

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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 NAO
 LBRuT

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15th January 2021

T&RT

TickerTape - News in Brief

Homeless Encampment Removed From Barnes Common

The South Richmond Safer Neighbourhoods Team helped with the removal of an encampment in Barnes Common. Helped by SPEAR London, a male is receiving guidance and support.

Twickenham Green Restaurant Needs Support

Well known Indian restaurant Regal Haandi needs your support in these difficult times to avoid permanent closure. Order a delivery or takeaway; standard Menu on Friday and Saturday. Banquet special Sunday to Thursday. Call them on 020 8893 9291 or find them on [Just Eat](#)

New grant schemes now open to help local businesses this January

Richmond Council is encouraging local businesses to check if they are eligible for any of the Council's six grant schemes now open to ensure they don't miss the chance to claim funding.

There are different grants available for the various COVID-19 local restriction tiers that have been in place over the last few months, including a new payment for 'wet-led' pubs covering the Christmas period. Businesses can still claim for the impact of local restriction tiers imposed during autumn 2020.

There are six Richmond Council grant schemes currently open for applications. Businesses can make separate applications for grants to cover each of the different periods of time that they were affected by local restriction tiers.

Recently announced government grants for the current National Lockdown which began in January 2021 are not yet available but an application process will be opened as soon as possible.

Find out which grants you may be eligible for and apply online [HERE](#)

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



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TwickerSeal was enjoying a lovely day out on the new Twickenham Riverside.

He looked out from the new Diamond Jubilee Garden's public square, across the car free Embankment to the river and Eel Pie Island.

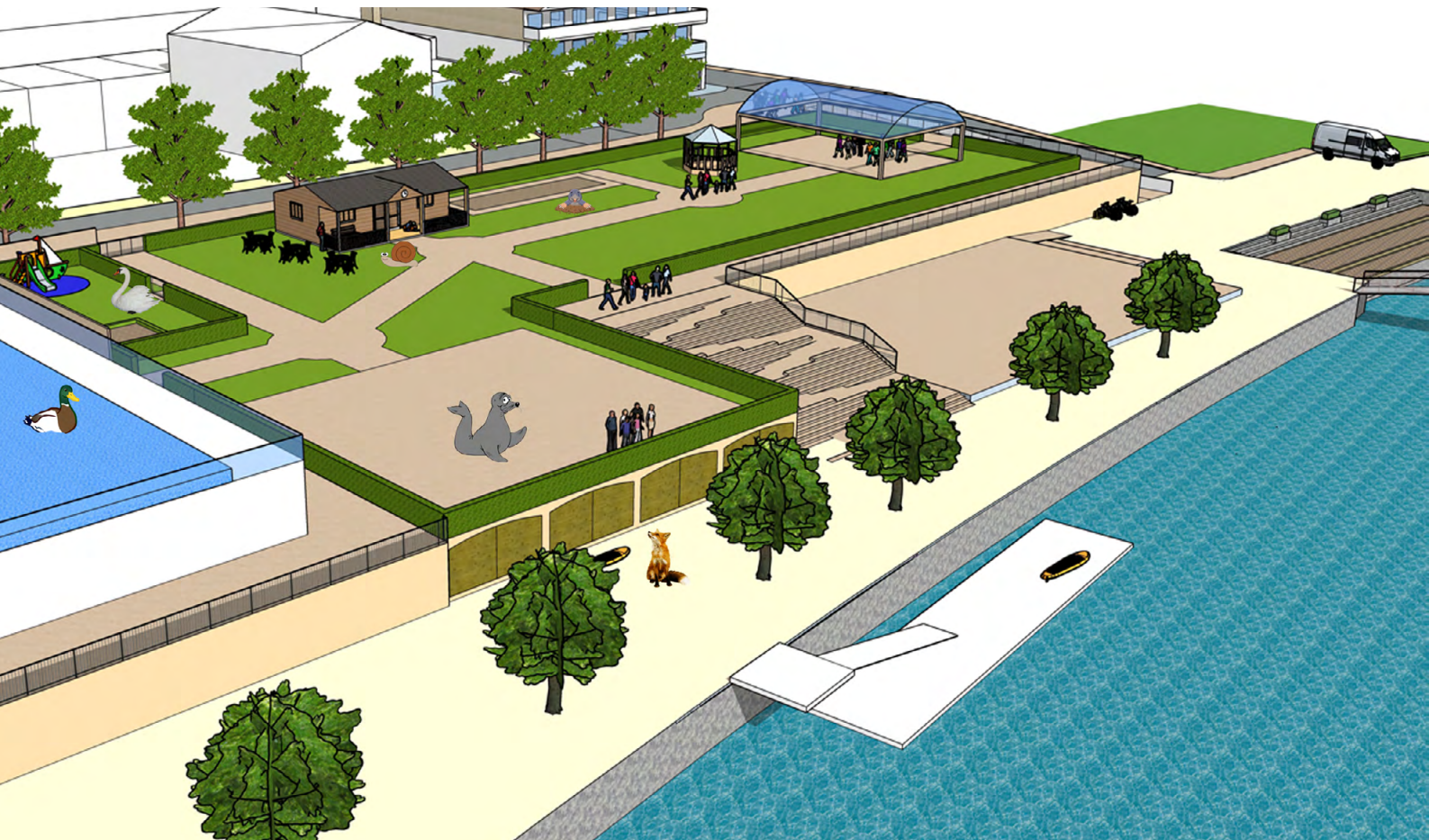
He spotted TwickerFox down below at the boathouses, where he was getting his paddleboard ready.

TwickerDuck called out from the Lido, where she was having a leisurely swim before joining TwickerSwan at the DJG playground to pick up her ducklings. She might then join TwickerSnail at the community café, after a quick visit to the public loos there. If TwickerMole stopped messing about at the pétanque court, he could join them too; as long as he filled in any holes he had made!

They could all talk about the Twickenham Riverside Trust's upcoming music event, so much easier with the new event space raised above the flood zone and with built in power points so there would be no more smelly and noisy generators.

But then TwickerSeal awoke with a start and realised it was all a dream! The reality of the council's plan for the riverside was not a dream though, but a nightmare! No boathouses, 'event spaces' in the flood zone, the DJG replaced by scattered landscaping and a road along the Embankment. And after nearly 40 years the limit of the council's imagination for an attraction on the riverside is ... a pub, to complement all the housing!

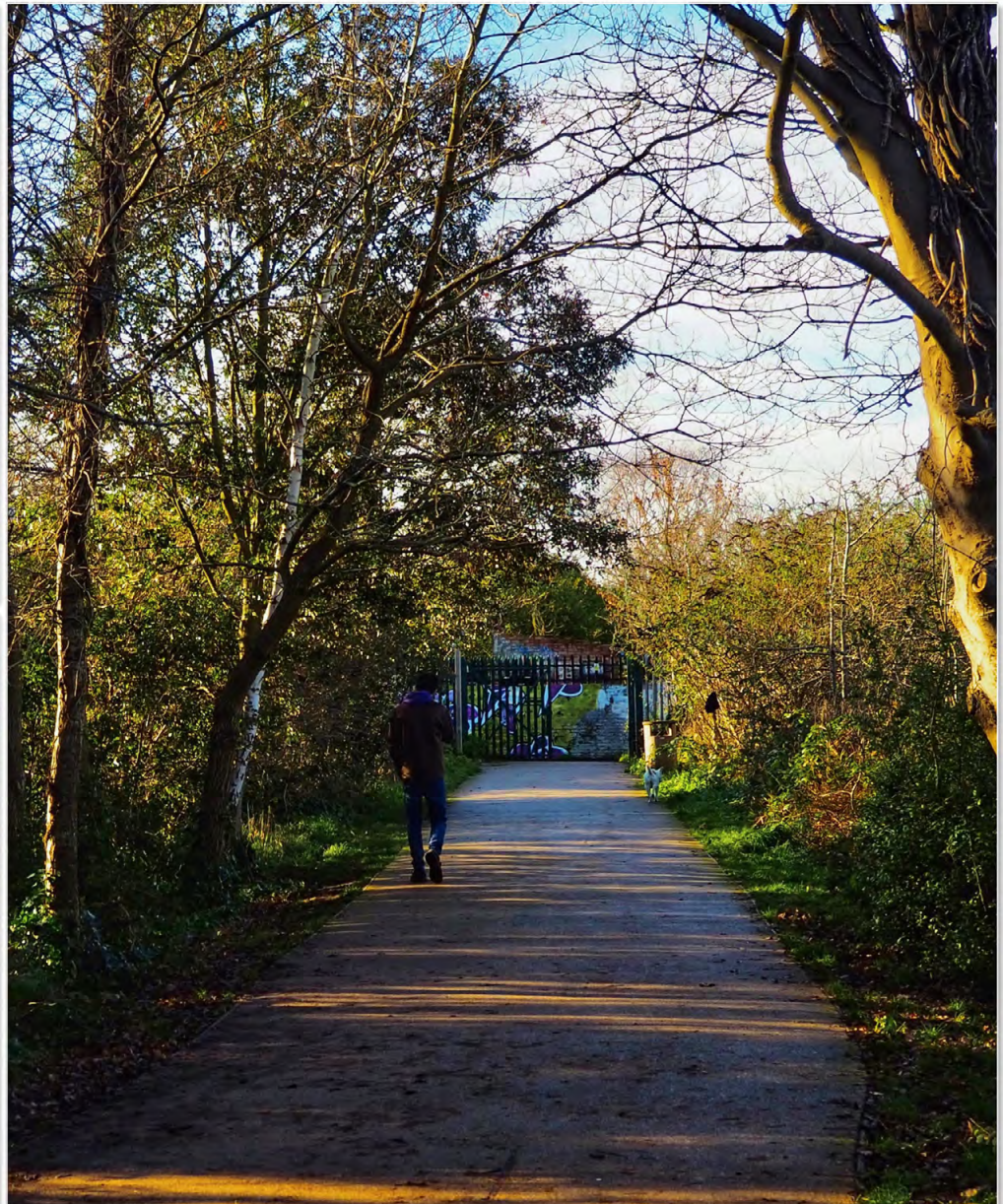
Oh dear. If you want to see TwickerSeal's dream, have a look at the video [HERE](#)



Borough View By Graeme Stoten

'Marsh Farm Lane Footbridge'

Extending to the Marsh Farm Lane gate, the Twickenham Rough, once very inaccessible, now reveals its proximity to the Windsor railway line. The footbridge found at this point, gives very convenient access to and from Marsh Farm Lane to visit the Craneford playing fields, allotments and the Stoop. The elevation provides an interesting view over surrounding Twickenham.



