

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE



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Editors

Berkley Driscoll
Teresa Read



10th November 2023

T&RT

TwickerSeal and his chums have gathered in the York House Gardens, to celebrate seven years of the Twickenham & Richmond Tribune.

The Tribune was first published on Friday 11th November 2016, and has been published every Friday since then – without fail.

But TwickerSeal knows that the 11th of November is a much more important date to be remembered.

We shall not forget.



TickerTape - News in Brief

Planning Inspectorate grants Richmond Council Compulsory Purchase Powers to take Diamond Jubilee Gardens.

This means the council will be able to proceed with its development of the public land on Twickenham Riverside. Residents will be able to look forward to private luxury housing, another pub and an 'event space' on the road within the flood zone.

Travel

TfL

District line, Saturday 11 November

No service on the entire line until 15:00
Use alternative Tube services or local bus routes within central London. Rail replacement buses will run between Earl's Court and Wimbledon, Canning Town and Dagenham East and between Earl's Court and Kensington (Olympia).

South Western Railway

Sunday 12 November

The lines in the **Teddington** area will be **closed all day** due to maintenance work.

- **London Waterloo to Shepperton** services will be diverted after **New Malden** and will terminate at **Hampton Court**, calling additionally at **Surbiton**.
- **Buses** will run between **New Malden and Shepperton via Kingston**.
- **London Waterloo to London Waterloo via Wimbledon and Kingston** services will be diverted after **New Malden** and will terminate at **Hampton Court**, calling additionally at **Surbiton**.
- **Buses** will run between **New Malden and Twickenham via Kingston**.
- The afternoon and evening **London Waterloo to Kingston via Hounslow** services will be **revised** and will **not** call at **Queenstown Road**. These services will terminate at **Hounslow**.



The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

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The Local Picture Postcard Page Part 222

By Alan Winter

White Hart Hotel – Hampton Wick

Hampton Wick grew up at the Middlesex end of Kingston Bridge. In the 16th and 17th centuries the bridge was the first above London, and this together with the vicinity of Hampton Court Palace, meant that there were a number of inns in the area. Among these was the White Hart on the present site (rebuilt c 1930 in at least its third reincarnation.) In 2000, Fullers, who had owned the pub for over 100 years added some 30+ bedrooms to the rear of the building and it now operates as a hotel/pub at the foot of Kingston Bridge at No.1, High Street, Hampton Wick.

In 2011 a square trading token was found making reference to “John Harris At Ye White (Hart) In Hampton Weeke.” In circulation between 1648 and 1672, this token gives us the earliest mention of the pub.

Our postcards this week were all photographed during the so called ‘Golden Age of Postcards’ in the first 20 years or so of the 20th Century.



We know that the pub was being run by John Harris and John Addams who was a Barber Surgeon. At this time surgery was often practiced by barbers who were by the nature of their trade specialists in using razors!



There was in fact a barber shop in the corner of the building and there are even records of every barber who worked at The White Hart from 1832 to 1917, before the building dropped its dual identity and focused on serving drinks.



It's likely that the pub got its name during the reign of King Richard II, when an act was passed making it compulsory for pubs and inns to put up a sign to identify them. The white hart stag appeared in the personal badge of the king – so many pubs, including this one, would have adopted it as their sign to show their allegiance.

Our last image is not a postcard but is a photograph of the White Hart as it is today.

With thanks and acknowledgement of some of this content to the Hampton Wick History Society and Ray Elmitt, author of the book 'Hampton Wick – Brick by Brick'.

If you have any old postcards that you would consider parting with, I'd be very interested in arranging to see them.

Please contact me on 07875 578398 or by email at alanwinter192@hotmail.com

I am happy to pay cash for anything like that which I find of interest. So don't throw old postcards etc. in the skip or recycling bins. Show them to me first!

A date for your diary. Saturday November 18th. The West London Postcard Fair takes place at Teddington Baptist Church between. 10.00 and 4.00. Refreshments all day. Some 14 dealers. My tables are by the stage. Come and say hello and bring along any old postcards you may wish to dispose of.

Thanks, stay safe and well.



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With over 50 years experience we pride ourselves on being able to offer an unrivalled service with attention to detail. Come and have a chat with us in our cosy office off the Church Street Square, we are open 6 days a week from 11am until 6pm (Closed Sunday)



We Will Remember Them

Report and pictures by Doug Goodman

This weekend events take place around the UK to commemorate the fallen of World War One, The Second World War and subsequent conflicts. The major commemoration will be held at The Cenotaph in London at 11.00 a.m. on Sunday when the King, other members of The Royal Family, Government ministers, leaders and members of the armed forces, representatives of Commonwealth Countries, veterans and the public will place a wreath on The Cenotaph. In the grounds of Westminster Abbey the annual poppy field remembers those killed in war, where anyone can place a cross to commemorate a relative or friend.



The Cenotaph



Westminster Poppy Field



In Memory of Alec Reader

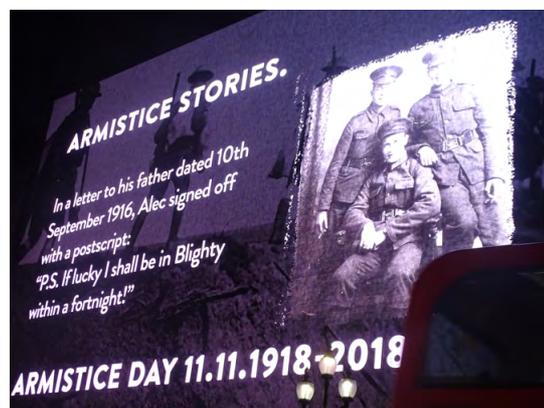
In Radnor Gardens in Twickenham a ceremony will take place at the war memorial in the presence of local dignitaries, the church, representatives from the navy, army and air forces, police and other services. One Twickenham resident, Doug Goodman, remembers his uncle Alec Reader who joined the Prince of Wales Own Civil Service Rifles in 1915 at the age of 17. His was billeted in Richmond Park for initial training before heading to France in 1916. His moving letters home to his mother paint a vivid picture of life in the trenches. On September 15th 1916 Alec took part in The Somme battle for High Wood and almost certainly saw the very first tanks. At 6.30 a.m. on that day, as he and his comrades bombed the German Switch Trench in High Wood, he was killed by a sniper. A friend was beside him as he fell and the event was recorded in a diary which came to light 80 years later.



Radnor Gardens



Thiepval Memorial



Piccadilly Circus Commemoration to Alec

Alec Reader has no known grave but his name appears along with 73,000 others on the

memorial at Thiepval to those without a burial spot. Following several years of research at Kew Records Office and at Regimental museums and many visits to Northern France, a detailed study of Alec's short military life was compiled. On 15th September 2016, one hundred years to the hour and on the exact spot in the little wood where he died, members of his family gathered to remember their relative. Later that day a wreath was placed at The Thiepval Memorial by three generations of the family – Alec's nephew, great nephew and great-great nephew.



Photos of Family and Comrades of Alec



Alec's Sister and Mother of the Writer



Medals and Documents

Each year Doug puts a cross in the poppy field at the Abbey alongside others dedicated to members of the Civil Service Rifles. In the past two decades seven books and many articles have covered the life of Alec after the Imperial War Museum's archives received his letters and documents. So the memory of a boy, who enlisted under age and was about to be released from military service, is kept alive.



Poppies on the Somme

Details of war casualties can be found on www.cwgc.org

Remembrance Sunday services taking place across the borough

This year Remembrance Day services are being held across Richmond Upon Thames to commemorate and honour those who were lost in WW1 and WW2.

Remembrance Day, also known as Armistice Day, falls on 11 November, with the occasion also marked every year on the second Sunday of November, known as Remembrance Sunday.

With Remembrance Sunday services organised by the Royal British Legion and local Church authorities happening throughout Richmond upon Thames, there will be service near to you where you can go to pay your respects and recognise the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life.

The services will be attended by Members of the Council and our Members of Parliament. Residents are invited to join their local commemoration of British and Commonwealth soldiers, sailors, airmen and women as well as the members of the emergency services and civilians to ensure that no-one is forgotten.

Most events will consist of a parade of Armed Forces veterans, civic dignitaries and religious officials followed by a service and two-minute silence at 11am.

Remembrance events

The remembrance events across the borough this year are as follows:

Barnes

Event details:

- **Date:** Sunday 12 November
- **Time:** 10.55am
- **Location:** St Mary's Church, Church Road, Barnes, SW13 9HL
- **Attended by:** Councillor Marjory Millum

East Sheen

Event details:

- **Date:** Sunday 12 November
- **Time:** Assembly at 10.30am
- **Location:** March begins at Sheen Lane Centre Car Park, East Sheen, SW14 8LP
- **Attended by:** Councillor Zoe McLeod

East Twickenham

Event details:

- **Date:** Sunday 12 November
- **Time:** 9am
- **Location:** St Stephen's Church, Richmond Road, East Twickenham, TW1 2PD

Ham

Event details:

- **Date:** Sunday 12 November
- **Time:** 10am
- **Location:** St Andrew's Church, Church Road, Ham Common, Richmond, TW10 5HG
- **Attended by:** Councillor Gareth Richards

Hampton

Event details:

- **Date:** Sunday 12 November
- **Time:** Parade begins at 12pm
- **Location:** Hampton Methodist Church in Percy Road, Hampton, TW12 2JT
- **Attended by:** Councillor Gareth Roberts

Hampton Hill

Event details:

- **Date:** Sunday 12 November
- **Time:** 9.30am
- **Location:** St James' Church, St James's Rd, Hampton Hill, Hampton
- **Attended by:** Councillor Jonathan Cardy

Hampton Wick

Event details:

- **Date:** Sunday 12 November
- **Time:** 10.40am
- **Location:** Procession begins at Foresters Arms, 45 High Street, Hampton Wick, London, KT1 4DG
- **Attended by:** Councillor Jim Millard

Petersham

Event details:

- **Date:** Sunday 12 November
- **Time:** 10am
- **Location:** St Peter's Church, Church Lane, off Petersham Road, Richmond, London, TW10 7AB
- **Attended by:** Councillor Penny Frost

Richmond

Event details:

- **Date:** Sunday 12 November
- **Time:** Parade begins at 10.15am, service at 10.40am, wreath laying at 11am
- **Location:** Parade start in Old Deer Park and will process to Whittaker Avenue, where a service will be held at the War Memorial
- **Attended by:** The Mayor, Councillor Suzette Nicholson

Teddington

Event details:

- **Date:** Sunday 12 November
- **Time:** 10am
- **Location:** The Royal British Legion, 135 High Street, Teddington, London, TW11 8HH. Parade to Teddington Hospital War Memorial at 10.15am for arrival at 10.45am where wreaths will be laid
- **Attended by:** Councillor Phil Giesler

Twickenham

Event details:

- **Date:** Sunday 12 November
- **Time:** Parade begins at 10.45am
- **Location:** Radnor Gardens, Cross Deep, Twickenham, TW1 4RB
- **Attended by:** The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Fiona Sacks

Whitton

Event details:

- **Date:** Sunday 12 November
- **Time:** 10.45am
- **Location:** Whitton War Memorial, St Philip & James Church, 73 Hounslow Rd, Whitton, TW2 7BY
- **Attended by:** Councillor Rob O'Carroll

AN EVENING AT THE MUSEUM



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The Loss of Two of Our Most Experienced Councillors

Teresa Read

Cllr Martin Elengorn and Cllr Geoffrey Samuel

The last week saw the loss of two of the most experienced councillors in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. On 8th November news was circulated that Cllr Martin Elengorn, who represented Teddington from 1982, had died at home; during the week he had been seen at his usual spot in a Teddington café where he made himself available to meet residents and hear about local issues.

