

# Twickenham & Richmond Tribune



19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

T&RT

Twickenham Green Pavilion: Still hope - Sunday 14th July - Eng v Esp  
Photo by Berkley Driscoll

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# TickerTape - News in Brief

## Come to free summer talks exploring nature

This summer, residents are invited to join Barnes Common Limited for a series of talks exploring nature, growing and ecology.

The free events will discuss sustainability through everyday topics, ranging from butterflies and bugs to growing vegetables in containers. These informative and engaging talks will explore the importance of insects, herbs and vegetables to us and our planet.

### Butterfly Gardening:

- **Date:** Wednesday 24 July
- **Time:** 6.30 to 7.30pm
- **Location:** The Polytunnel at Vine Road Recreation Ground, Barnes, SW13 0NE
- **Price:** Free, but booking is essential. [Register for Butterfly Gardening.](#)

### Rebugging the Planet:

- **Date:** Saturday 27 July
- **Time:** 10.30am to 12 noon
- **Location:** The Polytunnel at Vine Road Recreation Ground, Barnes, SW13 0NE
- **Price:** Free, but booking is essential. [Register for Rebugging the Planet.](#)

### Herbs and Their Healing Properties:

- **Date:** Monday 9 September
- **Time:** 6.30 to 7.30pm
- **Location:** The Polytunnel at Vine Road Recreation Ground, Barnes, SW13 0NE
- **Price:** Free, but booking is essential. [Register for Herbs and Their Healing Properties.](#)

### Vertical Veg: Container Growing:

- **Date:** Wednesday 18 September
- **Time:** 6.30 to 7.30pm
- **Location:** Online
- **Price:** Free, but booking is essential. [Register for Vertical Veg: Container Growing.](#)

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



**The Tree Agency**

darryl parkin

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*The Tree Agency*



# Local Picture Postcard Column - Part 258

By Alan Winter

## Red Lion Pub – Twickenham Dip

It is with both sadness and fond memories that I now drive past the Tesco's Express by the "Dip". The site of the Red Lion pub and hotel since 1726 when it was first recorded as a beer house. The upstairs room and bar hosted many a family and musical function including my wife's 40th birthday party while the pub itself evolved over decades offering snooker, pool and bar billiards, dart teams, lunch time meals and live music sessions. It turned into Tesco in 2010.



Our first postcard is from the early Edwardian period around 1904/05 and shows that the shops in Heath Road previously extended past the pub and almost up to the railway bridge. A tram is negotiating its way under the dip and on towards the town centre. How about the fabulous external lamps adorning the pub and there is the young lad with his hand cart possibly looking for bits of coal and anything else that would burn on the open fires of those days.

The area behind Twickenham Green was populated by large families living in the network of cottages in the area. No one had motor transport back then and so the women shopped on foot locally every day. This is why there were far more shops and pubs in those days catering for the large number of local pedestrians. The roads behind were mainly built for the railway workers who were extending the lines at the back end of the 19th century. People tended to be born, schooled, married and lived their lives in relatively small areas and so the pubs and churches were very much the community hubs of the day.

The next postcard was posted in 1908 and is a wonderful view of the pub and hotel as it then was. In the 1960's I worked for one summer at the Crimony Company opposite. The firm stood



on a large site on the corner of Heath Road and Heath Gardens and many of us were to be found playing darts in the Red Lion at lunchtime.



The final postcard this week shows the Red Lion toward the end of its days in about 2002.

Pubs are at the very heart of our local social history. Should you be interested in the subject, I must recommend Kenneth M Lea's book "Twickenham Pubs". It is available through the Borough of Twickenham Local History Society website on [www.botlhs.co.uk](http://www.botlhs.co.uk) for probably less than the price of a pint!



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!



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# Richmond Council Chief Executive to step down

From Richmond Council

It has been announced that Mike Jackson will be stepping down as Chief Executive in the autumn.

Mike has been in the role since October 2022 and will step down due to personal, family reasons.



Councillor Gareth Roberts, Leader of Richmond Council, said:

“It has been an absolute pleasure working with Mike over the past few years. Mike has brought steady and experienced leadership to the Council. The world is a fast-changing place; our residents are experiencing greater challenges and uncertainties than ever before, as is the Council.

“With Mike at the helm, we have made real progress in developing new and innovative ways for Richmond to tackle some of the intrinsic challenges our society faces, and for how we approach our local priorities, particularly the vision for the future of Richmond Town Centre and building resilience in the face of the climate emergency. I want to thank Mike for all he has done and the legacy he will leave, and wish him all the best.”

Mike Jackson said: “Richmond upon Thames is a special place with a spectacular history and an exciting future. What has stood out to me particularly about Richmond is the dedication of the people who live and work here to work in partnership towards a better, fairer future. It’s a real strength and rewarding to be a part of it.

“The council teams serving both Richmond and Wandsworth are brilliant – and I’m confident that both Councils will continue to go from strength to strength and deliver exceptional services to residents.”

Arrangements for Mike’s replacement will be made in due course.



# Metropolitan Police launches recruitment campaign to improve policing

The Metropolitan Police Service have launched a new recruitment campaign, 'Change Needs You', as part of a strategic initiative to improve neighbourhood policing across Richmond upon Thames and the greater London area.

This campaign, closely tied to the Met's reform agenda 'A New Met for London', aims to attract new police constables who embody the core values of courage, empathy, and respect.



In a competitive job market, the Met recognise the challenge of recruiting dedicated individuals who are committed to making a difference in their communities. The 'Change Needs You' campaign is designed to reach out to those who may not have previously considered a career in policing and encourage you to rethink your potential role in shaping the future of law enforcement in London.

Residents will soon notice the campaign's presence on billboards, the London Underground, and across various social and digital platforms, highlighting the urgent need for officers who are deeply understanding of local issues. The Met are committed to ensuring that our policing teams are reflective of the diverse communities they serve in order to foster trust and establish greater collaboration between the police and the public.

As part of this initiative, they have also introduced neighbourhood community policing teams, designed to provide focused leadership and a more targeted approach to community crime fighting. This change is part of their ongoing efforts to improve safety and begin to address residents' desire for visible and accessible officers across the capital and in Richmond upon Thames.

The Met believe that local officers who are familiar with the specific challenges of their areas are crucial in maintaining public safety and confidence. By expanding the team with individuals who are passionate about community service and proactive change, the Met aim to create a more responsive and effective policing presence.

Find out more information on [how to apply and be part of this journey](#).



