

Twickenham & Richmond **TRIBUNE**

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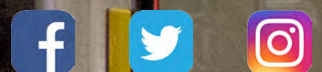
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The new Twickenham Station
Photo by Berkley Driscoll



TickerTape - News in Brief

Have your say on parking in Strawberry Hill, South Twickenham and Teddington

A review of the existing Strawberry Hill, South Twickenham and Teddington Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) has been launched to ask residents and businesses for their views and opinions on current parking conditions.

The feedback will be used to assess how the parking scheme is working and whether any changes should be made to improve its operation. The review also seeks feedback from residents and businesses outside of these CPZs to see whether they would wish to see parking controls introduced.

This review takes into account all comments received, including petitions, from the area over recent years.

Residents and businesses will receive a letter and questionnaire through their letterboxes. Details of the consultations and online versions of the questionnaire are available if needed:

- [Teddington/Strawberry Hill Parking Study](#)
- [Teddington Parking Review](#)
- [Strawberry Hill Parking Review](#)

Please note that the Council is considering the relocation of the [Elleray Hall Social Centre](#) to the former depot and North Lane (East) car park site.

The consultations end on **Friday 6 March 2020** so make sure you have your say before then.

Rail Crossing Collision

On Sunday 26th January a road vehicle collided with level crossing barriers between Barnes and Richmond, blocking all lines running through these stations.

Council Cancels Unpopular East Sheen Traffic Plans

The consulted-on options for a Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) in East Sheen will not be going ahead, following a detailed period of engagement with residents in the area. There were over 1,593 responses to the consultation. The response was clear that residents did not support any of the four proposed schemes, the existing experimental measures or even a consultation on a proposed CPZ. Therefore, at the Transport and Air Quality Committee last night (Monday 27 January 2020), members agreed not to move forward with the proposal and remove the current experimental measures.

The Committee agreed that for at least the next 12 months, it will not deploy any major Low Traffic Neighbourhood highway changes in the area and residents are encouraged to use the moratorium to discuss the traffic issues more extensively and if appropriate, propose alternative traffic arrangements for the area. If such proposals come forward the Council will consider them against their policies and budgets.



TwickerSeal couldn't believe it ... Twickenham Station was open! (Mostly). At least you can access the station through the main entrance again, nestled below the plastic-clad high-rise of luxury apartments.

TwickerSeal was a bit perturbed by the 'Twickenham' signage at the front, which seemed more like 'TWICKERHAM', thanks to the poorly designed placement of the window frames.

There has been a great deal of TwitterChatter about the station's opening, with much comment about the lifts being closed at times (apparently due to testing), so the fanfare of the 'fully accessible' station was possibly premature. There has also been concern expressed about the WCs being closed at 8.30pm. There was, however, excitement that an 'M&S Food To Go' had opened adjacent to the station entrance, although it seems to close at 9.30pm.

TwickerSeal was a bit puzzled why there weren't more ticket gates, which seemed similar in number to the old station.

With the high-rise apartments at the station development nearing completion, the massive Mortlake Brewery development having just received planning permission and the recent application for a six-storey housing development opposite Twickenham station at Old Station Forecourt it seems that cramming in housing is the name of the game. At least we have the Twickenham Riverside site, which can be kept for community, activity and leisure use and free from housing development ... oh, er, hang on ...!



PART 164 - HOW ARTISTS WELCOMED THE PICTURE POSTCARDS BOOM.- C.J.LAUDER

The Postcard

Page

By Alan Winter

In 1894 the advent of picture postcards changed the world. For the first time, ordinary folk had the ability



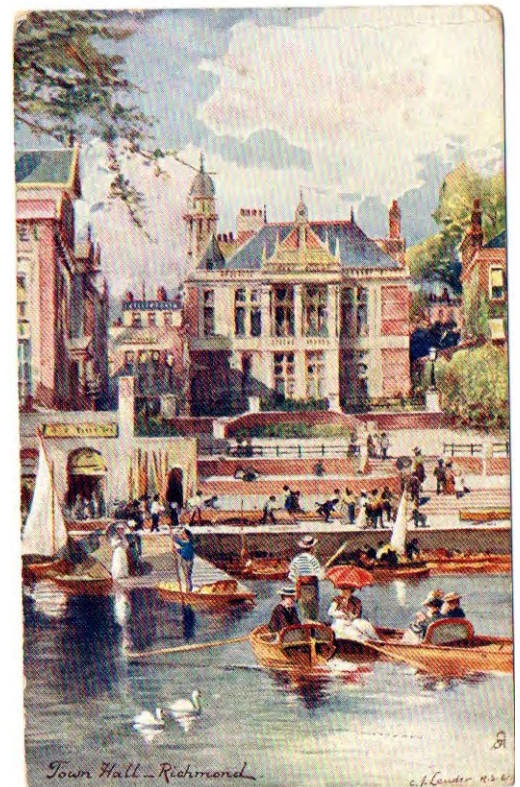
to write a message and send a postcard anywhere in the UK for the cost of a halfpenny stamp. Invariably the postcards were delivered the next day and so this new form of speedy communication had a massive effect. Business orders, advertising, invitations, greetings cards and arrangements to meet began dropping through the nation's letterboxes in multiple millions. Picture postcards could also be sent anywhere in the world for the price of a one penny stamp. By the time King Edward VII took the throne following Queen Victoria's death in 1901, postcards were the largest source of domestic and global communication.

For the benefit of younger readers I should point out that telephones and computers were not in everyday use in Edwardian times and the main source of one to one communication was to shout over the garden fence!

Printers and publishers soon grasped the opportunity to build a massive new business stream and set about commissioning images and pictures for the non- message side of the postcard. Local photographers had hit a seam of gold and most towns had a few photographers capturing local scenes and events that appeared as postcards in the local shops within hours.

Enter the artist! A number of artists started travelling the country and selling their landscape and topographical artwork to the postcard publishers of the day. Thus postcards were either printed from artwork (mainly in Germany where the best printing facilities were up until the First World War in 1914) or they were real photographic images taken by local photographers.

One such artist was Charles James Lauder (1841 – 1920) who was quick to recognise this new source of income from the postcard publishers. He painted landscapes and architectural subjects. He was the son of a portrait painter, studied in Glasgow, and began to exhibit as a member of the Royal Society of British Artists at Suffolk Street in 1890.





There are examples of his work on postcards from many parts of the UK and also from his travels to Venice and Florence. He quite obviously spent some time in Richmond as shown in this week's three postcards. The postcards I have chosen were posted in 1907 and so Charles Lauder would have been sitting at his easel by Richmond Bridge about 113 years ago.

The first postcard shows the stairs at Richmond Bridge in a scene that hasn't really changed at all.

The second shows the Town Hall with the Castle Hotel to its left, boathouses on the riverbank and a very animated rowing scene in the foreground which suggest the painting was made in the summer.

Charles must have walked around the corner to the Green to paint the Old Palace Yard on the third postcard.

TEDDINGTON POSTCARD FAIR NEXT SATURDAY 8th FEB 10.00 – 4.00

Charles Lauder's original Edwardian Richmond postcards as featured in this column will be for sale on my stall among many old postcards from our neck of the woods at the fair 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. Admission only £1.00.

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 alanwinter192@hotmail.com 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.

WEST LONDON POSTCARD FAIR

including STAMPS

TEDDINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Church Road, Teddington TW11 8PF

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 8th 2020

10.15am - 4pm

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*Refreshments *Admission £1.00

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Theatre

Sunday 23 February to Saturday 29 February (Sunday at 4pm and Monday to Friday at 7.45pm) Teddington Theatre Club presents *The Revlon Girl* by Neil Anthony Docking at Hampton Hill Theatre. A heart-wrenching story of how lipstick brings hope to a group of bereaved Aberfan mothers.

Music

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.

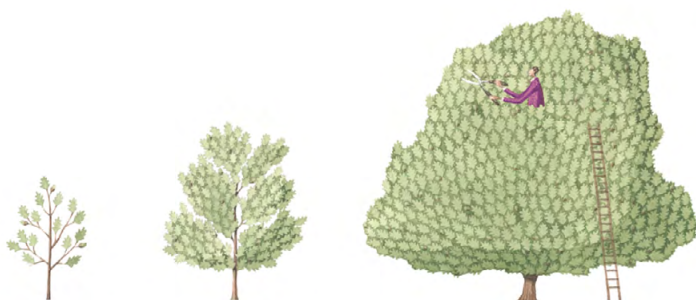
Exhibitions

'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 Sandycombe 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 advertise@twickenhamtribune.com for further information.



The Tree Agency

darryl parkin

The Treehouse
25 King Edwards Grove
Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9LY
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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

Section Secretaries (to whom entries should be made)

Instrumental: Pamela Frazer, pam@fra3zer.demon.co.uk

Piano: Sue Thornton, suethornton101@virginmedia.com Assistant Piano Secretary: Kay Aldridge

Vocal: Judy Hildesley judyhildesley@btinternet.com

Speech & Drama: Emma-Louise Tinniswood richmonddramafestival@gmail.com

Closing dates for Receipt of Entries

Piano - January 19th 2020

Vocal & Speech & Drama - January 31st 2020

Instrumental - February 8th 2020



General enquiries - info@richmondfestival.org.uk



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



We are spirits of another sort ...

