

# Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION  
TWICKENHAM CLUB

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## Editors

Berkley Driscoll  
 Teresa Read



12<sup>th</sup> November 2021

T&RT

# TickerTape - News in Brief

## **Smart parking sensors trial to begin helping to assist residents and improve air quality**

Richmond Council is rolling-out digital sensors as part of a one year trial to bring smart parking to some parts of Richmond upon Thames.

The new sensors will let residents know where available parking spaces are, in the trial areas, which will improve local road networks by reducing congestion helping to make the borough smarter, safer and more sustainable.

The parking sensor trial will see 151 parking bay sensors installed across the borough's town centres as part of the South London Partnership's InnOvaTe Project.

By using the RingGo app, which is already widely used for pay and display parking in Richmond upon Thames, drivers will be able to quickly identify available parking spaces (where sensors are installed). This will help alleviate congestion from vehicles not having to drive around searching for available space, which will in turn help to improve air quality.

## **The Mayor's Christmas concert announced**

Join the Mayor of Richmond upon Thames for the annual Mayor's Christmas concert featuring the wonderful musicians from The Middlesex Yeomanry Concert Band.

Tickets are priced at £15 per person and include a mulled wine and mince pies which will be available during the interval as well as a cash bar and charity raffle.

The event will take place on Friday 17 December at Clarendon Hall in York House, Twickenham. Doors will open at 7pm, with the performance beginning at 7.30pm.

Book your tickets [HERE](#)



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TwickerSeal and his chums wandered down to the latest mock up of the council's Twickenham Riverside development plans for the new Diamond Jubilee Gardens.

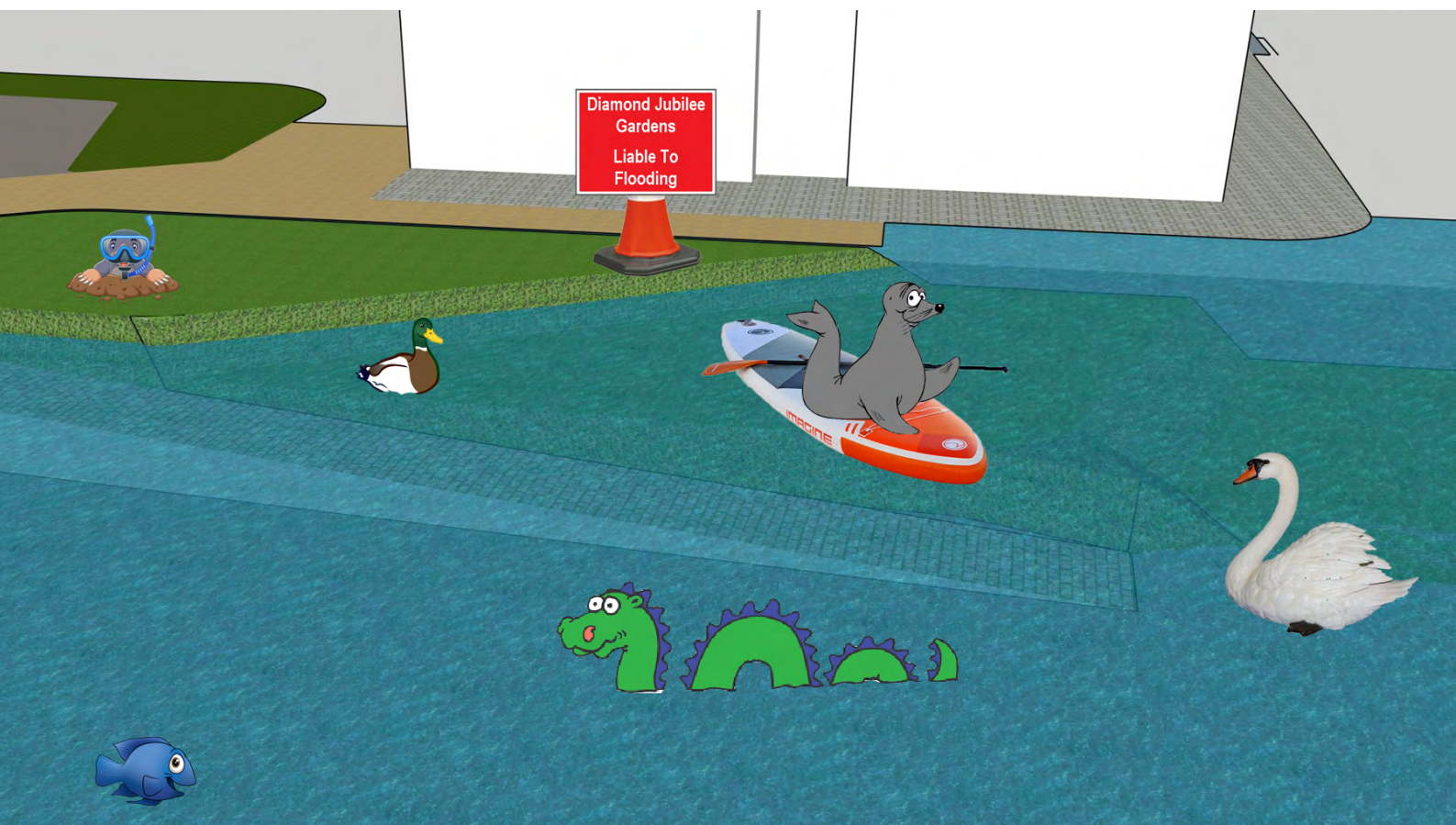
Luckily TwickerSeal and his friends are at home in an aquatic environment, considering that much of the proposed new DJG is under the flood zone. Luckily TwickerMole is a keen snorkeler and was prepared!

TwickerSwan said that she had heard the Twickenham Riverside Trust would be lodging a strong objection against the council's Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) on the DJG. TwickerDuck said that was quite right and there would have been serious questions if the Trust hadn't. After all, it's quite obvious that the council's proposed replacement was not fit for purpose and not of equal advantage to what exists today. Anyone can see that!

Nessie asked if everyone had seen the council's hysterical press release in response to the Trust's statement?

Gosh yes, they all said; how laughable.

But did you see how the councillors are now attacking the Trust on social media? Yes, they sighed, not so laughable, but very disappointing.



# Covid-19

By Teresa Read

## World Health Organization

Weekly Epidemiological Update: 12 November 2021

### Overview

During the week 1 to 7 November 2021, a slight upward trend (1% increase) in new weekly cases was observed, with over 3.1 million new cases reported. Over 48 000 new deaths were reported, a 4% decrease from the previous week. The WHO European Region reported increases in case and death incidence, while other regions reported declines or stable trends. As of 7 November, over 249 million confirmed cases and over 5 million deaths have been reported.

### Total cases to 12 November 2021

Richmond upon Thames	23,921 (23,317 previous week)
Kingston upon Thames	23,280 (22,824 previous week)
Hounslow	42,514 (41,787 previous week)
Wandsworth	43,710 (42,994 previous week)

Note: flu vaccinations are particularly important this year as influenza and Covid-19 are circulating at the same time. Some pharmacies provide a flu vaccination service as well as GP surgeries. Covid booster vaccinations are available from various GP surgeries and via [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk). Check websites for information.

## IN THE NEWS

BBC 12.11.21: Dutch set for partial lockdown as infections surge

New Scientist 11.11.21: Covid-19 news: Coronavirus deaths in Europe rise by 10 per cent in a week

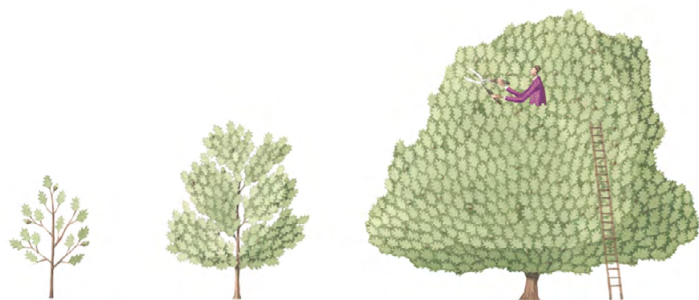
Sky News 10.11.21: COVID could be a concern for next five Christmases, scientists warn

Gov.UK 10.11.21: Covid-19 confirmed in pet dog in the UK

Reuters 10.11.21: France experiencing start of fifth wave of COVID epidemic -minister

World Health Organization: Countries with High Numbers of Deaths and the UK Red List.  
(Deaths Worldwide 5,070,244).

USA	751,610	Colombia	127,610
Brazil	609,756	Iran	127,686
India	462,189	Argentina	116,165
Mexico	290,110	France	115,613
Russian Federation	251,691	Germany	97,198
Peru	200,502	South Africa	89,435
Indonesia	143,608	Spain	87,617
The United Kingdom	142,338	Poland	78,524
Italy	132,551	Ukraine	74,857



### The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

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# The Tree Agency

# The Blitz Spirit

By Simon Fowler

Narrated by plummy voiced newsreaders or American journalists, wartime newsreels often show spontaneous sing-songs by cheery Cockneys hunkered down in East End shelters. They were thought to be good for morale.

During 1940 and 1941 much consideration was given to stiffening morale in Richmond's shelters as well.

In the larger public shelters certain standards of behaviour was to be expected. Richmond council and the local papers spent a lot of time fussing over this. In September 1940, for example, council minutes recorded that 'Notices have been exhibited in all public shelters prohibiting smoking and the practise of congregating in the entrances; with regard to the admission of dogs to public shelters the notices say that it is at the discretion of the shelter marshals.'

Each shelter was under the control of a volunteer shelter marshal and his deputy, who were expected to maintain morale as well as order. They were always a shortage of such people. In November 1940 the *Richmond Herald* included an appeal from the Chief Shelter Marshal Harold Ball, who wanted to create 'a family party spirit' in every shelter: 'We need educated people possessing big hearts and capable of administering to the needs of the people, with an uppermost thought for the human side of the story. My chief aim is to make them happy; to maintain public morale.'

In addition, volunteers provided entertainment to the shelterers. *The Richmond and Twickenham Times* suggested that 'what was done was a proper antidote to the noise and other drawbacks of the night outside.'

A story described how a Police Concert Party visited the shelters under the arches of Richmond Bridge and then at the Town Hall: 'They made quite a prepossessing appearance in their smart scarlet evening jackets with navy blue lapels, boiled shirts, white button holes and dandy sashes' providing a 'thoroughly entertaining show' with a mixture of comic turns and singing accompanied by violins 'Gunfire was vigorous though unheeded during the concert and it was still prevalent as the party made its way to the Town Hall shelter to give a second turn.'

Meanwhile more fun was taking place at the large shelter on Richmond Green where conditions 'were not as good as those in the other shelter, but that made the entertainment arranged all the more welcome.' Here, 'A mixed programme that appealed to the various standards of taste in the audience had been arranged, but proceedings were informal and closed, so that sleepers could bed down', at 9pm. There was community signing together with records played on a radiogram.