**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**



# Free community event

## 20th July, Marble Hill House

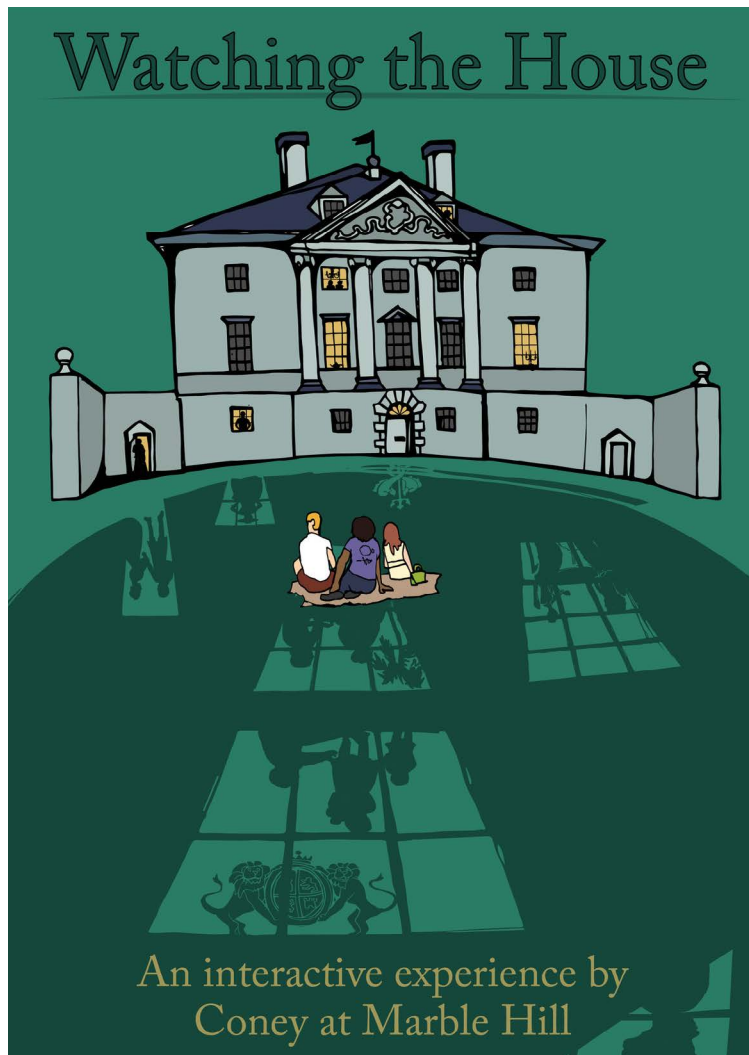
Marble, a free English Heritage historic site, has recently launched an **exciting new interactive smartphone experience**, *Watching the House*, which was **developed by local young people** and **BAFTA award-winning** game makers, Coney.

**This Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 12.30-4 at Marble House**, for one of our event days, we will have a professional storyteller bringing to life stories from the experience and an English Heritage historian discussing the challenging histories of the house.

**The experience will be available across the summer until 29<sup>th</sup> September** and you'll be able to explore Marble Hill in an entirely new way.

**Event days are Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July and Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August.**

Please find more information here: <https://coneyhq.org/project/watching-the-house/>



### Smartphone adventure

The Watching the House smartphone adventure is available to play  
23 June - 29 September, Wednesday - Sunday, 10am-5pm.

### Live events

We also invite you to three weekends of interactive activities, discussions and storytelling performances exploring the connections between Marble Hill, the Transatlantic slave trade, and Black-British history.

#### Sunday 23 June

12.30-1pm, 2-2.30pm & 3.30-4pm

Storytelling sessions with Wendy Shearer

1.15-1.45pm & 2.45-3.15pm

Play with History workshop with project director Rhianna Ilube

#### Saturday 20 July

12.30-1pm, 2-2.30pm & 3.30-4pm:

Storytelling sessions with Wendy Shearer

1.15-1.45pm & 2.45-3.15pm:

Talk on Marble Hill's colonial history with Megan Leyland, English Heritage Senior Properties Historian

#### Saturday 10 August

12.30-1pm, 2-2.30pm & 3.30-4pm:

Storytelling sessions with Nicole Acquah

1.15-1.45pm & 2.45-3.15pm:

Play with History workshop with Maryam Shaharuddin

Smartphone adventure and all performances take place at Marble Hill House, Richmond Road, Twickenham, TW1 2NL



# Diamond Jubilee Gardens

The Twickenham Big Screen made its final appearance at the Diamond Jubilee Gardens this week, with Wimbledon Tennis being shown and some films. Soon, the gardens will be closed so that flats can be built on part of the site.

Sadly, every tree in the photograph will be cut down, and the replacement trees will be planted in “cells,” meaning the trees are unlikely ever to reach their full size and will rely upon artificial irrigation to survive.

However, there is not a good record of maintaining these irrigation systems. The one at Richmond Riverside has been out of order for years, resulting in all the formal clipped yew trees being removed from the terraces and the need to re-turf the area regularly. The system installed at the Jubilee Gardens was also abandoned and most of the ornamental planting died off. Thus, many of the claims about how much better the landscaping will be at the new Twickenham Riverside development will need to be seen, as without working irrigation, it is likely to be a very poorly presented space.





# Richmond's parks receive 22 Green Flag Awards

From Richmond Council

The borough has been recognised for its open spaces, gardens and heritage sites by being awarded 22 prestigious Green Flag Awards.

The awarded parks have all reached the high standards required to receive a coveted Green Flag Award, the national standards for parks and open spaces in England and Wales.

Our parks and gardens are important green spaces for the community to socialise and enjoy nature, while also contributing to our physical and mental wellbeing.

Come along to our [award-winning parks](#).

The [Green Flag Award scheme](#) are managed by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy under licence from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government. The award scheme recognises and rewards well-managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of green spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world.



## Discover the best things to see and do in Richmond

From VisitRichmond

Whether you're a fan of the arts and theatre, a sports lover, or simply looking to enjoy nature, Richmond is the right place to visit.

Last week, VisitRichmond hosted a stall at the RHS Hampton Court Garden Festival in partnership with Ruils Independent Living, Strathmore School, Dementia Friendly group from Strawberry Hill House and Richmond Furniture Scheme. The stall offered a platform for local charities and organisations to promote their works in the community.

Information about these events and activities is now included in the latest VisitRichmond guide, which invites you to discover the hidden gems, historic landmarks, and vibrant culture in Richmond. This comprehensive guidebook introduces our must-see attractions, including Kew Gardens, Hampton Court Palace, Twickenham Stadium and more. Additionally, it features exciting outdoor activities, and theatres and museums.

Grab your copy of the VisitRichmond guide, available at one of our local libraries, Richmond Station information kiosk and community centres. You can also view an [online version of the guide](#).



# Council Reports

## Policy and Performance Review Board

Meeting on 19th July 2024

By James Knight

Cllr Richard Warren (North Richmond) was in the chair.

The first item discussed was how the council can work better with Housing Associations to tackle **anti-social behaviour**. Cllr Phil Giesler (Teddington) said the current protocols in the community safety plan in place for reporting and escalation were not being followed by registered social landlords and data protection was being used as a reason not to discuss matters with councillors, such as the stage the matter was at or the next steps. The committee agreed to review linkages between social housing providers and police, council and members.

There was then an update on the Task and Finish Group to look at **retrofitting** of domestic property. The chair of that subcommittee, Cllr Richard Warren said the group thought that planning barriers to retrofitting was perceived rather than actual and that better communications can address that concern. Officer Clair O'Connor will make recommendations that will go into the Climate Emergency policy refresh.