Twickenham Station – open for business!

Richmond Council welcomes the opening of Twickenham Station, providing a modern, first class gateway to the borough for residents, commuters and businesses.

In December 2011, Richmond Council’s Planning Committee granted planning permission for a proposal by Solum, an external developer, to improve the station.

Work commenced in the Spring 2017. Now, three years later a new, modern station has been built on a podium over the main rail lines. This has enabled a new and improved entrance to a relocated ticket office, providing direct access to the platforms via steps and lifts. Construction has also nearly finished on retail units around the open plaza.

Whilst the station entrance has now opened, the work is still ongoing, with the final phase of the redevelopment estimated to be completed in the Spring 2021. This will include new station car parking, taxi pick up, 150 additional cycle racks to be provided with a new cycle store integrated within the building and additional homes at the side of the site.



To support the development, outside the station, the Council has completed new widened pavement, a new signal crossing built directly outside the new station entrance, new bus stop/shelter and taxi facilities.

Cllr Alexander Ehmann, Chair of the Transport and Air Quality Committee and Richmond Council, said:

“Our Twickenham station is finally open! I would like to thank all the neighbouring residents for their considerable patience and understanding while the works were ongoing. I know it has been tough over the past few years – but the improvements to the station were much needed, including the absolutely vital upgrades to accessibility.”

“Having a first-class station for the community in Twickenham and for our many visitors, is vitally important. Every year hundreds of thousands of people arrive at Twickenham station and now their first impressions of Twickenham will be as positive as the experiences they go on to have in our wider community.”

Solum is a partnership between Network Rail and Kier Property that was established to bring private investment into the rail network by generating funds from the development of under-used railway land.

Dear Sir

Station Road Twickenham

A great many years ago residents raised concerns about the dangerous right angle bend around The Albany Pub, Station Road, Twickenham. This had come about due to a failure of the Council Planning Department to take enforcement action following building works at the Pub. For the past eight years residents have been promised improvements to make this bend safer for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians. This bend became even more dangerous when Sir Richard Reynolds School opened in Clifden Road, resulting in more foot and vehicular traffic navigating this dangerous corner. In 2018, it seemed that finally something was being done. Proposals were drawn up and residents consulted. Paul Robinson, the Senior Engineer in charge of the scheme then left the Council. And didn't tell residents. So back to the drawing board. Another year went by and residents tried again. New proposals were drawn up and residents consulted. Then nothing.

Network Rail in the meantime, sold off a small triangular strip of land nearby to Solum, on which they plan to build 46 flats to be sold at market rates (note no affordable or social housing whatsoever). At a drop-in session to see the plans, I was told that as part of the proposals, they wanted to help with improvements around The Albany Pub. Some cynical folk might assume that the applicant hopes this generous offer will be well received when their planning application is considered and Richmond Council saved the cost of the works....

Anyone wishing to see and comment on the Solum on Thames plans can follow this link: http://www2.richmond.gov.uk/lbrplanning/Planning_CaseNo.aspx?strCASENO=19/3616/FUL

It is now a month into 2020 and no further word on any improvements around The Albany. I expect it will take a fatality before anything is done. Don't say we didn't warn you.

J. Hill

Twickenham

A ROOM WITH A VIEW

Africa and Europe from a penthouse veranda at the Elliott Hotel, Gibraltar



<http://worldinfozone.com/features.php?section=Gibraltar>

Planning Committee makes decision on major Mortlake application

Richmond's Planning Committee reviewed three applications last night proposing the redevelopment of Mortlake Brewery – the biggest development site in the borough. The three applications were submitted by Brewery site owners Reselton Properties Limited who have developed plans for a mixed development consisting of residential, community, recreational and commercial uses.

The first application (Application A) incorporated a master plan for how the site would be developed – including residential units, a cinema, hotel, care home, pedestrian and cycle routes, on-site cycling provision and new public open space, amenity and place space. The Maltings would be retained and sit adjacent to a new plaza looking out over the River Thames, a linear park would be created linking this to Mortlake Green.

The second application (Application B) considered proposals for the erection of a three-storey building to provide a new secondary school with sixth form; Sports pitch with floodlighting, external MUGA and play space; and associated external works including, landscaping, car and cycle parking, new access routes and associated works. The school (The Livingstone Academy West London) would be provided by The Aspirations Academies Trust, a leading free school provider in the UK. It received approval (subject to Planning Permission) by the Department for Education, due to a change in the future demand for secondary school places in the area.



The third application (Application C) proposed the reconfiguration of Chalkers Corner traffic junction, to include existing public highway and existing landscaped and informal parking area associated with Chertsey Court, to facilitate alterations to lane configuration, a new cycle lane, works to existing pedestrian and cycle crossing, soft landscaping and replacement boundary treatment to Chertsey Court.

Members of the Planning Committee spent over five hours reviewing the applications, hearing from the community, ward councillors from East Sheen, North Richmond and Mortlake and the developers. The Committee then deliberated the planning merit of each application. They particularly considered how the proposals delivered against planning policy, the 2011 adopted Planning Brief for the site and the Local Plan.

Specific concerns discussed included the environmental and sustainability impact of the development, particularly the loss of trees, loss of the playing fields and pollution caused by an increase in traffic. Members also discussed the impact of the development on nearby existing properties and community, for example Chertsey Court.

Following a robust discussion, members voted against Application C as the Committee felt it was unacceptable due to the loss of the open space and trees at Chertsey Court, unneighbourly to residents of Chertsey Court and did not feel it was required to facilitate Applications A and B, which were positively received. Members felt many details of the scheme would need further consideration and imposed requirements on the developer to submit those before any development begins.

Now the Planning Committee has resolved to make its decision, Richmond Council is required to refer the approved applications to the Mayor at the Greater London Authority. He will decide whether to allow the local Planning Committee decision to stand, to direct refusal, or to take over the applications as the Local Planning Authority.

Following this, the Local Planning Authority must refer Application A to the National Planning Casework Unit (Secretary of State), in response to the quantum of commercial floorspace proposed outside a town centre, who will decide whether planning permission should be granted.

Is “Consultation” Just Pot-Luck?

Teresa Read

You may have seen Council information relating to “consultation”; a word which may not mean the same to residents as for our Council.

As a member of the Twickenham Riverside Stakeholders Group it is obvious that those invited to meetings are not totally representative of the many who have an interest in Twickenham Riverside. However, the Council did make an effort to speak to school pupils and I understand that the 7-year olds at St Mary’s took part in the Twickenham Riverside consultation enthusiastically. At this age children are keen to participate in projects but as a teacher I can confirm that their understanding might not always be as acute as it should be for such an important issue.

Of course, the Council did carry out an internet and paper consultation for Twickenham Riverside last year but it seems that our councillors and council officers went ahead and made their decision without letting residents know what everyone had said. One wonders why our views need to be withheld for so long. Surely in an open consultation there should be a sharing of information before the deed is done?

We are all no doubt aware that Twickenham Riverside is not the only contentious consultation issue in our Borough.

Many of our readers live in Teddington and the future of Elleray Hall has been an issue the Tribune has highlighted on a number of occasions. Once again it seems that “consultation” information may not be as readily available as one would expect.

LBRuT councillors are involved in the consultation process but how much do they know about their area compared to many long-term residents?

As many of us are aware councillors come and go, we just need to look at Twickenham Riverside to see that is true. We keep hoping they will be voted out before too much damage is done but it seems it is all a matter of “pot luck” with little real community involvement.

..... And, of course, there was the consultation on 20 mph.



20mph rollout continues at pace

Roads in Richmond upon Thames are set to be safer for all road users as the phased roll-out of a borough-wide 20mph continues. The new speed limit has now been rolled out in eighty percent of the borough.

Following a consultation last year, which had 10,000 responses, it was agreed a 20mph limit would be implemented across the borough, excluding TfL red routes, as well as parts of the A305, A308 and A310.

To make the implementation of the scheme as simple as possible, the borough has been split into 24 areas, which follow natural boundaries e.g. river/railway etc. Since August signage has been rolled out in each area. To see each area view the schedule map.

Completed areas are:

- R1 - R5: Kew
- R6: North Richmond including Parkshot
- R7: North Richmond around Manor Road (Sainsbury's area)
- R8: Mortlake area including Mortlake High Street
- R9: Barnes Area
- R10: Mortlake and East Sheen area
- R11: East Sheen area
- T1: Hampton area
- T2: Hampton area
- T3: Teddington and Hampton Wick
- T4: Hampton Court Road
- T5: West Twickenham area
- T6: Part Hampton Wick/Teddington/Twickenham
- T7: Hampton Wick area (Broom Road)
- T8: Twickenham and St Margaret's (in part)
- T9: Heathfield and Whitton (in part)
- T10: Whitton (in part)



When signage is installed it is initially covered. However, when the area is complete, the covers are removed and the 20mph limit formally goes live in that area, and is therefore enforced. In certain key locations e.g. near schools, there will also be road markings.

