



Free flow festivities for Hampton, Sunday, 2 December

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LOCAL ARTIST'S WORK AT ORLEANS HOUSE GALLERY

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PRUE LEITH

Maura Waters reports on Prue Leith's thought provoking talk at Hampton Library. *More on page 2.*

BIRTHDAYS GALORE

MTV Youth and the Hampton WI celebrate their first anniversaries. *More on page 3.*

SOCIETY NEWS AND UPDATES

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NEW! HAMPTON CARD

For details of how to buy or update your Hampton Card. *More on page 3.*

When local roads are closed to traffic for your event, you know you've arrived. This is the third year Hampton village's traders are organising our Christmas festivities, but the first where people can wander between the stalls on the route of Santa's sleigh, traffic-free.

On Sunday, 2 December, Station Road, on one side of the railway line and Ashley Road on the other will be alive with lighted stalls, Christmas trees and fairy lights.

Everything will start at 4.00pm at the Scout hut in Station Road, when Richmond Mayor Cllr. Rita Palmer and MP Vince Cable will perform the opening ceremony. Along the route of Santa's sleigh, businesses will have hot sausages, chestnuts, sweets and candy floss on offer to keep out the cold.

Choirs from Denmead School, Hampton Junior School and Hampton Infants School will be singing carols in a marquee on Hampton Green, Station Road. Hampton Choral Society plan to do their carolling at various points along the route.

Once again Teddington & Hampton Rotary Club will lend its sleigh to carry Santa along the route, up Station Road, over the railway bridge into Ashley Road, to turn right towards the junction with Gloucester Road, and then back towards Station Approach and on to the level crossing. Then it's back down Station Road to a carpeted Scout hut ready to welcome Santa to his grotto there. Each child he sees will be given a bag of chocolate coins, courtesy of Sainsbury's, who are also raffling a television set. *Continued on back page...*



ABOUT THE SOCIETY

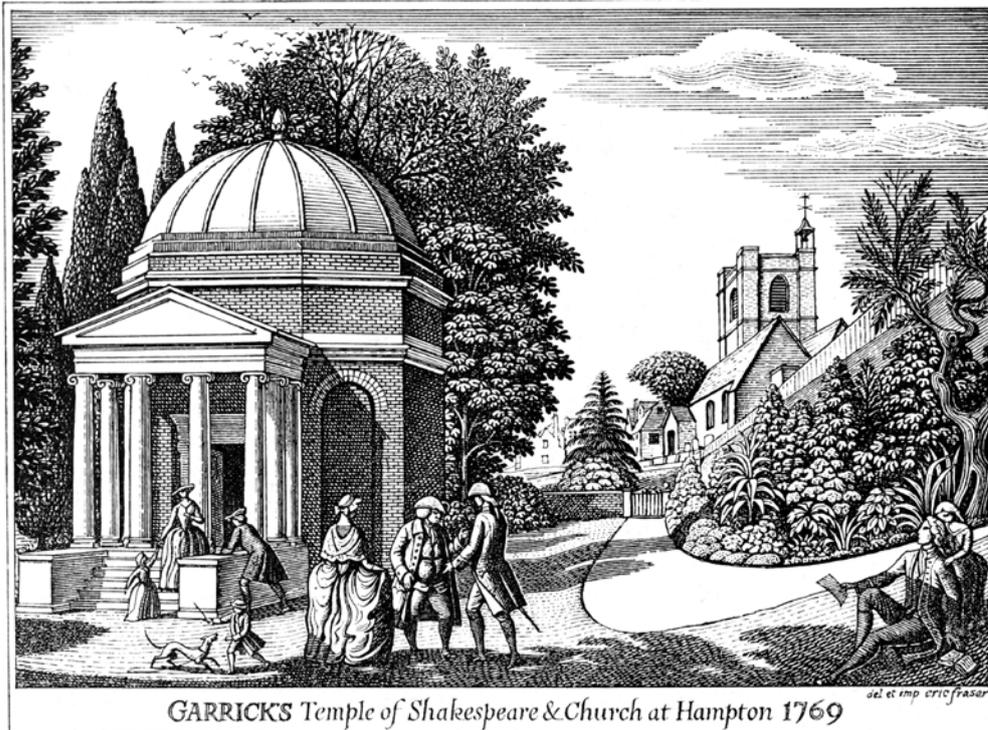
The Hampton Society is primarily concerned with the protection and development of the local environment, both built and natural, and to ensure that the provision of amenities enhances the quality of life for the residents of Hampton.

