

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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- TwickerSeal
- Graeme Stoten
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- Marble Hill House
- Sheena Harold
- Alison Jee
- St Mary's University
- Richmond College
- World InfoZone
- Shona Lyons
- Bruce Lyons
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- Richmond Film Society
- James Dowden
- Met Police / NCA
- LBRuT

Editors

- Berkley Driscoll
- Teresa Read



19th February 2021



TickerTape - News in Brief

Twickenham Seal

There were worrying reports this week that our seal was seen at Teddington Lock with some plastic and metal fishing items stuck in its mouth. Authorities were contacted.

Bus strike action Monday 22 to Wednesday 24 February

A number of bus drivers will potentially strike from Monday 22 until Wednesday 24 February, due to a dispute with RATP.

Some bus routes in west and south west London (including **Richmond**, Kingston & Hounslow) are likely to be severely disrupted. Services will return to normal from 06:00 on Thursday 25 February.

Find more information [HERE](#)

Council set to restrict Council Tax increase

The Council will be keeping the rise in Council Tax as low as possible to avoid adding additional strain on individuals' finances after the toughest year in a decade. The plans will be discussed at the Finance, Resource and Performance Committee meeting this week, after which the Council will consider the proposal to raise its element of Council Tax by just 0.6%.

Council sets out 2021 Climate Emergency Action Plan

Tackling food waste, switching to greener energy, and a tree planting strategy to increase the borough's canopy are some of the key priorities set out in Richmond Council's first Climate Emergency Strategy update.

In the past year, Richmond Council has transitioned to using only energy from renewable sources such as wind farms and solar panels.

The Council took part in the Carbon Disclosure Project for the first time, which rates local authorities on climate emergency work, and achieved a B rating.

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



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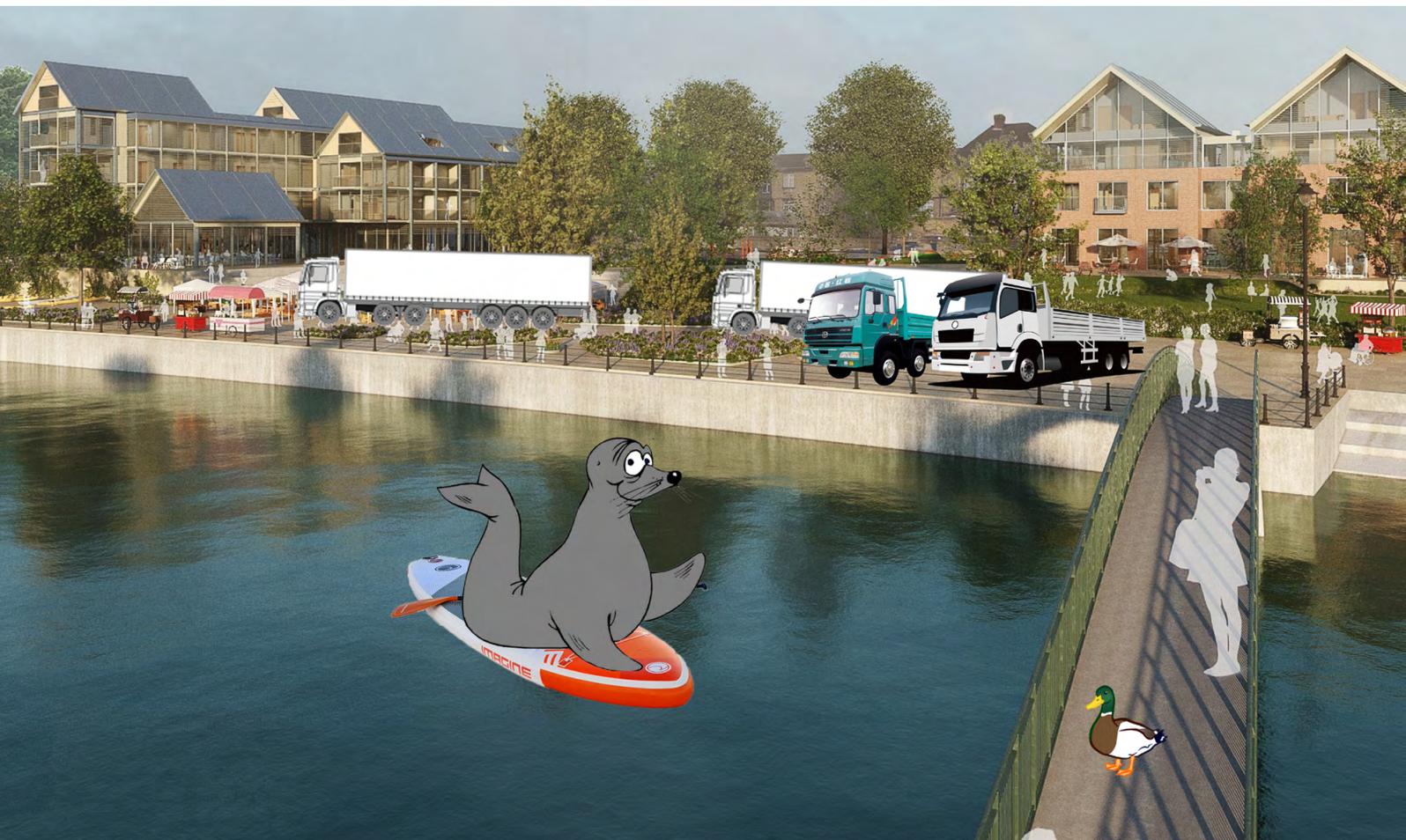


This city is going to hell!!, said TwickerDuck.

TwickerSeal was puzzled at this uncharacteristic outburst, but TwickerDuck explained this was the title of a *New Yorker* cartoon a chum recently sent her, that seemed particularly apposite to the ongoing saga of Twickenham Riverside. (You can see the cartoon [here](#)).

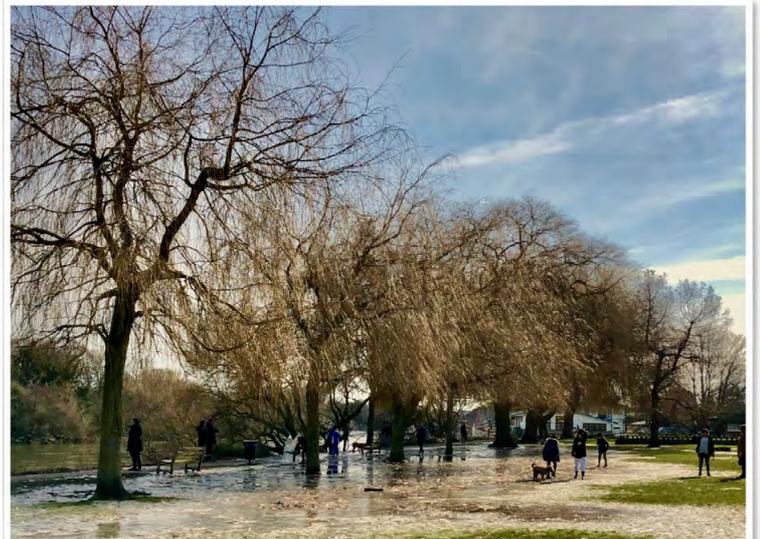
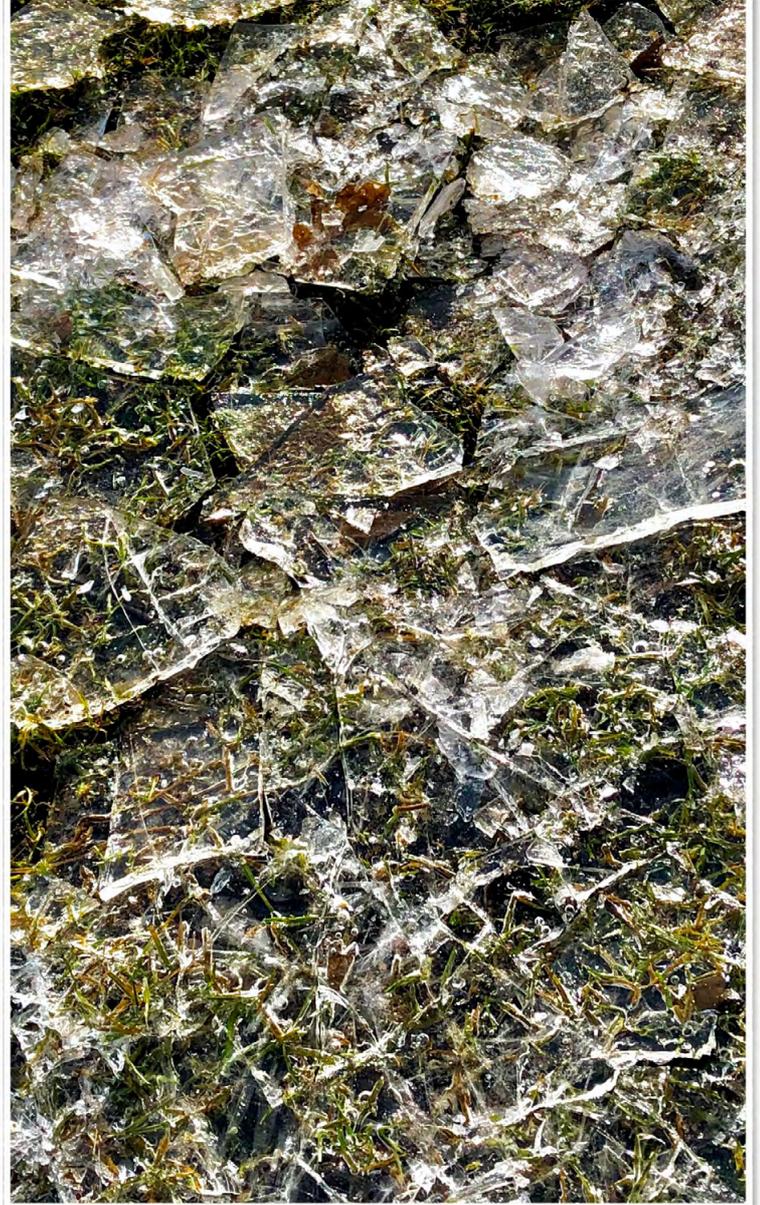
TwickerSeal agreed and liked the cartoon's portrayal of a former car park being turned into a public square, complete with water feature. (You can see how Gibraltar transformed a car park to a park [here](#))

TwickerSeal couldn't help but think that the council's riverside plans had gone to hell; the promised vehicle-free riverfront has been reneged on, there are no boathouses, there is no town square, the Diamond Jubilee Gardens are barely existent and ... there isn't even the popular water feature residents constantly said they wanted!



