

# Twickenham & Richmond **TRIBUNE**

### Contents

- TickerTape
- Local Postcard Page: Hampton Court House
- Richmond May Fair
- Next week at Richmond Council
- Army v Navy at Twickenham Stadium
- Royal Parks recruits 90 additional Volunteer Rangers
- Tamesis Club Discover Sailing Open Day
- Sixty Years of Squire's Garden Centre in Twickenham
- Twickers Foodie
- Traveller's Tales 159
- WIZ Tales: Russian influence
- Planters and the Church Street Floral Scene
- The Early Bird
- J.M.W. Turner exhibition
- Sport

### Contributors

- Alan Winter
- Royal Parks
- Richmond May Fair
- Tamesis Club
- Alison Jee
- Doug Goodman
- World InfoZone
- Shona Lyons
- Deep Patel
- Mark Aspen
- Richmond Shakespeare Society
- Turner's House
- Richmond College
- RFU
- Brentford FC
- LBRuT

### Editors

Berkley Driscoll  
Teresa Read



3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024



Wisteria  
Photo by Berkley Driscoll

# TickerTape - News in Brief

## South Western Railway - Strike Action

Industrial action by the ASLEF union is set to take place on the following dates:

- **Monday 6 May** – overtime ban, revised service
- **Tuesday 7 May** – strike action, significantly reduced service
- **Wednesday 8 to Saturday 11 May** – overtime ban, revised service

**Monday 6 May (Early May Bank Holiday)** – revised service, check before you travel.

- London Waterloo – Shepperton One train per hour
- London Waterloo – Hampton Court Two trains per hour
- London Waterloo – London Waterloo via Kingston and Richmond Two trains per hour
- London Waterloo – Reading One train per hour

**Tuesday 7 May** – strike action, only travel if absolutely necessary

An extremely limited service will run on a limited number of lines. Large parts of our network will be closed and trains will only run between:

- Basingstoke and Salisbury
- London Waterloo and Basingstoke
- London Waterloo and Feltham via Twickenham
- London Waterloo and Guildford via Woking
- London Waterloo and Woking

Trains will only run between the hours of 0700 and 1900. There will be no other train services on our network outside of these times.

- London Waterloo to Feltham (via Twickenham) 2 trains per hour

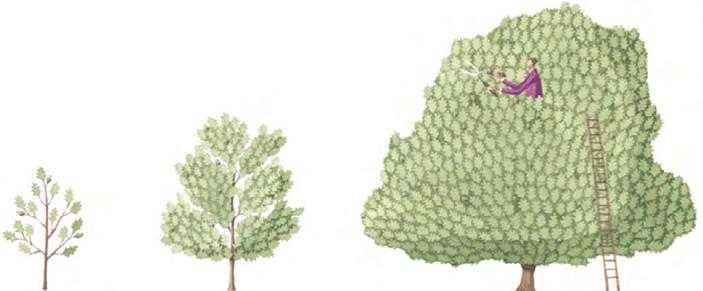
**Wednesday 8 to Friday 10 May** – revised service, check before you travel

A revised service will run, with short-notice cancellations possible. Engineering work will also affect our network.

- London Waterloo – Shepperton Hourly off-peak, some services via Twickenham cancelled
- London Waterloo – Hampton Court Full peak service, hourly off-peak
- London Waterloo – Kingston via Richmond Normal half-hourly services, some late-night cancellations
- London Waterloo – Reading Normal half-hourly service
- London Waterloo – London Waterloo via Hounslow Some peak service cancellations

**Saturday 11 May** – revised service, check before you travel

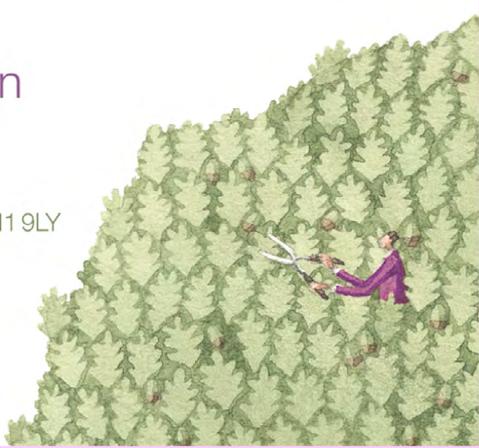
A revised service will run, with short-notice cancellations possible. Engineering work will also affect our network. For more information, please visit our [Planned Improvements page](#).



**The Tree Agency**

darryl parkin

The Treehouse  
 25 King Edwards Grove  
 Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9LY  
 Telephone 020 8274 0107  
 Mobile 07960 123580  
 Fax 020 8274 0119  
[info@thetreeagency.co.uk](mailto:info@thetreeagency.co.uk)  
[www.thetreeagency.co.uk](http://www.thetreeagency.co.uk)



# Local Picture Postcard Column - Part 247

By Alan Winter

## Hampton Court House

This week we take a look at Hampton Court House which is a Grade II listed 18th-century building fronting Hampton Court Green and which backs on to Bushy Park.

Our two postcards are from c 1915 when the House was used by members of the military awaiting orders for their placements. The first shows the House itself and the second the Cook House Area.

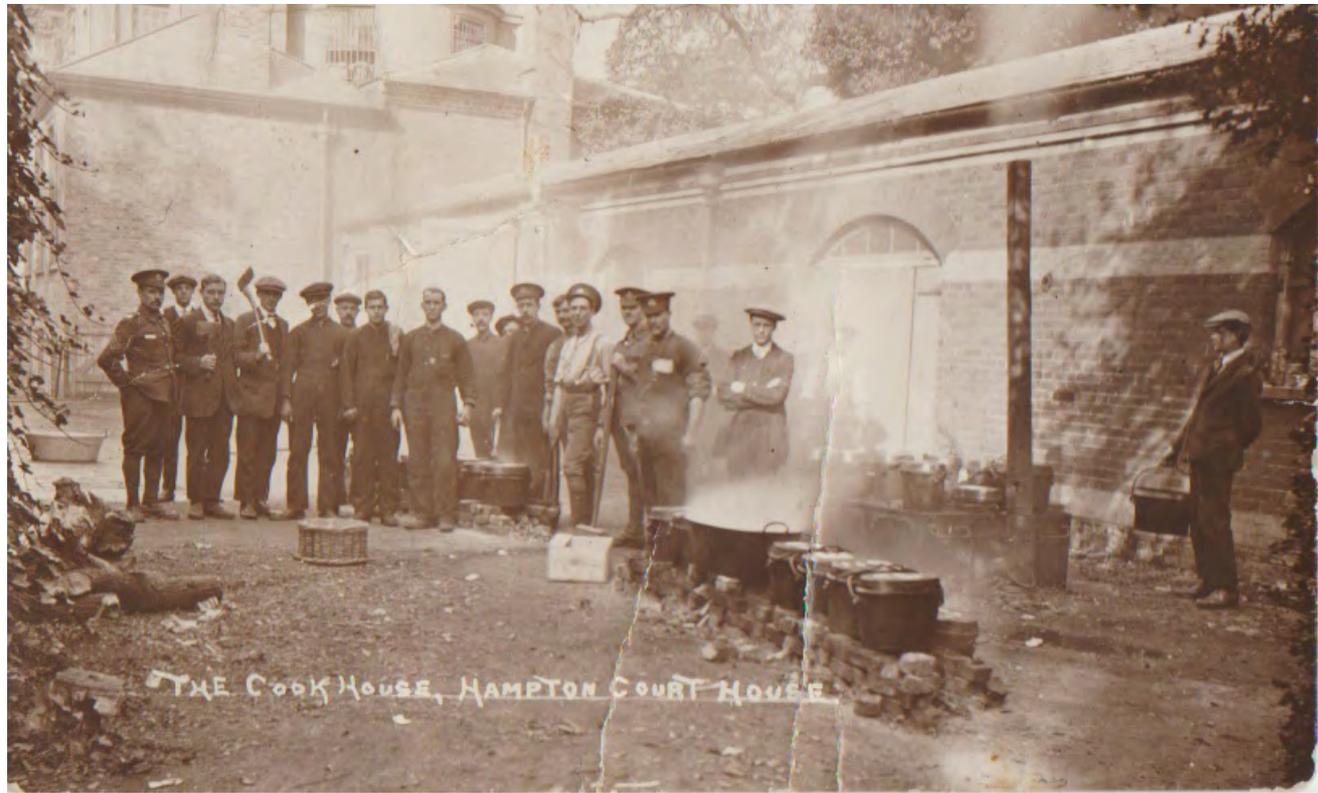
George Montagu-Dunk, 2nd Earl of Halifax, built the house in 1757 for the opera singer Anna Marie Donaldson who became his mistress. She was noticed by David Garrick among others. It was said 'she chose to limit herself



to what she could do well and did not aspire to any great heights'.

Life seemed to trundle along happily for the next few years until George Montagu's debts reached a worrying point. He made an impulsive decision to marry an heiress to improve his bank balance but had reckoned without Mary Anne and her theatrical experience. She rushed to his London residence and threw herself and their weeping infant at his feet and implored his protection so strenuously that, we are told, 'all resolution left him'. He called off the marriage which was to have taken place the next day. And what of his jilted bride? The almost new Countess of Halifax? In the manner of the time, she swiftly moved her fortune to another debtor and became Countess of Buckingham instead.

Mary Anne and her daughter moved to London after the death of George Montagu in 1771. In his will he left the house in trust for benefit of Mary Anne and in the event of her death, to their daughter, Anna Maria Montagu.



After the death of the Earl, it was let to the Earl of Suffolk, then to the 4th Earl of Sandwich; Charles Bingham; Admiral Lord Keith, who had had the task of telling Napoleon that the

island of St Helena was to be his future residence, Admiral Keith was followed by the 3rd Earl of Kelly.

In 1883, Thomas Twining of the Twining's family of tea and coffee merchants bought the house for his daughter and her husband Auguste de Wette. In 1971, the Teddington Theatre Club converted the picture gallery into a theatre.

