

Twickenham & Richmond TRIBUNE

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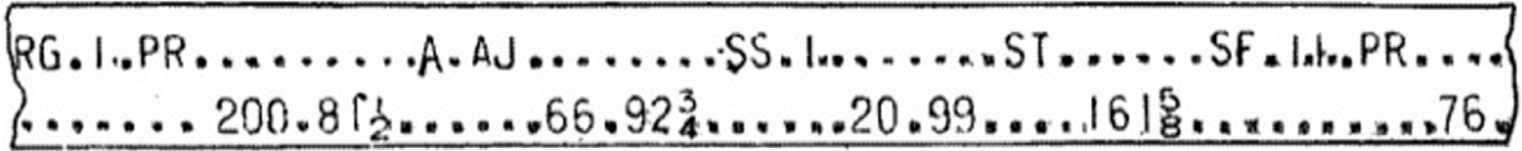
Editors

Berkley Driscoll
Teresa Read



18th August 2023

T&RT



TickerTape - News in Brief

South Western Railway – Industrial Action

The following strike action will take place in August and September:

- Saturday 26 August – RMT union strike
- Friday 1 September – ASLEF union strike
- Saturday 2 September – RMT union strike and ASLEF union overtime ban

This [page](#) will be updated with service information on affected dates as soon as it becomes available.

[See more information about ticketing.](#)

Saturday 26 August

We are still confirming our services for this date, however:

A significantly reduced service will run on a limited number of lines.

Large parts of our network will be closed. Trains will only run between the hours of 07:00 and 19:00.

Customers should:

- Only travel if their journeys are absolutely necessary
- Check their journeys using a journey planner from **Monday 21 August**
- Check their entire journeys as other train operators will be affected

Please check back for updates including a map and the list of services running, including the times of the first and last trains.

Friday 1 September

On Friday 18 August we were notified of strike action by the ASLEF union taking place on Friday 1 September.

We are still confirming our services for this date, however, it is likely that a significantly reduced service will operate on a limited number of lines.

Please check back for updates.

Saturday 2 September

The RMT union will be taking strike action while there will also be a ban on overtime working by the ASLEF union.

We are still confirming our services for this date, however:

- A significantly reduced service will run on a limited number of lines
- Large parts of our network will be closed. Trains will only run between the hours of 0700 and 19:00

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Covid-19

By Teresa Read

World Health Organization

Weekly epidemiological update on COVID-19 - 17 August 2023

Data as of 13 August 2023

In the last 28-day period (17 July to 13 August 2023), over 1.4 million new COVID-19 cases and over 2,300 deaths were reported from WHO's six regions, an increase of 63% and a decrease of 56%, respectively, compared to the previous 28 days.

As countries discontinue COVID-19-specific reporting and integrate respiratory disease surveillance, WHO will continue to use all available sources to continue monitoring the COVID-19 epidemiological situation. COVID-19 continues to be a major threat and WHO urges Member States to maintain, not dismantle, their established COVID-19 infrastructure.

Currently, reported cases do not accurately represent infection rates due to the reduction in testing and reporting globally.

At the country level, the highest numbers of new cases reported within the 28-day period were from the Republic of Korea (1,209,194), Australia (30,402), Singapore (18,806), Italy (18,419) and the United Kingdom (16,938). The highest numbers of new 28-day deaths were reported from the Republic of Korea (340), Australia (201), the Russian Federation (182), the Philippines (162) and Italy (159).

The European Region reported over 80,000 new cases, a 18% decrease as compared to the previous 28-day period. The highest numbers of new cases were reported from Italy (18,419), the United Kingdom (16,938) and the Russian Federation (12,488). The highest numbers of new deaths were reported from the Russian Federation (182), Italy (159) and Portugal (112).

NEWS

BMJ: Covid-19: Infections climb globally as EG.5 variant gains ground.

The Guardian: Covid vaccines should be available to buy privately in UK, scientists say.

Imperial College London: COVID-19 antibody tests provide insights into risk of hospitalisation and death: lateral flow antibody tests could play a role in understanding population and individual level risk following COVID vaccination.



The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

The Treehouse
25 King Edwards Grove
Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9LY
Telephone 020 8274 0107
Mobile 07960 123580
Fax 020 8274 0119
info@thetreeagency.co.uk
www.thetreeagency.co.uk

The Local Picture Postcard Column Part 210

By Alan Winter

Palm Beach – Taggs Island – Hampton Court

Taggs Island is a six-acre island formerly called Walnut Tree Island or Garrick's Upper Eyot, nestled between Bushy Park and Hurst Park half a mile from Hampton Court Palace. Although it is close to the Surrey bank near East Molesey, Surrey, it is connected to the slightly further Middlesex bank by a long single track road bridge and is within the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. Its post town is Hampton (TW12).



From the 1850s the convenient nearby presence of Hampton Court station drew day-trippers to the island's shabby pub and skittle alley, the Angler's Retreat. Thomas Tagg set up both a home and a boat-building business here in 1868 and soon acquired the lease on the Angler's Retreat and rebuilt it as a hotel, where guests included the French Actress Sarah Bernhardt. Grand houseboats were moored around the island, one of which was rented in 1887 by Peter Pan author JM Barrie.

George Tagg took over his father's business but poor summers and unfavourable economic conditions forced him to sell up in 1903. Tagg remained manager of the island until 1912, when it was acquired by the impresario Fred Karno, who built an opulent hotel that he called the Karsino, and an equally luxurious houseboat for himself, the *Astoria*. Charlie Chaplin is said to have stayed on the boat. The musician David Gilmour bought the *Astoria* in 1986 and converted it into a floating studio. Pink Floyd's albums *A Momentary Lapse of Reason* and *The Division Bell* were recorded onboard.



Custom was initially brisk at the hotel but the outbreak of the First World War brought about a decline in trade from which it did not recover, despite relaunches as the Thames Riviera and later the Palm Beach.

Our postcards this week show the Palm Beach site between 1926 which was the year the Beach opened and 1930. These were probably Palm Beach's busiest and most profitable years.

New Princes Restaurant, a prestigious cabaret venue in Piccadilly had taken a three-year lease on the old Karsino casino on Tagg's island in the Thames near Hampton Court, and after refurbishment, re-opened as The Palm Beach on 8 May 1926.



The intention was to convert this island into a miniature version of Palm Beach, Florida by placing thousands of tons of sand, palm trees, sunshades, beach chairs and a fleet of motor-boats, punts and canoes for river merrymakers.

In 1940 it closed again, and after a chequered history of attempts to revive or repurpose it that involved many financial collapses, the building was demolished in 1971 and never rebuilt.

A short film from 1926 can be viewed at the following link:

www.britishpathe.com/video/beauties-on-the-beach/query/palm+beach

In 1940 it closed again, and after a chequered history of attempts to revive or repurpose it that involved many financial collapses, the building was demolished in 1971 and never rebuilt.

I am always looking for old postcards, so if you have any that are sitting unwanted in a drawer, in a box in the loft or the garage or under a bed, do contact me on 07875 578398 or by email to alanwinter192@hotmail.com I would like to see them and I pay cash!

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An update on the Stag Brewery planning application

At the end of July, Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Michael Gove unexpectedly announced that all buildings over 18 metres in height will need a second means of escape.

Following this announcement, the applicants for the Stag Brewery redevelopment have decided to make revisions to the planning application to meet this requirement, prior to the application being referred to the GLA for the Stage 2 referral process.

The requirement effectively means an additional core within ten buildings on the east side of the site, which inevitably results in a considerable loss of residential floorspace.

