CAMPAIGNERS and politicians have rubbished claims by Heathrow chiefs that it will go above and beyond environmental targets if a third runway is given the green light, as the row over airport expansion took off once again.

West London’s newly-elected City Hall representative joined with local lobby groups to renew their calls for the Heathrow plan to be scrapped.

It comes after Heathrow promised to “not just meet but exceed” the conditions set by the Airports Commission last year.

In a letter to the Prime Minister, Heathrow chief executive John Holland-Kaye set out plans to extend a ban on night flights and agreed to a legally-binding deal never to build a fourth runway.

But the commitment was pounced on by local campaigners who say they are furious about the impact of noise pollution on those living under flight paths.

BY JACK DIXON
jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

HEALTH bosses have announced plans to refurbish the Milson Road Health Centre, quelling fears that the building could be sold off for housing. Commissioners say they want to move two GP practices into the building.

NHS plans that could see dozens of patient beds removed from hospitals in Hammersmith and Fulham have prompted warnings that local health services are facing their ‘greatest ever crisis’.

ROCK legend Brian May and TV star Anita Dobson are quitting their west London home after angrily blaming basement-building neighbours and council planners for driving them out.

RUMOURS that Formula One Grand Prix motor racing could take over the streets of London as soon as next year have been rubbished by City Hall chiefs, after the sport’s chief executive hinted that he believed a deal could be done.

When performance poet John Cooper Clarke returns to London on his latest tour, devoted fans look certain to sell out the Shepherd’s Bush Empire to enjoy his famously witty lyrics and machine-gun delivery. But how can his remarkable resurgence in popularity be explained? At 67, and perhaps against all the odds, the poet who first found fame during the punk rock era of the 1970s is enjoying arguably his most successful ever stint. It’s been an incredible second coming for Clarke, who has garnered a whole new generation of young fans who say they are furious about the impact of noise pollution on those living under flight paths.

When performance poet John Cooper Clarke returns to London on his latest tour, devoted fans look certain to sell out the Shepherd’s Bush Empire to enjoy his famously witty lyrics and machine-gun delivery. But how can his remarkable resurgence in popularity be explained? At 67, and perhaps against all the odds, the poet who first found fame during the punk rock era of the 1970s is enjoying arguably his most successful ever stint. It’s been an incredible second coming for Clarke, who has garnered a whole new generation of young fans who say they are furious about the impact of noise pollution on those living under flight paths.

RESTORATION of a historic London landmark is well underway, its owners say.

Long before Heathrow, the green light was pounced on by local campaigners who say they are furious about the impact of noise pollution on those living under flight paths.

The Ukrainian Cultural Institute on Cromwell Road is to be restored after being acquired by the Ukrainian film festival London and Partners.

They are currently based in a Victorian house in Knightsbridge.

Artists are mapping out stunning new vision of London.
Pop-up private GPs that could save NHS

BY JACK DIXON
jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

PATIENTS should consider paying for private healthcare in order to cut waiting times at over-stretched London surgeries, a top NHS commissioner has said.

Dr Seth Rankin, a managing partner at the Wandsworth Medical Centre, said the NHS was under strain and that more patients seeing private doctors would help ease the burden.

In an interview with the London Weekly News, he said the NHS had become “really inconvenient” for many people and that health bosses should “think outside the box” to reduce the pressure.

More private GP’s services should be introduced alongside the NHS to help the healthcare system cope with demand, he suggested.

“The cost of the NHS across the board is really low and it provides huge amounts of work, but it is just really inconvenient for many people,” he said. “The NHS does a great job and we look after a lot of people with really complex problems. But the core of your health problem is the more resources are devoted to it, which has opened up a gap for those people who need something straight away.”

Dr Rankin, 54, who was born in New Zealand but has worked in London since 1998, has launched several of his own ‘pop-up’ practices in the capital’s commuter hotspots, including London Bridge, King’s Cross and Liverpool Street.

Patients can pay £55 for a 15-minute appointment with the London Doctors Clinic rather than waiting days – or even weeks – for an NHS appointment.

The clinics are tiny, with just a single member of staff working and an receptionist and administrator, alongside a professional GP. But the ability to book at short notice, he said, would help to free up vital resources for NHS doctors to treat patients with more serious illnesses.

Dr Rankin also said increasing the availability of low-cost, private GP services would cut waiting times for patients with minor ailments and prevent accident and emergency departments becoming swamped with people seeking treatment.

“The NHS does an amazing job of looking after you when you physically really need something – but it cannot do that and provide convenience,” he added.

“It is really difficult to provide chronic long-term disease services and acute same-day illness services – and because of all those inconveniences people end up going to accident and emergency or walk-in centres and waiting for a while.

“There are huge numbers of people who would rather go online, book an appointment and know that they are going to be seen at that time or very close.”

He said there needed to be “innovation outside the system” because the entrenched practices within the NHS made it difficult to change a struggling system.

“Don’t try and privatise the NHS, just don’t try and change it too much,” he said. “Leave it alone – it’s actually doing a good job of looking after people and doing it cheaply.

“But there should be an awful lot more stuff that runs alongside the NHS that can take the pressure off. That’s what I advocate.”
Fears for future of 500 hospital beds prompt warning of new NHS crisis

BY JACK DIXON

NHS plans that could see dozens of patient beds removed from hospitals in Hammersmith and Fulham have prompted warnings that local health services are facing their “greatest ever crisis”.

Details of draft proposals to cut up to 500 beds across north west London emerged last week, triggering fresh fears over the provision of services. Health chiefs have stressed that the figure is a long-term target and that no beds will be removed before alternative provision is in place.

But Hammersmith MP Andy Slaughter pounced on the proposals while the local Healthwatch group also expressed concerns.

He said: “Alongside the attack on junior doctors, this is creating the greatest ever crisis in our local health service.”

The plan to remove 500 beds was revealed in a draft document drawn up as part of work on a new “sustainability and transformation plan” for health services across north west London.

It is one of 44 STPs being prepared across the country as NHS chiefs seek to coordinate services and cut costs.

A five-year improvement plan for the north west London area, which spans eight boroughs including Hammersmith and Fulham, will be published at the end of June.

But the suggestion that hospital beds could be replaced with alternative care closer to home has sparked fresh fears.

Christine Vigars, chair of Healthwatch Central West London, said: “We are concerned how any change on this scale will impact on local residents. We know through our work with residents in Hammersmith and Fulham of the many times when better alternatives to hospital inpatient stays would be welcome but we also know of the grave concern that patient choice should be retained, including access to local hospital beds and services.”

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said it would be “insane” to lose the beds and questioned the ability of health services to provide effective alternative care.

“It’s plain stupid to consider cutting 500 hospital beds and this council will fight this at every single level,” he added.

There are currently 4,000 acute beds used in north west London hospitals but the draft plans indicate that around 10 to 13 per cent could be removed. Health bosses estimate that a £1 billion funding gap will be created if no action is taken to address financial inefficiencies in the system.

A spokesperson for the North West London body of clinical commissioning groups, said: “A hospital is not always the best place to treat people. Our ambition is to provide the right care in the right place, and the NHS and local authorities are working closely together to provide more care closer to home, as well as to take advantage of developments in care that mean people don’t always require lengthy hospital stays.

“The priority for north west London is to improve the health and wellbeing of the people living in the area. However, we also need to ensure that the system is sustainable and financially efficient for the future.”
BBC to face scrutiny over its top stars’ pay

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

THE BBC is set to face awkward questions when MPs seek to influence the BBC’s editorial decision making. Graham Norton is one of the BBC’s top broadcasters over its top stars’ pay award questions when MPs seek to influence the BBC’s editorial decision making. Graham Norton is one of the BBC’s top broadcasters.

Graham Norton Show in the week ending May 1, were: Masterchef with 5.57 million, Countryfile with 5.12 million, Have I Got News For You with 4.96 million, Casualty with 4.8 million and Holby City with 4.33 million.

None of the stars of any of those programmes is believed to be among the nine presenters paid more than £500,000 a year by the BBC.

Much speculation surrounds the identity of ‘The Big Nine’, with names in the frame including Evans, Norton, Lineker, Clare Balding, David Dimbleby, Sir David Attenborough, Jeremy Paxman, Nick Grimshaw, Andrew Marr and Fiona Bruce.

But TV insiders say that none of the nine are expected to be jumping for joy that their pay deals are about to be made public.

‘It’s hard to believe that the BBC will not have already informed The Big Nine and their agents that they are about to sell them, as it’s only a matter of making nine phone calls,’ said a source.

‘It’s also hard to believe that any of the nine will be exactly knocked out with delight by being told what they earn. It’s one thing to be in The Sunday Times Rich List, it’s quite another to be outed for earning a million a year, or whatever it is. And although these people are at the very top of their game, inevitably someone is going to say oh, I’m not sure how much I’d earn if I didn’t have my salary, or I don’t think the public should be paying her so much.”

‘It’s not only potentially embarrassing, it’s bizarre. Does the BBC, or anyone else, openly publicise how much its mandarins make, or the Foreign Office?’

Howard much one earner used to be the last taboo, that was never discussed. But this is something that now seems to be coming out, and if it’s not, then very soon someone will tell us how much he’s worth - for starters it is bound to become a running gag from top to bottom of the corporation.’

But although the BBC has been told by the Government to name the stars who are paid more than its £450,000-a-year Director General Tony Hall, if MPs make a cost-per-entitlement Bill for the future of the BBC, then MPs will want to be paid.

The Guardian reported that the high earners include Masterchef with 5.57 million, Countryfile with 5.12 million, Have I Got News For You with 4.96 million, Casualty with 4.8 million and Holby City with 4.33 million.

None of the stars of any of those programmes is believed to be among the nine presenters paid more than £500,000 a year by the BBC.

Graham Norton is one of the BBC’s top broadcasters.

Expert Home Care Service Launched

H eritage Healthcare Kensington is a home care provider, specialising in the delivery of expert quality care.

The company, which recently opened its Kensington office, is able to provide care and support to the communities of Kensington, Chelsea, Fulham, Hammersmith, Westminster and surrounding areas.

Heritage Healthcare Kensington Director, Ayaan Abdulle is supported by experienced Registered Care Manager, Leanda Alexis, who has over 20 years of experience within the Health and Social Care Sector.

Leanda is responsible for the company’s hand-picked team of carers and ensuring that every client receives a bespoke care service. Ayaan said, “My ultimate aim is to ensure that people are able to access the highest quality of support, and treated with respect and dignity, and are given the opportunity to continue living within the comfort of their own home.”

Heritage Healthcare Kensington provides a distinct range of trusted healthcare services tailored to individual needs. Services include: Elderly Care, Dementia Care, Respite Care, Housekeeping, Live In Care, Complex Needs, Hospital to Home, End of Life and much more.

If you would like further information on the services provided by Heritage Healthcare Kensington or would like to arrange a detailed consultation, contact Leanda on 020 3713 9361 or visit www.heritagehealthcare.co.uk/kensington

Writing for you every week, London’s most outspoken entrepreneur

Charlie pipes up!

IF you were to pick up the Yellow Pages, turn to the plumbing, tiling or carpentry sections and begin randomly calling in their trade professionals, chances are you’d have run out of minutes, or possibly patience, before you got through to a woman.

Shockingly, this is because only about two per cent of the manual trades workforce is female.

The law, teaching and journalism professions, which were once male bastions, have changed with the times and are now, rightly, seen as gender-neutral sectors; however, for some reason the message didn’t get through to the trade professions.

I receive dozens of applications each week for places on the Pimlico Plumbers’ in-house apprenticeship scheme, and flicking through the CVs would show that this imbalance is no closer to being resolved, as very few, if any, tend to be from young women.

Something needs to be done, and it is.

Women on the Tools, an initiative that is aiming to make women tradespeople the norm, not the exception, has been officially launched.

But although there are many mandates, the newly formed organisation, I can say with confidence that we won’t rest until there is equality in the labour market.

It’s a huge task, which will require the team to invest a lot of time and effort over a number of years.

It’s long slog will be worth it when young women can aspire to a rewarding career on the tools, without feeling out of place.

I must admit my interest in addressing the alarmingly low level of women in the trades isn’t all out of the goodness of my heart; there are sound business reasons in play.

There is a huge gap in the UK, which I have been making a fuss about for a while now, and it seems to me that the only way to overcome the problem would be to double the amount of people employers have to call upon, by making a manual career accessible to women.

Hopefully as a result of the hard work of Women on the Tools, in the not too-distant future no one will bat an eyelid when a little girl dreams of running a construction company or being a plumber, because let me tell you, there’s a lot of money in the business.

A Pimlico Plumber can easily earn £150,000 a year, which in my experience is a respectable, and girls should be encouraged to look at practical blue-collar careers.

We’re always on the lookout for female candidates, people who do not have other options and that is not an excuse, there are sound business reasons in play.

Meetings so many talented tradeswomen of all ages at the launch of Women on the Tools only made me more certain that this is a fight that not only needs to be fought, but also it’s one that we can win, and must.

Women on the Tools has declared war on the antiquated prejudices that continue to prevent our daughters from having equal access to a huge range of lucrative careers. It’s time for change!
May’s broadside at basement builders

BY GEOFF BAKER
goff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

ROCK music legend Brian May and TV star Anita Dobson are to move to the country after a scathing attack on the disruption caused by basement building projects.

Brian May has launched a scathing attack on the disruption caused by basement building projects.