Today Hampton Court House houses a co-educational private school and also hosts events such as weddings and the filming of movies.

Hampton Court House School, or HCH as it is popularly known, was founded by Lady Eliana Houston-Boswall and her son Alexander Houston-Boswall, after splitting from her husband Sir Alford Houstoun-Boswall in 1996; together they had previously founded The Harrodian School in 1993. Hampton Court House School opened its doors in September 2001 after extensive refurbishments.

The Sixth Form, led by former Westminster School headmaster Tristram Jones-Parry, opened in September 2015. It was the first school in the UK to start lessons in the afternoon. In March 2021 Hampton Court House was acquired by Dukes Education Group.

My search for old postcards continues. I am always looking for old postcards and old photograph albums etc. The postcards can be British or Foreign, black and white or coloured and of places or subjects.

If you have any that are sitting unwanted in a drawer, in a box in the loft or in the garage or under a bed, please contact me on 07875 578398 or [alanwinter192@hotmail.com](mailto:alanwinter192@hotmail.com)

I would like to see them and I pay cash!

# CrusaderTravel

020 8744 0474

[crusadertravel.com](http://crusadertravel.com)

Escapology Experts

[info@crusadertravel.com](mailto:info@crusadertravel.com)



Your friendly local Travel Agency  
established in Twickenham since 1966

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)



# Save the date! Less than two weeks to go to the biggest Richmond May Fair ever!

With close to 200 stalls on Richmond Green and 100 stalls in the Craft Marquee, the 2024 Richmond May Fair will be the biggest on record!

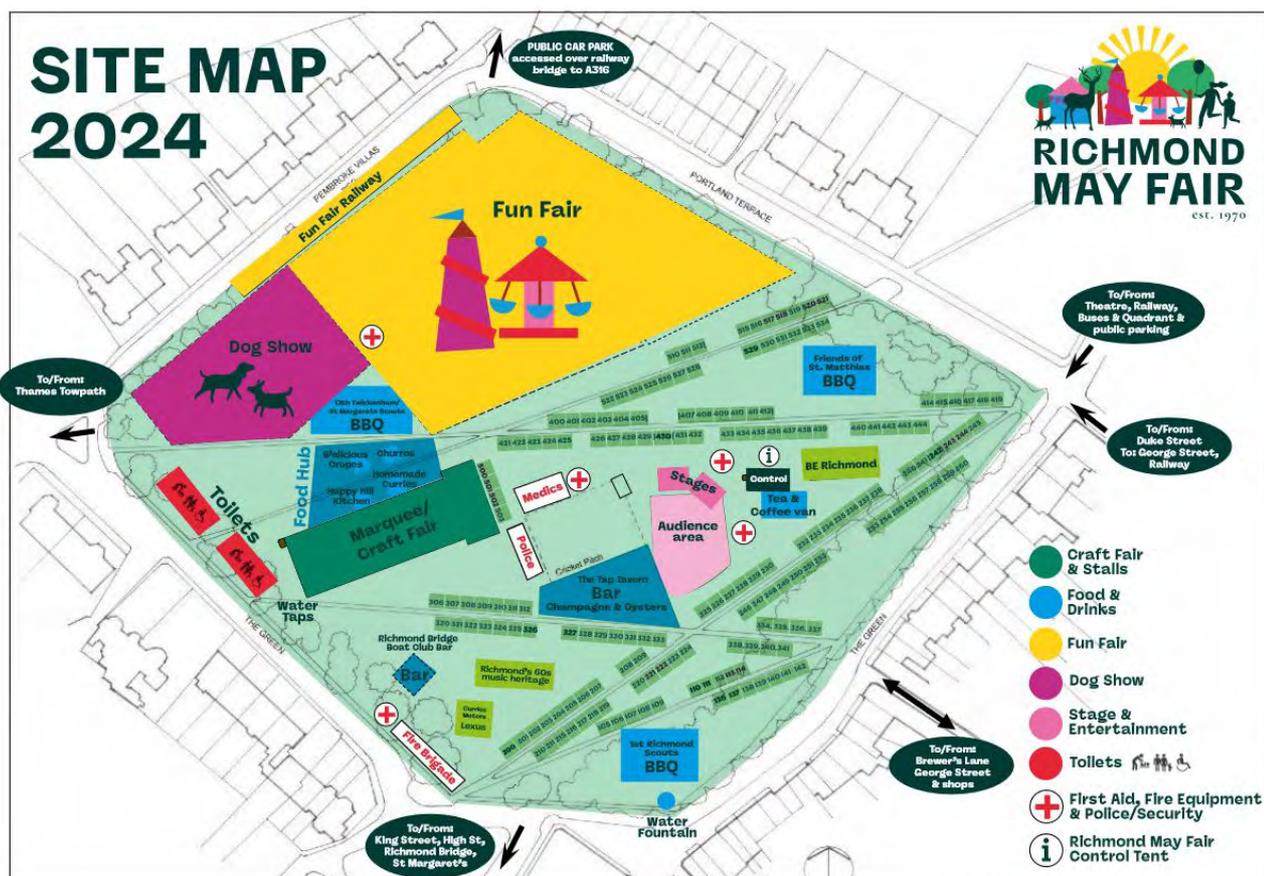
The Fair takes place on Saturday 11th May, 10am to 5pm, on Richmond Green and will be opened by the Mayor of Richmond upon Thames. Attracting visitors from across the borough of Richmond and beyond, it is a much-loved fixture in the borough calendar and the town's biggest community event.

Representing charities, artisans, businesses and schools, the Fair is a showcase for all that Richmond has to offer, and plays an important role in helping local charities promote their work and raise much-needed

funds. Old favourites like the Vintage Funfair and Dog Show return, with local bands, schools and various performance groups providing free entertainment. Along with a wide choice of delicious food and beverages, it makes for the perfect day out - so come and join in the fun!

Always hugely popular, the Dog Show is a real Fair highlight and this year's show promises to be no exception, kicking off with a trick training demo from Kaitlin Reynell of Encore Dogs at 1.15pm. Veterinary surgeon and founder of Pet People Pets, Dr Ian Stroud, will judge this year's show at 2pm. First place prizes have been generously donated by Playful Pup. Registration for the Dog Show is now open on our website, <https://www.richmondmayfair.co.uk/dog-show>, with limited places in each category.

We are pleased to be partnering once again with local group, Powerjam Band Project, who will be presenting their amazing young Powerjam bands alongside various local acts. Powerjam are also organising a full schedule of free entertainment for the Fair which will be broadcast live by Riverside Radio throughout the day.



Following feedback from last year's event, there will be a coffee stall at this year's Fair. The Black Beard Coffee trailer will serve a range of coffees from their signature blend to decaf, along with delicious hot chocolate and other treats.

Pamela Fleming, Chair of the Richmond May Fair Committee, commented: "The Committee is thrilled to be organising this great community and charity event. We couldn't do it without the sponsorship of Richmond businesses through Be Richmond and are so grateful. This year, we have more charity and small business stalls offering a great range of products and information on the fantastic work done by our voluntary sector. There's also a fantastic range of food and drink and a sparkling programme of free entertainment. All we need now for a fun-filled day is some sunshine!"

# RICHMOND MAY FAIR

est. 1970

Sponsored by

Be Richmond 

SAT 11TH MAY 2024

10AM - 5PM

RICHMOND GREEN TW9 1LX



**CHARITY & SMALL BUSINESS STALLS  
DOG SHOW • FUN FAIR • CRAFT FAIR  
FABULOUS FOOD & DRINK  
ENTERTAINMENT  
& MORE...**



*Scan here for more information*

[WWW.RICHMONDMAYFAIR.CO.UK](http://WWW.RICHMONDMAYFAIR.CO.UK)



# Next week at Richmond Council

On Tuesday, the **Policy and Performance Review Board** will meet to hear a verbal update on the Community Toilet Scheme, Richmond Council's approach to consultations, and supporting domestic retrofitting. The meeting will start at 7 pm at York House, Twickenham.

For full details, please follow the link [HERE](#)

How to participate: we encourage all members of the public who live or work in the borough to engage. You can submit questions or speak on an item in the agenda. To ask a question, simply submit your question by 12 noon, two working days in advance. To speak, you must register by noon the working day before the meeting.

For further details on how to participate, please follow the link [HERE](#)

## Rugby at Twickenham Stadium

### **ARMY v NAVY**

**Saturday 4th May.** KO 14:00 (men) & 16:45 (women).

Attendance: 42,000

CPZ in force 11:00-23:00.

Whitton, London & Rugby Roads will close 12:00-14:00 & 15:30-18:00.

The later closure depends on how many stay for the womens' match, so could be later. We will post live traffic info on the day.

## RFU WhatsApp channel for match days

The RFU are launching a WhatsApp channel to share info about events at the stadium and road closures on event days.

Scan the QR Code below and you can join the channel, where the info can then be shared to street/work/school WhatsApp groups. The RFU will post live traffic info on the day.



# Have your say on our public sports and fitness centres

Join us online on 20 May to share your views about what you value, want to protect and would like to enhance about our leisure facilities.