COVID-19

Teresa Read

Cllr Samuel Allays Fears About Vaccination

Cllr Geoffrey Samuel has kindly given the Tribune permission to publish his experience of receiving a COVID-19 vaccination.

“People – I was! - may be very anxious about the whole process. My experience, on the contrary, proved it to be efficient and, above all, handled admirably by a number of very pleasant staff.”

“O happy day! So well organised. Two or three men outside to help with the parking – and give assistance to the less mobile. A very pleasant greeting outside. A few seconds to sign in and then straight to one of six bays where the vaccine was delivered at once. All over in a very few minutes and the whole process c five minutes before my due appointment time. The attitude of those involved as well as its efficiency made it ...a very special occasion. And I now have a sticker on my overcoat to prove it.”

Geoffrey said that the St Johns Practice in Oak Lane is the centre for five or six Twickenham practices. There is a parking lot at the back.

Once vaccinated the vaccine takes a while to provide protection from the virus so follow the information given to you at the vaccination centre.

In the present situation everyone should accept a vaccination once offered, to Save Lives and Save the NHS.

Public Health England statement on London situation

Professor Kevin Fenton, London Regional Director for Public Health England, said:

“Case rates in London remain extremely high and around 10,000 Londoners were diagnosed with COVID every day this week. This level of transmission is severe, and continues to drive pressure on the NHS, with more Londoners being admitted to ICU and ultimately dying from this disease or having long-term complications.

“As a result, we have more difficult weeks ahead of us. This more contagious variant means we are unlikely to see sharp declines like we did in the first wave, and the longer cases remain high, the more deaths we will see.

“That is why we must work twice as hard to reduce transmission and lower infections. Staying at home and cutting our contacts will stop the virus spreading, reduce cases more quickly and ultimately save lives.”

From the Director-General, the World Health Organization (WHO)

“One year ago, the first death from COVID-19 was reported and WHO issued its first tranche of technical guidance. A year on, there have been almost 2 million deaths from the COVID-19 virus and while we are hopeful about the safe and effective vaccines that are being rolled out, we want to see this sped up and vaccines allocated equitably in the coming weeks.”

“Last weekend, WHO was notified by Japan about a new variant of the virus. What’s most critical is that we sequence the virus effectively so we know how it’s changing and how to respond.”

“The COVID-19 pandemic continues to constitute a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC),” according to the WHO Emergency Committee (EC) on COVID-19.

The EC met virtually on 14 January at the request of WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus to review the emerging variants of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and to consider the potential use of vaccination and testing certificates for international travel.

Global Scientists Double-down on SARS-CoV-2 variants research

“Our collective goal is to get ahead of the game and have a global mechanism to quickly identify and study variants of concern and understand their implications for disease control efforts,” said Dr Ana Maria Henao Restrepo, Head of WHO’s R&D Blueprint.

It is normal for viruses to mutate, but the more the SARS-CoV-2 virus spreads, the more opportunities it has to change. High levels of transmission mean that we should expect more variants to emerge.

COVID-19

Avoid places where the three Cs come together
Crowds, Closed spaces, Close contact

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

DO IT ALL

www.twickenhamtribune.com

Cases of COVID-19

Total cases to 15 January 2021

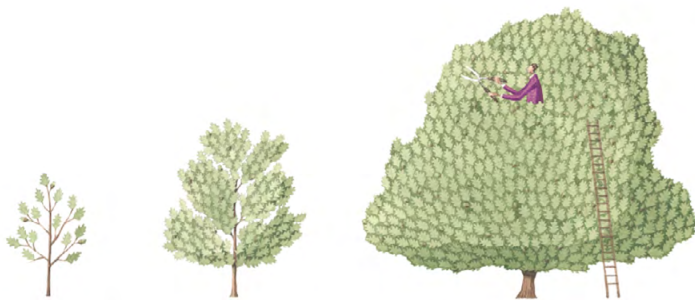
8,274 Richmond-upon-Thames 9,418 Kingston-upon Thames 17,543 Hounslow

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

Deaths Worldwide 1,979,507

USA 381,552
Brazil 205,964
India 151,918
Mexico 136,917
The United Kingdom 84,767
Italy 80,326
France 68,648
Russian Federation 63,940
Iran 56,538
Spain 52,878
Colombia 47,124
Argentina 44,983

Germany 43,881
Peru 38,473
South Africa 35,140
Poland 32,456
Indonesia 25,246
Turkey 23,325
Ukraine 20,376
Belgium 20,250
Canada 17,383
Chile 17,294
Romania 16,969
Ecuador 14,246



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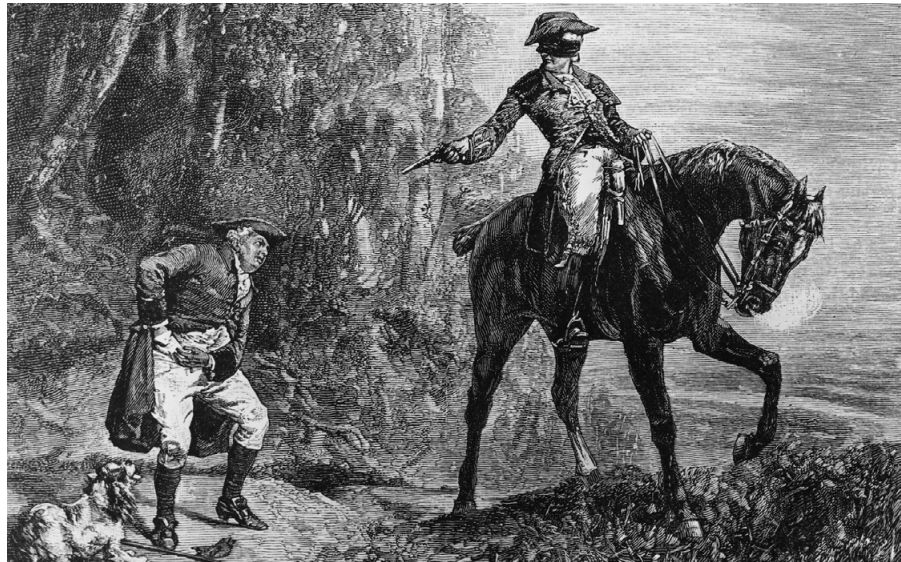
Stand and deliver!

By Simon Fowler

An irritant of life for the middling sort and the rich during the eighteenth century were highwaymen, who would stop carriages and steal the occupant's valuables. A popular spot for such thieves to linger during the 1770s and 1780s was Kew Road, sometimes called Kew Lane.

As well as a constant stream of people coming from and going to London there were many courtiers going about their business. In October 1774, Horace Walpole, of Strawberry Hill wrote to a friend that because of the highwaymen 'the ladies of the Bedchamber dare not go to the Queen at Kew in an evening.'

In November 1778, the Duke of Montagu, tutor to the Prince of Wales, was stopped on his way home to Richmond by two highwaymen 'who demanded his money; his Grace immediately gave them his purse, with which they rode off.'



Four years earlier, a Mr Hastings of Knightsbridge was held up by a man who, according to a newspaper report:

'thrusting a pistol into carriage, made use of this expression: "Your money or your life"' Mr Hastings duly handed over his purse, but the highwayman was not satisfied, said: "No trifling, this is not all" he proceeded to search the coach.' Spooked by another member of the party riding off, the robber 'suspecting that he made to raise an alarm, pursued him and fired a pistol at the gentleman's head, which flashed in the pan,' he fired his other pistol which fortunately missed. By now a crowd was forming, the miscreant shouted to the victim as he rode off: 'By God I'll blow your brains out another night for this.'