Councillor Elengorn was a Liberal Democrat member, well known to Cllr Geoffrey Samuel, the Conservative representative for Hamton North and a regular contributor to The Twickenham & Richmond Tribune.

Geoffrey had been a councillor for many years, originally in the Twickenham Council; with an interest in finance, Geoffrey had held many senior posts in successive Councils. I spoke to him on Thursday, after his release from hospital following a heart attack; he was keen to get back to work and I am told that he even wanted to read Council papers when he was in the ward. Unfortunately, on Friday morning we were informed that he had passed away.

Geoffrey Samuel lived in the Borough from 1940 *“I lived in Twickenham for almost the whole of the war and remember the raids and the V1s very well”*. Cllr Geoffrey Samuel was first elected to the Council in 1957. A former Headmaster of The Heathland School in Hounslow he was Deputy Chairman of the Richmond Bench for a number of years. As a one-time Deputy Leader of the Council he was also Cabinet Member for Schools and Cabinet Member for Finance. He was Opposition spokesman on Adult Services and Health.” (Twickenham Conservatives).

Cllr Phil Giesler, Liberal Democrat Councillor for Teddington Ward and Lead Member for Business and Growth, knew both councillors and gave the following comment to the Tribune:

“Martin and Geoffrey, though occupying different sides of the political aisle and often engaging in robust argument were similar in many respects. As long serving ward Councillors, they both cared intensely for their communities, knew how important it was to make personal connections with their residents and ensure that they didn’t let them down. They defended their corners and argued eloquently and passionately for their wards. They also had exceptional attention to detail, ensuring they were well prepared for all Committee meetings and could present their arguments skilfully. Although I only knew Geoffrey for a little over a year, he was always supportive of our work in building the strength of our High Streets and Town Centres. Martin was an excellent ward colleague, always generous with his time and a real sage of wisdom and knowhow. Our Council will miss both of them and our debating chamber will be lessened by their absence.”

On hearing the sad news about Geoffrey, Jonathan Hulley, Conservative Parliamentary Spokesperson, Twickenham Constituency, said:

“I am shocked and deeply saddened to learn of Cllr Geoffery Samuel’s passing. I would like to extend my sincere condolences to his wife Lona, his family, friends and colleagues. Cllr Samuel was a towering figure in local politics. A man who commanded respect and affection in equal measure. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.”

Geoffrey also became a contributor to the Tribune This is one of his memories of his early life in Twickenham:

Those who lived in Twickenham at the time will remember the famous air raid when the Germans mistook the bend of the river and assumed that all their bombs were being dropped on Battersea Power Station. The damage was considerable. But we also had our share of daylight raids during the Summer of 1940 [lessons taught in the school Air Raid Shelter). On one occasion at Lensbury we retreated to the Shelter when the Siren sounded and emerging later after the All Clear, saw that the sky was red: the Germans had set the Docks on fire. Then many, many weeks of lesser nighttime raids during the Blitz. The cycle ride to school would produce evidence of the previous night's destruction.

We usually went to the cinema one evening every week. We had a choice of three: the Regal on the huge site now housing Regal House and car park: the Luxor [later called the Odeon at the junction of King Street and Cross Deep) the very small Queens/Gaumont immediately opposite York House. There was usually a queue but on entry an usherette to show us to our seats and later to bring round cigarettes, chocolate, ice cream and soft drinks. Unusually on one afternoon I went to the Gaumont with my Mother the Air Raid siren sounded and at once we were instructed to leave. So home we went until the All Clear when we returned to see the rest of the film.

Food rationing imposed at the beginning lasted in some form until 1954. Ration Books were issued from the Food Office at 69, The Green. For some foods with a specific amount e.g two ounces of butter or a shilling of meat - so a bigger quantity if you asked for the cheaper cuts - registration with a specific retailer was required. So, all our meat had to be bought from Bates [by the junction of King Street and Cross Deep] or Groceries from Williamsons – the site of Pizza Express. Then there were 'points' with a different number of points depending on the product. Tinned salmon – a real treat – required a lot of points! Unrationed food was scarce: we queued and queued for greengrocers at Fletchers or at one of the five fishmongers. Many items were rarely available.

Although the system worked very well, the shopkeeper would often have a small surplus of rationed food left over; this either fed the Black Market or was offered 'under the counter' to favoured customers. On one occasion my Mother invited for tea [on their Wednesday afternoon off] Elsie and Betty - shop assistants at Williamsons. How else could you curry favour with a shop? Cafes and restaurants kept open but were limited to a charge of five shillings for a meal – although there were ways of circumventing this. Those who could afford regular restaurant visits [birthdays only for us] did well- as exemplified in the Diaries of Chips Channon. Clothing also was rationed with a system similar to points.

Until the 1960s Twickenham was a flourishing shopping area. Five fishmongers, three shoe shops, three men's outfitters [my first made-to-measure suit was made in London Road]. Phelps huge store was full of furniture: from my pocket money I saved and spent £3 on a second-hand bookcase, £8- from gifts over several years - on a desk which I used until 2017. **No need to go to Richmond or Kingston: you could buy it all in Twickenham.**

We still had the river and that catered for Summer leisure. We would take the Ferry [one penny a journey] from the slip at the end of Lebanon Park and visit the Surrey side. Often we would go to Hammertons [still there!] and hire a skiff on a Summer evening. My Father rowed, my mother produced some basic food and I took my homework with me. And the annual Fair on Orleans Gardens was a special treat.

Recovery post 1945 was extremely slow. As we now know it was not really necessary to keep some rationing for so many years. Housebuilding was constrained. Many shopkeepers found it difficult to adjust to the new world – too many still felt they were doing you a favour. But for me wartime years were also happy years – the whist drives in the Letting office at Lebanon Court, the trolley buses [where Twickenham had been one of the pioneers], even the blackout. Above all the sense of community. We veterans took a rather different view of the 2020-2022 Lockdowns – for us it was still, as in 1939-45 "Britain Can Take It" – and carry on as before.

First published in the Twickenham & Richmond Tribune, [Edition 323](#), 13th January 2023

The Holly Lodge Centre's **CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Thursday 7th December 2023

7:30pm to 9:30pm

Christ Church

69 Christchurch Road SW14 7AN

Hosted by **Adrian Mills**
*Well known TV presenter
and actor*

Readings by **Jacki Piper**
Star of stage and screen

***CAROLS *CANDLELIGHT
* FESTIVE READINGS
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* CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE**

Featuring
**SHEEN GATE CHOIR,
SHEEN MOUNT PRIMARY SCHOOL**

And
CLARENDON SCHOOL
who will sing and sign in Makaton

Tickets: £20 and £5 for under 16s

To book: <https://hlc2023cc.eventbrite.co.uk>

or

www.thehollylodgecentre.co.uk

TEL: 020 8940 8730



Royal Parks Police: Witness Appeal

On Saturday, 4th November, at about 08:25, near Robin Hood Gate, Richmond Park, Julie, a 19yr old horse, was attacked by a dog.



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

The rider was thrown from Julie during the attack and required hospital treatment. We are appealing for the owner of the dog & witnesses.

The dog was described as a puppy, possibly a bulldog.

The dog walker had seven dogs with him in total. He was described as a white male, 50-60 yrs old, grey facial hair and glasses. He was wearing a broad brimmed hat, checked shirt and gilet.

Any information, please e-mail richmondpark@met.police.uk and quote ref 0712067/23



Remembrance

Holy Trinity Church Twickenham Green

This Sunday we will have services at 9am and 10.30am to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Please do join us.



Twickenham Repair Café hit 1,000 repairs

Twickenham Repair Café express their gratitude to their team for their dedication, positivity and love of solving problems always with big smiles. The repairers have shared their skills, saved over five tonnes from landfill and raised over £2,000 for charity over 19 months since the café opened.

Their combined experience has enabled them to fix almost anything including: iPads, clocks, lawn mowers, coffee machines, clothes, bikes, lamps, ceramics, furniture and even sharpen garden shears!

The work has inspired seven other café openings across South West London and the café is a great nucleus for other projects most recently collecting over 300 tools for Africa as part of [Tools With a Mission](#).



The customers are always so grateful and there is a wonderful positive vibe in the hall. Come and share the experience on the third Saturday of every month at the Twickenham Repair Café.

For more information visit the [Twickenham Repair Café website](#).

Seven years of weekly Tribune editions

Teresa Read

This week's Tribune marks seven years of the Tribune published every week and free online since 11th November 2016. After all these years there are those who may wonder why the Tribune came into existence. The answer is the concern for access to local news and the need for a publication where residents could express their views.

At this time, seven years ago, the *Informer* newspaper had closed, the *Richmond & Twickenham Times*, after moving from King Street in Richmond to Twickenham, had left the borough to set up offices in Sutton and was suffering from an industrial dispute.

Cllr Stephen Knight was reported as saying "plans by Newsquest to cut back on staff, pay and conditions will not just hit journalists but also the quality of valued newspapers".

As a result of this situation, the first edition of the fledgling Tribune was published on Friday 11 November 2016; Berkley and I decided to go ahead with an online newspaper on Tuesday 8 November 2016, and published three days later.

Over the years we have interviewed national politicians including Sir Vincent Cable and Tim Farron and a Secretary of State of Education with the edition 25 front cover of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge; edition 39 marked the beginning of a weekly borough photograph on the front cover.

We keep in touch with contacts from our previous community work such as the RFU and Brentford Football Club as well as journalists in the theatrical world.

As well as a variety of news, local and further afield, one of the main reasons for starting the Tribune was to allow local people to have their news and views published.

The Tribune has a considerable audience in the borough but it is good to know that many people who have left the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames for various reasons read the Tribune to keep in touch with where they used to live.

However, although the Tribune is produced on a voluntary basis it is necessary to pay various expenses; costs for the dedicated server, insurance, accounts and obligatory registrations.

At the Tribune we believe that it is important to have a public forum, important in any democracy; it is quite apt that the Tribune was invited to exhibit in Rome in 2017, the final event in Campidoglio City Hall; the Campidoglio overlooking the Roman Forum

https://worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=Twickenham%27s_News

Twickenham
& Richmond TRIBUNE

Twickenham Beer And Cider Festival 2023

Twickenham's 21st CAMRA Beer and Cider Festival is taking place from **16th to 18th November** again at The TURK'S HEAD in Winchester Road, St. Margarets, following on from last year's highly successful Festival at the same venue.

