

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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16th October 2020



A Twickenham Jay
Photo by Berkley Driscoll



TickerTape - News in Brief

Residents warned about private security companies

The Leader of Richmond Council and local Police have warned residents to be careful about signing-up with the private security companies who have been canvassing residents of Richmond upon Thames.

Councillor Gareth Roberts and Inspector Rebecca Robinson addressed residents' concerns about the companies, raised at a public Community Conversation event for Twickenham Riverside, East Twickenham and St. Margarets residents. Both confirmed that neither the Police, the Council or the Richmond Safer Neighbourhood Board endorse such companies.

Community Fund now open for funding applications!

Do you have a big idea about a project for the area where you live but get stuck on how to pay for it? Why not apply now for the Richmond Community Fund?

The Richmond Council Community Fund comes from the Community Infrastructure Levy. This is a tax paid by developers to help reduce the impact of a development, a portion of the total tax collected will fund local priority projects.

This money might be used for a variety of projects, including green space improvements, resources and equipment for community use or community centre renovations.

Any local resident, business or community group, living or located within the borough can bring forward a proposal.

The fund is now open and will close on Friday 4 December.

For more details on how to apply and the criteria contact your local [Community Engagement Officer](mailto:communityconversations@richmond.gov.uk) on communityconversations@richmond.gov.uk

Test and Trace Support payment is introduced

If you are unable to work as a result of testing positive for Coronavirus, or have been told to self-isolate by the NHS, you might be eligible for a one-off £500 payment, if you are on a means-tested benefit and a low income

[See more information or apply](#)

[Visit the News page for more stories](#)

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It seems that TwickerSeal's picture last week resulted in a fair bit of chatter on social media.

Apparently, some people thought the image was a bit unfair to the council's proposed designs for Twickenham Riverside.

On second thoughts TwickerSeal had to concur and has rectified the error by adding more 'servicing' vehicles to make the view more realistic.

TwickerSeal can only apologise for any offence caused.

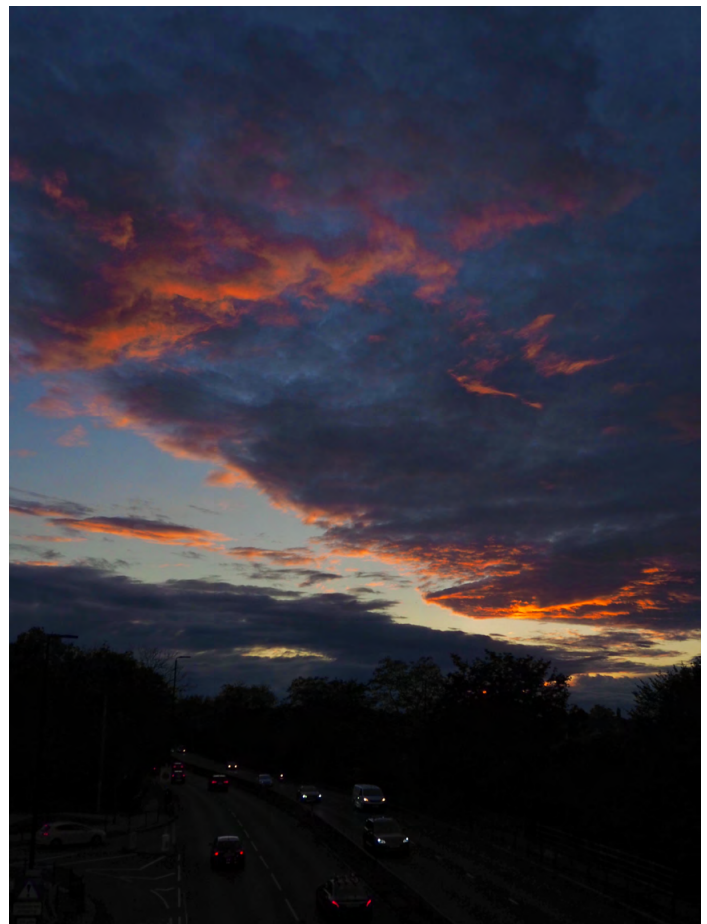
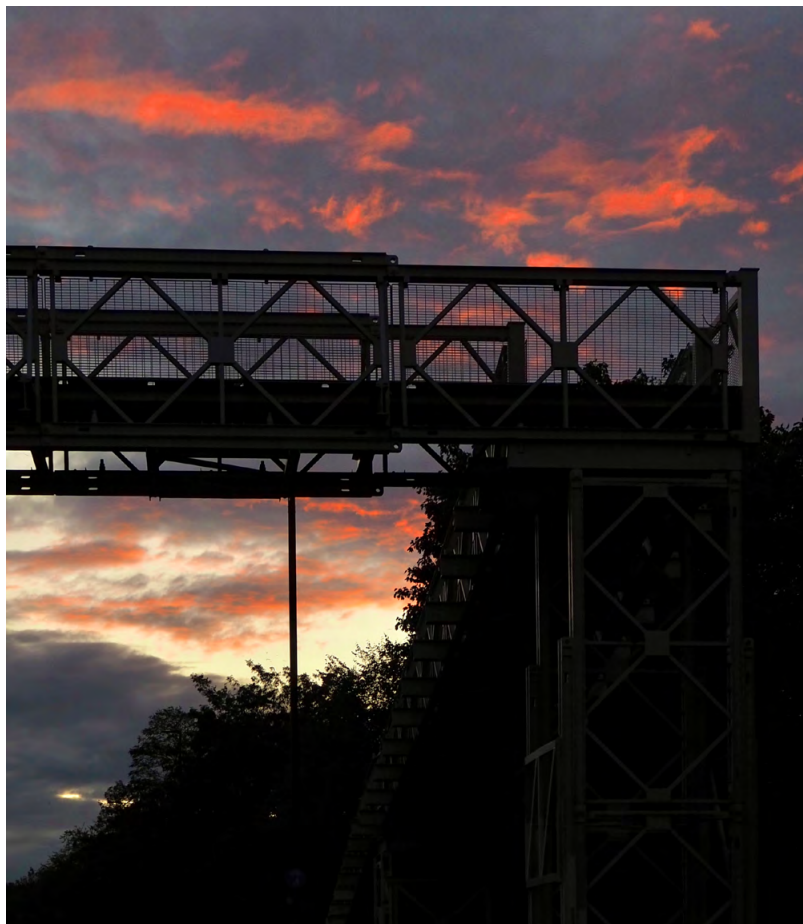
Hopefully the image is more realistic now with more lorries, no boathouses, no town square, no slipway, no life and no heart. However, there will be a pub on the riverside (with a terrace we are promised!); just the wonderful 'magnet' Twickenham needs to bring people in and rejuvenate the town. TwickerDuck suggested a new slogan for the VisitRichmond website "*Come to Twickenham Riverside, its got a pub*".



Borough View By Graeme Stoten

'Chertsey Road'

This vantage point offers a revealing panorama looking east onto Twickenham and then west, gazing into a dramatic sunset. Vehicle head and tail lights punctuate the carriageway beneath a foreboding storm cloud.



COVID-19

Teresa Read

Results of World Health Organization Therapeutics Trial in 30 countries

“In just six months, the world’s largest randomized control trial on COVID-19 therapeutics has generated conclusive evidence on the effectiveness of repurposed drugs for the treatment of COVID-19.

Interim results from the Solidarity Therapeutics Trial, coordinated by the World Health Organization, indicate that remdesivir, hydroxychloroquine, lopinavir/ritonavir and interferon regimens appeared to have little or no effect on 28-day mortality or the in-hospital course of COVID-19 among hospitalized patients. “ **World Health Organization**

Why do some people with COVID-19 infect many others?

Live Science published the following information in April 2020 which had originally been published in March of the same year: “The coronavirus, which causes the respiratory infection COVID-19, can be detected up to 3 hours after aerosolization and can infect cells throughout that time period “. Later in early July, Nature published an article pointing to mounting evidence that COVID-19 can be passed on by airborne transmission.

The following month the US National Center for Biotechnology Information published information with the following title “Aerosol transmission of SARS-CoV-2? Evidence, prevention and control”. The question mark is the telling point, why did it take so long to confirm the aerosol transmission of the virus?

A lot of time had passed for a virus which was known about in December 2019, and, according to some reports in the US, in November 2019.

At the moment we are all used to hearing about “R” but what about “K”? K relates to the dispersal rate of the virus used to identify superspreading by a relatively small number of people.

Gatherings where superspreading is likely to occur should be avoided; this is why restrictions are imposed.

The impact of “aerosol transmission” has been documented to have taken place in large gatherings where exhalation of an infected person has spread the virus to large numbers of people.

