

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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14th May 2021



Cotoneaster

Photo by Berkley Driscoll

TickerTape - News in Brief

TfL to double capacity on London buses as lockdown eases

TfL has confirmed that on Monday 17th May there will double the capacity on board busses by making available seats that had been previously unavailable due to social distancing measures.

Come to Secret World of Plants

This summer, delve into the hidden secrets of the plant world at Kew Garden's festival of incredible immersive experiences. Discover the art installations across the Gardens and the untold stories of our native plants and landscapes. 1 May – 19 September 2021. Find more info [HERE](#)

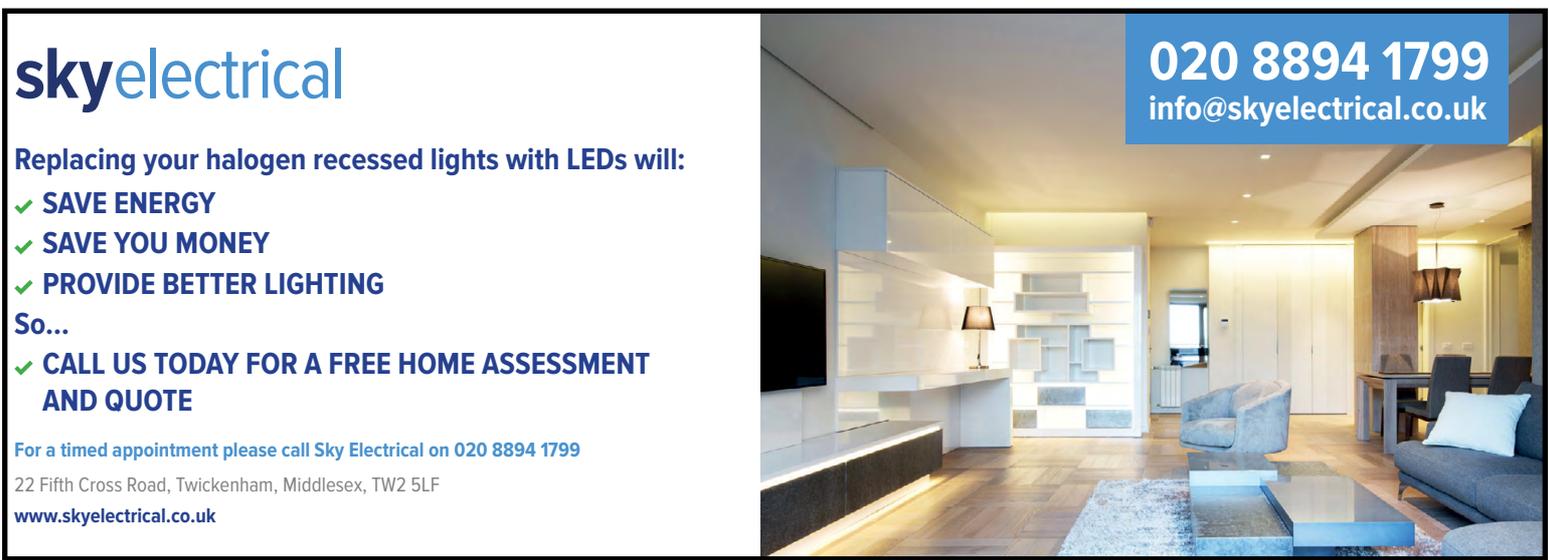
District Line Suspension

Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 May - No service between Embankment/Edgware Road and Ealing Broadway/Kensington (Olympia)/Richmond/Wimbledon
Use alternative Tube services or local bus routes within central London. Use London Overground services between Richmond and Gunnersbury.
Rail replacement buses will run between Hammersmith and Acton Town/Wimbledon, between Turnham Green and Richmond, and all stations between Earl's Court and Putney Bridge, then Putney National Rail station and Wimbledon.

Hampton Court Road: Traffic delays

Thames Water works to repair an urgent sewer collapse on Hampton Court Road are due to complete on Wednesday 19 May.
The works are near the Esso Garage and opposite Hampton Court Green Car Park. Traffic is being managed by manually controlled traffic signals, and significant traffic delays are expected.

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



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TwickerSeal and his chums got together on 11th May 2021 to celebrate 4 ½ years of the Tribune! In that time the borough's favourite community newspaper has been published every Friday night without fail.

Of course, the Tribune is only as good as its contributors and the constantly growing readership is testimony to the quality and interest that the Tribune's writers provide.

TwickerSeal and five chums (there are rules after all) gathered at the Diamond Jubilee Gardens on Twickenham Riverside to celebrate this latest milestone.

Unfortunately, the DJG, with its town square and safe, secure and flat gardens will disappear under the council's development plans and will cease to exist. In the future events will have to take place on the riverside floodplain alongside the roadway and large commercial delivery lorries. Progress, eh?



Borough View

By Graeme Stoten

'Mending the tracks'

St Margaret's railway station provides parking for the gravel train and rail replacement cranes whilst workmen work ahead towards Richmond. A schoolboy's dream of heavy goods freight, machinery, and diesel trains. The fully refurbished railway footbridge gives an excellent elevation to watch the spectacle.



World Health Organization Overview

12th May 2021 The number of new COVID-19 cases and deaths globally slightly decreased this week, with over 5.5 million cases and over 90 000 deaths. Case and death incidences, however, remain at the highest levels since the beginning of the pandemic. New weekly cases decreased in the regions of Europe and Eastern Mediterranean, while the South-East Asia Region continued an upward trajectory for 9 weeks and reported a further 6% increase last week.

10th May 2021 Any decline is welcome, but we have been here before. And cases and deaths are still increasing rapidly in WHO's South-East Asia region, and there are countries in every region with increasing trends.

Today, the WHO Foundation is launching the "Together for India" appeal to raise funds to support WHO's work in India, including the purchase of oxygen, personal protective equipment and medicines.

WHO Report COVID-19 Research and Innovation Achievements

Within a few weeks of declaring COVID-19 to be a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC), WHO published a coordinated global research roadmap, identifying the knowledge gaps the world urgently needed scientists to fill to find solutions to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic. It was a pivotal document and represented a transparent and globally agreed pathway through which all individuals and organizations involved in the research response could act, and be held to account.

Fourteen months later, research on most of the knowledge gaps has been initiated, is progressing and has provided answers to several of the knowledge gaps identified in the roadmap. Most notably, Research and Development (R&D) has delivered safe and efficacious COVID-19 vaccines at an unprecedented speed.

New COVID-19 research challenges emerge everyday but scientific achievements have already provided answers to several of the knowledge gaps identified in the roadmap and priority research has been done with some achievements. Most notably, Research and Development (R&D) has delivered safe and efficacious COVID-19 vaccines at an unprecedented speed; this is a triumph for modern science although equitable access remains a challenge.

Research and innovation work has also helped us deliver:

- Rapid diagnostics for use in community settings.
- The identification of optimal protective equipment (PPE) to protect health care staff and the public across the world.
- Evidence-based infection prevention and control (IPC) measures such as mask-wearing and social distancing in health care and community settings.
- Better understanding of likely animal host(s) for the virus. This will help in future efforts to prevent continued spillover to humans.
- Major clinical trials for the evaluation of candidate therapeutics, evaluating a dozen drugs, some of which have proven not to be effective in reducing mortality, and a handful of which have had positive results on cutting deaths

LGA responds to Prime Minister's announcement on variant of concern originating in India

Responding to the Prime Minister's announcement this evening on the variant of concern originating in India, Cllr James Jamieson, Chairman of the Local Government Association, said:

"As the Prime Minister said at his press conference this evening, the new variant is a worrying development and we all need to play our part in ensuring we limit any further transmission. Councils and their communities, local NHS colleagues and national Government have worked hard to get us to this point and I would urge everyone to listen to local advice to ensure we all do the right things to keep our local communities safe. We all want to keep the roadmap on course for the eventual lifting of all restrictions, and the best way to do this is by letting councils get on with local infection control. Councils have Local Outbreak Management Plans in place, and I urge Government to let us get on with implementing them so we can play our part in the national effort. Councils need local flexibility to deploy all the tools available, which may mean that we need to move to more targeted vaccinations. I would ask that Government lets us do whatever we need to in local areas to protect our communities. Allowing councils, working closely with their NHS partners, to be able to get on with the job will help us to defeat this terrible virus, in all its variants and get life back to normal for all of us."

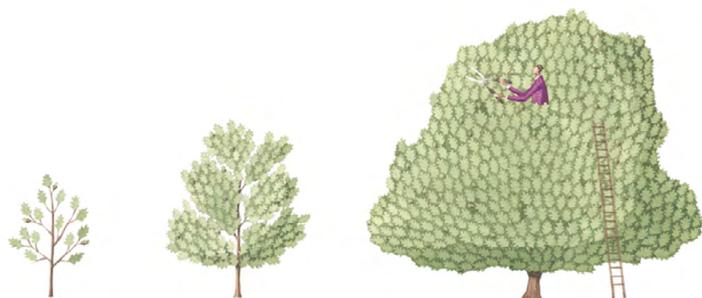
Total cases to 14 May 2021

10,940 Richmond upon Thames
12,339 Kingston upon Thames
25,159 Hounslow

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

Deaths Worldwide 3,335,948

USA	578,257	Indonesia	47,716
Brazil	428,034	Ukraine	47,333
India	262,317	Turkey	43,821
Mexico	219,590	Czechia	29,825
The United Kingdom	127,640	Romania	29,233
Italy	123,544	Hungary	28,970
Russian Federation	114,331	Chile	27,520
France	106,333	Canada	24,766
Germany	85,658	Belgium	24,630
Colombia	79,261	Ecuador	19,442
Spain	79,208	Pakistan	19,336
Iran	76,231	Philippines	18,821
Poland	71,021	Netherlands	17,399
Argentina	68,807	Bulgaria	17,150
Peru	64,898	Portugal	16,998
South Africa	54,968	Iraq	15,883



The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

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The Tree Agency

Museum of Richmond reopens

By Simon Fowler

The Museum of Richmond, which is one of the borough's best kept historical secrets, reopens on Tuesday: The Museum is hidden away on the second floor of the Old Town Hall in Richmond town centre.

The Museum celebrated the thirtieth anniversary of its opening by HM The Queen in 2018. It is dedicated to displaying the history of Kew, Richmond, Petersham and Ham, from prehistoric times up to the present. Highlights include a model of Richmond Palace, where Queen Elizabeth I died in 1603, the clock from the old workhouse, and a huge map showing where bombs fell during the Second World War.

The Museum might be described as being Richmond's attic, as it has a collection of artefacts relating to the town's history over 2000 years, many of which have been donated by members of the public. At present there is a project to collect material relating to the Covid Pandemic and the resulting lockdown. However, before you clear out your cupboards, the Museum warns that 'Whilst we would love to give your historical objects a permanent home, the Museum does have a strict collecting policy and limited space, which means that we cannot accept everything!'