Officers are working hard to remove any remnants of previous 30mph speed limit signage in each area. However, if you notice signs that you believe conflict with the new 20mph signage, please report these locations to 20mph@richmond.gov.uk.

Cllr Alexander Ehmann, Chair of Richmond Council's Transport and Air Quality Committee, said: "This change will make our streets safer for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians. We hope that improving safety levels will encourage people to leave their cars at home and travel instead by bike or on foot. If we can reduce the number of vehicles on our roads then not only will our streets be quieter and safer but there should also be an improvement in local air quality levels. Drivers are reminded that when the covers for signs are removed, the 20mph is live and therefore subject to enforcement. If you see signage for 20mph, please do drive with this speed limit in mind."

Read more about the [20mph rollout](#).

Never Mind - Never Mind - Never Mind

By:TwickWatch

Tired of elections? YES! Tired of hearing from candidates only a month or two before they want your vote? YES! Do you bother to check their past successes or broken promises? NO! Do you wait until you suddenly start to get leaflets and canvassing calls, from the people many feel you rarely hear from the rest of the time? YES! Can't be bothered! – don't have time! – “[add your own excuse/s here!]”



The Mayoral and London Assembly elections are due to be held on Thursday 7 May 2020. Candidates will be announced on Friday 3 April 2020. More information about these elections can be found on the [London Elects website](#).



It seems a lot of voters cast their vote on party lines like lemmings without much thought as to the important duties and responsibilities they are handing over to their elected representatives. Shouldn't we be looking at each candidate's previous record if any, their future potential, their integrity and the abilities they have to offer? Have they previously let voters down, failed to live up to previous promises, stood as a candidate to truly help people to the best of their ability, or attain personal status?

There are several weeks to go in which you can think of questions you seek answers to, such as policing, housing, environmental issues etc. Invest the time so that you are ready to ask candidates their views and policies for future change. Go on – surprise them!

The Mayor's job is to make London *a better place for everyone who visits, lives or works in the city*. This ranges from developing policies to setting budgets, from overseeing major programmes to championing London around the world – all in line with the Mayor's vision and in the interests of London and Londoners.

The London Assembly is made up of 25 Members - 11 represent the whole capital and 14 are elected by London's constituencies. The 14 constituencies are made up of two or more local authorities, for example; Barnet and Camden make up one constituency. You can [see all the Assembly constituencies on this map](#).

The Mayor of London and the London Assembly represent people living in the 32 boroughs of Greater London, and the City of London. The Mayor of London has the power to make decisions in the following areas, therefore your vote is important.

- arts and culture
- economic development
- the environment
- fire and safety
- healthy living
- policing
- transport
- urban regeneration

The London Assembly keeps a check on what the Mayor is doing. It also investigates issues of importance to Londoners, publishes its findings and recommendations, and makes proposals to the Mayor. They champion Londoners' concerns by investigating important issues and pressing for changes to national, Mayoral or local policy. They also have the power to reject strategies and make changes to budgets when two-thirds of Assembly Members agree. The Mayor is questioned by the Assembly 10 times a year at Mayor's Question Time.

The Mayor of London and the London Assembly make up the Greater London Authority (GLA). It has around 600 staff to help the Mayor and Assembly in their duties. The London Assembly has 25 Assembly Members. 14 of these represent constituencies, which are made up of two or more London boroughs. The other 11 members represent London as a whole.

When you vote in the Mayor of London and London Assembly elections, you have up to four votes. For each vote, you mark a single cross (X) in the box next to the name of the candidate or party you want to vote for.

You can't be all things to all people.

In the end, there doesn't have to be, anyone who understands you. *There just has to be someone that wants to.* Elections belong to the people. People have marched, fought, died and shed endless tears for you to be able to vote. Even if you dislike all of the candidates, maybe vote for the one that you dislike the least!

To vote in the Mayor of London and London Assembly elections you must be registered to vote in London/Greater London and be 18 years of age or over on polling day. You must also be:

- a British or Irish citizen, or
- a Commonwealth citizen, who has leave to remain in the UK or who does not require leave to remain in the UK, or
- a citizen of another European Union country (The Electoral Commission confirm this is still applicable in May 2020).

People in the Borough should [contact the electoral services team at Richmond Council](#) to check if they're already on the register. Postal voting, however busy your life is, gives everyone the opportunity to vote - so why not apply and register for it?

Further information is also available from the [Electoral Commission](#).

Will you be sticking your head in the sand and not voting, or placing your tick at the ballot box without a thought?

START YOUR DREAM JOB WITH AN APPRENTICESHIP AT THE ROYAL PARKS

The Royal Parks is looking for seven horticultural apprentices to help them care for some of the most historic and well-loved parks in the UK.

Coinciding with the start of National Apprenticeship Week (3-9 February 2020) aspiring gardeners can now apply to work in iconic locations such as Hyde Park and Greenwich Park. The successful applicants will be based in one of London's eight Royal Parks four days a week, and study at Capel Manor College in The Regent's Park on the remaining day.

The scheme typically lasts three years, and apprentices study for the Horticulture Landscape Operative Standard, which includes modules such as plant identification and soil science. In their final year, they can study for the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Level 2 Certificates in Horticulture.

As part of their studies, apprentices will also have access to the state-of-the-art Hyde Park Nursery, which grows over 450,000 plants for all eight Royal Parks. Here they will learn about propagation and have a hand in growing the parks' eye-catching flowerbed displays.

In 2019, apprentice Aimee Spanswick, 35, left her job as a Customer Services Administrator, to follow her dream of working in the horticultural industry. "My parents cultivated a love of the land and encouraged me from a young age to grow simple vegetables and flowers," she said. "In my mid-twenties my passion intensified, and I became particularly concerned about the vegetables I was buying. I was lucky enough to acquire an allotment when I lived in Northampton where I learnt about the importance of soil health and prevention of pests and diseases.



"Before hearing about the Royal Parks Apprenticeship Scheme, I couldn't see a way into horticulture for an unqualified gardener in London as most vacancies required at least two years' experience. This scheme offers me a regular income and a hands-on approach to study, getting me to the level required to pursue a career relatively quickly."

The highly successful scheme dates from the 1960s with many of its apprentices going on to secure employment within The Royal Parks, or other prestigious locations such as Kew Gardens and Buckingham Palace.

Dennis Clarke, Head of Park Services at The Royal Parks, said: "Our apprenticeships are open to all - school leavers, people who want a career change and even those already working in the horticultural industry. We are looking for candidates with a passion for horticulture, a hunger to learn and a commitment to excellence.

"In return, we are offering the opportunity to work in world class parks, have access to horticultural experts, and have the chance to study for recognised qualifications, making this the perfect springboard for a successful career in the horticulture industry."

Deadline for applications is 15 March 2020. Apply via www.royalparks.org.uk/apprenticeship

SEBI'S STORY

By Julie Hill

On Saturday 14th September 2019, the Pattison family's world fell apart. Whilst out on a walk in Hatherop Park Hampton TW12, their beloved 12 week old whippet / Italian greyhound puppy Sebi disappeared. Thorough searches of the area, including using heat seeking equipment and drones proved fruitless and it soon became apparent that Sebi had been stolen. The Police were contacted, Sebi was listed as stolen on various websites and a Facebook page "Sebi Stolen TW12" set up. The public got behind Karen's campaign and word of Sebi's theft reached far and wide, with support coming from the USA and other countries.

Endless searching, sharing of Sebi's stolen poster, tweeting, postering and leafleting followed and appeals put out on radio and TV. On 31st December Karen put out this post on the Facebook page:

"We couldn't let the year end without thanking each and every one of you for all the amazing things you have done for us over the last three months. Sharing, liking, postering, leaflet dropping, printing, research, offers of puppies and money, group admins allowing us to post on sites not really meant for us, late night calls, the kindest of messages of support, searching the streets with us, sitting in fields overnight with us, offers of cars when ours was stolen, you name it, we have been offered it all by our incredible friends old and new..."

We will NEVER give up searching for our Sebi."

The public didn't give up either and so the sharing, tweeting, searching online animal selling sites etc. continued. Sebi's family endured many cruel hoax calls from people purporting to have Sebi, which made his disappearance even harder to bear for the family and especially her young son who had been badly affected by the theft of his beloved furry friend and having believed that Sebi was found, he had bought toys for his puppy. Their family car, containing a newly printed supply of posters was also stolen.

In the New Year, a new approach was formulated and on Tuesday 28th January the most wonderful news was announced on Sebi's page:

"Hi everyone, SEBI IS HOME..."

For operational reasons, details of Sebi's return will not be released, but despite being underweight and exhausted, Sebi is otherwise very well and his family paid tribute to all those who helped:

"To the new amazing team Amanda Higham, Karen Clark, Stella McColl, Anne Green, Kate Alaina who worked with Karen Harding, took just 3.5 weeks to get our boy home safely. Without you amazing ladies sharing info, trusting each other and working as a team- this wouldn't have come off...."