In such circumstances one infected person can pass the virus onto many people. It is thought that the virus can linger in the air much longer than previously thought and also travel via air currents.

In some countries it seems that measures designed to protect the population from COVID-19 are closely followed by the population or imposed. In Sweden, for example, organizations, which do not abide by the rules are closed down.

So, it is imperative that we follow the advice of the World Health Organization: **avoid places where the three C's come together: Crowds, Closed spaces, Close contact; follow strict personal hygiene advice, wear a mask and DO IT ALL.**

REMEMBER, COVID 19 can be a very nasty illness; long-COVID which lasts for many months, with possible long-term damage, has now been recognised as a serious illness.

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/05/why-do-some-covid-19-patients-infect-many-others-whereas-most-don-t-spread-virus-all>

Deaths: Norway 278, South Korea 441, Austria 894, Japan 1,650, Switzerland 1,817, Sweden 5,910, Germany 9.734

Cases of COVID-19

total to 15 October 2020

1,399 Richmond-upon-Thames, 1,326 Kingston-upon Thames, 2,278 Hounslow

Countries with High Numbers of Deaths Recorded by the World Health Organization

Deaths Worldwide 1,093,522

USA 215,199

Brazil 151,747

India 112,161

Mexico 84,898

The United Kingdom 43,155

Italy 36,289

Peru 33,512

Spain 33,413

France 32,780

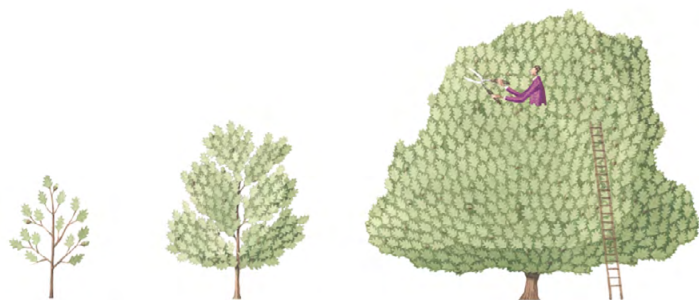
Iran 29,605

Colombia 28,306

Russian Federation 23,491

Argentina 24,921

South Africa 18,151



The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

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The Tree Agency

Surviving the Blitz in the garden

By Simon Fowler

During the war households were encouraged to provide their own shelters, although a survey in December 1940 suggested that most local people preferred to take their chances in raids hiding under the stairs or the dining table.

The most popular shelter was the Anderson Shelter – a seemingly rather flimsy structure which was erected in the garden. Named after Sir John Anderson, the government minister responsible for air-raid precautions, they were designed to accommodate up to six people. The design was based on the use of curved and straight galvanised corrugated steel panels, which could be put together simply. A small drainage sump was often incorporated in the floor to collect rainwater seeping into the shelter – they were often very damp and cold.

The shelters were buried four-foot deep in the soil and then covered with more soil over the roof. The earth banks were often planted with vegetables and flowers.

The internal fitting out of the shelter was left to the owner. In Richmond, Marie Lawrence's father was a handyman and took considerable trouble to make the shelter in their garden as homely as possible.

In her diary on 12 October 1940, she wrote: 'Dad has put a door on our shelter and we have the curtains on rings now and it is very good.' A few days later she noted that he had wallpapered the whole shelter. Jack Tuckwell remembers that the family Anderson shelter was quite safe, snug and with bunk-beds. He used to spend evenings there with his mother and sister.

Across the river in Twickenham Patricia Pennington, who was little more than a toddler, later wrote that she 'couldn't wait to sleep in the shelter in the garden although I gather my father didn't take too kindly to me peeing in his ear! I was on the top bunk above him. My mother confirmed that this really happened!' Living near Twickenham station a slightly older David Greenaway recalled that he: 'had a one-piece garment called a 'siren suit' that I was put into if we had to go out there at night if there was an air raid. It was a very dry shelter as it was built inside one of the nearby railway out-buildings that had an earth floor.'

After the war the shelters were dismantled, although some were used as potting sheds. And some found them ideal places to grow mushrooms. Amazingly one or two survive. I know of one shelter in Kew and I have been told that there is another can be found in a garden in St Margarets.



Imperial War Museum (HU 63827A)

Marble Hill Horticultural Marvels



At Marble Hill we are using the Park and the Landscape even more at a time when outdoor activities are increasingly important. We have a whole raft of socially distanced outdoor events planned for this autumn to help everybody learn about and enjoy our wonderful park.



- **Daily – Exhibition of Hope**

Discover 12 prints from Charlie Mackesy's book *The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and the Horse* as you explore the grounds at Marble Hill. [Find out more...](#)

- **Daily- Womanhood Exhibition in association with London Photo Festival** with competition winners from across the world in response to the theme of Womanhood inspired by Henrietta.

OCTOBER 2020

- **18th October 10:00-1:00pm – Family Heritage Morning**

Views – what can you see? Learn more about the view from Richmond Hill and why Marble Hill Park played such an important role in its protection. Produce your own painting of a view that is special to you to take home. For more information and to book visit [Marble Hill play centers](#).

- **26th Oct at 10:00am and 2:00pm – Bulb Buddies**

A bulb growing workshop for children of all ages. It is a free workshop but must be booked in advance. More information at [English Heritage](#).

- **29th October 10:00am-2:00pm – Feed the Birds!**

Book a session for you and up to four others. Make a Bird Cake to take home and learn about garden birds in winter. Free. All materials provided. For more information and to book visit the [Environment Trust](#) website.

- **31st October 10:00am-2:00pm – Community Garden Day**

The Marble Hill community is at the heart of all we do. Six million pounds is currently being invested in the Park, from conserving Marble Hill House to improving the sports pitches and facilities. We are inviting you to be a part of the landscape revival works and to try your hand at gardening during our Community Gardening Day. This is a free event but you must [book in advance](#). Each participant will be given their own set of tools.

Friends of Marble Hill

Volunteers have set up the Friends of Marble Hill to help support both the park and the house to ensure it continues to be a wonderful place for community. The group seeks to educate, promote, fundraise and share about the importance of both the heritage, ecology and community behind the 66 acre site.

We are looking for people to join this group who feel passionate about the site and who want to share in a dynamic community group designed to bring people together virtually or otherwise to celebrate Marble Hill. Membership is free, we just ask for your thoughts, ideas and energy to help build this community group that seeks to share the importance of Marble Hill within our community.

Visit the new website [HERE](#)

Subscribe to be kept informed [HERE](#)



WIZ TALES - Sicily & Rome

By Teresa Read



I have visited Italy and Sicily many times and more often since working with the Global Challenge in Rome.

In 2002 I took part in the Global Junior Challenge exhibition and awards ceremony in Rome, accompanied by another teacher from Strawberry Hill, showcasing the World InfoZone project to teachers from all over the world.

At the first event in Rome I met a group of young people from Sicily involved in an extra-curricular music group who stayed in touch with the project often asking for translations for their work on the internet.

As a result of the 2002 visit to Rome World InfoZone began a virtual journey which linked schools in over 40 countries - the Linking Our World project - and was subsequently invited to take part in the Stockholm Challenge for a number of years up to 2008.



Sicily: <http://worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=Sicily>

Linking Our World: <http://worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=sMenu>

The initial exhibition in Rome which brought teachers and schools together from all over the world was organized by the very well-known Italian Minister for Education Tullio de Mauro, under the patronage of Silvio Berlusconi and the Italian government.

In 2017 an educational event was held in Rome to commemorate Tullio's contribution to education bringing together educators from all over the world. The Tribune was pleased to attend the ceremony in the Campidoglio City Hall, at the top of the Capitoline Hill, a beautiful and historic building with some of the works of Michelangelo.



More Rome photos: <http://www.worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=Roma>

Italy and links to other pages of photographs: <http://worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Italy>

Farewell to Alan Winter's Postcard Page

To you all,
I'd like to thank those readers who wished me farewell after my 200 column stint.

It is nice to know that my efforts were appreciated by so many.
Some of your comments are shown below.

Kind Regards and "Come On You Bees!"

Alan Winter



Dear Alan

I'm so sorry you're giving up the column Alan - as a hack of 40 years plus I know these things have a natural life span, and how demanding a weekly deadline is, but I read it with relish and I'll miss it, you kept up an extraordinary standard. Why don't you publish the pick of them in a book? It's a horrible time in publishing, but it would have a very long shelf life. My son - who is particularly hooked on the intersection of architectural and social history, which you nail time after time - and I both hugely enjoyed your online Marble Hill lecture, once you'd beaten the technology into submission.

Very best wishes,

Maev Kennedy

Just a quick word to register a big thank you to Alan Winter for his fabulous postcard jaunts, which I will greatly miss.