'Frozen over in Radnor Gardens'

Flood water from a high Thames tide is left to freeze over in Radnor Gardens, Cross Deep. A temporary shimmering ice rink for children to play and skate across comes alive on a freezing cold, sunny Saturday morning.



COVID-19

Teresa Read

From the World Health Organization:

Just over a year ago, WHO launched its first Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan for the COVID-19 pandemic. The SPRP outlined the comprehensive response needed and which many countries have followed successfully to suppress transmission, protect the vulnerable and save lives.

Today we launch the SPRP for 2021, with 6 objectives: Suppress transmission; reduce exposure; counter misinformation and disinformation; protect the vulnerable; reduce death and illness; and accelerate equitable access to new tools, including vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics.

The financial need to meet these objectives is 1.96 billion U.S. dollars, including 1.2 billion dollars for the WHO component of the ACT Accelerator. (WHO Director-General 18 February)

WHO Overview

The number of global new cases reported has continued to fall, with 2.7 million new cases last week, a 16% decline compared to the previous week. The number of new deaths reported also fell, with 81 000 new deaths reported last week, a 10% decline as compared to the previous week. This brings the global cumulative numbers to 108.2 million cases and over 2.3 million cases since the start of the pandemic. (16 February).

AstraZeneca/Oxford-developed vaccines to reach countries in the coming weeks

The World Health Organization (WHO) has listed two versions of the AstraZeneca/Oxford COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use, giving the green light for these vaccines to be rolled out globally through COVAX. The vaccines are produced by AstraZeneca-SKBio (Republic of Korea) and the Serum Institute of India. (15 February).

From WHO Transcript on Visit to China

“Some traders at the Huanan market were trading in farmed wild animals—badgers, bamboo rats, rabbits, crocodiles, and many others. Several of these animals are known to be susceptible to SARS [severe acute respiratory syndrome] viruses. Some of them come from farms in provinces where coronaviruses have been isolated from bats: Guangdong Guanxi, Yunnan. Potentially, some of these animals were infected at those farms and then brought the virus into the market.

And also doing more systematic studies on other animal species of interest, in China in particular, that we know are susceptible: minks, raccoon dogs, foxes. There are a number of farming systems that will be of interest to us.”

And in relation to further information gathered: “But it all points towards an introduction in the human population in that area in the period October to early December 2019—most probably late November, not so long before the earliest cases were found. But the route of introduction remains a mystery.”

“... the United States must follow Germany, Austria, and France—countries that recently mandated respiratory protection equivalent to **N95** filtering facepiece respirators (FFRs) and higher-quality filtration systems for all workers in public.”

“Government officials must fully recognize inhalation exposure as a major way COVID-19 spreads and take immediate action to control and limit this exposure” ... “For months the scientific evidence has been clear: Aerosol transmissions are a major way this virus spreads.”

Choir practices, restaurant exposures, and even 3- to 5-minute conversations between masked people were cited as examples of documented airborne transmission. (17 February 2021).

Cases of COVID-19

Total cases to 18 February 2021

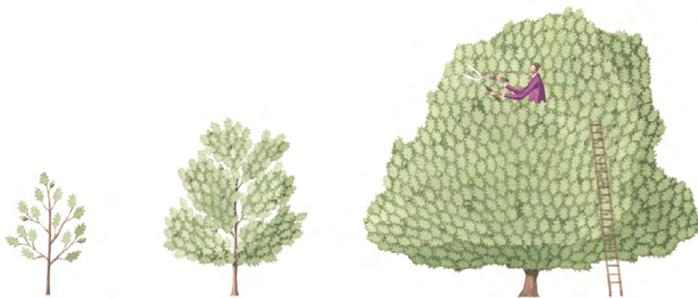
10,242 Richmond upon Thames
11,599 Kingston upon Thames
23,285 Hounslow

Countries with High Numbers of Deaths Recorded by the World Health Organization

Deaths Worldwide 2,424,060

USA 484,379
Brazil 240,940
Mexico 175,986
India 156,014
The United Kingdom 118,933
Italy 94,540
France 82,692
Russian Federation 81,926
Germany 66,698
Spain 66,316
Iran 59,184
Colombia 57,949
Argentina 50,432
South Africa 48,478

Peru 44,056
Poland 41,582
Indonesia 33,788
Turkey 27,738
Ukraine 24,852
Belgium 21,793
Canada 21,397
Chile 19,659
Romania 19,588
Czechia 18,739
Portugal 15,649
Ecuador 15,394
Netherlands 15,017
Hungary 13,931



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Wings in Richmond

By Simon Fowler

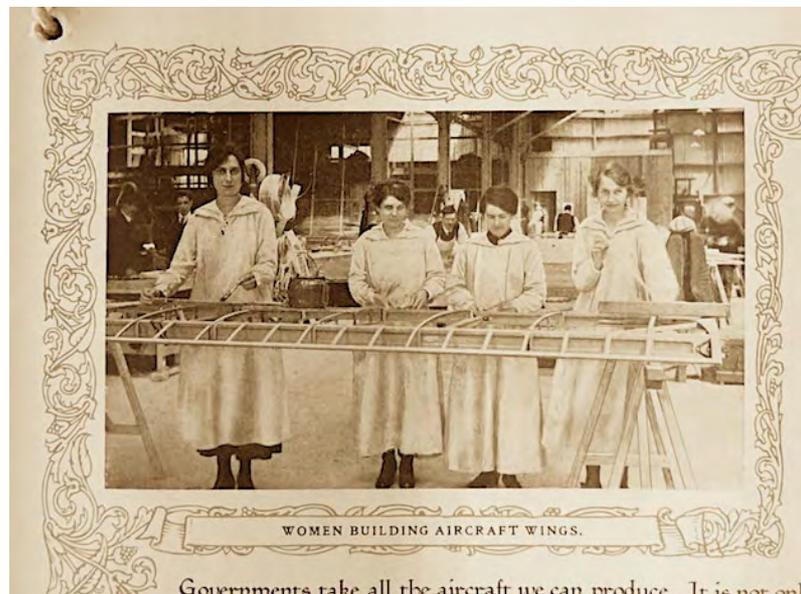
In 1914 Richmond had little industry, but inevitably this changed during the First World War. As well as Sopwith's giant aircraft works in Ham, there were also several smaller companies largely making aircraft and parts for Sopwith including the Whitehead Aircraft Company.

John Alexander Whitehead was a carpenter by trade. As a teenager he emigrated to Chicago but returned home in 1915. As aircraft at the time were largely built around wooden frames this seemed a natural business to enter. He soon contracted to make six BE2b two-seaters by the War Office. With a ceremony in November 1915 the first aircraft, No. 2884, was christened by breaking a bottle of champagne over its nose and being formally named 'the Helene' after his first daughter. The brass nameplate is still with the family.

Whitehead initially leased the Drill Hall off Sheen Road in Richmond and found land in Hanworth to use as an airfield to assemble and test his planes. The premises quickly expanded by buying land (and existing houses) in nearby Grena Road. By 1918, the company had not only filled every space in the streets between Grena and Manor roads with factory buildings but also had purchased a row of ten terraced houses for offices.

Hundreds of men and women made the aircraft. A brochure published in 1917, described the women workers: 'In one section they sit in rows at the drilling machines or lathes, wearing blue overalls and caps; in another begoggled like motorists with leather aprons, welding metal parts together.'

A fine canteen was built and equipped with crested cutlery. When meat was in short supply, Whitehead immediately went out and bought up a local butcher's shop. But the height of the year was an annual sports day organised at Hanworth. It first took place on Whitehead's birthday - 8 August 1916 - where a spectacular display by the company's test pilot Captain Hubert Sykes thrilled the crowd.



In total, Whitehead produced 1,427 aircraft between 1915 and 1919 - a large number on such a cramped site.

Financing was never easy. In the brochure he sought to find a 'farseeing' investor 'who is at this stage is ready to lend financial assistance to the manufacturer to develop the industry [and who] must of necessity reap a full measure of reward.' Unfortunately, no such person emerged.

With the sudden end of the War in November 1918, and the drying up of further orders from the government the Whitehead Aircraft Company soon went bankrupt. After several other business failures - including a short-lived nightclub in Twickenham - Whitehead eventually found success as the owner Europe's largest orchards.

Nothing remains of the Richmond works. However, half a dozen short newsreel made by British Pathé - now on YouTube - still give a feel for how it must have been liked to work there.

Silver birch

On the grounds of Marble Hill Park stands a weeping birch tree. Its branches are wide-spreading and still contain their narrow clusters of bronze-coloured leaves. The latter are frequently visited by a variety of Lepidoptera. These include the Mourning Cloak butterflies and the Mottled Umber moth. The light of the sun may still reach the soil due to the open canopy of the tree. This allows many plants, such as the primrose or the bluebell, to grow amongst its roots.

Most birch trees are native to the colder regions of the Northern Hemisphere. They belong to the Betulaceae family, to whom we also owe varieties such as the Manucharian alder and the hazel of Yunnan. Each of the specimens may vary greatly in its habits. Some birches are alpine shrubs that have become acclimatised to the Arctic region. Other trees are tall in comparison and may occur in the vicinity of the Black Sea.

The Scottish botanist John Claudius Loudon has written much about the natural history of the various birch trees. In the third volume of his *Arboretum et Fruticetum Britannicum*, he mentions that the pigment of their matured leaves has been used in painting and in the dying of wool. The inhabitants of Lapland and Kamtschatka, or so John Claudius Loudon continues, have built their huts from its branches. Those who lived in the Alps once used birch wood for their torches, and the Highlanders of Scotland still make candles from its bark.

Russian boots have been made from those of the birch trees that have grown near the Black Sea. The Laplanders, allegedly, cut their bark into thin strips and thus produced a cloak to protect them from the perpendicular rain or snow. The papery bark of the birch has been written on and crayons have been made from its charcoal. The furniture-makers of Scotland are said to have used its wood for nearly every purpose. Birch spray has been used for the smoking of herrings and ham.

Birch trees are particularly beautiful during the winter months. At this time of year, you can mostly discern their bark. The latter has horizontal lenticels - or breathing pores - and may have a variety of colours. Some are pale or silvery, whereas another may be black.



The horizontal lenticels on the trunk of a silver birch

Their papery flakes peel off easily and any injured area will always remain discoloured. Their thin branches hold onto ice or snow, and may easily be damaged in a storm. A birch tree may grow fast, but it still remains fragile. Hardly any will live as long as an oak.

They've Done It!!

Park Lane Stables Saved



Images left to right: Whizz spreading some local cheer during lockdown, grooming time and riding sessions in Bushy Park

On Thursday 18th February Park Lane Stables reached, and surpassed, its goal of raising £1 million through a Crowdfunder campaign in order to buy the stables; the landlord had decided to sell the property and the stables needed to raise the funds to buy the property and secure its future.

