

# The Twickenham Tribune

## Friendship and Cooperation in Europe Belgian Village on the Thames

East Twickenham Centennial  
Group at Warren Gardens, East  
Twickenham

Memorial Unveiling Ceremony  
in association with Keith Wait  
and The Stage Company

1st April

Reflection by Thomas Forsythe



“Des souvenirs naviguent en moi tel un navire sur la rivière”. These words, beautifully carved by a Belgian stonemason, grace a bluestone obelisk that now stands proudly by the River Thames. But what are these memories that, like a boat, drift along the river?

In August 1914, the German army invaded Belgium, which had refused the army passage to attack France. These events, which triggered the involvement of Britain in this tragic war, led to thousands of refugees fleeing Belgium. Many of these settled in Twickenham. Amongst them was Charles Pelabon, an industrialist, with a large number of his workforce and their families, who set up a munitions factory by the Thames. This building was later to become the Richmond Ice Rink.



On 1st April, a moving ceremony took place in the gardens, downstream of Richmond Bridge, that Pelabon had left as a thank-you to the people of Twickenham, and now all that remains of Pelabon's physical legacy, following the shameful loss of Richmond Ice Rink twenty-five years ago. At this ceremony,

the Belgian Ambassador to the UK unveiled this fittingly simple and graceful monument to the resilience of the Belgian refugees and their friendship with the people of Twickenham.

There is much coverage of the event from the historical and societal point of view, but within the remit of these arts review pages, this piece reflects on the contributions in poetry and prose, and in music made to the ceremony. The magnificent and colourful presence of the Royal Military School of Music brought a formal dignity to the ceremony. The band of thirty musicians from



### Contents

Belgian Memorial  
Local Post Cards  
Twickenham Riverside  
Twickers Foodie  
Competitions  
Arts and Entertainment  
Reviews  
Bloody Belgian Beer  
Winning Photos SHGC  
Police News  
Belgian USA Connection  
Moscow State Circus  
Film Festival  
St Mary's – Marathon Des  
Sables  
Charity Run  
Solum Update

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Kneller Hall looked resplendent in the intermittent spring sunshine. At noon the band's fanfare started the event with a definitive flourish.

Silence, then the opening poem, Sonnet on the Belgian Expatriation by Thomas Hardy. It describes Belgium as "the Land of Chimes" and describes the poet's dream of the refugees bringing their own



church bells to England so that they "might solace souls of this and kindred climes" before awakening to the reality of the bells being shattered shards. Our reader, from DramaCube, was 11 years old Milly Stephens. Her confident, well projected voice and clear diction showed the full beauty of the assonance of Hardy's phrasing, "stir and stress", "starlit silentness", and imbued the poem with its meaning and sense of bitterly nostalgic irony.

The inscription on the memorial was then read out by four young children from England and Belgium. The inscription had been composed by the then 9 years old Issy Holton, whose wording was chosen from ideas submitted by pupils of Orleans Primary School. It was to this school that the majority of the Belgian children went a century and more ago.

All these children also spoke with great assurance and clarity. Issy Holton herself, now 12 years old, read the English version, "Memories flow through me like a boat flows down the river", a gentle flowing rhythm in itself. A Flemish translation was read in duet by Louis de Pauw (8½) and Amber Sourbron (11), a remarkable trilingual pair, perfectly in unison, "De stroom van herinneringen glijdt door me heen zoals een boot over het water". The word "herinneringen" rang like the chimes of Hardy's sonnet. The French translation, "Des souvenirs naviguent en moi tel un navire sur la rivière" was read by 9 year old Elodie Butler, again with great beauty, lucidity and authority.



Then yet another treat, this time a choir of 7 to 11 year olds from Orleans Primary School, singing a traditional Belgian nursery song, Green Swans, White Swans, but to everyone's surprise in Flemish! The accuracy and fluency of these children's pronunciation was remarked on by the Flemish speakers present. Singing a capella, the musicality of these children's voices also attracted the warmest of praise ... ..



See the full article at [markaspen.wordpress.com/2017/04/05/friendship-and-cooperation-in-europe-belgian-village-on-the-thames](http://markaspen.wordpress.com/2017/04/05/friendship-and-cooperation-in-europe-belgian-village-on-the-thames)

(Left) Descendants of "Teddie" (Edouard) Labeye were presented with a bottle of Bloody Belgian beer featuring his story, as well as a copy of *The Fallen of St Mary's Parish Twickenham 1914-18* which also featured an ancestor.

Photo by Sue and Jeremy Hamilton-Miller

View the Belgium gallery [www.worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Belgium](http://www.worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Belgium)

# THE LOCAL POSTCARD PAGE

## PART 17 – LYRIC PALACE CINEMA AND THE ROYAL OAK PUB

By Alan Winter

Last week our postcard journey around the “Borough of Twickenham” as was, looked at the Gaiety Cinema by Richmond Bridge. If we get on the tram back towards Twickenham Junction and get off at York House we find ourselves opposite the Lyric Palace Cinema which opened in 1911. Our first postcard dates from 1928 and shows the tram lines with trams approaching this fascinating piece of cinematic architecture. This building will shortly open as the Eel Pie Museum following years as a snooker hall and the parking shop.



Our postcard also shows the much missed Royal Oak standing on the corner of Oak Lane. This was once a proper pub until it mysteriously went through a couple of failed iterations before becoming the “Moncrieff and Stokes” which always seems empty when I pass, except for Rugby days of course.

The Royal Oak is also the subject of our second postcard this week. I fondly remember the public bar which was on the Oak Lane side of the building hosting many keenly fought darts matches in the 60’s and 70’s. Norman Parkinson (1903-1990) one of the 20th century’s best known fashion photographers who lived locally, was often to be seen having his lunch time pie and a pint in the saloon bar. My step- grandmother Alice Kearns was his house- keeper for many years. She proudly made an appearance on This Is Your Life when Norman Parkinson was the programme’s subject back in the 1970’s. We will deal with the Gaumont Cinema which stands opposite the pub in this 1950’s postcard in a future issue.