As policing was almost non-existent those who had been targeted were expected to fend for themselves. Occasionally, they would fight back. In August 1782, newspapers reported that when:

A Mrs Demainbray, of Richmond was talking with her daughters, a Mr Clarke, and her footman, about nine o'clock in Kew road, they were attacked...by a single highwayman, who demanded their money. Mrs Demainbray placed herself against the wall and declared that she would not suffer herself to be robbed. The highwayman, upon this, said he would fire among them. Mrs Demainbray told him she saw no pistol and called him to show her one if he had it, but he could not. One her daughters, out of compassion, gave him sixpence, and the other halfpence; but Mrs Demainbray would not give him anything. He immediately rode after Mr Clarke, was at a little distance...who delivered up his watch, and was going to give his money, but Mrs. Demainbray coming that instant, declared that no man should be robbed in her company and continuing this heroic disposition, the highwayman was forced to ride off, leaving the lady to upbraid the gentleman and her footman for their pusillanimity.

A reply to last week's contribution to the Tribune

Teresa Read

I was very interested in the contribution to the Tribune published in last week's Twickenham and Richmond Tribune (Edition 218) "A USP (Unique Selling Point) is what makes your product different from existing ones".

The article stated that the Twickenham Riverside project would cost the Council £35 million and aimed "to create a heart for Twickenham".

It seems that the Hopkins idea of "Creating a Heart for Twickenham" is to provide around fifty flats and a pub. I wonder whether this plan, which could be said to be unimaginative, is worthy of architects who are leaders in their field, or is the Hopkins firm hampered by the brief provided by the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames?

The Twickenham Riverside site is public land, registered to the Mayor and the Burgesses (the residents of Twickenham).

There is a Council on-line consultation and this may be the last opportunity to put your point of view before the LBRUT plan goes to planning – and, of course, the Council has the majority on the planning committee.

And, for those who would like a pub, I am providing a list which may prove of interest.

A Guide to Finding a Pub in Twickenham

Twickenham is full of historic pubs easily reached on foot, in and around the town centre.

The George (circa 1709) is in King Street in the centre of the town and along the Embankment facing the river stands the Barmy Arms (previously the Queen's Head, circa seventeenth century).

In Church Street, behind the Barmy Arms, there is The Fox (Le Bell, circa 1700) and The Eel Pie – previously a wine bar – with The Royal Oak (circa 1723) in Richmond Road opposite the Council car park. The Royal Oak has also been called Stokes & Moncreiff, Twickenham Tup, and Hedgehog and Stump.



*Royal Oak
Courtesy Alan Winter*

It is interesting to note that an alehouse, the Glass and Bottle (circa 1635) was adjacent to the Royal Oak. The Glass and Bottle closed in the mid 1700s and the Royal Oak expanded onto the Glass and Bottle site.

Walking back across the Richmond Road and a short walk along the river we come to The White Swan (The Swan, circa mid seventeenth century) and nearby, on Richmond Road, The Crown (circa 1730).



*Royal Oak pre 1903, original building
Courtesy Alan Winter*

Along from the town centre in Cross Deep, Strawberry Hill, there is the Alexander Pope (Popes Grotto, 1852), rebuilt after bombing in the Second World War). This is a spacious pub with a garden overlooking Radnor Gardens and the Thames, within sight of Twickenham Riverside.

A walk into Strawberry Hill and past Strawberry Hill Station, up to the Hampton Road, we find The Prince of Wales (circa 1850).and further on towards Squires Garden Centre we come to Brouge (Brouge at the Old Goat, Fulwell Arms, 1932).

Turning back towards Twickenham Green we pass Fourth Cross Road - the home to The Rifleman - and The Bloomsbury (The Five Oaks, 1837) in the Staines Road.

Both the Rifleman and the Bloomsbury were purveyors of beer, following the Beer House Act, 1830. Similarly, The Sussex Arms (1837) not far from Twickenham Green also took advantage of this Act.

The Prince Blucher (1815) is across the road from the Sussex with The Prince Albert (1840) on the Hampton Road side of the Green.

Walking back towards Twickenham town, along Heath Road, we come to the Three Kings (circa eighteenth century) and onwards towards Twickenham Station there is a choice between The William Webb Ellis (2003); the building: previously Twickenham's Post Office, then, the Sorting Office pub), Timberyard (formerly Misty Moon and Moon Under Water), The Cabbage Patch (The Railway Tavern, 1853), The Albany (1860s) and The Shack 68 (Garyowen, Codee's Bar, Rugby Tavern).

The Black Alder tree

by Kas Rasenberg

The winter solstice has past, and the gardeners of Marble Hill Park have returned to the woodlands to continue with their labour. During the month of January, they will be planting a collection of black alder trees in a corner of the park. The black alder – or *Alnus glutinosa* – is a deciduous tree widely distributed across the northern hemisphere. They can often be found along rivers or in the wetlands, but they also occur in climates that are relatively dry.



Alder trees flourish by waterways and in wet boggy areas

The limbs of the black alder are wide spreading, which gives the tree a pyramidal form. Its ragged bark – which, when matured, is covered in microscopic lichen – is particularly beautiful during the winter. Without the dense foliage, you can more easily discern its colour – which may resemble charcoal or be silvery-grey. Its decaying leaves and twigs are said to contribute positively to the soil, as they are able to convert atmospheric nitrogen. The latter may then be more easily absorbed by the various plants.

The black alder tree is also an important source for wildlife. Its seeds are consumed by birds during the winter, and the larvae of many butterflies or moths are amongst its diurnal foragers. Many little fishes find shelter between their roots in a river when they are exposed to the calamities of a flood. Its dense foliage will help to regulate the temperature of the water, and it is said that their seeds – protected by an outer-shell – may float in streams all throughout the seasons. Once they have drifted onto the shore, they

have the ability to germinate in the mud.

Not only do these trees thrive in soil that is of a poor quality, but they are amongst the first to establish themselves after a volcanic eruption or a spreading fire. Their growth may continue from a stump, and a log or fallen branch may provide a new root. Thus it is that the black alder tree, or so I read, has long been associated with resurrection. Perhaps they may remind us of our own resilience, and of all that will continue to grow on the lighter days of spring.



Alder catkins appear on the trees between February and April

Is the Digital Divide Impacting On Residents in LBRUT Who Do Not Have Access to the Internet?

The current lockdown situation has exposed inequalities in the London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames which may not have been recognised previously; there are a number of residents who do not have use the internet and cannot access the council website.

We are aware of the problem of school children who have been reported not to possess laptops but the situation seems to be affecting older people and people on lower income as well.

Council consultations now take place on the internet so how do people who do not have use of laptops, etc. - and maybe cannot afford to pay for internet access - keep up-to-date?

For example, the Tribune has been made aware that there are residents who would comment on the Twickenham Riverside proposal if they knew how to find out about the plans and how to get a form. Of course, there are also those who are shielding and cannot make unnecessary trips to the post office or a library which may or may not be open.

Following an email to the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames a Council spokesperson replied “We are more than happy to provide consultation materials by post for those that are not digitally active, we have already received some requests via the contact email and number provided.”

The Council said that they had received 250 online responses to their consultation for Twickenham Riverside.

The 2011 Census found that there were 64,148 people living in Twickenham: 9,987 in South Twickenham, 11,172 in St Margarets and North Twickenham, 10,396 in Twickenham Riverside and 10,528 in West Twickenham.

An officer also added: “If you know of any of these residents who does not have access to the internet please ask them if they would like to receive a copy by post and let me know the details and I can arrange.”

This situation has exposed a failure in communication which perhaps many of us were not aware. We cannot just rely on the Council website; the Council must make sure that all residents are kept up-to-date and not just those with the internet. After all, LBRUT seems to know how to contact us when Council tax is due.



HM Government

NHS



CORONAVIRUS

STAY HOME SAVE LIVES

The new Covid-19 variant is spreading fast. Around 1 in 3 people with Covid-19 don't have any symptoms, but can still pass it on, putting people at risk and a renewed pressure on our NHS.

Everyone must stay home. If it's essential to go out, remember wash your hands, cover your face and make space.

Find out more at [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES

Richmond upon Thames to join proposed London e-scooter trial

Richmond upon Thames proposes to be part of a London-wide trial of a shared e-scooter scheme, which aims to test the viability and safety of scooters as a long-term solution to the serious air quality and congestion issues across the City.

The trial, which is being led by Transport for London (TfL) and London Councils, would be the only legal way of riding e-scooters in public places in London.

The trial is being designed to enable a better understanding of if and how the e-scooters can be safely accommodated as part of London's wider transport network. All users will have at least an official provisional driving licence and offences can be treated as motoring offences. The e-scooters operated by TfL's chosen operator will be the only ones legally allowed on the streets. The use of private e-scooters on public footways and highways remain illegal.

Richmond Council will work with TfL to agree areas of the borough that the e-scooters may be used in, including areas that require lower speed limits than the maximum 15.5mph the e-scooters are limited to. Operators will use geofence technology to ensure that the e-scooters automatically respect these limits.



Subject to TfL completing the necessary arrangements to enable a London trial, the Council's participation in the trial was approved by the Transport and Air Quality Committee last night (14 January 2021). The Council will closely monitor the effects of the trial and has secured the right to alter or withdraw from the trial at any time.

The Committee also approved the introduction of a dockless-bike scheme to the borough. The Council will work with provider Lime to deploy flexible bike-sharing across the borough.

To support both schemes and address concerns about the bicycles and e-scooters cluttering public footways, the Council will be identifying specific space to accommodate the new vehicles.

