The Westway ‘is killing us’

Residents are demanding more protection from the effects of pollution from 90,000 cars a day after 50 years of living by the Westway.

Families living on 23 acres in the shadow of the six-lane motorway have created RAP23 – which stands for Reduce Air Pollution on the 23 Acres – to campaign for better clean air measures in the area.

They are inviting people to find out exactly what damage is being done by the 47-year-old road, which has cut through their neighbourhood for almost 50 years.

Campaigners say many decisions made about the area have not been for their benefit and have not alleviated the illnesses which have resulted – and that they were not consulted.

●●

See pages 2-3 for the full story.
It was like a scene from the iconic 1960s TV sitcom Steptoe & Son, set in a nearby fictional street in Shepherd’s Bush. But with the smell of freshly-laid concrete. A rag and bone man, pictured right, was allowed to drive a cart along the six-lane Westway for the first time – and last – on March 24, 1969.

It was part of an open day for the families of the staff who worked on the dual carriageway from 1964-1970. And it was probably the only time the road had only non-polluting vehicles on it.

But this week, after almost 50 years of near to 300 million car journeys along the route, the residents are demanding more is done to protect them from the effects of the resulting pollution.

The group, calling themselves Let’s Clear Some Air (LCSA), have taken the challenge of finding solutions to their plight into their own hands.

They have already been involved in a two-year campaign to demand action from the Westway Trust and Kensington & Chelsea council to tackle the pollution in the area.

They say they want to hold the £7million a year trust to account over its management of the 23 acres of inner London land they were handed when the dual carriageway was completed.

The plot is called RAP23 – which stands for Reducing Air Pollution on the 23 Acres – and the residents say that, despite being handed London’s richest boroughs and despite having 23 acres of land held in trust for their benefit, the people of North Kensington continue to live in some of the poorest wards in London.

Many residents have lost faith in those responsible for looking after them. The group is holding solution workshops, with speakers including the air of the London Assembly Kensington every year.

It was built to relieve congestion in Shepherd’s Bush, took six years to build, and led to the demolition of scores of homes. But for many, especially local residents, the Westway has itself now become the problem. Up to 200,000 cars rattle and hum along the thoroughfare every day, dumping tonnes of petrol fumes on the families who live in the area.

Now, nearly 50 years after it was constructed, the locals are demanding their lives are given better protection from the pollution the road causes. TOBY PORTER finds out more.

Westway has ‘literally been killing us for years’

It was a picture of a 1960s TV sitcom Steptoe & Son, set in a nearby fictional street in Shepherd’s Bush. But with the smell of freshly-laid concrete. A rag and bone man, pictured right, was allowed to drive a cart along the six-lane Westway for the first time – and last – on March 24, 1969.

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The history of the Westway:
In the mid 1960s an overhead motorway, the A40(M) was driven through North Kensington staked out on giant stilts – the largest continuous concrete structure in the country. Two and a half miles of new road made it the longest stretch of elevated motorway in Europe.

The new highway made driving in and out of the city much easier, allowing vehicles to cover in minutes ground that used to take over an hour to travel. However, while reducing congestion in the city, the highway carried the traffic above the lives of people living in North Kensington, with 90,000 cars a day travelling through their rooftops within the first few months of opening.

The flyover brought noise, disruption, destruction and pollution to a community that was already contending with economic hardship, an decaying inner city environment and neglect. To make way for the modern engineering feat, homes were demolished and streets chopped in half or left stranded as little as 20ft away, exposed to the noise of traffic and the nightly glare of headlights.

The protests of residents hit the headlines when the motorway opened in 1970. By then a decade of community action networks had grown up in the fight for better housing and open spaces where children could play. Activists set up grassroots associations, organised on local issues and campaigned for improvements.

Following a four-year campaign, in 1971 the North Kensington Amenity Trust – now the Westway Trust – was set up, in partnership with the local authority, as the custodian of the 23 acres of land under the motorway to help promote positive use of the spaces that lie underneath the Westway.

Transport for London (TfL) is doing tests later this year to find out what repair work needs to be done on the road. Investigators will be underneath the Westway, surveying different parts of the structure and testing concrete strength in some places from June to August. Contractors will dig trial holes, take core samples and survey the drainage system. This will be done during overnight lane closures on the A40. From August to December TfL will review the findings and produce a feasibility study on refurbishing the Westway.

The trust says that existing structures and drainage systems are in some places from June to August. For further information and updates on the Westway Trust’s activities, visit their website at westwaytrust.org.

TUESDAY MAY 16 2017 LONDON WEEKLY NEWS
Camilla’s tall tape story of growing up memories

BY TOBY PORTER
toby.porter@slp.co.uk

Camilla Warren worked as a waitress, drove hire cars on the set of a Bond movie and sold shirts door-to-door. She was also a financial journalist for news agency Reuters – she started in Fleet Street and then moved up to the ITN building in Theobalds Road, Bloomsbury. But now she’s selling more than 1,000 tape measures a month from her table tennis table in Margravine Gardens, Hammersmith.

These are no ordinary tape measures, though. These ones are designed to gauge a child’s growth throughout their childhood – so families do not lose the ability to compare heights when they move house. And she twice turned down the chance to take the product onto the TV series Dragon’s Den. The idea occurred to her almost a decade ago, when a friend moved house and took the door frame with the notches with her. She also found herself seeing narrow dirty strips in houses with heights on the rest of the home had been redecorated.

Camilla said: “I’d always felt the same, with three children of my own I wanted to redecorate but also wanted to preserve childhood memories.”

“I wanted to help people avoid having to say ‘I stood there all those years for you’ – I thought there must be a way of taking the chart with you.”

“It took a long time to develop. I took an earlier sample version to a fayre in 2012 and sold nearly 200 in three days. I like new materials and did a lot of research because I wanted to use good materials. I am pedantic like that.

“For example, we recently had a poor batch of 6,000 come in and I had to send them back.”

“I found one fantastic plastic which I wanted to use. But it seemed to be impossible to print on it.”

“Four years ago, I started with something less complex and it seemed to work. Originally it was rigid, but now it is more mobile.”

“We began trading in June 2013. They are 2m metres long and it seemed to work.

“Now I want to see Talltape become a part of every child’s memory of growing up – here and overseas.”

Rent desk space at libraries

Entrepreneurs, freelancers, start-ups and small businesses have the opportunity to rent affordable desk space in three of the borough’s libraries.

Brompton, Chelsea and Notting Hill libraries have 84 fixed desk spaces that can be rented on a monthly basis from £35 per month.

The council is partnering with Wimbleton CIC, a social enterprise based in Merton, that works with local authorities to transform under-utilised library space. The initiative, known as The Workary, is located in an underused staff office at Brompton Library, a former meeting room at Chelsea Library and a basement at Notting Hill Library.

Users benefit from high speed Wi-fi, power points and unlimited tea and coffee. Once fully established in the Royal Borough, members of The Workary will run free events for children and adults in the three library branches centred on new technology.

Call 020 3290 0393 or email info@theworkary.com for details.

Sessions for new parents

If you are pregnant or have a baby and live in Kensington and Chelsea or Hammersmith and Fulham you can attend free Nappy Natters session and also swap unwanted baby items.

The sessions will be held on Wednesday of next week from 1pm to 3pm, at Masbro Brook Green Family Centre, 49 Brook Green, London W10 7BJ.

On the day, there will be a real nappies demonstration and you can claim a £45 real nappy voucher. You can also exchange or give away any unwanted baby things at the same time.

Even if you don’t have anything to give or exchange, just drop in to meet families of your own age group and find out all about you.

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Now Barnardo’s is encouraging people in the three boroughs to sign up for this year’s Big Toddle, which runs from June 19-25 and has the theme ‘colours’.

The Big Toddle is also teaming up with the Teletubbies as both are celebrating their 20th anniversary this year.

