Dasilva with large amounts of space in behind the Newcastle left fullback channel and the midfielder took his time and picked out Ghoddos. The Iranian however was leaning back and his shot clipped the crossbar on its way over.

Dasilva was at the heart of an impressive Brentford performance and he nearly opened the scoring after once again finding space in behind Jamal Lewis. He feinted past the Magpies defender and drove towards the by-line and despite crossing of his weaker foot, Karl Darlow was forced into tipping the ball over the crossbar.

From the resulting corner Brentford had their best chance of the first-half as a training ground move led to a Vitaly Janelt cross finding Pinnock in space at the back post. Pinnock headed the cross back across goal into the path of Canós who couldn't divert his header on target from close range.

Newcastle themselves went close before the half-time break after Jonjo Shelvey picked out Ryan Fraser, who had escaped the clutches of Tariqe Fosu and volleyed goalwards, but Daniels did well to tip the ball over the crossbar.

The Bees continued to play well against their Premier League opposition and got the crucial first goal in the second-half. Once again good pressure in the final third brought its rewards and Marcondes intercepted and played the ball first time up the line to Canós. Canós looked up and spotted Dasilva ghosting into the box and the Spaniard clipped a perfectly weighted cross to the Brentford midfielder to finish first time.

The visitors went searching for a quick response and substitute Joelinton dribbled past Fosu and fired a ball into the feet of Wilson. Sørensen was alert in defence for Brentford though and got across quickly to make a timely intervention and block the striker's attempt.

At the other end of the pitch Sørensen nearly helped contribute to a second for Brentford after his long throw in caused danger for the Newcastle backline. His fellow central defensive colleague Pinnock won the initial flick on and the ball broke kindly for Christian Nørgaard but the Dane was unable to score on his return to the first team as Darlow got a leg out to divert the ball away.

Late on Ivan Toney, on as a substitute, nearly helped himself to a goal against his former side as he dribbled past Yedlin and Isaac Hayden but Darlow was once again on hand to deny the Bees, getting down low to tip Toney's shot past the post. Brentford then saw the rest of the game out to book their place in the semi-final of the League Cup for the very first time in their history.

Marcus Forss commits to Brentford

Marcus Forss has signed a long-term contract with Brentford that will see him stay with the West London club until at least 2026. The Finish international came through the B team at Brentford and spent time of loan in the Football League with AFC Wimbledon last season. The forward has gone on to make 20 appearance for the Bees in all competitions so far this season, scoring seven times. Forss also recently made his senior debut for the senior Finish national side following success with the youth teams and scored against World Cup holders France in a 2-0 victory at the Stade de France in November.

Speaking to club media following the confirmation of the contract extension, Brentford FC Head Coach, Thomas Frank, said: "I am very pleased that we managed to sign a long-term contract with Marcus. He is a very talented striker who has added extra levels to his game in the last year. He can link up play, is good at arriving in the box, and has made big strides in terms of leading our press.

"He is also one of the best finishers I have seen. He has a bright future ahead of him. I must praise Neil MacFarlane and the Brentford B staff for creating another player for the First Team, one who has not only been playing regularly, but now has this long-term contract with us."

Brentford set to face Tottenham Hotspur in League Cup Semi-Final

Brentford will travel across the capital to Tottenham Hotspur Stadium to face Premier League side Tottenham Hotspur in their first ever major domestic cup semi-final. The tie is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 5th January 2021 with a 19:45 kick-off.

For Brentford this will be their sixth game of the competition so far having knocked out Wycombe Wanderers, Southampton, West Bromwich Albion, Fulham and Newcastle United to reach this stage of the competition. It will be Brentford's very first domestic cup semi-final in their history.

The winner will go through to League Cup final at Wembley currently scheduled for April 25th 2021.

UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Game 1

Opponent: Cardiff City (A) Saturday 26th December 15:00 Cardiff City Stadium

Nickname: The Bluebirds

Competition: Championship – Matchday 21

Manager: Neil Harris

Opponent record: P20 W8 D5 L7 GF26 GA20 (10th in Championship)

Interesting fact: Cardiff City are the only team from outside of England to have won the FA Cup following their 1-0 victory at Wembley in the final against Arsenal in 1927.