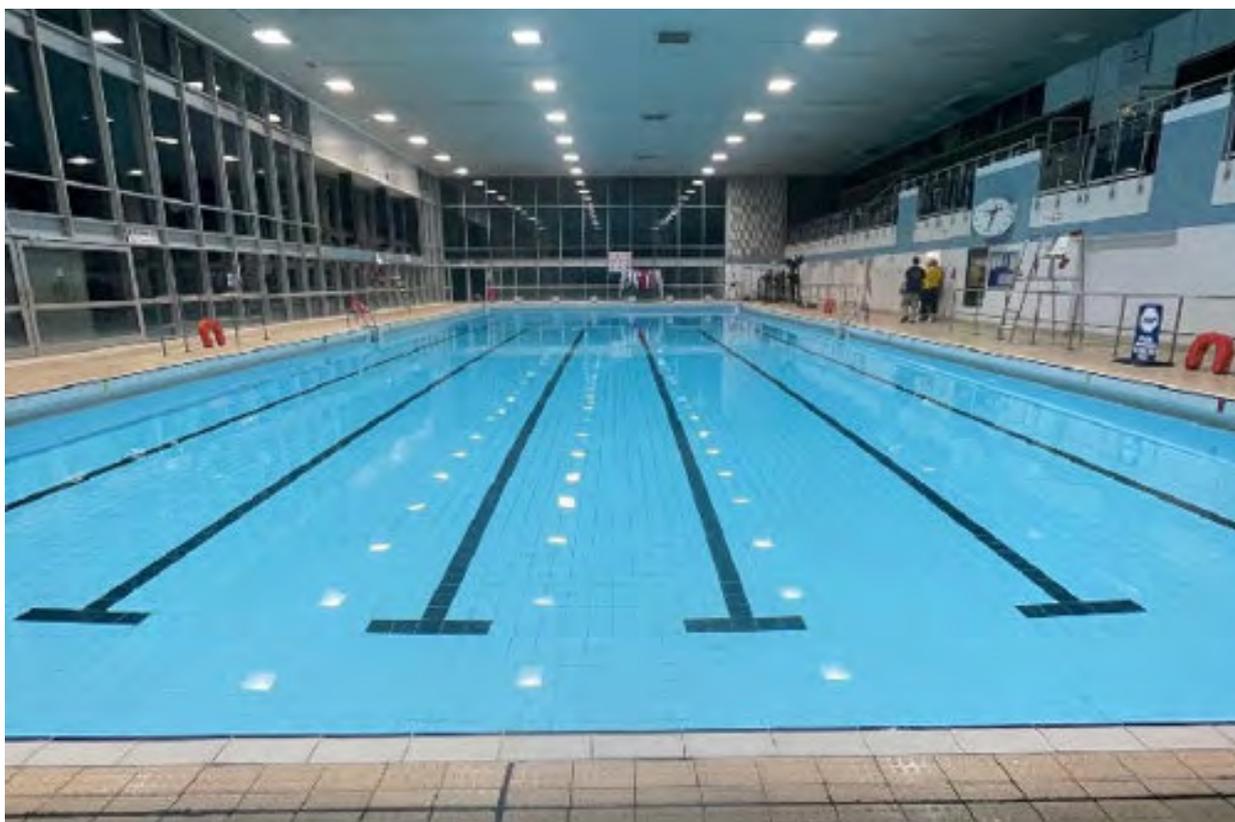
Our goal is to support everybody in Richmond upon Thames to be more physically active, at every stage of their life. A big part of this is making sure our public sports and fitness centres are able to provide high quality, accessible and inclusive activities and facilities for anyone who wants to use them.

We are seeking to find a contractor to manage both Pools on the Park and Teddington Pools and Fitness Centre, and your input is crucial in shaping the specification.

If you are already a user of our sports and fitness centres, we'd like to understand what you like most about our centres and what are the areas that you would like to see improved in the future.

If you are not currently using any fitness centre, or use a private one, we'd like to hear about what stops you from using our centres.

Your perspective on the future is invaluable, and it is our intention that your feedback will directly inform the shaping of the specification for the new contract - we look forward to seeing you there.



Event details:

- **Date:** Monday 20 May
- **Time:** 6 to 7.30pm
- **Location:** Online



[Register](#)

# The Royal Parks recruits 90 additional Volunteer Rangers to protect deer during birthing season

The Royal Parks charity is ramping up efforts to ensure the safety of both deer and park visitors, by almost doubling the number of Volunteer Rangers in Richmond and Bushy Parks from the start of deer birthing season.

The charity, which manages London's eight Royal Parks, including Richmond Park and Bushy Park, has recruited 90 new Volunteer Rangers to complement the existing team of 118. The role of Volunteer Rangers includes engaging the public and reminding them of the requirement to keep dogs on leads from **1 May to 31 July**. This measure is aimed at safeguarding vulnerable newborn deer as well as ensuring visitor and dog safety.

In April 2024, a fallow deer was mauled and killed in a suspect dog attack, and on a separate occasion a whippet was seen chasing a herd of around 30 fallow deer. These incidents serve as stark reminders of the need to ensure that dogs are always kept under control in the parks, especially around wild deer.

During deer birthing season, approximately 300 deer will be born across Richmond Park and Bushy Park. Female deer, in an instinctual effort to protect their young, can act defensively and have been known to chase dogs during this sensitive time. During this period, the safest option is not to walk your dog in either Richmond or Bushy Parks.

Park Manager for Bushy Park, Phil Edwards says: *"Thanks to the dedication of our Volunteer Rangers and park staff, and the co-operation of park visitors, we have seen positive changes in deer behaviour, which have demonstrated reduced stress levels and more natural roaming patterns.*

*"However, we rely on the public's assistance, especially dog owners, to keep themselves safe, and to avoid tragic incidents such as the recent mauling and death of a young deer in Bushy Park. A second incident in which a whippet chased around 30 fallow deer caused huge stress to the herd. This could have resulted in deer charging at visitors and causing serious injuries or worse."*



Anne Scoggins, who has been a Volunteer Ranger at Bushy Park since August 2020, says:

*"It is a privilege to be involved as a Ranger. I have met some wonderful people on my shifts, and I really enjoy the benefits of being outside.*

*"Our role is to educate, to be kind and to keep people and their dogs safe while protecting the wildlife. This time of year is especially tricky as the female deer are very protective of their newborn calves and fawns. We need to encourage people to keep their dogs on leads, to remind visitors to keep a safe distance of at least 50m away from deer, and refrain from seeking out or disturbing newborn deer."*

Owners who choose, at their own risk, to walk their dog in Richmond or Bushy Parks during this season, must keep their dogs on leads, should be on high alert for female deer, avoid areas of long grass and bracken where new-born deer could be concealed, and stick to the perimeter of the park in case they need to escape quickly.

Park Manager for Richmond Park, Paul Richards says: *"Although deer are instinctively frightened of dogs, they will overcome this fear if they believe their young are at risk. This means female deer may chase and attack, even if the dog is at a distance, on a lead and not acting provocatively. This can be extremely frightening to witness, especially for the dog owner."*

To increase public awareness during deer birthing season, Volunteer Rangers will host an additional pop-up information point within Richmond Park on **Sunday, 5 May, from 1pm onwards**,\* which follows on from several similar engagement events already held in Bushy Park and Richmond Park in 2024.



THE  
ROYAL  
PARKS

# Tamesis Club Discover Sailing Open Day

11th May 2-5pm

Tamesis Club is a well-kept secret located on the Thames riverside in Teddington. We offer dinghy sailing, dinghy racing, paddle boarding, and RYA sailing instruction.

We welcome new members and our Discover Sailing open afternoon on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May is an opportunity to visit the club without obligation. Visitors of all ages are welcome to enjoy the clubhouse facilities including, a licensed bar, food, and lawn, and car park. Perhaps even try your hand at sailing. You can be taken out by one of our experienced sailors in a club sailing dinghy.

We are looking forward to a visit by the Lady Mayor to welcome two new sailing dinghies to the club. These were sponsored by SporTedd.

Want to come and see us – we would be delighted to welcome you and tell you more about the club. Please email us with your interest on [tamesisdiscoversailing@gmail.com](mailto:tamesisdiscoversailing@gmail.com)



## Tamesis Club

**Trowlock Way on Saturday 11th May from 2-5pm**

**Teddington, TW11 9QY    [tamesisdiscoversailing@gmail.com](mailto:tamesisdiscoversailing@gmail.com)**

**RYA**

[rya.org.uk/discoversailing](http://rya.org.uk/discoversailing)

# Sixty Years of Squire's Garden Centre in Twickenham

This year celebrates the 60-year anniversary of Squire's Garden Centre in Twickenham

Squire's Twickenham was opened by Colin Squire in 1964; one of only a handful of garden centres across the country at the time.

When Squire's was founded in 1935 the main activities were landscaping small domestic gardens. During the 1960s people became more interested in gardening for themselves rather than employing a gardener. In response to this Squire's opened its first garden centre in Sixth Cross Road, Twickenham.

Squire's Garden Centres is a successful family-owned horticultural business serving local communities. There are 16 Squire's Garden Centres across Surrey, Sussex, Berkshire, North and West London. Customers can also shop online for local delivery within a 5-7 mile radius of their garden centre.

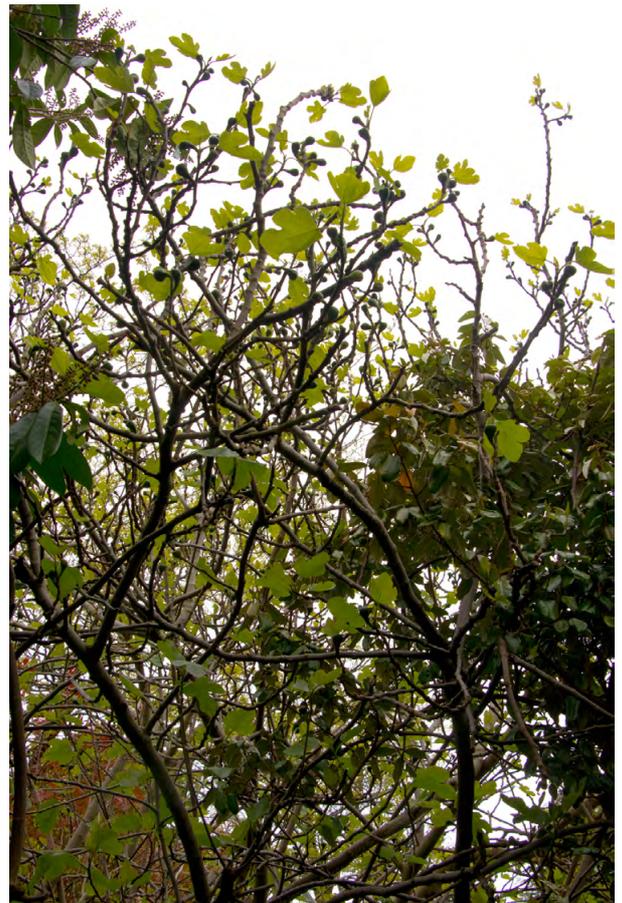
Squire's offers a wide range of quality plants and garden products together with an extensive selection of garden furniture, houseplants and gifts. They continue their drive towards customer excellence with their highly qualified and experienced horticultural staff, on hand to help with plant related questions.