Since 1997, the Big Toddle has raised £14.5m for Barnardo’s. The antics of Tinky Winky, Dipsy, Laa-Laa and Po have featured in more than 400 episodes of the popular TV programme and entertained children in more than 120 countries.

Barnardo’s Chief Executive, Javed Khan, said: “A huge thank you to everyone in Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster who will be taking part in this year’s Big Toddle.

“Last year the event raised more than £62,000 in London, helping to transform the lives of the most vulnerable children in the UK.

“I am excited Barnardo’s has teamed up with the Teletubbies, some of the most popular characters in TV history, for this year’s event. Both will be celebrating their 20th anniversary so it promises to be a fantastic party.”

To find out more and register for Barnardo’s Big Toddle visit www.bigtoddle.org.uk, follow us on Twitter @BigToddle or on Facebook/BigToddle.

Imperial College London

INVITATION TO A PUBLIC CONSULTATION

White City Campus: South site

Imperial College London, a university focused on science, medicine, engineering and business, is building a new research and innovation campus in White City.

There is a great deal already happening on the part of the campus north of the Westway (A40) and we would now like to share our proposals with you for the southern part of the site – the area between the Westway and Depot Road, formerly occupied by the Unigate Dairy – and invite your input.

Public exhibitions:

Friday 12 May 2017 (12:00 – 17:00) – The Harrow Club, 187 Freston Road, London W10 6TH
Saturday 13 May 2017 (14:30 – 18:00) – St Helen’s Church, St Helen’s Gardens, North Kensington, London W6 6LP
Thursday 18 May 2017 (11:00 – 16:00) – Wood Lane Community Centre, 78 White City Close, London W12 7DZ
Friday 19 May 2017 (15:00 – 20:00) – White City Community Centre, India Way, London W12 7QT
Saturday 20 May 2017 (10:00 – 15:00) – Brickfields Hall, Wood Lane Studios, Shinfold Street, London W12 0HN

Please come along to our public exhibitions to find out more about our proposals, meet the team and have your say.

Contact Us:

whitecityplanning@imperial.ac.uk
020 7323 3544
FREEPOST White City Campus planning
www.imperial.ac.uk/white-city-planning
Two weeks ago, phase eight of Operation Sceptre saw intense proactive operations to tackle knife crime.

During the week of the action, a total of 383 arrests were made. These arrests include 73 arrests for possession of an offensive weapon/knife and 144 stop and search arrests.

Officers carried out numerous weapon sweeps and intelligence-led policing operations to confiscate knives and tackle those wanted in connection with knife-related offences and violent crime.

A summary of key indicators is shown below.

- **Weapon sweeps**: 1,080
- **Knives seized**: 300
- **Offensive weapons seized**: 62
- **Firearms recovered**: 15
- **People stopped and searched**: 522
- **Test purchase operations**: 72

(As of 4pm on Monday, May 8)

This dedicated group of officers will provide a consistent approach to reducing knife crime.

The taskforce will employ a variety of tactics including weapons sweeps, intelligence-led stop and search, and proactive operations to target habitual knife carriers as well as increasing visibility of police officers to reassure local people and deter further violence.

More than 1,100 activities took place throughout London to highlight the potential devastating consequences of carrying a knife.

In the last 12 months, officers have been delivering educational packages and have so far reached more than 14,000 young people in London.

The delivery of these packages aims to make youngsters think about the decisions they make and the possible consequences of their action, as well as diverting them away from joining gangs.

**Detective Superintendent Michael Gallagher**, the Met’s ‘Silver’ lead for knife crime, said: “This operation carries a positive and powerful message: this is about all of us addressing a problem that often has tragic consequences. This behaviour is damaging our communities; there is no excuse, people are better than this.

“I would urge anyone who is concerned for someone involved in knife crime, to visit www.met.police.uk/StopKnifeCrime.

“Across London there are number of excellent diversionary programmes that are bespoke to the needs of Londoners. This is clearly a safeguarding issue for the people who live here and, would, carry knives and victims of knife crime.

“A collaborative approach between statutory agencies and governmental organisations and communities is the only solution to achieving a long-term reduction in this crime of offence, underpinned by a strong, academic evidence base and effective police enforcement.”

Knife bins can also be found throughout London as part of the Met’s effort to take knives off the streets.

A map showing the location of knife bins across London is available on our website at: h t t p://w w w.m e t. police.uk/StopKnifeCrime.

If you have information about anyone carrying or using knives please contact your local police via 101 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

For news updates and Sceptre Eight activities follow police Twitter feeds and #metpolice and #stopknifecrime.

Figures provided are a snapshot of the figures at this time and will be subject to change as more data is received from teams.

**Metropolitan Police**
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020 8748 4955
Street is transformed for traffic-free spring market

North End Road Market sprung to life when more than 18,000 people descended on the street to enjoy our latest traffic-free market. More acts than ever before entertained the crowd. The already vibrant market was joined by 150 more stalls, live bands and street entertainers on Saturday, April 29.

More acts than ever before entertained the crowd across seven performances areas, turning the North End Road traffic-free spring market into a mini music festival. There was a massive array of things to buy, including clothes, homeware, artwork and other gifts. The extra stalls did not outshine the regulars, though, particularly the ever-popular fruit and veg stalls.

The traffic-free market is part of Hammersmith & Fulham Council’s drive, together with residents in the North End Road Action Group, to revive this major high street. The next seasonal market is planned for the autumn.

Improvement works on the paved surface of Lyric Square have begun. The work, which will last for approximately four weeks, will require small areas of the Hammersmith square to be fenced off so the contractors can work safely. The limestone pavement will be ‘grit blasted’ with a special machine that will give it a deep clean while also improving the surface texture.

The paving was first laid when Lyric Square opened in 2005, and has undergone several improvements, but this is the first work to improve the paving surface across the whole square.

Work will take place on the paved surface between Beadon Road and King Street. Council contractors will be working Monday to Wednesday, 8am until 6pm, but will not work on Thursdays or Fridays to avoid disrupting the markets.

The improvement works were approved by Hammersmith and Fulham council in March and follow trials of the grit-blasting technique in the square in 2016.

Works to improve Lyric Square
Residents across Hammersmith and Fulham are being urged to get together on June 17 and 18 as part of a national celebration of what we have in common.

The Great Together, being held in memory of the late Jo Cox MP, will see dozens of organisations including The Big Lunch and the Jo Cox Foundation joining forces to invite people to come together with friends, neighbours, and others they don’t yet know for street parties, picnics, barbecues, and bake-off competitions.

It follows the first anniversary of Jo Cox’s murder on June 16 last year. Hammersmith and Fulham Council wants to see as many people as possible taking part in The Great Get Together, and will work with residents to help make all the events being held a great success.

“It is a testament to Jo Cox’s passion for life and deeply held belief in community that, a year on from her tragic death, her legacy is bringing people across the country together,” said Councillor Sue Fennimore, the council’s cabinet member for social inclusion.

“In her maiden speech to the House of Commons, Jo said that “we are far more united and have far more in common with each other than things that divide us”. This is true of communities across the country, including our own here in Hammersmith and Fulham.

“As the organisers have made clear, your event could be big or small, indoors or out, it’s entirely up to you.

“It could be a street party, a barbecue, a game of football or an afternoon tea. Whatever you and your neighbours decide, you will be part of a huge national occasion. And Hammersmith and Fulham council will do all it can to work with residents to make their events a success.”

The Great Get Together is expected to be the biggest event of its kind since the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee in 2012, and the weekend will be an opportunity to celebrate all that Britain’s diverse communities hold in common.

You can sign up to host a Great Get Together event, or find out what is happening in your area, by visiting www.greatgettogether.org.

Specsavers’ optical and hearing teams become Dementia Friends

With visual impairments common among those with dementia, Specsavers is ensuring a trip to the opticians and audiologists is as comfortable as possible for them.