It's hard to know how popular the entertainments provided were, but they would have certainly taken people's minds off what was going outside the shelters.



An air raid warden provides musical entertainment in a shelter.

Photographer: Bill Brandt

Credit: Imperial War Museum (D1564)

# REMEMBER! A YOUNG SOLDIER

By Doug Goodman

Alec Reader was born in Wandsworth in December 1897. He attended Emanuel School and left at 16 to work for the Post Office. Wishing to 'do his bit' for the war and no doubt encouraged by his workmates he enlisted at Somerset House in August 1915 in The Prince of Wales Own Civil Service Rifles. He lied about his age as he was only 17.

He trained in Richmond Park and went to France in mid 1916. On September 15th 1916 his regiment took part in an attack on High Wood on The Somme. This battle saw the last cavalry charge and the first use of tanks. That morning by the German Switch Trench Alec was killed by a sniper as he and his comrades attempted to capture the strategic wood measuring one square kilometre where nearly 10,000 deaths occurred. Two weeks later papers were issued allowing his release from the army because he had enlisted underage.

Alec's parents searched for his grave in France without success as the spot where he had been buried was obliterated by the German advance in 1918. And that's how the story of Private Alec Reader, No. 3626 of the 47th London Division, might have ended if his 72 letters from the trenches, War Office letters, medals and other documents had not passed to his two nephews. The letters described in graphic detail life at the front under constant fire.



*Alec Reader in 1915, Newly enlisted*



*Alec Reader with parents, sisters and brother*



*Memorial at Thiepval to 72,000 with no known grave*

After very extensive research at the Kew Records Office, at various military museums and several visits to the Somme, Alec's name was found on the Thiepval Memorial along with over 72,000 other names of soldiers with no known grave. The research brought many amazing coincidences: hoping to locate a map of High Wood at the records' office, the first surprise was finding one dated September 14th 1916 opened out showing the exact line of attack planned for the following day. Another event occurred when, after a major feature appeared on Alec in a history magazine, the son of a soldier who had fought alongside Alec sent an extract from a diary written in the trenches. In it was described the moment Alec was shot

through the head. The daughter of Alec's C.O., Capt. G.G. Bates M.C., was astonished when she saw the letter written by him to Alec's mother – "Dear Madam it is with deepest sympathy ...." All the documents on Alec were placed in the archives of the Imperial War Museum and made available to researchers. As a consequence seven books have covered his life and countless features have appeared in the press. On November 11th 2018 his pictures appeared on the giant screens in Piccadilly Circus, marking the centenary of the end of The Great War. His photo also appeared in an exhibition at The National Portrait Gallery.



High Wood Where Alec Was Killed



Commemoration at the Thiepval Memorial



London Cemetery at High Wood

Most significant of all was September 15th 2016 when family members gathered in High Wood on the exact spot where Alec died one hundred years earlier. After the commemoration that day, by special invitation, Alec's nephew, great nephew and great, great nephew placed a wreath on the memorial at Thiepval.

On Sunday Alec will be remembered once more in the Poppy Field at Westminster Abbey where there is always a little section commemorating the 1240 soldiers of the Prince of Wales Own Civil Service Rifles who died in WW1. I shall place a cross in that patch of grass to remember my uncle.



Display in Memory of Alec Reader



Alec Reader Remembered at Westminster



A Veteran at Westminster Poppy Field

# TRUST TO OBJECT TO COUNCIL'S COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER

From The Twickenham Riverside Trust

The Twickenham Riverside Trust will be lodging a strong objection against the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) made on 21 October by the London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames Council, which is targeted primarily at the Diamond Jubilee Gardens.

The Trust holds a 125-year lease on the Gardens, created in 2014 with the objective of preserving them long into the future as public open space on the Twickenham Riverside.

Following professional and legal advice, the Trust will now be calling on the Secretary of State to reject the CPO on the Gardens.

Chair of the Trust, Luke Montgomery Smith said:

“We commissioned an independent assessment by the surveyors, Carter Jonas, of the quantity and quality of the public open space in the Council’s development design compared to the existing space on Twickenham Riverside.

“We have been advised that the public open space provided in the CPO is not of equal advantage compared to what exists today. That means it would not benefit the public in terms of open space and the use of that land and would therefore be considered, under the relevant legislation, to be disadvantageous to the public compared to what exists today in the Gardens and on the Embankment. This is a fundamental point given the Trust’s objectives.

“The basis of the Council’s case is complex, and we will give more detail in the next ten days, when our objection has been submitted.

“The Trust must be guided throughout by the objects in its articles, which are ‘to preserve, protect and improve, for the benefit of the public, the riverside and its environs at Twickenham’, and also by the purpose for which the Gardens were created and the lease granted to the Trust just seven years ago.”

As part of the CPO process, the Council has sent the order and accompanying Statement of Reasons to the responsible Secretary of State, Michael Gove, and objections have been invited. The deadline for representations and objections to his office is Tuesday 22 November.

You can view the Trust’s statement [HERE](#)







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# Council forced to follow Compulsory Purchase process to deliver Twickenham Riverside scheme for residents

The Council has been and will continue to negotiate with the local Trust, who have the lease of Diamond Jubilee Gardens, to gain voluntary possession of their land. Despite 'In Principle Heads of Terms' being agreed with the then Chair of the Trust in early 2020, the Council was forced to initiate the CPO process in October 2021 having received no further agreement from them.

The Council made it very clear that it wished to negotiate with the Trust and would continue to have open dialogue in the hope of securing the voluntary surrender of the lease, in exchange for a new lease for the new and improved gardens space.

However, despite agreeing to being part of the project, and being integral to the design process for the outside space, the Trust have subsequently announced on social media that they are strongly objecting to the CPO process.



Cllr Gareth Roberts, Leader of Richmond Council, said:

“It must be remembered that the land is leased to the Trustees and made available to the people of the borough, and the people of the borough have been quite clear that they want to see a whole site solution delivered for Twickenham Riverside, rather than a piecemeal approach. This therefore must include Diamond Jubilee Gardens – which originally the Trust agreed to.

“We have always been committed to working in partnership with the Trust to ensure that we are on the same page. And so far, we have been. The Council has gone above and beyond to accommodate the Trust, while still retaining the integrity of the Hopkins design we all love so much.

“We have come so far with the plans for this site. But we can't be left with uncertainty over the Gardens' inclusion. Our commitment to redeveloping the Riverside and making it a place for everyone will not be deterred.

“Whilst it is incredibly disappointing that the Trust made their announcement that they would not be supporting the scheme on social media, rather than proactively engaging with us, our

generous offer is still on the table. I hope that they will change their minds and continue to work with us in the future. Regrettably due to the Trust's position and the uncertainty that means in terms of delivering the scheme, we have to progress the CPO process in parallel to seeking to reach a negotiated agreement."

The Twickenham Riverside Trust agreed prior to the design competition held in 2019 that the Diamond Jubilee Gardens should be included within the site plan for the redevelopment of Twickenham Riverside, and that this was an opportunity to deliver a bigger and better public open space for residents. The Gardens were then included as part of the site for the competition which saw Hopkins Architects announced as winners. During the competition process the Council received a letter of support for the Hopkins scheme from the Trust, as well as several other stakeholder groups.

From the start of the design competition the Council has committed to delivering a larger and improved public open space within the site which would be allocated as the 'new' Diamond Jubilee Gardens and would deliver more benefits for residents than the current gardens whilst meeting the objects of the Twickenham Riverside Trust.

The Hopkins' design includes a larger overall amount of open space for the Trust in the centre of the scheme, greater accessibility of the gardens, incredible views over the river, with space to hold events both on the grass and on the Embankment, a larger and more exciting children's play area, pétanque pitches and many more exciting ideas currently being worked through.

The Council's own negotiated offer to the Trust which was agreed in principle in January 2021 with the then Chair of the Trust, included a grant (for four years), approval to keep any revenue generated from events held in the gardens, the Council to pay for the maintenance of the space in perpetuity, a new 125-year lease and the ability for the Trust to utilise the new car-free Embankment as an additional event space. The Trust have also been engaged with throughout the design development process, including inputting into the design of the open space through regular design meetings. This agreement, and the generous terms within it, is only possible through the Trust following the negotiated route for the surrender of the lease as the CPO process has different requirements for the Council to meet.

The Trust has recently appointed a new Chair, who the Council hopes will uphold the principles agreed and will allow the Council to continue to consult and negotiate with the Trust in anticipation that they will agree to the new space for the benefit of Twickenham residents. But despite the negotiated offer to the Trust being confirmed via Committee in June 2021, the Trust's lack of decision and refusal to agree the very generous terms under which they would surrender their lease to allow construction to take place before being granted a lease of the new open space, has forced the Council to follow the parallel Compulsory Purchase process to gain possession of the land and deliver the significant benefits of a whole site solution to the Riverside.

The CPO includes powers to acquire all land within the site boundary which the Council does not currently own and/or control. And also includes the acquisition of rights outside the site boundary which are required in order to construct the Scheme.



# Forced to Tears

By Lucilius

In the capital of The Democratic Republic of Transfluvia, the historic town of Katchwimen, Governor Ralph Gobbets takes the short e-scooter ride from his riverside palace to the nearby offices of the Department of Heritage Destruction for his weekly update with its director, Cllr Rutt on their revisionist plans for the picturesque waterfront. All is not well.

Rutt: Governor Gobbets, there was no need to scooter all that way, I could have used my anti-pedestrian Segway to come to your palace for the usual weekly audience.

Gobbets: Yes, it does rather spoil the hair. But, I am here because I am angry!

Rutt: Angry!! Oh, dear! But there are tears in your eyes.

Gobbets: Yes, I am so upset. I've been forced ... **forced, yes forced** to initiate the process for the Compulsory Purchase Order for the people's Doubly Joyous Gardens.

Rutt: After all you've done, and our **generous offer** we made to use the people's money to buy for them something they already owned. You'd have thought they would have gratitude.

Gobbets: And, instead of by video, I went there in person to convince the Trustees.

Rutt: I remember how you sat there listening paternally to them, quietly oiling your personal small arm.

Gobbets: The Trust's **lack of decision** and **refusal to agree the very generous terms** is unbelievable.

Rutt: And we tried to put our own people on the Board ... and make a new Board.

Gobbets: Then there's those Firkin Architects. All that work.

Rutt: For only a few hundred thousand Euros: a knock-down price!

Gobbets: And the off-plan oligarchs. They'll want to see their investment in those **incredible views over the river** pay off. They'll want something to watch on their videos in Moscow.

Rutt: And we are democratic about it. The people have been **quite clear** that they want to see a **whole site solution** delivered for the Katchwimen riverside. A whole 0.3% want it.

Gobbets: Yes, **countless residents!** We are giving them so much, an **exciting children's play area, pétanque pitches**, all underwater for extra fun.

Rutt: The Firkin **design we all love so much**.

Gobbets: Lovely brutalism. Not like all that royalty-era stuff on the riverside at Dormchin. This is so much in line with our motto: Liberality, Democracy, Equity.