On Wednesday they had raised £500,000, but an appearance on BBC Breakfast on Thursday morning led to a surge of donations, which carried them over the £1 million goal. At the time of writing the Crowdfunder appeal had raised £1,254,121 (plus approx. £227,048 in Gift Aid), with the extra funds going towards securing the stables' future.

The '[Save Our Stables](#)' fundraising campaign was launched by Stables Manager Natalie O'Rourke on New Year's Eve.

Stables Manager Natalie O'Rourke says: "I would like to say a huge thank you to everybody who has contributed to the 'Save Our Stables' fundraising campaign so far. The generosity and community strength at this tough time in our history has been truly heartening. The stables provide a lifeline for many families that will be devastated to lose the horses from the community".

"We still welcome any extra support, we're a charity with ongoing costs and every little really does help. As you can imagine, the upkeep of 23 horses is no mean feat, with food, vet bills and general running costs!"

With additional funds we would be able to secure our future existence. We would also be able to purchase land for our horses to graze and build our own secure arena that could be used for RDA riding and carriage driving sessions for our participants."

Park Lane Stables RDA (Riding for the Disabled), a registered charity based in Teddington
www.parklanestables.co.uk



PAT SCHOOLING 1927-2021

By Sheena Harold

In 1990 Pat was asked by the council to organise Richmond Borough in Bloom. She started it, expanded it and ran it until it closed at the end of 2020., Chair for 30 years. Many Teddington gardens won awards as did local schools, churches and shops. Born in Birmingham, Pat worked in Germany in her youth where her father was in the Army. Returning to Britain she made PR her forte.

She was involved with so many local enterprises including the Twickenham Museum, Radnor Gardens, Twickenham Town Centre, Twickenham History Society, then branching out into a charity Action Against Allergy which in turn spawned Merton Books where she met Jennifer Worth who wrote the *Call The Midwife* stories and Pat published some of the books.



Photo by Benjamin Mole

Pat didn't enjoy good health and towards the end of her life her mobility was really poor, due to arthritic joints which meant she was often in considerable pain. But for Pat the word indomitable best describes her attitude to life and she didn't give in. Even when both Bloom and AAA had closed she embarked on a new career in publishing electronic books! She was a great help and support to the Teddington Society, franking our magazines and always keen to offer advice. Her contacts were legendary, I wish I could inherit them. **Her funeral is on February 22nd.**

Donations can be made in her memory to the Brooke Hospital for Animals which looks after horses, donkeys and mules. Since Pat once owned a racehorse this is not a surprising choice. You can donate by calling 020 7470 9393 or via their website: www.thebrooke.org

I shall think of Pat every time I look down my back garden to the lovely yellow irises she gave me, and you have her to thank for all the hanging baskets all over the Borough of Richmond.

(There will be a live webcast of the service at 12:00 on 22nd Feb 21. You will be able to view it [HERE](#). Username: Civa3692 Password: 280204)

Dear Tribune,

Roads

Recently, on a dark rainy evening, I had occasion to deliver some medical supplies to a friend in Richmond.

Not having driven any distance for nearly a year because of the Corona restrictions, I was physically shaken and mentally stirred by the appalling state of the whole route from Hampton through Twickenham and Richmond to Richmond Park. (The A316 was impassable due to repairs).

The constant changes of speed limits were distracting, the bus lane markings were often invisible due to glare from the street lights on the wet road, and the speed humps, chicanes, and appalling cracks and potholes made the whole journey hell. Time spent watching out for myriad speed limit signs and changing bus lane markings in order to avoid fines is surely better spent looking at the road?

The pleasure of travel was enhanced by a cyclist in Paradise Road, Richmond, riding legally in the road (unusual) but riding illegally without lights (normal) who suddenly swerved in front of me when a car pulled out in front of her – probably because the driver thought he had time to do so as we were only doing 15mph in a 20 limit. He nearly knocked her under my car.

Could it be that the reason why cyclists use the footways (for which we all pay) instead of cycle lanes (for which we all pay) is because of the appalling state of our roads (for which we all pay)?

Another problem is the confusing speed limits. This was mentioned in a recent council meeting by a resident who had conducted his own petition to get something done about it. His well-intentioned efforts were, of course, dismissed by our Council's 'Chair of the Transport Committee'.

One councillor told me:

'The whole of the borough is 20 mph aside from perimeter roads most of which are controlled by TFL and not the Council.'

But only 100 metres from my house it changes from 20 to 30mph. And some signs are badly placed and at least one was unlit. Surely it cannot be that they, and the bus lane markings, are designed like this to make money by fining people?

Road humps may be useful outside a school on a main road but generally the appalling state of the road means you can't do more than 20mph without damaging your vehicle whether it's a car, bicycle, or probably soon a scooter.

I have driven all over the world, especially Japan, the most crowded country in the world, and never even seen a road hump. Except here, of course.

Potholes do have a saving grace in that they make the roads unsuitable for e-scooters but that will cause a further problem of them riding on the pavement just like the unlit bicycles I have to avoid daily.

So why not remove the humps and use them to fill in the potholes?

Of course, if the Council made the roads better, cyclists should not feel the need to ride on the pavements. But, unlike Japan, and judging by the usual amateurish efforts in this country, making smooth pothole repairs seems to be beyond the skill of anyone here.

The roads in this borough are an utter disgrace.

All my Japanese family live in the Fukushima disaster area and I was there six months after the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear accident in 2011. I had never before seen such unbelievable destruction but, in spite of that, almost all the smashed roads had soon been repaired to an immaculate condition and they'd actually repaired the main roads perfectly in two weeks!

In contrast to that, it took me 16 years to get Richmond Council to repair the dangerous surface of one local road.

Yes, 16 years of prevarication and being fobbed off by the Council saying that the road was unrepairable!

It was only repaired when I asked Cllr. Peter Buckwell publicly at a council meeting to come and inspect it and he immediately had it fixed.

I have asked a number of councillors about the state of the roads but have received few replies.

One councillor who did reply was Cllr Campanale who said:

'I cannot answer queries relating to the previous administration and their road maintenance provision, nor on the ability of Japan to maintain their roads.'

As I never mentioned a previous administration, I cannot see what it has to do with them.

And how typical to bring politics into a safety issue that affects us all!

Nor can I understand such a lack of interest in how other countries maintain their superb roads even in spite of constant earthquakes. Could it be that some of our councillors are so arrogant that they do not think they can learn anything from anyone else?

The Romans had better roads than we have – some of which still exist after 2000 years.

Probably the only way to get a smooth ride is to go by train – that is if one actually comes.

Never mind, a few rainbow crossings will brighten our journeys.

Michael Jay, Richmond.

Kew Road cycle lane gets an extension

Work is about to begin to extend the borough's first protected cycle lane in Kew – all the way to Richmond Circus.

At the Transport and Air Quality Committee on Thursday, Members were told that thanks to £140k from TfL, the popular segregated cycle lane that currently runs from Kew Road to Lion Gate Gardens, will be extended from Lion Gate Gardens towards Richmond Circus.

Since the cycle lanes were first installed last summer, more and more cyclists are using the protected lanes every day. The lanes are a system of raised posts (known as wands and armadillos) that protect cyclists from vehicular traffic on Kew Road.

Works on this next phase are due to start in early March and are expected to take approximately four weeks to complete.

This phase includes:

- The introduction of an advisory cycle lane between Richmond Circus and Selwyn Avenue) and
- A mandatory 24-hour cycle lane in both directions (between Selwyn Avenue and Pagoda Avenue)
- A new line marking arrangement across the full length of the route



The scheme will be introduced under an experimental traffic management order which will allow residents to give their views on the scheme during the first six months in operation before a decision is made on the next steps.

In addition, the Committee discussed a raft of other initiatives to improve cycling provision in the borough, and make our roads safer. This includes plans to develop proposals for a new strategic cycle route in Strawberry Vale, a new cycle link in Hampton Wick, a Low Traffic Neighbourhood in Ham as well as 50 new cycle racks being installed in Richmond Town Centre and across the borough.

Councillor Alexander Ehmann, Chairman of the Transport and Air Quality Committee, said:

'It is clear that the Kew protected cycle lane is a big success. Data collected from cameras on the road recorded an average of 831 Kew Road cycle lane users per week, which is double the average from 2018 (397 cyclists recorded in a week). As the weather gets warmer, and hopefully the COVID restrictions start to be lifted, we will see more and more people using their bikes. Being able to travel around the borough safely on two wheels is key. It was always our intention to extend the lane towards Richmond, providing a seamless, safe link for people to travel from the Town Centre to Kew Gardens and beyond to the Green. I am also pleased that we are able to make investments in other areas – more cycle racks, safer cycle routes and links in other parts of the borough.'

The Phase 2 scheme will be introduced under a new experimental traffic management order, which is separate to Phase 1 and which will allow residents to give their views on the scheme during the first six months in operation, before a decision is made on the next steps.

Toads crossing... Beware!

Richmond Council is asking residents in Church Road in Ham to keep an eye out for breeding toads which are due to begin their annual carriageway cross very soon.

The toads, which live on Ham Common, are currently breeding and will make the 100m journey from their habitat to pools on the other side of the road to spawn for approximately three weeks.

To ensure the safety of the toads, a small section of Church Road (between Ham Gate Avenue and Latchmere Lane) will be closed from Monday 8 March until Saturday 27 March 2021. Residents in the area have been notified by post of the migration.



Over 100,000 toads annually are helped across roads by volunteers throughout the UK and the number of toad patrols has doubled since 2009. To aid the toads, small fencing has been installed along the edge of the common to enable the toad patrol patrollers to pick them up and help them over the highway to complete their onward journey.

Temporary signage has been erected by the Council to warn drivers about the toad migration. There will be a diversion in place to avoid the closed road, which is via Ham Gate Avenue, Upper Ham Road and Church Road and vice versa.

Cllr Julia Neden-Watts, Chair of the Environment, Sustainability, Culture and Sports Committee, said:

“The annual toad migration is a wonderful natural spectacle on our doorstep which takes place at around this time every year. The migration is driven by the change in weather as the toads like warm, wet conditions.”

“It is difficult for us to predict exact dates of the toad’s movements, but this year with many of us staying at home to stay safe we hope that the migration will have minimal impact and we will do our best to avoid any unnecessary inconvenience for residents. I would like to thank residents in the area for their understanding and ongoing support of the diverse wildlife we have in this borough.”