All centres have free parking, and a Café Bar serving breakfast, drinks, snacks, lunch and afternoon tea. Four centres also have extensive pets and aquatics departments - at Squire's in Badshot Lea, Twickenham, Stanmore, Washington. West Horsley has aquatics only.

Squire's has close connections with schools and the local community – with a particular passion for encouraging new generations of gardeners through a year-round programme of workshops for all ages and abilities. Squire's also supports various local charities, which are chosen each year by staff at the different centres.

In 2022, Squire's acquired Barnsfold Nurseries, based in Horsham and a long-standing supplier of bedding plants to the business, marking a return to offering more home-grown plants.

Squire's is at the forefront of developing best practice and innovation in the UK garden centre industry, and regularly wins industry awards.



*The Tribune's Fig Tree purchased from Squire's  
40 years ago*

## Italy Comes To Knightsbridge: Cantinetta Antinori

I love Italian food, and I've been fortunate to visit some superb restaurants in Italy over the years, including a three star Michelin in Florence with the late Michel Roux, when I was running the Roux Scholarship. I never imagined that I'd find a restaurant that personified top Italian dining in the heart of Knightsbridge, but I have. It's called **Cantinetta Antinori** and it's tucked down Harriet Street, a side street off Sloane Street, just a short stroll from Knightsbridge station, and it's fabulous.



You might recognise the name Antinori if you're a wine buff: the Antinori family boasts 26 generations of winemakers, and is famous for producing superb Chiantis. This restaurant is the family's first London outpost, in collaboration with international restaurateur and luxury meat importer Riccardo Giraudi. It sounds like a marriage made in heaven: fine wine, luxury meats and restaurant know-how, and, it is.



The restaurant offers all day dining and, surprisingly, an amazingly good value set lunch (two courses and a glass of wine for £29). On entering the restaurant, one feels transported to Tuscany, the decor is superb and the restaurant is surprisingly large. Inspired by the Cantinetta Antinori restaurant in Florence, interiors are adorned with Tuscan artisanal motifs such as brass vine leaves, displays of wine, wall-

mounted colourful plates and enchanting curiosities from the Antinori family collection. It really does feel like a trip to Florence.

The day I visited, I was taken upstairs to a bustling atmosphere. The place was nicely busy - not too noisy, as the tables are well spaced - with a mix of businessmen and 'ladies who lunch' clearly enjoying themselves.



Wanting to check out the set lunch, I started with Filetto di Vitello Tonnato - a classic dish that I love. It is a traditional veal fillet, finely sliced and topped with a tuna and caper sauce. Not only was this magnificently presented, but it tasted fabulous. The veal melted in the mouth and the seasoning of the sauce was perfectly balanced.

My main was the fish of the day from the set lunch - Cod with Spinach. Cheekily, I asked if they could upgrade it to one of their signature dishes: Black Cod Al Vinsanto (Vinsanto marinated wild black cod and sautéed spinach - £45). That way I was able to try the great value set lunch as well as one of their superb signature dishes.



It was really, really good. A glass of Vermentino, Bolgheri DOC complemented my lunch perfectly - and that was included in the set lunch price!

Two ladies at a table near to me were enjoying a stupendous dish of Lobster linguine, bisque and cherry tomato (not such great value at £58 but it did look delicious!)

Every Friday and Saturday from 6.30pm - 10.30pm, Cantinetta Antinori plays host to buzzing live music evenings, with an evolving roster of Jazz musicians and resident bands. Guests can enjoy the soothing sounds whilst sampling the wines and indulgent sharing plates from the Aperitivo menu.

A Tuscan inspired brunch menu is available at the weekend, offering dishes with Italian flair, from £17, such as their Carbonara-inspired take on poached eggs, *Uova in camicia alla Carbonara*, and *Focaccia di Recco Al Tartufo*, a thin focaccia stuffed with Stracchino cheese and white truffle. And there is a Sunday roast for £39 a head (Roasted black angus beef, seasonal vegetables, crispy potatoes, Yorkshire pudding and red wine jus). Judging by my fabulous set lunch, I'm sure that weekend meals there are well worth a trip to Knightsbridge: Tuscany via the Piccadilly Line!

sunborn  
**GIBRALTAR**  
YACHT HOTEL RESORT



# EXPERIENCE GIBRALTAR



**PACKAGE INCLUDES:**  
ROOM AND BREAKFAST  
DOLPHIN TRIP FOR 2®  
DINNER FOR 2  
BOTTLE OF CAVA AT ARRIVAL

**TOTAL £250.00**

Terms & Conditions: Offer subject to availability

TO BOOK CONTACT: +350 200 16900 | [RES@SUNBORNGIBRALTAR.COM](mailto:RES@SUNBORNGIBRALTAR.COM)

# Traveller's Tales 159

## The Battlefields of Northern France

Doug Goodman continues his tour of Hauts-de-France with visits to the battlefields of World War One

For tourists and military history enthusiasts there's so much to see in the departments of Pas-de-Calais, Somme and Nord. In World War One, once the fighting became bogged down in trenches, the front line fortified by British and French forces and their German opponents stretched from the Belgian Coast to the Swiss Border. Over the years of war, digging, fortifying and bombardments significantly changed the landscape. Today visitors to The Western Front can explore the woods, hills and fields and discover the relics of the fierce fighting which took place there from 1915 to 1918. Ruined block houses, outlines of trenches and piles of rusty ordnance are easily spotted. As long as crops are not disturbed you can walk more or less anywhere.



The Call



Poilus. The French 'Tommy'



Commemoration at High Wood. Memorial to the 47th London Di



Don't Touch

On 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016 I stood in a depression which was part of the German Switch Trench in High Wood on The Somme. Here my uncle was killed by a sniper exactly 100 years ago. In this one square kilometre of a private wood nearly 10,000 soldiers died defending or capturing this strategic spot. A tank is buried somewhere in the wood and all around were rusty items. Shrapnel balls were on the surface of the recently ploughed fields and the local ordnance specialist accompanying me pointed to a grenade protruding from the mud. Never touch anything as it may still be live. Farmers' tractors have steel plates below to protect from the occasional detonation when a shell is driven over during ploughing.



Albert. Trench Life



Thiepval Memorial



D7 Arras. Wellington Tunnels



Vimy Ridge Trenches

### COMMEMORATION

There are hundreds of memorials to divisions, regiments and even individual soldiers marking the spot where they fought and died. Dozens of museums exist on The Somme all providing an insight on a local battle or dedicated to a particular unit. In Albert you can visit the tunnels where trench life is portrayed. This town has a range of small hotels and makes an ideal base for exploration. The Historial de La Grande Guerre in a castle in Peronne traces the political situation leading to and during the war and has a formidable collection of artefacts. The Thiepval Memorial carries the names of 75,000 soldiers with no known grave. Discovering my uncle's name engraved there was a tremendous event. The nearby museum shows how the huge monument was conceived and built. The Wellington Quarries in Arras, where 24,000 soldiers were concealed ready for the 1917 spring offensive, should not be missed. Other museums at Newfoundland Park, Vimy Ridge and the Ulster Tower offer fascinating collections of memorabilia, trenches that can be visited and guides to explain

the fighting that took place. The tank museum at Flesquieres is home to a recovered tank from the battle of Cambrai.



The Ulster Tower



Flesquieres. Home for Tank Deborah



Arras. CWGC

## CEMETERIES

By far the most striking features of the countryside are the vast number of cemeteries. Tended by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the organisation responsible for maintaining some 23,000 cemeteries in 154 countries, they attract significant numbers of visitors intent on tracing distant relatives. Stone masons using hi-tech machines, sign writers, historians and specialists trained in identifying the remains of soldiers' bodies still being found, can be seen at work at the head-quarters of the CWGC in Arras. The largest British cemetery is at Etaples near Le Touquet. The endless rows of headstones remembering nearly 11,000 dead are a striking sight. Notre-Dame-de-Lorette is France's largest military cemetery commemorating 42,000 soldiers who died in the battles of Artois and Flanders. The Ring of Remembrance has 500 bronze plates with the names of 600,000 who perished in the trenches of Northern France. I wondered if there would be any 'Goodmans' inscribed there. Astonishingly there were over 70 – some perhaps related! Neuville-Saint-Vaast is the resting place for almost 45,000 German soldiers with Teutonic-style graves arranged in landscaped gardens.



Etaples. British Cemetery



French Cemetery.  
Notre-Dame-de-Lorette



German Cemetery



Plenty to Study

You can reach The Somme battlefields from a DFDS ferry from Dover to Calais in well under two hours. Take the A26 from the port in the direction of Arras and then the busy A1 south in the direction of Paris. Turn off at Bapaume and take the dead-straight D929 to Albert. A car is essential but an alternative is to book one of the very comprehensive tours by coach from the UK organised by Leger Holidays. All major WW1 sites are featured as well as key WW2 battlefields. There are hundreds of books, guides and maps about The Somme. Those I find really useful are: 'The Middlebrook Guide to The Somme' and 'The First Day on The Somme'; both by Martin Middlebrook; 'The Somme Then and Now' by John Giles; 'Walking The Somme', by Paul Reed; 'World War One Battlefields', published by Bradt and written by John Ruler and Emma Thomson. Also by John Ruler, 'Nord-Pas de Calais – The land Beyond the Ports'. Foyles bookshop in Charing Cross Road has an enormous department devoted to military history. A little homework, a guide book and map will help you get the most from your visit to The Western Front. And if you have a relative killed in WW1 you can find details on the CWGC website.