Rutt: Nothing for it then, those Trustees have forced ... **forced** your hand.

Gobbets: **Forced**. So sad. My mascara's running. I'm back to the palace. Got to feed my pet crocodiles.



*Photography by Aidan Potts*

# Twickenham Society statement on council Compulsory Purchase Order of the Diamond Jubilee Gardens

At a meeting of The Twickenham Society this week and following a discussion, it was unanimously agreed to object to the Council's Compulsory Purchase Order of the Diamond Jubilee Gardens on Twickenham Riverside.

A letter has now been sent to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

Doug Orchard  
Chair of The Twickenham Society



## Statement from Cllr Paul Hodgins Leader of the Opposition and Conservative Group

I am stunned that the LibDem administration has launched this extraordinary attack on local residents who are volunteering for the benefit of the community. Trust members are doing their duty, and they are now having their integrity questioned by the Council leadership.

Four years ago the LibDems opportunistically killed a previous plan. They made unrealistic promises that they would develop something else that everyone would love and agree with.

They have failed and wasted enormous amounts of money, which was entirely predictable. So now they have to revert to a compulsory purchase of the Diamond Jubilee Gardens, which was only recently put in trust for 125 years, and are attacking residents who disagree with them.

It is a total mess, entirely of their own making.

Cllr Paul Hodgins  
Leader of the Opposition and Conservative Group

## The Tribune 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The first edition of the Tribune was published on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2016. This edition (262) is our fifth anniversary edition.

We have published every Friday, without fail, since!

# Green Bottle Café

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Dear Editor,

### **Diamond Jubilee Gardens**

After 30 years of neglect the Diamond Jubilee Gardens in Twickenham was set up as a charitable trust to protect its future from officialdom trying to compromise its benefits to the local community.

The Council's inability to develop a design, for its current development, that incorporates the essential elements of the Diamond Jubilee Gardens has resorted to political bullying tactics to attack the Trust. The Trust is fulfilling the very objective it was set up to perform. The Council thinks that swapping a dry area for one that is subject to flooding is an equivalent 'benefit'. It now wishes to enforce this swap by means of a compulsory purchase order. This should not be allowed to happen.

Best wishes,  
Garth Ward, Twickenham

Dear Readers,

### **Council's Compulsory Purchase Order on the Diamond Jubilee Gardens**

I was very pleased to see the Twickenham Riverside Trust's press release this week, confirming that they "*will be lodging a strong objection against the Compulsory Purchase Order*".

I had been somewhat concerned by their silence, but it would seem that it has taken some time for their professional advisors to prepare their reports.

It is obvious to anyone not swept up in the council's Emperor's New Clothes project, that the proposed new 'gardens' are in no way "*of equal advantage compared to what exists today*". The Trust really did not have any choice other than to object, which the council should have realised if it had taken the time to look beyond its own spin and PR.

I believe the Trust, like most residents and most objectors, does not object to the development of Twickenham Riverside; improving the riverside is overdue and removing parking from the Embankment is desirable. Providing affordable accommodation on the Santander/car park site is a sensible goal, as is providing greater accessibility to public space, i.e., the Diamond Jubilee Gardens.

But what is not acceptable is taking the safe, enclosed, flood-free DJG and replacing it with an amorphous, floodable scattering of landscaping.

Give the Emperor some proper clothes and give us a real Diamond Jubilee Gardens.

Yours sincerely,  
Berkley Driscoll  
Twickenham Resident  
Editor, Twickenham & Richmond Tribune

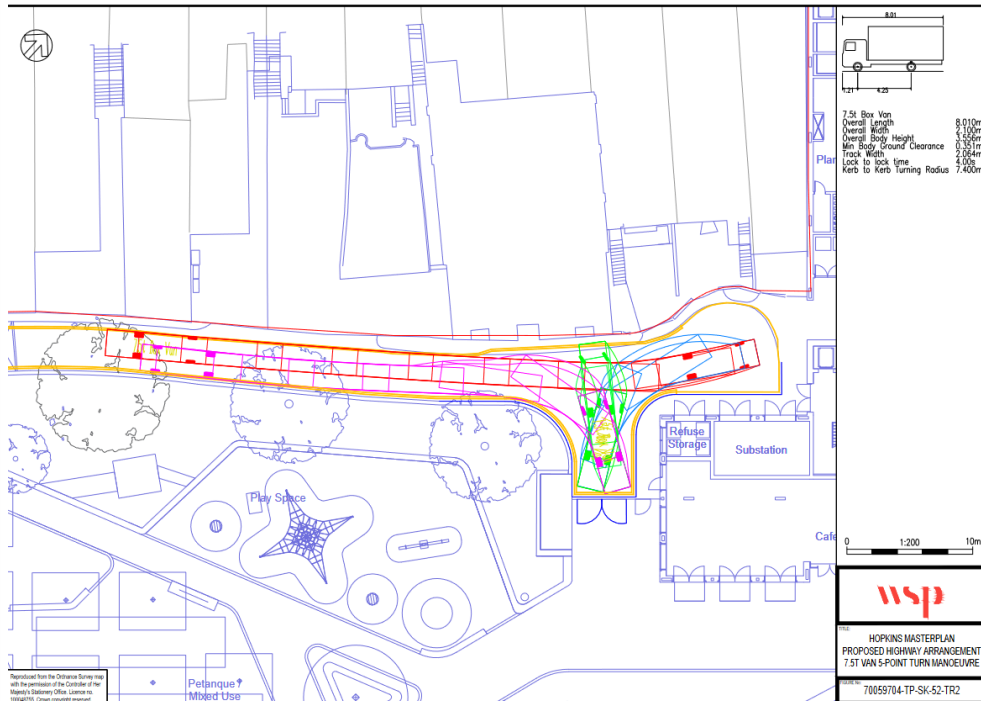
Dear Editor,

**Children’s playground on the Diamond Jubilee Gardens**

If the Council gets its planning permission, I wonder whether local parents realise that next summer the children’s playground on the Diamond Jubilee Gardens on Twickenham Riverside will be closed to them for up to 30 months. When the development finally re-opens the new playground will be have been built alongside the Service Road at the back of the King Street shops and where the current sandpit is located. This sandpit is described by the Council as sitting “underneath a canopy of trees meaning that it is often filled with debris”. The new playground will also have a sand floor and presumably be often filled with debris.

The Service Road running adjacent to the playground will be accessible for all the vehicles, including refuse lorries, servicing the shops, the cafe and newly built flats. In order to exit the site “in forward gear” they will need to make a five point turn and this area can be seen on the plan below, situated between the playground and the cafe. 7.5m box vans will have enough

room to turn here but anything bigger will need to open the gates and reverse back



to where people might be sitting having a cup of coffee on the cafe terrace or close to the children’s play area. What will the exhaust fumes be like? And I wonder whether there been a transport safety audit of this area?

With best wishes,

Sue Hamilton-Miller  
Twickenham resident



# Christmas Market comes to Church Street Twickenham (Sun 21 Nov 12 – 6pm)

By Shona Lyons

Just a week to go until our Church Street Christmas Fair organised by the Church Street Association. We didn't do this last year because of the pandemic so the last fairs for Christmas in Church Street were in 2019. We actually organised about 3 for the street that year, as well our usual Craft Fair & the Xmas French Market, we quickly had to rustle up a craft fair in a few days because everyone was a bit upset that year that the Twickenham BID had decided to have it all on the Green.



This year when we heard that Discover Twickenham BID were going to have a stage by Barclays to welcome in the Christmas Season and would have the Mayor turn on the lights, we decided to support the initiative and give something more to the community and the street by organising our traditional Christmas Craft fair on the same day. So even though this year is still going to a little different than in the past as there are fewer spaces in the street to have the stalls, so there will be just 18 in total, mostly of talented local craftspeople and artists & also a few charities thrown into the

mix It will be a lovely festive occasion and you will be sure to start the Christmas Gift Buying Season here as there will be lots of lovely unique gifts to choose from both at all the craft stalls and also amongst the traders themselves.

We also have organised a Punch & Judy show (Not at the top where we have had it in previous years) but we plan to have it lower down the street closer to the Church this year at 12pm and also at 1pm and 2.30pm, so bring your kids early to the street for a breakfast treat at one of our lovely cafes before sitting down to enjoy the first show! We are also having face painting and balloon modelling and everyone will also be able to enjoy live music from St Margaret's Elastic band at 1.30pm in the square and later at 3pm we will have the Richmond Music Trust, both conducted by local impresario, Roger Perrin.



# Pour aller à Fontainebleau? Wie komme ich nach Konstanz?

In glorious autumn sunshine the Mayor of Richmond, Cllr. Geoff Acton, & council leader, Gareth Roberts, unveiled a stylish new fingerpost sign outside the civic centre in Twickenham to help Richmond residents to find their way to our twin towns.

St. Margaret's Elastic Band, which is twinned with Union Musicale de Fontainebleau, entertained the crowd of about 100 residents with a programme of French, German, American & English music before the mayor & council leader unveiled the sign to the strains of Beethoven's "Ode to Joy."

The sign was commissioned by REA with the aid of a civic pride grant from Richmond council. As soon as it was unveiled, everyone wanted their picture taken with the sign. It will become the "must have" picture for all our visitors from our twin towns once the pandemic is over. After the photographs had been taken, guests moved to the garden of York House where Geoff & Gareth planted a service tree of Fontainebleau to commemorate both the occasion & climate week.



These trees are native to the world famous forêt de Fontainebleau & three more are being planted at sites in the borough associated with our twin towns.

After his exhausting work was done the mayor invited everyone to the town hall for tea & coffee.

To see a short film of the unveiling please click on the following link [HERE](#)

Information about the twinning is currently on display in the nearby Twickenham library.

Information about the twinning also greets you as you enter the adjacent civic centre.

It is hoped that the fingerpost sign will remain a symbol of Richmond's cherished international partnerships for decades to come.



# “Leave the Leaves”

Save our BUTTERFLIES & BEES (& enrich your soil too...)

By Deep Patel

Autumn trees are looking so golden & beautiful right now, but leaves are tumbling down very fast. It's time to turn our attention towards being mindful about leaves...

Leaves may seem like nature's litter, however they are packed with nutrition to enrich the soil, as well as provide an important sanctuary for so many pollinators and insects over the hard winter. We should remember this phrase “Leave the Leaves”, because during the autumn, Queen bees burrow into the soil to save themselves from freezing, but sometimes sadly it's not enough. This is when the fallen leaves currently all around our gardens can really help. Spare a thought for the little helpless and harmless creatures depending on the leaves this autumn and try and “Leave the Leaves”. They are nature's greatest source of nutrition for our soil, so if we can avoid raking them where possible (spreading around flower beds to decompose naturally is best), you will be allowing our pollinators, butterflies and little insects to keep their protection from the cold when they need it the most. You will also have good karma for being kind to something else far smaller and helpless than yourself that lives and needs your consideration...