In an open letter to the authorities posted on his website – brianmay.com – the musician, who was recently named in The Sunday Times Rich List to be worth £120 million, says he has been “persecuted every day of the week” enduring seven years of building work which has made his life “a misery.”

He wrote: “This is a letter of objection in the strongest possible terms to the proposed basement extensions on houses in our street.

Along with my wife and many of my neighbours, I have now been fighting for over seven years against the unbearable disruption to our quality of life by the building of basements to properties in our area, for which RBKC has given permission.

“In our opinion, these permissions are a complete betrayal of the council’s duties in taking care of the residents of the borough.

“Ten years ago, the area was a quiet oasis in London, with properties that all of us worked our whole lives to acquire. The tree-lined street was peaceful, giving many of us the environment we needed, working often at home. We had no idea we could rely on the borough council to ensure this area remained protected from harmful developments.

“But in recent years the peace we all treasured has been shattered by successive unreasonable building schemes, involving piling rigs, massive removal of earth and the deployment of huge machinery.

“The result has been unbearable noise, dust, polluting fumes, constant heavy traffic and loss of privacy, making life in many years and gardens impossible for over seven years, and without any prospect of this misery ending.

“This has produced mounting stress in all of us, at least one neighbour having died in a state of nervous exhaustion, and at present many residents showing the results of extreme anxiety.

“The feeling we all share is the equivalent of being beaten on the head every day of the week for years on end, without any possibility of stopping it, or punishing the offenders. Even objecting to the works is a constant drain on our energies and money too, all brought about by the selfishness of a few property owners, and the negligence of the council in allowing them to ruin our lives.

“It’s surely clear to all that a borough council’s job is to protect the quality of life of its residents. That means ALL the residents.

“So when a project comes up which benefits only ONE resident (and actually very often not even a resident at all, but a foreign investor or corporation building purely for a profit, on which British tax may never be paid), and that project will destroy the quality of life of probably 30 to 50 neighbouring households for a minimum of three years, it’s absolutely clear that the answer should be NO.

“If the council are coming up with a ‘yes’, it can only be because of hidden agendas, since there is no logical justification for allowing such appalling disruption. Quite simply, if this behaviour is being allowed, the council is not doing its job, and should be removed.

“This is actually a very clear case of principle; there can be no possible doubt that it is morally wrong to allow ANY more basement building in residential areas.

“But, as with almost everything in this country at the moment, it is a battle between what is RIGHT and what is rewarding to powerful people.

“And in the present regime, under this Government, it seems that what is right never wins.

“I fear RBKC must be under the influence of such interests if at this point it refuses to acknowledge its obligation to the majority of Kensington residents. And I also fear that this judgment applies essentially to the whole of London.

“Anticipating permission for these new basements to be constructed, we are now planning to sell up, quitting Kensington entirely, and to move out of London. It’s a massive disruption, and one we’ve been trying for years to avoid, but we’re now at breaking point.

“In the coming months, I will not be backing out of my campaign in the fight against the Base- ment Building Barbarians.”

Dr May stressed: “I will be battling on, for common sense and the quality of life of the remaining residents of our street, but I may do it from a home where I don’t wake up to being persecuted every day of the week.

“The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea must refuse this and all future applications for permission to extend underground.”

He adds: “As regards legality, it is to be noted that all of these developers were granted permission to construct their extensions, but none of them were given carte blanche to make their neighbours’ lives a living hell.

“Looking at our street now, it is almost impossible to believe that anyone could call this a ‘reasonable development’ in what used to be a beautiful quiet street.

“Kensington, under this Government and this council, has been transformed from a beautiful select oasis into a hellhole of building projects. Certainly Kensington can no longer be considered to be a desirable place to live.”

Council insists its planning controls are toughest in UK

BRIAN May’s decision to leave Kensington comes at a time when Kensington and Chelsea council – which prides itself on being the toughest on development in the UK – is gearing up for a possible legal battle.

In response to Dr May, council officials pointed to the authority’s strict enforcement action when builders or developers do not follow the rules, including curbs on noisy weekend working and also the work has done with its Article 4 direction to remove any permitted rights to build a basement without needing to apply for planning permission.

The council’s planning enforcement team was one of the most active enforcement teams in the country in 2015, according to figures released by the Department of Communities and Local Government, which show that the team served 27 Temporary Stop Notices, more than any other local authority in the UK.

The team also issued more Breach of Conditions Notices, more than the rest of the country in the last three months of 2015.

Now a tough new construction noise regime is in place in Kensington and Chelsea and residents are encouraged to report any breach of the rules.

“Nasty construction work is not allowed on weekends in the borough following high numbers of complaints by residents. Instead the borough operates a new Code of Construction Practice,” said a council spokesman. “The code sets out best practice/standards expected in the borough. It recognises the importance of, and need for, building projects but seeks to lay down what is expected from contractors and developers to ensure that disturbance to residents is kept to a minimum.

“Following the new code’s adoption, generally permitted hours for noisy works will no longer include any time on a Saturday. As before, works are not allowed on a Sunday. The code also introduces a further set of robust controls on high impact activities such as demolition and concrete breaking.

“I don’t think Mr May will find a council in central London, or anywhere in the country, with stricter controls on basement developments or more robust enforcement to ensure developers follow the rules.”
Superbug that lurks on toys

PARENTS of young children have been warned by hygiene experts to wash soft toys and comfort blankets regularly in order to avoid risks from the killer superbug MRSA.

A new survey has revealed that nearly a fifth of London's children's and comfort blankets or soft toys at a frequency of only once every six months or less.

This, according to hygiene expert Dr Lisa Ackerley, comes as "shocking news."

Dr Ackerley, Professor of Environmental Health at the University of Salford, said: "It is shocking that parents wash their children's comfort blankets or soft toys at a frequency of only once every six months or less.

"These items could become very dirty over time, and pick up all sorts of micro-organisms from the floor, wherever they are dropped. If there is a pet in the house, then the floor surface will become dirty from the pet's paws, and if the pet has had an accident in the house, then faecal bacteria, some of which could be harmful could be picked up by the soft toys or blankets dropped on the floor."

"As children often chew their toys or blankets, it makes sense to wash them frequently, and certainly more than once a year."

"Dogs, cats and wild animals and pests can carry pathogens and harmful bacteria, so if they are collected on teddy and then transferred to a child's mouth, this is not good news."

Experts query weekend risks

The new junior doctors' contract is unlikely to decrease the number of weekend deaths, suggests research conducted in London.

Experts say the 'weekend effect' – which apparently shows patients admitted to hospital at the weekend are more likely to die – overshadows a complex pattern of weekly changes in quality of care.

But the research does show that patients admitted over the weekend are likely to spend less time being treated by a consultant than if they are admitted during the week.

Jeremy Hunt, Secretary of State for Health, has often used the 'weekend effect' to make the case for his proposed contracts for junior doctors.

A study by researchers at the University of Central Lancashire found no link between weekend senior doctor staffing levels and mortality.

In another paper, by King's College London and University College London, researchers studied acute stroke care. The scientists found a so-called 'weekend effect', but identified many variations in quality of care throughout the week.

The two studies, published in The Lancet, were the first to reveal weaknesses in the health secretary's case.

Author Dr Benjamin Bray, from UCL said: "Our study shows the 'weekend effect' is a major oversimplification of the true extent and nature of variations in the quality of care."
Dementia residents are ‘abandoned’

BY JACK DIXON
jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LONDONERS living with dementia are being “robbed of their dignity” due to poor standards of care, according to a leading charity.

Tim McLachlan, the head of London operations for the Alzheimer’s Society, warned that an NHS “double standard” meant people with dementia living in some care homes were not being properly treated.

It comes after the charity published the results of a nationwide survey suggesting that almost half of care home managers believe the NHS is failing to provide residents with adequate and timely support services.

The Alzheimer’s Society is concerned that some patients are paying to see a GP through their care home fees, despite funding NHS services with their taxes.

Mr McLachlan said: “It is unacceptable that this NHS double standard is leaving people with dementia waiting months for physiotherapy, falls prevention and mental health services.

“In that time, we are concerned they are being robbed of essential care and pain relief, as well as their dignity, self-esteem and independence.”

He added: “People with dementia living in care homes are just as entitled to receive free care from the NHS as anyone else. A care home is, after all, a person’s home, and health services must treat care homes as a vital part of the community, instead of holding them in disregard.”

The society teamed up with Care England – a charity representing independent care homes – and spoke to 285 care home managers, including several in London, and gathered first-hand testimonies from carers looking after people with dementia.

It uncovered a series of horror stories, including a care home resident who waited more than eight weeks to be referred to mental health services despite feeling suicidal.

One person who fell and suffered a fractured hip waited a year for community-based physiotherapy treatment.

The charity said money that care homes spend on GP services that are free on the NHS could be better spent on one-to-one care.

Martin Green, the chief executive of Care England, said: “Our research and report with the Alzheimer’s Society identifies that many people living with dementia in care homes and the care staff who are responsible for their care are being all but abandoned by primary care.

“Access to primary care must be improved. Older people living with dementia in care homes have the same rights to primary care, health and support as any other citizen, and the Government and NHS must act to ensure that these services are available to everyone when they are needed.”

An NHS spokesman said: “The NHS has dramatically increased the number of people with dementia who are able to be diagnosed in order to receive early support.”

The spokesman added: “Care homes have first line responsibility for looking after their residents, with appropriate back-up from the local NHS.”

Fans don’t find it funny after West End cry-off

FOLLOWING criticism in the press and from some disgruntled theatre-goers, actress Sheridan Smith is to take a break from her West End run in the musical Funny Girl.

It was announced by the producers of the show, which is running at the Savoy Theatre, that 34-year-old Smith will take a “two to four weeks leave of absence” – citing “stress and exhaustion” as the reason.

The popular actress faced criticism early last week after she was photographed at the BAFTA awards apparently looking disappointed at not winning the best actress accolade for her portrayal of a cancer victim in the menopause-chronicled dramatisation The C Word.

Smith angrily took to Twitter soon afterwards to reject claims that she had behaved like a bad loser.

Just weeks earlier the star, who is playing Fanny Brice in the musical, was accused of being drunk during one performance and the show was halted after just 15 minutes – with the company claiming that technical difficulties had forced the early finish.

A talented police officer has been dubbed the ‘world’s best dancing copper’ after posting an hilarious clip of him doing the running-man challenge – by body-popping. PC Dan Graham’s incredible dance moves racked up an astonishing half-a-million views in just 12 hours after the clip was posted online – after accepting challenge from a convict.

The Metropolitan Police officer, from Kingston-upon-Thames, quickly received praise from people on social media for his incredible, robot-like 80s dance moves.

Broadcaster Graham Norton openly mocked the Olivier award winning actress over the allegations at the televised ceremony for the BAFTA awards, sparking an outburst of anger from her devoted fans.

Smith took the first of a couple of nights off from the show last week, which once again led to a negative backlash from theatre-goers, some of whom had paid up to £120 to see the actress.

However, many who watched Smith’s understudy Natasha Barnes were hugely impressed, with one telling the London Weekly News: “She is fantastic. So funny and so great on stage.

“The audience were impressed and I didn’t hear anything bad about Sheridan.”

Barnes completed the run at the Menier Chocolate Factory earlier this year after Smith discovered her father had been diagnosed with cancer and felt unable to perform.

She will now take over the role of Fanny Brice in the musical for the duration of Smith’s indisposition.

Theatre lovers from all over the world criticised the actress as they arrived at the Savoy Theatre only to find she would not be appearing on stage.

Maureen Patterson, 65, was frustrated she wouldn’t be able to see the star perform, and said it was “disturbing” the way her absence was handled by the theatre.

She said: “Lots of people booked a long time ago so they have had this money a long time, which obviously goes towards this production so they can put the production on. I wanted to see Sheridan Smith in it and now I can’t so I’m not very happy about it. It’s just not good at all.”
PM signs for football team going on attack against radicalisation

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

Prime Minister David Cameron is to play in a football match in Downing Street with teenagers from a Kensington-based gang-busting project as the Government backs its pioneering Football for Unity project, hailed for scoring new futures for more than a thousand disadvantaged young people in west London.

The Kensington-based Unity of Faiths Foundation’s Football for Unity project, hailed for scoring new futures for more than a thousand disadvantaged young people in west London, is to be spread across the capital as the smart new game plan against the city’s problems with gangs, knife crime and radicalisation.

David Cameron is to put on TUFF FC’s strip in a promotion game for the solidarity-scoring scheme in Downing Street this summer, as No 10 throws its weight behind the award-winning programme which has taken hundreds of youngsters off the streets to go for goals.

In a remarkable signing, TUFF’s football programme has got the Prime Minister to join the team effort to lead at-risk teenagers away from knife crime, gang culture, radicalisation and the problems of poverty.

Mr Cameron is on course to play in a five-a-side game at theStamp in Park Street in July to demonstrate the Government’s backing for the teenage strategy run by Dr Shamender Talwar and Ms Anna Prior from their office in Kensington High Street.

The TUFF project has also won the backing of Euro MPs and organisers hope that they can shortly sign London’s new mayor Sadiq Khan to join its supporters club too as the scheme is now rolling out from the West to North and East London too – and into other sports.

In less than a year, the game plan to unite young Londoners from different faiths and religions by having them play football together has mushroomed from helping just a handful of vulnerable youngsters to modelling a regular training at their West London grounds.

Last month the Under-16s side won the London FA Saturday Youth League championship and the TUFF project has won the Pride of Britain sports award for its work in uniting London’s young.

