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Twickenham TRIBUNE & Richmond IRBUNE

Contents

TwickerTape TwickerSeal History Through Postcards Holocaust Arts and Entertainment Borough View Twickers Foodie Theatre Reviews WIZ Tales Football Focus

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Marble Hill House, Twickenham (Currently under refurbishment) Photo by Berkley Driscoll

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TickerTape - News in Brief

Twickenham Police station closure

On Friday 24th January, Twickenham Police Station closed for 6 - 9 months to accommodate refurbishment of the station. During this time, the front counter at Teddington police station will be open 24/7 to provide the usual service. Many residents are perturbed by this, particularly following the previous closure of Richmond Police Station.

Stags Brewery

The Stag Brewery redevelopment planning applications will be heard at the Council's Planning Committee Wednesday 29th January at 7pm. The Stag Brewery site in Mortlake is the largest redevelopment area in the borough.

Planning application <u>HERE</u>

Twickenham Stadium Boy Band Concert

BTS, the popular South Korean boy band, will be performing at Twickenham Stadium 3-4th July. Many fans have already taken to social media questioning Twickenham Station's ability to cope with the influx of concertgoers.

Richmond Gas Supply

On Friday 24th a burst water main had the knock on effect of disrupting gas supplies in Richmond TW9. 1,000+ homes and businesses were affected, losing their gas supply.

For more information view the Cadent website <u>HERE</u>

SWR Franchise

A statement from Transport Secretary Grant Schapps on SWR states "South Western Railway's (SWR's) recent financial statements have indicated that the franchise is not sustainable in the long term." However, the statement continues "This will not impact on the railway's day-to-day operations. The business will continue to operate as usual with no material impact on SWR services or staff."

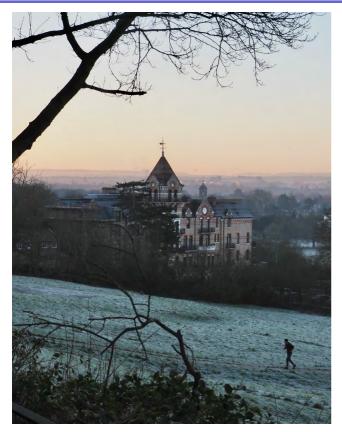
See the full statement HERE

The Teddington/Strawberry Hill area parking study

In response to residents' requests, LBRuT are carrying out a consultation over a large area of Teddington and Strawberry Hill on the possibility of implementing parking controls. The consultation opened on Friday 24 January and ends Friday 6 March 2020.

You can have your say <u>HERE</u>

You can see the Teddington/Strawberry Hill review plan HERE



Borough View

Photos by Graeme Stoten

From this sharp and frosty morning. Petersham Hotel waking up to a gorgeous sub-zero Sunday morning and the luminous view of the river from Richmond Hill, taken whilst en route to a dawn walk through Richmond Park.



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www.RichmondTribune.com



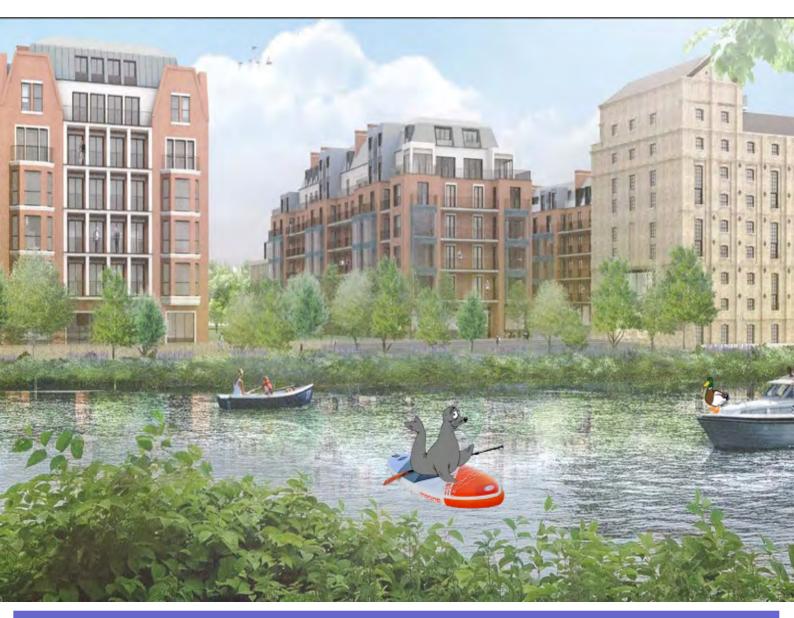
We haven't yet reached the end of January, but TwickerSeal is perturbed.

We live in a wonderful green borough, but we seem to be assailed by development.

On Wednesday we have the planning committee hearing for The Stag Brewery and we have yet to hear the planning hearing for Station Yard in Twickenham; let aone the council's housing proposals for the riverside.

The common denominator here is lots of housing and pushing the height of housing to the limit. What is missing is what residents want.

However, the difference between Stag Brewery and Station Yard etc. and Twickenham Riverside is that the council owns the Twickenham Riverside property. So TwickerSeal hopes the council will focus on what we want for the riverside and not just deliver yet another housing estate.



PART 163 HAMPTON RAILWAY STATION

I slipped up in last week's column by mistakenly labelling the Ford Anglia police car pictured in Twickenham's London Road as a Triumph Herald. First off the mark to correct me were regular



readers Dinah Bean and Tom Lowe followed by several others who accused me of writing "Fake News". So apologies for the error and now we all know the difference between these two sixties classic cars.



We visit Hampton this week for a look at its railway station. Interestingly, the station's official address is not in Station Road as we might think but is in fact in Ashley Road TW12 2HU.

My thanks to Roger Williams for the use of his vintage postcard of the station. This is the first one shown. The second postcard looking along the platform to the bridge is dated at about 1907 and the wonderful photo of the station

staff taken

in 1910 is shown courtesy of Richmond Local Studies Group.

The station sits on the Shepperton branch line which opened on 1st November 1864, but Hampton didn't become a passenger station until 1901 - and even then only for selected peak hour services. Electrification followed in 1916, and despite its small size, the station has been home to busy commuter services ever since. Today the station is operated by South Western Railway





which acquired South West trains in August 2017. The station is in Travelcard Zone 6 and is 14 miles down the line from Waterloo. The station runs two trains per hour in either direction between London Waterloo and Shepperton - early morning rush-hour trains are routed via Twickenham and Richmond, rather than Kingston.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY! - WEST LONDON POSTCARD FAIR

This local fair takes place at Teddington Baptist Church, Church Road, Teddington TW11 8PF on Saturday 8th February. Plenty of dealers from around the UK selling postcards, stamps and other ephemera. Refreshments too! 10.00 – 4.00. Admission only £1.00. Local postcards and photos on my tables!

I am always looking for old postcards and old photograph albums etc. so if you have any that are sitting unwanted in a drawer, in a box in the loft or in the garage or under a bed, please contact me on 07875 578398 or <u>alanwinter192@hotmail.com</u> I would like to see them and I pay cash! Don't throw old postcards in the skip or recycling bins. Show them to me first! Thanks.

OSWIECIM JANUARY 27 1945

Article and pictures are by Doug Goodman

The name of the Polish town on the sign looks quite innocuous on first sight but when you see the German version nearby a sudden feeling of foreboding and horror grips you. Oswiecim, renamed Auschwitz by the Germans after their invasion of Poland in 1940, was set up as a camp for Russian prisoners. It soon became a concentration camp for Jews, Polish intellectuals, communists and anyone considered undesirable by the invaders. This was to be the first of the many Polish



death camps liberated by the Russians as they advanced westwards. The allies as they progressed through Germany also discovered many more horrific camps. On 27th January 1945 Auschwitz was liberated by the Soviet army and the true extent of Nazi brutality was revealed to the world. The British government had been told about this and other camps in the country by the Polish resistance fighters and were urged to bomb the rail links around the camps. However the military commanders said there were insufficient resources to carry out an air raid and even if the attack took place it was unlikely to achieve significant results.