Councillor Alexander Ehmann, Chair of the Transport and Air Quality Committee, said:

'Long after the Covid health crisis is behind us, we will still have to grapple with Climate Change and the challenge of pollution in our Capital. For the sake of our health and the climate, we cannot afford to sleepwalk into a car-led recovery.

That is why this Council is supporting trials of less polluting modes of transport such as e-scooters and e-bikes. Providing options like e-scooters & e-bikes is a positive way to encourage people to seek alternatives to the car.

We know that some residents will have concerns about safety and the way these vehicles are used. I can reassure them that we will be vigilant throughout this e-scooter trial and we're committed to taking action if any issues arise.

Introducing new technology to our streets is rarely easy, but it is crucially important. Richmond residents will be amongst the vanguard of those testing and assessing these vehicles. On behalf of the Council, I'd like to express my gratitude for residents' co-operation during this exciting trial.'

Dear Editor,

Eel Pie Island Artists

Does anyone know what the artists' colony on Eel Pie Island are now thinking about the Council's redevelopment plans for Twickenham Riverside? When the Council unveiled the winning plan of the competition I heard a couple of them saying that they would be moving to alternative studios if they weren't given parking nearby because of the amount of equipment they needed to take across the bridge at certain times. I would miss their Open Days.

Sarah Thomas,Whitton

Dear Editor,

COVID19 risk in Bushy Park - new fence creates considerable loss of public space - congestion at Coleshill Gate entrance makes social distancing impossible - masks essential in this area

Until very recently, there was a pleasant public picnicking and family meeting area (see behind the young girl on a tricycle) adjacent to the busy Coleshill Gate entrance which had been in place and in regular public use for over 50 years - until early January when a large new corral type fence unexpectedly appeared all round the playing field and proceeded to acquire not only this much loved corner of public land, but an even larger strip of land along the tarmac footpath and the Teddington Club Cricket field boundary. As a consequence, not only has the only popular public meeting area disappeared, but we have been left with narrow muddy strips either side of the footpath leading up to Upper Lodge Road because socially distanced two way traffic on the tarmac path is no longer possible. The fence has no gaps to allow access by both deer and the public, although previously, the public and deer (see picture) had full access except when matches were being played..

This could not possibly have come at a worse time, when social distancing is paramount and new type COVID19 is rampant. Pre-lockdown, the entrance area was regularly full of groups of friends meeting, mostly without masks and probably many contrary to the rules. There was a significant reduction in numbers on day one of the latest lockdown, but if Teddington follows the complete disregard of the Stay at Home rule seen in Richmond, everyone will be at risk and more local infections will occur. I have therefore written to Bushy Park Manager Phil Edwards asking for installation of an immediate temporary safety measure requiring masks to be worn by everyone over the age of 11 passing through the area, and for the public picnicking and family meeting area to be re-instated to allow safe social distancing for everyone in the area, at least until the COVID19 pandemic is over.

Kind Regards, Brian Holder, Teddington



Dear Editors,

Twickenham Farmer's Market

The popular Farmers' Market that takes place every Saturday morning in Holly Road car park in Twickenham doesn't want to move to the event space on Twickenham Embankment when it is built. I don't blame them as they are very well situated in Holly Road and have their regular shoppers week in week out, including me. Doesn't the Council realise that, with nearly a hundred Pay and Display parking places being removed from the Embankment, this will lead to even more people searching for parking places on Saturdays!

Name and Address supplied (Twickenham)

Dear Sir,

The Riverside Development & Eel Pie island

About a year ago a leaflet started to appear on everyone's cars saying "SAVE OUR RIVERSIDE" with a lovely picture of the riverside with lots of trees, very few cars and some boats etc.

It is interesting that the view is taken from Eel Pie Island (whose riverside does this leaflet refer to I wonder?) and if you turn to the other side it is clear that the leaflet is rather disingenuously trying to encourage people to "HELP SAVE ESSENTIAL TOWN CENTRE PARKING FOR VISITORS AND RESIDENTS". This is the real message of the leaflet.

In fact, the leaflet was commissioned by Eel Pie Island residents and is all about saving the riverside for their parking. It mentioned St Mary's Church, Church Street businesses, the theatre and local pubs but I doubt anyone on this list was asked directly if they supported it and wanted these 82 car parking spaces to be all that the riverside ever could be.

Recently on twitter everyone seems really upset about the council's plans for the riverside but what people should really be aware of is that the council are being heavily influenced by residents of Eel Pie Island under the cloak of many Riverside Associations of which all have in common, the fact that the membership (of all these associations) are 99% residents of the island who are determined that the riverside remains their car park and do not have the vision or generosity of spirit to want to see this wonderful asset turned into the public amenity space it should be.

There are lots of excuses being publicised about how large lorries need access to the bridge for the boat yards but it is a small "foot" bridge where vehicle traffic was banned a long time ago because it is too heavy for it. It should not be taking heavy loads at all. In fact there is only one small working boat yard which has its own large slip way and can receive materials by water, and it is only 50 meters away from the mainland as it is right opposite Champions Wharf.

The rest of the island is residential with a few businesses and quite a few boats that are lived in. Building materials should also be coming by barge on the high tides, which does happen sometimes amongst the more conscientious of the home owners, and should not need to use the bridge. But the whole argument about heavy goods vehicles needing to unload by the bridge is just a thinly disguised ruse to bully the council into allowing the riverside to remain the domain of the islanders for their cars and their visitor's cars.

It really is shocking that people who live in such a beautiful unspoilt and pedestrianised landscape are not willing to share the rest of the riverside (the only riverside area pretty much in Twickenham's town centre) with the local community and want to stall the development just so they can park their cars there.

It is amazing that Twickenham is still so out dated and behind the times. But the real reason for this is because of some selfish people not wanting to have anything changed or to share this wonderful asset with people for the many generations to come. I have heard the argument from the islanders that it works really well as their car park, has done for so many years and why does anything need to change?

What do YOU think? Shouldn't this be a beautiful pedestrianised riverside space for ALL to enjoy? Or do you really think that it should remain just 82 parking spaces? Doesn't Twickenham and everyone in Twickenham just deserve a lot better than this?

Name and Address Supplied (Twickenham)

Gas mains replacement works set to begin on the A316 Great Chertsey Road

Road users are being advised to plan their journeys in advance following the announcement that Cadent Gas will shortly begin gas mains replacement works on the A316 Great Chertsey Road. The works will commence on Monday, January 25 and will last for approximately 13 weeks

Gas mains replacement programmes are being carried out by Cadent Gas in order to provide safe and reliable energy to homes and businesses across the borough and aim to reduce the frequency of unplanned repair work to ageing gas pipes.

Cadent Gas have notified Richmond Council of essential work needed to replace and upgrade old large diameter metal gas mains on Great Chertsey Road between Hospital Bridge Roundabout and Apex Corner.



In order to allow for sufficient space for the replacement of pipes located deep beneath the road, and to ensure the safety of both the public and the Cadent Gas workforce, traffic flow will be reduced to a single lane on Great Chertsey Road in both directions. A section of the footpath on Great Chertsey Road will also be closed for the duration of the works.

Cadent Gas have written to all residents directly impacted by the replacement works and will work alongside Richmond Council to minimise the impact on residents.

Light Up At Night!!



Stay Safe
When cycling at night
always use a light

A Twickenham Tribune Campaign
www.TwickenhamTribune.com

SOME MUCH-NEEDED SUNSHINE FOR US FROM BITTER HONEY!

Sitting here on a miserable January day, in the middle of another lockdown while writing this, I am longing for some sunshine and those warmer days! So I thought I would cheer you up by sharing with you information about a fabulous cookbook that positively makes me long to book a trip to Sardinia. **Bitter Honey by Letitia Clark**, published by Hardie Grant (£26 for a hardback) is a real 'tonic'. It celebrates the glory of Italian food, and the reason why it remains so endlessly popular; each recipe has a story behind it to transport us to the glittering, turquoise waters and laid-back lifestyle of this Italian paradise. Leticia has worked as a chef in London, but now splits her time between London and rural Sardinia (lucky thing!).



I've visited much of Italy, but not, as yet, Sardinia. This splendid book makes me so keen to go, and shows me that Sardinian food is a distilled version of Italian food: simpler, more rustic, and more wild. The emphasis on tradition and on the importance of eating well is even more pronounced here on this forgotten island. I've chosen some recipes for you from the book that are perfect for this time of year: blood oranges are at their best and the Natoora radicchio that comes in fresh from Italy every Monday morning to Il Corto in Church Street is magnificent and perfect for the risotto (you can also griddle it and serve it with olive oil and good balsamic – yum!).

RED WINE AND RADICCHIO RISOTTO WITH SAPA SERVES 4 (MAIN) 6 (PRIMO)

Risotto al Vino Rosso, Sapa e Radicchio

'I love red wine: drinking it, cooking it, even painting with it. Sardinian Cannonau is one of the most drinkable red wines I know. It's smooth, rich and rounded and.... just very easy to drink, whether on its own or with food. I've honestly never tasted a bad one – even those that arrive in opaque unlabelled petrol containers are delicious. Like the Greeks, Sards often drink this wine chilled, especially in the summer. Gianni cuts up ripe peaches and puts them into his glass, which makes a delicious sort-of pudding. This wine is also wonderful in cooking. In this risotto, the fruitiness of red wine and the richness of butter and cheese balances the bitterness of beautiful purple radicchio.

