

# Twickenham & Richmond **TRIBUNE**

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### Editors

- Berkley Driscoll
- Teresa Read



27<sup>th</sup> November 2020



TwickerRobin  
Photo by Teresa Read



# TickerTape - News in Brief

## The Hampton food bank has reopened

The food bank at the White House in Hampton has reopened its walk-in service on Tuesdays from 9.30am to 12.30pm and on Wednesdays from 2 to 5pm, to help local people who might need food and support.

The address for the food bank is The White House, 45 The Avenue, Hampton, TW12 3RN. People visiting will have their temperatures taken, will be asked to socially distance, wear masks and to sanitise their hands. For more information visit [www.vineyardcommunity.org](http://www.vineyardcommunity.org).

## Have your say on Royal Parks movement strategy

Residents are reminded that Royal Parks are inviting feedback on their trial Movement Strategy in Richmond and Bushy parks.

In August, Royal Parks launched a trial to create new car-free spaces in Richmond and Bushy parks and reduce the volume of through-traffic.

Have your say [HERE](#). The deadline for feedback is 10 January 2020.

## Photo competition to launch new environmental charity

Habitats & Heritage, a new charity dedicated to looking after the natural and historic environment in south and west London has opened its doors this month, marking its launch with a local photography competition.

The charity aims to protect and restore our threatened local rivers, green spaces and parks and historic built environment and, during lockdown, it is encouraging everyone to get out and connect with nature, the environment and our local heritage.

Habitats & Heritage is launching a photography competition and asking people to enter free of charge and send photos that really showcase and celebrate the local habitats and heritage of south and west London. Everyone is invited to submit their best local snaps and the aim is to inspire people to discover new places on their doorstep.

For more information, click [HERE](#).

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



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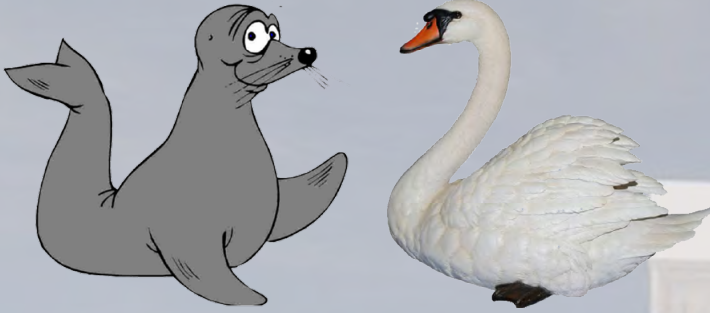
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# TwickerSeal

TwickerSeal was out for an amble on Twickenham Riverside and bumped into TwickerSwan



“Have you heard the latest nonsense about the Riverside?” asked TwickerSwan. “It seems the council’s incompetence in dealing with the Environment Agency is even worse than we thought!”



“How could they be more incompetent? They put together a design brief and conducted a RIBA competition without bothering to consult with the EA beforehand; now the ‘site’ is significantly different”



“Well, the council wrote to the EA in March/ April asking about an Environmental Impact Assessment, and the EA replied in detail” (Spoiler alert, the council seemingly didn’t bother to read the EA’s response properly).



“Apparently, the Director of the Environment wrote to the EA at the end of June asking for a meeting, and a meeting was held on 24th July with Hopkins, LBRuT, EA and Webb Yates. The council presented the Hopkins design for the Riverside”



“Ok, so the council presented the wonderful Hopkins design, to the EA which had been ‘consulted’ on last year. Obviously the council had adapted the design following the EA’s response to enquiries a few months before?”



“Er, no. In their wisdom the council seemingly hadn’t bothered to read the answer from the EA, which clearly stated why the Hopkins design was unacceptable. Their letter even stated *We would object to any building forming part of the defence line or buildings on stilts over the flood defence.*



“Ah, is that why the council and Hopkins hurriedly prepared their new, botched plans in August?”

Hmmmm, once again the council’s focus on getting it done, rather than getting it right leads to failure.

So they presented a design to the EA... with stilts.

You can see the report [HERE](#). The EA’s comments on the ‘stilt issue’ can be seen in Appendix 2 on the last page (p35). Please read it, the council didn’t bother to.

# Borough View By Graeme Stoten

## '20,000 steps in Richmond Park'

Seizing an opportunity, like many others, to get out for some exercise and enjoy the last of the autumnal colour, irrespective of the weather!

Skirting Sidmouth Wood and heading up the 'broad walk' to White Lodge, views begin to clear as leaf fall dresses the parkland.



## How Long has the Virus Been With Us?

The end of the year will mark the first anniversary of the time when the world was officially informed of the COVID-19 outbreak.

According to an article in the South China Morning Post the first reported death from the new coronavirus in China could have been on 17 November 2019 although China officially reported “SARS-CoV-2” - the virus responsible for the COVID-19 disease - to the World Health Organization, China County Office, on 31 December 2019.

Chinese authorities identified the new type of coronavirus on 7 January 2020; the genome of the novel coronavirus (2019-n-CoV) was sequenced and posted on Virological.org by Chinese scientists on 10 January 2020.

A report from Reuters on 16 November 2020 said that researchers had found that the new coronavirus had been circulating in Italy from September 2019, the information sourced from a study by the National Cancer Institute in Milan.

Italy became one of the worst affected countries of the pandemic. An article in the Lancet stated “During the first months of 2020, Italy had the highest number of cases of COVID-19 in Europe and in the world.” (15 October 2020).

In the UK a patient in Chatham, Kent, was reported to have died from the new coronavirus in January 2020, suffering symptoms on December 28 2019. The death toll in the UK was 56,533 on 27 November 2020 according to World Health Organization.

In the USA early cases of patients with Covid-19 were reported on 20 April 2020 by The Washington Post; two deaths were found to have been the result of the virus in Santa Clara County, California, on 6th and 7th February 2020. At the time of writing there have been 257,825 deaths in the USA.

On 26 June 2020 Reuters reported that Spanish virologists had found traces of the novel coronavirus in a sample of Barcelona waste water collected in March 2019. (The University of Barcelona team, who had been testing waste water to identify potential new outbreaks, ran tests on older samples). The death toll for Spain is currently 44,037.

We can see from the figures below the extent of the loss of life so far to this virus.

## Cases of COVID-19

Total cases to 27 November 2020

2,814 Richmond-upon-Thames    3,054 Kingston-upon Thames    5,240 Hounslow

### **World Health Organization This Week:**

“In the week, up until 24 November, the global acceleration in case incidence has slowed down, with around 4 million new cases reported; however, death rates continue to increase with over 67,000 new deaths reported.”

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

Deaths Worldwide 1,420,306

USA 257,825

Brazil 170,769

India 135,715

Mexico 103,597

The United Kingdom 56,533

Italy 52,028

France 50,259

Iran 46,689

Spain 44,037

Russian Federation 38,062

Argentina 37,714

Colombia 35,860

Peru 35,727

South Africa 21,201

Indonesia 16,352

Belgium 16,077

Germany 15,160

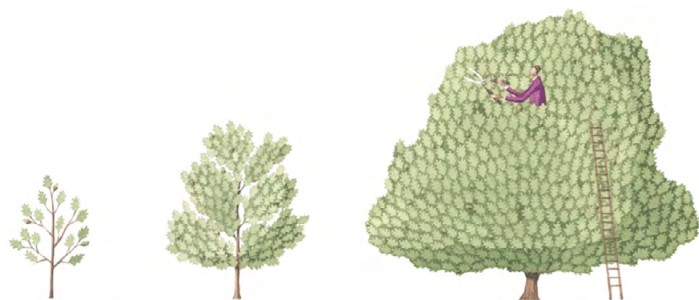
Poland 14,988

**Avoid places where the three C's come together**

**Crowds, Closed spaces, Close contact**

**Follow strict personal hygiene advice, wear a mask and keep indoor areas well ventilated.**

**DO IT ALL.**



**The Tree Agency**

darryl parkin

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*The Tree Agency*

# The Worst Night of the War: Richmond

By Simon Fowler

Last week we looked at the devastation wrought by the Luftwaffe in Twickenham. Now we examine what happened in Richmond, where the damage was probably greater than that across the river.

In Richmond the *Richmond Herald* later wrote:

Fires raged everywhere, houses were pulverised into rubble; the air was heavy with the smell of burning...bombs rained down without regard to any particular target. Every available piece of fire equipment was brought into use. Three fire floats were engaged in pumping water from the river and there were hosepipes everywhere. They wound through the streets and Richmond Hill like great snakes. It was like a scene from Dante's Inferno...

Many buildings were either badly damaged or destroyed altogether. Chief among them was the Town Hall on Hill Street, which suffered a direct hit. It was rebuilt after the war.

Again there were many deaths. Because of heavy censorship at that time, the *Richmond and Twickenham Times* could allude only to the loss of life, not to the address:

Four adults [actually five] and three children were killed when a public shelter received a direct hit. Among the injured was a girl, trapped by the legs, who talked cheerfully while rescue men worked for several hours to free her... She fainted after she was released, but her injuries were stated to be slight... A resident commented on the efficiency of the rescue parties, which were soon on the scene.