In the run up to Dementia Awareness Week (15-21 May), Specsavers employees nationwide are becoming Dementia Friends, an initiative run by the Alzheimer’s Society. Every store now has at least one team member who is a Dementia Friend and understands the needs of customers with dementia a little more. The Specsavers Healthcare teams that carry out home visits are also becoming Dementia Friends.

Specsavers is also using Dementia Awareness Week to remind anyone over 55 to undergo regular hearing tests, as research suggests that people with untreated hearing loss are more likely to develop Alzheimer’s. Hearing tests are free at Specsavers.

Dr Nigel Best, Specsavers clinical spokesperson, says: “People with dementia may not be able to recognise or articulate the issues that many of us face when we begin to lose our sight or hearing – but the effects are the same. Being more aware of dementia is an incredibly positive development for our teams and our offering to customers.”

Those with dementia commonly experience problems with their sight and visual perception, causing them to misinterpret the world around them. Some sufferers can experience hallucinations. On top of that, research has revealed that almost half of dementia patients in care homes are wearing glasses with the wrong prescription, leading to increased isolation.

Laura Stallabrass, store manager at Specsavers Forfar, has encouraged all her team to do Dementia Friends.

“We aim to provide a safe environment for all of our customers. I can definitely see a shift in attitudes to dementia which is lovely to experience.”

At Specsavers, we’re experts in taking care of your eyes and ears. What’s more, if you can’t come to see us in store unaccompanied, our qualified and experienced visiting opticians can provide an eyecare service in your home.

Book an in-store eye test or hearing test at specsavers.co.uk

To find out more about our home visit eyecare service, call 0800 089 0108

Specsavers

Opticians & Audiologists

Specsavers supports Dementia Friends
‘It’s a joy to help the Rainbow Trust’

BY SHUJAUL AZAM
shuz@slp.co.uk

The Chelsea Art Fair raised £2,054 for Rainbow Trust thanks to support from all the visitors. Raffle proceeds raised £1,079 along with £740 donated from 10 per cent of sales from paintings sold in the charity’s art display area.

The Core Partnership also donated £235 in price-matching. Ben Cooper, director of the Chelsea Art Fair, said: “It’s always a joy to work with the Rainbow Trust team - everyone seems fully committed to their work and I am pleased that their charity painting sales went so well this year.”

Emma Haines, director of marketing and fundraising at Rainbow Trust, said: “It’s wonderful that Chelsea Art Fair was such a success this year, raising such an impressive amount of money.”

“We want to thank the organisers and all the people who attended and donated to Rainbow Trust. We have a care team in central London supporting families across London so this money will really help these families with a seriously ill child receive the vital support we provide.”

Rainbow Trust is a national charity which offers emotional and practical support for the whole family; from their child’s diagnosis, during treatment and, if needed, through bereavement and beyond. It relies almost entirely on voluntary donations and thanks to its generous supporters is able to help almost 2,200 families across the UK.

Ethical students are the business

Students from Latymer Upper School were celebrating coming in first place in recent West London Finals of the Young Enterprise Company of the Year 2017 competition.

The event, held at University of West London (UWL) hosted young entrepreneurs from local schools from four boroughs. Five teams of pupils were assessed their business plans by a panel of judges, including UWL Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic and student experience), Professor Nick Braisby, Senior Lecturers from the Claude Littner Business School, David Mackrory and Sanjiv Sachdev, and the Mayor of Ealing, Councillor Dr Patricia Walker.

They were competing to progress to the London region finals of the national competition held by Young Enterprise - a enterprise education charity that empowers people aged 15 to 19, by helping them to set up and run their own company.

Judges were impressed by the strong social conscience on display in the entries.

First place was awarded to Latymer Upper School in Hammersmith and Fulham, for their business, Open Books, which promotes social diversity via books for young children and donates 15 per cent of its profits to a refugee charity.

Praising the high standard of work by pupils, Professor Braisby said: “It has been personally inspiring to hear all your stories, how you have overcome difficulties, maintained your creative motivation and produced products that succeeded. “Our relationship with Young Enterprise is so important because we call ourselves The Career University and we really mean it. “Every student here develops the skills necessary to take them forward to succeed in the world of work. “That’s why this event is truly inspiring - it resonates so much with our mission and I wish all the participants continued success.”

Clr Dr Walker said: “You are motivated and stimulated by ethics, by doing the right thing, by reaching out and using your talents for the benefit of others. “You are ambitious and you are so talented.”

The winning team advanced to the London region finals, to be held on June 8.

Volunteers needed to help look after Holland Park

Volunteers are required to help out in Holland Park.

Holland Park Conservation volunteers are on the lookout for new members to help with its efforts to improve the park.

The volunteers have been working on creating a new wildlife pond, a major undertaking involving reshaping the pond and replacing the old butterfly liner which had become damaged.

Part-funded by the Tesco Bags of Help grant, the project has enhanced the wildlife pond and the land around it with new planting. The results have been given the seal of approval by the large number of frogs, toads, newts and pond skaters which have taken up residence in their fashionable W8 address.

Volunteering provides a great opportunity to meet people, boost skills or even learn something new. It’s not only the pond that has been helped by volunteers. The park’s wildlife area, woodland and meadow have been enhanced by the planting of native plants.

Volunteers meet every third Saturday of the month.

Volunteers and volunteers from local businesses have also got involved in the park and helped with the following:

- turning over the soil of the pond banks and seedling them with wildflowers and pond plants.
- wildflower meadow adjacent to the pond has been turned over, planted with wildflower meadow plugs and seeded.
- one of the pond banks has been planted with pond plant plugs.
- laying down more than 200 sq metres of woodland meadow turf that the pond island has been reinstated with 10 species of plant and the moorhens are nesting there. Which is not the case in the 110 damaged woodland shrubs in areas.

Email EcologyCentre@rbkc.gov.uk or call 020 7938 8186.

Collision death

Detectives are appealing for witnesses and information after an elderly man died following a collision with a cyclist in Chelsea Embankment. Police were called around 6.10pm on November 10, 2016 to Chelsea Embankment at the junction with Chelsea Bridge Road, to reports of a cyclist in collision with a pedestrian.

Officers and the London Ambulance Service attended the location. The 80-year-old male pedestrian was taken to a South London hospital where he remained in a critical but stable condition for a number of months.

He died on April 5, 2017. The deceased lived alone in Kennington and police are still trying to trace his next of kin. An inquest has opened and adjourned.

The male cyclist stopped at the scene of the collision and is assisting police with their enquiries. There have been no arrests and enquiries continue.

Anyone with any information is asked to call the Serious Collision Investigation Unit on 020 8543 5177.

We need you...

The Volunteer Centre’s K&C Ambassadors programme are looking for volunteers to provide a friendly and reassuring presence for tourists throughout Portobello and Golborne markets.

Ambassadors are equipped with local, historical and up to date information and on hand to answer queries regarding the best street food, antiques, vintage clothing, live music and local events!

The programme is completely flexible - especially for those who only have limited availability and for volunteers of all ages and abilities.

A positive attitude and ability to use your initiative are the only qualifications required.

Full training is provided and maps and relevant information to hand at all times.

As a member of the K&C Ambassadors team, you will become the face of Kensington and Chelsea. Email getinvolved@kcvol.org.uk or call 020 8960 3722. Visit www.voluntarywork.org.uk.

From left, Latymer Upper team with Mayor of Ealing, Councillor Dr Patricia Walker (front row left), and UWL Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic and student experience), Professor Nick Braisby (front row right).
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Gridlock after supermarket lorry crashes

A collision between a supermarket delivery lorry and a van caused gridlock across Hammersmith.

The crash on Tuesday morning on Hammersmith Bridge Road near St Paul's Church occurred on the southbound dual carriageway, with the impact happening when the lorry was facing against the traffic.