Dear Sir,

Twickenham Riverside: A Bright Future for our Town

After almost 40 years of wrangling, a design solution befitting and enhancing this unique site will be implemented. Three primary issues that the majority of Twickenham residents wanted will be addressed:

1. A 'whole site solution' including the area of the Diamond Jubilee Gardens and Embankment so that a holistic scheme of real substance can be brought about;
2. The creation of a large public realm, with a large multi-functional area at its heart, comprised of a garden of gently rising terraces (with real grass, and many more trees), and a hard surface area that can be used for public events, such as markets, fairs and shows;
3. The removal of a parking lot and through road from our town centre Riverside, making this place foremost for people and not vehicles – indeed a Park, not a Carpark.

The Twickenham Riverside Park Team were instrumental in encouraging the new administration to appoint an apolitical professional organisation, the RIBA, to draw up a detailed brief for the Riverside (the first time this had been done during the preceding 40 years) and to oversee an international design competition. The selection panel reflected a wide range of expertise, including that of three locally based architects.

Over fifty architectural firms entered the competition, including a considerable number of top UK and European architects – no doubt attracted by the quality of the competition brief, the reputation of the RIBA and the design challenges posed by this extraordinary site. The short-list of 5 firms reflected a high quality of the conceptual submissions – but the winners by a clear consensus of the selection panel and residents of Twickenham, were Hopkins Architects.

There is no denying that the since the appointment of Hopkins, the development of the design to a stage whereby it could be 'frozen' prior to a planning application has not been easy – and we are yet to reach that stage. Covid 19 is an obvious factor, as was the difficulty of any meaningful dialogue between the architects, representatives of the stakeholder residents' groups (SRG) and the Council project team.

However, there is an ongoing dialogue with the Twickenham Riverside Trust (TRT)/ other stakeholders, the architects and Council project team. There have been two online meetings between the SRG and the architects, and the recent online consultations with residents at large. On each occasion, Chris Bannister, the Hopkins Architects project director, has clearly presented the scheme, and explained the reasons for the evolution of the design.

That is not to say that the scheme is as 'good' as it could be – yet. There are a number of important issues that need to be resolved:

1. The removal of a proposed 'truck route' along the Embankment, which would be the thin end of the wedge to maintaining a vehicle route through the pedestrianised area. It is entirely unnecessary (refer to the TRPT letter in The Tribune, dated 29th January);
2. The reinstatement of the 'Winter Garden' – a centrepiece of the conceptual scheme lost through 'push back' of the Wharf Lane building due to Environment Agency (EA) floodline requirements; Why not make the Winter Garden, filled with vegetation, a part of the garden area to enable the continuation of public activities throughout the year under the jurisdiction of the TRT?
3. The 'missing' boathouses – an ongoing request by residents over many years; We are told that EA restrictions will not permit 'permanent' boathouses in the 'flood zone'; but surely there must be a way?
4. The design of the main site entry space/building facade at the junction of King Street, Church Road and Water Lane, and more differentiation/refinement of the Water Lane building facades; Hopkins have assured us that these points are being responded to in further design development.

There will always be those who will not be satisfied with these proposals. Not surprisingly most of them supported the ghastly effort by the previous administration in 2018 that they attempted to impose on the residents of Twickenham. They shout the loudest, and spread a lot of misinformation. But compare this loud predicable minority to the massive number of residents who roundly rejected the previous scheme.

I attended both recent online 'public consultations.' It was most encouraging to hear that so many of those who participated were impressed by the Hopkins scheme. Make no mistake, as was the case in 2018, there would be no doubt were the majority of residents unhappy with the Hopkins proposals. The low-level response to the public consultations is precisely because the majority of Twickenham residents are generally happy with these proposals. The majority do not complain when they are satisfied.

We are on course for the realisation of an extraordinary Riverside destination, a new heart for Twickenham that will redefine our town centre, designed by one of the best architectural firms in the country. The Council's mission to provide a high-quality amenity area for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike, and much needed affordable housing, will be realised. They deserve our congratulations and support to stay the course to completion.

Yours sincerely,

Deon Lombard
Twickenham

The Failure of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames (LBRUT) to Provide Public Toilets

Teresa Read

Reply to the letter from William Stewart in [Edition 223](#) of the Twickenham & Richmond Tribune

Twickenham Green:

Twickenham Green is in South Ward bordering on to West Ward; roads in Strawberry Hill are on the Hampton Road side of the Green with the Staines Road opposite. The cricket pavilion is at the First Cross Road end of the Green and Arthur's Restaurant, a former public toilet, is at the other end.

Over the last two summers there have been problems with the use of local roads and private property for toilet purposes by visitors to the Green.

Appeals, including an official complaint, have been made to the current administration of LBRUT and requests for support has been sought from the local residents' association and amenity group. I am not aware of support for residents (in relation to the Anti-Social Behaviour) from these groups, both chaired by former councillors.

The leader of the Council stated at a local zoom meeting that public toilets would be considered. And, considered they were; the leader of the council and a councillor joked about the situation on Twitter and the following reply to an Official Complaint came from the LBRUT Director of the Environment:

"There are no current plans to install permanent toilets on Twickenham Green. If that position changes in the future, then of course the public would be notified in advance. The Council funds a Community Toilet Scheme."

As mentioned in the letter from William Stewart in the Tribune last week, the Community Toilet Scheme (CTS) is a "lamentable failure"; there is nowhere on Twickenham Green where there are toilet facilities readily available and countless visitors to the Green do not walk off to look for somewhere in the CTS. As a national journalist remarked "It is the men who are the problem; you need a urinal". It should be noted by members of the Council that only during the last week the police were made aware of a group of youths making use of the (Grade II listed) telephone box as there are no toilets available.

As if the problem with toilet facilities is not enough there are times when the practice of public urination has escalated into aggressive and threatening behaviour by the perpetrators. Around forty complaints have been made to the police who are very helpful, when available, but they have often been drafted away from the area to deal with demonstrations in London etc.

So, to return to the letter from Mr Stewart in last week's Tribune, Yes, I think a lot of people will agree with you:

"It still surprises and disappoints me that clean and well-maintained public toilets are not provided as a matter of course - as they are in many other towns in the UK and in Europe. They are such a basic facility, essential to civilised behaviour and hygiene."

Of course, we are only residents, but councillors should remember that we elect them and they are our representatives; we pay Council Tax and some of the funds under the control of the Council must be used to prevent Anti-Social Behaviour caused by the failure to provide public toilets.



Spring comes to Church Street Twickenham

By Shona Lyons

Well the cold snap that enveloped Church Street with snow seems to have gone on its way and I know I said it last week, but now spring really does seem to be around the corner. We are all waiting for Boris's new guidelines to be announced on Monday as it will hopefully effect the street in a positive way, for example will the restaurants and pubs be able to trade Al Fresco by Easter?



Right now Corto already has had their deliveries for Easter as you can see by all the huge Italian Easter eggs in the window. Sweet Memories although closed right now has a beautiful spring window. The gift shops are still only able to offer click and collect, but will non-essential retail be able to open soon? Mojo, Allissias Attic and Miss Pretty all have an online presence and I am sure you will find lots of products for Mother's Day (14 March) and Easter on their web sites. The Bloomery flower shop is offering click and collect, local deliveries and will have a range of bouquets available for Mother's Day.

Otherwise what is open in the street is still lots of take-away during the day, from Corto's Italian Deli, Snax and Lebanese & Western snacks, cakes, tea & coffee from Rosie Chai who are all open every day.



South African Biltong, all kinds of steak, chicken, sausages and South African snacks are available from Limpopo Biltong Twickenham every day too except for Mondays and Tuesdays.

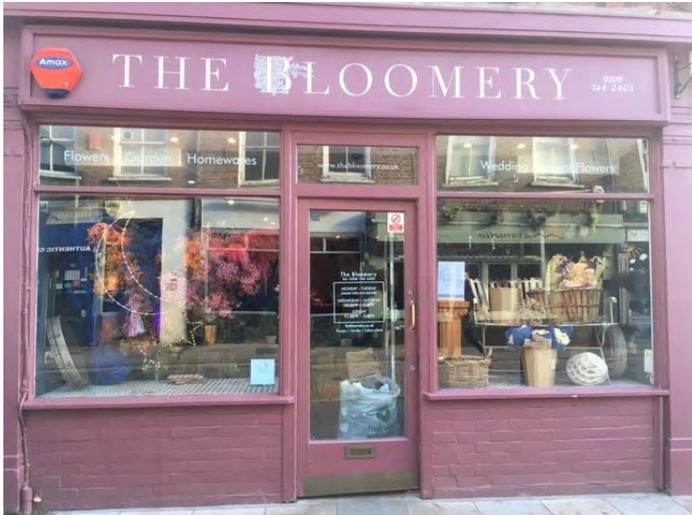
So the street can still cater for your needs if you want to stretch your legs and get a bit of exercise and a coffee and snack at the same time or even stock up on some groceries whilst enjoying the atmosphere in this pretty little street.

In the evenings our fine restaurants, Italian from Pulcinella (who have been in Church Street for more than 26 years and have a loyal following) & Masaniello (who have lovely authentic Napolitano pizzas) & Indian from Twickenham Tandoori, Naz Balti, every night & Indian Tapas from Tsaretta Spice but only on Friday and Saturday



The Estate Agents are open by appointment and Bazil and Ruby's grooming and pet shop is also open by appointment every day except Monday. Crusader Travel are closed right now for walk in clients but still can be reached by phone or email. The Hair salons, beauty parlours and spas are also closed right now (Mint hairdressing and Spa, Piper Violet Hair, Sheer Laser and Kiss N Make Up) but do have an online presence too and offer click and collect and some offer deliveries too. Vape Shack is offering click and collect too and also Toes and knees is open as a lock smith and cobbler. Eel Records is very much alive and kicking and offering click and collect and deliveries and the Brewery

Market is open every evening for takeaways and also offer Click and Collect and local deliveries.



FOOD AND DRINK NEWS

The days are getting longer (phew!) but we're still in lockdown, so I thought I would share with you some news of great new products I've discovered recently.

Now, I thought it impossible to buy decent sourdough bread from anywhere but an artisan baker – and there are some fabulous ones locally. But I've just found one in M&S that's vegan, with delicious flavours, and no added sugars, preservatives, or additives: **Jason's Sourdough**. It's available at £1.80 in three variants - White, Grains & Seeds and Craft Beer - in larger M&S stores (but sadly not Twickenham yet!). The Craft Beer's my husband's favourite – he even walks to Teddington to buy some. It also makes the most delicious toasted cheese sandwiches.