Please forward and share this post where you can this weekend to help keep our bees and butterflies warm and be kind to the little guys in nature...I always encourage friends to use a mobile phone torch and nearby leaf if walking in the dark to move slugs and snails off the pavements, avoid the harsh cruelty of slug pellets and use pure copper mesh around the bottom of plants to stop them kindly (available online or Meet & Deep Newsagents). I ask people to avoid the cruelty of mouse poison and use humane traps to release them far away in parklands after, sprinkle talcum powder where ants come (not directly on them) to stop them kindly and shake off all home-grown flowers and vegetables outdoors before washing them to save the many tiny harmless pollinators and insects trying to live peacefully on them.

Before reaching for any type of pest control...remind yourself, they are also just little lives just trying to live like we are...

To find out more, or ask individual questions about Good-Karma and kind ways of stopping “pests”, email me directly here: [thedeepatel@gmail.com](mailto:thedeepatel@gmail.com) or join the Facebook group “KINDNESS GUY” and ask there. You will be blessed with good karma for caring and for choosing kind ways...

#GoodKarma

"Kindness Guy" on Facebook [thedeepatel@gmail.com](mailto:thedeepatel@gmail.com)

## Got Leaves?

Your neighbours may think you're crazy, or just damn lazy, but for the insects you'll be a hero when you...

## "Leave the Leaves"

Leave any fallen leaves in your flower beds & put your deadheaded flowers there too... as VERY TINY insects, bees & butterflies will be there trying to keep warm in them for the long winter...

Please share for good karma

# Open Public Space to Give Way for Luxury Flats?

By Teresa Read

Anyone thinking of buying a flat on the land currently protected by the Twickenham Riverside Trust with a 125-year lease will need to contact an estate agent situated near Oxford Circus. It seems they are the ones to speak to; they are the Agent and their logo is on every page of the Council's "Affordable" Housing Statement on the planning website (flats destined to be built on an old car park at the far side of the prime Diamond Jubilee Gardens site).

Of course, this West End agent will be particularly interested in the luxury flats, overlooking the river, with a picturesque view of the Thames.

At this point I recall that in 1924 this land, the site of Richmond House for over 4 centuries, was bought by the Council for "walks and pleasure grounds".

With this in mind I was perplexed to read a statement from the London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames which stated "Council **forced** to follow Compulsory Purchase" - on land held by the Twickenham Riverside Trust on behalf of the public, designated public open land, approved by the Council in 2014.

It should also be remembered that in this time of concern over Climate Change 37 healthy trees are destined to be felled - stated in Council plans revealed to the Tribune.

In a statement on Wednesday of this week, the leader, Gareth Roberts, said that the Council wanted to gain "voluntary possession of the land". The statement ended with the words "The CPO includes powers to acquire all land within the site boundary which the Council does not own and/or control."

I suppose that says it all, similar to the loss of the East Twickenham ice rink in that it is prime riverside land, with public use, and the prospect of luxury flats.

## Make a representation or object to the CPO

Any objection to the order must be made in writing to:

Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities  
Planning Casework Unit  
5 St Philip's Place  
Colmore Road  
Birmingham, B3 2PW

Representations must be made **before 23 November 2021**, and should state the title of the order (*THE LONDON BOROUGH OF RICHMOND UPON THAMES (TWICKENHAM RIVERSIDE) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER 2021*), the grounds of objection and the objector's address and interests in the land.

You can view the CPO [HERE](#)

View full details of the CPO [HERE](#)

# Burtons Road traffic scheme to be replaced

Richmond Council proposes to remove the existing traffic restrictions on Burtons Road in Hampton Hill and replace them with an altered experimental scheme. Road usage data, alongside feedback from local residents has shown that the traffic scheme is having a positive impact and addressing the scheme's core objectives, but that further improvements are possible to ensure wider support and higher compliance.

Following a 2019 petition from local residents, raising concerns about the high numbers of vehicles using Burtons Road and neighbouring residential roads and data demonstrating the issue was substantive, an experimental traffic scheme was put in place in September 2020.

Burtons Road is a constrained, unclassified, residential road. It is a popular cycle route and is set to become a significant route for children travelling to Turing House School. It has historically had an issue with high traffic volumes at peak times, as it provides a route between Hampton Hill and Teddington avoiding traffic lights on neighbouring Park Road. Traffic data showed that at peak morning times, there was on average one car every six seconds using the road before restrictions were put in place.

The current scheme restricts all traffic from travelling the entire length of Burtons Road eastbound between 7 to 10am and westbound between 4 to 7pm through a number of point restrictions, with access available to residents and visitors via smaller roads. Data so far has showed that traffic has significantly reduced on Burtons Road.



A public consultation ran for the first six months of the trial scheme and comments, along with a public petition put to the Council in September 2021, highlight that the positive impact on Burtons Road traffic has resulted in some displacement to some adjoining roads, which can also be seen in the traffic data.

This information is being presented to the Council's Transport and Air Quality Committee next week (Thursday 18 November). The Committee is being recommended to extend current restrictions to no later than 20 March 2022 (which is the final date of the legal experimental order), whilst an alternative scheme is designed and anticipated to dovetail its implementation with the removal of the present arrangements. A new scheme is aiming to address as many of the the primary concerns raised during this experiment as possible, including:

- A desire for an exemption for residents within the immediate area of Burtons Road,
- A review of timings to take account of Turing House School hours,
- A review of signage with regards location, advanced warning, wording and lighting
- Consideration given to additional measures to reduce through traffic in and around Windmill Road with a focus on school safety

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

"The trial scheme that has been in place since 2020 has achieved a great deal, in that has significantly reduced the traffic on Burtons Road, which at peak times was causing levels of distress and danger to residents that was wholly incompatible with the non-classified status of this road.

"It has also had wider positive impacts, in that it seems to have caused a proportion of traffic to move away from the area completely – we can see this through the traffic data for Park Road, which has actually seen a drop in traffic numbers during peak morning hours. It is also important to note that the scheme has not negatively impacted on air quality on neighbouring roads.

"However, the scheme has been in place now for over a year and we have been listening to residents in the local area who have valid and important suggestions for improvement. The Committee will consider all of this information next week and the proposal is to incorporate this feedback in the design of a new scheme that can build on the best of the existing measures."

Any new scheme would undergo a six-month formal consultation period (during the first six months of operation), after which time an extended consultation would be undertaken to formally ask residents' views before any permanent decision being taken. This consultation would be open to all residents.

Read the committee report [HERE](#)

# Take part in our *Santa* Fun Run 2021



**Fundraise for your Hospice**  
Festive fun with family and friends

**Your Run,  
Your Way**

**Back at  
Bushy!**

Launch yourself into the festive season by joining our first-ever hybrid Santa Fun Run! Choose one of our live events or a date and place that suits you to walk, jog, run, cycle, ski or even paddle-board this Christmas. Help us spread the Christmas spirit this year.

Back at Bushy Park - Sunday 5 December and Sunday 12 December. For more information on the event and registration fees, do scan the QR code.

  
Princess Alice  
Hospice

*For Compassion. For Living*



Sign up at [pah.org.uk/santafunrun](https://pah.org.uk/santafunrun)  
Scan the QR code or call 01372 461808

[pah.org.uk](https://pah.org.uk)



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# RICHMOND LOCK AND WEIR DRAW-OFF 2021

In order to carry out essential maintenance works on Richmond lock, weirs and sluices, it is necessary to lift the weirs at Richmond for a period of 4 weeks. This allows the river between Richmond Lock and Teddington Lock to drain down at low water on each tide.

The Richmond Lock is also called the Richmond Half-lock as it retains water from Richmond Lock to Teddington at the Half tide level. This means that for most of the year the river level is kept at an artificially high level.

This year the draw-off takes place between Monday 1st November to Friday 26th November.

During this time the river reverts to its natural levels, exposing much of the river bed at low tide.

This is a great time to grab your wellies and, in certain places, walk across the river!



And the perfect accompaniment is the new CD by local musician **David Anstruther**, featuring the song “*The Draw-Off (A Twickenham Song)*”.

Find out more at his website [HERE](#)

*Photo by Berkley Driscoll*

# HAY FEVER

By Noël Coward

Directed by John Gilbert

Richmond Shakespeare Society  
**RSS**  
at the Mary Wallace Theatre

**The Mary Wallace  
Theatre**  
The Embankment  
Twickenham  
TW1 3DU

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> to  
Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>  
December 2021**

**NO PERFORMANCE ON  
WEDNESDAY**

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At**

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

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This amateur production  
of Hay Fever is presented  
by arrangement with  
Concord Theatricals Ltd  
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Samuel French Ltd

[www.concordtheatricals.co.uk](http://www.concordtheatricals.co.uk)

**Richmond Shakespeare Society  
is a registered charity  
No. 276271,  
a member of the Little Theatre  
Guild of Great Britain and affiliated  
to Arts Richmond**



THEY'RE A VERY BOHEMIAN FAMILY ...



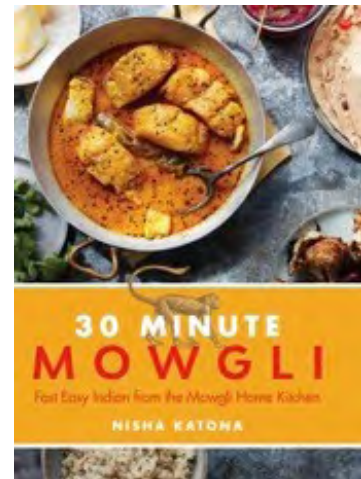
## 30 MINUTE MOWGLI – FAST, EASY INDIAN

Nisha Katona is one of my favourite Indian chefs to turn to for an easy recipe. Her original Mowgli book is well used in our house, so I was delighted to discover that she has just published a follow up: **30 Minute Mowgli**.

It's packed with punchy, spicy, Indian-inspired dishes that you can serve in just half an hour, or less. Nisha is well known to TV food audiences and is the founder and



creator of Mowgli Indian restaurants (including one in Charlotte Street, London that opens later this month). Mowgli is all about how Indians eat at home and on their streets. It's the 'smash and grab' zing of healthy, light, herbs and spices. Mowgli food is big on flavour, yet light and healthy. I love the fact that Nisha's recipes include accessible ingredients, many of which we'll already have in the cupboard or fridge. Chapters are arranged around core ingredients such as meat, vegetables and desserts. There's also a rather tongue in cheek chapter "Ma, Look Away?" featuring her favourite home cooked pasta dishes, such as Godfather Pasta (Nisha's C4 series 'A Taste of Italy' was brilliant), Lemon Chicken Pasta, equally simple, but often with just a hint of India spices to add an extra dimension. **30 Minute Mowgli by Nisha Katona**, £25, hardback is published by [Nourish Books](https://www.nourishbooks.com).



Here are some recipes from the book to tickle your tastebuds.