The **Corporate performance End of year report** was discussed. Cllr Katie Mansfield (St Margarets and North Twickenham) wanted the green, yellow and amber colour coding of the key performance targets to be replaced with a percentage one. She wanted to know if a red flag made it look like the council was failing. Cllr Wren (Fullwell and Hampton Hill) queried if adult social services KFI were correct as it gave the impression that things were improving for households in temporary accommodation when the costs had increased. She also pointed out that the number of new trees planted was increasing but there were also many dying and if the performance measure should be changed to a successful establishment. Moving onto waste, recycling rates in the borough are declining and the council was failing to act.

Next up was the **Corporate Plan action and KPI proposals** for 2024 to 2025. Cllr Mansfield asked why the committee was being asked to comment on the proposals in July when the targets have been set in June, because it's done and dusted? The officer said the KPIs were set by the service committees and the information was provided so that this committee will know what's being monitored in the current financial year.

Agenda item 7 **Timely delivery of capital projects** was then discussed, with **the Twickenham Riverside Development** being the subtext. Officer Anna Sadler, head of the corporate project office gave a rather long introduction. Cllr Jonathan Cardy (Fulwell and Hampton Hill) alluded to recent capital projects that have gone wrong such as the work at Stanley Primary School (poor quality) and the more recent disastrous project at Elleray Hall where the council failed to credit check the contractor who subsequently went bust leaving the council with millions of pounds of extra costs to complete the contract. Cllr Chard (Twickenham Riverside) welcomed the new process, but wanted reporting carried out on timely delivery to tackle the number of projects that are delayed.

You can see the committee papers [HERE](#)



# Richmond & Wandsworth chief executive resigns amid missing vote issue

Mike Jackson, the chief executive of Richmond and Wandsworth Council has resigned amid the issue that saw over 15 percent of the votes cast in the Putney constituency not being counted and allocated on the night.

Wandsworth Conservative councillor Peter Graham said the quiet reissuing of the results was “terrible for confidence in our democracy”.

He went on to say “It’s extremely concerning that the council knew the official declaration was wrong, failed to tell anyone and then hid a correction on its website. Trust in the electoral process matters. The lack of any public statement is worrying, and basic questions are still unanswered. This shouldn’t have been able to happen.”

Richmond and Wandsworth Council’s Shared Staffing Arrangement (SSA) had to make the embarrassing admission earlier this week that they had failed in one of their most important tasks and had not properly counted and allocated 6,588 votes.

Though this did not affect the result or the order of the candidates.

Candidate	Party	Original Result (Incorrect stated by council)	Restated Result
Fleur ANDERSON	Labour Party	20,952	24,113
Felix BURFORD-CONNOLE	Rejoin EU	289	332
Peter HUNTER	Reform UK	2,681	3,070
Heiko Bernard KHOO	Workers Party	433	491
Kieren Michael MCCARTHY	Liberal Democrats	5,189	5,943
Fergal Joseph MCENTEE	Green Party	3,182	3,721
Lee Jamie ROBERTS	The Conservative Party Candidate	10,011	11,625

The Twickenham and Richmond Park Constituencies were counted at a separate venue, but they have a similar counting system and were organised by the same staff.

The crux of the problem is that the sorting of votes into bundles was observed by counting agents (appointed by the candidates standing), whilst the counting of bundles was carried out on tables away from view, so no independent verification could take place.

# Repair your broken items at Repair Café

On Saturday 20 July, the Twickenham Repair Café is offering free repairs at St Margarets Church Hall.



All residents are welcome to bring along any broken items for repair, such as iPads, clocks, lawn mowers, coffee machines, bikes and even garden shears.

Residents are also encouraged to donate tools. The Twickenham Repair Café is collecting them for [Tools with a Mission](#), a charity that refurbishes unwanted usable tools, sorts them into trade tool kits and

sends them to the developing countries to support livelihood creation.

## Event details:

- **Date:** Saturday 20 July
- **Time:** 10.30am to 12.45pm
- **Location:** St Margarets Church Hall, 130 St Margarets Road, St Margarets, Twickenham, TW1 1RL

The [Twickenham Repair Café](#) is a non-profit community interest company aims to promote sustainable living through providing free repair services. They have saved over 5 tonnes of wastes in the past 19 months.

To support community-driven initiatives around climate change and sustainability, residents and community groups are encouraged to apply for our [climate action microgrant programme](#) which awards grants every month.

If you're looking to explore your passion in repairing and crafting, the [Library of Things in Twickenham](#) can be very useful.

They have drills, staple guns and a range of tools available to borrow. You can also enjoy a 10% discount off your first rental using the code TAKE10.



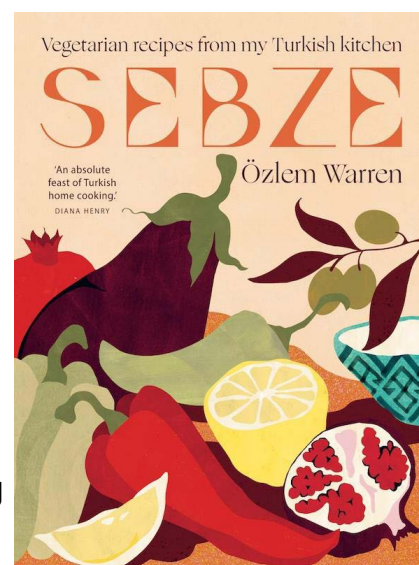


## Vegetarian Recipes From A Turkish Kitchen: Sebze

We love Turkey; the Turkish people and, of course, the superb Turkish food. We've had many wonderfully enjoyable trips to Turkey over the years. Friends of ours, who had a yacht based in Turkey for many summers, told us that they effectively became vegetarian when there. There are so many fabulous vegetables available, and at prices just a smidgeon of what we have to pay in the UK, it makes sense to enjoy them and not have to worry about storing meat or fish. When I found **Sebze**, by **Özlem Warren**, I was excited to share it with you.



'Sebze' translates as vegetables in Turkish and this cookbook is a bountiful collection of scrumptious, practical and varied vegetarian recipes celebrating Turkey and her food. Inspired by thousands of years of rich and diverse culinary heritage, the dishes in **Sebze** invite you to embrace the vibrancy and simplicity of Turkey's cuisine, such as *Stuffed Flatbreads*, *Menemen*, *Baked Fig and Feta*, *Meze* and *Baklava*, with recipes that are easy, seasonal and sustainable – not to mention utterly delicious.



**Özlem Warren** is a respected teacher of Turkish food, who has taught at cooking schools in the US, as well as Kent and Divertimenti Cookery Schools in the UK. In 2019, she published **Özlem's Turkish Table**, which won the 2020 Gourmand Award in Food Heritage. @ozlems\_turkish\_table. She's a passionate and skilled advocate for her national cuisine, and shows us how to make meals that we want to – and can – cook. **Sebze** is the perfect introduction to Turkish food for the home cook. It's published by Hardie Grant at £28 for a beautifully illustrated hardback book, with photography by Sam Harris.

