A SHARP rise in the number of people visiting the accident and emergency department at Charing Cross Hospital has sparked renewed calls to save the unit from closure.

Figures showing a “staggering” 13 per cent increase in ‘type 1’ A&E attendances – the most serious cases – were revealed in a recent report on winter pressures.

Overall more than 60,000 patients used the hospital’s accident and emergency department between April and December last year.

The findings were included in a report presented to local councillors by the Imperial College NHS Trust, which manages the hospital.

The spike in attendances has led to fresh calls for the North West London Clinical Commissioning Group to halt its ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ programme.

A&E units have already been closed at Hammersmith Hospital and Central Middlesex Hospital, and critics fear that Charing Cross could also lose its ‘blue light’ services under the plans.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said: “This new NHS report shows that the situation is actually worse than we thought. The number of people using Charing Cross by Jack Dixon

jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

A SHARP rise in the number of people visiting the accident and emergency department at Charing Cross Hospital has sparked renewed calls to save the unit from closure.

Figures showing a “staggering” 13 per cent increase in ‘type 1’ A&E attendances – the most serious cases – were revealed in a recent report on winter pressures.

Overall more than 60,000 patients used the hospital’s accident and emergency department between April and December last year.

The findings were included in a report presented to local councillors by the Imperial College NHS Trust, which manages the hospital.

The spike in attendances has led to fresh calls for the North West London Clinical Commissioning Group to halt its ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ programme.

A&E units have already been closed at Hammersmith Hospital and Central Middlesex Hospital, and critics fear that Charing Cross could also lose its ‘blue light’ services under the plans.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said: “This new NHS report shows that the situation is actually worse than we thought. The number of people using Charing Cross Hospital’s accident and emergency department between April and December last year.

The findings were included in a report presented to local councillors by the Imperial College NHS Trust, which manages the hospital.

The spike in attendances has led to fresh calls for the North West London Clinical Commissioning Group to halt its ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ programme.

A&E units have already been closed at Hammersmith Hospital and Central Middlesex Hospital, and critics fear that Charing Cross could also lose its ‘blue light’ services under the plans.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said: “This new NHS report shows that the situation is actually worse than we thought. The number of people using Charing Cross Hospital’s accident and emergency department between April and December last year.

The findings were included in a report presented to local councillors by the Imperial College NHS Trust, which manages the hospital.

The spike in attendances has led to fresh calls for the North West LondonClinical Commissioning Group to halt its ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ programme.

A&E units have already been closed at Hammersmith Hospital and Central Middlesex Hospital, and critics fear that Charing Cross could also lose its ‘blue light’ services under the plans.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said: “This new NHS report shows that the situation is actually worse than we thought. The number of people using Charing Cross Hospital’s accident and emergency department between April and December last year.

The findings were included in a report presented to local councillors by the Imperial College NHS Trust, which manages the hospital.

The spike in attendances has led to fresh calls for the North West London Clinical Commissioning Group to halt its ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ programme.

A&E units have already been closed at Hammersmith Hospital and Central Middlesex Hospital, and critics fear that Charing Cross could also lose its ‘blue light’ services under the plans.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said: “This new NHS report shows that the situation is actually worse than we thought. The number of people using Charing Cross Hospital’s accident and emergency department between April and December last year.

The findings were included in a report presented to local councillors by the Imperial College NHS Trust, which manages the hospital.

The spike in attendances has led to fresh calls for the North West London Clinical Commissioning Group to halt its ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ programme.

A&E units have already been closed at Hammersmith Hospital and Central Middlesex Hospital, and critics fear that Charing Cross could also lose its ‘blue light’ services under the plans.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said: “This new NHS report shows that the situation is actually worse than we thought. The number of people using Charing Cross Hospital’s accident and emergency department between April and December last year.

The findings were included in a report presented to local councillors by the Imperial College NHS Trust, which manages the hospital.

The spike in attendances has led to fresh calls for the North West London Clinical Commissioning Group to halt its ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ programme.

A&E units have already been closed at Hammersmith Hospital and Central Middlesex Hospital, and critics fear that Charing Cross could also lose its ‘blue light’ services under the plans.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said: “This new NHS report shows that the situation is actually worse than we thought. The number of people using Charing Cross Hospital’s accident and emergency department between April and December last year.

The findings were included in a report presented to local councillors by the Imperial College NHS Trust, which manages the hospital.

The spike in attendances has led to fresh calls for the North West London Clinical Commissioning Group to halt its ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ programme.

A&E units have already been closed at Hammersmith Hospital and Central Middlesex Hospital, and critics fear that Charing Cross could also lose its ‘blue light’ services under the plans.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said: “This new NHS report shows that the situation is actually worse than we thought. The number of people using Charing Cross Hospital’s accident and emergency department between April and December last year.

The findings were included in a report presented to local councillors by the Imperial College NHS Trust, which manages the hospital.

The spike in attendances has led to fresh calls for the North West London Clinical Commissioning Group to halt its ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ programme.

A&E units have already been closed at Hammersmith Hospital and Central Middlesex Hospital, and critics fear that Charing Cross could also lose its ‘blue light’ services under the plans.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said: “This new NHS report shows that the situation is actually worse than we thought. The number of people using Charing Cross Hospital’s accident and emergency department between April and December last year.

The findings were included in a report presented to local councillors by the Imperial College NHS Trust, which manages the hospital.

The spike in attendances has led to fresh calls for the North West London Clinical Commissioning Group to halt its ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ programme.

A&E units have already been closed at Hammersmith Hospital and Central Middlesex Hospital, and critics fear that Charing Cross could also lose its ‘blue light’ services under the plans.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said: “This new NHS report shows that the situation is actually worse than we thought. The number of people using Charing Cross Hospital’s accident and emergency department between April and December last year.

The findings were included in a report presented to local councillors by the Imperial College NHS Trust, which manages the hospital.

The spike in attendances has led to fresh calls for the North West London Clinical Commissioning Group to halt its ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ programme.

A&E units have already been closed at Hammersmith Hospital and Central Middlesex Hospital, and critics fear that Charing Cross could also lose its ‘blue light’ services under the plans.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said: “This new NHS report shows that the situation is actually worse than we thought. The number of people using Charing Cross Hospital’s accident and emergency department between April and December last year.

The findings were included in a report presented to local councillors by the Imperial College NHS Trust, which manages the hospital.

The spike in attendances has led to fresh calls for the North West London Clinical Commissioning Group to halt its ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ programme.

A&E units have already been closed at Hammersmith Hospital and Central Middlesex Hospital, and critics fear that Charing Cross could also lose its ‘blue light’ services under the plans.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said: “This new NHS report shows that the situation is actually worse than we thought. The number of people using Charing Cross Hospital’s accident and emergency department between April and December last year.

The findings were included in a report presented to local councillors by the Imperial College NHS Trust, which manages the hospital.

The spike in attendances has led to fresh calls for the North West London Clinical Commissioning Group to halt its ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ programme.

A&E units have already been closed at Hammersmith Hospital and Central Middlesex Hospital, and critics fear that Charing Cross could also lose its ‘blue light’ services under the plans.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said: “This new NHS report shows that the situation is actually worse than we thought. The number of people using Charing Cross Hospital’s accident and emergency department between April and December last year.

The findings were included in a report presented to local councillors by the Imperial College NHS Trust, which manages the hospital.

The spike in attendances has led to fresh calls for the North West London Clinical Commissioning Group to halt its ‘Shaping a Healthier Future’ programme.

A&E units have already been closed at Hammersmit...
Grow your own food, schools are told

The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, confirmed this week that 21 schools will share a £42,000 funding pot, allowing them to grow their own food as part of their ongoing drive to tackle obesity in the capital and get young Londoners eating more healthily.

A total of 21 schools in Lambeth and Croydon will receive grants ranging between £300 and £3,000 from the School Garden Grants scheme to create or improve edible gardens, which will be used to educate children about the food they eat and help them to lead healthier lives.

Lambeth and Croydon were both selected by the mayor to be Food Flagship Boroughs last year, working to tackle childhood obesity through better diets and food education.

In a UK first, the boroughs are making changes to the way food is served in schools, hospitals, and – working with major supermarkets and other retailers – on the high street.

The aim is to show that joining up thinking can improve health and academic attainment of pupils and also of adults in the local communities they serve.

Mr Johnson said: “I am delighted to be working with Whole Kids Foundation as we introduce this innovative scheme to Croydon and Lambeth – two boroughs that are doing great work to improve diets and attitudes to food.”

He added: “School Garden Grants are a great way to harness the enthusiasm of teachers, children and parents towards eating more fruit, vegetables and quality, affordable food. Eating well helps not only to avoid health problems now and in the future, but has shown to be a key ingredient to classroom success.”

Projects in Lambeth include:
- Sudbourne School will receive £2,600 to introduce chickens to their existing school garden. Pupils and parents will be supported by Father Nature, a social enterprise promoting children’s learning through nature and helping young fathers gain gardening skills, teach learning outcomes and find employment. Together, they will prepare the site and the eggs will be used in cooking classes and any surplus sold to the school community.
- Julian’s Primary School will receive £1,170 to create a small shop next to the garden where children can sell produce and products they have grown and made. Children will pick and prepare seasonal produce, make preserves, create a school recipe book, collect and package seeds and grow plants in pots to sell.

Projects in Croydon include:
- St Giles is treating £3,000 to help build purpose built, wheelchair accessible beds, an outdoor shelter for the pupils, and specialist tools.
- Julian’s Primary School will receive £799 and is the only secondary school in Croydon that will receive a School Garden Grant. The garden will be primarily tended by Food Technology students along with disengaged students. The grant will pay for raised beds, basic tools and equipment along with a small storage shed.

The Mayor has teamed up with Whole Kids Foundation to deliver the School Garden Grants scheme. Whole Kids Foundation – the charitable arm of Whole Foods Market – has run the scheme in the US and Canada for five years, with impressive results.

Their work has funded 3,014 school gardens, trained 8,438 teachers and served 3,796,922 students. They have grown and made. Children know and feel connected to their food, the more curious they become about how things grow or taste, and the more willing they are to try new foods. This is why we believe in edible gardens and learning spaces.”

The London Food Flagship programme is one of a number of initiatives supported by the Mayor aimed at tackling obesity amongst school children. They include the multi-million pound Sports Legacy programme to get young people and the wider population involved in physical activity; the Healthy Schools London awards, which supports and recognises school achievements in pupil health and wellbeing; and the Takeaways Toolkit, which the different ways that local authorities can tackle the availability of fast food on Londoners’ health, for example by limiting the number of fast food outlets near schools.
**Film’s food for thought**

**BY JACK DIXON**  
jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

A GROUP of teenagers from the Sulgrave Club in Shepherd’s Bush have brought Hammersmith and Fulham’s most well-regarded causes, the food bank and youth work, centre stage in a new film.

The team of 13 youngsters visited the food bank and met founder Daphne Aikens before re-telling its story on camera. The film, which will be shown for the first time this week, documents the struggles of the borough’s most vulnerable people as they rely on the support of volunteers to provide food packages.

One of Hammersmith and Fulham’s most well-regarded causes, the food bank has already provided 36,000 meals for those in need.

Santiago Cerro, 17, said: “The visit had opened his eyes to the “massive issue that is happening on my doorstep”.

“We have all become really passionate about the cause,” he said. “We have proven that if we are given the right skills, resources and time, young people truly can make a difference within our community.”

During the visit, the team of 15 to 17-year-olds filmed their experiences and are now appropriate setting to open next month.

They also collected donations of food and were able to offer a package to add to the bank’s supplies.

Poonum Chandal, a senior youth worker at the Goldhawk Road club, said: “The group was amazing. I didn’t expect them to be as engaged and dedicated as they were. They were fantastic.”

Launched in 2010, the food bank is based in Fulham and runs a weekly outreach service in Shepherd’s Bush. It is set to open a new ‘hub’ in Bloomsom Road, White City, in March. The food bank recently received a £8,000 grant from Hammersmith United Charities, while Hammersmith and Fulham council is helping to fund the new centre.

Councillor Sue Fennimore, the council’s cabinet member for social inclusion, said: “I have nothing but admiration for the hard work of Daphne and her team, as well as these dedicated pupils. They all deserve huge amounts of praise.”

**Community treasure chest opens**

COMMUNITY groups are being urged to apply for a share of the Police Mutual Foundation’s annual funding pot, after a Shepherd’s Bush arts centre cashed in on the scheme.

The organisation, which provides financial support for serving and retired police officers and their families, is now accepting entries for its ‘Force for Good’ initiative.

The programme aims to support dozens of community projects across the country and donated £1,000 to The Gate, an arts centre that helps people with learning disabilities in Shepherd’s Bush, last year. The cash was used to buy new equipment as well as covering the cost of staff training.

Grants will be awarded again this year for a range of projects, including voluntary and community groups, gardens, farms and allotments, scouts, guide and cubs, as well as crime prevention projects.

For more information visit: www.policemutual.co.uk/forceforgood

**Closing A&E would be ‘extraordinary’ decision**

FROM PAGE 1

of people using Charing Cross A&E continues to soar, with ambulance crews increasingly choosing to bring patients to Charing Cross in emergencies, while strains on other emergency and urgent care units are also increasing.

“In this pressure-cooker environment, it would be extraordinary to close the A&E at Charing Cross when it is more in demand than ever.”

The report revealed the number of major trauma “type 1” attendances rose from 25,925 between April and December 2013 to 29,318 for the same period last year — a jump of 13.1 per cent.

Overall A&E attendances at Charing Cross, including minor injuries, rose by 3.6 per cent from 58,017 to 60,995.

The findings also show that the trend of achieving its target waiting times in eight of the nine months between April and December.

The proportion of patients assessed, treated and discharged within four hours slipped to 88 per cent in December, well below the national standard of 95 per cent.

Jim Gealy, from the Save Our Hospitals campaign, warned that downsizing the A&E unit would create longer travel and waiting times for patients who may be unsure where to go for treatment.

“Ask people without medical training to self-diagnose cannot be good for health. Some will be left wondering: where do I go for help?” he said. “Basic demands of urgent care are not being met as things stand so if they close any more hospital facilities additional strain will be put on St Mary’s Hospital.

“Closing one will have an immediate impact on all others. They need to keep all the A&E spaces they have got.”

A spokeswoman for the CCG insisted that an A&E department would remain at Charing Cross, although it may be in a “different shape and form”.

She added: “The Shaping a Healthier Future programme has already delivered an additional 20,000 appointments a year in the evening and at weekends for the residents of Hammersmith and Fulham.

“Further investment in 2015/16 will see new and improved community care with more services closer to patients’ homes, enabling better management of long-term conditions, keeping people well for longer and preventing unnecessary hospital admissions.”

Hammersmith and Fulham council has written to the health secretary, Jeremy Hunt MP, urging him to step in and scrap the plans. It follows the publication of a report by the Independent Healthcare Commission, chaired by Michael Mansfield QC, which concluded that the programme was “deeply flawed”. A public meeting will be held to discuss the future of Charing Cross Hospital at Hammersmith Town Hall tonight (Tuesday) at 7.30pm.