### AUBERGINE AND SHALLOT CURRY SERVES 4

*"Aubergines love oil. They come alive with flavour and texture when they can drink as much as you will give them and they exchange their astringency for sweet, fleshy velvet. Make sure the aubergine is fried until soft and translucent in this dish, which will take some time, but is still an easy half-hour cook. Paired with the silky aubergine, ribbons of sweet shallot weave heady magic into this timeless combination of ingredients."*



- 125ml/4fl oz/1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1 tsp fenugreek seeds
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 6 round shallots halved, and finely sliced 2 large aubergines, cut into 1.5 cm/5/8 in pieces
- 1/2 tsp ground turmeric
- 1/4 tsp chilli powder
- 1 tsp ground coriander
- 1 tsp salt
- small handful coriander, stalks and leaves roughly chopped

1. Heat the oil in a large pan over a medium heat, then add the fenugreek seeds and fry for a few seconds until fragrant and just turning golden (be careful not to burn them, as this imparts a bitter flavour). Add the garlic and stir to combine with the fenugreek, then add the shallots and cook, stirring occasionally, for 5 minutes, until soft and translucent.
2. Add the aubergine pieces to the pan and cook until the exposed flesh is a light golden colour. Reduce the heat to low, then add the ground turmeric, chilli powder, ground coriander and salt. Stir to combine the aubergines and shallots with the spices, then cover the pan with a lid and leave to cook, stirring occasionally, for 12–15 minutes, until the aubergines are tender. Stir through the fresh chopped coriander/cilantro and serve hot.

### INDIAN FRENCH TOAST SERVES 4

*“There are certain ingredients that Indians used to pimp western staples and they are ALL in this dish. It was inevitable that the billowy, comforting, any-time-of-day willingness of French toast would fall under the sights of my mother’s artillery of spices, and this is the result. I know that this is spicy and oniony, but I still drizzle over a little maple syrup... don’t judge me.”*



- 8 eggs
- 100ml/3 1/2 fl oz/scant 1/2 cup whole or semi-skimmed milk
- 1/2 small onion, very finely chopped
- 2 mild green chillies, very finely chopped
- 1 tbsp ground coriander
- 1/2 tsp ground cumin
- 3 tbsp finely chopped fresh coriander
- 1/2 tsp salt
- freshly ground black pepper
- 4 tsp unsalted butter
- 4 tsp vegetable oil
- 8 slices bread
- maple syrup, for drizzling (optional)

1. Crack the eggs into a large bowl, then add the milk, onion, finely chopped chillies, ground coriander, ground cumin, fresh coriander, salt and a generous grinding of black pepper. Beat with a fork until everything is well combined, then set aside.
2. Heat 1 teaspoon each of the butter and oil in a large non-stick pan over a medium heat.
3. While the butter is melting, dip one slice of the bread into the egg mixture until nicely soaked and crusted with the onion, herbs and spices. Lay the coated bread in the hot pan and cook for 2 minutes, then flip and cook on the other side for another 2 minutes, until crisp and golden. Remove from the pan, set aside and keep warm while you repeat the process with the remaining oil, butter and bread. Serve hot, drizzled with a little maple syrup, if you like.

### MANGO AND MINT FOOL SERVES 4

*“You should be able to find Alphonso or Kesar mango pulp in any Asian grocers, but you could use tinned mango slices or even fresh mango without any issues here. Mint and mango work wonderfully together, and this simple dessert is sweet, creamy and refreshing. The perfect way to end a meal.”*



- 425g/15oz canned Alphonso mango pulp or tinned mango slices
- juice and zest of 1 lime
- 175ml/6 fl oz double cream
- 2 tsp caster/superfine sugar
- 3 tbsp Greek yoghurt
- 2 tbsp chopped fresh mint leaves
- 1 tbsp toasted coconut flakes

1. Put the mango pulp or slices and lime juice into the bowl of a food processor and process until smooth. Set aside.
2. Pour the double cream into a bowl and beat with an electric or handheld whisk until soft peaks form. Add the sugar, yoghurt and mint leaves to the bowl and fold through the cream, then add the mango purée and gently ripple it through the cream mixture.
3. Spoon the mixture into serving bowls or glasses and transfer to fridge to set for 15–20 minutes, or longer if you want to make this ahead. Garnish the fools with the lime zest and toasted coconut flakes before serving.

## FESTIVE FOODIE GIFTS FOR FAR FLUNG FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Whether you're concerned about the rumours of product shortages (or, God forbid, a lockdown), or just an organised person who plans well for the festive season, it's time to start planning mail order Christmas gifts. Some companies will let you request a specific delivery date, and if not clear on the website, it's worth a quick phone call or email to ask if they can hold the delivery till nearer Christmas. I've done some research into a variety of fabulous foodie gifts for you to consider.

Products that once seemed highly decadent – like smoked salmon – are readily available in our supermarkets, so that special 'edge' has tarnished a little. To regain that, it's worth looking at some of the smaller, artisanal, smoke houses and their products. For example award-winning smokery [London Smoke & Cure](http://Londonsmokeandcure.co.uk) produces the most tremendous products. The sashimi-grade cold smoked salmon is sublime, the range of charcuterie, such as the air-dried Coppa or the Bresaola are outstandingly good. There's a Charcuterie Box for £29.50 or the Christmas hamper for £79.50 (includes a half side of the salmon, plus eight packs of charcuterie and bacon) will be a very welcome foodie gift. How about a monthly bacon or charcuterie subscription, or a voucher? The company also runs a series of smoking workshops at the South London Smoke School from £99. Full info on all this is at [Londonsmokeandcure.co.uk](http://Londonsmokeandcure.co.uk)



If you really want to be ultra decadent, companies such as [Kings Fine Foods](http://KingsFineFoods.co.uk) have a great range of top quality produce and will pack your online order into a gift box for you. This allows you to prepare your own, bespoke, hamper selection. Smoked salmon, caviar, champagne, truffles...it's all online – plus lots more [KingsFineFoods.co.uk](http://KingsFineFoods.co.uk)

How about sending a 'Pub in the Post' to someone you'd love to be able to share a festive drink with? A great idea, and [Serious Pig](http://SeriousPig.co.uk) – a British brand that's passionate about premium savoury snacks - has really nailed it. The company has a range of gift packs (including vegetarian, so don't be put off by the name!) at very competitive prices. Full info at [SeriousPig.co.uk](http://SeriousPig.co.uk) and some of those tasty snacks (like crunchy snacking cheese bites – yum!) are also available at Ocado if you want to indulge yourself, too!



Chocolate is always a welcome gift but forget those giant packs of rubbish quality assortments (although the kids do like them). For grown up chocolates, try sending a pack or two of fresh chocolates from [Russell & Atwell](http://RussellAndAtwell.co.uk). I like to think I know a good chocolate when I taste one (helping judge the Academy of Chocolate Awards) and these chilled chocolates are so good. This year the company has introduced refillable glass jars, a subscription service and two new varieties: Cracking Creamy Hazelnut and Seville Orange in time for festive feasts. Go for their Full Monty Triple Pack (£19.99) and the recipient is sure to love you forever!

I spotted some most unusual gifts recently from Choc on Choc. Have a look at an incredibly lifelike [Chocolate Cheese Board](#) (£30) or Cheese and Crackers (£14) both complete with chocolate grapes! Or the Chocolate All Day breakfast (£15). There are stacks of other incredibly lifelike chocolate gifts – do have a look at the website. The chocolate is top quality too!



Specially selected olive oil is always appreciated: so maybe give an olive tree and a subscription! [Pomora](#) offers a range of subscriptions of its amazingly good oils and each quarter they'll be sent a shipment of three 250ml tins of Italian oils from their own olive tree. £36 a quarter, but you can cancel at time. They receive an Adoption Pack with a certificate showing the tree, and a booklet of information about the tree straight away - great for a last-minute gift too.

Rum has seen a massive resurgence of late, and I've very much enjoyed an occasional tippie of Diplomatico rum, one of Venezuela's greatest exports. It's very smooth indeed on its own, but also excellent in cocktails; an Old Fashioned in particular. An elegant Diplomatico Reserva Exclusiva gift pack is a lovely gift – there's a great selection, including elegant glasses, at [The Whisky Exchange](#) from around £50



Still on subject of cocktails, if you're rather lazy (like me) about making them, you could send a selection of ready-made cocktails. [Hunter & Grey](#), a leading online destination for crafted cocktails, will deliver some of the UK's most popular cocktails with prices starting at £19.99. There's the option of 200ml or 500ml bottles. You can choose a fruity classic, or a more bitter, refined one, but there's something to suit all tastes. There's an option for personalization too.

If the recipient's a gin drinker, let them try their hand at blending their own. A **gin-etc** make your own [gin kit](#) at £35 is a wonderful idea. It's a DIY gin 'master class', with all a home maestro needs to create three bottles of top-of-the-line gin. Also included are: Italian glass bottle; label; filter papers; funnel; fine mesh sieve; bespoke gin toppers, three botanical mix sachets which include juniper berries and instruction card. Add 750ml of vodka (not included) and this is everything needed to get cracking on making an artisan gin.



And last, but not least, a cheese gift is welcome and useful over the festive period. Companies such as [Butlers British Cheese](#) have a wide range of cheese gifts, including their Letterbox cheeses and a whole host of other 'cheesy' gifts. The Blacksticks Blue is one of my favourite cheeses – and there's a 'mature your own' Blacksticks Blue (£20 for 500g) guaranteed to test the recipient's self control.

Just don't leave it too late to order!



## *The Diary of Anne Frank*

by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett adapted by Wendy Kesselman  
YAT at Hampton Hill Theatre until 13<sup>th</sup> November

YAT's roller-coaster production of *The Diary of Anne Frank* takes us very quickly into a terrifying world where the Frank family is never free of its awful reality. The incorporation of music by composers killed in the Holocaust adds another level of poignancy to this harrowing story of persecution during WWII, viewed through the diaries of tragic teenager, Anne Frank.



The casting of characters in this production is first-rate. A lot of thought has gone into factors such as physicality, originality, acting style and an ability to listen.

The set remains the same throughout the play, the top floor of a warehouse building in Amsterdam, Holland. I once had occasion to visit the actual building in which the Frank family was holed up from 1942 to 1944. Then

I marvelled how this group of people managed to live in such cramped and unsanitary conditions. The enthusiastic YAT crew show their ingenuity in designing a working set in which, as more of the cast appear, the cramped feeling is complete. An inspired detail is the pinned-up pages, representing the diary, which psychologically establish a narrative link with the people Anne writes about.

In one harrowing moment, during some outside noises, the shadow of arm appears in a Nazi salute. Other occasional interruptions by sirens blaring, authentic radio broadcasts, and the low-playing musical background enhance the alarming atmosphere that pervades this production. The penultimate scene, when the SS invade the building, is horrific beyond words, coming as it does while the Frank family is enjoying the taste of strawberries, convinced that the Netherlands is soon to be liberated. Such is the quality of the acting, I was so totally engrossed in their here-and-now that the brutality of this scene was like a personal assault.