Here are a couple of tasters for you to try:

### Nohut Piyazı Chickpea Salad with Sumac Onions Serves 4–6 (GF V)

- 1 medium red onion, halved and thinly sliced
- pinch of salt
- 1 teaspoon ground sumac (use more if you are a fan!), plus extra to serve
- 2 x 400 g (14 oz) tins pre-cooked chickpeas (garbanzo beans) (discard any loose skins)
- 2 medium, ripe tomatoes, finely chopped
- 1 red (bell) pepper, deseeded and finely chopped
- 3 spring onions (scallions), trimmed and finely chopped
- small bunch of flat-leaf parsley, finely chopped

#### FOR THE DRESSING

- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- juice of 1/2 lemon (about 2 tablespoons)
- sea salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste



*This is a delicious variation of the much-loved Turkish bean salad, Fasulye Piyazı. I love the earthy flavour of nohut (chickpeas/garbanzo beans) and they are fantastic paired with tangy sumac-infused onions in this refreshing, nutritious salad. As a matter of fact, citrusy sumac rubbed into the red onion slices is a key ingredient and makes this salad special for me – please do the rubbing with your hands, so that the sumac infuses well, for maximum flavour.*

Place the red onion slices in a large mixing bowl. Sprinkle with a pinch of salt and the ground sumac, then rub into the onion slices with your hands really well. This will soften the onions and make them more palatable, and will also help the tangy sumac infuse the onions.

Drain and rinse the chickpeas, then combine with the onions. Stir in the chopped tomatoes, peppers, spring onions and parsley, and combine well.

FOR THE DRESSING, mix the extra-virgin olive oil and lemon juice in a small container. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Pour the dressing over the salad and combine well. Transfer to a serving plate and serve with an extra pinch of ground sumac sprinkled over.

**Tip:** If you prefer to use dried chickpeas, you need to soak them in cold water overnight. Drain and put them in a pan with plenty of fresh water, and cook for about 1 hour, or until tender, adding salt towards the end of the cooking time. Drain and set aside in a bowl, to be used in this salad.

### **Kuru Kayısı Tatlısı/ Poached Dried Apricots in Light Syrup with Clotted Cream**

Serves 8–10 (GF VO)

*This is a light, delicious and easy dessert for entertaining. Türkiye (Turkey) is one of the largest producers of apricots (kayısı). They are grown in abundance during the summer months, and some of the yearly harvest is dried in the sun to be enjoyed all year round. Malatya, a city in the southeast, is particularly famous for the quality of its dried apricots, which are exported all over the world. When I was a child, we lived in Elazığ, a city next to Malatya, and my father would bring home cases of juicy apricots after work. We would eagerly wait for my father's return and the apricots would soon disappear. Poaching dried apricots in light syrup brings out their beautiful fragrance and they are luscious served with cream.*

- 150 g (5 oz/2/3 cup) granulated sugar
- 450 ml (15 fl oz/1¾ cups) hot water
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 250 g (9 oz) soft dried apricots
- 85 g (3 oz/1/3 cup) Turkish thick cream (kaymak) or clotted cream (or plant-based clotted cream)
- 2 tablespoons crushed pistachios

Combine the sugar and hot water in a medium pan and bring to the boil. Stir constantly until the sugar dissolves, then reduce to a simmer. Pour in the lemon juice and add the dried apricots, and poach for 20 minutes over a low–medium heat. The apricots will plump up and the syrup will thicken, infused with the apricots' beautiful fragrance. Leave to cool. Once cool, gently open the split of the apricot and fill each with about 1/3 teaspoon kaymak or clotted cream. Place the stuffed apricots on a serving dish, spoon the syrup around them and sprinkle with crushed pistachios to serve.

Prepare ahead: You can poach the dried apricots in syrup 1–2 days ahead. Once cool, keep in a container, covered, in the refrigerator.

**Variation and leftovers:** Instead of clotted cream, you can stuff the dried apricots with 85 g (3 oz/2/3 cup) chopped walnuts for a plant-based feast. Leftovers can be enjoyed for breakfast or you can serve the leftover syrup as a light sherbet drink, with ice cubes and fresh mint in small glasses.





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# Go Green

By Doug Goodman

Spotted by the Albany pub looking for the bus stand was this 1953 Green Line Coach.

Still going strong after 71 years working in the Weybridge area, becoming a caravan and now available for private hire, the bus was in immaculate condition.

Owner driver Richard was about to collect guests for a wedding party.

This 39 seater single deck vehicle was one of 700 built for London Transport in the early 1950s.

Information: [www.1950s-vintage-bus-hire.co.uk](http://www.1950s-vintage-bus-hire.co.uk)





# What comes out once a year but lives underground for thirty years?

By Deep Patel

~Life through the Eyes of a Twickenham Shopkeeper~

Towards the end of July, there is one day that really gets me nervous...it comes every year...can anybody guess what that day may be? Let me give you a clue...on this day...if you walk out of your front door...within 5 seconds you will know...got it yet? What about if I were to say they are mini-giants and fly...got it yet?

“Flying ant day” is the phenomenon that happens every July...but what is it and why does it happen? Well, customers in my shop know how passionate an advocate I am for insect welfare (I hate anything suffering...from a mite to a human) so this week this has become a bit of a talking point in my shop...and yes it does make me nervous thinking of the many 1000's of ants that will be stepped on by the many people going past my shop...but what can I do? I can't pick up each individual one and move it over a wall to a garden nearby (although I have been known to spend an hour to move them in this way before, it would take an entire day to clear my whole pavement and then who would serve my customers?). So I thought it would be better to try and explain to customers what flying ants day is and why it happens to try and help all gain an appreciation of these little buggers...



What makes them come out? Well, it's usually heavy rain followed by extreme heat...every large flying ant you see is a queen in the making! Yes, that's right, they are all tomorrows queens...you may have seen tiny little flying ants too and assumed they are babies...they are not! They are actually the males...yes that's right...the males are smaller and weaker looking in this species! They have one purpose only...to have intercourse in mid-flight with the larger flying ants (queens to be) and then they drop dead after which the females often eat them! Imagine that was humans...Let's stop and pause for a second...if you are a man reading this article right now...tell me...how would you feel if this happened to you? You do “your bit” and then drop dead straight after and to top it off, she eats you up straight after...you like that idea? No? I didn't think you would...but if you were a male flying ant, you would have no options...that's your life and that's what happens...like it or lump it. So as you read this, no matter how rubbish you're day is going, bet you are glad you're not an ant now aren't you? So what happens after? Well after intercourse and eating her mate, she will retreat to a small hole and stay there to wait for her first to be born...until they are, she can't leave to eat or anything so she ends up eating her own wings to stay alive...then after the first are born...they begin to bring her food and carry her deeper into the ground to protect her and she will remain there protected by the colony as their queen for the rest of her life, which can be for up to thirty years...!!! So next time you think of drowning the “flying ants” with your hose pipe and killing them, or simply stepping all over them without considering their lives too...think twice and maybe stay indoors for that one day only, because you will have many other days to enjoy life, but they will only have the one day where the males will die straight after intercourse and the females will spend the next thirty years hidden under ground...with this in mind, surely we can stay indoors and allow them to have their one day of fun? After all, one saying I always believe in is that in the joy of others lies our own...and all lives matter...big...or small...we are one.

