Refugees welcome here says council

COUNCIL leaders say they are ready and willing to welcome Syrian and Iraqi refugees to Shepherd’s Bush, amid calls from across the capital for London to take the lead in providing shelter for the many thousands of people fleeing the war-torn region.

Local representatives have urged the government to quickly introduce a secure system for identifying refugee families so that those in need can be offered sanctuary in the borough.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham Council, said there was a “humanitarian duty” for Londoners to play their part in the resettlement process.

The call comes as the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, prepares for talks with the capital’s 33 local authorities about ways they can provide shelter for those in need.

The Prime Minister, David Cameron, has announced plans to allow up to 20,000 refugees into the country over the next five years, amid criticism that the UK should be doing more to resolve the crisis.

And last week, Hammersmith and Fulham Council joined the growing number of London authorities that have committed to finding accommodation for refugees.

Councillor Cowan said: “Like our residents, we have been deeply touched by the terrible plight of people fleeing the horrific war in the Middle East and..."
Heathrow expansion plan fails on all levels

THE Mayor of London has described plans to expand Heathrow Airport as failing London and failing the nation on every single level.

He has written to every MP and peer to break the news, bumed in the Airports Commission’s own report, that even if a third runway was built Heathrow would serve fewer long haul and fewer domestic destinations by 2030 than it does today.

In a damning 30-page dossier supplied to MPs and peers the Mayor’s team have pulled to pieces the Airports Commission recommendation that Heathrow be expanded. The dossier’s detailed analysis draws on the weaknesses set out in the commission’s own evidence; the key findings include:

■ The Airports Commission recognises the importance of securing more long haul destinations to ensure future economic prosperity. However, an expanded Heathrow will offer six fewer daily long haul destinations in 2030 and just a single new daily long haul destination by 2050, when compared to today.

■ The Airports Commission recognises that regional connections to the UK hub are essential, yet a single new daily long haul destination by 2050, the Airports Commission recommendation that Heathrow be expanded. The dossier’s detailed analysis draws on the weaknesses set out in the commission’s own evidence; the key findings include:

■ Despite the lack of additional long haul destinations and the slashing of domestic destinations does not appear to have been factored into the economic assessment carried out by the Airports Commission, and its own independent reviewers say they are likely to have overstated the wider economic benefits of expanding Heathrow.

■ The noise data and assumptions published by the Airports Commission are incomplete and make proper scrutiny almost impossible. Noise modelling undertaken for Transport for London using more credible assumptions closer to today’s operation shows that an expansion of Heathrow will see 33 centres of people exposed to aircraft noise. It will remain the worst airport in Europe for aircraft noise, with one million people affected.

■ Despite the partial night flight ban between 2330 and 0600, these proposals will actually lead to one-third increase in flights in the officially recognised night period, between 2300 and 0700. At the same time, the ban will undermine long haul connectivity and deter potential new low cost carrier entrants like easyJet. Only at a location away from densely populated areas could the hub support the needs of airlines, passengers and freight without impairing the sleep of hundreds of thousands of people.

■ The Airports Commission has failed to demonstrate that a three runway Heathrow will not have the worst levels of nitrogen dioxide in Greater London, even with mitigation, and will risk major European Union fines being imposed on the UK.

■ The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, said: “The Airports Commission has spent several years in the production of a gigantic ball of wool that they are now attempting to pull over the eyes of the nation. The figures teased out of their report on the fall in domestic and even long haul connectivity show that as a nation, by expanding Heathrow, we would merely be investing in decline.”

■ “Their report very clearly shows that a third runway will fail both London and the UK on every level. Our great nation is sleepwalking its way towards becoming a bit part player in the aviation world. Now is the time for boldness. Now is the time to build an airport that can fulfill the needs of every corner of the UK.”

■ In his letter to MPs the Mayor also warns that the Airports Commission’s condition that new infrastructure can only be used if air quality obligations are met is a risk that no private investor will be prepared to meet.

■ With the major airlines already likely to be concerned about an estimated 45 per cent increase in charges it is probable that the owners of Heathrow will need to pass the multi-billion pound bill for a third runway squarely to the Government and on to taxpayers.

■ In the dossier provided to MPs the Mayor’s team conclude that a third runway at Heathrow would simply be too small to meet the long term need, yet incapable of delivering without a devastating impact on the local environment and public health.

■ They claim that arguments for a four runway hub airport were discarded prematurely by the Airports Commission and the Government should review the full body of evidence presented in this process, and revisit potential locations for a four runway hub airport.

Contacting YOUR COUNCIL
Police raids break up drug gang and put dealers in jail

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

SEVERAL members of a drug dealing gang have been sentenced following a series of co-ordinated police raids in White City and the surrounding areas of Shepherd’s Bush earlier this summer.

A 15-year-old boy was among seven individuals sentenced for dealing heroin and cocaine, after raids of the White City Estate in July uncoveredstashess of Class A and Class B drugs, as well as £24,000 in cash.

More than 160 Met Police officers were involved in the operation, which led to the execution of 10 search warrants at properties on the estate and in the surrounding area.

Drugs squads burst into several homes in the early hours of the morning on Tuesday July 14, having gathered information from concerned members of the community ahead of the sweep.

In August, a 15-year-old boy from the W12 area appeared at Hammersmith Youth Court where he received a year’s detention and training order after pleading guilty to supplying crack cocaine and heroin.