Still on breakfast goods, I thoroughly recommend **Lizi's Super Muesli** range. It's packed with added vitamins and minerals (Vitamin C, B6, B2 and Zinc if you were wondering) as well as natural ingredients such as turmeric, barley, hemp, maca powder and quinoa to deliver specific health benefits. **CLEANSE** (Cranberry, Raspberry & Cherry) helps to neutralise excess free radicals and protect cells, **BOOST** (Mango, Papaya & Turmeric) fights fatigue and boosts the immune system, **GLOW** (Fig, Apple & Almond) helps fight signs of tiredness and keeps hair and nails healthy and **FOCUS** (Hazelnut, Pecan & Maca) enhances concentration. Lizi's Super Muesli delivers a superior taste and crunch by using both toasted and untoasted oats. It's vegan too and also GL tested, meaning you will feel fuller for longer. Lizi's Boost, Glow, Focus and Cleanse Super Muesli is available in Ocado RRP £3.50. Lizi's Boost, Focus and Glow Super Muesli is available in Waitrose RRP £3.50 for a 400g pack. Treat yourself - you're worth it!



I've long been a fan of the **Merchant Gourmet** range of pouches of pulses and grains, and the latest variety is a winner too. The new Cajun-style edition contains lentils and red kidney beans in a tomato sauce enhanced with jalapeno, rosemary and smoked paprika. You can use it as a meat replacement in recipes like wraps, jacket potatoes, chilli con carne, burritos or nachos, or have it as a standby to add to any leftover meat or fish to create a quick and very tasty meal. Available from Waitrose and Ocado at £2 for a 250g pack, it's also a low cal lunch at just 146 calories per 125g. And let's face it, this is about as near as we're likely to get to Louisiana for a while yet!



As regular readers will know, I'm partial to a spot of gin, and I recently tried a shot of **Butler's Lemongrass & Cardamom Gin**. It's from a Hackney-based gin producer who, since 2012, has crafted a gentle aroma using a smooth blend of juniper, lemongrass, cardamom, and citrus notes. The gin's created by Ross William Butler (hence the name) and it has character. What's more, the botanicals that are blended to create it are then regenerated into perfume, candles, soaps! If you're a gin aficionado, do try it. £22 for a 50cl bottle from butlersgin.co.uk

But if, like many of us, you're trying to resist the temptation to open the gin at the end of yet another lockdown day, you might like to try **Mooze**. Produced by a gin distiller, this is a drink with some alcohol (it's a 12% spirit instead of the usual 37.5%), a good mouth feel, and it's a decent substitute for a stronger G&T. It contains six botanicals and is also low calorie (18 calories a serving), so ticks another health box! If you fancy moderating your consumption, do try it. From moozebooze.com at £20 for a 70cl bottle



The Cutting Edge

Lots of us are using this extra time at home for more cooking, and to sort out our kitchens. It's a good time to rationalise kitchen equipment and research additional or replacement items. Having the right knife to use for a specific job helps you cook safely and more efficiently. I noticed that **Viners** has launched a range of knives that are ideal for letting those 'home school pupils' try their hand at cooking. It's [Assure](#) range offers a squarer shape, eliminating the tip of the knife to make it safer to use, without compromising on performance. And with prices starting from just £4 for a small knife, they're very reasonably priced too, so I asked Viners which knives they think will give you with the cutting edge and help make your food preparation easier:

Chef's Knife: The multi-purpose chef's knife is one of the most popular knives used in the kitchen, catering for all manner of culinary tasks. This large knife makes light work of mincing and chopping vegetables, as well as slicing meat with precision.



Paring Knife: Ideal for small and precise jobs like trimming mushrooms and strawberries, the short bladed knife is one of the most used knives in a chef's kitchen. It's perfect for paring, peeling and slicing ingredients.

Utility Knife: Small slicing tasks are easy with a utility knife. Good for mincing shallots, fine-slicing herbs and trimming vegetables, it's a multi-tasker. With a blade slightly longer than a paring knife, and being more agile and nimble than a larger chef's knife, it's the perfect size blade for cutting through sandwiches, and slicing, cutting and portioning large chunks of cheese.

Bread Knife: You would think it's all in the name, but a bread knife also makes light work of slicing through fruit and vegetables with tough, waxy or slippery outer skins too. From pineapples and watermelons, to large tomatoes, the long, serrated blade will cleanly slice without tearing.

Santoku Knife: Originating from Japan, a Santoku knife is designed to slide fresh meat or fish. The Japanese word translates as 'three virtues' and refers to the three tasks in which the knife performs brilliantly: slicing, dicing and mincing. Shallow dimples create air pockets between the blade and meat, reducing friction and allowing for much thinner slices.

Carving Knife: A carving knife is the ideal partner for separating meat from the bone and portioning cuts of meat for serving. The narrow blade gives you full control over your roasts, and also allows you to fillet large pieces of fish.

WIZ Tales - The Seychelles

Teresa Read

Once again, there has been quite a lot of rain in Twickenham so here are some sunny photographs from the Seychelles.

The Seychelles became officially British in 1814 and a separate British Colony in 1903. Independence was achieved in 1976 and the Seychelles became the Republic of Seychelles.

La Digue, the Seychelles' fourth largest island, is famous for the interesting shaped granite boulders on its beaches.

A number of areas are protected reserves and parks. These include St Anne Marine National Park (six islands near Mahé) and Morne Seychellois National Park (Mahé).

The Vallee de Mai Nature Reserve, a World Heritage site, is a protected area on the island of Praslin. The Aldabra Atoll, in the Outer Islands, is also a World Heritage site; this atoll, comprising of four large coral islands, supports over one hundred and fifty giant tortoises indigenous to the Seychelles.



La Passe, La Digue
© Angelo Cavali



Coco de Mer Tree
© Angelo Cavali



Anse Severe, La Digue
© Angelo Cavali



Aerial Anse Lazio
© Pierre Argo



Giant Tortoise
© Tally & Lionel Pozzoli



Anse Source d'Argent
© Angelo Cavali



Denis Island Beach
© Bharath Ramamrutham

More photographs of the Seychelles
<https://worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Seychelles>



St Mary's University

St Mary's joins Ecological Project with the Diocese of Salford

The Diocese of Salford has launched a new research project with St Mary's University, Twickenham that the Bishop of Salford, Rt Rev John Arnold hopes will spearhead the efforts of the Catholic community in England and Wales to tackle the current ecological crisis by paving the way to a sustainable, carbon neutral future.

The research team will collaborate with other dioceses, parish communities, industry experts, theologians and other groups to develop carbon accounting and environmental management tools that will lead to an implementation framework for use in other dioceses.

The two-year pilot project aims to involve over 100 parishes and over 200 schools, alongside religious communities and other parts of the diocese. The study is part of the church's response to what Pope Francis has described as the 'cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.' It will reduce the diocese's carbon footprint, improve energy efficiency and generation, and facilitate greater involvement from parishioners and local communities.



Dr Emma Gardner, Head of Environment at Salford Diocese, said: *"We need to take urgent action today to 'protect our common home'. This project will help provide ways to address the ecological crisis through practical solutions and positive change. The Diocese of Salford is looking forward to working with other dioceses and organisations so we can play our part together."*

In 2019, the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales set out their commitment to engage in this urgent issue in their statement "Guardians of God's Creation". In the document, they pledged to avoid the worst consequences of this ecological crisis by engaging now and over the next decade on what they described as the 'long path to renewal.' Bishop John Arnold has responsibility for environmental matters at the Bishops' Conference, making his own Diocese of Salford the perfect place to begin.

The Right Reverend John Arnold, Bishop of Salford, said: *"The Catholic Church recognizes the ecological crisis we are living through and is keen to play its part in delivering the UK net-zero strategy. We are looking to deepen our understanding of how to put a Catholic diocese on the path to carbon neutrality, and this collaborative research will tell us what*

needs to be done and what structures must be put in place to support this. I hope that the findings will assist organisations and institutions beyond the Church both here and abroad."

Salford Diocese is collaborating on the project with St Mary's University, Twickenham, and the Laudato Si' Research Institute, Oxford, and is supported by the Catholic Bishops' Conference. Other partners including the Tyndall Centre at the University of Manchester will be involved as the project progresses.

In December, the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, vowed to cut the UK's carbon emissions by at least 68% from what they were in 1990 by the end of 2030.

Dr Roland Daw, the project's lead researcher at St Mary's University, Twickenham, said: *"This work is about collective action that empowers the whole Church with the understanding, technologies and financing mechanisms it needs to speak to this urgent crisis. Statistics and doomsday predictions have not been enough to change behaviours in the face of this urgent crisis, so faith groups have as important a part to play in educating their communities as any others in society."*

The Vatican has been promoting awareness of the Pope's ecological message contained in his encyclical Laudato Si' and has called for communities around the world to become environmentally sustainable. Pope Francis has called for an 'ecological conversion,' whereby the "effects of encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in our relationship with the world around us."

The project will take an 'integral ecology' approach at all levels, meaning that it will not just be limited to questions of carbon, but will consider wider social and environmental sustainability objectives. Integral ecology is a way of looking at the world that connects at depth our human life with God, each other and the natural world. By doing so it affirms human dignity and the special worth of each and every creature that God has made. It therefore informs our action at different levels, the individual, the family and society.

Celia Deane Drummond, Director of the Laudato Si' Research Institute, Campion Hall, said: *"This is an exciting project that has the potential to pave the way for a systematic transition to more environmentally sustainable practices in the Catholic Church. The Laudato Si' Research Institute is delighted to have the opportunity to support this pilot study as a partner, and to work collaboratively to address one of the most pressing ecological issues of our time."*

The Laudato Si' Research Institute in Oxford will help develop this understanding of integral ecology as applied to sustainability and carbon neutrality.



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

Richmond upon Thames College Celebrates National Apprenticeship Week 2021

From 8 to 14 February, Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) celebrated the annual National Apprenticeship Week to highlight the amazing work done by apprentices and employers across the country and how they have stepped up to the challenge during these unprecedented times. This year's theme, Build the Future, focused on how apprenticeships help individuals to build the knowledge and skills for their future career.

RuTC's Apprenticeship Team started the week off by introducing themselves via video on the College's social media channels, showing everyone how they can support individuals and companies in the recruitment process as well as throughout their apprenticeship. Apprenticeship lecturer and assessor, Rosalind Jenkins, also spoke about the benefits of doing an apprenticeship and the career opportunities that it gives.

Throughout the pandemic, RuTC offered apprentices support in every way possible. The College created a peer support network for furloughed apprentices to maintain morale and help them get back on track, a group of Engineering Apprentices was made redundant so the College proactively helped them to find alternative employment or secure a place at university. All the support was recognised by Ofsted during their Interim Visit in November 2020.