If you have any postcards to dispose of, any comments on this subject, or ideas for future articles, please drop me a line at

[alanwinter192@hotmail.com](mailto:alanwinter192@hotmail.com)



# TWICKENHAM RIVERSIDE

3.050+ have signed the twickenhamlido.com petition and left comments. Around 300 have voted for the plan which the Council wish to take to Planning

B.K, Twickenham, United Kingdom

Reason for signing

*As someone who went to school in the area, and even now still lives nearby, I believe that the lack of entertainment and leisure facilities in Twickenham is a real loss to the town as a whole. Currently, if anyone in the area i know wants to go out somewhere other than a pub, we all have to go to Kingston! To have somewhere so much closer and more accessible and sensitive to local community would be a great boon for the town*

READ THE COUNCIL REPORT [www.richmond.gov.uk/twickenham\\_rediscovered\\_consultation\\_survey.pdf](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/twickenham_rediscovered_consultation_survey.pdf)

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Can we remember when our towns: Twickenham, Teddington, Whitton etc became “villages”? A quick look on the internet assures us that a village is larger than a hamlet but smaller than a town.

Likewise when did the Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) become the ‘Community’ Parking Zone?

Why is the Council changing the use of words which have a universal meaning?

The latest is the Council’s promotion of Richmond’s ‘Outside Lido’ – Pools on the Park outside swimming pool; by its very definition a lido is outside!

Is this semantic change or just another example of “the Council knows best”?



**TwickerSeal** meets a resident of Twickenham Riverside’s *Four Seasons Insect Hotel*, located at the ‘Sunshine Terrace’

The hotel, built to much acclaim in 2014, is threatened with demolition once the council starts the ‘redevelopment’ of Twickenham Riverside.

# Twickers Foodie

## Chocolate – A Taste Of The Proper Stuff

By Alison Jee

We are soon to be indulging in the commercial 'chocfest' that Easter, sadly, seems to have become. Children, of course, love Easter eggs, but they tend to be a very expensive way of buying chocolate. For adults, you are generally much better buying some decent quality bars of chocolate and giving those, maybe wrapping in a bright yellow ribbon. Not only is it better value for money, but unless you indulge in a super premium egg, you are likely to enjoy much better chocolate.

So how does one judge good chocolate? This week I was invited to help judge The Academy of Chocolate Awards, now in their ninth year.

The Academy of Chocolate defines fine chocolate as:

- containing no vegetable fat other than cocoa butter
- with a minimum cocoa content of: Dark 60%; Milk 30%; White 30% (cocoa butter)
- where the quality, provenance and treatment of the cocoa beans have been considered
- containing no artificial additives such as vanillin, flavourings, colourings, preservatives, etc.

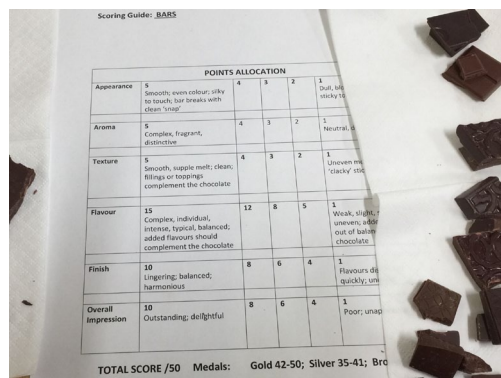
The Academy believes that giving people the chance to savour and to learn about fine chocolate will give them a greater appreciation and therefore anticipation for more 'proper' chocolate. 'Proper' comes from a myriad of factors including the variety of the beans, where they are grown, the fermentation process, the drying and the manufacturers recipe and methods, not just chocolate with high cocoa solids.

It is good to see that even some of the cheaper supermarkets are now selling chocolate defined by its country of origin and cocoa content. Ideally, chocolate should contain a minimum cocoa content of 60+% for dark and 30+% for milk. For white chocolate, 30% cocoa butter content has become the norm for better quality bars.

These Awards attract entries from producers all over the world and recognise some of the world's finest chocolates. Last year there were some 500 entries and this year the judges

have to taste about 900! The Academy of Chocolate and a panel of international journalists, chefs, pastry chefs, plus other experts in chocolate and food judge the entries, paying particular attention to the appearance, depth of aroma, flavour, length and complexity of the chocolate.

Once you have discovered the pleasure, complexity, richness and taste sensations in fine chocolate, you'll never look at, or buy, chocolate the same way again.



POINTS ALLOCATION					
Appearance	5	4	3	2	1
Smooth, even colour; silky to touch; bar breaks with clean 'snap'					
Aroma	5	4	3	2	1
Complex, fragrant, distinctive					
Texture	5	4	3	2	1
Smooth, supple melt; clean fillings or toppings complement the chocolate					
Flavour	15	12	8	5	1
Complex, individual, intense, typical, balanced; added flavours should complement the chocolate					
Finish	10	8	6	4	1
Lingering, balanced, harmonious					
Overall Impression	10	8	6	4	1
Outstanding; delightful					
TOTAL SCORE /50 Medals: Gold 42-50; Silver 35-41; Bro					



# Offers and Competitions

## The Twickenham Tribune Easter Egg Hunt

Win a case (24) of “Bloody Belgian” beer



To win find the small version of the Easter egg (shown left), which is hidden somewhere in the paper. Email to [win@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:win@TwickenhamTribune.com) and in the subject line put Belgian and the page number where you found the egg.

Competition closes 12 noon Friday 21st April. Another egg will be hidden in the next edition.

*All contestants must be over 18*

For more about Bloody Belgian see article in this edition.



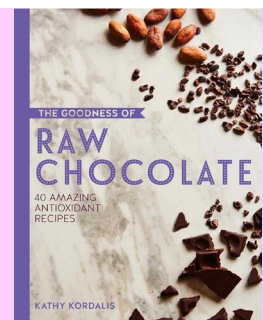
Winner of a bottle of  
Bodegas La Val Orballo Albariño  
from Warren Wines, 56 Church St, Twickenham

The lucky winner is **Vicky Phillips from TW11**



Winner of a copy of *The Goodness of Raw Chocolate*.

