

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE



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Editors

Berkley Driscoll
Teresa Read



2nd June 2023



TickerTape - News in Brief

District Line disruption

Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 June

No service between Earl's Court and **Richmond**/Ealing Broadway

Twickenham Riverside CPO Public Inquiry

The public inquiry into the council's Compulsory Purchase Order on the Diamond Jubilee Gardens starts on Tuesday 6th June.

Evidence will be heard from the council, its representatives and supporters as well as from the Twickenham Riverside Trust and objectors.

The morning and afternoon sessions can be viewed via live webcast on the council's website. Find details [HERE](#).

The inquiry will be held at Clarendon Hall, York House

- Week 1 Tues 6 June – Thursday 8 June
- Week 2 Tues 13 June - Thurs 15 June
- Week 3 Tues 20 June - Thurs 22 June
- Week 4 Tues 27 June - Thurs 29 June

A detailed programme for the first week can be seen at the end of this Tribune edition.

Marks and Spencer Twickenham

The Tribune has heard of concerns from residents about the Holly Road entrance to Marks and Spencer in Twickenham. A number of residents are worried that the closure of the Holly Road entrance will be permanent and that this will be particularly inconvenient for shoppers using the Holly Road car park.



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Covid-19

By Teresa Read

World Health Organization

Weekly epidemiological update on COVID-19 - 1 June 2023

At the country level, the highest numbers of new 28-day cases were reported from the Republic of Korea (476,087), the United States of America (170,425), Australia (138,721), Brazil (129,610), and France (106,803).

The highest numbers of new 28-day deaths were reported from the United States of America (3,089), Brazil (1,170), France (685), the Russian Federation (614), and Italy (606).

The European Region reported over 476,000 new cases, a 48% decrease as compared to the previous 28-day period. No country has reported increases in new cases of 20% or greater compared to the previous 28-day period.

The highest numbers of new cases were reported from France (106,803), the Russian Federation (66,664), and Italy (62,063).

The number of new 28-day deaths in the Region decreased by 50% as compared to the previous 28-day period, with 4,571 new deaths reported. The highest numbers of new deaths were reported from France (685), the Russian Federation (614), and Italy (606).

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Gov.UK: People urged to get COVID-19 jab before offer ends. The offer of a first or second dose of COVID-19 vaccine will end on 30 June 2023 for most people.

British Medical Journal: Comparing death rates in the pandemic: hundreds of millions could be disabled by covid.

Public Inquiry UK Covid: The UK Covid-19 Inquiry has been set up to examine the UK's response to and impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and learn lessons for the future. The Inquiry's work is guided by its Terms of Reference. (Date: 13 June 2023; Starts: 10:00 AM).



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darryl parkin

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Works to start on Teddington Lock footbridges

Work will start on Monday 26 June 2023 on repairs to two footbridges over the River Thames at Teddington Lock.

The suspension footbridge main structure and lock cut iron truss footbridge together create a vital connection between Teddington on the south side of the river, and Ham on the north.

CLLr Alexander Ehmann, Chair of Richmond Council's Transport and Air Quality Committee said:

“These bridges provide a connection that sees very high usage, so the Council is committed to investing in their upkeep and ensuring they remain resilient for many years to come.

“We've worked hard with contractors to minimise the impact of these much-needed repairs and provide access throughout the vast majority of the works.

Through the use of special, lightweight access systems, the bridges can be kept open for most of the works and, subject to any unforeseen issues, there should be very minimal impact to those residents who use the bridges as a vital part of their daily travel to work, school or to local amenities.



Well he would say that ..

Twickenham Riverside

Teresa Read

During the last week I received a plastic comb bound folder, specially delivered, from the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames to Rebut my “Evidence” regarding their plan for Twickenham Riverside.

My “evidence” included concern for 1. the loss of the public toilets on Diamond Jubilee Gardens and 2. the loss of trees, especially their important function of absorbing carbon dioxide.

The “report” was addressed to me personally - my name printed on the front of the folder – was a Rebuttal to my objection to the Council’s Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) on the Lease of the Diamond Jubilee Gardens on Twickenham Riverside. And, as we have seen the Council has £500,000 to repel concerned residents, many of whom pay a significant amount of tax to the Council every month.

Of course, for every point put forward there will always be an answer. For instance, regarding the loss of public toilets on Diamond Jubilee Gardens, the statement that the public house toilets can be accessed from a different entrance to the pub entrance - with shared use. A far cry from the public toilets currently within easy reach of the children’s playground and yet another member of the Council’s unsatisfactory “Community Toilet Scheme”. Try using them on rugby days.

Apparently, the loss of trees has been fully considered and “deemed on balance to be acceptable”.

It seems that the Pin Oaks on The Embankment, not planted many years ago, now have “serious health problems”.



Twickenham Riverside, showing “40 years of neglect” and a Pin Oak clearly showing signs of “serious health problems”.

Regarding the Queen Elizabeth II gift of a rare black poplar at the opening of the Diamond Jubilee Gardens in 2012: “The original aim was to also to retain and transplant the black poplar to a better location within the new open space. Technical issues with moving the tree, coupled with advice that it was not suitable for its intended location due to its mature size and health and safety concerns over the tendency for black poplar to drop branches as they get older meant that this decision had to be revised”. Presumably, in plain language it will be unceremoniously chopped down and dug up.

Apparently, these decisions have been made “with witnesses addressing points relevant to their area of expertise” (with regard to the “toilets” in this article the “witness” is Paul Chadwick, the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames Director of the Environment and Community Services, and for advice on the trees there is Chris Bannister, a Director of Hopkins Architects, architects of the planning application).



The rare black poplar, a gift from Queen Elizabeth II

There is also a Rebuttal about the Cost to the Taxpayer; as reported, the Council has approved a total capital budget of £45,000,000 to deliver the project, so they have the money allocated, as long as everything goes to plan with no increased costs.

Perhaps the Council should build the affordable housing on the derelict Council-owned car park next to Water Lane and spend the remainder of the £45 million to regenerate the ailing Twickenham high street. Why is this Council so obsessed with expensive housing on Twickenham Riverside that will be out of the reach of many people in the borough?

But the Council has the answer. Under the heading GENERAL (Paul Chadwick) we see the following: in 2.8 of the Rebuttal “In response, the Council believes that the whole Scheme Land is needed to deliver a comprehensive solution, help regenerate the area and help bring about the benefits of the Scheme detailed in the Statement of Case paragraph 2.15 and throughout section 10, and Mr Chadwick’s Proof of Evidence (LBR – 1A section 9).

Chris Davies

16th October 1991 - 31st May 2020

By Chelsea Driscoll

On Wednesday 31st May we celebrated the life of our dear friend Chris.

We gathered at Grove Gardens, Teddington where a bench in Chris' memory has just been installed.

Deeply missed and never forgotten.



Chris with Chad and Chad at Chris' bench



Richmond Council says ULEZ scrappage scheme still doesn't go far enough

Richmond Council has said that the Mayor of London's expanded ULEZ scrappage scheme still falls too short of what is needed to help the majority of Londoners who are struggling to afford to replace their non-compliant cars.

As part of his announcement, Sadiq Khan praised Richmond upon Thames' Good Move Scheme and said it was a "really good example of... doing the right thing."

Cllr Alexander Ehmann, Chair of Richmond's Transport and Air Quality Committee, said:

"Of course, we're glad Richmond Council has been singled out for its progressive local support package, but compliments won't obscure the fact that the TfL scrappage scheme is still too little, and very nearly too late.

"Earlier this year we called on the Mayor to postpone the ULEZ expansion and work-up a scrappage scheme that gives support to those that do not currently receive any kind of state benefit but are seriously struggling and cannot afford the large cost of a new car.



"We also supported more comprehensive proposals that were tabled within the GLA, to double the scheme from £100million to over £200 million, but these plans were rejected.

"Mark Twain once said "I can live for two months on a good compliment", but our residents can't live on compliments alone. They need a comprehensive TfL scrappage scheme and serious investment in outer London public transport. We're still waiting."

Richmond's own [Good Move Scheme](#) offers local residents a number of options to help save money and use greener, cleaner forms of transport. These include discounted bikes and cargo bikes, free car club memberships and free Oyster card credit to use on tube, buses and local train services.