Thus it was left to the liberating armies to save as many of the inmates as they could when they discovered the terrible camps.

The Holocaust, as it became known in memory of the 6 million who perished, will be commemorated next Monday on the 75th anniversary of Auschwitz' liberation where a million people died. The Mayor of London will travel to Poland along with world leaders and 200 survivors from the camps. City Hall will donate £300,000 for the preservation of Auschwitz/Birkenau as a museum and education centre. In 1945 forces' camera teams documented the horror and the news was broadcast throughout the world. Films like Shindler's List, The Pianist, one of the 10 episodes of Band of Brothers and numerous books can provide some idea of the terrible conditions suffered by the prisoners. The scale of the murders at Auschwitz has turned it into the main symbol of Nazi atrocities attracting over 2 million visitors each year.



Work Brings Freedom

Visitors to the Camp

Auschwitz Camp

www.RichmondTribune.com

I saw the remains of the Warsaw Ghetto in 1963 and recently the boarded up houses in Krakow's Kazimirez district abandoned by their Jewish owners when they were deported to Auschwitz. The authorities are still trying to trace relatives of those owners.

A NEED TO REMEMBER

A visit to Auschwitz on a trip from Krakow is an essential part of a tour of Southern Poland as well over 200,000 Britons discover each year. My visit was both educational and horrifying but it brought home in stark detail what terrible acts had occurred. Birkenau has a museum detailing the history of the Nazi extermination programme with graphic films. Rooms contain vast piles of clothing, shoes, reading glasses and most poignant of all mountains of suitcases.



Camp Accommodation

Execution Wall

Visitors to Auschwitz

An execution wall and accommodation blocks, where inmates slept three to a tiny bunk, were thronged with sightseers taking pictures. Somehow it seemed that laughter and casual dress were out of place as we entered through the gate with the infamous sign 'Arbeit Macht Frei' – work brings freedom. Close by is the main camp with extensive barbed wire fences and watch towers. The rail tracks, which carried the cattle trucks full of Jews, remain in place. When you arrived in Auschwitz you were assessed to see if



Rail Link

you were fit to work, in which case you went into one of the wooden accommodation huts; if not you went straight to one of the many gas chambers. When the Nazis retreated from the Russians great effort was made to destroy all the evidence of barbarism but much remains today. Walking through the blocks, inspecting the ruins of the gas chambers and ovens and peering out through the wire forces you to imagine how terrifying it must have

been to be a prisoner in Auschwitz and how traumatic it must have been 75 years ago to realise that you had been given a chance to survive.

75 MEMORIALS: A COMMUNITY REMEMBERS

January 2020 marks the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. In commemoration of this major anniversary, London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames, working with the Landmark Arts Centre, is showcasing artwork, poetry and prose by school pupils, members of community groups and individuals from across the borough.

This moving commemoration is a fitting reflection on the national theme for the 2020 Holocaust Memorial Day:

Stand Together



EXHIBITION 75 Memorials A Community Remembers

5 January – 2 February 2020 10am – 3pm

January 2020 marks the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

In commemoration of this major anniversary, London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames, working with the Landmark Arts Centre, is showcasing artwork, poetry and prose submitted by schools, community groups and individuals from across the borough.

www.landmarkartscentre.org

Photos from the exhibition shown below by Alison Jee





www.TwickenhamTribune.com

www.RichmondTribune.com

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By Emma Grey

<u>Theatre</u>

Saturday 25 January matinee and evening at St Edmund's Church Hall, Nelson Road, Whitton: Jack and the Beanstalk.

Saturday 25 January to Friday 31 January at Teddington Theatre Club, Hampton Hill Theatre, Main Auditorium: Amadeus by Peter Shaffer. Music, power, jealousy and the genius of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

<u>Music</u>

Jazz, rock, and blues music enthusiasts who head to the bars at The Cabbage Patch Pub in London Road are advised to visit Twickfolk, Twickenham Jazz Club and Eel Pie Club websites to check what's on.

Exhibitions

'A Series of Triptychs' Riverside Gallery, Old Town Hall 7th March – 18th April 2020. An exhibition by local painter James Cowan, inspired by visits to New York and St Petersburg.

Turner and the Thames: Five Paintings – oil sketches seldom seen by the public - until 29th March at Sandycombe Lodge, 40 Sandycoombe Road, Twickenham.

Turner Lecture Day: Turner's House Trust will be organising a Turner Lecture Day in Twickenham on 11th June 2020.

If you are interested in advertising an Arts & Entertainment event write to <u>advertise@</u> <u>twickenhamtribune.com</u> for further information.



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

www.RichmondTribune.com

Marble Hill Landscaping Project

Marble Hill is being revived and we need your help in the first stage of ground preparation for planting and also the planting itself. The landscape is being improved in association with independent ecologists and professional horticulturalists to help ensure this is an environment for wildlife to thrive with a rich bio diversity. Work off your Christmas dinner and join with us with ground clearance on Wednesday 22nd, 29th January 2020 and to plant on 9th/10th and 19th February. All sessions are 10am-1pm with copious amounts of cups of tea, coffee and biscuits involved! Meet us at the Cricket Pitch! It is a great opportunity to learn new horticulture skills, meet new people and help improve the legacy of Marble Hill Park for future generations.

All are welcome and for more information contact: Kate.Slack@english-heritage.org.uk



Richmond Council awards new waste and recycling collection contract

After a significant and robust procurement process, Richmond Council is pleased to announce that a new waste and recycling collection contract has been awarded to Serco.

The new 10-year contract is due to commence on 30 March 2020.

Whilst there are currently no plans to change household collection days, a review of service provision may require some minor adjustments to deliver operational efficiencies and improvements.

Under the new contract, Richmond's non-recyclable waste will continue to be delivered to energyfrom-waste incinerators, which generates electricity for the National Grid. Richmond's food waste will also continue to be processed by anaerobic digestion, which produces gas for the National Gas Grid along with a compost-like material known as "digestate" which is used as a fertiliser on farmland.

Cllr Martin Elengorn, Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee, said:

"Waste and recycling collections are some of the services provided by the Council that residents value the most. It's important that we can provide a service that is both efficient and cost effective. The Council has to make significant savings over the next few years; this major contract will not only offer improved service delivery, a new fleet, retained weekly collections and greater efficiency, it can also be delivered at a cost close to the existing Council budget provision. The Council will work with Serco to continue to improve our recycling rate across the borough – identifying ways to work with residents to encourage them to engage in our already comprehensive service. Serco will also be involved in assisting the Council in delivering its climate change objectives"

Serco has rich experience delivering municipal waste services to 21 local authorities around the country.

Managing Director for Serco Environment Services Ronnie Coutts added:

"We are delighted to have been selected by Richmond Council to deliver these essential services over the next 10 years. Our new fleet of EURO 6 refuse collection vehicles are more fuel efficient, meaning lower vehicle emissions, they will also be fitted electric bin lifts and use other carbon reduction

measures to ensure the collection service is delivered in as environmentally friendly way as possible."

The new EURO6 refuse collection vehicles, will be in place by the Autumn, will be fitted with a range of safety features including 360-degree cameras, an 'auto stopping system' which automatically apply the vehicle brakes when movement is sensed during reversing and a cycling safety system, all designed to ensure safe working practices are maintainable at all times for the benefit of Richmond residents.