Game 2

Opponent: AFC Bournemouth (H) Wednesday 30th December 17:30 Brentford Community Stadium

Nickname: The Cherries

Competition: Championship – Matchday 22

Manager: Jason Tindall

Opponent record: P20 W10 D8 L2 GF35 GA16 (2nd in Championship)

Interesting fact: In 2013 AFC Bournemouth welcomed Real Madrid for a pre-season friendly. Los Blancos under the management of Carlo Ancelotti selected a full strength side for the encounter on the south coast in which Cristiano Ronaldo, Angel Di Maria and Mesut Özil all featured as the Spanish side ran out 6-0 winners.

Come on you Bees!

Hampton & Richmond Borough



UP NEXT FOR HAMPTON

Game 1

Opponent: Dorking Wanderers (A) Saturday 26th December 15:00 Cardiff City Stadium

Nickname: Wanderers

Competition: National League South – Matchday 12

Manager: Marc White

Opponent record: P11 W7 D2 L2 GF26 GA13 (3rd in National League South)

Interesting fact: Dorking Wanderers hold the record for most promotions in British football history. Having only been founded in 1999 the club won 11 promotions in 19 years to reach the National League South in the 2019/20 season.

Game 2

Opponent: Dulwich Hamlet (H) Monday 28th December 15:00 Beveree Stadium

Nickname: The Hamlet

Competition: National League South – Matchday 13

Manager: Gavin Rose

Opponent record: P11 W3 D4 L4 GF13 GA14 (13th in National League South)

Interesting fact: Edgar Kail, who played for Dulwich Hamlet in the 1920s, was the last amateur player to play for the English national team when he was capped against Spain in 1929.

Come on you Beavers!

12 decades of measurement science

Celebrating 120 years of NPL

Creating impact from science from 1900 to 2020

NPL was founded in 1900 for 'standardising and verifying instruments, for testing materials, and for the determination of physical constants'. We are one of the oldest standardising laboratories in the world and our research work has included all branches of physics, light, electricity and magnetism, radio communication, engineering, metallurgy, aeronautics and ship design. Today, an established world-class centre of excellence, we maintain the UK's primary standards of measurement, while simultaneously delivering innovations to improve prosperity and quality of life for those living in the UK.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we made our staff and facilities available to support UK industry and society, including working with NHS trusts on ventilator provision, oxygen supply and data processing. The pandemic reminds us of the vital role that metrology plays in supporting global measurement systems and helping society function. As UK industry now turns its attention to recovery, we can provide confidence to companies tackling the problems created by new working practices, supply chain changes and product modifications which can impact compliance.

<https://www.npl.co.uk/12-decades-christmas>

Season's greetings from NPL

Celebrating 12 decades of measurement science 1900-2020

1900 NPL founded to bring science and commerce together

1911 NPL begins vehicle testing

1923 Improving air quality and ventilation

1935 Radar is invented at NPL

1946 Work began on the Automatic Computing Engine

1955 The first accurate caesium atomic clock

1962 New equipment to ensure radiation protection

1975 Watt balance offers potential to redefine the Kilogram

1987 New cryogenic radiometer paves way to improve climatic records

1998 NPL updates lab to meet UK's future needs

2000 NPL provides metrology for biotech industry

2020 Scientists and engineers create low cost ventilator

Discover how we have made a difference to industry and society at www.npl.co.uk/12-decades-of-christmas

Family run in memory of mother, 25 years on

A family remembering a mother who died at Princess Alice Hospice 25 years ago raised funds by bringing their family together and taking part in the Virtual Santa Fun Run in Surrey, Kent, Liverpool and Bristol.

Richard's first wife and Max and Fred's mother, Linda, died at Princess Alice Hospice in January 1996 and the family wanted to mark the occasion. Max's father in law, Steve, also received the charity's Hospice at Home service in 2008.

Richard said. "It started as an idea from my two sons, Max and Fred, and me to mark the 25th anniversary, but we decided to invite other family members as well. We received a fantastic response and ended up with 24 members of our extended family taking part on the day, Sunday 13 December, and two more members at a later date. 17 of us ran or walked in Bushy Park, while socially distancing of course, four in Kent, two in Liverpool and two in Bristol. It was really moving that so many of our family wanted to sign up to the event in memory of two very special people. It became the major family event for this very strange Christmas"



The family organised a Zoom call before the run/walk which brought the whole event and the family together, and the group in Bushy Park stayed for over an hour in the freezing cold drinking coffee and chatting to family members many hadn't seen this year. In fact, they're thinking of making it an annual family get together.