Organised by the Richmond and Hounslow branch of CAMRA (The Campaign for Real Ale), over 30 real ales (many from local breweries), 6 ciders and perries are on offer.

The recently awarded Champion Beer of London, Twickenham Fine Ales' "Naked Ladies" will be available, but may run out before the Festival ends!

The 80th anniversary of the Dambusters raid is

chosen as the theme this year, with a special display by the NPL of items related to the raid.



The Festival is open daily from 12 noon until 10.30pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, with entry at £10 to include beer vouchers and a glass (with refundable deposit). £2 discount for CAMRA members.

More info on the Festival on <https://rh.camra.org.uk/festivalnews.html>



Richmond & Hounslow Branch
Campaign for Real Ale

Thames Water urged to take action to address burst main at Manor Circus

The Leader of Richmond Council, Cllr Gareth Roberts, has called on Thames Water to take swift action to repair a major main leak at Manor Circus which is disrupting the A316 corridor roadworks.

He said:

“Thames Water needs to take its responsibilities seriously and to improve its response to works when they arise. There have been too many instances this year where works have not been managed well enough to meet the standards expected for residents.

“Our borough deserves reliable services which means it is vital Thames Water’s water and sewage systems are resilient to the pressures of population growth and climate change. Whilst we understand this requires upgrades to ageing infrastructure, Thames Water must ensure their works cause minimal disruption and repairs are completed in a timely manner.

“When we are currently facing proposals such as the Teddington Direct River Abstraction project to tackle shortages, it is unimaginable that water wastage of this severity can be left untreated to create such an adverse impact on the wider network.

“Residents and commuters are already inconvenienced due to TfL’s A316 planned works and this further disruption is causing a lot of frustration due to the significant traffic delays, especially at the start and end of the day.

“To this end, the Council will continue monitoring this closely and working with Thames Water to expedite maintenance works so it can be put right without any further delay.”



Walk along the rivers from Kneller Gardens to Isleworth

Join the Friends of the River Crane Environment on Thursday 23 November for a winter walk along local sights and river banks.

The walk starts at 10.30am and will last for 2 hours. You will walk along Duke of Northumberland River from where it branches from the River Crane to where it flows into the River Thames at Isleworth.

The linear walk will meet at the Kingfisher Bridge between Kneller Gardens and Mereway Nature Park, Twickenham.

The walk will be led by FORCE Trustees who will point out old industrial workings along the riverbanks, ecology and sights of particular interest.

The event is free but [registration is essential](#).

Please come along with sturdy footwear as it will be muddy in parts, and in clothing suitable for winter weather.

Due to safeguarding needs all children under 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

For more information, please visit the [FORCE website](#) or email events@force.org.uk.



NOVEMBER FOOD AND DRINK NEWS

Christmas isn't far away now, so here are some food and drink products that have recently caught my attention and I thought I'd share with you:



Pulses in jars tend to be so much nicer, and I'd never heard of, let alone tried, **Queen Carlin Peas**. Produced by **The Bold Bean Co** and the perfect substitute for chickpeas, small, brown carlin peas are grown and harvested when dry across the UK, (mainly in the Midlands and the North of England), with a firm texture and nutty flavour, reminiscent of chestnuts. Carlin peas are seriously versatile, tasty and great in everything from salads and dips to stews and curries. They can also be blitzed with black tahini to make a nutty, hummus-style dip with lots of depth of flavour. Not that widely available (yet sadly) but well worth ordering from [Bold Bean Co](#) at £10 for a double pack - you'll be hooked! But look out for it in Waitrose early in 2024.

One of my favourite Italian food brands, **Crosta & Mollica** has launched four delicious new biscuits.

Perfect for sharing over a coffee with friends and family, the range includes **Crunchy Amaretti** (the base of many Italian desserts and great for dunking - with a signature bitter taste), **Soft Amaretti** (perfect with an espresso), **Chocolate & Hazelnut Baci** ('lady's kisses' hazelnut biscuits with a chocolate filling) and **Almond Cantucci** (delicious with a glass of prosecco). Whether a fan of crunchy or soft, nutty or chocolatey, there's one for you. The Crosta & Mollica sweet biscuit range is available at Tesco, from £2.95.



While we're on the subject of Italy, I tried a great Italian vodka recently: **Altamura**. This unique, intense, smooth, and elegant vodka is distilled solely from specific wheat that's grown in Altamura or the adjoining communes of Puglia for over 2,000 years. The first spirit made from 100% ancient Altamura grains, Altamura vodka is distilled using a process that's carefully designed to preserve the pure essence of its ingredients, resulting in a vodka that is elegant and refined, and rich in the notes deriving from the Italian terroir and Altamura wheat. It's lovely neat on the rocks, and also makes a fabulous vodka martini. Around £32.50 a bottle from [Master of Malt](#) and other stockists.

Asda has launched **Bom Bahia** and **House of Yum**: two new, premium Indian and Pan Asian ranges set to provide restaurant quality meals at home – without the price tag or lengthy recipe. I've tried a couple now,

and they are very good. These new ranges each include eight mains and five sides, created using authentic cooking methods and traditional recipes allowing you to

recreate restaurant flavours at home. The Bom Bahia includes the fiery **Goan King Prawn Curry (£4.50)** and **Lamb Karahi (£4.50)** both perfect winter warmers. The House of Yum range includes dishes such as **Black Tiger Prawns with a sweet, and savoury Tamarin dip (£2.50)** and **Char Siu Pork (£4.50)**. Both ranges are available to buy in-store and online now, with prices starting at a very reasonable £2.50.





Back on the subject of great biscuits, **M&S Food** has launched some new ranges including **Outrageously Chocolatey Chocolate-Coated Custard Creams** and **Outrageously Chocolatey Chocolate-Coated Bourbons** – both of which are more chocolate than biscuit. Also landed in M&S stores are the new range of crispy, melty and dunkable mini wafer biscuits, which are all made in Italy and come in six great flavours including creamy chocolate, zesty sweet lemon, smooth cappuccino and chocolate-coated hazelnut. With prices from £1.50, they're excellent store cupboard standbys for the festive season.

Despite many folk thinking honey is natural, friendly and positive for the world, it's the third most faked food, behind milk & olive oil. 'Honey launderers' cheat authenticity tests by adding cheap rice and corn syrup to the mix. This lack of transparency hinders tracing provenance. UK wildflower meadows have declined by 97% (an area the size of Wales) since the 1930s, predominantly due to intensive agricultural farming affecting our insect and floral biodiversity. There aren't many honey brands that give back to Britain's natural environment. So Laura Eyles and Ed Little, decided to start **The Honey Project** - to wake people up to British honey and fall back in love with nature, through their rewilding. All their honey is from Tamworth, Staffordshire - where their beekeeper has over 170 hives. The '**Unrivalled Runny**' is a summer variety with bees feeding on wildflowers. The '**Creamy Soft Set**' is a spring variety with bees feeding on oil seed rape. Treat yourself (or someone else). They retail for £7.89 or £15.78 for the bundle of both.



Thehoneyproject.co.uk



Giffard's Gingerbread Syrup adds a festive touch to so many things. Drizzle it over ice cream, stir into hot chocolate, porridge or yogurt, or add it to the icing on a cake. Oh, and I nearly forgot to mention cocktails - it's alcohol free too, so even the kiddies can enjoy a warming, festive drink. And it takes mulled wine to a different level. It tastes buttery, biscuity, with spicy notes and cinnamon, accompanied by cloves. And the taste is intense and rich, with notes of spices, honey and a touch of anise. Under £10 for a litre bottle from [Drink Finder](#)

Hummus and truffles are two of my favourite things and **ChicP**, the sustainable hummus brand, has put the two together: the result is fabulous. It's in collaboration with neighbouring company **The Truffle Hunter**. After its limited-edition launch in August, **ChicP** is now running the flavour permanently alongside its core range: Beetroot & Horseradish, Carrot, Ginger & Turmeric, Spinach & Parsley and Velvet. **ChicP's Truffle Hummus** is £2.40 for a 150g tub from Ocado. But I suggest you order more than one tub, as it's very moreish!

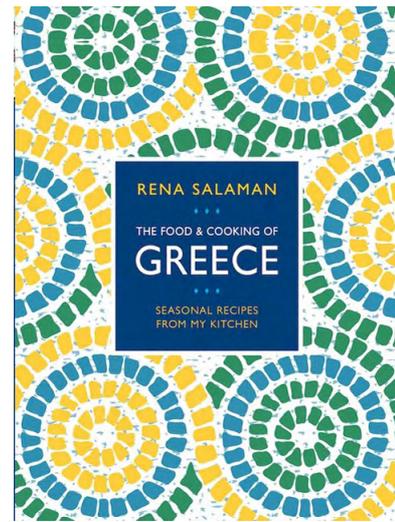


And finally, still with truffles, some of the most wonderful crisps are made by **Made for Drink**. The English Truffle crisps are very yummy, slightly pricey, but really worth it at £1.20 for a 40g bag from Waitrose. The company also makes a Baron Bigod crisp and a Gentleman's Relish variety that aren't so widely stocked, but worth looking out for. But with Christmas coming up, it might be worth buying a mixed box from them [directly](#) at £22.99 for 20x40g bags with four of each of the above and also Dorset Sea Salt and a Salt & Vinegar variety - all equally good.



THE FOOD & COOKING OF GREECE

Did you manage a trip to Greece last summer? No, I didn't either, but I do feel as if I've just had a sneaky trip there, as I've discovered a fabulous new cookbook and photographic celebration of the country: **Rena Salaman - The Food & Cooking of Greece, Seasonal Recipes from my Kitchen. (£20 hardback from Lorenz Books)** This glorious new book, an updated and expanded edition of her bestselling original, explores the dishes of Greece and the Islands through the changing seasons.



Greek food is a celebration of local foods and of culinary traditions that span generations. Greek cuisine centres around vegetables and other simple ingredients – olives and olive oil, sheep and goat cheeses, fish and lamb, and fruits both fresh and preserved. The new Greek wines are a revelation, and Rena explores and recommends the best.



Courgette fritters, salt cod bake and an Aegean cheese and honey tart in Spring; melitzanosalata and mousaka in Summer; baked feta parcels and chicken soup with avgolemono in Autumn; chickpea soup, roasted beetroot with garlic sauce, and spanakotyropitta in Winter. Roast Easter lamb, stuffed vine leaves, fried meatballs infused with mint, parsley, thyme and oregano... the classics are all here as well as lesser-known regional specialities.

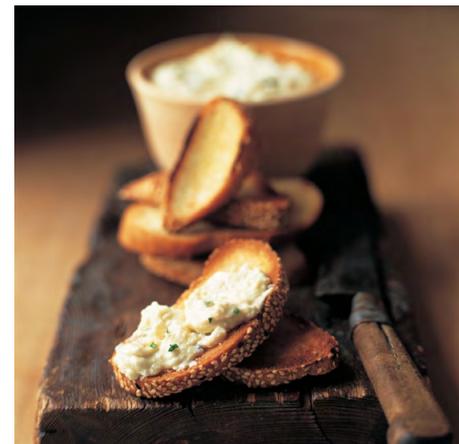
Rena was born and grew up in Athens and spends every summer on the Aegean Island of Alonnisos where she has a home. Her passion for Greek food and cooking shines through her highly regarded cookbooks. She writes for leading newspapers and magazines and appears on radio and television.