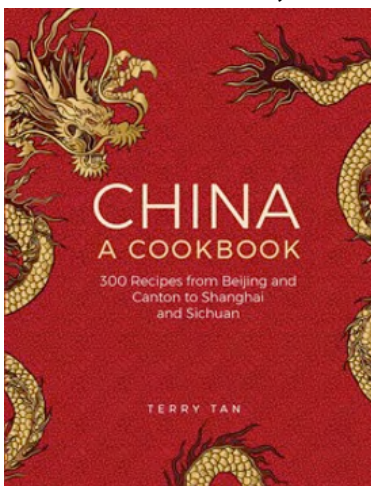
The biggest thanks goes to you all for your sharing and support and sticking with us through the darkest of days. I will never be able to thank you as much as you deserve. You are truly amazing. With all our love, from a very happy, exhausted and complete little family."

Photographs and quotes courtesy of Karen Pattison



IT'S THE YEAR OF THE RAT...AND ALL THAT!

Of course Burns' Night and the Chinese New Year coincided last weekend just when I wanted to share with you a fabulous new book by Terry Tan: *China A Cookbook*. Terry, Singapore-born Chinese, was brought up with a family kitchen perfumed by the scent of intoxicating herbs and other aromatic ingredients. When he came to the UK in the early 1980s to run a restaurant, he found a public that assumed all Chinese food was smothered in sweet-and-sour sauce! Luckily, things have moved on since then, and most of us are aware of the regional differences in Chinese food, be they Cantonese, Sichuan, Beijing or Shanghai schools of cooking. In his fabulous tome, the culmination of his many years of research and culinary experience, Terry explores, uncovers and examines what makes an area's food unique. And also how it links to the rest of China, in terms of history, tradition and, of course, flavour.



I love the fact that the book has lots of simple, but delicious, recipes, and most of them using ingredients which we can easily obtain today in our supermarkets or online. He lists in detail the various ingredients and utensils used in Chinese cooking. But actually, many of the recipes don't even call for much more than some soy sauce, and a few ingredients that most self-respecting foodies will have to hand anyway!

The book is also a mini travelogue with stunning photography and appetite-inducing food shots. It has just been published by Lorenz and at £25 for a 600+ page hardback, would make a great present.

Here are a couple of recipes from the book that demonstrate how easy and delicious Terry's dishes are, and with leeks being so good at the moment, the second one makes a lovely meat-free (even Vegan) supper dish:

CHICKEN WITH WALNUTS (SERVES 4)

Although they do not appear often in Chinese cooking, walnuts are a particular favourite of the northern regions, as they are farmed widely there. The indentations in walnuts make an attractive contrast to the smoothness of sliced chicken, and they soak up the rich yellow bean sauce beautifully. This Shandong dish has influenced the cuisine of Guangzhou, where chicken is fried with cashew nuts. This is a fairly sweet dish because of the inclusion of Chinese maltose, which is normally used as a rub for Peking Duck. Use clear honey if this is unavailable.

- 115g/4oz walnuts
- 15ml/1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 3 garlic cloves, sliced
- 400g/14oz skinless chicken breast, cut into 1cm/½in cubes
- 5ml/1 tsp sugar
- 5ml/1 tsp rice vinegar
- 15ml/1 tbsp Chinese maltose or clear honey
- 15ml/1 tbsp yellow bean sauce
- shredded lettuce, to serve



1. Wash and drain the walnuts, removing any excess skins. Heat the oil in a wok and fry the garlic for 2 minutes, or until golden brown.
2. Add the chicken and stir-fry for 2 minutes. Add the walnuts and sugar, then stir-fry until the walnuts are slightly caramelized.
3. Add the rice vinegar, maltose or honey, yellow bean sauce and 75ml/5 tbsp water, then stir vigorously until the sauce is fairly thick and the chicken and walnuts are well coated. Serve immediately, on a bed of shredded lettuce.

Variations • You can replace the walnuts with diced carrots, celery or water chestnuts, if you like. • You could also use cubed pork or duck in place of chicken.

FRIED LEEKS WITH HOT SAUCE (SERVES 4)

In markets all over Beijing, vegetable vendors sell stacked heaps of leeks, many with damp soil still clinging to the roots, amongst other local produce. Leeks are a member of the allium family, with garlic and onions, and share much the same pungency. In southern China, they are eaten for symbolic reasons: in the Cantonese dialect, the word for 'leeks' rhymes with the word for 'count', so it bodes well for prosperity. In northern China, however, they are popular merely for their delicious taste and texture, both of which are showcased in this dish.

- 4 leeks, white parts only
- 30ml/2 tbsp vegetable oil
- 15ml/1 tbsp chilli paste
- 15ml/1 tbsp light soy sauce
- 2.5ml/½ tsp sugar
- 15ml/1 tbsp Shaoxing wine or dry sherry
- 5ml/1 tsp cornflour



- 1 Slice the leeks, diagonally, into pieces 2.5cm/1in wide. Wash them in plenty of cold water to remove any soil that often clings to the insides of the white stalks. Drain thoroughly.
- 2 Heat the oil in a wok and, when smoking, add the leeks. Stir-fry over high heat for 2 minutes. Add the chilli paste, soy sauce, sugar and wine or sherry, and stir-fry for a further 2 minutes.
- 3 Blend the cornflour with 60ml/4 tbsp water and add to the wok. Stir until thickened slightly, then serve hot.

Cook's Tip: Wash the green parts of the leeks thoroughly to remove any dirt, then use them to make vegetable stock, if you like. Use 100g/3¾oz leeks to 200ml/7fl oz 1 cup water.

Follow Alison on insta: [@theseasonedgastronome](https://www.instagram.com/theseasonedgastronome)



I visited St Lucia towards the end of 2004 where I met participants in the World InfoZone worldwide country project. St Lucia is a lovely Caribbean island, ceded to the UK in 1814, gaining independence in 1979.

On my return the St Lucia Tourist Board wrote the following about my article linked to the WIZ country information: "This is probably the most accurate depiction of St. Lucia I have ever come across. You have managed in one very superb piece to tell the truth about St. Lucia." - However, I cannot claim the credit for this comment as the article ended with a quotation from [Nobel Prize winner] Derek Walcott's poem:

"The Caribbean is not an idyll, not to its natives. They draw their working strength from it organically, like trees, like the sea almond or the spice laurel of the heights. Its peasantry and its fishermen are not there to be loved or even photographed; they are trees who sweat, and whose bark is flmed with salt"

It is Sir Derek's famous poem which tells the truth about St. Lucia – and the photographs.

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





Jack and the Beanstalk

by Jackie Howting

Edmundian Players at Cheray Hall, Whitton until 25th January

One of the joys of reviewing pantomimes is that there is no need to relate the familiar story. However this adaptation of *Jack and the Beanstalk* did contain one or two novel twists and characters which delighted the audience.

Written specially by Jackie Howting to reflect the energy and enthusiasm of the young cast, three-quarters of whom were aged fourteen or under, was energetically directed and choreographed by Jessica Young. Jessica was also the scenic artist for the show, producing striking, modern and colourful back cloths for the many scenes. She was ably supported by musical director Wiz Baker, whom one suspects was responsible for the effective and fearsome



the Giant's footsteps and snores. The sound and lighting for the beanstalk and the demise of the Giant were very evocative and resulted in gasps from the younger members of the enthusiastic audience.

Somewhat surprisingly, the colourful opening revealed a beach on a Greek island where Jack (Charlie McMaster) and his mother Dame Trot (Dave Young) were on holiday with a group of young

children who formed a strong and well drilled chorus. Dave's pastiche of the song *Price Tag* demonstrated once again his locally-famed skill as a pantomime dame.

On our return we were introduced to Dash (Gary Evans) and Joe (Becky Halden), the Giant's Debt Collectors, and to Bertha Blunder (Ellen Walker-DiBella) with a penchant for pizzas and a comically terrifying laugh. All three actors played an entertaining part in the action, as they struggled with various mishaps and difficulties.

One of the stars of this panto was Daisy the cow, expertly steered by Kayleigh Spencer and Isabel Espi. In the Giant's Castle we met the Housekeeper (Theresa McCulloch) and plenty of other animals. The Rats (Imogen Goddard, Aoife Kingsland, Saoirse Kingston and Evie Nunn), deftly demonstrating their prowess in Irish dance, stayed in character throughout, as indeed did young Evelyn Schaapveld as the Golden Hen, who had extreme difficulty in laying the requisite number of golden eggs!

Read Mary Stoakes' review at www.markaspen.com/2020/01/25/jack-bean

Photography by Juliette Wait





Amadeus

by Peter Shaffer

Teddington Theatre Club at Hampton Hill Theatre until 31st January

In the years between 1781 and 1791 Vienna is at its zenith of European musical influence. Antonio Salieri has been honoured with the position of Court composer. Into this rigid and rarefied atmosphere the young Mozart bounds into town, ready to make his name. But Mozart is a spoilt toddler and his behaviour turns heads.

Amadeus is essentially the story of Salieri's growing jealousy of Mozart and his attempts to block his path to success in the court hierarchy, but the play is



so much more than that. The story is told from Salieri's perspective, largely recounted in recall thirty years later. Suffering from dementia, he struggles not only with his own personal sense of injustice, but with his relationship with God.

This story, and Salieri's struggles, are clearly and empathically told. In the character of Salieri, Steve Taylor is outstanding, particularly effective as the old man, close to death. Steve gives us a sympathetic, thought-provoking and intelligent performance.