Community Partnerships and Events lead at the Hospice, Claire Woodward said. "This is what this year's Virtual Santa Fun Run is all about; bringing together family, albeit virtually, to take part in an event to remember loved ones. We really appreciate all the effort they made and hope that collectively, they had a great time. Hopefully, we'll see them next year".



Big Issue calls for public support as restrictions deal ‘a devastating blow’ for Big vendors on biggest week of the year

New Covid-19 restrictions have put London, south east England and Wales in Tier 4, meaning everyone is urged to stay home, with a huge impact on Big Issue vendors

The Big Issue (TBI) has called upon the public to, once again, support the organisation as hundreds of vendors are being forced off the streets as Tier 4 Covid-19 measures in London, south-east England and South Wales take effect.

Christmas week is traditionally the busiest week of the year for Big Issue vendors, but 350 vendors will be unable to sell the magazine on the street as the new strain of the Covid-19 virus caused governments around the UK to backtrack on Christmas plans.

The newly created [Tier 4 measures](#) mean residents in all 32 boroughs of the English capital, the city of London and across the south-east of England have been told to stay home. All non-essential retail must also close while ‘Christmas bubbles’ are now limited to Christmas Day only and now comprise of only three households.

Meanwhile, planned level four measures originally set to be introduced from December 28 have been brought forward in Wales and mainland Scotland will go into a three-week lockdown from Boxing Day also affecting vendors sales. In other areas of the country, vendors remain on the streets.

Steve Taylor, 48, who sells the magazine outside Pret on Old Street, London, told The Big Issue that the Tier 4 announcement made over the weekend is a devastating blow.

“This lockdown has stuffed us right up. It’s usually the best week of the year for all vendors,” said Steve. “It’s absolutely ruined me. This year as a whole has been a non-starter and this is the absolute cherry on the cake. I was thinking it was all too good to be true about Christmas and lo and behold everything has messed up. “The city has been atrociously quiet because of Covid and I was hoping to be out this week to sell some magazines but there’s no chance of that now.”

Long-time vendor David Martin, 59, who sells the magazine outside Tesco in Hammersmith, West London, is now gearing up to face the festive season alone and is heart-broken that lockdown means he won’t be able to wish his customers a happy Christmas.

“Because of Covid my sales would have been down but I was already getting sales and donations, people have been very generous this year so I’m going to lose quite a lot this week,” said Dave. “And this week is our time of year where we do really well. I wish there was an excuse that means I could go to my pitch but I can’t do it, it’s against the law. “People will have Christmas cards and presents that they won’t be able to give me so I can’t look forward to that. I have Christmas cards to give people too. It’s all a mess. “I have one or two cards from my customers which I will be keeping for Christmas Day so I have something to look forward to. If it weren’t for The Big Issue, I wouldn’t have got through the lockdowns this year. It’s thanks to them that I did.”

Lord John Bird, Founder of The Big Issue, said: *“With hundreds of our vendors unable to sell, we once again urgently need your support to survive and be there for our vendors beyond Christmas. If you can’t reach your local vendor, please buy a copy of the Christmas special from our Shop, subscribe or make a donation, to enable us to be there for our vendors, both now and in the future.”*

If you can’t reach your regular vendor, you can buy a copy from bigissueshop.com for £4, 50% of net proceeds will go directly to a fund which provides emergency payments for vendors. You can also support The Big Christmas Appeal by making a one-off or regular donation, or by subscribing at www.bigissue.com/support.



Diabetes UK warning as clinicians report rising cases of advanced foot disease during lockdown

Diabetes UK is urging people with diabetes not to delay in seeking medical help if they experience problems with their feet, as clinicians report a worrying surge in cases of people presenting with advanced foot disease at hospitals during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Diabetes UK has been hearing from clinicians across the UK, who are seeing greater-than-expected numbers of people presenting for urgent care with unusually advanced and severe foot disease, while the UK has been under lockdown.

The charity is very concerned by reports that people with diabetes are either delaying seeking help because they are afraid of contracting coronavirus, or they don't know where to get help due to services not operating as usual.