Info: Musee Somme in Albert, [www.musee-somme-16.eu](http://www.musee-somme-16.eu) Historial de le Grande Guerre in Peronne, [www.somme-battlefields.com](http://www.somme-battlefields.com) Thiepval visitor centre and memorial, [www.historial.org](http://www.historial.org) Wellington Quarries in Arras [www.carrierewellington.com](http://www.carrierewellington.com) Newfoundland Memorial Park and Vimy visitors' centre [www.veterans.gc.ca](http://www.veterans.gc.ca) Vimy Ridge Memorial [www.vimy.acc@canada.ca](mailto:www.vimy.acc@canada.ca) Flesquieres Tank Museum [www.tank-cambrai.com](http://www.tank-cambrai.com) CWGC visitors' centre [www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org) Etaples Military Cemetery [www.tourisme-etaples.com](http://www.tourisme-etaples.com) Notre-Dame-de-Lorette Cemetery, Ring of Remembrance and museum [www.memorial1418.com](http://www.memorial1418.com) German Cemetery at Saint Vaast [www.volksbund.de](http://www.volksbund.de) DFDS Ferries [www.dfds.com](http://www.dfds.com) Leger Holidays [www.legerbattlefields.co.uk](http://www.legerbattlefields.co.uk)

Next time: the sites and memorials of WW2

# WIZ Tales: Russian influence

Teresa Read



Apart from the war in Ukraine relatively little UK media attention has focused on the plight of other countries within Russia's sight.

For weeks there has been unrest in Georgia, a country hoping to join the European Union with candidate status granted last December. Unfortunately, the "Russian Law" issue is an impediment of "foreign intervention" - explained in last weekend's Tribune.

It is surprising that for some time there has been insufficient attention paid by the UK media to the situation in Georgia as massive protests have been taking place for weeks. However, last Monday, following the publication of the Tribune, the BBC explained the Russian Law issue:

"The "Russian Law" states that if organizations receive twenty percent or above of funding from foreign donors they would have to register as "organizations bearing the interests of a foreign power" and would be monitored by the Justice Ministry - similar to Russian law." See The Twickenham & Richmond Tribune, Edition 390, page 22.

The European Union has urged Georgia to stay on the EU course; Ursula Von der Leyen, the President of the European Commission, has condemned the violence of the Georgian police who have been reported to use rubber bullets, tear gas, stun grenades and water cannons against protesters; beatings have also been recorded.

It should be noted that following protests in the early hours of the mornings, protesters have been seen on video tidying up the streets – these are ordinary citizens opposed to Russian interference in their lives.

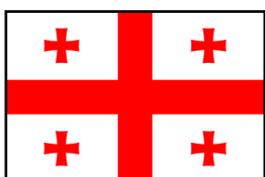
Recently, protests have also taken place in Hungary; tens of thousands of people have taken to the streets opposing Viktor Orban's government. (Orban has been Prime Minister of Hungary since 2010, previously he held the office from 1998 to 2002).

Also, in Belarus there is opposition to the government of Alexander Lukashenko; similar to demonstrations in Hungary and Georgia the size of the crowds has been seen on X - an unbelievable multitude of people,

And in Slovakia, thousands of people in the capital, Bratislava, have been seen protesting the government's takeover and control of the media. Once again, an assembled sea of people demonstrating openly and recorded by users of X.

In Ukraine, President Zelensky is reported as follows in the Kyiv Post: "Ignoring democratic anti-Russian movements in Georgia and Belarus is unworthy of you ... Time to adjust your stance. Stop Ignoring Struggles for Freedom in Georgia and Belarus".

Note: X was formerly known as Twitter



Flag of [Georgia](#)



Flag of [Hungary](#)



Flag of [Belarus](#)



Flag of [Slovakia](#)



Flag of [Ukraine](#)

# The Early Bird...

By Deep Patel

~ Through the Eyes of a Twickenham Shopkeeper ~

It's raining...it's pouring...shop keeper Deep isn't snoring... why? As he is worried that there is one little creature that is putting itself at danger of sudden death each time it rains...I'm talking about the humble worm...so I adjusted my morning shop opening ritual so that the first duty I perform is walking up and down the street outside my shop using my phone torch and a nearby leaf to pick up and move all the stranded snails, worms and slugs off the pavement so I don't see them squashed by people walking by when I walk by later (the guilt is unbearable). I would like to ask all readers of my article to henceforth do the same..and I promise something good will happen back for you for caring...try it...



If you could do one kind thing today, be a hero for an earthworm, slug or snail...they may look a little ugly, but so do half the humans we are kind too, yet we are still kind to them right? We are taught to never judge a being solely by the way they look in any case...

So remember, never mind the vote, but if there is one change you make this week, keep an eye out for the poor noble earthworm (slugs and snails too...they don't mean to upset us by eating our plants and only want to live like the rest of us)...

Earthworms are actually fascinating creatures...There is not just one type, there are thought to be 4,400 species of earthworm...a noble kind being that largely minds its own business, residing largely way deep beneath our feet, enriching our soil so that we can have bigger vegetables and brighter flowers, doing no harm whatsoever...so then isn't it also OUR duty to ensure that they come to no harm too? Also, if you truly believe in the old sentiment "respect your elders", perhaps we need to start showing the common earthworm more respect...their species is said to be over 600 million years old, that's around 593 million years before we were!!

Did you know, all earthworms possess both male and female reproductive organs? Despite this, they can't actually mate with themselves, although they can hold up to 20 eggs. Of these 20 eggs, only one worm usually emerges. Earthworms surprisingly have 5 hearts. That's a lot of loving! As well as this, earthworms have bodies that are bilaterally symmetrical, meaning that the two sides of their bodies are identical! They don't sound so boring now do they!! So in the coming weeks when the weather is turning very damp, when you are out and about walking on the pavements, please keep an eye out for the poor noble earthworm and move it into a near garden using a nearby leaf, also use your mobile phone torch to see them when it's dark at night. Remind yourself that it is the innocent party that has been forced out of its home due to the water-logging of the pavement and as a result become helplessly stranded on the street where it can easily be stepped on by anyone walking by...they can live for up to 8 years so definitely worth saving and if left out in the daylight, they become paralysed (daylight has this effect on worms sadly hence they live underground mainly). Slugs and snails were also recently proven to feel not only pain, but also emotions...so pick them out of your green waste bins and recycling boxes before the bin men toss them into the back of the lorry to be painfully crushed... Not to mention that for every worm you save, you will get good karma, a life saved is still a life saved...big or small...and one good turn deserves another...your kindness will come back to you ten-fold!

**Remember...**

***"No life deserves to suffer...be kind and remember, one good turn...deserves another"(PICK UP THAT WORM).***

**STOP ANTS KINDLY (GOOD KARMA):** Sprinkle pure essential peppermint oil, Olbas oil, fine black pepper or white vinegar around places where you don't want them to come (but NOT directly on them)...they will go without you having to harm them. For ANY specific tip to stop any "pest" or insect KINDLY (for good karma/blessings), email me: [InsectLoversUnite@gmail.com](mailto:InsectLoversUnite@gmail.com) or join my Facebook page: "INSECT LOVERS UNITE"

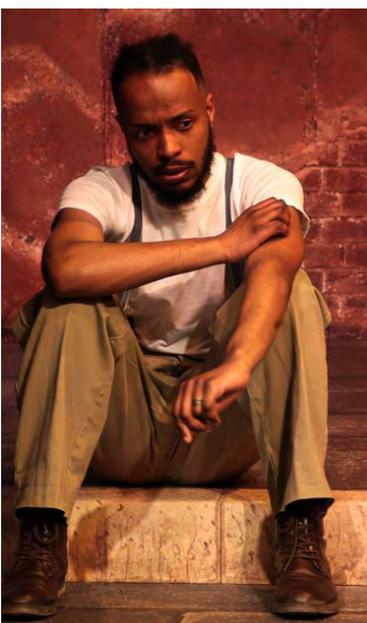
# Othello

by William Shakespeare

Richmond Shakespeare Society at the Mary Wallace Theatre, Twickenham

Jealousy, revenge, intolerance, anger, murder and manipulation, themes central to *Othello*, are all here, in a faded Mediterranean coastal town, in director, Francesca Ellis' modern costume setting. The versatile set transforms from seascape to battle scene to bedroom, enhanced by inspired music and lighting, while the acting successfully portrays the range of emotions necessary to pull off this challenging play.

Maxina Cornwell as Brabantia, the mother of Desdemona, is just splendid, her acting skills a joy to watch. Although only appearing in the opening scenes, she establishes the whole atmosphere.



Will Hunter, who plays the villain, Iago, is everything that this character should be. His malignant and bitter nature shines through. Alongside Iago is Emilia, his wife, Desdemona's servant, performed by Dana Acharya with feeling and with great gusto. She comes into her own when she finds the strength to stand up to Iago and then delivers that passionate speech about the place of women.

Iago's sidekick, the fool, Roderigo, is played brilliantly by Arthur Holmes, whose wonderful comic timing is used to good effect. Roderigo, rejected by Desdemona, is easily manipulated against Othello. Cassio too, played by George Abbott, brings a comedic and refreshing relief to the dark mood and atmosphere of the play. As the young, charming soldier, promoted by Othello, he empathetically brings life to this character. Cassio's thought is putty in the hands of Bianca. Aleksandra Kydd is truly delightful in this role, displaying a Bianca affectionate and loyal to Cassio, sexually free, passionate.

Central to the play, Daniel Maurice captures the emotional turmoil of Othello, his strong passion for both his wife and for war, his inner weakness, and his insecurity. Ana Fitz is the essence of Desdemona, and responds intuitively to the text, a tragic heroine, with her unfaltering love, and her loyalty, even in the face of Iago's cruelty. These two actors have good chemistry and successfully portray their characters' wide ranging emotions.

Other characters effectively provide pauses for reflection. The actors knit together and have great physical skills. They listen and respond naturally without losing the poetic vibrancy of the language.

RSS's *Othello* is an enthralling and sincere retelling of the classic story.