The road had to be closed, blocking routes south for thousands of cars travelling from Hammersmith gyratory both southwards along the A4 and across Hammersmith bridge.

Bus travel times were reported to be an hour longer than normal.

No one was seriously hurt in the incident, which took two hours to clear.

Let’s celebrate our diversity

Join Hammersmith and Fulham council as it celebrates the borough’s diversity and takes a stand against racism.

Unity Day, this year on Sunday, June 11, will see marchers gather in Shepherd’s Bush Green before progressing down Goldhawk Road, through Hammersmith and into Ravenscourt Park where a celebration of the borough’s diversity will be held with entertainers and speeches.

Olympian Grey-Thompson helps to create the classrooms of the future

Legendary paralympian Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson has helped to transform simple classrooms into creative spaces for learning.

She was on hand to help with the launch of the newly-designed classrooms at Kensington Prep School. Prudence Lynch, head of the leading prep school, said: “Classroom design needs a radical re-think. ‘Little has changed in classroom design since the Victorian era – the traditional box-shaped space is limiting young children’s learning.’

The school’s new high-tech ‘Explore Floor’ is an example of new creative spaces for learning the school has developed in an innovative £2.7m Creating Spaces for Growing Minds building project.

The multi-screen imaginative space includes a write-on brainstorming wall with a profile of the Olympic medallist, chosen as an inspirational role-model for the girls aged four-11 years.

The school’s new lifts also mean it is fully disabled access throughout – perfect for wheelchair user Baroness Grey-Thompson’s visit.

Welcome to St Vincent’s House care home

St Vincent’s House is a modern, comfortable, purpose-designed care home in Hammersmith, west London. We provide personalised residential, nursing and respite care for older people, and our dedicated team specialise in supporting individuals living with Alzheimer’s and other forms of dementia.

Care tailored to your loved one

Our ethos at St Vincent’s House is based on person-centred care. When your loved one joins us, we take time to get to know them so that we can develop a care and activity plan that is entirely tailored to their unique needs and interests. We support each resident to stay as independent as possible and to continue making decisions about how to spend their time.

Keep active and have fun

Helping residents stay active and independent is at the heart of everything we do at St Vincent’s House. Our compassionate team will support and actively encourage your loved one to take part in activities that will help them to remain physically and mentally active. You name it, we do it: from baking and cake decorating to a variety of arts and crafts.

For more information please call 0208 108 5429 or email lorelei.shepherd@careuk.com

St Vincent’s House
49 Queen Caroline Street
Hammersmith, London
W6 9QH
careuk.com/st-vincents-house
Appeal as man injured in shop

BY NEWS REPORTER
shuz@slp.co.uk

Detectives in Kensington and Chelsea are appealing for witnesses and information after a man is believed to have been injured at a supermarket. Police were called shortly after 3pm on Sunday to reports of an injured man inside a supermarket in West Cromwell Road, Kensington. Officers and the London Ambulance Service attended and found a man, believed to be in his late 20s, suffering from a wound to his leg. He was taken to a central London hospital where he remains in a critical condition. Following initial enquiries, detectives believe that there was an incident inside the supermarket. Detectives from Kensington and Chelsea CID are investigating. Enquiries continue. Anyone who witnessed the incident or has any information is asked to contact police on 101 or via Twitter @MetCC. Alternatively Crimestoppers can be contacted anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Students celebrated the end of their academic year with their sixth annual summer ball.

The event was held at the Gibson Hall, a spectacular Grade I listed neo-classical building, located in the very heart of the City of London.

The students, from DLD College, in Westminster Bridge Road, enjoyed a pop-up photographic studio which was equipped with fun props and had unlimited photographs for students to take away with them.

A three-course dinner was served in the Banking Hall, which was once the largest of its kind in London. In-keeping with tradition, a Valedictorian was announced and the Prom King and Queen were crowned.

Imran Isa-Dutse, 18, was honoured to be named Valedictorian. He commented: “I am glad that DLD is teaching us to be independent learners, because we live in a world ridden with conflict. There is not enough love, understanding and compromise. The multitude of opportunities out there are ours for the taking, as long as we strive for them and stand by our decisions. As we all go off to university, or wherever any of you choose to go after this year, we should all remember that we are global citizens; and that each of us has a say in the world we live in, the world we want to create and the future we want to see made possible. I think it is essential for all of us to work together to make that vision a reality.”

Zane Thadani, 18, and Yasmine Adams, 18, were then crowned Prom King and Queen, while their classmates cheered. The students danced the night away to Pop London, a band that performed a fresh and exciting show with a great set list of dance floor fillers.

Principal at DLD College London, Rachel Borland, said: “The Summer Ball was a great event and it is so important we offer the students this chance to celebrate the end of a year of hard work and commitment. They all deserve it and looked incredible.”

To find out more about DLD College London go to www.dld-college.co.uk.

At St Vincent’s House care home we support residents to get the most out of every day. We also believe in sharing our expertise.

Join our next free event:

Stroke awareness
Thursday 18th May 2017, 2pm - 4pm

St Vincent’s House is pleased to welcome Barry Coppock from the Stroke Association, who will be sharing expert advice and guidance on the symptoms of a stroke and stages of recovery, including the resources available.

The event will also include:

• Expert information on recognising signs of a stroke or a mini stroke (TIA)
• A chance to take a closer look at our home and meet our friendly team
• Complimentary refreshments

For more information or to book your free place please call us on 0208 108 5429 or email lorelei.shepherd@careuk.com

St Vincent’s House
49 Queen Caroline Street
Hammersmith, London W6 9QH
careuk.com/st-vincents-house
So, my youngest son has been sitting his SATS. For those that don’t know they are the 11+ exams to mark the end of their primary school years and to make sure that they have learnt something. Things like adverbials, conjunctions, Roman numerals and being able to multiply fractions.

All very important to an 11-year-old which they will probably forget by the time they turn 12.

However, I have to say, as an adult, if you want to train your brain then help these kids revise. I am struggling with what children in primary school are currently learning. It’s mind-blowing. Is it good/bad? I have no idea. What does irritate and annoy me though, is the fact that education goalsposts keep changing as when a new Government is elected. Each one decides that what the other Government has done is completely wrong and they want to change it for the sake of changing it. What is the point to that?

Firstly, whoever is elected as the Education Minister needs to have an education background. They also need to have a group of education professionals from across the UK to tell them what to do and how to do it. People that know what it’s like to be in a classroom, to teach children, to know what problems exist and how to improve things. We need to be asking those that know about education to tell the Government how things should be done, and this should be set in stone not for another Government to come along and do a massive overhaul.

This is disastrous for our children’s education and is a waste of money. Throughout my son’s school years he has been taught how to do long division about four different ways. No wonder there is a massive financial crisis in our schools at the moment. Well, that’s my thinking behind it anyway and my rant over. I’m not into politics, maybe the above is already happening. If not, Mrs May, I hope you are reading this.

However, I would say, these 11+ exam papers might be an idea to help our older generation. Imagine if there was a Minister for the Re-Education of the Older Generation which in turn could help stop dementia.

Let’s say after 70-years-old or when you retire, you had to study for a summer exam that you take on an annual basis, similar to a car MOT. You download the revision papers, you study them, and you sit the exam. If you pass there is some kind of a bonus or a reward to you. It could be theatre tickets, a day trip somewhere or vouchers to a shop. It could be anything, but what if it actually worked?

What if by introducing these 11+ exams to the 70-generation really worked to keep people’s brains active and reduced the number of people suffering dementia.

They do say that it’s important to keep your brain active in later years in life. Technically this would be a huge impact on our society and will reduce costs of healthcare, medication, care.

You could reuse the same papers that the 11+ sit, (believe me they are hard enough.) So, it shouldn’t really cost much, just needs to be marketed well. Frankly I think it’s a brilliant idea.

I would definitely do it and perhaps there are many more people out there that might be thinking the same thing. (Oh! I do hope Mrs May reads the South London Press).