Now its Football For Unity project is expanding to become Rugby For Unity too.

At the recent Unity of Faiths Festival hand over ceremony at Saracens’ ground, theAllianz Park in Barnet, backed by the mayors of Ealing and Barnet and chaired on a 30,000 crowd, the young footballers exchanged a symbolic torch with players from Saracens’ youth side to mark the 4th Unity of Faiths Festival from west London to north London and the rugby club joining the movement to involve teenagers through sport.

On August 29 the Allianz Park stadium will be the site of the 4th Unity of Faiths festival, staged to bring together Londoners of all different faiths, religions and cultures. The festival, which has been welcomed by The Queen, started in Southall in 2011 and attracted 8,000 people to Southall Park, with 76,000 people in 24 countries watching the music-based gala online.

The following year, 26,000 joined the festival and a crowd of more than 30,000 is expected when it moves to Barnet for this year’s Bank Holiday event.

Dr Talwar said: “TUFF’s football project is spreading across London. We now attract kids from Southall, Tower Hamlets, north Kensington, Hanwell and Hayes and many other parts of London to our weekly training sessions.

“It is spreading from west London to east London and north London. It is becoming not just Football For Unity but now Rugby For Unity and even Cricket For Unity as we have been meeting with the English Cricket Board and they are very keen to roll out the scheme to their game.

“Through all sorts of sports, this is not just the answer to all sorts of problems which affect our teenagers – gang culture, knife crime, radicalisation – but it is the proven answer, it works. TUFF’s sports projects tackle the social problems that are out there.

“We have saved countless kids who have been at risk falling astray to all sorts of dangers by uniting them in the team spirit of playing great British games and, in doing so, teaching them great British values of fairness, trust, the rule of law and respect for all others.

“Our kids come from all sorts of different backgrounds, religions and faiths, but we have Muslim kids playing with Jewish kids because football isn’t about different faiths, it is about having faith in each other and much can grow from that.

“The scheme provides the solution to the problems of diversity that we see on the streets.

“Team unity is giving hope and aspiration to kids who felt that they had no future. They may have different backgrounds and beliefs but they are brought to be one together in the game.

“Football For Unity is achieving precisely what our Mayor Sadiq Khan wants to do for London, uniting us all, and we very much hope that he will join this glorious team effort.”

Next month TUFF’s football players will further expand into Europe when London MEP Syed Kamall takes a squad of the teenagers to Molenbeek, the Belgian town at the heart of recent terror atrocities, for a high-profile match against a local youth side in a Football Against Radicalisation game and meet with leaders of Europe at the European Parliament.

A return match between the London and Molenbeek sides will be staged in Downing Street in July, with the local team fielding David Cameron.

Home violence ‘best’ response

Victims of domestic violence in Fulham receive the “best support and protection in London” according to town hall chiefs.

The borough’s police team has the highest conviction rate of any force in London for such cases that are brought before the courts.

Officers have been working with Hammersmith and Fulham council on a criminal justice partnership – the Impact Project – that aims to tackle domestic violence and offer support to victims.

The team, which is based at Hammersmith police station, comprises professionals from the Shepherd’s Bush Housing Group and the charity Standing Together Against Domestic Violence.

Councillor Sue Fennimore, the council’s cabinet member for social inclusion, said: “Victims of domestic violence often feel scared, isolated and vulnerable, and can be daunted by the court process. Often this means cases never make it to court and perpetrators remain unpunished.

“Our conviction figure is testament to both the resolve of those people the team has helped and the great collaborative working of the partner groups.

“We are now determined to build on this success and even more to bring offenders to justice and stop domestic violence before it takes place.”

Gasworks site housing boost

TOWN Hall bosses have revoked a key planning rule that could open the door for a redevelopment of the former Fulham Gasworks.

National Grid has been in discussions with the Berkeley Group over a potential redevelopment of the site.

The six gas holders, which were built in 1834, have been redundant for four years and are due to be demolished.

The seven-acre site in Sands End is considered to be suitable for new homes but developers have faced obstacles in the planning process.

However, council planners have now scrapped an important rule regarding the potential for hazardous substances that could kick-start the development.

St William Homes LLP – the partnership set up by National Grid and Berkeley in 2014 – is expected to submit plans to redevelop the site.

After you’re gone, we promise to be there for your cat

We know your cat means the world to you which is why Cats Protection promises to be there for them after you’re gone.

By registering with our free Cat Guardians service you can be assured that, after you pass away, our caring staff and volunteers will look after your cat until we find them a loving new home.

Call 01825 741 291 (Mon – Fri, 9am – 5pm)
Or go online www.cats.org.uk/catguardians

Tea and toast to Queen at 90

Fans of the Royal Family will be marking Her Majesty The Queen’s 90th birthday with a special tea dance in Hammersmith.

Organisers are encouraging residents to slip on their dancing shoes for the free public celebration, which takes place at the Grove Neighbourhood Centre next month.

Events are being held over the weekend of June 10 to June 12 to wish the monarch many happy returns.

The Patriot Lunch – a mass street party on the Mall – is the showpiece event, alongside a service of thanksgiving at St Paul’s Cathedral and the traditional Trooping the Colour ceremony.

The tea dance, which will cater for a maximum of 45 people, takes place on Friday, June 10 between 2pm and 4.30pm.
Manual trades not just jobs for the boys

BY JACK DIXON
jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LONDON businesses are missing out on a skilled female workforce because employers still believe women should not be working “on the tools”, according to one of the capital’s most outspoken entrepreneurs.

Charlie Mullins, the head of central London firm Pimlico Plumbers, called for employers and educators to show a “united front” and crush the myth that careers in manual trades are jobs for the boys.

Plumbers, builders, carpenters and tilers should “open the door” to the women’s workforce and create an “even playing field”, he said.

“We are always on the lookout for women tradespeople – but there just aren’t the numbers we want,” said the self-made millionaire, who started his business from scratch in 1979.

“In my experience the women we have employed on the tools have been as talented and committed as their male counterparts.

“Schools, colleges, parents and employers need to show a united front that there really is an even playing field and the door is open for more women to become tradespeople.”

Mr Mullins, 61, has backed a new campaign – Women on the Tools – which is designed to encourage more female workers into the manual trades.

It says that around 11 per cent of people working in the construction industry are women, but only two per cent follow careers in manual trades.

Mr Mullins, who founded Pimlico Plumbers after leaving school at 15 with no qualifications, said he wanted to see women filling half of all manual posts in London.

“The manual trades offer some fantastic career opportunities with good earning potential but unfortunately there is a perception that these jobs are not for women,” he said.

“A Pimlico plumber can earn anything up to £100,000 a year, which is more than respectable – and girls should be encouraged to look at practical and fulfilling careers on the tools.”

Chloe Sayer, 19, is currently undertaking an apprenticeship with Pimlico Plumbers.

She encouraged other teenage girls to consider the manual trades as a potential career path.

“At school there was very much an attitude that manual trades were for boys and professions like nursing were aimed at girls,” she said.

“But the reaction that I have had from family, friends and most importantly the companies I have met has been incredibly positive.

“I am really proud of the fact that I have bucked the trend.”

Andrea Kelmanon, chief executive of the Women and Trades charity, which is leading the campaign, said she hoped to change the cultural perception of female workers in the manual industries.

“It is disappointing that fewer than two per cent of tradespeople on the tools are women because they can have a real impact on businesses,” she said.

“There is a major shortage of skilled workers in the construction, building trades and maintenance sectors but no one thinks about inviting women in, despite the fact that in the domestic market many customers prefer tradeswomen in their homes.

“Women on the Tools will change the cultural perception of careers in the trades and needs schools and colleges to support the campaign to attract more young women onto trade-related training courses that will create a larger group of candidates for employers.”

Over 50? Check your blood pressure often

LONDONERS aged over 50 should have their blood pressure taken regularly as it is the best way of assessing their risk of suffering a potentially fatal stroke, new research suggests.

The study shows that the pattern of systolic blood pressure from middle age onward may tell more than a single blood pressure reading about a person’s risk of stroke and death from other diseases linked to high blood pressure.

Researchers say that understanding the patterns may be important for prevention strategies as blood pressure can change markedly with age, and should be checked regularly.

The study, which was published in the journal Hypertension, suggests that knowing the path of a person’s blood pressure from middle age onward may help doctors better assess the health risks posed by high blood pressure, and could lead to earlier interventions to prevent stroke and other diseases.

Sold! Half-a-million lock-up

BY JACK DIXON
jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

A LOCK-UP has been sold for nearly £500,000 as investors and homeowners look for new ways to make money out of London’s property market.

With prices in the capital up by almost 15 per cent over the past year, it is getting more difficult to find a bargain.

So when a 15ft-wide site in Hammersmith came up for auction with a guide price of £250,000, there was no shortage of interest because of its development potential.

A bidding battle at the Savills auction resulted in it selling for £466,000, with stamp duty taking the final price to nearer £500,000.

This is almost two-and-a-half times the price of the aver-
Formula One in London? That’s no racing certainty

BY JACK DIXON
jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

RUMOURS that Formula One racing could take over the streets of London as soon as next year have been dashed by City Hall chiefs, after the sport’s chief executive hinted that a deal could be done.

Bernie Ecclestone, the outspoken F1 magnate who runs the sport, suggested that a high-speed grand prix race could take place in central London during the 2017 season.

The money-spinning event would be “fantastic” for the city and would even top the sport’s showpiece race in Monaco for viewing figures, he said.

But the proposal was dismissed as “fallacious” by motorsport commentators, while City Hall branded the idea “unrealistic”.

Speculation about the possibility of London staging a Formula One race has been rife for several years but no firm plans have yet been drawn up.

However, in a typically bold move, Mr Ecclestone suggested that the race could take place “next year, if possible”.

“There is a small technical issue: who is going to pay for it? But other than that, I cannot see any drama,” he told ITV News.

City Hall officials have dismissed ideas of a Formula One grand prix being staged on the streets of London threat because they are not willing to pay the money that Ecclestone wants … there is no chance of him wasting much effort on a London street plan unless there is proper finance behind it.”

A spokesman for Sadiq Khan, the Mayor of London, said there had been no approach made to City Hall about staging a grand prix and that it would be “unrealistic” to expect a race next year.

Despite the reality check, hopeful F1 fans took to social media to post their own fantasy circuits.

One sketch set out rough proposals for a track running over Westminster Bridge and past Big Ben, before rounding Hyde Park Corner and stretching on to Covent Garden and St Paul’s.

Any plans to develop the London race further will be met with fierce opposition from environmental campaign groups, who warned last week that a grand prix would be “the worst possible idea”.

Simon Birkett, founder and director or Cleaner Air in London, told the London Weekly News: “The last thing we need is fossil-fuelled cars racing around London creating an awful lot of noise. It would be a really dumb idea.”

Gardening is blooming hard

WITH only a few weeks to go until the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, it seems that spring has finally sprung.

But more than two thirds of Londoners who are shunning the garden due to aches and pains.

A survey of more than 1,000 adults aged over 45 found that 60 per cent were neglecting the vegetable patch because of pains in their joints.

Six out of 10 said they treated gardening “like a workout” and some said they had turned to ride-on lawnmowers and long-handed shears to make the task easier.

Older gardeners should warm-up before tending to their plants this spring, according to Pernambouc, the medical get hurry factor that carried out the survey.

Louise Lamb, the firm’s brand manager, said: “It’s clear to see that aches and pains are a real problem when it comes to gardening, and it’s worrying that such a high number of those questioned admit that it has prevented them from gardening altogether.

“Gardening is a very physical activity and treating it like a workout would also help. Warming up before digging or weeding could be a great benefit.”

‘Don’t mess on the water’

FIRE chiefs have warned Londoners not to put their lives at risk by jumping into shallow water after video footage emerged of a man diving into the Serpentine in Hyde Park.

London Fire Brigade said jumping into lakes from high platforms was “incredibly dangerous” and urged people not to “have a laugh” on the water.

The clip, which was uploaded to Facebook, shows a young man balancing on a post and slowly redoing his clothes before jumping into the water.

It is just over two years since 26-year-old Alexander Mitchell drowned in the Serpentine after a night of heavy drinking.

Chris O’Connor, the brigade’s head of community safety, said: “It’s incredibly dangerous to jump into water like this because it’s impossible to see hidden obstacles under the surface. It’s very easy to slip and get into difficulties.

“Sadly people drown each year and we would hate for someone else to become another statistic for the sake of having a laugh or showing off to their mates.”

There have been 13 water-related deaths in London over the last three years, according to the brigade.

Officers are called to at least one incident a week and crews carry out an average of 30 rescues every year.

No interest

THOUSANDS of Londoners don’t understand financial investments – and have signed financial contracts without knowing what they are agreeing to according to new research.

One in six UK adults said they don’t understand monetary terms such as ISA and AER – while a third have signed a financial contract without understanding the terms used.

Loan provider Norton Finance studied 2,000 adults about their knowledge of terms commonly used by banks.
An artist’s map of London? Get lost!

BY LWN REPORTER

This incredibly detailed map of London took ten years to draw—but can you spot the hidden landmarks?

Artist Gareth Wood, 35, spent a decade creating his unique personal view of the capital which is filled with historical references.

It also includes famous landmarks, tributes to art, history and culture and symbols of contemporary life.

The 116cm x 91cm masterpiece has references to music venues, local communities and major events such as the Olympic Games, the recession and the July 7 terror attacks.