With the exception of the garden waste vehicles all other vehicles will have two separate compartments. This means more than one type of waste can be collected on each vehicle, resulting in less vehicles on the road.

Following commencement of the contract, Serco will work with the Council to develop innovative initiatives aimed at improving the collection service and customer experience. For example, by linking into vehicles "In Cab" computer system to the Council's Customer Service team will have access to real time updates to issues and will be able to track service progress helping them provide better advice and support to residents who need it. These technologies will also enable more effective monitoring of service delivery.

www.TwickenhamTribune.com



Richmond upon Thames Performing Arts Festival 2020 Competitions and Performance Opportunities for all ages

Piano, Vocal, All Orchestral Instruments, Speech & Drama February to March in Richmond (Kew) and Hampton For full information, fees and entry forms visit

http://www.richmondfestival.org.uk

Performance opportunities for all ages in piano (jazz, classical & exam sections), singing (for choirs and soloists), string & wind orchestral instruments, including harp, guitar & percussion.
Acting, verse and prose speaking, musical theatre for solos and groups. Every performer receives a verbal and written assessment. Trophies, Medals, Cash prizes and vouchers to be awarded including: £100 prizes each for the Young Pianist, Young Singer, Young Instrumentalist and Young Speech & Drama Performer of the Year

Dates, Venues, Adjudicators 2020

Vocal Section - Adjudicator: Belinda Mikhail, BMus(Hons), PgDipRCM, ARCM

February 28th at YMCA White House, 45 The Avenue, Hampton, TW12 3RN (mainly choirs and ensembles)

February 29th & March 1st at Kew Community Centre,(St. Luke's), The Avenue, Richmond TW9 2AJ (Solos)

Piano section: - Adjudicator: Li Lin Teo, ARAM, LRAM, ARCM(Hons), LRSM

March 6th, 7th, 8th, 14th at Kew Community Centre, (St. Luke's), The Avenue, Richmond TW9 2AJ Instrumental:

March 15th (Wind/Brass & Percussion) - Adjudicator: Paul Harris, FRAM, HonTCL, GRSM, LRAM, ARCM ARAM, MTC, FRSA

March 21st, 22nd (other orchestral instruments) - Adjudicator: **Fiona McLean Buechel**, BA (RSAMD) Cert RAM . All **Instrumental** sections at Kew Community Centre

Speech & Drama March 28th & 29th - Adjudicators: Tish Nicoll LGSM, DipCE, FESB, MSTSD

& **Ann Bauer**, MEd, BA (Hons), LRAM, LGSM, PGCE, DipSpLD at YMCA White House. Hampton TW12 3RN

<u>Section Secretaries</u> (to whom entries should be made)

Instrumental: Pamela Frazer, <u>pam@fra3zer.demon.co.uk</u> Piano: Sue Thornton, <u>suethornton101@virginmedia.com</u> Assistant Piano Secretary: Kay Aldridge Vocal: Judy Hildesley <u>judyhildesley@btinternet.com</u> Speech & Drama: Emma-Louise Tinniswood <u>richmonddramafestival@gmail.com</u>

<u>Closing dates for Receipt of Entries</u>

Piano – January 19th 2020 Vocal & Speech & Drama – January 31st 2020 Instrumental – February 8th 2020





General enquiries - info@richmondfestival.org.uk

24th January 2020 - Page 12

Can you help make our parks accessible to everyone?

The Friendly Parks for All project, managed by Richmond Council, want to hear from residents who have visual impairments and their families, to help improve accessibility in parks and open spaces across the borough.

The Friendly Parks for All project, managed by Richmond Council, want to hear from residents who have visual impairments and their families, to help improve accessibility in parks and open spaces across the borough.

The project aims to improve multisensory visitor experiences in Richmond, making sure our parks are accessible for all. As part of this, the Parks Team want to understand how residents who are blind or those with visual impairments currently use our parks, what the barriers are when they do visit and what the Council can do to help.



All feedback will be carefully considered to inform future design, initially at Kneller Gardens, which will be a trial site later this year.

Cllr Martin Elengorn, Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee, said: "Everyone should be able to use our parks and open spaces. The Friendly Parks model includes improvements such as installing extra seating and resting places, improving paths, and making signage as clear as possible. A key part of knocking down the barriers to access is hearing your thoughts and experiences, so if relevant then please take the time to fill in the survey."

You can share your views now by filling in the <u>online survey</u> or requesting a paper copy.

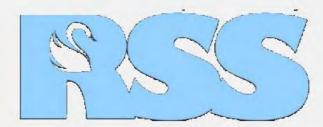
Computer programming club for young people

Do you know a tech obsessed young person who would be interested in learning about coding? CoderDojo is a fun and relaxed computer programming club that is hosting a special hackathon in Richmond on Saturday 1 February 2020.

Richmond CoderDojo is taking part in the national BBC Do Your:bit challenge, a micro:bit challenge that works towards finding solutions to global goals. This CoderDojo session will teach young people how a BBC micro:bit can be used to help protect the environment!

Micro:bit is a pocket-sized computer given to every child in year 7 in the UK for free to inspire digital creativity and develop a new generation of tech pioneers.

The event will run from 11.30am to 3.30pm at Whittaker Ellis Suite, Old Town Hall, Whittaker Avenue, Richmond, TW9 1TP. It is free to attend but booking is essential. To book your place, email <u>libraryvolunteer@richmond.gov.uk</u>.



Richmond Shakespeare Society at the Mary Wallace Theatre SPRING 2020 SEASON BOOK ONLINE:

www.RichmondShakespeare.org.uk



LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT by Eugene O'Neill 18th to 25th JANUARY 2020



DREAM by William Shakespeare ... re-invented 20th to 23rd February 2020

THE DUCHESS OF MALFI

by John Webster 21st to 28th March 2020



by Arlitia Jones 2nd to 9th May 2020





The Royal Parks launches recruitment drive for Volunteer Rangers

The Royal Parks charity is on the lookout for enthusiastic and chatty nature-lovers to become Volunteer Rangers in Richmond and Bushy Parks.

Another 25 Volunteer Rangers are to be recruited by The Royal Parks in the scheme's second year of operation. Last year, Rangers clocked up 1,300 hours walking the vast expanse of these semi-rural parks and interacting with visitors.

Since the service began in April 2019, Rangers have engaged with over 7,000 visitors sharing their local knowledge and educating people on everything from walking routes and deer birthing season, to skylarks and ancient trees.



Jo Haywood, Volunteer Ranger Co-ordinator said: "We are looking for people with bags of enthusiasm, who enjoy being outdoors and most importantly love talking to people. "Through engagement with our visitors, volunteer rangers make a real contribution to protecting these precious habitats. Our first year was a huge success and, for that reason, we want to recruit even more rangers for 2020."

Volunteer Rangers are asked to provide a minimum of one three-hour shift per month and



operate in pairs to engage with some of the eight million annual visitors the two parks attract.

Bea Cornu-Hewitt, who is a Volunteer Ranger for Richmond Park said: "I applied to be Ranger because I was feeling more and more 'nature deficient.' I needed to see more greenery and less concrete. It's a perfect opportunity to spend more time in Richmond Park, a National Nature Reserve, but also to give back and help other people enjoy it as much as you do. Since becoming a ranger I've learnt so much about the wildlife of the park and have become a mini expert on the deer!"

Lara Haswell, a Volunteer Ranger at Bushy Park said: "The volunteer shifts work on a buddy basis,

so you will never go out in the park alone, and it means that every time you are on shift you are likely to be with a different person, sharing knowledge of the park and learning different approaches to engagement. Bushy Park is my local go-to happy place, so I am delighted to be part of this initiative."