Here are a couple of recipes to take you and your tastebuds to Greece in this miserable weather!

Feta & roast pepper dip with chillies Serves 4

“Htipiti is a familiar meze in the beautiful city of Thessaloniki. If you stop for an ouzo in the area called Lathathika, which used to be part of the old market but now teems with trendy bars and restaurants, you will inevitably be served a small plate of htipiti. The dip is almost unknown elsewhere in Greece. This recipe comes from my brother-in-law, Kostas Printzios, who hails from Thessaloniki.”

- 1 yellow or green elongated or bell-shaped pepper
- 1–2 fresh green chillies
- 200g/7oz feta cheese, cubed
- 60ml/4 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- juice of 1 lemon
- 45–60ml/3–4 tbsp milk
- ground black pepper
- finely chopped fresh flat leaf parsley, to garnish
- slices of toast or toasted pitta bread, to serve



1. Scorch the pepper and chillies by threading them on to metal skewers and turning them over a flame or under the grill, until charred all over.
2. Set the pepper and chillies aside until cool enough to handle. Peel off as much of their skin as possible and wipe off the blackened parts with sheets of kitchen paper. Slit the pepper and chillies and discard the seeds and stems.
3. Put the pepper and chilli flesh into a food processor. Add the feta cheese, olive oil, lemon juice and milk, and blend well. Add a little more milk if the mixture is too stiff, and season with black pepper.
4. Spread the dip on slices of toast, sprinkle a little fresh parsley over the top and serve.

Variation: The dip is also excellent served with a selection of vegetable crudité's, such as cauliflower florets or strips of carrot, celery or green or red bell pepper.

Pork with Chickpeas & Orange Serves 4

"This winter speciality, revithia me hirino ke portokali, is a familiar dish in the Aegean islands, particularly in Crete. In the villages of Mesara, it is traditionally offered to family and close friends on the night before a wedding. This version comes from the island of Chios."

- 350g/12oz dried chickpeas, soaked overnight in water to cover
- 75–90ml/5–6 tbs extra virgin olive oil
- 800g/1¾lb boneless leg of pork, cut into large cubes
- 1 large onion, sliced
- 2 garlic cloves, chopped
- 400g/14oz canned chopped tomatoes
- grated rind of 1 orange
- 1 small dried red chilli
- salt and ground black pepper
- bread and olives, to serve



1. Drain the chickpeas, rinse them under cold water and drain them again.
2. Place them in a large, heavy pan. Pour in enough cold water to cover generously, put a lid on the pan and bring to the boil. Skim the surface, replace the lid and cook gently for 1–1½ hours, depending on the age and pedigree of the chickpeas. Alternatively, cook them in a pressure cooker for 20 minutes under full pressure. When the chickpeas are soft, drain them, reserving the cooking liquid, and set them aside.
3. Heat the oil in the clean pan and brown the meat cubes in batches. As each cube browns, lift it out with a slotted spoon and put it on a plate. When all the cubes have been browned, add the onion to the oil remaining in the pan and sauté for 10–15 minutes, until light golden.
4. Stir in the garlic, then as soon as it becomes aromatic, add the tomatoes and grated orange rind. Crumble in the chilli.
5. Add the chickpeas and meat to the pan, then pour in enough of the reserved chickpea cooking liquid to cover. Add the black pepper, but not salt at this stage.
6. Mix well, cover the pan and simmer for about 1 hour, or until the meat is tender. Stir occasionally and add more of the reserved liquid if needed. The result should be a moist casserole; not soupy, but not dry either. Season with salt before serving with bread and olives.

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BLACK FRIDAY V THE PEAKS

By Bruce Lyons



Black Friday – the famous import from the USA has on the whole, proven to be a damp squid in the Travel Industry. Tour Operators and Hotel Bed Companies, along with cruise and villa companies

They make a bit of an effort to mostly to nudge us into action with “Late” offers and the date is the Thanksgiving Weekend much of the focus is for pre-Christmas travel, which is usually modestly priced anyway. As in the UK this is a slack time.

“The Peaks” are very different, you can find real bargains here. The Peaks is a term given to the booking period between Xmas and New Year and running throughout January. Most

operators like to get the bulk of their Summer Bookings deposited in this time.

These operators all have national advertising campaigns TV & Radio, Newspapers and Magazines and the audience figures jump over the Xmas/New Year break- There are many popular travel documentaries and Nature programmes and it a good time for the travel companies.

Last year we sourced some really brilliant discounts on River Cruising (often with FREE FLIGHTS) Long Haul touring with free flight upgrades and on the Adventure Touring side even with up to 35% discounts. Summer Beach can usually be found with anything up to 15% off and many tour operators add FREE CHILDREN places. All this is to incentivise you to book. But for many it is also the chance to find a really interesting adventure trip for the family instead of a beach break.

We won't see the Peak offers till after Black Friday – the best will surface about 2 weeks before Christmas and often are not valid for booking until Xmas/New Year itself, but it is well worth thinking about what you may want to do for Summer 2024 in the run up the festive time.

Anyone looking for Xmas touring Wendy Wu has just ONE place on its 15 day tour of India on the 13th December £4,620 9including flights and single supplement or there are several places on their 17th December 16 days to Sri Lanka £4,890 per person in a twin/double

Northern Lights? / White Christmas in the Alps? call the elves at Crusader Travel on 020 8744 0474



THE EARTHSHOT PRIZE 2023: The Earthshot Prize Finals in Singapore, November 7th, 2023

The Earthshot Prize is a global search for solutions for climate change and challenges facing the planet; the global competition was the concept of the UK's Prince William and the Royal Foundation.

Winners each category receive a £1 million prize to support efforts to scale their climate and environmental solutions.

WINNERS OF THE EARTHSHOT PRIZE 2023

PROTECT AND RESTORE NATURE

Acción Andina is a grassroots, community-based initiative working **across South America** to protect native high Andean forest ecosystems for their invaluable benefits to nature and millions of people in the region.

The native forests of the Andes region are not only one of the world's richest and most diverse ecosystems but are also a critical tool in our fight against climate change. The knowledge and expertise of indigenous communities closest to the problem of deforestation are also the closest to the solution.

Acción Andina's activities are already helping thousands of people by increasing food and water security, providing new income opportunities, and contributing to more sustainable management of natural resources. Since 2018, almost 10 million native trees have been planted by Acción Andina across five countries – restoring over 4,000 hectares of Andean forests and protecting more than 11,000 hectares of native forest.

While their impact to date is significant, Acción Andina is just getting started. By 2045, they aim to protect and restore one million hectares of high Andean, native forest ecosystems across Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.



Bogotá, Colombia



Death Road, Bolivia

Hong Kong, China: With the development of a new way to build and recycle vital lithium-ion batteries, **GRST's** solution offers a pathway to make the electric cars of the future even cleaner.

The electric vehicle market is growing fast and is projected to soar as governments and consumers move away from vehicles that run on planet-warming fossil fuels.



Hong Kong

The International Energy Agency predicts there will be at least 125 million electric vehicles worldwide by 2030. Mass adoption will be essential if the world is to cut pollution in cities and meet its climate targets. Unsurprisingly, demand for batteries is expected to increase 30% each year until 2030.

A greater need for batteries to power more of these vehicles means increased demand for metals like lithium, a finite resource whose extraction has raised ecological and human rights issues. The lithium mining required to meet the demand takes a heavy toll. Trees are often cut down to make room for mines, while chemicals used in the process can poison waterways. In some countries, worker protections for miners are limited, raising human rights concerns. Meanwhile, millions of tonnes of

batteries are expected to be decommissioned over the coming decades, creating hazardous waste. Enter GRST, a cleaner, safer and cheaper way to make and recycle lithium-ion batteries.

REVIVE OUR OCEANS

WildAid Marine Program: Global non-profit organisation WildAid scales marine enforcement to end illegal fishing and strengthen ocean conservation. Meeting the global '30 by 30' target of safeguarding 30% of oceans by 2030 is crucial to protecting our environment and will not occur without effective enforcement of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). However, nearly 60% of these MPAs have been unable to fully protect the ecosystems under their control due to enforcement challenges. WildAid is leading a bold initiative to ensure these zones and the sustainable fisheries within them deliver on their conservation promise.



Rock-Islands, Republik Palau

Oceans cover more than 70% of the planet and are home to an enormous range of biodiversity. They also support many millions of people who rely upon fishing for their livelihoods. However, unsustainable overfishing threatens both ocean life and the people who rely on it, and \$23 billion is lost annually to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. With operations in **Palau, Zanzibar, Mexico and beyond**, WildAid is championing and strengthening ocean conservation in every corner of the globe. And with a target to grow to 250 priority marine areas in the next five years, it's just getting started.

BUILD A WASTE-FREE WORLD

S4S Technologies, India

S4S Technologies' solar-powered dryers and processing equipment combats food waste, enabling small-hold farmers to preserve crops and turn produce that might otherwise go to waste into valuable products. Much of India's rural population relies on smallholder farming for their income and livelihoods. But every year about 30% of agricultural produce is wasted before it leaves the farms.

This is because bumper crops and price fluctuations often force farmers to leave unsellable crops rotting in the fields. These wasted crops squander the precious energy and water used to grow them, demand additional resources for their disposal and cause income losses for small farmers, which can deepen rural poverty and exacerbate inequality.

"Food waste, rural poverty and gender inequality are deeply intertwined challenges for the people of India. S4S's innovative solution combines cutting-edge technology with the practical support and training needed to ensure women farmers can thrive and improve their livelihoods for themselves and their families.



India

<https://www.worldinfozone.com/>

Are you a firework?

By Deep Patel

~ Through the eyes of a Twickenham Shopkeeper ~

November at last...the summer is in the past... but it's not all doom and gloom...as I have been talking to my customers about fireworks season...many felt that fireworks were magical works of art that illuminate the sky and awaken our inner child...whilst others felt that they were irresponsible fire hazards that strike fear into the hearts of our beloved pets. We carried on discussing this with many customers for days, we are proud to say our customers are from a variety of backgrounds and age groups, so when we discuss matters of local interest, we can gain a fair a varied representation of local opinions in general. However, whilst talking about fireworks with customers, it was the words of a 96 year old lady that really inspired me.



The lady was waiting to be served and had overheard me talking about fireworks with the previous customer. As she reached the counter, she said “life is a firework” and laughed to herself. I asked what she meant and she replied “after you are born, you wait to become an adult so that you can make a difference and light up the lives of those around you...after you’ve made your mark on the world, you may not be as visible anymore, but it’s what you did to brighten the lives of others around you when you had the opportunity to do so that matters”.