His attention to detail is breathtaking and people spend hours examining Gareth’s maps trying to work out the place or event he is trying to reference.

The map has now been accepted by three national collections—including the British Library, which described it as “one of the most personal pieces of cartography” ever seen.

Copies are also on display in the Museum of London and in the Museum and Art Gallery in Bristol, his second other home city.

Gareth, of Bristol, said: “The London Map is much more of a personal exploration and there are a lot more references in the map to events and personal experiences.

“A friend of mine was hit by a car outside Mile End tube station. There are also major events like the 7/7 London bombings and the Olympic bid that are included.

“The maps in general are very contemporary and have layers of information.

“There are lots of nods to music venues—there is so much going on in there.”

He explained: “The method I use when mapping is I live in the place—there is a process in the background with how I build my art work.

“I am at my happiest when I am working on my maps. The process just completely takes over and I get lost in what I am doing.”

Gareth previously spent 450 hours hand drawing an ink map of Bristol—including some of its best known landmarks and buildings.

“The Bristol map was very much a surface exploration of the city,” he said.

“It references the major landmarks and places in the city that people know.”

Tom Harper, a map curator at The British Library, said: “The map is one of the most personal pieces of cartography I have ever seen. It goes to show just how essential maps are in drawing a bond between who we are and the places we inhabit.”

An exhibition of Gareth’s works, named Get Lost, is taking place next month at the Palm Tree Gallery on Portobello Road.

A limited number of London Town art prints are available to collectors at www.fullermaps.com

Some of the references to be found in Gareth Wood’s map

- Big Ben in Westminster
- The Shard, pictured
- The Tate Modern on the south bank
- The London Eye, pictured
- Battersea Power Station
- The Serpentine in Hyde Park
- Tower of London
- HMS Belfast, pictured
- Cutty Sark
- The Square Mile
- Peregrine Falcon over Parliament Hill
- The Millennium Dome
- The Aylesbury Estate in Camberwell
- Cycle Superhighway
- Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, pictured
- Canals of Little Venice
A T E E N A G E R shone a laser pen at a police helicopter after becoming bored when he lost his internet connection.

At Hammersmith Youth Court the 16 year old was warned that he been older he would have been jailed for the “deliberate and persistent” attack.

The teen shone the £5 pen at the police chopper for more than five minutes, causing the pilot to be dazzled and having to stop what he was doing.

The court was told that the boy, who had just turned 16, was playing with his PlayStation remotely with friends and got bored when the internet cut off.

He had bought the pen to play with his cat, but was surprised when he shone it at the helicopter and saw that it had reached it. Police were sent to the location where the laser was coming from and found him in his room. The boy admitted recklessly or negligently endangering an aircraft and apologised for his actions. He was planning to meet the helicopter crew to say sorry.

District Judge Richard Blake said: “I was playing my PlayStation, when the internet was cut off and so I couldn’t play with my friends. So I got bored!”

Mr Simpson added: “He told police, ‘I didn’t think it would reach the helicopter, but it did and I apologise’.

‘He had shone it at the helicopter and caused the driver to be dazzled, causing it to have to stop what it was doing. He said, I didn’t realise it would reach, but then I saw the beam touch it”.

Mr Simpson said: “When asked why he did it, the defendant said, ‘to see if it would reach’. He was asked whether it was deliberate, and he said, ‘I didn’t know it would do any harm’.”

Mr Simpson added that the pilot had said it was “persistent, deliberate attack in excess of five minutes”.

But Andrew Moxon, defending, said that the boy was “full and frank with police” and “extremely remorseful” for his actions.

In summing up, District Judge Blake said: “You apologised to the police for your actions and you have again apologised in court.

‘This is a very serious offence. Unusually whilst it carries a maximum of five years in the crown court, my powers are much more limited in the youth court.”

In serving the boy with a youth referral order, Judge Blake said: “You will have to do 15 hours of reparation, attend a thinking course, engage in constructive work. A suggestion has been made that arrangements may be made for you to meet the helicopter crew and explain yourself.”

The boy said he was sorry to the “pilot, the police and the court and everyone who is involved,” adding that he “though it was cool” to have a laser pen, but has “learned his lesson”.

The boy’s parents were also ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £20, which will be paid at a rate of £5 per week.

New figure suggest that UK Pilots are dealing with an average of three laser incidents every day.

A total of 1,439 laser incidents were reported at UK airports in 2015, with the largest number of cases, 121, occurring at Heathrow airport. In February, a Virgin Atlantic flight was forced to return to Heathrow when the co-pilot reported feeling unwell after a laser was shone at the plane.

Earlier this year, following a similar incident, the British Airline Pilots Association said laser pointers should be classed as offensive weapons.

It is illegal to shine a light at a plane “so as to dazzle the pilot”, but not an offence to own or carry a laser.

The union says they are “incredibly dangerous”, and could blind pilots.

Former pilot and member of the pilot’s union Dave Smith told the BBC that legislation on lasers – first introduced in 2010 – should be much tougher.

“The law from 2010 is just an offence of shining the laser into the cockpit, but of course that is very difficult to prove,” he said.

BALPA is calling for sales of all but the lowest power devices to be regulated.

“Lasers should be specifically included in the offensive weapons legislation so that if someone is found to be carrying a laser without good reason then they are treated in the same way as if they are carrying a knife,” a spokeswoman added.
Sadiq Khan says he feels “like the boy who has won the golden ticket” as he begins his first official day in charge at City Hall.

The new mayor is met by a pack of photographers as he hops off the Tube on his way into work, before holding a series of meetings with his new team.

In a canny political move, he then meets with Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn to quell speculation of a rift with the party’s top brass.

“There is no such thing as a glorious defeat”, he tells the Islington MP, as he warns that Labour must appeal to Tory voters.

MONDAY

In his first policy announcement, Sadiq introduces a one-hour ‘hopper’ fare for bus passengers. The move will cut the cost of travel for millions of Londoners on low incomes, he says, echoing his well-worn election mantra: “My dad drove the country in a bus and transport in London has always been a big part of my life.”

Attention then turns global as the mayor convenes with presidents to gloss over the fact that he is the first mayor with a price tag of £4,950, covers a range of restricted items – which include £14,000 in cash, a meat hammer and dog shampoo. Top of the list are pickled gherkins and a fashion belt made of bullet casings are also among the items seized from hand luggage.

Meanwhile, top of the most confiscated list is a snow globe, followed by Harrods and Fortnum and Mason jams and spreads, and toiletries.

Also in the top ten is Nutella chocolate spread, Marmite and fluffy handcuffs – with an average of two pairs taken by snarking security each month.

The list followed a YouGov survey of more than 2,000 Brits which found that 3 per cent – roughly one in eight – have had an item confiscated at an airport.

“Snow globes continue to be a favourite souvenir, perhaps as a paper weight for the business travellers who make up more than half of our passengers.”

“Unfortunately, these and other liquid items aren’t allowed on board and it’s best to pack them safely in the hold luggage.”

The list followed a YouGov survey of more than 2,000 Brits which found that 13 per cent – roughly one in eight – have had an item confiscated at an airport.

New arthritis breakthrough

An artificial cartilage made on a 3D printer could be available in the next decade – offering hope for millions of arthritis sufferers.

The synthetic tissue is strong and flexible and can even help damaged cells regrow, relieving excruciating pain from damaged joints, say experts at Imperial College London.

It could even speed up recovery from injury – such as that suffered by England football star Wayne Rooney.

“The basic material mimics the shock-absorbing and load-bearing qualities of real cartilage,” said the researchers.

They are now hoping to use it to develop an artificial cartilage disc between vertebrae.

Developer Professor Julian Jones said: “Bio-glass has been around since the 1960s, originally developed around the time of the Vietnam War to help heal bones of veterans damaged in conflict. Our research shows that a new flexible version of this material could be used as cartilage like material.”

At least 6 million people in Britain suffer from osteoarthritis which is caused by wear and tear of joints, say experts, the cartilage that cushions movement is worn away.

Sadiq’s first week as new London Mayor

A beauty blogger painted her face red for the day to raise awareness of a common but little known skin condition called rosacea.

Sarah Jagger, 37, pictured, took to the streets of London to ask people about their experiences with the condition, which makes skin look flushed. One in ten Brits suffer from the illness, but only one in 600 are actually diagnosed each year.

Sarah, who suffers from rosacea herself, works as a beauty blogger and make-up artist and said she spends a lot of time covering up her own condition, but now she wants to make people more aware of it.

Picture: SWNS

Experts offer the hole truth

A GIANT sinkhole that opened up outside a London church last week may have been caused by “chalk dissolution,” according to an expert.

Dr Mark Cowley, a Chartered Geologist and Scientist, said the sinkhole found in Greenwich was a “classic example” of chalk dissolution.

He said: “Generally sinkholes are what are caused by a dissolution of minerals in the chalk, which is highly susceptible to dissolution by natural groundwater percolating through fissures and joints.

“This dissolution can create three common types of structures within the chalk, grouped together under the generic term ‘dissolution features.’

“These can be either sinkholes – depressions at the ground caused by the collapse of overlying chalk or superficial deposits into underground cavities created by dissolution, solution pipes or swallow holes.”

“Swallow holes can suddenly occur due to water flowing from leaking mains supply, damaging drains or poorly constructed soakaway systems.”

They’ve got a ticket to ride

A PILAR of newlyweds surprised their guests on their big day by organising transport to the reception – by train.

Holly and Ben McHone-Gibbs, 30, invited their entire wedding party to join them on a 2.34pm Southeastern train at the wedding reception.

The party of 70 were handed train tickets after the couple said their vows at St Stephen’s Church in Dulwich before they made their way to the Brockwell Lido for the reception.

When they arrived at the Sydenham Hill station, the group were treated to a pre-recorded message on the customer information screens which told rail users how to follow their way to the Brockwell Lido for the reception.

The group were delighted to find that the South Eastern train was on time, and the carriage was decorated for the celebration.

They travelled on the train two stops to Herne Hill and the journey took just four minutes.
H E was the pioneering poet who catalogued the grim realities of ‘Chickentown’ England and brought an ageing generation a new generation.


The classical ensemble, set up by maestro Robert Ames and Hugh Brun, plays the starring role at the centre of the band’s latest masterwork. Based in Covent Garden, the award-winning orchestra provides the lush sonic backdrop to Radiohead’s ambitious new songs.

It’s not the first time the orchestra has strayed away from its classical roots, having collaborated with the likes of Arcade Fire, Foals, Beck and Goldfrapp in recent years. They first struck up a relationship with Radiohead through Greenwood, who teamed up with the orchestra to compose the original score for Paul Thomas Anderson’s 2012 film The Master.

But A Moon Shaped Pool, which was received with huge acclaim by ravenous fans last week, will bring the LCO to a whole new audience.

“The London Contemporary Orchestra has become one of Britain’s brightest beacons for new music,’ judges at the Royal Philharmonic Society Music Awards said of the ensemble.

“Its repertoire is adventurous yet it attracts sell-out crowds to extraordinary venues and has a remarkable online following. It nurtures new audiences, forges fruitful alliances across the stylistic spectrum and champions challenging scores with virtuosic flair.”

The pair said they wanted to create an unusual community project and give Londoners “something different” to enjoy over the summer. And the beach became the venue to help good causes as well, with several local charities set to cash in on funds raised from ticket sales during the event.

“We are very pleased to have been granted a full licence by Lambeth council and are really excited about bringing a fully interactive Miami beach to the heart of Brixton,” Mr Fison said.

“We hope that it will be an exciting and enjoyable experience for the local community, while also raising good funds for good causes.”

The unlikely party venue will open between 6pm and 11pm every day, and between 1pm and midnight on Saturdays, with tickets available from £4.

Will TV trash Euro debate?

CHANNEL 4 has commissioned the first broadcaster to make a pitch in the In-Out Euro vote – by bringing back Eurotrash to remind UK viewers what they won’t be missing if they vote to leave the EU or will they?

The show, which won a big British following for revealing the absolute worst of Continental TV, is to be given a one-off return on the eve of the referendum on June 23.

Although Channel 4 denies that the deliberate scheduling of Eurotrash is a bid to assist the Brexit vote, the Leave campaign’s heavy hitters – including Boris Johnson and Kensington MP Victoria Borwick – must be chuffed that viewers are being reminded of the heart of Brixton,” Mr Fison said.

“We hope that it will be an exciting and enjoyable experience for the local community, while also raising good funds for good causes.”

The unlikely party venue will open between 6pm and 11pm every day, and between 1pm and midnight on Saturdays, with tickets available from £4.

London strings along with new Radiohead album

FANS have had to wait five years for the return of Radiohead – one of Britain’s most admired alternative rock bands – but their highly anticipated ninth album has finally appeared.

Hundreds of thousands of London music lovers have downloaded the album, A Moon Shaped Pool, when it was suddenly released on May 8.

Stay up, Brits – these lyrics are mixed with eerie, other-worldly beats – but London musicians are at the heart of the band’s new sound.

The soaring strings that underpin the album are provided

Capital nights

Rhyme that chimes with a new generation

John Cooper Clarke entertains an appreciative audience with witty lyrics

Beach party (in car park)

OUT евро debate?

CHANNEL 4 has commissioned the first broadcaster to make a pitch in the In-Out Euro vote – by bringing back Eurotrash to remind UK viewers what they won’t be missing if they vote to leave the EU or will they?

The show, which won a big British following for revealing the absolute worst of Continental TV, is to be given a one-off return on the eve of the referendum on June 23.