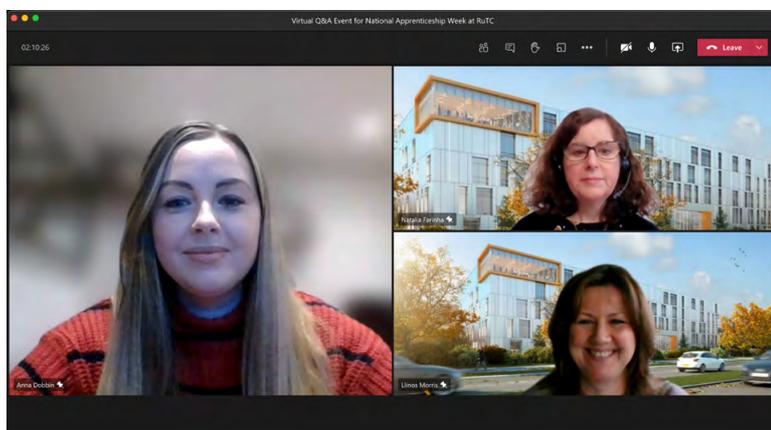
About the benefits of hiring an apprentice, Lisa Harris, Company Secretary at Russell Finex, said, "Hiring apprentices is advantageous not only to the apprentice but also to the employer. Russell Finex have hired marketing, finance and now an IT apprentice, and the recruitment process with Richmond upon Thames College has always been extremely efficient. An apprentice adds value to your team and brings with them fresh ideas."

Amelia White, Digital Marketer Apprentice at The Marketing Society, said, "From start to finish, the apprenticeship recruitment process with Richmond upon Thames College ran so smoothly. The support that staff gave me during the process made me feel at ease and helped me with the confidence I needed to secure the role."

For current Apprentices, the College's Apprenticeship Team along with the Student Services Team, offered support and mental health and wellbeing sessions. In addition, Apprentices were offered the opportunity to use RuTC's online CPD material, which included courses for communication skills, time management, wellbeing, mindfulness, stress awareness and many more. For external stakeholders who were interested in apprenticeships, the Apprenticeships Team hosted an information session giving information on the apprenticeships on offer at RuTC and tips on how to start one successfully, followed by an open Q&A session. The team will also be talking to prospective Apprentices at RuTC's upcoming Virtual Open Events on 3 March, 20 March, 20 April and 22 June.

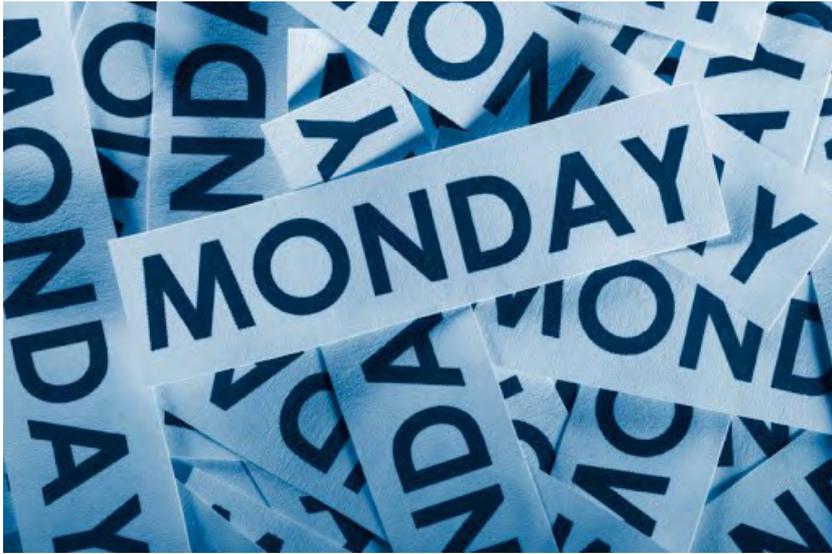
Anna Dobbin, Interim Apprenticeship Manager at RuTC, said, "The last year has been a challenging time for everyone and we have had to adapt to a different way of working and communicating with each other. Our Apprentices, trying to balance work life and college life will not have escaped this situation. It was important to us to maintain a strong professional relationship with our Apprentices and employers, ensuring they feel supported throughout this difficult time. Covid-19 did not stop us from celebrating and promoting Apprenticeships, so my thanks go to everyone who has made this year's unique National Apprenticeship Week such a success! We look forward to continuing to work with our Apprentices and employers and welcome anyone exploring the option to get in touch with us."

If you are an employer and interested in hiring an Apprentice, or you have any questions that are Apprenticeship related, such as Government incentives, please get in touch with our Apprenticeship Team at apprenticeships@rutc.ac.uk.



MONDAY MONDAY

By Bruce Lyons



I guess we are all looking forward to next MONDAY 22nd February & the PM's road map out of lockdown. Yes, you are! Admit it! Aren't we all!! Will it be like Mama's and Papa's "Monday Morning"
"Monday, Monday, can't trust that day. Monday, Monday, sometimes it just turns out that way..."

So what's it to be? Back to School yes!!!! Self-Catering in the UK for

Easter? Yes Please! Overseas corridors for holidays later May -FINGERS CROSSED! Maybe we'll have Al Fresco and takeaway for Easter!



Just in time for our Great Outdoors – there is nowhere like England in the Spring- I hope you have been boning up with Rick Stein, Sandy Toksvig, Joanna Lumley, Ben Fogle. Even last night with Giles Coren in the Dales – when we had a dog, the Dales were just Magical at Easter – though the sheep were a worry! for the Dog – not us!

I have been booking beach houses, the sea may be a tad challenging, boats on the Broads - Cycling? Hiking? And if the PM is kind maybe even hotels are on the cards, so let us all hope for Monday and that we don't get Monday Blues and in the meantime, enjoy the Warm Weather this Saturday and Sunday.

Looking forward to your call on Tuesday! 020 8744 0474 ☺

www.crusadertravel.com



JULIETA

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: **JULIETA** was 770th film screened by RFS on 19th September 2017. **Julieta** was the second ranked film of Season 55, it got an approval mark of 93% from those attending; from season 55 we have also already featured its top and one of the three joint fourth placed films **A Man Called Ove** and **The Other Side of Hope** as **Issues 42 & 43** respectively. **Julieta** can be streamed on Amazon Prime and it is also on the BFI Player plus the discs are available from Amazon and others. Pedro Almodóvar is a very popular director with the RFS audience. To date RFS has shown ten of his films and has plans to screen his latest, **Pain And Glory**, when RFS returns post-pandemic.

JULIETA

Country: Spain, 2016
 Director: Pedro Almodóvar
 Screenplay: Pedro Almodóvar
 Cinematography: Jean-Claude Larrieu
 Editor: José Salcedo
 Music: Alberto Iglesias
 Running Time: 99 min., colour
 Language: Spanish

Leading Players:

Emma Suárez as Julieta Arcos
 Adriana Ugarte as younger Julieta Arcos
 Daniel Grao (es) as Xoan (Julieta's partner)
 Inma Cuesta as Ava
 Michelle Jenner as Beatriz
 Darío Grandinetti as Lorenzo Gentile
 Rossy de Palma as Marian
 Susi Sánchez as Sara (Julieta's mother)



Pedro Almodóvar is the wild man of world cinema, a great, flamboyant talent whose films shimmer with his own vivid and hotly sexual take on the world. Not this time. *Julieta*, adapted from a trio of short stories by Pulitzer-winning Canadian writer Alice Munro, is more of the author than Almodóvar – the movie is a genuflection to the restraint and detail of her prose. This isn't a bad thing. It's just a different approach for the Spanish provocateur.

The plot unfolds, over three decades, in the form of a thriller. Almodóvar sets Munro's story of Vancouver mother Juliet Henderson in Madrid. She's now Julieta, a Hitchcock blonde played in youth by

the vibrant Adriana Ugarte and in her older years by Emma Suárez. When we meet the mature version, a teacher of classical literature, she's preparing to leave Madrid for Portugal with her partner Lorenzo (Darío Grandinetti). Julieta's recent life has been dominated by a search for her daughter Antia (played in ascending age order by Ariadna Martín, Priscilla Delgado and Blanca Parés), who disappeared mysteriously 13 years ago, shortly after attending a religious retreat. Almost ready to move on, our heroine runs into her daughter's best friend, who speaks of having recently seen Antia. So all bets are off. Julieta sticks to home and the search is on.

Almodóvar uses flashbacks to reveal the dynamics of this mother-daughter relationship. Julieta's affair with a fisherman, Xoan (Daniel Grao), results in marriage and the birth of their child. But when tragedy intrudes and questions arise about possible infidelity involving a sculptress (Inma Cuesta), the character finds her life in disarray. It's here, in a gorgeous scene in which Ugarte's Julieta emerges from a bathtub and "turns" into Suarez, that the film cuts to its core themes about love and betrayal. The filmmaker is surprisingly stingy at revealing the details of what went wrong between the family members, and audiences may find their patience tested. But Almodóvar's admiration for Munro is not misplaced. Despite rough patches, Julieta morphs into a haunting and hypnotic tribute to both their talents.

Mike Day – with acknowledgement to Peter Travers, Rolling Stone

Richmond upon Thames remains one of London's most popular filming locations

The London Borough of Richmond upon Thames has featured in several television smash hits over the past few years. This filming has raised significant funds for local charitable causes.

Demand from film production companies to film in the borough has grown in recent years and has remained steady throughout the pandemic period with the filming of many new productions already scheduled for 2021.

Following a period of shut down in spring 2020, filming has now resumed in line with Government guidance. The Government has allowed filming to continue throughout the current lockdown under strict industry guidelines. These include regular testing, daily temperature checks, health declarations, working in cohorts/bubbles and social distancing. Productions are required to employ COVID-19 Supervisors to oversee productions on location.

Richmond Council has worked to ensure that this popularity is put to good use by asking production companies who use the borough as a filming location to contribute to charitable causes within the borough. Over the past three years (2018 to 2020) these charitable donations have raised in excess of £85,000 for local charities and organisations.

During this same period the borough of Richmond upon Thames has seen a combined total of 830 days of filming. The borough has been used for numerous films and TV dramas, including Finding Alice (ITV), Bridgerton (Netflix), Ted Lasso (Apple TV+), Unforgotten (ITV) and The Thames: Britain's Great River with Tony Robinson (Channel 5), Gangs of London (Sky Atlantic), The Bodyguard (BBC), Fleabag (BBC Three/Amazon Studios), Unforgotten (ITV), The Great (All4) and Peter Rabbit 2 (Columbia Pictures/Sony Pictures Animation).