Three other men, aged between 18 and 22, were then handed jail sentences for dealing the drugs. And last week, three more individuals, aged between 17 and 19, were also sentenced for their part in the operation.

The Met said the raids had been carefully co-ordinated in an attempt to “stamp out” the problem of drug-dealing activity stemming from gangs.

Detective Sergeant Aayad Yassine and Fulham CID, said the sentences were “an example to the community ahead of the swop.”

“Local communities that are blight by offering shelter and support. Indeed, many refugees have subsequently made invaluable contributions to our borough and our country. It’s critical that the UK Government now urgently implements a system to identify refugee families so that Hammersmith and Fulham, and other councils, can do the right thing and provide the necessary support.”

Under the government’s current plans, around 4,000 refugees a year will be offered special visas, as part of a relocation scheme designed to rescue vulnerable people from crisis situations.

Boris Johnson has said that he will open talks with local authorities in London to determine how many refugees each borough can find accommodation for.

Meanwhile, Hammersmith MP Andy Slaughter has called for each London borough to house 10 families.

“arres like this have done a great deal of work to support refugees. It’s about giving them access to the services they need.”

Charities such as the Refugee Council are among the pressure groups pushing for urgent action to protect those most at risk.

Its chief executive, Maurice Wren, said last week: “Each resettlement place Britain provides will be life-changing, if not life-saving, for some of the world’s most vulnerable refugees.”

David Simmonds, chairman of the Local Government Association’s asylum, migration and refugee task group, welcomed the enthusiasm from local authorities to offer shelter but warned against “a short-term solution to a long-term problem.”

He said councils needed to make sure new arrivals were given enough support and resources to build a new life in the UK.

“Councils need a commitment from government to provide full funding to support individuals and families until they are granted asylum or they are safely returned to their own country,” he said.

“Local communities that open their doors at a moment of crisis should not be left to pick up the pieces when funding runs out and the world’s attention has moved on.”

‘We’ve always done our bit to support refugees’

FROM PAGE 1

other humanitarian crises.

“The atrocities that appear in our media are just the tip of the iceberg causing the biggest refugee crisis in a generation.

“There is a long British tradition of welcoming and supporting refugees and Hammersmith and Fulham Council has always done its bit by offering shelter and support. Indeed, many refugees have subsequently made invaluable contributions to our borough and our country. It’s critical that the UK Government now urgently implements a system to identify refugee families so that Hammersmith and Fulham, and other councils, can do the right thing and provide the necessary support.”

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“If every region played their part, this would open up 10,000 spaces for vulnerable refugees within a month,” he said.

Hammersmith and Fulham Council, which has not yet set a figure for the number of new arrivals it could take, is also urging residents to make a financial donation to one of the many charities striving to offer support to the fleeing refugees.

Councillor Cowan added: “Finding homes for refugees is not easy in London where the housing crisis causes dreadful hardship for local people, but we have a humanitarian duty to assist families in such desperate need.”

“We know from speaking to residents over recent days and weeks that many stand ready to help us in finding accommodation and to work with refugee families as they arrive to help them recover from their pro-longed ordeals and rebuild their lives. We are also urging anyone who feels able to, to make a financial donation and to sign the petition calling for the government to take urgent action.”

The refugee crisis has dominated international headlines this summer and thousands continue to make desperate attempts to escape the region.
FRUSTRATED motorists who have faced delays on the Hammersmith Flyover for almost two years can finally breathe a sigh of relief, after Transport for London announced the completion of its long-term improvement works.

The ambitious engineering project, which began in October 2013, has necessitated occasional road closures and caused headaches for countless drivers passing through the borough. But, at long last, the job is now all but finished.

TfL says it is now in the process of clearing the work site around the flyover, and insists that all local roads will be returned to normal by “late autumn”.

Engineers have spent the last 23 months ensuring that the 1960s structure is fully restored and strengthened. The flyover, TfL says, will now be safe to use for decades to come and will require less maintenance work, meaning reduced congestion and fewer delays in the future.

Garrett Emmerson, TfL’s chief operating officer for surface transport, said the work had been “vital” to ensure that “a key London road artery remains safe for years to come”.

Contractor Costain led the restoration project, which has included reinforcing the remaining 11 of the flyover’s 16 spans, after the first five were fixed in 2012. The entire structure has also been re-waterproofed and resurfaced.

Hi-tech improvements have also been installed – a pair of huge expansion joints within the carriageway will allow the flyover to flex as traffic moves across it, while new bearings will enable it to adapt to weather conditions, expanding in the summer and shrinking in the winter by up to 180 millimetres.

Edmund King, President of the AA, said the urgent response to safety issues discovered on the flyover in 2012 should mean a similar scale refurbishment is never repeated in the capital.

He said: “When the flyover was found to be unsafe just before the Olympics it was a nightmare. Since then we have had a refurbishment scheme that has been highly innovative and which has always sought to reduce the impact of the inevitable repair works on traffic on this vital strategic route.

“Several years on and we are almost there, and we pay credit to the TfL contractors, engineers and communications teams who tried to prioritise the needs of road users and local residents.

“We also acknowledge the patience of local people and drivers who have had to put up with inevitable occasional disruption. The lessons learnt from this unpredicted failure of a major artery should hopefully mean an event on this scale will not be repeated in the capital.”

TfL says it is working with Hammersmith and Fulham Council to make the gyratory safer for cyclists and plans are also under way for the installation of a new cycle docking station for more than 50 bikes underneath the flyover.