Although Channel 4 denies that the deliberate scheduling of Eurotrash is a bid to assist the Brexit vote, the Leave campaign’s heavy hitters – including Boris Johnson and Kensington MP Victoria Borwick – must be chuffed that viewers are being reminded of the heart of Brixton,” Mr Fison said.

“We hope that it will be an exciting and enjoyable experience for the local community, while also raising good funds for good causes.”

The unlikely party venue will open between 6pm and 11pm every day, and between 1pm and midnight on Saturdays, with tickets available from £4.

Will TV trash Euro debate?

CHANNEL 4 has commissioned the first broadcaster to make a pitch in the In-Out Euro vote – by bringing back Eurotrash to remind UK viewers what they won’t be missing if they vote to leave the EU or will they?

The show, which won a big British following for revealing the absolute worst of Continental TV, is to be given a one-off return on the eve of the referendum on June 23.

Although Channel 4 denies that the deliberate scheduling of Eurotrash is a bid to assist the Brexit vote, the Leave camp’s heavy hitters – including Boris Johnson and Kensington MP Victoria Borwick – must be chuffed that viewers will be confused to remember just how dreadful is much of EU popular culture.

The show, hosted by Antoine de Caunes, pictured, originally ran on C4 from 1993 to 2007 and pulled in three million viewers a week, substantially more than the audience of 900,000 that C4 averages in the Friday night Eurotrash slot.

London strings along with new Radiohead album

FANS have had to wait five years for the return of Radiohead – one of Britain’s most admired alternative rock bands – but their highly anticipated ninth album has finally appeared.

Hundreds of thousands of London music lovers have downloaded the album, A Moon Shaped Pool, when it was suddenly released on May 8.

Stay up, Brits – these lyrics are mixed with eerie, other-worldly beats – but London musicians are at the heart of the band’s new sound.

The soaring strings that underpin the album are provided

Capital nights
Capital nights

EREMY Corbyn has been warned to beware political death by puppetry as ITV prepares to launch a new series of its Newzoids show with the aim of ridiculing the Labour leader, writes Geoff Baker.

Mr Corbyn is among the figures who will be remorselessly mocked and derided when the topical animation satire show reveals its new puppets later this year and allies fear that a rubber drubbing could damage him more than any vicious exchange at Prime Minister's Question Time.

It seems that once a TV puppet show makes a mockery of political figures, viewers can never again take them seriously and Newzoids could hurt Mr Corbyn's standing among the figures, viewers can never again take them seriously and Newzoids could hurt Mr Corbyn's standing among the figures, viewers can never again take them seriously and Newzoids could hurt Mr Corbyn's standing among the figures, viewers can never again take them seriously and Newzoids could hurt Mr Corbyn's standing among the figures, viewers can never again take them seriously and Newzoids could hurt Mr Corbyn's standing among the figures, viewers can never again take them seriously and Newzoids could hurt Mr Corbyn's standing among the figures.

Prime Minister John Major was said to be none too keen on his depiction, a tediously-grey puppet obsessed with eating peas, and Home Secretary Kenneth Baker was not exactly knocked out with delight to be parodied in the form of a slug.

Friends of Lib-Dem leader Lord Steel have long debated whether his depiction, as a teenage weeny puppet, damaged his chances of leading the party when Spitting Image constantly scripted him as whipping boy to suave rival David Owen, and although Lord Steel has denied that it hurt his career, his wife claimed otherwise.

"If he only be done for a laugh but as politicians from the days of Spitting Image know, TV puppets can cause a lot of grief to your aspirations at Westminster."

Although both Margaret Thatcher and Norman Tebbit were said to be rather fond of their spots on Spitting Image, on which they often came across as bullies and tyrants, other politicians used to dread the show.

In her book Tales From The Tap End, Lady Steel wrote: “David was almost fatally wounded as a political figure by the representation of him week after week on the satirical TV programme Spitting Image as the puppet in Owen’s pocket.

“The caricature was well short of the truth but it was what people saw, and what they believed. I could hardly bear to watch it and often left the room. David always sat through it.

“I suppose he needed to know what they were saying and his marvellous, resilient humour even allowed him to see the funny side.

“But for me, loving him and knowing his toughness and determination, it was deeply wounding to see him so ridiculed.”

Mr Corbyn has been warned, as have other celebs due to find themselves newly “zoided”, including Adele, Donald Trump, Zayn Malik and Danny Dyer.

Watch out Jeremy, Newzoids are out to get you

Where now, Sharon asks

SHARON OSBOURNE has finally taken to social media to thank fans for their support after her split from husband Ozzy.

The Talk co-host opened up on the show about how she had been coping after she confirmed her divorce from her husband of 33 years, and said she thought looking at tweets would be “salt in the wound”.

In a tweet on Wednesday, she wrote: “Huge thanks to everyone who has been so supportive to me with kind words and wishes. I wish there was another word I could use than thank you.”

Speaking on The Talk, she said: “I have no idea what I am going to be doing for the rest of my life. I don’t know where I am going, who I’m going with and I just need time to think about what I really want for the rest of my life because this is really like getting to the last chapter of the book and I want to think about it very carefully.”

Capital nights

REVIEW

Telegram ■ The Pearl Harts ■ Elf Kid ■ Mullally

The Lexington, Islington

OT only did this pumper gig at the Lexington celebrate the promise of four new acts destined for great things – it shone a bright light on the brilliant work of the capital’s supportive musical community in helping to put them on the path to success.

Smooth neo-soul singer Mullally, audacious grime artist Elf Kid, chug-rock duo The Pearl Harts and psych four-piece Telegram have all received a helping hand from the Emerging Artists Fund – a scheme set up by charity Help Musicians UK and indie label Pledge Music to support up-and-coming bands.

This was a chance to show their appreciation for the project, which pumped thousands of pounds into London’s new music scene last year.

The gig was truly reflective of the capital’s diverse and joyous mix of musical tastes – Lewisham rapper Elf Kid, joined by able accomplice Blakey, leapt across the tiny Lexington stage spitting tales from the streets of South London, but minutes later the same crowd was lapping up the rough-and-ready gutter rock of female duo The Pearl Harts.

However, it is headliners Telegram that have made the biggest leap since cashing in on the EAF scheme.

They described their return to the Lexington as a “spiritual homecoming” and wasted no time in raising the roof, leaving the walls of the Islington venue shaken from pillar to post.

The band’s superb debut album, Operator, was released to much fanfare in February – and they recreated its best moments here, channeling the raw energy of The Libertines in a lung-busting set that included a pin-point cover of Bowie’s Heroes.

If music fans ever needed confirmation that London is the breeding ground for bright young talent, then this was it.

In her book Tales From The Tap End, Lady Steel wrote: “David was almost fatally wounded as a political figure by the representation of him week after week on the satirical TV programme Spitting Image as the puppet in Owen’s pocket.

“The caricature was well short of the truth but it was what people saw, and what they believed. I could hardly bear to watch it and often left the room. David always sat through it.

“I suppose he needed to know what they were saying and his marvellous, resilient humour even allowed him to see the funny side.

“But for me, loving him and knowing his toughness and determination, it was deeply wounding to see him so ridiculed.”

Mr Corbyn has been warned, as have other celebs due to find themselves newly “zoided”, including Adele, Donald Trump, Zayn Malik and Danny Dyer.

Rich rewards for artists’ fund

Application still open for entry

September 2016

Apply online to the College with:

- 1 in 4 grades at A* B (2015)
- 15 A levels with 100% pass rate (2015)
- 85% progression rate to university
- 32 students gaining places at Oxford & Cambridge (over 15 years)
- A new canteen & Starbucks (built in 2014)

Don’t forget - if you already hold an offer for another college, you can hold as many college offers as you wish (options are good)

Apply online:

www.sfx.ac.uk

SFX College, 10 Malwood Road, London SW12 8EN

JACK DIXON
The Windsors: is anyone amused?

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

EXPERT red faces at the annual general meeting of the Royal Television Society next week if its Patron turns up.

Its members must be praying that he doesn’t.

Prince Charles has been royal patron of the RTS since 1997 and his praise for and support of its members has always been keenly welcomed at its get-togethers.

But he may have changed his mind now, since the start of The Windsors on Channel 4.

Insiders admit it could be “most embarrassing” if Charles attends the AGM on May 24 in the light of The Windsors – and even more so if he brings his wife.

For in the 4 soap opera the Duchess of Cornwall has been lampooned to levels never seen before on British TV. Even by the standards of Spitting Image. The Windsors is so far the knuckle it’s exposed to the bone.

Which is a bit of a poke in the eye for the Duchess, not least as she and Charles have hosted parties for RTS members at their own home, Clarence House.

The Duchess could be forgiven for spitting in the punch and adding Sennacot to the hors d’oeuvres if the RTS comes knocking for another party; for in The Windsors she is depicted as:

- A gin-drenched chain-smoker who drinks cocktails at breakfast.
- A poisonous witch determined to stop William becoming king.
- The arch-enemy of the Duchess of Cambridge whom she constantly attempts to undermine.
- Wearing stockings and suspenders for examinations by her gynaecologist at the dining table in Kensington Palace.
- Deliberately becoming pregnant at the age of 68 in order that her child will be monarch.

The Windsors also depicts Prince Edward as an alcoholic has-been, Princess Beatrice, Princess Eugenie and Prince Harry as half-wits, with the latter being unable to even read. The Duke of Edinburgh is painted as a foul-mouthed tyrant and Prince Charles himself is played by Harry Enfield as a simpleton.

However, the Royal Family may take comfort from the official view of figures for the outrageous comedy. Although C4 is crowing delight that The Windsors drew a first week audience of all of 1.7 million watching the show, another way of looking at it is that 62.5 million couldn’t be bothered.

The reactions of those who have seen the show are mixed. Many took to Twitter after the first episode to post that they were “howling with laughter at the sheer audacity of the soap, calling it “gloriously silly” and “like Made In Chelsea for the royal family”.

Others have howled their indignation and fury that the royals could be so cruelly mocked, calling it “completely unfunny”, “a royal comedy disaster”, “utter rubbish” and “looks set to be the worst TV show of all time”.

Adam Postans, Daily Mirror TV critic, wrote: “It took Prince Charles, played by Harry Enfield, who must be wondering how on earth he’s now lumbered with The Windsors on his glittering CV, to deliver some common sense: ‘What happens in the Duchy of Cornwall stays in the Duchy of Corn-well’.

Postans concluded: “Channel 4, he’s speaking to you. “The hardest act to pull off in television is making a show that’s so bad it’s good. “So, fair play to Channel 4 for at least giving it a crack.”

Although the writers, George Jeffrie and Bert Tyler-Moore, are staying tight-lipped on whether The Queen will also be scandalously sent-up in future episodes, they are making their excuses in the event that the show has upset Charles and Camilla.

“It’s not an observational documentary, remember it’s our fictional take on the royals,” says Tyler-Moore. “We’ve painted our Camilla as an out-and-out cartoon villain, which isn’t the public perception of the real Camilla. We imbued her with that ludicrous role because we thought it would be fun to have an arch, soap style villain.

“In the case of Camilla, there is the whole idea, often, in the papers, pieces saying ‘Maybe we should skip a generation and sideline Charles and Camilla, and have Will and Kate as the next king and queen’. So I suppose we came up with the idea of our Camilla as the villain because, if she believes that press, she might get jealous, and hence try and plot to undermine Will and Kate. That’s an invention on our part, really, for the purposes of comedy and satire.”

One suspects The Windsors may not quite be seen like that at Kensington Palace.

Channel 4’s bawdy satire of the Royal Family, The Windsors, may not be going down very well as a viewing option at Clarence House.

THE Duke of Kent was delighted after giving an oxygen mask for pets to the fire service which saved the life of a dog on its first day.

The device was used during a house fire call in Sevenoaks at the end of last month – less than 24 hours after it was installed on the engine.

Sevenoaks Watch Manager Danny Barrett said they used thermal imaging cameras to discover the family was not at home, but their dog had been overcome with smoke.

The hero fireman said: “We quickly established that the family were not at home but that their dog had been overcome with smoke. Meanwhile, the resident had returned home to discover her home in flames and feared the worst for her pet – but firefighters had other plans.”

Duke of hazard: royal donation is a life-saver

“They took the dog to safety and treated her with oxygen using a special pet mask that had only arrived on the fire station that morning.”

The Duke said: “I am delighted to hear that the animal oxygen mask that I donated with the help of Smokey Paws was used to save the life of a family pet so soon after it had been delivered.”

Smokey Paws is a charity set up to equip all fire service in the UK with life-saving pet oxygen masks with donations from the public and businesses.
STAMFORD & BRIDGET’S
BIG DAY OUT!

Join us for a day of fun on the Stamford Bridge pitch!

Monday 30TH May
12PM - 5PM

TICKETS JUST £4
with proceeds going to the Chelsea FC Foundation

www.chelseafc.com/tickets
There are few musical theatre stars these days who can claim to have had a musical written for them... in Victoria.

Picture: Joanne Davidson

Marti: It’s such a privilege to sing these songs

BY NICKY SWEETLAND

Here are few musical theatre stars these days who can claim to have had a musical written for them by Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber, writes Nicky Sweetland.

There is one however, who still occasionally performs the iconic songs which were written with her personality and voice in mind. She said: “They’re wonderful songs and I feel privileged to sing them really and also to be known for them, which is even more wonderful, I think. I was such a lucky girl that he [Andrew Lloyd Webber] wrote them for me, I still can’t get over it.”

