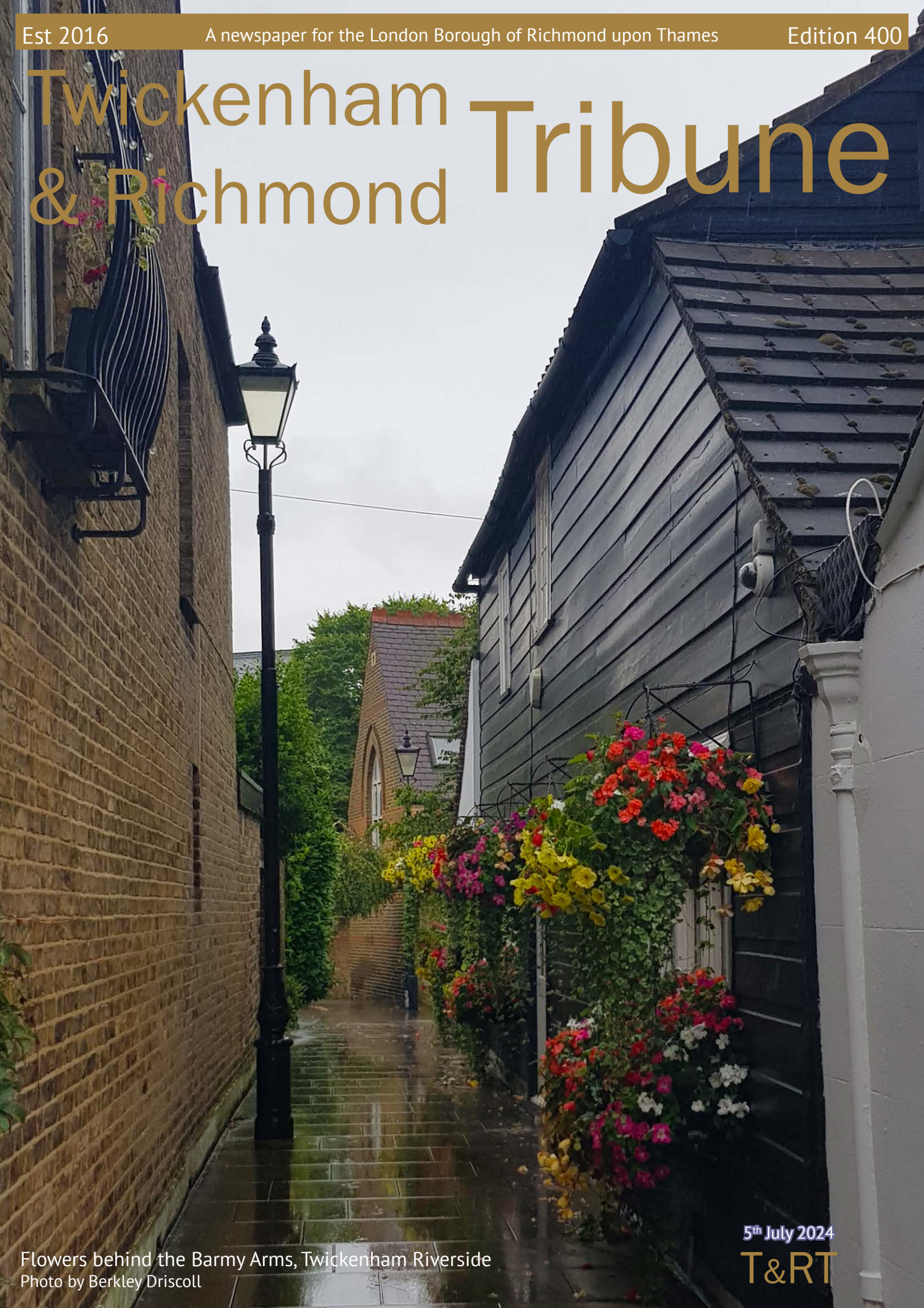


Twickenham & Richmond Tribune



Flowers behind the Barmy Arms, Twickenham Riverside
Photo by Berkley Driscoll

5th July 2024

T&RT

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Editors:

Berkley Driscoll

Teresa Read

TickerTape - News in Brief

Former Barnes Councillor becomes an MP

Former Barnes Councillor Aphra Brandreth has been elected as the Conservative member of parliament for the new parliamentary seat of Chester South and Eddisbury. The seat contains part of the area that used to be in the seat held by her father, Giles Brandreth.

In 2019, she stood in Kingston and Surbiton, and was the Conservative Women's organisation's national deputy chairman.

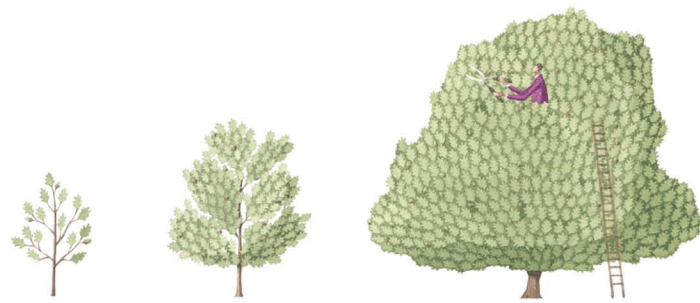
Next week at Richmond Council

On Tuesday, there will be a full council meeting. Questions will be taken from the public, followed by members' questions and the annual report of the Tenants Champion. The opposition has failed to submit any priority business for discussion or submit an issue for debate. The council will then be asked to amend the constitution of the council to clarify that the performance Review Board is not to scrutinise decisions already made. The council will then discuss several motions about the general election, the lack of affordable housing being built in the borough, and multi-year funding for councils. The meeting will start at 7 p.m. at York House, Twickenham.

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

On Thursday, the **Performance Review Board** will be presented with the corporate performance end-of-year report and the separate plan for the new municipal year. This will be followed by the 'timely delivery of capital projects' report and then a referral from the Finance Committee to improve coordination between social housing providers and partners such as the police and community safety groups. The meeting will start at 7 p.m. at York House, Twickenham.

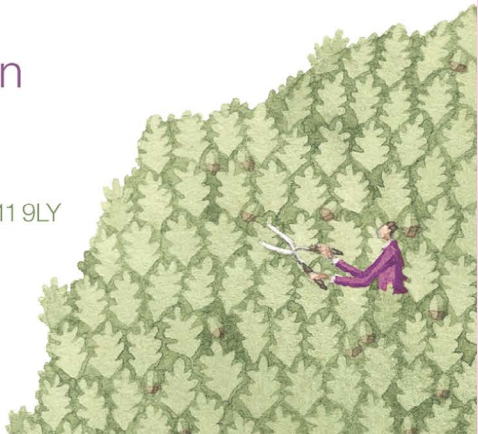
For full details, please follow the link [HERE](#)



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The Tree Agency

Local Picture Postcard Column - Part 256

By Alan Winter

The Railway Tavern – Barnes

Today's postcards are all of the now long gone Railway Tavern in Barnes. The photographs were taken and the postcards were posted before the First World War and so they are at least 110 years old.