This production is performed some fifty years after YAT's first staging of the play. The thought struck me was that those other young actors would now be about seventy. I should love to be a 'fly on the wall' between possible discussions between both casts.

Read Celia Bard's review at [www.markaspen.com/2021/11/12/diary-anne-f](http://www.markaspen.com/2021/11/12/diary-anne-f)

Photography by Jonathan Constant



## Private Lives

by Noël Coward

Nigel Havers Theatre Co, at Richmond Theatre and on tour until April 2022

Some people carry memories of an intense relationship, and regrets about how it fell apart, and it's only human nature that they reflect on how things might have been different, and how they might approach the relationship differently if they were given a second chance. Back in 1930, Noël Coward considered how this might actually play out for a particularly unhealthy couple, freed from such mundane considerations as money and employment.



The inaugural production from the Nigel Havers Company, *Private Lives* is packing Richmond Theatre. The plot is pleasantly straightforward. Elyot and Amanda are a couple who divorced five years ago, ending an apparently toxic marriage. Both remarry, and are shocked to find themselves honeymooning in adjoining suites in a Deauville hotel. Antics, as is so often the case, ensue.

It stars Havers himself as Elyot, alongside Patricia Hodge as Amanda. Both are in their element in this classic comedy of manners, ably supported by Dugald Bruce-Lockhart as Amanda's new husband Victor, and Natalie Walter as Elyot's new wife Sibyl. The energy never drops as the newlyweds' idyll rapidly crumbles and Elyot and Amanda reconcile with charming swiftness. As they slope off to catch a train to Paris, Victor and Sibyl are left holding a couple of cocktails ...

Simon Higlett's set and wardrobe are simply perfect. If the Deauville hotel facade was an impressive set, as soon as the action moves to Paris after the interval, the sumptuous art deco confection that is Amanda's Paris flat provokes audible gasps from the audience. Decorated liberally with cushions, and huge curtains, the reunited lovers sprawl languidly, drinking brandy, playing cards, in comfortable but clearly luxurious pyjamas and dressing gowns. As they discuss the simple joy of staying indoors for several nights, it's impossible not to draw a parallel with the events of the last couple of years where many of us have been spending time indoors, but seldom in such wonderfully-designed apparel.



Read Andrew Lawston's review at [www.markaspen.com/2021/11/10/private-lives](http://www.markaspen.com/2021/11/10/private-lives)

Photography by Tristram Kenton



## Romeo and Juliet

by William Shakespeare

Putney Theatre Co, at the Putney Arts Theatre until 13<sup>th</sup> November

“Didst thou not fall out with a tailor?” asks Mercutio in Act III of *Romeo and Juliet*. PTC’s modern interpretation seemed, at first glance, to be set in the premises of a seamstress or tailor. Stage right a mannequin and clothes rail, both adorned with dark clothing, and a tall table, complete with large scissors and fabric, are washed in a red downlight. In stark contrast, stage left, its perfect mirroring, but with everything in much lighter colours, is lit in green. As it begins to sink in, this clever design says we are, in fact, looking at the premises of two separate businesses, the rival London fashion-houses of Montague and Capulet.

Director, Katie Bonham, explains that she wanted to create a modern and exciting version of the play and this is apparent in the set design and her interpretation both of Romeo and of



Juliet as female roles, putting a thought-provoking spin on the original text. Lady Capulet’s determination for Juliet to enter into an arranged marriage forces the audience to consider whether she had an additional motive for discouraging the advances of another woman and to try to manipulate her daughter into marriage with Paris.

Unfortunately, however, the fashion-setting did not work, missing a key link to the unwritten, deep-rooted hatred between the two warring factions. In its original setting, the longstanding feud between the two high-ranking houses of Montague and Capulet would absolutely forbid the unity of their bloodlines, giving rise to the tragic scenes that follow. However, despite it often being described as ‘cut-throat’, it is difficult to generate that same level of belief in the setting of London fashion. This incredulity also extends, therefore, to the underlying motives of some of the play’s protagonist and the story becomes altogether less credible, and a lot less powerful.

There were, however, some excellent performances, with Olivia Sirley giving a moving portrayal as Romeo, paired perfectly with the aptly named Juliet O’Conner, giving a wonderfully innocent performance as her namesake. Milly Gladstone, as the cocky ‘street’ version of Mercutio was highly entertaining, bringing an entirely different and quite refreshing spin on this character, and Penny Weatherall gave a powerful and entirely believable performance as Capulet – her harrowing cries at the death of her daughter, Juliet, were truly moving.

Read David Stephens’ review at [www.markaspen.com/2021/11/07/romeo-juliet-pat](http://www.markaspen.com/2021/11/07/romeo-juliet-pat)

Photography by HFD

## The Water's Edge

by Theresa Rebeck

The Questors, at the Studio, Ealing until 13<sup>th</sup> November

'Leaving you here was a mistake' says Richard in *The Water's Edge*. Indeed it was.

Richard has unexpectedly turned up to find his ex-wife and his two, now adult, children none of whom he has seen in seventeen years. Helen is angry, lonely and living on the edge, not only of a lake, but also of insanity. The setting, in contrast to these fractured family relationships, is an idyllic but dilapidated and faded cottage on the shore.



The cataclysmic parting event was that one tragic day their child Leah drowned in the lake. The parents have never been able to forgive, or even talk to, each other about this terrible tragedy, and Helen has always blamed Richard thinking that he had taken his eyes off his daughter while having an affair with a woman in a nearby cottage. All those years of grief and resentment are played out.

Thrown into this uncomfortable mix, Richard has brought with him a girlfriend who is not much older than his daughter.

This is a play about how the various members of the family have handled their grief. Helen's damaged son Nate is barely able to string a sentence together and there were some haunting detail in his performance of his unhealthy relationship with his mother. Erica, his sister, had escaped to University, but has returned home as she tried vainly to hold her mother and brother together. Helen has lived in a sort of suspended animation for barely anything in their garden has changed or moved in seventeen years.

The set by Philip Lindley, and everyone else involved in design, which really contributed to the atmosphere. I could see myself on a foreshore in the Lake District. Director, Lucy Aley Parker has created a strong sense of time, place and family, and how the drowning has affected all concerned, which runs strongly throughout the whole production.

Read Claire Alexander's review at [www.markaspen.com/2021/11/08/waters-edge](http://www.markaspen.com/2021/11/08/waters-edge)

Photography by Evelina Plonyte





## HMS Pinafore

by Sir Arthur Sullivan, libretto by W. S. Gilbert

English National Opera, at the London Coliseum until 11<sup>th</sup> December

Yo-ho! We sail the ocean blue ... and we had better have a fair wind behind us.

This is the first time the ENO has presented *HMS Pinafore*, so who wouldn't rush to get there?! There is an extraordinary air of warm trepidation in London's most splendid theatre, the Coli'. Even before the curtain comes up, John Savournin the marvellously versatile bass-baritone, addresses the audience in character as Captain Corcoran, but interacting with the well-known actor, Les Dennis (as himself).



After an electrifying overture conducted by Chris Hopkins, the stage was opened up to a stunning set of The ship, designed by Takis, a prolific designer. Sharply detailed, we enjoyed the timeless *We Shall Sail the Ocean Blue*, before the plot really unwound with the bumboat woman, Little Buttercup, an earthy and enticing woman, coming on board. While she pedalled her wares, Buttercup hinted at a dark secret ...

Witty lyrics, flowing music and marvellous voices carried the first Act along, with its story of the Captain's principles, Josephine's attraction to the earnest Rackshaw and then the introduction of The Rt Hon Sir Joseph Porter KCB, played by Les Dennis, whose natural wit and talent made up for his sometimes faltering voice.

Momentum built up in Act Two as the young cabin boy performed a tap dance to the *Sailor's Hornpipe*, joined by the captain then other crew until the stage filled in colourful and skilled choreography. It was at this point that I felt the show really began to relax, and the cast steered a sharper pace with the storyline, with the planned elopement, strong scenes with Sir Joseph, Buttercup's life-changing confession and the various declarations of love for all.



Read Heather Moulson's review at [www.markaspen.com/2021/10/30/pinafore-eno](http://www.markaspen.com/2021/10/30/pinafore-eno)

Photography by Marc Brennan

# THE NEW FAR FROM NORMAL NORMAL

Travel news by Bruce Lyons

Yes, that's right – They told us there would be a new Normal but what they didn't explain is that it wouldn't all arrive the same day and it would be different from one destination to another. Or was it just a ruse to lull us into a sort of coma – not realising that each and every journey would be different. Not that the pleasure of travel has entirely left us – you just have to keep very, very alert.

Till now we have not had any hitches, though I notice TUI and Ryan are sending out little reminders that people should be constantly checking there hasn't been a change, as otherwise if their papers are not OK they are denied boarding. Which says it all really. Both are pretty much on-line sales and their clients are not able to get the information they need! Because there is no one to call to check on all the little details like you can with yours Truly!

True there is a bit of red tape and also different countries make the rules different for minors, which can confuse – However till now none of our clients have had any hick-up - actually that is not entirely true as one dear client did forget to book his 2-day release and fill the form for his return flight – but it was all OK in the end as we were alerted & came to his aid. But these little irritations should not deter you.

Just yesterday we had our first British Passport Holder USA traveller (she had only deferred her trip twice! – and I was about to defer it again when El Presidente Biden stepped in and said all will be well in early November and like the gentleman he is – it happened early November just like he said) and that went off just fine and



we have quite a few more before Christmas and today we had a client fly to Kigali (Rwanda) just to watch a Cricket Match – how exciting is that!!!

People are asking all the time – where can we go? Well, much of the world is now open – not all of Asia but Thailand is and you can get Christmas Packages still. Tui have just announced the return of their Acapulco flight and there are already several flights operating to Cancun and now we have the Dominican Republic opening with Club Med selling their excellent all-inclusive hotels in Punta Cana.

This week we have been finding quite a lot of late availability for Xmas on River Cruises, which include the Xmas Markets, which are also available in short break form.



Now that Israel is joining the Egypt and Jordan OK to Go brigade there is a lot of choice here and the Maldives and the UAE are open too. This week saw the arrival of fresh brochures featuring Sri Lanka and India!

Zanzibar is also getting a bit of attention as a good destination for December breaks

Just this week we found a couple of rooms on a 10-day tour in Scotland with Wendy Wu, but now that



confidence is returning and there is still an acute shortage of product, I don't suppose that will hang around for long.

Skiing anyone? Well usually by now February Half Term is an absolute No No, but this year as people's confidence had been dashed there were little pockets of availability – but not much and Club Med today announced some extra flights so – so now there is – just call us and we will tell you more

Don't delay – book today and have some fun!

## SRI LANKA

The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon) is an island in the Indian Ocean, south of the Indian subcontinent.

There are around seventy protected areas. The Sinharaja Forest Reserve, an area of tropical rainforest, is a World Heritage site.

A large proportion of the population live on low-lying coastal areas and will be affected by climate change: rising sea levels and changing weather patterns.