The concert at the St James features a whole host of stars, who will perform songs from musicals past and present. The list of performers will include Natasha Barnes, who has hit the headlines recently as Sheridan Smith’s understudy in Funny Girl at the Savoy Theatre, Kinky Boots’ Amy Ross and Shoe Boot’s Rebecca Trehearn. As such a stalwart of musical theatre and having performed the songs on so many previous occasions, I ask if she will still be nervous?

“I’m always petrified and always worried about it. I think the day that I’m not is the day that I stop. “I keep you on your toes, but I’m always petrified and always shaking like a leaf.”

Sunday at the Musicals is in the opulent and elegant studio space at the St James, where the performers are literally within touching distance of the audience.

Having played some of the biggest venues around the globe, Marti tells me that this type of setting gives the singers a different feel to their performance. It brings something else into it, because they are so close. It makes it so intimate. It’s almost like you’re doing it one to one and it’s such a lovely venue.”

Sunday at the Musicals is at the St James Studio on June 5. If you would like further details, you can visit the website the website stjamestheatre.co.uk

Talking of the town

Allegro comes to Playhouse

The Rodgers and Hammerstein musical Allegro has its European premiere this summer when the acclaimed team of Thom Southerland and Danielle Tarento stage the classic show at the Southwark Playhouse.

With an epic score by Richard Rodgers and a groundbreaking – for its time – book by Oscar Hammerstein II, Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Allegro opened in 1947 and now, almost 70 years later, will finally get its professional European premiere.

The show is set in 1905 in a small mid-western town where the wife of a local doctor gives birth to a baby boy, Joseph Taylor Jr. Allegro chronicles nearly four decades in the life of this average Joe – through his childhood, from college dorm to marriage altar, and on to his own medical career; from the tranquility of his hometown to the hectic din of big city life and a mid-life discovery of who he is and what life is truly about. Ultimately he learns the most important lessons of all – the value of family, that money isn’t everything and that home really is where the heart is.

Allegro, with music by Richard Rodgers, book and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, was their third collaboration for the stage following Oklahoma! and Carousel. The new production at Southwark Playhouse will be produced by Tarento and directed by Southerland, the award-winning team behind Grease, Grand Hotel, Titanic, Parade and Mabel.

Southerland said: “It’s wonderful to have been given permission to look at this show, to bring it to life and to let audiences who love Rodgers and Hammerstein’s music listen to a score that was written in the glory days, the golden age of Broadway music.”

Southwark is working on a new adaptation of the book and the production will have brand new orchestrations.

Allegro will open for a six-week season in the Large at Southwark Playhouse from Friday, August 5 and run until Saturday, September 10. For more details you can visit southwarkplayhouse.co.uk
World-Famous singer and songwriter Marcella Detroit revealed recently that she would love to work with British superstar Adele. writes Nicky Sweetland.

The celebrated performer, who has previously collaborated with some of the music industry’s biggest names, including Eric Clapton and Sir Elton John, has just re-released her seventh album, entitled Gray Matterz, following the huge success of the first single, England Calling.

Marcella said: “I know Adele doesn’t work with that many other artists, but I would love to work with her and to write with her.”

Perhaps best known to UK audiences as one half of 90s band Shakespears Sister, Detroit is a prodigious songwriter and has enjoyed an enviable career, which has seen her achieve almost unparalleled success and longevity in the fickle world of music. Her latest album sees her return to a more dance music sound, Sideways.

“I just sat down to write after three or four months of not even writing, because I was completely disillusioned by the music business. I just thought do you know what? I’m just going to have fun with this. I’m just going to do what I feel and the first song was like a dance song. I wanted to make it more about songs and less about production and give the background of it as more of a dance arena and that’s what happened.”

Once the flow of creativity had begun again, Marcella quickly found the rhythm of her writing had returned.

“I just kept writing songs and after about five I decided that it was fairly cohesive and a good vehicle for what I’m trying to say, so I decided to do an album. It was just inspired by things that were going on in my life at the time. I really write autobiographically.”

The single England Calling was released at the end of last year and was inspired by the wealth of opportunities that have presented themselves to the artist. Not only is Marcella’s husband a Londoner, but many of her career highs have been the result of achievements on this side of the Atlantic. I asked Marcella if England really is still calling?

“It keeps calling me! That’s what inspired the song. I was thinking about my long, illustrious career and how all of the major transitions and opportunities have come through England.”

One career highlight was in 1992, when the single Stay by Shakespears Sister maintained the number one spot in the UK charts for eight consecutive weeks. Marcella co-wrote and sang lead vocals on the anthem, which can still regularly be heard on radio stations across the world. She said: “I feel really grateful that something I did is so lauded. I feel grateful, honoured and humbled by it and I still perform it. It’s a special song about an interesting and fantastic time in my life.”

At 63, the hard working musician shows no signs of slowing down and quite apart from Adele, would love to do some more collaborations. Also on her list are the celebrated record producer Mark Ronson and the multi-award-winning Sam Smith. You can get more information about Detroit’s album Gray Matterz on her website marcella-detroit.com

Clifton to star in Marilyn musical

STRICTLY Come Dancing star Joanne Clifton is to appear as movie icon Marilyn Monroe in a new production of Norma Jeane: The Musical, which opens at The Lost Theatre later this month.

It promises to show a side of Monroe that to many is still a mystery. Norma Jeane: The Musical casts a beady eye on the dark side of fame and fortune. The show opens on May 30, with a press night gala on June 1, which would’ve been Marilyn’s 90th birthday.

Joanne is most famous for her appearances on Strictly Come Dancing, where she has partnered Scott Mills, Russell Grant and Harry Judd, with whom she won the Christmas Special in 2015. Her recent work includes Burn The Floor (Australia and Japan, 2014) and the UK premiere of Irving Berlin’s The Face The Music (Ye Olde Rose and Crown, 2015), for which she was nominated for an Off West End Award. Joanne is joined by Sarah Rose Denton (Welcome to New York, Hard Rock Cafe) as Norma Jeane, Joseph Bader (Der Rosenkavalier, Royal Albert Hall) as Marion, Darrie Gardner (Profumo The Musical, Waterloo East Theatre) as Ida, and Maggie Robson (A Catered Affair, London Theatre Workshop) as Gladys.

Is that Adele calling, Marcella?

Marcella Detroit has enjoyed another creative spell
Elvis takes a Detour back to the Palladium

I t’s been “an absolute age” since Elvis Costello played at the London Palladium. “I don’t keep track of these things really,” the London-born singer-songwriter adds. “I suppose the last time I was there was when I was in showbiz college, and Brucie and I were presenting Beat The Clock.”

He is, of course, joking, and showing his age (Bruce Forsyth presented a game segment called Beat The Clock on Sunday Night At The London Palladium back in the late fifties and early sixties, in case the reference was lost on you). By the time this interview was published, Costello – who is 61 – will have started his stint at the world-famous venue. When we meet, however, he wonders whether they’ve got some “ghostly” performance on before his one-man show (of sorts), Detour, kicks off. That wasn’t the case though – it was Bryan Ferry. “Oh well, I take it all back,” Costello says when he discovers this. “I’ll certainly be lowering the tone after Bryan, Lord Ferry of Tyne and Wear.”

The ‘of sorts’ in his one-man show is on account of the fact Costello’s joined at various points by guests, whether on the giant TV screen behind him or in person. To say any more would be to ruin some of the surprises in store, but it’s safe to say Megan and Rebecca Lovell of US roots and country band Larkin Poe make an appearance. “It’s really great to have their support,” he says. “It’s great to sing three-part harmonies with them, and have their musical backing. It comes as a jolt to the audience. The other great thing about Rebecca and Megan is they’re completely unemotional about my repertoire, because of their youth.

“They have no hangaiking to hear Oliver’s Army, because it was in the charts 35 years ago, or any of those old songs. They like things because they think they’re good, and they make some left field suggestions because of that. As a result, we’ve got a really decent repertoire to play with.”

The rest of the evening is taken up by Costello introducing the songs and telling stories linking the whole show together. “It’s anecdotal, it’s not ‘An Evening With’ or anything like that, but there are some slides,” he says. “It’s not rambling, but it doesn’t take a direct route either.”

He says no one coming to the show to hear his greatest hits – and there are many – is going to leave disappointed. The key is not so much the well-known songs he’s playing, but how he gets there.

ANDY WELCH
**Spring vegetable salad with falafel and feta**

**Serves 4-6**

You may want to make extra falafel to serve another time as a snack, plus you are likely to start munching on them once they are cooked – so I have allowed a little extra mix here!

**Ingredients for the broad bean falafel:**
- 200g podded weight of fresh broad beans (unshelled); 1 large clove of garlic, peeled and crushed; 1 tbsp ground coriander; 1 tsp ground cumin; 1 tbsp chopped parsley; 1 tbsp chopped coriander leaves; a good pinch of cayenne pepper; 4-5 tbsp dry white breadcrumbs; salt; vegetable or corn oil for frying.

**For the dressing:**
- 1 lemon; 4-5 tbsp olive oil.

**To serve:**
- A handful or so of coriander, mint and parsley leaves, washed and dried; 30-40g podded weight of broad beans, cooked (if they are large, you can shell them if you wish); 30-40g podded weight of peas, cooked; broken into nuggets; 1tsp chopped dill; 1 tbsp chopped parsley; 1 tbsp finely chopped; 1 tbsp chopped coriander leaves; a good pinch of cayenne pepper; 4-5 tbsp dry white breadcrumbs; salt; vegetable or corn oil for frying.

The juice of 1 lemon; 4-5 tbsp olive oil.

To serve:
- A handful or so of coriander, mint and parsley leaves, washed and dried; 30-40g podded weight of broad beans, cooked (if they are large, you can shell them if you wish); 100-120g good quality feta, broken into nuggets.

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

ROBS Spurrier realised a childhood dream when he started The Bishop’s Park Farmers’ and Fine Food Market.

Incredibly he did this when he was just 18 years old.

At 14 he was working on a meat stall at a local farmers’ market, having been volunteered by his grandmother.

He also worked in the school holidays on a farm, which gave him even more knowledge of meat.

Ross decided at 18 that he wanted to start the hugely popular local Fulham market – it has proved so popular that it has gone from being fortnightly to once a week.

After a survey was undertaken of local residents and showed an overwhelming demand.

Ross really enjoys meeting the customers and building a rapport with them, just as he did when he was a child helping on that market stall.

The market has expanded rapidly from 14 regular stalls to 25 now, some of which are honoured with The Great Taste Gold Star Award, he is proud to say.

Ross tells me that he feels privileged to have such huge support from local residents and he especially enjoys staging special Christmas events, which hesays are massively popular.

Why not pop along to The Bishop’s Park Farmers’ and Fine Food Market next Sunday between 10am and 2pm and see for yourself why its traders have won so many awards. For more information you can visit the website – *rmsmarkets.co.uk*.
MOST WANTED LANDLORDS!!!
020 8684 3456

Home Lets have been situated in Thornton Heath High Street for over 30 years and its trained staff has over 70 years of letting experience between them.

The company and its staff are members of A.R.L.A (Association Of Residential Letting Agents) and N.A.L.S (National Approved Letting Scheme) giving you peace of mind.

We currently require 1, 2 and 3 bedroom properties for awaiting tenants and have a range of services that can be tailor made to suit most landlords. From a Let only service through to Full management.

Ring now for a free market valuation of your property.

TROUBLESHOOTING
If you have a problem tenancy or a problem tenant or even an agent that is causing you a head ache. Give us a ring to see if we can be of assistance.

LANDLORDS
FOR ALL YOUR LETTING REQUIREMENTS
FREE RENTAL VALUATIONS, PROPERTY ALWAYS REQUIRED

TENANTS
PHONE TO RECEIVE FULL LIST BY POST, FAX OR MAIL.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES
• REFURBISHMENTS • ARRANGING REPAIRS • NEGOTIATING INSURANCE CLAIMS • ADVICE AND FORMS FOR ANY COURT ACTION FOR POSSESSION AND WARRANT OF POSSESSION

HOME LETS
RESIDENTIAL LETTING AGENT
53 HIGH STREET, THORNTON HEATH, SURREY CR7 8RW
residential auction sale
295 vacant and investment properties to include

17 Balham High Road, Balham SW12 9AJ
By order of Receivers
Freehold Building arranged to provide 4x Retail units and 6 flats above. Retail unit subject to a Lease, 6 flats subject to a Tenancy, 2 flats vacant. Producing £65,400 p.a. (equivalent).

2 Lot 216 Guide Price £1.8M - £1.9M
27 & 27A Oldridge Road & 1 Picketts Street, Balham SW12 8PL
By order of Receivers
Freehold Building arranged to provide 3 Flats and 6 letting rooms fully let. Producing £115,000 p.a.

3 Lot 87 Guide Price £1.9M+
1-8 Wigton Place, Kennington SE11 4AN
Freehold site extending to approx. 0.04ha (0.10A). Planning permission for 6 Houses with basements.

4 Lot 68 Guide Price £700,000 - £800,000
68 Mordaunt Street, Clapham North SW9 9RB
By order of Receivers
Freehold Building with rear garden arranged to provide 2 Flats. Each Flat subject to an AST. Producing £35,400 p.a. (equivalent).

5 Lot 117A Guide Price £650,000+
8 Sunny Bank, South Norwood, SE25 4TQ
Freehold detached Building arranged as 5 x 1 bed Flats + 5 x 2 bed Flats. Extending to approx. 0.06ha (0.19A). Fully vacant.