So, I’m not nervous about my son’s exams, but I am extremely nervous that we are, after many years of saying ‘no’, we have at last agreed to get a puppy.

But I do have to say that I am so nervous about introducing the small thing into our house and being responsible for him.

Apparently when they are small they are literally just like having a little baby. It will be a lot better though as I won’t have post-natal depression, but that won’t stop me going mad, kind of a different mad though, it won’t be hormonal mad. It will be a kind of ‘there is poo and wee everywhere in our house?’, things being chewed up, total mess and chaos, that kind of madness.

I have to admit, we have never really been any good at looking after plants in the house and they have normally died because we kind of forgot to water them.

We’re doing alright with the kids though. We seem to be feeding and watering them okay, but a dog, well. I’ve never had a dog, and yes there is an element of fear involved in taking on this huge responsibility.

Then again, the idea is that it will take the boys away from the gadgets and the screens.

It will also be good for them as the oldest is about to turn into a teenager, soon to be followed by the younger one, so perhaps the dog may eliminate some of those teenage problems. Okay, fine so it won’t help get rid of spots but it might stop them becoming moody, moaning, non-communicative teenagers, you would hope.

I do know though that our lives will change enormously. I really hope for the better, but then again we will just have to wait and see. We are picking him up on Sunday and he’s a Labrador called Sparky.

I will let you know how it goes.
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FURNITURE FACTORY OUTLET STORE
Battersea Dogs & Cats Home and the South London Press have teamed up to find new homes for some of the hundreds of animals at the pet shelter in Battersea Park Road. The charity aims to never turn away a dog or cat in need of help. Lost dogs and cats are reunited with their owners and, where that is not possible, the shelter cares for them until homes can be found.

Battersea’s Ali is named animal employee of the year

On receiving her award, Ali said: “For the first time in my life I was speechless. When they announced me as the winner I knew that I was going to win. I was not too surprised, but I was certainly happy.”

Ali, who has been working at Battersea for 25 years, has always been known for her hard work and dedication to the animals under her care. She is a highly valued member of the Battersea team and has been an inspiration to her colleagues and the public.

Ali said: “I have always been passionate about animals and have spent my entire career working at Battersea. I am thrilled to be named animal employee of the year and hope that it will encourage others to volunteer at Battersea and support our work.

Battersea Park Road. The animal identification tag and microchipping, initial treatment, a collar, advice line. The animal shelter cares for hundreds of animals never to turn away a dog or cat in need of help. Lost dogs and cats are reunited with their owners and, where that is not possible, the shelter cares for them until homes can be found.

The rehoming fee is £135 for dogs and £75 for cats. This includes microchipping, initial vaccinations, flea and worming treatment, a collar, identification tag and lead, access to our behaviour advice line. The animal will be neutered and there will also be the option of signing up to four weeks’ free pet insurance as a starter pack of food, advice and special offers. A home visit may be required. To find out more call 020 7627 9234, email rehoming@battersea.org.uk or visit www.battersea.org.uk

Battersea’s Ali is named animal employee of the year

For further information, and to view a full list of finalists, please visit petplan.co.uk/charityawards.

My dog Barney loves eating human food. I find it hard to resist those puppy dog eyes and often give him titbits from our evening meal. What sort of foods can dogs tolerate, and what should I avoid giving my dog?

Regularly feeding your dog human food can lead to obesity, which can have a huge impact on their health. Overweight pets are more likely to develop problems such as arthritis, diabetes and heart disease. Just like humans, our pets can become overweight when they eat too many calories and don’t do enough exercise, so those extra bits of food at meal times could be adding unnecessary calories to Barney’s diet.

It’s also important to be aware that foods such as onions, chocolate, grapes and raisins are poisonous to dogs, so keep these out of reach. If you’re worried about Barney’s weight, or need some advice to help manage it, I would recommend speaking with your vet.

I have a nine-month-old guinea pig called Dorie. She squeals when I pick her up and I’m not sure why. Is this normal?

Guinea pigs and other small animals can get frightened about being handled, and they can become particularly scared if they’ve not been handled from a young age. Make sure you approach your guinea pig quietly and gently. You could start by taking Dorie small pieces of her favourite food. After a few days, offer Dorie food from your hand for a few days. Follow this up by stroking her just before you give her some food. By gradually building up in this way, you should eventually be able to life her up. Always hold her over a flat surface, as even a small fall can cause serious injury.

My one-year-old whippet, Rex, urinated himself in bed last night and he keeps trying to relieve himself but nothing comes out. He’s been sick once and isn’t acting his usual self. What could be wrong?

This could be a potentially serious problem so I would strongly recommend taking him in to see your vet as soon as possible. These symptoms can be a result of multiple problems including as a urinary infection, prostate disease, kidney or bladder problems. All of these diseases will require medical attention so it’s important to take him to the vets as soon as possible.

Ellie

Age: 1 year 4 months
Breed: Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Sex: Female
Reference: 354437

Elle is a stunning young girl who is affectionate, gentle and playful. She has some nice manners already in place, but is looking for owners who are willing to teach her a trick or two more. Eager to please and highly motivated by a tasty treat, Elle is sure to make an excellent student.

Lexi

Age: 4 years 1 month
Breed: Jack Russell Terrier
Sex: Female
Reference: 356526

Pretty terrier Lexi is a nervous girl desperately seeking a loving family to help build her confidence and allow her affectionate personality to blossom. With a cozy home and a garden to exert her bursts of energy in, she’ll find her paws in no time. Lexi also enjoys her own company.

Matty

Age: 9 months
Breed: Domestic Short-hair
Sex: Male
Reference: 356941

Matty is a gorgeous ginger boy who has lots of love to give to his new owners. While a little shy on first introductions, Matty adores attention and will head butt your hand when he wants to be stroked, purring away as he rolls over to show off his belly.

Pringle

Age: 9 months
Breed: Domestic Short-hair
Sex: Female
Reference: 356953

Pringle is ready to mingle with a new family who have the energy to keep up with him. This youngster loves to play and has the skills of an acrobat when leaping around to catch one of his favourite toys. Pringle is a confident lad who will make a great addition for first-time cat owners.

Roxi

Age: 5 years 4 months
Breed: Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Sex: Female
Reference: 355390

Roxi is a whirlwind of energy and is looking for active owners who can take her out for fun outings and adventures. She is a busy girl who likes to be kept entertained by toys and games when at home and will need a large, secure garden.

Sally

Age: 3 years
Breed: Greyhound
Sex: Female
Reference: 356664

Sally is a lovely lady who is quite small for her breed but makes up for it with a big personality. She is very affectionate with people and always happy to say hello. Sally also loves to show off her speed with a quick dash around a large garden before curling up for a cozy snooze.

Animal charity employee Ali Taylor of Battersea Dogs & Cats Home has been awarded the title of Animal Charity Employee of the Year in the Petplan & ADCH Animal Charity Awards 2017.

Held on April 26 in a ceremony at Birmingham’s Hilton Metropole, the awards celebrate the amazing work done by animal charities and not-for-profit organisations across the UK, Ireland and the Channel Islands, and the remarkable charity teams, volunteers and employees that go above and beyond in their mission to improve the welfare of vulnerable animals.

Particularly impressive for the independent panel of judges was Ali’s unsurpassed devotion to the dogs under her care. Boasting an impressive 25 years at the charity, Ali has personally fostered more than 200 Battersea dogs and creates a unique care programme for each dog at the home, tailored to their individual needs.

This level of dedication is evident even outside of her role at Battersea, with Ali, pictured above, making time to provide a bereavement counselling service to those who have lost dogs, offering much-needed support to those in need.

On receiving her award, Ali said: “For the first time in my life I was speechless. When they announced me as the winner I think I froze for about five minutes, I was totally dumbfounded. Seeing all the amazing finalists has truly been an honour, it’s amazing just to be surrounded by people who love animals.”