There are powerful moments as he is overcome by Mozart's genius when he hears the *Serenade for Wind* for the first time. Ian Kinane equally gives us a measured and touching performance of Mozart avoiding overacting the child too much, and draws us slowly and compellingly into his journey into poverty with increasing desperation.

Helen Geldert, as Katherina Cavalieri (one of the leading sopranos of the time), boldly steps up to the challenge of singing the fiendishly difficult *Queen of the Night* aria from [The Magic Flute](#). This was exhilarating singing! Trine Taraldsvik as Constanze Weber, Mozart's wife, was touching at the end as she grieved over her dead husband and tried to keep his name alive by selling his manuscripts priced by the number of notes!

Read Claire Alexander's review at www.markaspen.com/2020/01/27/amadeus

Photography by Sarah J Carter





Carmen

by Georges Bizet, libretto by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halevy
English National Opera at the London Coliseum until 27th February

ENO's revival of Calixto Bieito's 2012 *Carmen* by-passes the sultry image of an angry dark-haired beauty in the title role for a much different character, played by Justina Gringytė the Lithuanian mezzo-soprano, who is unashamedly blonde. However, one messes with the basic production of *Carmen* at one's peril. The main



focus should be on the four central protagonists. How those roles are interpreted is the core of any performance. It seems

pointless, for example, to make Lillas Pastia's bar a Mercedes car, which only serves to distract.



Valentina Peleggi, conducting, opened the overture at a cracking pace, and although the rest of the music didn't seem rushed, it all seemed symptomatic of a fast paced modern world that doesn't suit the atmosphere of *Carmen*.

As for Carmen herself, the passion that Justina Gringytė has clearly brought to the role in the past, was missing here, and the famous arias that send shivers down the spine in other productions, seemed disappointingly lifeless. Her lover Don Jose (Sean Pannikar) and the bullfighter Escamillo (Ashley Riches) were very strong as the jealous lovers, but like real lovers they needed more from Carmen herself.

The interplay and performances of Mercédès (Samantha Price) and Frasquita (Ellie Laugharne) worked very well, providing a good basis for the wild gypsy atmosphere, which did come across well, but Don Jose's fiancée Micaëla (Nardus Williams) lacked definition.

The show was stolen by the remarkable dance of the young girl (Sofia Pang) Subsequently she flitted among the drunken adults like a restraining fairy, bringing a welcome innocent contrast to their behaviour, despite constantly being chivvied away

Read Nick Swyft's review at
www.markaspen.com/2020/01/30/carmen-eno

Photography by Richard Hubert Smith



TRAVELLER'S TALES 64

HOLIDAY MEMORIES

Doug Goodman recalls some memorable holidays



Steam Train to Istanbul

I can just remember one of my early holidays: it was to a corner of Kent at Greatstone where my parents had a bungalow on the beach. They had been holidaying there with my older brother since 1945 and we continued to have family holidays until 1960. I remember the sand dunes with the remains of rusty barbed wire, a wrecked aircraft accessible at low tide through the oily sand and bits of shrapnel from the AA guns. Lydd airport was nearby with Bristol Freighters lumbering overhead transporting cars to France. On one holiday across the Channel we loaded the Morris Minor into the big plane at the start of a visit to the Alps. Steam trains from Ashford chugged past and each holiday we had to go to New Romney station to collect the luggage which had been put on a train at Clapham Junction because the Morris had insufficient space for four people plus suitcases. I took great delight at travelling on

the Romney Hythe and Dymchurch narrow gauge railway which ran 15 miles from Hythe to Dungeness. At this lonely spot wooden shacks and old railway carriages used as holiday homes were spread across the shingle. A climb to the top of the lighthouse provided a magnificent view of the Channel and the ships passing very close to the coast. It's a flat land with flocks of hardy sheep, old churches, tales of smuggling and the history of the Cinque Ports.



Greatstone Holiday at age 4



Greatstone in 1949



De Gaulle's Citroen



Bath Time

Today much has changed. There's an atomic power station, a new lighthouse and many more houses. Derek Jarman's house awaits funding for its preservation and the garden he created attracts visitors. Greatstone remain a small holiday resort: the dunes have retreated, the shingle has spread and the bungalow has been extended. But on occasional return visits the happy memories of childhood holidays come rushing back.

HOLIDAY MEMORABILIA

We all take photos on holiday and bring back mementoes. Apart from photos and souvenirs from happy holidays there are many things to remind us: postcards, travel documents, old passports with strange stamps, guide books and other souvenirs. At 12 I made my first trip to France and what struck me about Paris were the fashionable clothes and how modern the cars looked. In the mid -50s we were still recovering from war-time restrictions and the cars being produced in the UK were of pre-war designs. The new DS19, launched by Citroen in 1955, was a stunning, revolutionary vehicle. De Gaulle was ambushed by terrorists in his DS19 in 1962

but escaped injury. The original is on display at the De Gaulle museum in Colombey les Deux Eglises in the Champagne region. As a student I travelled throughout Europe and was leader of a British Council sponsored study group to Russia. A train journey through Eastern Europe to Moscow took three days and was fascinating. I later spent time in Leningrad studying and enjoyed Russian history and literature. To date I have made 25 visits to the country. Organising the first package tours to The Soviet Union in the mid-70s was a privilege and travelling to Northern Russia, Central Asia and Siberia gave me a wonderful insight into the Russian way of life.

Other adventures were a visit to Egypt and to Finland's Arctic Circle by Concorde and returning from Istanbul, after a five day train journey, on the supersonic aircraft. Several trips to China in the 80's, before the country opened to tourism and when foreign visitors were a great curiosity, were experiences not to be missed. It was strange being in a place where I did not understand a single word of the language. Being in charge of a group of western press to The People's Republic had both advantages and disadvantages. We received VIP treatment but as guest of honour at banquets sitting next to a minister, mayor or local host I was always served the 'choice' items from the menu. Sometimes it's better not to know what you are eating! But bat pate, seagull eggs, tortoise and sea slugs were offered and had to be consumed with relish.



Red Square



Holiday souvenirs



Old Passports



Old Travel Documents

BATH TIME

The highlight of a visit to Karnataka in South India, where we stayed in a log cabin by the Cauvery River, was the chance to study the working elephants, mix feed for them and then join the beautiful creatures in the river at bath time. Open-air food markets were always the most enjoyable and probably safest places to eat: I carried chop sticks or a spoon, cardboard plates and only drank liquid from an unopened container. Not once was I ever ill. And markets of any sort are such fun as I'll cover in the next Traveller's Tales.

I hate to consider the size of my carbon foot print caused by hundreds of flights over the past decades: over 200 to Mallorca alone. But the next holiday will be by car to Normandy followed by a train journey to somewhere in Eastern Europe. I try to stay in family run hotels, buy locally produced food and souvenirs and meet local people as often as possible. I'll continue to take photos, buy postcards and guide books and make notes about my trips which come in very useful when I'm asked to write about happy holiday memories.



Concorde in Finland

Borough View

By Graeme Stoten



Following the frost laden path through Sidmouth Wood in Richmond Park where abundant Silver Birch glisten in the early sunlight and deeply cut shadows intersect the lovely winding path and then to finally emerge

to overlook Leg-of-Mutton pond and a thawing landscape.

Outstanding community performances at Richmond upon Thames College's annual IGNITE Dance Show

On Wednesday 22 January, Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) hosted its annual IGNITE Dance Show, where the college's students and groups from the boroughs of Richmond, Hammersmith, Kingston and Hounslow performed various dance styles.

Hannah Fryer, RuTC Performing Arts teacher, said, "IGNITE is such an important and special event. This is its eighth consecutive year and we welcomed nine groups to perform with us this year alongside Richmond upon Thames College's dancers, who gain an invaluable experience to network with other members of the performing arts community."



Dance groups that performed at the sold out show included Kew Dance Arts, Twickenham School Dance Company, St James Youth Dance Company, Tiffin Dance Company, The MV Academy of Performing Arts, High Street Tap, Boundless Dance Company, BalletBoyz Youth Company and Babel School of Dance. Dancers of all ages impressed with a jazz number, tap performance, lyrical and contemporary techniques.

Marc Dodi, Head of Creative Industries at RuTC, said "IGNITE brings together the community of the local area, whilst showcasing the brilliant talent of our learners at Richmond upon Thames College. The joyous and energetic atmosphere from the sold out auditorium was matched by the passion and enthusiasm of the performers."



**Richmond upon
Thames College**

Clarendon School opens new Sensory Room thanks to The Cabbage Patch 10

The Cabbage Patch pub in Twickenham raised £15,000 for Clarendon School through the 2019 Cabbage Patch 10, enabling the school to build a new sensory room in its Secondary Centre, named The Sensory Patch.

Clarendon, part of the Auriga Academy Trust, is a day school in Twickenham for pupils aged 4-16 with moderate learning difficulties and additional complex needs.

The Sensory Patch, which was officially opened on 17 January, includes various interactive lighting and projectors designed to help develop gross motor skills and promote engagement using cause and effect programmes, UV light, and specific resources to aid literacy and numeracy skills.