I cook the radicchio separately, in a little butter and sapa, just to take the edge off and to enhance its own fruitiness.'

- 1.2 litres (40½ fl oz/5 cups) light chicken stock
- 500ml (17 fl oz/2 cups) red wine (preferably Cannonau)
- 150g (5¼ oz) butter
- ½ head of large radicchio or 1 small entire head, finely sliced pinch of sea salt
- 1 tablespoon sapa or an aged balsamic
- 2 small white onions, finely diced
- 2 garlic cloves, sliced
- 400g (14oz/2 cups) risotto rice
- 80g (3oz) Parmesan, grated, plus extra to serve

In a deep saucepan over a low heat, mix together your stock and wine. Melt 20 g (¾ oz) butter in a separate saucepan. Reserve a handful of radicchio for decoration then fry the rest until it just wilts. Add a pinch of salt and the sapa. Continue cooking for a minute or so and set aside.

Melt 50 g (1¾ oz) butter in a deep saucepan and fry the onions and garlic gently, until soft and translucent.



Add the rice and stir for a minute or so. Add a ladle of your wine and stock mixture and stir until it has been absorbed into the rice. Repeat the process, ladle by ladle, stirring after each addition until the rice absorbs the liquid.

The whole cooking process should take around 17–20 minutes. Once your rice is al dente and the liquid has mostly evaporated, set it aside for the ‘mantecatura’, or ‘creaming’.

With a wooden spoon, beat in the rest of the butter and grated Parmesan. Beat well, for a minute or two, until a luscious creamy sauce is formed.

Finally, fold in your cooked radicchio and serve, topped with the reserved raw radicchio for decoration and an extra grating of Parmesan.

BLOOD ORANGE, RICOTTA, POLENTA AND OLIVE OIL CAKE (SERVES 8–10)

Torta di Arancia Sanguigna, Ricotta, Polenta e Olio di Oliva

‘A perfect cake, this is simultaneously fluffy, rich and light. The polenta gives it a lovely crunchiness at the edges. It will stay soft and sticky for days, though it is unlikely it will last that long – it is especially delicious for breakfast with an espresso. Blood oranges look the most striking with their scarlet flesh, but normal oranges will work just as well. A final note: this batter will look very runny when it is made, but do not be alarmed. It is all exactly as you planned...’

For the base

- 1–2 blood oranges
- 100 g (3½ oz/½ cup) Demerara sugar

For the batter

- 200 ml (6¾ fl oz/¾ cup) olive oil, plus extra for greasing
- 200 g (7 oz/1 cup) caster (superfine) sugar
- pinch of sea salt
- 250 g (8¾ oz) ricotta
- zest and juice of 4 small blood oranges
- juice and zest of 1 large lemon
- 4 eggs
- 100 g (3½ oz/2/3 cup) polenta
- 150 g (5¼ oz/1¼ cups) plain (all-purpose) flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder

Preheat the oven to 180°C (350°F/Gas 4). Grease and line a 20 cm (8 in) cake tin.

First, prepare the base of the cake.

Wash the oranges and slice them into 2 mm discs with a very sharp knife (you can use a mandolin or a slicer if you have them). I leave the rind on, as when cooked like this it becomes edible, but if you prefer you can remove it.

In a small saucepan over a medium heat, melt the demerara sugar with 2 tablespoons water until it has dissolved. Simmer for a few minutes until the syrup begins to caramelize (you should smell and see the colour change to a light amber). Pour your syrup over the bottom of the cake tin. Arrange the slices of blood orange, as many as will fit in one layer in a pleasing pattern, on top of the syrup.

To make the batter, whisk the oil, sugar, salt, ricotta, citrus juice and zest together in a large mixing bowl. Add in the eggs one at a time and beat until smooth. Add in the dry ingredients and beat until smooth. Pour the batter into the prepared tin and bake for 40–50 minutes, until golden and just set.

Allow the cake to cool for 5 minutes, then run a knife around the edge of the tin and invert onto a wire rack or serving plate. Allow to cool completely before slicing.



St Mary's University News

St Mary's Lecturer Recognised in New Year's Honours

Senior Lecturer in Physiotherapy at St Mary's University, Twickenham Gabriella Pimentel has been awarded a British Empire Medal (BEM) in the New Year's Honours List.

Gabriella was awarded the honour in recognition of services to the elderly during the COVID-19 pandemic, where she shared [daily exercise videos](#) to help keep people fit and active during the first lockdown.

GABY PIMENTEL'S QUARAN-TIN WORKOUT

Despite usually working in elite sport, having worked with the England Women's Football teams, Chelsea FC and Brighton and Hove Albion, Gabriella was inspired to create the daily videos after finding out her grandparents' exercise classes had all been cancelled due to COVID-19.

At the start of the lockdown, Gabriella promised to record one for each day, making 91 individual workout videos. To take part in the videos, viewers only need a chair and two standard store cupboard tins, which gave the series its name '[Quaran-Tin](#)'. The exercise routines

are designed to be accessible for people who are elderly or who have low exercise tolerance.

Since recording the videos, Gabriella has been featured on [BBC London News](#) and has also published a book which is [available on Amazon](#).

Speaking of her award, Gabriella said:

"The Quaran-Tin workout was a perfect way to show the elderly that they weren't forgotten about during the first lockdown when so many were forced to self-isolate. We built a lovely community together and managed to keep those most vulnerable fit and well, whilst also giving me a great project to focus on! I never expected to receive a BEM, but it's a lovely way to end a very strange year."

Head of Health Sciences at St Mary's Gill Horgan added:

"Gabriella exemplifies all of the values of St Mary's – Generosity of Spirit, Respect, Excellence and Inclusiveness. We are very proud of her contribution to the elderly population and are delighted to have her as part of our wonderful Physiotherapy Team."



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

TRAVELLER'S TALES 88

BACK TO THE FRONT



Doug Goodman recalls a visit to Ypres with WW1 veterans

In the last Traveller's Tales we visited Waterloo, the site of Wellington's victory in 1815. This week we move forward 100 years but remain in Belgium. Mention the name Ypres, the small city in Flanders and you immediately think of the battles fought in terrible conditions throughout World War One. Like The Somme, Ypres remains known for its pilgrims who returned to pay respects to their dead comrades and for families seeking a grave or a name on a memorial. Today the WW1 survivors are long departed but their relatives still return in large numbers to visit the battlefields, museums and cemeteries that abound in Flanders.



Cloth Hall in Ruins



Cloth Hall Today



Veterans at Tyne Cot

Ypres is easily reached using the DFDS ferry from Dover to Calais in about 75 minutes along the motorway. It's a clean compact place with good restaurants, small hotels, excellent beer served in the many bars and some interesting monuments. The Saint Martin's Cathedral, built in 1221, is imposing and the 13th century Cloth Hall dominates the main square. Both these buildings were totally destroyed along with the entire city during the bombardments from 1914 to 1918. Happily everything was rebuilt in the original style so today you see a very attractive mediaeval city. But the main purpose of almost everyone's visit is to explore the WW1 sites. The Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing attracts vast crowds every evening at 8.00 when the Last Post is sounded by trumpeters from the local fire brigade. This ceremony has been carried out every day since 1929 except for the years during the Second World War when the city was occupied by German forces. Engraved on stone panels beneath the arches of the memorial are the names of 54,395 troops who were killed in the region and have no known grave. Another 34,984 men without graves are commemorated in the nearby Tyne Cot cemetery.

KILLING GROUNDS

The three major battles fought in the muddy trenches during nearly five years of conflict gained little territory for either side: just half a million casualties. The city was in a vital strategic location. To the east of Ypres a range of low hills was in the way of German plans to occupy the rest of Belgium from the north. The Germans launched devastating gas attacks on the French and British defenders on April 22nd 1915 and almost broke the line. One hundred and fifty tonnes of chlorine gas were launched from 5,380 containers on a four mile front. The third battle in 1917 was the bloodiest of all when heavy rain turned the trench systems and craters into an impassable quagmire. The reconstructed trenches, dugouts and weapons in the Tyne Cot museum can only offer a very sanitised version of what life was like. The displays in the Cloth Hall allow you to 'adopt' a soldier to gain some idea of the hardships while the vast number of graves in Tyne Cot testifies to the horrendous slaughter.



Trench System



Dugout



The Menin Gate

BACK TO WIPERS

Known to the troops as 'Wipers' it was an invitation received by WW1 veterans in 1993 that provided a return trip to the city to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of the First World War. Working with North Sea Ferry's PR head Jim Pybus we decided to ask local papers in the North East and North West if they could locate any survivors. Knowing that the youngest would be well over 90 years old we thought there might be a handful of veterans willing and able to accept the short trip from Hull to Zeebrugge and onto Ypres. Amazingly 17 men, aged between 93 and 98, volunteered. Each with a carer accompanied by their local newspaper, embarked on the ship for what one guest described as 'the greatest adventure since being sent to France in 1916'. I had driven the route a few weeks beforehand with Jim to ascertain the distance to any hospital from the Belgian motorway, to measure the width of every doorway through which a wheelchair might pass and to agree presentations, visits to the sites and arrange a special Last Post ceremony at 4.00 pm. Nothing was left to chance and with the support of North Sea staff and a doctor accompanying the large group nothing went wrong.