6 Lot 75 Guide Price £1.2M - £1.3M
27, 28 & 29 Battersea Square, Battersea SW11 3RA

7 Lot 13 Guide Price £1.75M+
105A High Street, Fulham SW6 7JL
By order of Receivers
Freehold Building arranged to provide 2 Retail units and 6 Flats. Producing £66,691 p.a. (equivalent).

8 Lot 145 Guide Price £500,000 - £550,000
137A Shareddose Road, New Cross SE14 6RT
By order of a Housing Association
Lot 1: Leasehold RTILGF 2 bed Maisonette with garage. Guide Price £190,000.

9 Lot 108 Guide Price £260,000+
50 Lavender Hill, Battersea SW11 5RH
By order of Receivers
Freehold Building arranged to provide 4x Retail units and 6x Flats above. Retail unit subject to a Lease, 2 flats vacant. Producing £88,400 p.a. (equivalent).

10 Lot 100 Guide Price £700,000
63 Hinley Road, Tooting SW17 9AG
By order of Receivers
Freehold Building with rear garden. Arranged to provide 6 letting rooms occupied on terms unknown.

11 Lot 117 Guide Price £790,000 - £860,000
Thornbury House, 12-16 Elmfield Road, Bromley, Kent BR1 1LR

12 Lot 136 Guide Price £350,000+
Garage to the rear of, 10 Sunny Bank, London SE25 4TG
Lot 75: Freehold single lock-up Garage. Guide Price £9,000+

13 Lot 103 Guide Price £134,000
58 (Lot 61) & 58A (Lot 62) Dornton Road, Balham SW12 9NE
By order of Receivers
Lots 61-62: Two Leasehold Flats each subject to an AST. To be offered individually. Producing £32,400 p.a. from Lot 61 (equivalent). £50,400 p.a. from Lot 62 (equivalent). Guide Price £675,000 - £750,000 & TBA

14 Lot 162 Guide Price £850,000 - £1,050,000
Garages rear of 4 Christchurch Road, Brixton SW2 3EX
Lot 78: Two Freehold single lock-up Garages with Forecourt. To be offered collectively as one lot.

15 Lot 118 Guide Price £300,000+

1. Where a guide price or range of prices is given, that guide is in the minimum price at which, or range of prices within which, the sale may be expected to sell on the date at which the guide price, or range of prices, is published.

2. The reserve price is the minimum price at which the property can be sold. It is both the guide price and the reserve price which may be subject to change up to and including the day of the auction.

Auction sale:
Thursday 26th May 2016
The Cumberland Hotel, Great Cumberland Place, London, W1H 7DL
Catalogue requests: 0208 519 1843 calls charged at £1.50 per minute
For EPC ratings, refer to website

MARCH SALE RESULTS UPDATE - £59.6M RAISED - 79% SOLD

Bid in person Bid online Bid by phone Bid by proxy

START TIME: 10am email: resiauction@allsop.co.uk

online auction catalogue: www.allsop.co.uk

580 London Road, Balham SW12 9NE
Lot 78: Two Leasehold Flats each subject to an AST. To be offered individually. Producing £32,400 p.a. from Lot 61 (equivalent). £50,400 p.a. from Lot 62 (equivalent). Guide Price £675,000 - £750,000 & TBA

Garages rear of 4 Christchurch Road, Brixton SW2 3EX
Lot 78: Two Freehold single lock-up Garages with Forecourt. To be offered collectively as one lot.

Guide Price £300,000+

London Weekly News
23
Jobs

WEEKEND RECEPTIONIST

For a highly motivated individual to join Rambert’s busy reception team at our award-winning new home on London’s South Bank.

As the first point of contact you will provide exceptional customer service to all visitors.

This is a part-time (min 7 hours per week), fixed term post until 18 December 2016.

To apply please complete the application and equal opportunities forms and return before the closing date.

These can be downloaded from our website http://www.rambert.org.uk/about-us/jobs-auditions/wknd-receptionists/

Closing date for applications: 12pm Thursday 19 May 2016

Interviews for short-listed candidates: 12pm Thursday 19 May 2016

This is a part-time (min 7 hours per week), fixed term post until 18 December 2016.

The role is based in our London branch SE15

Job involves collection and deliveries to team at our award-winning new home on London’s South Bank.

This is a part-time (min 7 hours per week), fixed term post until 18 December 2016.

Email: londonweeklynews@londonweeklynews.co.uk

London Weekly News, Yeoman House, 63 Croydon Road, Penge, SE20 7TS

Telephone: 0208 768 4919

CLASSIFICATION

ATTENTION LANDLORDS

We will rent your property from you for 5 years - Guaranteed Rent!

- We will also look after all of the maintenance!

Call Dexter NOW to find out more:

020 8819 1719

www.charitypropertyoptions.co.uk

London Weekly News, FREE ADS

Sixth Floor, Yeoman House, 63 Croydon Road, Penge SE20 7TS
Gardening (Home Serv)

To advertise in this section, please call 020 8768 4921

Protection for maintenance advice and all gardening needs. Competitive rates.
07971 590 475

Roofing & Guttering

ABOUT THE HOUSE BUILDING SOLUTIONS LTD

1 FREE SCREENED

New Roofs - Roof Repairs - Guttering - Fascias - UPVC
All types of Caulk & Sealants
All Minor Repairs on roofs £250
Painting and Decorating
Cll: Ph: 0208 385 8970 / 0711 626 233

GET YOUR GUTTERS ready for spring

Storage & Removals

Man and Van
All types of jobs and budgets
Office & home clearance
Public liability insurance
Free quote: 07764 537007
man4van@outlook.com

MR BEE REMOVALS
From £20 per hour
Reli able men with vans for removals.
Single items to houses, flats, offices and clearance.
Anytime, anywhere.
(Seperare van for rubbish clearance.)
020 3302 2275
07773 673 535
info@mrbeeremovals.com
www.mrbee.com

MAN WITH XXL LUTON VAN
Commercial Removals
1 hour £30
Min 2 hours
GOOD VALUE
Reliable & friendly service
Call James 07961 192 525
0800 211 8623

Off ering only the finest drive and pathway products
Working throughout the UK
See our website for further details
www.globalstoneuk.com

Patio & Drives

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ALL ADVERTISEMENTS

We are dedicated to making your driveway dreams a reality.
With a vast choice of colours and styles to choose from your
design possibilities are virtually limitless. We also undertake
two all types of property improvements. Only the best quality
products are used and we are happy to recommend
materials to suit your property or budget.

To advertise in this section, please call
020 8768 4921

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate filming works to be carried out in the above named road; it made an Order the effect of which prohibits vehicular traffic in the above named road.

2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in Becklow Road.

3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would not be required to be kept open for the purposes and anything done with the permission or at the request of the Authority for the purposes described in the Order shall be deemed to be the purposes of the Order.

4. Any person committing an offence under the provisions of the Order shall be liable to be proceeded against for an offence under the provisions of the Order.

5. The Order will come into operation on the 24th May 2016 and will remain in force until the 24th May 2017.

5. The Order will come into operation on the 24th May 2016 and will remain in force until the 24th May 2017.

6. Works are expected to commence on Tuesday, 24th May 2016 and completed, whichever is the sooner.

The London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham
STREATHAM COMMON NEAR BR
First Floor very very large kitchen/diner, shower/wc, d/g, c/h.

LONDON BOROUGH OF
HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
SECTION 14(1)
(BECKLOW ROAD)

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate filming works to be carried out in the above named road; it made an Order the effect of which prohibits vehicular traffic in the above named road.

2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in Becklow Road.

3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would not be required to be kept open for the purposes and anything done with the permission or at the request of the Authority for the purposes described in the Order shall be deemed to be the purposes of the Order.

4. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.

5. The Order will come into operation on the 24th May 2016 and will be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

6. Works are expected to commence on Tuesday, 24th May 2016 and last for 1 day. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 12th day of May 2016.
Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

Public Notices

Currently used as builders yard.
Gated access, offices, storage, hardstanding, all amenities.
Approx plan size 490M2.

OIRO £995,000
Call 07957 361 988

London Weekly News 25
98 North End Road London SW10 9PR

Application for Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that Mr. Sinha of 24 Shepherd's Bush Road London W11 9LR is applying to HAMMERSMITH & Fulham Council for a new premises licence at: 24 Shepherd's Bush Road London W11 9LR.

The public register where applications are available to be viewed is at the Licensing Service, 14th Floor, City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1. Any person who wishes to make a representation in relation to this application must do so by 26.05.2016 stating the grounds for making any representation and the maximum fine on conviction of such an offence is £5000.

LICENSING ACT 2003
Application for a New Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that Brompton Bicycle Ltd has applied to the City of Westminster for a new premises licence at Wellington Point, 37 Pembroke Road, W8 6FV for the supply of alcohol. The applicant is to permit the sale of retail alcohol.

Any person who wishes to make a representation in relation to this application must do so by 26.05.2016 stating the grounds for making any representation and the maximum fine on conviction of such an offence is £5000.

LICENSING ACT 2003
Application for a New Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that Sir Philip Green Ltd has applied to the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham for a new premises licence at The Store, 284 King Street London W6 8NL for the supply of alcohol and for the sale by retail of food. The applicant is to permit the sale of retail alcohol.

Any person who wishes to make a representation in relation to this application must do so by 26.05.2016 stating the grounds for making any representation and the maximum fine on conviction of such an offence is £5000.

LICENSING ACT 2003
Application for a New Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that Mrs Parfitt of 1 Oak Road London SW11 1PTS is applying to HAMMERSMITH & Fulham Council for a new premises licence at: 1 Oak Road London SW11 1PTS.

The public register where applications are available to be viewed is at the Licensing Service, 14th Floor, City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1. Any person who wishes to make a representation in relation to this application must do so by 26.05.2016 stating the grounds for making any representation and the maximum fine on conviction of such an offence is £5000.
A end of his first season in charge at Loftus Road. Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink has made it clear that he is not one to duck difficult decisions.

Last week the QPR manager risked his popularity among supporters by releasing two of the most popular players from his first team squad for next season.

Veteran defender Clint Hill and creative midfielder Scott Wootton were both shown the door in W12 by the no-nonsense Dutchman, whom many fans reckon may live to regret it.

There is no disguising we have had some very difficult decisions to make,” said Hasselbaink. “When you are absolutely vital, when you are speaking to all of the players, was that I was 100 per cent honest with them. They needed to know where they stand and my views.

“Clint and Ale are QPR stalwarts who have given outstanding effort and not got the recognition they deserve from the club but now is the time to try to make new heroes for the supporters.”

No-one can question Hill’s commitment, determination or popularity. A born leader, he was twice voted supporters’ player of the year during the season.

Whatever the decision Terry makes - he will meet owner Roman Abramovich later this week to finally put the saga to bed – he will forever remain captain, leader and hero in the hearts of the fans.

LOFTUS ROAD RANGERS REVIEW
With Tony McDonald

Hasselbaink said: “If Clint was a few years younger and could play 46 games in the Championship, it would have been a no-brainer to keep him.

The reality is we do not know how many games he would be able to play next season. For many, the past few months have brought him to the club to be able to play 46 games. I am not in a position to sign a player who we do not know is not going to be able to play Saturday, Tuesday, Saturday. It is a pity because Clint is a competitor and he is QPR through and through.

“We wish him every success and I am absolutely sure the fans will see him back at this club one day as a coach.”

Fourrin, another popular long-seriving figure who joined in 2009, leaves after making 163 appearances for the club. He will be 30 by the time next season starts. His Loftus

Road career has been punctuated by knee injuries and despite the elegant Argentine’s efforts he touches Hasselbaink appears to want younger legs in midfield.

JFH added: “I see Ale as a squad player for next year but he wants to play game after game after game, which I understand. Unfortunately, I am not able to give him that assurance. From there, we have made our decision to go our separate ways.

“There are no grudges between us. We have worked really well together and I respect him. It is a football decision, and a difficult one.”

“Has he been great to deal with. I have had a very good working relationship with him. He was on board with what we were trying to do this season. Now what we are looking to do is move to the next step.

“For him, the next step is to continue his football journey elsewhere. We wish him the very best for the future and thank him enormously for his efforts.

“Really wish him a good journey. I cannot say anything bad about him as a guy or as a player. The reality is we have tough decisions to make but it is important we are honest with everyone when we make them.”

QPR have released
12 players from their Elite Development Squad this summer.

Frankie Sutherland, who spent the second half of the 2015-16 season on loan at Cowley Town, has been at the club since the age of 10 but departs at the end of his latest deal. Fellow KDS players Michael Atkinson, George Butler, Nathan Corkery, James Haran, Martin Herdman, Andreas Koukakis, Leon Lobjoit, Aaron Mitchell, Joseph N’Guesan, Ben Pattie and Harley Wise will also leave Loftus Road.

In addition, Jake Maloney has turned down the club’s offer of re-engagement and will leave in the summer. Tom Rosenthal and Conor Hardhurst are simply out of contract but have been offered deals to extend their stay in W12.

Meanwhile, Brandon Adams, Jeremy Arthur, Ruud Clarke, Gianni Critchlow, Dan Darbyshire and Jack Williams – six members of Paul Furlong’s Under-18 side – have been offered third year scholarships.

Gubbins sets pace

IN the local derby Championship clash which began at the Kia Oval on Sunday, Nick Gubbins top-scored for Middlesex before a middle-of-the-collage collapse put them back against Surrey.