**Police issue knife crime warning**

POLICE chiefs are urging parents to warn their children about the dangers of knife crime, after dozens of weapons were seized in a city-wide sweep.

The Met is calling on mothers and fathers to step in where youngsters may decide to carry knives as a form of protection or to “impress” their peers.

It comes after specialist crime units carried out a series of measures as part of Operation Sceptre.

The anti-knife drive involved school visits and test purchasing in shops, as well as targeted patrols and weapon sweeps.

A total of 112 knives and 77 offensive weapons were seized during the operation, leading to 338 arrests.

Detective Chief Superintendent Kevin Southworth said: “Support from the public has been essential and we encourage the community to continue to tell us about those who carry knives, to surrender knives and to have conversations with their children about the danger of carrying knives.”

**Community treasure chest opens**

COMMUNITY groups are being urged to apply for a share of the Police Mutual Foundation’s annual funding pot, after a Shepherd’s Bush arts centre cashed in on the scheme.

The organisation, which provides financial support for serving and retired police officers and their families, is now accepting entries for its ‘Force for Good’ initiative.

The programme aims to support dozens of community projects across the country and donated £1,000 to The Gate, an arts centre that helps people with learning disabilities in Shepherd’s Bush, last year. The cash was used to buy new equipment as well as covering the cost of staff training.

Grants will be awarded again this year for a range of projects, including voluntary and community groups, gardens, farms and allotments, scouts, guide and cubs, as well as crime prevention projects.

For more information visit: www.policemutual.co.uk/forceforgood
Freya hopes national cap will take her to the Euros

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

WESTMINSTER’S Portland Place school pupil Freya Glen was called up to represent Scotland in the under 17 football team in a series of challenging matches against Iceland earlier this month.

The 16-year-old was delighted to be selected for the team, especially as she has a Scottish heritage, with both her parents being born in the country.

The Arsenal supporter has been playing football since she was six, and although the team didn’t beat the Iceland ladies during the two matches, Freya is hopeful she will be picked as part of the Scottish team for the UEFA European U17 Championships, which will be held in Norway in March.

Freya currently plays for Millwall under 17s – where she was scouted by the Scotland national team.

To prepare for the matches Freya had a gruelling training regime, which included training three times a week with Millwall and travelling to Glasgow to train with the Scottish team.

The trips to Scotland occasionally meant she had to miss school, but Portland Place was incredibly supportive of Freya’s commitment to her sport. One of the last training sessions collided with the mock examinations so the school kindly rearranged the mocks for her.

The matches in Iceland were a fantastic opportunity for the team and Freya to prepare for the European Championships as well as great practice for her future career. Freya hopes to pursue football professionally, however she remains realistic about how much work and effort this will entail.

Freya’s mother, Elaine Scott, said: “Freya had an amazing time and made some great friends with the other girls on the team. It is great that Portland Place allowed her the time off to train because a lot of schools wouldn’t have done that, they have been very supportive.”

Right midfielder, Freya said: “Iceland was an amazing experience and I hope to get the opportunity to play in Norway. I’m grateful of how supportive the school has been.”

Headmaster, David Hyman said: “Our pupils’ activities outside of school are also important to us, especially when they are as passionate as Freya is. We like to support our students and their hobbies as much as possible and encourage them to pursue their interests. Freya has done incredibly well and is a talented footballer. I very much hope she will be selected for the Scottish team in March.”

Portland Place School is a leading independent co-educational school for children aged 9-18, located directly in the heart of the City of Westminster.

For more information on the school you can visit the website: www.portland-place.co.uk or call 020 7307 8700.
Child mental health: following Kate’s lead

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

FOLLOWING calls by the Duchess of Cambridge for more action to help young children with mental health problems, Kensington and Chelsea health chiefs are to open a 24-hour emergency helpline in a bid to help save the 900 or so primary children in the borough who are at risk of a long life of misery.

Last week the Duchess launched the Young Minds Matter campaign, calling for the taboo of child mental health to be broken. Working from a temporary newsroom at Kensington Palace as guest editor of The Huffington Post, she wrote that for too long parents have been “embarrassed” to admit children need psychiatric care, worried of the stigma this may attract.

But she said it was time for our perception of mental illness to change, and said she and her husband, the Duke of Cambridge, “would not hesitate” to seek help if their children, two-year-old George and nine-month-old Charlotte, needed it.

Now investigations have revealed that action on child mental health is urgently needed in the Duchess’s own “back yard”, the royal borough of Kensington and Chelsea, where thousands of children and young people are in need of help.

Official figures in a health report for Kensington and Chelsea Council have revealed that:

- Almost 8,000 children and young people in Kensington and Chelsea are likely to be in need of mental health information, advice and support.
- An estimated 2,300 children have some type of mental health disorder.
- About 900 children have a serious mental health disorder.
- One in five children diagnosed with a mental health disorder are likely to have more than one disorder.
- About 900 pupils in maintained primary schools and 600 in secondary schools are likely to be in need of mental health support.

Local health chiefs are backing the Duchess of Cambridge’s campaign for greater awareness and support of child mental ill health because experts calculate that poor mental health in children frequently leads to a lifetime problem.

Local figures reveal that mental ill health is 14 times more likely than cancer to cause of life of disability.

A report for the Kensington & Chelsea Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy states that “the main cause of life with disability” is mental ill health – which causes 42 per cent of lifelong disabilities. By comparison, heart disease causes six per cent and cancer three per cent.

The report states: “Around half of people with lifetime mental problems experience their first symptoms by the age of 14.”

Endorsing the Duchess’s plea for more action on child mental health, it adds: “By promoting good mental health and intervening early, particularly in the crucial childhood and teenage years, we can help to prevent mental illness from developing and mitigate its effects when it does. It is important to recognise that there is much we can do to protect and promote well-being and resilience in our early years, into adulthood and then on to a healthy old age. Taking a life course approach and embedding provision for good mental health into all of our work is essential, especially given the fact that 42 per cent of people experience mental ill health in our borough so as a result of mental ill health.”

But now the Central North West London NHS Trust, which covers Kensington and Chelsea, is to act and set up an emergency 24-hour mental health helpdesk and a “rapid response team” which will be on hand for children, young people and parents 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

The dedicated Single Point of Access line will immediately connect children with mental health issues with experts who can help.

The childline, which will be established later this year, follows the introduction in November of an adult Single Point of Access line which has been used more than 1,700 times in the past three months, with 500 calls regarding urgent or emergency help.

The Single Point of Access adult line is 0800 023 4550.

A spokesman for the CNWL Trust said: “The Single Point of Access is open 24 hours a day a day 365 days a year, and staffed by mental health professionals who answer the calls to support patients through the system.”

“CNWL’s home treatment teams now include a 24-hour rapid response service to accept direct referrals from the Single Point of Access and the Trust has redesigned its adult community mental health services to bring together the assessment and brief treatment teams and community recovery teams to form locality community mental health teams.”

Selena Cox, CNWL’s Single Point of Access Manager, added: “These referrals were passed between services, didn’t know who to call and they were stuck in care for too long. We make the process simple – one number to call; there is no need to knock on doors.”

“We try to get a picture of someone’s needs – are they safe at that point in time? Fifty per cent of calls come through as urgent but that’s not always the case.”

“By taking people through an assessment of the risks, we arrive at a good clinical judgment about them. We have a doctor in the team too in case a more detailed clinical judgment is needed. We need senior clinical leadership.”

“The Single Point of Access has received 1,753 referrals since it opened on 2 November 2015. Of those, 1,000 needed treatment in our secondary mental health services and just under a third, about 500 people, needed urgent or emergency treatment. We triage the patient and if a patient needs to be seen urgently we call the Rapid Response Team to respond.”

“For example, if a GP has someone in the surgery with them then we can send in the Rapid Response Team straight to the GP to see them or if we are worried that someone is not responding to calls the Rapid Response can visit them too. The team then assess them face to face and develop a plan for how to resolve the crisis.”

The Trust reports that the main reaction to the helpline has been: “Why didn’t someone do this sooner?”

A new survey for the Time To Change campaign, which is organised by the charity Mind and supported by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, has revealed that nearly two thirds of people in London with mental health problems are left feeling isolated (65 per cent), worthless (57 per cent) and ashamed (60 per cent) because of the stigma and discrimination they have faced for their illness.

Sue Baker, Director of Time to Change, said: “This survey shows that stigma is still having a huge impact on how people feel about themselves and holding back their lives. We need to replace silence and stigma with talking, greater understanding and support.”
A MAJOR exhibition of the private art collection of “the voice of racing”, the late Sir Peter O’Sullevan, will be held at Belgravia’s Osborne Studio Gallery throughout March.

Some of the items to be exhibited at the show of the Chelsea resident’s collection, which will run from March 9 to April 1, will be for sale.

Although Sir Peter was famous as a flawless commentator, bon viveur and lover of jazz and birdsong, he was also an art collector and connoisseur of distinguished artists, writes Geoff Baker.

“His Chelsea flat was crammed with paintings and sculpture, most of them equestrian subjects, but also works from his travels to remote places, especially in North Africa,” said a spokeswoman for the gallery of which Sir Peter became chairman after his retirement.

The Osborne Studio Gallery will show many works owned by Sir Peter, together with a number of bequeathed works from his collection. A beneficiary of these sales will be the Peter O’Sullevan Charitable Trust. The period of the exhibition includes the four days of the Cheltenham Festival, his favourite time of the year.

“The exhibition will show a selection of precious relics, to ‘open a window’ on both his private and public life, on and off the Turf. Highlights include racing commentary charts, a musical greeting from Andrew Lloyd Webber, and even the script for his appearance on The Morecambe and Wise Show.”

In a personal memoir for the exhibition, Osborne Gallery director Geoffrey Hughes said: “Soon after I set up the Osborne Studio Gallery in 1986 I had a visit, quite out of the blue, from my boyhood hero. Ahead of the game, as ever, he had heard that our gallery was to specialise in racing and equestrian art. From day one he offered enormous encouragement and support and I was, of course, over the moon that a man I admired should take such an interest in this new enterprise.

Over the subsequent years we developed a strong friendship. In 1998, soon after his final commentary and retirement on Hennessy Gold Cup day the previous November 1, on a whim, and assisted by plentiful Dutch courage, asked Peter whether he would consider becoming our chairman. He did not give me an immediate answer but, to my amazement, he rang the next day to say he would be delighted to do so.

“So the next 18 years OSG had tremendous support from Peter. With his ever discerning eye, he loved coming to the private views, and his presence and infectious sense of humour always ensured lively interaction- and the possibility of a little bit of innocent gossip!

“As the years went by, his love of art became increasingly apparent to me and I always kept a chilled bottle close at hand for his frequent visits! His inquisitive and intelligent nature observed hidden depths in the paintings that others, including myself, often missed.

“Racing art was his great love but, beyond that, he collected works from his travels, particularly from North Africa, seeking out artists in remote places.

“Interestingly, subjects incorporating Pierrot are well represented in his collection. I did once ask him, after a memorably convivial evening, why clowns were so close to his heart. As was so often the case with Peter, after an evening of bonhomie, when it comes to reporting his answer, my memory fails! Perhaps another may know the answer to this? His beloved wife, Pat, could well have been a possible influence.

“All his life Peter was intrigued by the perfectionist O’Sullevan, for his appearance on The Morecambe and Wise Show. There is a musical greeting from Andrew Lloyd Webber to mark his retirement, and a letter from Albert Roux declaring Peter’s beloved miniature poodle Topolina ‘a welcome visitor of Le Gavroche and other Roux enterprises where she is renowned for her impeccable conduct.’

“There are sheaves of handwritten vouchers, notably one from William Wood Turf Accountants closing Peter’s account: ‘After three years during which you have won consistently, we shall have to give you best odds and ask you to bet elsewhere. You are too good for us!’

“We have tried to reflect that variety in the items on display in this exhibition, but the most evocative charts which so graphically bear witness to his disregard for preparation before a big race.

“Look at the chart for Nijinsky’s Derby, or Grundy and Bustino’s King George, or one of Red Rum’s Grand Nationals, and you hear Peter’s comments in your mind’s ear.

“Since his death we have unearthed more and more material in the flat – his chart for Sir Ivor’s Derby, a precious relic, was found in a kitchen drawer – and over the next few months the whole archive will be organised to form a resource not only for racing historians but for those studying the wider canvas of twentieth-century social history.

“Some items will be bequeathed and a few will be sold, and the remaining collection will enjoy a safe haven in The Cox Library of racing books (www.thecoxlibrary.com) – a happy arrangement which will meet Peter’s desire that his papers should be available in perpetuity. Future researchers have a real treat in store.”

The art of picking winners
BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LONDON WIDE

Improve your research, say health experts

Where To Find Your Local Favourite Free Newspaper

Making the most of the opportunity

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LONDONERS are more likely to spend time thoroughly researching household handymen and car mechanics than cosmetic surgeons or healthcare professionals.

Widespread stories pervading the headlines about dubious procedures, a new survey reveals that 32 per cent of participants quoted word of mouth as a source of information when seeking advice on health matters such as cosmetic surgery or dentistry rather than speaking with consultants directly (26 per cent) or reading specialist professional media (over 16 per cent).

Over 37 per cent of respondents stated that they were most likely to scrutinise household handymen while more than 46 per cent said that they would carefully examine various holiday packages before booking. 37 per cent of participants proclaimed that they would make further enquiries about financial service offerings and 30 per cent would investigate real estate companies.

Whereas just over 25 per cent and 10 per cent would take the same amount of care to research a cosmetic surgeon and healthcare professional respectively...

Dr Fouse Hamza, cosmetic surgeon consulting at Queen Anne Street Medical Centre, off Harley Street in London, says: “Cosmetic surgery is a life changing procedure so it’s crucial that patients understand these results reveal that people aren’t taking adequate measures to research their medical practitioner sufficiently and this could indicate that Brits are too trusting of something as important as our health.

“It’s crucial that you always check a practitioner’s qualifications and read testimonials and reviews to find out about their reputation. Speak to previous patients to hear about their experience and even go and get a second opinion with another doctor to compare.

“To avoid any potential confusion or misunderstanding about the health and medical status of a patient, it is imperative before any cosmetic procedure takes place that the patient must discuss his/her health with the surgeon and have an honest and truthful conversation about any medication they are taking, and the surgeon must discuss the procedure in full.

“This should be backed up in writing by the use of a consent form which can rely on verbal communications.

“The consent form is legal proof that the surgeon has discussed every aspect relating to potential risk before surgery takes place – invasive or non-invasive. Even if the form is completed in advance of the surgery day, the consultant must always go through the form on the day and check if anything has changed. This form is then kept on file for several years. Without these measures in place, people could be left in the hands of unscrupulous practitioners.”