The Last Post



Ceremony at The Menin Gate



George Hudson, 96, Remembers His Comrades

Every veteran remembered clearly their time in the army and service in Belgium or France. Listening to and recording their experiences of the horrors they endured was very humbling. Granada TV joined the visit and the documentary on the trip was later screened to great acclaim. The Mayor of Ypres gave the official welcome and medals were presented – joining those awards already pinned proudly on jackets. When the sound of the bugles had died down and wreaths placed to fallen comrades, there were some emotional scenes as all 17 stood stiffly to attention. On the return sailing to Hull the veterans talked late into the night before retiring to their cabins: but not before consuming quite a large amount of beer.

In the weeks following this very moving trip we received letters from every guest expressing enormous gratitude to their hosts. I kept in contact with several I had come to know, particularly with Fred Moloy who lived in York. He had served in the Prince of Wales Own Civil Service Rifles: my uncle's regiment. I visited Fred in York in 1994 and gained a lot of information about the 15th London Regiment. The last of those who went Back to the Front on the memorable trip passed away in 2004.

WIZ TALES

The Bahamas



Teresa Read

The weather is cold and wet at the moment so perhaps it is time to look at the sunny Bahamas. Although The Bahamas lie in the Atlantic the country is linked with the Caribbean as part of the larger group of the West Indies.

The Bahamas was one of the early additions to the World InfoZone project and photographs were donated to the project in the summer of 2000.

There are a number of links to other countries in The Bahamas country information, including Cuba, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and St Lucia (which also links to an eye-witness account of Hurricane Allen).



This part of the world suffers from a hurricane season and at the beginning of September 2019 Hurricane Dorian, which caused devastation in The Bahamas, was reported to be just behind Hurricane Allen for its severity.

More photos of the Bahamas:

<https://worldinfozone.com/gallery.php?country=Bahamas>

With thanks to The Bahamas Tourist Office and the High Commission of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas



RIP OFF BRITAIN. Part two

By Bruce Lyons, your local travel agent

As we (all of us) continue to battle thru the Pandemic and I continue to damage my palate by watching the BBC at Breakfast listening to the tale of woes. There is a lot of merit in the advice and comments given by the team & to give them credit they have helped a lot of people in bringing some order to a chaotic situation.

However, Retail Agents have had little help from the official bodies that constantly lambast us with instructions of what is the consumer's rights – without ever offering help in achieving the results needed, Hotels, rail companies, ferries and excursion providers should all be helping our valued clients to get their monies back.

Insurance companies have, through the Association of British Travel Insurers, instructed their members that if the Traveller can't get his/her money back then they should, where possible, use the credit card chargeback route. In many cases this just lands at the Travel Agents door and I have heard some horrendous stories from other retailers who have been charged with 10s of Thousands with little chance to reclaim, when it should have been an insurance claim. I am afraid many of those agents will simply not be about next time around.

For us we have not suffered in this direction and of all the disrupted/abandoned or deferred holidays we are down to just about two that I would consider work in progress. Fingers crossed the Vaccine will take care of that.

In the meantime, the industry has put in place better security to protect traveller's purchases in the future. Currently there should, and there are, some "Green Shoots" appearing and the more adventurous are taking advantage of the generous offers of the Travel Trade as they make determined efforts to rekindle the spirit of travel, but it has been difficult to get the message across that you can "book with confidence".

Confidence is for you to know that is the holiday can't go ahead because of Covid regulations, because the flights are cancelled, or the host country has refused entry and any clearly related issue – your money will be returned.

Since last March all sort of changes have been visited on all of us; Airlines, Travel Operators, Agents and the suppliers in Host countries – But a lot of that has changed – All you need to be sure of from your agent is you have ATOL cover or related securities if by land or just a hotel booking – It is not always simple to pick your way thru this confusing environment but suddenly that is exactly why you should use a local agent – one that you can see across the desk –

Not all, but most, of what I hear on Rip Off Britain is with internet, OTA's (On Line Travel Agents) and call centres that the client never seems to be able to reach anyone in charge and that is where most of problem bookings stem from.

Dear Reader, if you want to book, I can assure you we will not book and take your money if we are not satisfied that the refund securities are not in place to our satisfaction. We have had too much stress from this these last months and I am sure we all need to have something to look forward to like a bit of sun or a nice adventure in the Spring or Summer.

So, go on – take the plunge and take advantage of all the generous offers the Travel Trade is enticing you with – and you'll save money as well as have A little SUN tucked away for later on in the year





RFS The Best of our Recent Historic Screenings

Issue 43

15th January 2021

THE OTHER SIDE OF HOPE

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 OTHER SIDE OF HOPE** was 776th film screened by RFS on 12th December 2017. **The Other Side of Hope** was one of three fourth equal ranked films of Season 55, it got an approval mark of 90% from those attending; from season 55 we have also already featured the first placed film **A Man Called Ove** as our last Issue, **Issue 42**. **The Other Side of Hope** can be streamed from Amazon Prime and Curzon plus the discs are available from Amazon and others. In season 55, knowing how popular Aki Kaurismäki is, RFS also screened his companion film **Le Havre**. Plus did you know he has a much less well known brother **Mika** who is also a film director. The editor of these reviews was lucky enough to see Mika's most recent **A Spice of Life** (aka **Master Cheng**) at the socially distanced and open-air Umbrian Film Festival this August – a great formulaic cross-cultural romance.

THE OTHER SIDE OF HOPE (TOIVON TUOLLA PUOLEN)

Country: Finland, 2017
Director: Aki Kaurismäki
Screenplay: Aki Kaurismäki
Cinematography: Timo Salminen
Editor: Samu Heikkilä
Running Time: 100 min., colour
Language: Finnish

Leading Players:

Ville Virtanen (Oikeussalin viranomainen)
Dome Karukoski (Huligaani bussipysäkillä)
Kati Outinen (Vaatekaupan omistaja)
Sakari Kuosmanen (Wikström)
Matti Onnismaa (Kylmäsilmainen mies)
Tommi Korpela (Melartin)
Sherwan Haji (Khaled)
Jörn Donner (Pokerinpelaaja)

The Other Side of Hope follows on from director/writer Aki Kaurismäki's earlier refugee story, 2011's **Le Havre**, where an ageing shoe-shiner befriends a young African migrant. In this 2017 film we see Khaled, a refugee from Aleppo, gradually emerge from a heap of coal in a Finnish harbour, having stowed away on a cargo ship. He decides to register as an illegal immigrant, where he learns from another refugee the best tactics for being allowed to stay - 'be cheerful, but not too cheerful'.



Meanwhile, lugubrious travelling salesman Waldemar Wikstrom has walked out on his alcoholic wife and then wins a small fortune at poker. He decides to buy a shabby restaurant called the Golden Pint, where the cook sleeps standing up with a cigarette in his mouth.

Khaled and Wikstrom eventually bump into each other (literally), and Khaled is offered a job in the restaurant, while he works out a way to bring his sister - lost en route from Aleppo - to Finland as well.

Kaurismaki's signature style of deadpan humour delivered in a subtle and unshowy way is much in evidence, even while he deals with serious issues. This film focuses on one of the world's most troubling problems - the refugee crises - with great humanity and empathy, while avoiding mining the situation for cheap laughs. The tale seems to alternate between comedy and pathos, and Kaurismaki seems to be a rare director who can get away with this delicate balancing act, and not fall off.

Steve Karpel

BPA issues parking management guidance to support vaccination programme

Given the vital importance of the COVID-19 vaccination programme, the British Parking Association (BPA) has issued updated guidance to its Approved Operator Scheme members.

As the NHS starts to rapidly increase the number of testing/vaccinations centres, BPA Approved Operators are considering the parking arrangements around these facilities. We are encouraging members to explore practical support measures for the NHS, including free parking sites and extended grace periods, already in place in many areas.

In the coming weeks and months, the elderly and those who are clinically vulnerable, and therefore the most likely to suffer the most, will be invited to attend a vaccination centre - this will be a stressful time for many. Effective parking management has an important part to play and a Parking Charge Notice should only be issued where necessary. If a PCN is issued to a motorist at a vaccination centre who can prove that they were attending that centre on the day of the parking event, the BPA expects the PCN to be cancelled.

Steve Clark, Director of Operations and Business Development said: "Our BPA Community continues to work closely with government and other stakeholders to support the national effort and our amazing NHS. We are proud of the contributions being made by our sector which includes many of our members providing free parking for NHS staff and critical care workers."



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.

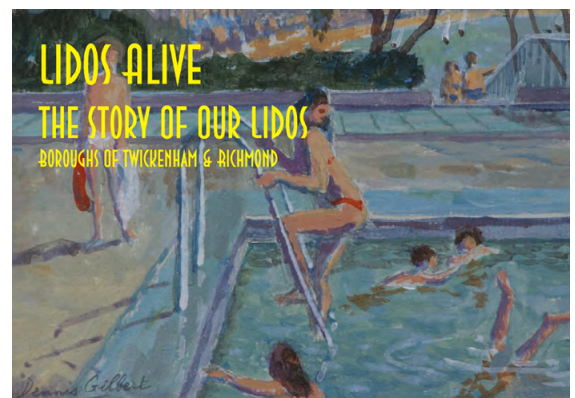
More importantly though, it provides the local people with an everyday escape from modern life, an accessible urban retreat.