To minimise the impact on the viability of the application and, ultimately, the delivery of affordable housing, some of the proposed office space will be now converted to residential. The Design Code will also be updated to ensure all buildings on the west side of the site, over 18 meters in height, have a second staircase. Once the revisions are drawn up, these will be submitted to us, as the local planning authority, for consideration.

In response to the nature of the changes, these revisions will be subject to further consultation and referral back to the Planning Committee at a later date.



Otterly delightful

Soak up the sunny vibes at London Wetland Centre with a summer of art, inspiration and uplifting encounters with wildlife

Visitors to London Wetland Centre this summer can spy **Tod and Honey, the resident Asian small-clawed otters**, as they cool down in the heat with delicious icy treats.

The fish-filled lollies are some of the furry duo's hot-weather favourites, as they duck and dive playfully after the slippery snacks, fishing them out of water with their dextrous paws.

Nature-loving visitors can also enjoy **spotting the little grebe** who has been making a splash with wetland-goers and WWT staff alike with his characterful antics.

The attention-grabbing little bird, kitted out in its summer plumage, can be seen spreading its wings and heating up its bottom in the sun before diving for tasty morsels. It's just one of the many magical and surprising moments visitors can expect as they take time to explore the 105 acre nature reserve and get closer to wildlife.



They can also **meet the Centre's three new arrivals, the Cape Barrens geese**. The sweet-natured sibling threesome are just five months old and have travelled from WWT's reserve in Martin Mere. Settling in well, the rare, affable birds are a cuteness overload not to be missed.



Endemic to Australia, these birds have the unusual ability to drink saltwater, assisting in their offshore lifestyle. They also represent a huge success story for the species which was brought back from the brink of extinction, as a result of overhunting, thanks to conservation efforts.

Kids, aged 7+, have the extra special opportunity to join the reserve for **Bat Walks every Thursday** throughout August. The two hour experience, starting at 8pm, invites young nature-lovers on a nocturnal adventure to spot the iconic animals – in one of London's bat hotspots.

Taking place by moonlight, this after-dark experience is just £25 per child, with an accompanying adult going free, and even ends with marshmallows around the campfire.

Finally, those in search of a space to stretch the imagination, find inspiration, and try out illustration can take part in the Centre's **Wednesday Arts Workshops throughout August**.

The expert-led workshops are free and aimed at all ages and abilities. They include wildlife drawing with artist Laura Cuppage, 'Wild Wetland Beast' illustration with prize-winning illustrator Tom Sears, and clay modelling with sculptor Jane Muir.

Visitors can also take full advantage of WWT's partnership with world-famous illustrator, Quentin Blake, by picking up his illustrated guide and exploring the **Drawn to Water summer trail**.

Acting Centre Manager, Ruth Thomas, said: "Londoners on the lookout for a boost of creativity, connection and joy should look no further than London Wetland Centre this summer. With wetlands scientifically proven to boost mental health, there's no better place to get creative than in our glorious nature reserve, blooming with life. Visitors will leave feeling inspired and revitalised by our *Quentin Blake: Drawn to Water* trail and activities. It's the perfect tonic to the hustle, bustle and heat of city life."



Richmond Park opens new and redesigned catering kiosks

Two new catering kiosks and one redesigned kiosk have opened in Richmond Park, with another planned for later in the summer. Two Grab & Go kiosks have been installed at Ham and Kingston Gates. The kiosk at Pen Ponds has been recently replaced with a new, more sculptural structure, with Broomfield Hill Car Park kiosk being redeveloped in August.

The Royal Parks charity, which manages London's eight Royal Parks, is opening these kiosks to add to the visitor facilities in Richmond Park.

Previously two old toilet blocks, the facilities at Ham Gate and Kingston Gate have been transformed into new Grab & Go catering outlets, together with refurbished toilets. Colicci, the company delivering the catering has collaborated with London-based design studio, Article Design on the interiors of these kiosks.

Pen Ponds and Broomfield Hill Car Park kiosks have been designed and built on the same principles as the recently installed centrally located kiosks which received multiple design nominations - with Ritz Corner kiosk winning a Restaurant & Bar Design Award in 2019. The overarching concept of these design is to be simple and functional whilst sympathetic to the park environment. These free-standing kiosks have been designed by Mizzi Studio, an award-winning architecture and design practice with studios in London and Malta.



Ensuring the sustainability of these two newly installed kiosks was a priority, especially as mains power is not available. Both kiosks have been adapted to use hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) fuel, a fossil-free alternative to mineral diesel with reduced CO2 emissions compared with traditional diesel generators. Lithium battery pack technology will also be introduced at the Pen Ponds kiosk which will reduce CO2 emissions by 60 per cent. Once this has been installed solar panels will be fitted and connected to the system.

High-quality timber oak, sustainably sourced from Herefordshire, has been manufactured into hand-crafted, sculptural, steam-bent cladding. The tree-like canopy of the kiosks' roofs creates a recognisable silhouette with instant associations of trees and nature whilst also providing shelter.

Paul Richards, Park Manager at Richmond Park, said: *"We are so pleased to be able to add to our fantastic facilities here at Richmond Park. We hope that local residents and visitors from further afield all benefit from these additional and refurbished kiosks and will enjoy a cup of coffee or a snack whilst looking out at the park. The kiosks are designed with everyone in mind and are another way for them to connect with Richmond Park. We look forward to welcoming everyone into the parks to enjoy these new and improved spaces. Through our partnership with Colicci every purchase in the kiosks goes towards helping The Royal Parks charity in caring for Richmond Park."*



WANTED! Trustees for Local Charities

“This event is such a brilliant way to get an insight into the fantastic work going on across the borough.”

The borough’s annual volunteering event focused on trustee opportunities with local charities is back and in-person on 20 September, 6pm-8pm at Richmond and Hillcroft Adult and Community College.

This free informal event is one of the best ways to learn about this specialised form of volunteering. You can meet and hear first-hand from local charities about their work and their opportunities, and get a flavour of the wealth and diversity of trustee roles currently available to help you consider if it could be something for you.

If you’re a strategic thinker, possibly with specialist skills such as marketing, finance, HR or business development (just for example), come and chat to 20+ amazing local charities who could really benefit from your knowledge.

Every charity needs a range of skills and know-how to progress their development. A few hours a month and your ideas and knowledge, alongside their established experience, could be the key to their future success whilst giving you huge personal reward and satisfaction.

If you’re aged over 18 years, get information, insights and maybe inspiration whilst you fact-find without pressure or obligation.

Sign up now to find out more. Book your place [HERE](#).

Could you be a local trustee?

Richmond CVS Trustee Recruitment Evening

Wednesday 20 September 2023, 6pm - 8pm



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Richmond acrobats to represent Great Britain at European Championships

Richmond's gymnasts are once again representing Great Britain at the Acrobatic European Age Group Competition and European Championships, following on from their success and a bronze medal at the World Age Group Competition last year.

The Acrobatic Europeans take place from 12 to 22 October 2023 in Varna, Bulgaria. From Richmond and representing Great Britain are:

- Senior Women's Group: Michaela Cook, Amber Harvey and Imogen Wainman
- Junior Mixed Pair (13 to 19 years): Toby Cooper-Driver and Anisa Arumugam
- Junior Men's Group: Louis Alexander, Freddie Turner, Rex Booth and Gethin Davies

Competing in the 12 to 18 European Age Group Competition are:

- Richmond's Women's Group: Chloe Bartholomew, Charlotte Dawson and Leela Were-Ramini
- Men's Group: Christoph Tilroe, Jackson Birch, Alexander Lofnes, and Samuel Lewis

All of Richmond's gymnasts selected for Great Britain are medal winners at this year's British Acrobatics Championships (July 2023) with four out of the five partnerships current British champions.