The lucky winner is **Lucy Leach of TW1**



WINNER of half a case of wine from  
Premier Wine

The lucky winner, Karen Burke from TW1, collected her prize today from Premier Wine.

56 Tower Rd, Twickenham TW1 4PE  
[www.premierwine.co.uk/twickenham](http://www.premierwine.co.uk/twickenham)



# Arts and Entertainment

by Erica White

**THE TWICKENHAM MUSEUM** hosts The East Twickenham Centennial Exhibition commemorating the 6000 WW! Belgian Refugees who created the 'Belgian Village on the Thames' in East Twickenham where they worked at the Pelabon Munitions Works on the site of the old skating rink. This fascinating, relatively unknown until recently, piece of local history makes for an absorbing exhibition at the Museum on the Embankment between St Mary's Church and the slipway. Open from Saturday, 8 April on Tuesdays & Saturdays, 11.00-3.00pm and Sundays, 2.00-4.00pm. Admission free.

**THE EEL PIE ISLAND MUSEUM**, has already announced its presence in the old Gaumont Cinema, used currently by the local Chamber of Commerce, (opposite the municipal offices and York House, with its lively window decoration. Its opening has not yet been announced, but watch this space.

Continuing programmes for rock and jazz enthusiasts take place at the



**TRY TWICKENHAM BID BUSINESSES PRESENT**

# TryCycle

Twickenham

## FREE FAMILY FUN DAY

SUNDAY 7TH MAY 1-5PM

MINI GRAND PRIX CIRCUIT	FREE FACE PAINTING & GIVEAWAYS
BMX FLATLANDS	BEER TENT & FOOD STALLS
CIRCUS SKILLS WORKSHOPS	JOSH THE BALLOON MAN
MR PHOEBUS PENNY FARTHING RIDES FOR ALL AGES	ACTIVITY DISPLAYS ON STAGE
BIKE SMOOTHIES - WHIZZ UP YOUR VERY OWN AS YOU CYCLE!	STILT WALKERS
	DECORATE A BISCUIT
	RADIO JACKIE

Join us for an afternoon of TryCycle fun at the Embankment and Diamond Jubilee Gardens on Twickenham's Riverside. There are lots of free action-packed activities suitable for all the family, so bring your bikes and scooters along (or borrow one of ours) and earn a TryCycle medal on our Mini Grand Prix!



**TRY Twickenham BID Businesses** [www.trytwickenham.com](http://www.trytwickenham.com) for more information and updates

Cabbage Patch pub, Twickenham. **TWICKFOLK** are regularly there on Sunday at 7.45. Next session is on 9 April when **THE REBECCA BRONSKY DUO (USA)** play: on 16 April its **EASTER SINGERS NIGHT** (unplugged sing around).

Also at the above venue, **THE EEL PIE CLUB** regularly entertain on Thursdays. Next session 20 April, door open 8.30 for 9.15 start. **JOE JAMMER'S ALL-STAR CHICAGO BLUES REVUE**.

**TWICKENHAM JAZZ CLUB** meet on Tuesdays, 8.00-11.00pm in the Patchworks Bar at above venue. Next session is on 11 April when **STUART HENDERSON** pays tribute to the finest Jazz Trumpeters with **THE PETE BILLINGTON TRIO**.

Photographers may be interested to visit The Landmark Arts Centre, TW11 9NN where the [RICHMOND AND TWICKENHAM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY ANNUAL EXHIBITION](#) continues to Easter Monday, 17 April. Open every day, 10.30-5.30pm. Admission £2.

Following at The Landmark Arts Centre, Friday 21-Sunday 23 April, [TWICKENHAM ART CIRCLE](#) mount their [SPRING EXHIBITION](#), offering a huge range of affordable art in wide variety of media. Admission free. Info: [twickenhamartcircle.org.uk](http://twickenhamartcircle.org.uk)

Interest is mounting for the forthcoming production of [WHEN STRAWBERRIES ARE NOT ENOUGH](#), “a highly charged new musical exposing the realities of the deadly illness, Anorexia.

The message is hopeful in this personal account by local Teddington playwright and former sufferer. The production is at Hampton Hill Theatre, TW12 1NZ, April 25-29, GTickets £11-15, Box Office: 07957 368644 or

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/GGIKLJ](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/GGIKLJ)

This perfect spring weather is ideal for gardeners for whom their window box is just not enough and who want to offer their services to the maintenance of the outdoor space around The Landmark Art Centre. Just drop around there on Saturday, 9 April, 10-1.00, or contact [tim@landmark.org.uk](mailto:tim@landmark.org.uk). Refreshments, of course!



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*(eTree surgery)*  
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darryl parkin

The Treehouse  
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Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9LY  
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Mobile 07960 123580  
Fax 020 8274 0119  
info@thetreeagency.co.uk  
www.thetreeagency.co.uk



# Prescription for Murder

## Staines Players

Stanwell Village Hall, 29th March to 1st April

Review by Eleanor Lewis

My mum was the whodunit expert in our house, her library haul was easily identifiable by the titles: *Death Comes Calling*, *The Body in the Library*, *Murder for Two* etc. I haven't really inherited her skill. I usually haven't got a clue except in Agatha Christies where the killer is always the person who couldn't possibly have done it, and the easier 'guilt by casting' in a lot of TV crime i.e. if you spot a celebrity-status actor in what appears to be a fairly minor role then they usually turn out to be the killer (if they're not, their agent has lost interest). So I approached Staines' Players production of *Prescription for Murder* quite happily assuming I would enjoy it without having the faintest idea who had done what to whom.



The play's action takes place in the living room of Doctor and Mrs Forth. Mrs Forth is continually ill with a series of unidentifiable afflictions and Dr Forth seems to have a slightly shady, possibly suspicious past. A series of other characters arrive and depart the living room planting clues and generally misleading the audience. Amanda Stuart as the doctor's wife was convincing as a woman gradually weakening from a series of small, vague illnesses but keeping her chin up, and Wendy Cann as her friend Dorothy, again, wholly believable and real.