Applications close 9 February and you can apply via www.royalparks.org.uk/rangers. Full training is given

Volunteer Rangers in numbers for Bushy and Richmond Parks:

2019 – Volunteer Ranger Service begins 1,300 hours volunteered Over 7,000 visitors engaged with 25 new positions (for 2020)



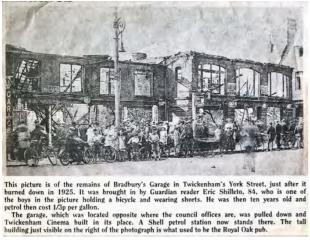


Never Mind Never Mind Never Mind

By:TwickWatch

In 1908 the business premises at 9 & 11 Richmond Road which had housed the Corben Brothers carriage works since 1852, were sold stock-in-trade and became a garage catering for the rapid popularity of motor cars. 1912 saw the premises occupied by the Twickenham Motor Company Limited then by 1920, the Autovan Company Limited shortly after being replaced by A W Bradbury & Co Limited, until the premises burnt down in 1926.





Many motor cars and coaches were

destroyed by fire about 4am on a Tuesday morning in August 1926. Some two hours after a severe thunderstorm had passed over, a constable noticed through the glass of the main doors, a large charabanc burning. It is thought lightning may have struck the building during the storm.

The firemen fought for nearly two hours to prevent the flames, that were leaping 30 feet through the roof on their arrival, from spreading to two underground petrol tanks, by dousing with water. When the roof of the main building

(which was 120 feet deep with 60 feet wide frontage) fell in, the flames lit the sky for a great distance.

The roar of the fire and the bursting of petrol tanks and tyres roused the people in the neighbouring houses. Seeing their homes threatened, they began moving their belongings into the street. Thanks to the good handling by the Brigades, and the co-operation of the crowd under the police, the Royal Oak public house and the Lyric Cinema next door, were also saved.

In about two hours the fire had practically burned itself out having done damage to the extent of about $\pounds40,000$. The building was burned out and in all, between 20 and 30 motor cars in addition to three large touring cars were known to have been burned. It is not known how many private cars were being garaged at the time.

A dog which was kept on the premises perished in the flames. Its howls could be heard by the onlookers, who were powerless to rescue it.

The derelict site, located on Richmond Road at the corner with Oak Lane was now open to redevelopment.

The Twickenham Kinema opened on 15th October 1928 with Billie Dove in "The Beautiful Fraud". It was a project of Joseph Mears Theatres Ltd and joined the other Kinema's in the circuit located in Kensington, and later one in Richmond and another in East Sheen.

The Twickenham Kinema had a 35 feet wide proscenium and a small stage, with dressing rooms. The Kinema was equipped with a Compton 2Manual/7Ranks organ. It was equipped with a Western Electric (WE) sound system. There was also a tea lounge cafe for the convenience of its patrons.

A vivid description of the opening of the Twickenham can be found in the Bioscope, Wednesday 17 October 1928.

"Until a late hour on Monday evening 15 October 1928, a crowd stood watching the coloured lights in the three cathedral-like windows of the new Twickenham Super Cinema, which had been opened earlier in the day by the Joseph Mears Theatres Limited.

The Twickenham is certainly an arresting object to encounter in the sedate Richmond Road, where its gleaming facade, like a stark white cliff, dominates the whole of the immediate neighbourhood. As an example of advanced theatre architecture, the Twickenham is (like the stately Kensington house whose style it reproduces on a smaller scale) one of the most interesting buildings in Greater London.



Exterior of the Twickenham Kinema (courtesy of 'Cinema Theatre Association Archive')



Interior of the Twickenham Kinema (courtesy of 'Cinema Theatre Association Archive') ©

Nor does the interior of the Twickenham belie the promise of its striking exterior. Ultra-modern in its design and in its imaginative scheme of decoration, perfectly equipped with the very latest heating, ventilating and lighting devices, the house may be said to have transported the West End to the suburbs.

One enters the Twickenham by a foyer paved with stone and marble, the walls being treated by a method of roughly worked plaster which combines a suggestion of rugged strength with curious beauty. This Aladdin's cave effect is intensified in the auditorium, which gleams faintly with bronze and gold by the dim light of six immense hanging lanterns. Too much detail

work has wisely been avoided. The intention has, apparently, been to provide spacious stages for the infinitely varied play of light and colour rather than to fix the attention on static effects of which the eye, once familiarity has been established, is apt to grow tired.

The success of the decorative scheme was vividly illustrated when, after an interval, the lights dimmed, by imperceptible gradations, from the brilliance of high noon to a soft twilight, mellowed by the yellow sheen of the six lantern-moons overhead. In these conditions the whole house appeared to glow with vague iridescence of a sub-tropical night, a lighting effect which produced a remarkable effect of romantic beauty, well-being and comfort.

That this artistic luxury is placed at disposal of Twickenham picture goers at prices ranging from 6d to 1s 10d is characteristic of the policy pursued in all his enterprises by Joseph T Mears, who is an emphatic believer in popular prices as the basis of cinema entertainment.

Seating 1,200, in purple and grey tub chairs throughout the stalls and balcony, the Twickenham also possesses a beautifully appointed tea lounge, accommodating 100. Two Ross mirror arc projectors give an 18ft by 16ft picture with a throw of 100 ft.



The staff which numbers about 40 persons, is under the management of R.J. Dawkins, a young and alert showman, who recently managed houses for Elite Picture Theatres at Hastings and, subsequently, at Harrow. The orchestra of nine instrumentalists is directed by Van Praag, formerly of the Capitol, and there is also a John Compton Kinestra organ played with admirable effect, both as a solo instrument and with the orchestra by Sebastian Fenn.

Only the best pictures will be presented at the Twickenham, bookings for which are controlled by F. Clive (who also arranges bookings for the other Mears Theatres) The opening attraction is "The Gorilla."

The architects of the Twickenham are Messrs. Grainger & Leathert who were responsible for the Kensington. The same architects have designed the new super cinema for 2,000 which Mr. Mears is about to build at Richmond".



Exterior of the Queens (courtesy of 'Cinema Theatre Association Archive')

A note in the Bioscope dated 17 October 1928 "Joseph Mears has an acute but fatherly eye and a fatherly personality. He tempers business with humanity and is notably "easy to talk to". Besides being an experienced showman, he is of course, an experienced builder, the Twickenham being a house of his own construction. It is a place to be proud of".

On 29th June 1940, the Twickenham [Kinema] was renamed the Queens Cinema. This was

seemingly to remove the Twickenham name, in the possible event of the German military overwhelming nearby anti-tank defences if successfully invading the country, being able to determine their current location.





Within six months it was requisitioned

by the Government, for wartime use as a furniture store. In 1944, it was purchased by the Odeon Theatres Limited chain, and re-opened on 24th December 1945. Just prior to that the Mayor took the V. E. Day celebrations salute from the steps of the cinema.

It retained the name Queens Cinema until 8th May 1950, when it was renamed the Gaumont.

The Rank Organisation closed the Gaumont on 1st

December 1956 with Aldo Ray in "Nightfall" and Gary Merrill in "Bermuda Affair". It had never been fitted for Cinemascope for the modern generation of films.

The Gaumont was later demolished and the Oak Lane service station was built on the site by National Benzole being extended in 1959 until demolished by Shell UK in 1991 and rebuilt more or less as is today in 2020.