Read Celia Bard's review at [www.markaspen.com/2024/04/21/othello-rss](http://www.markaspen.com/2024/04/21/othello-rss)

Photography by Pete Messum

## Consent

by Nina Raine

Teddington Theatre Club at the Hampton Hill Theatre until 4<sup>th</sup> May

A party of four close friends celebrate the arrival of a new baby. Kitty and Edward's union appears watertight, while Jake and Rachel's partnership is brittle.

The studio play *Consent* is set against a backdrop of fielded panels, hinting a traditional court of law. Its versatility is enhanced by lighting designed by Rob Arundel and Harry Jacobs's sound design.

Jake is charming, yet resentful to the point of tipping over into anger. Beautifully played by Jacob Taylor, Jake is a good counterbalance to Ellie Armstrong's convincing Rachel, his disillusioned wife. New parents Kitty and Edward, skilfully played by Rachel Burnham and Oliver Redpath, seem sincere; however, their relationship is on the cusp of unravelling.



The new father Edward is a barrister. The setting cuts to a traumatic pre-court scene with rape victim Gayle, played poignantly by Robyn Bennett, and the clumsily reassuring and awkward Tim, who tried to convey the unjust rules to her.

Edward is a prosecutor for this same case. Resulting later in a painful and tumultuous confrontation, a day's work for Edward ends with tragic consequences.

As legal advice is sought from the very cynical Laura, brutally played by Racheal Rajah, these human situations are seen from differing points of view, forcing Edward to come to terms with his suppressed emotions.

Back home, Kitty and her pals try clumsily to pair off the likeable Tim, played by David Shortland, with Madeline Gordon's Zara, a frustrated actor. The pace picks up, as a now disturbed Jake breaks up with Rachel.

The two sides of this marriage are presented sharply and clearly by both parties. However, Jake and Rachel reunite, but Kitty's entanglement with Tim results in a separation from Edward on acrimonious terms.

A strong and honest piece of writing, and intelligently directed by Jane Marcus, *Consent* is a play whose plot unfurls in an intriguing manner an insightful probing from different angles into fragile relationships. One can see why TTC's classy production is a sell-out show.

Read Heather Moulson's review at [www.markaspen.com/2024/05/01/consent](http://www.markaspen.com/2024/05/01/consent)

Photography by Sarah J. Carter



## Julius Caesar

by William Shakespeare

Questors at the Judi Dench Playhouse, Ealing until 4<sup>th</sup> May

On the Questors' stage, a young student falls asleep and dreams a five act political tragedy.

In Caesar's Rome, its elite stride around in medal-laden uniforms while faceless police officers beat protestors on the street. Caesar is played with great relish by a Mussolini-like Max Fisher. Playing Caesar, one clearly needs to get a strong performance in early, and Fisher delivers a portrayal large enough to cast a long shadow.



While Caesar basks in the adulation of the Roman people and ostentatiously refuses crowns, the senators are revolting. James Burgess, as Cassius, is in lean and hungry-looking form as he insinuates Ant Foran's bluff and honest Brutus. The pair are joined by Casca, delightfully played by David Erdos with great panache as a swaggering smoking cardinal.



On Alex Marker's starkly designed set, adorned with two marble benches, Hyssop Benson rotates roles as the student, a simpering Calpurnia pouting for the press, a soldier, and the disembodied voice of a soothsayer spreading dire warnings. On stage throughout and complete with dizzying micro-scooter riding, Benson's reaction to events ties the show together.

Mark Antony's explosive funeral speech is a highlight, as is often the case in *Julius Caesar*, with actors cheering on Julian Smith's Antony from the back of the auditorium, even as the appalled conspirators sit stony-faced in the front row, gradually storming out as the crowd's mood turns. Casca is last to leave, coldly flicking cigarette ash over Caesar's shroud, in a quietly wonderful flourish.

Despite Calpurnia's beseeching Caesar to stay at home on the Ides of March, and haunting entreaties from Priya Patel's Portia to Brutus, *Julius Caesar* is a play in which the ladies' good advice is universally ignored.

Once Caesar has been disposed of, Mark Antony stops partying and wears a uniform almost identical to that of Cassius. On a similar note, Julian Casey switches sides to shine as Octavius, having earlier played Cinna. It's a nice touch from director Mark Oldknow and costume designer Carla Evans; it seems one despot is much like another.

Questors' top notch *Julius Caesar* is a truly compelling production of this classic play.

Read Andrew Lawston's review at [www.markaspen.com/2024/04/27/julius-caesar-pac](http://www.markaspen.com/2024/04/27/julius-caesar-pac)

Photography courtesy of Questors

# Richmond Shakespeare Society Spring/Summer programme

The Richmond Shakespeare Society are preparing a crowded Spring/Summer programme commencing with Tom Stoppard's translation of Gerald Sibleyras' HEROES. Three old soldiers in a Veterans home while away their days with memories of past glories... until an opportunity for a daring escape presents itself. A tender play packed with wit, laughter, pathos and courage - at the Mary Wallace Theatre on Twickenham's Embankment from June 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>.



Subsequent shows include our Junior Actors Company in ONE MILLION TINY PLAYS ABOUT BRITAIN (June 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>), CYRANO de BERGERAC in Twickenham's Fountain Gardens from July 15<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, David Mamet's AMERICAN BUFFALO in September and ARDEN of FAVERSHAM in October.



Booking for HEROES is open now at [www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk](http://www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk) where further information about membership or any of the above shows can also be found.

# Turner's House hosts first exhibition dedicated to J.M.W. Turner and the environment this summer

This summer, Turner's House, thanks to a generous loan of works from Tate, asserts J.M.W. Turner was the first major British artist to engage with man's effect on the natural world. The exhibition reveals how Turner grappled with the effects of the industrial revolution on the landscape and captured environmental and social developments that would go on to change Britain and the world's climates forever.

**A World of Care** presents a selection of J.M.W. Turner's paintings, drawings and prints in relation to a series of environmental issues. It shows how 200 years ago Turner bore witness to the beginnings of societal and industrial developments that would lead to today's ecological concerns. The exhibition, featuring the rarely seen oil painting *Sunset*, c.1830-35, the original drawing of *London from Greenwich* 1808-09 and *Fire at the Grand Storehouse of the Tower of London*, 1841, demonstrates Turner's keen attention to society's impact on the natural world and the huge effect environmental change had on his subject matter.

Turner, arguably Britain's most celebrated landscape painter, was the first British artist of the Anthropocene: the current geological age in which human activity has been the dominant influence on climate and the environment. Highly attuned to changes in the landscape and atmosphere, Turner captured them in his groundbreaking paintings, drawings and engravings. Through his art, he documented plumes of smoke, burning furnaces, urban sprawl, deforested landscapes, overfishing and extreme weather.

Dr Thomas Ardill, exhibition curator, said:

*"Without knowing it, Turner was recording the early stages of climate and ecological breakdown as he travelled across Britain and Europe. Until recently, we may have seen these pieces as spectacular and beautiful representations of unspoiled landscapes. But there are many signs that human activity was already irrevocably damaging the environment, from urban sprawl to setting suns glowing red through atmospheric pollution. By looking at his work afresh through the context of climate change, we can reconnect with Turner on a very human level, understanding that what was important to him is important to us today."*



*Sunset 1830-35 J.M.W. Turner. Copyright Tate*

Turner's contemporaries, the poet William Wordsworth and the writer John Ruskin, despaired at the environmental changes they witnessed. While other 19<sup>th</sup> century landscape painters turned away from the newly industrialised world Turner determined to incorporate modern realities into his art, seeing both disruption and beauty in them. The changes he witnessed fired his imagination and drove him to capture new artistic subjects, such as the 24-hour carbon-economy in *Shields on the River Tyne*, and the record-breaking momentum of the steam engine in *Rain, Steam and Speed*.

**A World of Care** radically reframes Turner's work. Staged in the artist's own home, the exhibition connects the past to the present and expands our understanding of Turner's subject matter, worldview and vision. It encourages visitors to look at Turner's paintings in a new way, provoked by ecological concern.

**Turner's House** is an ideal venue for this exhibition. Turner's engagement with the environment is framed in relation to his life at Sandycombe Lodge, the rural retreat he designed for himself in Twickenham, upriver from the filthier stretches of the Thames and upwind of London's smoky air.

*A World of Care: Turner and the Environment*, Saturday 6th July - Sunday 27th October 2024, Wednesday to Sunday 10am to 4pm, for more information visit [turnershouse.org](http://turnershouse.org)



**TURNER'S HOUSE**  
TWICKENHAM

# A-Level Philosophy, Religion and Ethics students Tour Westminster Abbey

On Thursday 28th April, a group of Philosophy, Religion and Ethics A-Level students at Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) had the opportunity to visit Westminster Abbey in central London for a tour.



Students were given a private tour of the Abbey with commentary from a guide. This involved seeing the graves of old Kings and Queens, as well as some of the most influential thinkers of our time, including Charles Darwin and Stephen Hawking.

The trip gave our students an enriching understanding of Christian beliefs and values and other themes within Philosophy and Religion, helping them understand the work they have been doing in class. The visit allowed them to explore questions such as “Does God truly exist?,” “Is there such thing

as life after death?” and “Does science conflict with religion?”

Philosophy student, Sarvesh Amatya, took some incredible artistic photos of the Abbey during the trip, truly capturing the beauty and intricacies of the building.



Sarvesh spoke of the outing: “Stepping into Westminster Abbey was like walking through a main pillar of English history. Each detailed stone, worn from years of use in each delicate archway. I loved taking pictures of the light dancing upon the stained glass, capturing a tapestry of history and faith. This visit showed a side of history I hadn’t seen before.”

[Find out more about our courses and how to apply for 2024 here.](#)



**Richmond upon  
Thames College**

# U20 Women's Team to face Wales confirmed

England U20 Women's head coach LJ Lewis and assistant coach Sarah McKenna have selected their matchday 23 for an Anglo-Welsh clash against Liza Burgess' Wales this weekend.