That one statement made me think...perhaps we are all like fireworks... I made myself a promise that as a Twickenham shopkeeper, going forwards, I am going to do everything I can to be the firework in my customers lives, to try and add light to as many lives locally as I can...Perhaps this year, instead of lighting a firework, we can all focus on being one to make Twickenham a brighter place for everyone.

Remember...

“If everyone focused on bringing light to those around them the world would become so much brighter..”

MY CREATURE-KINDNESS TIP :

STOP FOXES, RATS, MICE & SQUIRRELS KINDLY (GOOD KARMA):

Place empty bowls filled with white vinegar around places where you don't want them to come...they will go without you having to harm them...use humane mouse & rat traps and release them back out in parkland areas. Use electronic plug in deterrents with good reviews around your house to stop them coming (the smell of white vinegar also stops ants kindly). For ANY specific tip to stop any “pest” or insect KINDLY (for good karma/blessings), email me: thedeepatel@gmail.com or join my Facebook group: “INSECT LOVERS”



A Midsummer Night's Dream

By William Shakespeare

YAT at Hampton Hill Theatre, until 11th November

Shakespeare's plays mostly focus on comedies, histories and tragedies with themes that reflect his time period. *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, though, takes us into fairyland, so it's interesting to see YAT's interpretation of the complexities of a 'real' world against a magical world of fanciful characters pursuing their own ambitions.

The setting for its production is 1980's Athens, where the various character groups are differentiated by 2023's costumes. Generally this works well, although Matilda Brunger's Puck is hampered by a bulky dress and heavy boots. Puck, like Ariel in *The Tempest*, is a creature of the air and this Puck is grounded. However, her great enthusiasm and gusto make up for lack of 'fleetness of foot'.



The set is a docklands riverside of warehouses and cranes. The two-level stage is flanked by brick walls with pictures of flowers and trees. The lighting is starkly industrial. The set, where all seem to operate in a world of reality, goes against the spirit and dreamlike quality of the play. Director, Joseph Evans, however, inspires his actors to share this, his creative vision of the play, but allowing them to bring in own ideas and talents.

Despite the play's contemporary setting, the relationships between Hermia (Meaghan Baxter), Lysander (Michael Langton), Helena (Mia Coakham) and Demetrius (Oliver Keaton) could never be confused. They are well cast, especially Hermia and Helena, so that when insults are thrown, they really hit home.

In fairyland, King Oberon (Kylie Pearson, playing with authority and dynamism) and Titania, his Queen (Ella Barnett) have their own problems. With the help of Puck, Oberon's potion of the love-in-idleness put things right between the characters ... eventually.

The workmen cum travelling players, Peter Quince (Giothompson Nickson), Nick Bottom (Ed Couchman-Boor), Francis Flute (Robyn Marriott), Robin Starveling (Jonathan Ridd), Tom Snout (Bonny Ward) and Snug (Richard Chadwick), rehearse their play, a tragedy that ends up as a comedy. Their interaction and sense of timing is spot on.



Despite the colourless set, the confident performances of all the company makes a most enjoyable evening. This group of young actors never disappoints.

Read Celia Bard's review at www.markaspen.com/2023/11/09/mn-dream-yat

Photography by Handwritten Photography



Creative Voices II

Arts Richmond at the Exchange Theatre, Twickenham

Under a backdrop of her latest book *None of This Is True*, interviewer, York Membery introduced us the very prolific writer, Lisa Jewell. Part of *Creative Voices*, this was the second in the series of talks with an established author.

We were eager to learn the secret of her engaging and gripping plots, and Jewell was happy to share her obsession with each particular idea. In this case, being shadowed by someone from the outside. The product, *None of This Is True* is an amazing and gripping novel, one that can be happily described as a dark piece.



When Jewell worked for Thomas Pink shirts in Jermyn Street, and a friend and colleague placed a bet that Jewell could not write three chapters of a novel. Bagging an agent, Lisa Jewell got a deal with Penguin, her first novel being *Ralph's Party* in 1996. By the time her novel *The Girls* was published in 2015, Jewell had made the first dark move that was to reflect her genre from then on.

Frowning quite rightly on the term 'chick lit', she pointed out that the sheer slog of writing and researching a book should not be blanketed with such a dismissive term.

Then She Was Gone, a genuinely unnerving story, topped in the USA, and spent eight weeks at Number One in the New York Times bestseller list. A Beverly Hills housewife sparked off this phenomenon by sharing her Instagram posts of this novel. The slideshow backdrop could have been used more to highlight some of Jewell's other successes. This would have made it a very effective production.

Jewell does without notebooks, just walks the dog and ponders on potential plots. She presented herself beautifully, and came over unpretentious, slick, and confident, leaving Membery sadly lacking.

The writer confesses to being a screen addict with social media and texting, who happily embraces TV. Her one pressure is not to disappoint her audience.

There is a new novel coming in 2025. We can't wait, Lisa!

Read Heather Moulson's review at www.markaspen.com/2023/11/09/crt-voices-ii

Photography by JM

A View from the Bridge

by Arthur Miller

Headlong at the Rose Theatre Kingston until 11th November

A girl sits on a swing, neon lights, tense soundtrack. The shiny floor is a river, surrounded by blackness. Stairs lead up to a courtroom.

Moi Tran's design sacrifices the tawdriness of the 1950s Brooklyn town of Red Hook for a dark atmosphere that exudes an air of downbeat glamour. Her bold but stark set, enhanced by Alex Fernandes' atmospheric lighting, striking in its smoke and shadows, becomes increasingly effective as the story unfolds.



A View from the Bridge is a complex piece that simmers with tension right from the start. The tragic central character is Eddie, who carries a near-obsession for his orphaned niece, Catherine. Aunt Beatrice, his wife, encourages Catherine to beware of her growing body, until the tension is stretched taut by the arrival from Sicily of two cousins, Marco and Rodolpho.

Beatrice's suspicions about Eddie's dark feelings become stark reality and she urges Catherine to marry Rodolpho. This only serves to notch up the undercurrent of violence, reaching a climax that could only end in tragedy.

It is narrated by Alfieri, an Italian-American lawyer, played by Nancy Crane, an observer who represents the bridging link between two cultures. The underlying music, by Max Perryment, enhances every scene.

Kirsty Bushell as Beatrice, the unhappy wife and aunt, and Tommy Sim'aan as Marco, her older cousin, are outstanding. Eddie, played by Johnathan Slinger is poignantly nicely embittered, and Luke Newberry as Rodolpho is genuinely enticing and sincere. Catherine, played by Rachelle Diedericks, is vibrant. Together, they make a gripping performance.

Director Holly Race Roughan has a lot to take on with this iconic piece and carries it off in triumph, creating a dark and tragic production.



Read Heather Moulson's review at www.markaspen.com/2023/11/02/view-bridge-rtk

Photography by The Other Richard

Mates in Chelsea

by Rory Mullarkey

The Royal Court Theatre, Chelsea until 16th December

Mates in Chelsea is a joy. It is clever, witty, and very funny and the cast romp through it, keeping the audience engaged throughout. In the process it quietly takes a hammer to both the established social order and the socialist dream. But this nihilistic message is best considered quietly at home later. The play is far too fast-paced and entertaining to miss a moment.

Laurie Kynaston's foppish Theodore (Tug) Bungay's life as an entitled carefree bachelor is about to come to an end. His modern-day Jeeves, Mrs Hanratty, convincingly played by Amy Booth-Steel, is a card-carrying ex-member of Baader Meinhof, with a penchant for baking and an inexplicable affection for him. His socialite fiancée Finty Crossbell, played with resignation by Natalie Drew, is becoming weary of an overlong engagement, and his ancestral home is about to be sold to a Russian Oligarch. As the play develops, the audience are variously giggling at the topical references and innuendos, belly laughing at the delightful farce scene in the middle of the play, gasping at the incredible stage effects, or quietly watching and listening intently as the denouement unfolds.



George Fouracres gives a stellar performance as Charlton (Charlie) Thrup on a quick visit between quelling the hordes in Afghanistan and a trip in a Kazakh space rocket. A politician with a background in foreign policy, he has been a friend of Tug (and would be more) since schooldays.

In Tug's idyllic castle, on the Northumbrian coast, the party is joined by his mother, Fenella Woolgar, as the appropriately named Agrippina, and the oligarch Oleg Mikhailovich Govorov ...

before an assassin appears. As Tug's castle is destroyed, and a helicopter rescue takes place, his ordered family life collapses and his friend and fiancée desert him, it still seems likely he will survive, because we know Tug will know whom to call when the odds are against him.

Mates in Chelsea is a cross between a farce and a sitcom, an enjoyable interplay between earlier forms of comedic drama and the underlying political message.

Read Polly Davies' review at www.markaspen.com/2023/11/10/mates-ichelsea

Photography by Manuel Harlan

OPEN AUDITIONS: PRIVATE LIVES

At the Mary Wallace



On Monday evening, November 13th the Richmond Shakespeare Society will be holding OPEN AUDITIONS for their March 2024 production of Noel Coward's PRIVATE LIVES.

Auditions at the Mary Wallace Theatre start at 7.30 and you do not have to be a member of the Richmond Shakespeare Society to read for a part. All are welcome no matter what level of experience you have. If you want to be involved in our production of arguably the funniest, most sophisticated play in our language come along and join us on Monday evening.

For further information about the auditions or the production please contact the secretary at - secretary@rss-mwt.org.uk

The Mary Wallace Theatre is situated on Twickenham's Embankment, between St. Mary's Church and the Barmy Arms.



Join Richmond Opera on 'A Baroque Tour of Europe'

This November, come along to a concert with full baroque orchestra featuring choral works by Handel, Charpentier, and Monteverdi, plus Bach's Concerto no. 5.

Taking place in the Victorian Normansfield Theatre in Teddington TW11 9PS, guests can enjoy the opera on two dates:

- 6pm on Saturday 25 November
- 2.30pm on Sunday 26 November



Tickets are £16 and can be [purchased online](#) or by calling 0333 666 3366.

Arts Richmond Creative Voices Series Present

Andrew Humphreys will be talking about his book 'Raving Upon Thames' which looks at how Richmond's Crawdaddy Club launched the careers of both the Rolling Stones and the Yardbirds, and how UK festival culture was born on Richmond's rugby fields.

He also recalls the days when Twickenham's Eel Pie Island was a magical ravers' hideaway where Rod Stewart and David Bowie among others hung out in the 1960s.

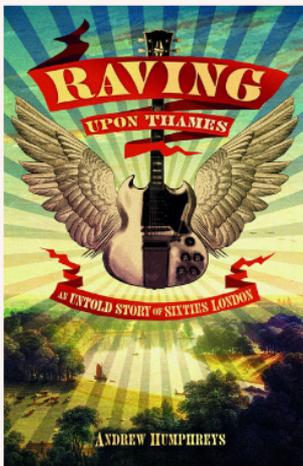
Join Humphreys, author of 'Raving Upon Thames: An Untold Story of Sixties London', and journalist York Membery for a trip back to a not-so-long-ago time when the buzzing local music scene helped make Richmond and Twickenham among the coolest places in Britain.

