



Ham & Petersham magazine

Spring 2011

Renowned pianist to play at St Richard's Church

Pianist Anthony Adkins will be giving his twentieth annual concert at St Richard's Church on Saturday, 25th June from 7.30pm.

This year, his chosen charity is Sightsavers International. Tony recalls: "The last time I played for Sightsavers was at St. Richard's in 2000. I was very privileged on that occasion to have HRH Princess Alexandra in attendance. Sightsavers do such wonderful work in places like Africa and India, giving sight to the blind and enabling people to work.

I have recently seen on television, the unbelievable joy on the faces of people whose sight has been returned, for example by a cataract operation. It costs so little money to give these poor people the ability to see again, but for them, they are given a new life."

The programme for the evening will be:

Beethoven	Sonata in A, op.2 no.2
Chopin	3 Mazurkas, op.
	Barcarolle, op.60
Brahms	Sonata in F minor, op.5

Tony lives in Ham with his wife Kazia and their daughter Gaby. Since 1992 his recitals at St Richard's Church have raised about £25,000 for Christian Aid, Tear Fund, The Imperial Cancer Research Fund, The Princess Alice Hospice, The Royal Marsden Hospital, Save the Children, Sight Savers International (given in the presence of Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra), The British Heart Foundation, UNICEF, The Stroke Association, Kingston Hospital Cancer Unit Appeal, Water Aid, The British Red Cross, Cancerkin, The Shooting Star Children's Hospice, Iris Ministries and St. Richard's Church.

White Pheasant found

Have you lost a white pheasant? We had one wander into the Palm Centre last week and it's now at home in our chicken run. If it's yours, please contact me, Martin Gibbons, on 07778 730634 or 020 8255 6191.

Follow Luka's progress

Five-year-old Luka Stroh recently found a donor for a bone marrow transplant (see Jan/Feb 2011 issue of the Ham and Petersham magazine). To follow his progress, go to www.helft-luka.de/blog.

Thanks for the microscope!

A big thank you to the two anonymous readers who responded to our Autumn issue appeal for a microscope for the library. Ham Library has accepted one of the microscopes, which will be put to use over the year to allow children to have a closer look at nature.

Ham Fair: save the date

A note for your summer diary – Ham Fair is on Saturday, June 11 on Ham Common, writes *Freda Hyde*.

There will be the usual stalls offering goodies of all kinds, lots to eat and drink, games and rides for the children and don't forget to bring the dog to enter the Dog Show. Singing, dancing and gymnastics put on by the local schools and a schools art exhibition will be there to delight us, so come and join in and meet all your friends and neighbours

Useful telephone numbers

Doctors' surgeries

Lock Road Surgery

8940 8922

Tudor Drive Surgery

8549 0061

Ham Clinic

8973 3500

Richmond Practice

8940 5009

Medica Optima

8332 7190

Dental surgeries

Perfect Smile

8948 4085

Tudor Lodge Dental Practice

8940 4747

Ham Dental Practice

8546 0326

Schools

Strathmore School

8948 0047

Meadlands Primary School

8940 9207

St Richard's with St Andrew's

School

8940 7911

The Russell School

8940 1446

Grey Court School

8948 1173

The German School

8940 2510

Community services

Ham Children's Centre

8734 3400

Ham and Petersham SOS

8948 1090

Ham Library

8734 3354

Ham and Petersham Youth Centre

8288 0916

Churches

St Andrew's Church

8948 7374

St Peter's Church

8940 8435

St Richard's Church

8948 3758

St Thomas Aquinas Church

8948 8292

Ham Christian Centre

8948 0721

Milk delivery

8399 8251

Signs of Hope

**“My heart leaps up when I behold”
.....a crocus on Ham Common.**

With apologies to William Wordsworth , it does make the heart glad to see the pools of flowers showing brightly on the Common or along the Petersham Road. Signs that Spring is hopefully not far away.

The great Christian festival of Easter, coming as it does in this country at the end of a long dark winter, is well placed to be symbolic of a flowering of hope. Hope is needed when

so much of the news at home and abroad is of dark and gloomy events, of natural and man-made disasters.

I know that many in Ham and Petersham are experiencing difficulties that the sight of a few flowers will not change but I hope that you (and those that you care for) will find something hopeful in the story of the Resurrection of Jesus that our local churches and the world-wide Christian Church will celebrate at Eastertide.

The Revd Canon Tim Marwood
Parish Priest, St. Peter’s, Petersham
Area Dean of Richmond and Barnes

Editorial team

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Front cover: **Picture taken by David Watson.** It shows wisteria growing on the side of the Orangery at Ham House.

The deadline for articles and advertising to appear in the Summer issue is Friday, May 27.

Printed at Newman Thomson.

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Saving the toads of Ham

Volunteers have successfully saved hundreds of toads from being squashed on their way to spawning sites. BTCV explains how the rescue effort was organised.



Toads in amplexus: The male clings onto the female on the way to spawning where the female lays the eggs for the male to fertilise.

Locals had noticed over years that in February and March scores of toads were being killed daily on Church Road where it leads up to Ham Gate Avenue. The toads were being run over after dusk on mild wet evenings as they seemed drawn towards Richmond Park. The sight of the squashed bodies was upsetting and there was concern that this was threatening the population of toads. The toads had survived the winter in the undergrowth and were close to reproducing but were being run over by cars on their way to spawn in the water. Some home made signs were put up to alert drivers to the fact that toads were crossing the road, and many toads were snatched from the paths of oncoming vehicles, but still the deaths continued.

Two of the residents local to the common contacted Richmond Council's Ecology officers to ask their advice about the habits of toads and seek help to stop the deaths. Toads have an overwhelming urge to return each year to their natal place – always to the place of their birth.

Froglife, an amphibians charity which have a 'Toads on Roads' campaign was contacted and the Ham Common migration was registered with them. Froglife has co-ordinated hundreds of toad patrols across the UK, some where many thousands of toads migrate.

The Council contacted the local group of British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) and it was decided that in preparation for the migration in 2011 a temporary wire fence would be put up.

BTCV volunteers put up the fence on a Sunday in February and 3 days later the first 36 toads of the year were found at the fence, collected and carried across the road in safety. Local volunteers came forward to help with patrolling and together with volunteers from Froglife, who made a big effort to help, found 116 toads on the following Friday, 49 male and 67 female. The males and females could be distinguished because the females tend to be more warty and the males have dark marks on the toes of their front feet. Toads were still being found five weeks later, at which time toads were starting to also cross in the opposite direction. We know that the patrols and the fence have saved hundreds of toads and hopefully the population will continue to regenerate.