Petplan’s head of marketing, Isabella von Mederhazy, said: “It’s a pleasure to announce our deserving animal charity winners this year, with the calibre of finalists for the awards extremely high. Each and every one of the individuals and teams nominated are unrelentingly committed to animal welfare and we’re thrilled to take this opportunity to shine a light on their continued hard work.”

For further information, and to view a full list of finalists, please visit petplan.co.uk/charityawards.
Survey finds most cats prefer indoors

More than half of the UK’s cats – 56 per cent – spend most of their time indoors. The suggestion is that 48 per cent don’t go outside because they hate the cold.

Figures reveal 48 per cent of cats don’t come inside when they are called but almost a third could be tempted by a treat.

The survey, carried out by Vets4Pets, found when cats do venture outside, almost six out of 10 never or rarely catch or kill any wildlife, while 12 per cent spend their time sleeping the day away.

Dr Huw Stacey, vet and director of clinical services at Vets4Pets, said the results of the survey demonstrated that owners look at their cat’s lifestyle, in particular the indoors versus outdoors dilemma.

He said: “Domestication of cats began approximately 13 million years ago, and their lives are continually changing.

Indoor living in today’s society affords a high level of comfort for many cats, and owners often see keeping cats indoors as keeping them safe.

“While preventing cats from the obvious risks outside of traffic, fights with other cats and parasites, the indoor life does pose some problems for our feline friends.

“Frustration, boredom and health problems including obesity and diabetes are often associated with indoor cats.

“But, according to the survey, most owners needn’t worry about letting their cat outside, as the average cat tends to stay close to their home, not straying further than their own back garden or their neighbour’s.

“Interestingly, 18 per cent of owners have no idea what their moggies get up to day-to-day, and one in 10 cat owners think their pet has used up seven or more of their supposed nine lives.”

Sam Taylor, a cat expert from International Cat Care, said: “The survey reveals people spend time thinking about their cat’s welfare, which is obviously good news.

“It’s worth remembering that cat litter was only introduced in the 1950s, so all cats spent time outdoors, even if just to go to relieve themselves.

“And litter trays marked another shift in the gradual changing in the cat’s status, from vermin catcher to companion.

“But cats still retain the skills that made them excellent hunters, such as sharp eyesight, hearing and sense of smell, and these need to be stimulated regularly to keep cats healthy and happy.

“Cats, just like humans, have different personalities and different lifestyles suit different cats.

“Understanding a cat’s personality can help enormously in providing the right lifestyle for them, including how much time they spend inside and outside of the home.”

Many owners, whose cats have been outside during the day have a unique cat-call to bring their cats back to base as night-falls.

However this isn’t always enough as almost half simply ignore their owner’s requests.

But there’s no fooling these cunning creatures, 31 per cent are more than happy to play ball, if there’s a treat at stake. With a little simple training, cats can be trained to come when called.

● Vets have developed an online guide to give cat owners help and advice on providing the best home for their pet. Go to www.vets4pets.com/cat-lifestyles.
It’s the most popular time of year for decorating and renovating your home, and according to NHBC, the UK’s leading warranty and insurance provider for new homes, it is also a good time for planting trees and shrubs ready for those lazy days in the garden enjoying a bit of alfresco dining.

Planting trees and shrubs creates a more attractive garden, and is a great way to fill a gap, provide privacy, and screen sights and sounds from next door.

But before you get carried away, remember that roots often extend to distances in excess of the height of the tree and they can take moisture from the soil. So before you start planting, or drastically cutting back the greenery in your garden, here are some of NHBC’s practical tips on planting trees and shrubs near your home to help reduce the risk of potential damage:

- If the soil is clay, new planting may cause it to shrink, while removing existing trees and shrubs may make it swell. So plant new trees away from your home.
- Find out how tall the mature tree will be and make sure it is positioned at least three-quarters of this distance from the house.
- High water demand trees should be planted no closer to the home than one-and-a-quarter times the mature height. These include elm, eucalyptus, oak, poplar, willow and some common cypress species.
- Avoid planting climbers such as ivy and Virginia creeper against house walls, as they hold on using suckers, twining tendrils or aerial roots which could damage mortar and may cause damp.
- Plant these at least three meters from your home.
- Before cutting down or pruning a mature tree, check with your local authority to make sure it is not protected by planning conditions, conservation area restrictions or a Tree Preservation Order.
- Allow enough room for trunks and large roots to grow safely. Be particularly careful if planting near drains or lightweight structures.
- Although you do not need to, when planting new trees in your garden that will also be near your neighbour’s house, be considerate and ask your neighbour if this is okay. You could be liable for the cost of repair if the trees you plant cause damage to their home.
- Regular pruning of fast-growing, thirsty trees such as leylandii will help to reduce the amount of water taken from the soil.
- The level of soil around your home should be kept below the damp proof course.
- Paths should also generally be kept around 150mm or two brick courses below the damp proof course, except where these have been designed to provide level access into the home.
- If you are not sure where the damp proof course is, ask the builder to show you.
- Where air bricks, permanent ventilators or perpend vents are provided, they should not be blocked or covered by soil or paving.
- And last of all, although the UK is fortunate to have plenty of rain, do ensure trees and shrubs are watered sufficiently to give them a good start in life especially those that may be sheltered by other structures.
- Further advice can be found in NHBC’s publication, A Guide to New Homes available at www.nhbc.co.uk/homeowners.

Award for renovation of studios

Orchestrating Design and Build won an award for its conversion of Britannia Row Studios in Fulham.

The winning project is a daring conversion of Fulham’s Britannia Row Studios in Fulham. Originally used as an industrial facility to service London taxis, for two decades, the building also housed a recording studio at which some of the biggest names in rock history recorded, including Pink Floyd, Bjork, Snow Patrol and Kate Bush.

The renovation built two apartments reflecting the industrial and rock history of the building. The conversion was judged to be both historically sympathetic and forward-looking in terms of the chic interior design.
Casting has been announced for the UK premiere of Hir, written by Taylor Mac and directed by Nadia Fall. Mac’s previous work includes A24-Decade History of Popular Music and Fall was director of Disgraced.

Doctor Who star Arthur Darvill plays Isaac, Griffyn Gilligan will play younger sibling Max, Ashley McGuire is playing their mother Paige and Andy Williams plays her husband Arnold.

After winning acclaim in New York, this play by one of America’s most dynamic and distinctive voices comes to London in a new production.

Pulitzer Prize finalist Taylor Mac is a multi-award-winning writer and performance artist at the forefront of alternative responses to American culture. Author of seventeen full-length plays, Mac won rave reviews for the extraordinary 24-hour-long A 24-Decade History of Popular Music, which reframed and re-enacted 240 years of US history.

In Hir, Mac tears apart the kitchen sink genre by challenging gender expectations and subverting all notions of the typical American family.

“Stop behaving like a man!” “We are men. The word ‘hir’ is an unofficial gender-neutral pronoun designed to be used instead of him and her, or his and her.”

Isaac returns from serving in the marines to find war has broken out back home. Fed up with her broken American Dream, mom Paige has stopped washing, cleaning and caring for their ailing father.

Once the breadwinner, dad Arnold has suffered a stroke and toppled from the head of the household to a mere puppet in the new regime.

Ally to their mother is Isaac’s sibling Max.

Only last time Isaac checked, Max was Maxine.

In Central Valley, in a cheap house made of plywood and glue, notions of masculinity and femininity become weapons with which to defeat the old order.

But in Taylor Mac’s sly, subversive comedy, annihilating the past doesn’t always free you from it.


15 June to 22 July, www.bushtheatre.co.uk.
Angels in America is running at the National Theatre until August 19. You can find further details at www.nationaltheatre.org.uk.