For people with diabetes, foot ulcers and infections can develop and deteriorate very quickly to more advanced foot disease. Seeking early treatment could potentially prevent the need for amputation, however due to the delays reported, Diabetes UK has learned of patients presenting at hospitals needing to go straight to major amputation (defined as below the knee). Diabetes UK is urging people to not avoid seeking help through fear of Covid-19 if they have any health concerns.

Nicholas O'Brien, 68, from Chipping Norton was diagnosed with type 2 diabetes in February this year, but his GP suspects that he may have been living with the condition for up to 10 years. In May, he developed a small verruca on his foot, which began to get worse, but Nicholas' fear of going to hospital stopped him from getting it checked out. By August, his foot had become so painful that he visited a GP, who advised him to go to hospital as soon as possible. Nicholas had a significant part of his foot cut out, but fortunately managed to avoid amputation.

Nicholas said:

"I was hesitant to seek help, especially with everything that has been happening this year. But once I did, I received such a high standard of treatment – it was almost like there was no pandemic. I am not quite over my fears of hospitals, but I cannot speak more highly of the care and support I have received since my operation and wished I had sought help sooner. I want to urge everyone with diabetes to take good care of their feet and to seek help if, and when they need it – you can potentially save yourself from a lot of pain."

Dan Howarth, Head of Care at Diabetes UK, said:

"It is perfectly understandable that people are afraid to seek medical attention, but the consequences of this cannot be underestimated, and clinicians are telling us that people with diabetes are not getting the help they need. It is crucial that people with diabetes know how important it is to seek medical attention if they spot any signs of foot problems. A matter of hours can make the difference between losing and keeping a foot, or worse. The NHS is and remains open, and the health service is still there for you. It is also vital that all people living with diabetes know how to look after their feet, this includes checking their feet daily and reducing their risk of foot problems by managing their blood sugars, blood pressure and living a healthy lifestyle. If they do notice any signs of foot problems, or anything unusual, get in touch with your GP or practice nurse for them to assess it. If people are being treated for an active foot problem (monitoring of a problem or treatment) then they should continue to go to their appointments."

Jodie Buckingham, Lead Podiatrist at Oxford University Hospitals, said:

“Over the past few months, I have seen for myself the sudden surge of people with diabetes and advanced foot disease being admitted to hospital or requiring the input of acute foot services. This experience is echoed by many of my colleagues around the country. Unfortunately, some people are presenting to foot care services at a point that their foot condition is so severe that they require immediate admission under surgical teams.”

Professor Gerry Rayman MBE, GIRFT Diabetes Co-lead and Diabetes UK inpatient clinical lead, said:

“We know that the quicker people with diabetes seek help with a foot problem, the better their chance of successful outcomes and the less likely it is that they will require hospital admission or foot surgery. We understand that it is a worrying time and people are keen to avoid hospitals and health care settings. But I really do want to reassure people that foot care services are running and stringent measures are in place to prevent COVID-19 transmission in these settings; we are here and we want to see those with a foot problem as early as possible. Please seek help if you are worried or notice any changes to your feet.”

New Analysis

New analysis from Diabetes UK has found that there were nearly 10,000 lower limb amputations related to diabetes in England a year from 2016/17 to 2018/19, an increase of 5 per cent from the previous period [1]. This means that there is now at least one diabetes related amputation every hour in England. Diabetes UK is concerned that since numbers have risen year-on-year before the pandemic, the situation is unlikely to have improved during lockdown.

We know that having good and fast access to multidisciplinary foot teams leads to better outcomes for people and fewer amputations yet 1 in 6 hospitals still do not have multidisciplinary specialist foot care teams (MDFT) as outlined in the recent Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT) Diabetes report. These teams, which usually include podiatrists, physicians and nurses, are integral to delivering a high quality of care and their absence may result in inconsistent access to treatment and outcomes across the nation.

People with type 1 and type 2 diabetes are at increased risk of developing foot problems because consistently high blood sugar, blood pressure and cholesterol levels can damage blood vessels, affecting how blood flows to the feet and legs. Uncontrolled diabetes can also damage the nerves in the feet resulting in loss of protective foot sensation so foot infections and ulcers may go unnoticed. Unhealed ulcers and foot infections are the leading cause of diabetes related amputations, with diabetic foot ulcers preceding more than 80 per cent of amputations.