**Remember...**

***“We can only truly consider ourselves loving when we sacrifice our own joy for the joy of others...”***

MY CREATURE-KINDNESS TIP OF THE WEEK...

**STOP ANTS 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](mailto:InsectLoversUnite@gmail.com) or join my Facebook page: “INSECT LOVERS UNITE”

## Cyrano de Bergerac

by Edmond Rostand, adapted by Glyn Maxwell

Richmond Shakespeare Society at York House, Twickenham until 20<sup>th</sup> July

*Cyrano de Bergerac*, this year's RSS open-air production makes a fascinating theatrical evening. Probably the best so far of its traditional annual offerings, it reduces the Fountain Gardens to a theatre in the round, its audience around the perimeter. This creates an atmosphere of intimacy and leads to a brilliant display by the actors. The dialogue is sprightly and quick-fire with 17<sup>th</sup> Century gags combining with 21<sup>st</sup> Century ones.

However, such an explosion of energy has its drawbacks, as most of the actors doubled, some even having four different roles. It is difficult to know which characters are which and what their contribution is to the play.



Nevertheless, the leading roles crystallise with a sudden strong duologue between Cyrano and Roxane, foreshadowing their relationship. Luciano Doderio and Francesca Ellis shine as these main protagonists, both developing as the play continues towards the fun of the First Act into the darkness of the Second.

Terry Bedell's Ragueaneau has fine comic moments, a confident Ben Collingwood Best as Le Bret is the Narrator-Chorus. Scott Tilley as the Count De Guiche gives authority with a sudden change to what was happening, becoming a suitor to Roxane. Her third suitor is Christian, played by Theo Byrne, whose passion is somewhat unconvincing, his feelings lapsing into something approaching slapstick.

After the interval, all the jollity disappears: we are at the Siege of Arras and the battlefield. It becomes a totally different play, presenting a challenge for the actors, which they certainly live up to. The lights dim with the approach of actual night in the gardens; aptly the flowers disappear, and some very moving moments ensue. The presence of war alters everything and everyone. Ellis, Doderio and Tilley excel in their approach to the final tragic denouement, and the rest of the cast have brief, telling contributions.

*Cyrano* is a real achievement for the RSS: the costuming is fine and the discipline of the entire company ensures a cracking pace. Undoubtedly the smaller stage area is a bonus, and the presentation in the round is the best way a play of this nature could be successfully achieved.

Read Salieri's review at [www.markaspen.com/2024/07/17/cyrano-rss](http://www.markaspen.com/2024/07/17/cyrano-rss)

Photography by Simone Best





## London Wall

by John William Van Druten

Questors at the Judi Dench Playhouse, Ealing until 20<sup>th</sup> July

The problem with office based plays is that they are usually written by people who have never worked in an office. However *London Wall* benefits from its playwright having practised law for a number of years.

A City law business runs alongside the play's narrative, as secretaries dash around Charles Dixon's lavish recreation of a 1930s legal firm, yet its offices feel like a real business, indeed one which could be running today with a few upgrades to the office technology.

This detail is engrossing, but its story is rather slight. Slick lawyer Mr Brewer (Daniel Thompson, exuding huge charm as a predatory character) flirts with the secretaries, but focuses on the new starter, young Miss Milligan (Greta Azzopardi, a nuanced performance of a conflicted character).



Through this uneasy office dalliance, we learn about the relationships of all the women at the firm. On low pay, they are all desperate to marry, if only for financial security. Miss Hooper (a spirited Maya Jagger) is pressuring her married lover to leave his wife, while prim Miss Janus (Preeti Bhambri) has been waiting for years for her boyfriend to propose. She boils with frustration as she feels forced to wait to marry a man she no longer even loves. Meanwhile Agata Frankowska's glamorous Miss Bufton is openly flirtatious, enjoying life as best she can.

Miss Willesden (Patricia O'Brien in a note-perfect performance somewhere between Dames Penelope Wilton and Maggie Smith), an elderly woman forever filing law suits. Despite clearly being the firm's

biggest client, the male characters dismiss her and Mr Walker, the firm's largely absent boss (an authoritative Wesley Lloyd) will no longer see her. However, Walker's old-fashioned essential decency is one of a number of surprises that the play has in store.

Although originally billed as a "romantic comedy", director Richard Gallagher has taken a firm decision to play the show as more of a drama, though no amount of characters running around with letters can hide the play's distinctly farcical conclusion.

Ultimately, *London Wall* is an interesting period piece that shows how much the workplace has changed in some ways, and how little it has changed in others.

Read Andrew Lawston's review at [www.markaspen.com/2024/07/14/london-wall](http://www.markaspen.com/2024/07/14/london-wall)

Photography by Robert Vass

# Plant a free Woodland Trust tree in the South East of England for your school, sports club or community group and help fight the climate and nature crisis

The UK's largest woodland conservation charity has given away a mind-boggling 15m saplings through its ever-popular free trees scheme since it started in 2010 – that's an average of more than a million trees a year.

And with applications for the autumn delivery window closing next month, the Trust is urging people across the South East to take advantage of the “no-catch” scheme and help tackle the climate and nature crisis.

The spring delivery in March 2024 saw **48,950** saplings finding homes in the South East of England, as part of a total 365,985 trees sent out across the length and breadth of the UK:

## In the south of England the numbers were as follows:

- 7,785 trees in London
- 5,520 trees in Greater London
- 12,750 trees in Kent
- 9,195 trees in Surrey
- 13,700 trees in Sussex

Applications for delivery in September 2024 are closing on 26 August. Woodland Trust senior project lead Steve Shill said time is running out to get involved.



*“Planting trees is such a simple action, but the collective impact can make a huge difference to people and the planet,” he said.*

*“Trees help nature, combat flooding, provide shelter and reduce pollution. And they unite communities, inspire pride and bring huge benefits for mental wellbeing.*

*“It’s a great way for schoolchildren and all sorts of community groups – from sports clubs to faith groups – to learn about the environment and do their bit.*

*“Every school should have trees, but if you don’t have space to plant, don’t worry – you can still get involved in planting. Why not partner with a local community group or council to plant trees in a public space?”*

The application process to secure your saplings is straightforward. Just visit <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities/> to fill in the form and ensure your trees are on their way.

The Woodland Trust scheme delivers hundreds of thousands of free trees twice a year for planting in spring and autumn. Tree packs come in packs of 15, 30, 105 or 420 trees and in different varieties to suit their purpose – from hedging, copse, for wildlife or wild harvest.

The Trust’s tree packs have been generously funded by lead partners Sainsbury’s, Lloyds Bank, OVO, Bank of Scotland and Sofology.