Perhaps most endearing in this production were the Haighs, Mary and her hen-pecked but not quite defeated husband Allan. These performances were both highly entertaining and subtle. Roger Simmons as Allan, drew the audience right into his corner where they were rooting for every one of his small victories over his overbearing wife. Val Clayton as Mary, who shut poor Allan up at every available opportunity still managed to bring out Mary's softer, kinder self. These roles are often just played for laughs, but Allan and Mary in this production were also authentic, recognisable people, a tribute to Lynne Percival's mature direction and Clayton and Simmons' acting skills ... ..

See full review at:

[www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2017/04/04/drug-abuse-prescription-for-murder](http://www.markaspen.wordpress.com/2017/04/04/drug-abuse-prescription-for-murder)



Mark Aspen

[www.markaspenwordpress.com](http://www.markaspenwordpress.com)

Expressing the art of the theatre critic

# “Bloody Belgian” Beer

Belgian-born Tom De Nert, who lives in Twickenham, produced the “Bloody Belgian Beer” for the unveiling ceremony of the Belgian memorial last Saturday.

Belgium is famous for its wide variety of beers and so Tom decided to bring over some Belgian beer for the occasion.

In fact Belgian beer is so well known that last year it was added to the UNESCO Cultural Heritage List. Around this time a brewer in Bruges started to operate an underground beer pipeline which takes beer directly from his brewery to a bottling plant. The pipeline is two miles long and carries four thousand litres of beer in an hour.



The Bloody Belgian bottles have four separate stories on the back label, which are:



**“Justin Wallon”** made the Twickenham-Richmond Belgian community famous in his little book “Une Cité Belge sur la Tamise” (“A Belgian City on the Thames”). But Justin Wallon didn’t exist! He was really Paul Gérardy, a writer and poet, born in the German-speaking Belgium but brought up in Walloon-speaking Liège (hence his pseudonym!). Despite his privileged background, Gérardy worked on the shopfloor at the Pelabon Amunition Factory to support himself and to contribute to the war effort. Though passionately patriotic, Gérardy worked at all times for reconciliation between classes, language groups and nations.



**Julia Billiau** – Julia and her husband Alfons fled Belgium with their two babies and Julia’s mother and lived in a refugee camp in Holland. They had no money and little food. In 1915 she and Alfons went to England, leaving the babies with their grandmother. Alfons quickly found work at the Pelabon Works in Twickenham, but Julia made sure to meet him at the factory gate to ward off the disreputable ladies who waited for the workmen as they left. Later on, Julia too found work at the factory, where she made primers for artillery cases. Lucky for Julia she did not work with explosives: those who did went yellow and were called “canary girls”.



**“Teddie” (Edouard) Labeye** – Teddie, youngest of six brothers, did not leave Antwerp when the Germans first arrived, but the family business quickly collapsed. He slipped out of Belgium with four of his brothers, his two sisters, their mother and a baby, and came to England. All the brothers took work on the shop-floor of the Pelabon Munitions factory in Twickenham. Teddie met one of the few English workers at the factory, Nellie Hammerton, the daughter of a family of famous Twickenham watermen. Teddie and Nellie married in 1922, and lived happily in Belgium with their son.



**Joseph and Karel van Wetering** – Antwerp brothers Joseph and Karel Van Wetering were both in the Belgian Army and both were wounded in battle. Recovered but were unfit to return to the front, they were posted in turn to the Pelabon Munitions Works in Twickenham. In 1916, Joseph was killed in an accident at Twickenham Railway Goods Yard, crushed between a locomotive and a trailer. Charles then supported Karel’s widow, but unbelievably he too was killed a year later inside the factory, crushed beneath a 9 yard long metal box. Both brothers were regarded as still on active service, and they were buried in Twickenham Cemetery with full military honours.

Photo winner for March is Con O'Brien from TW2  
with his photo 'The White Swan'



## Monthly Photography Competition

Win an 18 hole round of golf for 4 at Strawberry Hill Golf Club  
With a glass of wine or beer at the bar afterwards

Email your photo to [win@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:win@TwickenhamTribune.com)  
(include your name and postcode) All 4 players must play the same round.

Photos of pets or wildlife, or any scenes taken within the local villages, ie Twickenham, St Margaret's, East Twickenham, Strawberry Hill, Teddington, Hampton Wick, Hampton, Hampton Hill and Whitton/Heathfield

This competition is run in conjunction with [Strawberry Hill Golf Club www.shgc.net](http://www.shgc.net)



### STRAWBERRY HILL GOLF CLUB



## ADULT GOLF ACADEMY

for returning/new/  
novice golfers

The Academy leads to full membership and includes:

- Instruction based package
- Individual and group lessons
- Rules and etiquette
- Social membership
- Access to golf course

For further information:

- Club Manager: Jon Wright 020 8894 0165
- Professional: Peter Buchan 07795 973926



**Strawberry Hill Golf Club**  
Wellesley Road, Strawberry Hill, Twickenham TW2 5SD  
**Tel: Club Manager 020 8894 0165**  
**Email: [secretary@shgc.net](mailto:secretary@shgc.net)**  
**To find out more visit: [www.shgc.net](http://www.shgc.net)**



# Robbery at Arthur's Pizza for the 2nd time

Arthurs, The Green, Twickenham

On 26th March an unknown person smashed through the rear wooden door to Arthur's, and also through the wooden door to the store room where the safe is kept. The safe was removed and stolen, including the weekly takings inside the safe.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SPRING 2017 KNOWLEDGE NIGHTS

PLEASE JOIN US AGAIN FOR OUR NEXT ROUND OF POPULAR KNOWLEDGE NIGHTS TO BE HELD:-  
Thursday 27th April - 1900-2100 @ The Salon, York House, Twickenham

### Agenda

1. "Slipping Through the Net – the challenges of addressing street drinking and homelessness"
2. (PC Dean SMITH and Joe CHAPMAN)
3. "The Sex Offenders Register - What's it all about?"
4. (DC Dave SIMMS, DC Toni BENN, PC Amanda CORR and PC Smudge SMITH)
5. The perils of 'Cold Callers' and how to deal with them
6. (PCSO Pete DONALDSON)
7. Crime Prevention Update
8. Questions and Answers



**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**

Knowledge Nights are aimed at raising awareness

amongst our NHW members about various aspects of local policing and crime that may affect or interest them.