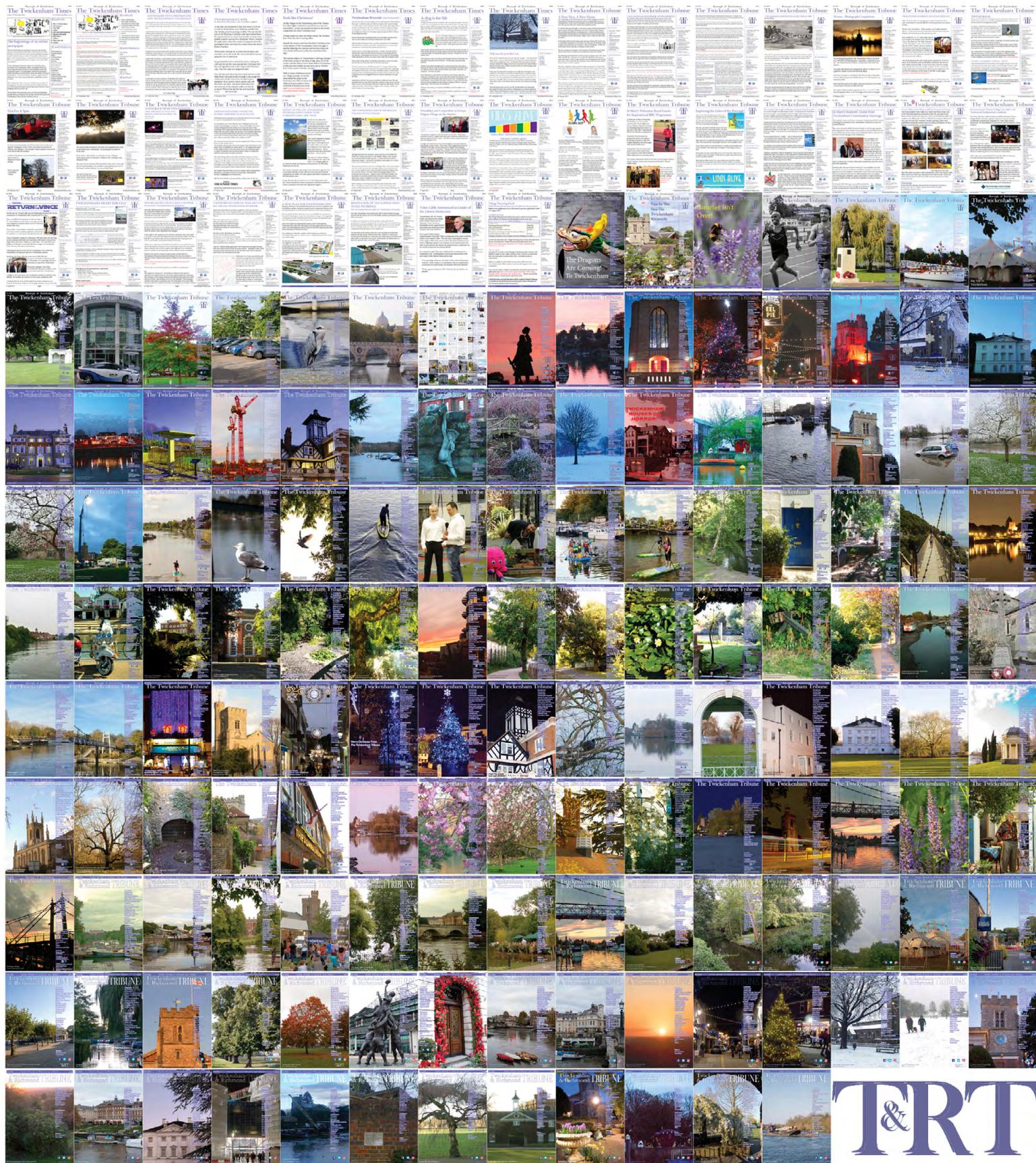
Diabetes is the most common cause of lower limb amputations in the UK [3]. Someone living with diabetes is 20 times more likely to experience an amputation than someone without the condition. Around half of all people who experience a major amputation die within two years, further highlighting the need for people with diabetes to maintain a good and regular footcare regime and to act fast if they have any sign of a foot ulcer or foot infection.

For more information on footcare for people with diabetes, please visit:

<https://www.diabetes.org.uk/guide-to-diabetes/complications/feet/serious-foot-problem>

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