The U20 Women's fixture takes place at the home of Dings Crusaders RFC, Shaftesbury Park, this Saturday (4 May, 14:00 BST kick-off). Entry to the ground is free of charge, with the fixture also streamed live on the [England Rugby YouTube channel](#). Parking will also be free of charge and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Gloucester-Hartpury back-row forward Steph Else, who has played in 15 of the 18 fixtures for her club this season, will lead out her country for the first time in what will be her sixth U20 cap. Saracens back and recent Allianz Cup victor Amelia MacDougall is also rewarded for her impressive recent form for club and country by being named vice captain. Lewis has awarded two full debuts to Harlequins' Katie Shillaker and Jessie Spurrier, as well as first starts for Alex Wilkinson (Henley Hawks) and Loughborough Lightning trio Carmela Morrall, Amelia Williams and Lucy Calladine. Millie David of Bristol Bears is also in line for her first start upon her homecoming to Shaftesbury Park.

U20 management have opted for the same back-five forwards from their meeting with France in April, including Gloucester-Hartpury's Jorja Battishill, Joia Bennett and Steph Else. Amelia Hyndman (Sale Sharks) and Sophie Molton (Trailfinders Women) could make their debuts off the replacements bench with Niamh Williams (Sale Sharks) and Sophie Langford (Exeter Chiefs) reintroduced to the fold.

In what will be the final outing of England's spring programme, the fixture serves as a vital opportunity for young female athletes and coaches in the England Rugby Women's Pathway to develop on the international stage. 20 of this weekend's matchday squad will have achieved their first caps under Lewis this spring should Hyndman and Molton make their debuts. Saturday's team have a cumulative 54 PWR appearances to date.

LJ Lewis said: *"Saturday will be a special day for all involved, particularly with potential debuts and homecomings within our squad. Shaftesbury Park is a brilliant facility, and we look forward to welcoming a big vibrant crowd from both sides of the border to cheer on the girls. Our spring schedule has offered our players an insight into the expectations and demands of international rugby. We as a group have taken a lot of learnings and Sarah and I are looking forward to seeing that development in place this weekend. Our messaging this week has underlined the importance of the occasion this Saturday in what promises to be a fantastic day for our squad, staff and supporters. I have no doubt that the girls can live up to our principles of being fearless, empowered and adventurous."*

## England U20 Women team to face Wales (includes current club, university and community club)

- 15 Lia Green (Loughborough Lightning, Loughborough University, Winscombe RFC) \*
- 14 Millie David (Bristol Bears, University of West England, Reading Rugby Football Club) \*
- 13 Millie Hyett (Gloucester-Hartpury, Hartpury College, Worcester Girls RFC) \*
- 12 Carmela Morrall (Loughborough Lightning, Loughborough University, Dubai Hurricanes) \*
- 11 Katie Shillaker (Harlequins, Horsham RFC)
- 10 Amelia MacDougall (Saracens, Oaklands College, Old Albanian RFC) \*
- 9 Alex Wilkinson (Henley Hawks, Oxford University, Henley Hawks) \*

### Replacements

- 16 Amelia Hyndman (Sale Sharks, Bede Sixth Form College, Bishop Auckland Rugby Club)
- 17 Chloe Flanagan (Saracens, Old Albanian RFC) \*
- 18 Niamh Williams (Sale Sharks, University of Worcester, Reading RFC) \*
- 19 Josie Plant (Exeter Chiefs, Perranporth RFC) \*

- 1 Amelia Williams (Loughborough Lightning, Loughborough University, Medway Rugby Football Club) \*
- 2 Lucy Calladine (Loughborough Lightning, University of Worcester, Burton Rugby Football Club) \*
- 3 Jessie Spurrier (Harlequins, Horsham RFC)
- 4 Lola Whitley (Gloucester-Hartpury, Hartpury College, Sudbury RFC) \*
- 5 Jorja Battishill (Gloucester-Hartpury, Hartpury University, Gloucester-Hartpury) \*
- 6 Joia Bennett (Saracens, Loreto College, Old Albanian RFC) \*
- 7 Ellie Roberts (Loughborough Lightning, Loughborough University, Basingstoke RFC) \*
- 8 Steph Else (Gloucester-Hartpury, Hartpury University, Scarborough Rugby Union Football Club) \*
- 20 Tyla Shirley (Harlequins, Cardinal Newman Sixth Form, Hove Rugby Club) \*
- 21 Sophie Molton (Trailfinders Women, Brunel University, Medway RFC)
- 22 Sophie Langford (Exeter Chiefs, University of Exeter, Hong Kong Football Club) \*
- 23 Evelyn Clarke (Loughborough Lightning, Birmingham University, Worcester Girls RFC) \*

\*denotes a player capped at U20 level for England



# Match Preview: Brentford v Fulham

**Analysis, team news, match officials and more. Here's everything you need to know ahead of Brentford's Premier League game against Fulham on Saturday (3pm kick-off GMT)**

Written by Brentford Football Club

Brentford welcome west London neighbours Fulham to Gtech Community Stadium on Saturday (3pm kick-off).

Thomas Frank's side left Craven Cottage with the bragging rights in August - Yoane Wissa and Bryan Mbeumo on target in a 3-0 victory.

Following a 1-0 defeat to Everton last time out, Brentford sit 16th in the Premier League table on 35 points. Fulham, three places and eight points better off than the Bees, drew 1-1 with Crystal Palace last weekend.

Analysis, team news, match officials and more. Here's everything you need to know before the game.

## Pre-match Analysis

Alex Lawes, Playmaker Stats: Expect goals at the Gtech

Saturday's west London derby could well be a high-scoring thriller between two sides looking to finish the season with a flourish.

In the three Premier League meetings between Brentford and Fulham, there has been a total of 13 goals.

One key difference between the sides would be the notion that Fulham have very much overperformed throughout this campaign, while the Bees have underperformed their underlying data.

That is shown by expected goals with Fulham currently one of just six teams in the entire league to have overperformed their xG with a difference of +0.52; Brentford have underperformed it by -10.94 with only Liverpool and Everton worse off so far this season.

Arguably the key man to keep an eye on in terms of his general defensive and tactical efficiency remains Fulham and Portugal international defensive midfielder João Palhinha.

The 28-year-old, who is expected to start for Roberto Martinez's Portugal in Germany this summer at Euro 2024, has been the most prolific tackler in the Premier League with an average of 4.6 per game, while his team-mate Antonee Robinson has made the most interceptions (75).



## Head to Head

Comparisons	
Goals	52 vs 51
Goals Conceded	60 vs 55
Shots	332 vs 348
Possession	44% vs 51%
Yellow Cards	82 vs 72
Red Cards	2 vs 3



There is perhaps a reliance on individual quality in Fulham's defence with an overarching shape and organisation more something that Brentford focus on.

For example, there is no Brentford player in the top 10 for tackles made in the league but the Bees do still make more tackles on average as a team than Fulham.

Brentford and Fulham are the two teams with the best interception numbers in the league which could mean frequent turnovers in possession and both sides looking to strike on the counter attack.

Despite that being a relatively similar tactic, we do generally have a contrast in styles for the derby this weekend but 'styles make fights' to use boxing parlance and we could well be in store for another fun match-up this weekend.

## **Scout Report**

Fulham enjoying fine season despite Mitrović departure

For the first time in over a decade, in the summer, Fulham will start a third consecutive campaign in the Premier League.

Cottagers fans have been waiting a long time for that. After four seasons in the Championship, they were promoted in 2018, but finished 19th the following term. They bounced straight back, then finished 18th.

But then, they won the title in 2022 and finished 10th, which marked their highest league finish since they finished ninth under Martin Jol in 2011/12. It had been a relentless journey to that point.

Of course, the natural reaction for many – as Brentford fans know all too well - was to then question whether the so-called 'second-season syndrome' would strike them down. That intensified when Aleksandar Mitrović – one of only eight men to have scored more than 100 goals for Fulham – left for Saudi Pro League side Al Hilal.

They have, however, consolidated their place in the top flight.

On occasion, they have looked like world beaters – successive 5-0 wins against Nottingham Forest and West Ham United over the course of five days in December spring to mind – but, for the most part, their form has been steady, if unspectacular.

Only twice have they managed to string two wins together, while their longest unbeaten run in the league spanned three games and they have the fourth-worst away record in the division at the time of writing. On the flip side, that has mitigated by the fact they have the eighth-best home record.

If they win all of their remaining three games, they will match their record for most Premier League wins (15), which would take them to a their joint-second best points total (52) and, if they score three more goals, they will set a new record (56).

The in-form Rodrigo Muniz continues to impress – he has nine goals and one assist in his last 13 league games – and that gives Fulham a good chance of finishing strongly.

The Whites have continued to improve under Marco Silva – who was linked with a Saudi move himself last summer – and the Portuguese guided the club to their first League Cup semi-final in their history, where they were beaten 3-2 on aggregate by eventual winners Liverpool.

Silva was rewarded with a new contract in October, which will see him through until the 2026. If he remains in post until then, he will be the first Fulham manager reach the five-year milestone since Bedford Jezzard in the 1960s.

“I feel the business is not done yet,” he said when the news was announced. “We’ve had two great seasons, and the goal is clearly there to sustain this club in the Premier League.

“It is important to feel the trust and have the support of our owners. My relationship with them has been really important in this decision. Let’s continue together on this long journey.”

## **In the Dugout**

Marco Silva

Despite having only turned 46 last July, Marco Silva already has 13 years of managerial experience under his belt, having taken charge of more than 450 matches across three countries.

After a playing career as a right-back in his native Portugal, he was appointed director of football at Estoril in 2011, but was quickly thrust into his first role as leading man when the club endured an unfavourable start to the campaign.

Silva managed to turn the club’s fortunes around, winning the Liga de Honra and cementing a return to the Primeira Liga after a seven-year exile.

In 2014, Silva signed a four-year deal at Sporting and went on to win the Taca de Portugal, but he lasted just days over a year in charge. Shortly after the cup win, the club produced a 400-page document where they detailed the reasoning for his dismissal, with one section claiming his failure to wear a club suit during a match partly justified the decision.