At some point about around that time it was re-named The Railway Hotel and then in 1972 it was again re-named as the Red Rover.



It briefly then became the Café More and closed for good in 1995. The building was demolished 2 years later and a block of flats was built on the site.



The Railway Hotel was situated on the corner of Rocks Lane and Upper Richmond Road and was the nearest pub to Barnes Railway Station close to Barnes Common.

It was glimpsed briefly in the Hancock's Half Hour episode 'The Cold'. Hancock and Sid James were filmed keep fit exercising along Rocks Lane and Barnes Common up to the traffic lights by the pub.

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 I would like to see them and I pay cash!



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General Election 2024; The Count

St Mary's University sports hall was the venue for the count for the Twickenham and Richmond Park constituencies. Rows of tables were laid out for the ballots to be counted, and the hall had a purposeful hum. The first stage of the count was the verification, where the ballot papers were unfolded and counted to ensure the number of the papers were counted to ensure they tally to the numbers recorded on being cast. At this point, the counting agents appointed by political parties try to record how people have voted as the papers are unfolded to 'sample' the strength of support received in various polling districts because, after this point, the ballot papers are mixed together, meaning there is no other way to know the strength of your support in various wards.

Many of the crosses for Reform candidate Alex Starling were made with felt-tip pens, while the crosses of the other parties were nearly always in pencil. In the 2014 Scottish Independence Referendum, the voting pencil conspiracy emerged, claiming that MI5 would alter people's votes and, therefore, you should take your own pen, and it reappeared at the United Kingdom European Union Membership referendum and various elections since. Whilst a sizable number of ballot papers were spoilt, with the greatest number spoilt protesting against the invasion of Gaza, with others making statements such as 'What is a woman?', 'Politics is broken;', 'Fascist,' 'None of the above,' and 'No thank you.'

At 3.02 am on Friday, the results for **Twickenham** were declared:

Candidate	Party	Votes	%	Outcome
WILSON Munira	Liberal Democrat Party	30,185	56.28%	Elected
HULLEY Jonathan Roger	Conservative Party	8,728	16.27%	Not elected
BRUCE Tom	Labour Party	6,693	12.48%	Not elected
STARLING Alex	Reform UK	4,092	7.63%	Not elected
KERR-SHEPPARD Chantal Lyn	Green Party	3,590	6.69%	Not elected
MALIK Umair Workers Party	Workers Party	347	0.65%	Not elected
Turnout	69.97%			

Munira Wilson (Liberal Democrats) acceptance speech.

"Thank you, Mr Mayor. And thank you, first of all, to the returning officer, to the police, and all the staff who have worked here all day at polling stations and all night. And to my fellow candidates for the Good-Natured campaign. A special thank you goes to my family. Our two children, who I worry have forgotten what their parents looked like during this general election campaign.

To my election agent, Robin Bevan. Our local campaign staff, Billy and Hayden. To my awesome campaign team, led by Robin Brown. And as well as to the hundreds of Liberal Democrat volunteers who helped us to deliver a resounding result in Twickenham again. This is your victory, and this is a historic moment for the Liberal Democrats.

A huge thank you also goes to my parliamentary staff team, who have worked tirelessly to support me in serving the residents of Twickenham over the past four and a half years. I could not have achieved all that I have done in the last Parliament without them.

I'd also like to thank Liberal Democrat leader Ed Davey, not just for injecting some fun throughout the campaign, but for putting front and centre the issues of care and caring that are so important to millions of people across the country. But most of all, thank you to the wonderful people of Twickenham, Teddington, the Hamptons, St Margaret's, Strawberry Hill and Whitton, for putting your trust in me again

It's been an absolute honour to serve you in Parliament for the past four and a half years, and I am humbled, truly humbled, that you've put your faith in me again in such large numbers. The Twickenham constituency is so very special, with a real sense of community.

Yet I know from talking to local residents, from visiting our local schools and health services, and many of our local charities, that there is a profound need in our community, and there are still many problems to be tackled. Whether that's

children languishing on waiting lists for years to get the mental health support they desperately need, schools having to make terrible choices and cuts because of lack of funding, residents facing long waits for a GP or hospital appointment, those struggling to put food on the table week to week, or filthy sewage being dumped in our precious river, I will continue working every day to ensure everyone in Twickenham, and indeed across this great country, gets a fair deal.

Whoever you voted for yesterday, I will fight your corner every day. Locally, whether that's fighting the blight of aircraft noise and stopping the Teddington Direct River abstraction, pushing for better rail services or making sure that we have the affordable housing that we desperately need so our young people, our teachers and nurses can live in our communities where they live and work.

I promise to be your voice on the issues that matter to Twickenham, to be a voice for the voiceless and to hold the next government to account. I won't let you down. It's a privilege to serve you."

Jonathan Hulley (Conservative) speech

"Thank you very much and good evening ladies and gentlemen. I too would like to say a few words of congratulations to our newly elected Member of Parliament for Twickenham, Munira Wilson. Congratulations Munira on a well fought fight. And thank you also to all the other candidates who played their part in what I thought was a good-natured but hard-fought contest throughout.

Can I say that it's been a privilege being the Conservative parliamentary candidate for this constituency. I've sought to dive in locally, challenge some of the issues, make myself as relevant as I can and try to make a positive difference during my tenure.

It's obviously a very difficult moment for my party this evening. We have seen the exit poll, we know that we are heading for a period of opposition. The key thing from my perspective is we need to have a platform upon which to build.

We need to be relevant as a party to all generations going forward. The young, the people who are working to contribute and also people in retirement. (I believe in community and I believe the Conservative Party have a future to play at the heart of community. Not just our local community but also the community of nations. There's a role for us in the future of this country and I intend to play my part in that future. Thank you."

Tom Bruce (Labour) speech

"Thank you very much. I'd love to say a few words as well. Just a few thank yous. Thank you to the staff here for counting, doing your job so diligently and well. Thank you also to the other candidates and particularly congratulations to Munira for running a very successful campaign and I look forward to working with you as the MP in Twickenham.

It's been a privilege to be the Parliamentary candidate for the Labour Party. Clearly, we haven't won here this evening, but looking at the exit polls and looking at the results that are coming in, we are going to be forming the next government of this country. I'm really excited and looking forward to what that looks like in the coming days and weeks and months.

Lastly, just to say thank you to my family for putting up with all the hard work that's gone in from all the people that have done so much for the Labour Party over the last few weeks but particularly my three children and my wife as well for putting up with me not being as home as much as she would like."

Alex Starling (Reform) speech

"Thank you all very much. Ladies and gentlemen, Mrs Wilson, congratulations on your re-election as the MP for Twickenham. You are now representing all the constituents out here.

Though you took away a significant majority, you represent everyone even though it is a majority. Through the campaign, which I very much enjoyed, I have been talking about a number of matters which I think are of absolute critical importance to this country. The economy is a surplus energy equation, not a monetary one.