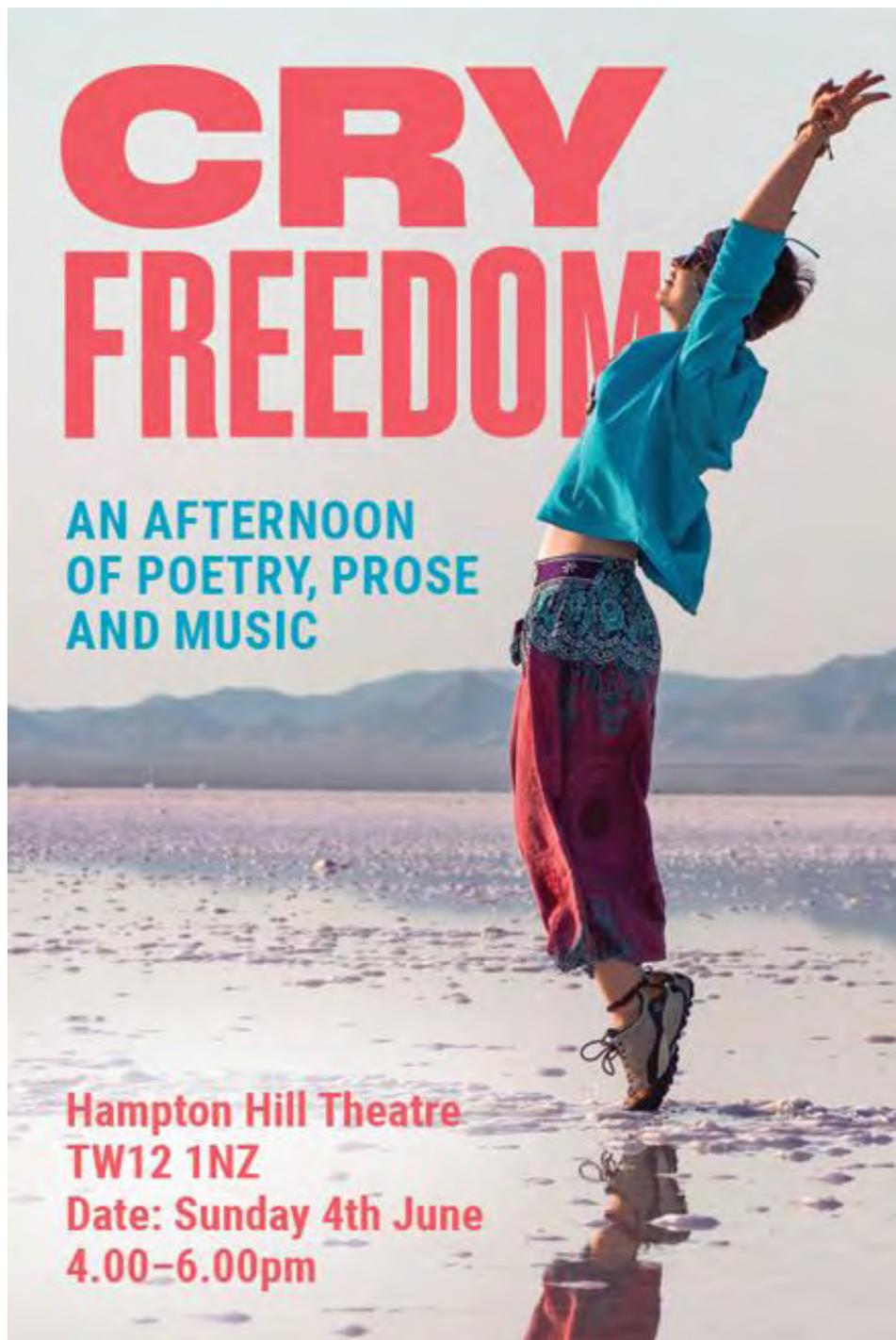
People - Life - Freedom

Inspired by the struggle for freedom in Ukraine, *Cry Freedom* brings together poets, actors, singers and musicians from London and the South East to a special once-only event at the Hampton Hill Theatre this Sunday.

In a special late afternoon performance one of the dominant themes in today's fractured world is explored in poetry, prose and music.

Cry Freedom
Sunday 4th June at 4pm
Hampton Hill Theatre

Tickets (at £10 each) are available at the door or on-line at www.ticketsource.co.uk/poetry
The performance lasts two hours, including a twenty minute interval.



Dear Tribune,

E-scooter Traffic Jam!

It has just been reported that the National Police Chiefs' Council has revealed that UK police scientists are developing equipment that can stop e-scooters by using radio and electromagnetic waves. The research into jamming is being overseen by Lancaster University's Professor Paul Taylor, Britain's policing chief scientific advisor.

I recently returned home from Japan to find e-bikes littering our local pavements. Of course, one reason why people cycle on pavements is because our roads are so appalling and dangerous due to the potholes which are not repaired promptly by local councils. I didn't see one pothole in Japan's superb roads because, unlike here, Japanese local authorities actually care about their residents.

MP Barry Sheerman, chairman of the Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety was reported as saying: 'I welcome efforts from the police to find ways of safely stopping e-vehicles without the need for direct confrontation. I think vehicles such as e-scooters and e-bikes are going to cause an increasing number of accidents on our roads and pavements. This means more work for the NHS.'

In spite of being ridiculed by the fanatical cycling lobby, that's exactly what I and many others have been saying ever since the so-called 'trials' of e-scooters started.

A further report stated that insurance firm Direct Line found that e-bikes were used in 1,397 thefts and e-scooters in 424 last year. Of course they were – they're the ideal vehicles for a quick, quiet getaway.

South Western Railway is the latest operator to ban e-scooters and the London Fire Brigade has just issued yet another warning about the serious danger of fires from their batteries and chargers.

So it seems that the concerns of we who are constantly being crashed into and intimidated by these machines and their selfish riders are finally being taken seriously by more and more authorities.

The question is: Will Richmond Council follow suit?

Yours,

Michael Jay
Hampton.

Sirs

E-Scooter infringements, Vernon Road

Once more the Residents of Vernon Roan and Sheen Lane have been deprived of a Resident Parking Bay because your companies seem to have totally lost control.

1. Over-filling the prescribed Bay with a mass of scooters, most of which are just thrown on the ground.
2. Consequent parking in a Resident Bay because there's no room. We are paying the Council over £80p.a. for the 'privilege' and rarely find a space in Vernon Road as it is.
3. Also as a consequence, people are just leaving them in the road, (and in the case of Lime e-cycles, regularly in the middle of the pavements)

How long is this going to be allowed to go on?

Surely the suggestions of many months ago to create a park where there is actually space - in front of Mortlake Station?

- or increase the size of the Milton Road space, which is a dead end and not an inconvenience anyone - or are we all being unreasonable?

Yours,

Ms S.Weaver
London SW14 8LW





Conservative Parliamentary Spokesman

From Twickenham Conservatives

We are delighted to welcome Mr Jonathan Hulley voted by Conservative members this week to be the Twickenham parliamentary spokesperson.



Twickenham
Conservatives

IN TURNER'S STUDIO: TALK & DRAW

Join Turner's House Museum Director, Matthew Morgan, and Learning and Volunteers Officer, Rita Pigionica, in the beautiful and inspiring setting of Turner's House, to engage with works by Turner and discover how these can be a starting point to create new works that connect to contemporary themes and new creativity.

Monday 19th June

Tuesday 20th June

Monday 26th June

Tuesday 27th June

10:00am-12:30pm

Turner's House



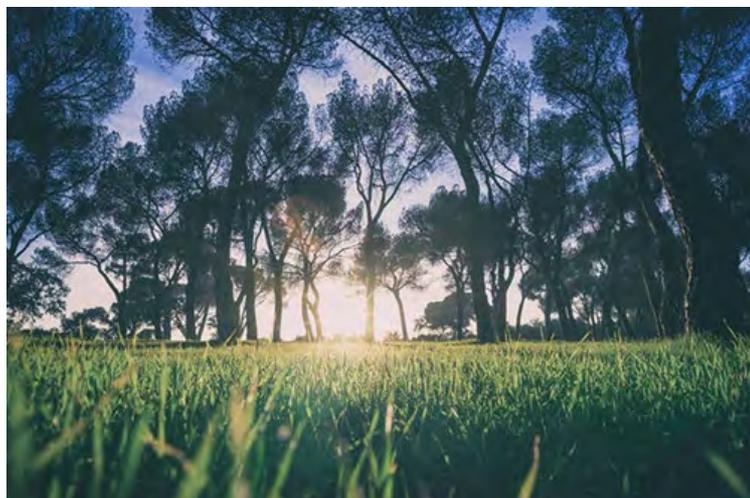
Have your say on order renewal to protect our parks and open spaces

The Council are seeking to renew the current Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) for another three years.

We are inviting residents to have their say on the proposed renewal of PSPOs, which aim to address anti-social activities and dog control in public spaces.