It is kept in strongrooms, which are rarely open to the public. Fortunately, much of the collection has been digitised and you can see the results on the Museum's website. Schools can also hire Discovery Boxes containing a selection of original items and facsimiles for use in classrooms.



Three dolls from the Museum's collection



About two thirds of the Museum is devoted to a permanent exhibition. The remainder of the space is devoted to a range of temporary exhibitions on the town's history. Recent ones have included the histories of Queen's Road and Old Palace Lane, Richmond's Prehistory and the Poverty in the area.

The current exhibition tells the story of the King's or Kew Observatory and runs until 18 September. The Observatory was founded in 1769, by George III, to observe the Transit of Venus. During the 19th century it played a leading role in the development and testing of a number of metrological, magnetic and electrical instruments and was the home of the Meteorological Office for seventy years from 1910. The Observatory, which is located in the Old Deer Park, is now a private house. An online version of the exhibition can be found the Museum's website.

The Museum is open from Tuesday to Saturday between 11am and 5pm. Admission is free. However, at present visitors need to pre-book visits. The Museum has an informative and attractive website at www.museumofrichmond.com.

Viburnum tinus

By Katie Patton

In the summer you might look at *Viburnum tinus* and wonder why you planted it. It's not an ugly plant by any means, but with its small undistinguished evergreen leaves and dense habit it's not an obvious 'statement plant'.

But in the winter months, when it's cold and wet and not much else is happening in the garden *Viburnum tinus* springs into life. Covered in clusters of reddish pink buds which open into white fragrant flowers, brightening up the garden and your day! They are followed sporadically by metallic looking blue/black berries.

Early depictions of *Viburnum tinus* have been found in the ruins of Pompeii in Italy, it was introduced to Britain by the late 16th Century from the Mediterranean and North Africa, although exactly when remains unclear. Long before plant hunters discovered other winter flowering shrubs such as mahonia and hamamelis, *Viburnum tinus* was the most fashionable winter shrub going. It's common name laurustinus reveals that its once time association with *Laurus*, the bay, but science has proved the two are not related part of the same family.

It will grow in most aspects and most soils, though flowers best in full sun. It's a large shrub up to 2-4m height and spread, but can be kept in check with prudent pruning straight after flowering or you risk losing the flowers the following winter. It is a robust plant which tolerates pollution so an excellent choice for front garden hedging in urban areas.

Viburnum tinus is especially under threat from the Viburnum beetle, *Pyrrhalta viburni*. Beetle eggs overwinter on the backs of the leaves. They hatch in late April/early May and the larvae feed on the foliage, leaving the larger veins giving the foliage a lace like appearance. Once fully fed they fall to the ground and then the adult beetle emerge late summer. These will also do some damage, but not as much as the larvae. You can check for larvae in late spring/early summer and remove them by hand as well as encouraging birds or ground beetles into the garden to eat the larvae. If this isn't enough then organic contact insecticides such as 'Bug Clear' or 'Neudorff BugFree' can be sprayed. Do not spray while in flower to avoid harming bees and pollinating insects.



Teddington RNLI Assist In Minke Whale Rescue

Teddington RNLI were tasked this week to help in the rescue of the 'Juvenile Minke Whale'.

Teddington RNLI were paged by London Coastguard at 10:02am on Monday 10 May 2021.

Only the day before our colleagues at Chiswick RNLI had been involved in the attempted rescue at Richmond Half Lock. The story captured the imagination of the public.

All our crew at Teddington RNLI had been following the story. The sheer strength of the whale enabled it to escape and swim away from the initial rescue. The whale was next spotted at Teddington Weir by a member of the public who rang one of the Teddington RNLI crew. After Teddington RNLI notified the London Coastguard at 10:02am on Monday 10 May 2021, the pagers went and Teddington RNLI crew were called into action.

Every so often a story such as this is driven by the emotions as much as the facts. The story of the Juvenile Minke Whale has been well documented on TV, radio and press this week. In this article, I simply wanted to capture how everyone at Teddington RNLI feel about the work we did and also to share the reaction of the British Divers Marine Life Rescue (BDMLR).

As Paul Roach, Deputy Launching Authority (DLA) at Teddington RNLI explains: 'This was a very long shout starting at about 10am and going on beyond 8pm. It was a great effort by the crew who rotated amongst themselves, juggling work and domestic commitments to ensure we stayed afloat all day. It was also a great example of multi-agency cooperation between ourselves, the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), BDMLR, the Environment Agency, Port of London Authority and the Metropolitan Police. Three local businesses also helped out where the drama unfolded; the Flying Cloud Cafe, Boathouse Design Studio and Teddington Harbour. It wasn't the outcome any of us wanted but it wasn't for lack of trying.'

For many people the incident will have enhanced their understanding of the earth's whale population and also the work of the BDMLR.

Gavin Parsons, BDMLR director and Trustee praised the work of the RNLI: '*British Divers Marine Life Rescue (BDMLR) has always worked well with RNLI crews around the country. Our medic teams have the utmost respect for the work the RNLI does and the Minke Whale in the River Thames incident showed the Teddington crew exhibits the same professionalism and dedication to duty as every other team our medics work alongside. Although the incident didn't become a rescue as many hoped, the outcome was the best for that individual whale so it no longer suffered. BDMLR would like to thank the Teddington RNLI crew for the assistance with the animal.*'

Gianna Saccomani, Deputy Lifeboat Press Officer and Crew who was on the first D Class (D-743 Olwen and Tom) on scene at Teddington Weir added: '*I would like to pay tribute to the volunteer lifeboat crew at Teddington RNLI. It was a long and emotional day for everyone involved. Our shore crew helped to ensure the safety of members of the public so near to the water's edge.*'

As Paul Roach continued: 'Both D Class Teddington RNLI Lifeboats (D-743 Olwen and Tom and

D-785 Peter Saw) went afloat again at 2am on Tuesday 11 May to recover the whale to the slip where we launch. Also, London Network Scaffolding were really helpful after the recovery, assisting ZSL in transporting the whale to Whipsnade Zoo for a Post Mortem.'

Samantha Armatage, who was one of the four volunteer Teddington RNLI crew members assisting medics from BDMLR, said: *'Whilst we always try to remain professional and calm, it was very emotional to be part of the wider team all willing the whale to pull through. We lay hands on the whale as the vet arrived and hope that it felt the will of the local community who turned out to witness this very unusual incident.'*

For Teddington RNLI 10 May 2021 will live long in the memory. All the public who gathered on Teddington Footbridge and who watched the story unfold on local and national media will never forget the Minke Whale. Let's hope the whale's legacy is more focus and attention on the beauty and fragility of the world's marine wildlife. Our world is a better place because of the majesty and beauty of whales. We all know and appreciate much more than we all did before 10 May how fragile and cruel nature can be for marine wildlife.

However, if there is a positive, it's the humanity showed by the emergency services involved and the general public who witnessed proceedings. This humanity transcends the tragedy. The spirit of the Juvenile Minke Whale will improve our knowledge and understanding and help us protect our precious global marine species in future.

www.rnli.org www.bdmlr.org.uk



Lifeboats



Photo of the Minke Whale by Tribune reader
Simon Tompsett

Orleans House Gallery re-opening on May 18 with new exhibition 'Remember the Future'

Orleans House Gallery in Twickenham is set to re-open for the first time this year, on **Tuesday 18 May**, following its closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The popular riverside gallery re-opens with a new exhibition entitled 'Remember the Future' which explores how we can renew our relationship with nature.

The exhibition will see artists in residence setting up studios in the historic gallery on Richmond's Riverside. The artists will present work that invites us to question established notions of our place as part of the natural world. This is the first exhibition in Orleans House Gallery's new three-year project 'Cultural Reforesting'

Alongside the exhibition, the galleries and grounds at Orleans House Gallery will become an ecocentric artistic research laboratory with the guest artists using their research to investigate the ways in which we can all explore and nurture the relationship we have with the natural world.



In accordance with government guidance, measures have been put in place to ensure visitors are able to enjoy visits to the gallery once again including a one-way system which will be in operation along with directional and social-distancing signs.

Orleans House Gallery is a free public art gallery in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, managed by Richmond Council.

'Remembering the Future' will open on Tuesday 18 May and run until 14 November 2021.

[Find out more about the exhibition and the artist](#) who will be presenting their work.

Teddington Library's doors have reopened!

Teddington Library has reopened after closing in February 2021 for roof and ceiling repairs to protect the Grade II listed building.

Customers can return to Teddington Library to browse, use the Click and Collect service and use pre-booked computers.

View the council's [Libraries section](#) for regular updates on current service levels and opening times. If you have any questions, you can contact the libraries team on libraries@richmond.gov.uk



Dear Sir,

Twickenham Riverside

The letter from Shona Lyons in last week's edition requires some points of clarification.

She refers to "the neglected Jubilee Gardens" (meaning presumably the Diamond Jubilee Gardens): readers should be aware that the maintenance and upkeep of DJG is presently solely the responsibility of the Council. Thus any perceived shortfall in standards should be laid at their door. The very popular Sunshine Cafe in DJG, closed for the past 18 months, is also the responsibility of the Council, and I hope we can look forward to it being opened very shortly. Similarly, the "bordered up car park": this could have been opened at any time during the past three years by the Council, but they have chosen not to do so.

It is also worth pointing out that, unlike the proposed "beautiful and pedestrianized space" (according to the plan published on the Council website), the DJG offers an area that is much enjoyed as safe space for families with young children and local nurseries, and is also highly suitable for events. In addition to this, the existing playground is entirely enclosed, and the perimeter of DJG is securely fenced.

The DJG has been the venue for the past seven years of extremely popular events, such as the award-winning Boroughs Best Banger, Dog Shows, and illustrated readings by Axel Schleffler, free to all. It is not entirely clear that the present development, as visualized, can support similar events as adequately.

There are to be five retail units on Water Lane in the development to replace the two lost on King Street, and there is planned to be not only a restaurant but also a pub/restaurant. Also, there are to be 49 residential units. Although new residents will not be allowed parking permits, many will inevitably have a car; this will clearly add to parking problems in the local car parks.

Finally, the difficulties involved in the acquisition by the Council of the charitably-owned DJG, essential to enable any scheme to progress, should not be underestimated. This process has to follow detailed legal requirements, and the terms of acquisition must be agreed eventually by the Charity Commission.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Hamilton-Miller
Twickenham TW2

Dear Sir,

“They Paved Paradise etc...” in last week’s Tribune (issue 235, 7th May)

I admire Shona Lyons and her dad, Bruce, for their hard work to make Church Street so beautiful and so successful. However, her piece “They Paved Paradise etc...” in last week’s Tribune (issue 235, 7th May) is bewildering for the complete misunderstanding of the Twickenham Coalition and what our aims are.