Thank you to Samantha Wanninayake for the photographs

Information about Sri Lanka: <https://worldinfozone.com/country.php?country=SriLanka>

## MALDIVES

The Maldives consist of over a thousand coral islands, grouped in twenty-six major atolls, in the Indian Ocean.

The islands of the Maldives are low-lying; between three and six feet above sea level.

Global warming is of particular concern to the people of the islands of the Maldives.

Rising sea levels could see the disappearance of low-lying islands over the next century.

The Maldives first National Environmental Action Plan was developed in 1989. One environmental measure was the introduction of a tree planting programme throughout the country. Protected Marine Areas were also established.



Thank you to the High Commission of Maldives for the photographs

Information on Maldives: <https://worldinfozone.com/country.php?country=Maldives>

# A COMEDY OF BAD MANNERS AT THE MARY WALLACE THEATRE FOR CHRISTMAS

Noel Coward's classic comedy, HAY FEVER will be enlivening the winter's evenings from December 11th- 18th and rehearsals are going splendidly.



As ideal family entertainment (Noel himself said that it was “as clean as a whistle”) it invites us down to the country retreat of the theatrical and distinctly unconventional Bliss family. But beware, for Judith, David, Sorel and Simon, unknown to the others, has each invited a guest for the weekend. Since the family's grasp of the niceties of polite social behaviour is slight the unsuspecting guests are in for a perplexing experience.

Since its first performance in 1925, Hay Fever has seldom been off the professional and amateur stages and was chosen by Laurence Olivier to open the National Theatre in 1963.

Light as a feather and packed with Coward's legendary charm and wit, our December production promises to banish winter gloom and light the way to Christmas.

Booking for Hay Fever is currently open at [www.richmondshakespeare.org](http://www.richmondshakespeare.org)

The Mary Wallace Theatre, on the Embankment, Twickenham, is conveniently situated between St Mary's Church and the Barmy Arms.

*Attached photo shows HAY FEVER cast in rehearsal.*

*Photography PETE MESSUM*



# Teddington Theatre Club – November Production

Stones In His Pockets by Marie Jones – 17th – 20th November 2021  
Hampton Hill Theatre -7.45pm with a matinee at 2.30pm on Saturday.

Hollywood comes to rural Ireland in the hilarious *Stones in His Pockets*, showing in Hampton Hill Theatre's auditorium.

The story centres on Charlie and Jake, who, like much of the town, are employed as extras for an epic film. After a tragic incident concerning a local teenager, Charlie and Jake assume responsibility for giving an account of events, taking on all the roles themselves.

An amateur production by special arrangement with Samuel French Ltd, a Concord Theatricals Company

# STONES IN HIS POCKETS

by Marie Jones  
directed by Wesley Henderson Roe

**WED 17 – SAT 20 NOV 2021**  
[teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk](http://teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk)

EXTRA

?

The logo for Teddington Theatre Club (TTC) features a stylized red bird or wing icon above the lowercase letters 'ttc' in a bold, red, sans-serif font.

# Princess Alice Hospice is Back at Bushy!

The Hospice's festive Santa Fun Run, now in its 14th year, is back in person. After being reformatted as a virtual event last year in response to the pandemic, the festive fun run is 'back at Bushy' and better than ever with its first ever hybrid event.

This year the two in-person events will be slightly smaller in scale to ensure that our Santas are kept safe. With just 250 places available for the 5 and 12 December runs, which both start at 10.30am, anybody interested should book their place soon, to avoid being put on the naughty list.

The event is open to all ages and abilities, young or old; it's wheelchair and buggy friendly and you can even bring the dog. This is not a competitive event so no training is necessary, but if you want to smash your 5k there are training notes and guidelines on the Hospice website.



Community Partnerships and Events Lead for the Hospice, Claire Woodward, said: "We're so pleased to be back at Bushy and we're all really looking forward to it. It's one of our biggest fundraisers and although our supporters contributed to a highly successful virtual event last year, we really missed the wonderful atmosphere that we have in person and can't wait to see our supporters and volunteers back together. We want to make this year an event to remember. Anyone who's done it before will know that seeing 250

Santas running through the park is quite a sight to behold, ho, ho, hold!"

If you can't make either of the Bushy Park in-person dates, you can always take on the Virtual Santa Fun Run at a time to Santa-suit you. Doing it virtually means you can do the 5k or 10k any way you choose: run, jog, walk, swim, skateboard, cycle, paddleboard, it's entirely up to you. You can also do it anywhere you like, too. Get together with friends and family for a fun-filled day dressed as Santa and help us spread the festive cheer.

You can register for both types of event at the Hospice's dedicated website

[Santa Fun Run | Princess Alice Hospice \(pah.org.uk\)](http://pah.org.uk)



# St Mary's University

## Care Leaver Outcomes Improved Threefold in Innovative Education Programme

The first group of care leavers who took part in the First Star programme, an innovative education and life skills programme at St Mary's University, Twickenham, have seen their outcomes improved threefold against the national average for young people living in care.

41% of graduates from the St Mary's First Star programme have progressed to university. This is over three times higher than the national average for care leavers, where 13% on average go to university. Graduates of the programme also outperformed the expected outcomes for the general school leavers population, where 34% progress to university.



A further 14% of the St Mary's First Star programme have gone on to study at a further education institution, meaning that 55% of graduates from the first cohort of the programme have continued their educational journeys beyond 18.

Children living in care in the UK have far worse outcomes across almost every aspect of their lives. They have worse physical and mental health, worse employment outcomes and are far more likely to end up homeless or in prison than the wider population. First Star is about changing this picture.

During their time at St Mary's, the young people receive academic support, to achieve good GCSE and A level results and to prepare them for higher education; life skills training, including financial management, healthy living, risk reduction and confidence building, and help with emotional resilience, including social engagement skills. There is also a support programme for foster carers to improve foster placement stability.

The second First Star Cohort, who started in 2019, have also seen their outcomes improve as they outperformed the wider school population achieving an 89% pass rate in their recent GCSEs, as compared to 77% for non-looked after young people.

Speaking of the results, St Mary's Vice-Chancellor Anthony McClaran said, "These results are truly brilliant. First Star is closely aligned with our mission as a university, and I am delighted with its success and, most of all, for the students. The outcomes for care leavers are shocking and I am delighted that St Mary's, with the financial backing of our amazing supporters, has been able to have such a remarkable impact on our first cohort to leave the First Star Academy. I hope that the results demonstrate to the wider sector that interventions like First Star have a significant impact on the outcomes of looked after young people."

Graduate of the programme Khushi said, "My experience at First Star was such a rollercoaster, but I mean this in the most positive way. As well as it being a great support for my academics, it helped me with understanding what healthy relationships are with friends and family. I've made so many memories over the past 5 years and I'm glad that I'm leaving with this family. I wouldn't change a single moment of this journey, I loved it."

The First Star Academies programme began in the US in 2011, with the objective of addressing the low achievement and limited life choices of young care leavers. The programme now runs in 14 US universities, and St Mary's began piloting a 4-year programme in the UK in 2017, with a second cohort beginning in 2019. First Star has now expanded to include the University of Winchester which started in 2021 and launches a new virtual programme in 2022.

The programme is funded through the generous support of a range of benefactors, and the University has a policy of only recruiting a new cohort when the programme is fully funded for the four years to ensure that the participants are not let down at later date. Fundraising for a new cohort is underway, with the aim that St Mary's will welcome them in 2022.



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London



## BRENTFORD FC

### Bees defeated by bottom of the table Norwich

#### Brentford 1 – 2 Norwich City

Brentford lost their fourth Premier League game of the season in row against a visiting Norwich City side that prior to kick off had yet to taste victory from their opening ten league games. First half goals from Mathias Normann and Teemu Pukki gave the Canaries a great start to the game and despite a goal from Rico Henry on the hour mark it was the away side who were left cheering a vital win at the full time whistle.



Brentford made the worst possible start and found themselves a goal down with just six minutes played. A cross into the box was cleared only as far as Normann, who took advantage of some passive defending to dribble his way to the edge of the box and bend a shot into the bottom corner and out of the reach of Álvaro Fernández to give the Canaries the lead.

At the other end a trademark long throw in caused problems at the back for Norwich when Ethan Pinnock flicked the ball on. Latching onto it was Christian Nørgaard whose shot was blocked at close range by Tim Krul.

Then things got even better for Norwich as they doubled their lead from the penalty spot. A perfectly weighted through ball from Normann allowed Pukki to race away from the Brentford backline and in his desperation to get back and recover Charlie Goode slid through the back of the Norwich striker. Pukki the dusted himself off to step up and send Fernández the wrong way and put them in a strong position heading into the break.

After half time Pukki could have added to the Canaries' lead when Kieran Dowell slipped a pass through to him but the Finnish striker narrowly dragged his shot wide of the post.

Brentford thought they had reduced the deficit soon after when Bryan Mbeumo raced cleared of Max Aarons and then finished past Krul via a deflection off the Norwich defender. However, the goal was subsequently ruled out by VAR for offside.

Krul was on fine form throughout the second half and made a couple of good saves to preserve the Canaries' advantage. From a Mathias Jensen corner Krul kept out Sergi Canós from inside the six-yard box with an incredible instinctive block.

With an hour played the Bees hit back and it came through the unlikely source of fullback Henry. Mbeumo fed the ball out wide to substitute Saman Ghoddos who delivered the ball first time to the back post where on the stretch Henry volleyed it to give the Bees hope.

However, the home side struggle to create many more opportunities to try and take something from the game. Krul got down low to keep out Canós again from inside that but beyond that the Norwich keeper didn't have to do much.

In fact, late on it was Jensen who had to get back to make a miraculous recovery challenge to prevent Josh Sargent from making it three as Norwich gained a vital first win of the campaign and condemned the Bees to a disappointing defeat.



# Hampton & Richmond Borough



## Beavers progress in Middlesex Cup

Hampton & Richmond Borough progressed through to the Third Round of the Middlesex Cup following a comfortable 4-1 victory at home to Harrow Borough.

Gary McCann put out a strong side for the cup tie and his decision was rewarded as the Beavers eased passed their Southern League Premier Division opponents.

The Beavers opened the scoring through Ryan Gondoh with just under half an hour played at the Beveree Stadium as he finished well past Josh Strizovic.

Then on his return against his former side Imran Uche made it a goalscoring return as he double the Beavers' advantage before the break. A fantastic strike his shot from outside the box was a peach of a goal and gave the Beavers a strong position in the cup tie.

Things got even just minutes later as Uche was once more involved as he passed the ball onto Gondoh whose cross was too tricky to be dealt with at the back for Harrow Borough as Leo Donnellan scored past his own keeper.

The Beavers continued their dominance in the second half and soon found themselves four goals to the good underneath the floodlights. Tyrell Miller-Rodney popped up with a rare goal to effectively seal the game.