Sorting through the wreckage of the Town Hall.  
Credit: Richmond Local Studies and Archives

The bomb in fact fell on the shelter at the Poppy Factory killing Mrs Pamela Reddings, and her children Gwendolene (aged 15), Jean (11) and John (7). Other casualties were Ethel Lomas and her daughter Ivy together with Edith Stuckey and Alice Morey.

The next day the typist Marie Lawrence went into central Richmond:

I walked up Paradise Road and when I came to a spare piece of ground opposite the schools where the school shelter was there was a huge crater and first two or three houses in Eton Street were down. The mess was dreadful, I walked on and came opposite the Town Hall when a sight greeted me. The road was full of pumps. The Town Hall was gutted although it looked all right from the front.

Members of the Home Guard helped rescue some of the stock from Bartons, a department store which faced the station. According to a member Mr J H Halls, 'These included some of the display dummies... the next day it caused rather a laugh as a rumour went around that [we] had brought dead bodies out.

## Hedges and hawthorns at Marble Hill Park

By Kas Rasenberg

The gardeners at Marble Hill Park will be planting nearly three-thousand hawthorn plants in the coming months. The common hawthorn – or *Crataegus monogyna* – is a flowering shrub once widespread across the British countryside. The plant has been a shelter for many small insects and mammals - such as the tent caterpillars or the Japanese beetles or the west tussock moth. The small tree, or so I read, has received a notoriety amongst the farmers of Snowdonia, where the thorns have torn the wool of their sheep.

It is said that the hawthorn plant was known to ancient farmers and many rituals have since been associated with its branches. Bunches accompanied the dead to their graves and were placed upon an alter in Hymen, where they were lit by a torch made from its wood. One of the most moving traditions is associated with one of the Glastonbury thorn variety. The old tree – which stood near a monastery built during the seventh century – bloomed during mild winters and acquired a sanctity due to its flowering on Christmas Eve.

Each winter, the people of Glastonbury would flock upon the hill to see the tree in blossom. Their children would sing hymns or carols, and carried lanterns throughout the night. A layer of snow might have fallen upon their little winter-coats while they placed offerings underneath its branches. It is said that the tree was cut down as the Civil War unfolded. The villagers allegedly preserved some of its cuttings, from which another Holy Tree has grown.

Their tradition was disrupted by the introduction of the Gregorian calendar. The blossom no longer appeared during the hours of Christmas Eve. Many have tried to grow another Glastonbury thorn from seed, but these specimens merely flowered during the months of early summer. The hawthorns of Glastonbury have repeatedly been destroyed and the old tree near the abbey has been declared to be dead.



*A healthy hawthorn hedge provides shelter, food and a safe travel corridor for wildlife in all seasons.*



Hawthorn plants have traditionally been employed as hedgerows or as natural boundaries. It is said that we have lost most of our hedgerows in this country as fields have become larger and the mechanisation of farming methods has increased. Many of our usual traditions might be disrupted during this particular Christmas. Perhaps it will be a good moment to honour our hedgerows and our trees.



# The Royal Parks calls on locked-down Londoners to take a daily walk in the park to stay well over winter

The Royal Parks charity is launching a 'Welcome Winter' campaign, inviting Londoners to help beat those lockdown blues and stay well over the coming months by simply taking a 20-minute walk in the park every day. The charity, which cares for London's eight historic Royal Parks and other important green spaces in the city, encourages people to rally against the rain and be bold in the cold by wrapping up warm and walking to visit the incredible nature on their doorstep.

Londoners are invited to enjoy the stark winter beauty of their local green space where they can connect safely with people they live with, their support bubble or with one other person during the national restrictions and beyond. The parks are a great place to enjoy the fresh air, connect with nature, play with your children and stay fit – whether that's by walking, jogging or cycling.

Research suggests that the pandemic has negatively affected mental health. Levels of mental distress such as anxiety, depression and stress increased up by 8.1% at the end of March and early April 2020, compared with 2017-2019, according to Public Health England\*. In particular, adults with low household income or socioeconomic position, who have been more adversely affected by the coronavirus crisis, have reported greater levels of anxiety and uncertainty during this time – getting outside for exercise can be a great way to improve your mood.

The 'Welcome Winter' campaign is reminding all Londoners that spending time outdoors in green spaces can benefit both mind and body. Making a habit of taking at least a 20-minute walk for a daily dose of daylight during the dark winter months can boost people's mood and help keep them healthy. Almost two thirds (59%) of the UK adult population surveyed found that going for a walk outside helped them cope with stress caused by the pandemic, and half of UK adults visited green space to help them cope according to The Mental Health Foundation\*\*.



Photo credit: Chris O'Donovan

The Royal Parks' chief executive, Andrew Scattergood, said: *"The parks were a lifeline for many Londoners during the first lockdown, staying open throughout and providing beautiful, free spaces for Londoners to stay healthy and lift their mood. And the parks remain here for everyone now, as a refuge for whoever needs them.*

*"It may be cold outside but we know that being outdoors, seeing trees, hearing birdsong, seeing the sky and feeling in contact with nature are associated with increased levels of happiness and wellbeing. It's never been more important to look after ourselves than now. Put simply, a walk in the park makes you feel better."*

The charity encourages people not to drive to the parks during the busiest times such as weekends and lunchtime and to consider visiting the parks at quieter times, such as early in the morning or during the week.

Professor Kevin Fenton, London regional director for Public Health England said: *"2020 has been tough year for many of us but getting active could make a difference to your wellbeing this winter. To stay healthy, it's really important to take care of our minds as well as our bodies and that's why I'm encouraging Londoners to safely take a daily 20-minute walk.*

*"While we will be spending more time indoors this winter, evidence shows that green environments can promote and protect good health. The greenspace we have across London's parks is incredible and a great place to get outside.*

*"When leaving our homes for exercise, it's important that we stay safe by only meeting with people we live with, support bubbles, or with one other person while we're under national restrictions. Remember to wash your hands regularly, keep your distance from others and get tested if you or your household have any symptoms of COVID-19."*

Dr Jacqui Dyer MBE, Mental Health Equalities Advisor for NHS England and co-lead of Thrive LDN, said: *"It's OK to treat yourself to the things that make you smile and make you feel good. Going for a walk and spending time in local green space has been a key coping mechanism for many people who have experienced stress due to the pandemic. The Royal Parks' Welcome Winter campaign is a great way of sharing the health and wellbeing benefits of spending time outdoors safely, even during the winter months, which can support people to build strength and resilience."*

For those who are not able to leave their homes during lockdown, The Royal Parks is offering a range of digital learning resources to help bring the parks to their sofas. This includes nature trails, craft sessions, storytelling and podcasts uncovering the parks' history.



THE  
ROYAL  
PARKS

# Managing flood risk: a data visualisation

The National Audit Office has today launched a flood risk data visualisation, to accompany its report into Managing flood risk (see the report at the end of this edition).

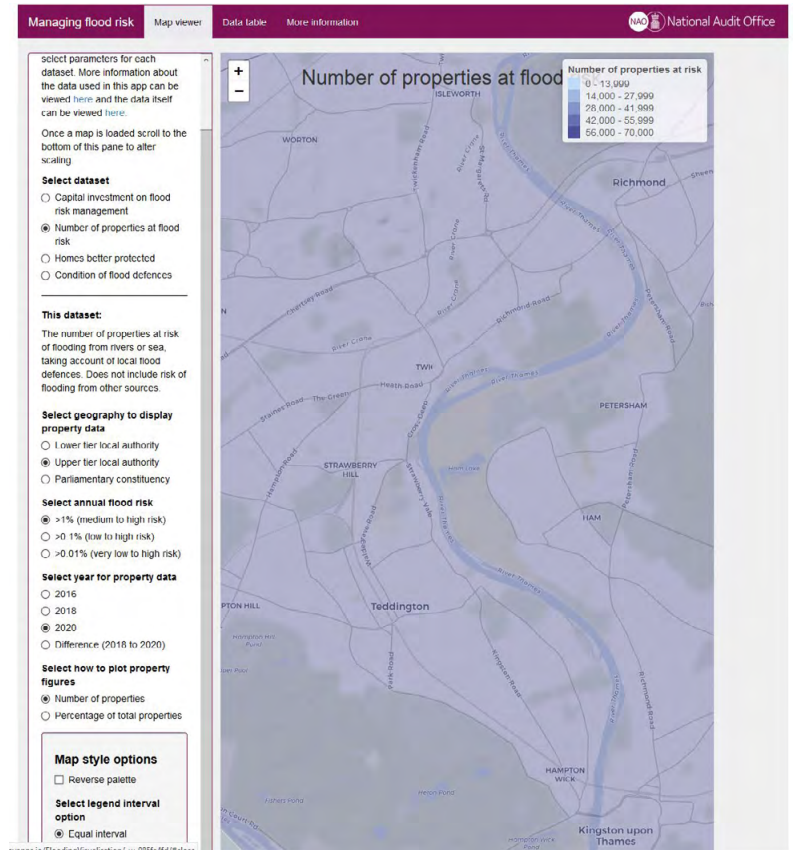
You can use the data visualisation to find:

- Capital expenditure on the construction of new or improved flood defences split by local authority or region,
- The number of properties at risk of flooding from rivers or sea, taking account of local flood defences,
- The number of homes better protected from flood risk by government's investment programme, and
- The average condition of flood defences by local authority or region.