Richmond's Head of Acrobatics said: "We are so proud to see our gymnasts hard work pay off with selections to represent Great Britain at the

European Championships this year. With all the challenges they and many others have faced in recent years, we are delighted that five partnerships have the opportunity to compete on the European stage in Bulgaria and we hope they enjoy the experience."

Keep up to date with the gymnast's progress and watch their breath-taking moves, via Richmond's social media channels @gymnasticsrga. To find out how to get involved in gymnastics, visit [Richmond Gymnastics](https://www.richmondgymnastics.com).



MET *Park* in the

Monday 21st August 2023
Old Deer Park, Richmond

12 Noon to 6:00 PM



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PERFECT PICNIC WEATHER AT LAST!

Not before time, it looks as if our summer might be coming to fruition. So I've been doing some research recently on the best picnic food. Whether you're planning to picnic in the park, on a walk, on the riverside (or better still on a boat) you need things that are easy to carry, and easy to eat.

Crisps are always a popular ingredient and there have been some interesting developments on the flavour front from **Walkers**. The company has launched a limited edition range of crisps, but flavoured as other iconic brands, Wotsits **Really Cheesy**, **Monster Munch Pickled Onion** and **Doritos Chilli Heatwave**. They rather play with your senses, but are great fun (especially if you try to guess the flavour). And not content with that, Walkers has also joined forces with **Pizza Hut** to create **Pepperoni Feast** and also **Texan BBQ Pizza** flavoured crisps for its Walkers MAX ridged crisps. (and each bag unlocks a buy-one-get-one-free deal on all delivery and collection orders at Pizza Hut)



Why faff around with lots of different packs of nibbles when you can just open a selection that's already been selected? **Cypressa** has launched a range of sharing platters inspired by the flavours of Italy, Spain and Greece - and they are perfect. We recently tried the Greek Meze one, and it included Halkidiki olives stuffed with sundried tomatoes, Amfissa and Kalamata olives, soft cheese stuffed peppers, pitta crackers and a rich Kalamata tapenade. It was delicious and just the right amount for four people to enjoy with a bottle of wine. They are available at Tesco (from the deli counter) for £7



But we don't always want to splash out too much on drinks and of course, folk often want to choose their own drink. I've been very impressed with the range of single serve bottles and cans available at **Tesco**. They have a great range including: [Canvino Naturally Sparkling Rosé Wine 200ml, £2.50](#) [Most Wanted Sauvignon Blanc Can 187ml, £2.10](#) [All Shook Up Spritz Elderflower Mint & Lime 250ml, £1.75](#) [Wairau Cove Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc, 187ml, £2.25](#) [Caparelli Pinot Grigio, 187ml, £2.00](#)

Maybe you're a cocktail fan? If you're seriously into ready mixed cocktails, you could try **Mix Up's** range of ready to drink cans - and they're great to pack for a picnic. There is a great range including G&Ts Vodka Lime & Lemonade, Pink G&T and now three new variants: Coffee Rum and Cola; Apple Rum, Lime & Ginger Ale and Pink Gin and Diet Lemonade. From selected Tesco, Morrisons or Co-op stores nationwide or find out more at www.mixupdrinks.com



If you're having a celebratory picnic, how about a good English sparkling wine? I've recently found a debut vintage Blanc de Noirs 2018 that won the **Sparkling Wine Trophy at the Independent English Wine Awards (IEWA) 2023**. It's called [Busi Jacobsohn](http://busijacobsohn.com) - and not content with winning this award, it also bagged a Gold medal at this year's International Wine Challenge! This delightful wine has lemon sherbet and biscuit with a pinch of sweet spices on the nose. Then brioche and hazelnuts on the palate, with plenty of complexity and depth. Great length with notes of crushed almonds on the finish. It's 92 % Pinot Noir and 8% Pinot Meunier and 12% alc and worth the indulgence: **Busi Jacobsohn Blanc de Noirs 2018** £48, Yapp.co.uk, [Harvey Nichols](http://HarveyNichols.com), busijacobsohn.com

Rather than finish your picnic with anything chocolatey or sticky that might encourage wasps, it's far more sensible to take some nice cheese. One of my absolute favourites in terms of a widely available branded cheese is **Applewood Smoked Cheddar**. This multi award winning cheese makes the perfect picnic finale. (especially with some grapes) The company also produces a very acceptable plant based smoked cheese. Applewood and Applewood Vegan are available in Sainsbury's, Tesco, Morrisons, Asda, Ocado and Waitrose, Applewood Vegan Grated is in Tesco and Ocado, Applewood Vegan Slices are in Waitrose, Sainsbury's and Ocado, and Applewood Vegan Minis have just launched in Morrisons.



When you're packing for a picnic, it makes sense to have a container that is reusable, but ideally one that packs flat when empty, to save space. The **Mnched** collapsible lunch box/bowl can easily be compacted when not in use, then packed, and stored away. By using the collapsible lunchbox, you can also reduce the amount of waste generated from single-use plastic containers. It reduces to just 3cm, making it easy to stack in your cupboard and keep your kitchen organised. Plus, it's microwave and dishwasher safe making it even more useful. The **Mnched Collapsible Lunch Box** is

available in 3 colours and costs just £20 from Mnched.com

If a good, refreshing, Provencal rosé is more to your taste, then I would highly recommend trying **Ultimate Provence**. Characterised by its elegant, distinctive, fluted bottle, this vibrant pale pink rosé offers intense aromas, revealing bold fresh lemon and exotic fruit notes, bold florals and an unexpected subtle white pepper kick. Ultimate Provence is produced at a 114-acre natural wine estate of AOP Côtes de Provence vines, tucked away in the hills behind Saint-Tropez, where the Syrah grape variety flourishes. It's available at around £20 a bottle from fine wine stores, Waitrose and Amazon.



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WIZ Tales: Sicily

Teresa Read



As a regular visitor to Italy, I have made a number of visits to Sicily; this week I was reminded of the time I was on holiday on the island when Mount Etna erupted; although interested in the event no visitors were allowed near the area.

Mount Etna, erupted again last Sunday and Catania Airport was closed.

A UNESCO World Heritage site, Mount Etna is the highest Mediterranean island mountain and the most active stratovolcano in the world.

Sicily is the largest of the Mediterranean islands. A beautiful mountainous island, Sicily has been occupied by a series of traders, migrants and invaders including Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs and Spaniards; the island is an historical treasure trove.

Tourism is an important earner of foreign currency. There are many castles and churches in Sicily to attract the tourist and important towns such as Taormina and Cefalu thrive on the tourist industry.



More about Sicily: <https://worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=Sicily>

Women's Football?...

By Deep Patel

~ Through the Eyes of a Twickenham Shopkeeper ~

There was a time when it seemed an impossible proposition to have football for women...some thought it was laughable even...well they are not laughing now are they...it's now common knowledge that England's women's football team have made it to THE WORLD CUP FINAL this Sunday for the first time ever?! It's coming home...It's coming home...It's coming...football's coming home...could this be the FIRST time since 1966 that football finally comes home...?



Anything boys can do, GIRLS can do BETTER...Gentlemen of Twickenham and Richmond re-read that line (and get used to hearing it) because when England women win the World Cup (yes, I said when, not if) you will have to remember that line for good!