A simple reading of our press release shows that we are committed to holding the Council to the promises made about the Town Centre and Riverside redevelopment, including traffic, parking and access; the town square; an equivalent to the Diamond Jubilee Gardens; and the size and height of buildings. Nowhere have we said that we want to keep all the parking on the riverside.

Of particular concern is the traffic, access and parking. The planned two way traffic in Water Lane and Wharf Lane is potentially very dangerous for pedestrians. It is not clear whether the council has done thorough surveys of parking usage.

Service parking – including electricians, plumbers, BT engineers, carpenters and workmen of all kinds – is necessary not only for the businesses, clubs and homes on Eel Pie.

Shona Lyons has missed the fact that people live in King Street, Church Street, Water Lane, Bell Lane and on the Embankment. A lot of people, and they have homes and often businesses that will need deliveries, including those in the new development.

This isn’t a simple issue. If it were, it would have been solved years ago.

The Twickenham Coalition is endeavouring to ensure that the best possible redevelopment can take place – see our website <https://thetwickenhamcoalition.org>

Yours sincerely,

Yvonne Hewett

The York House Society

Dear Tribune,

Twickenham Riverside

I write to broadly support the views expressed by Shona Lyons in last week's edition of The Tribune. I give credence to them as she lives on Eel Pie Island and is a leading business woman in Church Street.

I've taken an interest in the future of this precious site for many years and am happy to declare myself a member of The Twickenham Riverside Park Team, although write here in a personal capacity. I agree with Shona that it would be helpful if commentators identified themselves and who they claim to represent. Although interested in the future of the site I have no financial, political or other personal interest in it. I am just a long standing resident of Twickenham wishing to see its potential realised as soon as possible for the benefit of the wider community.

I would argue that the ruling party of this Council has the strongest mandate in the 40 year history of the site to take this project forward. The Liberal Democrats were elected in 2018 with a very large majority, having publicly committed to abandon the outgoing Conservatives Council's poorly conceived and inappropriately procured Terry scheme. The Lib Dems and the Green Party were endorsed by the TRPT, with the backing of its 3000 or so petition signatories, for agreeing, if elected, to bring forward a scheme that would keep cars off the riverside, consider the site as a whole and reproduce at least the area of the interim Diamond Jubilee Gardens as public open space. It has kept to that promise so far.

It also agreed to conduct an open and transparent procurement process, independently run by the Royal Institute of British Architects, to engage the best architects available in a design competition to produce schemes for public consideration. This included the production of a detailed design brief in conjunction with a "Stakeholder Group" which included people who are, I understand, now members of the so called Twickenham Coalition.

The competition, recognising the importance of the site, attracted expressions of interest from close to 100 leading architects, 5 of which, based on their skills and experience, were invited to submit schemes in line with the brief. Local residents, businesses and other originations were asked to give their views on the 5 schemes. Whether the selected scheme is the best is immaterial, though I happen to like it. It is the one that has been chosen via proper due process and best fits the agreed brief. We should get behind it and allow the architects and other professionals in design, traffic flow and management to work out the details of the scheme and the commitments made and waste no more time.

Experiencing the delights of a now traffic free Church Street and seeing how that is being enjoyed by local people and visitors, with increased footfall and, I imagine, visitor spending, only reinforces my view. To coin a phrase, "Let's Get Riverside Done"!

Ben Makins, Twickenham

To the Editor, Twickenham & Richmond Tribune

Twickenham Riverside - Parking Dilemmas in Twickenham

The Twickenham Riverside scheme is a very complex development on a site hemmed in on all sides, set in a flood plain, etc, and it is not surprising there are misunderstandings about what is really happening here. The removal of 82 parking spaces and the goal of stopping motor vehicles from crossing the site involve complex considerations; these are not made simpler by the absence of a comprehensive traffic and parking policy to give a starting point, as well as a socio-economic impact assessment.

So what do we know about the parking options in the town centre?

What is clear from the Council's survey is that the nearest large car park at Holly Road is already the one with highest levels of demand, so there will not always be parking for residents available there, as was suggested in an opinion piece last week, or in Copthall Gardens, Poulett Gardens and other nearby roads.

Buyers of the new flats on the site, while not having residents' permits, and their visitors, will have to use the public car parks as well, adding to the misery for others who live in Water Lane, Bell Lane, The Embankment, the flats behind King Street, Eel Pie Island, Church Street, etc. or are just visiting.

Aragon Road car park at Waitrose is closed overnight, the personal safety issues at both Aragon Road and Holly Road car parks at night are well known and more than 50 spaces at Holly Road are taken over on Saturdays by the Farmers' Market.

Further questions are raised about the Council's plan to 'redesignate' parking spaces at Holly Road for businesses and season ticket holders, and on-street spaces are restricted to local resident permit holders. Where will other residents and visitors be left to find parking spaces? Or will they drive away to do their shopping and enjoy hospitality venues in other towns? Drivers, especially the elderly, the disabled and those with young children, should not be persuaded by inappropriate parking policies to stop travelling by car into Twickenham's town centre.

The Twickenham Coalition (which includes the Twickenham Society) has a useful website <https://thetwickenhamcoalition.org/> with more info about the council's scheme for Twickenham Riverside, the Diamond Jubilee Gardens and traffic and parking.

Officials at Richmond Council have set high expectations for this important site next to the Thames. They now need to show a sense of realism.

Yours sincerely,

Doug Orchard, Chairman of The Twickenham Society

Dear Sir

Twickenham Riverside

With reference to the letter in last week's Tribune from Ms Lyons I am concerned that in-fighting by disparate groups is grist to the mill for the Liberal Democrat Council in control of our Borough. For some years this party has been determined to put housing on the former Twickenham Baths plot, currently "protected" by a lease which *should* still have some 100 years to run.

There is no doubt that Ms Lyons is passionate but perhaps a little blinkered by her zeal.

There are various groups with hopes and dreams for the Twickenham Riverside site and in an ideal world they might all be accommodated but the last way to go about this is in-fighting. There must be some agreement and some give and take.

This also applies to the Council.

Do they want to be remembered as the Council which carried out "rigorous" consultation and did their best to conserve Twickenham Riverside for future generations, or do they want to be remembered like the Council which failed to save the Borough's ice rink?

Name and address supplied
East Twickenham

The Urban Tree Festival 2021

15th to 23rd May

www.urbantreefestival.org

The **Urban Tree Festival** is back for its fourth year and it is bigger than ever.

There are over 100 events across the UK, spread over nine days, all of them celebrating trees in an urban setting. Last year, the Festival went entirely online and reached a whole new audience. This year we have kept the best of online, but we are thrilled to be back on the streets and in the parks, celebrating urban trees.

There are discussions on everything from ancient trees to community groups, and a series of lunchtime webinars hosted by CPRE London. Speakers explore tree blossom and urban hedgerows, the London Urban Forest Plan and campaigning for trees.

There is a 'Book Club', with authors including Tracy Chevalier, Jonathan Drori, Anita Sethi, Ruth Pavey, Katharine Norbury, Rob Cowen and Nick Hayes. You can join some of them walking in the woods, or catch them online.

We also have some brilliant online (and free!) events for families and children. The Drama Geezers will be creating a brand new story through creative play; Anansi the Spider will be weaving his way around the wisdom of the world.

There is the launch of 'Canopy', an anthology of nature poetry and stories celebrating trees. And every morning we start the festival with a meditation in the company of a different species of tree.

The **Urban Tree Festival** is inspiration and education: talks, walks, yoga and t'ai chi, visits to streets, woods and ancient trees, art workshops and town planning discussions, debates, music, crafts and campaigning. Tree care and human welfare. A blend of science and art, conservation and creativity. Trees for everyone.

The Urban Tree Festival is run by volunteers and powered by local communities. Most of the events are free.



Free activities at Ham Youth Centre

Ham Youth Centre has launched an exciting new weekly programme for teenagers.

11 to 19 year olds are invited to try new things, make new friends and chat to friendly youth workers. The Centre has recently had new gaming equipment installed with PlayStations, gaming chairs and gaming PCs, as well as a brand new art studio run by professional artists and fashion designers.

Other activities include football training by Brentford Football Club, girls' table tennis, parkour, a youth orchestra and handmade club where young people can work with professional artists in textiles, painting, fashion design and printing.



Volunteer at The Twickenham Museum

The Twickenham Museum is looking for volunteers. If you are interested, please contact them through the contact details on their website [HERE](#)



Mayor of Richmond unveils new twinning signs in Barnes to celebrate Europe Day

Europe Day this year marks the 71st anniversary of the Schuman declaration, which ended centuries of conflict in Europe and provided the foundation of what was to become the European Union.

The Mayor of Richmond, Councillor Geoff Acton, unveiled one of the seven new cast iron town twinning signs in Mill Hill Road, Barnes on Sunday 9 May, to celebrate Europe Day.

The new signs bring the total number of town twinning signs in the borough to 22. The mayor was joined for the ceremony, under COVID-19 restrictions, by REA chairman, Alan Mockford, former chairman, Bernd Steinlechner, vice chairman, Clare Head and Nicki Urquhart of the Barnes Community Association.



Richmond has been twinned with Fontainebleau since 1977, Richmond Virginia since 1980 & Konstanz since 1983. A new fingerpost sign, pointing to Richmond's twin towns and indicating their respective distances, has been commissioned by REA and will be installed outside the civic centre later this year.

Find out more on the Richmond in Europe Association's [website](#).

Twickenham Riverside scene

Photo by Ben Makins



Teddington

A new website has been launched for the Udney Park Community Fields Trust, a trust set up with the sole purpose of acquiring the Udney Park Playing Fields and guaranteeing them as playing fields for community sport in perpetuity. View the website at www.udneypark.co.uk

Twickenham

The See-Saw Tree, a children's story, was written by David Woods and performed at Sadler's Wells in 1987. The tree is to make way for development but the ancient oak is home to many creatures. Today, this tale is still relevant, as we have seen in letters to the Tribune in regard to trees in Orleans Gardens

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 protects animals, plants and habitats in the UK including all bats and wild birds.

Penalties (an unlimited fine, up to six months imprisonment, or both) can be imposed for criminal offences in respect of a single bird, nest or egg contrary to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

It is illegal to disturb wild birds while they're nesting, building a nest, in or near a nest that contains their young, this includes trimming or cutting trees, bushes, hedges and rough vegetation.

Twickenham Green

Monty Panesar (former English international cricketer) will play with [Twickenham Cricket Club](#) against Teddington Cricket Club on Twickenham Green tomorrow, Saturday 15th May at 11am. Monty is studying for an MA in Sports Journalism at St Mary's University.

Barnes

Barnes Music Festival returns with impressive line up. Barnes Music Festival is an annual celebration of music-making and film events with international stars and local groups and schools performing at venues across Barnes. The festival will run from Monday 17 May until 31 May.

Some of the 23 events are sold out, but there are still places for wonderful performances of music making and singing, all joyful occasions of hearing the outstanding artists of this year's particularly eclectic range of classical music representing all genres and appealing to all tastes.