Builders fell foul of safety regulations

A CONSTRUCTION company has been fined after a breach of safety regulations during work on a house in Shepherd’s Bush last year. Wedgewood Design and Build Limited of London was found to have incorrectly extended a gas flue, as part of building work at a property on Greenside Road.

The company had been working on an extension to the property between June 2013 and June 2014. It was fined a total of £9,000 and ordered to pay £7,500 in costs after pleading guilty to an offence under gas safety regulations.

Government watchdog the Health and Safety Executive said the company had “potentially put lives at risk”.

Help save lives, doctors tell shoppers

SHEPHERD’S Bush shoppers could help to pioneer a medical breakthrough this week.

Doctors will be visiting Westfield shopping centre on Friday (September 18) to encourage customers to take part in simple medical research that they say could help save lives in the future. Dr Sonya Abraham, a consultant at Imperial College NHS Healthcare Trust, said: “Research is an everyday part of the NHS and is crucial to developing better treatments for patients, and keeping people healthy. However, this crucial research can only take place with the help of patients and the public. By taking part in research you are helping future generations beat diseases such as arthritis, cancer, diabetes and dementia.”

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Put your community into the news

It’s not just the big stories that happen in London that we want to hear about. There’s a brilliant community spirit in Hammersmith and Shepherd’s Bush. If you help to run a local organisation make sure your events are featured in your local London Weekly News title. Email your news items and photos (jpeg format) to your reporter, Jack Dixon: jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk
Fears grow that troublemakers threaten future of the carnival

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

TROUBLEMAKERS are in danger of killing off Notting Hill Carnival as it approaches its 50th year.

Following violence, hundreds of arrests and the seizure of a huge cache of deadly knives at this year’s event, police have added their concerns to growing calls for Carnival to be moved on, cut back or stopped altogether.

Police say “serious consideration” must be given to the future of the event, moving it to Hyde Park or reducing the festival to one day only, on the Sunday family day, and ending it earlier.

Police also say that if Carnival comes to an end they would not “be disappointed”.

The so-called “Europe’s biggest street party” has turned into London’s leading troublesome spot and many, from Mayor Boris Johnson to local residents, are now seriously questioning its future. Carnival, set to mark its 50th anniversary next year, has caused outrage and concern following a surge in the numbers of arrests and the increased menace on the streets during the two-day August Bank Holiday festival.

This year police made 497 arrests – the highest number in a decade and a 55% increase on the 261 arrested at 2014’s Carnival.

There were 21 assaults on police – including one officer who was stabbed and another who was bitten when trying to stop a group of men trashing a property.

Police arrested 57 for possession of knives – one knife-carrier was only 14 years old – and seized a fearsome range of weapons, including coshes, a knuckle-duster and a machete with a 3ft blade of the style used by his terrorists in Syria.

The Met, who have charged 50 people with possession of knives, say the number of weapons seized was double that at last year’s event.

The event needed the deployment of 7,000 police officers to maintain public order – at a cost of £5.2 million to taxpayers.

Besides the threat of violence, police had to deal with a shock rise in drug-taking – with more than 3,500 discarded canisters of the killer high nitrous oxide recovered from the mountains of rubbish left on the streets.

Websites and social media pages have been awash with complaints and protests about this year’s drink and drugs-fuelled street party. On the Sky News site, many people have called for Carnival now to be banned.

One wrote: “Many people do feel, with good and justifiable reasons, that the Notting Hill Carnival is poorly-managed and has descended into a violent, anti-social, drug-fest.”

Another claimed: “If this was the FA Cup Final and every year there were hundreds of arrests, stabblings, fights and the occasional murder, it would be banned outright. The police have every right to want to ban this event.”

Another posted: “This annual crime-fest should be closed down and banned. We are sick of the disturbance.”

Now the Met’s Police Federation, which represents 26,000 officers in London, is echoing concerns over the safety and cost of the Carnival event and has suggested a change to the programme at least.

The Met Police’s Federation chairman Ken Marsh told this newspaper: “It is not our position to call for Carnival to be banned, but in view of the injuries to officers, the risks to officers and the public from people attending carrying offensive weapons and the disruption to the local community, together with the massive costs to the policing bill, serious consideration must be given to the future of the event.

“An event of a different location such as Hyde Park, or having the event on just one day, probably the Sunday with an early finish time, would all be positive steps, but if the decision was taken to stop Carnival, I don’t think our members, or we as a Federation, would be disappointed.”

The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, has also expressed concerns over Carnival following the rise in trouble on the streets.

On the morning after the event the Mayor, who said that he was “not necessarily a massive supporter of the way it’s organised”, told LBC: “There was some trouble last night. A little bit more than in previous years. Thankfully it didn’t get out of control, but 300 arrests is simply too many and I will be talking to the police commissioner about it.”

Besides the notorious violence and street crime at the festival, which traditionally draws around one million visitors to the area, where an average terraced home costs at least £1.2 million, residents are also concerned about the huge mess that Carnival leaves in its wake.

Many home-owners and businesses this year invested in board-up services to protect their properties against revellers, some of whom were photographed by international press urinating in the streets.

Clearing up after Carnival required a huge staff of refuse collectors and street cleaners who used a convoy of 30 trucks to gather 290 tonnes of rubbish. The cost of the clean-up is divided between Westminster Council and Kensington and Chelsea Council, of which Kensington and Chelsea’s share is understood to be at least £175,000.