This week my customers have been talking about the World Cup final a lot in my shop. It is interesting to hear the various views and conversations regarding this event over my counter at Meet & Deep Newsagents on Hampton Road, Twickenham. So, what have I heard? What HAVEN'T I heard should be more the question...I have heard customers say all sorts of things, you name it they have said it, from comments such as "this is an exceptionally proud moment in the history of sport, a true victory for gender equality" to other not so supportive comments such as "women should stick to netball and cooking and other things they are good at"...none the less, one of the joys of being a shop keeper is that you get to hear it all, the good, the bad and the ugly...it's sometimes a case of having to bite my tongue and smile sweetly, but every conversation, every interaction adds to my understanding of where others are in their own development and path of life, and gradually it is these interactions that help me progress on my own...

I am guessing the score will be 2-1 (hopefully to England) and even if our women do not win, they did win the Euro final and so technically still brought football home. In general, my customers have expressed a feeling of oneness, equality, celebration of diversity and a matter of national pride...that is why if I could choose to have a shop anywhere in the world...I would always choose Twickenham. Good luck this Sunday to our wonderful girls, no matter what happens...know that there will always be an ice-cold cola in my shop chiller with your name on it...Come on England...who needs the world when you have the support of a Twickenham shop keeper behind you...?

Remember...

"Never underestimate the power of a woman...after all, we were all born from one..."

MY CREATURE-KINDNESS TIP OF THE WEEK...

STOP BEETLES, MITES, SILVER-FISH & ANTS...WITHOUT KILLING!...

Sprinkle white vinegar, talcum powder, peppermint oil or rosemary powder where they come...Olbas oil does the trick too! They will stop coming without you having to harm them...light citronella candles or burn peppermint oil in aromatherapy tealight diffusers to stop them coming...you will get blessings in your life or have good karma for choosing a kind way too! This remedy also works to deter virtually any insect without harming them...like it & share it!

For ANY specific tip to stop any "pest" or insect KINDLY (for good karma/blessings), email me: thedeepatel@gmail.com or join my Facebook page: "KIND WORLD"

WANTED!

Trustees for local charities



Richmond CVS Trustee Recruitment Evening

Wednesday 20 September 2023, 6pm - 8pm

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Trouble in Tahiti

by Leonard Bernstein

Arcola Theatre, part of the Grimeborn Festival at Arcola Theatre

Trouble in Tahiti is forty-five minutes of pure delight. My only complaint is that, after Bernstein incorporated it into his later full length opera *A Quiet Place*, Grimeborn didn't give us the longer work. Maybe next year.

Written in 1952, this gentle satire hasn't really dated, as suburban married couple Sam and Dinah, imprisoned by the stereotypical gender roles they have adopted, express their mutual unhappiness and frustration, something they find easier to do to the audience than to each other. Meanwhile a Jazz trio – think barbershop Rhinemaidens - comments ironically, with gorgeous singing from Izzi Blain, James Wells, and Tim Burton.



Bernstein's music has a real wit and lilt, which conductor Olivia Tait and her small orchestra successfully captured. Despite its title, the piece is very much set in suburbia. *Trouble in Tahiti* is the film that Dinah goes to see rather than her son's school play, which her husband also misses, giving priority to his handball game. Although he wins it, he is all too aware of 'the law of men that even the winner must pay

through the nose'. But, recognising that there is something not right between him and Dinah, he asks her out to see – *Trouble in Tahiti*.

Finn Lacey's direction displayed a light but effective touch. Peter Norris perhaps needed a bit more bite as Sam, while Alexandra Meier occasionally oversang as Dinah, but both gave compelling performances with beautifully phrased anguish and regret in a piece that definitely deserves to be performed more often.

Read Patrick Shorrock's review at www.markaspen.com/2023/08/10/trouble-tahiti

Photography by Caz Dyer





Cavalleria Rusticana by Pietro Mascagni, libretto by Giovanni Targioni-Tozzetti and Guido Menasci
and

Pagliacci by Ruggero Leoncavallo
West Green House Opera, double bill at the Theatre on the Lake, Hartley Wintney.

West Green brings all the heat and passion of a Sicilian summer to its enchanting opera gardens with the inseparable Italian operatic pair, the torrid twins affectionately known as *Cav and Pag*.

The sex and violence plot is in essence the same for both operas. A husband, and one who is inclined to violence, is cuckolded. He finds out, and ends up killing the lover(s). That's it; no subplots: simple. ... Except for the characters being complex three-dimensional human beings with whom one can find sympathy.

The gorgeous Theatre on the Lake becomes the same fishing village for the two operas, set in Scilly in 1946. Bridget Kimak has created a simple set, a pantile roof above a gauze behind which the orchestra can just be seen. However, its simplicity is deceptive, for it holds some later surprises.



As the ubiquitous rustic society, the chorus comes into its own with the Easter Hymn, sung with genuine fervour. In a *coup de théâtre*, the pascal effigy of the Virgin Mary is brought in by an oarsman rowing across the lake, before being borne up on the shoulders of the villagers. It is quite a wow moment!

It is the wronged Santuzza who has the most of the operatic passion-filled moments. It is clear that she is carrying Turiddu's baby, but his flame still burns for Lola, his former fiancée. [Angharad Lyddon's](#) honey rich mezzo adds an audacious air of triumph as Lola, while Siberian tenor Alexey Dolgov voices the conflicting passions of Turiddu.

In her lustrous soprano, Samantha Crawford expresses the wringing emotions of Santuzza as she pours out her heart to Turriddo; to Lucia, his mother (distinguished mezzo [Sarah Pring](#)); and to Alfo (George von Bergen's imposing baritone), the bullying haulier who has married Lola.

With all the dramatic springs fully wound, Mascagni steps back with the Intermezzo, possibly more famous than the opera itself, a musical masterpiece. Conductor [John Andrews](#) pulls out

all the emotional stops, for we know what is about to happen dramatically. The music soars, sweeps, swoops, and a light breeze ruffles the waters of the lake.

We are in the same fishing village in Sicily later that year and a travelling theatre has arrived. It is a *Commedia dell'arte* show run by the overbearing Canio.

The two operas may basically tell the same story but Leoncavallo gives its raw emotional a more subtle psychological wrapping in *Pagliacci* and, by mounting it as a play within a play, adds a philosophical juxtaposition of stylised art and *verismo* reality.

Twilight envelopes the gardens, the overture plays and the orchestra is lit from behind the gauze screen. Sarah Bath's lighting creates another delightful surprise, as the orchestra gradually appears as a phantasmal phalanx.



[Jenny Stafford's](#) lyrical soprano has a mellow reflective feel as Canio's wife Nedda, who plays Columbine, the lover of Harlequin, Beppe's role. However, she is in reality having an affair with a young villager, Silvio (Thomas Chenhall).



Another member of the troupe, the malformed clown Tonio, (versatile baritone Grant Doyle) is manipulative and full of spite; and he pulls many of the strings in the action. Tonio has overheard the lovers and alerted Canio. It falls to Beppe (tenor Lawrence Thackeray) to try to keep the lid on the dangerous emotions emerging, whilst keeping the show on the road.

[Tenor Ronald Samm](#) has an assured stage presence and is utter impressive in the momentous role of Canio. (It was a defining role for Enrico Caruso). It is a part that requires real power, and Samm richly delivers.

As art and reality converge, the *commedia dell'arte* performance closely resembles the lives of its performers. The violent end, with its double fatal stabbings, is truly horrific.

The ending echoes the fatal knife-fight at the tragically moving conclusion to *Cavalleria Rusticana*.

West Green House Opera's *Cav and Pag* is a masterly melding of two searingly passionate operas on the destructive nature of jealousy, adultery and treachery.