Contact us at **enquiries** [@thehamptonsociety.org.uk](http://thehamptonsociety.org.uk)

CAN YOU HELP?

Have you got a talent that you think would benefit the Society and its members? Do you have a fascinating story you'd like to tell us about living in Hampton? We not only welcome contributions for the newsletter and website, but also seek speakers and performers for the events we hold for the people of Hampton.

Local artist's work at Orleans House Gallery



GARRICK'S Temple of Shakespeare & Church at Hampton 1769

When Orleans House Gallery opened to the public in 1972 Hampton's Joan Heath was there. Forty years later she was there again, helping to celebrate the milestone birthday by highlighting one work from their collection. Her choice was Eric Fraser's line drawing "Garrick's Temple to Shakespeare and Church at Hampton".

The artist lived in Hampton, at Penn's Cottage in Church Street, until he died in 1983. Prolific and well respected in his field, many of Eric Fraser's works grace the interior of St Mary's Church, but he is best known for Mr. Therm, the logo used nationwide by the gas industry in the 1940s and 50s.

The Twickenham gallery's current exhibition, The Big 40 Times, consists of 40 pieces of art from their collection selected by 40 of their supporters, one work for each year. As a participant and volunteer for all of those years, Joan was given the honour of featuring on the first page of the exhibition programme. In it she describes Eric Fraser as "a modest, shy man, rather humorous. We all knew each other in Hampton back then".

Now aged 94, Joan is still actively involved in the Borough's cultural events – including our own Society of course – and is part of the volunteers' team at Garrick's Temple. **MW**

Hampton's success with floral displays continues

Hampton's two gold awards for its floral displays in Station Road and Ashley Road and Station Approach were translated into something tangible at the Richmond in Bloom awards ceremony on 2 October when Hampton's traders received two cheques for £500 – each to go towards more floral displays.

The Traders have a winter display to brighten the shopping scene with new blooms in the baskets replacing the summer flowers. The Society's own baskets have also been taken down and replaced by winter-flowering ones. **RH/MW**

Go on, get in touch at enquiries@thehamptonsociety.org.uk

Denmead school update

Denmead Neighbours' Association (DNA) understand that Denmead School's planning application to redevelop their Gloucester Road site, filed last December, is due to come before the Planning Committee. Local residents filed over 150 objections including: intensified traffic problems, increased noise and disturbance, loss of open land and opening up a cul-de-sac for access. The DNA, which represents local residents, has launched a website to set out their views on the application in an accessible format with downloadable photos, maps and documents along with details of relevant planning policies:

www.denmeadneighbours.org

ALICE FORDHAM

Prue Leith Hampton talk

If parents are never taught to cook, how can their children be blamed for eating junk food? Prue Leith proposed the question to a capacity audience at Hampton Library recently when she spoke about her varied life as a restaurateur, TV cookery judge and top-level businesswoman.

"I'm a busy woman, I always want to fix things, mostly teaching children to cook" she explained. She thinks the Tories believe people should be responsible for their own lives, "but people need to be educated about food".

As her contribution to Richmond's Literary Festival, this was Prue's first visit to Hampton. Was she impressed? Certainly. On



asking her way to the library from the station she was quite taken aback when the two locals questioned replied that of course they could direct her, and did so unerringly. (Of course we residents know perfectly well it's at the bottom of Rosehill, where you least expect it!)

Born in South Africa, Prue first appreciated food at a higher level when she worked as an au pair in France. Later, in England she did a cookery course and started her own catering company from a tiny flat in Paddington. The business side of catering attracted her, and it wasn't too long before she found herself the token woman on important boards like British Rail, Safeway, Royal Bank of Scotland and Orient Express. The fact that the first three possessed chequered histories was no reflection upon her role as their catering adviser, though.