Since the renewal of the PSPOs in 2020, the borough's Park Enforcement team have issued 652 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs)

The existing PSPO orders provide the Council power to tackle problem behaviour to help ensure our parks, open spaces and cemeteries can be enjoyed by all.



The [public consultation](#) opens from Friday 2 June with the closing date on Sunday 2 July.

For further information or to provide feedback please contact parks@richmond.gov.uk or 020 8891 1411.

Barn Elms Sports Trust to redevelop athletics track

This July, Barn Elms Sports Trust (BEST) will renovate the 26 year old athletics track at the Barn Elms Playing Fields.

The refurbishment will involve removing the old track, repairing the base and drainage, and installing a brand new Polytan surface.

The work is expected to take 12 weeks and will include modernising the long jump pits, shot put circle, javelin runs and more.

BEST have created a [Crowdfunder](#) to help support this vital work.



Sport England will grant match up to £10,000.

KEW VILLAGE MARKET



Sunday June 4th, 10am - 2pm

Nice & easy does it...

Whether you're planning a picnic or fancy a faff-free way to feed guests, this month's market has a feast of appetising answers: savoury tarts and salads from **Carolyn's Kitchen**; award-winning pies and pasties from **Mud Foods**; locally produced charcuterie from **Hilton Hams** and deli nibbles from **Thee Olive Tree**... Then there are the delicious oven-ready dishes from **Lovely Pasta**, **Lorna's Indian Kitchen** and the (aptly named) **Catch Fabulous Fishcakes** and [more...](#)

With **Father's Day** just around the corner you might like to browse the crafts stalls for an original gift: a luxury leather something from **Sam Brown London** maybe, an unusual shrub from **The Kew Plantsman** or exceptional artisan gin, courtesy of **Distillers of Surrey**. (You'll find the full list of our June stalls [here](#).)

At this month's free charity pitch will be **The Kew Society**, which does so much to enhance the pleasure of living in Kew, and in our sunshine-yellow music marquee there'll be show tunes from the ever-popular **St Margaret's Elastic Band**, followed by new-to-Kew acoustic combo **Don't Tell Smith**.

Looking forward to seeing you on Sunday 4th June from 10.00 to 2pm

PS Be sure not to miss this year's **Kew Midsummer Fete on Saturday 17th June**, 11am to 6pm, on the pond side of Kew Green. With over 100 stalls, Reuben Bond's Vintage Fairground, all-day entertainment on the stage, the famous Fete Friendly Dog Show and the infamous Fete Tug of War, it's Kew's best family day out (and that's official). All details at www.kewfete.org



FATHER'S DAY GIFT IDEAS FOR FOODIE FATHERS

Father's Day will be upon us again very soon - **June 18** in case you were wondering! I thought it sensible to start thinking about it sooner, rather than later, in order to do some planning. So here are some suggestions for gifts that show your appreciation of any papa who is a bit of a foodie, and/or enjoys a snifter or two!

If he has a sweet tooth, then I would highly recommend ordering a delivery from **Bradford's Bakers**, who deliver across the UK. The prices are very reasonable, and the quality is top-notch. For example, I'd suggest this wonderful Variety Brownie Box containing a delicious selection of chewy fudge brownie squares. Toppings include Mini Smarties, Choc Buttons, Jazzies and lots more. The box is available in two sizes: small (£16.90) - 22 x10cm containing 8 topping varieties or large (£21.90)- 24 x 16cm with 12 varieties. The brownies arrive in one piece (to be cut as desired) in an attractive presentation box with a free gift card. Delivery is from £4.95 (select your delivery date at checkout). The company also has a range of other lovely gift ideas, so do check it out on www.bradfordsbakers.com



If his taste leans more towards the savoury, then a selection of delicious British charcuterie from **Tempus Foods** will really hit the spot! Tempus is the brainchild of **MasterChef winner Dhruv Baker** and **MasterChef runner-up Tom Whitaker**. Their time-honoured, award-winning British Charcuterie is made in Surrey, and I'd recommend the Spiced Coppa. Winner for a Great British Charcuterie Gold medal and not just one, but three Great Taste stars, this pork collar is world renowned for its beautiful marbling and rich, complex, flavour profile. Tempus has elevated a classic delicacy to new heights by adding its unique blend of spices. Costing just £7.50 for 75 grams, you can buy Spiced Coppa as well as a host of other wonderful charcuterie gift ideas www.tempusfoods.com

If a spot of cheese and a good bottle of wine appeals, then I recommend you visit a wonderful site I recently discovered called **Champagne + Fromage**. A combination of two different companies, each lovers of artisanal, unique French products, the [website](#) is a must for any fan of French cheeses and wines. There's a well curated selection of products, with delivery free within the UK for orders over £60 (with next day delivery when you order between Tuesday before 12pm and Thursday before 12pm). And if you find yourself in Covent Garden, pop in for a glass or two of grower champagne and some lovely cheese at their site in [Wellington Street](#).



Moving further onto gifts of an alcoholic nature, I've found you the ideal present for the man who likes gin, as well as port: **Conker Distillery Port Barrel Gin!** Conker has rested its signature **Dorset Dry Gin** in used port barrels from Portugal - infusing the dry piney juniper and herbs with notes of vanilla oak, warm spice and red fruits. You can enjoy it neat over chunks of ice, or add a twist of orange peel and top it up with tonic for an intriguingly different, and rather delicious, G&T. Available at £50 for a 70cl bottle from [Ocado](#), [Master of Malt](#) or the RNL [online shop](#).

Maybe whisky is more to his taste? Then if he's an aficionado, I'd suggest you try him with **The Oxford Rye**. The ancient heritage English grain is harvested, twice distilled, then rested in American Oak to draw out its best characteristics. The Oxford Rye has an aroma of sandalwood and vanilla, and on the palate, notes of creamy praline, nuts and sourdough, ending with a flourish of cloves, nutmeg and smooth spiciness. It's fabulous on the rocks, or opened up with a splash of water, but it also makes a delicious cocktail with ginger beer and a touch of citrus. It's from the same clever people that produce the wonderful Oxford Rye Dry Gin, and like the gin, is available online from [The Oxford Artisan Distillery](#) at £40 for a 70cl bottle (40% abv), or from Master of Malt.



Another excellent whisky - a Scotch - and more widely available perhaps, especially if time is of the essence, is **The Singleton of Dufftown, 12 year old Malt Whisky**. It has an aroma of toasted nuts with rich fruits, hints of blackcurrant, brown sugar and coffee on the palate - before an elegantly drying and crisp finish. It's also ideal as an introduction to malt whisky due to its smooth, rich, accessible flavour. It's a Speyside single malt that's been aged primarily in European oak casks and is great neat or with ice, but also mixes perfectly with soda for a refreshingly long drink. It's available at most major supermarkets for around £38 and online (currently on special offer too) from [thebar.com](#), or House of Malt and Amazon.



For the music and spirits loving Dad in your life, here's the perfect gift - creatively packaged to look like a music speaker. The gift box contains a 70cl bottle of **8Track Rum**, a highball glass, pin badge and selection of music-inspired cocktail ideas. Born from a love of music and celebrating good times, it's committed to supporting the independent music industry. **8Track Rum** is an easy-drinking, premium, spiced rum with a refreshing balance of citrus and spice. Available online [here](#) for £39.95 or from Threshers.



You don't have to spend a lot on a Father's Day gift - here's an extremely good bottle of delicious Californian Merlot at an excellent price, and you may even have the chance to share it! Sumptuously rich, **Apothic Merlot** bursts with intense flavours of black cherry, blackberry and wild blueberries, layered with hints of vanilla and coconut, a result of oak contact with the wine for months. Deep, full-bodied with a plush, velvety mouthfeel, this wine is lovely. **Apothic** gets its name from "Apotheca", a reference to a winemaker's sanctuary for crafting and storing blends in the 13th Century. Available from Tesco stores nationwide. Priced at £9 a bottle.

But of course, just like Mothers' Day, you don't have to spend a lot. Just a card, a phone call, or better still a visit, can be priceless.

CHANGING TIMES

By Bruce Lyons

I'm sure you can all recall those motorised adventures overseas – maps, guidebooks, goodness me, all sort of bits and bobs to make the adventure a success. Well, it's all got a lot better. All over the world ground handlers are including APPS with their travel offerings. It is a very big change. Most include all the details of your itinerary and any booking references needed, but local maps with interesting local history, attractions, and excursions. They also include guides to restaurants and Museums and a whole plethora of information on related diverse subjects.



In recent times we have booked customers on fly drives to Iceland, South Africa, New Zealand, and just this week Northern Portugal and Cantabria. Fly drives will be much greater fun from now on – Just check when you are enquiring, if the booking comes with an app, but very soon it will be common practice.