Shill added: *“As ever, the support and generosity of our funders is crucial; we simply couldn’t do this without them. The help each and every one of them provides is hugely appreciated and ensures we can provide and deliver our saplings in such huge numbers.”*



**WOODLAND  
TRUST**

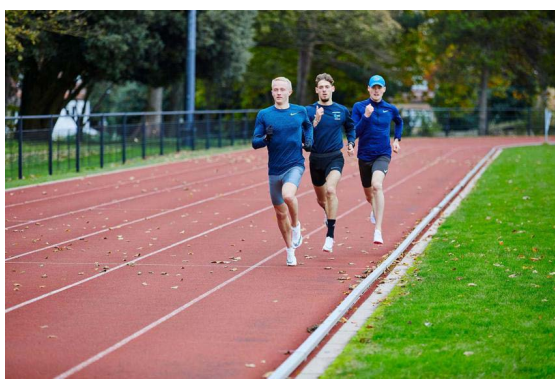


# St Mary's University

## St Mary's EPC Athletes Selected for Paris Olympics

Alumni and associate athletes of the Endurance Performance Centre (EPC) at St Mary's University, Twickenham (SMU) have been selected to compete at the Paris Olympic Games this summer.

Alumni and associate athletes of the [Endurance Performance Centre](#) (EPC) at St Mary's University, Twickenham (SMU) have been selected to compete at the [Paris Olympic Games](#) this summer.



Five EPC athletes have been selected to compete for Team GB in the upcoming Olympics,

while EPC alumna Adelle Tracey has been selected to represent Team Jamaica in the women's 800m and 1500m. Adelle previously [broke a Jamaican national record](#) in the women's 800m and 1500m events at the World Athletics Championships in 2023.

EPC alumna Reeve Walcott-Nolan will also be competing in the women's 1500m, after making her Olympic debut for Team GB at the Tokyo Games in 2021. That same year, Reeve was crowned the [women's 1500m champion](#) at the British Championships. Jake Wightman also made his Olympic debut in Tokyo and will be competing in the upcoming men's 800m for Team GB. Jake is an EPC associate and has been training at SMU since 2017. In 2022, Jake won Gold to become the men's 1500m World Champion at the World Athletics Championships in Eugene, USA.

In the marathon races, EPC alumni Emile Cairess and Charlotte Purdue will be

competing for Team GB. Emile was the [first-placed Briton](#) in the 2024 London Marathon, while Charlotte is currently third on the women's [British all-time Marathon record list](#).

EPC alumna Beth Potter will be competing for Team GB in the women's triathlon, having secured her place at the Paris Olympics after taking the [World Championship title](#) in 2023.

Speaking on these selections EPC performance coach Craig Winrow said, *"All of the EPC coaches and athletes wish those selected for the Olympics the best of luck at the Games. It has taken years of hard work for them to get there, and getting to watch EPC athletes at the Olympics will certainly inspire all our current EPC students that anything is possible when you dream big."*

Head of Sport St Mary's Andrew Reid-Smith added, *"We're extremely proud of all the current and former EPC athletes selected to compete at the upcoming Olympics. St Mary's has a rich Olympic and Paralympic history, and we can't wait to see what Paris will bring."*

The Endurance Performance Centre (EPC) is an internationally renowned endurance running programme at St Mary's University, with one of the best training setups in the world. The EPC and its coaches provide an endurance performance environment that supports, challenges, and develops elite runners.

These Olympic selections continue a proud history for St Mary's in elite athletics events including the Olympic and Paralympic Games, with many former students having competed over the years. SMU alumni who have gone on to win medals at the Olympic and Paralympic Games include Sir Mo Farah, Rebecca Romero, Moe Sbihi, Matt Wells, and Corrine Hall.



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London

# HRUC Sport Students Take Part in Sports Spectacular Event

Last month, all Sports students at Harrow, Richmond and Uxbridge Colleges (HRUC) participated in a 'Sports Spectacular' day held at the Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) campus.



There were 90 students in total in attendance, across the three colleges. The biggest student event to date that HRUC has held of this kind.

The day began with a nutritious breakfast for participants and staff, to prepare them for a day full of exertion, followed by a briefing session and a chance to socialise ahead of the competition.

Students were then split into college teams to compete in four different sport activities: volleyball, football, tag rugby and an obstacle course. After a long day of games and friendly rivalry, Uxbridge College managed to take the win by 1 point, with RuTC coming in 2nd place and Harrow College in 3rd.

The highlight of the day was the obstacle course, with students and staff both thoroughly enjoying the silly, lighthearted fun of it.

Students all had a wonderful day participating in the activities and getting to know each other, giving amazing feedback, with one student commenting, "It was the best



thing the college has done, and it was great to make use of the facilities and meet students from the other colleges."

RuTC Sport's lecturer and organiser of the event, Shahbaz Hasan, commented:

*"Everyone had a fabulous day; students were in great spirits, and it was great to see such a high level of effort and competition from all who participated. The event represented the first opportunity our students from all campuses had to meet each other and share their*

*experiences. The day really celebrated the benefits of our college group for students. We are really looking forward to next year's event!"*

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





# England A set to take on Australia A

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) has announced another exciting fixture for England Men's A side, following on from the previous outing against Portugal in February.

England A will take on an Australia A on Sunday 17th November 2024, hosted at The Twickenham Stoop with a 14:00 GMT kick-off.

England A's last fixture resulted in a 91-5 victory over Portugal, and featured players capped at senior level including Fin Baxter, Charlie Ewels, Harry Randall, Tom Pearson and Joe Heyes alongside some of the brightest young talent in the Gallagher Premiership.

The England A side provides a platform for players transitioning from the Gallagher Premiership and pathway at U20 level to the senior men's team.

A coaching team involving personnel from across the Premiership and England Rugby will be chosen by the RFU in consultation with Premiership Rugby, with the selection of the match day 23 determined by senior men's head coach, Steve Borthwick, and RFU Executive Director of Performance, Conor O'Shea.

"We are delighted to confirm this fixture for England A," Conor O'Shea said.

"England A is a great platform for the country's next best players to showcase what they can do while representing the country. It gives Steve Borthwick and his staff the chance to see players outside of their club environment, and the players the opportunity to impress.

"A fixture against an Australia A side will pit our players against really tough opposition, and work continues on to secure more playing time for the A team in the near future. We are looking forward to taking England A to The Stoop for what I'm sure will be a great game of rugby!"

Tickets for England A vs. Australia A go on general sale at 11am on Friday 19th July via [www.ticketmaster.co.uk](http://www.ticketmaster.co.uk).

Hospitality packages will also be available, starting from £149 per person – visit [www.quins.co.uk](http://www.quins.co.uk).

Information regarding future Men's A fixtures will be communicated in due course.



# Match Preview: AFC Wimbledon v Brentford

**Analysis, insight and more. Here's everything you need to know ahead of Brentford's first pre-season fixture of the season against League Two side AFC Wimbledon**

Written by Brentford Football Club

Brentford open their pre-season schedule on Saturday when they take on League Two side AFC Wimbledon at Plough Lane (1pm kick-off).

Johnnie Jackson's side finished 10th in the fourth tier last term and will provide a tough test for the Bees in their first game of the 2024/25 campaign.

