

Gold strikes twice for Hampton in Richmond in Bloom competition

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HAMPTON NORTH UPLIFT

Maura Waters reports on the latest developments for Tangle Square. *More on page 2.*

FREE SCHOOL RESULT

Sam Redfern has the result of the competition for the first Free School in Hampton. *More on page 3.*

SOCIETY NEWS AND UPDATES

Notes from our Chair, contact details and membership update. *More on page 3.*

ROYAL PADDOCKS WALK REPORT

Alice Fordham reports on the fascinating walk in July around the paddocks and the waterways of Home Park. *More on page 4.*

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Photography by Sam and William Redfern,
unless stated otherwise.

Hampton surprised everyone by achieving gold, not once but twice in the Borough Diamond Jubilee Shopping Parade competition, sponsored by Veolia and organised by Richmond in Bloom.

Not only did Station Road win the first prize for a shopping parade of between six and 20 properties, but so did Ashley Road and Station Approach in the larger category for between 21 and 40 properties.

Our local shopping streets were transformed by very pretty hanging baskets – two to a shop – and what a difference it's made to retail therapy! The Hampton Society put up a further four hanging baskets attached to lamp posts. They were then match funded, producing another four similar displays.

Plantings in all eight baskets will be changed in the Autumn for a more seasonal palette of colour.

In addition, congratulations to Hampton Pool for their silver gilt award in the community building section, to Gillian Beau-Wright of Taggs Island who achieved a silver gilt award in the residential frontages section and to Liza Mallah of Langridge Mews for her silver gilt in the Front Gardens section.

Is it just possible that next year many more Hamptonians will enter their gardens or window boxes or frontages and that we will more than double the awards? Now there's a challenge!

ROSEMARY HILL

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

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.

SOMETHING TO SAY?

You can contact The Hampton Society by email at:

enquiries@thehamptonsociety.org.uk

We also have a website:

www.thehamptonsociety.org.uk

which is regularly updated with current events and issues.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Hampton North uplift



Unkindly described as “tired” in the local press last January, the precinct outside Tangle Park Sainsbury’s is hardly welcoming. Now nearly 32 years old, it was an obvious choice for an uplift in Richmond Council’s All in One survey, in which five areas in the borough share an £11 million pot of funding.

The results of the first wave of the Village Plan revealed a need to regenerate what we must learn to call Hampton Square, meaning the demolition of the original white house. Derelict and boarded-up for more than two years since the departure of much-valued health services to Teddington, the house has since suffered burst pipes and fallen ceilings. Fortunately, a protective covenant ensures that whatever building succeeds it must be used for the community.



Only 17 per cent of Hampton’s residents actually responded to the survey, when we were invited along to Hampton Academy one June Saturday in 2011 to look and listen to the council’s original plans. What we valued most about our locality, that slim sample found, were the parks and open spaces. Few would surely disagree. Accordingly, the idea is to extend the Square’s network of paths with a walking trail connecting Hampton Common (formerly known as Buckingham Fields), Oak Avenue nature reserve and Hatherop Park.

Richmond Council supports the idea of a monthly village market, hopefully the forerunner to outdoor entertainment in the square, which is due to have better landscaping, paving, street lighting and signs as well as improvements to the shop-fronts. Details on all of these are necessarily thin at present: if you have a view, let the council know (details at end).

Behind the White House community centre an all-weather sports pitch faces onto Bramble Lane. It has markings for netball and football, but a “multi-use” sports area is envisaged, much to the disgust of Hampton North councillor Darren Thornton. He believes the present one, already damaged by a flooding council drain, could be repaired and the site properly managed.

“Only 17 per cent of Hampton’s residents actually responded to the survey, when we were invited along to Hampton Academy one June Saturday in 2011 to look and listen to the council’s original plans. What we valued most about our locality, that slim sample found, were the parks and open spaces. Few would surely disagree.”

Finally, the slip-road at the junction of Percy Road and Broad Lane is to be made one-way. Do you know of any driver making a right-hand turn from Broad Lane into this narrow gap? The photograph displayed at the Wave 1 consultation did indeed show a white van which had already made such a manoeuvre: maybe it was making a delivery – there has to be some excuse! The site provides a few much-valued parking spaces. One idea suggested is to discourage vandalism at the site with better street lighting and some landscaping.