Book [HERE](#)



ARTS RICHMOND

CREATIVE VOICES



**Wednesday 15th November
@7.30pm at
THE EXCHANGE, TWICKENHAM**

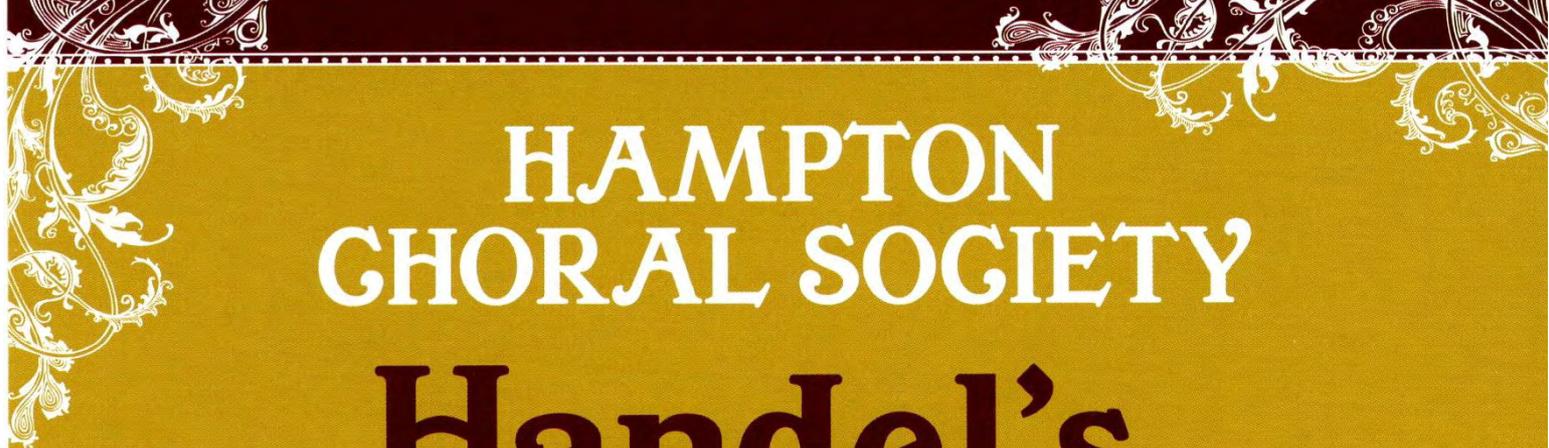
Richmond's Crawdaddy Club launched the careers of both the Rolling Stones and the Yardbirds, with their guitarists Eric Clapton, Jeff Beck and Jimmy Page.

At the same time, UK festival culture was born on Richmond's rugby fields, while upriver at Twickenham Eel Pie Island was a magical ravers' hideaway where Rod Stewart, David Bowie and Jimmy Page hung out before taking to the stage themselves.

Put simply, without Richmond and Twickenham the Sixties would never have happened.

Join Andrew Humphreys, author of Raving Upon Thames: An Untold Story of Sixties of London, and journalist York Membery for a trip back to a not-so-long-ago time when the music made here made Richmond and Twickenham the coolest places in Britain.





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Diwali Festival of Lights at Marble Hill

Saturday 11 November 2023

2:00 - 8:00pm

What's on today?

Welcome to Diwali at Marble Hill House, an evening celebrating the Festival of Lights! Expect beautiful illuminations, dancers, Dhol Drummers, giant puppets and more.

Classical Dance Performance	2.00pm
Meet the Giant Puppets	2.30pm
Bhangra Dance Workshop	3.30pm
Bollywood Dance Workshop	4.30pm
On Stage Diwali Celebrations	5.00pm
The Parade	6.00pm
On Stage Finale	6.30pm

All children must be accompanied by an adult throughout the event
Please note – times above may vary.

Step into England's story

St Mary's University

Sports Journalism MA Student Awarded National Bursary and Sky Sports Placement

[Sport Journalism MA](#) student at St Mary's University, Twickenham, Laura Howard has been announced as a [2023 winner of a Journalism Diversity Fund bursary](#) from the [National Council for the Training of Journalists \(NCTJ\)](#).

Laura is one of five talented student journalists from across the UK recognised this year, and also will benefit from a work experience opportunity at Sky Sports News, networking opportunities, newsroom placements and mentoring.



Laura commented to the NCTJ earlier this week: "It's a great honour and will certainly support me in my aspirations to build a career in journalism."

"I also hope I can use the help from the bursary to continue to give increased and better media coverage to underrepresented groups."

Laura, who has autism, is studying the [Sports Journalism MA](#) course at St Mary's, and has featured women's football, disability hockey, and issues around heteronormative sports kit.

She is a recipient of the [Thomas Read Bursary](#),

named after an inspirational young journalist, the bursary aims to help those with a disability to reach their ambitions in this field.

Thomas' mother Carolyn Read said: "At her interview we were all very impressed with Laura's positive attitude, her determination to succeed and her passion and enthusiasm for a career in sports journalism."

Course Leader for [Sports Journalism MA](#) at St Mary's, [Dr Daragh Minogue](#), added: "We are delighted for Laura to have this support. She has already hit the ground running with an excellent interview with England's blind football captain Sam Gough"

The interview can be seen online here: "[Sport saved my life": Sam Gough on women's blind football, her exclusion from sport and captaining England](#)."

The MA in Sports Journalism at St Mary's was the first specialist course in sports journalism to be professionally accredited by the NCTJ (National Council for the Training of Journalists) in 2010.

Students learn the core skills of multimedia sports journalism, develop a critical understanding of sport, media, and society, and produce films, TV shows, podcasts, and documentaries. They will also achieve the [NCTJ Diploma in Journalism](#) alongside their Masters' Degree.



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

Sociology and Politics Students Attend Battle of Ideas Festival

Last week, eleven of our 1st and 2nd year Sociology and Politics students attended the Battle of Ideas Festival 2023, at Church House in Westminster. A conference put together to provide an opportunity to freely debate the big issues of our time, through a variety of voices and thinkers. Our college Debate Club also competed on the following motion, 'Social egg freezing empowers women' at the event.

Student, Kaychell Bertin-Maye, shared her thoughts on the experience:

"The Battle of Ideas Festival is an annual conference which focuses on ways to promote open and useful debates through panel discussions and talks on a wide range of topics including; the economy, family matters, culture and scientific ethics. The first debate I observed covered 'The morality of surrogacy', this captured my attention as it brought together experts and enthusiasts who passionately shared their views on a wide range of topics related to surrogacy. The exchanges between the two sides made for an insightful discussion and I realised that I agreed with points on both sides of the argument, which made it very engaging. It also made me aware of how little important topics like this are focused on in mainstream media.



I found all debates at the conference very interesting, however topics like the one mentioned felt especially significant as they highlighted the urgency in bringing these crucial conversations to the forefront. The Debate Club and I strongly believe that active engagement events like the 'Battle of Ideas Festival', where you can speak freely and learn from others' opinions and experiences, not only provide you with fresh perspectives on different subjects but are also incredibly educational on relevant societal issues."

Lecturer Kasim Agpak added, *"This was a perfect opportunity for our students to engage with current issues that have an impact on our daily lives. It has also provided a platform for diverse views to be heard which allows our students to form their own ideas."*

RuTC runs a Debate Club through the A Level Politics class, who actively participate in debating competitions, such as Debating Matters. [If you are interested in being part of events like this, take a look at our A Level programmes and apply today.](#)



Is your warm, cosy fire doing more harm than you think?

Residents with real coal fires or wood burning appliances are encouraged not to burn this winter to help reduce dangerous air pollution in the borough.

Even the most modern wood-burning stoves produce health-damaging air pollution that affects local air quality, so residents are encouraged not to burn or to use exempt stoves or open fireplaces for special occasions only, and to ensure they always burn an authorised dry fuel with the 'Ready to Burn' logo. Please check the label of any fuel before it is purchased. Authorised fuels will say that the product is suitable to burn in a Smoke Control Area.

After transport, wood burning stoves and coal fires are the single largest source of the pollutant 'PM2.5' – tiny particles that once inhaled can increase the risk of stroke, asthma, lung cancer, heart disease and dementia. This is particularly concerning during the winter months for those with underlying respiratory or cardiovascular health conditions. It is estimated that around 4,000 premature deaths occur each year in London due to long-term exposure to air pollution, of which about 284 are attributable to domestic wood burning. Every one of those 284 deaths is completely avoidable.



As part of our Air Quality Action Plan, we are working with residents to tackle local sources of emissions, improve air quality and make the borough a nice place to be. For many years Richmond upon Thames has been a 'Smoke Control Area'. This means that you cannot emit a significant amount of smoke from a chimney and should use an authorised fuel or an appliance approved by the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). It is important to use dry storage as any damp fuel may cause smoke. You can be fined if you break the Smoke Control Area rules.

We have collaborated with 17 other local authorities to form the Defra-funded [London Wood Burning Project](#). Last winter, with the support of Imperial College London, we carried out monitoring both inside and outside of homes to try to see the health effect of different forms of inside burning. This year, the London Wood Burning Project has launched a London-wide campaign which runs from 6th November 2023. This aims to improve public awareness of the negative effects domestic wood burning can have on your health by highlighting impacts which range from increased asthma cases to reductions in life expectancies.

To learn more about wood burning in the borough visit the [Smoke control, domestic wood burners and bonfires page](#).



Christmas

TREE APPEAL 2023

Scan the QR code to buy or donate towards presents, so children experiencing poverty in London receive a gift this Christmas



www.metchristmastreeappeal.org/donate

Winner of the Christmas Tree Appeal art competition:

Alicja Mglej

St Mary's RC Primary School, Enfield



Richmond woman climbs Mount Kilimanjaro in memory of her mum, raising over £5000 for Parkinson's UK

A woman from Richmond has climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in memory of her mum, raising £5,521 for Parkinson's UK.

Setting off on Sunday 22 October, Lucy Hawkes, 31, trekked 5,895m up the tallest mountain in Africa in just seven days.

Lucy was inspired by her late mum, Amanda, who lived with Parkinson's for over 15 years and sadly died in 2021.



Lucy and Amanda

Lucy said: "Mum was incredibly kind, warm, loving, fun and so

physically fit and active. I decided that when she passed away I would set myself this challenge of climbing Kilimanjaro in her honour, as a testament to her strength of character. She never gave up and exuded positivity even on her darkest of days. Her spirit and exuberance for life will stay with me forever and that is what helped me climb that mountain!"

Amanda was diagnosed with Parkinson's in 2006 when Lucy was just 15. She managed the condition well with medication for many years before her health started to deteriorate and she began to experience hallucinations, night sweats, freezing, and dyskinesia (involuntary movements).

Parkinson's is the fastest growing neurological condition in the world. Around 153,000 people in the UK have Parkinson's. There are more than 40 symptoms, from tremor and pain to anxiety. Some are treatable, but the drugs can have serious side effects. It gets worse over time and there's no cure. Yet.