Dr Hamza is a cosmetic sculptor with an international reputation. He has been practising cosmetic surgery for over 20 years and is ranked as one of the best practitioners in his field. He is currently consulting at Queen Anne Street Medical Centre, a modern and comfortable practice in the heart of London.

For further information, visit www.drhamza.co.uk

Fiona Ramsey, new trustee of the Westway Trust, talks about the opportunities, as she sees them, for the Trust in the years ahead

BEFORE I explain the opportunities, as I see them, for the Westway Trust, here is a bit of background about me that provides some context.

I’ve always been a truly passionate person, so it was inevitable that I would seek a career in the arts – music, to be precise. My experience in the music industry is wide ranging. I have worked with major names in the industry – at BMG records I worked with artists like Usher, Outkast, Pink and Alicia Keys. I have played a role in helping young people into the industry too – during my time with Livity we founded a six-month paid work placement for 16-21-year-olds called ‘Music 4 Good’.

We worked with young people who were not given the opportunities to work in the entertainment sector. Music 4 Good provided access to paid work placements in the music industry.

I have also done charitable work in the past. I worked closely with Alicia Keys and Leigh Blake on the launch of the charity ‘Keep a Child Alive’. Its mission was to get life-saving HIV medication to children in Africa. So as you can see, I am passionate about opportunities, education and entertainment. These passions allow me a unique perspective on the kind of provision Westway Trust should be making for the arts.

I also have a strong affinity with the arts. I went to many cultural events while growing up in Grove area. It offers workshops and educational programmes to young people about the works of Shakespeare and hip hop. A great example that we could learn from.

I’m excited to be a trustee of the Westway Trust. It’s an organisation with an incredible opportunity to play a great role in a unique part of London. I really hope that I can be of one of the many people who play a part in making the most of the opportunities going forward.

Fiona Ramsey, new trustee of the Westway Trust, talks about the opportunities, as she sees them, for the Trust in the years ahead

I know some people see the Trust as detached and opaque, and I’ve had my own issues in dealing with it before I became a trustee, but where there are challenges there are also opportunities.

I want to be a part of an organisation that’s in a great position to make a positive difference to North Kensington. I’ve recently been involved in many meetings at the Trust and met a lot of the staff. I can see a desire to be more inclusive and to engage with people. I want to make sure the intentions of those in Westway Trust lead to good decisions and decision-making to be made more transparent. Due to the vast amount of technology at hand we can reach out and understand the people we’re here to serve. I’ve already expressed to the staff regarding how my own experience might be helpful here.

I’m particularly keen to see the Trust engage with young people more, offering different types of activities such as reading classes, poetry, activities – things which will expand the minds of the next generation. To attract young people, social media is also something we should be embracing. I have worked with the Hip Hop Shakespeare Company (HSHC) that is based in the Grove area. It offers workshops and educational programmes to young people about the works of Shakespeare and hip hop. A great example that we could learn from.

I’ve worked with young people in the past. I worked closely with Alicia Keys and Leigh Blake on the launch of the charity ‘Keep a Child Alive’. Its mission was to get life-saving HIV medication to children in Africa. So as you can see, I am passionate about opportunities, education and entertainment. These passions allow me a unique perspective on the kind of provision Westway Trust should be making for the arts.

I also have a strong affinity with the arts. I went to many cultural events while growing up in Grove area. It offers workshops and educational programmes to young people about the works of Shakespeare and hip hop. A great example that we could learn from.

I’m excited to be a trustee of the Westway Trust. It’s an organisation with an incredible opportunity to play a great role in a unique part of London. I really hope that I can be of one of the many people who play a part in making the most of the opportunities going forward.

I know some people see the Trust as detached and opaque, and I’ve had my own issues in dealing with it before I became a trustee, but where there are challenges there are also opportunities.

I want to be a part of an organisation that’s in a great position to make a positive difference to North Kensington. I’ve recently been involved in many meetings at the Trust and met a lot of the staff. I can see a desire to be more inclusive and to engage with people. I want to make sure the intentions of those in Westway Trust lead to good decisions and decision-making to be made more transparent. Due to the vast amount of technology at hand we can reach out and understand the people we’re here to serve. I’ve already expressed to the staff regarding how my own experience might be helpful here.

I’m particularly keen to see the Trust engage with young people more, offering different types of activities such as reading classes, poetry, activities – things which will expand the minds of the next generation. To attract young people, social media is also something we should be embracing. I have worked with the Hip Hop Shakespeare Company (HSHC) that is based in the Grove area. It offers workshops and educational programmes to young people about the works of Shakespeare and hip hop. A great example that we could learn from.

I’m excited to be a trustee of the Westway Trust. It’s an organisation with an incredible opportunity to play a great role in a unique part of London. I really hope that I can be of one of the many people who play a part in making the most of the opportunities going forward.

Fiona Ramsey, new trustee of the Westway Trust, talks about the opportunities, as she sees them, for the Trust in the years ahead

I know some people see the Trust as detached and opaque, and I’ve had my own issues in dealing with it before I became a trustee, but where there are challenges there are also opportunities.

I want to be a part of an organisation that’s in a great position to make a positive difference to North Kensington. I’ve recently been involved in many meetings at the Trust and met a lot of the staff. I can see a desire to be more inclusive and to engage with people. I want to make sure the intentions of those in Westway Trust lead to good decisions and decision-making to be made more transparent. Due to the vast amount of technology at hand we can reach out and understand the people we’re here to serve. I’ve already expressed to the staff regarding how my own experience might be helpful here.

I’m particularly keen to see the Trust engage with young people more, offering different types of activities such as reading classes, poetry, activities – things which will expand the minds of the next generation. To attract young people, social media is also something we should be embracing. I have worked with the Hip Hop Shakespeare Company (HSHC) that is based in the Grove area. It offers workshops and educational programmes to young people about the works of Shakespeare and hip hop. A great example that we could learn from.

I’m excited to be a trustee of the Westway Trust. It’s an organisation with an incredible opportunity to play a great role in a unique part of London. I really hope that I can be of one of the many people who play a part in making the most of the opportunities going forward.

Fiona Ramsey, new trustee of the Westway Trust, talks about the opportunities, as she sees them, for the Trust in the years ahead

I know some people see the Trust as detached and opaque, and I’ve had my own issues in dealing with it before I became a trustee, but where there are challenges there are also opportunities.

I want to be a part of an organisation that’s in a great position to make a positive difference to North Kensington. I’ve recently been involved in many meetings at the Trust and met a lot of the staff. I can see a desire to be more inclusive and to engage with people. I want to make sure the intentions of those in Westway Trust lead to good decisions and decision-making to be made more transparent. Due to the vast amount of technology at hand we can reach out and understand the people we’re here to serve. I’ve already expressed to the staff regarding how my own experience might be helpful here.

I’m particularly keen to see the Trust engage with young people more, offering different types of activities such as reading classes, poetry, activities – things which will expand the minds of the next generation. To attract young people, social media is also something we should be embracing. I have worked with the Hip Hop Shakespeare Company (HSHC) that is based in the Grove area. It offers workshops and educational programmes to young people about the works of Shakespeare and hip hop. A great example that we could learn from.

I’m excited to be a trustee of the Westway Trust. It’s an organisation with an incredible opportunity to play a great role in a unique part of London. I really hope that I can be of one of the many people who play a part in making the most of the opportunities going forward.
Estate agents say high streets are ‘paved with property gold’

BY LWN REPORTER editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

The number of estate agents opening in London is booming.

Latest figures show an increase of more than eight per cent – that’s a new estate agent’s office opening every 1.6 days.

Property prices in the capital have rocketed because of high demand and a lack of supply, according to research carried out by online estate agents HouseSimple.com.

There are currently just under 2,900 estate agents in London, up by 220 in the past 12 months (2,661 agents in February, 2015). In Westminster alone, the number of estate agents has increased by more than a quarter (27.4 per cent) in a year, from 179 to 228. More than a third of London boroughs (11 out of 32) now have more than 100 estate agents each.

With demand for property in London showing little signs of cooling and average property prices in the capital up almost 17 per cent in the past year, according to the Halifax, high street estate agents have been opening new offices at the rate of 18 a month.

HouseSimple.com figures reveal that there are now an average of 90 estate agent branches in every London borough. Islington has seen the number of high street estate agents rise by 26.1 per cent in a year, while the borough of Hammersmith and Fulham has seen a 15.9 per cent increase. The only borough to experience a drop in the number of estate agents in the past 12 months is Enfield, with a 6.5 per cent fall.

Experts say the sheer number of estate agent branches in London highlights a concern over the lack of diversity on many of the capital’s local high streets.

HouseSimple.com calculated how many estate agents there are on popular London high streets, by counting the number of estate agent branches within a quarter of a mile of major Tube stations.

The research revealed that Walthamstow and Borough both have a staggering 18 estate agents within a quarter of a mile of their respective tube stations. Wimbledon, Ealing Broadway, Canary Wharf and Turnham Green each have 17.

Alex Gosling, the chief executive of HouseSimple.com, said: “Estate agents have been making hay while the sun shines, opening more than 200 new offices in just 12 months. It’s not surprising, when just one office can make hundreds of thousands of pounds in fees in a year. London high streets are literally paved with property gold.”

“It’s impossible to walk down a local high street in London now without passing an estate agent’s window, but Londoners will still be surprised to know there are almost 3,000 estate agents in the capital.

“It’s a staggering number, particularly when you consider most people now start their property searches online, and may never actually venture into a high street agent’s office.”

However, Londoners struggling to buy a home will be thrown a lifeline from April as a shake-up of the shared-ownership rules will mean that 175,000 more Londoners are eligible for this route to owning a home.

Planners demand that affordable housing is integrated with more expensive private housing, so often flats are for sale at swish developments where open-market homes cost millions of pounds.

For example, the Jeevans building at New Providence Wharf in Docklands has flats from £96,563 for a 25 per cent. Call Genesis on 0800 954 0040.

LONDON has the potential to deliver a massive increase in solar power over the next decade, according to a report released this week by campaign group Greenpeace, which is calling on all of the London mayor’s candidates to come forward with a detailed plan to boost the city’s flagging solar industry.

The report comes as the capital has become the worst performing major city and region in the UK for solar adoption. Mayoral hopefuls Sadiq Khan (Labour) and the Conservatives’ Zac Goldsmith, have said they want to boost the city’s solar sector, but the Greenpeace report challenges them to adopt specific policies to improve the adoption of solar technologies across the capital.

The report highlights how just 0.5 per cent of London’s 3.6 million homes use solar power, lagging far behind adoption rates in the rest of the country.

It argues that a raft of policies could drive faster adoption of solar technologies, including “establishing a London Solar Task Force to bring together communities, investors, and industry groups; installing solar panels in unused spaces owned by Transport for London and City Hall; and loaning out roof space to community energy projects”.

The report also suggests that so-called green bonds could be issued to fund solar projects in the capital. Furthermore, the report makes the case for a London equivalent of the feed-in tariff to restore some of the incentives cut last year by the government.

The campaign group said analysis by the consultants Enenergy for London showed these measures could deliver a ten-fold increase in solar power across London by 2025, delivering solar panels on close to 200,000 London rooftops.
Recycle more!
Win cash!

Simply pop a Golden Ticket in with your clean recycling

Find your Golden Tickets inside this newspaper or visit www.wrwa.gov.uk/GoldenTicket
Royal Albert Hall is going to the movies

BY NICKY SWEETLAND
nicky@londonweeklynews.co.uk

DINOSAURS and aliens are set to inhabit the Royal Albert Hall later this year as some of the world’s most famous venue unveils its inaugural film festival.

Some of the most famous film scores of all time will be performed live to accompany screenings of smash hit films including Independence Day, Jurassic Park and Aliens.

London’s beloved concert hall will host a programme of film-and-live-orchestra which also includes 90s action blockbusters Raiders of the Lost Ark, Gladiator and ET – and a dazzling new show celebrating classic westerns.

As a special treat for Independence Day fans, the one-off, 20th anniversary event will also include a unique pre-show talk from composer David Arnold, discussing his work scoring Independence Day, Sherlock and Bond films – as well as the closing ceremony of the 2012 Olympics – before the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra takes to the stage to accompany the movie in full.

Mr Arnold said: “The Royal Albert Hall is such an iconic venue and a personal favourite of mine – it’s always an honour to be on the stage, especially people dressed as Yodas or the West, both multiple award-winners winning designers, was an honour. LCGD provided me with an incredibly exciting opportunity winning the awards will provide the catalyst I need to launch my new career.”

Andrew Wilson, director of garden design at LCGD, said: “We’re delighted that our students are leaving the college with a footprint in design that is recognised by the Society of Garden Designers. To have graduates winning awards so consistently is testament to the skill and professionalism of our tutors and lecturers that they meet on the course.”

Cheers! Offices allowed the beer essentials

AN enterprising office facility in Soho is treating thirsty workers – by offering them unlimited beer on tap. 

At WeWork’s premises, people renting desk space have been able to enjoy a licensed beer tap, including in London’s beloved concert venue, all year round.

The firm says of its Soho facility: “Once a music publishing house, the WeWork Soho location is now a tight-knit entrepreneurial community. The historic building is centrally located and retains much of its original charm, like its large bay windows and exposed brick walls. It’s the perfect spot for anyone in the creative industry.”

Clear square of Yodas, plea

THE north end of Trafalgar Square should be cleared of bulldozers and street performers, according to the National Gallery’s new director. At the opening of a new exhibition, Gabriele Finaldi said he wanted to make the area “a space that works for us”. The Times reports. The paved area has become a popular place for street artists, especially people dressed as “levitating Yodas.”

During the opening of Delacroix and the Rise of Modern Art, Mr Finaldi recalled how, when he worked for the gallery in the 1990s, the North Terrace was a street.

“I don’t remember the bagpipers or the Yodas or the oompah band player who shoots flames out of his tuba or the Elvis impersonator or the west African evangelist preacher.”

The project was completed in 2003 and attracts performers who arrive each morning to claim the best spot. Trafalgar Square is looked after by Westminster City Council. It is said it wanted to make sure “we keep a vibrant feel to the area.”

Accolades for garden design students

LONDON College of Garden Design graduates triumphed once again this year, with two graduates receiving two awards each.

Emily Furlong won in the Small Budget Garden category for The Experimental Station, for which the judges said she was “abused”.

Emily was also jointly awarded the Future Designer award for her “interesting concept on a country garden” built by Landform Consultants.

She said: “To win an award is an amazing feeling. For me the award was an opportunity to take a pause and reflect on the success of the garden and know for this moment, this garden was recognised for being great.”

TV designer graduate once again triumphed in the Student of the Year Award with Tom Massey, who graduated in 2015, winning both domestic and commercial categories for work completed on his one-year garden design diploma course.

Tom said: “Having my work singled out and praised by judges Sarah Eberle and Cleve West, both multiple award-winning designers, was an honour. LCGD provided me with an incredibly exciting opportunity winning the awards will provide the catalyst I need to launch my new career.”