Exterior view of the Gaumont (courtesy of 'Cinema Theatre Association

The Twickenham Festival Guide is now being produced



If you have an **event** that falls between the dates of the Twickenham Festival (5 June – 28 June) you can include it in the

FREE What's On Event

Listings. Entries should be no more than 100 words and please include a jpeg image if you can as we will try and use as many as we can to illustrate the guide.

Deadline for adverts or event entries is 30 March.

Please email event listings or requests to advertise to <u>shona@crusadertravel.com</u> or call 020 8744 0474.

30,000 free A5 Twickenham Festival Guides (52 pages) will be produced and distributed in Twickenham in the run up to the Festival (W/C 18 May)

This popular guide is a great vehicle for advertising your local business & if you have an event that runs during the Festival you can include it for free in the 14 Page event What's On section!

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TWICKENHAM FESTIVAL 2020

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Inside front Cover £600 (full Page) Back Cover £650 (full page)

Twickers Foodie - By Rlison Jee

POP UP RESTAURANT EXTRAORDINAIRE IN THE COTSWOLDS

Have you ever had a meal cooked for you in a garden shed? Actually, a five-course tasting menu preceded by a glass of Gusbourne English sparkling wine - plus snacks and canapés - to be precise? And not cooked on any boring old kitchen stove, but in front of you in a wood-burning oven? Well dear reader, I have ...and it was amazing!

A friend invited me to join her for lunch last weekend at **Kubarn in Bourton on the Water**. A pop up restaurant, run by Polish-born current National Chef of the Year **Kuba Winkowski**, it's in his garden shed and seats **just four people**. It was such a brilliant experience – unlike anything I have experienced before, and I can't recommend it highly enough. You're probably thinking 'Bourton on the Water?' 'For lunch?' Yes, it can be done, but it would be far more fun to book a local B&B and make a weekend of it.

Kubarn is a rather magical log cabin, designed by chef Kuba for year-round dining. It has been built in his garden at his home in the Cotswolds. He takes bookings for parties of four on Friday and Saturday evenings but will do other days on request. He creates bespoke tasting menus, using locally sourced game, fish and foraged ingredients. He makes his own butter, produces 'to die for'



focaccia using Wagyu beef dripping instead of olive oil, smokes the butter for his Hollandaise sauce (which he whisks up in front of you while you are enjoying the previous course) and produces his own range of charcuterie too.



While enjoying some very acceptable Gusbourne, we were indulged with a veritable feast of different snacks, followed by a selection of meats, all cured by Kuba, and served with the focaccia and the amazing butter. Then we were served a vegetable course with winter truffle and buckwheat, followed by John Dory (cooked in the wood burning oven on a wooden plank) with the afore-mentioned Hollandaise and purple sprouting broccoli. Next was roe deer, with a little dish of Hunter's stew (which was a meal in itself) and roast parsnip coated in juniper granola (home made of course and absolutely fabulous). Reader, this is very serious cooking at an exceptionally high level, in front of your eyes, in a shed, using a wood-burning oven; Kuba is a culinary magician. His food is a clever juxtaposition of the best of English and Polish fare.

A dessert of goat's curd and frozen bilberries was beautifully light and refreshing, followed by chocolate sticky toffee pudding with lemon curd and clotted cream...OMG I was in dessert heaven! Coffee was served with almond stuffed prunes, coated in a mixture of cocoa and ground chilli. Wow, what an end to the meal.

A trip to Kubarn with friends would make a truly memorable gastronomic experience – especially when the weather is warmer and you can enjoy a drink on the barn's veranda. It ain't cheap of course, but for the superb quality of food it is great value plus the fact that you can bring your own wine (no corkage charge). It's £100 a head, but worth every penny in my opinion. And I was delighted to learn from Kuba that he will be doing a cookery demonstration at the Surrey Food Festival in Richmond at the end of April too, so I would urge you to go along and meet this maestro in person.

Burn's Night

It's Burns' Night this Saturday, and of course lots of local pubs are celebrating with special menus, whisky tastings and more. The supermarkets and butchers are amply stocked with haggis. In fact Brown's, Twickenham's new butcher near Marks & Spencer, is even offering a free pack of 'neeps' and 'tatties' to anyone who buys a haggis there. As someone who was brought up for many years in Scotland, I have to confess that I rather like a 'haggis supper' from the local chippy but with my haggis smothered in tomato ketchup. A key part of a Burns' supper of course is the whisky that is served with it. I was



lucky enough to be given a 'wee nip' recently of Fettercairn 28 year old aged in American White Oak ex-bourbon barrels. It features notes of citrus peel and black pepper followed by tempered walnut, coffee, apricot and a touch of sweet balsamic. It was divine and very smooth.



Available from The Whisky Shop, The Whisky Exchange, Master of Malt & other leading specialist whisky stores, it's an eye watering £500 a bottle unfortunately! But they also produce an excellent 12 year old at £50 that will make a great present for any whisky afficionado.

If the Fettercairn is out of your budget, (as it is mine!) then do try a glass of Tesco Finest 12 year old Highland Malt whisky that has also been aged in American oak – it is very acceptable indeed and at £25 a bottle represents very good value.

Follow Alison on insta: @theseasonedgastronome

St Mary's University Update Former Quality Assurance Agency CEO Announced as New VICE-CHANCELLOR OF ST MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Anthony McClaran appointed as new Vice-Chancellor of the UK's premier Catholic

University

St Mary's University Twickenham is pleased to announce the appointment of former



UCAS and QAA Chief Executive Anthony McClaran as its new Vice-Chancellor. The appointment follows an extensive international search.

Mr McClaran joins St Mary's from the Australian Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) where he has served as Chief Executive since 2015. Prior to moving to Australia, Mr McClaran was Chief Executive of the UK Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) (2009-15) and Chief Executive of the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) (2003-06). He has held senior roles at the University of Hull and the University of Gloucestershire. He began his career in higher education at the University of Warwick.

Mr McClaran will succeed Prof Francis Campbell. Prof Campbell, who has served as Vice-Chancellor since 2014, is stepping down from his role at St Mary's at the end of January 2020 to become Vice-Chancellor of University Notre Dame Australia. Mr McClaran will assume his position in April 2020.

Speaking of the appointment, Chair of the University Board of Governors, Bishop Richard Moth, says, "We're delighted to welcome Anthony to St Mary's. He brings a wealth of experience of the UK and international higher education sectors which will benefit the University greatly. Anthony will help lead the university to its next stage of development, following the historic achievements under Francis Campbell's tenure as Vice-Chancellor. We have nothing but warm wishes for Francis as he moves to his new role in Australia at the University of Notre Dame."

Mr McClaran says, "I am delighted to be joining St Mary's. The University has a rich history and an unparalleled commitment to the student experience. I look forward to meeting colleagues over the coming months and helping take St Mary's forward to achieve even more for our current and future students."

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Chancellor of St Mary's University, says, "I thank most sincerely those who have worked so hard to achieve this appointment of a new Vice-Chancellor. While welcoming most warmly Anthony McClaran as our new Vice-Chancellor and assuring him of full support, I express my deepest gratitude to Francis Campbell for his remarkable achievements as the outgoing Vice-Chancellor."

St Mary's University recently achieved its highest ever position in all three of the UKbased university league tables. St Mary's has been rated as the top university in London for student satisfaction. It hosts the only faculties in the UK with the ability to offer ecclesiastical degrees, the Mater Ecclesiae College, and its long-standing Education program was recently re-confirmed as Ofsted 'Outstanding'. St Mary's is at the cutting edge of new educational developments, including accelerated degrees in technical theatre

and liberal arts, and unique study abroad opportunities.