Read Mark Aspen's review at www.markaspen.com/2023/08/02/cav-pag-wgo

Photography by John Paul Reading



The Camden Fringe Festival

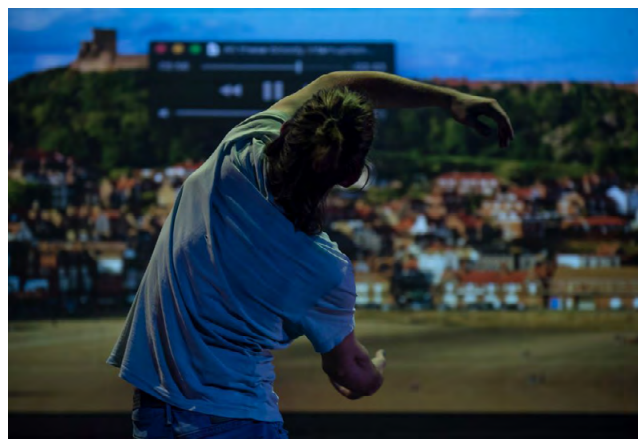
Hen and Chickens Theatre, Islington

Edinburgh without the whisky, The Camden Fringe continues into August. A few recent shows include these.

Trustfall? by Carly Durrer and Jade Harris-Tyler (222 Productions)

It would be easy to say that *Trustfall* is simply a play about enduring friendship; but the subtext is far more complex. The first layer peels away as Carly, just off the plane, walks headlong into an all-too meaningful reunion with her friend, Jade. Disappointments, betrayals and misunderstandings come into sharp focus, as a friendship is brutally put to the test.

Exposed in harsh sudden strip lighting on a bare stage, the actor-writers have to rely on strong performances, and they do indeed deliver. *Trustfall* is a true-life piece, which hints at a mutual biography. Authentic and honest acting creates a tight, terse tense piece.



Phrases by Lewys Holt (Perfectly Serviceable Productions)

Phrases contains very eccentric yet identifiable material embodied in skilled movement, as dance and spoken word artiste, Lewys Holt moves supplely against a minimal slideshow. Phrases appear: “*Did I leave the oven on? ...*”, that familiar paranoid situation. Its desperate logic worked well and, after a witty story, the old chestnut, “*An apple a day ...*” is reflected upon, before becoming an hilarious interactive session. Then Holt excels with some captivating dance movements.

However, a voiceover of a one-sided conversation lacked pace and even Bach’s music when loud becomes jarring. Nevertheless, this quirky eclectic performance is full of sharp wit, and despite its ending verging on diffident, it’s worthwhile looking out for.

Poems on Gender by David Lee Morgan

Prolific American poet David Lee Morgan has an impressive background as a BBC Poetry Slam Champion. A monumental figure on a bare stage, he greets us warmly. Twelve poems in precisely 38 minutes, then 22 minutes discussion. Would this work?

Brace for a polemic, but there is no lecture. Morgan tells us he embraced women’s liberation so he didn’t have to keep acting like John Wayne! Never tedious, *Poems on Gender* are absorbing with their deep black wit and flawless presentation.

Read Heather Moulson’s reviews at:

www.markaspen.com/2023/08/08/trustfall

www.markaspen.com/2023/08/13/phrases and

www.markaspen.com/2023/08/14/gender-cf



Photography by Daniel McElroy and Matthew Cawrey

World InfoZone -WIZ Around the World

Extracts from the 25th anniversary book of an internationally acclaimed internet project from Twickenham

Teresa Read

The concept behind the World InfoZone website, twenty-five years ago, was to divide information for each country into sections for use in schools, ultimately providing a wider view of the world.

In the following years the World InfoZone project worked with over three hundred organizations and individuals compiling information about our world, initially linking to other websites, but over time it was found that there was more control over content by using World InfoZone's own country links. And this seemed to gain the approval of users of the site:

"I found a fantastic link ... to 'World InfoZone' and the bit on Kazakhstan, which of course led me onto searching through the whole World InfoZone site and several hours later I realised I needed to go to bed" - Mongol Rally blog.

From the project manager at the Stockholm Challenge *"The 2008 Stockholm Challenge programme has been targeting ICT for Development projects globally. Great efforts have been put into the search for excellent examples of information and communication technologies, that show convincing benefits to people and communities and that help to build a global knowledge society. World InfoZone is such a project and therefore it deserves its place among this year's Finalists."* Ulla Skiden, Project Manager, Stockholm Challenge

The school partnership project "Linking Our World – Schools Around the World" (a smaller global communication project within the main World InfoZone website) not only allowed pupils in different countries to get to know one another through emails but also linked to the WIZ country studies where they could gain background information about where their partners lived.

One of the projects in the Linking Our World project followed the [Route of the Olympic Flame](#) via links to information about the countries visited. The Linking Our World project in World InfoZone was selected Finalist for the Category Education in the Stockholm Challenge Award 2003/2004 for their contribution in the global movement of building a better information Society for all.

As a Stockholm Challenge Finalist in 2004 I received a specially made Kosta Boda glass sculpture and in 2008 World InfoZone was awarded a Diploma for excellence in the use of Information Technology in the Education Category.



Stockholm



A rally car in Mongolia

Next Week: Africa



The Bard's Chronicle

Original concept by Anna Piggott
Based on Shakespeare's characters and dialogue

Ever wondered what Shakespeare's characters look like in 2023?

Well welcome to the Bard's Chronicle! A newspaper like no other.

Will Ben get his Bea? Will the ambitious pairing resort to dirty tactics? Will Em stop gossiping, and Dane find inspiration for his article?

Shakespeare's dialogue and characters like you've never seen them before



Come and watch a free performance by Richmond Shakespeare Society. Bring your picnic and enjoy a summer of music at Marble Hill. Please note there is no seating so bring a blanket to enjoy the concert on the ground.

SUNDAY 20 AUGUST, 2PM
OVAL LAWN, MARBLE HILL PARK,
RICHMOND ROAD, TWICKENHAM TW1 2NL

FREE ENRTY, PART OF 'ARTS IN THE PARK' EVENT



RichmondLive Festival is back!

The free festival is a celebration of theatre, dance and music and will take place on Sundays 3, 10 and 17 September in Marble Hill Park.

Starting on Sunday 3 September with a celebration of theatre, guests can enjoy a variety of performances from Ignite Me Workshop Theatre, OSO Arts Centre, DramaCube and more! There will also be an opportunity to take part in interactive workshops, taster classes and even face painting.



The following Sunday 10 September a celebration of dance will include performances from Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, Freedom Tango, Bollywood Magic and many more.

Ending the festival on Sunday 17 September, a celebration of music will showcase the talents of Whitton Community Band, Richmond Brass Band and more!

For more information see the [Visit Richmond website](#).

Orange Tree Theatre announce Greenhouse Festival

The Orange Tree (OT) are hosting the Greenhouse Festival in partnership with LAMDA between 23 August and 2 September.

The festival will feature LAMDA's latest batch of graduating students as they bring their rising-star talents to the OT's stage with their fresh and exciting takes on modern classics.

The shows that are headlining the festival are *The Small Things* by Enda Walsh, *The Chairs* by Eugène Ionesco, *Machinal* by Sophie Treadwell and *Wolfie* by Ross Willis.

Alongside these exciting shows, Greenhouse Festival also includes the opportunity to take part in a range of masterclasses, workshops and talks from the OT's creative team.

OT Associate Directors Guy Jones and Natasha Rickman will each be running individual workshops, offering their expertise on the industry. The OT will also be welcoming back director Diane Page (*Yellowman* at the OT) whose workshop will centre around the Director-Designer relationship.