John Kipps, Head Teacher at Clarendon School, said: *"We are enormously grateful to The Cabbage Patch. Our new sensory room, designed specifically for our secondary pupils with input from therapists and other specialists, will enable us to give our pupils excellent sensory experiences and to develop their skills in this area."*



"The school has had an ongoing partnership with The Cabbage Patch, and with the organisers of the Cabbage Patch 10, for more than 30 years and have received many generous donations over that time. These have allowed us to continue to offer a broad, rich and varied range of activities for our pupils, and to ensure that these vulnerable pupils can access the facilities and opportunities they deserve, beyond the classroom."



Stuart Green, Manager of The Cabbage Patch, said: *"The first year of The Cabbage Patch 10 raised £30 for the school. As the race has grown, so has the money raised. This year we reached £15,000 and we are extremely proud to have been able to raise this for a school we hold very dear to our hearts."*



"We have always championed, campaigned and raised awareness and funds for Clarendon School, and it was always our aim to do something big for them once we raised enough money. We were originally going to buy the school a minibus, but they were in desperate need of a sensory room, which once built, would be far more beneficial for the development of some the pupils."

"Witnessing the official opening of The Sensory Patch was one of the most humbling experiences of my career. It was so lovely to see the difference that you can make. I know it will help so many of these kids to develop, and that does bring a tear to your eye."

The Cabbage Patch 10 started in 1982 and has raised more than £150,000 for the school over the years.

St Mary's University Update

St Mary's Athletes Selected for National University Championships

Athletes from the Endurance Performance Centre at St Mary's University, Twickenham have been named in a 12 strong squad to take part in the British Universities & Colleges (BUCS) Cross Country Championships, which are taking place in Holyrood Park, Edinburgh on Saturday February 1st.

The top three runners in each of the men's and women's long course races will qualify for the World Junior Cross Country Championships in Marrakesh in Morocco in March if their countries enter the competition.

All of the St Mary's squad are from its Endurance Performance Centre programme. Four men and four women from St Mary's will take part in the team event with the remaining squad members taking part in a mixed relay.

The St Mary's squad includes the recently nominated European Athlete of the month Anna Møller and Izzy Fry.

St Mary's University Athletics President Daniel Jarvis said "The whole squad are excited about taking part in what will be a series of four very challenging races. The two short course races will be first and followed by the two long course races and it's from these that the runners will be looking to qualify for the World Junior cross Country Champs.

"On a personal note this will be my only my second time running at the event as I cracked my ribs last year and in 2018 I was suffering from glandular fever. With the support of our coaches Craig Winrow and Mick Woods the squad's and my own preparation this year have gone pretty well and I'm hoping to put that all behind me and put in a good run and help our team deliver a strong performance."



Men's A Team

Cameron Allan
Tom Butler
Ellis Cross
Dan Jarvis
Luke Prior
Abdi Sharif

Women's A Team

Becky Briggs
Izzy Fry
Phoebe Law
Anna Moller



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London



BRENTFORD FC

Bees cup run comes to and end Brentford 0 – Leicester City 1



Brentford played out their final ever cup game at Griffin Park as they went down by a single goal to Premier League Leicester City.

Both teams were much changed, as the national conversation continues about the perceived value of the cup competitions to Premier League and Championship teams, with eighteen changes across both starting XI's.

In a lightening quick start to the cup tie Foxes were unlucky not to open the scoring within the very first fifteen minutes. A Dominic Thompson clearance was charged down in the left fullback channel as the ball fell invitingly to Kelechi Iheanacho. Iheanacho fed Ayoze Pérez but the Spaniard, having skipped past Luke Daniels, was denied by an excellent last-ditch tackle from Luka Racic.

On four minutes Leicester made their fast start count as they took the lead through Iheanacho. Dennis Praet played a beautiful driven pass along the ground from midfield to find James Justin who whipped the ball into the box, and Iheanacho tapped home from close range.

Iheanacho was proving a handful upfront for Leicester as he fired a shot at Daniels having escaped the clutches of the Bees defence.

Brentford did hit back though and had chances of their own as Foxe's goalkeeper Danny Ward saved a shot from the cup hero of the previous round Jan Žamburek. Ward then also had to be alert as he got fingertips to a strike from Thompson to divert the ball past the post.

The Bees could have gifted Leicester a second when Mark Albrighton headed over after the defence was caught napping. Pérez had initially been played through from midfield, but the Spaniard's shot was saved well by Daniels. The subsequent rebound looked to have been dealt with by the Bees defence but pressure from Damari Grey forced a mistake as Albrighton ghosted in but to the relief of the home support he could not convert.

Heading into the second half Brentford pressed for an equaliser and could have found it through as a Halil Dervişoğlu hit the post from Emiliano Marcondes cross which had beaten Ward in goal for Leicester. Christian Fuchs then prevented Joel Valencia on the follow up.

Brentford press in the latter stages for the goal but it ultimately proved elusive. Bryan Mbeumo had the ball in the net to the roar of the Griffin Park faithful, but the offside flag was raised to deny Brentford a replay in the Midlands.

Bees falter against Forest at home Brentford 0 – Nottingham Forest 1

Brentford lost their six-match winning run in the league at Griffin Park come to an end as they went down by a single goal to fellow promotion chasers Nottingham Forest.

The opening of the game was played for the majority in Brentford's attacking third, but they failed to truly capitalise and lacked a clinical edge that saw few serious chances created. Forest keeper Brice Samba did well to hold a delivery from Bryan Mbeumo had Rico Henry had a sliced effort drift well wide.

Forest then took in lead in somewhat fortuitous circumstances. A corner was initially cleared by the Bees, but the ball found its way to Joe Lolley on the edge of the penalty area. His strike then deflected in past David Raya, having taken a deflection from Julian Jeanvier.

Nottingham Forest, having taken the lead, decide to sit back and absorb pressure whilst attempting to play on the counterattack. Despite this Brentford could have levelled the scores when Ollie Watkins shot from distance when Said Benrahma was in a great deal of space and one on one with the goalkeeper.

Mbeumo then saw a shot blocked by the Forest defence and the Dane Christian Nørgaard couldn't score having latched onto a cross from his fellow countryman.

In the second half Forest's counter attacking style played into their hands and had a number of chances. Lewis Grabban had the best of these, but he failed to convert when inside the penalty area. Grabban then headed off target from a Lolley cross.

Emiliano Marcondes, fresh on as a substitute for the Bees, tested Samba with a late free kick, but Forest ground out the result for three points.

Speaking after the game Brentford head coach Thomas Frank said, "Forest are a good side and they are where they are for a reason. They are well organised and set out to make it scrappy from minute one.

"When you see them timewasting so early you know you have done something good at Griffin Park. They paid us a lot of respect and didn't let us get any tempo in the game.

"We knew they were a good team and it would be a tight game, but we didn't have enough of that quality we usually do, so we can only blame ourselves."

UP NEXT FOR BRENTFORD

Brentford face a Saturday lunchtime kick off as they travel up to the banks of the River Humber to take on Hull City in another Championship encounter. The Tigers are currently sitting comfortable in mid table and have lost their past three in a row. As we head into the final seventeen league games of the season people are starting to begin to look at potential final fixture run ins and so Brentford can ill afford to drop points. The league encounter back in August finished 1-1 with Ollie Watkins cancelling out an early Hull strike and so the Bees will be looking to him again to provide a spark.

Come on you Bees!

HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH

Hampton eased past the Saints

Hampton 2 – 1 St Albans City

The Beavers came from behind to grind out a crucial victory against St Albans courtesy of first half strikes from Luke Ruddick and Ryan Hill cancelled out an early Zane Banton strike for the visitors.

The visitors, belying their lowly league position, started on the front foot and were ahead inside seven minutes through Zane Banton. The forward produced a fine finish having controlled the ball on his chest to fire past a helpless Dan Lincoln.



However, Hampton had then game completely reverse inside thirty-one minutes. Firstly, captain Luck Ruddick stepped up to react quickest after the ball had broke loose in the box.

A quick counterattack from Hampton then saw Ryan Hill round the St Albans keeper Dean Snedker to continue his vein of impressive form this season.

Jake Gray for Hampton and Rohdell Gordon had efforts before the interval but neither led to further changes in the score line as the Beavers when into the changing rooms ahead.

Dan Lincoln produced an excellent save to deny Scott Shulton early in the second half, but Hampton fought back and should have sealed the game late on. Danilo Orsi-Dadomo, ever so reliant in front of goal this season, had a one on one chance against Snedker but he elected to try and guide the ball past him rather than try a chip and the Saints made save well. St Albans pressed late on, but Hampton held firm to pick up a valuable three points ahead of the most crucial month of the season for their playoff aspirations.

Inform Rebels defeat Hampton

Hampton 1 – 2 Slough Town

Hampton could not make it a second home win four days as the were defeated by high-flying Slough Town. The Beavers had taken an early lead, but they were punished by a poor second half in which the Rebels showed just why they have one defeat in their past ten in the league.

Captain Luck Ruddick made it two goals in two games as he popped up to be the unlikely goal scorer once again for Hampton. Having opened the scoring against St Albans on Saturday the defender produced a remarkably similar finish after the ball dropped to him from a set piece delivery.