St Mary's University Twickenham London



The next concert is on Tuesday 28th January 7.45pm

Sublime choral masterpieces

The Tallis Scholars sing unaccompanied choral music by Tallis, Byrd and Taverner

St Mary Magdalene, Paradise Road, Richmond TW9 1SN

See our website for further details

www.richmondconcerts.co.uk

RuTC Supported Learning students visit National Maritime Museum

In December, Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) Supported Learning students took a trip to Greenwich to participate in a work experience programme for Special Educational Needs learners at the National Maritime Museum.

The students' role was to help enhance the visitors' experience at the museum, particularly in the "Sea Things" exhibition. The exhibition lets visitors explore objects, such as a pocket watch worn on the Titanic or an Ancient Egyptian ship model, one of the oldest artefacts in the museum's collection.



Students learned to gather, remember and communicate facts about various displays and they helped visitors to discover objects' stories.

Gagandeep Nangpal, RuTC Supported Learning student, said, "The work experience at the National Maritime Museum allowed me to learn about many different job roles in the museum and I enjoyed talking to the visitors to improve my customer service skills."

Mistu Butler, RuTC Supported Learning teacher, said, "Museums are an excellent place for our Supported Learning students to gain valuable life experiences as well as transferable skills, such as team work and communication. Working for an afternoon for the customer service team at the National Maritime Museum built the students' confidence and allowed them to understand how different customer skills are needed in different organisations."

Christmas fundraisers at Richmond upon Thames College for Save the Children and Shooting Star Children's Hospices



Before going into the Christmas break, Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) hosted various events to raise money for Save the Children and Shooting Star Children's Hospices.

On Friday 13 December, students and staff came to college in their best Christmas jumpers and offered cakes in the refectory, raising a total of £153.35 for Save the Children. RuTC also supported their partner charity Shooting Star Children's Hospices by Christmas carol signing in the refectory on Tuesday

17 December and bake sales hosted by different departments which raised a total of £192.08.

The college thanks everyone who contributed to the donations and we wish you a happy and successful new year.



(OMPLEX AND INTENSE Long Day's Journey into Night by Eugene O'Neill

Richmond Shakespeare Society, Mary Wallace Theatre, Twickenham until 25th January

O'Neill himself did not want his *Long Day's Journey into Night* performed, or in fact published until 25 years after his death. It was his widow, Carlotta Monterey who insisted it was performed and from that point onwards it met with acclaim and success. A complex and intense work of just under three hours' length, RSS's impressive production does it full justice.

Set in the summer home of the Tyrone family on

the Connecticut coast in 1912, it is a largely autobiographical work in which the Tyrone family

of four (broadly representing O'Neill's own family) attempt to deal with what we would today call 'their issues' with almost equal degrees of success and failure. What saves them, broadly, is their love for each other and their wish to redeem each other despite all the odds.

As the title suggests, the action takes place over the course of one day, from early in the morning to around midnight the same day.

The perfectly atmospheric set, an elegant conservatory-type room, looks out onto painted sand dunes and the sea beyond.

Mary Tyrone is addicted to morphine and refusing to admit it to the family. Her husband James, formerly a successful actor, is a kind, affable man who drinks too much and spends too little

on his family. Edmund, their son, is ill with consumption. His brother Jamie is following their father into acting and also drink, but with additional womanising. The turmoil and general angst the Tyrones go through while they analyse themselves, each other and their past and possible future forms the basis of the drama.

Read Eleanor Lewis' review at <u>www.markaspen.com/2020/01/20/long-day</u>

Photography by Pete Messum







Mark Aspen www.markaspen.wordpress.com Expressing the art of the theatre critic

www.TwickenhamTribune.com

HISTORY REPEATS Ten Times Table



Anyone who has ever sat on a committee will recognise the challenges and little annoyances posed in *Ten Times Table* – the challenge of finding a convenient date for everyone for the next meeting, the freezing meeting room, the list of apologies, the budding romances and the broken marriage spilling into the meeting's purpose.



A small ill-matched group are trying to plan an inaugural pageant to bring their small town of

Pendon together and provide a summer community focus. Led by local history enthusiast Ray, they take inspiration from an obscure story of the 'Pendon 12', an uprising of farmers 200 years ago, whose only crime seems to be exuberant behaviour and throwing people into the air! Our committee is made up of ever patient Ray and his expensively dressed snobbish wife Helen, pedantic local councillor Donald and his deaf elderly mother whom he has invited along to take the minutes, permanently drunk Laurence who is drowning his sorrows and two local teachers Eric and Sophie. Not a particularly inspiring idea for a play you may think, being largely set around a committee room table, but with Ayckbourn's wickedly sharp observation of characters and situations, *Ten Times Table* turns unassuming everyday humdrum into witty entertainment.

Conflict is inevitable from the first moment Eric and Helen meet when it becomes evident that they are from opposite ends of the political spectrum. Left wing Eric quickly interprets the 'uprising' as the people suppressed by the elite, and seizes the opportunity to turn an innocent light hearted town pageant into a political rally and the Pendon 12 into latter day political heroes

Read Claire Alexander's review at www.markaspen.com/2020/01/21/ten-times



Photography by Pamela Raith



WIZ TALES Teresa Read



N M D L J

FIFA World Cup was held in South Korea (Seoul Stadium) and Japan (Yokohama Stadium). During the run up to this event I was involved with a number of organizations in Seoul looking at the history and culture of South Korea.

Members of the public relations division of the South Metropolitan Government were particularly interested in World InfoZone and very keen to promote their country. It should be remembered that at this time global communication on the internet was relatively new with Wikipedia around a year old and just finding its feet.



Contact by email was made and photographs of South Korea were

forthcoming along with encouragement from my friends in Seoul.

A few years after my initial contact with South Korea I was invited by the Ministry of Government Administration and Home Affairs of the Republic of Korea to an event in Seoul, a forum in partnership with the United Nations looking at ways of coping with globalization and rapid advances in information technology.

See invitation HERE

At the time, many governments were bringing internet innovators together from all over the world. I met with colleagues in splendid Italian government offices and the beautiful Golden Hall in Stockholm City Hall discussing some of the world's best internet projects.



It was a unique time when ordinary people from the far corners of the globe were brought together to share ideas; A genuine initiative now



fallen by the wayside.

www.worldinfozone. com/gallery. php?country=Korea

www.TwickenhamTribune.com

Church Street Goes Green & goes back to grass roots 13 & 14 June 2020.

By Bruce Lyons

In 2012 we were tasked to create some sort of event that we could include in the Twickenham Festival by Lord True (the then Leader of the Richmond Council) who ran a Summer Long series of events all around the Arcadian Thames with exhibitions in the Orleans Gallery, House and Garden Openings Partnered with Thames Landscape Strategy to create awareness of our local heritage.



As I was then, as now vice chairman of Richmond Borough in Bloom (my job was and is mainly focused on the "Street Scene" around the borough) we settle on the notion of running an environmentally Green Event and it was this that started our "Church Street Goes Green" We grassed the street for a day (the following year and ever since for two) and invited all sorts of rural community societies, allotments, Nurserymen and Garden Clubs to show their wares.

We had Hens (who had a marvellous time escaping) The Local Beekeeper Association, The Gardening Gang and Landscape Gardeners. How to Make Hanging Baskets workshops, local craftsmen with their home made Window Boxes and of course Richmond Borough in Bloom all encouraging our community to celebrate their local environment and to make more of it.

It was a wonderful day, I remember it was just perfect early summer weather and when it was all over the kids spent the evening Cart wheeling down the street. So much that we had difficulty taking it up before midnight!