Festival details:

- **Date:** Wednesday 23 August to Saturday 2 September
- **Location:** Orange Tree Theatre, 1 Clarence Street, Richmond, TW9 2SA
- **Price:** Tickets for all performances are £12, with a multibuy offer when booking more than one show. Tickets for workshops cost £5, with a special workshop and show offer: get a £5 ticket discount to see a Greenhouse Festival show when you book a workshop

For more information and to book tickets, please visit the [Orange Tree website](#).



RICHMONDLIVE

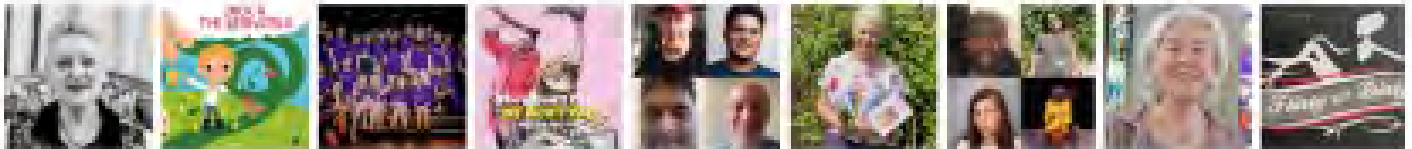
FREE
ENTRY

FESTIVAL

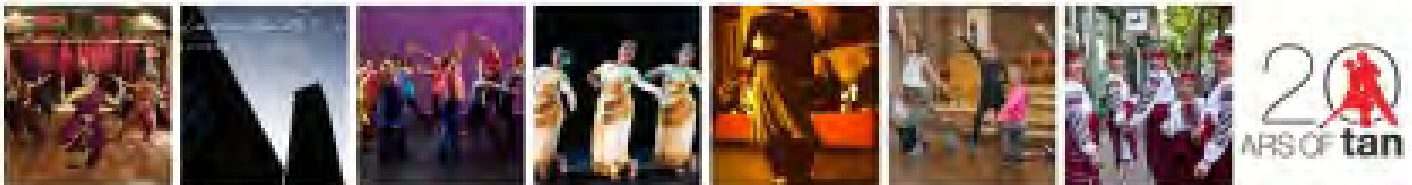
11AM -
5PM

*Marble Hill House, Richmond Road,
Twickenham, TW1 2NL*

THEATRE 3RD SEPTEMBER



DANCE 10TH SEPTEMBER



MUSIC 17TH SEPTEMBER



<https://www.visitrichmond.co.uk/>



Urban focus takes centre stage as Woodland Trust reveals Tree of the Year candidates

An oak that survived a wartime bomb, the tree that shaded Queen Elizabeth I on summer picnics and one of the UK's most famous elms are all in the running to be crowned Tree of the Year in the latest round of the competition organised by the Woodland Trust.

This year's contest shines a spotlight on ancient trees in urban locations, with every shortlisted specimen able to be visited free of charge by the public.

"Ancient trees in towns and cities are vital for the health of nature, people and planet," said Naomi Tilley, lead campaigner at the Woodland Trust. *"They give thousands of urban wildlife species essential life support, boost the UK's biodiversity and bring countless health and wellbeing benefits to communities. But most ancient trees aren't protected by law, and those in urban areas are particularly vulnerable, like one of this year's nominees – which narrowly escaped being cut down by Sheffield City Council in 2017."*



Greenwich Park sweet chestnut, London
Credit: Ruby Harrison / WTML

The Woodland Trust's panel of tree experts has shortlisted 12 fascinating urban contenders from across the UK for Tree of the Year 2023 – with one additional tree voted for by the public.

"Trees like those in the shortlist are remarkable and deserve celebration – and protection," Tilley added. *"YouGov polling shows 83% of people in Great Britain support giving ancient trees legally protected heritage status. What's more, 85% of people think national government and its agencies should have responsibility for protecting them. The stats show just how much these trees mean to people."*

This year's contenders are located in city parks, busy town centres and residential streets.

Each one has an amazing story to tell and is loved by locals, as well as providing vital habitat for wildlife, helping to reduce flooding, screen out noise, provide shade, filter air pollution, increase property values and bring cultural capital to our streets and parks.

Teenager Chiara George, one of the winners of the Woodland Trust's recent Youth Innovation competition, has a passion for urban and ancient trees.

She said: "Focusing on urban trees in Tree of The Year is super exciting because they are often overlooked despite their importance in maintaining biodiversity, absorbing noise and air pollution on busy roads, and so much more. It's really simple to vote for your favourite and help us crown a champion, so please get involved."

The winner will represent the UK in the European Tree of the Year competition!

Voting for the Woodland Trust's 2023 Tree of the Year is open now until Sunday, 15 October at [Tree of the Year - Woodland Trust](https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/tree-of-the-year)

We'll announce this year's winner on Thursday 19 October.

Richmond upon Thames College Students Celebrate A Level, BTEC and Vocational Level 3 Results

Richmond upon Thames College students celebrated some amazing individual grades across A Levels, BTEC and Level 3 vocational qualifications, after results were released on Thursday 17 August.

Gavin Hughes, Principal at Richmond upon Thames College said, “I am absolutely delighted with our A Level and vocational Level 3 results this year.

This year’s results demonstrate our students’ continuing hard work, resilience and determination to achieve their full potential, along with the commitment from staff to ensure students were well supported, achieved well and fulfilled their future ambitions.

We are particularly proud of the 101 students that achieved A*, A and B grades in their A-Levels and the 194 students who achieved Distinction* and Distinction grades in their vocational courses despite the disruptions to their schooling during Covid.

We currently have large numbers of students progressing to university, starting apprenticeship programmes or going directly into employment and we wish them the best in achieving their ambitions in the future.”

Emerging BTEC results look strong for 22/23 and significant numbers of students are choosing to study with us and benefitting from amazing facilities and the knowledge and skills of our industry specialist staff. We are delighted that so many students are progressing onto courses at the College and through HRUC’s very own West London Institute of Technology, as well as other universities.

Dylan McTaggart, HRUC Deputy CEO said: “I am so proud of our students and staff – these BTEC and A Level results, across 14 different subject areas, evidence the ambition of the Harrow, Richmond and Uxbridge Colleges family. Results like these are only possible if each and every student is supported by our highly passionate staff to succeed to their full potential - students achieve at this college! It’s great to celebrate our students’ efforts, reflected in such excellent results and support their progress onto their exciting next steps. Our students are now busy confirming their choice of university course, or enrolling now onto one of the many Level 4 & 5 Higher Education courses at the College group, and onto higher level apprenticeships – many within the HRUC Institute of Technology.

With a number of high-quality study programmes on offer, students can find the opportunity that’s right for them and we are here to support their career aspirations with a range of options and choices for their future plans.”

Richmond upon Thames College is part of HRUC, a merger between Harrow, Richmond and Uxbridge Colleges.



**Richmond upon
Thames College**

St Mary's University

Dr Jane Chambers appointed Head of the School of Education

Dr Jane Chambers has been appointed as Head of the School of Education, within the Faculty of Education, Theology and the Arts, at St Mary's University, Twickenham (SMU).



Having previously served as Interim Director of the Institute of Education at St Mary's, Jane brings a wealth of experience to this newly created role. In addition to leadership of the SMU's academic programmes relating to education, she chairs the University's Athena SWAN Self-Assessment Team, and is a member of SMU's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Board.

Welcoming the appointment, Dean of the Faculty of Education, Theology and the Arts, **Professor Jacob Phillips**, commented,

"Jane's leadership of St Mary's academic programmes has resulted in a compelling, effective and relevant portfolio of opportunities for students here.