Tickets for the fixture are available to buy from the Gtech Community Stadium box office until 5pm on Friday. Tickets can also be purchased on the day at Plough Lane, with a £2 price increase, on the right-hand side of gate 5. [More information can be found here.](#)

Unable to make it to Plough Lane? [Download the Brentford FC app](#) to exclusively stream the Bees' first pre-season friendly live from 1pm.

## PRE-MATCH ANALYSIS

Alex Lawes, Playmaker Stats: Physical  
Wimbledon will provide tough test

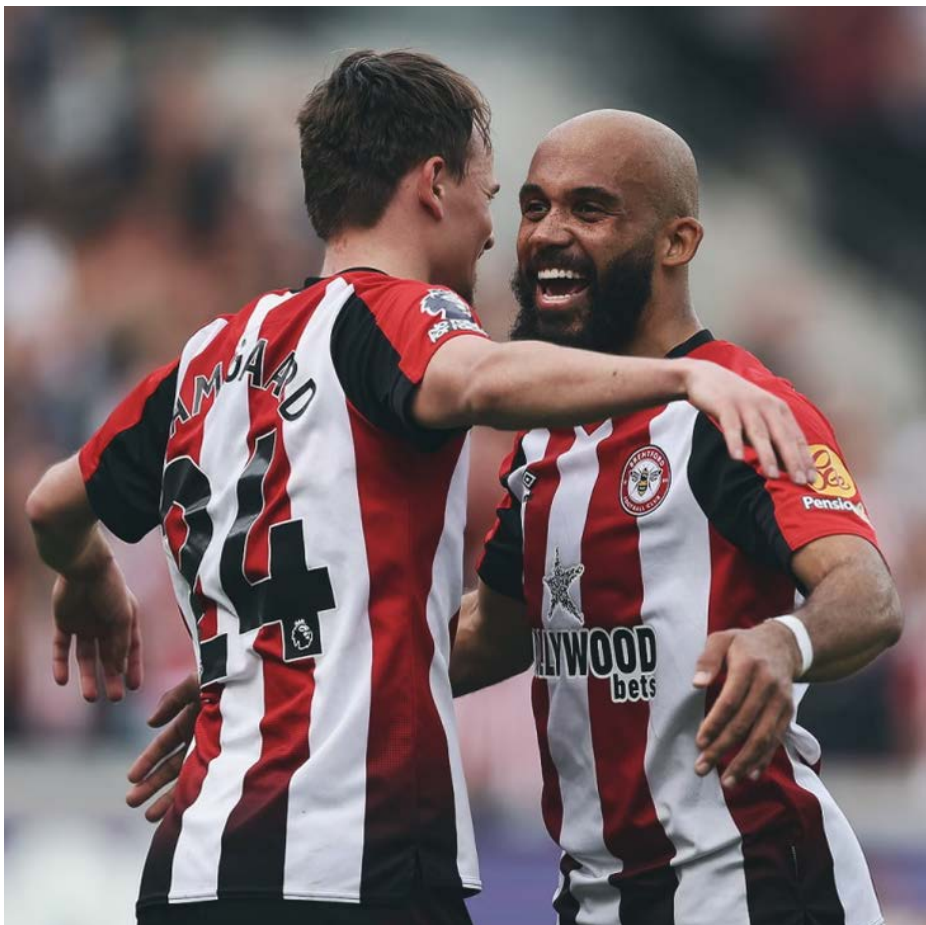
Brentford ramp up their pre-season preparations with their opening friendly of the summer against AFC Wimbledon down in south London this weekend.

The Bees have made just the solitary summer addition thus far with the arrival of Igor Thiago from Club Brugge - and a lot of the headlines are expected to be around the Brazilian striker, who has signed from the Belgian Jupiler Pro League.

AFC Wimbledon, on the other hand, have been a lot busier in the transfer window, but did recently lose left-back Jack Currie to Oxford United for a reported fee of £350,000, which follows the winter sale of key man Ali Al-Hamadi to Ipswich Town.

They have added a fair bit of League Two experience to their side, though, with the arrivals of John-Joe O'Toole, Alistair Smith and Joe Pigott. The signing of Pigott would suggest that Johnnie Jackson, who made a name for himself in coaching circles with excellent and effective set-piece routines at Charlton Athletic, is looking to harness that strength and the early pre-season games are the best time to get to grips with the more direct style.

In League Two last season, Wimbledon were fifth for the most aerial duels won, but that would likely





be expected to be the case with 54.3 inaccurate long balls per game suggesting that getting into the air was a large part of their game plan.

The arrival of Pigott is expected to ensure that Wimbledon are more accurate with their overarching tactical principles of Jackson so, whilst pre-season remains primarily about getting Brentford's players up to speed and up to the correct fitness levels, this will pose an intriguing tactical test against a side looking to play a direct manner which may have found a gem to help them play that way.

## **SCOUT REPORT**

Jackson's summer rebuild building positivity for promotion

Last season was one of the most positive in AFC Wimbledon's short, but incredible, history.

They were relegated after six seasons in League One in 2022 and avoided a second-successive drop by a margin of only five points one year later. A pocket of fans had called for manager Johnnie Jackson's head - a re-think and a reset was required.

Entrusted with turning things around, Jackson reshaped his squad and there was plenty that went on in the way of turnover; there were eight permanent summer signings, four loans in, three loans out, 14 released and the sale of teenager David Kawa to Peterborough.

His favoured 4-2-3-1 formation became a 4-4-2, with the occasional tweak, allowing him to play two of Omar Bugiel, Ali Al-Hamadi and Josh Davison alongside one another. It worked a treat.

AFC Wimbledon picked up 20 points from their first 11 games, which took them, briefly, to second. By Christmas, they had settled into more familiar surroundings in the play-off places and Al-Hamadi was flying; before he jetted off to the Asian Cup with Iraq - as Bugiel did with Lebanon - he had scored 17 goals and assisted another seven in 29 appearances.

The absence of the pair was felt greatly in the two games both missed due to their international efforts, with defeats against promotion rivals Wrexham and MK Dons helping to knock the Dons down to 10th.

As it turned out, Al-Hamadi would not return to Plough Lane. His sparkling form piqued interest from higher up the EFL, which led to a move to Championship high-flyers Ipswich for an upfront fee reported to be in the region of £1 million. It was a blow akin to the one Brentford suffered when DJ Campbell left for Birmingham in January 2006.

The fact Bugiel stepped up to the plate with nine goals and three assists in his last 17 appearances of the season - and that Jackson's side secured an exhilarating last-gasp win over arch-rivals MK Dons - revitalised their promotion push, but three defeats in the last five ultimately saw them finish five points off the top seven.

In a pre-season interview on AFC Wimbledon's YouTube channel, Jackson said building his squad with the aim of having two players for every position would go some way to bridging the gap to promotion and, at the time of writing, the Dons have made five summer signings, with three standout in particular.

Winger Myles Hippolyte - who started out at Brentford in 2010 - has signed from Stockport, having helped them to the National League and League Two titles, as well as having won the Scottish Championship with St Mirren, while John-Joe O'Toole - who played 14 times on loan last term - brings

the experience of just shy of 550 career appearances at Championship, League One and League Two level.