Openers Gubbins and Sam Robson, dropped on nine by Kumar Sangakkara, made 126 together before Robson (53) fell after his fourth 50-plus score this summer.

Gubbins (91) and David Malan (58) set the visitors up before the latter was caught behind off James Burke (2-56), the first of five wickets for 51 runs. By lunch on Monday Middlesex were all out for 395, with Adam Voges weighing in with a useful 47 on his return from a head injury.

But Surrey’s hopes of recording their first win of the season at the fifth attempt suffered a setback when Ravi Rampaul, their leading wicket-taker this summer, had to retire injured midway through an over.

New Zealand-born 17-year-old George Gubbins, who was £29,000 for 395, with Adam Voges weighing in with a useful 47 on his return from a head injury.

But Surrey’s hopes of recording their first win of the season at the fifth attempt suffered a setback when Ravi Rampaul, their leading wicket-taker this summer, had to retire injured midway through an over.

SURREY went into the derby game following a heavy defeat to Kent in the T20 Blast at the Kia Oval on Saturday. Middlesex were 354 all out, the hosts brilliantly led by Robin, who was 141 not out, while John Simpson had progressed to unbeaten 66 when play was abandoned with Middlesex having reached 203-3.

Middlesex will be in CC1 action again from this Sunday, when they face Somerset at Lord’s.

SURREY’s 117 in the first innings with 52 second time out, while the Sri Lankan run machine contributed 71 and 63.

Surrey open their T20 campaign this Friday night with a local derby against Essex under the lights at Chelmsford, before resuming in their four-day CC1 schedule in Lancashire from Sunday.

CHELSEA from back page

With that, Terry was then grabbed by the players and thrown into the air.

If, indeed, it was his last contribution as a Blues player after 703 appearances spanning almost 18 years, the speech will cut into the hearts of the Chelsea board, who had hoped that they would be able to claim the moral high ground.

Whatever the decision Terry makes - he will meet owner Roman Abramovich later this week to finally put the saga to bed – he will forever remain captain, leader and hero in the hearts of the fans.

It was a defeat that shook the players to the core.

Star winger Eniola Aluko was fuming at the defeat, angry at their performance but she also sent out a signal to the rest of the Women’s Super League that, despite the cup upset, they are still the team to beat this season.

On Thursday, they face unbeaten leaders Manchester City in what is already viewed as a title decider. Chelsea are second, three points behind City, but the west Londoners are also undefeated and have played a game less.

There are bad feelings between the two sets of players that Aluko, 29, says smacks of arrogance from the City camp.

Tone of the game

Of the Wembley final, the forward said: “I just don’t think enough of us turned up, to be honest. I think we started slowly, Arsenal had a few chances in the first two minutes, that set the tone of the game and we really struggled to get into it.

“We did not take our chances. We are normally far more deadly in front of goal.”

Chelsea had a great chance to equalise soon after going behind but Fran Kirby hit the net.

“Fran usually takes those chances,” she said. “You can’t score every one and Fran did, after all, score the goals that got us into the final. It’s tough but just wasn’t our day.”

“I think it’s hard when you are just beaten by a better team. Ironically, this is the first time Arsenal have beaten us in about two-and-a-half years.”

“Especially, as every time we have played Arsenal in that period, we have dominated and been excellent. So maybe it was the occasion that overawed us. I’d put my money on it. If we played them at their place or ours, we would have won – it just wasn’t good enough at Wembley.”

Aluko was bullish about Chelsea’s prospects of retaining their league title and having a serious go at winning in Europe.

“What I will say is that this team has reacted to failure (in the past) very well. In 2014, we failed, we did not win any trophies, then the year we did the double. So I would say to the rest of the league and the rest of Europe, ‘watch out, this team doesn’t lie down when we fail, we come back’.”

“It’s the Chelsea way. Failure can be the best thing to happen to you. Complacency is a killer, so losing and Arsenal walking up those those steps . . . I just couldn’t watch, it was awful. For me and for the rest of the team, that image has to be imprinted on our minds.”

The tricky winger then rounded on league rivals Manchester City.

“Our Thursday, against Man City, we are going to come out all guns blazing and hopefully win the game.”

She is also woud up by vibes coming from City that they will win and roll them over – something Aluko suggests is pure unfounded arrogance.

“I really don’t know where that comes from,” she said. “They have absolutely no reason to be arrogant. They have won a Continental Cup in two years. Now, I have the utmost respect for Man City. I think what they have done for the women’s game is fantastic, but I think their arrogance stinks and we have to make sure we firmly put them in their place. But we have got to do it. We can’t talk about it, we have got to do it.”

Hallmark of winning sides

It’s that kind of strong-willed determination, a refusal to accept second best, that is the hallmark of Chelsea winning sides.

The youth team have shown it, the women’s team have it in bucketfuls. But the men’s senior side – which has just completed its worst season since 1996 – seems to be distinctly lacking it, with the singular exception of John Terry.

Will he be at Stamford Bridge next season to instil that winning formula once more? We will know later this week for certain.
JOHN Terry is torn between the love of the Chelsea fans, the thought that he could still perform at the highest level for Blues next season and accepting a mind-boggling offer of a two-year deal with a top Chinese club.

An emotional Terry simply does not know whether to say yes or no to an eleventh hour offer from Chelsea to stay in SW6 for another season.

The sensational developments started on Friday, when Terry and his agent Paul Nicholls met with the club’s top brass, chairman Bruce Buck and director Marina Granovskaja. It was expected that the final nail in his Chelsea career would be hammered in.

Terry had revealed in January that the club were not going to offer him a new deal.

That revelation had the double-pronged effect of alerting possible suitors for his talent and piling pressure on fans who want Chelsea to keep him.

Until last week, that position had not changed.

But as Sunday’s final game of the season against Premier League champions Leicester City loomed, and with a possible fans’ revolt against the hierarchy and Roman Abramovich in particular, looking increasingly likely, Chelsea took the decision to volley the issue back into Terry’s court.

Slash his salary

The club’s extraordinary U-turn meant that they would offer Terry a one-year deal that would slash his current salary of £200k a week down to a relatively paltry £55k but, more significantly, reduce his playing time – effectively ending his career.

The counter offer from China is believed to be in the region of £100k a week, with significant add-ons for playing time and a fair few free first-class return tickets back to the UK.

Terry, 35, has already travelled to China to familiarise himself with the climate and culture and, if he took the exceptional deal, he would take his family there too.

LWN Sport understands that while Terry believes the cash offer from Chelsea is derisory, he is firmly of the view that he could prove to new manager Antonio Conte that he is still the best centre-back at the club, despite the expected new partnership of Kurt Zouma and Gary Cahill.

Terry can justifiably argue that this season’s most effective centre-back pairing was the one he shared with Zouma, which at one point saw Cahill cut adrift and concerned that his Chelsea career was in doubt.

Cahill only seriously returned to the fold following Zouma’s season-ending injury.

Terry spent Sunday at Stamford Bridge fully visible. He popped into the press room, sat in the dug-out and in the 26th minute (the same number as his shirt) stood up to applaud a cheering stadium who had called out his name and demanded that he stay.

The match against Leicester City was a sideshow, the 1-1 draw – Cesc Fabregas’ 67th minute penalty cancelled out by Danny Drinkwater’s equaliser.

Minutes from time – a symbol of interim manager Guus Hiddink’s tenure. Hiddink won just one league match in five months since replacing Jose Mourinho in January. No, this occasion was all about Terry.

As the player with something of a surprising lag of appreciation at the end of a trophy-less season that saw the deposed champions finish 10th, Terry – who was suspended for the match – took the microphone and gave a much anticipated speech that is worth recapping in full.

He said: “First and foremost from me I’d like to wish Claudio Ranieri, the Leicester team and the Leicester fans congratulations from me. I’m delighted Leicester have won it and I’m just glad Tottenham haven’t.

“For us Chelsea fans, this season’s been a difficult one. It’s not been us, we’ve not been at our best and we are where we deserve to be in the league. From the supporters’ point of view, you’ve stuck us with through thick and thin.

“We’ve had some great times in recent years and you’ve been a big part of that.

“Not only myself, but all the players thank you for the support this year, because at times we’ve all accepted we’ve not been good enough.

“But I can assure you, we’ll be back next year and we’ll be fighting for this title.

“On a personal note, I’d like to thank everyone as well. In early season it’s been tough for me, very emotional and the support over recent weeks . . . welling up, he paused.”

Most of the 41,494 crowd chanted Terry’s name before he continued: “Chelsea is my life, just like it is yours. You’ve been a big part of the best moments in my life in this stadium. From myself and all the players I’d like to say a big thank you.

“Just before I sign off I’d like to say a huge thank you to Guus Hiddink. A great man for what he’s done for this football club before and he’s come back and done it again. He’s picked us up.

“He’s just a real honest and great man. Again, from the players we thank him, Steve Holland, Eddie Newton, all the staff, because they’re doing fantastic.”

(Crowd sing: “John Terry, we want you!”)

“We all want the same thing. I’ve said for a very long time I want to be here for the rest of my career. I want to finish my career here. We’ll have a few days and we’ll be speaking to the club. Listen, I want to stay. The club knows that, the fans know that.

“I just want to say well done to the young boys as well. Tammy (Abraham) and Fikayo (Tomori), you’ve been fantastic, Ruben (Loftus-Cheek) as well. Let’s hope we can keep producing those young boys and get them on the pitch in the first team. Thank you again. You’ve been unbelievable for me personally and for the team as well. On behalf of the whole squad, thank you very much.”

Continued on page 27
NOW OPEN

SUMMER GARDEN

STAMFORD BRIDGE

MARCogrill.com/summer-garden

STAMFORD BRIDGE | FULHAM ROAD | LONDON | SW6 1HS
“If you want to fit in at Latymer you just have to be yourself”

DAPHNE, YEAR 10

Generous bursaries are available for bright children at 11+ and 16+ entry and range from 25% to 100% of fees

Come and visit us

11+ Open Days for 2017 entry:
Saturdays 10 September and 8 October

16+ Open Evening for 2017 entry: Wednesday 28 September

Tickets required. Please book via our website
www.latymer-upper.org or talk to us on: 020 7993 0063
Free places at top private school

Born and bred in West London, David Goodhew was no stranger to Hammersmith when he moved back to his old manor as Head of one of the country’s top independent schools – Latymer Upper School. Now in post for almost four years he’s proud of what his pupils and staff continue to achieve. With outstanding exam results, excellent teaching, fantastic facilities and a network of outreach partnerships most independent schools can only dream of, it’s no surprise that Latymer Upper is London’s leading fully co-educational school.

“It’s wonderful that we have more than 100 children here on a bursary at Latymer – the vast majority of those being on a free place.”

Goodhew’s own education has influenced his ambitions for the School. His journey may have taken him from local comprehensive school to reading Classics in the ivory towers of Oxford University, but he hasn’t forgotten his roots. He feels passionately that the financial background of a bright child should not form a barrier against entry to Latymer;

“One aspect that initially attracted me to Latymer was its bursary programme, which has benefited thousands of children during its long history – including the young Alan Rickman and Hugh Grant. If a child does well in our entrance exam and interview, but can’t pay for either all or part of the fees, we offer them a bursary. These bursaries range from 25% to 100% fee assistance, which means we can help a wide range of families with differing needs.”

And it is this that sets Latymer apart from the crowd. As an academically selective, but socially inclusive school, Goodhew believes in the importance of a ‘rounded’ education. He explains;

“Latymer pupils have their feet firmly on the ground and are in touch with the real world, which is partly due to our diverse mix of students. A child who is educated alongside those from different cultural and social backgrounds undoubtedly benefits from an awareness of other views and perspectives on life that can only enrich their lives - and those around them."

“It’s wonderful that we have more than 100 children here on a bursary at Latymer - the vast majority of those being on a free place. But we want to do more. Our next goal is to double the bursary figures by our 400th anniversary, in 2024. It’s an ambitious challenge, but one we believe will benefit all our pupils – both bursary and non-bursary recipients.”

Sixth Form Open Evening
Wednesday 28 September

100% bursaries available at 16+ entry
The Sixth Form at Latymer Upper - one of the largest in London - is exciting and innovative and combines intellectual challenge, strong pastoral support and a wealth of extra-curricular activities.

The range of subjects is wide, embracing all the core subjects along with a number of other choices such as the Pre-U, Extended Project, Art History, Politics, Economics, Philosophy, Greek, Economics, Classical Civilisation, Product Design and Photography. We can accommodate almost any combination of subjects.

If your initial application (which includes a school report, reference and personal statement) is successful you’ll be invited for interview on Saturday 26 November and offers will be made in early December.

Acceptance will be dependent on you achieving a minimum of 8 or 9 GCSEs including Mathematics and English with A or A* grades in the subjects that you wish to study at A level, or in a related subject where the proposed course is in a new subject.

To find out more, come along to our Open Evening to meet our current Sixth Form students and teachers.

Tickets required. Please book via our website www.latymer-upper.org or talk to us on: 020 7993 0063
Generous bursaries for bright children are available at 7+ entry

Come and visit us at an Open Morning to meet our pupils and teachers and to have a tour

Open Mornings take place in the Autumn Term
Academically selective: 7+ entry assessment in January
Visit our website to find out more about us: www.latymerprep.org

To book a place on an Open Morning please contact the Registrar:
Tel: 0207 993 0061 or email: registrar@latymerprep.org

36 Upper Mall, Hammersmith, London W6 9TA. www.latymerprep.org