The Beavers backline held resolute in the first half and Slough's first real attacking play of note came via Warren Harris, but Dan Lincoln produced a smart save with his feet to keep the Beavers ahead.

After the Break a former Hampton man Ben Harris returned to haunt his former club as his low driven free kick drew the sides level

In a complete momentum swing from the first half the Rebels were in control and just minutes later a corner proved Hampton's downfall as George Wells converted after the Beavers had failed to clear.

It could and should have got worse for the hosts and within a minute Slough had been awarded a penalty. Matthew Lennch was fouled for the visitors, but Harris could not find the goal for his brace from the spot, missing the target.

In the later stages Orsi-Dadomo had the ball in the net but the goal was disallowed for offside. Jack Turner then denied Jake Grey late on but neither side could score to ensure Slough completed the league double over Hampton.

UP NEXT FOR HAMPTON

Hampton face is yet another home encounter as Hungerford Town made the journey down the M4 to the Beveree. The Crusaders are mired in a relegation struggle and a currently languishing at the bottom of the table, six points from safety. They have only won one of their last five, although that dud come last time out against a decent Chelmsford City side and so they will have their tails up for this one.

The reverse fixture ended 2-1 to Hampton at Bulpit Lane and current Hampton striker Danilo Orsi-Dadomo is due to come up against his former side, ready no doubt to show his form from throughout this season.

Come on you Beavers!

Guinness Six Nations: England squad announced to play France

England men's head coach Eddie Jones has confirmed his 25-man squad that has travelled to Paris ahead of England's 2020 Guinness Six Nations match against France on Sunday (KO 3pm UK time, live on BBC).

Luke Cowan-Dickie, who returned to England for family reasons on Tuesday evening, will re-join the squad in Paris on Friday with Jack Singleton standing down from his earlier call up.

In addition, Joe Launchbury, apprentice Alex Mitchell and Anthony Watson have travelled with the squad.

Watson won't be considered for selection due to an injury (calf) he was carrying before coming into camp.

England men's squad (25)

Forwards

Luke Cowan-Dickie (Exeter Chiefs, 21 caps)
Tom Curry (Sale Sharks, 19 caps)
Charlie Ewels (Bath Rugby, 12 caps)
Ellis Genge (Leicester Tigers, 14 caps)
Jamie George (Saracens, 45 caps)
Maro Itoje (Saracens, 34 caps)
George Kruis (Saracens, 41 caps)
Courtney Lawes (Northampton Saints, 81 caps)
Lewis Ludlam (Northampton Saints, 6 caps)
Joe Marler (Harlequins, 68 caps)
Kyle Sinckler (Harlequins, 31 caps)
Will Stuart (Bath Rugby, uncapped)
Sam Underhill (Bath Rugby, 15 caps)
Mako Vunipola (Saracens, 58 caps)

Backs

Elliot Daly (Saracens, 39 caps)
Ollie Devoto (Exeter Chiefs, 1 cap)
Owen Farrell (Saracens, 79 caps)
George Ford (Leicester Tigers, 65 caps)
George Furbank (Northampton Saints, uncapped)
Willi Heinz (Gloucester Rugby, 9 caps)
Jonathan Joseph (Bath Rugby, 47 caps)
Jonny May (Leicester Tigers, 52 caps)
Ollie Thorley (Gloucester Rugby, uncapped)
Manu Tuilagi (Leicester Tigers, 40 caps)
Ben Youngs (Leicester Tigers, 95 caps)



EU Exit: the Get ready for Brexit campaign

In a report, published today, the National Audit Office (NAO) has found that the government's Get ready for Brexit campaign made the public better aware of some of the things they might need to do ahead of the UK leaving the EU on 31 October 2019. However, it is not clear that the campaign led to the public being significantly better prepared. The campaign was launched on 1 September 2019 and was stopped on 28 October 2019 after the government and the EU agreed an extension to the UK's membership of the EU to 31 January 2020. Its objective was to ensure that everyone was prepared for leaving the EU on 31 October.

£100m	£53m	£46m
the budget for the Get ready for Brexit communications campaign (August 2019 to March 2020)	planned campaign expenditure to end of October 2019	actual campaign expenditure to end of October 2019
1 September 2019	the launch date of the Get ready for Brexit campaign	
28 October 2019	the date the campaign was stopped following agreement to extend UK membership of the EU to 31 January 2020	
6 weeks	the time taken to design and develop the communication campaign, between the appointment of the new Prime Minister and the campaign launch on 1 September	
34%	the percentage of UK citizens, based on a weekly survey, who have looked or have started to look for information, at the time the campaign was stopped, broadly unchanged from the beginning of the campaign	
73%	the percentage of people that recalled the campaign when shown an advert, based on a weekly survey	

The Cabinet Office had overall responsibility for the campaign. The need to communicate multiple messages to multiple audiences, amid great political uncertainty, made this a complex campaign to deliver. It quickly assembled a dedicated team to work closely with departments to integrate messages from across government, and appointed contractors to help design, develop and deliver the cross-government campaign. The campaign was launched within six weeks of the start of the planning stage – the Cabinet Office's own guidance expects government TV campaigns to be worked-up five months before launch.

In its business case, the Cabinet Office presented four campaign options of increasing scale from “do nothing” to spends of £15 million, £60 million or £100 million. The £100 million option was selected but the Cabinet Office's business case did not demonstrate increased impact for the

proposed spending on the air campaign compared to the lower-cost alternatives. This option comprised two components¹:

- An ‘air campaign’ to encourage people to identify what steps they might need to take to prepare. It included advertising through TV, radio, digital and other outlets.
- A ‘ground campaign’ to encourage people to take specific actions in 26 priority areas. It included non-digital activity such as roadshows and stakeholder events.

Most of the spending was allocated to the air campaign despite the business case identifying that it was the “on the ground activity” that would get people to act. Only the £100 million option included spending on an extensive ground campaign.

At the point the campaign was stopped, £46 million of the £100 million budget had been spent. The Cabinet Office estimates that the campaign reached 99.8% of the population and that each member of the public had the opportunity to see the adverts 55 times. According to a survey commissioned by the Cabinet Office, 58% of people could recall the campaign and 73% recalled it when shown an advert. However, the proportion of UK citizens who reported that they have looked or have started to look for information, did not notably change. It ranged between 32% and 37% during the campaign and was 34% when the campaign stopped.

There was a plan for measuring achievement of just two out of the 26 priority actions that departments wanted citizens and businesses to take and performance reports referred to some but not all of the 26 actions. There were signs that action was being taken on some priority areas such as passport renewal applications and international driving permits issued, which increased during the campaign, though the Cabinet Office did not assess this against what was likely to be needed.

Gareth Davies, the head of the NAO, said today:

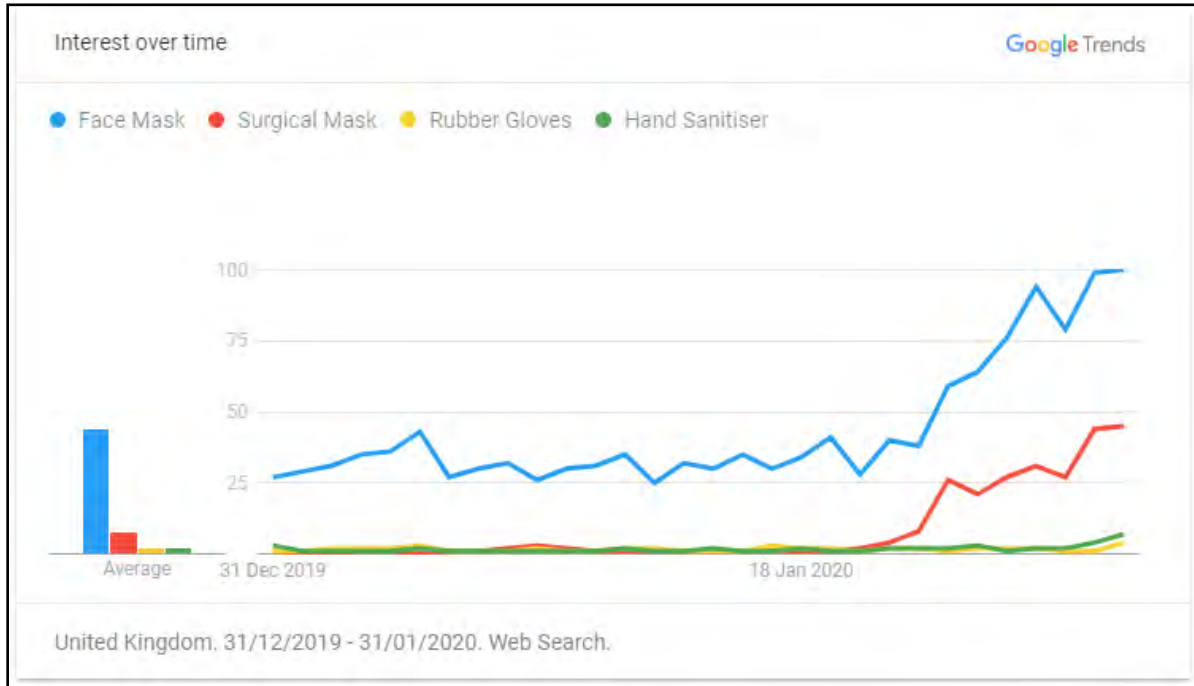
“At short notice, the Cabinet Office successfully corralled multiple government departments to work together effectively and launched this complex campaign at great speed. However, it is not clear that the campaign resulted in the public being significantly better prepared. If the Cabinet Office faces a similar challenge in the future, it should, from the start, focus much more on what impact is needed and how best to deliver the behaviour change required by government, targeting spending on the activities that are likely to add the greatest value.”