Tickets are available [online via Ticket Source](#) and from Chestertons offices in Barnes and East Sheen.

Stay Safe From Fraud

By Mac McInerney, Heatham Alliance community group



Use a strong password for your email, different from other passwords you use.

Email accounts are very frequently targeted because your emails hold so much information about you.

With a separate password for your email account, if cyber criminals steal the password for one of your less important accounts, such as a newsletter subscription, they can't use it to access your email account as well.

Do remember to use a really strong password and make it harder for them to crack or guess.

When choosing a password, never use your date of birth or the name of a family member, your pet, a place you have stayed, your favourite sports team or a well-known character on film or on television.

Don't make it easier for the criminals!

To get more information about passwords, click here – **National Cyber Security Centre.**
<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware/home#action-1>

Richmond residents urged to keep following COVID rules

As COVID restrictions start to ease, the Leader of Richmond Council is urging people to stay vigilant and continue to act sensibly.

In recent weeks the number of people testing positive for the virus in Richmond upon Thames has remained low, however as more people start to go out and about, mixing indoors, when further restrictions are lifted next week, it is really important that everyone continues to follow the rules, even if they have received the COVID-19 vaccine.

From Monday 17 May, the majority of the indoor and remaining outdoor businesses can reopen, and the numbers of people allowed to meet up will increase to six people or two households indoors and up to 30 people outdoors. Guidance for close contact between friends and family is changing, with people allowed to exercise their own personal judgement on close contact such as hugging. The Stay in the UK restriction will also be lifted and people will be able to travel to green list countries, if they permit inbound travel.

More information on [where you can find a home lateral flow test](#).

A summary of the changes to COVID restrictions due to happen on 17 May can be found on the [national Government website](#).

Green Party Makes Progress in Local Elections!

Across London the Green Party had its best results ever. A staggering one in three London voters gave Sian Berry one of their votes last Thursday, while the PR voting system gave us an additional Green Party member to the London Assembly - Zack Polanski who joins Caroline Russell and Sian Berry.

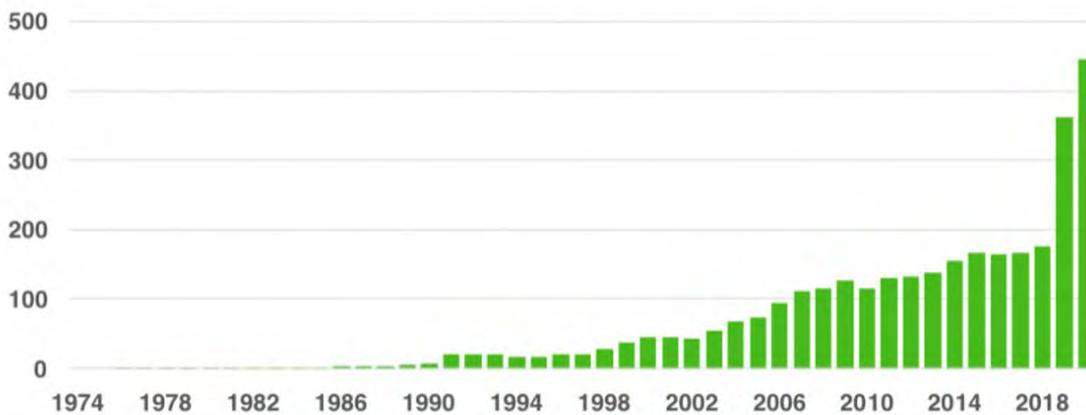
The South West London constituency (Hounslow, Kingston and Richmond) Assembly list vote grew from 7.9% in 2016 to 11.6 % this time round. This was very much down to having an excellent candidate in Andree Frieze, our sitting Councillor for Ham, Petersham and Richmond Riverside.

In the Hampton Wick by-election, Chas Warlow won a credible 538 votes to come 3rd in a spirited campaign.

In England and Wales, the Green Party also delivered record results. It won 157 of the seats being contested, with two thirds of those (99) for the first time. The party now has 445 Councillors across England and Wales, is represented on 141 Councils and is close to taking control in some, for example in Bristol, where the Labour and Green parties now hold 24 seats each.



GREENS INVESTING IN ELECTIONS DELIVERS WINS



GREEN COUNCILLORS 1974 TO 2021

These swings are the result of tireless work and campaigning by members, supporters, candidates and councillors who are making a change in their communities to create a green recovery for all. The results show that people want an alternative to the broken and fragmenting two-party system which has dominated for so long, and caused so much mistrust and damage.

Richmond and Twickenham Green Party will go into the 2022 local elections positively, looking to build on its base of three Councillors, Andree Frieze, Richard Bennett in Twickenham South and Monica Saunders in Fulwell and Hampton Hill. They will continue to work collaboratively where they can with fellow Councillors to deal with the challenges we face locally and globally.

Andree and Chas would like to thank all those who voted for them and campaigned for and supported the Green Party. We would also like express our gratitude to The Tribune, which ran features about the voting system and the Green vision for the future of our towns and high streets, alongside our paid adverts. These received a positive response. Thank you to The Tribune for this, and for being a platform for sharing information, news and opinions, vital in a healthy democracy.

If you are interested in joining the Green Party or want to be on our mailing list for our councillors newsletters and updates, email andree.frieze@greenparty.org.uk or sign up via our website: richmondandtwickenham.greenparty.org.uk. To contact your Green Assembly Members, see London Assembly website: www.london.gov.uk/people/assembly



A Successful Campaign in Strawberry Hill - Saving the View Of Twickenham Green

Teresa Read

Fourteen years ago, at about this time of the year, residents in Strawberry Hill (the Gifford House Action Group) were embroiled in a fight to save the view in Strawberry Hill looking towards historic Twickenham Green.

Concerned about a plan to build an ugly high-rise building overlooking the Green, over 170 individuals, councillors, Planning Aid for London and the Strawberry Hill Residents Association (of which I am a committee member), joined the fight; a campaign which was said over a cup of coffee at Arthur's by the "opposing" Council officer to have been one of the most successful and well-run campaigns in the Borough.

The result of residents' action led to the acceptance by the incoming Conservative administration of a residents' Planning Brief which was sent to developers.



Unfortunately, once the Council changed back to the previous

administration a rather incongruous pale blue modern Council Contact Centre was built in the middle of family homes, next to the new Gifford Lodge - a garden development - obscuring the view from some houses.

However, scrapping the tower block over Twickenham Green was a major success for residents and the adoption of the residents' Planning Brief by the Conservative administration was a major example of "real" community consultation.

Further Reading

Gifford House Protest for Planning Brief:

<https://shra.org.uk/Bulletin135.pdf>

The History of Gifford Lodge and the Planning Brief:

<https://worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=StrawberryHillGifford>

FOOD AND DRINK NEWS – MAY

It's a Wrap: I've long been a fan of wax food wraps, but sometimes the wraps just aren't the right size. Well, now you can cut your own; a clever company – **WaxWrap** - has seen the potential to usurp the cling film roll with its new, eco-friendly and convenient alternative to plastic. Made from 100% natural materials (organic cotton coated in a mix of beeswax, natural pine resin and organic jojoba oil), it's easy to use, waterproof, malleable and washable, and when used correctly should enjoy a one-year working life, after which it is completely compostable. RRP from £12 at Whole Foods or from waxwrap.uk



Boost your Breakfast: Vitamin, fibre, protein and mineral-packed seeds are one of the simplest ways to give your body the complex nutrition it needs, and new **Munchy Seeds Breakfast Booster** has livened up my breakfast fruit and yogurt compilation considerably, (and deliciously). Designed for topping yoghurt, granola, smoothies, porridge or pancakes (or baked into oats or muffins), this new Breakfast Booster comes in three flavours: **Super Berry, Goji Berry, Chia & Cranberry Seed Mix, Totally Tropical, Coconut, Mango & Banana Seed Mix and Cacao & Apricot, Cacao, Apricot & Date Seed Mix**. From Ocado or Amazon £2.99 for a 125g pack



Hot Stuff: All we need now is some warmer weather and the BBQ season can begin! Do try Chilli No. 5 – a collection of 13 hot sauces, each packed with health-boosting superfoods and supplements including inulin, Peruvian Maca, L-Arginine, Guarana, Fenugreek and Korean Ginseng. Sauces are available in 200ml sustainable glass bottles, 100ml land-fill friendly pouches and 25ml glass tasting vials. They're great for adding some pizzaz to a pizza, or drizzling on top of hummus. I've got the beautifully packaged BBQ sauce tasting set at £20 (free shipping in UK) and it makes a lovely gift for a foodie. Chilli-no5.com



Award Winning Tipple: Edwards 1902, is a multi award-winning, potato vodka, founded by potato growing royalty. An English craft vodka, it's produced by Elsham Wold Distillery nestled between Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, using natural, 100% raw ingredients, not once, or twice, but triple distilled, to deliver a smooth sip. To minimise waste at the distillery, nothing is discarded - not even wonky potatoes - and sustainability is paramount. Edwards 1902 is perfect served straight up on the rocks for slow sipping or shaken in your signature cocktail for a splash of luxury. £39 for 70 cl from The Whisky Exchange, or online from edwards1902.com

A Peach of a Deal: One of the few good things to have come out of lockdown is the emergence of ‘finish at home’ deliveries from pubs and restaurants. Companies such as **Oakman Inns, Gaucho** have been offering them for a while, and there are also Michelin-starred restaurants offering this facility. I do think (hope) that this is something that’ll continue when we return to ‘normal’. They’re a bonus and especially for folk convalescing; on self-catering staycations, and new parents with lots to keep them busy! We recently tried one of the new ‘finish at home’ meals from **Peach at Home**, a pub group with 20 sites but now offering national delivery of its pub specials, which change each week. We enjoyed Scallops in the Shell, Shallot, Cucumber & Sea Fennel, followed by a fabulous Aubrey Allen Cote de Boeuf supplied with beef fat oven chips, tomatoes and mushrooms. A Lemon Posset with dried raspberries; granola and white chocolate finished the meal beautifully. From £75 for a meal for two at makinglifepeachy.com



Learn while Cooking: Always wondered how to make proper paella? Well, now’s your chance and – take it from me - it’s great fun! Multi-Michelin starred Spanish chef Quique Dacosta and his team at Arros QD in Fitzrovia are taking sustainability in the kitchen seriously. He is using his platform to launch the ‘Sustainably British Paella’ series. Angered by issues British farmers, fisherman and other food producers are facing, Arros QD has pledged to support more British produce at Arros QD, fusing the classic Spanish technique of cooking ‘rice in a paella’, with the best produce from the UK.

Guests are invited (in their own home) to cook alongside Quique and his head chef, Richard de la Cruz. Learning together how to make proper ‘rice in paella’ with some beautiful, sustainably-sourced British produce. Tickets include all the ingredients (everything serves two, delivered nationwide), including premium pork belly from Berkshire, the all-important handmade stock, sofrito oil, even a paella pan, traditional serving spoon and more. A bottle of English white wine from Sussex’s Bolney Estate - a great match for the juicy pork dish - is included in the ticket price, or guests can just join for free, sit back, watch and relax!