You can access the tool [HERE](#)

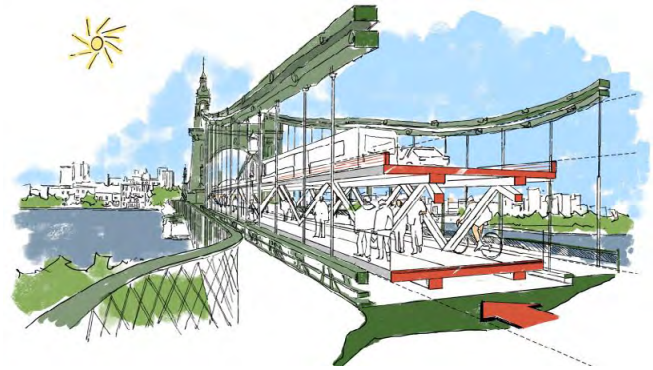
National Audit Office



## Richmond Council welcomes proposed new solution for Hammersmith Bridge

A radical new solution to the on-going closure of Hammersmith Bridge, negating the need for a second temporary bridge structure, has been welcomed by Richmond Council.

Hammersmith & Fulham (H&F) Council have revealed plans to build a temporary double-decker crossing within the existing structure of Hammersmith Bridge. A new raised truss structure would be built above the existing road deck, featuring a lower level for pedestrians and cyclists and an upper level for cars and buses. This would allow existing approach routes for traffic to be used.



H&F Council have said the structure will also provide support for the bridge as well as a safe platform for restoration work to be carried out. There would be no load added to the existing bridge deck, which would be removed in stages for repair and restoration off-site which could allow works to be done at greater speed and at a reduced cost. When completed, the temporary raised deck would be removed.

The concept plan designed by Foster + Partners and further developed with specialist bridge engineers COWI, will be presented by H&F Council to Department of Transport officials today (26 November).

More information about the proposals are available on Hammersmith & Fulham Council's [website](#).

# Hampton North Ward News

Councillors Geoffrey Samuel and Kate Howard

## FOOTBALL PITCH ON HAMPTON COMMON

Officers have agreed to our request that consideration of this matter be deferred until residents have received this Newsletter. The intention is to 'support and grow women's football'. It would allow women's and girls' teams to be developed whilst protecting existing football pitches from over use. The pitch would use portable goals to make sure that the park continues to be used all year round. If agreed, it would be installed in time for the 2021/2022 season. The 65 x 45m pitch would be installed just south-west of the existing sports pitch. We are minded to support this proposal but remember that some fifteen years ago a proposed pitch aroused some local hostility. If you are opposed to this proposal we should be grateful if you would contact us with your reasons by 3rd December.

## PLANNING ISSUES

We are supporting local residents in Courtlands Avenue and The Avenue in opposing an application. If you ever want our support over an application, do let us know as soon as possible. We are usually able to agree! We then send in our reasons which may differ somewhat from the objections of immediate neighbours. As Kate is a member of the Planning Committee she would be disqualified from voting in Committee if she has been involved in expressing either support or opposition. Several residents have contacted us opposing the Government's draft proposals for changes in the Planning process. We share your concerns and are pleased that the original proposals are certain to be modified. We shall be expressing our views and worries individually to Ministers.

## TREES

On safety grounds the Council is proposing to fell four trees in our ward: Cherry Tree opposite 15 Albury Close: a dying tree opposite 17 Albury Close: a dying crack willow in Victors Drive (Page Green): a sycamore tree whose stems are vulnerable to further failure in Buckingham Road. We are never happy when trees are felled but it is difficult to object if there is a professional view that the tree could fall and cause personal injury.

Two residents have reported fallen trees to us. However in both cases they are not on Council land and therefore not Council responsibility and we have had to report that the Council will not remove them. We are raising with PA trees in Chichester Close which are causing problems for residents in Stevens Close

## TOWNMEAD 'DUMP'

A number of local residents use the Townmead Centre. It was totally closed during the first Lockdown. When it re-opened with reduced hours and reduced service there were queues of up to two hours and the Council adopted a complicated booking system. It is now reported that some 25% of bookings are not carried out. Clearly residents book a slot – it has to be well in advance – just in case they need it. Perhaps it is time to go back to the original system which allowed residents to turn up when needed.

## BRIDGE – LONGFORD CLOSE TO DEAN ROAD

Over the years there has been a number of incidents of unpleasant behaviour on this bridge. Recently residents complained to us of anti-social use by cycles and motorised cycles. In response the Council has responded that such action would constitute an offence liable to a penalty. But –as we see it – can we really expect anyone with power to impose a penalty to actually catch an offender? The Police agree with our view that a chicane of some sort would prevent the problem. The Council is not sympathetic as it would be likely to impede those with limited mobility as well as those with prams. The Council urges residents who witness problems to report them directly to Police. However as immediate Police action is unlikely we would suggest that residents report incidents also to us

## SHORTER ITEMS

- We are reviewing the situation after complaints of motorists performing three point turns on the zig-zags in Nightingale Road
- If you have any experience of either car thefts or thefts from cars, please let us know
- As pet-owners (Kate has Koko[ a Jack Russell] and Geoffrey a cat [Minerva])we are sympathetic to those who have complained to us about fireworks
- Residents have reported to us an excess of leaves and debris in roads including Hanworth Road and we have asked for immediate action
- We have asked officers to deal with damage to a fence in Oak Avenue
- Once again residents in Fulmer Close have reported that parked cars are causing some safety hazards and in the first instance we have referred it to PA for action
- We shall report on the current situation regarding The White House in our next Newsletter

***We wish all our readers a very Happy Christmas and hope you are all able to have an enjoyable time after these difficult few months***

# TIER 2

# HIGH ALERT

FROM 2 DEC

<b>MEETING FRIENDS AND FAMILY</b> <p>No mixing of households indoors, apart from support bubbles. Maximum of six outdoors.</p>	<b>BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS</b> <p>Pubs and bars must close, unless operating as restaurants. Hospitality venues can only serve alcohol with substantial meals. Venues must stop taking orders at 10pm and must close by 11pm.</p>	<b>RETAIL</b> <p>Open.</p>	<b>WORK AND BUSINESS</b> <p>Everyone who can work from home should do so.</p>
<b>EDUCATION</b> <p>Early years settings, schools, colleges and universities open. Childcare, other supervised activities for children, and childcare bubbles permitted.</p>	<b>INDOOR LEISURE</b> <p>Open.</p>	<b>ACCOMMODATION</b> <p>Open.</p>	<b>PERSONAL CARE</b> <p>Open.</p>
<b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b> <p>Permitted with household or support bubble.</p>	<b>WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS</b> <p>15 guests for weddings, civil partnerships, wedding receptions and wakes; 30 for funerals.</p>	<b>ENTERTAINMENT</b> <p>Open.</p>	<b>PLACES OF WORSHIP</b> <p>Open, but cannot interact with anyone outside household or support bubble.</p>
<b>TRAVELLING</b> <p>Reduce the number of journeys you make and walk or cycle if possible. Avoid busy times and routes on public transport. Avoid car sharing with those outside of your household or support bubble. Avoid entering a Tier 3 area, other than where necessary such as for work or education. Further exemptions apply.</p>	<b>EXERCISE</b> <p>Classes and organised adult sport can take place outdoors, but cannot take place indoors if there is any interaction between people from different households. Organised activities for elite athletes, under-18s and disabled people can continue.</p>	<b>RESIDENTIAL CARE</b> <p>COVID-secure arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, and window visits. Outdoor/airtight visits only (rollout of rapid testing will enable indoor visits including contact).</p>	<b>LARGE EVENTS</b> <p>Sport, live performances and business meetings limited to 50% capacity or 2000 people outdoors (whichever is lower) and 50% capacity or 1000 people indoors (whichever is lower)</p>

**Find out what support you can get**

For example, if you're out of work, need to get food, or want to take care of your mental health.

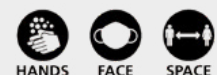
[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

**If you have any coronavirus symptoms:**

A high temperature • A new, continuous cough  
A loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste.

**Get a test and stay at home**

For more information and detailed guidance visit:  
[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)



# Petitions

## 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](#)

## Accept the proposal to reinstate a Lido on Twickenham Riverside

During consultations with local stakeholders it has become clear that there is a wish to bring back a Lido on Twickenham Riverside.

A Lido on Twickenham Riverside would provide a leisure and sport facility for the people of Twickenham and surrounding areas.

More importantly though, it provides the local people with an everyday escape from modern life, an accessible urban retreat.