Cllr John Coombs, Spokesperson for the Arts, said:

'It has been fantastic to see our beautiful borough feature prominently in many hugely successful television and film productions in recent months. Richmond upon Thames has become a hugely popular location for production companies to use due to the borough's stunning historical architecture and amazing natural spaces. The Council is ensuring that this popularity will be used to benefit our residents with productions companies being asked to donate to some of our amazing local charities and community groups. I am delighted to see how much has been raised.'



Heart Research UK Healthy tip - Get moving

Get moving

Over the past year, it is fair to say that plenty of us have become more sedentary due to the effects of COVID-19. All those extra hours spent watching Netflix, with reduced travel time to work, and no gyms or sports facilities available, has meant that we haven't always been paying attention to our hearts. Heart Research UK have some tips to break the cycle and get us moving anyway we can:

Tracking your step count

The majority of us nowadays have technology that calculates our step count, heart rate, sleep time, stress levels and more. Using your phone/watch to count your daily steps has been shown to increase how likely we are to meet daily physical activity guidelines, and lead to more successful weight-loss.

Most of us don't realise how few steps we are taking per day, or the significant impact we can have on our step count with just a short walk. Setting yourself a **daily step goal** can be a great first step towards improving your heart health. It is recommended to try aiming for 6000 steps per day to start with. You don't need to achieve this all-in-one go, and it is possible to meet this goal through taking regular breaks and walking around your house.

Going to the supermarket tends to be one of the only times many of us leave the house nowadays. Have you considered taking a backpack and **walking to the shop** to do your shopping? This will increase your step count and be a great way to fit in some physical activity which involves walking with additional weight. If the supermarket is too far, why not drive part of the way there and walk the rest, or even park the furthest you can in the supermarket car park from the entrance. **Every step counts!**



Avoid the 'All or Nothing Attitude'

Have you ever thought "I will do the washing today" and then time becomes a problem so you end up thinking "I will leave it **all** to tomorrow then"; This is an all or nothing attitude. Plenty of us have this approach to many things. A way to avoid this is to break jobs up into parts. You may not have had time to do **all** of the washing, but you could have done **some** of it.

This can also relate to exercise and being physically active. One of the biggest barriers against physical activity is time, in general we tend to think if we can't do a whole 30 minutes or 1 hour straight of exercise then there's no point doing it at all. However, this isn't true! The recommended amount of physical activity per week in the UK is 150 minutes. This can be made up however you like as long as your heart and breathing rate increase! It is suggested that we aim for 30 minutes 5 times per week, but that doesn't mean you can't break up that 30 minutes into 3 x 10 minutes or even 6 x 5 minutes.

The key is to **aim for little and often** rather than all or nothing. For example, why not try doing some calf raises whilst brushing your teeth, or some mini lunges whilst waiting for the kettle to boil? Most of us spend a lot of time sitting, whether that be watching TV, playing video games or working from home. Set yourself a number of times per day that you need to stand up out of your chair. Before you walk away from the chair you could do 10 sit-to-stand exercises in a row, essentially this would be like doing 10 squats every time before you get out of your chair if you did this 5 times a day you would have achieved 50 squats! For more ways to **reduce sitting time** follow <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/exercise/why-sitting-too-much-is-bad-for-us/?tabname=exercise-tips>.



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.

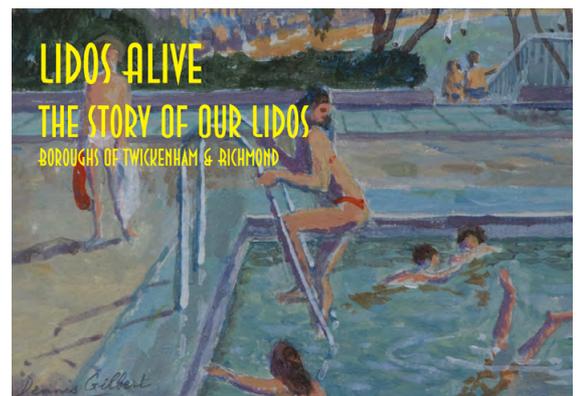
More importantly though, it provides the local people with an everyday escape from modern life, an accessible urban retreat.

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





BRENTFORD FC

Brentford unbeaten run comes to and end at the hands of the Tykes

Brentford 0 – 2 Barnsley

Brentford's long unbeaten run in the Championship stretching back to October finally came to an end as the were defeated at home by Barnsley. Conor Chaplin turned in a cross from Callum Brittain inside the opening fifteen minutes to give the away side the lead at the Brentford Community Stadium. Just two minutes into the second-half Carlton Morris curled past David Raya from the edge of the six-yard box to condemn Brentford to a rare defeat.



Despite their poor away record in the division this season and Brentford's excellent home form it was the visiting team who took the lead. Chaplin initially picked up the ball outside the area and passed inside to Morris, who in turn found Brittain on the wing. The Barnsley winger skipped inside the challenge of Rico Henry and crossed into the box where Chaplin had continued his run and after finding space in the box, tapped in from close range.

At the other end of the pitch Brentford went close when Henry advanced from fullback and having outpaced Michael Sollbauer, he picked out Josh Dasilva in space on the edge of the area but the midfielder could only pull his shot wide of the post.

Raya was called into action for the first time when Barnsley once again escaped down the right wing. Brittain was once again involved as he exchanged a one-two with Chaplin and crossed into the box. In the box Morris outjumped Ethan Pinnock but his header looped up and Raya was able to gather.

At the end of the first-half Brentford nearly equalised from a set piece. A free-kick from Saman Ghoddos evaded the high line from Barnsley and Dasilva ghosted in at the far post to get a shot away on the half volley. Daryl Dike covering back for the Tykes made the block and after the ball broke back to Dasilva, Dyke once again made a block to deny the Brentford defender for the second time in quick succession.

At the end of the first-half Brentford went close again after Ivan Toney had quickly taken a free-kick into the path of Sergi Canós. Canós then delivered a pass with the outside of his foot to pick out Ghoddos but Bradley Collins got down quickly to deny him.

Just two minutes into the second-half Barnsley extended their lead as an error from Pinnock prove costly. Dike had latched onto a over the top through ball and pulled the ball across the six-yard box. Pinnock, however, couldn't sort his feet out and the ball fell for Morris who curled in via the post past Raya.

Barnsley then nearly put the game out of sight when substitute Cauley Woodrow headed down

a high ball that Victor Adebayese took a touch to set himself and then volleyed narrowly wide.

A long range shot from Canós nearly helped Brentford to gain a foothold to comeback in the game as Collins couldn't hold the shot but Ghoddos following was just unable to take advantage as the Bees were defeated to lose the spot at the top of the Championship.

QPR come from behind to take derby bragging rights

QPR 2 – 1 Brentford

QPR scored twice in a four minute second-half spell to turn around the West London derby and consigned Brentford to their second consecutive defeat. Ivan Toney had given the Bees the lead after heading in a Mathias Jensen free-kick but goals from Sam Field and Charlie late in the second-half saw the home side complete a remarkable turnaround.

Brentford had taken the lead with thirty minutes played through talisman Toney. Rico Henry had been fouled by Todd Kane and from the subsequent free-kick Jensen picked out Toney, who glanced a header past Seny Dieng.

Some incredible skill from Mathias Jensen then saw Brentford nearly double their lead. The Danish midfielder flicked the ball over Austin and then nutmegged Stefan Johansen to bring himself some space. His shot from distance forced Dieng into palming the ball away from goal.

QPR's first significant chance came from a corner from Ilias Chair that was clear as far as Yoann Barbet who met the ball on the volley but Raya was able to block and Jensen completed the clearance.

In the second-half the home side once more went close when Raya was forced into clawing a corner out from underneath his crossbar with Tariqe Fosu able to head the ball away.

Brentford had a few opportunities to find the second goal but were unable to. Jensen curled over from an acute angle after overlapping with Canós and the Bees were punished soon after.

QPR counterattacked from a Brentford corner and broke up field though Chris Willock. The ball was crossed into the box and with the Bees unable to clear their lines Sam Filed met the ball on the volley past Raya on his debut for the club.

The turnaround was completed moments later as a diagonal switch of play from Kane found its way to Lee Wallace. Wallace did well to dribble inside and picked out Austin who scored via the aid of a deflection off Mads Bech Sørensen to wrongfoot Raya.

Late on Bryan Mbeumo had shot that was deflected over and Brentford sent goalkeeper Raya up for the corner in an attempt to salvage something as time ticked away but QPR held out for the victory.

Brentford players to not take the knee before matches

Brentford have announced that their players will no longer take the knee before games. The club took the decision ahead of the Championship encounter with Barnsley and comes

following changing room discussions as a club.

The club said in a statement on its website that “like many of our fellow players at other clubs, no longer believe that this is having an impact. We believe we can use our time and energies to promote racial equality in other ways.

As a group we are fully behind and proud of Brentford’s desire to become the most inclusive club in the country and the drive towards equality under the #BeeTogether banner. We have experienced racist abuse first hand and have also seen some appalling comments made to other players past and present. There is a clear need to continue to push for an end to all discrimination and, as players, we will be part of that at Brentford FC, in football in general and in the wider community.

Brentford Chief Executive John Varney also commented that, “Taking a knee is just one way our players have been showing their commitment to racial equality. We supported their desire to do it and we now support their desire to focus on other ways to show this commitment. We have been very clear in our ambition to be the most inclusive club in the country and our players want to and will play a big part on this journey.”

UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Game 1

Opponent: Coventry City (A) Saturday 20th February 12:30 St Andrew’s

Nickname: The Sky Blues

Competition: Championship - Matchday 31

Manager: Mark Robins

Opponent record: P30 W7 D10 L13 GF27 GA42 (20th in Championship)

Interesting fact: The club from the Midlands have played at seven different stadiums over the years and currently find themselves ground sharing at Birmingham City’s St Andrew’s Stadium.

Game 2

Opponent: Sheffield Wednesday (H) Wednesday 24th February 19:00 Brentford Community Stadium

Nickname: The Owls

Competition: Championship - Matchday 32

Manager: Neil Thompson (caretaker)

Opponent record: P29 W9 D7 L13 GF21 GA31 (4th in Championship)

Interesting fact: Sheffield Wednesday are the last side from outside the top flight to have won one of English football’s major trophies while outside the top flight with their 1991 League Cup Final victory.

Thomas Frank Press Conference Quotes

“Of course, I believe in Josh [Dasilva] massively and I think its about looking at the potential and have big dreams but also being realistic because we all know its about extremely hard work and also a tiny bit of luck going your way. Josh has the package and the mentality to dream big and hopefully the sky is the limit for Josh.

I think he is such an interesting player because when we play him in that 8 position but when you have a midfielder in there that can actually go past people 1v1 for fun. That's an unbelievable ability. On top of that he makes assist and goals from that position and he has learnt and is becoming more defensively reliable.