Ed Harris, Whitton

Hi Alan,

I have thoroughly enjoyed reading your column each week and seeing all the different places on the postcards, so thank you for that. I guess you must have your reasons for stopping today and I wish you the best of luck with any future endeavours.

Avril Grainger, Omaha, Nebraska USA

Hi Alan,

So sorry that you are not writing your excellent article anymore.
Thanks for all the great information.

Sammi

I shall miss your column, thank you.

Mandy Hunter

Thank you Alan - I've enjoyed your column so much over the months.

Helen Baker.

Thanks for all those articles about our lovely Borough.

Geoff Wright

Great article as ever! Thank you Alan!

Rachel Morrison

Hi Alan

Just a quick line to tell you how much I have enjoyed your contributions to the Tribune, your postcard journeys were the very first articles that caught my eye and kept me reading on..... Hope to catch you at one of your fairs, very best of luck with any future projects!

Kind regards

Graeme Stoten

Dear Alan

I have been a faithful follower of your The Twickenham & Richmond Tribune postcard articles and will be sorry to see them end. I wish you the best of luck and thank you sincerely for providing a consistently interesting start to Friday mornings.

Kind regards

Ray Elmitt

Hampton Wick History Ltd

Mental Health Funding

By Councillor Geoffrey Samuel

To-day (Saturday 10th October) is World Mental Health Day. We are committed to the concept of 'parity of provision between Mental and Physical health provision'. But it remains little more than an aspiration.

We want our Council to turn it into reality. There are so many ways in which the Council can act. There is growing concern about the mental health of the young, especially with the Covid restrictions in place. I made a start in the 2016 budget by funding a Mental Health Consultant for schools. But that is only a beginning.

We need to help schools to address the issue. It is not helpful that AfC (Achieving for Children) is responsible for the mental health of children in schools but responsibility then switches to Adult Services when they leave education. The Council now has policy statements on dementia and on suicide prevention. But to be effective they need more funding.

'Hidden disabilities' are now accepted and recognised: they can, for example, be a valid reason for the award of a Blue Badge. But the Council needs its own specialist staff who are fully qualified in Mental Health – it cannot just be an add-on for a different qualification.

Earlier this year the LibDems rejected our request for a modest addition to the budget for Mental Health. Last month I made another request – that at least a small part of the huge £900k underspend could be devoted to Mental Health. We shall be debating that next month.

Thirty more affordable homes for Teddington

Thirty new affordable homes and a new nursery building will be built in Teddington on a former Council owned site, following approval from the Planning Committee.

Last week (Wednesday 7 October 2020), the Planning Committee agreed to the demolition of existing buildings on the site to be replaced with 30 homes in total (6 one bedroom, 17 two bedroom and 7 three bedroom); the creation of a new nursery building for the existing nursery service, provision of 36 parking spaces; and environmental improvements including landscaping, communal amenity space and secure cycle storage. This is biggest scheme using Council owned land in more than ten years.

In a plan developed with the Council, the new affordable homes will be built, owned and managed by PA Housing. The scheme provides 24 homes for affordable rent and six homes for shared ownership. The rented homes will be allocated to households nominated by the Council and priority will be given to households who live and/or work in the Borough to purchase the shared ownership homes.



Cllr Liz Jaeger, Lead Member for Housing for Richmond Council, said:

“The unused buildings at the Strathmore site have been an eyesore for some time. The brownfield site is ideal for the much-needed affordable housing local residents need.

“There are many challenges when it comes to delivering affordable housing in Richmond upon Thames. I am delighted that the Council works with local housing associations to make its own land available to deliver more affordable homes for our residents who need them. This is one of several sites that the Council is working on to deliver more affordable housing on Council held land, and other sites will also be considered for planning consent in the coming months.

“We know that some people will be concerned regarding the future of the popular Scamps nursery, and the Council have committed to working hard with the managers to ensure that the nursery can continue to operate whilst the new buildings are being built and then occupy the brand new facility.”



Many of the Ash Trees are still healthy along the River Crane Walk and it is hard to believe that the above views are available so close to Twickenham's concrete landscape. Take a walk along what we call our 'Sanctuary' route from The Meadway to the Shot Tower and enjoy some respite from all the conflict and anxieties which seem to be dominating our lives.



The wildlife is engaging with many humorous and curious episodes to be found even on a short walk. This Drake seems to be harvesting an acorn whilst our Squirrel has decided to alter his diet and try some wild mushrooms!

Luv Song poem by Benjamin Zephaniah

"I am in luv wid a hedgehog I've never felt this way before
I have luv fe dis hedgehog an everyday I luv her more an more,
She lives by di shed Where weeds and roses bed
An I just want de world to know
She makes me glow."

Love for nature makes life worth living.



There is a map and more photos on our Website and Instagram and we hope to see you on the route where we have met so many lovely people already.

Sir

Traffic Management

Coincident to me recently raising the subject of the 20 mph blanket limit, a petition has been started asking for the limit to be overturned. I have signed the petition though not necessarily agreeing the limit should be overturned everywhere.

What I would like to see is a consultation that was not a fait accompli, not just a selling job for an action already decided. I don't believe the proposal would have ever been allowed to fail, no matter the level of opposition. I do believe had they proposed a sensible balance of speed limits and zones, it would have had the public support required to make it a law everyone can live with as opposed to one many ignore.

The Lib Dem pledge was *"We will work with residents to deliver 20 mph speed limits"*. How did this become *"We will work with some residents to deliver a blanket 20 mph limit across the borough"*?

September last year I sent an email to Councillors of the Borough of Richmond on Thames asking a number of questions regarding the 20 mph blanket limit to be implemented across the borough. Perhaps I was alone in the borough but I was unaware that such a measure had been "widely discussed" and passed by the Council. Unfortunately I hadn't read the Lib Dem manifesto nor attended my local Community Conversation nor caught a train from the three stations where they handed out flyers nor logged in to Richmond Council on line nor attended some fair, name forgotten, where the Council had a stand. Mea culpa. I am still looking for the flyers that were apparently sent to me seeking my opinion.

Receipt was acknowledged by the Leader with a standard *"I will ask officers if they can find time to address the specific points."* and *"I ask for your patience in the interim."* It was quite a long list with some technical questions and I didn't expect an immediate response.

Surprisingly, Alexander Ehmann, Chairman Transport and Air Quality Committee, on the same day after obviously finding the time, informed me *"I do not feel it is appropriate to go over the same material again"*. He chose not to address the specific questions I had asked but he did point out that there had been a borough wide consultation *"that reached thousands of residents"*. He stated *"The issue was well communicated with over 9,000 responses received."* It had sparked some real interest then from the 200,000 or so residents?

He also pointed out that *"Residents that live in Barnes, Ham or Twickenham all were asked whether they supported a borough-wide 20mph. The fact that an area like Hampton were not as enthusiastic about the measure as some others was not grounds to omit the locality."* Some wards

are obviously much more important than others. Apparently 67% against the proposal in Hampton merely shows lack of enthusiasm so could be disregarded! "Could do better", as my teacher used to say!

He also kindly explained how the consultation was managed to arrive at an agreeable result in the face of a majority response against it. Initially, there were 171 responses against the proposal. As Lib Dem councillors were determined to implement a 20 mph blanket limit, that was clearly undesirable. The Council's response was interesting:

"To clarify, the difference between those against and in favour was 171 responses. That means that if 86 residents who were against the original proposal could have been persuaded to support the measure, then the council would have received more responses for than against. We studied the detailed feedback and found changes that were asked for by more residents than this 86 (and indeed 171) margin. We therefore believe that had the altered proposal been consulted on, the residents that proposed the exclusion or further consideration of roads that we omitted (or those who asked for more detailed review work - which we also agreed to) would have felt able to support the proposals. We adjusted our proposals to reflect the concerns of more residents than the 171 difference in headline support."

As I understand that statement, having failed to get the support they wanted, they set about identifying and amending sufficient bits of the proposal they thought would neutralise the negative response. They then presumed "had the altered proposal been consulted on", those negative responders would either withdraw their objection or reverse their opinion and support the proposal giving the majority approval they sought. Voila, job done!

Of course the Council was not obliged to have a consultation, they had a mandate from election. They were not obliged to seek majority support, it wasn't a vote. Some will describe this as an example of a council that "listens to residents" other will view it much more cynically.

I feel sure the less enthusiastic and less important 67% in Hampton may well have supported it too had their objections been considered then it would not have been necessary to massage the original proposal!

Perhaps something like that can be used in the next Council election if the result doesn't go as required!