Please let Carole Atkinson know if you wish to attend as the venues have a limited capacity.

[carolemlatkinson@gmail.com](mailto:carolemlatkinson@gmail.com)

## Turning Earth

Have a go at throwing on the wheel with ceramics tutors Jane and Anne and then use local clays to decorate your work.

They will be outside and located in a garden so wrap up if it's chilly!

Suitable for EVERYONE!

When: Saturday 8 April 10am - 4pm

Where: 31, Richmond Road, Twickenham, London TW1 2AB

Booking: Drop-in

[www.craftscouncil.org.uk/listings/hey-clay-at-31-richmond-road-london](http://www.craftscouncil.org.uk/listings/hey-clay-at-31-richmond-road-london)



Hey Clay! is a Crafts Council national celebration of clay which aims to give people across the UK the chance to unleash their inner potter. Hey Clay! will take place during the nationwide Get Creative weekend from 7-9 April.

# Yo Ho Ho-ing All the Way Home

## Peter Pan Jr

After J.M. Barrie

Dramacube Productions, at Hampton Hill Theatre, 6th to 8th April

Review by Georgia Renwick

Though they may act like it sometimes, deep down, no child (or adult!) really wants to grow up, so what musical production more fitting to stage with the younger ones than Peter Pan? The children can fly as fairies, sparkle as mermaids, run wild as lost boys and as fearsome pirates, fight with cutlasses and fantasise about slitting throats, while us adults indulge in a little harmless escapism! To Neverland!

Dramacube Productions' two troops of students from Twickenham and Hampton Hill have been working hard on tonight's production of Peter Pan all term, so the excitement of their families and friends waiting excitedly in the auditorium is palpable. Some have even brought flowers, and some pass on 'good luck' messages to their children, waiting impatiently in the wings. Tonight, Hampton Hill Playhouse truly has the buzz about it of a West End first night! Each troop gets two nights each this week to put all their hard work into practice, some of the larger roles are shared between two students, so they each have their own night to shine.

The hard work has paid off and director Stephen Leslie, his Dramacube team and of course the stars, the children, have collectively have produced a highly entertaining and polished production.

The script and book are a pairing of the play by J.M. Barrie and the Disney Musical, with additional lyrics and dialogue added to give it a few high-spirited modern twists. A not-so-wet Wendy observes sagely that Peter is actually rather "conceited", and we have some fun with Tinkerbell, who can communicate only with us, the audience, and is often misunderstood by her fellows onstage, with whom she can only communicate using bells. Meanwhile a morose "rogue and peasant Hook" continually slips Hamlet's soliloquies into his speeches, "feeling poetic, Cap'n?" Smee asks innocently, whenever this happens. Of course, it falls to two children to play the boring grown-ups but it is hard to take Mr Darling seriously when Wendy is a head taller than him! It just adds to the fun ... ..



See full review at  
[markaspen.wordpress.com/2017/04/07/peter-pan-jr](http://markaspen.wordpress.com/2017/04/07/peter-pan-jr)



Mark Aspen

[www.markaspenwordpress.com](http://www.markaspenwordpress.com)

Expressing the art of the theatre critic

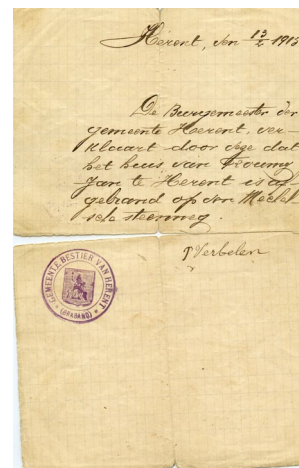
# The Belgian - Twickenham - USA Refugee Connection

by Mia McLelland, Tennessee

The Twickenham Tribune's US Correspondent

On Saturday April 1st, 2017, the East Twickenham Centennial Group honored the memory of Belgian refugees who lived and worked in the area during the First World War. My husband, Steve, and I traveled from Tennessee in the United States to honor and remember my grandmother, Irma Froumy de Napoli, and four of her sisters, all of whom were blessed by the generosity and kindness of the people of East Twickenham and Richmond over 100 years ago.

In the late summer of 1914, the German army marched into the Brabant region of Belgium, bringing the horrors of war to the peaceful countryside. The destruction of the area, homes and businesses burned, civilians and soldiers killed. My great-grandfather, Jan Froumy, decided to send his 5 daughters to safety in England as the family home was one of those burned in the attack in August.



Verification of the burning of the family home in Herent, Brabant, Belgium (right).

In mid February 1915, three of the sisters began their trip via Holland. Irma (my grandmother) and her younger sisters, Virginie & Aline traveled separately from their sisters Sylvie and Rosalia. Jean, his wife Barbe Isabella and the youngest son August remained in Belgium as did an older married sister, Maria Froumy Van Doren.



Requesting permission to travel to Holland to work (left).  
Authorization to travel for Irma, Virginie and Aline (right).



Not much is yet known about their journey from Belgium to England, but by October 1915, the sisters were in the Richmond/ East Twickenham area of England where my grandmother, Irma, was employed by the Pelabon Works munitions factory as a bookkeeper.



Pelabon Works ID card (right).