"Due to Jane's unwavering focus on student outcomes, our graduates leave this University equipped to excel in their careers in education, and with the ability to make a real difference in their communities.

"We congratulate Jane on this new role, and look forward to seeing how she, and her highly able team, continue to influence the education of educators in the future."

The University offers several programmes from undergraduate Primary Education courses with QTS, Primary and Secondary PGCE programmes and Masters in Education through to a Doctorate in Education. SMU teaching programmes have been judged by Ofsted, the government department that regulates teacher training, to be 'outstanding' - the highest grade attainable in an Ofsted inspection.

Dr Jane Chambers added, "I'm delighted to take on this new role. I hope I

can continue to support my excellent colleagues in providing exceptional opportunities for our students and trainee teachers.

"This University has a strong culture of support, respect and generosity. In addition to supporting that approach, I look forward to raising the profile of the innovative research activity that the School of Education is involved in and continuing to serve students with the excellent standard of teaching that we are known for.

"We have been teaching teachers on this site for over 170 years, and I am proud to take on the responsibility of taking this tradition forward."

Jane was a joint winner of the St Henry Walpole Prize for Teaching and Learning, awarded by St Mary's, in 2022 for her contribution to work on inclusion within the secondary initial teacher education curriculum, and previously in December 2009 for an innovative approach to cross-curricular learning with PGCE students.

Jane teaches on the Professional Doctorate in Education programme and is a Doctoral research supervisor. She is an experienced examiner and is currently a Chief University External Examiner for Post Graduate Taught programmes in education. Jane is a member of the British Educational Research Association and the Chartered College of Teaching.

After completing her MA in Health Promotion and Health Education from the Institute of Education, University of London, Jane completed her MA in Education (Leading Innovation and Change) in 2008 at the University of Surrey. Jane completed her Doctorate in Education in 2016; her research focused on how the experience of parenting influenced teacher identity. Jane began her career in education as a secondary teacher of chemistry and biology, and worked for 5 years as a Public Health Advisor within the health service and at what is now the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence.



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

England Team To Face Ireland In Dublin

England men's head coach Steve Borthwick has named his match day 23 to face Ireland at Aviva Stadium (kick-off 5.30pm).

Courtney Lawes (Northampton Saints) will captain an England side with six changes to the starting XV that defeated Wales 19-17 at Twickenham Stadium on Saturday. George Ford (Sale Sharks) and Ellis Genge (Bristol Bears) are named as vice-captains. In the front row, loosehead prop Genge is one of two changes to the forward pack, having won his 50th cap from the bench last Saturday. He is joined by Will Stuart (Bath Rugby) on the tighthead and Jamie George (Saracens) at hooker.

David Ribbans (Toulon), back in the side having successfully completed his return to play protocol, partners Maro Itoje (Saracens) in the second row. Elsewhere, an unchanged back row sees captain Lawes continue on the blindside with last weekend's player of the match Ben Earl (Saracens) at openside and Billy Vunipola (Saracens) at No.8. Ben Youngs (Leicester Tigers) and George Ford (Sale Sharks) are named in the half back births in what will be the 61st time the pair have started a Test match together.

In midfield, Manu Tuilagi (Sale Sharks) starts his first game of the Summer Nations Series at inside centre partnering Joe Marchant (Stade Francais) at 13. In the back three, Anthony Watson is named on the right wing with Elliot Daly (Saracens) on the left and Freddie Steward (Leicester Tigers) at full-back. Amongst the replacements, Ollie Chessum (Leicester Tigers) is back in an England shirt for the first time since the Guinness Six Nations having recovered from an ankle injury. Elsewhere Theo Dan (Saracens), Joe Marler (Harlequins), Kyle Sinckler (Bristol Bears), Jack Willis (Toulouse), Danny Care (Harlequins), Marcus Smith (Harlequins) and Ollie Lawrence (Bath Rugby) will all be hoping to join the action at some stage in the match.

"It is a great challenge against the number one ranked team in the world and we are all excited for this fixture," said Borthwick. *"The game will be excellent preparation for us ahead of the Rugby World Cup."*

Commenting on Owen Farrell's omission from the match day 23, Steve Borthwick said: *"In my original planning for the Summer Nations Series and as part of our Rugby World Cup preparation, Owen Farrell was due to be selected to play in this Saturday's Test match in Dublin. However, in light of the fact that so much of Owen's training and match preparation time this week has been significantly affected and interrupted by the disciplinary process, I have not selected him in the matchday 23. Owen will travel to Ireland with our full support. Owen understands the situation, but is of course disappointed, as I am, that he is missing such a special game that he would otherwise have played in."*

Saturday's Summer Nations Series clash against Ireland will be shown live and exclusively on Amazon Prime Video.

IRELAND v ENGLAND

Saturday 19 August 2023, Aviva Stadium, Dublin

Kick-off: 5.30pm



15. Freddie Steward (Leicester Tigers, 24 caps)
14. Anthony Watson (unattached, 55 caps)
13. Joe Marchant (Stade Francais, 17 caps)
12. Manu Tuilagi (Sale Sharks, 51 caps)
11. Elliot Daly (Saracens, 58 caps)
10. George Ford – vice-captain (Sale Sharks, 83 caps)
9. Ben Youngs (Leicester Tigers, 123 caps)

Replacements:

16. Theo Dan (Saracens, 1 cap)
17. Joe Marler (Harlequins, 80 caps)
18. Kyle Sinckler (Bristol Bears, 62 caps)
19. Ollie Chessum (Leicester Tigers, 9 caps)

1. Ellis Genge – vice-captain (Bristol Bears, 50 caps)
2. Jamie George (Saracens, 78 caps)
3. Will Stuart (Bath Rugby, 27 caps)
4. Maro Itoje (Saracens, 68 caps)
5. David Ribbans (Toulon, 6 caps)
6. Courtney Lawes © (Northampton Saints, 98 caps)
7. Ben Earl (Saracens, 16 caps)
8. Billy Vunipola (Saracens, 69 caps)

20. Jack Willis (Toulouse, 11 caps)
21. Danny Care (Harlequins, 88 caps)
22. Marcus Smith (Harlequins, 22 caps)
23. Ollie Lawrence (Bath Rugby, 12 caps)

Red Roses To Return To Twickenham In 2024 TikTok Women's Six Nations

Twickenham Stadium will once again play host to a standalone Red Roses fixture in the 2024 TikTok Women's Six Nations.

John Mitchell's side will welcome Ireland to Twickenham in Round 4 of the Championship on Saturday, 20 April (KO 14:15), following on from last season's historic meeting with France at the home of English rugby. A crowd of 58,498 were in attendance for the first ever standalone Red Roses match at the venue as England Women clinched the Grand Slam with a 38-33 victory.

England and Saracens captain Marlie Packer said: *"It is every player's dream to play on the biggest stages in the biggest matches; to have been part of the first standalone Red Roses match in front of nearly 60,000 fans was really special. We don't want it to be a one off; we want to grow towards selling out matches at Twickenham. We'll keep striving to break records, play in front of record-breaking crowds and hosting Ireland will be another occasion we will relish."*

The Red Roses are also heading back to Ashton Gate to play Wales in Round 2 on Saturday, 30 March (KO 16:45). On their last visit to the Bristol venue ahead of the 2021 Rugby World Cup, England crossed for 11 tries against their visitors from across the Severn Bridge with Loughborough Lightning's Helena Rowland crossing for a hat-trick. Bristol Bears back Holly Aitchison was also in the backline that night and is relishing an international return to the city she now calls home.