If you are one of the cynical, I suggest you have a look at the petition here:

<https://www2.richmond.gov.uk/Account/ePetitionDetails.aspx?ID=120>

Yours faithfully

Brian Shepherd
Address Supplied

Petitions

Petition for Richmond and Twickenham

Provision of Public Toilets and Hand Washing facilities in Richmond & Twickenham
and enforcement of Anti-Social behaviour PSPO's

A petition has been launched seeking action from the council regarding anti-social behaviour, including public urination and defecation, in Twickenham and Richmond (particularly the greens).

On 23th August a call was made to hold an emergency meeting of the Council to discuss the growing problem; however, this was refused by the council delaying any discussion until late September.

Residents can't help but feel that the administration is kicking the can down the road. The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

Return the borough to 30mph

Petition the Council to restore the 30mph speed limit

There has been an increase in dangerous and aggressive driving since the introduction of the 20mph speed limit.

The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

Stop the introduction of parking charges in Richmond Park and Bushy Park

The Royal Parks intend to introduce car parking charges in Richmond Park and Bushy Park. This is an indefensible proposal, particularly at a time when the link between poverty, obesity and poor health has been so clearly highlighted by the impact of Covid 19.

Spending time in the park is one of the very few free and healthy options for families and individuals. It is essential for people's mental and physical well being that access to the parks is encouraged rather than restricted. If, as a society, we really want to fight obesity we must continue to provide spaces for free and healthy exercise.

During lockdown, a much more diverse and geographically widespread group of people discovered the joys of Bushy and Richmond Park; this is a cause for celebration and should be viewed as a positive and healthy development and encouraged as much as possible.

The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

WORTH ITS SALT

We'd heard rumblings on the local tom toms about a new restaurant on Heath Road, Twickenham. Located quite near to the rather sad, and now demised, Salt Flakes, I admit I had assumed that this new kid on the block - curiously named **Salty** - was another reincarnation of Salt Flakes...how wrong could I be! Social media can be a good indication of a restaurant's foodie calibre of course, but when our supreme foodie mates raved about it too, we knew we should check it out. We arranged to meet some friends from Hampton there, early enough to enjoy the 'two for one' happy hour cocktails and a have a relaxed meal before having to be out at 10 p.m. - due to the totally illogical curfew imposed on our struggling hospitality industry (but that's another story for another time!).



Salty is just along Heath Road from the aforementioned other place and is small, but cosy, with contemporary décor. The [menu](#) is eclectic, but highly interesting (and tempting - I wanted all the starters!!). Armed with not one, but two Al Capone cocktails (the Salty version of a Negroni) I perused the choices and dithered. In the end I chose the **Goat Cheese Mousse Candied beetroots, fennel carpaccio, oranges, hazelnuts and sorrel**. My husband chose the mushroom starter and our friends chose duck croquettes and the deep fried squid. I wasn't allowed to taste the mushroom dish (which says how good it must have been) but sneaked a taste of the other two and they were delicious. My starter was light, yet rich (a contradiction of terms perhaps?) but it was beautifully balanced and the hazelnuts added texture and paired well with the other components.



I opted for the steak frites as my main course. Perfectly cooked marinated grilled skirt steak, served with Chimichurri sauce, fries and slaw went extremely well with our bottle of house red. This was Hamilton Heights Shiraz that was sensibly priced at under £18 a bottle. Salty is owned and run by Xhoi (pronounced Joey). He is Albanian by birth but raised in Luxembourg and worked in a number of countries prior to settling in Twickers. He's keen to support the local retail community and buys as many ingredients as possible from suppliers such as Sandys fishmonger and Michael Brown the artisan butcher.



My husband's burger was very impressive indeed! And for once it wasn't served with a piece of paper beneath it, as so often the case! The fries were served with a tasty harissa mayo.

The only slight disappointment was the dessert menu: Considering the imagination used for the other dishes, this part of the meal seemed to lack the same 'energy' and only offered chocolate fondant or pretzel brownie with vanilla ice cream and salted caramel sauce. And of course ice creams were available. Anyone who doesn't like chocolate or perhaps fancied something lighter and fresher to finish the meal could have been disappointed. Not my husband though; he chose the brownie and the tiny taste I managed to steal was very good, but very rich. Something with fresh fruit or with a citrus element would complement the menu I feel, and hopefully this may be added at some stage.

The menu also has some fabulous sounding side dishes, such as broccoli garlic oil and togarashi (aka Japanese 7 Spice), or roasted baby gem with romanesco sauce, or sweet potato chips with smoked alioli. On my next visit I might be tempted to have a couple of starters with a side dish. Vegetarians are well catered for here, as too are vegans, but they would miss out on those lovely steaks and burgers.

Salty is a very welcome addition to the Twickenham foodie scene, so much so that I rather selfishly considered not sharing this information with you, as it will no doubt become very busy (Covid lockdowns permitting of course).

RED WINES OF BORDEAUX

By Michael Gatehouse

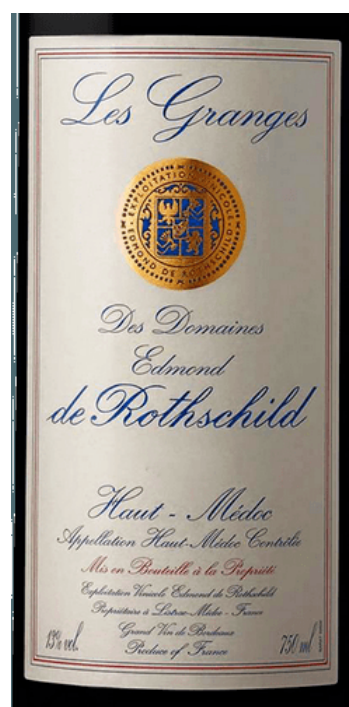
Wines from Bordeaux were first produced by the Romans more than two thousand years ago, and first enjoyed in England in the 1300's. The region is on the western side of France, with the rivers Gironde and Garonne running through the middle. After the Dutch drained the region in the 1600s, creating perfect vine growing conditions, many of the now world famous vineyards were created. In 1855 came the great classification of Bordeaux wines, which immediately increased demand for the best wines, and put their prices through the roof, where they remain today, in the realms of investment and the futures market. The great chateaux look down upon the rest of the wine world with a faintly bored expression.

But there are so many similar looking bottles of wine from Bordeaux – many with labels depicting buildings varying from what looks like an emperor's palace to the chicken shed. Should we assume that the grander the chateau the better the wine? Not at all, as it's the location of the vineyard and the expertise in the winemaking that counts, although the more prestigious wines invariably portray most impressive buildings.

So what's the classic Bordeaux taste? Wines from the Left Bank are made primarily with Cabernet Sauvignon, so are deep in colour, with flavours of cassis and blackberry, and hints of spice and licorice. These are the wines of the Medoc, and with age they soften and mature, delivering new subtle tastes. Right Bank wines – St Emilion and Pomerol – are Merlot based, so have a smoothness, with blueberry and chocolate flavours. Again, the tannins soften with age and the wines develop a silky opulence.



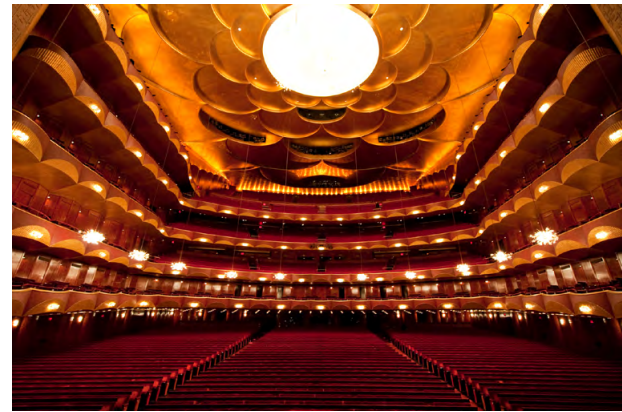
I have three recommendations, based on price. Firstly, Chateau Buisson-Redon Bordeaux 2016 at £11.99, an honest Right Bank claret, made with 60% Merlot grapes from 30 year old vines. Dark berry aromas, with hints of nutmeg and spice. Next we have a 2015 Haut-Medoc from the estate of Edmond de Rothschild called Les Granges, at £22.99. Complex flavours of dark fruit, black olive and mocha, with spicy cinnamon notes. Rich and concentrated – can be enjoyed now, but no hurry as these wines develop and mature. And finally, £39 gets you a Margaux; Chateau Tayac, a top quality blend of Cabernet and Merlot with a wonderful long silky finish. This magnificent wine is delicious now and will keep developing over the next 10 years.





Opera in the Ether

It is said that in opera if somebody is killed he does not bleed but instead sings six arias. “That few?”, one might be tempted to reply. And have you noticed that in opera when anyone is dying, whether struck by some fatal blow or of natural causes (usually consumption), nobody calls for an ambulance. They don’t even try to staunch the blood flow: they just sing.