Lucy Noble, director of garden design at LCGD, said: “We’re delighted that our students are leaving the college with a footprint in design that is recognised by the Society of Garden Designers. To have graduates winning awards so consistently is testament to the skill and professionalism of our tutors and lecturers that they meet on the course.”

Clear square of Yodas, plea

THE north end of Trafalgar Square should be cleared of bulldozers and street performers, according to the National Gallery’s new director. At the opening of a new exhibition, Gabriele Finaldi said he wanted to make the area “a space that works for us”. The Times reports. The paved area has become a popular place for street artists, especially people dressed as “levitating Yodas.”

During the opening of Delacroix and the Rise of Modern Art, Mr Finaldi recalled how, when he worked for the gallery in the 1990s, the North Terrace was a street.

“I don’t remember the bagpipers or the Yodas or the oompah band player who shoots flames out of his tuba or the Elvis impersonator or the west African evangelist preacher.”

The project was completed in 2003 and attracts performers who arrive each morning to claim the best spot. Trafalgar Square is looked after by Westminster City Council. It is said it wanted to make sure “we keep a vibrant feel to the area.”

Clear square of Yodas, plea

THE north end of Trafalgar Square should be cleared of bulldozers and street performers, according to the National Gallery’s new director. At the opening of a new exhibition, Gabriele Finaldi said he wanted to make the area “a space that works for us”. The Times reports. The paved area has become a popular place for street artists, especially people dressed as “levitating Yodas.”

During the opening of Delacroix and the Rise of Modern Art, Mr Finaldi recalled how, when he worked for the gallery in the 1990s, the North Terrace was a street.

“I don’t remember the bagpipers or the Yodas or the oompah band player who shoots flames out of his tuba or the Elvis impersonator or the west African evangelist preacher.”

The project was completed in 2003 and attracts performers who arrive each morning to claim the best spot. Trafalgar Square is looked after by Westminster City Council. It is said it wanted to make sure “we keep a vibrant feel to the area.”

Clear square of Yodas, plea

THE north end of Trafalgar Square should be cleared of bulldozers and street performers, according to the National Gallery’s new director. At the opening of a new exhibition, Gabriele Finaldi said he wanted to make the area “a space that works for us”. The Times reports. The paved area has become a popular place for street artists, especially people dressed as “levitating Yodas.”

During the opening of Delacroix and the Rise of Modern Art, Mr Finaldi recalled how, when he worked for the gallery in the 1990s, the North Terrace was a street.

“I don’t remember the bagpipers or the Yodas or the oompah band player who shoots flames out of his tuba or the Elvis impersonator or the west African evangelist preacher.”

The project was completed in 2003 and attracts performers who arrive each morning to claim the best spot. Trafalgar Square is looked after by Westminster City Council. It is said it wanted to make sure “we keep a vibrant feel to the area.”

Clear square of Yodas, plea

THE north end of Trafalgar Square should be cleared of bulldozers and street performers, according to the National Gallery’s new director. At the opening of a new exhibition, Gabriele Finaldi said he wanted to make the area “a space that works for us”. The Times reports. The paved area has become a popular place for street artists, especially people dressed as “levitating Yodas.”

During the opening of Delacroix and the Rise of Modern Art, Mr Finaldi recalled how, when he worked for the gallery in the 1990s, the North Terrace was a street.

“I don’t remember the bagpipers or the Yodas or the oompah band player who shoots flames out of his tuba or the Elvis impersonator or the west African evangelist preacher.”

The project was completed in 2003 and attracts performers who arrive each morning to claim the best spot. Trafalgar Square is looked after by Westminster City Council. It is said it wanted to make sure “we keep a vibrant feel to the area.”

Clear square of Yodas, plea

THE north end of Trafalgar Square should be cleared of bulldozers and street performers, according to the National Gallery’s new director. At the opening of a new exhibition, Gabriele Finaldi said he wanted to make the area “a space that works for us”. The Times reports. The paved area has become a popular place for street artists, especially people dressed as “levitating Yodas.”

During the opening of Delacroix and the Rise of Modern Art, Mr Finaldi recalled how, when he worked for the gallery in the 1990s, the North Terrace was a street.

“I don’t remember the bagpipers or the Yodas or the oompah band player who shoots flames out of his tuba or the Elvis impersonator or the west African evangelist preacher.”

The project was completed in 2003 and attracts performers who arrive each morning to claim the best spot. Trafalgar Square is looked after by Westminster City Council. It is said it wanted to make sure “we keep a vibrant feel to the area.”
More London pupils cross council boundaries to attend school than anywhere else in England, according to London Councils, which represents the 32 boroughs and the City of London.

More than 136,000 pupils educated in the capital are being taught at a school outside of the local authority they live in, 6 per cent of the total. This is double the proportion of pupils who cross borough boundaries to attend school or college in England as a whole.

This figure includes more than 80,000 secondary school students, 20 per cent of London’s secondary school population. This is more than double the nine per cent of secondary school students in England who do this.

In Greater Manchester, which is an urban area comparable with London, 22,474 pupils attend a school outside the local authority they live in, 6 per cent of the total number of pupils being educated there.

Mr Johnson said: “I am delighted that Anthony and John have agreed to become my special envoys for tackling these horrific crimes, which have no place in our capital city or this country.”

The appointments build on work the Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime has carried out to help tackle human trafficking. As an associate partner in the European Communities Against Trafficking Project, MOPAC has hosted conferences at City Hall to share learning and good practice across London boroughs.

The Metropolitan Police are also part of the Pan-London Trafficking Forum, a partner-led initiative which co-ordinates and supports activities to drive down modern slavery.

In harmony

A LEADING conductor has backed controversial plans for a new cycle route over Waterloo Bridge.

Mr Bashmet said the Barbican, Festival Hall and Royal Albert Hall were “very good” but that all great cities needed to “think of the future”. He urged people to trust Sir Simon.

Londoners still face barriers to cycling, which has to be lifted if better results are to be achieved.

Sir John said: “I’m delighted with the mayor’s appointment to tackle the problems of modern day slavery, which is growing fast. It is extremely troubling how so many vulnerable victims there are, and how easily they succumb to ruthless and violent traffickers.”

“Trafficking is the worst form of modern day slavery, and our task will be to get to grips with the scale and methods used by traffickers and work with agencies and partners on tackling these horrific crimes.”
Queen’s chorus of approval

WHO does The Queen listen to on the radio at breakfast these days? It’s doubtful that it’s the “agenda-setting” Today programme, as we now understand that the argumentative Radio 4 flagship leaves Her Majesty vexed and annoyed.

Matthew Bannister, the former Radio 1 chief who now hosts Radio 4’s popular morning show Last Word, recently revealed that, along with 57 million other Brits, The Queen is not a fan of Today, the current affairs show which has become distinguished by the interruptive grilling that regular hosts John Humphrys and Sarah Montague dish out to their guests, writes Geoff Baker.

Although senior politicians tune in to Today to hear who is getting a bashing from Humphrys in his self-made role as Devil’s advocate, it appears that The Queen does not join them.

Bannister revealed that when he met The Queen at her visit to Broadcasting House a little while back, he asked her who she listened to in the mornings.

“She said ‘Terry Wogan, the Today programme makes me cross’,” Bannister announced on Radio 4.

That The Queen was a TOG [Terry’s Old Gals] will surprise nobody at the palace. Some years ago, after she was so disappointed that his weekday radio show had been moved to Sunday morning, airing when she was at church, she invited Wogan to dine with her and other VIP guests at Windsor Castle.

According at the time to The Sunday Telegraph, for which the national treasure was a columnist, a courtier reported that “Her Majesty was adamant that she should sit next to Wogan”, doubtless to catch up on all the chat missed by the obligation to Matins.

To be fair to John Humphrys, he too has been entertained at a private lunch with The Queen – and it was at that occasion at Buckingham Palace that he requested an on-air interview with Her Majesty, who replied with one her classic put-downs.

“She said ‘No’,” said Humphrys. “And she added, ‘What’s more, if one were to do an interview it would not be with you’.”

But who does Her Majesty listen to when breakfasting on her preferred-brown boiled eggs? It is difficult to believe that her choice is Wogan’s replacement, the Chris Evans show, with its usual programme featuring the likes of Led Zeppelin, the Stone Roses and Def Leppard.

The smart money is going on the bet that in the absence of Wogan, The Queen has turned the dial over to Classic FM in order to hear songs by another royal favourite, Katherine Jenkins.

Katherine, dubbed “the new Forces sweetheart” for her work supporting British troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, is fast becoming the new royals’ sweetheart too.

Over the past 10 years Katherine has built up a firm following at Buckingham Palace through her performances for The Queen – at Royal Variety Performances, festivals of remembrance organised by the Royal British Legion, the funeral of Baroness Thatcher and events for VE Day 60 and VE Day 70.

Now the 35-year-old Welsh star is to launch her own series of concerts in tribute to The Queen, with seven shows to mark Majesty’s 90th birthday this year.

Katherine was personally chosen by The Queen to head-line the entertainment at the official birthday celebrations at Windsor Castle, where she will perform to 20,000, including Her Majesty and other members of the royal family, at pageants to be held from May 12 to 15.

Following those gigs, Katherine will give “my very own tribute to Her Majesty” with concerts to mark The Queen’s 90th at Birmingham’s Symphony Hall on June 15 and at the Royal Albert Hall on June 18. She will be singing royal favourites including We’ll Meet Again, Jerusalem, Rule Britannia, Amazing Grace, I Could Have Danced All Night, How Great Thou Art and Land Of Hope and Glory.

And now that the Albert Hall sold out within hours, the official mascot for the Wales rugby union team, who is fast becoming the official mascot for the royal team, has added another date to celebrate The Queen’s birthday, at Hampton Court Palace on June 23.

Besides singing for the royals, Katherine has now also been recruited to their “side”; she has just been appointed the first official ambassador for Prince Harry’s Invictus Games, which will be held in a giant stadium in Florida in May and where wounded, injured or sick members and veterans of the Armed Services will take part in a Paralympic-style games in Orlando.

President Obama is expected to be Prince Harry’s guest at the Invictus Games and Katherine, who has entertained troops in Iraq, is tipped to perform there too.

Katherine, who is also a trustee of the British Forces Foundation and a veteran of Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo, Cyprus and Northern Ireland, said: “Supporting the men, women and families who serve our country has always been an important part of my life, and I am extremely honoured to serve as an ambassador for the 2016 Invictus Games. I look forward to celebrating and honouring the sacrifices of veteran and active duty service members and their families from around the world in May.”

As both the royal family and the Government place a high value on those who support the Services, it would surprise few if Katherine, who was awarded the OBE in 2014, is among the names of those to be made a Dame Commander of the British Empire in The Queen’s Birthday Honours List in June.

MUSTARD IS THE ANSWER - ALL DAY TRADITIONAL ENGLISH DINING

A new restaurant will be bringing a taste of English tradition to west London when it opens its doors for the first time next week.

Mustard, an all-day dining experience, is offering a mouth-watering menu based on home grown grub straight from the British Isles.

Masterminded by owners Lawrence Hartley, Tim Healy and Jason Wild, Mustard combines comfortable surroundings and fine food at affordable prices.

Carefully sourced from farm to fork, the restaurant’s ‘British brasserie’ theme is set to entice diners from all corners of the capital when it opens in Brook Green, Hammersmith, next month.

Mr Wild, one of the three joint owners behind the venture, will also be heading up a talented kitchen team.

With 26 years experience and a CV that includes stints at the Royal Opera House and the National Theatre, he is determined to make a success of his latest project.

"There is more than enough good English fare out there," he said. "Now is the time to get in there and get on with it."

"We are really excited to be moving into this part of London. The area has got huge potential."

"Our dream is to run a collection of restaurants but the ethos will remain the same."

Mustard opens for lunchtime and evening service on March 1st. A cake and coffee menu is also available.
Could Hirst art feature in birthday salute to the Queen?

A

S enthusiasm mounts for the idea of an exhibition of 90 paintings of The Queen to mark her official birthday this summer, speculation is growing that such a gallery could include a “new” work by Damien Hirst and another by Her Majesty’s favourite rock star.

Hirst’s painting, *Beautiful Portrait, The Queen,* was given to the nation last year by the former ‘bad boy of British art’ and overlooked until it was discovered in a recent inventory of the Government Art Collection.

The portrait, which was created through the “spin” technique that helped to make Hirst famous, has not been displayed in public since it was completed in 2014. But now it is believed to be among the favourites for a possible show of different views of The Queen by big names of the art world, including James Lloyd, Michael Noakes, Susan Ryder, Andy Warhol and perhaps even Lucien Freud, whose portrait of Her Majesty appears to like his impressionist work.

Another painter whose work could be included if the idea for the portraits is given the green light by Buckingham Palace is Sir Paul McCartney.

Sir Paul is a great admirer of Her Majesty and the feeling is mutual. The Queen has supported a number of his projects, including official opening his art school, the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts, in 1996, and six years later, she opened an exhibition of his paintings at the city’s Walker Art Gallery.

On that occasion the exhibition did not include three paintings which Sir Paul had done of The Queen, entitled *A Greenery Queen, The Queen Getting A Joke* and *The Queen After Her First Cigarette*.

Sir Paul said at the time: “The gallery had the opportunity to include the pictures – it was up to them. “I would have been happy to have shown them to The Queen – they are very affectionate and I think she has a good sense of humour. She’s a fine woman.”

Although the former Beatle’s royal studies were excluded from the Liverpool show, there’s a good chance that one or all of them could hang in a 90 Faces Of The Queen exhibition, if it goes ahead, at least as she appears to like his impressionist work.

“I think she liked them. She said they were very colourful and I took that as a great compliment,” said Sir Paul.

However, one painting that is not expected to make the proposed show is a stylised study of The Queen as a child on a horse which was presented to her by German President Joachim Gauck.

Artist Nicole Leidenfrost had painted Princess Elizabeth riding a blue pony which was flecked in yellow and green, prompting Her Majesty to observe, “That’s a funny colour for a horse”.

In the painting the pony’s reins are held by The Queen’s father George VI. She asked President Gauck: “Is that supposed to be my father?” Mr Gauck said: “Don’t you recognise him?” and his guest replied “no”.

MODERN VIEW: Artist Damien Hirst, the former ‘bad boy’ of British art, produced a painting saluting The Queen

**Prine Regent at cross purposes**

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

WE are indebted to everyone’s favourite royal history pixie, Dr Lucy Worsley, for revealing that one of our monarchs may have been something of a cross-dresser.

At morning today uncovered the little secret whilst researching one of her excellent histories for BBC Four, a documentary on the importance of power dressing among the royals over the centuries.

Because of his father’s mental illness, George IV served as Prince Regent from 1811 until his own accession in 1820 and it appears that during his time as understudy he may have inherited some of his dad’s eccentricity, especially when it came to dressing up.

**REVEALING: Lucy Worsley says George IV may have been a cross-dresser**

“He was a very stylish man,” said Dr Worsley, “as his wife said of him, ‘it was just a shame that he had to be king, as he would have made a much better hairdresser’.”