Like many celebrities, Prue has her London taxi-driver story. "Aren't you that cook off the telly?" asked one. "Tell you something, that Norwich City's rubbish!"

Were you listening, Delia? **MW**

Notes from the Chair



This October saw Hampton celebrating not only the first anniversary of the local Women's Institute but also that of MTV youth, a Friday evening drop in club for 8-14 year olds at the Oldfield Centre, Hampton.

The club has been going from strength to strength and now has over 120 youths on its books and a highly dedicated team of 20 local volunteers. Since the club began, Hampton has seen a 67% drop in anti-social behaviour and local youths now interact more positively with the local police.

Just as we believe the Hampton Society facilitates a channel of communication within the community and brings people together, it is clear that the ethos of other local voluntary organisations, which target specific sectors of the community, are in line with our own: "to ensure that the provision of amenities enhances the quality of life for the residents of Hampton". Well done to everyone involved for their time and commitment and for the positive effect their efforts have generated.



Happy Birthday MTV Youth. From left to right: PCSO Marek Regan, David Lloyd, Nick Neilan and Councillor Darren Thornton. Courtesy of Richmond & Twickenham Times.

Thanks to everyone who bought our Christmas cards and to **Announce It!** and the **Greenwood Centre** for selling many of them for us. It has certainly proved convenient to have a premises from which to purchase them and they have been selling very fast (only 10 packs left at time of going to press!).

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Sam Redfern Chair

Happy First Birthday, Hampton WI

HAMPTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE have just celebrated their first anniversary. Formed in October 2012, during the past year the ladies have been treated to demonstrations of Indian cooking, sugar-crafting and perfume-making; had a cheese and wine tasting; heard our local historian John Sheaf tell them about Hampton's history and had a visit from an expert on holistic therapy. They've even been treated to a history of knickers!



On December 11 a speaker from Hampton Court will tell them about the palace's ghosts.

The aim of the WI is to form a unit of women to unite in friendship and interests and they are always looking for new people of any age to join. Contact them on their website:

www.hamptonwomensinstitute.com SR/MW

From left to right: Petra Sale, WI President with her godmother, Anne Goold; mum, Jacqueline Sale; sister, Thea Sale-Ashley and in front, nan, Terry Pearson.

Don't forget to renew your Hampton Card

SUPPORT BOTH THE traders and the Hampton Society with the **2013 Hampton Card** and get special offers at shops and services in the village, for just £5 per year – a bargain, as most offers cover the cost of the card immediately. Further details and a full list of offers can be viewed by visiting the HVTA website www.hamptonvillage.org.uk or by scanning this code with your smartphone. They can be bought from our treasurer, **William Redfern**, and half the proceeds will go to the society. Please include SAE.



UPDATES

The Hampton Society committee members

CHAIR

Sam Redfern 8286 7071

DEPUTY CHAIR

Alice Fordham 8979 3543

SECRETARY

Rosemary Hill 8973 3604

TREASURER

William Redfern 8286 7071

MEMBERSHIP

Trisha Shirt 8941 5162

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Maura Waters 8979 9654

OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patrick Hooton 8941 6720

Julie-nne Monahan 8979 8942

Christine Paganelli 8941 5927

Why not join the committee?

We always welcome 'new blood' to reflect our ever-expanding membership. Do you like organising events; have accounting skills; have experience of planning issues or researching items of local interest? If you would like to make a contribution to the direction of the Society you are cordially invited to contact Sam or any committee member (names and numbers above).

QUIZ NIGHT 2!

Following the runaway success of our first quiz night last February, we've organised another on Friday 15 March 2013 at Linden Hall (by the level crossing); doors open at 7.30pm for a prompt 8.00pm start.

Come with friends in a team of four to six or else come on your own and we'll help you make up a team.

Tickets are £5 per person, payable in advance and are available from **Trisha Shirt on 8941 5162**. Bring your own food but drinks will be available on the night – as will a raffle.

PLEASE GET IN TOUCH!