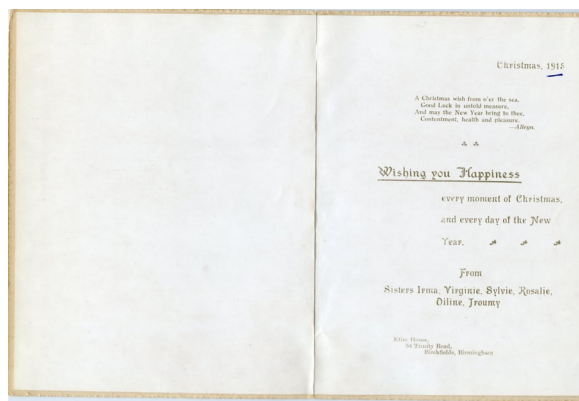


Irma, Virginie & Aline portrait (left).

By December of 1915, the five sisters were reunited and living in Birmingham, England living at the Elim House on Trinity Road. They sought word of the welfare of their family throughout 1916 and 1917 but also carried on with daily life.



Christmas card 1915 (*right*).



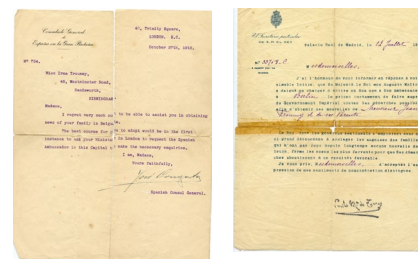
Irma, Virginie, Sylvie, Rosa & Aline with an unknown man (*left*).

Southall Charford Mills (*right*).



The sisters remained in England for the duration of the war and thankfully all were eventually reunited with their parents and siblings in Belgium at the end of the war.

Christmas card, undated, and correspondence (*right*).



The English people were gracious and generous hosts to thousands of Belgian refugees during this difficult time and continue this tradition with the unveiling of the monument on Saturday. We look forward to future visits as we learn more about the sisters' wartime residence in England.

Rosalia was the first sister to emigrate to the United States, first to New York and eventually to Florida. My Grandmother, Irma, went to Canada, Cuba and the United States, finally settling in New York in the 1950's. Sisters Virginie & Aline remained in Belgium, suffering through the Second World War before finally emigrating to the United States in the 1950's. The oldest sister, Maria, remained in Belgium and the youngest brother, August made his way to the US. Sadly, sister Sylvie died in Belgium in 1922.



The sisters posed for a photo in the late 1980's; Irma, Virginie, Rosalia & Aline late 1980's (*above right*). Sylvie Froumy (*above left*).



## North Teddington Controlled Parking Zone launched

A new controlled parking zone (CPZ) has now been launched in Teddington following a public consultation by Richmond Council.

The changes include an increase in the hours of the CPZ in Waldegrave Road and a new CPZ in a number of roads north of Teddington High Street. Richmond Council says that feedback from residents taken at the time of the consultation, which was carried out last year, showed support for both measures which were designed to alleviate congestion and parking pressure.

The changes include:

- Extension of the operational hours of Zone T in Waldegrave Road to 10am to 4.30pm, Mon-Fri. This includes a change of three permit holder spaces to free short stay visitor parking spaces (1 hour max stay) outside No 8 Waldegrave Road to provide some turnover parking.
- A new Controlled Parking Zone (Zone T1) operating from 10am to 4.30pm, Mon to Fri in Arlington Road, Cambridge Road (between Teddington Park and Teddington Park Road), Chatsworth Place, Claremont Road, Teddington Park, Teddington Park Road and Woodville Close.

## Teddington Theatre Club's next production in the Coward Studio at Hampton Hill Theatre will be Martin McDonagh's **THE PILLOWMAN** A dark fable where not all fairytales have a happy ending

Directed by Kelly Wood

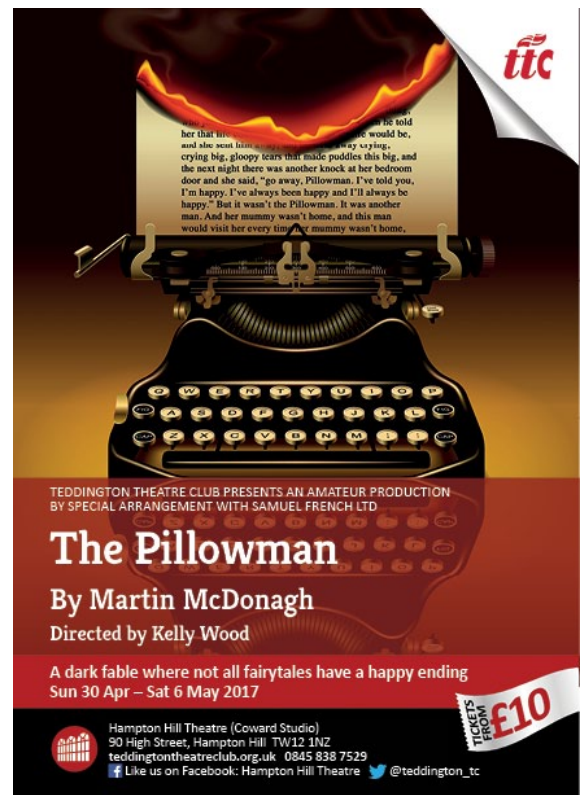
When a writer is interrogated about several child murders, the similarity between their deaths and the content of his short stories seem to scream his guilt. When his brother points the finger of blame in his direction, surely he must accept his fate? A viciously disturbing, Olivier Award-winning play that blends dark fiction and even darker reality to devastating comic effect.

Warning: not suitable for anyone under 16 years of age

Playing dates: Sunday April 30th – Saturday May 6th

Performance times: Sunday 6pm, Weekdays 7.45pm

Ticket Prices: £10.00 & £12.00

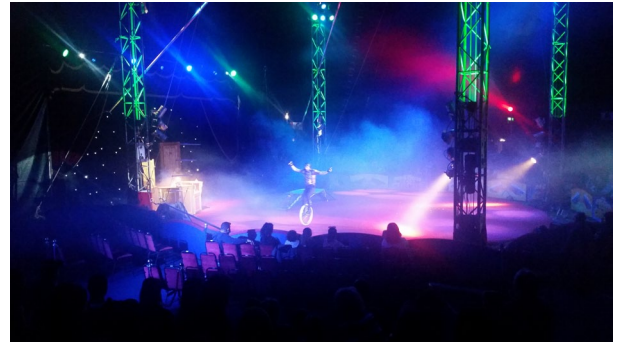


Box Office: Telephone: 0845 838 7529 (10am to 8pm)

Online: [ttc-boxoffice.org.uk](http://ttc-boxoffice.org.uk)

Website link: [www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk/production/the-pillowman](http://www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk/production/the-pillowman)





Ten sets of family tickets were donated to readers of The Twickenham Tribune by the Moscow State Circus

Photos below by one of the winners, Alex Stovold



## Moscow State Circus

I just wanted to thank you for the tickets to the Moscow State Circus - we went yesterday and it was a fantastic family evening - the performers were incredibly talented and our children had huge smiles on their faces throughout!