Mayor leads salute to Queen’s milestone

THANKSGIVING: The congregation at St Mary Abbots Church, Kensington.

RESIDENTS and workers joined the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Councillor Robert Freeman, for a special service of thanksgiving at St Mary Abbots Church on Wednesday, September 9, to mark The Queen becoming the nation’s longest-reigning monarch.

The service was led by the vicar of St Mary Abbots, Reverend Jenny Welch, and fittingly opened with the only congregational hymn sung at the Queen’s Coronation in 1953 – All People That on Earth do Dwell. After the service the congregation raised a celebratory glass to toast Her Majesty.

Councillor Freeman said: “Today is not just about marking a record-breaking reign. That is achieved simply by dint of out-living predecessors. Today is about marking the service which The Queen has given to this country and the Commonwealth throughout those years. With wisdom and devotion she has not only carried out her duties for longer than any other monarch, but also with selfless dedication and in ways unsurpassed by any previous monarch.

“Today is an opportunity not only to offer hearty congratulations, but also to offer heartfelt appreciation and thanks for so much over so many years.”

THANKSGIVING: The congregation at St Mary Abbots Church, Kensington.
Inns of Court invite us to study the law

A FASCINATING insight into the history of London’s legal quarter is being offered later this week.

Temple Church, Middle Temple and Inner Temple Inns of Court will be open to the public as part of the Open House London architectural festival, which runs from September 19 to 22.

This rare opportunity comes as part of a year-long celebration of the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta. Organisers say the Temple area of London will be alive with activities for everyone – from exploring the 12th century Temple Church to preparing the barristers of tomorrow with a Children’s Court in the Royal Courts of Justice.

Overall opening times are as follows: 10am to 5pm, Saturday, September 19 and Sunday 20.

In Inner Temple a variety of tours will be run for all tastes from architecture to history and artefacts; with a brand new exhibition on the Inns’ many members’ roles in the rule of law. The ature group Shakespeare Untold will be performing in the garden.

Middle Temple visitors can learn about the Inn’s famous members, from Sir Walter Raleigh to the Duke of Cambridge and will have the opportunity to learn about life as a barrister as well as trying on wigs and gowns. Garden tours will be available throughout the weekend. In Temple Church, as well as an exhibition on Magna Carta, organ and choral recitals and access to the Triforium, the Master of the Temple, The Reverend and Valiant Robin Griffith-Jones, will be giving an informal talk on “The Church of the Templars, Mother Jones, will be giving an informal talk on “The Church of the Common Law: From Magna Carta to the Da Vinci Code”.

Proud moment as capital welcomes 32 new citizens

BY LWN REPORTER editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

THE Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, and Chair of the London Assembly, Jennette Arnold, welcomed some of the capital’s newest citizens to City Hall when they took part in London’s seventh Citizenship Ceremony.

On September 7, 32 new British citizens, one for every London borough, swore their affirmation of allegiance to Queen and country in the City Hall chamber, where the proceedings were witnessed by proud friends and family and borough mayors.

Each new citizen was presented with a certificate, and a gift of a book about London’s highly successful 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games to commemorate their British Citizenship. This year, they also received a scroll of the Magna Carta in celebration of its 800th anniversary, before singing the national anthem.

Among the newest Londoners present was Islington resident Umit Basal, originally from Turkey, and Barking and Dagenham resident Saida Parvin, from Bangladesh.

The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, warmly welcomed London’s new citizens.

He said: “London is one of the most international cities on the planet, where our diverse communities make a massive contribution to this city’s economic and cultural success.

“I urge all our new citizens to get involved and take advantage of everything London has to offer, contribute to its future success, and help ensure it remains the best big city in the world.”

London Assembly Chair Jennette Arnold said: “I am delighted to welcome our capital’s new citizens to City Hall, and celebrate the many benefits they bring to the country. Nowadays this is more evident than in London, and this ceremony is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the city’s huge variety of cultures, ethnicities and traditions.”

The ceremony was administered by Head of Registration and Nationality Services for Brent and Barnet, Mark Rimmer OBE, who said: “I am honoured to be conducting another Citizenship Ceremony here at City Hall, kindly hosted by the Mayor. It is such a privilege to welcome new citizens to London, and I feel both humbled and proud at the enthusiasm and commitment they display as they become British, and the contributions they make to our capital.”

Guests were treated to a musical performance from singer-songwriter Lucy May Walker, who took part in the Mayor’s Gigs busking competition this year. Walker performed Guns N’ Roses track Sweet Child of Mine and her own song, We Know The Score.

The Mayor has held this pan-London annual event since 2008, to welcome new citizens and encourage them to get involved in their local communities.

Citizen ceremonies were introduced in 2004. Each local authority has a legal duty to hold citizenship ceremonies.

New citizens who attend a ceremony are required to make an oath of allegiance (or affirmation) and a pledge. Before 2004, oaths were made in private.

The oath of allegiance is: “I (name) do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that on becoming a British citizen, I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, her Heirs and Successors, according to law.”

The affirmation of allegiance is: “I (name) do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that on becoming a British citizen, I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, her Heirs and Successors, according to law.”

The pledge is: “I will give my loyalty to the United Kingdom and respect its rights and freedoms. I will uphold its democratic values. I will observe its laws faithfully and fulfill my duties and obligations as British citizen.”