You see, during the Covid restrictions, when we have been starved of the real thing, we have become gluttons to on-line opera. The Met alone has almost 700 performances available on line. You can go the Garden, the Coli’ or Glyndebourne without leaving home. Opera houses will let you visit Milan, Paris, Venice, Vienna or St Petersburg. Watching on a computer is no match of course for the atmospheric immersive experience of being there, but you can watch out for other things.



You can see the conductors. Some mouth the notes, some dance with the music, many press their fingers to their lips to quieten even individual instruments. I will never forget seeing an aged maestro weeping as he conducted the well-known *intermezzo* from *Cavalleria rusticana*. And here is something astounding, Daniele Gatti has the whole of Wagner’s *Parsifal* in his head. *Parsifal* is nearly five hours long and has a full orchestra, but he conducts without a score!

On the small screen you catch glimpses of the audience. It used to be *de rigeur* not to clap until the end of an act. Now people often clap at the end of an aria: flattering for the singer, but it doesn’t half hold things up. Then there is the standing ovation. Am I being curmudgeonly for not standing? Perhaps I should feign a disguise. After all, in various operas characters do not recognise their own husbands, wives or lovers in disguise. (Shakespeare would never do this ... would he?)



A disguise story that we all know, *Cinderella*, has attracted almost two dozen [opera versions](#). Midnight chimes seem to be a standard feature in opera. But listen carefully next time. The chances are that the midnight bell will only ring six. It is a quirk of opera, one of its most striking features

Read Mark Aspen’s theatre thought at www.markaspen.com/2020/10/16/opera-ether

Photography by Jonathan Tichler, Jules Golfiere and John Steerpike,

The Trials & Tribulations of Travelling in Covid Times

By Bruce Lyons



I should start off by saying every booking is a challenge, but that perhaps is part of the adventure!

At the beginning of September a young “masked” man came by wanted to go travelling in October, ideally long haul and diving. Caribbean with its “corridors” would be fine but with courses, flights and accommodation (many hotels just didn’t open) the budget didn’t work. Middle East, great for diving, didn’t have and still doesn’t have any corridors. But till now Italy (just lost it last night) had and whilst I designed a really good Sardinian schedule with Diving Courses and good discounted accommodation at our friends great PADI 5* Dive Centre in Palau, Gateway to the Maddalena straights and the Maddalena Archipelago.

He weighed up his alternative plan which was to go to China and learn some Chinese and to get a visa (tricky just now) even enrolling as an au pair – A bit dodgy I thought! But he opted for the Sardinia Diving idea and it was in Budget, we even discussed it the “corridor” was cancelled and how would he feel about Quarantining – which he said would be OK as he was at a loose end till 2020, and now he will, be quarantining I mean, so if we have floods the week after next and you see a young diver practising his Rescue Diving don’t talk to him – he’s isolating! all the disciplines and protocols worked – return flight is fine too – He sent the expected comment Diving Great, town a bit quiet and accommodation excellent though he does have to make his own bed! A 4* Hotel no less!

My next case should have a prefix “3rd time lucky” as this was a booking that started way back Feb/March for an October School Break but as Covid-19 crept up on us went cold as nobody was booking anything – as the party (6) included Diving the Red Sea was the best option – and whilst there were, nor are, any “corridors” the tour operators were taking bookings with an “opt out” that if no corridor existed 14 days before the departure date you could cancel and get a full refund- so we did, book I mean, and then cancel, as indeed there was no “corridor” announced, and then we switched to Sardinia as the corridor was working and then when as it was all done and dusted – last night that nice guy Grant Shapps pointed his finger and cancelled that but at the same time waived his magic wand (preferred) and reinstated Crete, so that is where they are going – I hope. So dear Reader say a little prayer for me next week (and my clients) and hope that third time lucky is really is third time lucky!!

It should be ok, I was named after Robert the Bruce and the Spider what never gave up – it did take him 7 tries to spin his web.

www.CrusaderTravel.com

Richmond upon Thames College Celebrates Colleges Week 2020

Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) will be celebrating Colleges Week 2020 from 19 to 23 October.

The annual Colleges Week, organised by the Association of Colleges (AoC), is a chance to celebrate and shout about all of the brilliant things that colleges do, day in and day out to build communities, boost businesses and support individuals.

Throughout the week, RuTC will be hosting two Virtual Open Events on 17 and 21 October for prospective students and will be showcasing some of the amazing work the Colleges' staff and students carry out. RuTC will share details about its new robotics course, starting in September 2021, and benefits that the future STEM Centre will bring. The College will also showcase its industry standard specialist facilities and how they support individual sectors and give an insight into its newly launched pre-employment course arranged through the Job Centre Plus to give people the opportunity to gain employment in the Civil Service. Every day on social media, RuTC will highlight the importance of colleges in the economy, individual sectors, innovation and supporting young people in their personal lives as well as in their education.



Elaine McMahon, Principal at RuTC, said, *“Our aim is to ensure that all our students, regardless of age, background and circumstances are properly equipped with the skills they need to achieve their ambitions in work and in life. This is more important than ever as colleges are there for people to improve their employment opportunities by gaining new skills and qualifications or retraining for a new job in a fast-changing job market.”*

“The spending review must acknowledge the massive contribution further education makes to society and our economy. It must be the starting point in providing the right levels of investment so that colleges can play their full part in a successful economy as the country recovers from the pandemic and post-Brexit.”



This year's Colleges Week theme is about colleges building communities, boosting businesses and supporting people. Bringing the whole further education community together, the Week celebrates the impact of colleges on people, employers and the economy. RuTC is a member of the AoC which wants to see colleges and funding for them prioritised nationally and locally to aid the recovery from the pandemic that will be vital to the future success of the country.

David Hughes, Chief Executive of the Association of Colleges, said, *“This year has been unprecedented in every way, but colleges have risen to all the challenges thrown at them. Colleges Week is a celebration of all the amazing things colleges do day in day out for students, employers and communities. It's also about recognising just how important colleges are as we rebuild for a better future through retraining, skills and education.”*

“Despite educating 2.2 million people every year, including more than 600,000 16 to 18-year-olds, colleges have been neglected in recent years. The Prime Minister's announcement earlier this month to expand the training system with colleges at the heart of the skills agenda is welcome. All colleges need now is the investment from government to be able to support even more people and employers. That will improve the life chances of millions of people but it needs college funding to be at the forefront of the upcoming spending review.”

Colleges like Richmond upon Thames College play a key part in doing this. The theme of Colleges Week is building communities, boosting businesses, and supporting people to get the training they need for the jobs of the future, serving local business and community needs.



**Richmond upon
Thames College**



RFS The Best of our Recent Historic Screenings

Issue 30, 16th October 2020

MY BEST FRIEND

A new series for those of you who are missing Richmond Film Society's screenings or, indeed, trips to the cinema generally as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. Their committee is producing a number of weekly recommendations of films screened during the last 20 years that were extremely well received by their audiences. Should the notes reproduced below entice you to try and catch-up with this recommendation, then you should be able to do so, as it is available on streaming services and for purchase as DVD/Blu-Ray discs from the online retailers as indicated below.

RFS Context: TEHRAN TAXI was 756th film screened by RFS on 4th October 2016. **Tehran Taxi** was the top ranked film of Season 54, it got an approval mark of 92% from those attending.

RFS Context: MY BEST FRIEND was 647th film screened by RFS on 28th April 2009. **My Best Friend** was the third ranked film of Season 46, it got an approval mark of 86% from those attending; from season 46 we have also already featured its top two ranked films **Lantana**, and **Not Here To Be Loved**, as **Issues 13 & 25** respectively). **My Best Friend** is sadly one of those films that at present is not available through streaming services nor are the DVDs available buy from the usual channels but can be found on eBay.

MY BEST FRIEND (Mon Meilleur Ami)

Country: France, 2006
Director: Patrice Leconte
Screenplay: Olivier Dazat, Patrice Leconte & Jérôme Tonnerre
Editor: Joëlle Hache
Music: Xavier Demerliac
Language: French
Cinematography: Jean-Marie Dreujou
Running Time: 94 min., colour

Leading Players:

Daniel Auteuil	(François Coste)
Dany Boon	(Bruno Bouley)
Julie Gayet	(Catherine)
Julie Durand	(Louise Coste)
Jacques Mathou	(Msr Bouley, Bruno's father)
Marie Pillet	(Mme Bouley, Bruno's mother)
Élisabeth Bourguine	(Julia)
Henri Garcin	(Étienne Delamotte))



An uncommonly frothy offering from Patrice Leconte, a director better known for his thoughtful period pieces and intense psycho-dramas, **My Best Friend** still has enough nuance and character shadings to raise it above the norm. Its strongest suit, though, is the **Odd Couple**

relationship between Daniel Auteuil's frosty antiques dealer Francois and Dany Boon's Bruno, the chatty cab driver – an amiable fellow with an encyclopedic knowledge of dates, facts and figures - he enlists to help him show he's not the Billy No Mates his business partner (Julie Gayet) has him down as.