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](#)

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





BRENTFORD FC



Ghoddos winner sends Bees through Brentford 2 – 1 Middlesbrough

Saman Ghoddos and Halil Dervişoğlu both scored the first goals for Brentford as the Bees progressed into the Fourth Round of the FA Cup for the third season in a row. Dervişoğlu, who had returned in the week from his loan spell with FC Twente, volleyed in the opener following a Ghoddos corner although Middlesbrough equalised through Sam Forlain early in the second-half. Ghoddos then came up with the winner to put Brentford into the hat for the next round as he curled a shot into the bottom corner from inside the area with 25 minutes to play.

With Head Coach Thomas Frank not available due to coronavirus Brentford B team coach Neil MacFarlane was in the dugout for the home side. Tariqe Fosu had an early shot that went close following a cross from the right wing by Mads Roerslev, that had initially been headed out by the Middlesbrough backline.

However, it was at the other end of the pitch where the key chances were being created on and Luke Daniels was the busier goalkeeper in the opening period.

He produced an excellent one handed save to tip over a powerful Chuba Akpom drive from the edge of the area and had to be alert as a cross from Marc Bola drifted goalwards, which he gathered at the second time of asking.

From a similar angle to the Bola cross Daniels then got down low to his right hand side to deny Marcus Browne after the Middlesbrough winger had managed to dribble past Ethan Pinnock and manufacture a shooting opportunity.

Brentford could have opened the scoring though Dervişoğlu after the Turkish forward had been played through by Fosu but he couldn't get the ball out from underneath his feet and skewed his shot into the side netting.

He soon made up for his mistake as he opened his goalscoring account in English football. A corner from Ghoddos found Dervişoğlu with pinpoint accuracy, who latched onto the delivery to side-foot the ball into the bottom corner and past Jordan Archer for the opening goal of the game.

Daniels then had to once again produce a couple of saves to ensure the home side took the advantage into half-time. Firstly, he was quickly off his line to close the space after Marcus Tavernier had slipped in Akpom to divert the ball out for a corner. Then, after Browne had been fouled by Roerslev 25 yards from goal, Lewis Wing stepped up from distance to curl a dangerous free-kick that Daniels palmed away to safety to preserve the one goal cushion.

Just three minutes into the second-half this cushion was removed as the sides were back on level terms once more. Patrick Roberts picked the ball up inside the area for the visitors and had a shot that was initially blocked by Mads Bech Sørensen. The ball however broke kindly and with Daniels already committed to the shot Middlesbrough substitute Folarin tapped home from inside the six-yard box.

They could have completed the turnaround soon after when a magnificent through ball from Wing from inside his own half set Tavernier clear, but Pinnock did very well to get back and recover to divert Tavernier's away from goal.

Just after the hour mark Brentford players were once again celebrating with a player who had just scored their first goal for the club. This time it was Iranian international Ghoddos and it came after some great passing interplay. Marcus Forss came short to pick up a pass out of defence from Sørensen and played the ball to Dervişoğlu who turned provider, as he played a perfectly weighted through ball for Ghoddos to latch onto. The Iranian then showed great composure to cut inside past Bola and calmly finish past Archer into the bottom corner.

Daniels backed up his fine individual performance from the first-half with some more quality saves in the second period. After seeing a shot from Roberts late he did well to stretch out and arm and got his body behind an attempted drive from goal scorer Forlain.

In the latter stages the fog descend on what was a chilly evening at the Brentford Community Stadium but the Bees saw out the game to book their place in the next round.

Brentford drawn against Leicester City in FA Cup

Brentford will face Premier League side Leicester City in the Fourth Round of the FA Cup for the second season in a row. The game had been selected for TV broadcast on BT Sport and will take place on Sunday 24 January.

Brentford lost in the Fourth Round of the FA Cup 1-0 against the Foxes in the last ever FA Cup game played at Griffin park last season after a goal from Kelechi Iheanacho.

Should Brentford progress they will face the winner of the tie between Brighton and Hove Albion and Blackpool with the Fifth Round scheduled for the 9-11 February.

Brentford games once again postponed due to Covid

Brentford's Championship encounter against Bristol City and Reading have been postponed after the club reported positive tests after the latest round of testing.

The club has also been forced into closing its training ground and all members of players and staff have been forced to self-isolate in line with regulations from the English Football League (EFL) and the national government.

The game against Reading has been rescheduled for Wednesday 10 February with the Bristol City game currently set to be the final game of the season on 8 May.

Jansson completes ankle surgery

Brentford have announced that captain Pontus Jansson had completed surgery on his ankle that has forced him to be unavailable in recent games.

According to the club the defender will now undergo a period of rehabilitation that will see him aim to return to first team training and matches for the end of the 2020/21 Championship season.

The Swedish international has played 51 times in all competitions for the Bees since arriving to the club in 2019 and has also 27 international Sweden caps, who he hopes to represent at the upcoming 2020 European Championships this summer.

Ghoddos makes loan move permanent

Saman Ghoddos has made his loan deal permanent and will now be a Brentford player until 2023 with the option for an extra year.

The Iranian international originally joined the club on loan from Ligue 2 side Amiens SC in September 2020. He has gone on to make 19 appearances for the Bees so far this term, scoring his first goal in the FA Cup last weekend against Middlesbrough.

UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Opponent: Luton Town (H) Wednesday 20th January 19:00 Brentford Community Stadium

Nickname: The Hatters

Competition: Championship – Matchday 23

Manager: Nathan Jones

Opponent record: P23 W8 D6 L9 GF20 GA26 (14th in Championship)

Interesting fact: The club was the first in southern England to turn professional, making payments to players as early as 1890 and turning fully professional a year later.

Come on you Bees!



HRBFC

Hampton & Richmond Borough

Jakes Sheppard signs for Hampton

Hampton & Richmond Borough have announced the signing of midfielder Jake Sheppard on loan from Hayes & Yeading.

The 23 year old came through the youth system at Reading and has spent time in the National League system with Eastbourne Borough, Dagenham & Redbridge, Guiseley and most recently at Wealdstone. Speaking to club media following the signing manager Gary McCann was pleased to get the deal over the line. He brings versatility in his make-up and is a player I've admired for a few years now. He's a Conference South player and beyond, making a great addition to the squad". The gaffer also expressed how "it's our job to get him up and running as quickly as we can, due to the lack of minutes he's had at Hayes and Yeading."

Vilhete links up with McCann once more

Mauro Vilhete will once again play under the management of Gary McCann after he completed a move on a dual registration deal from Isthmian League Premier Division side Wingate & Finchley.

The 27 year old spent 11 season with Barnet between 2009-20 in both the National League and the Football League during which he scored 22 goals in 227 games.

As part of this this versatile player was at loan with McCann at Hendon in 2011 and Vilhete has also spent time with Boreham Wood.

Vilhete is available for selection immediately and will be in the squad for tomorrow's match against Ebbsfleet United.

Tonbridge fixture postponed due to Covid

Hampton & Richmond Borough's National League South fixtures against Tonbridge Angels has been postponed due to Covid. The game was originally scheduled to take place on Saturday 23 January but will now be rescheduled due to an outbreak of the virus at the Kent base club.

UP NEXT FOR HAMPTON

Opponent: Ebbsfleet United (H) Saturday 16th January 15:00 Beveree Stadium

Nickname: The Fleet, The Reds

Competition: National League South – Matchday 15

Manager: Dennis Kutrieb

Opponent record: P13 W5 D4 L4 GF16 GA16 (10th in National League South)

Interesting fact: Between 2008 and 2013, the club was owned by the web-based venture MyFootballClub, whose members voted on player transfers, budgets and ticket prices among other things instead of those decisions being made exclusively by the club's management and staff as at most other clubs

Come on you Beavers!

The World Health Organization

COVID-19 - Origins of the SARS-CoV-2 virus

Why is it important for scientists to look for the origins of the virus? How do scientists look at the claim that the virus originated in a laboratory? More about the team which is looking for the origins of the virus that causes COVID-19. Dr Peter Ben Embarek leads this team

Video Transcript: Questions and Answers between Vismita Gupta-Smith and Dr. Peter Ben Embarek

Vismita Gupta-Smith: Peter, why is it important for the public and the scientists to know about the origins of this virus?