I'm attaching a couple of pictures from the show.

Best regards  
Alex Stovold

# St Mary's University, Twickenham Update

## Follow St Mary's physiotherapist on his 250km run

Setting yourself a challenge means different things to different people. For St Mary's physiotherapist Rory Brown it means running 250km in the desert over Easter. The Marathon des Sables (MdS) is an annual event attracting over a 1000 like-minded individuals from around the world to Morocco, where they take on the heat and sand dunes of the Sahara.



So far, Rory has completed training runs across Box Hill and the North Downs, running over 30 miles a day consecutively. Rory has been ticking training goals off every week, and with the race start-date looming, we caught up with him to see how his training schedule and nerves were holding up.

“My training is on track for the race date and it has been a good but tough few weeks: I am managing to keep the momentum and training going. I have completed some more long runs on bridle-paths and bye-ways, ensuring I have been training on a good mix of terrain, and with the harsh windy conditions brought by Storm Doris, I have been able to tick off another one of my training ‘should do’s’.

For this week's training I mimicked the MdS by undertaking ‘medium sized’ runs on the first three days and a ‘long run’ on the fourth, followed by one recovery day and finally two further medium runs on the last two days: totalling over 130miles. That mileage is more than I have ever done before, but sticking to a nice steady pace and holding back to run the following day seems to have worked well.

Admittedly, this was a reality check as to the challenge ahead. By the fourth day my legs were extremely tired and heavy and, although long, the distance I ran was not nearly as far as I may have to cover in the desert. It was a definite struggle. The recovery day did its job though and on the last two days I felt ‘okay’ again.

Another ‘to do’ is to complete my long runs with a race weight pack. In the marathon I will have to carry all my equipment with me, including food, water and kit, totalling on average 6-10kg. Equally, I need to complete runs in the heat chamber, available at St Mary's University, which I now have booked in during the two weeks before the start of the race. I am looking forward to working with the physiologists and hopefully seeing and feeling the effects of adaptation as I run in the heat.

On the planning side, I am still working on creating balanced food provisions for each day, bearing in mind I have to carry my own supplies. The minimum requirement is to carry 2,000 calories for each day, although with the running time and heat this will be way below calories used. Some studies of the MdS suggest around 2,800 calories per day is required for you to perform effectively and have your most successful race, regardless of whether you are at the front, middle or back of the pack. The challenge is to remember that I am not just adding up a calorie list, but that the food needs to be relatively enjoyable, edible in the heat and maintains a good nutritional intake. I have particularly found breakfasts to be quite difficult to get through, although these provisions have a good calorie count: it all needs to balance out.

The other key area is specific kit items. I have started using soft water bottles and drinking through a tube, which I have found very comfortable when worn on the chest with strap holders. My shoe choice for the race has just about been made, and now I need to take them to a cobbler and get velcro attached to use with the sand gaiters, which is an essential item to try and protect my feet and stopping my shoes filling with sand in the desert! More interestingly, I now own an anti-venom pump... this was a mandatory piece of equipment for the race which I certainly hope I never have to use! It doesn't fill me with confidence.

There does still seem a lot to do but everything is going to plan and at this point I just want to get there and start the race!”



View the Morocco gallery

[www.worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Morocco](http://www.worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Morocco)



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London

# TWICKENHAM ALIVE FILM FESTIVAL 2017



Thanks to Try Twickenham for their sponsorship



The first Twickenham Alive Film Festival, was launched in 2012, and the awards ceremony took place in 2013. The original theme “Where We Live” has been widened to allow a more varied entry criteria, although films are limited to a maximum of 10 minutes.

## Film of the week

Entries come from all over the borough and this week we are showing

### CATEGORY: ANIMATION

By Alban Low

### TWICKENHAM JAZZ CLUB SKETCHBOOK

Running time 2' 35”

Artist Alban Low has spent the past two years sketching at the world class Twickenham Jazz Club. Here he opens up his sketchbook revealing 30 living and exciting drawings that reflect the music and the club itself.

## Festival is now open for entries

To make an entry contact

[film@twickenhamalive.com](mailto:film@twickenhamalive.com)

[www.twickenhamfilmfestival.com](http://www.twickenhamfilmfestival.com)



Click image to view film

# Local lecturers to run 70 miles from University of Portsmouth to St Mary's University in Twickenham



Nikki who lives in Twickenham is doing something pretty inspiring next week: she's running all the way from Portsmouth University to St Mary's University in Twickenham in order to raise awareness of blood and stem cell donation, and to encourage people to become donors.

Nikki works as a lecturer at the St Mary's

University, and is running with her friend Bernie. They've been training for months and have pounded the pavements come rain or shine, all in preparation for running the 70 long miles – across the 10th and 11th April.



## STRAWBERRY HILL GOLF CLUB

### ADULT ACADEMY OPEN AFTERNOON

Sat 15th April  
1pm-4pm

- Free Coaching Sessions
- Bar Open All Afternoon
- Club Tour
- Contact our Manager, Jon Wright, to book your place or for further information

#### Strawberry Hill Golf Club

Wellesley Road, Strawberry Hill, Twickenham TW2 5SD

Tel: Manager 0208 894 0165

Email: [secretary@shgc.net](mailto:secretary@shgc.net)

To find out more visit [www.shgc.net](http://www.shgc.net)



You can find out more about their Blood, Sweat and Tears challenge at:

[www.bstchallenge.co.uk](http://www.bstchallenge.co.uk) and via their Just Giving page: [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/bstchallenge](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/bstchallenge).