Citizens received a copy of Drawing the Games: A Story of London 2012, commissioned by the Mayor of London. Written by Nicholas Garland, it includes a foreword by Boris Johnson and commentary by Richard Dorment.

The event was also attended by pupils from Wykham Primary School, Neasden and Brentfield Primary School, Stonebridge, as part of an exercise to learn more about British Citizenship.

New approach to underground

PROPOSALS have been unveiled to transform the London Underground’s troubled Circle line – by installing a high-speed travelator.

A team of architects in the capital have come up with the novel solution, claiming that a three-lane moving walkway through the delay-plagued Circle line’s wartime circuit could shorten journey times, boost capacity and improve health.

Passengers would step from “ Hazards” walkway moving at 3mph onto a yellow “ slow lane” going at the same speed through stations before accelerating to 9mph over 180 metres. It was slowed to 3mph after a spate of accidents.

Stars lined up for city music festival

POPSTARS Ellie Goulding, Carrie Underwood and Mumford & Sons are due to play at The Roundhouse in Camden in this year’s Apple Music Festival.

Goulding, 28, will open this year’s event on September 19. The line-up also includes One Direction, Take That, Pharrell Williams and Florence + The Machine.

Mumford & Sons, who will be on stage on September 27, told the London Evening Standard: “In 2012, we celebrated the release of Babel at The Roundhouse, which was awesome. We’re looking forward to coming back for this year’s Apple Music Festival. The first time we played there was in 2002, moving at 6mph over 9,600 cases waiting to be heard, the BBC reported.

“The Mayor of London’s target to reduce court delays in the capital by 20 per cent is unlikely to be met by the end of 2015, it has emerged.

It takes an average of 164 days for a case to go through the criminal justice system, two days fewer than a year ago. However, the target is 134 days.

In June, crown courts had a backlog of over 9,600 cases waiting to be heard, the BBC reported. The Deputy Mayor for Policing Stephen Greenhalgh is due to set out a new ten-point plan to cut delays.
Folk band to launch new album with Tony Christie

SINGER Tony Christie and West London band Ranagri have joined forces to produce an album of 12 of the most well loved folk songs – and they will launch the new offering tonight, Thursday, September 17.

Christie said: “I’ve had many conversations with Dónal Rogers (of Ranagri) over the years about collaborating on a recording of Irish songs, that we grew up with, and which we used to sit around my kitchen table and sing.”

In 2014, Ranagri (pronounced Rana-Grye) were recording their first album with producer Gunter Pauler. Pauler shared Ranagri’s love of Irish folk music and, following his conversation with Christie’s son and manager, Sean Fitzgerald, it was arranged for the veteran singer and Ranagri to record the album. Ranagri are a combination of Irish and English musicians – Dónal Rogers (vocals/guitar), Eliza Marshall (flutes/whistles), Jean Kelly (electric harp/Celtic harp) and Tad Sargent (bodhrán/bouzouki). Tickets for The Great Irish Songbook album launch are £10 and can be booked online at seeickets.com and nellsjazzandblues.com. Nell’s Jazz and Blues Club is in North End Crescent, West Kensington.

Showcase for best of capital’s silversmith

A LANDMARK exhibition of work by one of England’s most famous silversmiths is to be shown next month at Koopman Rare Art in West London’s Chancery Lane.

Paul Storr silver continues to grace the most important dining tables around the world, from London’s Buckingham Palace to the White House in Washington. This new exhibition, running from October 13 to 31, is associated with a major new book, Art in Industry: The Silver of Paul Storr, by the same title as the book, features a dazzling array of more than 200 examples of craftsmanship in silver and gold, the largest grouping of Storr silver ever shown.

Storr, universally recognized as the greatest silversmith of the Regency period, holds a special place in the history of English silver. Son of Thomas Storr of Westminster, he worked from premises in Soho for much of his career.

The workshops he directed, first for the Royal Goldsmiths Rundell, Bridge & Rundell, and later on his own account, wrought some of the greatest silver of the first half of the 19th century.

Timo Koopman, director of Koopman Rare Art, said: “Storr is a byword for quality in silver. His career spanned an important period in British history. It was a time of the industrial revolution and the expansion of the British Empire. Military campaigns, such as the Battle of Waterloo, this year celebrating its 200th anniversary, saw Britain emerge as the dominant power in Europe, with a demand for silver to commemorate such momentous events.

Lewis Smith, managing director of Koopman Rare Art, added: “Paul Storr is venerated as much in the United States as he is in Europe. In the post-war period Storr silver was collected by the likes of Arthur Gilbert and Morrie Moss, and there are significant groupings of Paul Storr silver in, for example, the Metropolitan Museum of Art New York, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond and the Portland Museum of Art in Philadelphia.

“In addition, important collections of Storr’s work have also recently been formed in the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific region. We are delighted that so many collectors have agreed to loan items to the exhibition.”
Sue’s new role will be no walk in park

IT looks like one of the toughest jobs going in London local government – to be in charge of Notting Hill Carnival, Opera Holland Park as well as street cleaning, parks, leisure and the arts.

That’s the busy and challenging role Kensington and Chelsea Council has just handed to one of its senior officers.

The borough authority this week announced the appointment of Sue Harris as the interim Executive Director of Environment, Leisure and Residents’ Services.

ELRS is a varied business group covering vital services like waste and recycling but also major quality-of-life services too, like parks, leisure and the arts.