By Nicky Sweetland

Capital Nights

Angels in America

By Nicky Sweetland

CapitalNights

Angels in America is running at the National Theatre until August

Binge-watching box sets is the way many of us now watch television programmes, but does the ritual of chopping up a story into 45-minute episodes translate when it comes to a stage production?

Having more than two acts isn’t a new thing in theatre, but there seems to be a trend towards expecting audiences to commit to spending whole days in an auditorium, with Harry Potter and the Cursed Child packing them in, and now the National Theatre’s posterior tingling eight-hour marathon production of Angels in America.

The question is: does Tony Kushner’s epic two-part gay fantasia warrant such an amount of viewing time? The answer is, in the most part, yes. You see, it’s all to do with character development. Like the pilot episode of an new Netflix series, you have to invest in the introduction to the tale before you can fully immerse yourself in the glorious elaboration, and with Angels in America, you must first get past the fact that most of the leading characters aren’t very likeable.

It’s 1985 and Roy Cohn (Nathan Lane) is a powerful and cut-throat city lawyer in a time when the Aids epidemic is at its height. Admitting that he is a homosexual is the path to career suicide, so he denies his sexuality. He’s not the only one either, with Mormon Joe Pitt (Russell Tovey) and his wife Harper (Denise Gough) struggling to come to terms with the truth behind their troubled marriage, and the neurotic Louis (James McArdle) failing to commit to his relationship following his partner’s deadly diagnosis.

It’s a complicated and yet powerful story, which for the most part, sucks you in with some truly masterful performances from the all-star cast, and keeps you on the edge of your seat for sizeable portions of the theatrical slog.

Part one (Millennium Approaches) is much stronger than part two (Perestroika), mostly because it sticks to the reality rather than the fantastical, so the plot whips along. The inexplicable introduction of angels into the action during the second installment, which I can only assume is to highlight our own mortality, does feel like a needless tangent.

There are stand-out performances from Russell Tovey and Nathan Lane, with both capturing the torment of hiding your true being, while Andrew Garfield does a great Norma Desmond impression as Prior Walter – all diva and dazzle – even when he is facing his untimely demise.

Although excellent, Denise Gough’s character is just a bit too incidental and James McArdle gets somewhat weighed down by Louis’ heavy dialogue at times. Ian MacNeil’s design is hugely impressive, and the sound by Ian Dickinson creates a perfect inter-dimensional feel with grand brass interludes mixed with eerie elevator music.

Watching both parts in one day is a bit mind-blowing and I think those who are spreading it over two nights will get a far better experience, by having a break from the intensity.

This is a theatrical box set well worth watching however, with important political themes, which easily translate to our modern socio-economic climate and is a lesson in performance from some real greats.

● Angels in America is running at the National Theatre until August 19. You can find further details at www.nationaltheatre.org.uk.
I remember on one summer holiday in Devon my dad jumping up excitedly while watching the weather forecast on TV and shouting ‘fried eggs, fried eggs.’ It was not his breakfast order but his joy that decided soggy start to our annual pilgrimage to the West Country was about to turn into glorious sunshine – and so it did. It was one of those moments you never forget – ‘fried eggs’ was his interpretation of sun symbols on the weather chart – and it was while eating at Goode & Wright in the iconic Portobello Road in Notting Hill with my partner Fiona on a warmish spring evening, that another memorable moment started to unfold.

As the evening wore on and the lights started to illuminate the famous market street, I realized that the good was eating was pretty damn good.

No, in fact it was turning out to be pretty damn memorable.

Goode & Wright is something of an institution and the name was inspired by a former school uniform outfitter from 1928 who serviced the adjacent Portobello School. Tipping their hats to the industrious Mr Goode and Mr Wright, the restaurant has retained the original signage’s colours and typography. The intimate bistro and wine bar has recently undergone some changes with a new management and food team takeover, with chef owners Oren Goldfeld and Gabriel Muñuz Rodriguez at the helm.

The intimate narrow restaurant comes with plump, inviting cushions scattered on leather banquettes, and wood paneled walls broken up by interesting artefacts and subtle, well positioned standout lighting.

There is a global influence to the new menu, which makes a slight departure from traditional French fare, with imaginatively presented bold, edgy dishes served as both small and large tapas-style sharing plates.

Things started promisingly with ‘nibbles’ of well delivered light and flavorsome crispy prawn, filled with basil (£8.50) and tangy sun-dried tomato pesto with an interesting selection of crunchy crudites (£5).

However, this was just the warm-up act for the exemplary dishes that followed, starting with crispy brie (£7), which just oozed out on to the plate, elevated by some delightful dollops of tomato vanilla jam.

Aubergine with chimichurri, romesco and migas (£7.50) was a sensational marriage of smoky flavours and textures perfectly matched by hints of heat that kept on giving to the taste buds.

Next came lovingly cooked grilled octopus (£10.50), which hardly needed accompaniments including harissa yoghurt and chickpeas, and was only a squeeze of lemon away from pure perfection.

This was top quality cooking and it did not let up with soft thin tender rare slices of melt in the mouth oingt steak (£9.50) with portobello mushroom and a stonking four day in the making addictive and bold café de Paris sauce.

I was left licking my lips while Fiona declared the crunchy sweet potato fries (£4) “the best ever”.

Deserts continued along the same inventive theme with marmite and chocolate Guinness cake (£5.50) tempered by black sesame ice cream a pleasant shock to the palette and scoops of black sesame and pistachio (£4) ice cream hitting the mark.

A carefully curated choice of wines, with a good selection by the glass, and warm friendly service adds to what was a memorable dining experience and yes I will be going back for more, and very soon.
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We are looking to recruit two School Keeper’s Assistants to assist with the maintenance of the School’s premises, as well as general porterage & minibus driving duties.

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To find out more information about the roles and the application process, please visit our website at www.dulwichpreplondon.org/job-vacancies or contact Tamsin Hutson, HR Manager, on 020 8766 5526.

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Local Planning Applications
London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

PLANNING LISTED BUILDINGS AND
ARCHITECTURAL APPEALS

I give notice that applications have been made to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development(s):

1. 7A Macfarlane Road London W12 9ZU. Erection of a rear roof extension to form a second floor with roof terrace at the rear. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 6th June 2017. See below for contact details.

2. 10A Crimston Road London W12 9PB. Demolition of existing M1 workshop and adjoining rooms and the erection of a single storey building to provide a single dwelling. Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

CADIZ Pathworks 139 Monster Road London NW10 1BU. Removal of condition 12 (Commercial car parking spaces at the rear of the site) and 13 (Access to the rear of the site via Monster Road) from the planning permission. Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

3. 2 St Johns Wood Park London NW8 6PF. Erection of a rear extension. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

4. 79 St Johns Road London W12 7HL. Extension to the front and rear of the property to form an entrance lobby to the offices and create a new basement. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

5. 69 Horder Road London SW6 8ED. Erection of a front roof extension; erection of a new rear roof extension; and the installation of new rooflights at the rear to form a kitchen and a bedroom. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

6. 18-20 Blythe Road London W10 5JA. Extension to the front of the property to form a new entrance lobby and extension to the side of the property to form a laundry. Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

7. 375 Fulham Road London SW6 7RL. Erection of a single storey extension to the rear of the property. Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

8. 351 Fulham Road London. Extension to the rear of the property to form a new basement and a new reception area. Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

9. 42 Harrow Road London W10 6EU. Extension of a single storey outbuilding in the rear garden and associated landscaping. Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

10. 7-21 Cranstone Road London W6 9AP. Extension of the existing single storey outbuilding, (in between 7 Cranstone Road and 21 Cranstone Road) and associated works at the rear. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

11. 31 Cholmondeley Road London W6 7HJ. Erection of a single storey basement in connection with the installation of a new double glazed sliding door. Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

12. 21 Chadlington Road London SW6 6EY. Erection of a rear extension at a first floor level and a basement, and associated works at the rear. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

13. 328 Ladbroke Road London W11 4DA. Erection of a two storey extension to the side and the rear of the existing building. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