Such a facility on Twickenham Riverside would act as a Magnet and contribute to the rejuvenation of the town. The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

## Return the borough to 30mph

### Petition the Council to restore the 30mph speed limit

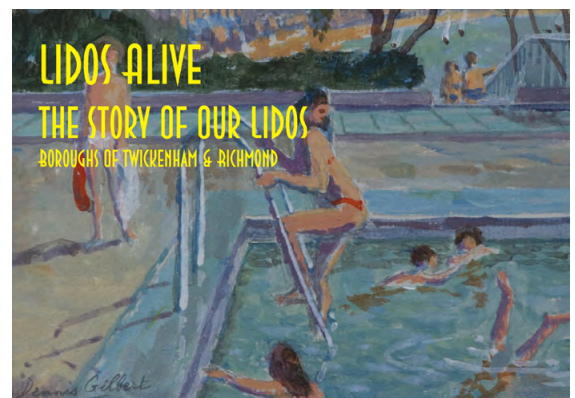
There has been an increase in dangerous and aggressive driving since the introduction of the 20mph speed limit.

The petition can be viewed [HERE](#)

## An Ideal Present for just £6

Lidos Alive – the Story of Our Lidos - is a 63-page A5 book with colour photos and illustrations full of interesting information about the history of outdoor swimming in the Borough and the rise of the lido. Contents include Mereway Bathing Place, pools in Bushy Park, Hampton Pool, Teddington Pool, Hampton Wick, Tagg's Island, Marble Hill, Twickenham Baths, Pools on the Park and other interesting stories.

To purchase a book contact [info@TwickenhamTribune.com](mailto:info@TwickenhamTribune.com)



# PLANT A TREE THIS WEEK

By Doug Goodman

It's National Tree Week from November 28 to December 6.

Since 1975 the event has celebrated the start of every planting season by planting vast numbers of trees around the UK.

Wardens and volunteers get muddy during the week-long session when around 250,000 new trees are planted. This year it will be different as gatherings are not permitted but you can take part in tree inspired events such as panel discussions, tree art and music. But there's no reason why you cannot visit your local garden centre and buy a tree for your garden.

Trees are vital for our environment and essential for wildlife. The Autumn colours are stunning; in Winter trees offer us dark silhouettes; in Spring the new green leaves flicker in the sunshine and in Summer the trees' canopies give us shade. Reflected in water they provide magnificent photographic opportunities.

Doug Goodman has enjoyed taking pictures of trees for many years in our area and in parks and gardens in the South. Here's a selection of his favourite images.



Bark



Near Golden Cap, Dorset



Log Pile



Borde Hill, Sussex



Birch Wood



Twickenham  
Riverside



Lake at Pains Hill



Twickenham



Autumn Colours



Twickenham  
Embankment



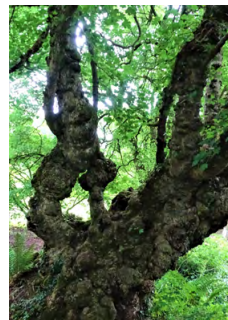
Mapperton, Dorset



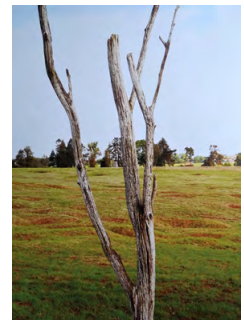
Mapperton. Old Oak



Pains Hill Park



Burrow Farm, Devon



Tree of Death. Somme Battlefield



Polesden Lacy



Ramster Gardens



Wisley



Wakehurst Place



Beach Roots

Dear Editors,

## **Bushy Park - Parking Charges**

You are featuring a petition against charges in Bushy Park but no option for those in support which I think ought to be assessed.

I am sure that the majority of people using the car parks contribute nothing towards the upkeep of the roads, paths and car park let alone the management of the deer or trees and plants which are such an important feature of the park. People are quite happy to pay for car parking when going shopping or maybe in better times to the cinema. If they go to Kew or Wisley they need to pay entrance charges. Surely a charge to enjoy the otherwise free Park should not be unreasonable

Nick Osorio  
Address Supplied

Dear Sir,

## **Parking meter scam**

Your story about. Frenchman conning people at a Parking meter also happened to me two weeks ago in east Twickenham near the slipway that leads to The Thames.

He said he was from Bordeaux and didn't know where to put his £50 notes into the machine.

I sensed a rat when ,having said he had driven from France ,he didn't know what a bank card was !

Fortunately I said I didn't have a bank card and he walked off.  
Please warn everyone of,this scammer.

Robin Corti  
Twickenham



Male and two female Hooded Mergansers visited the [Barnes Wetlands](#) and so did we last week.

Sir Peter Markham Scott's statue commemorates his substantial contribution to conservation of wildlife and wild places. He was one of the Founders of the World-Wide fund for Nature and designed its Panda Logo. We are lucky to have the variety of places to visit in our borough which connect us to nature and offer opportunities for learning at all stages of life.



The Hides are closed during lockdown but it is still worth visiting this amazing place and we even saw some Reindeer in the Woods on a carpet of glorious autumn colours.

More photos are on our website showing what is visiting us even as the weather grows colder. Wrap up and get out there and let nature lift our spirits and connect with others with a smile in our eyes even if we are wearing a mask.

River Crane Sanctuary [Website](#) [Instagram](#)



# COUNCIL COMPULSORY PURCHASE OF PROTECTED RIVERSIDE GARDENS ANGERS RESIDENTS

Conservative Group, London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames

Twickenham Riverside residents have expressed their fury at the LibDem run council's attempts to threaten the Diamond Jubilee Gardens with a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) to try and bulldoze through their unpopular plans to redevelop the area.

At a council meeting this week, Conservative Councillors agreed with the objections from the Gardens' Trustees and members of the public complaining that the threat of a CPO was wrong. The council's aggressive and 'holding a gun at the head' at of the trustees of Twickenham Riverside Trust was unacceptable they said.

The previous Conservative administration handed over the gardens to the people of Twickenham. They ensured the gardens were held in trust on a 125 year lease for the enjoyment of residents and visitors.

The Gardens site now forms a central part of the LibDem's "Hopkins Plan" for the area. Despite LibDem claims to have engaged with the public on the plans there has in fact only been a single engagement on the project. They have been forced to change the plans but without further consultation leaving residents and businesses alike angered by the council's stance.

Instead of rejecting the idea of the CPO to purchase the Diamond Jubilee Gardens outright, the LibDems have kicked the can down the road to the next meeting where a decision is set to be made.

Backing businesses, residents and the trustees of the gardens, Twickenham Conservatives have denounced the council's actions. Councillor Geoffrey Samuel says: *"The Council is basically telling all the interested parties that if they don't agree it doesn't matter. They will force through a Compulsory Purchase Order so they can do exactly what they want. What kind of democracy is that and where's the transparency in what they are doing?"*

Concerned resident, Dugald Millar says: *"The plans have changed because so many mistakes and miscalculations have been made by the council but when are we going to be asked for our views. I am appalled that we don't seem to matter to them, yet we are the ones who live here"*

And Conservative Leader on the council, Cllr Paul Hodgins, adds: *"At the last election, the Liberal Democrats made up an issue of town hall secrecy. They said they were going to run an open Council, and come up with a Riverside plan that everyone would like.*

*"This is what happens when you make easy, empty promises at election time. They now find themselves with mounting opposition to their plans, having held barely any consultation, and threatening the Diamond Jubilee Gardens trust with compulsory purchase if they don't agree with the LibDem administration. They are even now questioning the trust's legitimacy. On top of that, residents are having to pay additional millions for this whole project, the amount of which the LibDems refuse to disclose.*

*"It's a mess, but it all stems from dishonest promises made at the last election."*



**Conservatives**

## EASY CHRISTMAS (OR PRE-CHRISTMAS) TREATS

Well, this Christmas is certainly going to be different! So I thought it worth starting to give you some suggestions for Christmas gifts – or even pre-Christmas cheering up gifts – that can be enjoyed by the whole family. Better still; treat yourself – after the year we’ve been through (and are still dealing with) you certainly deserve it.

Let’s start with chocolate, and Christmas is the time to indulge! Most of us absolutely adore it, and I include myself in that group. Helping judge the Academy of Chocolate awards, I like to think I recognise the good stuff, and it really is worth seeking it out. There are many great offers at the moment - of chocolate subscriptions, chocolate gift boxes and chocolate hampers,

First of all, let’s look at companies like **Divine** which is ethical, and the farmers’ ownership stake in Divine Chocolate is a first in the Fairtrade world. Divine is currently offering 20% off all orders at its [online store](#), so it’s worth checking this out for Christmas. As well as bars, they do delicious boxes of thins (try freezing a few – they will last much longer!) The offer runs till December 21.

What about sending a gift of a chocolate subscription? Top quality ethical and organic brand **Seed & Bean** (with some truly wonderful flavour combinations) now offers letterbox subscriptions of six bars. You choose the variety and regularity – a gift that can last all year. If you just want to try a few bars, they’re available in Sainsbury, WholeFoods, Ocado and many other locations. And there’s free UK delivery [online](#) for orders over £15.