In story terms it's pure sitcom. Francois' gormless attempts to ingratiate himself with old acquaintances and total strangers alike give the film a host of hilariously cringe-worthy set-pieces (Accosting a school contemporary in a hypermarket, he is appalled to learn he was universally detested even then). Once Auteuil realises Boon is exactly the gullible patsy he's looking for, the plot takes a more serious turn, though Leconte thankfully recovers his funny bone in time for an ingenious climax involving, of all things, the French version of ***Who Wants To Be A Millionaire***.

The always reliable Auteuil invests his deluded anti-hero with a touching pathos that offsets his crushing insensitivity, while Leconte's polished direction is as urbane and sophisticated as ever; for all that, it's evident that both director and star are punching considerably below their weight. It's left to Boon, then, to give the material its gentle ring of truth, his trivia-spouting loser emerging as the true protagonist of a tale that's practically crying out for an American remake.

After BBCi

Teddington Theatre Club launches Audiotorium! The podcast

Hampton Hill Theatre may not be open to audiences at the moment, but this doesn't mean that theatre club members are 'resting'! TTC has been busy recording the first season of its brand new podcast, Audiotorium! which goes live today.

"The aim of the podcast is to not only keep the local community in touch with their theatre, but to reach out to a wider audience of theatre lovers with interesting interviews and other exciting theatre-related content," says Lottie Walker, Artistic Director for TTC.

Season 1 launches today with an interview with members of the creative team behind *Cinderella in Paris* – a pantomime set out of context. It is followed next week by a horrifying countdown to Halloween! 'The 13 Frights of Halloween' commences on 19th October and is 13 days of spine-chilling stories read by TTC members. It culminates with the scariest tale of them all; 'The Old Nurse's Story' on 31st October.

You can listen to the first episode of Audiotorium! on your podcast app or via the link

<https://feeds.buzzsprout.com/1303714.rss>





BRENTFORD FC



Several Bees head out on international duty

A number of Brentford players were called up to represent their countries over the recent international break.

Josh Dasilva, making his first start for the England U21 side, had a night to remember as he scored and assisted against Andorra. Dasilva then also played against fellow Bee Halil Dervişoğlu for England U21s against Turkey U21, starting once again as the Young Lions won 2-1, despite a late Dervişoğlu goal in injury time to secure passage to 2021 UEFA U21 Championship.

Meanwhile Mathias Jensen and Henrik Dalsgaard teamed up for the Danish national side in an international friendly against the Faroe Islands. Dalsgaard was substituted at half-time but Jensen completed the full 90 minutes on his debut for his country, who won 4-0.

Recent signing Saman Ghoddos played the final 15 minutes for Iran against Uzbekistan. The forward came off the bench to win his 22nd cap in a 2-1 victory.

Said Benrahma was also victorious with his national side picking up a 1-0 win in an international friendly against Nigeria. The forward played the full 90 minutes in the win in a game hosted in Austria.

Tariqe Fosu made his debut for Ghana against Mali, although he made a losing start as the Black Stars went down 3-0. He then followed this up with his first international goal in his second appearance. The winger scoring after 22 minutes against Qatar in a 5-0 victor.

A number of Brentford players also received international honours for their respective youth sides. Marcus Forss came away victorious by a 3-2 margin for Finland against Northern Ireland. Joe Adams came on for his debut for the Wales U21 side but were beaten comprehensively 5-0. Forss then played against Mads Bech Sorensen but despite scoring was left disappointed as the Danes victory ensured qualification at the expense of Finland. At U20 level Joe Adams lost his second game of the break against fellow Bees player Paris Maghoma in a 2-1 defeat.

Brentford FC captain Pontus Janson was also in action for Sweden in the UEFA Nations League. The Swede played the full 90 minutes but was defeat narrowly 2-1.

Said Benrahma completes move to West Ham

Brentford have announced that Algerian international Said Benrahma has completed a transfer to Premier League side West Ham United on an initial loan deal with an agreement of a permanent move.

Speaking to club media Thomas Frank said, "It is always sad to say goodbye to top players and to players that also have a great mentality, and there would never be a great time for Saïd to leave, but it was the right time for him to play in the Premier League and I am happy for him. We have shown we can develop players and get them to Premier League level; we hope that will be with us but if not, it can be with someone else. Saïd has developed massively in the past two years, his numbers of goals and assists speak for themselves but his mentality, defensive work and pressing have all improved since he joined us. As a team we will miss him, and we wish him all the best, but I am also confident about the squad we have, and we are ready to deliver top performances."

Benrahma signed for the Bees in 2018 and quickly became a fan favourite at the club. In all he played 94 times for Brentford in which he scored 30 goals and contributed 31 assists. He was named Brentford player of the season and earn individual honours with the Championship Player of the Month twice.

UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Game 1

Opponent: Coventry City (H) Saturday 17h October 15:00 Brentford Community Stadium

Nickname: The Sky Blues

Competition: Championship – Matchday 5

Manager: Mark Robins

2019/20: 1st League One

Interesting fact: On the 15th October 2016 Coventry and Charlton Athletic fans threw hundreds of plastic toy pigs onto the pitch during a 3–0 loss for Coventry. Play was stopped for around 5 minutes in a joint protest against their respective owners

Game 2

Opponent: Sheffield Wednesday (A) Wednesday 21st October 19:45 Hillsborough Stadium

Nickname: The Owls

Competition: Championship – Matchday 6

Manager: Gary Monk

2019/20: 16th Championship

Interesting fact: In 1991, Sheffield Wednesday beat Manchester United 1–0 in the League Cup as a second division side and they remain the last team to win one of English football's major trophies while outside the top-flight.

Come on you Bees!

Hampton & Richmond Borough

Beavers gain first league point of the season

Hampton 0 – 0 Dartford

Hampton & Richmond Borough got their first league point of the 2020/21 National League South season with a competitive draw against a Dartford side who have aspirations of being



close to the top of the table come the end of the season.

It was the visitors who created the first key chance of the game through forward Elliot Romain. Romain had been somewhat of a nuisance to the Hampton backline, scoring for both Eastbourne Borough and Dartford against the Beavers, and he nearly continued his prolific streak when Ky Marsh-Brown pulled the ball across goal. However, Alan Julian produced an excellent save with his feet to keep Romain out.

Sam Deadfield then received the ball on the edge of the box for the Beavers after a miscued clearance from the Darts but his curling left footed effort lacked enough power and was easily gathered by Craig King.

After a corner had been recycled back to Kyron Farrell in the left fullback channel the defender lifted the ball up field into the path of Danny Bassett, Bassett immediately flicked the ball onto Dean Iman who fed the ball into the path of his fellow central defender Charlie Wassmer. Wassmer, in his unfamiliar surroundings, picked out Jake Gray but the latter's volleyed effort bounced into the turf to take the power out of the shot.

After the half-time interval Hampton continued to attack with fluidity and had the ball in the back of the net, only to see the goal ruled out for offside. Gray drifted over to the left hand side of the box and unleashed a shot which King could only parry across his goal. Waiting at the back post to turn in the rebound was Ruaridh Donaldson only to see his celebrations cut short by the linesman's raised flag.

Dartford themselves had a great chance when Noor Husin played Jack Barham through on goal with a clever pass. The striker shot but was deflected away from danger as both sides couldn't find an elusive goal.

Late on Dartford were awarded a free-kick after a foul by Christian Smith, but the subsequent set play was defended by Hampton to hold out for a valuable draw as well as first clean sheet in the league this season.

Hampton edge thriller in the cup

Hampton 2 – 2 Hornchurch

(Hampton win 4-3 on penalties)

Hampton & Richmond Borough moved to within one game of the First Round proper of the FA Cup with a thrilling midweek victory under the lights against Hornchurch. A late Niko Muir goal had sent the game to penalties with just four minutes left on the clock, where Alan Julian stepped up to save the decisive spot kick to guide Hampton through.

In a repeat of meeting from one of Hampton's all-time great cup runs in the 2018/19 season, it was the National League South side who started the better. Hampton launched something of an onslaught and had had five corners inside of the opening ten minutes, such was their territorial dominance. Urchins' keeper Joe Wright was called upon to command his area and punched away a threatening Niko Muir cross.