Overtime the event has grown in popularity but lost a bit of its initial objectivity but this year we

are turning the pages back and going to focus on outdoors, sustainability – recycling and where we can "Zero Carbon Footprint" input. We have asked if we can get for the weekend Mark Edwards, MBE plastic boat, Poly-Mer built for "plastic fishing" expeditions on the Thames and other environmentally friendly local projects. If you have ideas please get in touch with us, we would love to hear from you . Local Residents and Be-Richmond both have groups that collect River Waste on the Draw Down in November annually – perhaps we can have a display to show this work too.

Recycled waste turned into outdoor use, maybe someone has a Green House/Hothouse built from milk bottles they could lend us and we would love to see, again, allotment clubs/ and artisans making garden furniture and window boxes and the like could all be shown to good advantage

We would like an animal corner, one year they brought Birds of Prey from a local Prison! The venue would be a good spot for local Cycling/walking and hiking clubs to talk to interested parties too

And I am on the lookout for some well-behaved Hens too , maybe a local history society could put up a display about rural wildlife – Hedge Hogs , Tortoises and Foxes and of course our resident Birds

bruce@crusadertravel.com / 020 8744 0474



Dear Editor,

Postcard Page

Love the Tribune (always read it in bed with a cuppa on a Saturday morning before starting my day) and especially enjoy your postcard section. I hope you don't mind though if I point out that the police car featured (*Edition 167*) is a Ford Anglia and not a Triumph Herald. I'm no car expert but did learn to drive in a Herald and my precious first 'decent' car in the 60s was an Anglia.

Thank you again for the excellent and enjoyable Tribune, it knocks the dreadful Richmond and Twickenham Times into a cocked hat.

Regards Dinah Bean. Twickenham resident.

Kew Gardens hit with 4.4 million spam email attacks in 2019

LONDON, Tuesday 21st January 2020 – The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew ("RBG Kew") has been targeted by a total of 4,430,960 spam, phishing or malware email attacks throughout 2019, according to official data collated by Nimbus Hosting. Of this figure, less than half (2,196,457) were rejected by RBG Kew's spam filter.

The data, which was obtained via the Freedom of Information (FoI) act, analysed results from January 2019 up to January 2020. It found that 63 per cent of all blocked emails (1,381,792), were rejected as the sender had an IP address registered to the Realtime Blackhole List (RBL). The RBL is a list of IP addresses known to regularly send out spam.

The statistics also revealed that an additional 91,881 emails were rejected due to a spam signature being detected; an additional 3,181 emails were rejected as they were believed to contain a virus.

Additionally, 11 emails were rejected for reasons relating to DMARC (Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance). This is an authentication protocol designed to protect a user's domain from unauthorised use. Often, this threatening activity is attributed to phishing attempts, email scams and business compromise attacks.

Kew Gardens is a top London tourist attraction, with its 132 hectares of landscaped gardens attracting over 2.1 million visitors every year.

Tim Dunton, MD, Nimbus Hosting comments: "It's clear that cyber attacks via spam emails are a growing concern for organisations like Kew Gardens, which manages the personal and financial data of millions of people. All it takes is for one malicious email to fall through an email systems' imperfect filtration system before an organisation must face the consequences of a severe breach of customer information. The fact that more than half of threatening emails were not intercepted, in the case of Kew gardens in 2019, is hugely concerning, particularly for the millions of London citizens and international tourists who visit the botanical gardens each year. Moving forward, Kew and indeed all major tourist attractions and organisations must ensure that they have efficient, modern cyber security protocols in place, and conduct all online operations on safe and secure IT infrastructure."

FOOTBALL FOCUS By James Dowden

BRENTFORD FC

Bees maintain unbeaten run Huddersfield Town 0 – Brentford 0

Brentford made it four games on the bounce without defeat as they were held to a goalless stalemate away against Huddersfield Town.

In a game devoid of clear-cut chances Brentford went closest through after

a late Josh Dasilva strike hit the woodwork, whilst the terriers' Karlaan grant blazed over a golden chance. Arsenal loanee Emile Smith Rowe on his Huddersfield debut also saw an effort blocked to ensure that neither defenced would be breached.

Brentford had the better on an uninspiring first half with a low drive from Said Benrahma straight down the throat of keeper Kamil Grabara. Grabara then also saved once again from Benrahma, the Frenchman's curling effort not quite far enough in the corner.

Before the interval a backheel from Kamohelo Mokotjo found Benrahma once more, but his driven effort drifted over the crossbar.

The hosts had David Raya scrambling just before half-time when a Trevor Chalobah header from a Karlaan Grant corner looked to be looping in.

The best chance of the game for the terriers then came in the second half as Grant fired over, having ghosted at the back post to find himself unmarked, after Julian Jeanvier had failed to clear for the Bees. Raya then saved an attempt from Smith Rowe as Huddersfield fought back.

Emiliano Marcondes, fresh on as a sub, combined with Benrahma to set up Dasilva, but his curling shot hit the post and away to safety. It proved to be the last chance as both teams ground out a point.

Speaking after the match Thomas Frank said. "We will find out at the end of the season whether that's a valuable point or not.

Danny [Cowley] and his coaching staff have done a really good job since they've come into the club. It's not surprising that they were well-prepared for us and that they wanted to do everything they could to close us down.

"I think Huddersfield created absolutely nothing except for one really big chance, which was for me a clear misunderstanding from my centre-back."





UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Brentford face a huge FA Cup Fourth Round tie against Premier League opposition in the form of Leicester City. The Foxes have had an excellent campaign under the guidance of Brendan Rodgers and currently find themselves in 3rd place in the league. Tickets are sold out for what could prove to be the final FA Cup tie hosted on the hallowed Griffin Park turf, but the game is being show live of the BBC with a 12.45 kick off, so why not combined it with the later Hampton & Richmond game at 3.00pm!

The Bees then face a second game in a week with a midweek game under the light against Nottingham Forest at home. Kick off is 19.45pm on Tuesday 28th January and Forest currently sit one point and one place above Brentford in fourth. With no defeats in their past five a highquality encounter promises to be in store.

Come on you Bees!

HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH

No divine intervention as Angels v Hampton postponed Tonbridge Angels P – P Hampton

Hampton's afternoon away in Kent was cancelled as their National League South encounter was postponed due to conditions at the Longmead Stadium.

The game has subsequently been rescheduled for Tuesday 25th February with a 7.45pm kick off.

Brown sent out on loan

Hampton attacker Cole Brown has been sent out on a month loan to his former club Walton Casuals in order to gain some much-needed game time.

Speaking about the changes Gary commented "We wanted to get Cole out on loan to allow him to play regular football after a season hampered by a hamstring injury. He's a valued and trusted member of the squad but going back to Walton will give him the minutes he deserves. His long-term future lies with us and hopefully he can come back to us in good shape."

UP NEXT FOR HAMPTON

Hampton face a home encounter against a St Albans City mired in a relegation battle. The Saints have picked up just one win in their past five, although that was against playoff chasing Maidstone, and so Hampton will be looking to take all three points to boost their own playoff ambitions. Currently lying in 12th the Beavers are seven points off the final playoff position, but with three games in hand the Beavers will be looking to close in.

The reverse fixture ended 1-1 and former Hampton striker Jefferson Louis, who turned out for the Beavers this season, will be looking to haunt his former employers.

Come on you Beavers!

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High Speed Two: A Progress Update

Today's report from the National Audit Office (NAO) has found that the High Speed Two railway is over budget and behind schedule because the Department for Transport (DfT), HS2 Ltd and wider government have underestimated its complexity and risk. Significant challenges to completing the programme and delivering value for taxpayers and passengers remain.