He's good but you know that consistency in being switched on, pressing well, doing all the right things defensively throughout 90 minutes is getting better. When he gets that 90 minutes plus finding that balance of when to play quick and when to take people on then that's the next level for him, which I believe he can find 100%."

Come on you Bees!

Hampton & Richmond Borough

National League South season to be null and voided

Hampton & Richmond Borough will play no further matches this season following a vote by clubs to null and void the season. The decision comes follow a change in funding structure from grants to loans and will see results from this season expunged with Hampton & Richmond currently in 6th place.

The decision was confirmed by the National League which will see the top division of English non-league football continue but the National League North and National League South, the level at which the Beavers play, ended early.

The club had earlier revealed that it had taken the decision to vote in favour of null and voiding the season and released the following statement after the result of the votes was confirmed:

"It might seem strange to hear me say "sadly" after we voted for the season to end. So, I wanted to provide some clarity from the boardroom. We voted for the season to end, as financially it is not viable to play games with no income. Some will say "why didn't you take the loans" but the reality is, there were questions regarding the legitimacy of the loans as they were in breach of the league rules. In addition, as a collective shareholder team we have no desire to take on long term debt unless it was for tangible improvement of facilities or setup. If continuation had been enforced, it was a path we would have had to consider which is why we took longer than some other clubs to vote. Many felt clubs should vote instantly and if we had voted on day one, we'd have voted to null & void. Simply a financial decision. Instead, we spend a few days scenario planning, horizon scanning and debating the best angles. We were looking for ways to play on, without causing long term damage to the club. We looked at other paths for funding, further cost savings, we had a dressing room willing to try and help the club with a salary reduction, had fans volunteer to put some money in, and were searching long and hard for ways to make it viable. However, the reality was, there were simply two options...

- 1) vote null and void
- 2) leave the club in a precarious financial position.

As no matter where we found money from, with nothing coming in, we would simply waste that money. Sadly, it was a no brainer and we had to vote to end the season."

Come on you Beavers!



World Waking Up To Vaccine Equity

At the halfway point in the World Health Organization and Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus' [100-day challenge](#), a movement of people and organizations is now uniting together under the banner of vaccine equity. WHO welcomes the new commitments made by France, Germany, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to [COVAX](#) and equitable allocation of vaccines. Backed by 190 countries and economies, COVAX is the global mechanism best positioned to deliver vaccines to the world and end the COVID-19 pandemic.

“There is a growing movement behind vaccine equity and I welcome that world leaders are stepping up to the challenge by making new commitments to effectively end this pandemic by sharing doses and increasing funds to COVAX,” said Dr Tedros, Director-General of the World Health Organization. “This can’t be business as usual and there is an urgent need for countries to share doses and technology, scale up manufacturing and ensure that there is a sustainable supply of vaccines so that everyone, everywhere can receive a vaccine.”



Close to 7000 people and hundreds of organizations have already signed on to a [vaccine equity declaration](#) that directly calls on governments and manufacturers to speed up regulatory processes, boost manufacturing by sharing know-how and technology, and ensure that doses are shared equitably. There is a specific call to start with all health and care workers, who have been on the frontlines of this pandemic for more than a year.

Heads of state and sports stars like Romain Grosjean; international agencies including UNICEF, UN Development Programme, UN Women and the World Food Programme; sporting organizations like the International Olympic Committee, World Rugby and FIFA; networks focused on faith, gender and youth, and civil society groups like the Elders, Global Health Council, Nursing Now, Pandemic Action Network, UHC2030 and Women in Global Health,*-- these and many more have signed on to the broad based movement, which recognizes the moral, economic and global security imperative of equitable vaccine distribution.

Dr Keith C Rowley, Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, and Chairman of the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) said, *“Today, thankfully we are at that place where we now have tested and proven vaccines. A brightening light is shining on our way towards a more successful response to the still marauding virus.”*

The movement for vaccine equity is growing, and to prevent virus variants from undermining our health technologies and hampering an already sluggish global economic recovery, it is critical that leaders continue to step up to ensure that we end this pandemic as quickly as possible. Individuals and organizations everywhere are encouraged to join in this crucial effort.



2.3 tonnes of cocaine seized before reaching UK streets

Ten people have been arrested in North London in relation to the seizure of approximately 2.3 tonnes of cocaine imported to the UK in a consignment of bananas.

The seizure – believed to be one of the largest ever in the UK – was part of an investigation led by the joint National Crime Agency and Metropolitan Police Service's Organised Crime Partnership (OCP).

Those arrested, all men aged 21-56, were detained by OCP officers yesterday (18 February) at two addresses in North London after taking delivery of 41 pallets into which the cocaine had been loaded.

The drugs – potentially worth £184 million had it been sold on UK streets – had already been removed by Border Force officers at Portsmouth International Port on Sunday 14 February.

The container had arrived on a cargo ship from Colombia the day before, and was masquerading as a legitimate consignment of bananas.

The pallets were delivered to an industrial estate in Tottenham, North London, where OCP officers – supported by armed units from the NCA and the MPS – moved in to arrest the five recipients.

The other five men were arrested at a different industrial estate in Enfield.



All ten remain in custody and three have since been charged with the importation of class A drugs.

John Coles, Head of Specialist Operations at the NCA, said:

“The numbers here speak for themselves; this is a massive seizure which has denied organised criminals hundreds of millions in profits, and is the result of a targeted investigation conducted jointly by the NCA and Met Police. The NCA is focused on disrupting the organised crime groups posing the most significant risk to the UK, which includes those involved in class A drug supply. Illegal drugs are a corrosive threat and those who deal in cocaine are often violent and exploitative. Cocaine supply is directly linked to the use of firearms, knife crime and the exploitation of young and vulnerable people. We work closely with domestic and international partners to target those at the top of the chain and ensure that transnational drug networks are met with a global response. Border Force is a key partner and were vital in preventing these drugs from being successfully trafficked into the country.”

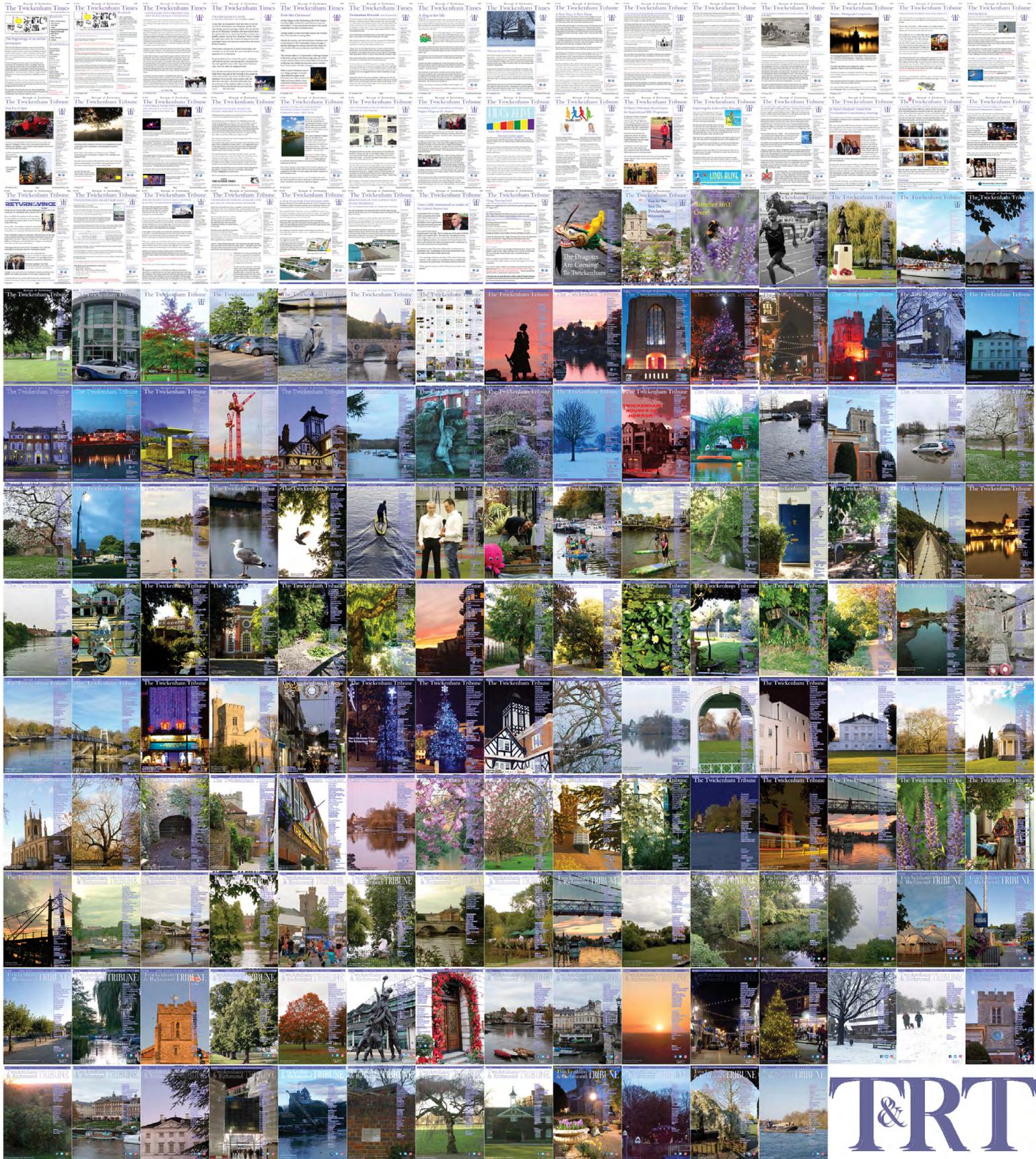
Detective Superintendent Simon Moring from the Metropolitan Police Service said:

“This operation is a great example of partnership working between the Met, NCA and Border Force, which resulted in one of the UK's biggest ever seizures of cocaine – around 2.3 tonnes. This significant seizure means that these dangerous drugs cannot reach the streets of London and beyond, where they have the potential to cause great harm to people and communities. Whilst these operations are complex and resource intensive, they are vital to disrupt organised criminal networks and to ensure we keep our communities safe. We know there is an inextricable link between drugs and violence – that is why tackling the importation and supply of drugs is a crucial part of our work to reduce violent crime in London.”

The Organised Crime Partnership (formerly the Middle Market Drugs Partnership) has been in operation for 17 years and is comprised of equal numbers of specialist NCA officers and Metropolitan Police detectives.

The team works to stop the flow of drugs to the criminal market in London, target criminals that impact on London, as well as disrupting those that make huge profits from this illegal activity.

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