Another FairTrade and organic company I really rate, is **Chocolate and Love**. It’s multi award-winning, and the packaging is so pretty. And, of course, the chocolate inside is pretty damned good too! Available from Harrods, Ocado and [online](#).

If you genuinely want to indulge a chocolate connoisseur, why not push that chocolate boat out and treat a loved one (or yourself) to **Amedei**? Artisanal techniques, inimitable taste and a unique style, all made in Tuscany, are the features that make Amedei’s chocolate renowned the world over. I was fortunate enough to visit the Amedei artisanal HQ in Pontedera some years ago, and it set the bar very high! It’s won more Academy of Chocolate ‘Golden Bean’ awards than any other producer. Check out the range at [Kings Fine Food](#)



# Kieran Rayner and Gamal Khamis

Opera Live At Home, On-line from 24<sup>th</sup> November

Another superlative evening of opera arias was presented by Helen Astrid this week, the second of her *Opera Live at Home* series, a marvellous idea and well-suited to these musically deprived times, providing the audience with a special opportunity to hear some outstanding emerging artists in the UK. Helen Astrid introduced each aria with brief historical scenarios. The rather informal nature of these concerts also gives the artists a welcome chance to chat with the audience.

The programme notes gave some indication that the duo of New Zealand born baritone Kieran Rayner and his accompanist Gamal Khamis was going to be a veritable feast of music and so it proved. We were treated to a diverse programme performed with panache, demonstrating a wide range of mood and ability by this energetic and compelling young singer who obviously enjoyed every minute of his performance, and all finely supported by Khamis.



To begin Kieran literally leapt onto our screens with the *Largo* from Rossini's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, a thrilling opening packed with joie de vivre. Here was a barber who was anything but a servant. Kieran was thoroughly at home in the characterful role, full of lively bonhomie and engaging wit whilst delivering plenty of his very own wisdom.

Bizet's famous *Toreador Song* from *Carmen*, a firm opera favourite (just as Tchaikovsky had predicted on first hearing the opera in 1820), was performed effortlessly. Kieran's extravagant silver and black toreador tunic (henceforth known as his 'Strictly jacket') demonstrated his humour and formidable dancing skills.

Read Kate Cleeland's review at [www.markaspen.com/2020/11/26/rayner-khamis](http://www.markaspen.com/2020/11/26/rayner-khamis)

Photography by Christopher Christodoulou and Meghan Krauss

[Opera Live at Home](#) will feature soprano Christine Buras with Thomas Ang on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and Kathleen Ferrier finalist Milly Forrest in 2021.



# St Mary's University Update

## St Mary's University, Twickenham is to launch rapid Covid-19 tests for students and staff ahead of the Christmas break

The University is working closely with the Government's Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) to establish and host a new asymptomatic testing centre on campus. The test centre will offer free Lateral Flow tests for St Mary's students and staff.

Speaking of the new rapid testing centre, St Mary's Vice-Chancellor Anthony McClaran said, "We are pleased to be taking part in this Government initiative to help our students return to their permanent addresses ahead of the end of term to spend Christmas with their

loved ones. I would like to thank all members of the St Mary's community for their resilience throughout the term, which helped ensure we could maintain a Covid-secure learning environment."

The test centre, which will be located in the Students' Union Lounge, will be open from 30th November to 9th December and will be operated separately from the public NHS Test Centre located at the St Mary's Teddington Lock

campus. As a designated facility for St Mary's, the new testing centre is not open to members of the public. If you are a member of the public and wish to book a Covid-19 Test, please visit the [government website](#) where you can find a test centre near you.

St Mary's students and staff can find more information on how to book their test on [SIMMSpace](#) or [Staffnet](#).

If you would like to find out more about how we have made our campus Covid-secure, please visit our [Stay Safe at St Mary's website](#).



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London



Lateral Flow tests are designed to be used by people without Covid-19 symptoms to minimise the risk of asymptomatic spread of the virus. The test is designed to detect the presence of Covid-19 by applying a swab or saliva sample to the device's absorbent pad. The sample runs along the surface of the pad, and shows a visual positive or negative result dependent on the presence of the virus.

The tests can produce results faster than the standard Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) tests currently used across the NHS to test those with symptoms, and have been validated by Public Health England to deliver safe and reliable results.

# TWICKENHAM GIRL, AGED 7, SELECTED AS FINALIST OF EXPLORE LEARNING WRITERS' AWARDS

Liyana Butt, aged 7, from Twickenham, has been chosen as the Key Stage 1 winner of the Explore Learning Writers' Awards (ELWAs), which saw thousands of entries submitted from across the country.

Her 500-word entry, about flying to the moon to taste chocolate chip space cookies, was selected as one of three winners by celebrity guest judge radio DJ Greg James.

The theme for this year's long-running competition, open for children aged 4-14, was 'Hidden Talents', and James was seen to be a fitting choice for judge, himself having authored the 'Kid Normal' book series about finding out your secret passion.

James selected a winner each from Key Stages 1, 2 and 3 - and as winner of their Key Stage 1, Liyana has won an iPad, Smart Keyboard and Apple Pencil PLUS £250 in experience vouchers towards her own passion and talents.

Winners were chosen based on creativity, rather than spelling, grammar or technical factors, giving children the chance to let their imaginations run wild. Every child who submitted a story received a certificate celebrating their efforts, signed by Greg James.

## **Bill Mills, CEO of Explore Learning, said:**

*"Liyana's story was so very imaginative, it's no wonder she was crowned winner of her age group. This year's theme of hidden talents was so fitting as we saw many budding young authors unveil their talent for writing, and it's obvious that storytelling is one of Liyana's talents."*

*She has done a fantastic job fighting off the competition from thousands of others and Greg was clearly impressed with her story. Congratulations to Liyana and all those who entered the Explore Learning Writers' Awards for 2020."*



# WIZ TALES

By Teresa Read



The following photographs are from participants in the American Peace Corps who took part in the Water in Africa project in 1999.

Accessibility to a clean source of water is a problem in many areas of the world. This was made clear to the World InfoZone project when one of the participants spent time teaching in Ghana in 2000. Unfortunately, twenty years later with pandemic fears such projects, like many areas of our lives, have been affected.



[Benin](#)

Photo Amy Gaspar



[Mali](#)

Photo John Bidwell



[Cote d'Ivoire](#)

Photo Lori Duff



[The Gambia](#)

Photo Katherine Whitman



[Senegal](#)

Photo Jamie Schehl



[Burkina Faso](#)

Photo Shana Miller



[Gabon](#)

Photo Pamela Parsa



[Madagascar](#)

Photo Clare Sandy



[Togo](#)

Photo Nathan McFall



[Cameroon](#)

Photo Serena Williams



[Cape Verde](#)

Photo Brandon Lundy



[Guinea](#)

Photo Jennifer Akers

# READY STEADY GO!!!

## Black Friday; Bring it on!!!

By Bruce Lyons

SSH!! Despite Grant Shapps unveiling new corridors; Aruba, Mongolia, Timor, Bhutan and some even less accessible Pacific Islands which brings the corridors to well into 100+ were not telling him about BLACK FRIDAY as he'll only spoil it.

**BLACK FRIDAY  
BOOK BY  
2 DEC**

Look what he did with the Holidays to Help Out week – swept in on the Thursday before it started and cancelled corridors – just like that and then locked us all into a new Lockdown – all with Boris's help and even this week so not to spoil his reputation Grant cancelled Latvia and Estonia and did something not exactly clear yet with Denmark.

Anyway despite Grant the "Holiday to Help Out" week was still pretty encouraging so let's hope with all those new disciplines and protocols and the news of Vaccines on the horizon BLACK FRIDAY will be an outstanding success AND as last time the independent operators have put together some remarkable

offerings to tempt you to book and save for next year's escape – Goodness knows we are all looking forward to a break.

**DON'T  
TELL GRANT  
SHAPPS**

So, whilst the Administration is in the dark about our little ruse I will tell you about a few of the incentives that you should book by the 2/3 rd December, Wendy Wu are offering free flights ( saves around £800 per person ) and low deposits (£99) on their most popular 32 tours on all departures in 2021 . Intrepid the Adventure specialists they have low deposits and 20% off – Trips all over the world – including Galapagos, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Africa and more Some of our hotel banks have up to 40% off, including the Caribbean as well as Summer Mediterranean destinations, APT River Cruising also has some 40% off on selected sailings and I see one their Amsterdam to

Basle (7 nights) cruises has the Guest Lecturer as Aled Jones (11th June) EasyJet Holidays has £100 off per booking as well as some Early Booking Discounts, Inghams has £50 per person off Summer bookings and it goes on. Skiing Mark Warner and Club med have some great deals. As usual on these special days Sandals have some unbelievable deals to Antigua, Grenada, Jamaica and Barbados but these have to be booked by Monday the 30th November – So dear reader what better Xmas Present than a nice "value" summer holiday booked and under the tree – Leave Decorating the Tree till next week, I am sure Santa will help.