Matty Stevens has also joined after leaving Forest Green. The 26-year-old striker is a proven goalscorer at League Two level, looking to get his career back on track following a loss of momentum brought by an eight-month lay-off with an ACL injury.

While not having yet shelled out a penny in the transfer window, they have made money with the sales of Josh Davison to Tranmere and academy graduate Jack Currie to Championship newcomers Oxford United. With Bugiel and promising teenager Aron Sasu having signed new contracts within the last three months, Jackson's squad is starting to take shape.

Right now, the Dons are one of the favourites to secure a top-seven finish in League Two, but there is no doubt that they will be aiming higher.

## **IN THE DUGOUT**

Johnnie Jackson

Johnnie Jackson - a boyhood Arsenal fan - started out at Tottenham and signed his first professional contract with the north London club at the start of the new millennium.

After loan spells at Swindon, Colchester and Coventry, he broke into the first-team picture under David Pleat.

However, Premiership opportunities were harder to come by under Jacques Santini and Martin Jol, meaning further loans to the Championship with Watford and Derby beckoned.

At the age of 23, in the summer of 2006, he opted to leave Spurs in search of regular playing time and returned to Colchester on a free transfer shortly after their promotion to the second tier for the first time in their history.

After their relegation, he requested a move away and dropped down a division to sign for League Two Notts County, who had appointed former England boss Sven-Göran Eriksson as director of football and signed Sol Campbell.

A short spell on loan at Charlton in 2009/10 followed and he returned to London to sign for them permanently in July 2010.

He settled like a dream at the Valley and captained the Addicks to the League One title in his second season, before retiring in March 2018 at the age of 35 to take up a coaching role at the club.

He later worked as Lee Bowyer's assistant, succeeded him as caretaker in October 2021 and was then appointed on a full-time basis two months later.

Charlton did not keep him on at the end of 2021/22 but, within two weeks, he took the managerial hotseat at AFC Wimbledon vacated by Mark Robinson two months earlier.

He is now the fourth-longest serving manager in League Two, having reached two years in charge in May and, along with his assistant Terry Skiverton, signed a new two-and-a-half-year contract in February.





# Sexual predator jailed after being captured on CCTV

**A dangerous sexual predator has been jailed for life after admitting 28 offences committed across three police force areas.**

Louis Collins, 29 (09.10.94) of Lambeth was sentenced at Kingston Crown Court on Tuesday, 16 July to life imprisonment, to serve a minimum of eleven-and-a-half years.

**Detective Inspector Simon Sherlock, from the South West Command Unit, said:** “Collins is a dangerous predator and the length of his sentence reflects the level of risk he poses to the public.

“Our thoughts today are with the women he subjected to sexual violence, and I would like to thank them for their bravery and help with our investigation.

“By working with our colleagues at British Transport Police and City of London Police, we are able to link Collins to a number of offences, and he has now been held to account.

“The Met is working hard to tackle violence against women and girls, and we are committed to identifying offenders and bringing them before the courts.

“While there is no evidence at this time to suggest further offending by Collins, I would urge anyone who may be a victim to please come forward and speak with us. If you do not want to contact officers, there are a number of [charities and organisations](#) that can offer you support.”

Police were called at about 08:00hrs on 21 August 2023, to reports that a woman had been raped in Marble Hill Park in Twickenham.

Officers attended and spoke with the woman, who was provided with support from specialist officers.

As a result of a fast-paced investigation by detectives involving a review of local CCTV footage from the area of the attack, Collins was arrested the same day at an address in Lambeth. He was charged two days later with 13 offences in relation to this attack.

Detectives continued to carry out enquiries to build their case against him.

Working alongside colleagues from British Transport Police and City of London Police, they linked Collins to a further six incidents of violence and sexual offending in the same month.

He was subsequently charged with a further 15 offences, totalling 28 offences against eight different victims.



# ITV News investigation: Jess Phillips brands women's safety a 'national emergency' after survey reveals 81% of women feel unsafe walking in the dark

A new survey commissioned by ITV News reveals that 81% of young women aged 18-25 feel unsafe walking home in the dark. The survey, which interviewed 1232 young adults, highlights concern about women's safety on UK streets.

Niamh, 20, a hospitality worker, described the fear of being chased by a man while walking home at night: *"I had to run for about five minutes, which felt like a lifetime. It's the worst thing you can imagine happening, and when you realise that it happens, it's horrible."* She continued, *"I think it is just that shock and just adrenaline and, you know, instincts or whatever take over because you're just fearing for your life. It's awful. I think anyone that's been in that position can say the same."*

Niamh's concerns extend beyond nighttime. She recalled another incident in broad daylight: *"I was alone and a stranger attacked me and there was nobody around... He tried to rape me, and the only reason that I managed to get away is because I fought him off, which was also horribly traumatic."*



Jess Phillips, the newly appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Victims and Safeguarding, addressed these issues in her first interview since taking on the role. Phillips stated, *"The reality is, this government considers violence against women and girls to be a national emergency. A national emergency needs systematic change, not just paying lip service when something bad happens."*

Phillips expressed the need for urgent action, saying, *"I really wish that I could say that it did [shock me]... I actually expected it to be that more women felt unsafe in the dark if I'm perfectly honest."*

To understand the everyday challenges women face, ITV News sent an undercover reporter out in Cardiff on a busy Friday night. Over the course of two hours, she was approached 20



times. Many encounters involved catcalling, harassment, and persistent unwanted attention. Only one man offered to help her and despite asking most of the men to leave her alone, many continued to follow her, highlighting ongoing concerns about respect and safety.

In response to these findings, Phillips reiterated the government's commitment to tackling violence against women and girls, pledging to halve instances within the next decade. This will involve preventive measures through education and awareness, focusing on relationship and respect education in schools, and a robust approach to prosecuting perpetrators.



Phillips shared her vision, stating, *“What it makes me feel is urgent and desperate to make it so that the very first time that Niamh comes forward and suffers, that services and systems are in place for her. But more so that we need to be moving every single mountain that we can to ensure that we stop the perpetration of that abuse. This is not*

*something that should just be women’s responsibility about where they can and can’t go.”*

Professor Jackie Tapley from the University of Portsmouth discussed the broader issue of male violence against women and the societal narrative that places the onus on women to protect themselves. *“In the 21st century, why aren’t we changing that narrative to: Why did he attack her? Why are men violent against women?”* she questioned.

The murder of Sarah Everard in March 2021 brought this issue to the forefront. However, as Niamh’s and many other women’s experiences illustrate, this is not a new problem. Women have been navigating these dangers for years, often altering their behaviour and routines to stay safe.

The new government has promised to prioritise tackling violence against women and girls. Preliminary analysis by Women in Data shows that 70% of women in the UK have experienced harassment or a crime incident in the last three years.

In response to a growing outcry for change, Phillips reiterated the government’s commitment to tackling violence against women and girls, pledging to halve instances within the next decade. This will involve preventive measures through education and awareness, focusing on relationship and respect education in schools, and a robust approach to prosecuting perpetrators.

ITV News, in collaboration with market research consultancy Savanta, conducted the survey between April 9 and 12, 2024.









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