This is a phrase that I fear we are going to be having to address quite a lot in the next few years. I will just quote Sir Alan Ruggs from 2013, If we wish to save the environment, then we must first save the economy. Four nations are unable to save anything.

My thanks go to all the candidates for putting themselves forward for office. I would like to thank the staff here at the Count and the team at Electoral Services, especially Catherine Potter who was very helpful for this amateur politician coming in.

I may be an amateur politician but I would like to point out that reform is a very major movement now. We have a lot to say and we look forward to challenging over the next years and months as we look to rebuild this country. Thank you.”

Chantal Kerr-Sheppard (Green Party) speech

“Not the same as all these candidates. They are wonderful, wonderful people. What I do want to say is thank you to everybody for coming out to vote because that’s the most important thing, you should vote for what you believe in and that’s what this is. So that’s the most important part.

And thank you to all of the Green team for supporting me as well. I’m not going to say any more because it’s been nerve-racking. You’ve done an incredible job in our constituency anyway [Munira Wilson] so congratulations.”

At 3.20 pm the results for **Richmond Park** were declared:

Candidate	Party	Votes	%	Outcome
OLNEY Sarah	Liberal Democrat Party	28,528	55.38%	Elected
GEZDARI Sara	Conservative Party	11,373	22.08%	Not elected
CORYTON Laura	Labour Party	5,048	9.08%	Not elected
HEARN Michael	Reform UK	3,258	6.32%	Not elected
WARLOW Chas	Green Party	2,728	5.30%	Not elected
FRENCH Chris	The Mitre TW9	349	0.68%	Not elected
HARRISON Richard	Social Democratic Party	233	0.45%	Not elected
Turnout	69.97%			

Sarah Olney (Liberal Democrats) acceptance Speech

“Thank you to the returning officer, the electoral services staff at Richmond Council, the counting staff here, the staff running the polling stations across the constituency throughout the day, and the police for keeping order.

Thank you to the other candidates, Chas, Laura, particularly Sara, who I know has had quite a tough challenge during this election, but she’s faced it with charm and enthusiasm and I wish her well. I’d like to thank my agent, Robin Bevan, my sub-agent, Theo Goodliffe, my campaign manager, Kieran Mander, who collectively made my re-election campaign an extremely smooth and, for me, enjoyable affair. I’d also like to thank our staff members, Hayden, Billy, Chessie and Simon, for all their expertise and professionalism.

There have been hundreds of volunteers who’ve made this campaign happen, whom I cannot possibly name individually, but who I shall endeavour to thank in person over the next few weeks. But for everybody across the constituency who knocked doors, delivered leaflets, stuffed envelopes, put up a state board or donated funds, I thank you most profoundly, and I am humbled to think of how you invested your time and energy in me.

I want to say a particular thanks to all the wonderful people who’ve worked with me in my parliamentary and constituency offices during the last four and a half years. The positive response I’ve received on the doorsteps during this campaign is a tribute to all their talent and dedication, and I’m profoundly grateful for all they’ve contributed to my constituents.

Every day that I have represented the constituency of Richmond Park has brought me into contact with remarkable and fascinating people, and I feel almost overwhelmed to think that so many of them will have put their cross next to my name today, and I extend my deepest thanks to them for showing such faith in me. I shall redouble my efforts to deserve the privilege they’ve vested in me throughout the course of the next Parliament.

I have to thank my family, my parents, my brother and sister for all their love and support, my two children for their patience and for giving me daily so many reasons to be proud of them. And most importantly, my husband Ben, who's loyally celebrating my success tonight despite knowing the sacrifices my victory is going to impose upon him. Words can never be sufficient to describe the depth of the love and gratitude I owe him.

Today, democracy has delivered its remorseless verdict on this appalling Conservative government. The British people have kept the receipts on the contempt the Tories showed for their sacrifices during lockdown, on their callous disregard for livelihoods as they pursued their lunatic ideologies, on the damage caused to our civil liberties, our constitution, our public services, our vulnerable communities. They kept the receipts and today they demanded payment.

But in the strength of the message the British public have delivered today to the Conservatives lies a warning for Keir Starmer and his incoming Labour administration. To merely do better than the last government is no ambition at all. The British people want their dignity back and their sense of pride and most of all, they want to feel hope again. The Liberal Democrats will be a force to be reckoned with in the new Parliament and we will hold the new government's feet to the fire to ensure that they deliver."

Sara Gezdari (Conservative) speech

"Thank you very much. It's been the greatest honour of my life to stand as the Conservative candidate for Richmond Park. I am thankful for the opportunity to be involved in our country's democracy. We should never take it for granted.

Thank you to all the supporters and all the volunteers here locally. I could have never done this without all of you. A huge well done to all the candidates who have run during this election. It is not easy, but it's hugely worthwhile.

Congratulations to Sarah Olney, Richmond Park's MP again. You worked hard and I know that it will be hard work to be a strong voice of opposition to a Labour's majority. The fight back starts soon. Thank you."

The other candidates who stood for Richmond Park declined to make a speech.

Due to the boundary review Whitton Ward is now part of Brentford and Isleworth constituency, and the votes were counted at and the results are:

Brentford & Isleworth

Candidate	Party	Votes	%	Outcome
CADBURY, Ruth Margaret	Labour	20,007	44.2%	Elected
BLUMENTHAM, Laura	Conservative	10,183	22.5%	Not elected
SUMMERSGILL, Freya	Green	4,029	8.9%	Not elected
KERR, Gill	Reform UK	3,940	8.7%	Not elected
SEHRA, Kuldev	Liberal Democrat	3,863	8.5%	Not elected
MALIK, Nisar	Workers Party of Britain	2,746	6.1%	Not elected
RAO, Zebunisa	Independent	486	1.1	Not elected
Turnout	57%			

Flower Power At Hampton Court

Yesterday's rain and overcast sky didn't stop vast numbers of visitors enjoying the gardens and colourful displays of flowers at Hampton Court.

Doug Goodman photographed some of the dazzling exhibits.



Take part in the Creative Youth Assembly

The Creative Youth Assembly is inviting young people to take part in a vibrant forum to engage in creative expression and address pressing issues such as climate change.

This assembly is a unique opportunity for young people to express their ideas, share their passion for the arts, and contribute to the planning of the [2025 Richmond Arts and Ideas Festival](#). Inspired by the theme [Cultural Reforesting](#), the festival aims to address the ecological crisis through artist-led projects.

This event is designed for young people aged 15 to 25 and will take place on Wednesday 10 July, from 6 to 8pm at the Rehearsal rooms, Orange Tree Theatre, Clarence Street, TW9 2SA.

On the day participants can expect:

- A supportive environment to share their views and vision for a dynamic festival in Richmond
- A creative space to discuss the climate emergency
- Advice and opportunities to produce their own events
- Free pizza, soft drinks, and refreshments (gluten-free options, all food will be vegetarian/vegan)

Don't miss this chance to have your voice heard, be represented, and help shape a new vibrant and relevant arts festival.