Both, in part, have been motivated to run by their friend, Alex. Alex from Shepperton worked at Portsmouth University and was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia in 2015, aged 28. Very sadly she died earlier this year, but not before making a huge difference to a great many people via her inspirational blog: [alexisallin.com](http://alexisallin.com)

Nikki in particular sees the challenge as a testament to Alex's life and bravery.

# RICHMOND FILM SOCIETY COMPETITION



WIN a pair of tickets to any of the films in the remaining part of the season, listed here

## COMPETITION QUESTION:

Which country has won the most Best Foreign Language Film Oscars?

A) Italy, B) Spain

Send your answers to [win@twickenhamtribune.com](mailto:win@twickenhamtribune.com)  
Please put your answer in the email subject.



WORLD CINEMA

## April 11 Marguerite (France)

In 1920s Paris, Marguerite Dumont, a wealthy woman, and lover of music and opera, loves to sing for her friends although she's not a good singer. The problem begins when she decides to perform in front of a real audience. The original remade by Hollywood as Florence Foster Jenkins.

## April 25 Sing Street (UK-Ireland)

A schoolboy forms a band to try and impress a girl. Set in 1985 Dublin, this uplifting musical comedy from the director of 'Once' is an homage to the music and fashion of the '80s.

Films are in the original version and will be subtitled. Location St Mary's University, Room G5 with the screening starting at 8:00.

[www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk](http://www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk)

The lucky winner of a pair of tickets is  
**Wendy McGlone**

## POSTCARDS WANTED

**Cash paid for Old Postcards**

**& postally franked envelopes.**

**Required by local collector / dealer.**

**Please ring Alan to discuss on**

**07875 578398**

# NEED A HAND?



## Home Services

**GARDENING • HANDYPERSON • HOUSEKEEPING**

Did you know that Age UK Richmond Home Services are available to anyone over the age of 18 years, living in the Borough of Richmond? Whether it's picking up the shopping, assembling flat pack furniture or mowing the lawn, let us give you a hand. In doing so, you'll be giving us a hand as all proceeds help support our services for older people.

For more information on how we can help and pricing, please visit our website at [www.ageukrichmond.org.uk](http://www.ageukrichmond.org.uk) . For a more detailed quote, please get in touch:

Call us on **020 3326 9432** or email [homeservices@ageukrichmond.org.uk](mailto:homeservices@ageukrichmond.org.uk)

Registered Charity No. 1084211

# Update From Solum

## What is happening?



Solum are transforming Twickenham Station and providing a new modern station as well as lifts to platforms.

Solum, a partnership between Network Rail and Kier Property, are building a new gateway to Twickenham. Once complete, it will deliver a new station building, built around a public plaza.

The station will feature lifts to the platforms, a significantly larger ticket office and additional cycle parking spaces. The plaza will include shops and

create a modern gateway to Twickenham, as well as 115 much needed new homes. A new pedestrian walk way to Moormead is also being created.

More details available on their project website - [www.twickenhamforward.com](http://www.twickenhamforward.com)

## When does the work start

We intend to start on site in August 2017. In order to achieve this, we have already commenced preparation work which include the relocation of communications and signalling equipment.

## How might the project impact me?

Operational train stations are extremely challenging places to build. Our construction processes are designed to minimise disruption caused to the community, however it is likely that the project will impact you to some extent.



Solum will send out regular email updates with information in them about forthcoming work. As Twickenham Station will continue to operate, there is a requirement for night time work and track closures. Where possible, our work has been planned to coincide with other essential maintenance work to minimise disruption.



## Engineering works and station closures

Wider engineering work is taking place on Sunday 9th April and from Friday 14th to Sunday 16th April (Good Friday to Easter Sunday) 2017. This means there will be no services at Twickenham Station. During these engineering works, we will use the opportunity to undertake work at Twickenham Station.

# Classifieds

## POSTCARDS WANTED

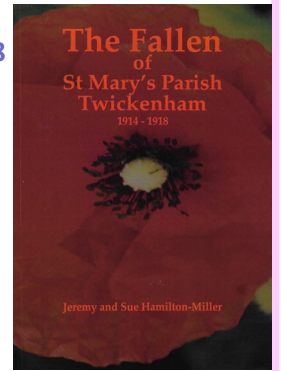
**Cash paid for Old Postcards**  
& postally franked envelopes.

Required by local collector / dealer.  
Please ring Alan to discuss on

07875 578398

## THE FALLEN OF ST MARY'S PARISH TWICKENHAM 1914-1918

The book costs £8 plus £1 p+p and is available from the Local History Society's website at [www.botlhs.co.uk](http://www.botlhs.co.uk). – click on 'Publications'. It can also be read and purchased at Twickenham Museum and Richmond Local Studies Library.



*Classified ads cost £10 per week  
email for longer term rates*

## PRINT DESIGN SERVICES

**Leaflets, flyers, posters, banners and more.**

Print ready with bleed, crop marks etc  
Supplied in Hi-Res Jpeg or PDF

We can also arrange printing & delivery

[classified@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:classified@TwickenhamTribune.com)

## VIDEO PRODUCTION

**Have a promo video made**

Promote your business, brand or event with a short video.

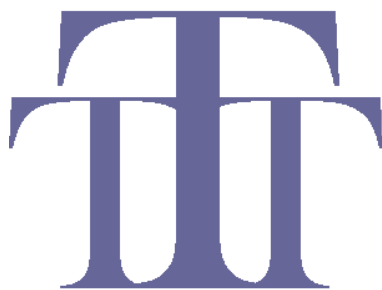
[classified@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:classified@TwickenhamTribune.com)

## POSITION WANTED

**Experienced PA/EA**

Looking for permanent position in Twickenham or nearby. Full time or part time  
Recently office manager for firm of Chartered Accountants

[classified@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:classified@TwickenhamTribune.com)



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