There is more – so much more – in the Village Plan’s glossy 24-page brochure. By the time we go to press some of these ideas may already be bearing fruit. What is your opinion? Let the council know by visiting their website online, www.richmond.gov.uk/hampton_north_uplift. MAURA WATERS

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

Strawberry Hill House Restoration

A few years ago, the Society invited Anna Chalcott of the Strawberry Hill Trust to speak to us about the restoration of Strawberry Hill House, then in its early stages. There was a great deal of interest in the talk and members were keen to agree to the suggestion that we should make a donation to the tree-planting programme which was being planned. This has now been completed and the grounds are planted with the same trees in the same positions as they were in Horace Walpole’s time. (There is a considerable amount of material in the form of paintings, letters and other documents to show how the grounds would have looked.)

In early May, representatives of the organisation which sponsored the trees were invited to a reception to view “their” tree and receive a plan of the newly-planted garden. I represented the Society and discovered if you sit in the café or on the terrace to drink your coffee, right in front of you is the grove of acacia trees where ‘our’ tree is planted.

The Society has already had two guided visits to the newly-restored building which opened to the public in 2010. If enough people are interested, another visit could be arranged. ALICE FORDHAM

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.



What do you love about living in Hampton?

Is it the leafy lanes, the historic buildings, the Thames or the facilities available? We’d like to hear your thoughts on what makes living in Hampton so special for you. Write to us at enquiries@thehamptonsociety.org.uk and we may publish them on the website or in the next newsletter.

Notes from the Chair



What an excellent year to be living in Hampton! An obvious highlight has been the Olympic torch and cycling events happening on our doorstep, in particular Bradley Wiggins emerging from the gates of Hampton Court to a roaring crowd following his Olympic Gold win.

Then, not to be outdone by the Olympics, Hampton Village Traders Association scooped two Golds in the Diamond Jubilee Shopping Parade Competition! A big thank you to the traders for their efforts to improve our shopping experience.

Hampton Academy has been celebrating continued improvement in its academic achievements with 76% of students gaining five or more A*-C passes at GCSE in all subjects – an increase of seven per cent on 2011's record performance. The lower school's new building is due to open in November and its new sixth form launches in September 2013.

It seems a while ago now, but I'm delighted to report on the sell-out success of our summer party at Hampton Sailing Club back in June. It wasn't quite the balmy midsummer evening we'd been hoping for, but thankfully any rain held off until we were all back on dry land! The Sailing Club members who kindly volunteered to help on the night provided an exceptionally friendly welcome and seemed to enjoy the party just as much as the guests!

And finally, if you feel bereft now that the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics are over, do come along to one or more of the interesting talks we have lined up for you this autumn including the wine tasting, details overleaf.



Sam Redfern Chair

St Mary's Church Hampton Wins Primary Free School Bid

On 13 July 2012 St Mary's Church, Hampton received the exciting news that their bid to open a new free school has been accepted and they can now move forward to opening a reception class in September 2013.

With months of planning already under their belts, they are all set to go. They will be seeking to appoint a head teacher in the early autumn and will be working with the London Diocesan Board for Schools and Richmond Borough to get everything ready.

The school, to be known as St Mary's (Hampton) Church of England Primary will be run by the Church of England and provide primary education for children aged 4-11. It will open in September 2013, with a reception class of thirty and increase by one year-group each year, eventually teaching up to 210 pupils.

The application to run the school was put together by the Church to address the growing need for primary places in the area, a problem highlighted by a great shortage of places in reception 2012. It will develop the largely unused 'Oldfield Centre' in Oldfield Road, Hampton, to give parents and children in the south of Hampton a wider choice for primary education.

Commenting on the decision, Rev. Derek Winterburn of St Mary's Parish Church, Hampton said: "We are delighted that the Department for Education has given the St Mary's school team its vote of confidence and acknowledges the demand for choice amongst the local community."

He continued: "We look forward to autumn when we will appoint a head, begin to develop the property and engage with the local community and other schools in the area."

Continued over...

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).

UP-TO-DATE MEMBERSHIP?

Have you paid your subs for 2012/13? They were due on 1 May and you should by now have received the bright orange membership card. If you haven't paid yet, please do so using the application form available at www.thehamptonsociety.org.uk

Membership update

Our membership secretary Trisha Shirt is very pleased to report that 208 members have paid their 2012 subscription fees on time – some 58% of the active membership. More than 30% of these were by standing order.