Looking forward to hearing from you by email ([info@crusadertravel.com](mailto:info@crusadertravel.com)) or phone (0208 744 0474) – the Shop is closed till the 2nd for walk in Clients!!! You know why

Stay well & book your holiday.



# RFS The Best of our Recent Historic Screenings

Issue 36

27<sup>th</sup> November 2020

## THE EDGE OF HEAVEN

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:** **THE EDGE OF HEAVEN** was 645th film screened by RFS on 31st March 2009. **The Edge of Heaven** was the fourth ranked film of Season 46, it got an approval mark of 85% from those attending; from season 46 we have also already featured its top three ranked films **Lantana**, and **Not Here To Be Loved** and **My Best Friend**, as **Issues 13, 25 & 30** respectively). **The Edge of Heaven** does not appear to be available to be streamed but the disc is available from Amazon and others.

### THE EDGE OF HEAVEN (Auf der anderen Seite)

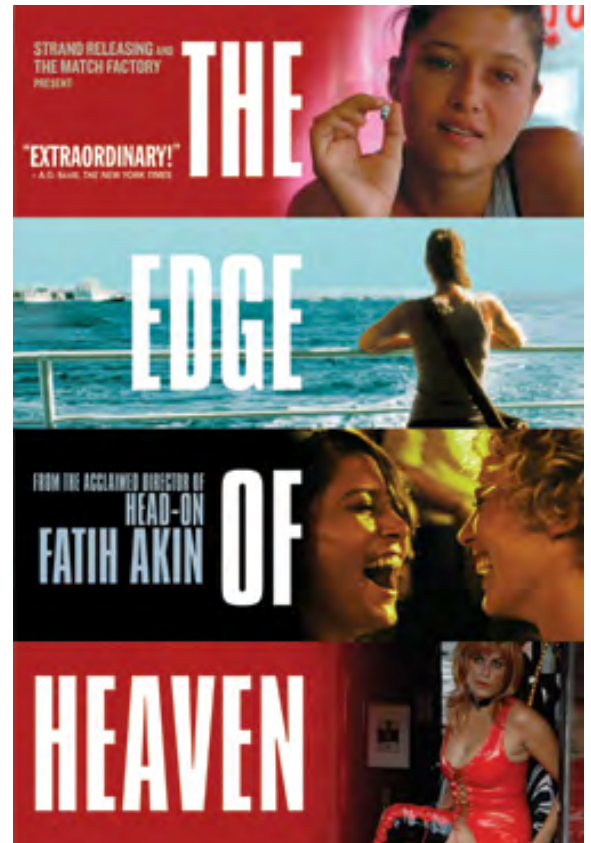
Country: Turkey/Ger/Italy, 2007  
Director: Fatih Akin  
Screenplay: Fatih Akin  
Editor: Andrew Bird  
Music: Shantel  
Cinematography: Rainer Klausmann  
Running Time: 122 min., colour  
Language: Turkish/German/English

### Leading Players:

Nurgül Yesilçay	(Ayten Öztürk aka Gül)
Baki Davrak	(Nejat Aksu)
Tuncel Kurtiz	(Ali Aksu)
Hanna Schygulla	(Susanne Staub)
Patrycja Ziolkowska	(Charlotte 'Lotte' Staub)
Nursel Köse	(Yeter aka Jessy)

Fatih Akin, who both wrote and directed 'The Edge of Heaven', won the prize for best screenplay at Cannes in 2007. His film is divided into three parts, the first two of which introduce separate sets of characters, while the third brings the threads of the stories together.

The film displays the tension between Akin's Germany, and Turkey, where Akin's parents were born, showing the gulf between the first and second-generation Turkish-Germans, and the conflicts about their identity and their relation with the old country.





The narrative is built around a series of accidents and chance encounters, and missed encounters. An elderly Turkish man, Ali (Tuncel Kurtiz) falls for Yeter (Nursel Kose), a prostitute and she moves in with him after being pressured by Muslim hardliners to change her ways. Ali's son Nejat (Baki Davrak) who is a lecturer in German literature is at first disapproving but warms to Yeter, discovering that she sends her earnings back to Turkey for her daughter's university education.

The death of Yeter results in a distancing between father and son, and Nejat decides to go to Istanbul to search for Yeter's daughter Ayten (Nurgul Yesilcay). He does not find her, but part 2 of the film centres on her. She is a radical activist and comes to Germany escaping from the Turkish authorities and to look for her mother. She meets Lotte (Patrycia Ziolkowska), a student. The women become lovers. Lotte invites Ayten to stay at her home. This does not please her conservative mother Susanne (Hanna Schygulla). However Ayten is arrested and confined while awaiting political asylum. When her plea is denied, Ayten is deported and imprisoned in Turkey. Lotte abandons everything to help Ayten and she meets Nejat....

That compassion does not always come easily or express itself clearly is one of Mr. Akin's central insights. He is generous with his characters, even at their worst, but he also regards them with a measure of detachment as their good intentions go astray and their bad impulses bear terrible fruit. Similarly, while he is acutely aware of viciousness, injustice and hypocrisy in both Turkey and Germany, his camera absorbs the authentic beauty in both countries, from Bremen to Istanbul and to the hillsides and fishing villages of the Black Sea coast.

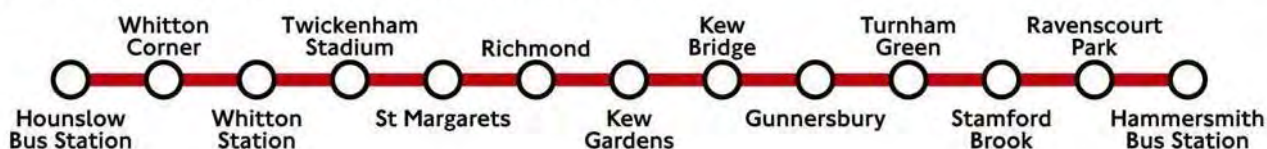
**Mike Day**

# Changes to Routes 110, 391 & H22

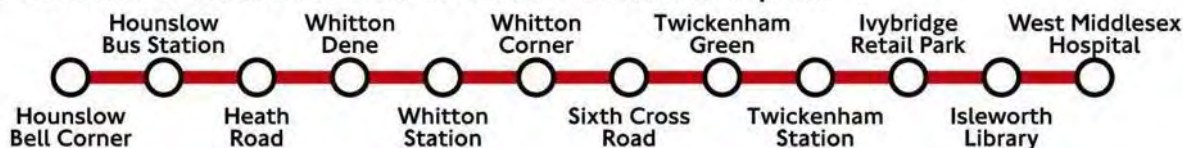
FROM THE 12TH OF DECEMBER

©LDNBusUpdates  
(Richmond Bus Changes tweet 1/3)

## Revised Route 110 (Hammersmith to Hounslow)



## Revised Route H22 (Hounslow to West Middlesex Hospital)



Route 110 will be restructured to operate between Hounslow and Hammersmith Bus Station.

Route 110 will no longer serve stops between Whitton Corner and West Middlesex Hospital, but instead operate via Whitton Station, St. Margarets, Richmond Bridge and Richmond Town Centre where the route will continue to Hammersmith, replacing Route 391 between Richmond and Hammersmith.

Route 391 will no longer operate.

Route H22 will no longer run between Twickenham and Richmond, but instead be rerouted to serve West Middlesex Hospital along previous Route 110 via Ivybridge Retail Park and Isleworth.

A map will be provided in the next tweet. (1/3)





## BRENTFORD FC



### **Bees record second stalemate in a row**

#### **Wycombe Wanderers 0 – 0 Brentford**

Brentford recorded their second consecutive goalless draw in a row with a 0-0 draw away against Wycombe Wanderers. Brentford were the better of the two sides but the home side played the better football in the second, yet overall, the game was not marked by a plethora of chances and neither goalkeeper had a particularly busy afternoon.

The first chance for the Bees came when Henrik Dalsgaard picked out his fellow fullback Rico Henry on the other flank with a lovely cross field switch. With space in front of him he drove on and delivered a low cross that took a deflection off Jack Grimmer that looped invitingly into the path of Bryan Mbeumo. However, the Frenchman couldn't get his angles right and his volley cleared the crossbar.

At the other end of the pitch David Raya had to be alert to keep the home side out when a cross from the left hand side by Curtis Thompson looked to be looping in underneath the crossbar but the Bees' keeper managed to recover and tip the ball away, before Josh Dasilva helping out at the back, cleared the ball away.

The best chance of the half fell to the visitors but they were denied by a combination of Wycombe keeper Ryan Allsop and woodwork. The instigator was Dasilva as the midfielder broke down the left hand touchline and pulled a left footed cross back to the edge of the area. The ball came to Mbeumo who shot first time and Allsop had to tip the ball onto the post at full stretch.

Mbeumo was looking lively in attacking positions for the Bees and went close again having combined with Ivan Toney. Picking the ball up on the halfway line the Bees' top scorer feinted by Josh Knight and played the ball through to the onrushing Mbeumo. From the edge of the box Mbeumo was once again foiled by Allsop as the Wycombe keeper produced a great save to push the ball away.