Lucy said: "I wanted to fundraise for Parkinson's UK to raise awareness of the condition. There's a lot of misconceptions about Parkinson's, and there are so many symptoms and so many parts of your life that it affects. Because of the cost of living crisis, I didn't expect to raise this much and I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who has donated."

To add to Lucy's donations, visit www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Lucy-Hawkes21

To find out more about Parkinson's UK visit www.parkinsons.org.uk

PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES.
FIND A CURE.
JOIN US.

Richmond Furniture Scheme introduce new electric van

On Monday 6 November 2023, Richmond Furniture Scheme held a small gathering at the store to welcome Vanessa, their new clean, green electric van.

The Deputy Mayor of Richmond Upon Thames, Councillor Fiona Sacks attended the event and took part in the ribbon cutting ceremony. The Deputy Mayor thanked the scheme for the 30 years of dedicated work in the borough and community.

In her speech, Councillor Sacks said:

“Richmond Furniture Scheme actively helped protect the environment through its upcycling and its repair workshop, reducing the amount of furniture that’s being sent to landfill with the acquisition of this new greener cleaner electric van.

This wonderful local charity and its volunteers will continue to achieve its goal and provide invaluable service to the whole of the community for many years to come.

“Thank you to Simon, the team and the volunteers for all they do for the borough. It is hugely appreciated by the Borough and across the Borough.

So I’m thrilled to welcome Vanessa, clean, green, quiet electric van and Richmond Furniture Scheme’s newest member to the Borough. I declare her open for business.”



Remembrance 2023: “I can spend quality time with Dad now.”

How care at Royal Star & Garter allows families to enjoy their loved ones

Remembrance is being marked at Royal Star & Garter with a campaign highlighting the benefits its care has on relationships between residents and their relatives.

Family members have spoken of the relief they feel when loved ones settle in at Royal Star & Garter. With residents’ care and wellbeing needs being met by compassionate staff, families can re-establish their relationships, free from caring responsibilities. It gives them back the time to enjoy simply being with their loved one, sharing stories and reliving memories.

Royal Star & Garter is a charity which provides loving, compassionate care to veterans and their partners living with disability or dementia, with Homes in Solihull, Surbiton and High Wycombe and services reaching out into the community.

Among those featured in Royal Star & Garter’s Remembrance campaign is June, who is living with dementia. Prior to moving to the Solihull Home, she was looked after by her three daughters. One daughter, Sue, said removing the stress of caring for June in her own home had impacted the whole family for the better. She said: “My sisters and I have peace of mind and it’s a relief because the team at Royal Star & Garter now do the nursing bit and we get the best part of her again. We get to take her out, have fun spending quality time together and listening to the stories she has to share. As our children, her grandchildren, have come along, it’s also been important for them to be part of this vital sharing of our family history.”

Oliver’s granddad Peter is cared for at the charity’s Surbiton Home. Peter engaged in face-to-face combat with Japanese troops during WWII, and is a Burma Star recipient. He later lived in India for many years. Now at Royal Star & Garter, he enjoys regular visits from his family, including great-grandchildren. Oliver said: “My granddad coming to Royal Star & Garter has been transformative for us as a family. It means a lot to me that I don’t have to worry about my mum and the strain that trying to care for her dad was having. We no longer worry about the practical aspects of care or the anxiety of being far away if something happens to him. It’s also enabled our wider family to come together. It’s lovely for the great-grandchildren to see him regularly and to develop a deeper relationship with him that they would not have had before. My granddad is very communicative. He’s had an amazing life and he tells us amazing tales from his time in India. He’s always been fascinating to be around and living with Royal Star & Garter has enabled us to enjoy that again.”



Derek says his dad Bob started sharing military stories he had never heard before when he moved into the Surbiton Home. Bob had served in the Army Catering Corps during his National Service, and was stationed for a period of time in Korea. Derek said: “Before Dad came to Royal Star & Garter, I used to dread the phone ringing. Often it was carers telling me something had gone wrong. Now he’s at Royal Star & Garter the difference is amazing. I come in here and there’s a big smile on his face – I never used to get that. I can spend quality time with Dad now, learning about his past rather than sorting the house and taking care of him. The military connections here spark off memories for him.”

To give money to Royal Star & Garter’s Remembrance campaign, go to www.starandgarter.org/remembrance



**Royal Star
& Garter**

Care with courage

Nathan Catt Joins RFU as Pathway Scrum Coach

Nathan Catt has joined the RFU from Bath Rugby and will operate as the England Rugby pathway's designated scrum coach for men's and women's sides.

Catt leaves his role as academy pathway coach at Bath, where he spent three years developing the local crop of talent in the Somerset region and strengthening the production line to the Recreation Ground.

The 35-year-old announced his retirement from playing in 2020 as a one-club man after 12 years of service and 170 appearances for Bath, also attaining a U20 Six Nations Grand Slam for England at U20 level and a cap as a Saxon.

As the Bath stalwart's role at the Blue, Black and Whites draws to a close, Catt will look to continue his positive impact on junior players at England Rugby, just as he did in overseeing the club's ACE programme at Beechen Cliff.

Speaking after confirmation of Catt's arrival, RFU Executive Director of Performance Rugby Conor O'Shea praised the appointment, commenting: *"Nathan has demonstrated great commitment to his craft since his retirement from the game, he has played a big part in nurturing the potential associated with the Bath Rugby academy. It's a great privilege to add his expertise to our pathway here.*

"The RFU has been investing in the pathway over the last three years to ensure we have the right talent coming through, and this new appointment is a continuation of that.

"His addition is a very important one as the Union seeks to further fortify the calibre of forwards we produce who not only go on to represent England at a senior level, but to challenge at age-grade level too.

"I have every confidence Nathan will be a fantastic fit for our programme and will continue imparting his knowledge on the country's finest prospects now fully part of the RFU."

The former prop will take on responsibility of scrum coordinator as players transition from junior to senior rugby players in the national set-up, ensuring more comprehensive support for budding internationals whilst wearing the Rose.

Catt was also involved with the England pathway in assisting the forwards of the U20 Men's side in their respective outings in this year's U20 Six Nations and U20 World Championships.

In a progressive step forward from the England Rugby pathway, the group will now look to capitalise on the foundations put in at the recent Front Five Forwards Specialist Camp and develop the set-piece talents of the most promising age-grade players in England.

Catt will link-up with Jonathan Pendlebury and the U18 Men for the squad's upcoming regional camps at St. George's Park (25-26 November) and Bisham Abbey (2-3 December), the first of many involvements with his role expanding across all pathway teams ahead of a busy 2023/24 campaign.

Nathan Catt voiced his excitement in joining the national programme and supplementing his previous experience with the U20 Men's team.

"I'm very grateful to be asked to join the pathway alongside some fantastic coaches and members of staff, I've had the pleasure of working alongside them at different intervals over the last year and want to build on those relationships," Catt said.

"I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Bath for all the years of support both on and off the pitch, they really are a special club and I look forward to returning with the U20 Men next year for our Six Nations games against Wales and Ireland.

"I recognise that within the pathway now there is an opportunity to be part of leading England's teams to excel on the world stage, and I can't wait to get started."



Match Preview: Liverpool v Brentford

Analysis, team news, match officials and more. Here's everything you need to know ahead of Brentford's Premier League game against Liverpool

Written by Brentford Football Club

The twelfth matchday of the 2023/24 Premier League campaign sees Brentford, who have moved into the top half of the table, head to Anfield for a tough test against Liverpool.

Jürgen Klopp's Reds have been balancing domestic and UEFA Europa League duties very well so far this season but heading into the winter months will be where the test of depth and quality really bites.

Brentford, with their smarts and general intensity, are more than capable of hurting their opponents, even away from home.

Pre-match analysis

Alex Lawes, Playmaker Stats: Flekken and Brentford must be wary of a Reds frontline willing to shoot from range

Last season, Liverpool edged past Brentford by a goal to nil at Anfield in early May as they kept up their eventual failed pursuit of a top-four spot and UEFA Champions League qualification.

In the reverse fixture, Brentford, as they do against so many of the so-called 'big six', caused Liverpool plenty of strife and won by three goals to one.



Head to Head

24	Goals	19
10	Goals Conceded	14
60	Shot On Goal	53
58%	Possession	48%
19	Yellow Cards	28
4	Red Cards	0



A contrast between the two teams is how specific and precise they opt to be in attack. For example, Liverpool have had the most shots (18.2 per game) of any team in the Premier League. However, 6.9 of those have been from outside of the box, which is the most of any team shooting from outside the box.

Brentford, in comparison, have 2.3 shots per game inside the six-yard box with only Everton having more – this is 0.9 more than the Reds.

The precision of a specific tactic or gameplan goes beyond where a team is shooting or maximising their scoring opportunity, though, with the number of long balls also an indication. Liverpool, with 584 long balls so far this season, are fifth in the league. They are ninth for most accurate long balls, however. Brentford, on the other hand, have a more specific and precise set-up being fourth for most accurate long balls, despite being twelfth for long balls in general.

This indicates a general flow of the match which is likely to see Liverpool try and 'rock and roll' their way through the visitors' defence. A bombardment of shots and general triggers and movements, up against a more studied and careful opponent.

That 'rock and roll' sort of gameplan can also be seen by how often they hit teams in transition, catching a side off guard with their intensity. Liverpool lead the way in the Premier League for most goals on the counter-attack with four. That will be something difficult to do against a smarter and more studied and pragmatic side coached by Thomas Frank.

Brentford will head to Anfield like they do to any major or 'big club' with a thorough and well thought out gameplan aimed at stifling their opposition, which if successful could prove very useful in a game against a team perhaps lacking precision by design.

Scout Report

Liverpool looking to maintain unblemished home record

The 2022/23 season will not go down as one of the best in Liverpool's history.

It came as something of a surprise, in truth. Just one season before, Jürgen Klopp's side had challenged for an unprecedented quadruple - and come extremely close to achieving it. They had won the FA Cup and the Carabao Cup, lost out to Manchester City by just a point in the Premier League and been beaten 1-0 by Real Madrid in the Champions League final.

However, they followed it up by disappointingly bowing out at the fourth round in both domestic cup competitions, suffering a last-16 exit in Europe and, after finishing outside of the top four for the first time since 2015/16, failing to qualify for the Champions League.

"We will remind ourselves we will do better – we have to do better," said Klopp after the 4-4 draw with Southampton on the final day.

In order to do better, the Reds' midfield needed a revamp after something of an exodus. Fabinho and Jordan Henderson joined the Saudi Pro League revolution, with James Milner joining Brighton, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain heading to Turkey with Besiktas and Naby Keita returning to Germany with Werder Bremen.

By the start of September, Liverpool had spent almost £150 million on Alexis Mac Allister, Dominik Szoboszlai, Wataru Endo and Ryan Gravenberch.

The first two of those four have been ever-present in league games this season, as Liverpool have put last season very much behind them.

Liverpool drew their curtain-raiser 1-1 with Chelsea, but won each of the next five and climbed up to second in the table as a result.