Hampton did take the lead through an inspired individual effort. Hornchurch were awarded a free-kick just on half-way for a foul on Louis Ramsay and the quickly taken set piece was passed backwards. Eventually the ball came to the feet of goalkeeper Wright but under pressure from Ryan Hill the Hornchurch player hurried his clearance. The ball landed at the feet of Christian Smith who from just over the half-way line lobbed the ball over the stranded Wright for an early contender for goal of the season.

The visitors were playing well though and although a division below their opponents, they were giving Hampton a very competitive cup-tie. Former Hampton player Chris Dickson returned to haunt his former employer with an equalising goal just before half-time. Receiving a chipped through ball Dickson volleyed the ball into the back of the net at the Alan Simpson end, just as he had done so many times before, except this time in the yellow of Hornchurch.

Dickson inspired the turnaround after the interval when he flicked on a long free-kick up field into the path of Ellis Brown. Brown picked up the flick on 20 yards from goal and drove inwards, skipping past a couple of Beavers challenges, before smashing the ball into the bottom right hand corner.

With just four minutes to go Muir rescued Hampton when he broke free in the box and dragged a right footed effort into the bottom corner to the delight of the players and management.

With no replays in the FA Cup this year the cup-tie went straight to penalties. Hampton got off to the worst possible start when Smith missed and Jordan Clark converted to immediately give the hosts the advantage. Neither side missed as Muir, Charlie Wassmer, Jake Gray and Hill all scored. Eventually it came down to the final penalty where Alan Julian saved from Ronnie Winn to put Hampton into the hat for the Fourth Qualifying Round draw.

Beveree Stadium set to be renamed for the season

Hampton & Richmond Borough's home ground, formerly known as the Beveree Stadium, will be renamed as the 'Chris Sweet Beveree Stadium' for the rest of the 2020/21 season.

The name change was confirmed after the Hampton's home 0-0 draw against Dartford in the league on Saturday. The draw was conducted by club chairman Jacques Le Bars together with club media director Seb White.

In a unique offering the club had allowed individuals, businesses and charities to have the chance of naming the stadium for the price of just £10 and it is thought that the scheme has raised close to £10,000 for the club.

Hampton to play Hemel Hempstead in FA Cup

Hampton will travel to play fellow National League South side Hemel Hempstead Town following the draw for the Fourth Qualifying Round in the FA Cup. The winner of the tie will receive £9,375 while the loser will receive £3,125 and it is the final regionalised round of the competition.

The tie will take place on Saturday 24th October and as a consequence of Hampton's progression in the competition their National League South fixture at home to Eastbourne Borough has been moved to Tuesday 27th October with a 19:45 kick off.

Come on you Beavers!

New partnership of Physical Education and Sport specialists gives support to Richmond primary schools

This autumn, education experts from three renowned local organisations are coming together to offer Richmond primary schools tailored support to help pupils learn core subjects and develop essential life skills through the power of sport.

Move.Learn.Grow will see experienced sport teachers, coaches and internationally-acclaimed educators from the Harlequins Foundation, Kingston University and Sport Impact working together to provide the borough's schools with unique learning solutions.

The launch of Move.Learn.Grow comes amid fears that children's physical exercise has fallen sharply since the pandemic. Sport England found that during lockdown, just 19% of children under 16 were doing one hour or more of physical activity every day - the government's recommended daily amount.

The most recent data from London Sport shows that, pre-pandemic, in Richmond 68% of children and young people were doing an hour or more of physical activity every day. In neighbouring boroughs, such as Hounslow, the figure was 49%.

Move.Learn.Grow offers bespoke and wide-ranging support packages to primary schools, from curriculum development and planning to numeracy, literacy and science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) programmes.

It also includes extra-curricular clubs and inter-school sport competitions, as well as training for teachers who are less confident or experienced in delivering PE. It is initially working across the London boroughs of Hounslow, Richmond and Kingston.

Marc Leckie, Head of the Twickenham-based Harlequins Foundation, said the partnership - Move.Learn.Grow - came out of a desire to help pupils recover "mentally, physically and educationally" from six months of school closures.

Leckie said: "As sports education experts, we know exactly how to use the appeal of sport to help children with their core subjects and to develop in them the inner confidence and resilience that is needed more than ever in these testing times.

"The value of sport goes well beyond what happens in PE lessons and on the pitch. Our focus is on the whole child and the transformative effect of physical activity to inspire, engage and empower children."

Alan Watkinson, Partnership Director of Southall-based Sport Impact, said his organisation was well-established in schools across Hounslow and was now looking forward to also working with schools in Richmond and Kingston as part of the partnership.

Watkinson said: "Move.Learn.Grow will boost the physical education and sport experience of young people at the very time they need it most."

Greg Dryer, Director of Kingston University's Centre for Physical Education, Sport and Activity, said: "The demands on teachers have changed over recent months and it is more important than ever to provide them with professional support and learning so that they can confidently deliver exceptional experiences for their pupils at school.

"Move.Learn.Grow will be a leader in its field."

Caroline Boyle, Headteacher of Buckingham Primary School, highly recommends schools seek outside support.

"Move. Learn. Grow will have a considerable impact on improving the quality of PE teaching across your school. The carefully planned team teaching support and observations, followed by comprehensive feedback have contributed to the impressive up-skilling of our teachers both in knowledge and confidence when delivering the PE curriculum. We consider the service to be very good value for money."

For more information about Move.Learn.Grow, visit

www.harlequins.foundation/movelearngrow



A school sports partnership brought to you by **The Harlequins Foundation**, **Kingston University** and **Sport Impact**



Former England captain Sue Day awarded an MBE

Former England captain Sue Day has been awarded an MBE for services to gender equality in sport in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

Sue Day said; "I'm honoured to receive this award and also humbled as I am acutely aware that I am just one of a whole movement of people working incredibly hard to drive the progress of women's sport and women's rugby. The phenomenal progress made in the women's game, and indeed the game as a whole is the result of lots of passionate players, coaches and volunteers and this award is recognition for them too. I look forward to a time when we can all come together to see a winning England Red Roses team play in front of a full capacity crowd at Twickenham Stadium."

Now Chief Operations and Financial Officer at the RFU, Day has been a passionate advocate and pioneer of the women's game.

In her playing days, she won 59 caps for England, scoring 61 tries and won three Grand Slams in a career that took her to three World Cups.

Since retiring from playing in 2010, her work to further the women's game has only increased.

Day was the first female president of Wasps FC (the amateur arm of Wasps Rugby club) and was one of the founding members of the Women's Sport Trust, which exists to raise the visibility and increase the impact of women's sport.

At the RFU, Day has continued to drive the women's game forward, and is leading development of the strategy to accelerate the all-round growth of the women's game.

Sue also remains an active member of the Wasps Legends and a supporter of the Wasps Legends Foundation, an organisation made up of men's and women's past players who to date have raised over £700,000 for good causes.

To this day Sue remains one of England's top two try scorers (records from the early days are a little hazy and so it could be either of Sue or Nicky Crawford, both of whom have at least 60 tries!).

Bill Sweeney, RFU CEO commented; "The RFU is very lucky to have Sue's experience and expertise and this award is testament to her hard work and dedication to the sport. Congratulations Sue, its thoroughly deserved."



Round one: Allianz Premier 15s

The first round of the new Allianz Premier 15s season started in fine style as Saracens Women defeated Worcester Warriors Women.

Sarries were made to work for the **34-25** win at Allianz Park with multiple lead changes throughout.

Two tries from Georgie Lingham helping them to a first win of the new campaign. Jo Yapp's side did take home a bonus point for their valiant efforts.

Newcomers Exeter Chiefs Women tasted defeat in their Allianz Premier 15s debut at Gloucester-Hartpury Women's RFC.

Red Roses Kelly Smith and Zoe Aldcroft both crossed over as the home side took the bonus point victory **34-14**. Aldcroft with two scores, the others from Connie Powell, Hannah Jones and Daisy Fahey. Exeter captain Linde van der Velden scored their first try in the competition.

The league's other newcomers Sale Sharks Women were also defeated by an experienced Loughborough Lightning.

Just three points separated the teams in the closing moments, but two late tries from Lark Davies sealed the **29-7** win for Loughborough.

In the final game of the day at The Stoop, Harlequins racked up a century as they beat DMP Durham Sharks **103-0**.

A host of Red Roses were among the tries including Shaunagh Brown, Jess Breach and Abbie Ward as Quins made a statement to start the latest campaign.

For the 2020/21 table, fixtures and results click [here](#).

The latest season statistics can be found [here](#) and highlights are [here](#).



Charity launches free domestic abuse advice line for businesses

A new advice line for businesses supporting employees experiencing or at risk of domestic abuse has been launched by crisis support charity Hestia.