Currently a director in ELRS, Sue will now assume strategic charge of all its services in the borough of Kensington and Chelsea while at the same time continuing to direct the same services for Hammersmith and Fulham.

Her diverse portfolio will include responsibility for the Notting Hill Carnival, Opera Holland Park, the council’s climate change programme and the cleanliness of some of Britain’s busiest and most famous streets, including Knightsbridge, the King’s Road, and the museum lands of South Kensington.

Commenting on her appointment, Leader of the Council, Cllr Nick Paget-Brown, said: “As a council leader who one hopes to see when key roles fall empty is a second in command ready and able to step up. In Sue Harris we are fortunate to have just that.”

Sue will replace Lyn Carpenter, who has been appointed as Chief Executive of Thurrock, and, in the first instance, her appointment will be on an interim basis.

Born in Bristol, Sue worked for Richmond and Merton before joining Hammersmith & Fulham and then becoming a ‘bi-borough’ director in 2011.

She has led a number of services including waste, enforcement, leisure, parks, libraries and fleet transport. She has also overseen highways, traffic management and arts services.

She maintains an interest in the environment, and whilst on maternity leave wrote a well-received children’s book, Be Your Own Recycling Expert.

“I am delighted to have been given this opportunity with the Royal Borough,” said Sue.

“ELRS have much to do over the coming months and I am fortunate to have a great team working with me. Members want the very best for our residents and I will do all I can to maintain our excellent environmental, leisure and culture services.”

In 2011 Kensington and Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham and Westminster pioneered the UK’s largest service sharing arrangements. The three boroughs are today sharing the management of a range of services, an arrangement that is saving millions of pounds each year.

Appliance of science is a fascination to us all

GETTING stuck into science always seems such a good idea. Proving theorems, conducting experiments and putting formulae to good use are all so far removed from the mysterious art of politics that it really is like opening a window on another world.

So if you, or your family, like hearing about the why’s and wherefores of the things that fizz, pop, float and fly, you should check out the council’s upcoming selection of free talks and events as part of what we call our Celebration of Science.

Now in its third year, this October’s programme ranges from a look at the science, engineering and planning behind Boris Bikes and Crossrail construction to artificial intelligence and astrophysics. There is even a talk on the application of mathematical concepts to financial market analysis.

Highlights of the programme include lectures by Dr Noah Moxham and Professor Dave Garner on Sir Hans Sloane’s role in establishing the transactions and proceedings of the Royal Society, and the role that scientific journals play in contemporary science (Monday, October 5); Professor Terry Lyons on the maths and science concepts of financial market analysis (Friday, October 9) and Professor Aaron Williamon on the physics of sound and music, and the physiology of performance (Friday, October 16).

It is one of the great virtues of this borough that we are surrounded by scientific excellence on all fronts.

World-renowned universities, museums and hospitals mean we can have privileged access to some of the world’s great scientists in our own Town Hall.

The science festival runs from Saturday, October 3 to Sunday, October 18.

To see what’s on, why not visit the website www.rbkc.gov.uk/celebrationofscience

NEWS FROM KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA
Prestigious award gives us golden opportunity in community we serve

Angela McConville, Chief Executive of Westway Trust, celebrates Westway Trust achieving the Investors in People gold award and explains the importance of the status to achieving the Trust’s ambitions

It is with great pleasure that I can announce that Westway Trust has been awarded the Investors in People gold award. This is achieved by only the top one per cent of organisations that gain Investors in People accreditation.

This all sounds very positive, but what is Investors in People and how does it make a difference to Westway Trust achieving its long-term plans and maximising the benefits to the community?

Our 2030 vision is only possible if we continue to develop a high quality, fit for purpose organisation – one where staff feel valued and empowered to collaborate closely with the community in ensuring that this vibrant part of London thrives.

Investors in People is an internationally recognised kitemark for how an organisation manages its people. Experts independently assess organisations – both public and private – on what it takes to lead, support and manage people well for overall success.

The Investors in People standard is underpinned by a rigorous assessment, which reflects the very latest workplace trends, essential skills and effective structures required to perform in any industry.

I can personally verify that they certainly put us through our paces to achieve our gold award. My opening interview with the assessor ran to two and a half hours and her questioning was really in-depth and challenging.

Weeks of in-depth interviews with staff, volunteers and trustees and a huge amount of supporting evidence were produced by our teams about the working practices of Westway Trust. I would like to formally record my thanks to everyone involved in helping us achieve this award.

Investors in People has helped us to understand more about where we can improve our performance and do a better job.

The results are interesting. Instinctively we know Westway Trust employees are proud of the difference they make in their local community and are passionate about its continued success. The accreditation process has highlighted passion and commitment as a real strength of our team, which is very satisfying to hear.

I want to share some aspects of the report that made me feel particularly proud.

“Westway’s whole ethos is about improving the relationship between the Trust and the community they support... Fantastic examples of this are the events that take place as well as the sports offering in order to improve the health and wellbeing of the community” – Investors in People Assessment Report for Westway Trust, August 2015.

“The majority of people that work for Westway believe the Trust is a great place to work and are committed to its future success...”

We also scored highly on rewarding staff and ensuring our people feel valued. Introducing the London Living Wage; investing in young apprenticeships; our emphasis on a healthy workforce; and offering career progression at all levels were cited as positive examples of valuing staff performance.