[Book now to secure your place](#)



Surplus food hub available in Ham

Residents are welcome to join local charity The Real Junk Food Project for surplus food at Ham Youth Centre every Tuesday.

The surplus food hub will be providing soup, smoothies, sweet pastries and hot drinks. Please bring a bag to take the food home. The hub operates on a 'Pay as you Feel' basis and is open to all, no referral voucher required.

Event details:

- Date: Every Tuesday
- Time: 11.30am to 1.30pm
- Location: Ham Youth Centre, Ham Close, TW10 7PL

[Find out more about the hub.](#)

The Real Junk Food Project aims to feed bellies not bins, using food that has been diverted from landfill, turning it into great meals and re-distributing any surplus food in the local community.



Free customer service training programme available

This July, Richmond WorkMatch is running a free customer service course for residents looking to develop their careers in the retail and hospitality industry.

The five day training programme aims to equip participants with essential skills in the sector.

Upon completion of the course, participants will attain a Level 1 recognised qualification in customer service and benefit from CV and interview support during and after the class.

Participants will also have the opportunity to engage with potential employers and take part in interviews.

Course details:

- **Date:** Monday 15 to Friday 19 July 2024
- **Time:** 9.30am to 4.30pm
- **Location:** Whitelands College, University of Roehampton, Holybourne Avenue, SW15 4JD

[Register for training course](#)



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200 craft to gather on Thames to celebrate RNLI's 200th anniversary

On Saturday 6 July at 6pm 200 boats, kayaks, canoes, paddleboards and other craft will gather along Thames in front of Hampton Court Palace to celebrate 200 years of the RNLI.



Scouts
National Sea Scout
Pulling & Canoeing Regatta

Lifeboats

200

Hampton Court
July 6th 2024, 6pm
Come and join us & our local Sea Scouts in an attempt to get 200 craft on the river at one time.
£5 per head register with:
richard@warspite.org

The fundraising event organised by Thames-based Sea Scout groups and Teddington RNLI the spectacle will bring together canoe clubs, skiff clubs, sailing clubs and enthusiastic individuals. It will last around an hour.

Jon Barker, Teddington crew member since the lifeboat station's opening in 2002 said: 'This will be a fantastic way to celebrate 200 years of the RNLI. Teddington RNLI lifeboat station covers the stretch of river from Molesey Lock to Richmond Lock and to gather 200 craft in front of such a historic site will be a true spectacle.'

Richard Hunt, Group Scout Leader, 1st Cuddington (Warspite) Sea Scouts added: 'The Thames-based Sea Scouts are thrilled to be part of this important celebration. We wanted to celebrate the RNLI anniversary in a way that showed how many people enjoy the river and the importance of the charity.'



The RNLI is wholly funded by donations and legacies, it receives no government support. Donations can be made [HERE](#)

Lifeboats

Free workshop to create a sustainable fashion item

This Saturday 6 July, join Kew The Transition for a textiles upcycling social to learn upcycling skills and support the local crafting community.

Led by local artists and craftspeople, the afternoon event will guide you in re-purposing items out of off-cuts of materials and old clothing. Materials will be provided but you are welcome to bring along textiles you would like to upcycle.

There will also be volunteer sewers and dressmakers on hand to assist with invisible mending, small alterations or fixing an old item you bring along. Light refreshments will be served. Come along to give old textiles new lives!

Event details:

- Date: Saturday 6 July 2024
- Time: 1 to 4.30pm
- Location: LiveWell, Kew, TW9 4FF

[Register now](#)

This event is funded by our [Climate Action Microgrant](#) programme, which awards grants every month to support community-driven initiatives around climate change and sustainability.

If you're looking to explore your love of crafting and stitching following this workshop, the [Library of Things](#) in Twickenham can be very useful. They have sewing machines and a range of tools available to borrow. You can also enjoy a 10% discount off your first rental using the code TAKE10.



Truffles - More Than Just Fungi

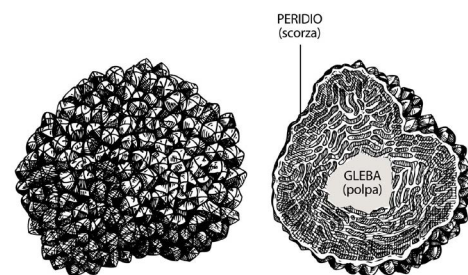
I love truffles. Whether it's a drizzle of truffle oil or a sprinkle of truffle powder on my scrambled eggs, or truffle pâté on a canapé, sliced truffle in a pasta sauce, or, heaven of heavens, truffle honey with cheese...I love it.

So what is a truffle? The truffle is a hypogeous fungus, which means that it grows underground in symbiosis with tree roots. Mainly composed of an outer part called the peridium, it can vary in consistency and colour depending on the truffle variety. Inside the peridium is the gleba, a compact, marbled mass, rich in small tubercles and veins. However, in general, the truffle is known for its intense and penetrating aroma, which may be reminiscent of damp earth, mushrooms or herbs, depending on the variety. Its flavour is complex and unique, often described as earthy, musky and slightly nutty. In the kitchen, it's prized for its ability to enrich dishes with its wonderful flavour. The intoxicating aroma when grated over a hot dish, followed by the flavour is extraordinary.

The truffle has a long history rooted in antiquity. It's been appreciated since Roman times and by the ancient Greeks, who considered it a gift from the gods and used it both in cooking and for medicinal purposes. During the Middle Ages, the truffle continued to be considered a prized foodstuff and was often used as a bargaining chip between nobles and feudal lords. However, its status as a gastronomic delicacy became even more apparent during this period.

In the Renaissance, the truffle reached its peak of popularity, becoming a favourite ingredient of European royal courts and nobles. It was often served at sumptuous banquets and considered a symbol of wealth and social status. Over the following centuries, the truffle went through periods of decline, often due to deforestation and loss of natural habitats. However, in the 19th century, thanks to conservation efforts and growing gastronomic interest, the truffle experienced a renaissance.

Today, the truffle is still considered a gastronomic treasure and a symbol of luxury. Its most prized varieties, such as the white truffle and the black truffle, are sought and harvested by expert truffle hunters and are admired and used by top chefs around the world.



La Rustichella Truffles: In 1948, Sergio Brugnoli, founder of La Rustichella, was born in Norcia (Umbria), one of the most renowned areas for truffle gathering. His personality, professional skills and love for different cultures generated an entrepreneur whose passionate approach to life, respect for the land and loyalty to tradition, materialised in a dream: to create the best truffle pâté in the world. In 1986 he and his wife Maria founded La Rustichella. Today, the company has conquered many world markets and the next generation is continuing its growth. There are four main varieties: Alba; White; Summer Black and Norcia, collected at different times of the year, from June till end of April.

I was fortunate enough to discover La Rustichella earlier this year, when I was invited to a superb dinner that showcased the range. I had the opportunity to taste so many delicious dishes, including, surprisingly, the most delicious desserts that contained truffles.