1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men will experience domestic abuse at some point in their lifetime with 10 per cent of victims reporting abuse at work (TUC, 2014).

The Everyone's Business Advice Line will be a point of contact for businesses, supporting them on how to approach disclosures of domestic abuse by their employees, particularly in light of Covid-19. They will also receive advice so that they can signpost staff to specialist domestic abuse services.

Hestia says lockdown has shown that home is not always safe for everyone, and with more people working remotely due to Covid-19, cases of domestic abuse are rising. The charity saw a 47 per cent increase in victims reaching out for information and support on its free domestic abuse app, Bright Sky.

While over 2.4 million people are affected by domestic abuse every year, it can be difficult for employers to recognise the signs and support those experiencing domestic abuse in their organisation. Hestia launched the [Everyone's Business](#) programme to increase awareness and support in the workplace and have worked with over 70 organisations from the Metropolitan Police to Balfour Beatty.

Businesses play a significant role in supporting those who experience domestic abuse. Yet whilst 86 per cent employers agree they have a duty of care to support employees experiencing domestic abuse (Westmarland, 2017), fewer than one in three victims disclose the abuse at work, citing 'shame' and 'privacy' (TUC, 2014).

It's also expensive, costing employers upwards of £14 billion every year, when measuring based on reduced employee productivity and lost output due to time off work (Oliver et al., 2019).

Lyndsey Dearlove, Head of Everyone's Business Advice Line at Hestia said:

"Lockdown has meant victims have been away from their place of work, in isolation with their abusers, often with no way to seek support. Now, as more people return to their place of work, employers have a unique role to play in breaking the silence around domestic abuse.

By providing a free advice line that offers guidance, employers will be able to help their employees and direct them to practical support. When employers take action and respond to domestic abuse, we know it saves lives. For too long domestic abuse has been nobody's business and it is time it becomes everyone's business."

Elizabeth Filkin, Chair, Employers Initiative on Domestic Abuse said:

"Members of the Employers' Initiative on Domestic Abuse believe that domestic abuse is everyone's business, and that businesses have a critical role to play in supporting those affected by domestic abuse. With Covid-19 and lockdown we know that domestic abuse, and at the same time employees may be finding it difficult to know how their staff are doing. We know that it's not always easy to know what to do when domestic abuse, so having the Everyone's Business Advice Line available for HR professionals or managers to support them and guide them is a very valuable resource."

Susan Bright, Global Managing Partner for Diversity & Inclusion and Responsible Business at Hogan Lovells, said:

"Domestic abuse can have devastating consequences, and leave people faced with impossible life choices. Employers have an important role to play in supporting their employees, particularly this year and during the pandemic. We welcome the launch of the new advice line and hope that it will ease some of the pressure on those who are vulnerable."

A survivor of domestic abuse said:

"When my employer started working with Hestia, it was a turning point. This was my last resort to get help. I met with their Independent Domestic Violence Advocate and talked about my experience. It was the first time I felt believed. It was like a weight had been lifted. Without this service, I don't know what would have happened. It is vital that businesses can provide this type of service. I want to tell anyone who is in the same situation I was in that talking to someone can make so much difference - speak to your employer."

For more information and the contact details, visit <https://www.hestia.org/everyonesbusiness>



Transport accessibility to local services: a journey time tool

The National Audit Office (NAO) has published [an interactive tool](#) that presents and compares transport accessibility to key local services across England. The tool combines the latest available national journey time data with other publicly available data to explore access to different types of services by local public transport.

Local public transport provision influences how people can access the services they need. However, the nature and availability of local transport services in England are decided locally by local authorities and other bodies and is highly variable. The Department for Transport (DfT) and other organisations have identified that investment in local transport supports economic growth, helps build sustainable communities and works to reduce congestion.

The NAO's transport accessibility tool explores whether, when combined with rurality and deprivation, and the quality of the services themselves, variation in journey times is compounding unequal access to services in England. The tool has been designed to add insight, share knowledge and contribute to discussion around local transport provision and service delivery. It demonstrates new insights available to government through innovative use and analysis of its data. The tool builds on the NAO's previous data visualisations and work on transport and local services.



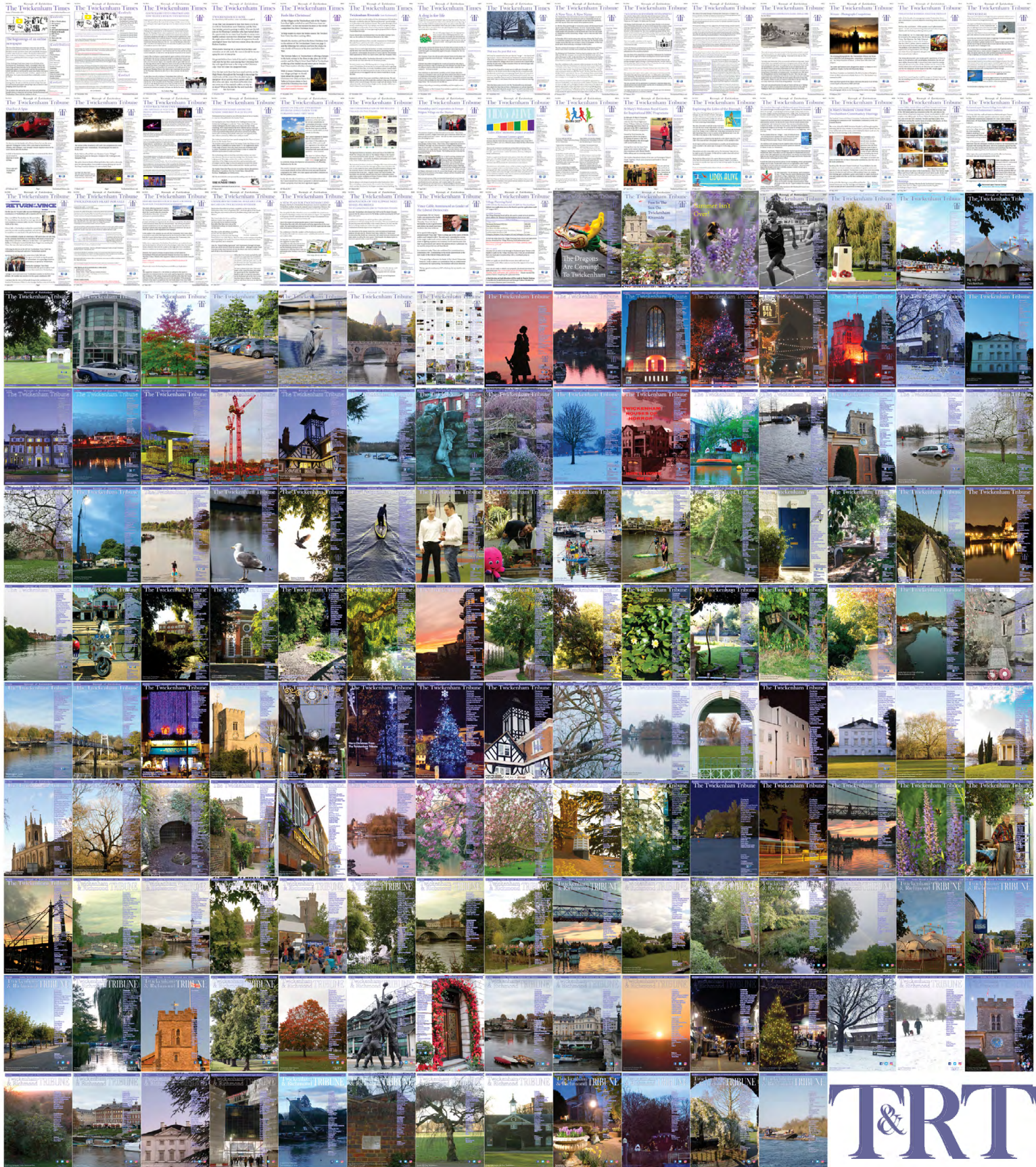
This tool can be used to explore:

1. Comparisons of local places' overall transport accessibility to the national average.
2. Average public transport journey times to seven key services and amenities in a given local area. Namely, schools (primary and secondary), further education establishments, acute hospital trusts, GP surgeries, large employment centres, and town centres at local authority, parliamentary constituency, local enterprise partnership (LEP) and clinical commissioning group (CCG) level.
3. Public transport journey times to health and education services rated good and outstanding, as well as the difference in journey time to reach a good or outstanding rated service, compared to a service with any quality rating.
4. Charts which compare public transport journey times with metrics of deprivation and rurality to look at the interplay between transport accessibility, rurality and deprivation.



National Audit Office

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