Other News

Post Covid, whilst most of the world has been getting back on track – some areas were more cautious and much of Asia and China were among the last to emerge. Just this week Mercury put a huge directory on Indo China escorted tours for the Summer and Winter 2023 – ranging from Escorted Walking Tours to Coach and Rail and durations from 9 night thru to an affordable 21 nights – Prices start from £2k, which seems very reasonable, with air fares as they are.

Wendy Wu has just announced a Summer 2023 sale with savings if booked by 30th June up to £500 per person. Wendy Wu came to the UK 25 years ago and this sale is by way of a celebration – but it is also true that China is less popular these days and this is a great time to take a tour to somewhere you found unaffordable before, and there is no better operator than Wendy Wu for China. They also feature (and have offers) to Japan, India, Sri Lanka, Indochina, Latin America and the Middle East. Whilst writing about Wendy Wu I should mention that they have also just published an Xmas Programme to all their favourite places, no special offer with this, but very interesting itineraries.

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Email: info@crusadertravel.com
www.crusadertravel.com



WIZ Tales: Ethiopia – reviving ancient skills

Teresa Read



An article this week in Aljazeera tells the story of current work in Ethiopia to preserve ancient scriptures using the skill of writing with bamboo ink pens on animal skin parchment.

Of course, evidence of ancient human history has been uncovered in Ethiopia.

The Lower Valley of the Awash, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1980, is an important paleontological site. In 1974 fifty-two fragments of a hominid skeleton were found at Hadar. The skeleton was named “Lucy” after the Beatles’ song Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds; Lucy belongs to a hominid species known as Australopithecus afarensis that lived around 4 to 2.7 million years ago.

The Lower Valley of the Omo, near Lake Turkana, was also inscribed as a World Heritage site in 1980; fossils found in the Valley have made an important contribution to the study of human evolution.

The Kingdom of Axum (Aksum), in southern Eritrea and Ethiopia, is said to have been founded by the son of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba. Solomon was from the royal house of Judah; the Lion of Judah was also a title of the Emperor of Ethiopia.



Further information about Ethiopia can be found at this World InfoZone link:
<https://worldinfozone.com/facts.php?country=Ethiopia>

All the fun of the fair...

By Deep Patel

~ Through the Eyes of a Twickenham Shopkeeper ~

If you are reading this right now and do NOT know about the fair that happened on Twickenham Green last Monday, are you even sure you can call yourself a Twickenham resident?

Who likes a good old fair? It seems that absolutely everyone (well as far as the folk of Twickenham are concerned that is...). This past week saw the long-awaited return of probably the most famous fair in Twickenham history, the good old Twickenham Green Rotary fair, previously known as "Hands Fair". The fair had paused for the Pandemic and only restarted this year...now anyone who is anyone knows about this fair... it's been going on for ages and although there are several fairs on Twickenham Green throughout the year, the beauty of this fair is that each stall there represents a different charity...so an afternoon of community retail-therapy in a park...what's not to like?

The phenomenal thing about this fair is that it has a strange and alluring charm that seems to attract absolutely everyone... I had customers from all walks of life telling me they were on their way to the fair Monday just gone...new born children to those in their nineties, everyone wanted a piece of the action it seemed...

Notoriously, the heavens open on that day and autumn returns, but this year the sun was shining his heart out as hundreds of locals descended upon Twickenham Green from all three sides...it was like ants going to a blob of honey on the ground (which reminds me, if you need to stop ants in the home, remember to sprinkle a few drops of white vinegar, peppermint oil or talcum powder not directly on them, but where they come and they will stop without you having to harm them...you'll have good blessings and good karma!).

Back to this fair, did you go? I did! With my mum, she loved it! The good old home-made old fashioned original jams made lovingly using the same recipes for the past 60 plus years, bric-a-brac, weird and wonderful things to browse from vintage engraved sterling silver toothpicks to flamboyantly fabulous peacock feather broaches, there seems to be something for everyone...not to mention the buttercream fairy cakes and marigold plants so green that even Squires couldn't rival them (sorry Squires, but I only speak truth in these articles).

To me, perhaps one of the most fascinating things about this fair in particular was that when I asked customers in my shop who had been to the fair, of all the people who went...more than 70% of them didn't buy anything at all...which is fine...but they STILL came back to me telling me how "good" the fair was? When I say "oh really, see anything you like?" They would say "no, but it was brilliant"...now to me, the primary function of a fair is to sell things, but it appears that over time, this fair has become more of a community happy-pill...a place where you bump into everyone you know and haven't seen in years (despite living on the same street as them) and a place where you cross that neighbour that you don't really get on with and exchange a little uncomfortable smile...but above all, a place where you go to be together as one with everyone else from Twickenham...as in the joy of others lies our own, and being a part of something larger than ourselves that is both traditional and innocently pleasing is what our hearts truly yearn for...

Remember...

"Sometimes it's less about the place, and more about the people..."

CREATURE-KINDNESS TIP OF THE WEEK:

FOR ANY HOME OR GARDEN "PEST"...

Sprinkle talcum powder, essential peppermint oil or white vinegar around where they come (but not directly on them) and they will stop without having to harm or kill them...you will get blessings in your life or have good karma for choosing a kind way too! This remedy also works to deter virtually any insect without harming them...like it & share it!

For more tips, email: thedeepatel@gmail.com or join my Facebook page: "KIND WORLD". Thank you!

2:22, A Ghost Story

by Danny Robins

Runaway Entertainment at the Apollo Theatre, West End until 17th September, then on tour until 25th May 2024

Now, *2:22 A Ghost Story* is a breath of fresh air. The play takes the staple ghost story setting of an old Victorian house with a secret tragic past, and instead shows a contemporary family stripping away all the details of yesteryear in order to create a modern dream home.



Jenny and Sam invite their university friend Lauren to see their new home and new baby. Lauren brings along Ben, her builder boyfriend. It quickly becomes clear that all is not well in the house. Is the house haunted, or is there a scientific explanation for the disquieting events that take place each night at 2:22am? The quartet decide to stay that night waiting to see what happens. The tension ratchets up further as the night wears on, and the four characters reveal more about the experiences and themselves.



There are just enough jokes to break the tension at key moments, while constantly raising the stakes. Director Matthew Dunster keeps the pace taut, and produces wonderful performances from all of his talented cast.

Anna Fleischle's set is a perfect recreation of a certain kind of modern suburban home, polished floorboards, kitchen-island, coffee table, all these elements are present and correct. The outer fringes of the set reveal traces of the house's previous owners, a doorframe half-painted. A huge set of double doors lead out into the garden. Highly

prominent are two digital clocks, inexorably ticking down towards 2:22. The red digits are also mirrored by a lighting effect which boosts the jump scares that punctuate the play.

While *2:22 A Ghost Story* is at heart a character piece examining the beliefs and attitudes of the central cast, it is also a highly entertaining story that lives up to its promise of scares and shocks. The suspense is palpable. Unmissable stuff.

Read Andrew Lawston's review at www.markaspen.com/2023/05/31/2-22-ghost-apollo

Photography by Helen Murray





The Incident Room

by Olivia Hirst and David Byrne

BCP and Wild Duck Theatre, at Kitson Hall, Barnes until 3rd June

West Yorkshire. 1977. A schoolgirl is brutally murdered. Her death is linked with five similar fatal attacks. The chilling description of “The Yorkshire Ripper” is coined by the press, and will dominate the headlines for the rest of the decade. The murders perpetrated by Peter Sutcliffe left an indelible mark on the national psyche.

The Incident Room takes us back to the 1970s, characterised by a claustrophobic office with its index cards, lever-arch files and telephone sets. No computers, no laptops, no iPhones. Just paper, lots and lots of paper.

As the appalling ‘incidents’ are spread out across the north of England, red tape is removed by concentrating all resources upon the eponymous ‘incident room’ that became the focus of the biggest manhunt in Britain.



Led by Assistant Chief Constable Oldfield, the heart and soul of the taskforce is Sergeant Megan Winterburn. She coordinates everything and does most of the legwork.

Danny Wain’s George Oldfield, whose journey from a confident dominating figure to someone broken by his failure to get his man, is a compelling one. His slow descent into an exhausting paranoia, punctuated by fits of impotent fury will remain long in the memory.

In contrast, Fiona Lawrie’s Megan Winterburn gives a thoughtful, almost gentle portrayal of a woman fighting against the sexist preconceptions of her time, and the growing realisation of the magnitude of the horrors mounting up.