The Bees continued with the attacking impetus after the interval and Sergi Canos picked out Mbeumo at the back post in space but for a third time Allsop saved, although this time it was more comfortable.

Wycombe fought back though and a couple of crossed into the box caused danger at the back for Brentford. The first a free kick from wide on the right hand touchline by Joe

Jacobsen found David Wheeler on the edge of the six yard box but he couldn't direct his header on target. The cross arrived at Adebayo Akinfenwa who drew a good save from Raya with a close range volley – although the linesman's flag was then raised for offside.

Late on Josh Dasilva went close with a curling shot from the edge of the area but in the end neither side could find a winner.

## **Toney scores again as Bees continue unbeaten streak**

### **Barnsley 0 – 1 Brentford**

Brentford continued their impressive recent run of form with a midweek victory against Barnsley to take them to six games unbeaten in a row. The only goal of the game came via the familiar source of Ivan Toney as the marksman continued his prolific start to the season with his 11th goal of a fruitful season just after the hour mark to take the Bees in sight on the playoffs.

Early on good pressure from Rico Henry and Josh Dasilva saw them win the ball back high up the pitch and emerge with the ball. Dasilva passed the ball onto Tariqe Fosu who's long distance strike from outside the box had to be tipped over by Jack Walton.

Henry himself also went close with an effort from distance after a long throw from Henrik Dalsgaard caused problems at the back of Barnsley. The ball was cleared away but only into the path of Henry who on the half-volley only narrowly shot wide of the post.

Dangerous shots from range seemed to be the theme of the first half and the home side had one of their own when Alex Mowat's shot dipped just in front of David Raya and Callum Styles slipped at the crucial moment when following in.

It was ironic therefore that the goal when it did come, came from a set piece. With just over an hour played at Oakwell the Bees were awarded a corner which was delivered by Mathias Jensen. Rising highest at the near post was Ivan Toney who met the ball with a glancing header that went into the bottom corner and past Walton.

Moments later Brentford had a great chance to double their lead when a charged down clearance from Walton came to Emiliano Marcondes, who slipped the ball through from Mbeumo. The forward took the ball in his stride but when closing in on goal couldn't convert and fired over.

Barnsley had a shout for penalty waved away when Victor Adeboyejo skipped inside Ethan Pinnock by the by-line and his crossed, hitting the outstretched arm of Vitaly Janelt.

Marcus Forss, on as a late substitute, had a chance to wrap the game up when a break up field led by Canos saw Forss played in but despite being denied by a great save from Walton it didn't matter as the Bees emerged victorious.

## **Brentford to welcome fans to new ground**

Brentford will welcome fans to their new Brentford Community Stadium for the first time after government restrictions were lifted so that football fans could attend games once again.

The first game is set to be against Blackburn Rovers on Saturday 5th December subject to any further changes by authorities. With London placed in Tier 2 it means that a maximum of 2,000 fans will be able to attend the game at the stadium the Bees moved to from Griffin Park in the summer of 2020.

## **UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD**

### **Game 1**

Opponent: Queens Park Rangers (H) Friday 27th November 19:45 Brentford Community Stadium

Nickname: The Rs

Competition: Championship – Matchday 14

Manager: Mark Warbuton

Opponent record: P13 W4 D5 L4 GF15 GA18 (13th in Championship)

Interesting fact: In 1981 QPR became the first football club in Europe to install an artificial pitch at their stadium. The plastic pitch was however abandoned for normal grass again in 1988.

### **Game 2**

Opponent: Rotherham United (A) Tuesday 1st December 20:00 New York Stadium

Nickname: The Millers

Competition: Championship – Matchday 15

Manager: Paul Warne

Opponent record: P13 W3 D3 L7 GF12 GA16 (19th in Championship)

Interesting fact: In the TV series ChuckleVision there are often references made to the club, whom the brothers Barry and Paul support in real life

***Come on you Bees!***

## **Hampton & Richmond Borough**

**Hampton edge past Romans**

**Hampton & Richmond 1 – 0 Bath City**

A penalty from Sam Deadfield saw Hampton & Richmond Borough edge past Bath City to gain a valuable three points.



In a slow start to the game the first chance arrived with just over half an hour played when Cole Brown had managed to find Deadfield, but his shot went wide.

On a long midweek journey the visitors went closest though were through Tommy Conway and Donovan Wilson, but both of them were denied by good blocks from the Hampton backline.

The most promising chance of the first 45 minutes went to the Romans when Conway forced Hampton keeper Alan Julian into a great save with his legs just before the break.

After the interval Hampton grew more into the game and forced a couple of good saves from Ryan Clarke in goal for the visitors. The first came from Ruaridh Donaldson and the second Deadfield, as the Beavers began to offer more of an attacking threat.

Conway was proving the danger man for Bath and just before the hour mark beat a number of challenges to find himself in a good position but once again he was thwarted by Julian.

Five minutes from time the three points were secured for the Beavers when Ryan Gondoh was fouled inside the penalty area and the referee awarded a penalty. Up stepped the reliable Deadfield who tucked the ball inside the post to secure the win for Hampton.

## **UP NEXT FOR HAMPTON**

### **Game 1**

Opponent: Billericay Town (A) Saturday 28th November 15:00 New Lodge

Nickname: Ricay, The Blues

Competition: National League South – Matchday 9

Manager: Jamie O'Hara

Opponent record: P8 W2 D2 L4 GF11 GA12 (15th in National League South)

Interesting fact: They are the second most successful club in FA Vase history, having won the competition on three occasions.

### **Game 2**

Opponent: Chippenham Town (A) Tuesday 1st December 19:45 Hardenhuish Park

Nickname: Ricay, The Blues

Competition: National League South – Matchday 10

Manager: Mike Cook

Opponent record: P8 W3 D1 L4 GF8 GA11 (10th in National League South)

Interesting fact: In 2016–17 Chippenham won the Southern League's Premier Division with a league record 103 points, earning promotion to the National League South

***Come on you Beavers!***

# England team announcement - Autumn Nations Cup (Wales v England)

Eddie Jones has named his England team for their key Autumn Nations Cup tie against Wales this weekend.



England will travel to Llanelli, where they will take on the hosts at Parc y Scarlets on Saturday 28 November (4pm KO), looking to make it three tournament wins in three.

George Ford returns to the starting line-up at fly half, after returning from injury as a finisher in last week's 18-7 win over Ireland. Captain Owen Farrell moves to inside centre with Henry Slade at outside centre. After becoming England men's joint second highest try scorer against Ireland, Jonny May continues at left wing while Jonathan Joseph is on the right wing. Elliot Daly at full back and Ben Youngs is scrum half.

England name an unchanged forward pack. In the back row, Billy Vunipola will play at No.8, with Tom Curry (blindsided) and Sam Underhill (openside) as flankers. Mako Vunipola (loose-head prop), Kyle Sinckler (tight-head prop) and Jamie George (hooker) make up the front row. Maro Itoje remains at lock with Joe Launchbury to complete the tight five.

Luke Cowan-Dickie and Anthony Watson return from injury as finishers. They are joined by Ben Earl, Ellis Genge, Jonny Hill, Dan Robson, Will Stuart and Jack Willis.

England's last tournament game, a Quilter International at Twickenham Stadium, will determine their final standing in the competition (Sunday 6 December, 2pm KO).

Jones said: *"We're expecting another tough match, and at the home of Welsh Rugby where the heart and soul of their game is.*

*"Twelve months ago, Wales were Grand Slam champions and three points from a World Cup final, so we know what they are capable of.*

*"We've picked the best 23 players for the battle and we're looking forward to it greatly."*

Wales v England is live on Amazon Prime.

## ENGLAND XV STARTERS

15. Elliot Daly (Saracens, 45 caps)

14. Jonathan Joseph (Bath Rugby, 53 caps)

13. Henry Slade (Exeter Chiefs, 32 caps)

12. Owen Farrell (Saracens, 86 caps)

11. Jonny May (Gloucester Rugby, 59 caps)

10. George Ford (Leicester Tigers, 70 caps)

9. Ben Youngs (Leicester Tigers, 102 caps)

1. Mako Vunipola (Saracens, 62 caps)

2. Jamie George (Saracens, 52 caps)

3. Kyle Sinckler (Bristol Bears, 38 caps)

4. Maro Itoje (Saracens, 41 caps)

5. Joe Launchbury (Wasps, 67 caps)

6. Tom Curry (Sale Sharks, 26 caps)

7. Sam Underhill (Bath Rugby, 20 caps)

8. Billy Vunipola (Saracens, 54 caps)

## FINISHERS

16. Luke Cowan-Dickie (Exeter Chiefs, 24 caps)

17. Ellis Genge (Leicester Tigers, 21 caps)

18. Will Stuart (Bath Rugby, 6 caps)

19. Jonny Hill (Exeter Chiefs, 2 caps)

20. Ben Earl (Bristol Bears, 6 caps)

21. Jack Willis (Wasps, 1 cap)

22. Dan Robson (Wasps, 5 caps)

23. Anthony Watson (Bath Rugby, 44 caps)

# Managing flood risk

Today's report by the National Audit Office (NAO) finds that the government is on track to achieve its target for better protecting 300,000 more homes from flooding by March 2021 but does not have a comprehensive measure of its progress in reducing the overall level of flood risk across England.