For more information on Toad patrols please visit - www.froglife.org/toadsonroads



Toads on their way to spawning sites.

Appeal for support of young gymnast aiming for gold

Jasmine, a nine-year-old Meadlands School pupil, signed up for her first gymnastics class when she was six years old, *writes her father, Lee Wildey.*

Before that she was always jumping around and climbing on the furniture. She joined Avondale Gymnastics Club in Surbiton and after a short while her potential was spotted by British Olympic gymnast Annika Reeder, who was teaching after-school gym at Meadlands .

Annika got Jasmine a trial at Heathrow Gymnastics Club, which is one of the best in the country, and was quickly accepted.

She trained in artistic gymnastics until the age of eight. The head coach of the acrobatic gymnastic squad asked Jasmine if she would be interested in a trial for Acro Squad 1, which she accepted.

She is now being coached by Spelbound star Adam McAssey for 14 hours a week, including two morning training sessions before school.

Jasmine is even more determined to succeed following the success of gymnastics troupe Spelbound, who wowed the nation last year when they won Britain's Got Talent. Jasmine has competed in four

competitions as part of a trio since November 2010, winning one bronze and two gold medals.

The most recent title was the Regional Acrobatic Championships held in Dagenham, Essex. By winning gold, Jasmine and her partners have now qualified to represent London in the national finals to be held in Stoke-on-Trent in May.

Jasmine's ambition is to represent Great Britain and to win a gold medal in the Olympics. The cost of travel, clothing, equipment and gymnastic fees have is a heavy financial strain. We are currently seeking a scholarship at Surbiton High School, which specialises in bringing through talented athletes. We are hoping that any local businesses will help her achieve her dream of becoming a professional gymnast by sponsoring her.

As parents, we feel that it is a shame that many children with talent slip through the net due to the heavy financial costs involved in trying to help them fulfil their potential.

If anyone is interested in helping Jasmine, do email me at: Thewildthings@hotmail.co.uk.



Eyecare Opticians was established to provide independent, state of the art and comprehensive eye care to the community of Ham and Petersham.

As a husband and wife team of Optometrists they are dedicated to ensuring continuity of care and outstanding levels of service whilst providing value for money. Nish and Jaimini also provide NHS home visits for those who have difficulty getting to the parade

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Hidden Ham to be revealed

Preparations are well under way for this year's 'Ham Open Gardens' event on Sunday, May 22nd, writes *Vicky Wicks* (see Diary Dates on page 7). The event is organised by the Ham and Petersham Association and is an important fund raising event for the Association's many environmental and conservation projects.

It is also a wonderful opportunity to visit many of Ham's hidden treasures reflecting the diverse aspects of life along Ham Street and around its historic Common.

This year the circuit will include not only 12 wonderful private gardens but also 5 community based gardens. The 4 acre flower and vegetable garden at St Michael's Convent will be open and also the grounds of The Cassel Hospital with its magnificent mature trees. We are grateful to the hospital and convent for sharing with us what are essentially places for private retreat. There has been a huge commitment of work at Grey Court School to open a piece of land for Community Allotments and these will also be open to the public for the first time.

The route will also direct visitors to The Bird and Butterfly Garden at Ham Library and The Ham Gate Garden at the south end of the Common; like the Community Allotments both these gardens are maintained by volunteers, some of whom will be on hand

providing information about the volunteering that supports these gardens. Grey Court students will be in every garden on the day as volunteer stewards and ambassadors. The government says it's keen to get us all volunteering, and I think Ham can consider itself a leader in this field. It is enormously generous of all our private garden owners to open for us too, and a great privilege to be able to venture 'beyond the garden gate'. I am delighted and amazed by the number of beautiful gardens there are on our list.

For garden lovers in particular it is a great treat to be able to visit the garden at Sudbrook Cottage, once the home of the writer Beverley Nichols. The garden has been lovingly developed and extended by the present owner. Nichols wrote more than 60 plays and gardening books; appropriately the title of his last book was 'Garden Open Tomorrow'.

"Some fall in love with women; some fall in love with art; some fall in love with death. I fall in love with gardens, which is much the same as falling in love with all three at once. For a garden is a mistress, and gardening is a blend of all the arts, and if it is not the death of me, sooner or later, I shall be much surprised." Beverley Nichols.

Allotment update

The waiting list for an allotment at the 80-plot Walnut Tree Allotment site in Ham remains full. The average waiting time for an allotment is three to four years.

Currently about 35-40 people are on the list at any one time, a situation that has remained constant for the previous five years. For further details about the list, contact Jo Paul between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday, on 020 8940 5822.

Diary dates...

April

Monday, April 11

Petting Zoo

Easter arts and crafts

Ham Children's Centre

Ashburnham Road

10am – 12 noon

Tuesday, April 12

Tracing your ancestry

Talk by Terry Humphrey

Ham Library, 1pm – 2pm

Free of charge

Refreshments from 12.45pm

Friday, April 15

The Berkeley Ensemble

in Concert

St Andrew's Church

Church Road, Ham Common

7.30pm, Tickets cost £12

(under 18 & over 60 £10)

Buy, on the door, from The

Gift Box or call Joy on 020

8940 6302.

May

Sunday, May 15

Sow and Grow

Ham House

11am – 4.30pm

For details: 020 8940 1950

Sunday, May 22nd

Ham Open Gardens,

Tickets on the day from stall

next to St Thomas Aquinas

Church from 2-5pm.

£8 each or 2 for £15.

Free entry to under 16yr olds.

For tickets in advance go to

www.hamandpetersham.com

Tea and cakes in Church

Hall until 6pm, In aid of The

Shooting Star Children's

Hospice.

Friday, May 27 to Sunday,

May 29

Art exhibition and sale

Ham Art Group

St Thomas Aquinas

Church Hall

June

Saturday, June 25th

Piano concert

With Anthony Adkins

St Richard's Church

7.30pm, In aid of Sightsavers

International

July

Saturday July 2nd

105th Summer Show

Petersham Horticultural

Society

Village Hall, Bute Avenue

2.15pm – 5pm

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Ham House kitchen garden to host family “grow your own” event

This spring, Ham House reveals exciting developments in its ambitious programme to recreate part of its original 17th-century walled kitchen garden.

On Sunday, May 15th from 11am to 4.30pm, visitors can discover more about this historical transformation at Ham’s ‘Sow and Grow’ day. The kitchen garden is also the inspirational setting for a lively introduction to the delights and satisfaction of growing and eating local seasonal produce.