Dr. Peter Ben Embarek: *It's important to understand the origin of the virus for three key reasons. One is if we find the source and if it's still out there, we can prevent future reintroduction of the same virus into the human population. The second reason is that if we understand how this one jumped from bats origin into humans, we can perhaps prevent similar events in the future. So, to prevent future similar pandemics. And the third reason is that if we can find the virus, what it looked like before it jumped to the human population, we could potentially be in a better position to develop more efficient treatments and vaccines for this disease.*

Vismita Gupta-Smith: *Peter, you're leading the mission that will be studying the origins of this virus. Tell us about this mission and the people in it.*

Dr. Peter Ben Embarek: *We have put together a team of 10 international experts. And, this group will travel to Wuhan in the coming days and spend probably about a month there working in close collaboration with Chinese counterparts. The team includes experts in different fields that are necessary to help us understand the origin of the virus. There will be veterinarians, there will be medical doctors, there will be epidemiologists, there will be virologists, who are experts in these viruses. There'll be experts in these types of diseases that originate in animals and jump to humans. And all together, we will work together with Chinese counterparts on different studies, that hopefully will help us better understand this virus. We will start with two weeks in a hotel in quarantine where we won't be able to leave our rooms. We will all have our own rooms and stay there for two weeks but we will still be able to work from day one remotely. And then after the two weeks of quarantine, we will be able to move around and have face-to-face meetings and visit the different sites and areas that we would like to see as part of our studies.*

Vismita Gupta-Smith: *Peter, we see on social media, a lot of definitive claims that this virus originated in the laboratories. Tell us, how do scientists look at this question and how should the public be looking at this question?*

Dr. Peter Ben Embarek: *We have now the tools that allow us to look at the genetic makeup of these viruses. And when we look at our virus, the COVID-19 virus, there is nothing in its makeup that would indicate that it has been manufactured. It's clearly a natural virus and there are many of these around, we have seen several of them in the past. So, in itself it's not a surprise. Laboratory accidents happen unfortunately once in a while. It has happened many times in the past. And of course, it's even a remote possibility. We have to look at this as a possibility. So, we will of course also look at that hypothesis among many others, even if it's an unlikely one. There is no evidence so far indicating that anybody was working with this virus in the past. There is no evidence to indicate that it would have escaped a laboratory in any way, but of course we will have that in mind when we look at the origin of this virus.*

Vismita Gupta-Smith: *That was Dr. Peter Ben Embarek explaining how science will be looking for the origins of this virus.*



World Health Organization

Investigation into the housing of rough sleepers during the COVID-19 pandemic

Today the National Audit Office (NAO) reports that through its 'Everyone In' campaign, the Ministry of Communities, Housing and Local Government (the Department) swiftly provided emergency housing for rough sleepers during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the response raised issues that need to be addressed if government is to achieve its goal of ending rough sleeping by the end of this Parliament.

Rough sleepers typically experience poorer health than the rest of the population and are especially vulnerable to respiratory illnesses. Those at risk of rough sleeping may also occasionally sleep in communal shelters, where they cannot self-isolate if they have symptoms of COVID-19.

On 26 March 2020, the Department launched its 'Everyone In' campaign, asking local authorities to immediately house rough sleepers and those at risk of rough sleeping to protect their health and stop wider transmission of COVID-19. Local authorities expect to spend around £170 million this financial year rehousing rough sleepers in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, paid for by a combination of emergency government grants, existing homelessness funding streams, and their own resources.

The Department swiftly reorganised to launch Everyone In, despite not having a contingency plan for protecting the rough sleeping population in the event of a pandemic. It adopted a hands-on approach to work intensively with local authorities, homelessness charities and hotel chains. By mid-April 2020, 5,400 people had been made an offer of emergency accommodation and by the end of November, over 33,000 people had been helped through Everyone In. A total of 23,273 people had been supported to move into the private rental sector or another form of settled accommodation, and 9,866 people remained in hotels and other emergency accommodation.



COVID-19 claimed relatively few lives among the rough sleeping population in England in the first wave. Up to June 2020, 16 deaths among homeless people had been linked to COVID-19. Evidence suggests that Everyone In may have avoided more than 20,000 infections and 266 deaths overall.

The number of people accommodated under Everyone In over several months far exceeded the

number of people recorded as rough sleeping in the government's annual national 'snapshot' of the rough sleeping population. In the autumn of 2019, this snapshot estimated that there were 4,266 people sleeping rough on any given night, compared to the over 33,000 people who were helped by Everyone In.

In May 2020, the Department announced that it was moving to the next phase of the government's support for rough sleepers during the pandemic. When Everyone In was first launched, the Department encouraged local authorities to take all those sleeping rough into emergency accommodation, irrespective of their nationality or entitlement to benefits. On 28 May, it reminded local authorities that legal restrictions on offering support to people ineligible for benefits remained in force, and that exceptions should only be made in the case of risk to life. Some local authorities stopped taking those who were ineligible for benefits into emergency accommodation and sought to move on those already in such accommodation. There was a continued flow of rough sleepers onto the streets over the summer and autumn of 2020. For winter 2020-21, the government has launched the Protect Programme, which will run alongside Everyone In and will provide additional funding of £15 million to local authorities with high numbers of rough sleepers. In addition, the Department has announced £12 million of funding to provide self-contained emergency accommodation, and to help make night shelters safer to use.

In January 2021, the Department announced that it was making an extra £10 million available to support local authorities to provide accommodation to people still sleeping rough. It remains to be seen if the approach taken in winter 2020-21 will reduce the risk of the transmission of COVID-19 among rough sleepers as decisively as in spring 2020. The government has an election manifesto commitment to end rough sleeping by May 2024. In February 2020, the Department was preparing to carry out a review of its Rough Sleeping Strategy in light of the new target, but due to the prioritisation given to Everyone In, this did not take place. There is an ongoing need for a review of the strategy as it is out of step with the government's target to end rough sleeping by 2024, and there are important lessons from Everyone In to consider.

Gareth Davies, the head of the NAO said:

"In partnership with local government, and the voluntary and private sectors, the government acted swiftly to house rough sleepers and keep transmission rates low during the first wave. Despite this considerable achievement, the response raised key issues for government to address.

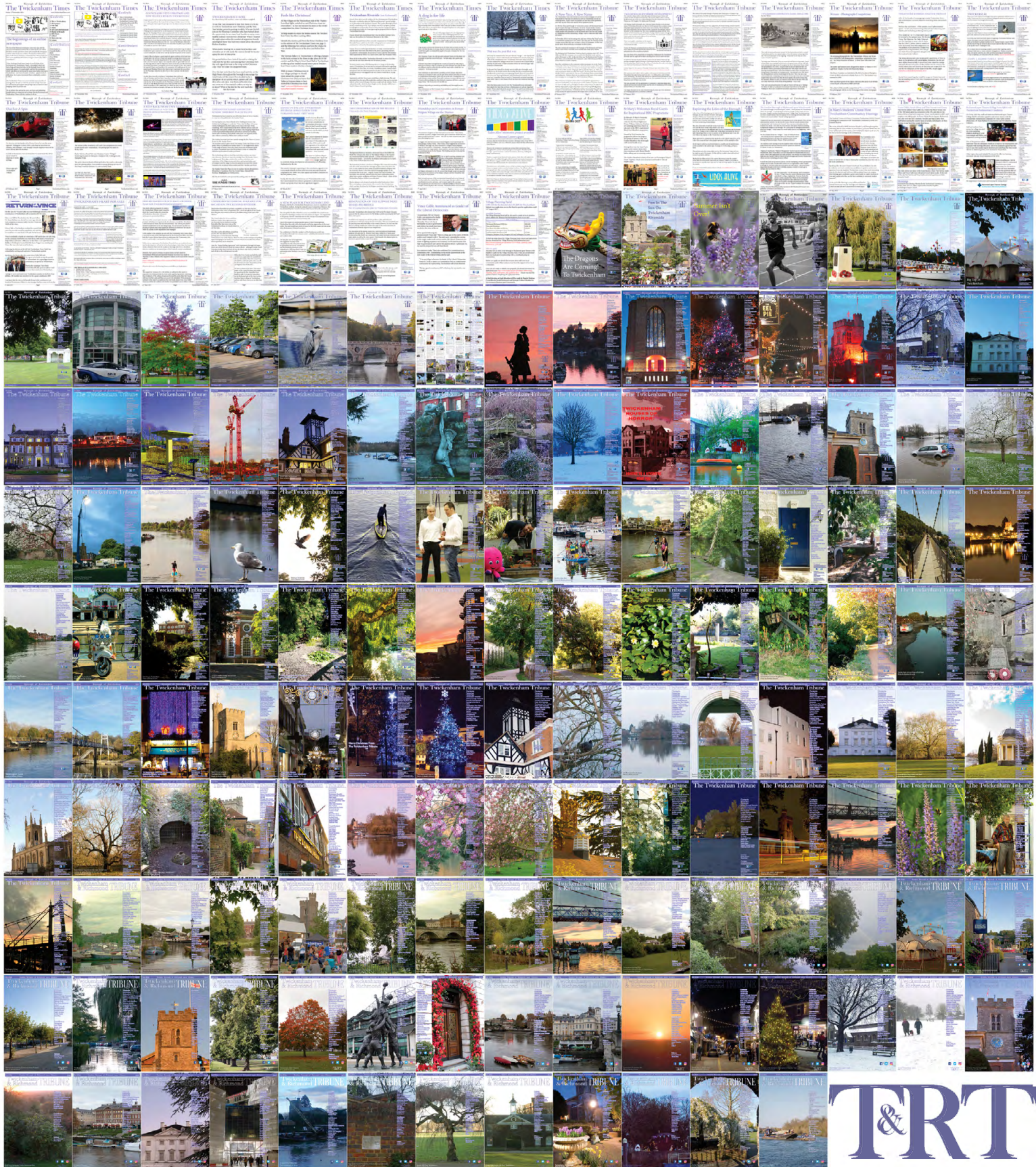
"For the first time, the scale of the rough sleeping population in England has been made clear, and it far exceeds the government's previous estimates. Understanding the size of this population, and who needs specialist support, is essential to achieve its ambition to end rough sleeping."

Read the full report [HERE](#)



National Audit Office

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