The government set the Environment Agency (EA) a target of better protecting 300,000 homes from flooding between 2015 and 2021, through an investment of £2.6 billion. The EA is on track to meet this target within its budget. Since 2015, over 700 new flood defence schemes have been introduced, providing better protection for over 242,000 homes. On average, EA has spent £2,750 for each property with an annual likelihood of flooding of at least 1%. By providing better protection for 242,000 homes, EA's investment programme has delivered valuable benefits for people, with flood risk being substantially lower for many thousands of homes in England.

The 'homes better protected' target is an easy to understand performance measure, but on its own does not provide a good view of progress in tackling overall flood risk. It does not provide any indication of what has happened to flood risk for non-residential buildings, agricultural land and other infrastructure. The headline figure of 242,000 homes better protected also does not take account of properties that have become less well protected due to factors such as housing development, climate change and the condition of flood defence assets. EA uses its National Flood Risk Assessment to estimate the number of



properties at risk of flooding each year and estimates that there are 50,000 fewer properties with an annual likelihood of flooding of at least 1% in 2020 compared with 2016. Changes in methodology during the period mean this figure is not wholly reliable, but it provides an indication of the overall impact of the programme.

Following the 2019-20 autumn and winter floods, the number of properties at risk as a result of the condition of EA flood defences and other infrastructure assets increased by 171% from 70,000 in 2018-19, to 189,000 in 2019-20. In the March 2020 budget, the government provided £120 million of additional funding for 2020-21 to fund over 600 projects to repair EA assets damaged in the autumn and winter floods. Of these, 151 have been completed so far, 80% are expected to be completed by the end of 2020. For the remainder, EA is aiming to have measures in place to mitigate any immediate risks arising from potential floods in winter 2020-21. Research commissioned by the EA estimates that the cost of repairing and maintaining flood defences could increase by between 20% and 70% a year as a result of climate change.

The NAO has found that there are gaps in the government's understanding of public spending for flood defence.<sup>1</sup> Without this knowledge, it cannot assess whether local authorities and other organisations have the resources they need to manage flood risk effectively. The Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has committed to reviewing local government funding for flooding to ensure it is fair and matches the needs and resources of local areas, but a date for this has not been set.

The government's approach is designed to ensure deprived areas do not miss out on investment,

but the proportion of funding for flood defence going to the 20% most deprived areas has reduced substantially since 2014. The government requires many flood schemes to be part-funded by communities, local authorities or businesses in the private sector. The system includes provisions for deprived communities who may have difficulty raising this type of investment. However, very few of the homes better protected in 2019 were in deprived areas; the proportion rose from 4% in 2011, to 29% in 2014, but then declined to 8% in 2019. Defra believes this decline is because most of the possible schemes in deprived areas have been completed, although it has not carried out any analysis to support this explanation.

The government has announced that investment in flood defence will increase substantially to £5.6 billion for the period to the end of March 2027, with the aim of better protecting 336,000 properties and reduce flood risk by up to 11%.<sup>2</sup> Defra is confident that this increased investment, together with other sources of funding such as that raised by local communities, will be above EA's estimate for the required level of long-term funding for flood defence. However, the level of these other sources of funding is uncertain.

In July 2020, a ministerial policy statement set out the government's aim for the nation to be more resilient to the challenges of flooding and coastal erosion. The EA published its new strategy in September, which states a vision for "a nation ready for, and resilient to, flooding and coastal change – today, tomorrow and to the year 2100."

The EA's new strategy and the government's policy statement are a significant step forward, but lack clarity in important areas. Many of the actions in the policy statement are not time-limited or measurable, and some important commitments are not expected to be implemented until well into the future. Neither the policy statement nor the EA's strategy quantify the level of risk reduction the government expects to achieve in the long term. Defra has committed to developing a national set of indicators to measure and demonstrate success but not until spring 2022.

The NAO recommends that the government provides a clearer sense of direction on what it aims to achieve, and what the measures of success will be for the 2021-2027 flood defence programme. Working with the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government and HM Treasury, Defra should develop a clear understanding of whether flood risk management funding for local authorities is adequate to cover the level of flood risk individual authorities face and report on this each year starting from 2021-22. The EA should report on the geographical distribution of investment in its annual reporting and the amount of investment directed to deprived areas, to help inform policy decisions and government priorities.

Alongside today's report, the NAO has launched an [interactive data visualisation tool](#) which helps people to understand the flood risk and investment in flood defence in their area.<sup>3</sup>

Gareth Davies, the head of the NAO said:

*"Flooding and coastal erosion put lives, livelihoods and people's well-being at risk. As our climate continues to change, and severe weather events become more common, flooding will impact more people."*

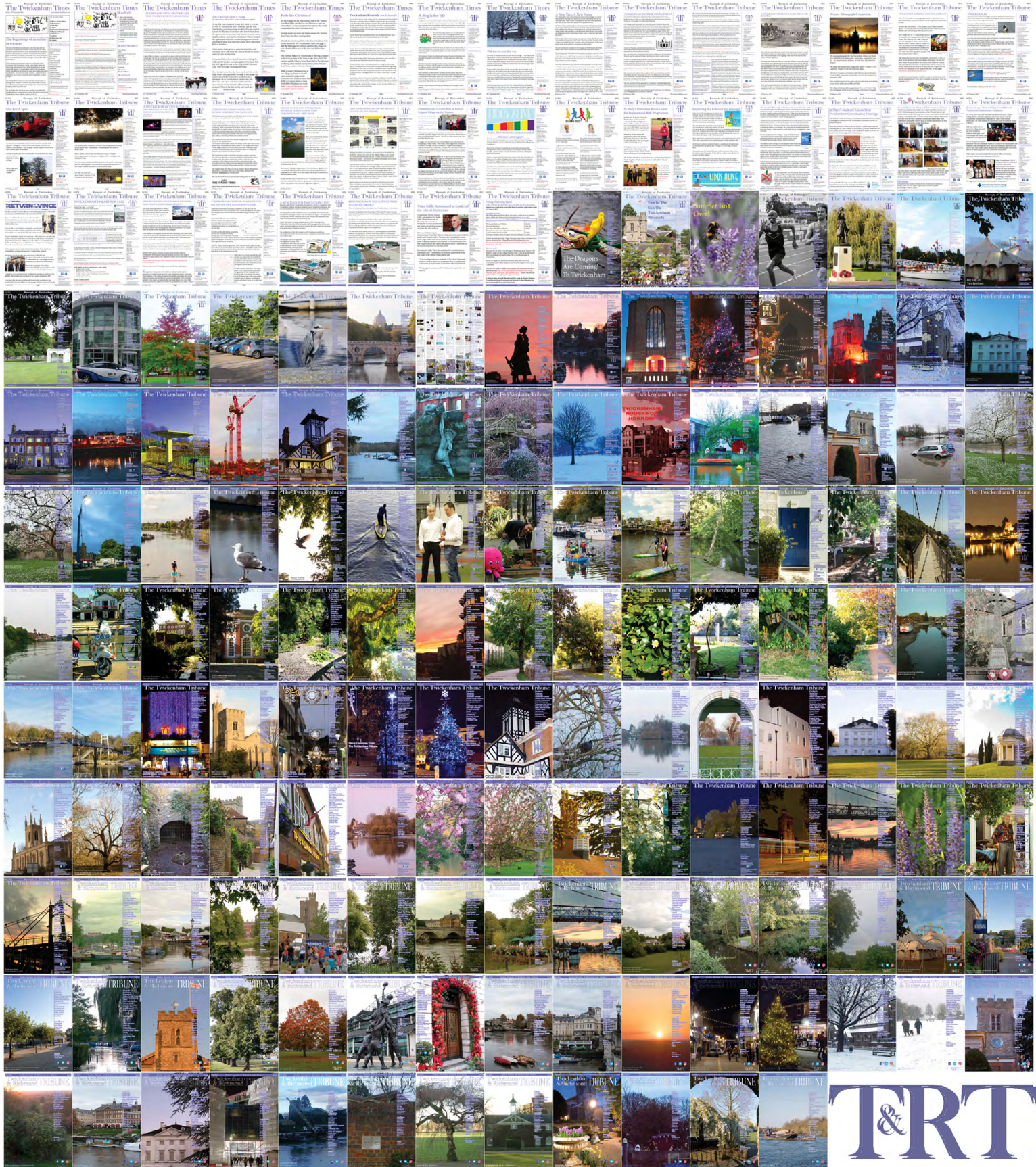
*"Although EA is on track to better protect 300,000 homes from flooding by 2021, there is still no comprehensive measure to show that flood risk in England has reduced, even though the current programme is coming to an end. Looking ahead to 2021-27, although the government has set a clear ambition, the lack of robust measures to track progress mean it will be difficult to demonstrate that its £5.6 billion investment provides an adequate response to the changing risk and good value for taxpayers."*



National Audit Office



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