The result is a fabulous meal for two, and you’re left with your paella pan to conjure up more Spanish/English rice dishes in the future...after you’ve cleaned it, of course!

Subsequent cook-alongs will be held once a month, led by Arros QD’s Head Chef Richard de la Cruz, who explains the concept behind each dish, how to cook it, and why it’s important that we make changes to support UK suppliers. Tickets start at £68. The ‘British Paella’ cook at home option is available for nationwide delivery, as well as ready-to-eat versions of the dish via Supper, and available on the actual restaurant’s menu. Future events are **3 June:** Morel and Wild Garlic Rice or **1 July:** Northumberland Halibut Rice. Further info and tickets are available arrosqd.com

Virtual Seventh

Poetry Performance, On-Line, 9th May

The merry month of May has cheered that eclectic band of poets, Poetry Performance, with the possibility that it may soon bring a return to The Adelaide, its Teddington home. Meanwhile, its latest on-line outing is inspired by this month theme, appropriately “May”.

Robin Clarke in *May I* remembers the season when “a young man’s fancy...” The young man’s seduction is hobbled by his shyness, but he carefully asks permission for each move. But then again, as he admits, these words were “never said... they were just floating in my head”.



Jackie Howting’s thoughts went to Corfu with her *A May Zing*, evocatively describing Greece in spring. You could hear the *trizonia* singing and smell the oregano. Pat Cammish went even further, since her May adventure was motorcycling to Africa: as one does! Back in England her *May Day* evokes childhood memories of the maypole, as it does pragmatically for Judith Blakemore Lawton in her poem *Happiness* and more sanguinely for Ken Mason in *The Maypole*.



Poetry Performance always presents a featured poet. This time we were indulged by three featured poets. Lucy Lyrical, musician turned publisher, presented an extract from her new novel, *Three Women*, set in Sicily in the 1920’s. Lest a diversion into prose should seem *ultra vires*, the MC quoted from Baudelaire that “poets can always be a poet, even in prose.” Polly Bull’s *Ode to a Coconut* says it’s “hard to reach ... like a hut in Yorkshire” (*sic!*), but nevertheless provides wonderful things, like *piña colada*. Jo D’arc is another musician and poet, who read poems from her short story *Minerva*, in her mesmerising and melodious Aberdonian voice.

In a pertinent coda, in *Wisteria*, Bob Kimmerling tells of a sapling that he planted in his garden, whose exuberant vitality has taken it across his neighbour’s garden too, gracing it with “showers of chandeliers” and perfume. No matter how much it is clipped, its vigorous life shines through. But, he states, “I am clipped by another hand”, the ultimate symbol of life, for we are in the month when rebirth comes to fruition.



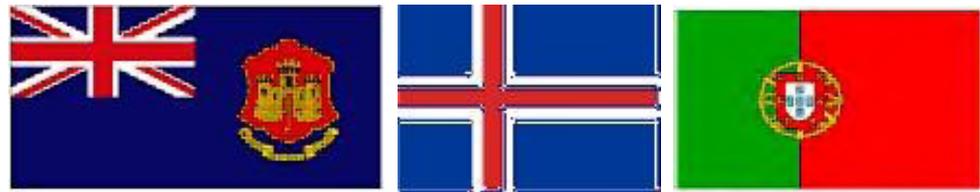
Read Thomas Forsythe’s review at www.markaspen.com/2021/05/13/virtual-7

Photography by Richard Ainsworth, Pedro Crosto and Jeremy Masters.

THE TWISTS AND TURNS OF GREEN!

Travel news by Bruce Lyons

Another busy week out of lockdown with the UEFA Cup Final being switched from Istanbul to Oporto and then a hitch from the EU and Portuguese authorities with the Last minute (today) ON/OFF OK to travel from next Monday to Oporto



- all this after thousands had booked to get away to the Sun at the last minute. Anyway for the moment that is behind us, but not if you live in Wales, as Mark Drakeford says, you can't go- but you can if you drive to England!!

So we are all set for Portugal from Monday the 17th May!! No wonder our travellers don't know whether they are coming or going! and Manchester City and Chelsea fans should be relieved too – seems still be a bit bizarre that the match couldn't be played in Wembley anyway. What a crazy world!

On the activity front KE Adventures has sent through a selection, Self-guided Walks in Lisbon and Serra de Sintra, Self-Guided Walks in Madeira, Small groups Levada Trails and Peaks of Madeira, Self-guided walking in the Azores, Small group walking in the Azores & in Madeira; Small groups in Minho and the Douro Valley, trails in the Algarve as well as Family Adventures.



Both Madeira and The Azores are open from the 17th of May as well! Both famous for their Nature, with Scuba Diving as well as Whale Watching and wonderful walking. For beaches – try the Island of Porto Santo off Madeira quiet and simple – perfect for a break from these stressful months, and not too many (yet) tourists!!! Ben Fogle is an Ambassador for The Azores.

As to the other "Greens" Gibraltar is still OK to go – just waiting for you with its Sun, and history and duty free shopping. And actually a lot of fun packed into the smallest Island- to many it sounds too small but actually for a week – plenty to do. And a very warm welcome too. Oh yes!! You can dive here as well.

Israel is also Green, but with the current unrest not many peoples first choice! However if things settle down there is a lot to see, The Holy land, The Deserts, The Dead Sea, Fabulous Beaches, amazing Bird Life and fantastic Coral in Eilat on the Red Sea – also good for Diving, Windsurfing and Kite Sailing as well as the perfect place to "Learn to Dive"

Iceland. Not exactly a Summer Sun destination but for Nature Lovers, Wildlife and Adventure seekers it is a perfect destination. Glaciers, Waterfalls, Hot Pools, Active Volcanoes – Whale Watching and more. Did you see John Bishops TV programme on the Beluga Wales they flew from China to Iceland – where they are now!!



Next step – hopefully more greens coming up soon! By the way John Bishop is lecturing on Sea cation Cruises this summer ask for details – There is an amazing choice – like never before.

www.crusadertravel.com

WIZ TALES - ST. KITTS AND NEVIS

Teresa Read

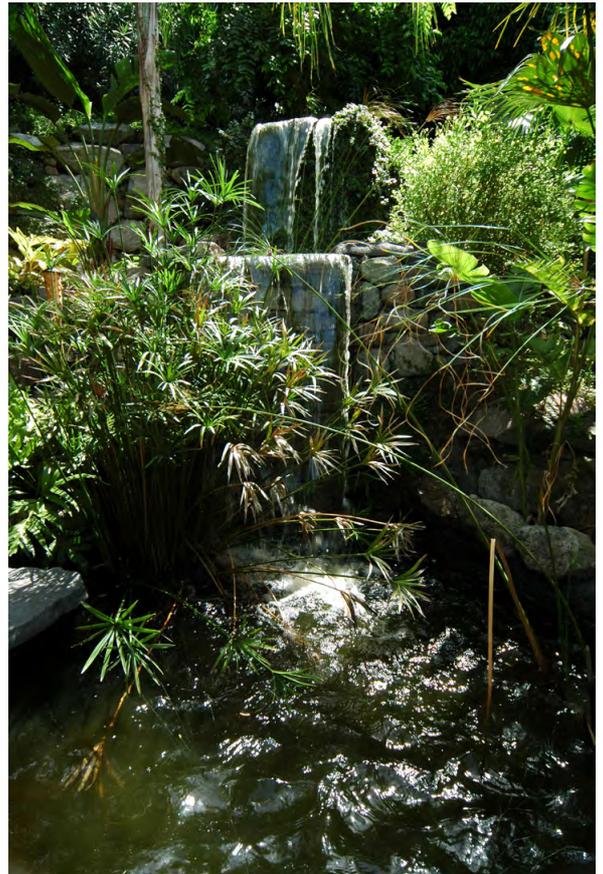
The Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis is in the Caribbean. Neighbouring islands are Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, and Montserrat.

Basseterre is the capital of St Kitts and Nevis. Charlestown is the main town on Nevis.

The islands of St Kitts and Nevis are volcanic with mountainous interiors. The highest point in St Kitts and Nevis is Mount Liamuiga (1,156 m); Mount Liamuiga is a dormant volcano.

Perhaps the most well-known architectural monument in the Federation of St Kitts and Nevis is the Brimstone Hill Fortress, a World Heritage site. The Fortress, built between the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, is said to be one of the best-preserved historical fortifications in the Americas.

The first British colony on St Kitts was established in 1623. In 1871 St Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla were united as a British dependency. St Kitts and Nevis achieved independence in 1983.



More photos of St Kitts and Nevis

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



REMEMBER! BLUE DENIM JEANS

By Doug Goodman

On May 20th 1873 Blue Denim Jeans were 'invented' and today, 148 years later, who would have guessed that these original working clothes would be so popular.

The blue denim cloth had been in use since 1853 when Levi Strauss, a German immigrant, left New York for San Francisco to open a store selling dry goods. At this time the gold rush to the West Coast was in full swing and the miners needed a strong material for their trousers. So instead of using the cloth he took to make tents and canvas covers, he made what the miners demanded - pants that would be strong and long-lasting. Waist Overalls as they were first called had arrived.

Denim was accidentally discovered in the 18th century by tailors in the French city of Nimes when they attempted to copy Italian serge cloth. What was eventually produced was called serge de Nimes – shortened of course to denim. Levi Strauss improved his jeans by using a pocket stitch design and strengthened them with rivets. He patented his product in May 1873. In 1936 a red tab was added to the rear pocket to identify Levi Jeans from a distance.



I remember my first jeans, which I bought in the late 1950s at the age of 13 for the sum of 39 shillings and 11 pence – just under £2. My father was most uncomplimentary about the first garment I had chosen and paid for myself. Some 20 pairs later, with old and new on the go at the same time, I still feel most comfortable in my blue denim jeans.



How many of us remember that iconic ad for Levi's in 1985 when the model Nick Kamen stripped to his underwear in a launderette and threw his jeans into the washing machine. That magnificent ad sent Levi sales zooming by 800% and boxer shorts became fashionable again. Sadly Nick died two weeks ago age 59.

St Mary's University

St Mary's University Announces New Partnership with London Irish Rugby Club

St Mary's University, Twickenham and London Irish Rugby Football Club have today announced a new partnership for the development of Women's Rugby at the club.

London Irish have announced the formation of its new top-flight women's team, with plans to formally apply for a place in the Allianz Premier 15s for the 2023-24 season. The club's amateur side, London Irish Ladies RFC (The Emeralds), have seen great success in recent years having been successfully promoted in the last three league seasons. The team are set to play in the Women's Championship South West 2 for the 2021-22 season.



As the club's official educational partner, St Mary's University will build on its existing partnership with London Irish to support the development of the Premier women's team. The new partnership will see St Mary's support the learning and development of London Irish coaches and work closely with the team to develop a flourishing player pathway for the women's game, which will benefit both the London Irish and University squads.