DfT's latest estimate of the cost of HS2 is between £65 billion and £88 billion (2015 prices), between 17% and 58% over available funding. The programme is still at an early stage, and costs are uncertain and could change. Full services on the entire network are now forecast to start between 2036 and 2040, between three and seven years later than originally planned.1 The target opening date for Phase One (London to West Midlands) was ambitious and set by comparison with other infrastructure programmes. DfT did not sufficiently consider that HS2 is a much larger and more challenging programme to deliver.

2036 to 2040		£65bn 18 to £88bn	
High Speed Two Limited's (HS2 Ltd's) current forecast opening date for the start of passenger services on the full High Speed Two network from London to Leeds and Manchester, via the West Midlands, although there is significant uncertainty regarding these dates		the Department for Transport's emerging estimate of the cost of the High Speed Two programme (in 2015 prices) as at December 2019. At the time of publishing this report, it is not possible to say with certainty what the final programme cost may be	number of trains an hour that are planned to run to and from London on the new railway, compared with typically between two and six trains an hour on European high-speed railways
£27.1 billion	available funding for High Speed Two Phase One to the West Midlands (2015 prices), excluding VAT. Available funding for the whole programme is £55.7 billion (2015 prices), excluding VAT		
£31 billion to £40 billion	the Department and HS2 Ltd's range estimate in November 2019 of the cost of Phase One (2015 prices). The Department proposes setting HS2 Ltd a target of delivering Phase One for £36 billion		
March 2020	date by which construction must start on Phase One of the railway to avoid further delays to the start of passenger services		
2029 to 2033	partial start of Phase One passenger services between Old Oak Common and Birmingham Curzon Street. Full Phase One services from Euston are forecast to start between 2031 and 2036		
£6.3 billion	the Department and HS2 Ltd's spend on Phase One to 31 March 2019, excluding VAT. In total, they had spent £7.4 billion on the programme to 31 March 2019, excluding VAT		

In 2013, the NAO reported that it would be difficult for HS2 Ltd to complete all work in the time available and in 2016 warned that the 2026 opening date was at risk.2 Although it was clear from 2016 that the 2026 opening date was in doubt, DfT did not reset it. Since April 2019, HS2 Ltd has been planning on the basis of a more realistic schedule for the programme.

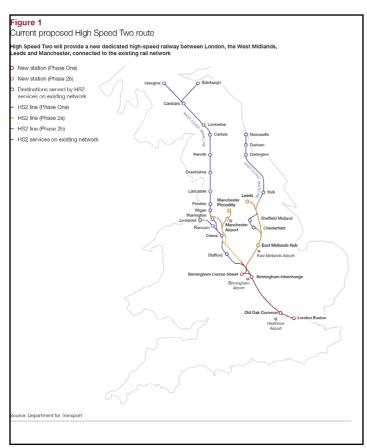
DfT, which is responsible for funding and overseeing delivery of the railway, set the available funding for Phase One in 2015, based on a basic design produced in 2013. Since then, forecast costs have increased on all parts of Phase One except the purchase of new trains. DfT and HS2 Ltd now estimate Phase One to cost between £31 billion and £40 billion, £3.9 billion to £12.9 billion more than its available funding.

HS2 Ltd did not account for the level of uncertainty and risk in the programme when estimating the costs of Phase One in April 2017. It used a method for calculating contingency that was not appropriate for a programme at such an early stage of development. The £7 billion of contingency was not enough to address the significant cost increases that emerged. DfT and HS2 Ltd committed to Parliament to meet certain requirements, such as increasing

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24th January 2020 - Page 33

the length of tunnelling and erecting noise barriers.3 Some of these requirements have contributed to the increased cost of Phase One. Some may also restrict contractors' ability to avoid costs in construction and increase the challenge of delivering the railway.



By not fully and openly recognising the programme's risks from the outset, DfT and HS2 Ltd have not adequately managed risks to taxpayer money. They have tried to understand and contain costs but have been unable to bring them within the available funding, or enable passenger services to start by the planned opening date.

HS2 Ltd has undertaken a significant and unforeseen amount of work to agree a new cost and schedule for Phase One. It considers that the additional time taken has helped to protect the scheme's overall value for money by giving it more time for scrutiny and applying lessons learned.

DfT and HS2 Ltd have made progress with their preparations to start construction on Phase One.4 HS2 Ltd also now has greater confidence in its cost estimate for Phase One but it will need to manage risks that could cause costs to

further increase. Main construction has not yet begun and approximately 50% of the costs in its estimate are less certain because they are not yet based on contracts agreed with industry. HS2 Ltd's revised terms for the civil construction contracts are sensible, but will require strong management.

Phase Two of the programme is at a much earlier stage than Phase One but is already forecast to cost more than its available funding and take longer than expected. HS2 Ltd's current forecast for when passenger services would run on Phase 2a (West Midlands to Crewe) is between 2030 and 2031, and for Phase 2b (Crewe to Manchester and West Midlands to Leeds) is between 2036 and 2040, three to seven years later than planned. DfT estimates that costs for Phase 2a could be £6.5 billion (87% higher than the available funding) and Phase 2b £41 billion (63% higher than the available funding).

The NAO makes a series of recommendations to government, DfT and HS2 Ltd covering the robustness of cost and schedule estimates, the capabilities needed to manage a programme of this scale and the oversight arrangements required for the remaining phases. Gareth Davies, the head of the NAO, said today:

"There are important lessons to be learned from HS2, not only for the Department for Transport and HS2 Ltd, but for other major infrastructure programmes. To ensure public trust,

the Department and HS2 Ltd must be transparent and provide realistic assessments of costs and completion dates as the programme develops, recognising the many risks to the successful delivery of the railway that remain."

View full report <u>HERE</u>

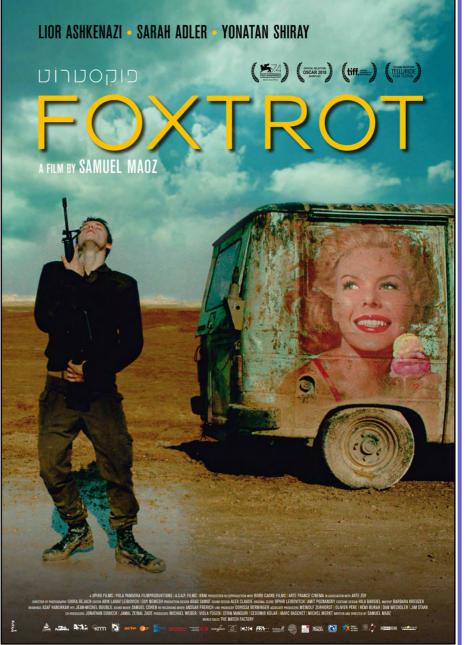
Richmond Film Society's 57th Season of World Cinema continues at The Exchange, Twickenham

4th February 2020, 8.00pm **'Foxtrot' (Israel)**

A moving and complex study in grief. An affluent Tel Aviv couple are informed by the Israeli military authorities that their son has died in the line of duty. Several hours later, they are notified that there has been a mix-up....

www.richmondfilmsoc.org.uk

Non-member tickets are £5 (full-time students £3) and can be purchased in advance from The Exchange's Box Office (subject to a cap of 70) - in person, by telephone on 020 8240 2399 or online at www. exchangetwickenham.co.uk/ events/ . A further 50 or so tickets will be available to purchase on the door on the night of screenings (cash only) on a 'first-come-first-served' basis.



Films are shown at 8.00pm sharp on alternate Tuesdays (no trailers and no ads) and are screened at The Exchange, 75 London Road, Twickenham, TW1 1BE. On screening nights, the Bar is open from 7.00pm and remains open after the film. Drinks can be taken into the auditorium and coffee, tea and snacks are also available. Film notes are provided for each screening and audience feedback is obtained via response slips.



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