If you're one of the members who have yet to pay your 2012/13 sub., please set up a standing order. (See our website or contact Trisha for a form) or else send your cheque to the treasurer.

See above for contact details.



Trisha Shirt
Membership Secretary

St Mary's Church Hampton Wins Primary School Bid

Continued from previous page... The school will be included in the Borough admission process. There will be no requirement to be a Church member to be enrolled, and priority places will be given to children in an area in the south of Hampton in which it is difficult to get places at nearby schools.

St Mary's already has an affiliation with the Oldfield site, having set up and run the St Mary's youth club (MTV) based at the Oldfield Centre, which will continue to run within the centre on a Friday night. This club has recently won praise from the Police, local Councillors and the Youth Service for the creative way it has connected with young people. A church school is a natural development in serving the families of Hampton.

Rev. Winterburn has commented: "I want to thank our team of local people, supported by the London Diocesan Board for Schools, for their hard work in getting the application this far. I'd also like to thank the local community for their support and engagement in developing plans. "Church of England schools have an unparalleled reputation across the country for providing an excellent education. We are wholeheartedly looking forward working together to offer this quality of schooling to the families of Hampton."

There will be open evenings and open days at the Oldfield Centre for prospective parents to view the buildings and grounds. **SR**

EVENTS

Tasting at The Cheese and Wine Co.

Station Road, Hampton – 7.30pm Wednesday 19 September



Join us for a fun evening which includes drinks on arrival, an introduction to tasting, a taste challenge competition and a food tasting supper menu, led by Steve Parker, owner of The Cheese and Wine Company.

Steve is offering a special price to our members of £15 per head and numbers are very limited, so booking is essential.

Those of you who have already experienced Steve's shop in Hampton village will know how passionate he is about tasting both cheese and wine, for which he has a huge tasting table where customers can taste before they buy. His food and drink is made by family run businesses, using traditional methods and locally sourced raw materials. **SR**

Please book in advance with **Sam Redfern** on **8286 7071**.

Christmas Cards Again!

Once again, we have packs of 10 cards of local scenes (two views in each pack) available to buy for £4.00 a pack. One card by William Redfern is of a red stag in the snow in Bushy Park and the second, by Lewis Lloyd, features the Diana Fountain in winter.



Available from from **Rosemary Hill**, any of our committee members or at any of our events.

EVENTS PROGRAMME, AUTUMN 2012

All the events listed below are open to the members of both the Hampton Society (HS) and the Hampton Hill Association (HHA). **Please bring your membership cards.**

WEDNESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

Wine and Cheese tasting

Cheese & Wine Company, Station Rd, Hampton on **Wednesday 19 September** at 8.00pm. To book a place (£15 per head), please contact **Sam Redfern** on **8286 7071**.

WEDNESDAY 24 OCTOBER

A historical trip down the Thames

A talk by Lock Keeper, John Wright, at Hampton Hill Playhouse on **Wednesday 24 October** at 8.00pm. Any queries, please contact **Sam Redfern** on **8286 7071**.

WEDNESDAY 7 NOVEMBER

Straight from the horse's mouth

A talk on the Horse Rangers by Jackie Bryans at Horse Rangers' Association, Royal Mews, Hampton Court Road, KT8 9BW on **Wednesday 7 November** at 8.00pm. Any queries, please contact **Sam Redfern** on **8286 7071**.

FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER

Christmas Party

at St Mary's Parish Hall on **Friday 7 December** at 7.30pm. Details to be confirmed.

EVENT FEEDBACK

The Royal Paddocks and ancient waterways of Home Park

On a wet Saturday in July, 30 broolly-wielding members met at Hampton Court's Kingston Gate to explore some of the hidden areas of the Home Park.

A sizeable part of this end of the Park is not open to the public and can only be visited by special arrangement.



Rebecca Law of the Thames Landscape Strategy and her colleague Paul started by taking us through the Royal Paddocks. The Queen's beautiful horses were as interested in us as we were in them.

Our walk continued as we explored evidence of old waterways draining into the Thames. It was interesting to see that the river once took a different course at this point. Today much work is going on to restore some of the many dykes which are silted up and overgrown.

If you missed this visit and you think it sounds an interesting glimpse of a hidden area close to home, we could try to organise a second visit. Hopefully the weather might be kinder. Let us know if you would like us to try. **AF**