Sharing of knowledge and good practices across our different teams was also a highlight.

All of which means our people and the organisation are highly motivated and will go the extra mile when working for the Trust. Isn’t that what every organisation aspires to? Having a highly motivated staff team is a key ingredient for the Trust’s success and we are determined to maintain high levels of motivation into the future.

To stay ahead and maintain our high performance, Investors in People suggested more staff involvement in developing programmes that benefit the community programmes; giving people more responsibility for performance management and introducing more recognition schemes.

All of which are exciting options and ones we will review as a management team and share with our Trustees.

To the community we serve and the wider world, why does Investors in People matter?

Our motivation for seeking to achieve the Investors in People standard is part of our broader ambition to ensuring the Westway Trust makes the very best of the great opportunity we hold to work with the community and develop the area for the benefit of local people, charities and businesses.

To achieve our ambitions, we continually strive to maximise our commitments to local communities, whilst upholding our charitable objectives and safeguarding a sustainable organisation into the future.

Having an expert, efficient and highly motivated team in place is essential to delivering these goals.

Successful organisations across the world use Investors in People to improve standards of governance, leadership and performance.

I am proud that we stand next to some of the top performing organisations internationally, it means we have a strong platform to realise our ambitions for the next 15 years and beyond.
Capital’s top spots to get best GP care

KENSINGTON & Chelsea, Queen’s Park and Paddington are the best areas in London to visit the GP.

That’s the conclusion of new analysis of data from NHS England’s GP Patient Survey by the older people’s charity Independent Age.

The figures reveal in London:

■ GP surgeries in the West London Clinical Commissioning Group, which encompasses Kensington & Chelsea, Queen’s Park and Paddington, came out on top in 12 of the 26 questions evaluated by Independent Age.

■ Patients in these areas were the most likely to be able to get through to their GP surgery on the phone, with four-fifths (81%) rating it very or fairly easy and also reported the best overall experience of making an appointment, with 79% rating it good or very good.

■ A large majority of patients in the West London CCG also rated their GP good or very good at listening (85% – joint with Wandsworth), explaining tests and treatments (83% – joint with Richmond), involving the patient in decisions about care (75% – joint with Wandsworth) and treating the patient with care and concern (84% – joint with Richmond).

■ Patients in Richmond had the most confidence and trust in their GP, with two-thirds (65%) saying they “definitely” did.

■ The most recommended GP surgeries can be found in Wandsworth, as eight in 10 (82%) would recommend theirs.

■ Almost nine in 10 (86%) patients in West London, Richmond, Sutton and Wandsworth rated the overall experience of their GP surgery as good or very good.

The best place to go for out-of-hours care is Lewisham, with 74% of patients rating their overall experience of their GP’s out-of-hours service as very or fairly good and eight in 10 (81%) saying they had confidence and trust in their clinician.

The study supports the launch of a new free guide by Independent Age entitled ‘Your health and the NHS’, which helps patients get the NHS care they need as they grow older.

LONDON Fire Brigade Commissioner Ron Dobson was guest of honour at the opening of The Hydrant pub, nest to the capital’s monument to the Great Fire of London.

The Hydrant, formerly The Fire Line, is owned by brewers Fuller, Smith & Turner, who say it will offer “a great range of craft beer and delicious food to City workers, residents and tourists”.

Donations were made, at the commissioner’s request, to the Fire Fighters Charity and the Children’s Burns Trust. In addition, Fuller’s will be making a donation to the Fire Fighters Charity for every Hydrant Screwdriver sold from the pub’s cocktail menu during the inn’s first year.

The Hydrant has undergone a nine-week transformation that included the building of a brand new cellar to cater for the site’s increased thirst for beer range, an extended upper gallery, more window-side tables and a private dining room to make new additions to the pub.

Mr Dobson said: “I’d like to thank Fuller’s for inviting me to open The Hydrant and for kindly donating money to two charities that do fantastic work for people affected by fire. Having a fire branded pub in the shadow of the monument is very apt, as it comes ahead of The Great Fire of London’s 350th and our own 150th anniversary next year.

Simon Emeny, Fuller’s chief executive, said: “This has been a great project to work on, and we were delighted when we took it on in 1999 – but The Hydrant really brings the pub up to date.”

London’s best busker is Luca Fiore

SINGER Luca Fiore has been crowned Gigs Champion 2015, following a six-month search to find London’s best busker.

The Hounslow vocalist, originally from Italy, beat acts from across the capital to take top honours in the Grand Final of Gigs, the UK’s biggest street music competition.

Organized by the Mayor of London, Gigs originally attracted 240 entries, with 190 acts being selected to perform live at 24 busy London locations during the summer, including at the first ever National Busking Day co-hosted by the Busk in London festival.

The final at Westfield Stratford City on Sunday, September 6, saw 18 of them, as chosen by music industry insiders and the public, compete in three categories, before the overall winner was decided by the judging panel.

Luca Fiore was initially selected as winner of the Soloists and Duos category (16-25 years), picking up a much coveted licence to busk on the London Underground, courtesy of Transport for London, Josh

KERRY ELLIS & LOUISE DEARMANN
LIVE IN CONCERT....TOGETHER!

SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2015 7:30PM
PRINCE EDWARD THEATRE, 123 COMPTON STREET, LONDON
A DELFONT MACKINTOSH THEATRE 0844 482 5154

LONDON WIDE

Win tickets to see West End favourites in concert

WOULD you like the chance to see two of the biggest stars of the West End perform together for the first time in a one-night-only glitzy concert?