The away side did score a consolation as this time it was Jack McKnight who scored the second own goal on the night following a Harrow Borough corner but it would not inspire an unlikely as the Beavers ran out comfortable winners.

## UP NEXT FOR HAMPTON

### Game 1

Opponent: Braintree Town (H) Saturday 13th November 15:00 Beveree Stadium

Nickname: The Iron

Competition: National League South – Matchday 12

Opponent record: P13 W2 D4 L7 GF12 GA24 (20th in National League South)

Manager: Ryan Maxwell

Interesting fact: The 2017–18 season saw Braintree finish sixth in the National League South. In the play-offs they defeated Hemel Hempstead Town and Dartford to reach the final, in which they beat Hampton & Richmond Borough 4–3 on penalties to earn promotion back to the National League.

### Game 2

Opponent: Bath City (A) Tuesday 16th November 19:45 Twerton Park

Nickname: The Romans

Competition: National League South – Matchday 13

Opponent record: P11 W4 D0 L7 GF13 GA23 (16th in National League South)

Manager: Jerry Gill

Interesting fact: In 1977 and 1978, Bath City were one of six clubs to represent England in the Anglo-Italian Cup.

# England v Australia - team announcement

The England line-up for this weekend's Test match against Australia has been named.

Maro Itoje will make his 50th appearance for England, following his debut against Italy in 2016.

Captain Owen Farrell returns to the side at inside centre, Henry Slade stays at outside centre and Marcus Smith will start at fly half.

Jonny May (left) and Manu Tuilagi (right) will be on the wings, Freddie Steward is at full back and Ben Youngs is at scrum half.

In an unchanged forward pack from England's 69-3 win over Tonga last weekend, Itoje is joined by lock Jonny Hill, hooker Jamie George and props Ellis Genge and Kyle Sinckler.

Courtney Lawes stays at blind-side flanker, Sam Underhill is open-side flanker and Tom Curry is at No. 8.

Bevan Rodd and Raffi Quirke could make their England debuts after being named as finishers - alongside Jamie Blamire, Will Stuart, Charlie Ewels, Alex Dombrandt, Sam Simmonds and Max Malins.

Jones said: *"We know this will be a tough test for us, we're playing against a team who have been together a while and who have beat the world champions twice. As an Australian I know how much this game means. We've had a really good week of preparation, we're looking to improve our performance this week and I think this side is building well."*

England v Australia is live on Amazon Prime Sport and TalkSPORT [Saturday 13 November, 5.30pm KO].

## ENGLAND XV

15. Freddie Steward (Leicester Tigers, 3 caps)
14. Manu Tuilagi (Sale Sharks, 44 caps)
13. Henry Slade (Exeter Chiefs, 41 caps)
12. Owen Farrell (Saracens, 93 caps)
11. Jonny May (Gloucester Rugby, 67 caps)
10. Marcus Smith (Harlequins, 3 caps)
9. Ben Youngs (Leicester Tigers, 110 caps)

1. Ellis Genge (Leicester Tigers, 31 caps)
2. Jamie George (Saracens, 60 caps)
3. Kyle Sinckler (Bristol Bears, 45 caps)
4. Maro Itoje (Saracens, 49 caps)
5. Jonny Hill (Exeter Chiefs, 10 caps)
6. Courtney Lawes (Northampton Saints, 88 caps)
7. Sam Underhill (Bath Rugby, 25 caps)
8. Tom Curry (Sale Sharks, 34 caps)

## FINISHERS

16. Jamie Blamire (Newcastle Falcons, 3 caps)
17. Bevan Rodd (Sale Sharks, uncapped)
18. Will Stuart (Bath Rugby, 13 caps)
19. Charlie Ewels (Bath Rugby, 24 caps)

20. Alex Dombrandt (Harlequins, 2 caps)
21. Sam Simmonds (Exeter Chiefs, 7 caps)
22. Raffi Quirke (Sale Sharks, uncapped)
23. Max Malins (Saracens, 8 caps)



# Red Roses name team to play Canada

Head coach Simon Middleton has named his England Women side to take on Canada at Twickenham Stoop on Sunday (kick-off 2.30pm, live on BBC Two).

Flanker Sadia Kabeya and Harlequins back Heather Cowell are in line to earn their first caps. The Red Roses' third autumn international is also set to be a special day for Abbie Ward (lock) and Poppy Cleall (No.8), who are both set to reach 50 caps. Captain Sarah Hunter returns to the starting XV at blindside flanker.

Saracens full back Sarah McKenna will make her first start of the 2021 autumn internationals, Zoe Harrison and Helena Rowland make up the 10-12 axis once again while Claudia MacDonald starts at scrum half. Prop Hannah Botterman (loosehead) returns to the front row while Amy Cokayne and Sarah Bern retain their places.

Lagi Tuima comes in at outside centre while Zoe Aldcroft (second row) and Abby Dow (wing) retain their spots. Marlie Packer, Maud Muir and Leanne Infante are named along the finishers.

Tickets are still available and can be purchased [here](#).

Middleton said: *"I'm delighted with the results and performances of our opening two games against New Zealand, both of which were also fantastic occasions.*

*"Our attentions have now shifted and we are fully focussed on Sunday's game against Canada.*

*"Abbie and Poppy have been an integral part of our squad for a number of years and we're looking forward to celebrating and acknowledging their 50th caps at The Stoop.*

*"We're delighted to give two players their first caps.*

*"Sadia has been brilliant since she came into camp in pre-season. She's a fantastic athlete and someone we've been aware of for a long time.*

*"A winger's job is to score tries and Heather Cowell does just that. The way she goes about her business is brilliant.*

*"Both players deserve their starts.*

*"Canada are a very strong and physical side and we know we need to be at our best to come out on top.*

*"Preparations have gone well this week and we're all looking forward to Sunday's game."*

## **England Women team to play Canada**

15. Sarah McKenna (Saracens, 38 caps)

14. Heather Cowell (Harlequins, uncapped)

13. Lagi Tuima (Harlequins, 10 caps)

12. Helena Rowland (Loughborough Lightning, 8 caps)

11. Abby Dow (Wasps, 20 caps)

10. Zoe Harrison (Saracens, 32 caps)

9. Claudia MacDonald (Wasps, 17 caps)

1. Hannah Botterman (Saracens, 24 caps)

2. Amy Cokayne (Harlequins, 59 caps)

3. Sarah Bern (Bristol Bears, 38 caps)

4. Zoe Aldcroft (Gloucester-Hartpury, 26 caps)

5. Abbie Ward (Bristol Bears, 49 caps)

6. Sarah Hunter (C; Loughborough Lightning, 128 caps)

7. Sadia Kabeya (Loughborough Lightning, uncapped)

8. Poppy Cleall (VC; Saracens, 49 caps)

## **Finishers**

16. Lark Davies (Loughborough Lightning, 33 caps)

17. Vickii Cornborough (Harlequins, 62 caps)

18. Maud Muir (Wasps, 2 caps)

19. Harriet Millar-Mills (Wasps, 64 caps)

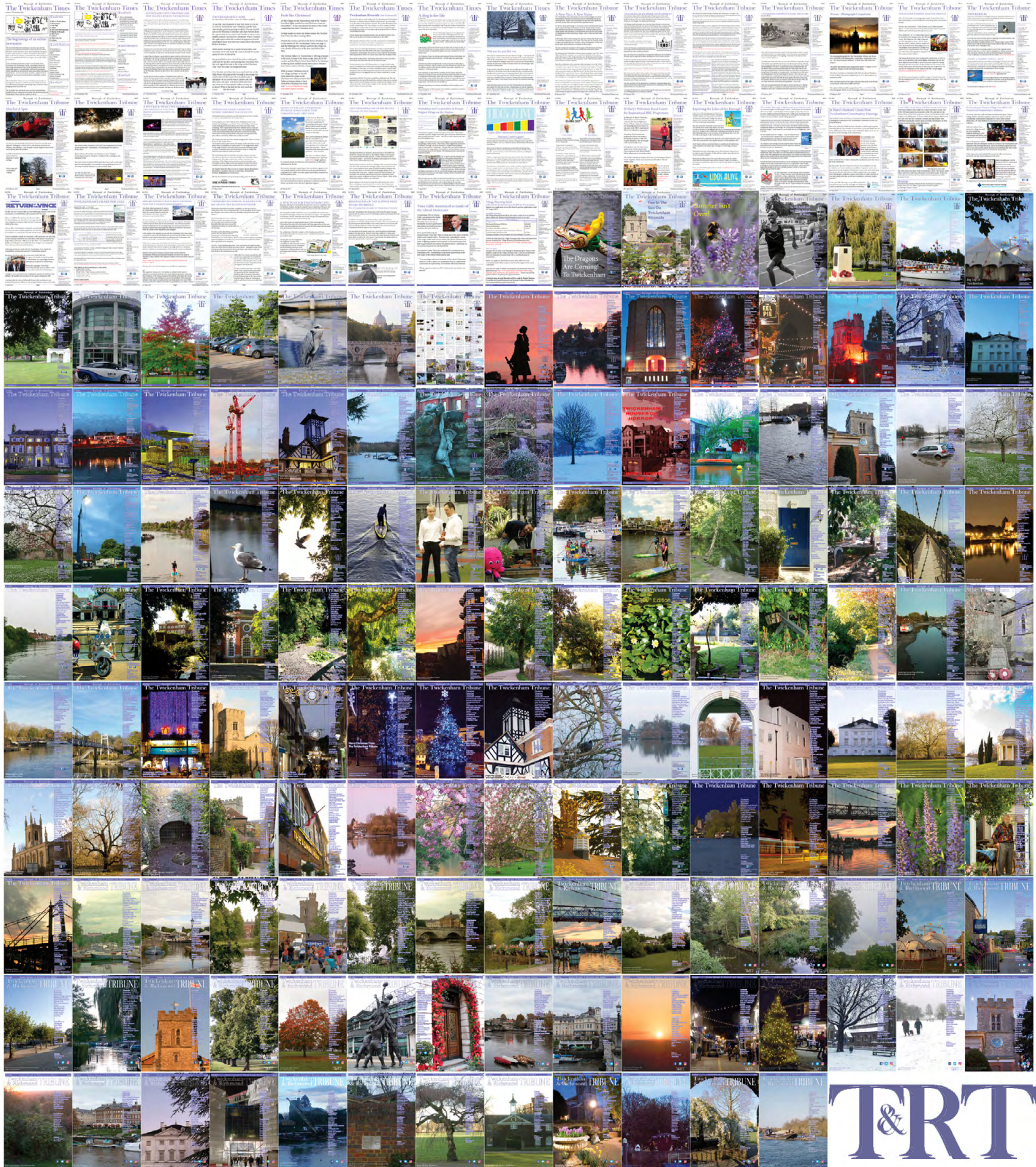
20. Alex Matthews (Worcester Warriors, 43 caps)

21. Marlie Packer (Saracens, 78 caps)

22. Leanne Infante (Bristol Bears, 46 caps)

23. Holly Aitchison (Saracens, 2 caps)

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