They suffered their first – and only – defeat thus far against Tottenham Hotspur on 30 September, which will be not be remembered fondly after a bizarre VAR review incorrectly ruled out Luis Diaz's first-half strike.

Since then, Klopp's men have won two and drawn two, keeping themselves firmly in what looks to be a relatively open title fight at this stage of the season.

Meanwhile, it seems to be a case of rinsing and repeating this line: Mohamed Salah has been integral to Liverpool so far this term. The Egyptian's 10 goals and four assists in 15 games in all competitions have even led some to ask whether the 31-year-old – who was reportedly the subject of Saudi interest in the summer – is even better now than he has ever been before. Four more league goals will see him replace Michael Owen as the Premier League's 10th highest scorer of all time.

Aside from league form and personal successes, the Reds have progressed excellently in cup competitions so far, too. In seeing off Leicester City and Bournemouth, they have reached the Carabao Cup quarter-finals, where they will face West Ham United, while they lead their Europa League group with nine points from nine and qualification almost wrapped up.

Liverpool are back – there's no doubt about that – and with eight wins from eight games on home turf, they are reinforcing the Anfield fortress that even the meanest of opponents will be fearful of.

In the Dugout

Jürgen Klopp

Jürgen Klopp was an amateur footballer in his youth and, after studying at university and playing for Eintracht Frankfurt's reserve team, it was after his 23rd birthday that his playing career began when 2 Bundesliga side Mainz 05 signed him.

He spent 11 seasons as a player at the Bruchwegstadion; his 340 appearances put him third on the club's all-time list.

Klopp retired at 33 in February 2001 when he was installed as Eckhard Krautzun's successor at Mainz.

Just over two years later, he guided the club to promotion to the Bundesliga, where they spent three seasons before being relegated back to the second tier. When Klopp could only guide the club to fourth in 2007/08, he resigned.

His reputation had blossomed during his time with Die Nullfunfer and, before long, he had been appointed by Borussia Dortmund.

It took a little bit of time for his plans to take effect, but the club became a real powerhouse under his direction. Between the 2010/11 and 2014/15 seasons, they won the Bundesliga twice, finished as runners-up twice, won the DFB Pokal twice, the German Super Cup twice and reached the 2012/13 Champions League final.

The conclusion of the 2014/15 season saw Klopp depart after seven years and he had a rare breather before taking over from Brendan Rodgers at Liverpool in the October.

At Anfield, he has won the lot: the FA Cup, the Carabao Cup, the Community Shield, the UEFA Super Cup, the Club World Cup, the Champions League and, of course, that elusive first Premier League title in 2019/20.

He has written himself into Liverpool folklore a hundred times over and is closing in on becoming only the fourth man in the club's history to manage 500 games.

Having passed eight years in the job last month, he is the current longest-serving manager in the top flight and the third longest-serving across the top four divisions of English football.



King's Speech: LGA statement on Renters' Reform Bill

Responding to the Renters' Reform Bill announced in the King's Speech, Cllr Darren Rodwell, Housing spokesperson for the Local Government Association, said:

"This Bill will help to achieve better standards in the private rented sector through increasing the rights of tenants and enabling them to better hold landlords to account. It will also increase councils' oversight of and ability to enforce against the small minority of landlords guilty of criminal behaviour.

"The removal of 'no fault' evictions is a significant step towards tackling our national homelessness crisis. Whilst the LGA remains concerned by the delay to its implementation as a result of backlogs in the court system, we believe the Government should consider publishing the evidence base for the delay and bring forward the abolition of Section 21 at pace.

"We also support measures that will enable councils to keep the proceeds of financial penalties to reinvest in enforcement activity. However, this funding won't cover the costs of the new duties in the Bill or the scale of the proactive work that is needed to improve standards for tenants.

"We will continue to work with government to ensure that councils have the right powers, skills, capacity and resources to undertake effective enforcement activity. This includes removing the requirement for Secretary of State approval for larger selective licensing schemes."



There would be no protests this weekend if I was in charge, says Ann Widdecombe

The former Home Office minister said a law should be passed to ban them in future

FORMER Home Office minister Ann Widdecombe said she would have banned protests during Armistice Day commemorations planned for this weekend.

Asked how she would handle the marches, she told [GB News](#): "Very straightforwardly. There wouldn't be any marches this weekend. The Government have had time to do it.

"We should introduce a law that says that on Armistice Day and on Remembrance Sunday, if they are separate as they quite often are, on those two days there should be no marches in support of anything at all in central London, not even the causes that I believe in."

Speaking to Mark Dolan, she continued: "No marches in favour of anything at all, because the only show in town should be the honouring of the dead and the honouring of veterans.

"That should be all that those days actually mean. It's not asking much."

She added: "There are 365 days in the year and people can demonstrate on 363 of them, but could they leave on this first day and Remembrance Sunday alone?"



WHO updates guidelines on treatments for COVID-19

WHO has updated its guidelines for COVID-19 therapeutics, with revised recommendations for patients with non-severe COVID-19. This is the 13th update to these guidelines.

Updated risk rates for hospital admission in patients with non-severe COVID-19

The guidance includes updated risk rates for hospital admission in patients with non-severe COVID-19.

The current COVID-19 virus variants tend to cause less severe disease while immunity levels are higher due to vaccination, leading to lower risks of severe illness and death for most patients.

This update includes new baseline risk estimates for hospital admission in patients with non-severe COVID-19. The new 'moderate risk' category now includes people previously considered to be high risk including older people and/or those with chronic conditions, disabilities, and comorbidities of chronic disease. The updated risk estimates will assist healthcare professionals to identify individuals at high, moderate or low risk of hospital admission, and to tailor treatment according to WHO guidelines:

- **High:** People who are immunosuppressed remain at higher risk if they contract COVID-19, with an estimated hospitalization rate of 6%.
- **Moderate:** People over 65 years old, those with conditions like obesity, diabetes and/or chronic conditions including chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, kidney or liver disease, cancer, people with disabilities and those with comorbidities of chronic disease are at moderate risk, with an estimated hospitalization rate of 3%.
- **Low:** Those who are not in the high or moderate risk categories are at low risk of hospitalization (0.5%). Most people are low risk.

Review of COVID-19 treatments for people with non-severe COVID-19

WHO continues to strongly recommend nirmatrelvir-ritonavir (also known by its brand name 'Paxlovid') for people at high-risk and moderate risk of hospitalization. The recommendations state that nirmatrelvir-ritonavir is considered the best choice for most eligible patients, given its therapeutic benefits, ease of administration and fewer concerns about potential harms. Nirmatrelvir-ritonavir was first recommended by WHO in April 2022.

If nirmatrelvir-ritonavir is not available to patients at high-risk of hospitalization, WHO suggests the use of molnupiravir or remdesivir instead.

WHO suggests against the use of molnupiravir and remdesivir for patients at moderate risk, judging the potential harms to outweigh the limited benefits in patients at moderate risk of hospital admission.

For people at low risk of hospitalization, WHO does not recommend any antiviral therapy. Symptoms like fever and pain can continue to be managed with analgesics like paracetamol.

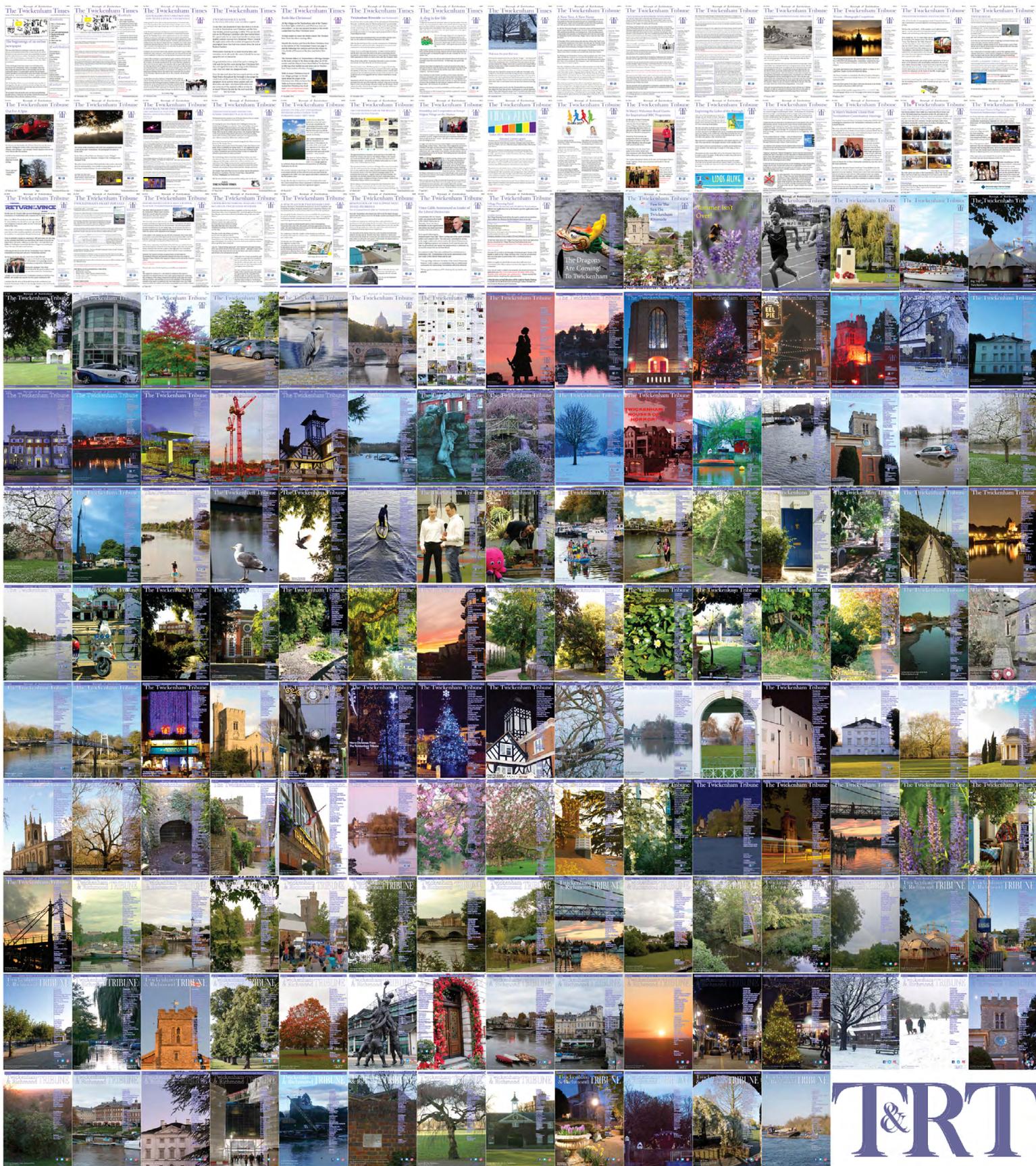
WHO also recommends against use of a new antiviral (VV116) for patients, except in clinical trials.

The update also includes a strong recommendation against the use of ivermectin for patients with non-severe COVID-19. WHO continues to advise that in patients with severe or critical COVID-19, ivermectin should only be used in clinical trials.



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