The partnership will also create opportunities for ambitious and talented female players to develop holistically as players whilst also gaining an undergraduate or postgraduate qualification, it will see the provision of high-quality placements for our students on a range of St Mary's academic

programmes and support the development of innovative collaborative research projects in areas such as coach development, performance analysis, sport science and sports medicine.

Speaking to the Daily Telegraph, the London Irish Director of Women's Rugby, Mary Fyfe said, "We are incredibly excited about what the future holds for women's rugby at London Irish as we prepare to write a new chapter in our history. The desire and commitment to establish an elite women's team at London Irish builds on the growth of the women's set-up over recent years and is very much a natural progression for the club.

Head of Department for Psychology and Pedagogic Science at St Mary's Dr Abbe Brady added, "We at St Mary's are delighted at the launch of our new partnership with London Irish and looking forward to working closely with the club to support the development of players and staff in the launch of the professional women's squad.

"It's great to be partnering with an organisation who are committed to investing in the women's game and creating a sustainable development offer for players through dual career academic study and performance opportunities. The partnership will create many exciting hands-on development experiences for both our students and staff through placements, knowledge exchange and research opportunities as we look to support London Irish coaches and players via our specialisms in areas such as: coach development, performance analysis, performance lifestyle support, strength and conditioning, sport science, nutrition and sports medicine."



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

Richmond upon Thames College Graphic Design students work with employers on high-quality art projects

Over the past academic year, Richmond upon Thames College's (RuTC) HNC Level 4 and HND Level 5 Graphic Design students have worked together on various art projects with a number of local as well as international employers to produce an impressive amount of high-quality artwork.



Together with Twickenham based record store Eel Pie Records, HNC students created vinyl covers for Cuban music compilations. Earlier in the academic year, the students visited Eel Pie Records, which make its own vinyl and compilations, to discuss cover specifications and brief for the project. Other local projects involving the College's HNC students included the creation of promotional material for local nursery, Sticky Faces.

HND students had the great opportunity to work with Ernst and Young (EY) Earth Team. EY Earth Team help organisations assess and respond to environmental change and offer innovative tools that aim to future-proof sustainability. Together with EY Earth Team, students created entrepreneurial products and services to help save the world. During this project some students were also supported by RuTC alumnus Tom Box, co-founder of Blue Zoo Animation Studio, which was founded in 2000 and is now one of the UK's leading animation studios with two BAFTA awards for Independent Production Company of The Year.

Tim Pond, HND/HNC art and design teacher at RuTC, has been working with Haymarket Media Group based in Twickenham for a number of years and said, "Haymarket came to visit the students numerous times to give them professional feedback to their creative work. This ensured that the students were creating a portfolio that was ready to meet the competitive demands of working as a designer in a fast paced and ever-changing environment. This collaboration is a hallmark and unique selling point of our HNC and HND Graphic Design programme."

Logo spacing and size Spacing



Logo minimum size in pixels



Anthony Meraklis HNC 1



Zaheda (Zee) Mirza HNC 5

Teele Treimann HND 2

Over the following few months, Tim hopes to introduce UI/UX training, which focuses on designing the interface of apps and websites to maximise usability and the user experience. Students and Haymarket mentors will meet on a one to one basis to get feedback and ensure that their creations are relevant, marketable and exciting.

Currently, students are working on five not yet published projects with the prestigious London based studio Winch Design, who have won a great number of awards since 1989, including categories such as World Superyachts Awards, Showboats Design Awards and International Superyachts Society. RuTC is also very proud of HND Level 5 Graphic Design student Constance for completing a remote work placement with The Marketing Society in Dubai. For their final projects, the HNC and HND students are now creating an online art gallery called e-Merge. For this, they will turn themselves into an artists' collective that uses technologies to tell stories through images and design work.



Examples of each student's artwork can be found [HERE](#)

MARSHLAND

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.

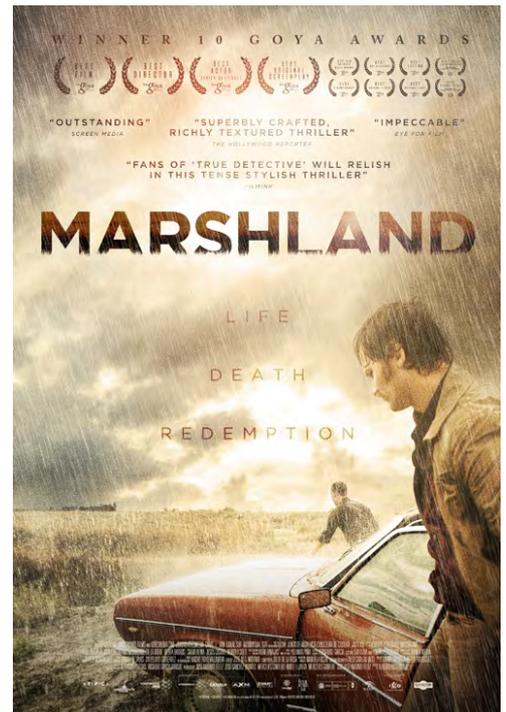
RFS Context: **MARSHLAND** was the 782nd film screened by RFS, on 27th March 2018. **Marshland** was one of the three fourth equal ranked film of Season 55 (equal with **The Other Side of Hope** and **Le Havre**), it got an approval mark of 90% from those attending; from season 55 we have also already featured the top three ranked films, in order: **A Man Called Ove**, **Julieta** and **Tangerines** and plus one of the two other fourth ranked films **The Other Side of Hope** and the fifth ranked film **Letters from Baghdad** as **Issues 42, 48, 50, 43** and **59** respectively. **Marshland** can be streamed from Mubi the discs are available from Amazon and others.

MARSHLAND

Country: Spain, 2014
 Director: Alberto Rodríguez
 Screenplay: Rafael Cobos & Alberto Rodríguez
 Music: Julio de la Rosa
 Editing: José M. G. Moyano
 Cinematography: Alex Catalán
 Running Time: 105 min., colour
 Language: Spanish

Leading Players:

Javier Gutiérrez	(Juan)
Raúl Arévalo	(Pedro)
María Varod	(Trinidad)
Perico Cervantes	(Padre Trinidad)
Jesús Ortiz	(Andrés)
Jesús Carroza	(Miguel)
Salva Reina	(Jesús)
Antonio de la Torre	(Rodrigo)



This Spanish edge-of-your-seat crime thriller from 2015 won ten Goya Awards (the Spanish Oscars) including best film, best director and best actor.

In a post-Franco Spain two detectives are sent to a remote town on the Guadalquivir Marshes in Spain's 'Deep South' to investigate the disappearance of two teenage sisters. On arrival the local police inform them that the girls were known for their promiscuity. Before long the girls

are found dumped in the local marsh, having been raped and tortured to death. Despite a lack of clues suspicion falls on one of the sisters' former boyfriends and the detectives learn of a similar case that occurred sometime before.

As the two detectives pursue their investigation the dark side of the town starts to reveal itself and they manage to piece together the likely background to the killings. However, at this point past and present political factors start to impede progress and the detectives' own histories start to play a part in the investigation. Despite the tension this causes gradually the search for a solution to the case reaches a climactic resolution in the swamps surrounding the town.

It seems all can return to normal and the detectives can go home with one likely to receive a promotion but although Franco's Spain has ended its influence remains. A local journalist who has helped the detectives throughout the case contacts one of the detectives bearing some disturbing news.

From the first image, the landscape becomes a key character in helping to reinforce the feeling of isolation and dislocation felt by the detectives who have to work so far from their own "patch". The labyrinth of waterways and featureless marshes mirror their hostile reception in the small town and the tangled web of alliances and embedded corruption they will need to uncover to complete their job. Franco is gone but not forgotten.

David Mahoney

Join Arts Richmond for the second of their Talking Lockdown events

The event will be presented on the night by Arts Richmond's President, Sir Vince Cable.

Arts Richmond will host the second of their 'Talking Lockdown' evenings next Wednesday (**19 May**).

Guests for the next talk include performance poet and broadcaster, Roger McGough, television journalist, Geeta Guru Murthy, Director of Richmond Theatre, Sophie Denny, Instant Opera Chairman, Nicholas George.

The event will be presented by Arts Richmond's President Sir Vince Cable, with MC for the evening Dr Hilary Dodman.

Join Arts Richmond to listen to the reflections on lockdown from these influential local figures. The event begins at 7.30pm with tickets priced at only £3 per device.

Buy your tickets [online](#).





BRENTFORD FC

Bees head into playoffs with victory

Bristol City 1 - 3 Brentford

Brentford will head into the playoffs in good form following a victory by 3-1 at Ashton Gate. After a quiet first-half the game sparked into life in the second-half with Ivan Toney breaking the Championship goal scoring record with his 31st goal of the season. Further strikes from Bryan Mbeumo and Sergi Canós will give the Bees confidence heading into the playoffs despite conceding a late consolation from Louis Britton.



In the opening period there were not too many chances for either side, with a number of free kicks and set pieces looking the most likely avenue of opening the scoring. For the home side Alex Scott curled in a free kick from a central position that was gathered easily by David Raya and at the other end Tariqe Fosu drove a free kick which cleared Daniel Bentley's crossbar.

The most promising opening fell to the away side and Brentford striker Marcus Forss. After some brave passing around the back from Raya the ball eventually came to Sergi Canós who slipped a perfectly weighted through ball for the Finn. His shot however flashed narrowly wide as he went to shoot across goal and the scores remained level.

Both Kasey Palmer and Ivan Toney then entered the referee's notebook for late tackles as both sides struggled to create a rhythm in the first-half. Toney went down in the box claiming a penalty after a delightfully chipped ball over the backline of Bristol City but after a coming together with Nathan Baker the referee this time decided not to take action.

Right at the end of the first-half the game sprung into life with both sides hitting the woodwork, although on both occasion the linesman's flag was subsequently raised. For Bristol City a corner was worked to Jay Dasilva who swung a cross in from deep that found its way to Nahki Wells in space. Wells on the swivel shot first time and Raya did magnificently to tup the ball onto the post, although the flag was then raised for offside. It was a similar story late in added time when Fosu sent Forss clean through at the other end but after seeing his shot comeback of the post, his miss was once again spared by the outstretched arm of the linesman.

Early in the second-half Brentford had an early chance when Forss was released into space and pulled the ball back across the box for Toney but the striker couldn't quite get on the end of the pass.

Toney, however, wasn't to be denied and with just under an hour played he scored to make history as he move clear as the all-time leading scorer in a single Championship season. The record breaking goal came after a cross into the box from Canós was initially cleared but Brentford kept pressing high up the pitch and after a shot from Forss had been blocked by Zak Vyner, Toney was alive to the danger and snuck in to score the opener.