The voice of the hoaxer, “Wearside Jack”, is still able to deliver a splash of cold fear as it plays out. Evoking events almost half a century ago, [The Incident Room](#) retains the power to chill.

Director Susan Conte has delivered an absorbing and emotive production with real heart, and a hefty emotional punch. It well rewards watching.

Read Harry Zimmerman’s review at www.markaspen.com/2023/06/01/incident-rm-bcp-wd

Photography by Ian Trowbridge



Heartbreak House

by George Bernard Shaw

Rhinoceros Theatre Company, at the Hampton Hill Theatre until 3rd June

In 2023, with its theme of a complacent country in decline, *Heartbreak House* feels very much in tune with our times. As Ellie, Anastasia Drew is by turns endearing and deceitful, landing somewhere between Diana Rigg and Audrey Plaza in her various dealings with the male characters. These by turn allow Shaw to remind us how much he loathes the English and Englishness. Playing Boss Langan, a plutocrat-with-a-secret, Robin Legard is very funny. Oliver Tims makes lothario Hector Hushabye more than surely the most flamboyant moustache in South London, while satirising London's wartime obsession with the long-running *Chu Chin Chow* by dressing up as a sheik. Playing Ellie's quietly reliable father Mazzini, Jim Trimmer turns in a solid performance as does [Nigel Andrews](#), as Captain Shotover, an



“ancient mariner” whose mind is increasingly all at sea.



Shaw was a sexually frustrated misogynist – and, as ever, this shows in the women of *Heartbreak House*, caught up in a tangle of relationships that recalls the complexities of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. As Captain Shotover's daughter Ariadne, a sparkling Mia Skytte provides the evening's best moments when she demolishes her hopeless, hapless husband, the aptly named Utterwood, played by Joe Evans; and Fiona Smith, playing Ariadne's sister

Hesione, twinkles her way through the play as she papers over the more improbable aspects of Hesione's character. The cast is completed by Fran Billington and David Dadswell who add a level of panto to the play as, respectively, a maid and a burglar. A word too for Priya Virdee's excellent two-level set which is not used as well as it might have been, and for the technical team who turn in a generally effective performance.



Heartbreak House is a good, old-fashioned drama with comedy, and this is a good, old-fashioned production by Rhinoceros Theatre Company.

Read Andrew Mayot's review at

www.markaspen.com/2023/06/01/heartbk-hse-rhino

Photography by Kim Harding

Programme of events announced for Great Big Green Week

Organised by the Climate team in collaboration with a variety of local groups, organisations, businesses and residents, Richmond Great Big Green Week will take place from 10 to 18 June in line with the national initiative.

[Richmond Great Big Green Week](#) is a local celebration of community action to tackle climate change and protect nature. The [full timetable of over 50 local events](#) has now been released.

Residents will have the chance to do things like:

- Learn how to plant for wildlife as well as grow fruits and vegetables
- Litter-pick on paddleboard or foot
- Learn from experts about a range of topics from energy efficiency to biodiversity
- Test out new ways to recycle
- Build wildlife habitats
- Connect mindfully with nature
- Learn how to repair and reuse everyday items
- Try out local resources helping to clean up our air
- Participate in a clothing swap
- Build a microscope from recycled and household materials and learn how to test a water sample from the Thames for microorganisms and microplastics
- Chat about climate with other like-minded locals
- Learn about some of the amazing ongoing community projects supporting a more sustainable Richmond upon Thames

There are also plenty of opportunities for young people and children to get involved, such as through an eco-learning trip to Kew Gardens and decorating ladybird houses while learning about sustainability at Ham Library, among others. The programme of events has seen huge support from local schools, with seven receiving microgrants and running activities like promoting active travel to school, playground planting, climate assemblies and outdoor learning.

Cllr Julia Neden-Watts, Chair of the Environment, Sustainability, Culture and Sports Committee, said: “We all have a role to play when it comes to addressing climate change, and initiatives like Great Big Green Week are the perfect opportunity for our communities to see the breadth of convenient opportunities that exist to get involved locally.

“It doesn’t matter if you’re at the beginning of your journey toward becoming more climate conscious or a seasoned expert – tackling the climate crisis and becoming greener as a community is all about finding shared solutions and taking steps to understand what we can all do to reduce our carbon footprint. This is why I strongly encourage residents to get involved with our broad range of activities and events over Richmond’s Great Big Green Week—there will be something new for everyone to learn and take away with them. I look forward to seeing you at an event.”

Some events require booking in advance. People who live and work in the borough can help share our events on social media, using the hashtag #RichmondGBGW.



STRAWBERRY HILL HOUSE FLOWER FESTIVAL 2023

Celebrating its 5th edition, the Strawberry Hill House Flower Festival will return to Horace Walpole's groundbreaking 'Gothic castle' this autumn (22-24 September), once again poised to challenge perceptions about floristry.

Curators Leigh Chappell and Janne Ford have commissioned over thirty leading UK-based floral designers and growers to take over and respond to the spectacular interior of Walpole's stunning Georgian home.

The event will also act as a major showcase for a number of up-and-coming designers who are sure to dazzle with their limitless creativity. Visitors can expect to be amazed at the sheer variety of ways each of them works with British-grown seasonal flowers and foliage, sharing their artistry, expertise, and passion for sustainable foam-free floral design.

Also making a hugely welcome return are renowned Hampshire growers *Hortus Poeticus*, who will transform the stairwell with exceptional English flowers that will fill the space with their remarkable scent and beauty. The Petersfield firm uses homemade compost and compost teas to produce a wide variety of seasonal flowers and shrubs. *Hortus Poeticus* are also passionate about challenging the dubious ethical and environmental footprint of the many flowers we buy.

Industry stars, such as Henck Rolling - who was a part of the team that created the Orchid display at Kew - and the exciting Sophie Powell from *Unidentified Floral Object* - who describes her work as 'reviving and revamping the traditional' - will form part of the stellar line-up

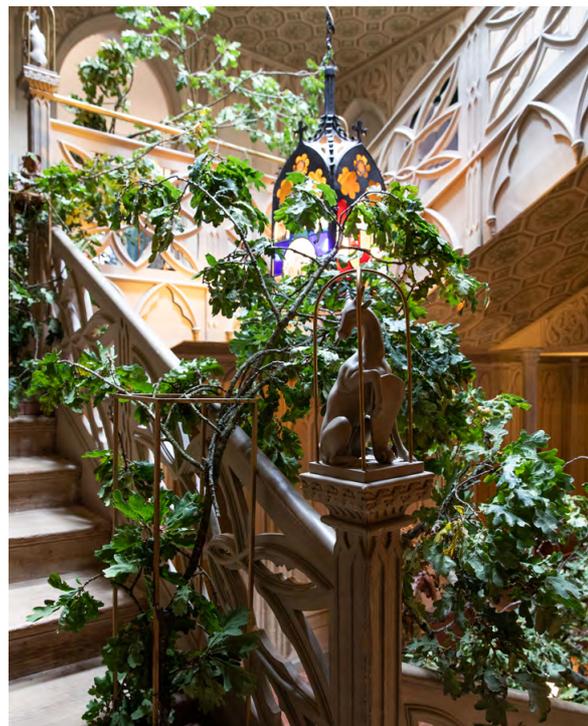
appearing at Strawberry Hill House over the Festival's three days.

Powell will create an immersive piece in the form of a floral headdress that will also provide festivalgoers with a unique photo opportunity, in which they can either stand or sit underneath, so appearing as if they have donned a magnificent hat.

Chappell and Ford are also delighted to announce that the popular curator tours, talks and demonstrations will again be key features of the festival.

Strawberry Hill's own gardening team will also be on hand to give expert advice relating to horticultural hiccups; from reluctant rhododendrons to drooping dahlias and glean advice on how to grow gorgeous geraniums or impressive Italian Asters.

Launching the event, Leigh Chappell said: "We held our first Flower Festival at Strawberry Hill House in 2019 welcoming hundreds of visitors. In 2022 it was a sell-out, welcoming over



1,400 visitors over three days. This year, we look forward to another successful event. Once again, we will be working in partnership with Flowers from the Farm, the award-winning membership association for artisan cut flower growers in the UK.”

Janne Ford commented: “Both Leigh and I, plus all our wonderful curators and floral designers are excited to be working with Strawberry Hill House for a 5th year, as it is absolutely the perfect backdrop to showcase floral designs, with all its colour, drama, opulence, light and shadow.”



Flowers from the Farm Co-Chair, Meg Edmonds, says: “We see a perfect synergy between the creative vision of the Strawberry Hill House Flower Festival and Flowers from the Farm. The Flower Festival presents a unique opportunity to showcase the talents of our farmer-florists and the beauty of local,

seasonal British cut flowers in creative floral design.”

Claire Leighton from Strawberry Hill House says: “The Flower Festival celebrates the beauty, variety, and versatility of British flowers with florists and designers creating a series of breathtaking displays using flowers, foliage, dried and natural elements. All the exhibitors have sustainability at the heart of their craft and will demonstrate just what can be achieved using traditional and contemporary techniques. Some grow their own flowers and others focus on working with local flower farmers and high street businesses. As in previous years, there will be no floral foam or single use plastics. The only waste from the festival will be a large compost heap!”

Visitors to the Flower Festival are also invited to wander around the five-acres of gardens, which comprise beds, borders, walks, groves, lawns and woodland. Horace Walpole was a keen gardener himself, writing the hugely influential essay *The History of the Modern Taste in Gardening* which was first published in 1780. The grounds have been faithfully restored to much of their original appearance by using Eighteenth Century maps and paintings, as well as Walpole’s own writing. Today it is Grade II* listed and of national importance, as a reminder of a fascinating period in garden history.

Tickets for the Flower Festival are available online now. Prices, tour and talk times can be found at www.strawberryhillhouse.org.uk/flower-festival/

The participating florists and growers will also be sharing blogs, tips, photographs and other content across social media, leading up to and during the festival, using the hashtag: #StrawberryFlowerFestival

The Flower Festival is proudly sponsored by Savills Teddington. Daniel Killick, Head of Office, Savills Teddington says “I’m thrilled to announce our second-year partnership with the Strawberry Hill House Flower Show, promising yet another remarkable display of horticultural excellence. This year’s show will highlight sustainability as a central theme, all within the exquisite backdrop of Horace Walpole’s unparalleled Gothic Revival Villa. Prepare to be captivated by the fusion of natural beauty and eco-conscious practices, as we create an extraordinary event that celebrates both the splendour of flora and our commitment to a sustainable future.”



STRAWBERRY HILL
House & Garden

London- International Teen Band Festival Launch

Reserve your FREE tickets!

FREE ENTRY to the launch event of a 3 day international teen band festival, featuring talented young bands from Powerjam, New York, Kenya, Ukraine, Australia, Brazil, Hawaii and more!

Hosted by Powerjam (the SW London not-for-profit band academy) and New York City's KidsRockForKids (featured on the USA hit 'The Kelly Clarkson Show'), the festival will raise money for children in dire need and Ukraine through KidSave, and kicks off with an exciting concert and party at 'The Venue', Heatham House on Friday, June 23rd at 7pm (doors: 6;45pm). Poster attached.

Open to all ages and free entry if you reserve your tickets through this event link:

<https://www.powerjambands.com/event-details/powerjamkrfkjune23>.

Powerjam
NOT-FOR-PROFIT BAND PROJECT

KIDS FROM
NEW YORK
ROCK
FOR KIDS CITY

PRESENT

INTERNATIONAL BAND CONCERT AND PARTY
FREE ENTRY

@THE VENUE,
HEATHAM HOUSE

achieving for children RICHMOND ARTS & IDEAS FESTIVAL

FRIDAY, 23 JUNE 2023
6:30 DOORS, 7PM SHOW

Details about the 3 day festival (including concerts at the legendary Bush Hall and Club 229 Soho), can be found on our website: <https://www.powerjambands.com/cometogetherlondon2023>.

St Mary's University

St Mary's Apprenticeship Provision Receives Positive Ofsted Report

The apprenticeship provision at St Mary's University, Twickenham has received a positive first report from Ofsted following a visit from inspectors to assess the quality of its school chaplaincy apprenticeship programme.

Monitoring visits for apprenticeship providers are different to full and short inspections by Ofsted. They take place over two days and inspectors make progress judgements to assess whether providers can deliver high-quality training and ensure that apprentices train in environments that take safety and well-being seriously. After a two-day visit, the University was judged to be making good progress in all areas. The report highlights the effectiveness of the training on offer and the quality of relationships with apprentices' employers. It states that St Mary's "work(s) closely with employers and the dioceses to consider carefully the needs of different schools."

Progress is evident in the course leaders' ability to meet all the requirements of successful apprenticeship provision. For example, the inspectors commented that leaders select, design, and teach an effective curriculum that enables apprentices to develop significant new knowledge, skills, and behaviours that "enable them to meet all the requirements of the apprenticeship standard".

The support received by apprentices was also praised. It was noted that "apprentices have access to the same support that students studying on campus at the university have. As a result, apprentices receive the support they need to make good progress in their studies." It is particularly pleasing that our commitment to pastoral care was also recognised: "Leaders and managers have good oversight of safeguarding and apprentices' wellbeing and mental health".

Apprenticeship Head Eleanor Stewart welcomed the report saying, "This was the first formal visit by Ofsted since the University introduced apprenticeships 18 months ago, and we feel that the positive report is a significant achievement and testament to St Mary's commitment to widening participation and student success. We are looking forward to building on their recommendations and now using our expertise to launch new apprenticeship routes."

FEAST – An Event exploring the Intersection between Food and Migration

St Mary's University 30 June

The Institute of Theology and Liberal Arts and the Bakhita Centre, in collaboration with The Entrepreneurial Refugee Network (TERN) and Richmond Arts & Ideas Festival, are delighted to announce an engaging event that delves into the relationship between food and migration.



Taking place on the 30th June from 4pm to 8pm, FEAST promises to be an immersive experience showcasing the remarkable stories of refugees who have successfully established their own food businesses.

FEAST aims to shed light on the resilience, creativity, and contribution of refugees in the culinary world. Attendees will have the opportunity to savour mouth-watering international cuisine at the afternoon Street Food Market, peruse local crafts, attend an exhibition and be part of an evening of dance, performance and storytelling.

The event will be held at St Mary's University and in the Waldegrave Drawing Room of Strawberry Hill House. Admission is £25 including food and performance with a 10% discount for group bookings and those made before 16th June.

To book tickets follow the link: [FEAST - Friday 30 June 2023 | St Mary's University Online Store \(stmarys.ac.uk\)](https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/feast)



Lancashire win Gill Burns Women's County Championship title at Twickenham in enthralling game

Lancashire claimed the Gill Burns Women's County Championship Division One title with a sublime display to beat Buckinghamshire 25-15 at Twickenham.

Tries from Zena Francis, Lydia Humphries and Rowanne Smalley combined with the assured boot of fly-half Aimee Wallace, who scored 10 points, was enough to see Lancashire over the line.

Buckinghamshire scored three tries of their own, including a Lauren Head first-half double and Charlotte Dennis' score in the second half.

In the end though Rocky Clark's charges could not quite manage to come back into the game after a blistering 10 minutes from Lancashire at the start of the second half.

After a tense opening ten minutes, it was Buckinghamshire who drew first blood when full-back Head received the ball 10 metres out to dive into the right corner.

Lancashire rallied and reduced the gap to two points almost immediately through a Wallace penalty.

Wallace missed a second penalty attempt to give Lancashire the lead, but they would not have to wait long to make amends when No.8 Francis drove through heart of the Buckinghamshire defence with a powerful carry to dot down.

Clark's side came back to level the scores shortly before the break, again through Head, this time on the opposite side and the teams went in level at 10-10.

That momentum did not quite carry into the second half however, as Lancashire began to build a strong lead. First through centre Humphries, who broke clear to score under the posts, which was duly converted by Wallace, before Smalley calmly finished in the corner to give Lancashire a 22-10 lead with 25 minutes on the clock.

There was a hint of a comeback when replacement hooker Dennis bundled over from close range but once again Lancashire were quickly able to extend the lead back to two scores through another Wallace penalty.



That proved to be enough to seal glory for Lancashire, who will look to make it a sensational double swoop of Twickenham this afternoon when their men face Kent in the Bill Beaumont Men's County Championship Final, a feat last achieved in 2017.

Try-scorer Francis said: "It's amazing, there are no words to really describe it (scoring at Twickenham), once you cross the line and you put the ball down you think, oh my god I have done it!

"I have crossed that line, I have done it for my team and it is such a great feeling. I think I screamed and I probably hurt someone hugging them but it was great.

"We were working so hard for it, we could feel it coming and it is just great that (Aimee) Wallace passed me that ball and I was able to put it over the line.

"It is nice to get a win for the region, we are here to represent the north and we have won, so I think it is a pretty big statement."

Co-Captain Sian Hughes was also thrilled to be presented the trophy by England and Lancashire icon Gill Burns, whom the tournament is named after. "Gill Burns is such an icon and to win this for her and take it back up north, she will be so proud of us as a county, she is obviously a massive advocate for the sport and to see how proud she was, it was just an amazing experience.

"We will be cheering the lads on now, so hopefully we can make it two out of two before getting the bus back up."

Buckinghamshire head coach and England legend Clark said: "Lancashire are a really well drilled side and you have to take your hat off to them, they knew the gameplan and they stuck to it, I think we made a few too many errors and gave away too many penalties. We are disappointed with the result, there is no point hiding from it - but I am so proud of how the girls have been all season, I am a really proud coach.

"It was my highest honour to be here as a coach, leading these amazing women but I am a little frustrated that we could not get the game going as much as we wanted to.

"I was commentating yesterday in the Premiership final, so it was interesting to go from commentator to coach the next day, but it is such a brilliant weekend of rugby.

"We need to celebrate English Rugby's successes at the moment and there has been some brilliant action on the pitch and I am sure there will be more later on with the Barbarians."

The finals for Divisions 2 & 3, as well as the Jason Leonard U20s Final, will take place across the weekend of 3/4 June at Ealing Trailfinders. All the finals will be livestreamed via the England Rugby YouTube channel.

Saturday 3 June at Ealing Trailfinders – Bill Beaumont Division 2 Final & Bill Beaumont Division 3 Final
Sunday 4 June at Ealing Trailfinders – Gill Burns Division 2 Final, Gill Burns Division 3 Final & Jason Leonard U20 Final



RFU Statement

London Irish

The RFU Club Financial Viability Group has agreed to give London Irish a one-week extended deadline to meet the original conditions as set out below and pay the remaining May payroll to staff and players.

1. a takeover of the club has been completed and approved by the RFU, with the buyers undertaking to provide all required working capital to meet the club's obligations as they fall due for at least season 2023/24;

or

2. the club evidences that it will continue to be funded to operate throughout the 2023/24 season. If the club fails to meet these conditions it will be suspended from participating in the Premiership (and other competitions) in season 2023/24 to avoid a scenario where the club enters insolvency mid-season, with the corresponding and substantial impact that has on players, staff, and fans, as well as on the remainder of the league.

The extension, until Tuesday 6 June, has been given following consultation with staff and players who asked for the deadline to be extended to allow them to be paid 50% of their salaries.

Paula Carter, RFU Board Member and Chair of the Club Financial Viability Working Group said:

“It is deeply frustrating for all the staff, players and fans that there have been months of multiple missed deadlines.

“We are extremely disappointed that the club has so far only funded 50% of the staff and player wages, however, we have to respect the wishes of those most affected.

“The 4pm deadline on 6 June is final and we have added the stipulation that the club must also fulfil its contractual obligations to its employees by paying the May salaries in full.”



Frank: I couldn't have written that better

By [Brentford FC](#)

Brentford head coach Thomas Frank has reflected on an incredible season, which culminated in a 1-0 win over Premier League champions Manchester City at the Gtech Community Stadium.

A second-half Ethan Pinnock goal secured the victory for the Bees, which was the second win over City this season, making the west Londoners the only team Pep Guardiola's side failed to beat this campaign.

And, after twice beating a side that could go on to do the treble this season, Frank described the feat as 'incredible'.

"We couldn't have written it better," he said. "You could say that we just couldn't sneak into a European place, but, hey, we did our part so there's nothing to complain about. It was just incredible."

He added: "We know that they didn't put their strongest line-up out there today, I think that's fair to say, but they still had some top Premier League players out there, so they've still got an unbelievable team and we still had to beat them - and we did that!"

"And then, of course, we beat them at the most difficult place in the world to win, which is at the Etihad Stadium.

"I think that the fans will like the narrative that, if they go on to win the treble, we'll have beaten the treble winners twice."

While the 2022/23 campaign had only just finished, Frank was already looking ahead to next season.

After a superb ninth-place finish in the Premier League this year, the Bees boss stated his side will do 'everything they can to come back stronger' next term.

He said: "I think this win and this season is worthwhile celebrating. Finishing ninth in the best league in the world, as Brentford, is fantastic. I really hope that the fans enjoyed that.

"We'll do everything we can to come back stronger. Of course, we respect this league and we know it's crazy, so we know it will be difficult to come back stronger than this.

"But if you don't try it, then nothing will happen."



Brentford stewards recognised for their role in saving fan's life at a game

Written by Brentford Football Club

At the final match of our season against Manchester City, two Brentford matchday stewards were recognised for their role in saving the life of a fan who suffered a cardiac arrest at our fixture against Newcastle United at the Gtech Community Stadium.

Bees fan Raymond Harris was in attendance at the stadium when he had a cardiac arrest in The Dugout. Thanks to the quick reaction of our stewards, Jake Mead-Baker and Abdul Hakazada, they were able to help save Raymond's life by performing CPR.



During our half-time presentation, the stewards were presented with Heart of West London awards, recognising their contribution to cardiac health in the community. Raymond Harris and his wife Leslie were in attendance to give thanks to the stewards.

Raymond Harris and his wife Leslie were in attendance to give thanks to the stewards.

Brentford director Nity Raj said: *“Ensuring we are all trained to perform CPR is so important to support cardiac health. This is evident in how Jake and Abdul made a difference to Raymond's life within minutes.”*

“It's one of the reasons why we're encouraging everyone to take two minutes to learn how to perform CPR as a part of our Heart of West London initiative. It's a crucial skill that really can save lives.”

“We're grateful to Jake and Abdul for their quick thinking and we look forward to hosting Raymond at many more games next season.”

[Heart of West London](#) is Brentford's long-term partnership and commitment to bringing together key players in the cardiac health world to make a difference. The club is partnering with [Brentford FC Community Sports Trust](#), Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals Charity, Cardiac Risk in the Young, Resuscitation Council UK, A-K-A Day and Pablo London.

The partnership aims to ensure that everyone has the basic skills to save a life in the same way our stewards were able to support Raymond at a critical moment.

Heart of West London seeks to raise awareness of heart disease and the lifestyle changes necessary to live healthier lives. The partnership focuses on supporting more research, more screening, more awareness and more support.

[Make a donation to the Heart of West London](#) and scan the code below to learn how to conduct CPR in two minutes.



25,000 additional first time purchases thanks to government support

A tax relief introduced to help people get onto the property ladder has resulted in 25,000 extra sales to first-time buyers, analysis published today [31 May 2023] has revealed.

First Time Buyers' Relief (FTBR) increases the threshold at which first time buyers pay Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT) and was introduced in November 2017.

An evaluation report from HMRC reveals today that in its first year the tax relief boosted first-time purchases by 11% for properties worth between £125,001 and £300,000, and 18% for houses worth between £300,001 and £500,000 – equating to an extra 25,000 homes bought by first time buyers in one year alone.

Victoria Atkins, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said: *“We are doing all we can to make the dream of home ownership a reality. First Time Buyers Relief is making a real difference and it’s just one of the ways we are helping people get a foot on the property ladder.”*

Last year the government increased the thresholds for the tax relief to support the housing market in response to the challenges the property market is facing in a difficult economic period. Currently properties valued below £425,000 do not pay any Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT) whilst properties worth between £425,001 and £625,000 pay 5% SDLT.

These increases are in place until 31 March 2025, after which they are planned to revert to their original thresholds of £300,000 and £500,000, meaning that nearly 70 per cent of those claiming First Time Buyers Relief, continue to pay no SDLT whatsoever.

First Time Buyers Relief is one of many measures which have been introduced by the government to help people get on the property ladder. This includes the First Homes scheme, which offers properties to first-time buyers at 30-50% off the market rate. Shared Ownership meanwhile gives first time buyers the option to buy a share of their home (a minimum of 10%) and pay rent on the remaining share.

The Mortgage Guarantee Scheme has also helped more than 35,000 households get on the property ladder since 2021. It sees the government offer lenders the financial guarantees they need to provide mortgages that cover 95% of the loan, subject to affordability checks, on a house worth up to £600,000.

The government has also introduced the Lifetime ISA, which allow those aged 18-40 to save or invest up to £4,000 per year, receiving a 25% government bonus on their savings.

Since 2010 more than 837,000 households have been helped to purchase a home through government-backed spending schemes in addition to all those who have benefitted from the SDLT reliefs.



HM Treasury

Twickenham Riverside Public Inquiry – programme

Week 1 Tues 6th June – Thursday 8th June

The London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames (Twickenham Riverside) Compulsory Purchase Order & Application in respect of Public Open Space

Outline Public Inquiry Timetable – version dated 1st June 2023

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990, ACQUISITION OF LAND ACT 1981
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (INQUIRIES PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) RULES 2000

PROGRAMME SUBJECT TO CHANGE	
<p>WEEK 1</p> <p>Day 1: Tuesday 6 June 2023 10.00 am</p>	<p>INSPECTOR'S INTRODUCTION AND OPENING [40mins]</p> <p>The Case for London Borough of Richmond upon Thames (LBR)</p> <p>Andrew Tait KC Opening Statement on behalf of LBR [30-40mins]</p> <p>Ted Cremin Opening Statement on behalf of Twickenham Riverside Trust (TRT) [15mins]</p> <p>LBR - GENERAL CASE</p> <p>Procedural and Scheme Overview Mr Paul Chadwick Statement of Evidence [1.5hrs] Questions of Clarification only Inspector Questions Re-Examination</p> <p>Design & Open Space Mr Chris Bannister Statement of Evidence [1.5hrs] Questions of Clarification only Inspector Questions Re-Examination</p> <p>Highways Mr Nick O'Donnell Statement of Evidence [1hr] Questions of Clarification only Inspector Questions Re-Examination</p>
<p>Day 2: Wednesday 7 June 2023 9.30 am</p>	<p>LBR General Case to finish (if required)</p> <p>Planning Ms Iyabo Johnson Statement of Evidence [30 mins] Questions of Clarification only Inspector Questions Re-Examination</p> <p>THE CASE FOR OBJECTORS</p> <p>NS-018 Cllr Geoffrey Samuel (fixed slot) Statement of Evidence [10 mins] LBR questions [5 mins] Inspector Questions</p> <p>THE CASE FOR THE SUPPORTERS</p> <p>SUP-07 Ian Crockford Statement of Evidence [10 mins]</p>

The London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames (Twickenham Riverside)
Compulsory Purchase Order & Application in respect of Public Open Space

Outline Public Inquiry Timetable – version dated 1st June 2023

	<p>Objector Questions [5 mins] Inspector Questions</p> <p>SUP-13 Sam Kamleh Statement of Evidence [10 mins] Objector Questions [5 mins] Inspector Questions</p> <p>SUP-21 Pailk/ Mayer/Young Statement of Evidence [10 mins] Objector Questions [5 mins] Inspector Questions</p> <p>SUP-21A Byron Young Additional Statement of Evidence [10 mins] Objector Questions [5 mins] Inspector Questions</p> <p>SUP-50 Riverside Ward Councillors Statement of Evidence [10 mins] Objector questions [5 mins] Inspector Questions</p> <p>SUP-50A Julia Neden-Watts Additional Statement of Evidence [10 mins] Objector questions [5 mins] Inspector Questions</p> <p>SUP-12 Ellen Purton (<i>pm fixed slot</i>) Statement of Evidence [10 mins] Objector questions [5 mins] Inspector Questions</p> <p>THE CASE FOR OBJECTORS</p> <p>NS-134 Howard Vie [15 mins] (<i>fixed slot</i>) LBR Case NS-134 Questions NS-134 Statement of Evidence LBR questions Inspector Questions</p> <p>NS-025 David Marlow (<i>fixed slot</i>) Statement of Evidence [10 mins] LBR questions [5 mins] Inspector Questions</p> <p>NS-007 Jeremy Hamilton-Miller LBR Case NS-007 Questions Statement of Evidence [20 mins] Questions by LBR [30 mins] Inspector Questions</p> <p>NS-001 Twickenham Society</p>
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**The London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames (Twickenham Riverside)
Compulsory Purchase Order & Application in respect of Public Open Space**

Outline Public Inquiry Timetable –version dated 1st June 2023

	<p>Sue Hamilton-Miller Statement of Evidence [20 mins] Qs by LBR [20 mins] Inspector Questions</p>
<p>Day 3: Thursday 8 June 2023 9.30 am</p>	<p>THE CASE FOR SUPPORTERS</p> <p>SUP-04 Sheila Hale (<i>fixed slot</i>) Statement of Evidence [10 mins] Objector questions [5 mins] Inspector Questions</p> <p>THE CASE FOR OBJECTORS</p> <p>NS-038 Eel Pie Island Association & Eel Pie Boatyard LBR Case Nick O'Donnell [30 mins] NS-38 Questions [15 mins] Mark & Helen Montgomery-Smith Statement of Evidence [0.5 hrs] Questions by LBR [1 hr] Inspector's Questions</p> <p>S-4 Tower of Power T/A Eel Pie Island Bridge Company (<i>fixed 2pm slot</i>) LBR Case Nick O'Donnell [30 mins] S-4 Questions [15 mins] Colin Heath Statement of Evidence [1 hr] Questions by LBR [1 hr] Inspector Questions</p>

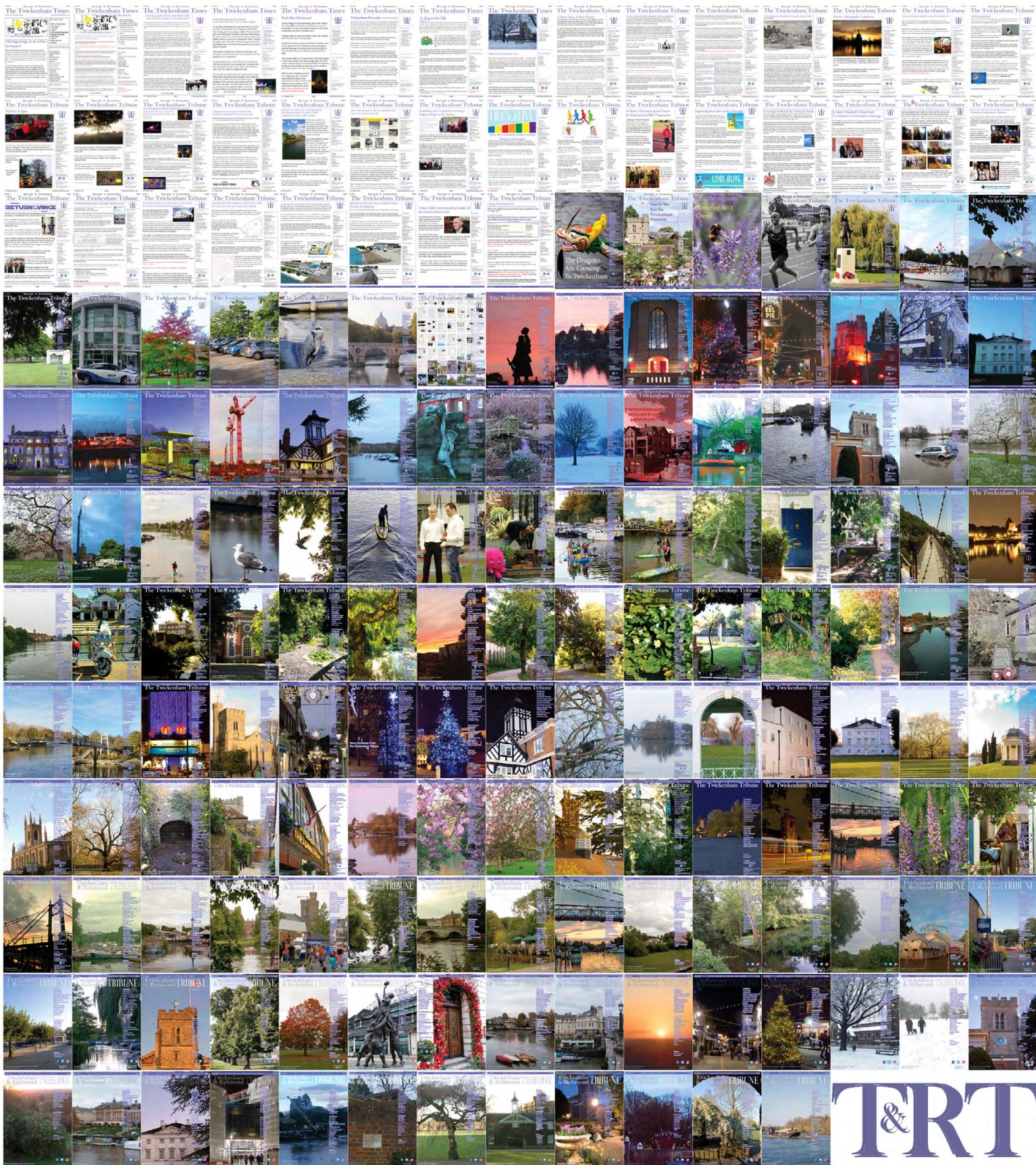
We will publish the rest of the programme in next week's edition

Week 2 Tues 13 June - Thurs 15 June

Week 3 Tues 20 June - Thurs 22 June

Week 4 Tues 27 June - Thurs 29 June

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