It seems that George also had some way to go as a master of the housekeeping, for not only did he spend the equivalent of £19,700 on his coronation – 20 times what it cost to crown his father – but he spent £2,180,000 of that on the coronation robes which he only wore for a few hours.

He also did not exactly improve his popularity by insisting that his entire court wear historic fancy dress for the occasion.

Some of these outfits – along with George IV’s wardrobe – are on exhibition at the Museum of London, where fashion historians estimate that the average cost of a fancy dress coronation costume pressed on the hapless courtiers would have been around £22,000.

When George IV died much of his wardrobe was auctioned off and the Museum of London has the sale catalogue; listing such lots as his 28 white waistcoats, 43 pairs of spurs and, eagle-eyed museum staff pointed out to Dr Worsley, “two nun’s dresses and a red petticoat”.

As you do.

But whilst George IV’s dressing up box may provide the means for a bit of a giggle, his example may also go to explaining why so many of the current royal family like to frequently re-wear in public their own stylish outfits, thus avoiding the profligacy-fed unpopularity of their ancestor.

“The people thought his obsequies with clothes was undignified for a king. When he died he wasn’t much-mourned because of it,” said Dr Worsley.

“After his death, one pamphleteer wrote ‘he cared more about the tie of a neckcloth than he did about Parliamentary reform’ and his obituary in The Times said ‘never was an individual regretted more by his people than this deceased king’.

By contrast, our popular Duke of Edinburgh, who is frequently lauded for his impeccable dress sense, is reported to still be wearing – and fitting into – suits that he first had 50 years ago.

**Where to see a royal**

FULL details of events in the ever-busy diaries of the many members of the Royal Family are available from the official website www.royal.gov.uk but here’s the schedule for the week ahead for Where To See A Royal

**February 23**
- The Queen will visit Crossrail Bond Street, 75 Davies Street W1 to open the new Crossrail station, two years ahead of schedule.
- The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron, The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award, will attend Receptions for young people who have achieved the Gold Standard in the Award at St James’s Palace.
- The Earl of Wessex, as Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award, will visit Terminal 5, London Heathrow Airport, Wayfare Road, Hounslow to celebrate the Diamond Anniversary.
- The Countess of Wessex, as Chairman, The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award, Women’s Network Forum, will chair a meeting at Shell Headquarters, Shell Centre SE1.
- The Princess Royal, as Patron, Vanity, will host the Annual Awards Ceremony, Floor 6, 6 Mitre Passage, Peninsula Central SE10.
- The Princess Royal, as Chancellor, University of Edinburgh, will hold a Dinner at Buckingham Palace.
- Princess Alexandra, as Patron, St Christopher’s Hospice, will attend a Reception at the Royal Academy, Burlington House, Piccadilly.
- The Princess Royal, as Patron, Redruth, will attend a Dinner to mark the 30th anniversary of the Trust for the UK’s SE1.
- The Princess Royal, as Patron, The Chartered Institute of Marketing, will attend the London Region 12th Annual Student Conference, Queen Court, University of Greenwich, Old Royal Naval College.
- The Princess Royal, as President, Animal Health Trust, will hold the Fellowship Reception at St James’s Palace.
- The Princess Royal, as Patron, The Pony Club, will visit Pony Club Emergency Action Centre, Wormwood Scrubs Pony Centre, Wormwood Scrubs Park.

**February 24**
- The Duke of Edinburgh, as President, The Women’s Network Forum, will chair a meeting at Shell Headquarters, Shell Centre SE1.
- The Princess Royal, as Patron, Redruth, will attend a Dinner to mark the 30th anniversary of the Trust for the UK’s SE1.
- The Prince of Wales, as President, The British Heart Foundation, will launch the 2016 Heart Awards, at The WGC, in London.
- The Princess Royal, as Patron, The Chartered Institute of Marketing, will attend the London Region 12th Annual Student Conference, Queen Court, University of Greenwich, Old Royal Naval College.
- The Princess Royal, as President, Animal Health Trust, will hold the Fellowship Reception at St James’s Palace.
- The Princess Royal, as Patron, The Pony Club, will visit Pony Club Emergency Action Centre, Wormwood Scrubs Pony Centre, Wormwood Scrubs Park.

**February 25**
- The Duke of Edinburgh, as Colonel, Grenadier Guards, will attend a Service and Reception to mark the 25th anniversary of the Regiment’s involvement in Operation Granby, at the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks SW1.
- The Duke of Gloucester, as Honorary President, The National Trust, will attend a Service and Dinner at Armenia’s Hall, Coleman Street EC2.
- The Duke of Kent, as President, will attend the Annual General Meeting and Dinner at Armourers’ Hall, Coleman Street EC2.
- The Duke of Kent, as Patron, The Pony Club, will visit Pony Club Emergency Action Centre, Wormwood Scrubs Pony Centre, Wormwood Scrubs Park.

**February 26**
- The Duke of Gloucester, as President, The Royal Institution of Great Britain, 34 Belgrave Square, will attend the Annual General Meeting and Dinner at Shell Headquarters, Shell Centre SE1.
- The Countess of Wessex, as Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award, will attend a Service and Reception to mark the 25th anniversary of the Regiment’s involvement in Operation Granby, at the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks SW1.
- The Duke of Gloucester, as President, The National Trust, will attend a Service and Dinner at Armenia’s Hall, Coleman Street EC2.
- The Duke of Kent, as Patron, The Pony Club, will visit Pony Club Emergency Action Centre, Wormwood Scrubs Pony Centre, Wormwood Scrubs Park.

**February 27**
- The Duke of Kent, as President, will attend the Annual General Meeting and Dinner at Armourers’ Hall, Coleman Street EC2.
- The Duke of Kent, as Field Marshal, will attend a Service to Commemorate the 25th Anniversary of Operation Granby, at the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks SW1.
WENTY years after Sara Cox was one of the first to break Emma Bunton and the other Spice Girls on TV, the pair are hooking up again to present a new, five-night-a-week show for the BBC.

But Spice Girls fans aren’t too happy about it. Sara and Emma will front the team presenting BBC2’s newest coals-to-Newcastle show, Too Much TV, which will air live at suppertime on Monday to Friday, starting next week.

Without a shred of irony, the BBC has excitedly announced, “with more TV available to us than anyone can keep up with, this new series will inform viewers about what’s on, be a place to glean insight and hear opinions, catch the watercooler moments you may have missed, and indulge in a good old gossip about the biggest shows on TV that week.”

It will also delve into the archive so viewers have the chance to enjoy again some of TV’s greatest moments.

How many TV presenters does it take to host a TV show about TV? Six – Sara, Emma, Rufus Hound, Alex Jones and comedians Funnibui Onotayo and Susan Calman.

“Each weekday, our presenters, all self-confessed TV lovers, will pair up to present the latest TV news, welcome celebrity guests into the studio, showcase first-to-air clips and go behind the scenes to lift the lid on a little TV magic,” says the BBC breathlessly.

This makes the show sound somewhat different from the one which marked Sara Cox’s TV debut, Channel 4’s The Girlie Show, on which the young woman who helped to create the ladette culture presented a slot aimed at ridiculing “old poseurs” or, as she then also described them, “completely obsessed celebrities”.

The BBC’s press office is keen to stress how “super-advertised” the team is to be presenting the new show which, given its slot, should effectively cannibalise the audience for its own rival news on BBC1.

“With the premise of the show being that there’s Too Much TV, it may be hard to see how making more of it is going to help. And yet, I’m assured by the BBC’s very top scientists that it definitely will. I guess we’ll just have to wait and see if they’re right or not,” says Rufus Hound in the press release.

“I’m always being told I watch too much TV so this is the perfect series for me to present with my three old mates Emma, Sara and Rufus! I’m sure even I’ll discover some hidden gems I’ve never watched!” exhales Alex Jones.

“I’m super excited about Too Much TV! If I wasn’t hosting this show I would 100 per cent be tuning in every day. It’s right up my street as I’m obsessed with all things telly!” trilled Emma Cox.

Sara Cox, who launched the Spice Girls on The Girlie Show back in 1996, added: “I’m really excited to be presenting with my three old mates Emma, Rufus & Alex. Plus I get to job-share with an actual Spice Girl! TMTV is going to have a poke around in last night’s telly for any treats you may have missed and will give you heads up on what to watch on your telly box every night. It’s also very exciting that I’ll be able to commandeer the remote control at home, gawp at loads of TV, and claim it’s for work. However, while the hosts are so excited that they may be needing towels, Spice Girls fans are not jumping for joy. They figure that with Emma now buisily occupied in the BBC’s self-promotion department, Too Much TV means the collapse of hopes for much-anticipated Spice Girls gigs to celebrate the band’s 20th anniversary. Online forums for Spice Girls fans are peppered with laments that Emma has chosen teatime TV over packing out Wembley Stadium for Girl Power gigs.

“Bye bye reunion tour,” posted one fan when the news of Too Much TV was broken on a fansite. “I wish the girls would stop taking part in TV shows and feel like recording and releasing music instead,” commented another.

Another moaned: “You’d think if they had a genuine passion for making music and performing, which I think they all had at one time, they would miss it and want to keep doing it even if success wasn’t guaranteed or likely.”

To which comment another fan replied: “Sadly, time has proven that the only girl who has always been completely passionate about music is Melanie C.”

Which is surely not quite the reaction that the BBC had been hoping for.

Candidates pick soundtracks of their lies (sorry, lives)

WILL Special Agent Gibbs win the White House for Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton?

NCIS, the world’s favourite TV drama which stars Mark Harmon as the laconic navy investigator, is set to take a key role in the presidential election as Republican and Democrats both laud the rights of its theme tune.

Ever since Ronald Reagan entirely inappropriately used Bruce Springsteen’s Born In The USA as the soundtrack on his campaign trail – not understanding that, rather than being a song of patriotism, it was the Boss’s diatribe against the shocking way that the USA treated Vietnamese veterans – politicians on both sides in the States have pinched popular songs in order to bolster their appeal with the voters.

Democrat contender Bernie Sanders has been attempting to rally support by using Simon & Garfunkel’s America at his rallies, Trump has been marching behind Twisted Sister’s We’re Not Going To Take It and Elton John’s Rocket Man, and the coverstar of Rug Monthly has also been infiltrating Adele, Neil Young, Aerosmith and REM by using their songs at his vote fests without their permission.

But now looms a new election fight over the theme tune to the massively-popular NCIS, as researchers have discovered that among Republicans’ favourite shows and Democrats’ most-loved programmes, NCIS is the only show that features in both parties’ lists of Top 20 TV shows.

But they had all been more than happy to acclaim the NCIS theme tune as a fitting political anthem which has now begun to descend on the ears of voters.

“Their (NCIS’s) 90s theme tune, done with the brilliance of David Foster, every journalist’s life story Ed Herndon’s Walk and more from intelligent comedy champion John Lloyd and his Museum Of Curiosity.”

FAVOURITE: David Jason

For years I have been telling people falsely that I run a sandwich bar. Now I have the thrilling opportunity to make everyone think that this is really funny. I am sure that this will be just as funny as the NCIS theme tune when I play it on my RØDE microphone.

Oddly enough, none of the Presidential candidates appear keen on possibly more appropriate soundtracks for their campaigns, such as Lying Eyes by The Eagles, The Bee Gees’ Jive Talking, I’m Looking Through You by The Beatles or The Pogues’ entirely appropriate The Great Pretender.
FOLLOWING the huge success of Shakespeare In Love, now the big anniversary year for The Bard is to be marked by Shakespeare In Lust, and if you see yourself as a “hot Elizabethan” you could be in the racy new TV production.

Shakespeare's life, played to a dangerous version of rock theatre scene that was 16th century London – the seductive, violent world where his raw talent faced rotting audiences, religious fanatics and raucose side-shows.

“It’s the hot, contemporary, dangerous version of Shakespeare’s life, played to a modern soundtrack, exposing all his recklessness, lustful temptations and brilliance”. Over-ear, that’s all a far cry from Johnnie Gielgud.

But it’s good news for west London newcomer Laurie Davidson

although still studying in his final year at the London Academy for Music and Dramatic Art in Barons Court, has landed the lead role as the rollicking and bed-hopping Shakespeare.

Clearly, with the glittering production of Will to his name, the series which is set for prime-time screening in the USA and UK will make him the new Benedict Cumberbatch and the former Old Alleynian pupil of Dulwich College is already preparing for the part by learning to write with a quill.

Meanwhile, TV wannabes can join the young six-foot in the cast of the risque production as TV chiefs are now looking for both extras and “featured parts” for crowd and theatre scenes for when filming starts in March in Bath and London.

“We are looking for vibrant and talented individuals, sexy, hot and enthusiastic Elizabethans, rock and medieval musicians, fashion models, lively and raucous moss pig people, tightrope walkers, belly dancers, blacksmiths and snake-loving new talent,” say the producers.

Snake-loving talent should apply to castings@maddogcastings.com enclosing a CV and a recent photograph of themselves with an anaconda.

Over to 2

WITH the shutdown of the BBC3 TV service last week, ITV are ramping up the coverage for young people in the hope of gaining an even bigger market share of the audience.

The BBC channel changed to a solely online service last week, but ITV, whose station ITV2 is the biggest and most popular with young people, is hoping they can capitalise.

Later this month the station will broadcast the premiere of season 15 of Family Guy along with other creations by Seth MacFarlane including American Dad and The Cleveland Show. ITV have also won the rights to screen the UK premiere of the MacFarlane’s new animated comedy Bordertown.

BIG hand for Eddie Izzard, the favourite to be Mayor of London in 2020, who will be teaching us all a lesson in courage, athleticism and charity by not only attempting to complete an impressive 27 marathons in 27 days across South Africa for Sport Relief 2016, but also for pledging that if the feat stutters him he will try it again and again and again.

Eddie, the comedy genius who nuanced the nation in 2009 when, with only five weeks training he completed 43 marathons across the UK in 51 days and raised £1.6 million, is now to run for more than 700 miles, starting today (February 23) and completing his great trek on March 20.

Eddie has chosen 27 marathons to mark the 27 years that Nelson Mandela spent in prison.

“Throughout his journey he will explore the history of South Africa and Nelson Mandela as well as visiting communities, organisations and families that have all been helped by the work of Comic Relief,” says the BBC, who will be following Eddie with a film crew.

Progressing

We may be living in a golden age for the great British music festival, but it seems the spiralling cost of tickets and the overwhelming range of choice is making music fans harder and harder to please, writes Jack Dixon.

Within hours of the announcement that Superbowl conquerors Coldplay had landed a headline slot at Glastonbury for the fourth time in 11 years, hundreds were signing up to an online petition to kick the band off the bill.

Tough crowd, perhaps. But with the cost of camping at the UK's premier festivals about to break through the £200 mark, more and more niche events are popping up around the country to satisfy the demand.