National Audit Office

Why you need to protect yourself against Coronavirus now

- Since two coronavirus cases have been confirmed in the UK, Google searches for face masks has increased by 88% over the past month
- England is showing the most anxiety around the highly infectious respiratory illness, followed by Wales and Scotland
- Coronavirus has killed at least 213 people so far, with almost 10,000 cases reported across China and 98 cases in another 18 countries



Following the news this morning that two cases of new respiratory infection Coronavirus have been confirmed in the UK, search trend analysis by digital agency Blueclaw reveals that face mask sales are set to increase exponentially.

Despite Professor Chris Whitty's, chief medical officer for England, reassurances that "the NHS is extremely well-prepared to manage infections", Brits are clearly preparing for the worst.

It's no surprise that coronavirus has sparked a flurry of searches for face masks - earlier in the week, sales of surgical masks began selling out at pharmacies in Seattle, leading concerned Americans to use stockpile resources in New York and Los Angeles,

The majority of the searches have come from England, with the two confirmed cases being treated in a specialist centre in Newcastle.

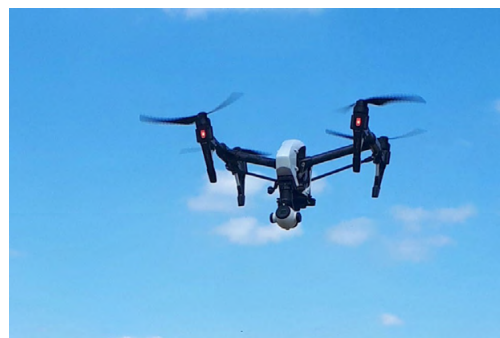
Coronavirus is a new respiratory illness that has not yet been seen in humans - the NHS classed the risk of getting the illness in the UK as low, but this could change if diagnoses rise.

To avoid coronavirus, the NHS is urging concerned Brits to stay indoors and avoid contact with other people, and call NHS 111 if they or someone they know has recently travelled from China - where the virus broke out.

With nearly 150 million Chinese residents reported as travelling abroad in 2018 and some 120,385 Chinese students currently living in the UK, it was arguably only a matter of time before coronavirus reached Brits.

New powers for the police to enforce drone laws

- Police will have the power to land, inspect and seize an unmanned aircraft thanks to new legislation
- New stop and search powers around airports and prisons will help tackle illegal drone use, and those breaking the law could face on the spot fines
- Drone users will still be able to obtain permission to fly drones for purposes such as photography and surveying



The Government has acted to give police forces across the country new powers to tackle the misuse of unmanned aircraft, including drones, as the Air Traffic Management and Unmanned Aircraft Bill has its second reading in Parliament today (Monday 27 January).

The legislation will give the police new powers to land, inspect and seize drones if an offence has been committed and a warrant is secured.

Drone users could also face an on the spot fine for certain offences such as failing to provide evidence that they have the correct permissions and exemptions if found to be flying their device too high or too close to buildings, or failing to provide evidence of competency or registration.

The Bill will also grant the Transport Secretary new powers to ensure that airports modernise their airspace, delivering quicker, quieter and cleaner journeys. Modernising flight paths and the infrastructure of the sky will help reduce CO2 emissions from aviation, minimise noise for those near flight-paths and improve punctuality for passengers.

Transport Minister Baroness Vere said: *“Drones have incredible potential, whether that’s by transforming how we move goods around or saving lives in search and rescue missions. Most people using drones want to do so responsibly, and we encourage them to familiarise themselves with the law. We are confident these police powers will be used proportionately to both deter careless drone use and to tackle serious, malicious criminal activity.”*

The Bill will also give the police new stop and search powers around airports, prisons and other restricted areas. It will amend the Police Act 1997 to allow the police and senior prison authorities to authorise the use of counter-drone measures to combat illegal drone use. This is just the latest action from government to ensure drones and other unmanned aircraft are used safely and responsibly. In October 2019, the Government published its “Counter-Drone” Strategy and in November 2019 it became mandatory for operators of small unmanned aircraft to register themselves and take an online competency test, with 80,000 having registered so far.

Security Minister Brandon Lewis said: *“This Bill is a vital part of the Government’s strategy to tackle the illegitimate use of drones and protect the UK’s growing drone industry. For the UK to establish itself as a global leader in this exciting technology it is vital that police have the powers to crack down on those who intend to use drones to cause harm or disruption.”*

The Government is also reviewing the UK’s approach to tackling the malicious use of drones, including testing and evaluating counter-drone technology.



Department
for
Transport

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

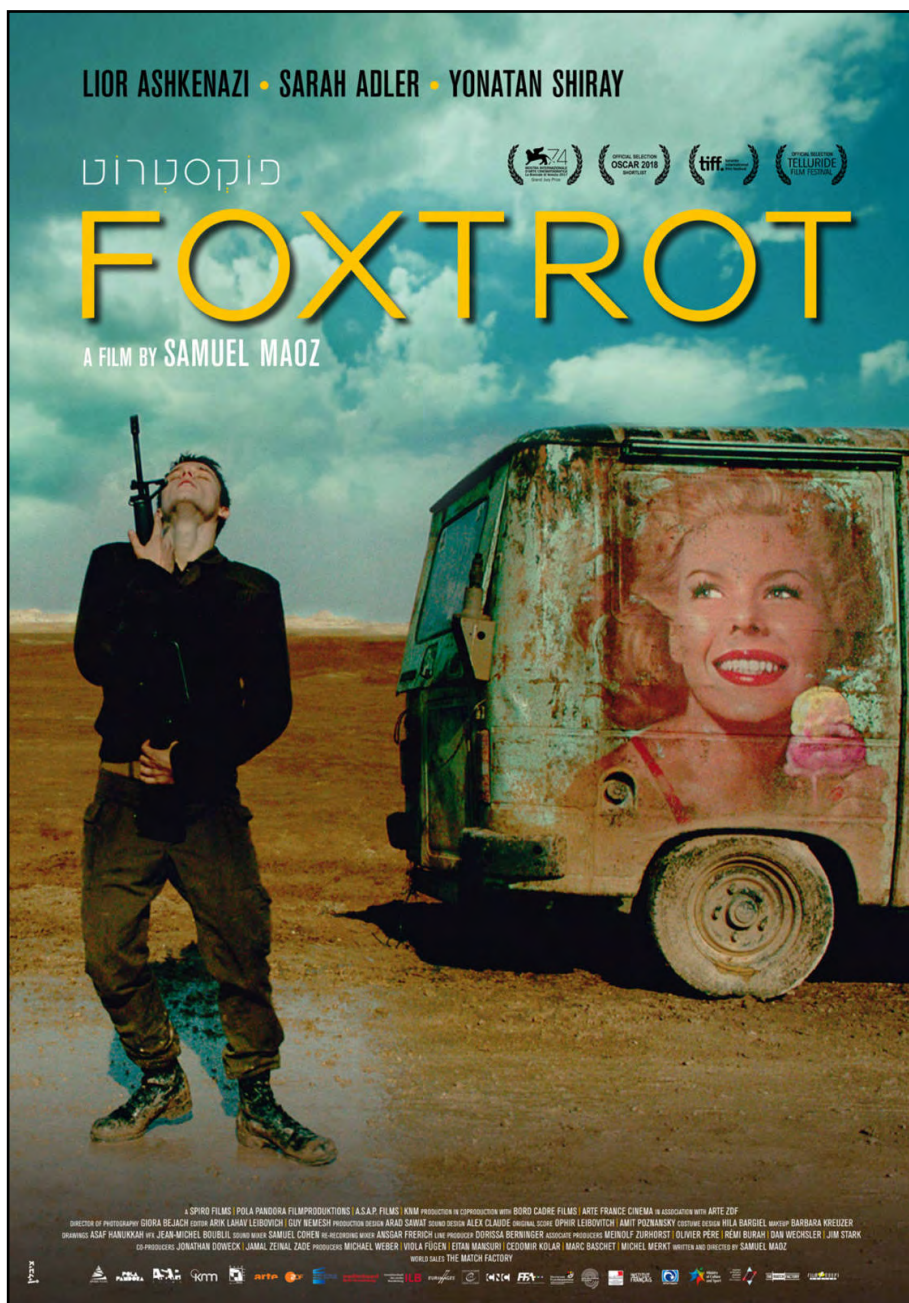
4th February 2020, 8.00pm

'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.

Half Page

Quarter Page
Landscape

Quarter Page Portrait

Eighth Page

Eighth Page
Landscape

Example advert sizes shown above

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