14. 132 Wandsworth Bridge Road London SW18 1LT. Erection of a double storey extension to the side and the rear of the existing building. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

15. 200 Kellett Road London W12 9NF. Erection of a new single storey basement and works to the basement of the existing building. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

16. 62 Ladbroke Grove London W11 6DL. Erection of a rear storey extension and a front and side roof extension to the rear of the property. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

17. 18 Mimosa Street London SW6 4DT. Removal of part of the front boundary wall, including the formation of a roof terrace at second floor level to the rear. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

18. 132 King Street London W12 9BP. Erection of a new single storey basement. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

19. 190 Ashchurch Grove London SE12 8TX. Installation of a new glass balustrade at second floor level. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

20. 7D orncliffe Road London SW6 5LE. Erection of a roof terrace at second floor level within Block B02 with other alterations to the external appearance of the building. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

21. 132 Old Palace Road London W6 8PB. Extension to the rear of the property to form a new basement and associated works at the rear. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

22. 90-94 Fulham High Street London W6 9HJ. Erection of a new single storey basement and works to the basement of the existing building. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

23. 238 - 246 King Street London W12 2GE. Erection of a new single storey basement and works to the basement of the existing building. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

24. 200 Kellett Road London W12 9NF. Erection of a new single storey basement and works to the basement of the existing building. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

25. 72-76 Palmbroke Road London W7 4HG. Extension to the rear of the property to form a new basement and associated works at the rear. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

26. 398 North End Road London W11 4HJ. Installation of new front entrance gate to match existing. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

27. 182-186 King Street London W6 9DH. Extension to the rear of the property to form a new basement and associated works at the rear. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

28. 19 Ashchurch Grove London SW6 5LE. Extension to the rear of the property to form a new basement and associated works at the rear. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

29. 190 Ashchurch Grove London SE12 8TX. Installation of a new glass balustrade at second floor level. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

30. 72-76 Palmbroke Road London W7 4HG. Extension to the rear of the property to form a new basement and associated works at the rear. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

31. 398 North End Road London W11 4HJ. Installation of new front entrance gate to match existing. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

32. 182-186 King Street London W6 9DH. Extension to the rear of the property to form a new basement and associated works at the rear. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

33. 190 Ashchurch Grove London SE12 8TX. Installation of a new glass balustrade at second floor level. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

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35. 398 North End Road London W11 4HJ. Installation of new front entrance gate to match existing. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.

36. 182-186 King Street London W6 9DH. Extension to the rear of the property to form a new basement and associated works at the rear. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so by 9th June 2017. See below for contact details.
Champions Chelsea celebrate!

That's why next year will have to be on the Champions League as well we will have to be at the top of our game to compete again for the Premier League.

“Will the Blues challenge for the big cup next season?”

“We definitely feel we can do something in the Champions League,” said the Spain midfielder.

“Will it be a big target for us. The English teams are struggling. You will see that six teams can win the league easily. Any of them can do it.”

“Then some of them will play Europa League, Champions League. Then on top of that you have the League Cup. The FA Cup. Other leagues don't have these extra games, extra trophies and extra difficult games.”

“Are you to Burnley and it’s difficult. In Spain, there are fewer places, relegation teams and it’s not as difficult. It will be very tough to compete but we feel we can be strong next season, not just in the Premier League but the Champions League as well.”

To do that Fabregas expects new faces at SW6.

“I'm sure we will strengthen our team. We've won. But that doesn't mean that the team cannot get better. Every team, even if they win they will try to improve and I'm sure that Chelsea will try to do that.”

So what has Antonio Conte done to team a turn who finished last two seasons into champions?

He has made a big impact, a good influence. He is a winner,” said Fabregas.

“He has made such a good impact. When he sees something not going well, he tries to change it, sometimes at the beginning we saw many changes, maybe some of us are not used to it. But we know now exactly what he wants from us. We also had a lot of time in between weeks to prepare well, to train well and maybe next season we won't have as much time.”

“But at least this season has prepared us well for what will happen next season.”

Fabregas was out of the side in the early season but has had a serious impact in the second half. Does he feel the same?

“Probably. Probably, to be honest. I feel in great shape,” he said.

“I have been feeling like that since early December, let’s say. But at the beginning it was frustrating and if you don’t get into the team then you don’t really know what’s happening or what will happen.”

“But through hard work and belief, I made it happen. I’ve worked hard to get back into the team and I feel I’m getting the rewards now and have made it happen.”

With Sunderland out of the way next week, it’s all steam ahead for the FA Cup final against Arsenal on May 27.

“Yes, it will be emotional,” he confessed. “It’s not as if I like to play against Arsenal because they are a club which is in my heart and they will always be.”

“But this is football and this is what we have to do, it can happen and hopefully we can win the double.”

“That would be a fantastic season for Chelsea and for us.”

“I have to put those feelings aside. There is something in the Champions League as well we will compete again for the Premier League at the end of the month.”

Boss Jokanovic: Reading playing to the legal limit

Fulham have been warned to expect more of the rough stuff in tonight’s second leg play-off at the Madejski Stadium.

Boss Slavisa Jokanovic believes Reading played to the very limit of the law in adopting the aggressive approach which characterised Saturday’s first leg.

The Whites were thrown out of their normally silky stride during a full-blooded first leg at Craven Cottage, with the visitors maintaining a physical and high-tempo game-plan throughout.

The Royals had skipper Paul McShane sent off for the sort of robust challenge on Kevin McDonald which typified their no-nonsense approach, but with a 1-1 draw which makes them slight favourites for the return clash this evening.

Fulham will be hoping Reading prove less obsessed with the long ball and will put down this time around, but Reading boss Jaap Stam says his players must show the same kind of muscle as at the weekend.

“In this league, there are teams who play more physically than we do, but in these [play-off] games, you need to go forward and win your battles on the pitch,” Stam said. “It’s not just because you are playing at home that you are automatically going to be winning the game.”

Jokanovic said: “They put out a very physical team – playing to the limit of the legal situation.”

“But they came into the game with a plan and they worked for them for two days. Then we found a way to score a goal and I believe we played better.”

Both managers agree the tie is still finely balanced and that the outcome of tonight’s final will determine the outcome, as both sides strive for a Wembley showdown with either West Brom, Burnley or Shrewsbury Wednesday or Huddersfield in the Championship’s final decider.

“I didn’t expect we were going to win 5-4, like this when we played them in December,” said Jokanovic, referring to the league clash between the sides in west London earlier in the season.

“We must be strong and push hard. But we are always confident. We have shown clear progress this season. I believe my players are strong enough with enough quality and enough confidence to win the game.”

Smith, 27, won this year’s season awards at Loftus Road and goalkeeping coach Gavin Ward feels they were fully deserved.

“Nearly, I’d give a keeper two or three goalkeeping errors a season,” he said. “For my mind Alex has only made only one glaring error and that was basically away with a misplaced header, which can happen. Apart from that he has been second to none.”

With Matt Ingram and Joe Lumley looking to oust him from between the sticks, Smithies has had to be at the top of his game.

Ward said: “The future for GPR in the goalkeeping department will be looking very bright.”

“Matt is a model professional. He’s only 23 and has played 50 league games so he’s vastly experienced already.”

“He has all the attributes to become a top, top goalkeeper. He pushes Alex day in day out and Alex has risen to that challenge.”

“He has time on his side and the future bodies well for next season because the number one jersey is up for grabs again as it’s a fresh start.”

Lumley has been on loan at Bristol Rovers with 19 starts in League One behind him.

Ward said: “I kept in dialogue with Bristol Rovers’ goalkeeping coach a few times a week so I knew Joe well.”

“Something that has shown me has he done well is that other coaches are calling me asking what we are doing with Joe next season.”

“There’s been a few of those already.”

Number one jersey is up for grabs said goalkeeping coach