Do you have a story to tell or anything you'd like featured in the members' newsletter? Contact us at **enquiries@thehamptonsociety.org.uk**

EMAIL ADDRESSES

We now have email addresses for over half of our membership. If you haven't done so already, or have changed your email address, please send them to **enquiries@thehamptonsociety.org.uk** Your information will not be passed on to anyone other than the membership secretary.

Road closures for Hampton Christmas Celebrations *Continued from cover*



The staff at Shaun's Quality Meats on Station Road provided a winter warmer BBQ at last year's Christmas Celebrations.

Entertainments will include competitions and lucky dips and an appearance by a "mystery singer" outside Hampton Cellar on Ashley Road. From 6.30 pm the Rock Choir will close proceedings with carols in the marquee and Station Road and Ashley Road will open again to traffic at 7.00pm.

In addition to all this, the traders have designated particular activities for each day of Advent. For example, some businesses will mark their day by competitions like guessing the number of sweets in a jar (Sweet Café), or offering Turkish delight (The Village Café), or hot chestnuts (Chino's Café). It all ends up with toasted marshmallows and hot chocolate at the Jolly Coopers pub in High Street on Christmas Eve.

For hard-pressed commuters, Steve Parker has arranged with four of his neighbouring businesses in Station Road, OhSo (gifts), Lavender Therapies, Natures Medicine and Announce It!, along with his own Cheese & Wine Company, to open stalls from 6.00pm to 9.00pm on four consecutive Thursday evenings from November 29. **MAURA WATERS**

Christmas Cards almost gone!



THIS YEAR'S SPECIAL

Hampton Society Christmas cards are selling so well that you may now find them difficult to track down.

To recap, the packs of 10 feature one card of a red stag in the snow in Bushy Park and a second of the Diana Fountain in winter. They cost £4.00 a pack and contain five of each card. *If there are any left when you read this*, they can be obtained from members of the committee (phone numbers on page 3) as well as **Announce It!** in Station Road, Hampton and the **Greenwood Centre** in Hampton Hill.

Available from from **Rosemary Hill**, any of our committee members, **Announce It** and the **Greenwood Centre**.

EVENTS PROGRAMME, WINTER 2012/13

Please bring your membership cards

Due to the popularity of our talks and events and the size of our venues, we may have to turn people away if we run out of room. Arrive early to avoid disappointment.

All the events listed below are open to the members of both the Hampton Society (HS) and the Hampton Hill Association (HHA).

FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER 2012

Christmas Party

Once again, we can promise a convivial evening, with plenty of food and drink at our Christmas Party on Friday 7 December at 7.30pm at St Mary's parish hall. There will also be a magician to entertain us. Tickets cost £10 and are available from Bill Weisblatt on 8979 3089.

FRIDAY 18 JANUARY 2013

Lunch at Merits

Our congenial lunches in the heart of winter at Merits, the training restaurant for the Richmond upon Thames College, have become a regular feature on our calendar. The food is first class and beautifully served by the students. What more could one ask for three delicious courses, with a price of £8.50? Coffee or tea is an extra £1.00 and beer, wine or soft drinks are extra. Feel free to bring your friends.

If you would like to attend and enjoy a gourmet lunch, please contact **Rosemary Hill** on 8973 3604 to hear about the menu, reserve places and obtain directions.

THURSDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2013

Matilda, Queen of the Conqueror

A talk by Tracy Borman. Behind every great man, so the saying goes, is a great woman – or, in the case of the man known to posterity as William the Conqueror, a diminutive one. William's wife, Matilda of Flanders stood little more than four feet tall, but she loomed large all the same, in the creation of his newly royal dynasty. Don't forget that the Bayeux Tapestry is still known in France as La Tapisserie de la Reine Mathilde.

Tracy Borman has delighted us twice in the past with her talks on her historical biographies. She returns to speak to us in February about her latest book on Matilda.

The talk will take place at Hampton Hill Playhouse on **Thursday, 7 February 2013 at 8.00pm** and refreshments will be available. The talk is free to members. Any queries to **Rosemary Hill** on 8973 3604.