Bristol City nearly hit back straight away when striker Tommy Conway managed to find space in the box but from a narrow angle he fired a powerful shot goalwards that Raya had to get down low to keep out.

Brentford continued to press for a second goal and went close on a number of occasions. Forss and Toney, who had combined well all afternoon, linked up once more as Forss made a run off the shoulder with Toney seeing and releasing him into space. Bentley was alert though and did well to come out and divert the ball out for a corner.

Bentley had to be called into action once again soon after when a free kick from Mathias Jensen was delivered dangerously into the area. Christian Nørgaard was the player who managed to get on the end of the cross and after an incredible scorpion kick attempt, Bentley did well to get a hand and deny the Dane.

Thomas Frank sent on both Saman Ghoddos and Bryan Mbeumo to try and seal the game in an inspired substitution as both players were crucial to the second goal. An excellent team move saw a number of Brentford players combine in and around the edge of the box. Canós combined with Ghoddos and then a backheel from Janelt sent Mbeumo into space and the Frenchman slid in to score.

Things got even better for the Bees minutes later when Canós added a third for the away side. Mbeumo was once again involved in an exciting performance off the bench and he passed the ball out wide to Mads Roerslev. Roerslev then crossed to the back post where Canós curled the ball into the roof off the net.

Late on Bristol City scored a consolation as substitute Louis Britton ghosted in unmarked to squeeze the ball between the legs of Raya after Baker had headed down a free kick but the Bees will now set their sights on their unfinished business with the playoffs.

Ivan Toney wins Championship golden boot award

Brentford's Ivan Toney has been confirmed as the top scorer in the Championship season for the 2020/21 after an impressive maiden season for the Bees which has seen the striker score 31 goals.

He beat off competition from the likes of Norwich City's Teemu Pukki and Blackburn Rovers' Adam Armstrong to take the top scorer award in a season that has seen Brentford finished third and qualify for the playoffs. His goalscoring feats also saw him break the record for the most goals scored in a single Championship season following his 31st strike in the 3-1 victory over Bristol City day on the final day of the season.

Speaking to club media Toney said, "It means a lot to win this award again. I set out to win it at the start of the season; it hasn't been won back-to-back for a while so that was something I wanted to do. It is a big achievement but one I obviously couldn't have done without the support of my teammates as well as Thomas Frank and the coaching staff."

Steven Pressley joins Bees as Head of Individual Development

Steven Pressley has been confirmed as the Head of Individual Development at Brentford and will join up with the club following the conclusion of the 2020/21 season.

The Head of Individual Development role encompasses the monitoring and working with Brentford's high potential players and working with their specific individual programmes.

Pressley has lots of experience in football having spent played for the likes of Hearts of Midlothian and Dundee United as a centre back as well as having managed Falkirk, Coventry City, Fleetwood Town and Carlisle United.

Speaking to club media Brentford Head Coach Thomas Frank welcomed the addition of Pressley. "I am looking forward to getting Steven in and working with him. He is a very experienced coach who thinks not only as a Head Coach but also in terms of the development of the team and of the players. He has experience of developing players over many years and his results are very impressive. We are looking forward to working with him and lifting the individual development of our players to another level, we want to be up there with the very best."

Pinnock receives international call up

Ethan Pinnock has been called up to play for the Jamaica national team in a series of friendly matches.

Pinnock, who made his debut for the side against the USA in March, will be in the squad for three games against Japan, Serbia and Japan U23s. All three games will take place in Japan from June 3rd to June 12th as the side prepare the build up for the 2021 CONCACAF Gold Cup which is set to take place this July.

The defender played an international level for the England C team during his non-league days but decided to play for the Reggae Boyz after qualifying through his dad.

UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Opponent: AFC Bournemouth (A) Monday 17th May 18:00 Dean Court

Nickname: The Cherries

Competition: Championship playoff semi-final first leg

Manager: Jonathan Woodgate

Opponent record: P46 W22 D11 L13 GF73 GA46 (6th 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.

Christian Nørgaard pre match quotes:

On the mood in the changing room:

"The mood is really good in the changing room and it's really good around the training ground. And you want a good mood before heading into these final games. So I think we are where we are supposed to be."

On his personal season and the move to centre back:

"I am using a lot of the things I know from defensive midfield to play as a centre half and sometimes me and Pontus laugh at each other because he's not used to playing with that kind of centre half. But I think given the fact I haven't done it before we've only conceded two goals since we've changed into this system. So we have actually been looking really good and really solid defensively. So it's been a bit of a change but I've also liked it a lot."

On the return of fans:

"Both away and home you get different atmospheres from it but I can of course more talk to our fans who deserve this semi-final here where they can come and cheer as we need it as well. It will be fantastic timing now with such important games that there will be fans to cheer. So yeah, I can't wait!"

Come on you Bees!

England Rugby summer fixtures confirmed

England Rugby has confirmed its men's senior team fixtures for the summer which will be a series of three home matches.

Eddie Jones' side will play two Test matches against USA and Canada at Twickenham Stadium.



They will first host USA on Sunday 4 July, then Canada the following week on Saturday 10 July.

Before the two Tests, an England A side will face Scotland A at Mattioli Woods Welford Road, Leicester on Sunday 27 June. Kick off times for all matches will be confirmed in the coming weeks.

For the first time since England beat France in the Autumn Nations Cup Final in December 2020, supporters will be able to attend England matches.

In line with government guidance, both stadiums will be operating at a reduced capacity. It is expected that at least 10,000 supporters will be able to attend each match at Twickenham Stadium, and 6,000 at Welford Road, with the potential to increase these numbers if government guidelines allow in the coming weeks.

Tickets will be available to the rugby community for England v USA and England v Canada from Thursday 13 May. More information can be found at EnglandRugby.com.

Ticket details for England A v Scotland A will be confirmed shortly.

With the British and Irish Lions tour taking place this summer and 11 English players part of the tour, head coach Jones will have the opportunity to select a different squad.

He said: *"The summer series will give us the chance to look at a lot of players and see how they step up, and it's an important part of our World Cup preparation. For younger players, it's a chance to show what they can do at international level and how they are in the team environment. There aren't too many opportunities to lead at international level, so for the more experienced players it's a chance to take further leadership roles and grow their game in that area. USA are one of the most ambitious of the emerging nations. They have an experienced coach in Gary Gold and have a team full of American verve and physicality, with the aim of moving themselves up the world rankings. Canada are a traditional rival for England. They're a tough, physical side and Kingsley Jones is an astute coach so we're expecting two good, competitive Test matches for our supporters. We're really looking forward to having supporters back in the stadiums, it makes such a difference and we expect it'll be three exciting matches for everyone watching."*

For more information please visit www.EnglandRugby.com.

SUMMER SERIES FIXTURES

Sunday 27 June	England A v Scotland A	Mattioli Woods Welford Road (KO TBC)
Sunday 4 July	England v USA	Twickenham Stadium (KO TBC)
Saturday 10 July	England v Canada	Twickenham Stadium (KO TBC)

Allianz Premier 15s final: Venue, broadcast and ticket details confirmed

The RFU can today confirm details for the 2020/21 Allianz Premier 15s final, which will be live on BT Sport 1. The showpiece event will take place at Kingsholm, the home of Gloucester Rugby, on Sunday 30 May (kick-off 4pm, with BT Sport coverage on air between 3.45pm and 6.30pm).

The fixture will also see the return of supporters to the women's top-flight with a capacity crowd of up to 3,276 spectators.

Scheduled to take place on Saturday 22 May, the semi-finals (Harlequins Women Ladies v Wasps FC Ladies, Twickenham Stoop, KO 12.30pm and Saracens Women v Loughborough Lightning, StoneX Stadium KO 2.30pm) will also be broadcast live, on the BT Sport app. Both of those fixtures will also see the return of spectators with tickets available via the [Saracens](#) and [Harlequins](#) websites.

All three matches will also be streamed on [Premier15s.com](#)

RFU head of women's performance, Nicky Ponsford said: *"We've seen some outstanding games across the league throughout the 2020/21 season to date with the outcome not known until the final moments of the game and we expect these knockout games to be no different. It's been a difficult season for everyone so to get to this point is a testament to the outstanding work of the clubs and players and we are really looking forward to these games.*

"We're really pleased to be holding the final at Kingsholm after Gloucester Rugby secured the right to host in 2020 but didn't get the chance due to the early ending of the season. It's great to see BT Sport are taking the semi-finals and final. Broadcasting on BT Sport and also streaming on Premier15s.com widens the potential audience. Visibility is so important and we're pleased BT Sport will showcase three marquee fixtures.

"Last but certainly not least, having the opportunity for supporters to attend is brilliant and we'd like to thank Gloucester for their ongoing support in making this happen."

RFU head of business development, Nikki Emerson said: *"BT Sport has cemented itself as the home of top-tier domestic and European men's rugby over recent years. We're excited to work with them to bring the best of women's domestic rugby to their audience as part of the RFU's commitment to growing awareness of and engagement with the Allianz Premier 15s league."*

The addition of the Premier 15s tees up a busy month of live elite club rugby on BT Sport, with the broadcaster also showing live coverage of the finals for Gallagher Premiership Rugby plus European rugby's Heineken Champions Cup and Challenge Cup. Fans can watch the Premier 15s on BT Sport in more ways than ever before, on TV, online or via the BT Sport App, with customers also able to sign up contract free with the BT Sport Monthly Pass. For more information on BT Sport visit www.bt.com/sport.

Rachel Knight, sports rights director, BT Sport, said: *"Today's announcement enhances our position as the home of club rugby in the UK, with the leading domestic and European club competitions rugby available on BT Sport. The addition of the Premier 15s further underlines our commitment to women's sport with the competition following our coverage of the culmination of this season's Women's UEFA Champions League and FA Women's Super League."*

Gloucester Rugby's Chief Executive Officer, Lance Bradley said: *"We are delighted to be hosting the Allianz Premier 15s final at Kingsholm. The women's game has been growing hugely over the last few years, and we are honoured to help play a part in that growth by hosting the final at Kingsholm this year. We know that supporters are eager to return to live sport, and this final is the perfect opportunity to join us at Kingsholm and celebrate live top-flight rugby returning to our stadium. The Allianz Premier 15s is becoming a stronghold in the women's game, and we are very proud of our Gloucester-Hartpury side who continue to develop year on year. Our ambition is to see more and more that side playing at Kingsholm in the not too distant future."*

Tickets are on sale to Gloucester members from now and go on general sale at 11am on Thursday 13 May [here](#).



England coaching update

England Rugby coaches Simon Amor and Jason Ryles are stepping down from their roles with the senior men's team.

Amor and the RFU have mutually decided to part company so that he can explore new opportunities.

Ryles has chosen to stay in Australia with his family due to the challenges created by COVID-19.

Amor joined the RFU in 2013 to head up the men's Sevens programme. During his time, he led Team GB Sevens men to silver at the 2016 Rio Olympics, the England Sevens men to silver at the 2018 World Cup, and bronze for the England men's and women's teams at the 2018 Commonwealth Games. He also oversaw the integration of the men's and women's programmes and helped both teams qualify for this summer's Tokyo Olympics.