"Ashton Gate is an amazing place to play rugby and we're all excited to be heading back there with the Red Roses," she said. *"There is a great appetite for women's rugby in the South West, something I've learned even more so since moving to Bears. The fans are brilliant and always turnout in their numbers for Red Roses matches across the West Country and we have no doubt that we'll be heavily backed once again against Wales."*

Ashton Gate Venue Director, Jenny Hutchinson, said: *"After the success of our first international women's rugby match at Ashton Gate last year, we are delighted to be hosting the Red Roses and Wales again for another blockbuster Anglo-Welsh clash in Bristol. The opportunity to stage our first TikTok Women's Six Nations match is an exciting occasion for Ashton Gate and for the city. We attracted an 11,600-strong crowd for England's record-equalling 25th Test win over Wales the last time they visited and with the huge appetite for the women's game in Bristol, we look forward to welcoming another huge crowd."*

Priority tickets for both matches [are now available](#) to O2 and Virgin Media customers with tickets priced from £5 for kids and £15 for adults*. [England Rugby Hospitality](#) packages are also available from today. Tickets will go on general sale on Wednesday, 16 August.

**Adult ticket prices for the Red Roses v Ireland Women match will increase by £5 following the completion of an early-bird window.*

Red Roses' 2024 TikTok Women's Six Nations Fixtures

Italy v Red Roses

Venue TBC

Sunday, 24 March (KO 15:00 GMT)

Red Roses v Wales

Ashton Gate, Bristol

Saturday, 30 March (KO 16:45 GMT)

Scotland v Red Roses

Venue TBC

Saturday, 13 April (KO 14:15 BST)

Red Roses v Ireland

Twickenham Stadium, London

Saturday, 20 April (KO 14:15 BST)

France v Red Roses

Venue TBC

Saturday, 27 April (KO 16:45 BST)



Frank: I can't wait for west London derby

Brentford head coach Thomas Frank has said he is looking forward to Saturday's west London derby against a 'very good' Fulham side; the last three meetings between the sides have featured 15 goals, including a 3-2 victory for the Bees in the last Premier League encounter

Written by Brentford Football Club

Brentford head coach Thomas Frank has insisted that he 'can't wait' for Saturday's west London derby against a 'very good' Fulham side.

Frank has had numerous clashes with the Cottagers since becoming Bees boss in 2018, with his side winning the [most recent Premier League encounter 3-2 at the Gtech Community Stadium in March](#).

The last three meetings, including the Premier League Summer Series fixture in pre-season, have featured 15 goals, and Frank wouldn't mind a similarly entertaining game on Saturday - but only if his side can come away with three points.

Frank laughed: "Another 3-2 that we come out on top in would be nice!"



"Take the two league games and the recent friendly game: it's been three very tight matches, three very even matches, between two very good teams.

"Marco Silva and his staff have done a top job. I like the way Fulham play. I can't wait to play them.

"It's a big game for the fans, it's a big game for us and, hopefully, we will go out there, play with great intensity and try to take the initiative. It will be difficult away, but we will do our very best."

Fulham head coach Silva has confirmed that talismanic centre-forward Aleksandar Mitrovic will not play for his side on Saturday due to injury.

Silva also stated that Raul Jimenez will start in Mitrovic's place. And the former Wolves striker is someone that Frank believes is more than capable of filling in as the Cottagers' no.9.

"Mitrovic is a very good player and a very good striker. Jimenez is another good player and another good striker," said Frank.

"I think Jimenez's top level is as good as Mitrovic's. It's a little bit different, but it's similar.

"[Jimenez] is still a very good player to have in their team."



Frank confirms Fulham starter

Brentford head coach Thomas Frank delivers some positive news on the injury front ahead of the Bees' Premier League game against Fulham

Written by Brentford Football Club

Brentford head coach Thomas Frank has confirmed that Mathias Jensen will start for the Bees in their west London clash against Fulham on Saturday.

The midfielder came off in the [2-2 draw with Tottenham Hotspur](#) at Gtech Community Stadium last Sunday with a quad injury.

But Jensen will be available for the derby game against the Cottagers this weekend, with Frank adding that he will start for his side.

“He’s ready - that’s very positive. He’s going to start tomorrow,” said Frank.

The Bees boss also revealed that Jensen’s midfield colleague Frank Onyeka is “ready and available for the game” on Saturday.



Defender Ben Mee will undergo checks on Saturday morning on the calf injury he suffered in the Bees' pre-season friendly against Ligue 1 side Lille.

Frank went from discussing defenders and midfielders to forwards, when asked how happy he is with his frontline in the absence of the suspended Ivan Toney.

Bryan Mbeumo and Yoane Wissa both scored in the 2-2 draw with Spurs, whilst Kevin Schade came on against the north Londoners, impressing with his dribbling ability and blistering pace.

And Frank was also keen to highlight winger Keane Lewis-Potter, who impressed for his side throughout pre-season.

“They’re good players: Schade is a very good player, Wissa is a very good player, Mbeumo is probably the go-to guy now,” said the Brentford head coach.

“And I think it’s also important to mention Keane Lewis-Potter. He’s a fantastic player and I have no doubt that he will be very good for us. He’s been out with an injury and that just takes a bit of time to come up to pace.

“But, throughout this pre-season, he’s adding layers. I like what I see from him.

“Both Yoane Wissa and Kevin Schade are good down the middle as a no.9, they’re both flexible players. They have a little bit of different attributes.

“Wissa is fantastic in the box, being in the right position, being on the last line, attacking the gaps and crosses.

“Kevin is also good at that but he’s also got his incredible pace.”



Free access to cash protected

The vast majority of people and businesses are set to be no further than three miles away from withdrawing cash under a new framework set out by the Treasury.

A government statement published today [18 August 2023] set the minimum expectations on banks to protect services for people and businesses wanting to withdraw or deposit cash.

They can expect to withdraw cash without any fees – something that has been set out in law.

As part of this move, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) has been provided new powers by the government to protect the provision of cash access services. This includes protecting cash access without any fees for those who hold personal current accounts.

Building on laws granted through the government's Financial Services and Markets Act 2023, the FCA will use these newfound powers to make sure banks and building societies are keeping up to these standards – and have the power to fine them if they do not.

While the country is moving further away from using coins and notes with the number of online payments rising from 45% to 85% in the past ten years, cash can still be an integral part of many businesses and people's lives.

Economic Secretary to the Treasury, Andrew Griffith, said:

"Whilst the growing choice and convenience of digital payments is great, cash has an important and continuing role to play. That's why we are taking action to protect access to cash in law and laying out that this means fee-free withdrawals and the availability of cash facilities within a reasonable distance.

"People shouldn't have to trek for hours to withdraw a tenner to put in someone's birthday card – nor should businesses have to travel large distances to deposit cash takings.

"These are measures which benefit everyone who uses cash but particularly those living in rural areas, the elderly and those with disabilities."

As it stands, the vast majority of people living in urban areas can access cash deposit and withdrawal services within one mile; with rural-dwellers around three miles away. Today's policy statement makes clear that the FCA should use its powers to maintain this level of coverage, while recognising that needs may differ by location and change over time.

It also makes clear that – if a service is withdrawn and a replacement service is needed – this should be put in place before the closure takes place.

The FCA is also required to 'have regard' to local deficiencies in cash access. The policy statement sets out that the regulator should consider factors such as the opening hours and distance to cash access services, as well as the need for in-person assistance.

Laws introduced in the Financial Services Act 2021 have delivered cashback in over 2,500 shops across the UK – without any need to buy something in store – through the LINK network.



HM Treasury

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