Well here’s your chance. The London Weekly News has teamed up with Tieline Productions to offer two lucky winners the chance to see Kerry Ellis and Louise Dearman in their concert at the Prince Edward Theatre on September 27.

You and a friend can join other theatre fans, as two of the most highly acclaimed West End leading ladies in recent years take to the stage for this once in a lifetime and unique evening of song, laughter and story telling.

To be in with a chance of winning, all you need to do is send an email with LONDON WEEKLY NEWS COMP as the subject heading to kerryandlouise@gmail.com along with your name, age and a contact telephone number. All entries must received by September 25, 2015.

Terms and conditions

■ Only one entry per person

■ Each prize consists of two tickets for Kerry Ellis and Louise Dearman Live In Concert Together at the Prince Edward Theatre on September 27

■ There is no cash alternative to the prize stated, and the prizes are non-transferable

■ Prize consists only of the elements expressly detailed above; no other elements or expenses such as travel, car parking, meals, beverages or spending money are included. All such expenses are the sole responsibility of the winner plus guest

■ The promoter’s decision is final and binding. No correspondence will be entered into. Unless otherwise stated the promoter is Tieline Productions.

■ The prize detailed is for that concert only and therefore is not transferable to other events

■ Any additional tickets you may wish to purchase can be booked in advance online at www.delfontmackintosh.co.uk

■ Please ensure you arrive at the Prince Edward Theatre on September 27 by 7.15pm to ensure you are admitted in plenty of time for the 7.30pm. Anyone arriving after 7.30pm may not be admitted until the interval. Please also check your travel arrangements in advance as neither the promoter nor The London Weekly News can be held responsible for any delays due to travel disruption.

COMPETITION

The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson MP, has praised the formation of the West Anglia Taskforce to help champion the case for vital improvements to rail links between the capital, Cambridge and Stansted.

The West Anglia Taskforce held its first meeting at the House of Commons last Tuesday, September 8, following an announcement earlier this year as part of the Chancellor and the Mayor’s long term economic plan for London.

Chaired by Saffron Walden MP Sir Alan Haselhurst, the taskforce will build on case-making already presented by Transport for London and the London Stansted Cambridge Consortium (LSC2) and submitted to Network Rail in June.

Boris backs rail improvements

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Light entertainment: London Fire Brigade Commissioner Ron Dobson, and Fuller’s brewery chief executive Simon Emeny inspect The Hydrant’s fire extinguisher lamp shades at the pub opening event.

London’s best busker is Luca Fiore

Tenor from Hackney won in the Youth category (11-15 years) and gets a Roland Cube Street amp. Dat Brass from Islington won in the Groups category (up to eight members) and gets recording time in a top studio.

Other prizes were also up for grabs, including the Eurostar Prize, which was won by Alex James Ellison. He will now have the chance to travel to Paris, busking to passengers on the train and in the French capital.

Simeon Baker from Southwark is the overall winner of the Gigs Songwriting Prize. The Cat Burns from Lambeth gets a bespoke package of training and coaching at the Institute of Contemporary Music.

Winner: Luca Fiore

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Be brutally honest, is it time to fall in love with London’s concrete ‘horrors’?

BY NICKY SWEETLAND
nicky@londonweeklynews.co.uk

BEST known for country houses, coastlines and cream teas, the National Trust is set to shock its traditional audience with a series of pop-up openings of once much-maligned concrete buildings from the 1960s – including several in London.

For 10 days from Friday, September 25, the Trust is shining a light on a number of buildings across the nation exposing the significance of Brutalism, a movement that altered the landscape of Britain’s urban environment post-war.

The Trust is leading a UK-wide series of exclusive tours of Brutalist architecture in London, Sheffield and Norwich.

Along with the Southbank Centre, it will offer behind-the-scenes access to the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and Hayward Gallery. Visitors will get a unique view of the original fixtures and fittings, spaces never-before seen by the public, to mark the start of a two-year refurbishment programme of these buildings. These tours will explore the Festival of Britain, Brutalism and Modernism.

Visitors will be led through underground tunnels, onto performance spaces, examining the roles of form and function in the vision, construction and reception of these buildings.

Refurbishment

Other tour locations include Sheffield’s Park Hill Estate and the University of East Anglia in Norwich.

The legacy of Brutalism is currently undergoing a critical reappraisal. Joseph Watson, London Creative Director of the National Trust said: “Like them or not, it is indisputable that these places represent a distinct moment in British architectural history. It’s not so very long since a generation spoke of ‘Victorian monstrosities’ and systematically worked to erase that era in built form. We are now in danger of doing the same with Brutalism.”

Shan Maclennan, Deputy Artistic Director at Southbank Centre, said: “As we close the doors of the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and Hayward Gallery for a two-year refurbishment project, we pause for a moment to explore their architecture and revisit the radical intentions of their makers, which are still modern, even in 2015. We are thrilled to be doing this with the National Trust, apparently unlikely partners, but as devoted to telling the whole story of the Southbank Centre festival site as we are.”

Accessibility journey information to suit you

Step-free guides, LARGE TEXT options, Audio Tube maps and more can be downloaded or ordered via our help line free of charge. We’ve also improved our website by adding accessible options to the Journey Planner.

More ways we offer support:
- