

# Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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## Editors

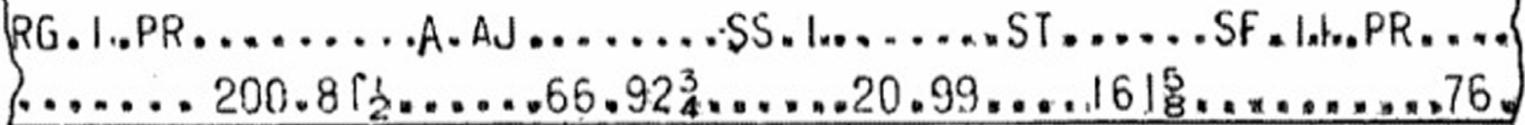
Berkley Driscoll  
Teresa Read



15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

T&RT

Zippos Circus comes to Twickenham Green  
Photo by Berkley Driscoll



# TickerTape - News in Brief

## Weekend travel information

### District line

**Friday 15 to Sunday 17 September**

**No service between Earl's Court and Richmond/Ealing Broadway from 21:00 on Friday and all-day Saturday and Sunday**

Use alternative Tube and rail services, or local or rail replacement bus routes. Customers travelling between central London and Heathrow should use Elizabeth line services to/from Paddington. Rail replacement bus services will run. Visit our [Journey Planner](#) for more information.

### London Overground

**Sunday 17 September**

No service between Gospel Oak and Richmond until 11:00

Rail replacement buses will run every 15 minutes between Willesden Junction and Richmond, and between Willesden Junction and Camden Road.

### Roads

**Saturday 16 September**

**Millwall/Richmond areas**

The Great River Race will be taking place from 12:00 until 19:30, where participants will row the length of the River Thames from Millwall to Richmond. Large crowds are expected.

**Until Tuesday 26 September**

**A316, Lower Richmond Road and Lower Mortlake Road**

Until Tuesday 26 September, Sandycombe Road will be closed southbound, lanes one (eastbound) and three (westbound) on Lower Richmond Road will be closed and lane two on Lower Mortlake Road will be closed eastbound. North Road will also be closed and a local diversion is in place.

There will be more lane closures on the A316 on Lower Richmond Road at the junction of Lower Mortlake Road until Sunday 2 June 2024, for street lighting and traffic signal maintenance works.

**Until Spring 2024**

**Manor Circus**

Until Spring 2024, there will be a series of lane closures and traffic management affecting each arm of the Manor Circus roundabout. This is while we carry out essential maintenance works. To reduce disruption, works will take place on each arm separately with the most impactful works expected to be completed by December 2023.

Bus route R68 will not run its entire route during these works, use the R70 for stops between Richmond Manor Circus and Kew Retail Park. To plan your journey visit [Journey Planner](#) or download the [TfL Go app](#). If driving, delays are expected and you are advised to plan ahead, leave more time for your journey and use alternative routes where possible. If you need to travel through the area, take extra care through the temporary layouts. Check TfL [website](#) for more info.



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# COVID 19

Teresa Read

## IN THE NEWS

**Reuters:** Highly mutated COVID variant found in new countries but pandemic in different phase.

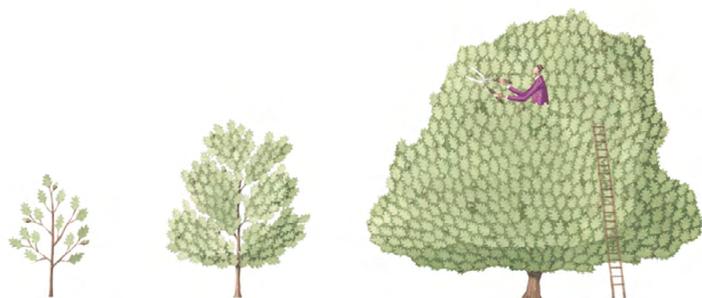
**The Independent:** FDA approves updated Moderna and Pfizer Covid boosters set to arrive soon as cases rise.

**The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** has said that everyone who is eligible get the flu shot sometime in September or October to best prepare for the 2023-2024 flu season. The CDC director added: "While we would all love to leave Covid-19 behind, the virus is still here, and making some people very sick, especially older adults."

**Government of Australia:** COVID-19 vaccine rollout update – 15 September 2023. The World Health Organization (WHO) considers immunisation to be the most effective medical intervention we have to prevent deaths and reduce disease in our communities. Immunisation programs prevent about 2.5 million deaths globally every year.

**GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance:** Will we see a return to masks and lockdowns against COVID-19 this winter? As COVID-19 cases start to rise in the northern hemisphere and new data indicates that non-pharmaceutical interventions were effective in cutting cases, could we see a return to winter restrictions?

**Imperial College London:** COVID-19 Human Challenge Study: We are looking for healthy volunteers aged 18-30 years old to take part in a new COVID-19 Human Challenge Study. The study involves a screening visit, a quarantine stay, during which you will be deliberately infected with the COVID-19 virus and carefully monitored until discharge, followed by five follow-up visits over the course of 12 months.



**The Tree Agency**

darryl parkin

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*The Tree Agency*



# The Local Picture Postcard Column Part 214

By Alan Winter

## South Middlesex Hospital

The South Middlesex Hospital stood pretty much opposite Twickenham Stadium where the Tesco Store sits today. Its address was Mogden Lane, Isleworth TW3 3EL.

Officially opened by the Duke of Cambridge as the Mogden Isolation Hospital in July 1898, it was established by the Boroughs of Richmond (Surrey) and Heston and Isleworth Urban District Joint Isolation Hospitals Committee for the treatment and care of patients with scarlet fever, diphtheria, enteric fever, measles and other infectious diseases.



The hospital consisted of four separate single-storey blocks each containing a ward. Two of these, each with 24 beds in cubicles. Were in a horseshoe – form facing south, while the other two blocks were straight-one was cubicles and one an open ward.

The main kitchen was enormous and could cater for 1000 people. The nurse's home was large and magnificent but the rooms were a bit basic.



In 1938 an administration block and a laboratory were built and the wards were modernised. The Hospital was then renamed The South Middlesex Fever Hospital. All acute cases from the greater area were sent to Mogden.

During the second World War in October 1940, some 26 beds were set aside for gynaecological patients from the Chelsea Hospital for Women requiring surgery. This work expanded during the next two years and 302 gynaecological cases were treated.

In 1947, following epidemics of measles and polio there was a substantial increase in admissions with many patients arriving from the Acton area.

When the National Health Service was formed it became, in 1948, simply 'South Middlesex Hospital' – still dealing with acute and infectious diseases under the North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

In 1952 the hospital including operating theatres was redecorated throughout. There was a difficulty in attracting qualified nursing staff and nursing orderlies were employed instead. (Now, where have we heard that before?)

By 1953 the Hospital had 144 beds, of which only 83 were in use due to the shortage of nursing staff. One ward was closed while two cubicle wards were reserved for fever patients.



Then from 1974 until its closure in 1991 it was administered by the North West Thames Regional Health Authority.

The Hospital closed in 1991 and the site was sold for £12m, which the government had promised to use to redevelop West Middlesex Hospital. In the event, the money went to Chelsea and Westminster Hospital so they could finish a project.

The Hospital was demolished and the site now contains 284 residential units, a petrol station and a Tesco's supermarket with parking for 685 vehicles.

I am always looking for old postcards or old local photographs, so if you have any that are sitting unwanted in a drawer, in a box in the loft or the garage or under a bed, do contact me on 07875 578398 or by email to [alanwinter192@hotmail.com](mailto:alanwinter192@hotmail.com)  
I would like to see them and I pay cash!

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# 'Gone for a Burton'

Report and images by Doug Goodman

The origin of this expression was usually attributed to the purchasing of a suit from a Burton's tailoring shop or going to Burton on Trent for a beer. It was also a phrase in popular use during World War Two to describe a disaster or loss. It was frequently used when a member of the armed forces, particularly an airman, failed to return from a mission. 'He's bought it' was also used to describe a death.

So what's the relevance of this as far as Twickenham is concerned, you might ask. On 21st September 1952 Sir Montague Burton, founder of the clothing empire, died age 67. He had fled from Lithuania in 1900 to escape the Russian pogroms. His company was founded in 1903 in Chesterfield and known as Cross Tailoring Company. By 1929 over 400 stores and factories had been established in the UK. Burton received a Knighthood in 1931 for services to industrial relations. After the end of WW2 Burton's was under Government contract to supply demob suits consisting of jacket, trousers, waistcoat, shirt and underwear. Could the phrase 'The Full Monty' have come about from this? By 1952 Burton was the world's biggest multiple tailor. In 1998 Burton changed its name to The Arcadia Group which was bought in 2002 by Philip Green. Arcadia went into administration in 2020 with huge job losses. In the following year Boohoo.com bought the Burton brand along with Wallis and Dorothy Perkins for £25 million.

Montague Burton had four children: Barbara, Stanley, Arnold and Raymond. It was a company tradition that the foundation stone of a new store was placed by and dedicated to one of the children. Now if you are still wondering what the connection is with our town, stand outside Tesco and examine the store's extreme left and right boundaries. Almost hidden behind pipework at ground level you will see two black marble stones. Both carry the date 1938. One is dedicated to Arnold James Burton and the other to Stanley Howard Burton. It was here, where the food shop now stands, that Burton opened a large clothing store to cater for a growing local population.



Tesco Twickenham



Foundation Stone by Stanley Howard Burton



Foundation Stone by Arnold James Burton 1938

We wonder if any readers have a picture of the original store or recall buying any clothing there. And if you have a demob suit a vintage clothing collector would almost certainly be interested in purchasing it.

# Huge numbers turn out for public meeting on Thames Water's abstraction plans

From Councillor Andree Frieze

## **Standing room only at public event in Ham on Thames Water abstraction plans, organised by Councillor Andree Frieze**

In response to local concerns in Ham, Teddington, Kingston and other parts of south-west London, Green Party Councillor Andree Frieze, Leader of the Opposition on Richmond Council, organised a packed public meeting last night on Thames Water's abstraction plans.

Speakers included **Baroness Jenny Jones**, Green Party peer in the House of Lords, who talked about the failure of the water industry to protect our rivers and seas from sewage. Her rousing speech got the biggest round of applause of the evening.

The meeting was held on Thursday 14 September at St Richard's Church in Ham attended by more than 200 concerned local residents. In the audience were local MP, Sarah Olney, Sir David Williams (former leader of the council) local councillors and members of the public - cyclists, walkers, anglers, swimmers, nature experts, engineers, dog-walkers and all.

Residents expressed their concerns about potential damage to the ecology of Ham Lands and questioned the need for the abstraction plans when Thames Water is losing 635 million litres of water a day through leaks.

Groups of wild swimmers and community environmental groups gave a flavour of the pure enjoyment of swimming in river water, complete with pictures. One of them had encountered a seal that very morning in the water.

Councillor Julia Neden-Watts, Joint Deputy Council Leader and Chair of the Environment Committee, addressed the meeting, as did representatives of Save Ham Lands & River, and Friends of Ham Lands.

Andree Frieze, Councillor for Ham, Petersham & Richmond Riverside, said:

"The strength of public feeling about the Thames Water plans to abstract water in Ham near Teddington weir is clear. As Baroness Jenny Jones said, this scheme will destroy precious green space and make local residents' lives a misery."

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## GOING DUTCH IN TWICKENHAM

Come on down to the Square @ 11.00am Today, Saturday the 16th of September and enjoy Tartouffe, Holland's finest Brass Band. All for free!

What could a better way to start the weekend?

Looking forward to seeing you all with your clogs and Gouda sandwiches.



# Twickenham children are special guests at Zippo's Circus in Twickenham

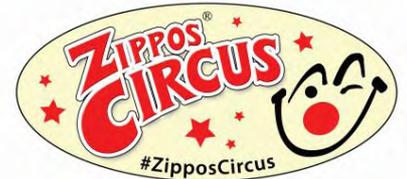
**Zippo's Circus** has performed on **Twickenham Green** almost every year since the early 90s. The circus is a favourite with local families, and as a welcome guest, has become part of the community.

Zippo's operates a Community Action Scheme to 'give something back' to local people as thanks for their loyal support. On **Thursday 14th September** families from the **Twickenham Family Contact Centre** will benefit from the scheme when Zippo's donates 100 guest seats at the 5pm circus performance.

The Centre is just over the road from Twickenham Green, and the manager says children have seen the Big Top in the past and asked how they could go to the show, so she is delighted to take up this opportunity. Zippo's hopes the children can meet some of the circus performers before the show.

Zippo's Circus performs at Twickenham Green TW2 5TU for just six days from Wednesday 13th to Monday 18th September.

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



# Richmond upon Thames launches mobile app for residents

Richmond residents have a new, simple way of managing council services and reporting issues following the launch of the My Richmond App.

The free mobile app brings together a range of essential council services with one log in, including the management of parking permits or booking a bulky waste collection. It is integrated with the Richmond Card, giving easy access to library self-service kiosks and exclusive offers from local businesses. It will enable residents to easily report issues such as fly-tipping, potholes and broken street lights, check their Council Tax accounts or find out the date of their next garden waste collection at the click of a button. The app also shows any live planning applications within 250 metres of your home address.



Councillor Gareth Roberts, Leader of Richmond Council said: “We have launched the new My Richmond App to give residents fast and easy access to council services. Making life more convenient for our residents is essential, so we wanted to make sure the first services to go live in the app were those that people frequently use or might need to access while out and about.”

The [My Richmond App](#) is free and available to download from either the Apple App Store or Play Store. After downloading the app, residents can log in through their Richmond Account username and password to use the app to check everyday information personal to their area.

The app will work alongside the existing Richmond Council website where residents can already access council services via smartphone, tablet, laptop or PC.

## Youth bus comes to Richmond Green to support young people

The Youth Enquiry Service (YES) Bus is setting up shop on Fridays at Richmond Green to offer support services to local youth.

The YES Bus, delivered by Achieving for Children (AfC), is a mobile youth club that parks in various locations offering information, confidential advice, and someone you can talk to.

Operated by professional youth workers, staff at the drop-in service are on hand to engage and support young people during the open access session, offering guidance for young people aged 14 to 19 on:

Mental health, Relationships, C-card training, Drug and alcohol,  
Street smart awareness, Online safety

AfC aim to offer safe spaces and be as inclusive and accessible as possible and will also be engaging with local residents and parents in relation to youth service support to help continue the successful delivery of the initiative.



**Day:** Fridays, **Time:** 6 to 9pm, **Location:** Richmond Green

Dear Tribune,

**See no evil, Hear no evil...**

After seeing a news report this week that Hammersmith and Fulham Council are seizing hundreds of e-bikes dumped on their footways, I wrote to the caring leader of our so-called 'Listening Council', Gareth Roberts, as follows:

*'Dear Cllr Roberts,  
Bearing in mind the ongoing mass of complaints relating to these e-bikes and e-scooters since the project began, I just have one question:-  
If Hammersmith & Fulham Council can seize and confiscate hundreds of these machines, why can't Richmond?  
Kind regards,  
(name and address supplied)'*

To which he replied:

*'Good Afternoon  
'Mass of complaints'?  
I'm aware of isolated complaints, I wouldn't describe them as a 'mass'.  
Indeed in the last month yours is the only email I've received  
Best Wishes  
Cllr Gareth Roberts  
Leader of the Council, London Borough of Richmond upon Thames  
Liberal Democrat Ward Member for Hampton'*

An arrogant and uncaring response from the Leader of what promotes itself as the 'Best Borough in London'.

In fact, Richmond Council's own report of 12 September 2023 clearly states that they receive approximately 20-30 complaints each month about e-bikes and that Lime receive around 10-15 complaints direct from Richmond residents each month, the most frequent complaint being that 'free-floating' e-bikes are often left in inappropriate locations, causing an obstruction for pedestrians, and that under-age users are illegally accessing bikes.

[https://cabnet.richmond.gov.uk/documents/s500006824/Update on e-scooter and e-bikes.pdf](https://cabnet.richmond.gov.uk/documents/s500006824/Update%20on%20e-scooter%20and%20e-bikes.pdf)

So much for the 'Isolated complaints and only one email' quoted by Mr Roberts.

How come a Council leader doesn't even know what his own Council has reported?

Sue Weaver  
East Sheen, SW14

Dear Tribune,

### Coming to a footway near you...

Richmond Council just announced it's building around 40 new parking places for electric bikes and scooters (Council website 7 Sep 2023).

But why waste OUR money when e-bike users constantly just dump them on our footways for disabled and blind people to fall over? More bike and scooter parks will not stop that.

Some time ago, I offered to personally pay for a publicity campaign to educate people not to ride bikes on footways but Council leader Gareth Roberts said it was pointless as people would ignore it and my public-spirited proposal was offensively thrown back in my face.

So why should this initiative by the Council be any different?

I'm sure the Council will say that more bike parks will encourage more people to park in them but I'm equally sure that the people who don't bother to park properly now won't bother to park properly in future.

And I've lost count of the number of times I've seen children riding these machines on our roads. One Lime bike was even dumped in the driveway of Richmond Council's own York House car park only 10 metres from the proper parking place when I attended a public police meeting there recently at which the residents' main concern was antisocial behaviour. The police there did nothing about it as they say it's a Council matter, but the Council do nothing about it because they say it's a police matter.

I have no objections to these machines being used legally, safely and properly.

But they simply AREN'T being used legally, safely and properly – hence the number of accidents, fires, and deaths – so how much longer do we need to run a 'trial' to show that these machines are being used for antisocial behaviour and crime?

Fines imposed on misusers by the rental companies just go into their coffers and don't stop the bad behaviour in the first place.

The present so-called 'consultation' being run by the Council is clearly biased towards the proliferation of these machines and not towards protecting the public.

No doubt its result will be exactly the same as their one for Twickenham Riverside in which Richmond's Liberal Democrat Council's leader proudly claimed that the 0.3% of the population who voted for it was '*broad public support*'.

What's next to be '*broadly supported*'? Something that 0% vote for?

Michael Jay  
Hampton

Dear Tribune,

### **Thinking of moving?**

Hammersmith and Fulham Council is reported as having confiscated hundreds of electric bikes following more than 1,500 complaints from residents:

<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/articles/news/2023/06/we-re-taking-action-dumped-e-bikes>

Clearly, Hammersmith and Fulham actually care about their residents and listen to them.

The question is: When is the present Richmond Council going to show the same concern for its residents?

The answer? Probably never – so if you don't want to be smashed into by one of these bikes as you walk along the pavement, move to Hammersmith or Fulham.

Or to Westminster, or Paris, or any of the other cities that have realised these anti-social machines are ruining, and even ending, people's lives and have done something about it.

Even the majority of people in Amsterdam, the most bike friendly city in the world, want to ban them:

[www.theguardian.com/world/2023/jan/14/amsterdam-crackdown-souped-up-e-bikes-dangerous-streets](http://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/jan/14/amsterdam-crackdown-souped-up-e-bikes-dangerous-streets)

So why doesn't Richmond?

Michael Jay  
Hampton



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# RICHMOND PARK OPEN DAY

A fun day out for all the family

HOLLY LODGE  
SUNDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2023  
11AM - 4PM FREE ENTRY

Parking at Holly Lodge £5

For more information, visit:  
[royalparks.org.uk/richmond-park-open-day](http://royalparks.org.uk/richmond-park-open-day)



# Friday The 25th - What really happened after the Springboks match? Part 2 – A Perfect Storm

From our North Twickenham correspondent, Mac McInerny



**Last week** I described what I have seen and heard from members of the local community who were most affected by the appalling scenes after the Springboks match on Friday 25th August.

Floods of rugby visitors were allowed into residential side streets adjoining Whitton Road and residents took to the streets to urge some of the CSP security stewards back to their posts and to encourage hordes of unwanted visitors to leave. Men and women of all ages witnessed visitors urinating in the roads, along the pavements and in their gardens.

In some ways these appalling scenes could be anticipated. The evening kick off allowed many fans to get 'tanked' before and during the match, communication issues arose on the night and the unprepared state of many CSP security stewards and inadequate supervision were apparent at street level.

This was apparently compounded by an incident affecting train services from

Twickenham.



## **What has been the gossip on the streets?**

Members of the community have expressed anger about the impact of the loud, disorderly crowds and concerns for the effect on the elderly residents of Perrin Court at the end of Grimwood Road.

One resident who described to me the disorder after the match said: "The RFU have absolutely failed Grimwood Road".

So far I have not seen any public response from the RFU or from the Police about the community's experiences on that appalling night.

Just this from a 'semi-official' source - and it wasn't very accurate:

'Friday night was not a good night down by London Road after the South Africa vs New Zealand match. The poor behaviour of some supporters has been widely reported.'

In reality it had not been publicly reported by anyone, the chaos took place chiefly up the Whitton Road corridor, towards the A316, and it was serious disorder of the first degree.

The Police have publicised their efforts to deal with disorder in Richmond town centre on 9th September when two people were arrested, but nothing has appeared about the mayhem in Twickenham two weeks earlier.

Until last week, that is, when the Twickenham Tribune published Part 1 of this article! (See Edition 357, 8th September 2023, page 13)



## What next?

Firstly, I know there is a growing view that the Police and the RFU should not be 'marking their own homework'.

Post-match reviews should take place in the open, not behind closed doors.

The review following the recent Springboks match should be independently and impartially led so that it becomes part of the process of rebuilding the community's confidence in the Police and trust in the RFU.

I believe this is the only way to get a sustainable solution for Twickenham and for the community.

It is true that a renewed emphasis has been

placed on reporting incidents to the Police on match days at Twickenham Stadium.

Providing instructions for reporting incidents to the Police is important, but actually reducing the incidence of anti-social behaviour on RFU event days is nowhere near as simple as that.

Central to a solution that will benefit the community is understanding crowd behaviours on match days and after live concerts, changing public perceptions regarding Police response and addressing the alcohol culture around RFU events.

Essential to this is involvement of the local community, the community which sees and experiences the problems on RFU event days.

It's a win-win all round.

## Next week, Part 3 - Get it fixed

Mac founded his Heatham Alliance community group and Neighbourhood Watch in 2014 and membership is now 600 strong.

Francis (Mac) McInerny –  
Heatham.Alliance@gmail.com

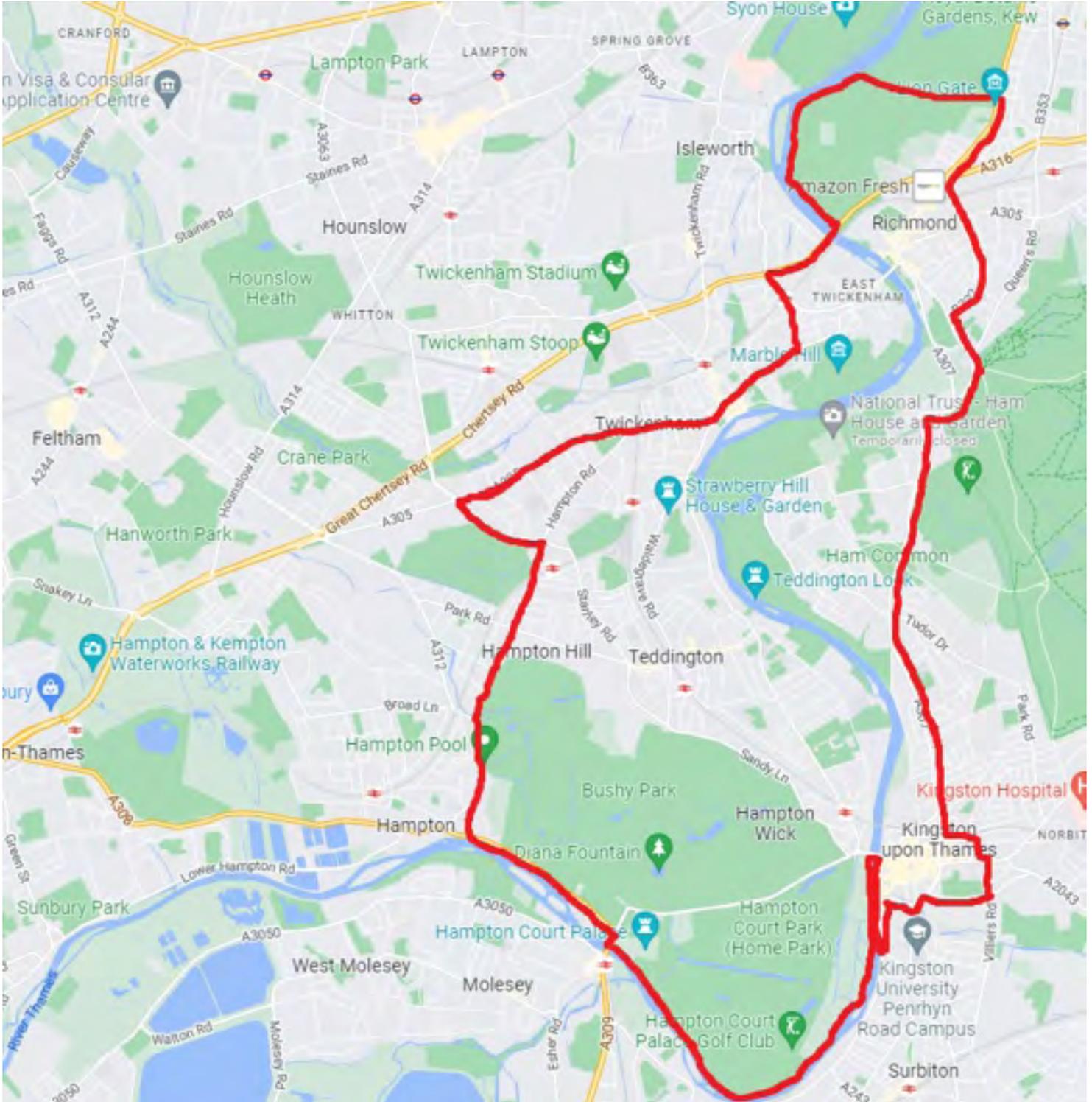


# Dispersal order in place

From Richmond Police

This is due to an Unlicensed Music Event that took place last weekend, which resulted in arrests and multiple incidents of Anti Social Behaviour.

This will be in effect from 16:00hrs on the 15/09/23 till 07:00hrs on the 17/09/23.



**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**

# Richmond in Europe Association to host a charity coffee morning

The Richmond in Europe Association (REA) are hosting a Macmillan coffee morning at Whitton Library, Twickenham, TW2 7BB on Tuesday 19 September from 8.30 to 11.30am.

Teas, coffee and cake will be served throughout the morning.

Come along and meet members of the REA as they share details about the organisation and raise awareness about Richmond's international partnerships.

The event is open to everyone and Ward Councillors will be in attendance to support.

All proceeds will go to Macmillan Cancer Support. Find out [more information about the coffee morning](#).



## Discover the regeneration of a local community

Twickenham Library is holding a unique event on Tuesday 12 September that explores the regeneration of Fulwell since 1945.

The talk is part of the [Know Your Place Heritage festival](#) and aims to illustrate the extent to which the Fulwell area has changed over the last eighty years.

The talk will consider housing, shops and community facilities within the context of social trends such as gentrification, regeneration, and a sense of community.

Underpinning the talk are the memories, experiences and images provided by Fulwell residents and ex-residents.

Event details:

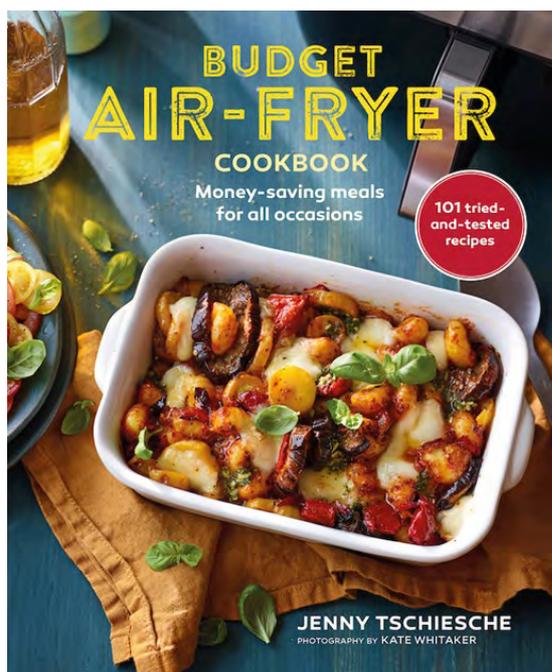
- **Date:** Tuesday 12 September
- **Time:** 2.30 to 3.30pm
- **Location:** Twickenham Library, Garfield Road, TW1 3JT
- **Price:** £6 and £4.50 concessions



[Buy your tickets](#)

## BUDGET AIR-FRYER COOKBOOK

I do love my air-fryer! I use it so often, and hardly ever need to use our main oven now. So any book that gives additional usage ideas is always welcome. I reviewed Sunday Times bestselling author **Jenny Tschiesche's** first book on air-fryers in the 10 February issue of the Tribune this year (click [here](#) if you'd like to read it - page 14) and she has just published a follow up title. As so many of us are now having to tighten our belts financially, this is a must-have, especially when you consider the energy savings when using an air-fryer.



Jenny's new book - **Budget Air-Fryer Cookbook** - offers nutritious and budget-friendly recipes by using the air fryer instead of the oven and/or grill. The recipes cater for a wide range of tastes and needs, exploring ideas for using tins, jars and cartons, cooking from frozen, using up leftovers, using cheaper cuts of meat, grains and pulses, vegetable-based dishes and much more. Jenny Tschiesche is the founder of LunchboxDoctor.com, which provides a whole range of resources, menu plans, recipes and nutrition advice. She has a Degree and Diploma in Nutritional Therapy from Bedfordshire University & Institute of Optimum Nutrition. She is the author of five books, four of those recipe books, and is known for creating healthy and delicious one-pot and one-pan recipes. The book is published by Ryland Peters & Small, at £16.99 for a lovely hardback book, with over 100 tried and tested recipes.

Did you know you can cook eggs in your air-fryer? I hadn't tried it, but I have now. Here are some recipes to whet your appetite. And also a lovely recipe for Taquitos

**EGGS IN TOAST** - *A delicious, all-in-one way to enjoy eggs and toast together.* SERVES 2

- 2 thick slices of day-old wholemeal bread
- 1–2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 2 medium eggs
- 1 tablespoon freshly chopped parsley
- 2 tablespoons hard cheese shavings, eg Grana Padano
- salt and freshly ground black pepper

Brush both sides of the bread with melted butter. Put the bread side by side in a dish that fits in your air-fryer.

Preheat the air-fryer to 200°C/400°F. Add the dish to the preheated air-fryer and cook for 2 minutes, then turn the bread over and use the base of a glass to make an indentation in the bread. Crack an egg into each indentation.

Cook for a further 6–8 minutes, until the whites have just set but the yolks are runny. Serve with chopped parsley, cheese shavings, and salt and pepper scattered over.



**HARD-BOILED EGGS** - There's something so simple and yet satisfying about making hard-boiled/cooked eggs in an air-fryer. The lack of saucepans to wash is particularly welcome! SERVES 4

- 4 eggs, at room temperature

Place the eggs in the air-fryer. Set the air-fryer to 180°C/350°F and cook for 10 minutes (no need to preheat the air-fryer).

Place the cooked eggs in an ice bath or extremely cold water immediately after removing them from the air-fryer. Once cooled, peel the eggs if eating straight away. I like to keep these in the fridge, then peel and roll in a little salt before eating.

**EGG POTS** - *These are a bit like poached eggs, but baked rather than poached.* SERVES 4

- 1/2 teaspoon olive oil
- 4 eggs
- hot buttered toast, to serve
- 4 ramekins

Spray or brush the inside of each ramekin with oil. Break an egg into each ramekin. Preheat the air-fryer to 180°C/350°F. Place the ramekins in the preheated air-fryer and cook for 6 minutes, then remove carefully as the ramekins will be hot. Loosen the edges of the egg from the pot and serve immediately on hot buttered toast.

## JESS'S TAQUITOS

*Jess Levin is an inspiring chef who shares the most enticing recipes under the handle @the\_culinary\_cartel. When I saw this recipe on her Instagram page, I knew it would make a great addition to this book and Jess very kindly allowed me to include it.* SERVES 2-3

- 140 g cream cheese
- 80 g mozzarella
- 40 g kale, stalks discarded, leaves finely sliced
- 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 1 green chilli, finely chopped
- 150 g cooked chicken or cooked/canned kidney beans (or a mixture)
- 4 corn and flour tortillas
- 1-2 teaspoons olive oil
- salt and freshly ground black pepper

### TO SERVE

- sour cream
- tomato salsa
- guacamole or sliced avocado
- pickled red onions



In a bowl, mix the cream cheese and mozzarella with the kale, garlic, chilli, salt and pepper, then stir in the cooked chicken and/or kidney beans (drain and rinse the beans if using canned ones).

Lay the tortillas out flat and place the filling in the middle, dividing it equally between the tortillas. Roll the tortillas into a sausage shape, folding in the ends to secure the filling inside. Brush the outside of the taquitos with oil.

Preheat the air-fryer to 200°C/400°F. Place the taquitos in the preheated air-fryer and cook for 4-6 minutes, until the cheese has melted and the exterior is golden and crispy. Serve with your favourite toppings, such as sour cream, salsa, guacamole or sliced avocado and pickled red onions.

## CLUB DE CENA - SUPPER CLUBS AT TAPAS BRINDISA

We went to a dinner party this week. Well, it was actually a supper club, run by **Tapas Brindisa in Richmond**.

We learnt so much more about a hitherto relatively unknown part of Spain called Castile-La Mancha. We tasted its wines, and its wonderful food, and met an interesting group of like-minded foodies, many of whom are regulars to these events.

On arrival, there was already a gathering of folk at the bar. We were shown into the private dining room, where two long tables were laid up. We introduced ourselves to the other diners, and studied the menu and leaflet about Castile-La Mancha that was helpfully placed on the table. Home of sunflowers, Manchego cheese and Don Quixote's windmills, New Castile, or Castilla La Mancha as Spaniards call it, is the huge inland region just south of Madrid. It encompasses five provinces: Albacete, Ciudad Real, Cuenca, Guadalajara and Toledo.



We were each presented with a very interesting looking cocktail and Roberto Contento, the events manager for Brindisa, introduced himself...and the drink. It was a Manchego Rusa Blanco cocktail: certainly different, as it was made with vodka that had been marinated with Manchego cheese, mixed with Tia Maria and grated Manchego, then topped with whipped cream! It was weirdly delicious, and a great indicator of the calibre of our meal to come. If I'm honest, I would have preferred to enjoy it at the end of my meal, as it was rather rich.

The supper club format, we discovered, is to put plates of food on the tables for people to share. My husband has a horror of sharing food, but actually it was fine, and added to the atmosphere and general camaraderie.

The starters were Pisto Manchego (tomatoes, onions, aubergine courgettes, green and red peppers, and olive oil - served with crusty bread, seasoned butters and 'picos', mini breadsticks). There was a gazpacho as well, made with Manchego and chocolate, as well as a Sopa di ajo (garlic soup). The latter wasn't at all what I had expected, but it was, nonetheless, really good.

We were served Ponce wines to pair with each course. Roberto explained that the vines are biodynamic and grow with very little water, and the first one was incredible. It was a very dry white, from volcanic soil, and had stacks of minerality.



The piece de resistance (or should I say 'pieza de resistencia') was baked lamb of Albacete, dressed with potato, onion and peppers. It was superb, as was the stonkingly good red wine - Bodegas Ponce. It was spicy, beautifully balanced and had great length and paired beautifully with the lamb.

We were then given 'Four Ages of Manchego' served with cubes of membrillo. Roberto showed us the order in which to taste the cheeses and we were given a card with more information. I was delighted to have this, as I will know which to order online from Brindisa.



Another Ponce wine - Clos Lojen - was the perfect accompaniment.



To finish, we were served Alaiu & miguelitos, crema pastelera. Reader, these were little pillows of flaky puff pastry, topped with 'creme pat' as it's also known). Light as a feather, they were the ideal finale.

Brindisa's supper clubs take place every month. They highlight a particular region of Spain with seasonal produce and speciality dishes. Tickets are £60 per person to include the meal and wines.

Aragon is featured in October and Andalucia in November. We will be back, and will hope to meet some of our lovely dinner companions there again.



TEDDINGTON SOCIETY HORTICULTURAL GROUP TALK

# ENCOURAGING WILDLIFE IN YOUR GARDEN\*

BY ANDREW HALSTEAD  
RETIRED RHS PRINCIPAL ENTOMOLOGIST

*\*without it becoming a weed-filled  
wilderness*

**8PM, TUESDAY 3 OCTOBER**

**TEDDINGTON CONSTITUTIONAL CLUB, STANLEY ROAD**

**ENTRANCE FEE: £5 PER ADULT**



Extracts from the 25th anniversary book of an internationally acclaimed internet project from Twickenham

By Teresa Read



THE CARIBBEAN *“What a fantastic piece! This is probably the most accurate depiction of St. Lucia I have ever come across. You have managed in one very superb piece to tell the truth about St. Lucia.” - SLTB (St Lucia Tourist Board).*

It is known from archaeological explorations that Amerindian people from Venezuela were early inhabitants of the Caribbean island of St Lucia. Castries in the north-west of the island was founded by the French in 1650. The capital city and a port, Castries has a lively market selling agricultural produce and local crafts.

During a visit to St. Lucia, I met the one of the representatives from the tourist board at Marigot Bay where Dr Doolittle was filmed; later he sent a very complimentary letter about a short article on the World InfoZone website.

St Lucia is famous for the Pitons, Gros Piton and Petit Piton, twin volcanic peaks rising from the sea; the volcanic peaks are a UNESCO World Heritage site. The volcanic complex, near Soufriere, includes hot springs and sulphurous vents. The surrounding vegetation is tropical and subtropical forest. The marine area of the site includes coral reefs and a variety of sea life such as hawksbill turtles, whales, and whale sharks.

Tourists who visit St Lucia often see the country as an island paradise. However, the Nobel speech by St Lucia’s most well-known poet, Derek Walcott, gives people food for thought: *“The Caribbean is not an idyll, not to its natives. They draw their working strength from it organically, like trees, like the sea almond or the spice laurel of the heights. Its peasantry and its fishermen are not there to be loved or even photographed; they are trees who sweat, and whose bark is filmed with salt”.*



**Caribbean countries on the WorldInfoZone website:** Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Antilles (Netherlands), The Bahamas, Barbados, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, Puerto Rico, Saint Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, British Virgin Islands, United States Virgin Islands.

World InfoZone – WIZ Around the World [www.worldinfozone.com](http://www.worldinfozone.com)

# When are you too old for the circus?

By Deep Patel

~ Through the Eyes of a Twickenham Shopkeeper ~



It's that age old question that so many of us have spent hours pondering...when are you too old for the circus?

Well, Zippos has been gracing Twickenham Green with its presence this past week but what exactly have my customers been saying about it?

Well this has been an interesting bunch of conversations I must say...some love it...some hate it...and some choose to sit somewhere in the middle. One thing that for certain is that good or bad... EVERYONE in Twickenham has something to say about the circus regardless...but what is it that makes them feel the way they do about it?

Well, to answer this, I could take a multidisciplinary approach to collate and triangulate various sources of empirical data together with observed and verified consumer behavior patterns in combination with a testable validity assessment to minimize subjectivity and ensure the accuracy of my findings are both justifiable and ecologically valid...or I could simply engage in simple conversation with my customers to try and find out their views? I chose the latter...

The majority of the customers I spoke to were fairly positive, almost excited even, it was almost like by asking them if they were going to watch the circus, I was asking them a silly question, like it was a given, "of course we are" they would remark...I would follow on by asking why

they wanted to go, most customers said they felt it was a great part of British tradition and culture that they wished to pass on to their own children. Others remarked “It’s GREAT! Just like being a kid again!” or “I love seeing the big-top at night with all its lights brightening up the Green”. Each year at LEAST one of my customers ALWAYS cracks the old joke “aren’t you joining the circus Deep”, or “I hear they are looking for more clowns Deep if you are looking for extra work?”...I grudgingly laugh thinking in my head “look who’s talking?!”...

Let’s not forget, every story has 2 sides...for every customer that likes the circus, there is another that really doesn’t...they say “what a load of over-priced low grade toot”, or “they leave Twickenham Green messy and the noise and light pollution is terrible”. I have even heard others say “circuses are for kids and stupid people”...to all these people I say perhaps lighten up just a tad?

So at what exact age does one become “too old for the circus?”...the answer is quite simple...a person becomes too old for the circus when they forget that there is more to life than just money, when they forget that life is too short for just attending business meetings and working late, when they forget that sometimes it’s ok to try new things, when they forget that their life is not just for them, when they forget that for each thing bad in the world there is something good too, when they forget that life is simply too short...when they forget...how to smile...

“Too old for a circus” is nothing to do with numbers...nothing at all...it’s to do with you yourself...how you perceive things...what you value most...how willing you are to wake up to the reality of what actually truly matters in life, and above all, how willing you are to forget what others think and to simply allow yourself to be happy...So next time you feel that you are “too old” to do something...think of me...remember this article...and gently remind yourself...it is not YOU that is too old...just your way of thinking...so don’t hold back on life...take the chances...never stop believing...because it’s the way that you think that will ultimately create your life, your experiences and your world...make it good...the key to your own happiness is in the way you think...just the way you think...nothing else...just the way you think...

### **Remember...**

***“Change the way you THINK and you will change the way you LIVE...”***

### **MY CREATURE-KINDNESS TIP OF THE WEEK...**

**STOP ANY INSECT KINDLY (GOOD KARMA):**

Sprinkle pure essential peppermint oil, Olbas oil, fine black pepper or white vinegar around places where you don’t want them to come (but NOT directly on them)...they will go without you having to harm them.

For ANY specific tip to stop any “pest” or insect KINDLY (for good karma/blessings), email me: [thedeepatel@gmail.com](mailto:thedeepatel@gmail.com) or join my Facebook page: “KIND WORLD



# Come & Sing Day

**Handel's Messiah and Verdi's Requiem**

**Saturday 16th September, 2023**

10am registration **10:30-4:30pm sing**

**St Mary's Church Hall**

**Church St, Twickenham, TW1 3NJ**

*Cost: £10 for TCS members • £15 for guests*

*Verdi Requiem: music provided for those booking in advance (not guaranteed for others)*

*For further information and to book tickets visit  
[www.teddingtonchoral.co.uk](http://www.teddingtonchoral.co.uk)*

**Tickets also available at the door**

**Coffee, tea and cake provided**

TCS REG. CHARITY NO. 299421



## Strategic Love Play

by Miriam Battye

Paines Plough at The Soho Theatre until 23<sup>rd</sup> September, then on tour until 21<sup>st</sup> October

The staging of *Strategic Love Play* invites the audience to study, from a 360° viewpoint, the awkwardness of the modern first date. Like algorithms attempting to match and pair couples, we analyse the habits, reactions, and subtleties of 'Man' and 'Woman', around which the play's narrative quite literally revolves.

Acerbic wit springs from the script in the exchanges between our potential partners. Whilst they embody an amalgam of personalities, what strikes clearly is the difficulty of today's dating. Brash, outspoken Woman (Letty Thomas) takes the lead in the conversation, throwing increasingly grand and energetic questions to Man (Archie Backhouse), who delivers some fantastically flabbergasted responses, as he tries to maintain his 'nice person' persona. Yet



what really sets this apart in the 'finding-love-in-the-modern-world' genre, is the genuine truth which both characters speak. The lines don't feel scripted, and the pair play off each other in such a natural way that this first date could've been being witnessed for real in the pub across the road. Yet with this truth comes sadness and melancholy; an actual wrench at moments where, had reactions been more honest, the love story could progress. The affecting mood is of a seemingly perpetual state of singleness, and the gloom that both feel at wanting to change circumstances, yet remaining so constricted by them.



The play so adeptly bridges different audience experiences that it would be widely enjoyable even by someone who might use the words Tinder or Bumble only if they'd just seen a beekeeper's shed catch fire.

Director Kate Posner's staging captures the canon of chaotic conversation, the hope and haplessness of much of modern dating. It stylises to make its points in a joyful script of wonderfully, wisely chosen

words, therein depicting a masterful bittersweet portrait of two would-be lovers.

*Strategic Love Play's* best moments linger past countless capital city courtships as, with a pure love for the performance, one heads home back to the streetlights of suburbia

Read Brent Muirhouse's review at [www.markaspen.com/2023/09/09/strtcg-love-play](http://www.markaspen.com/2023/09/09/strtcg-love-play)

Photography by Pamela Raith

## Brontë, the Opera

By Lisa Logan, libretto based on the play by Polly Teale

Keynote Opera at the Arcola Theatre until 16<sup>th</sup> September

Forget the windswept moors, the lumpen servants carrying lanthorns in the dark, for the Brontë sisters in Lisa Logan's new opera inhabit another wild darkness, a Freudian world of their own psyches. The foreboding heath is condensed into their father's parsonage, where they are confined by the mores of the time. It is therefore pertinent that *Brontë, the Opera* has its world première in the Arcola, whose snug space emulates the claustrophobic ambience of Haworth rectory, where Charlotte, Emily and Anne are trapped with their own longings, for freedom, for love, for independence. Their created characters, Jane Eyre, Cathy and Nelly occupy the stage to disconcert their creators, as do Rochester and Heathcliff; all an ominous disquieting presence.

The early *trio, Beyond the House is a Moor*, is a beautifully integrated piece, yet Charlotte tended to control the others, and this domineering nature is portrayed by soprano Elena Garrido Madrona, expounding the demanding role with expressive vigour. Anna Marmion depicts Emily as shy but acutely aware. She imbues her arias with decorated trills, and lovely held notes in the adagio in *Emily's death scene*. Grace Nyandoro's Anne is a gentle creature, concerned and caring, and she adds a lyrical softness to her arias.

Alex White excels as Branwell, his strong tenor bolstering the personality of the Brontë brother, and accurately charting his descent into alcoholism and mental instability. His decline is shockingly accented when he attempts to sexually assault his sister.

Rochester, the towering presence in *Jane Eyre*, is played by Martin Lamb, whose main role is the Rev'd Brontë, patriarch of the family. Lamb's rich bass-baritone lends an air of authority to these mirrored roles.

Rocking the psychological boat is Bertha, the deranged wife of Rochester, a figure invoking mixed emotions of repulsion and sympathy, of awe and pathos, of fear and attraction. She is exuberantly played by dancer Magdalena Mannion, agitated, energetic and expressive. It was not surprising to discover that she holds a degree in Flamencology!

Lisa Logan's score is intricate, mesmerising and absorbing. Atonal in nature, it has lyrical moments, and there are many descriptive passages. Nevertheless, it does lack variety, but conductor Alex Ingram has the work in controlled and experienced hands. He has a dedicated orchestra in the twenty-strong Docklands Sinfonia, and their attention to the piece is palpable.

Director Katharina Kastening's remarkable production deserves wider acclamation. *Brontë, the Opera* is a work of art emerging from its confines, ready for wider vistas.

Read Mark Aspen's review at [www.markaspen.com/2023/09/13/bronte](http://www.markaspen.com/2023/09/13/bronte)

Photography by JP Humbert





# Chess and Strategy Games Club

Develop your skills and make new friends

Discover the exciting world of chess and other strategy games such as Connect 4, Chinese Checkers, Othello and more, under the guidance of professional chess teachers.

Children of all levels and abilities are welcome, and mentoring is available if desired. Suitable for children aged 7-16.

Starts Thursday 7 September.

Every Thursday  
3.30pm – 5.45pm

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# St Mary's University

## St Mary's Rated Top 50 University in the UK

St Mary's University, Twickenham, (SMU) has today been rated in the top 50 of the prestigious The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2024.

Published [online today](#), and in print on Sunday, the 2024 edition of the Good University Guide sees SMU rated in its highest-ever position at 45<sup>th</sup> in the country, and rated eighth amongst the 22 London universities.

The Guide also recognises the University's continued excellence in the categories



of teaching quality and student experience, rating SMU in the top five and top ten in the country respectively and second in London for both.

*I am delighted to see St Mary's has achieved a ranking of 45<sup>th</sup> in one of the world's most respected league tables. Excellence is a core value for SMU, and rising steeply across all league tables in recent years is a result of this value in practice.*

Anthony McClaran, Vice-Chancellor

The University has made significant investment in recent years to enhance the experience of students, and staff at St Mary's work diligently to ensure they have the best outcomes. This is reflected in the rises SMU has seen across all major league tables in recent years. Since 2021 SMU has seen a rise of 41 places in the Good University Guide, 25 places in the Complete University Guide and 30 places in the Guardian University Guide.

Speaking of the results, St Mary's Vice-Chancellor Anthony McClaran said, "This is a notable day for the University. In last year's edition, it was noted that St Mary's was 'on the cusp of the top 50' and I am delighted to see St Mary's has achieved a ranking of 45<sup>th</sup> in one of the world's most respected league tables. Excellence is a core value for SMU, and rising steeply across all league tables in recent years is a result of this value in practice.

"This latest achievement is the outcome of our strong strategic drive on delivering our vision for the future and the hard work of colleagues across the University

in providing an outstanding experience for our students. We know the foundation we provide leads to successful careers for our students. Coupled with this, developing their confidence, sense of community, and critical judgement means, when they leave St Mary's, our students can make a positive impact on wider society."

St Mary's Provost and Chief Academic Officer, Prof Symeon Dagkas, added, "I am sure all members of our University community are filled with pride today, to see St Mary's recognised in this way. I would like to thank team members across the University for their contributions to our academic journey, who have worked collaboratively to achieve these brilliant results. I look forward to continuing the work we are doing, building on this wonderful achievement and seeing where that takes us in future."

Students at SMU also continue to rate their experience at the University highly, as it received outstanding feedback from graduating students in the 2023 National Student Survey (NSS). SMU was rated in the top five in London, and top 20 nationally, in six key themes amongst higher education providers with university status (excluding specialist providers).

The University was rated top in London for Academic Support, with a rating of 89%, and second in London for Teaching on my Course, with a rating of 88%; almost three percent above the sector average. The survey found 94% of students said that staff were good at explaining things, the top score in London, and 87% said staff made their subjects engaging.

The 2024 edition of the Complete University Guide also rated the university in the top ten nationally for student satisfaction.

The University was also the highest riser in the Times Higher Education Research Excellence Rankings, climbing 32 places since the previous edition. In the 2021 Research Excellence Framework, the majority of research submitted by St Mary's was 4\* World Leading or 3\* Internationally Excellent in its originality, significance, and rigour. The University more than doubled its research rated by the REF in the top two three- and four-star classifications as compared to the previous research exercise in 2014.



**St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London**

# No one offline should be left behind



Technology and the internet are supposed to make our lives easier, but for many older people it's just making things harder. Essential activities from booking medical appointments to applying for financial support and even parking suddenly have to be done online. It's unacceptable that people who can't (or don't want to) use the internet are being shut out from these services and their needs simply overlooked.

I have been talking to local Age UKs across the country about the problems this is causing older people and together we have been working to save offline options for services. It's been making a difference – for instance Age UK Rotherham got their council to remove email addresses as a requirement for blue badge applications (which allows access to disabled parking bays). This means many more people who really need a badge are able to apply.

But this is a nationwide issue and it's affecting even more services we cannot live without. Plans to close railway ticket offices show this is getting worse and it's older and disabled people who are suffering.

That's why Age UK is launching a new campaign, 'Offline and Overlooked,' to get the Government to step up and guarantee accessible offline routes to every public service older people rely on. I hope you will join me to ensure older people are not cut out just because they are not online.

Keep up to date

Website: [www.ageuk.org.uk/campaigns](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/campaigns)

Twitter: [@ageukcampaigns](https://twitter.com/ageukcampaigns)



# Rugby World Cup 2023 – England Team to Play Japan

England men's head coach Steve Borthwick has named his team to play Japan in England's second pool match of Rugby World Cup 2023 at Stade de Nice (kick-off 9pm CET, 8pm BST live on ITV Sport).

Courtney Lawes will captain an England side with three changes to the starting XV that defeated Argentina 27-10 at Stade de Marseille last Saturday. George Ford and Ellis Genge are named as vice-captains. In the front row, Kyle Sinckler returns to the side at tighthead prop and is joined by Jamie George at hooker and Joe Marler on the loosehead.

Elsewhere in the pack, the second row pairing of Maro Itoje and Ollie Chessum is unchanged. Lewis Ludlam starts his first game of the Rugby World Cup 2023 at No.8 having come off the bench last weekend in Marseille. Captain Lawes is named at blindside flanker and Ben Earl moves to the openside to complete the back row.

In an unchanged back line, scrum-half Alex Mitchell lines up alongside last weekend's player of the match Ford at fly-half. In midfield, inside centre Manu Tuilagi partners Joe Marchant at 13 and in the back three, Jonny May is named on the right wing with Elliot Daly on the left and Freddie Steward at full-back.

Amongst the replacements, England men's most capped player Ben Youngs returns to the match day 23 to play his fifteenth Rugby World Cup match. He is joined on the bench by Billy Vunipola, free to play having served a two-match suspension and Theo Dan, Ellis Genge, Will Stuart, George Martin, Marcus Smith and Ollie Lawrence.

*"It was both pleasing and important that we were able to start our Rugby World Cup campaign with a good win against Argentina last Saturday," said Borthwick. It was incredible to see so many of our supporters in the stadium in Marseille. Their support means a great deal to the team. We hope that we were able to provide the supporters both here in France and at home with some great memories, and we are setting out to do the same again this Sunday in Nice. After another good week's preparation in Le Touquet, we are looking forward to the challenge of playing a Japan side that will be full of confidence following their comprehensive win over Chile in their opening fixture of the competition."*

15. Freddie Steward (Leicester Tigers, 27 caps)
14. Jonny May (Gloucester Rugby, 74 caps)
13. Joe Marchant (Stade Francais, 20 caps)
12. Manu Tuilagi (Sale Sharks, 54 caps)
11. Elliot Daly (Saracens, 60 caps)
10. George Ford – vice-captain (Sale Sharks, 86 caps)
9. Alex Mitchell (Northampton Saints, 7 caps)

1. Joe Marler (Harlequins, 83 caps)
2. Jamie George (Saracens, 80 caps)
3. Kyle Sinckler (Bristol Bears, 63 caps)
4. Maro Itoje (Saracens, 71 caps)
5. Ollie Chessum (Leicester Tigers, 12 caps)
6. Courtney Lawes – captain (Northampton Saints, 101 caps)
7. Ben Earl (Saracens, 19 caps)
8. Lewis Ludlam (Northampton Saints, 22 caps)

#### Replacements:

16. Theo Dan (Saracens, 4 caps)
17. Ellis Genge – vice-captain (Bristol Bears, 53 caps)
18. Will Stuart (Bath Rugby, 30 caps)
19. George Martin (Leicester Tigers, 4 caps)

20. Billy Vunipola (Saracens, 70 caps)
21. Ben Youngs (Leicester Tigers, 124 caps)
22. Marcus Smith (Harlequins, 25 caps)
23. Ollie Lawrence (Bath Rugby, 15 caps)

## ENGLAND v JAPAN

Sunday 17 September 2023

Stade de Nice

Kick-off: 9pm (local time)



# Gtech to host Australia v New Zealand

Australia will face New Zealand in an international friendly at Gtech Community Stadium on Tuesday 17 October (7.45pm kick-off); Brentford season ticket holders, premium seat holders and My Bees Members can purchase tickets from 10am on Friday 15 September

Written by Brentford Football Club

## Australia will take on New Zealand at Gtech Community Stadium on Tuesday 17 October (7.45pm kick-off).

Tickets for this international friendly start from £16 for adults and will go on sale to Brentford season ticket holders, premium seat holders and My Bees Members at 10am on Friday 15 September. Supporters in these groups will receive an email with further details. Tickets go on general sale at 10am on Monday 18 September.

The trans-Tasman rivals will face off in west London for the recently rediscovered New Zealand and Australia Soccer Ashes Trophy.

Taking place during the October FIFA men's international window, the game will follow Australia's match against England at Wembley Stadium on Friday 13 October.

"We are looking forward to hosting Australia and New Zealand next month," said Brentford operations director Alan Walsh. "We believe that Gtech Community Stadium is the perfect venue given our facilities, staff, and location for international fixtures. We will work hard to deliver a great experience for players, broadcasters and fans alike."

Australia head coach Graham Arnold believes the match will be a great occasion for both teams with the Soccer Ashes Trophy up for grabs.

"We've had some fantastic battles over the years and I'm sure this will be no different," Arnold said.

"It is a rich history that both nations share, and we are looking forward to writing another chapter in what is a storied rivalry that is driven by our competitive desire and connected through a mutual respect.

"Reinstating the Soccer Ashes is a wonderful way to honour the history of our respective national teams and we're excited to be playing for them in London in October."

### Ticket Prices

- **Category B** | £12 Under 17, £14 Young Adults (18-24) & Seniors (65+), £16 Adults, £56 Family
- **Category A** | £16 Under 17, £18 Young Adults (18-24) & Seniors (65+), £20 Adults
- **Dugout (south stand)** | £20 Under 17, £22 Young Adults (18-24) & Seniors (65+), £24 Adults
- **Pre-sale:** 10am local / 7pm AEST, Friday 15 September
- **General public on-sale:** 10am local / 7pm AEST, Monday 18 September

Tickets available from [tickets.brentfordfc.com](https://tickets.brentfordfc.com)



# Butterfly numbers INCREASED this summer

## Results of this year's Big Butterfly Count revealed

Wetter summer was good for butterflies, with average number of butterflies spotted highest for four years

Results of Butterfly Conservation's Big Butterfly Count 2023 have been released today, revealing a better picture for butterflies than had been feared.



Overall, participants of the Big Butterfly Count enjoyed seeing more butterflies this year than in the previous four summers. In total, over 1.5 million butterflies and day-flying moths were recorded from 14 July - 6 August. After an all-time low in 2022 of just nine individual butterflies spotted per Count, this year saw an increase to 12 butterflies recorded on average per Count.

However, this good news is in contrast with what the long-term trends are revealing. Released for the first time this year, these show that since the Big Butterfly Count started 13 years ago, many species have significantly decreased.

It is a further warning sign that nature everywhere is in crisis – butterflies, as well as forming a vital part of the food chain, are considered significant indicators of the health of the environment.

Following last summer's heatwave and drought, scientists at Butterfly Conservation called on the public to help them understand the effect the extreme weather had on the UK's butterflies. People responded in their thousands, with almost 95,000 citizen scientists taking part in this year's Big Butterfly Count, conducting 136,719 15-minute Counts in gardens, parks, school grounds and the countryside.

Dr Zoe Randle, Senior Surveys Officer at Butterfly Conservation, said: *"It's wonderful that so many people have been out enjoying spotting butterflies. We had huge support for the Big Butterfly Count this year, and thanks to the many people who went out during those sunny intervals, we now know that the effects of last year's drought were not as bad for butterflies as we had feared."*

*"The mixed weather this year has helped as there has been an abundance of green food plants available for caterpillars, and plenty of nectar-rich flowers for adult butterflies. However, while the number of butterflies recorded this summer has been the highest since 2019, the longer-term trends show worrying declines for some of the UK's most common butterfly species."*

The most-seen species this year was the Red Admiral, with 248,077 recorded - an increase of 338% on last year's Count and the first time the species, which is increasing in the UK as a result of climate change, has taken the top-spot.

Gatekeeper was next, with 222,896 sightings. This represents a 12% increase on last year and is a small, but welcome, boost for a species that has decreased by 28% since the Count began.

The Whites took the third and fourth spot, with 216,666 sightings of Large Whites and 190,506 of Small Whites, an 11% and 15% increase on 2022 respectively. Holly Blue had another good summer, with numbers up 66% on 2022, in keeping with its longer-term Big Butterfly Count trend of a 41% increase.

Species that saw a decline from last year include Ringlet, Common Blue and Speckled Wood, all of which also show long-term declines.

Although its numbers hardly changed compared to summer 2022, Green-veined White has the most severe Big Butterfly Count trend in the longer term, a decrease of 61%.

Dr Richard Fox, Head of Science at Butterfly Conservation, explained: *"One of the biggest threats butterflies in the UK face is habitat loss. While the weather certainly has an impact on numbers from year to year, butterflies, moths*

and many other species can generally cope with variable weather. What they can't cope with is habitat destruction. "Butterflies need a place to live. If they can feed, breed and shelter, they can thrive. By creating a Wild Space in your outdoor area you can help to reverse the massive losses of wildlife-friendly habitat and start to turn around the fortunes of our declining butterflies."

Anyone, anywhere, can create a Wild Space. Whether it's leaving a patch of long grass in your garden or planting a small selection of nectar rich plants on a balcony, the opportunities are vast and everyone can make a difference.

Dr Richard Fox concluded: "Nearly 137,000 Big Butterfly Counts were recorded this summer and if every single person who helped with the Count creates a Wild Space, we can build a UK-wide network of spaces for butterflies to feed, breed and shelter. By creating a Wild Space everyone can make a difference and help butterflies and moths thrive."

Butterfly Conservation has free resources and guidance on creating a Wild Space available, including accessible, tailored, simple advice for anyone to have a go.

### BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT RESULTS 2023

Species results in the UK – Big Butterfly Count 2023

Next year's Big Butterfly Count will take place from Friday 12th July – Sunday 4th August 2024.

BBC 2023: UK		Abundance	Average per count	% change from 2022	13 year trend (bold significant)
1	Red Admiral	248,077	1.96	338	<b>77.7</b>
2	Gatekeeper	222,896	1.77	12	<b>-28.01</b>
3	Large White	216,666	1.72	11	<b>26.86</b>
4	Small White	202,029	1.60	15	2.46
5	Meadow Brown	162,396	1.29	6	<b>-16.52</b>
6	Peacock	149,179	1.18	172	-7.24
7	Comma	49,173	0.39	26	5.22
8	Small Tortoiseshell	45,364	0.36	11	<b>-29.82</b>
9	Holly Blue	34,655	0.27	68	<b>41.37</b>
10	Common Blue	30,009	0.24	-13	<b>-43.8</b>
11	Speckled Wood	29,708	0.24	-11	<b>-37.88</b>
12	Green-veined White	24,093	0.19	0	<b>-60.87</b>
13	Ringlet	23,048	0.18	-37	<b>-40.88</b>
14	Small Copper	19,367	0.15	11	<b>66.2</b>
15	Brimstone	17,694	0.14	73	-9.53
16	Painted Lady	11,893	0.09	3	<b>113.08</b>
17	Six-spot Burnet	9,271	0.07	-23	-
18	Marbled White	8,611	0.07	12	-2.61
19	Silver Y	5,650	0.04	171	-
20	Jersey Tiger	4,748	0.04	5	-
21	Scotch Argus	1,234	0.01	-11	-
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,515,761</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>34</b>	-

To find out more about Wild Spaces visit: <https://wild-spaces.co.uk/>

To find out more about Butterfly Conservation visit: <https://butterfly-conservation.org/>

# Delays to planning fee increase continue to cost taxpayer £5 million a week – councils

Taxpayers will continue to subsidise planning services by almost £5 million a week until the Government finalises measures to increase fees to cover the cost of processing applications, councils warn today.

The Government has committed to raising planning fees by 35 per cent for major applications and 25 per cent for minor and other applications, laying the regulations in Parliament before the summer recess. These now need to be voted on by both the House of Commons and the House of Lords before they can come into effect.

The Local Government Association, which represents councils, is urging the Government to urgently make parliamentary time to introduce the fee uplift, following the return of MPs to Parliament.

Planning fees currently do not cover the true cost of processing planning applications, with 305 out of 343 local authority planning departments operating in a deficit totalling £245.4 million in 2020/21.

LGA modelling has shown that in order to ensure all councils in deficit are able to balance the books, fees would need to be increased by 57 per cent, far higher than the proposed increase, highlighting the need for councils to have the flexibility to set fees at a local level to cover their individual costs.

However, any delays to the proposed increase would mean further costs placed on the taxpayer.

As the House of Lords debates the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill today, the LGA has reiterated calls for councils to be able to set their own planning fees.

Cllr Darren Rodwell, LGA planning spokesperson, said:

*“It is good the Government has recognised the resource issues facing council planning teams and announced it will increase planning fees.*

*“While this will not resolve all the capacity challenges within planning departments or prevent a significant national funding shortfall, it is vital the Government does not delay introducing the fee uplift, or taxpayers could be faced with a cost of subsidising the planning system to the tune of almost £5 million a week.*

*“Only by giving councils the flexibility to set planning fees at a local level can they cover their full costs relating to planning. This would help to future-proof the sector and ensure planning departments can continue to support the delivery of much-needed new homes, including the affordable homes and infrastructure that the country needs.”*



# Data reveals the most child-friendly London boroughs

Rank	Name	Average Rent for a 2-Bed Flat (£pcm)	Schools per 10,000 people*	Outstanding schools per 10,000 people*	Recorded Crimes (2022-2023) per 100,000 people	Nurseries per 10,000 people*	Childminders per 10,000 people*	Family-Friendly Score/10
1	Richmond upon Thames	£2,729	22	7	5,805	2	12	8.20
2	Barnet	£2,354	22	5	7,103	3	8	7.97
3	Southwark	£5,435	23	5	10,690	4	14	7.87
4	Camden	£4,145	29	6	14,654	3	9	7.55
5	Bromley	£1,828	19	4	7,039	1	15	7.50
6	Wandsworth	£3,030	22	5	7,880	2	8	7.42
7	Islington	£3,799	22	5	12,301	3	12	7.36
8	Kingston upon Thames	£2,565	20	4	7,482	2	9	7.26
9	Bexley	£1,589	18	2	6,317	2	13	7.18
10	Lambeth	£4,454	21	6	10,524	2	10	7.16

**Richmond upon Thames** unquestionably shines as the prime choice for families looking to rent in London with kids. With an average rent price of £2,729 for a 2-bed flat, the borough boasts 22 schools per 100,000 people, which includes an impressive 7 outstanding schools per 100,000 people, ensuring top-tier education opportunities for children. Safety is paramount, as Richmond records only 5,805 crimes per 100,000 people in the 2022-2023 period, the lowest of all boroughs. Moreover, the presence of 2 nurseries and 12 childminders per 100,000 people highlights the borough's commitment to childcare and early development. With a commendable family-friendly score of 8.2/10, Richmond stands as the epitome of an ideal London borough for families seeking a nurturing and vibrant community to call home.

Barnet emerges as the second choice for families seeking rental accommodations in London. With an average rent price of £2,354 for a 2-bed flat, the borough also has 22 schools per 100,000 people, which includes 5 outstanding schools per 100,000 people. Barnet recorded 7,103 crimes per 100,000 people in the last year, one of the lowest numbers among the boroughs. Furthermore, it provides 3 nurseries and 8 childminders per 100,000 people. This results in a commendable family-friendly score of 7.97/10.

Followed closely by Southwark, which ranks as the third-best London borough to rent with kids with a family-friendly score of 7.87/10. With an average rent price of £5,435 for a 2-bed flat, it is the third most expensive borough to live in. Nevertheless, Southwark provides 23 schools per 100,000 people, 5 of which are outstanding schools per 100,000 people. However, safety can be a concern with 10,690 recorded crimes per 100,000 people in the last year, one of the highest numbers of crimes recorded in London. On a positive note, the borough offers 4 nurseries and 14 childminders per 100,000 people.

Ranking fourth is the borough of Camden, with a score of 7.55/10. It is a delightful London borough renowned for its diverse culture, iconic Camden Market, picturesque green spaces like Regent's Park, excellent schools, and a thriving arts scene, making it a sought-after destination for residents and visitors alike.

Making the top 5 is Bromley, a charming borough known for its leafy suburbs, excellent schools, abundant green spaces like Crystal Palace Park, historic sites like Bromley Palace, and a welcoming community, making it an ideal choice for families and nature enthusiasts, scoring a family-friendly score of 7.50/10.

You can find the full dataset [here](#).

<https://www.alanboswell.com/landlord-insurance/landlord-building-insurance/>

# Chancellor responds to the July 2023 GDP

The Chancellor Jeremy Hunt's response to ONS July GDP statistics is below:

Chancellor of the Exchequer Jeremy Hunt said:

*"Only by halving inflation can we deliver the sustainable growth and pay rises that the country needs.*

*"But there are many reasons to be confident about the future. We were among the fastest in the G7 to recover from the pandemic and the IMF have said we will grow faster than Germany, France, and Italy in the long term."*

## Additional information:

- The ONS noted that GDP in July was impacted by one off factors , in particular strike action in the public sector and exceptionally wet weather.
- Looking at the broader picture, the ONS make clear that GDP increased by 0.2% in the three months to July 2023, with growth in all three main sectors.
- Since 2010, the UK has grown faster than France, Japan and Italy, and about the same rate as Germany.
- Recent figures have shown that by 2021 the UK had actually recovered faster than France, Germany, Italy and Japan, with the economy 0.6% above pre-pandemic levels by 2021 Q4.
- The Spring Budget tackles two of the biggest issues for UK growth – employment levels and business investment – while also supporting households with cost-of-living pressures.
- This includes major reforms to help parents back to work with an expansion of free childcare and a £27 billion tax cut for business through radical 'full expensing' policy and capital allowances reform, which the IMF say will boost growth.
- We are maintaining record levels of capital investment - £600bn over the next 5 years – including investment in critical infrastructure.



HM Treasury

# Big steps forward in capital markets cooperation with India

- Jeremy Hunt, Chancellor of the Exchequer, today unveiled a series of shared economic and financial commitments with India, following talks with Indian Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Delhi.
- The Chancellor welcomed India's confirmation to explore London as a permitted jurisdiction for overseas direct listings of securities.
- Agreements also include the launch of a partnership to boost cross-market investment by the insurance and pension sectors and an initiative to share expertise in structuring and financing major infrastructure projects.

Indian firms could soon list in London, it has been announced as part of a package of plans unveiled today by the Chancellor Jeremy Hunt alongside Indian Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, as they met in Delhi for face-to-face talks. The news that India will explore potential London listings follows recent changes to Indian regulation to allow domestic companies to access global markets and underlines the UK capital's strength as a hub for international capital raising.

In addition, a new UK-India Pensions and Insurance Partnership will support the growth of the sector in both countries. The partnership will focus on knowledge sharing, growing bilateral investment and diversifying risk, including through pension fund trade missions to encourage increased bilateral investment.

The launch of a UK-India Infrastructure Financing Bridge was also announced today. Co-led by Indian public policy think tank NITI Aayog and the City of London Corporation, the initiative will focus on sharing expertise in structuring and financing major infrastructure projects.

The announcements are part of a series of commitments unveiled following high-level meetings as part of the 12<sup>th</sup> UK-India Economic and Financial Dialogue (EFD).

## **Jeremy Hunt, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said:**

*"I'm very proud of the progress we've made through the UK-India EFD this time. It's a big step forward to hear India confirming that they'll explore the London Stock Exchange as an international destination for the direct listing of Indian companies. I see India as Asia's Silicon Valley and the UK as Europe's Silicon Valley, so there's a lot we can work on together."*

Total trade between the UK and India was worth £36.6 billion in the last financial year, up over 34% year on year, with an £82 million increase in UK-Indian financial services trade over last year. EFDs are a regular way of deepening ties to grow the economies of both countries.

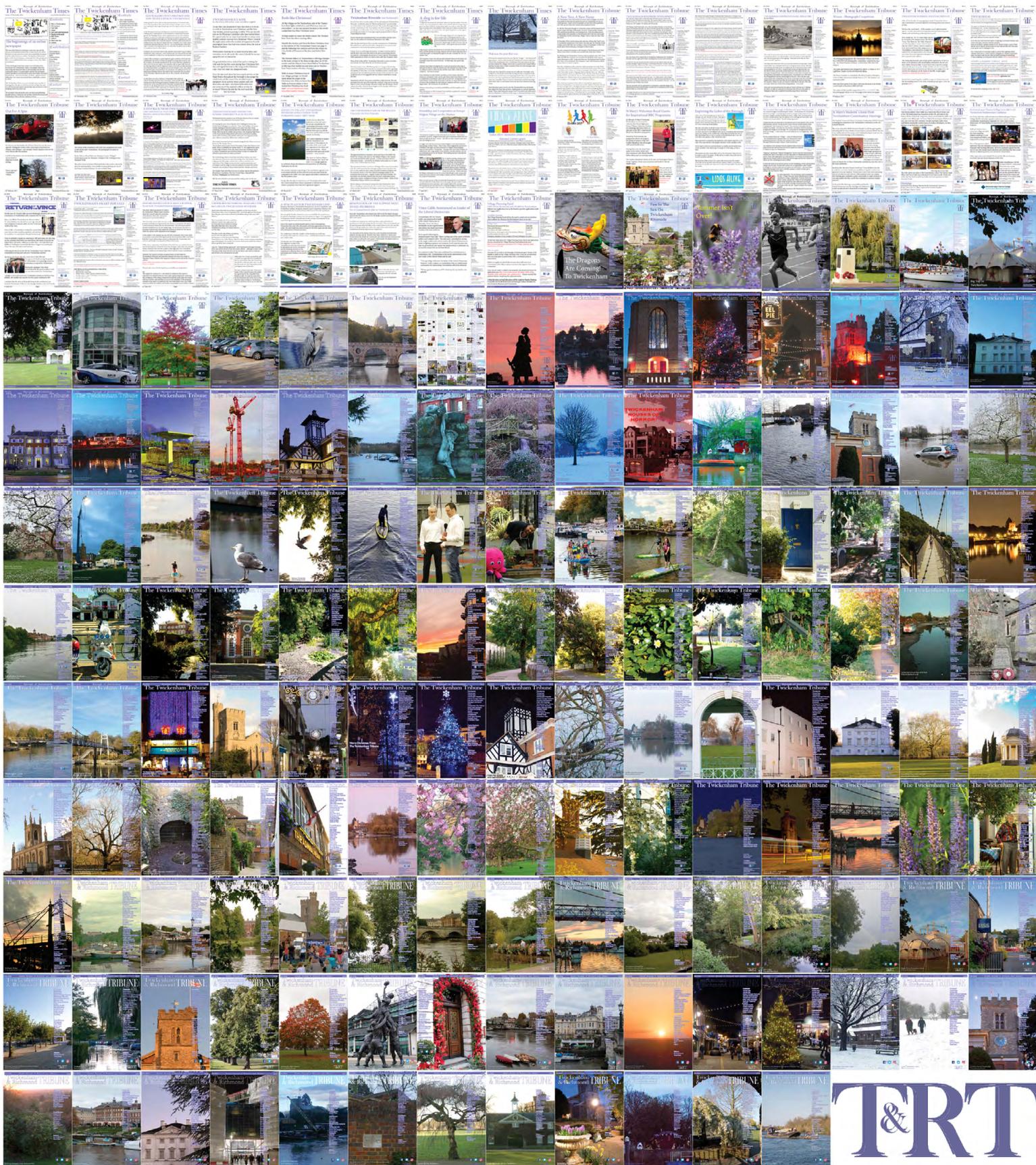
Investment between the UK and India so far already supports over half a million jobs across both economies, and UK businesses sold goods and services worth around £15 billion to India in 2022.

Today's EFD was the first face to face meeting of its kind between a UK chancellor and Indian counterpart since 2017, with the most recent taking place virtually in 2021. India-UK trade has more than doubled since the first EFD in 2007.



**HM Treasury**

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