A title-winning season at Olympiacos came next, before he took on a fire-fighting job at relegation-threatened Hull. Silva galvanised a Tigers team that included Harry Maguire and Andy Robertson, but ultimately could not prevent the club dropping back into the Championship and he resigned in May 2017.

That preceded time at Watford and Everton, before he joined Fulham just over two years ago.

Silva has taken charge of 136 games during his time at Craven Cottage and won the Championship title with the club two seasons ago, before guiding them to their first top-half Premier League finish since 2011/12 last year.



# Brentford FC matchday audio commentary makes football accessible for visually impaired fans

A new, [immersive video from Brentford FC](#) shares the story of Andy Godfrey, a visually impaired Brentford supporter that uses the club's audio commentary to experience matches live at the Gtech Community Stadium.

*The Sound* is the final video in the second series of [Thousands of Stories](#), a collection of short films sharing the stories of Brentford's community. The club's fans have been the focus of series two.

The film shares the story of Andy, who was born blind and tells us what it's like to experience a live football match as a visually impaired person.

The film, best watched using headphone, uses sounds recorded from a Premier League matchday at Brentford to create an immersive audio experience. The video is an opportunity for viewers to discover what a matchday is like for blind or partially sighted football fans. In *The Sound*, Andy explains he came to Brentford to teach French and German at a local school and was approached by a colleague who suggested that Andy should try Brentford's matchday audio commentary.

"One of the teachers said to me, "they have excellent commentary at Brentford, would you like to try that?" And I came to the club and it was everything that I could dream a football could be" said Andy.

Andy received that advice more than 50 years ago and he's been a Brentford fan ever since. He says, "It's just unbelievable, that feeling of going to Brentford. I don't miss many home games. On a matchday, I can't think about anything else really, it's just Brentford all the way through. I get the shakes sometimes!"

In the video, Andy elaborates on what his unique matchday experience is like, including the build-up to kick-off.

"I've listened to the excited shouts of the Brentford fans. I listen to them predicting a win. People are excited. There are excited conversations all around me."

"The atmosphere is electric. You can hear the shouts of the players, the cries of the crowd. People are getting nervous, you do sense that".

Andy's matchday experience wouldn't be what it is today without his access to live matchday audio commentary, broadcast by Brentford Fc in-house at the Gtech Community Stadium.

The club's long-serving matchday commentator, Mark Burridge, is the voice behind the microphone that Andy relies on to follow the match as it happens right in front of him when he's sat in the stadium.

"Having a commentary really enhances the whole experience of going to Brentford. When I was growing up, all the blind spectators had to sit together. In those days, you had to plug your headphones into a console."

“Now we have wireless headphones with are absolutely super because you can sit anywhere you like with your friends. The best thing about it is the commentator keeps up with play, never misses a shot or a kick and describes everything”.

“It means the world to me, it really does”.

Wireless audio commentary at Brentford is one of the many ways that the club is making football accessible for all. To help blind fans enjoy the matchday experience at the Gtech Community Stadium, fans can bring along a carer, free of charge. Andy discussed why these initiatives are so important to him.

“Obviously not all blind people like football, but loads do. I just wish more people would come to the ground.”

“I think the more people you can get into football, the better it is. If there was no commentary at Brentford, I wouldn’t go.”

“I think football is a great introducer to other people and other walks of life. The impact of football on my life is immense. I’m overwhelmed with gratitude for the kindness I’ve received at Brentford.”

### About Thousands of Stories

*Thousands of Stories* is a film series from Brentford FC that highlights the club’s community. Following the success of the inaugural series, the series two of *Thousands of Stories* consists of four films which delve into the experiences of our fans, what supporting the Bees means to them and how the club has impacted their lives.

Accompanying *The Sound* in this series are:

- **The Moment** - the story of [Raymond Harrison](#), a lifelong Bees supporter who experienced a cardiac arrest at Gtech Community Stadium before our fixture against Newcastle last season
- **The Dream** - the story of [Connor Wolfheimer](#), a Brentford fan who came through Brentford FC Community Sports Trust’s football programme and is currently on a two-year scholarship playing for Brentford’s Under-18s
- **The Local** - the story of [Claire Peleschka](#), the landlady of The Griffin, one of the four pubs surrounding Brentford’s previous stadium, Griffin Park

So far, the series has attracted more than 1.4m views across social media.

Speaking about the return of the series, Sally Stephens, Brentford’s fan and community relations director, said:

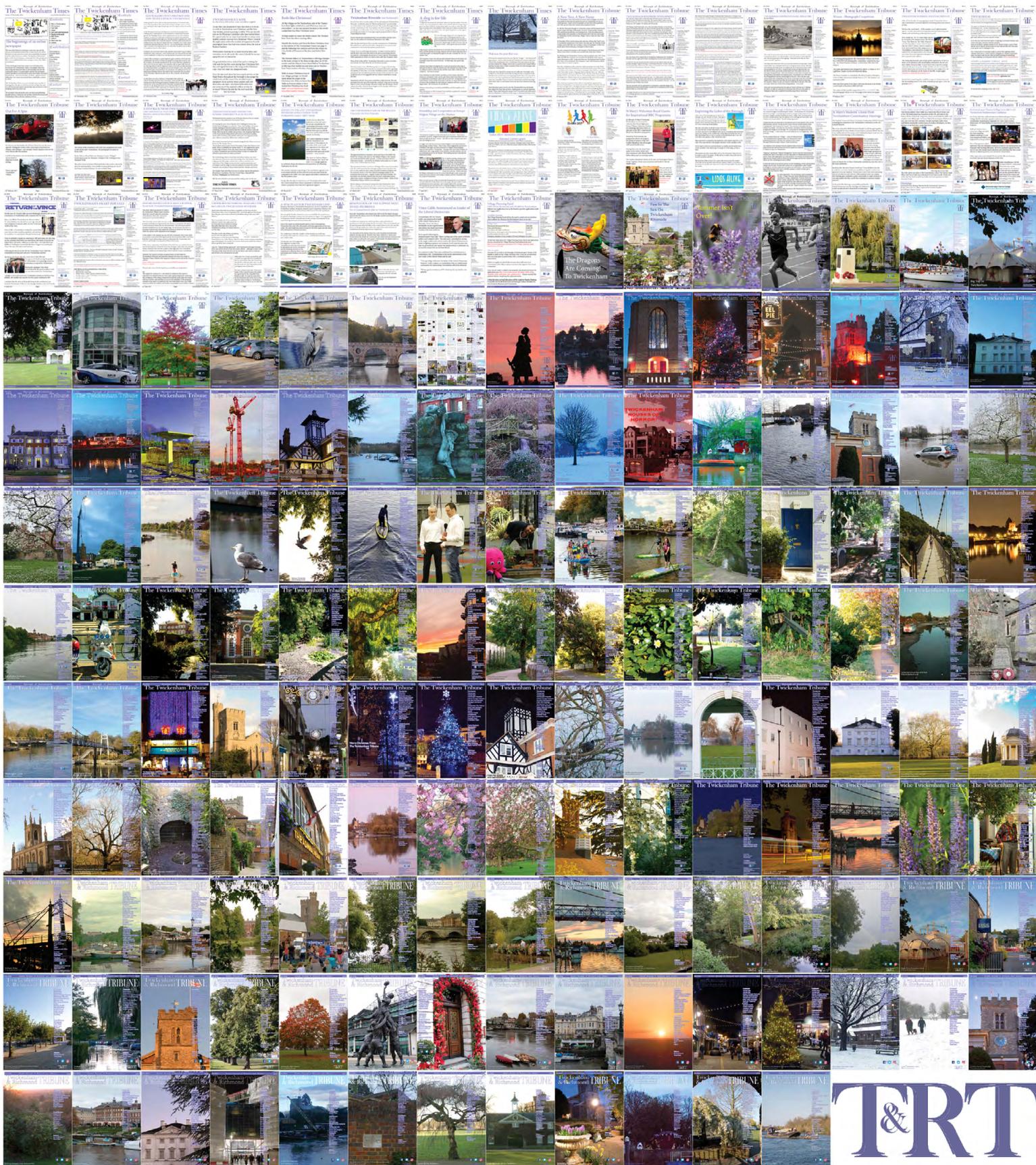
“Thousands of Stories shines a spotlight on some of the incredible individuals who make up our vibrant community. We’re fortunate to have such fantastic fans.”

“The films share how being a Brentford fan is about much more than football. Being a Bees fan means being part of a trusted community, supporting each other and showing togetherness during the good times but also through adversity.”

“We look forward to continuing to celebrate the stories that make our club so special.”



# 391 editions of the **Twickenham & Richmond Tribune** online - Lots to read: News, Reviews, History, Sports and On-going Sagas in the Borough of Richmond upon Thames



Half Page

Quarter Page  
Landscape

Quarter Page Portrait

Eighth Page

Eighth Page  
Landscape

Example advert sizes shown above

Thousands read The Twickenham & Richmond Tribune

If you are reading this you could be advertising your business with  
The Twickenham & Richmond Tribune. Community rates are  
available

Contact: [advertise@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:advertise@TwickenhamTribune.com)

View ad details at [www.TwickenhamTribune.com/advertise](http://www.TwickenhamTribune.com/advertise)

**Contact**

[contact@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:contact@TwickenhamTribune.com)  
[letters@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:letters@TwickenhamTribune.com)  
[advertise@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:advertise@TwickenhamTribune.com)



**Published by:**

Twickenham & Richmond Tribune (in association with World InfoZone Limited)

Registered in England & Wales

Reg No 10549345

The Twickenham Tribune is registered with the ICO under the Data Protection Act, Reg No ZA224725

©Twickenham & Richmond Tribune. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be used or reproduced without the permission of Twickenham & Richmond Tribune. While we take reasonable efforts, this online newspaper cannot be held responsible for the accuracy or reliability of information. The views and opinions in these pages do not necessarily represent those of The Twickenham & Richmond Tribune.

[Terms & Conditions](#)