From the peace and tranquility of Latitude, in Suffolk, to the red-blooded rock of Reading and Leeds, it seems we can't get enough of the live music circus once the summer sun has gone. And while Londoners will once again make the annual end-of-June pilgrimage all the way to Worthy Farm in Somerset – whether to applaud or pillory Chris Martin and co – many will be staying in the capital for their festival kicks.

For those hungry to connect with the countryside from the comfort of the city, look no further than Caught By The River Thames - a brand new two-day event coming to west London in August.

Boasting an impressive line-up topped by indie rock royalty Low and the Super Furry Animals, the festival is set to offer a unique twist on the summer party scene.

It's taking place within the glorious surrounds of Fulham Palace and will also feature talks with heavyweights from the literary world, performances from the Faber Poetry Chapel, while celebrating local brewers with its own 'Ten Mile' beer festival. Animal rights campaigner and veteran broadcaster Chris Packham even makes a guest appearance.

Organisers say the gathering of authors and artists, thinkers and drinkers will be part-gig, part nature symposium, "bridging the previously un-spanned gap between psychedelic high-summer rock irrol concert and Springwatch”. Not to be missed.

Caught By The River Thames takes place at Fulham Palace on August 6 and 7. Tickets are available at www.caughtbytherivethames.com
Gurkhas fraud alert

By Peter Faulkner

GURKHAS living in West London have been put on a police wanted list...to stop them putting more of their savings into a fraudulent investment scheme.

City of London Police believe there are many Gurkha families scattered around Hammersmith, Fulham, Earls Court and the surrounding districts.

They think many of them may be victims of a suspected £50 million fraudulent Ponzi scheme and are urging them to come forward.

Since October 2014, City of London Police have been investigating Capital World Market, based in Bishopsgate, which was offering five per cent interest per month to investors.

Detectives have heard from some potential victims of how they have invested sums from the thousands to the millions - seeing little or no return - but it is thought the majority of alleged victims were from the Gurkha and Nepalese community, and have yet to come forward.

Ponzi schemes are fraudulent investment operations which pays returns to its investors from new capital paid to the operators by new investors, rather than from profit earned by the operator.

Detective Chief Inspector Dave Manley said evidence suggests that hundreds of members of the Gurkha and Nepalese community may have been targeted.

He said: “Out of the 450 Gurkha and Nepalese alleged victims that we believe may have invested, less than one per cent from that community have come forward so far.

“The others are a large piece of the jigsaw that is missing - the harm caused to individuals, their families, their pension pots and life savings - at the moment is not being represented within the case.

“The story of how this has impacted and affected people needs to be told in the judicial process. It would be a shame for us to get to the next stage and the level of harm that’s been caused to the community is not measured or part of the case.”

Action Fraud states on its website that Ponzi schemes are “get rich quick investment scams,” and that there is no actual investment as “the fraudsters siphon off the money for themselves”.

In an intelligence-led investigation, detectives swooped on the alleged scam before the cash ran out, but Mr Manley said payments to investors would have dried up that month.

Gary Ghale from the Gurkha Welfare Trust said it is the first time he has heard of this type of scheme involving so many people from the Gurkha and Nepalese communities, and that he can think of three reasons potential victims may be reluctant to come forward.

“Firstly, they might not have heard of the investigation,” he said.

“Secondly, it is because they are worried they might be implicated in this investigation.

“And thirdly because of the embarrassing situation they are in.

“We would recommend those who believe they have fallen victim to contact the police.”

DCI Manley said those that invested may have encouraged friends and family to do the same, believing they were simply introducing them to a good opportunity.

He said of the £50 million invested only £1m of that has been recovered - equating to 2p in every pound for the wider pool of between 600-800 victims.

“There is still money missing, but I have some doubts as to whether any more will be found. The only justice people are going to get is if their story is told,” he added.

The appeal comes nine months after the City of London Police arrested 10 men and three women, all of whom work at the City-based foreign exchange trading company, on suspicion of fraud by false representation and money laundering.

Detectives, supported by the Financial Conduct Authority, also seized a host of computers and documents within the case.

If you receive one of these emails, do not click on any links or download any attachments and report it to Royal Mail.

Rogue landlords hit in the pockets

■ODDY landlords have been hit in the pocket by Hammersmith & Fulham Council to the tune of more than £60,000.

Sunil Patel, 44, was prosecuted at Hammersmith Magistrates Court for failing to carry out several checks and repairs at his flat in Australia Road, White City.

He was given an 18-month conditional discharge and ordered to pay more than £8,600 costs.

The court heard that Patel’s tenants were forced to live in a “house of horrors” with mould on the walls, broken smoke alarms, faulty electrics, a missing letterbox letting in draughts, faulty central heating, broken laminate flooring and a missing carpet.

Hammersmith’s get tough policy also led to a £20,000 fine plus nearly £5,000 costs for a landlord who was prosecuted for operating a house in multiple occupation in Harrow Road, North Acton, without a licence, not carrying out gas or electrical safety checks and not providing a decent fire escape or treating damp and mould.

And there was a £28,000 fine plus more than £2,000 costs for a landlord who failed to get a HMO licence for his home in Talgarth Road, Hammersmith, and rented it out despite having a broken boiler and a toilet that leaked waste.

Bogus ID cards

■THE National Fraud Intelligence Bureau is warning that people are being contacted electronically by fraudsters claiming to be from the Home Office offering National ID Card for Commonwealth Citizenship.

The British Commonwealth National cards sell for anything between £150 - £300.

The Home Office have said that no such scheme exists and the card “does not prevent an illegal migrant from being removed from the UK”.

If you receive an unexpected email, telephone call or letter from someone who claims to be from the Home Office, it may be a scam.

Email virus alert

■FRAUDSTERS are sending out virus infected emails that claim a package has been seized by HM Revenue & Customs upon arrival into the UK.

The official looking scam emails claiming to be from Royal Mail, contain a link to a document which will install malicious software on your computer designed to steal your personal information.

If you receive one of these emails, do not click on any links or download any attachments and report it to Royal Mail.
John Parnham’s Children’s Fun Fair in partnership with sponsoring the Pensioners Christmas Lunch

CHILDREN’S FAIR & ACTIVITIES

PARSONS GREEN · FULHAM · SW6 4UH

Wed 24th to Sun 28th FEB

Weekdays: 2pm
Weekends: 11am
Closes: Early Evening

www.parnhamfunfairs.co.uk · TEL 07956 245531

This Fair is a Token operated event
NO CASH ON RIDES OR STALLS ACCEPTED

1 TOKEN £1.00
12 TOKENS £10.00

Tokens on sale at booth

Fun for all the family!

John Parnham’s Children’s Fun Fair in partnership with sponsoring the Pensioners Christmas Lunch

CHILDREN’S FAIR & ACTIVITIES

EELBROOK COMMON · SW6 4SQ

Thur 3rd to Sun 6th MAR

Weekdays: 2pm
Weekends: 11am
Closes: Early Evening

www.parnhamfunfairs.co.uk · TEL 07956 245531

This Fair is a Token operated event
NO CASH ON RIDES OR STALLS ACCEPTED

1 TOKEN £1.00
12 TOKENS £10.00

Tokens on sale at booth

Fun for all the family!
Hand to God ****

MASTERFULLY murky and monstrous, the transfer of the Tony-nominated play Hand to God opened last week at the Vaudeville Theatre and immediately divided audiences and critics alike with its shocking puppetry and non PC storyline, writes Nicky Sweetland.

If you're easily offended, this production is not for you, but if you're of a harder constitution, Hand to God offers an hilarious night at the theatre with grinning gore and gritilly inappropriate groping.

Leading the cast, West End stalwart Janie Dee plays a grieving widow, desperately coming to terms with life as a single parent and the confusion of attempting to be a role model when in reality all she wants to do is to let her hair down and rebel against the world. As part of her foray into redemption she starts up a church puppet workshop in which her son Jason (Harry Melling) finds his puppet taking on a personality of its own in a very anarchic and devilishly difficult twist of events.

Dee plays the troubled former twin-set wearer with real style and in the most distasteful scenes makes you want to laugh in the same awkward way as when you're at a funeral.

Melling is truly awe-inspiring as the geeky Jason who can't help but let his trauma-induced split personality take over his life. The 'mating Muppets' scene is absurdly absorbing, with both Melling and his love interest, played by the perfectly winsome Jemima Rooper, maintaining an impressive deadpan throughout.

Neil Pearson is decorous as the easily mocked parishioner, with Kevin Mains portraying a lovably hateful teen with so many issues he wouldn't be out of place on the Jeremy Kyle Show.

If you're a fan of The Book of Mormon this will be right up your Avenue Q. Those after a sedate evening of jazz hands may like to consider something else.

Reggae for romantics: a Kensington treat

I SPENT a very special Valentine’s night at Nell’s Jazz and Blues Club in Kensington, writes Nicky Sweetland.

The fabulous little venue was playing host to the celebrated saxophonist Yolanda Brown as part of her Reggae Love Songs tour and was filled with couples enjoying the romantic candlelight and the cool, relaxing atmosphere.

The London-born saxophonist thrilled the lively audience in Kensington last week with the very best brassy blues tones backed by her wonderful five-piece band.

Totally at home with the audience, the award-winning musician played some classic tracks, including a searing No Woman No Cry with a gorgeous little bit of Amazing Grace mixed in for good measure.

Brown is well known for her warm sound and lush arrangements so this made for the perfect back drop to a romantic evening.

Her Reggae Love Songs tour continues with further dates throughout the UK until November. She will also be joined by some special guests along the way, including soul superstars Mica Paris and Omar. For more details visit the website yolanda brown.co.uk

Playhouse’s caustic cult classic

WE'RE in for a toxic treat at Southwark Playhouse in April when the monster rock ’n’ roll musical comedy The Toxic Avenger makes its European premiere.

From the Tony Award-winning creative team behind Memphis, Joe DiPietro and David Bryan, The Toxic Avenger is based on Lloyd Kaufman’s 1984 cult classic film from Troma Entertainment. It debuted off-Broadway on April 6, 2009, and won the Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding New Off-Broadway Musical.

The musical follows the citizens of Tromaville, who are crying out for a hero. Enter Melvin Ferd the Third, an aspiring earth scientist determined to clean up the toxic waste problem. But when a corrupt mayor and her government goons try to stop this heroic feat, Melvin is tossed into a vat of toxic waste and transformed into The Toxic Avenger, New Jersey’s first superhero!

"Toxie" is a seven-foot mutant freak with superhuman strength and a super-sized heart to match. He’s out to save New Jersey, end global warming, woo the prettiest (blindest) librarian in town and get home in time for dinner, in this toxic love story with an environmental twist. Prepare to laugh, scream and sing as “Toxie” rocks the house and saves the day.

"Toxic Avenger is a modern, musical superhero and the world leader in the fight against pollution, corruption and evil politicians. So how brilliant that he’s finally going where he’s needed most: London."

Casting and further creative details are yet to be announced but to keep up to date with all of the news you may like to visit southwarkplayhouse.co.uk
Fans will ‘go bonkers’ for this ultimate horror show

Since leaving the X Factor at the semi-final round in 2008, singer-songwriter Diana Vickers has gone on to prove her versatility both in the recording studio and on stage, writes Nicky Sweetland.

The 24-year-old songstress has also gained an enviable reputation as an actress following her leading role in the West End revival of The Rise and Fall of Little Voice at the Vaudeville Theatre.

Vickers has since scored more stage success, including in the memorable Hatched and Dispatched at the Park Theatre late last year, which was garnered with praise from critics and further increased her reputation as a serious performer.

The young star’s latest foray takes her back to her musical roots as she joins the tour of The Rocky Horror Show playing the super prim Janet and with the musical already thrilling audiences across the country, the New Wimbledon Theatre is bracing itself for the show’s famous fishnet-clad Transvestite.

Fans will ‘go bonkers’ for this ultimate horror show whose presentatation, having won a BIFA Film Award, bedazzled audiences with its Omri Katz, who made a BAFBA nominated film – all without even moving her lips.

Tickets are on sale from £15.

Details: criterion-theatre.co.uk
Talk of the town

Hoff to the disco

**Last Night A DJ Saved My Life**

AFTER speaking to David Hasselhoff about his new musical just a couple of weeks ago, I wasn’t under the illusion that I would be watching a high-brow theatrical production, writes Nicky Sweetland.

The Hoff, as he’s affectionately known, had described **Last Night A DJ Saved My Life** as a kind of adult pantomime and that’s pretty much what the show is, although it feels possibly more like holiday camp entertainment.

That’s not to say it’s all bad, it’s just a very unusual production which has squashed as much cheese into the two-hour show as is humanly possible.

Complete with a warm-up man who leads the jeering and hollering and who is backed by some thumping tunes, this musical melds 80s and 90s nostalgia with a sense of charm and every now and then a slight air of embarrassment.

The music is really the star of the show, with classic party themes pumping through the auditorium throughout and the energetic choreography performed with style and verve by the young and vibrant ensemble.

Shane Richie Junior is impressive as club 18-30 holiday rep Rik, whose cheeky chappy charms allow the funny story to bounce along with the music.

With a great voice and some lovely comedy moments, Richie makes the most of his inherited department.

Rik’s love interest, played by BBC1’s The Voice star Stephanie Webber, also shows her vocal prowess and the scenes when the pair are on stage together are by far the most enthralling.

The Hoff himself lacks any real stature these days and at times it seems more like you’re watching a marionette.

On more than one occasion, a collective cringe spreads throughout the audience and there’s that unease when you’re not sure if you’re supposed to laugh or not.

The supporting cast do a good job however, with Will Markus, Natalie Amanda Gray and Webber all putting in stellar performances.

This is a great little show if you want a few drinks and a laugh with a group of friends on a Friday night – and for those who enjoyed their formative years in the early nineties, I’d say it would be perfect as a birthday or hen party trip.

![Cheese Makers: David Hasselhoff leads the pantomime-style romp that is Last Night A DJ Saved My Life](image)

**Phantom of the Opera****

**WITH** the news that the original Phantom of the Opera, Michael Crawford, is set to make a return to the West End stage later this year, I decided to treat myself to a visit to Her Majesty’s Theatre to see a brand new one, writes Nicky Sweetland.

Ben Forster took over the coveted leading role in Andrew Lloyd Webber’s classic stage show just last week and put his mark on the mask immediately with a performance worthy of his recent acclaim.

About to celebrate its 30th year in the West End, The Phantom of the Opera is still just as enthralling as when it first opened. The score from the very first note sends a shiver of excitement reverberating around the auditorium, and with breathtaking stage effects, this middle aged masterpiece is still one of my picks of the London theatre scene.

Forster follows in the footsteps of a plethora of musical theatre royalty who have played the role. Since winning ITV’s Search for a Superstar in 2012, he has enjoyed a hugely successful and varied career, most recently by playing Buddy the Elf in the Christmas spectacular at the Dominion Theatre.

He has proved his almost unparalleled versatility on many previous occasions and brings a supreme grace to the role, which requires an impromptu stature and an impeccable vocal performance. His Music of the Night is sumptuous and elegant while he takes on the show’s main theme leaves you with a chill.

![Brute Runs from March 15 to 19. For More Details Visit the Website sohotheatre.com](image)

**Brute force to be reckoned with**

**AFTER** a successful run at the Edinburgh Fringe in 2015, Izzy Tennyson’s Brute now comes to Soho Theatre.

**Brute** (winner of the 2015 IdeasTap Underbelly Award) is an exciting piece of new writing based on the true story of a rather twisted, horrible schoolgirl. Tennyson’s truthful writing is fearless, laced with a deliciously scabrous humour.

Being 14 is an awful age. You’re not a very nice person at 14. No one knows this better than new girl Poppy, who has just started at an all-girls state school.

There are rules with no logic, sadistic jokes that aren’t actually funny and the most sinister games played out of boredom.

Set in a girls’ school in a provincial English town far away from cosmopolitan and cultural influences, Brute explores memories of the protagonist’s intensely passionate female friendships as they escalate into violence.

Written as a dynamic monologue, the piece is based on girls from Tennyson’s peer group.

The themes in Brute explore the economic climate, bullying and female violence along with the complexity of adolescent female friendships.

Brute also touches on the sensitive topics of adolescent hysteria and girls’ relationships with authority, especially how female ‘problem cases’ are handled at school.

Brute is part of the Soho Rising season this spring. Tennyson, part of Soho Theatre’s Soho Young Company, developed Brute during the Writers’ Lab Course. Soho education producer Jules Haworth has worked as Dramaturg on Brute from its inception.

Brute runs from March 15 to 19. For more details visit the website sohotheatre.com.
Fine fantasy food from Fulham

Belinda Donovan is an experienced chef who was trained at the prestigious La Varenne cooking school in France. She compiled the Hammersmith and Fulham Cook Book in 2013 and is a regular writer of cookery columns and reviews. An enthusiast for all things Fulham, she has also written articles about the area’s rich local history. She is currently a Conservative councillor for the Addison ward and served as Mayor of Hammersmith and Fulham for the year 2012-13.

I CAUGHT up with Angus Watson recently. He is our local, Fulham novelist, author of the epic fantasy trilogy set in the British Iron Age. The trilogy’s titles are Age of Iron, published in 2014, Clash of Iron, released last March and his fresh off the press latest novel, Reign of Iron.

Angus tells me his favourite part of Fulham is its western edge, along the river in Bishop’s Park, on a week day. It’s peaceful with enough dog walkers, toddlers, squirrels, parrakeets, pensioners on mobility scooters and joggers to keep it interesting, and looking out from below gigantic trees over the tidal Thames you can get a real sense of the busy history. On weekends it’s a bit too busy, with an awful lot of lycra and far too many gellets.

Angus’s favourite recipe is Mexican Eggs. It comes from a chef called Jade Barton, AKA The Gourmet Girl – www.thegourmetgirl.co.uk

Serves four – ingredients

- 1 tbsp cumin seeds
- 1 x 400g tin cooked black beans, drained and rinsed
- 4-6 corn tortillas, halved
- 4 free-range eggs
- 50g Cheddar cheese, finely grated
- 2 pinches of chilli flakes, or to taste
- 1 small handful of coriander, finely chopped
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method

1 – Preheat the oven to 180°C/gas mark 4.
2 – Place a frying pan over a medium heat and add a glug of olive oil. Add the onion, chilli and garlic with a pinch of salt and pepper and sauté until tender and dark golden, about 6 minutes. Add the chorizo, then the cumin and cook until aromatic. Stir in the tomatoes and gently simmer for 5 minutes. Add the beans, heat through for 2 minutes, then set aside.
3 – Grease a baking dish with a little oil and sprinkle some seasoning in the bottom of it. Line the dish with the tortillas, overlapping them and raising them slightly above the edge of the dish. Pour in the tomato mixture, then make 4 little wells in it.
4 – Break an egg into a cup, then pour it into a well so that the yolk sits neatly in the middle. Repeat with the remaining eggs. Sprinkle over the cheese and chilli flakes and season with salt and pepper.
5 – Place the dish on a shelf two-thirds of the way up the oven so that the grill (if on) can colour the cheese. Bake for 15-20 minutes, or until the cheese is soft and gooey in the middle.

Leave the chilli whole or cut it down into large dipping sticks.

Serve the Goddess on a large serving plate with the celery sticks around it and have the second one on standby to quickly replenish.
PUBLIC NOTICES
PLACE YOUR PREMISES LICENCE WITH US FOR ONLY £121 plus VAT
Call Candy 020 8768 4919 Deadline is Friday at 3pm

LUCILLA OPPE (Monique Stella Grzelczak-Podraza)

LILIAN VALBORG MELCHER

LICENSING ACT 2003
Application for a new Premises Licence

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that GLOBAL VIPS Ltd., 24 and 25 St Peter's Grove, London SW6 7PS telephone (020) 3293 8087 wish to apply for a premises licence to permit the sale of alcohol on the premises at 24th February 2016 stating the grounds for the application.

The public register where applications are available to be inspected is at the Licensing Authority, London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, 67 Queensmill Road, London W6 9AA. The proposed application is to permit the sale of alcohol on the premises at 24th February 2016 stating the grounds for the application.

A full application setting out full details of the application can be inspected at our offices at 67 Queensmill Road, London, W6 9AA. The full application setting out full details of the application may be inspected at the premises for a maximum period of 28 days. The application may be inspected at the premises between the hours of normal office hours (9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday) and any interested party may make oral or written representations about these applications. Representations by post should be addressed to: Licensing Authority, London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, 67 Queensmill Road, London, W6 9AA within 28 days of the date of this notice, but this cannot be guaranteed if posted after the last time above. The post will be opened at: Licensing Authority, London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, 67 Queensmill Road, London, W6 9AA.

Anyone who wishes to make any representations about these applications should do so by 24th February 2016 to the Licensing Authority, London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, 67 Queensmill Road, London, W6 9AA.

67 Queensmill Road London W6 9AA Tel: 020 8768 4919

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Part 2, Schedule 1: applications that have been made to the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham as a result of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE CHEQUE, PERSONAL CHEQUE or BANK DISCRIPTION士

A full application setting out full details of the application is at the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, 67 Queensmill Road, London W6 9AA.

Any interested party may make oral or written representations about these applications. Representations by post should be addressed to: The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, 67 Queensmill Road, London, W6 9AA within 28 days of the date of this notice, but this cannot be guaranteed if posted after the last time above. The post will be opened at: The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, 67 Queensmill Road, London, W6 9AA.

Anyone who wishes to make any representations about these applications should do so by 24th February 2016 to The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, 67 Queensmill Road, London, W6 9AA.

Erection of a rear roof extension, part of roof extension at second floor level in connection with the creation of a new flat roof extension and side extension at second floor level, on top of the existing back extension.

The Salutation 154 King Street London SW6 7DY

Plan a new entrance to the front elevation.

Change of use of no. 154 King Street from a Grade II Listed building to a restaurant.

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

242 Fulham Palace Road London SW6 6HX Erection of an additional floor at first floor level in connection with the creation of a new flat roof extension.

22 And 24 St Peter's Grove London W6 9AA Replacement of all existing first floor windows with new windows; replacement of a double glazed bi-fold door with a new one.

24th February 2016 stating the grounds for the application.

The public register where applications are available to be inspected is at the Licensing Authority, London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, 67 Queensmill Road, London W6 9AA. The proposed application is to permit the sale of alcohol on the premises at 24th February 2016 stating the grounds for the application.

A full application setting out full details of the application can be inspected at our offices at 67 Queensmill Road, London, W6 9AA. The full application setting out full details of the application may be inspected at the premises for a maximum period of 28 days. The application may be inspected at the premises between the hours of normal office hours (9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday) and any interested party may make oral or written representations about these applications. Representations by post should be addressed to: Licensing Authority, London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, 67 Queensmill Road, London, W6 9AA within 28 days of the date of this notice, but this cannot be guaranteed if posted after the last time above. The post will be opened at: Licensing Authority, London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, 67 Queensmill Road, London, W6 9AA.

Anyone who wishes to make any representations about these applications should do so by 24th February 2016 to Licensing Authority, London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, 67 Queensmill Road, London, W6 9AA.
THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND Fulham
NOTICE UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972
SECTION 123(2A) (as Amended)

Land in Bishop’s Park, Bishop’s Avenue, London SW6 6EA (the “Land”)

1. The Land shown hatched black on the below plan forms part of an open space held by the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (the “Council”). The Land measures 5569.2 sq m.

2. NOTICE IS HEREBY given pursuant to Section 123(2A) of the Local Government Act1972 that the Council intends to dispose of the Land by way of a lease for a term of less than three years for the purpose of temporary use as a contractors’ compound to facilitate the carrying out of development at the adjacent property Fulham Football Club. The Land would be restored to parkland on expiry of the lease.

3. Any objection to the intended disposal must be made in writing and addressed to:
Ian Ross
Parks Manager
London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham,
c/o The Stable Yard,
Holland Park
Ilchester Place
LONDON W8 6LU

No later than the 9th March 2016 (quoting reference RSD/IR/BP).

Dated this 23rd February 2016
Signed Ian Ross
On behalf of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ALL ADVERTISEMENTS

Orders are accepted by the Publishers subject to the Standard Conditions agreed between the Newspaper Society and the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising. Save that:

1. Advertisements are accepted on the conditions that (a) descriptions relating to goods are accurate and in no way contravene the provisions of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, and the Fair Trading Act 1973, and the Fair Trading Code of Advertising Practice. Advertisements offering credit or hire facilities must conform to the Consumer Credit (Advertisements) Regulations 1968.
2. ‘Classified’ Advertisers offering goods or service of a business, commercial or trade nature will, at the discretion of the Publishers, be deemed ‘Trade Advertisers’, and as such, must include their names in advertisements. A telephone number is an optional addition to these requirements and not an absolute.
3. To comply with the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order 1977, Trade Advertisers must make it clear that they are selling goods in the course of business either by content, format, size or place of the advertisement or by including words such as ‘trade’, ‘dealer’, ‘agent’, ‘wholesaler’, ‘(T)’, etc. in the advertisement.
4. The Publishers accept no liability whatsoever for any loss or damage however caused arising out of:
   (a) Any error, inaccuracy or omission in the printing or publishing of any advertisement;
   (b) An error to publish an advertisement on the day / date or days specified by the advertiser; or
   (c) Any delay in forwarding or omission to forward replies to box numbers to the Advertiser.
5. The Publishers will endeavour to publish advertisements on the day / date or dates specified by the Advertiser but insertion dates / days cannot be guaranteed.
6. Where shrinkage of advertisement occurs for whatever reasons the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre. This will not apply to the full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
7. The Publishers reserve the right to reject an advertisement or to vary it in any way they deem fit, at any time before publication, whether or not the advertisement has already been accepted for publication.
8. Whilst every effort is made to minimise errors in advertisements, mistakes do sometimes occur. Advertisers or their agents should therefore check that their advertisements and inform us of any errors immediately. Responsibility cannot be accepted for more than one incorrect insertion. Typographical or minor changes, which do not affect the value of the advertisement, do not qualify for republication or allowances.
9. All gross advertising rates (except classified line and semi-display) are subject to and include a 6.1% Advertising Standards Board of Finance surcharge, payable by the advertisers to help finance the self-regulatory control system administered by the Advertising Standards Authority.
10. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
11. Should the rate for advertisements be altered the price for remaining insertions shall be revised accordingly or the Publishers shall have the right to cancel the unexpired portion of the order.
12. The placing of an advertisement order will be deemed an acceptance of these conditions.
13. Account facilities are granted at the discretion of the Company.
14. All accounts must be settled within the terms agreed by the Company and the Customer.
15. (i) Should an advertiser be in breach of the agreed terms, the publisher shall be entitled to levy a 10% surcharge on the value of the whole debt in respect of accounts with terms of less than 30 days, and any discounts or commissions that had been allowed will be retracted.
16. (ii) Regular monthly accounts that are in breach of the agreed terms will pay an interest rate of 6% above the current bank of England base rate for each month that the account is overdue, and accounts or commissions that had been allowed will be retracted. Should Legal action be required the interest will be charged in accordance with the County Court Act 1984.
17. Where an advertiser instructs / appoints an advertising agent to act on their behalf, the advertiser will remain jointly and severally liable for payment in respect for any advertisements should the appointed agent fail to pay. For the avoidance of doubt, the agent acts for the advertiser and not for the publisher with the agent being responsible for notifying the advertiser of this liability.
18. All queries must be notified, preferably in writing to the accounts department of the publisher within 7 days of the invoice date.
19. All digital services are maintained in partnership with the publishers’ hosting service providers. Every effort is made to ensure the continued delivery of these services, but some occasional technical downtime beyond the publishers control may occur. The publisher and it’s associated companies shall be under no liability if the production and distribution of web services is delayed or prevented by any cause outside the control of the publisher.
20. The Publisher may provide voucher copies for published advertisements in electronic form only subject to certain criteria. Further information is available on request.
21. The weight of advertisements produced wholly or partially by the Publishers belong to the Publishers. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the Publishers’ consent.

Box Numbers

Boxes are open for the receipt of bona fide answers and are not available for distribution of trade canvassing matter. Original testimonials, goods, cash, cash stamps or payments of any kind must not be enclosed. A box Number and postal address are charged as part of the advertisement, i.e. Box No., centre address. No charge for forwarding replies.

Holiday & Travel Category

All advertising must contain the name of the advertiser, phone number alone are not permitted.

Data Protection

The service you have requested may require us to carry out a credit search at a credit-referencing agency, which will record the fact that a search has been made. We may need to share your information with other lenders and credit reference agencies. However, we will only use the information from these searches to make credit-granting decisions and, if necessary, for fraud prevention or tracing debts.

Data controller will use your information for administration and analysis. We may share your information with other Timed Group Newspapers companies or carefully selected third parties. We, or they, may send you details of other goods and services, which may be of interest to you.

The information may be provided by other agents, telephone or other reasonable means of communication. Calls may be recorded or monitored for training purposes.

Special conditions apply with regard to the advertising of adult services, which are outlined to all persons submitting such advertisements.
Systems Support Technician

Based Penge SE20 £28,000

A new position has arisen within the South London business for a Systems Support Technician.

The role has varied responsibilities, most importantly the smooth running of our technical systems, managing the active directory, desk top support, printers and telephone systems.

Knowledge of or previous experience of ‘Future Proof’ booking system and ‘Crystal Reports’, is advantageous but not essential. South London Press is a multi media business and therefore operates a proactive digital strategy, incorporating social media, website and digital editions.

The successful candidate will be someone who is conscientious and hard working and holds the necessary qualifications to undertake this role.

Please email your current CV along with a covering letter outlining your experiences and skills relevant to this position to:
Karen@slp.co.uk
Please feel free to call if you wish to discuss the position further.
Tel: 020 8768 4903

Professional PCV/PSV bus licence holders for Sightseeing Tours
(based at Wandsworth Garage, London SW18)

We are looking for Drivers to work at our Wandsworth Depot from April/May 2016 (although initially offered a seasonal contract, extensions and conversion to all year will be available upon successful completion of probation).

Current earnings are (pay review pending): -
• Average earnings for a 3-day week: £700.00 (more in the summer)
• £15.24 basic hourly pay, including full meal bonus
• Work rest day rates, £16.21 per hour;
• £18.82 per hour (June to August)
• Plus commission
• Paid on sign on to sign off

Customers who are looking to enjoy their tour of London
• Great team spirit

If you’re good... you’re welcome!

Interested?
Please call us on 020 8877 2195 for an application form (would suit those living within the M25 area or Surrey) or email us at jobs.drivers@theoriginaltour.com

Experienced Teachers & NQT’s

Do you want to teach the next Prime Minister?

Redriff is a dynamic, vibrant friendly school in the heart of London. Being an outstanding school has enabled us to become part of the City of London family of schools. Through this we are developing a partnership with the ‘Guildhall School of Music and Drama’ and other prestigious institutions within the City. We offer a creative innovative curriculum, actively engaging children’s interests. We are endeavouring to create a new educational vision.

Galleywall is a brand new school opening in September 2016. It will thrive from the wealth of experience and good practice that is demonstrated at our sister school, Redriff. Galleywall will be led by Mickey Kelly as Executive Head and Sheila Cohring as Headteacher. This is the precise combination of leadership that led Redriff on its path to success; Galleywall will follow an equally successful path.

We need outstanding, experienced teachers and enthusiastic NQT’s who are ready to work within a dynamic federation of schools. We are looking for teachers who have passion, who are forward thinking, who love working with young children. We are committed to ensuring that all staff have excellent opportunities for professional development within our growing Federation of Schools.

Visits are positively welcomed – If you would like to visit or speak with the Associate Headteacher, Sheila Cohring please give us a ring.

Redriff Primary School
Salter Road, London SE16 5LQ
www.redriff.southwark.sch.uk
020 7237 4272

Closing date for applications: Friday 4th March 2016

Interviews will take place week commencing 7th March 2016

Aspirational Adventurous Individual Enlightened Compassionate
**Average R’s can rule out play-off hopes**

**THE league table rarely lies and there is no getting away from the fact that Queens Park Rangers are a bang average team, drifting aimlessly in the middle regions of the Championship.

They are 12th, exactly halfway in the second division, 13 points off the play-off positions and 14 above the relegation zone.

This season is effectively now a write-off, hopes of promotion via the play-offs surely now extinguished. It’s all about preparing for next season.

Three managers, Chris Ramsey, Neil Warnock and now Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink, have tried – and largely failed – to galvanise a depleted team still suffering the fall-out of relegation from the Premier League last May.

With Financial Fair Play constraints hanging over them, QPR are having to shift through bargain discount shelves at football’s equivalent of Lidl rather than shop at Waitrose.

**Spectacular**

It’s a sign of the time that R’s needed a goal by Matt Phillips three minutes into time added on to salvage a 1-1 draw against Bolton Wanderers on Saturday. In a game of very few opportunities, it took a spectacular long-range shot from Bolton’s Zach Clough midway through the second half to open the scoring.

Hasselbaink said: “We knew from the start that it’d be a test physically. So we had to come here and be stubborn.”

“In the first half we didn’t really create much. But in the second half we tried to be a little more positive – even though it was still difficult.

“They scored a ‘worldy’ goal. At the end of the day, you’re not going to concede goals like that every week. “What was important was the reaction after that. We kept believing that we could come back.

“We have individuals who can make things happen. It’s a shame that we didn’t score earlier. James Perch had an excellent chance in the second half. If that had gone in, it probably would have opened the game up – we could have gone on to make it 2-0, 3-0.”

He added: “It wasn’t a classic. It was two teams trying to find their way, who couldn’t really do that. Both teams had different game-plans.

“For us, now, we just want to improve – match after match. We want to make sure that we turn up every game. We want to put some foundations down.

“I think we’ve got enough creativity. We had one good creative opportunity out on the pitch today.

“Bolton defended well but I will say if that is the case, then our creative players need to find another niche, another space. You have to do something different.

“However, we are getting there. It’s not to happen in one week, or in two. We are working hard but there is a lot to be done.”

“The reaction of my players after going a goal down today was good – and that’s a positive sign for me.”

After Tuesday’s visit to promotion-chasing Sheffield Wednesday, played after LWN Sport went to press, it’s return to W12 on Saturday to face Birmingham City.

**Decision**

With the 26-year-old’s contract up in the summer, Hasselbaink explained a decision needed to be made.

“Yun was injured when I came in and had a long track back to fitness. At the club, there is a lot of work that can’t get into the team and he has asked to play games because his contract is finishing, so we have let him go to play. “He has been at the club for a long time and I had to make the decision.”

Left-back Yun Suk-Young has joined fellow Championship side Charlton Athletic on loan until the end of the season.

The South Korea international, who was an unused sub in Addick’s defeat at Fulham, has featured just three times for R’s this season. His last appearance came on November 28.

**Tactical switch**

**FULHAM from back page**

Chadwick London was much the busier of the two keepers for most of the first period.

So much so, Whites’ head coach Slavisa Jokanovic was forced into making a tactical switch at half-time that paid full dividends.

Fulham began with a 4-4-2 diamond formation but Jokanovic introduced Michael Madi and Chris Baird at the interval and changed to a 3-5-2, which had proved so effective in the 3-1 victory at QPR.

To give him credit, at least the Serb didn’t try to gloss over his earlier error, as many managers would have.

Jokanovic said: “In the first 45 minutes we found many difficulties and Charlton troubled us many times. It’s probably my mistake, we tried to play from the middle.

**Better football**

“I killed (full-backs) Ryan Fredericks and Luke Garbutt and didn’t find the right position for them. We scored the goal in the first 45 minutes but I wasn’t so happy, so decided to switch the structure and we played better football in the second 45 minutes.

“After winning 3-0, after getting a clean sheet, after scoring a set-piece goal, we can be satisfied with our performance today and we offered for our supporters in our stadium.”

It was just the response and result the Serb had been looking for after the previous 3-0 midweek defeat at Blackburn Rovers, where Jokanovic felt the need afterwards to apologise to the travelling fans for his team’s ‘lack of desire’.

He said: “I say sorry to our fans who travelled with us to watch this game. We didn’t offer anything special. We played without spirit, without competitiveness, without desire. “We did not play good football in any moment of the game. Generally, they won the challenges, we did not try to play football and we did not do anything important. It is a bad sensation and we need a change immediately. We won one game a few days earlier (at QPR), that’s history, it’s over.

“I am here for a month-and-a-half and this game, this is a game without any spirit. I am very disappointed really.

“We are where we are right now. We must be strong. With this spirit this desire, this competitiveness, this is not enough for anything important.”

But after bouncing back in style against lowly Charlton, he said: “At the end of this strange week we’ve won two London derbies and had one very poor performance at Blackburn. It’s a great afternoon for us but it’s over, the only important thing now is this game on Tuesday.”

Jokanovic was looking forward to the weekend trip to Leeds United – played after LWN Sport went to press – and this Saturday’s home clash with third-placed Middlesbrough.

“We have to try to play with more confidence,” he stated. “Generally, I believe we are a good group of footballers and we can still be a better team than what we actually are right now.

“To make important things you need to win games in a row. If you win one game but after you lose three, then this is the wrong direction for us.”

**SURREY have gone back to faith in former Australia one-day international batsman Michael Di Venuto as their new head coach to replace Graham Ford.

The 42-year-old Tasmanian has spent two years as assistant coach and lead batting coach for Cricket Australia.

He is due to return to England in time for the new season in April on an initial three-year deal.

Di Venuto was with Sussex and Derbyshire before moving to Durham, where he twice won the county title.

**High quality**

Surrey director of cricket Alec Stewart said: “Following the departure of Graham Ford, it is important that we found another high quality coach with a great work ethic and excellent knowledge of the English county game.

“Michael is a good people person. His 12 years of experience will be invaluable. He is highly regarded within the Australian set-up for his ability to work with and get the best out of players.

“Being able to appoint a coach from a red and white ball team can only serve to benefit the club and I look forward to Cricket Australia for their professional dealings.”

**MIDDLESEX are heading to South Africa on a pre-season tour at the end of next week.

“The squad will be based in Cape Town, where they will play three competitive matches over the two-week duration.

“Training with both the red and white ball teams can only serve to benefit the club and I look forward to Cricket Australia for their professional dealings.”

Middlesex’s first game will be a T20 encounter against Western Province CC on Wednesday, March 9.

The next day they will play their first full over match of the tour, at Newlands, against Newlands CC.

To complete the tour Middlesex will face Stellenbosch CC in a two-day game on March 15-16, before flying home the next day.

Middlesex are playing well now and I believe we can beat anyone in the league, so if we carry on the way we are and concentrate on our defensive work, we will be OK.

“I have seen you on the front row and I see you are enjoying your work and they are like that, they create lots of chances.”

Mike has warm words for his midfield partner Cesc Fabregas, who was on top form against City.

He said: “It’s fantastic to see Cesc play. What an intelligent player he is. We know he is not the quickest but, saying that, he is not slow either. The way he plays the ball, it’s just amazing to watch him.”

“In training, you think you are going to do the ball off him. But before you are there, he knows exactly what to do. So long as we can help him by doing the ‘dirty work’ and allow him to be on the ball, we have a good chance to create goals. He is a happy man again.”

**CHELSEA from back page**

“We are playing well just now and I believe we can beat anyone in the league, so if we carry on the way we are and concentrate on our defensive work, we will be OK.”

“Tickets have to be purchased in advance from www.chealsea.com/tickets or at the ground before 4:00pm on Friday.”

**Fulham’s first against Charlton**

Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South
Terry ready for Saints

JOHN Terry is back in full training and raring to play at Southhampton in the Premier League on Saturday.

Terry has missed the past two matches, a 2-1 defeat to Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League and the thumping 5-1 hammering of Manchester City in the FA Cup at Stamford Bridge on Sunday, with a hamstring injury.

But he told LWN Sport: “I’ll be back in full training on Tuesday.”

Three days after travelling to Southampton, Blues will go on the road again when they visit Norwich City next Tuesday. But Terry will find it tough to out the present centre-back pairing of Gary Cahill and Branislav Ivanovic.

With Kurt Zouma’s season already ended by a cruciate ligament injury, 35-year-old Terry will be bending the ear of interim boss Guus Hiddink this week to reinstate him in the side that is rediscovering the form that made them champions last season.

Chelsea will face Everton at Goodison Park in the sixth round of the FA Cup and defender Cesar Azpilicueta said: “We are a much better side than when we played them in the league in August. We lost that game 3-1 but now it’s the FA Cup. We know it won’t be easy but we are trying to maintain our improvement and go to Wembly.”

Spanish international Azpilicueta was full of praise for team-mate Eden Hazard who appeared to be back to his best against Manchester City, scoring from a sensational free-kick that signalled the end to a moody period for the Belgian in SW6.

Reshuffle

“Eden is a great player,” he said. “We have a strong squad and obviously when we have him at his best, we have a much better chance to get better results.”

The defender has moved across from left-back to the right-back spot due to a reshuffle forced on the side as a result of injuries to centre-backs Terry and Zouma.

Azpilicueta said: “We are a much better side than when we played them in the league in August. We lost that game 3-1 but now it’s the FA Cup. We know it won’t be easy but we are trying to maintain our improvement and go to Wembly.”

Spanish international Azpilicueta was full of praise for team-mate Eden Hazard who appeared to be back to his best against Manchester City, scoring from a sensational free-kick that signalled the end to a moody period for the Belgian in SW6.

Reshuffle

“Eden is a great player,” he said. “We have a strong squad and obviously when we have him at his best, we have a much better chance to get better results.”

The defender has moved across from left-back to the right-back spot due to a reshuffle forced on the side as a result of injuries to centre-backs Terry and Zouma.

But Azpilicueta doesn’t care where he plays.

“I’m just happy to play,” he said. “It’s the position I played at the beginning of my career. I seem to have played as a left-back more recently. But I will play everywhere.”

One Chelsea player revelling in the arrival of Hiddink following the sacking of Jose Mourinho is central midfielder John Obi Mikel. The Nigerian, 28, scored his sixth goal of a 10-year Chelsea career against Paris Saint-Germain last Tuesday in the Champions League and is loving his football at the moment – and that is down to Hiddink.

When asked why he didn’t score against Manchester City, he laughed: “Nah, I did not score against Manchester City. But we got, what . . . four, five? That’s enough.”

“Ever since Guus has come in, the atmosphere has changed. The players feel more relaxed. People know what their job is and the players get on with it. It is a way which allows the players to perform.”

“Guus doesn’t really get into people’s business. Players like that. When we get onto the training ground, the players know exactly what they need to do. That’s the same on game day. He does not stand up and speak much but we know exactly what to do.”

Hiddink was interim manager before, in 2008-09, and Mikel believes there are parallels with that season.

“Yeah, I think then we won the FA Cup and he knows this club very well. He knows the owner very well. He knows what the owner wants, which is for the players to perform in a relaxed way – and that is what Guus is doing.”

So does Mikel want Hiddink to stay?

“Obviously I want him to stay,” he said. “I mean, it’s the choice of the owner and the club but if you speak to the players, they know when you speak to them, 99 per cent want him to stay. We are very happy and performing well, so let’s hope he continues.”

Hiddink has lost only two games over his two spells as manager of Chelsea.

“It depends on Guus as well, if he wants to stay,” Mikel continued.

“He has said a few times that he is here until the end of the season but you never know, he might change his mind. And if the club want to appoint him, then fair enough. But his record speaks volumes for his ability.”

Back in 2009, the players were trying to get him to stay. Will the same happen this season?

“Yeah, I remember, let’s hope he stays,” said Mikel.

“I have never seen him get angry, I think that when he gets upset, he tries to clear the air straight away. He speaks to whoever is involved and lets them know what went wrong. He lets you know that this football club is bigger than anyone. He sets the record straight and does not hold grudges. He treats us as professional footballers.”

Revitalised

Hiddink’s influence and impact upon the side is perhaps most evident in the revitalised form of Diego Costa. The Spain striker set Blues on their way to Saturday’s thrashing of youthful Man City with the opener in the 35th minute. Although Fanualu levelled two minutes later, second-half goals by William, Cahill, Hazard and Bertrand Traore completed the rout.

“It takes a lot to get Diego into a good mood,” Mikel added.

Looking ahead to the FA Cup quarter-final at Everton (to be played across the weekend of March 11-14), Blues’ holding midfielder knows that it will be a tough game with a lot of spice thrown in.

“I think it’s a tough game. It’s always tough playing Everton, especially up there.

“I wouldn’t say there is bad blood between the two sides but it’s sometimes very, very physical. I would not say it crosses the line but it’s very difficult.”