If you're a fan of truffles, do have a look at the website [here](#) where you can explore the range and shop online. The company's products are also available from Amazon. Here are a couple of recipes from its website: the mayo is perfect for those summer meals we're all looking forward to!

TRUFFLE MAYONNAISE - Serves 4 (takes 20 mins to make)

- 2 eggs
- 50g La Rustichella Black Truffle Pâté
- 25g La Rustichella Black Truffle Oil
- 300g sunflower oil
- Salt and pepper, to taste

Method:

- 1) Break the eggs in a glass, add the truffle oil and sunflower oil and with an immersion blender blend from the bottom up.
- 2) When the emulsion is formed, add salt, pepper, and black truffle pâté. Stir and serve.



TRUFFLE MACARONI AND CHEESE - Serves 4 (takes 20 mins to make)

- 60g butter
- 40g '00 flour
- 800ml milk
- 20g cheddar cheese, grated
- 100g parmesan cheese, grated
- Nutmeg, grated
- 80g La Rustichella Black Truffle Pâté
- 400g short pasta
- Breadcrumbs
- Salt and pepper to taste

Method:

- 1) In a saucepan, make a béchamel sauce with the butter, flour, and the milk; add the grated cheddar, Parmesan cheese, pepper, nutmeg, salt and the truffle pâté.
- 2) Heat another saucepan with plenty of salted water, cook the pasta, drain it and pour it into a bowl with the cheddar béchamel. Mix.
- 3) Grease a baking pan, pour the pasta on top and sprinkle the surface with breadcrumbs and put in the oven at 180°C, until a golden crust forms on the surface (about 20 minutes).
- 4) Remove from the oven and serve.



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Traveller's Tales 163

A Few Miles By Train But A Lifetime In Memories

Doug Goodman travels from Twickenham to Clapham Junction.

It is many years since I last visited Clapham Junction. Arding and Hobbs the big department store has gone and so has the Granada cinema near the station's upper exit. My trip from Twickenham was a very short journey but I was travelling back nearly 60 years to rediscover some of the places I got to know during my childhood.

WANDSWORTH

My first stop was at the edge of Wandsworth Common on North Side. Here, 118 years ago, my grandparents had a big house and where my mother was born in 1908. There were seven children – two boys and five girls. One of the girls was illegitimate, was adopted and became, we believe, a famous actress. But that's another story. Alec my uncle, the oldest boy, was killed on 15th September 1916 on The Somme age 18. His life has been much documented in books, in the press and in military history articles. My grandfather was the regional manager for an advertising company JC Decaux which today is one of the world's leading outdoor advertising groups. I long to go into the garden to see if the mulberry tree my mother described still exists. Across the road by the railway line is a memorial to the victims of the 1968 rail crash. Thirty five died and nearly 500 were injured. Survivors were helped by the heroic actions of the boys from Emmanuel School, which I attended from 1956 to 1961. The new bridge into the school would have saved me a lot of time cycling from home if it had been built much earlier. This time, on foot, I took a short cut through the old lake – filled in around 1870 and admired the old smock mill built to pump water from the railway cutting into the lake.



Grandparents' House



1988 Rail Crash Memorial



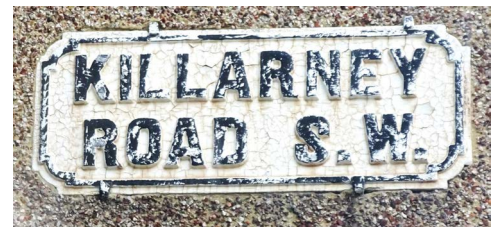
Wandsworth Common Old Lake



The Old Windmill

HOME

Arriving in Killarney Road I was pleased to see how upmarket the houses now looked. It was somewhat shabby and working class in the 1950s. Gas lamps have been replaced, parking restrictions introduced and I noticed a much cleaner and brighter street than I remembered, I could almost see my first car parked outside the house where I once lived. It was a Morris E type built in 1948 which cost me £24. The street sign was in need of some paint. This was where I spent the first 21 years of my life. It was modernised after my brother and I sold it and although I was invited in to see the changes I preferred to remember as it had been. A tiny kitchen, a cellar full of coal, a bedroom I shared with my brother before he undertook a military service and a minute garden with a big dip where the bomb shelter had been built – these are the memories which came rushing back. There was no central heating but I don't recall ever feeling cold. In 1940 a German bomb destroyed a group of the nearby late Victorian houses: stories of the back of our house being blown out but a display of cut glass vases left intact and the adventures of my father as an air raid warden were often recounted. My mother had a room where she carried on with her hairdressing business after working in The West End. She once did the hair of the late Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother in the mid-thirties. Most of the local shops have gone but one, to which I once ran errands, remained. The original Wiles Store, where cheese



Familiar Road

came in huge lumps and cut by wire and a bacon slicer from which I would buy a few rashers, is still there although now a huge range of food items are offered which my parents would have called 'foreign stuff'. They had never enjoyed yoghurt or wine until I took some home. The corner shop run by Mr. Thomas, a Welshman, sold choc ices for sixpence. The small store nearby was where I spent my pocket money on vast amounts of sweets like blackjacks and sherbet dips as soon as rationing was lifted in 1953. Walking past the primary school I recalled fond memories of my class teacher Mrs Davies. A very kind lady who was probably in her 30s but seemed ancient to a seven year old.



Home for 21 Years



Still Selling Bacon and Cheese



Primary School

BAD HABITS

Leaving the school behind I approached St. Anne's Church. Built two hundred years ago, I recalled walking past it just after a fire had destroyed a substantial part of the building. I suppose I was about 7 years old and quite impressionable. The site of the burnt church caused nightmares and the image haunted me for a long time. Wandsworth High Street has many Young's pubs and fortunately most of them remain in their original state. Drays laden with wooden barrels were pulled by huge Shire Horses looking immaculate in their ribbons and gleaming brass collars. The driver always wore a brown bowler hat. Young's tasty beer was brewed at the Ram Brewery in the High Street. The building is still there but I believe the brewing process was moved to Suffolk. Thankfully it is still readily available all over South West London. My father introduced me into an early bad habit but in retrospect it turned out to be quite a nice habit. He worked for Siemens Engineering responsible for telecommunication systems in a large area of London and the Home Counties. On a visit to check the switchboards at The Ram Brewery I accompanied him and in the lunch break I was invited into the tap room to sample the various brews. Workers could drink as much as they wished during their break. At 12 years old my palate was probably not too well developed to appreciate the joys of different beers. While waiting for the bus to Richmond I noticed across the road a tailors shop called Childs. While prices for casual clothes and suits have changed somewhat the shop's façade hasn't. Memories returned of buying my first suit there but more importantly my first denim jeans – probably Levis- for 49 shillings and eleven pence, about £2.50 in today's money, came racing back. Wish I still had them as vintage clothing is in demand I'm told. A trip back to my old haunts reminded me of places and events I had forgotten about but my memories of a stable family life in Wandsworth are all happy ones.



St. Anne's Church



First Suit Made Here



First Beer Sampled Here

More than a custard-cream biscuit...

By Deep Patel

~Life Through the Eyes of a Twickenham Shopkeeper~

In my opinion, the most important thing about being a shop keeper is supporting your community (other shop keepers may not agree with me, but selling stuff comes second for me I'm afraid, as life is too short to care just about money). Each day I never really know who will come through my shop door and what conversation we may engage in, but that is part of the fun of being a shopkeeper I would



say... every day that we open our front door in the morning we say a prayer that whoever walks through that day is blessed with something that will make their lives better in some way.

Well, last week a young woman came into my shop and stood in front of the biscuit section for quite some time looking at the various biscuits we sold. After quite some time, she reached for a packed of custard-cream biscuits...and placed them on my counter. She was barely looking up to smile or say hello and I could sense that something wasn't right, so I asked her if she was okay...she replied "not really" and thanked me for asking. I could have left it there and said something back like "I'm sure things will get better", then charged her for the custard-cream biscuits and let her leave my shop, but I didn't do that.

I carried on and asked her what was wrong...she looked up at me and I could see her eyes were becoming filled with tears. She said "I didn't even do anything wrong, and he still left me". It was then that I understood that she was facing something a lot more challenging than I had originally anticipated. She told me her partner had walked out on her. I felt a strong intuition to talk to her more, as if there was something she needed to know and like I was the one who had been chosen by a higher energy to deliver that to her, so I carried on.

I asked her why she was so upset about what had happened. She told me it was the things her partner had said to her, things about her that she found most difficult to hear. I asked her why she allowed his words to upset her so deeply. She replied "because it made me really upset that he thought that way" about her when the things he was accusing her of being were completely untrue and unfair and that they had made her feel like she was a bad person and like she never wanted to be in a relationship again.

I told her that I understood how she felt and that anyone in her position may have felt the same but also that she needed to carefully evaluate everything that had just happened to her. I reminded her that just because someone says something about us, it doesn't mean that it is true, and something said about us can only hurt us if we ourselves allow it to do so because nothing can have the power to upset us unless we allow it to do so. The lady looked at me and her eyes stopped filling with tears. I carried on talking to her. I asked her why she was buying custard-cream biscuits from my shop and she told me that they were her favourite biscuits. I then asked her, if a close friend of hers told her that they felt custard-cream biscuits were disgusting, would she herself stop eating them? She replied to say no, she would still keep eating them. I asked her why she wouldn't just stop eating them based on what her close friend thought about them. She replied to say because regardless of what her friend thought about custard-cream biscuits, she knows that she herself loves them, so why would she stop eating them just because of what her friend said about them? I smiled and told her there was her answer, right there. She looked confused. I went on to explain, life is too short to live it by the beat of someone else's drum...and just because one person has a negative opinion about her, does she have to believe it, or should she keep enjoying her life because she knows she's not a bad person? I told her lastly, if she wasn't willing to give up enjoying eating custard-cream biscuits just because of a negative comment about them from a friend, why should she give up enjoying her life due to a negative comment from her ex-partner? Both are simply the opinions of others and by no means fundamental truths...so why spend so much time thinking about them when they really don't matter that much?

I ended by giving the woman her change and wishing her a good day. Just as she was leaving my shop I stopped her one last time. I said to her to always remember, that here are over 8.1 billion people in this world, so why is she letting the opinions of one person alone shape not only how she feels about herself, but also how she lives the rest of her life? I asked her why do we as humans so often allow those that matter so little to occupy so much of our minds? She looked back at me and I could see her eyes were filled with tears again, but this time accompanied with a big smile.... she answered me back and said "today I walked into your shop looking for a packet of custard-cream biscuits...but I didn't know I would walk out having my life back, thank you for reminding me of what life should be about". Then she left. I walked back round and sat down on the seat behind my counter and said to myself "all in a day's work of being a shopkeeper..."

Remember...

***"Don't worry about what others say about you...
live your life to the beat of your own drum instead..."***

MY CREATURE-KINDNESS TIP OF THE WEEK...

STOP ANTS AND ALL INSECTS KINDLY (GOOD KARMA): Sprinkle talcum powder, 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 or join my Facebook page: "INSECT LOVERS UNITE"



The Drowning Girls

by Beth Graham, Charlie Tomlinson, and Daniela Vlaskalic
TTC at Hampton Hill Theatre until 6th July

Three white bathtubs sit in a row on a lino floor doing for the humble bath what *Psycho* did for the shower. As Alice, Margaret and Bessie each erupt, gasping, from their respective baths, the stark and harsh lighting and the pallid and sunken eyes leave no doubt that they are dead.

The Drowning Girls tells the tale of three Edwardian women who were defrauded, and ultimately murdered by the same man. The women spare no details relating their grisly fates, but these three ghosts have become firm friends in their watery purgatory, and frequently giggle together as they enact scenes from their truncated lives.



Each is doomed to re-enact her tragedies in perpetuity, but they have found solace in each other, united by their loathing for George Smith, who married each of them. He then convinced them to hand over savings, to take out life insurance, and to change their wills in his favour; whilst encouraging them to visit doctors as being unwell.

All this gaslighting flies a flurry of red flags, but Alice paints a stark picture of Edwardian life as she complains that she can't vote, or speak, or show an ankle, marriage being their only option, unless wishing to end up a spinster, or a lady's companion.

Laura Eagland, Racheal Rajah and Martine Neang all give compelling performances, changing in a moment from unsettling undead bursting from bathtubs into giggling girls. Rajah excels as a barrister and Neang has a scene as a psychiatrist attempting to hypnotise Margaret.

A darkly comic courtroom scene evokes nervous laughter as Eagland plays a grimly cheerful champion swimmer, demonstrating the difficulty of drowning a human in a bathtub while leaving no signs of violent struggle. Yet this only highlights the brutality of the subsequent scene in which Smith coldly drowns Alice.

Director Aleksandra Marzocca moves the story at a brisk pace, with props artfully concealed in the three bathtubs, so nothing interrupts the flow, except occasionally the audience's laughter.

This is a chilling story whose impact is heightened in this production, but there is also a great deal of wit and a playful sense of fun that runs throughout.

Read Andrew Lawston's review at www.markaspen.com/2024/07/03/drown-girls

Photography by Kim Harding

CYRANO and the Naked Ladies

Richmond Shakespeare Society

Cyrano? Cyrano de Bergerac? Renowned swordsman, soldier, poet - possessor of a great talent, great passion, a great love for Roxane.... and a great nose. He has the language with which to woo her but is discouraged and defeated by what he sees in the looking-glass. Enter Christian whose looks are impeccable but whose lack of poetic invention and clumsy wooing make him a hopeless suitor.



But as a team they are unsurpassed - Cyrano's lyrical language and Christian's handsome good-looks combined cannot fail to win the heart of Roxane - and break that of Cyrano.

For swashbuckling action, romantic costumes, lyrical poetry and high comedy, the RSS open-air production of Rostand's classic is a Summer Treat not to be missed. Bring a picnic and a rug to Twickenham's "Naked Ladies" Garden on any evening between July 15th and 20th, enjoy the sunshine and laugh, thrill and weep with Cyrano.

CYRANO DE BERGERAC plays in Twickenham's Fountain Gardens from JULY 15th-20th at 7.45pm each evening.

Booking now at - www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk



Music at St Mary's

This coming week, St Marys Hampton, is open to all for a **Gala Music Week**
In a series of public concerts directed by Paul Jeanes, St Mary's Director of Music and Organist.

At St Mary's Church, Thames Street, Hampton, TW12 2EB

[Music at St Mary's](#)

Tuesday 9th July at 12.30pm

Opera Gala Recital

Stephen Anthony Brown (Tenor)

Paul Jeanes (Piano)

Excerpts of arias from Mozart, Verdi, Puccini and Strauss

FREE with retiring collection

Wednesday 10th July at 7.30pm

The Amici Chamber Choir

Paul Jeanes (Conductor)

Music by Mendelssohn, Bruckner, Shelley and Hilling

Tickets £12 available from hampton-church.org.uk/amici

Under 16s Free

Friday 12th July at 12.30pm

Christian Halstead

Christian Halstead (Violin)

Paul Jeanes (Piano)

Music by Dvorak, Brahms, Saint-Saens and Albeniz

FREE with retiring collection

Saturday 13th July at 7:30pm

Haydn's Creation

with orchestra and soloists

Paul Jeanes (Conductor)

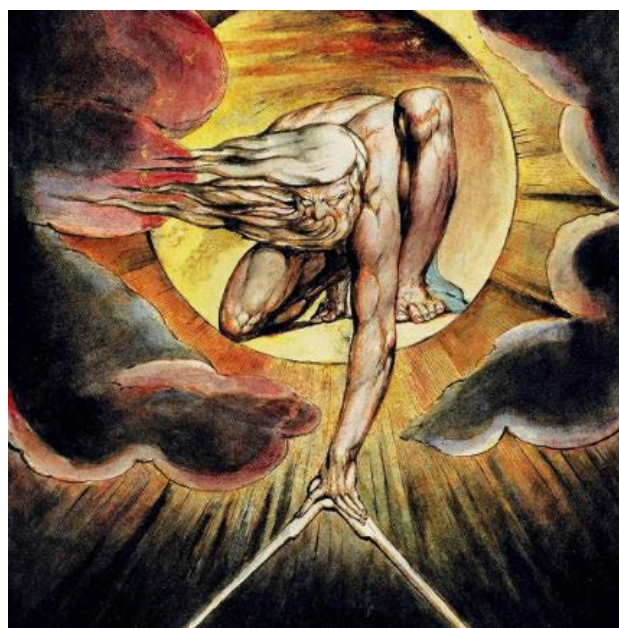
Alexandra Stephenson (Soprano)

William Searle (Tenor)

Timothy Nelson (Bass)

Audience £10; under 16s Free

Visit [hampton-church.org.uk /comeandsing](http://hampton-church.org.uk/comeandsing) to book your place



This is a 'Come and Sing', open to all to sing with the choir

Rehearsal on Saturday 13th July from 2p to 5pm

Concert Saturday 13th July at 7:30pm

£15 for participants, hire of music £5

Visit [hampton-church.org.uk /comeandsing](http://hampton-church.org.uk/comeandsing) to book your place

St Mary's University

Ofsted Outstanding Rating Retained by St Mary's for Third Time

The School of Education at St Mary's University, Twickenham (SMU) has once again retained its Ofsted Outstanding rating in all categories for Primary and Secondary Initial Teacher Training. This cements the University's place as one of the country's leading teacher training providers.

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St Mary's University has been rated as Outstanding since 2011, retaining the status in 2019, and now again in June 2024. Into its second decade as an Outstanding rated institution, [the report](#) found that at SMU trainee teachers "benefit from first-class levels of support from university staff from the point of application" and that, "The curriculum places a strong emphasis on current, credible research, which shapes all aspects of training and mentoring."

Speaking of the report, Head of School of Education at St Mary's, Dr Jane Chambers, added, "I am delighted with the Outstanding outcome of this latest Ofsted report. The education lecturers at St Mary's are amongst

the best in the country. They deliver a fantastic experience and outcomes for our students, who go on to flourishing careers educating our next generations, and this report is a great endorsement of all they do."

At SMU, Primary trainee teachers learn how to teach all core and foundation subjects, while Secondary trainees "develop deep knowledge of the disciplinary aspects" of their specialist subject. All trainees have the opportunity to develop an "exceptional understanding of the curriculum" including, inclusion special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and English as an additional language (EAL). Trainees are provided with "the best possible all round start to a teaching career."

When speaking to current students, inspectors found that, "Trainees praise the depth and quality of this exceptionally ambitious ITE curriculum. The result of this being, "trainees demonstrate a remarkably strong grasp of how pupils learn" allowing them "not only to be the best possible teachers but also to be school leaders of the future."

St Mary's Vice-Chancellor Anthony McClaran said, "Excellence is one of our core values, and I am delighted to see that the School of Education continues to deliver this through its teacher training provision. SMU was founded in 1850 to train teachers and the result of this latest inspection demonstrates that we have maintained this strong foundation, as we look forward to continuing this tradition for many years to come as one of the country's top providers."

The full report from Ofsted can be read [here](#).



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

Politics Students Host General Election Hustings for Local Candidates

Last week, A-Level Politics students at Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) ran a hustings event for local candidates ahead of the upcoming General Election on the 4th of July. The candidates making up the panel were Munira Wilson from the Liberal Democrats, Jonathan Hulley from the Conservative Party, Tom Bruce from the Labour Party, Reform UK's Alex Starling and Green Party candidate, Chas Warlow. RuTC students, Monica Pirvu and AJ Ndong Ngonde did a fantastic job of chairing the event, where all candidates answered a series of tough questions posed by our learners, staff and audience.



It has been reported that younger generations currently have the lowest voting turnout and are the least engaged demographic when it comes to politics. It is therefore critical that they are given opportunities to learn more about what different political parties have to offer and the effects this will have on our society.

To start the hustings discussion, candidates

introduced themselves with three-minute speeches, outlining their parties' aims and values on key issues. Pre-submitted questions from A-Level Politics students were then read out to the candidates, who were given one minute each to answer these. These questions highlighted issues such as stop and search, the Rwanda bill, the upcoming election, and sustainable transport. Members of the crowd were also given the opportunity to ask questions to the candidates, covering topics including the ongoing genocide in Ethiopia, advice to their younger selves, and the definition of 'woke'. The event concluded with another set of speeches, where the candidates commented on the day's discussion and encouraged votes for their parties.

This was an incredibly informative and inspirational forum for our students, where they felt they were able to have their voices and opinions clearly heard. It was a great opportunity for them to get more involved in politics and allowed the political candidates to gain more insight into the needs of young people. The debates were also useful in guiding students towards their chosen political party for this General Election.

[Find more about our courses and apply to RuTC here.](#)



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Twickenham Rowing Club incredible performance at Henley Royal Regatta

Twickenham Rowing Club, rowing in the Henley Royal Regatta, the most prestigious rowing regatta in the world, which saw a record 772 entries this year from 27 nations.

After a 10-year hiatus from the HRR, Twickenham went on to win their race on day 2 of the competition (3rd July) against international team Ruderclub Erlenbach from Zurich, Switzerland.

Featured on both the official Instagram pages of Henley Royal Regatta and British Rowing, the men's 8 crew absolutely smashed it (<https://www.instagram.com/reel/C8-E9olt2jZ/?igsh=MTMzbWRmMWRrNmdvZQ==>)

Yesterday they faced the most prestigious club in the world (Leander Rowing Club), and although they never gave up, they came 2nd.



Rower names:
C Van De Berg
M Robinson
D Dixon
S J Parker
T Baldwin
K Bedi
J Boyd
G Craig
B Phillips



TWICKENHAM
ROWING CLUB

England Team To Play New Zealand In Dunedin

England men's head coach Steve Borthwick has named his team to play New Zealand at the Forsyth Barr Stadium in Dunedin on Saturday 6th July for the first of two Test matches in the Steinlager Ultra Low Carb Series (kick-off 8.05am BST live on Sky Sports).



Jamie George will captain an England side which has two changes to the starting XV that defeated Japan 17-52 in Tokyo with Joe Marler and Will Stuart included. The England skipper will once again be supported by four vice-captains: Maro Itoje, Ben Earl, Henry Slade and Marler.

In the front row, George is named at hooker alongside Marler at loosehead prop and Stuart at tighthead. At lock, Itoje partners George Martin. The back row sees Sam Underhill at openside flanker, Chandler Cunningham-South on the blindside, and Earl at No.8. In the half-back berths, scrum-half Alex Mitchell is paired with Marcus Smith at 10. The midfield sees Ollie Lawrence named at inside centre with Slade at 13.

In the back three, Immanuel Feyi-Waboso starts on the right wing, with Tommy Freeman on the left and George Furbank selected at full-back to round off the starting line-up. Amongst the replacements, the uncapped duo of Fin Baxter and Ollie Sleightholme are poised to win their first England caps from the bench. Alex Coles and Ben Spencer are also called into the match day 23, alongside Theo Dan, Dan Cole, Tom Curry, and Fin Smith.

Cole will win his 114th cap to equal Jason Leonard as England's second most capped men's player.

"It doesn't get more challenging than playing New Zealand at home, but it's exactly where we want to be," said Borthwick.

"We want to find out more about ourselves and test ourselves against one of the best teams in the world."

"Test rugby is a game of fine margins, so our mindset is going to be very important on Saturday. We'll need to be mentally strong, play a tactically smart game and ensure we maintain our discipline."

"The Forsyth Barr Stadium in Dunedin is a great venue with a quick surface, and the closed roof should make the atmosphere very special."

NEW ZEALAND v ENGLAND

Saturday 6th July 2024 - Forsyth Barr Stadium, Dunedin - Kick-off: 8.05am (BST)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 15. George Furbank (Northampton Saints, 10 caps) | 1. Joe Marler (Harlequins, 94 caps) – vice-captain |
| 14. Immanuel Feyi-Waboso (Exeter Chiefs, 4 caps) | 2. Jamie George (Saracens, 91 caps) – captain |
| 13. Henry Slade (Exeter Chiefs, 63 caps) – vice-captain | 3. Will Stuart (Bath Rugby, 39 caps) |
| 12. Ollie Lawrence (Bath Rugby, 25 caps) | 4. Maro Itoje (Saracens, 82 caps) – vice-captain |
| 11. Tommy Freeman (Northampton Saints, 9 caps) | 5. George Martin (Leicester Tigers, 13 caps) |
| 10. Marcus Smith (Harlequins, 33 caps) | 6. Chandler Cunningham-South (Harlequins, 5 caps) |
| 9. Alex Mitchell (Northampton Saints, 16 caps) | 7. Sam Underhill (Bath Rugby, 36 caps) |
| | 8. Ben Earl (Saracens, 31 caps) – vice-captain |
| Replacements: | |
| 16. Theo Dan (Saracens, 13 caps) | 20. Tom Curry (Sale Sharks, 51 caps) |
| 17. Fin Baxter (Harlequins, uncapped) | 21. Ben Spencer (Bath Rugby, 5 caps) |
| 18. Dan Cole (Leicester Tigers, 113 caps) | 22. Fin Smith (Northampton Saints, 3 caps) |
| 19. Alex Coles (Northampton Saints, 5 caps) | 23. Ollie Sleightholme (Northampton Saints, uncapped) |

International round-up: Toney assists England winner at Euro 2024

Brentford striker Ivan Toney assisted Harry Kane's winning goal for England against Slovakia in the Three Lions' Euro 2024 last-16 victory on Sunday; elsewhere, Ethan Pinnock and Jamaica's Copa América journey came to an end

Written by Brentford Football Club



Brentford striker Ivan Toney assisted England's winning goal against Slovakia in extra-time of the Three Lions' last-16 clash at Euro 2024 on Sunday evening.

With Gareth Southgate's side 1-0 down, a 95th-minute overhead kick from Jude Bellingham saved England from elimination in Gelsenkirchen.

With Toney brought on just before that sensational strike, the Bees man then made an impact in the additional 30 minutes, as he headed the ball across goal and towards team-mate Harry Kane, who nodded in from close range to win the tie 2-1.

Toney's hold-up play and defensive work were also noted, as an impressive all-round display from the striker helped England to victory, which sees them face Switzerland in the quarter-final on Saturday 6 July (5pm GMT kick-off).

Elsewhere at Euro 2024, Denmark were eliminated in their last-16 match against hosts Germany, as goals from Kai Havertz and Jamal Musiala secured the 2-0 win.

For the third time this tournament, Christian Nørgaard came on as a substitute, as he made a 20-minute cameo in Dortmund for the Danes. Zanka, Mathias Jensen and Mikkel Damsgaard were unused substitutes.

Thomas Strakosha's Albania were also eliminated from Euro 2024, as they finished bottom of Group B. A 2-0 defeat to Spain - who had David Raya between the sticks - was their final match at the tournament, in which Strakosha played every minute for his nation.

Strakosha's goalkeeping team-mate Mark Flekken is yet to feature for the Netherlands at Euro 2024, but he will be in the squad when they face Romania in the last 16 on Tuesday 2 July (5pm GMT kick-off).

Ronald Koeman's side finished as one of the best third-placed teams, after missing out on a top-two spot due to a 3-2 defeat to Austria in their final game in Group D.

Across the continent, Ethan Pinnock and Jamaica were knocked out of the group stages of Copa América.

The Reggae Boyz lost all three group games - the final one of those coming against Venezuela - and finished bottom of Group B. Pinnock played every minute of the tournament.



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