He moved to work with the men's XV's as attack coach in 2020 and was part of the England coaching staff who won that year's Guinness Six Nations and Autumn Nations Cup.

Ryles joined England on a full-time basis as skills coach in October 2020, after winning the NRL Grand Final with Melbourne Storm. He was also a key part of the coaching staff for the successful Autumn Nations Cup campaign.

For England's summer series of fixtures, the team will be led by head coach Eddie Jones, along with his two assistants John Mitchell and Matt Proudfoot. Jones will oversee the attacking coaching.

Recruitment will begin in parallel for a new attack coach as England work towards the 2023 Rugby World Cup.

Amor said: *"My seven and a half years with the RFU has been a fantastic experience. Leading the England Sevens programme to success, including all we achieved culturally, and bringing together the men's and women's game, is something I look back on with real pride. I will always be grateful to Eddie for providing me with the opportunity to coach my country's senior XV's team and to further develop my skills amongst some of the best and most experienced players and coaches in the game. I take with me some brilliant lifelong memories & friendships. I want to thank everyone at the RFU for their professionalism and support and I look forward to taking all I've learned into the next stage of my career."*

Ryles said: *"Due to the ongoing challenges of the global pandemic, the uncertainty around international travel and in the best interests of my young family, I have made the difficult decision to leave my coaching role with England Rugby. I would like to sincerely thank Eddie Jones and the RFU for the opportunity to be part of the organisation and coaching staff, I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as part of the England team and have learnt a lot in a short period of time. It has been a privilege to have had the opportunity to work in a world class programme and alongside Eddie and some of the best rugby players in England. I wish the team all the best for their upcoming Summer tour"*

Eddie Jones said: *"I'd like to thank Simon and Jason for their contributions to England. I would like to commend Simon's outstanding diligence and his hard work, and I have no doubt he will find a role soon that suits him perfectly. With Jason, the COVID-19 restrictions have proved too difficult for him and his family to overcome, which we fully understand but are disappointed for us and the team. They both leave with the best wishes of everyone involved with England and for their future pursuits in the game."*

England's summer series of fixtures will see two Test matches at Twickenham Stadium, against USA (Sunday 4 July) and Canada (Saturday 10 July), and an England A team will play Scotland A at Mattioli Woods Welford Road, Leicester (Sunday 27 June).



First meteorite fall recovered in the UK for 30 years goes on display at the Natural History Museum

The Natural History Museum will reopen to the public on Monday 17 May from 10.00-18.00 daily. It is essential visitors book a free timed ticket in advance online at nhm.ac.uk

Visitors will be the first to get up close to a piece of the Winchcombe meteorite which landed in February, an extremely rare type of meteorite and the first fall to have been recovered from the UK in 30 years, now on display at the Museum

New temporary offers include the free *Our Broken Planet: How We Got Here and Ways to Fix It* opening 21 May, the 5-star reviewed *Fantastic Beasts: The Wonder of Nature* and the iconic *Wildlife Photographer of the Year*

The Natural History Museum will reopen its doors on Monday 17 May, complete with a new display showcasing a snapshot of some of the Museum's most extraordinary research and discoveries made over the lockdown period.



Museum Director, Dr Doug Gurr says: 'Our doors may have been closed to the public but our 300 scientists have been hard at work – we're thrilled to be able to share a snapshot of their research with visitors – the over 4.5-billion-year-old Winchcombe meteorite and a brand-new species of mineral from Cornwall.'

'As well as our world-class galleries, visitors will be able to explore three new temporary exhibitions: *Our Broken Planet: How We Got Here and Ways to Fix It*, which is free to enter, the much-anticipated *Fantastic Beasts: The Wonder of Nature*, and our ever-popular *Wildlife Photographer of the Year*. With a smaller capacity than previous summers, brand new displays and an overwhelmingly high visitor rating, it's the perfect time to visit to enjoy a VIP experience!'



As before, measures will be in place to ensure visitors and staff enjoy a safe experience. To help manage the number of people in the Museum at any one time, capacity will be significantly reduced. It will be essential to book a free timed ticket in advance online at nhm.ac.uk. Museum Members and Patrons will have priority booking before it opens to the public; they will also benefit from fast-track entry.

Visitors are urged to only book free admission slots they know they can attend and to cancel as far in advance as possible if they have to change their plans, to ensure their ticket can be made available to other bookers.

The vast majority of the Museum's galleries will be open

alongside its five-acre gardens. Food and drink will be available to purchase either as takeaways or to enjoy at socially distanced seating. Transactions will be contactless where possible, but cash will be accepted.

Both the Museum's main entrance on Cromwell Road and its Exhibition Road entrances will be open.

'While you were away' display

Visitors to the Museum will be among the first in the world to see a fragment of the awe-inspiring Winchcombe meteorite that fell to Earth as a fireball in February this year, as well as a new mineral from Cornwall which Museum scientists discovered - named kernowite. The new display, located in the Vault alongside treasures such as the Aurora Pyramid of Hope, a collection of 296 naturally coloured diamonds, sits at the back of the Mineral Gallery and represents just a small selection of the fascinating work achieved by our scientists over the lockdown period.

Prof Caroline Smith, Head of Earth Sciences Collections and Principal Curator of Meteorites at the Museum says 'The Winchcombe meteorite is a carbonaceous chondrite, an extremely rare type of meteorite that holds crucial information about the origins of our solar system. It was recovered just hours after it was seen to fall and has had minimal terrestrial contact. To be able to put it on public display is hugely exciting!'



Displayed next to the meteorite is a newly discovered mineral named kernowite. For over 220 years this specimen, taken from the Collection, was thought to be the mineral lironite. It was not until December 2020 that an international team of scientists led by the Museum discovered it had a different chemical composition, meaning it was a new species. The team chose its name to reflect its place of discovery; Kernow is Cornwall in the Cornish language.

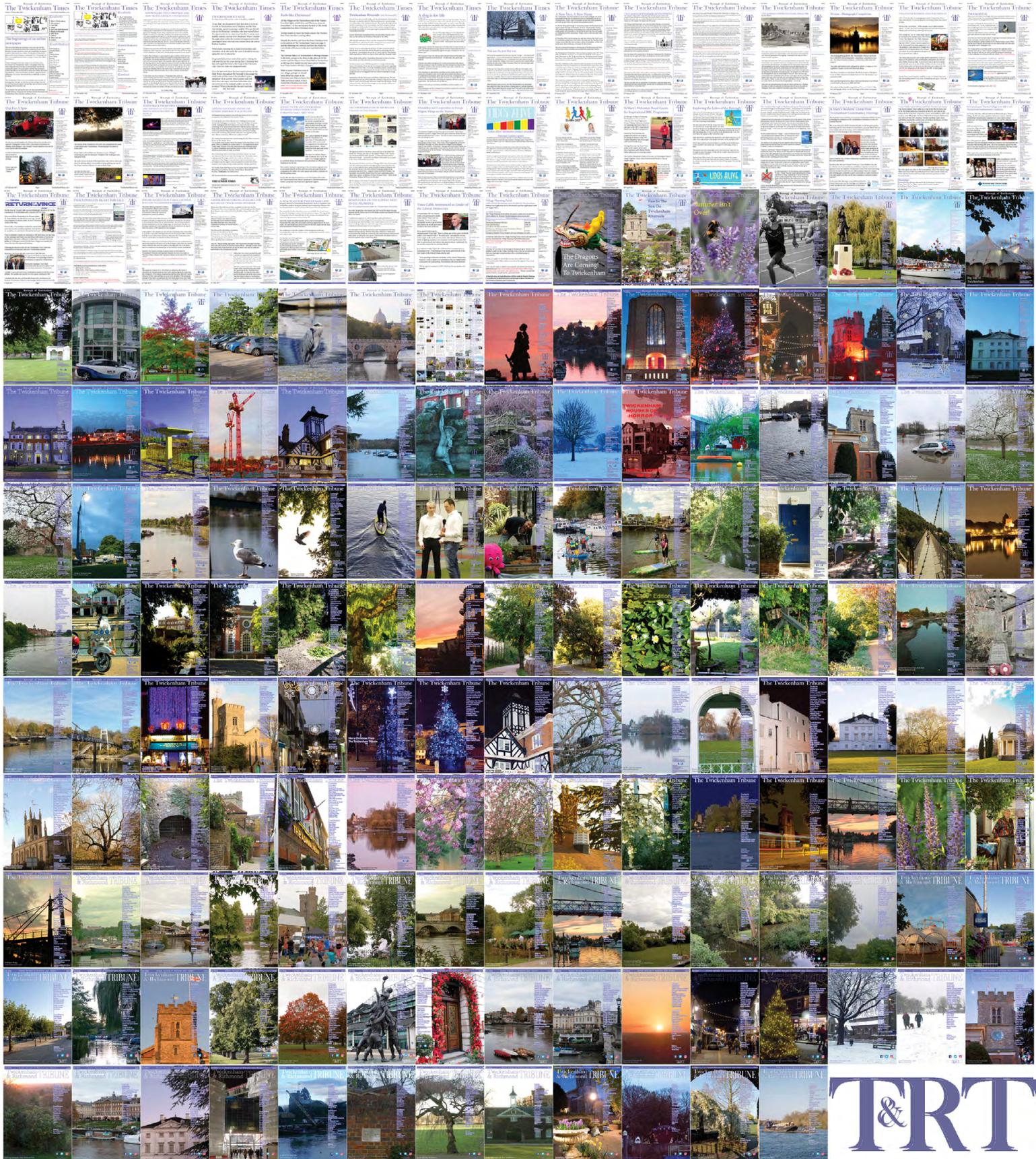
Both these specimens highlight the importance of Museum collections in documenting our past and preserving precious materials for future research. In 2020 alone, our 300 scientists identified 503 new species to science including a new species of seaweed and several species of algae – both important for economic and food security – as well as 170 new species of beetle and 70 new wasps. With over 80 million specimens spanning 4.5 billion years, the Collection is a powerful scientific tool.

Three new temporary offers

[*Our Broken Planet: How We Got Here and Ways to Fix It*](#) opening on 21 May is a brand-new free display offering a fascinating look through the Museum's collection. Each object has been selected by one of the Museum's scientists and tells a different story about human impact on the planet. From bats to bees, the world's largest butterfly to a 3m Black Marlin, the display is an exploration of the power of humans and the resilience of nature. The programme looks at the context of the current pandemic as well as how NHM scientists are finding solutions from nature for nature.

The Museum's popular [*Wildlife Photographer of the Year*](#) exhibition and the 5-star reviewed [*Fantastic Beasts: The Wonder of Nature*](#), the result of a creative partnership between the Museum, the BBC and Warner Bros, will both reopen on Monday 17 May after closing just days into their run due to lockdown restrictions.

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