Ham’s enthusiastic team of gardeners and volunteers are pulling out all the stops with a special day of family fun, as part of the National Trust’s ‘Food Glorious Food’ campaign to encourage more people to grow their own fruit and veg. Hands-on demonstrations reveal some great money-saving tips: find out how to make cheap rustic ‘wigwam’ supports for plants, and learn more about the art of ‘container gardening’ on a budget; from old compost sacks for potatoes to toilet roll tubes for runner beans – anything goes!

Garden activities see children sowing their own seeds in pots to take home, with additional packets of free seeds also on

offer. The grounds can be explored with a new self-guided garden trail, whilst a giant toy box provides further outdoor entertainment. Ham’s Art Cart is also making an appearance, with a host of garden-themed craft activities

Tours of the kitchen garden run throughout the day, and herbalist Janine Gerhardt introduces visitors to Ham’s impressive herb garden, as she reveals some of the more intriguing historical uses for 17th-century favourites such as Feverfew and Tansy.

Ham’s chef is rustling up delicious salads using edible flowers, as well as other dishes such as vegetable tarts using an array of produce from the garden. Ham has its own bee hive, and volunteer Penny Schwier is on hand to chat about the world of beekeeping, and the benefits of having bees in the garden. Honey lovers can pop into Ham’s shop to purchase locally produced honey from Twickenham Apiary.

“I’ve worked in the gardens at Ham House for 6 years now,” says garden volunteer Jeanette Pearce. “Being involved in the project to reinstate a 17th-century style kitchen garden here has been really enjoyable and rewarding. The wide range of produce growing here - often unusual varieties and some with surprising colours and quirky shapes - should prove to be a real draw for visitors.”

“The recreation of this important part of Ham’s history is part of a wider project to restore the gardens to their 17th-century splendour,” says Head Gardener Sandra King. “It’s wonderful to have the opportunity to tell people what we’re doing, and at the same time to use this glorious location as a place to inspire children and adults alike, both the complete beginner and those looking to broaden their horticultural knowledge.” For further details, ring 020 8940 1950

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The UN - closer than you think



The Twickenham and Richmond United Nations Association (TRUNA) is a local branch of the United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UNA-UK), writes James Heather, Ham resident and new TRUNA chairman. UNA-UK is the UK's leading source of independent analysis on the UN and a nationwide grass roots movement for peace development and human rights.

UNA-UK is committed to a strong, credible and effective UN. We believe that a strengthened UN is in the UK's national interest. We advocate strong governmental support for the UN, and seek to demonstrate why the UN matters to people everywhere.

The UNA-UK seeks to achieve these goals by six main objectives:

- We seek to raise awareness of the UN and its work;
- We stimulate thought and debate on how to strengthen the UN to tackle 21st century challenges;
- We push for action on peace and security, international development, climate change and human rights;
- We try to educate young people about the UN;
- We actively campaign for strong UK support for the UN and its agencies; and
- We equip our members with the means to further these ends.

TRUNA attempts to bring these values to a local level in a way that is accessible to local people. Our range of activities includes public meetings with knowledgeable speakers, house meetings and Saturday lunchtime pub meetings.

We maintain regular contact with both our borough's MPs and run local fund-raising events. We also carry out regular collections for UNA-UK/UNICEF and the No More Land Mines Campaign. We have raised over £3,000 in the last six months for UNICEF. The branch also sends delegates to both national and international conferences. At this year's national conference, TRUNA will be putting forward a motion calling for the UN to establish a scheme that recognises communities around the world that are making progress on becoming more sustainable, such as through local food and energy production.

The branch tries to be actively involved in all areas of UNA-UK but one of its strongest areas is Citizenship and Education. We have worked with many schools in the borough of Richmond over several decades typically helping to organise and run model UN General Assemblies.

UNA-UK has a very strong youth and student section called UNYSA and this has a local branch linked with Hampton schools and colleges. Contact us if you would like us to visit your local school.

Last year saw the official unveiling of a monument (see picture) located outside York House, Twickenham to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights. TRUNA was involved in the project from the start and in fact our former Chair, Virginia Morris, was instrumental in getting Richmond Council to adopt the initial idea as a public art project which meant considerable input of funds. UNA-UK also contributed along with the local branch of Amnesty International.



TRUNA chairman James Heather in front of the UN monument

Pupils from two Richmond schools including Ham's Grey Court School and residents from the Twickenham Day Centre were involved in the design of the installation and TRUNA members talked to the pupils about the Universal Declaration prior to the meetings with the artist Samantha Haynes.

TRUNA was involved in gaining Fairtrade status for the borough and believes in the importance of promoting Fairtrade branded products and the work they do. Recently, Fairtrade has launched a petition to push world leaders to act on the UN's Millennium Development Goals which, amongst other things, aim to cut global poverty by 2015.

The branch promotes the ideal of a nuclear free world and seeks to educate people on both its importance and ways it could be achieved.

TRUNA has successfully lobbied the concept of a UN standby force such that it is now part of UNA-UK policy. Clause 7.3 highlights "...the fundamental weakness of all UN peacekeeping operations ..." and Clause 7.4 urges Her Majesty's Government "To work toward the long-term objective of a UN Standby Force ready for emergency action when authorised by the Security Council" and that such a Force should be "individually recruited, trained and paid by the UN, owing loyalty only to the UN ..."

Existing UN Peacekeeping relies upon seconded national forces from several countries. There have been several attempts at speeding up this process. However, TRUNA has always pointed out that such forces will always need national approval, often with negotiation, such that rapid deployment will not normally happen quickly enough. The failure of the UN to act quickly enough in Rwanda has been blamed for genocide consuming 800,000 lives and \$2,000m in humanitarian aid.

Come along to one of our events. Just turn up, you will be very welcome. We intend to have a stand at this year's Ham Fair. Look out for the distinctive blue flag and UN logo or make contact to find out more. We have over 100 local members and affiliated groups.

Contact us via info@truna.org.uk



Topfenknoederl (Ricotta dumplings) with strawberries

Serves 8, By Petersham chef Martina Lessing

Ingredients:

250g sponge fingers
 500g ricotta or quark
 160g butter
 80g icing sugar
 2 eggs
 50g flour
 500g small strawberries
 1 tsp vanilla extract
 6 tbsp caster sugar

Method:

Cut the strawberries in half and mix with the caster sugar. Set aside.

Crumble the sponge fingers using a rolling pin or a food processor.

Beat 80g of the butter with the icing sugar to form a soft paste, then add eggs, ricotta, flour and 160g of the breadcrumbs. Refrigerate for one hour.

Shape little dumplings (wet hands!) and cook in boiling water with a pinch of salt for about 10 minutes. Use a slotted spoon and take them out.

Final touches:

Melt the remaining butter in a pan and roast the remaining bread crumbs. Roll the dumplings in the crumbs and serve with the strawberries.

Ham and Petersham Low Carbon Zone

Over 700 homes have now applied to be a part of the Ham and Petersham Low Carbon Zone. If you have received your confirmation letter please contact the home energy assessor as soon as possible to book in your assessment and receive your free Eco-Starter-Kit.

If you haven't yet applied, we encourage you to do so. We have secured even more places so that you do not miss out on the offers available.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is on offer to me?

We are offering you a free Home Energy Visit, up to £150 worth of free energy efficiency equipment and grants towards insulating your home and improving your heating system.

How do I apply?

Return a completed application form using the freepost envelope provided. Application packs were sent to homes in January but additional packs can be picked up from Ham Library.

I live in a rented property does this matter?

No. The free visit and energy efficiency measures are still available to you and can help you save money on your energy bills. We are also happy to work with property owners/housing providers to allow them to access the grant funded insulation/heating improvements on your behalf.

My house is already insulated/cannot be insulated, should I apply?

We welcome applicants from all property types regardless of how insulated or difficult to insulate they are. The Eco-Starter-Kit can help everybody to start saving and we will work with people in hard to treat homes to find solutions to further reduce their bills.

Do I need to switch energy provider?

No. There is no need to switch your energy provider.

"Very impressed – great stuff. The radiator panels and shower head really work."

Street Champions make a real difference

Street Champions have made a huge contribution to the success of the Ham and Petersham Low Carbon Zone this year. As well as letting people know what is on offer they have been helping people in their street with everything from thermal imaging to simply helping them to measure their energy.

Join our network of Street Champions and help make a real difference. Email the Street Champion Coordinator to find out more.

Street Champions want to hear from you

Do you have any ideas for how we can extend the scheme? Are there any specific areas we aren't covering? What would you like to see happen in your area?



Christopher Hunt, Low Carbon Zone Coordinator
Civic Centre, 44 York Street, Twickenham, TW1 3BZ
E: christopher.hunt@richmond.gov.uk, T: 020 8891 7387



Warm, comfortable and draught free

Street Champions now have an extensive stock of draught proofing materials, including door kits and chimney balloons, to show people how to draught proof their own homes. Contact the Street Champion Coordinator to attend a draught proofing workshop in your area.

Volunteer to have a Draught Busting workshop at your house and Street Champions will draught proof your house for free. All they ask in return is that you let them teach other people how to draught proof at the same time.

"It's 100% warmer now...I'm so happy it was done."

For more information about upcoming Draught Busting events contact Chas Warlow at chas.warlow@gmail.com or see the Street Champion pages at: e-voice.org.uk/hamunitedgroup/street-champions/ or e-voice.org.uk/hamunitedgroup/weblog/



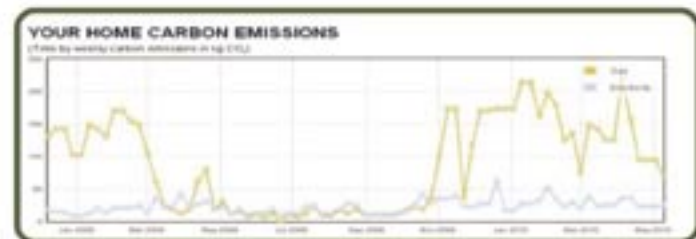
Draught proofing saves money, CO2 and makes your home feel more comfortable

Ham and Petersham work with Oxford University Environmental Change Institute

People in Ham and Petersham have been measuring their energy with the Environmental Change Institute at Oxford for some time and we now have our very own Community Account!

The free energy website is simple; just visit the [imeasure](http://imeasure.org) site and sign up. Find the 'Ham and Petersham Low Carbon Zone' carbon club and enter your meter readings. Easy.

See how you compare to other people in Ham and Petersham. You can sign up as an individual, a family or even anonymously; whichever you choose, have a go and see how energy can make it fun. www.imeasure.org.uk



Want to find out more about solar panels?

There is a lot of enthusiasm about solar panels and at least five houses have installed them in the area this year alone. SO what is all the fuss about?

Hear from people in the area that have had solar panels on their roofs. No sales pitches, no companies, just honest local advice.

12:45-2pm, Saturday 14th May, Ham Library



Green Streets update

A group of 15 local households and the six local schools were chosen to represent this area in a national competition to reduce energy use. The competition is now coming to a close and we will be making a presentation to a panel of judges in May for the £100,000 prize.

To support our group and to see what the group have been up to please visit www.greenstreets.co.uk/solariHAM

Thermal Imaging update

Street Champions have been running thermal imaging sessions to help their neighbours to identify where heat is leaking from their properties and how to prevent it. This has been very successful with many local evening events taking place and great interest from energy companies and local authorities.

The weather is now too warm to make efficient use of the cameras so they have now been put away until next winter. However, we are already taking bookings for thermal imaging sessions for later this year. If you would like more information, please get in touch.

See you soon

- Come and hear all about solar panels from local people that already have them. 12:45-2pm, 14th May, Ham Library. All welcome.
- Come and share your ideas with us at Ham Green Drinks. 18:30 onwards, second Tuesday of every month at Hand and Flower pub, Lower Richmond Road. Look for the Green Drink poster.
- Come and find Street Champions and the Low Carbon Zone at Ham Fair on the 11th June.



MAYOR OF LONDON



Richmond Environment Network





HAM UNITED GROUP-YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUP-
CARE ABOUT WHERE YOU LIVE

INCORPORATING PETERSHAM

Ham United Group Spring update

As I sit at my desk writing this it is a glorious spring morning – you might remember it, a frosty Saturday morning following a clear night with a huge bright full moon. Today we have 'Awakening the Bird & Butterfly Garden', but will report back on that next time.



February saw **HUG's 2nd Annual Apple Fest** which was a jolly affair, despite the weather. Our mini-orchard at **Ham Library** had its first prune and already the buds are forming. Meanwhile inside, Diane had arranged for the children to make apple bird feeders for the garden. Apple cake and toffee apples were also on offer.

The **Grey Court Community Allotment** first work day was well attended. We were very pleased to see new faces including 20-month old Oliver. The men plan to build some more compost bins and benches.

The allotment is proving to be a real community affair. Winter has seen Jenny from Images Hairdressing Salon on Ham Street donate and plant a quince tree to the project. Hope you like the quince jelly Jenny.

Recently our allotment played host to Chris and 7 of her adult learners. She runs a horticultural course at RACC. We had great fun planting seed potatoes in bags as an experiment. Rather like apples we found that potatoes have such unusual names. Rooster was one of the varieties planted – very apt due to the imminent arrival of the chickens.

The 'Weeding Wednesday' activity during term time is going from strength to strength and they too have planted 3 bags with potatoes in – their potatoes not only had unusual names, but also chosen for the variety of colours!

Mary plans to open the allotment for the community to come along every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, but you can always check the details on our website's Events page. Otherwise email her at allotment@hamunitedgroup.org.uk

2011 will see **HUG** looking to raise its profile by attending many local events **HUG** is taking a stall at the upcoming Ham House "Sow 'n Grow" event in May. We will use it as a showcase for the community allotment and have some produce to entice you to get involved. Come and speak to us to find out how you can get involved and what we are growing in the allotment – you will be surprised at the range of crops we have planted.

Fundraising is on the agenda and that will form part of **HUG's** presence at the Ham Fair. Not forgetting more events at the Library Bird & Butterfly Garden.

Last Saturday, saw me joining members from **Ham & Petersham Association, BTCV** and students (Leisa, Kirsty and Carol with Linda their tutor) from **Marymount International School** for a talk about mistletoe. Richmond is a bit of a 'hot spot' for the plant. This was followed by the inoculation of some trees on Ham Common of mistletoe. It was really interesting and sticky!

Ham is really a centre for community cohesion and we look forward to welcoming you at our events. Remember to keep an eye on our web Events Calendar as we have more fun events lined up.



Jean Loveland

Classical sounds for Shooting Star

Two events are taking place in Ham in April and May to raise money for the Shooting Star Children's Hospice, writes Lynda Daroga.

The first event is a concert that takes place on 15th April at 7.30pm at St Andrew's Church, Church Road, Ham Common. The Berkeley Ensemble in Concert features eight of Britain's finest young musicians playing music by Nielson, Schubert and Beethoven. Tickets cost £12 (under 18 & over 60 £10) and can be bought from The Gift Box on Ham Parade, by calling Joy Owen (secretary) on 020 8940 6302. Tickets can also be bought on the door.

The second event is on Sunday, 22nd May. The Shooting Star Children's Hospice Hampton, Ham, Petersham and Richmond Supporters' Group has been asked by the Ham and Petersham Association to provide afternoon teas at their 2011 Open Garden event. Teas will be served in St. Thomas Aquinas Church Hall from 2pm - 6pm.

Shooting Star House provides care and support for children with life-limiting illnesses and their families throughout the western half of London and north Surrey.

These facilities are provided free of charge to the families, 365 days a year. The role of Hampton, Ham, Petersham and Richmond Supporters' Group is to help raise the £3.5 million which is needed every year to maintain the service.

As the Hospice receives no long term statutory funding, voluntary fundraising plays a important part in raising this huge sum. We are always looking for new members to either join our Group or help us in the background. If you can spare a little time, there are many ways in which you can help us.

Call myself or Joy for more information. Lynda Daroga (Co-Ordinator) 020 8948 4500/07879622189. lyndadaroga@btinternet.com. Joy Owen (Secretary) 020 8940 6302. joy@type-it.freereserve.co.uk.

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Ham Hydro is on the march!

The latest news on the community-led hydro power project for Teddington Weir

The background

In early 2010, the Environment Agency asked prospective developers to submit an expression of interest in developing hydro power on 3 weirs on the Thames, Teddington being one of them, *writes Chas Warlow*. A group of residents of Ham (mainly) and a few 'outsiders' (from Twickenham and Molesey) decided to form a community interest company (that's us – Ham Hydro CIC) to make a submission. Our submission was successful and we are now the selected developer of the site, with the proviso that we work with Morrison Construction to build the project.



What's the scheme about?

We aim to build a project that will generate enough clean electricity to supply the equivalent of 600 homes (or 6 secondary schools) with electricity. We will feed

the electricity generated to the national grid and get an income. After covering our expenditure we will then use the surplus to develop other environmental and sustainable projects in the local area – these projects could be other renewable energy projects or projects that help to reduce fuel poverty, for instance – and provide local employment and training opportunities.

What is the design of the scheme?

We intend to put 4 reverse-engineered Archimedean screw turbines on a section of the weir. They will be over 3 metres in diameter and look like something like the screws in the photograph (see next column).

The turbines have been approved as 'fish-friendly' by the Environment Agency.

What's happening now?

We have commissioned Entec, an independent consultancy to run environmental assessments of our proposed scheme and are

moving towards submitting an application for planning permission. We have also commissioned Fishtek, a specialist fisheries consultancy, to carry out tests on the specific turbine type we are planning to use.



Money? Where's it coming from?

We're happy to have been awarded some grant funding from the GLA through the Ham & Petersham Low Carbon Zone scheme – this is

paying for the environmental studies and fish studies mentioned above. Once we have obtained planning permission we will start raising funds through a share issue to local people (thus providing a direct financial benefit to the local economy) and we will raise the remainder through bank loans. The project is coming along in leaps and bounds thanks to all the work put in by the project team; we are also getting a lot of support from the Richmond Environment Network and the Carbon Leapfrog organisation. We have made links with other non-profit organisations like ourselves and generally learnt a lot over the last 12 months.

What are our next steps?

We are going to hold a public meeting soon and we welcome local people's participation in the project. We are also doing some research at present – please take the survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HamHydro01> to give us an idea of the local interest in subscribing to a possible share issue.

What are your ideas for how the income generated by the scheme could be used?

Let us know at admin@hamhydro.org



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Venue: Classes take place on Fridays term time from 12.00 to 14.00 in Ham, Richmond-upon-Thames. Please phone for more details.

Price: £10 per class.

Anna is a full time local artist and tutor. She studied fine art in Moscow Stroganov Art University and comes from a dynasty of artists spanning 4 generations. She exhibits widely in local art shows and takes commissions for portraits of people, pets and houses at affordable prices. Private lessons are also available.

Academic Art Class with Anna Tikhomirova

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Getting a kick out of Ham

Ham Kickz is going from strength to strength, *writes Sam Sawhney*. From its conception in 2007, Kickz has raised its profile within the borough, and the progress over the last 4 years has been nothing short of a template for other social inclusion projects to follow in terms of community partnerships.

The Kickz Project is a national sports and activity-based youth inclusion project delivered by professional football clubs in partnership with the Safer Neighbourhoods Police Teams targeting young people between 12-18 years of age living in some of the most deprived communities in England. Through a relationship building strategy, the projects use regular constructive and sustained free multisport and leisure activities delivered by professional sports coaches and youth workers who are positive role models to engage with marginalised young people

Ham Kickz has on average 9 hours of weekly activities, and an average of 20 participants per session. Kickz has a

longstanding partnership with Richmond Parish Lands Charity, helping with funding and strategic support to help develop the range of positive activities on offer.

Examples of current work include:

A partnership with the Met Police backed Met Tracks Athletics project - delivering to 20 young people at Grey Court School; and

A partnership with the youth work team to deliver junior youth night at Ham Youth Club, and young people are welcome to attend!

Parkour is delivered at Ham Youth Club

too, and Kickz has one member of its coaching team delivering alongside the Ham Youth Work team, who have arranged this project - this is a fantastic activity for young people to experiment with multiple movements and confidence building in a safe and structured environment.

Sessions also take place each week at Ham Common/Ham Green with new sports such as futsal, touch rugby and ultimate Frisbee having been delivered over the last year!

Workshops are also a regular theme in the programme, with participants being given a chance to discuss topics that are affecting young people in general

including knife and gun crime, gangs, positive thinking, careers and CV building. This is crucial to helping all young people make the right life choices and empowering all participants at Kickz sessions to make a positive input!

Trips in the last year have included match days at Brentford FC, London Welsh RFC and the Sky Sports London Masters at Wembley Arena. Young people also have attended Kayaking Trips to Kew Boating Arch, the Kickz Cup at Fulham FC and inter project match vs Ealing talented and gifted u14s.

New Kickz sessions to be delivered will include a new range of football sessions

for delivering community sport and social inclusion projects, has agreed to work with the Cambrian Centre under the banner of the Queen's Road StreetGames programme.

StreetGames is a dedicated multisports and positive activities project, aimed to develop sport with disadvantaged communities and making sport accessible to young people regardless of their social circumstances. StreetGames projects aim to help individuals develop their sports and leadership skills through participation and volunteering, fulfil their ambitions and help bring communities closer together via sport.

contact boxing and street dance are just two examples of sports being delivered for young people at the venue this year.

Volunteering

This year, volunteers will also be targeted from within the programme, and offered chances to help out and become role models for their project - any young person or parent wanting to become a part of the volunteer programme should come to the session and ask the coaches for more information.

The volunteer programme has already been very successful in helping offer chances to young people looking to gain experience in the working world. 6 Young people aged 16 – 21 have joined the programmes in the past year, with all being offered paid casual work and completing their FA Level 1 coaching badges, and one coach attaining a national volunteering award and a subsequent apprenticeship on the Richmond Kickz programme in 2010. We are always on the lookout for would be volunteer coaches – please contact us for more information!



Kickz and StreetGames sessions are positive, safe and a great place to be

On both programmes, rewards for positive behaviour and regular attendance include BFC prizes, signed shirts and footballs, access to matchday trips, tournaments, and more!! All Coaches are CRB cleared and first aid trained too.

We are very keen to get all young people to attend and join in. Sessions are FREE, so please come down and meet us!

Kickz and StreetGames sessions are positive, safe and a great place to be! If you are interested in taking part in our various multisport sessions, or about becoming a volunteer or coach, please contact us!

For more details, contact Sam Sawhney – Richmond Kickz and StreetGames Manager on 08442871889. Or email: ssawhney@brentfordfcst.com

from April, for all young people aged 12 – 18 during weekday evenings, as well as new holiday sessions during every half term too in the day in addition to year round evening sessions. Please contact us below for more information if you are interested in taking part.

Queen's Road StreetGames

Created for young people aged 7– 19, living in and near to the Queen's Road Estate, Brentford FC Community Sports Trust (BFCCST), with a strong track record

New sports included over the year are futsal, touch rugby and ultimate Frisbee

Due to the existing Ham Kickz programme being so successful, and being only just over 1/2 mile away, this project provides chances for young people on both projects to take part in regular work together. The coaching team have most recently been delivering during junior youth club nights to the under 12's on Wednesday and Friday nights since the start of 2011. Non

A life in the day of a Ham polo pony

by polo pony Stella Candilio

Stella Candilio, seasoned equine polo celebrity, gives a grassroots account of life behind the scenes at Ham Polo Club ...from the horse's mouth.

With photo and light editing by Tania Ward.



When we hear the rattle of the feed buckets, around 7.30am, it's time to get up. There's a lot of excitement as breakfast clatters round on the barrow. Some of my younger friends stamp about and whinny, but it doesn't make the service any faster. I'm an old hand, I always wait patiently. Breakfast is an equine version of muesli (thankfully no raisins) followed by a generous slice of hay. While we're enjoying the last wisps, the grooms will start to make our beds.

There are about 100 horses here during the summer months, on rows and blocks of stables dotted between the pitches and paddocks. The grounds are beautiful. I love the big green grassiness, the neatly clipped hedges and the way the sun shines through the tall chestnut trees and dapples the edges of the field. I've heard humans say 'such a lovely open space and SO close to London'(whoever London is – I've

never met him) I'm on a little green stable block with my friends Luna, Bella, Polka and Banksy. We all get on pretty well, though Banksy's a bit odd at times and only has one pace (dead slow). You can't blame him really, he's surrounded by women. You may have noticed from our names that we're mainly South American – from Argentina. Us sporting ponies need to be clever and fast and you can't beat a multitasking fiery Latin female for that.

Weekdays are pretty leisurely here. In the mornings we get a thorough top-to-tail grooming, followed by lunch and then a gentle stroll around the grounds in the afternoon. We exercise in threes, groom riding the middle pony (usually me) and leading the other two (like you would a dog). Perhaps you've seen us or heard the clatter of horseshoes if you're ever out walking near Ham House. Most of our grooms are South American too, practically born in the saddle, so they often use this time to catch up with friends on the mobile, smoke (bad habit) and day dream. We have a regular routine to help ours pay attention, works every time – I'll stroll along calmly to avoid suspicion, while Luna stops dead with her head in the air and Polka breaks into a quickstep – you can imagine the result - arms, legs and lead reins everywhere. Once he even dropped his cigarettes and I trod on them (by mistake of course). The air turned blue, we didn't recognise a word, even as native speakers. Once we've helped our groom to refocus, we finish off the ride with a few circuits of the exercise track at the canter, just to keep up his fitness levels.

The players come to practise on Tuesday and Thursday evenings when the weather's good. and the polo school gives lessons throughout the week. We have riders as young as 12 yrs, and well, let's just say there's no upper age limit. I'm glad I'm not a teaching pony though, they must be very patient and the job can be slightly hazardous – get an uncoordinated learner and you can end up keeping your teeth in a jar. Actually, polo school would suit Banksy, he'd make a gentle progression from that wooden horse in the ball pit.

The weekends are best. That's when it all happens here. If I ever lose count of the days I can tell it's Saturday by all the activity. Groundsmen will be putting up goal posts, checking signs and testing scoreboards. Grooms will be rushing around polishing saddles and there'll be an aroma of coffee and the sound of chatter drifting from the clubhouse. The first ponies will already be whizzing up and down the exercise track, warming up early in the morning. Polka, Luna and I like to stand out at the rail by the pitch to watch the action (and from here we can frisk visitors for polo mints). My groom will brush me till I shine, plait my tail (stops it snagging during play) and bandage

my legs for protection. Looking ready for the game is important to a pony too. You may have noticed our manes are cropped, so they don't catch in the reins, (I think the clipped look shows off my profile rather well). Maria Elena (that's my human) always visits at weekends, I'm very fond of her. Usually we play or umpire together. Let me just explain the game briefly. There are generally four 'chukkas' in a match, three lasting seven and a half minutes and a final one which finishes on the seven minute bell. There's a quick break between each to change ponies. The pace is very fast and we'd get tired otherwise – a lot of sprinting involved. There are four players and ponies on each team, so you see, each player needs two ponies at least. Right now it's only Maria Elena and me, so either we share a team position or we umpire – a very important job too. There are lots of rules, but basically they're mostly to keep players and ponies safe. (That's where humans come in handy, ponies don't really 'do' rules). There are two umpires keeping a close eye on play and a referee at the side of the pitch. Bartolo, Maria Elena's dog will always be watching too, he's a great 'third man', never misses a thing.

When it's my turn to play, my groom leads me to the side of the pitch for the changeover. I get very excited, quivering all over and jogging up and down. He has to keep a tight hold otherwise I'd forget myself and chase off after the others. You see, us horses are herd animals, with the team spirit, we love to run together. Polo is a game of partnership (with our human) and of team play with the other ponies too. Maria Elena and I can tell exactly what the other is thinking and often I've stopped and turned to follow the ball before she's asked me. A pro like me can tell which way the ball will go next, just by the sound it makes on the mallet. The charging and barging bit is what most of us love best though. (Any trekking pony would give his fetlocks to do this). It's called 'riding off' and it's all about pushing your opponent off the line of the ball to give your team mates a better chance at it. It takes great concentration and all I'll be aware of is the drumming of hooves, the flying turf and my opponent snorting in my

ears, everything else is a blur. I'm told there's generally a lot of excited cheering from the sidelines at this point too. Whenever he can, Banksy will try and hover over the ball with his stumpy tail in the way, so the opposition can't get close enough for a strike. That gives Polka a chance to line up for a good shot. With any luck we'll all be charging off in the direction of the opponent's goal and finishing the afternoon with the ball between their posts and a victory.

When we come off the pitch sweating and panting, our grooms give us a good hose down and we go back to the stables for a well earned rest. Takes us a while to calm down after the excitement. Maria Elena and Bartolo will come round and share a final carrot or two before they head home.

In the evening, the grooms often crack a few tinnies, unwind and play some football on the practice pitch – I like to watch a bit of sport over dinner. Most of them live nearby, so there's always someone to take care of us. 'Lights out' is whenever the sun slips behind the chestnut trees. If it gets chilly, the grooms will put on our rugs (horsey PJs). Then I'll nod off, listening to the contented munching of my neighbours enjoying a slice of bedtime hay.

Tomorrow is Sunday. That's when the best matches are played. There'll be lots of cars arriving, general bustle and people coming to watch us. It's an important tournament, so I must get some quality sleep. I just hope Banksy doesn't snore tonight.

You can watch Stella, Polka, Banksey and friends in action at Ham Polo every Sunday during the season from 1pm onwards. Bring a picnic. Entry is around £5 per person on foot or £15 per car. For more information go to www.hampoloclub.com

events@hampoloclub.com or telephone the polo office on 0208940 2020

Multi-lingual doctors' practice expands

Richmond Practice has appointed two more consultant specialists and a full-time GP to develop the practice as a centre of excellence in ultrasound diagnostics.

Dr Eko Zhang, consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist, is an expert in ultrasound diagnostics and foetal and maternal medicine and is also a consultant at St Mary's Hospital (Imperial College) where she offers a second opinion on at-risk pregnancies.

Dr Frank Gollub, a consultant clinical radiologist, is a fellow of the Royal College of Radiologists and works as a consultant at Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust.

The GP, Dr Sharoni Mahabaduge, who speaks five languages, including German, will carry out an internal referral for patients who need an ultrasound scan, usually on the same day.

"Properly performed, ultrasound scanning poses no known risks to the patient and does not use radiation. It has become one of the most widely used diagnostic tools in modern medicine," the practice's Johanna Renz said. "We frequently use our ultrasound scanner on the same day as a patient's appointment to investigate medical conditions and to respond to urgent concerns. We also integrate it into our health checks."

Ultrasound is typically used to diagnose ovarian cysts and fibroids in the womb that may be causing pain, investigate bleeding in pregnancy, to check that the womb is clear after a miscarriage and to detect an ectopic pregnancy that places the mother's life at risk.

Doctors at the practice, which also has a base in Ham, consult in French and Mandarin as well as English and German. For details, go to richmondpractice.co.uk.



THE LONDON POLO CLUB

Established 1926

Fixture list 2011

Month	Date	Time	Event
MAY	Sun 1st	13:00	Opening of Season - Club Matches
	Mon 2nd	13:00	Club Matches
	Sun 8th	13:00	Anthony Cup
	Sun 15th	13:00	Ham House Tournament Final (0 to 2 Goals)
	Sun 22nd	13:00	June Bamberg H.R.Owen
	Sun 29th	13:00	Mixed Doubles Tournament Final - Goal Cup Moscow Polo Club vs Ham Polo Club
	Mon 30th	13:00	Club Matches, Clubhouse open day
JUNE	Sun 5th	13:00	Richmond Park Cup Doug Brown Plate
	Tue 7th	15:00	Eton College vs Ham Polo Club
	Sat 11th	15:00	German School Day
	Sun 12th	13:00	Tiger Tops Tiger Mountain
	Tue 14th	15:00	Wellington College vs Ham Polo Club
	Sun 19th	13:00	Petersham Bowl Challenge Final (0 to 2 Goal) John Player Plate
	Sat 25th	18:00	Sunset Polo (ticketed event)
	Sun 26th	13:00	Tiger Stream Cup
JULY	Sun 3rd	13:00	Ventura Pauly Trophy Don Zoilo
	Sun 10th	13:00	Godbold Trophy Finals (0 to 2 Goals) David Healy Edward Tauchert Bowl
	Sun 17th	10:30	Club Matches (Gold Cup Final at Cowdray)
	Fri 22nd	19:30	Midsummer Ball (ticketed event)
	Sat 23rd	13:00	Quatro Amigos Cup (Ham vs West Wycombe)
	Sun 24th	13:00	International Day at Guards Polo Club (NO polo at HPC)
	Sun 31st	13:00	Summer Tournament Finals (0 to 4 Goals) Rosie Adams Bowl Rerrieson Trophy

Author tells of playwright's wild days

Frank Gray, a San-Francisco-born author who now lives in Ham, has written a book about Irish playwright Brendan Behan. Here, he tells *H&P magazine* how his interest in the playwright's life developed.

One does not easily make a connection between Ireland's raucous playwright, Brendan Behan (1923-64), and the gentle suburb of Richmond upon Thames, which these days is known as the community with a lifestyle.

Factor into this the travels of a San Francisco-born student who had been youth hostelling his way from Oxfordshire towards Victoria Station and the fast train to Southampton and the long voyage home.

I asked at the pub if the ban still held since Behan was still dead. The reply was terse: "Of course it's still in place, a man like that could come back any time."

Behan was then at his peak and was as renowned for his disruptive lifestyle and desire for attention as he was for his pioneering efforts as a playwright, best known for *Borstal Boy*, *The Quare Fellow* and *The Hostage*, not to mention many of his lighter 'entertainments' such as *Confessions of an Irish Rebel*, *the Scarperer* and others.

I was dimly aware of who Brendan Behan was (this was 1961) as there had been a lot in the news about him, but I had little idea what a *Borstal Boy* was supposed to be. Back in San Francisco, I found that his reputation was considerable, particularly in the Irish-American community, which was particularly strong on the West Coast.

The great vehicle for his fame in those days was, above all, his popular tragic-comic play, *The Hostage*, which had first played in London under the tutelage of Joan Littlewood and was about as irreverent about Anglo-Irish relations as was imaginable. He had got the play performed in various venues in the UK, and this included a week long revue at the Richmond Theatre in November of 1961 back-to-back with *The Caretaker*, making an early exposure for Behan contemporary Harold Pinter.

Behan represented a free-spirited Bohemianism, just the ticket for a city like San Francisco which had an array of characters, the likes of Jack Kerouac, Gregory Corso, Lawrence Ferlingetti and Allan Ginsberg, not to mention survivors drawn from the Cannery Row works of John Steinbeck.

I nearly crossed paths with Behan during the latter's visit to the West Coast, having entrenched himself as a night life fixture in New York. It was tragic in that he lost control of his health and suffered from alcoholism, diabetes, cirrhosis and other ailments. His wife, Beatrice, literally dragged him back to Dublin from New York in late 1963 and bore him a daughter, Blanaid. He died in March 1964.

Depending on who is in the White House, I regard myself an American-born Canadian living in London, with my English wife (from Kent) and three children, having elected to take our chances in the old world. Through friends of friends, we opted to try our luck on the slopes of Richmond Hill where we still live.

On a business trip in 1978 from London to Dublin, to write about one of Ireland's periodic economic booms, I found myself invited to a reception at the Royal Dublin Society. By the sheerest coincidence, I was soon immersed in conversation with Beatrice Behan about her life with Brendan a decade-and-a-half earlier.

She was as gently frank as ever. She remembered the 1961 visit to San Francisco but this did not diminish her affection for her late husband. Her summing up: "He was the most exciting man I had ever met."

Whenever friends of Behan and keepers of the flame gather round, stories begin to percolate. Rae Jeffs, his publicist recalled the first days after the celebrated launch of *Borstal Boy*. A pub frequented by BBC reporters on Mortimer Street, central London, became the scene of riotous behaviour as rounds of drinks were bought. Eventually there were fights and Behan and Jeffs were banned for life.

About a dozen years later, I decided to visit the pub, met a man with short fuzzy hair serving drinks. I asked if the ban still held since Behan was still dead. The reply was terse: 'Of course its still in place, a man like that could come back any time.'

****The Crazy Life of Brendan Behan
(The Rise and fall of Dublin's Laughing Boy)***
**By Frank Gray, Authorhouse Publishing, ISBN 78-1-4490-6895.
259 pages, £12.49.**



HAM PARADE

Sir James Stirling was a British architect considered to be among the most important & influential architects of the second half of the century. It is eighteen years since James Stirling's death, and he is long due a retrospective exhibition. **Notes from the Archive** takes place at the Tate in his honour **5th April—21st August**. Given his close association with Tate, in the form of the Clore Gallery and Tate Liverpool, Tate Britain is an especially appropriate place to review his work. The exhibition curated by the renowned architectural writer Anthony Vidler, draws on the Stirling archives & will be presented in the Clore Gallery, designed by Stirling and opened in 1987. The exhibition will cover the whole of Stirling's career, from the iconic Engineering Building of 1959 at Leicester University through to the late 1990s, including built and unbuilt projects, drawings, photographs and furniture.

Mervyn Smith

currently have two of his **Grade II* listed Langham House Close Ham Common** flats available for sale a 2 bedroom example in one of the garden pavilions and a rarely available 3 bedroom with balcony. Priced between £249,950 - £309,950.



To the other side of **Ham Common** we also have available a selection of **Parkleys Grade II listed apartments** set amidst beautifully maintained communal gardens with a price range from £249,950 - £269,950 depending on position and condition.



Mervyn Smith is a local independent estate agency which has been successfully selling and letting properties in Ham & Petersham since 1975. We're a well established sales team who live locally with real in depth local knowledge acquired over many years. **We sell the area as well as our properties.** Unlike corporate estate agents, **we work as a team with no individual commission** so although individually specialised any member of staff will help you with any query or at any stage of the process.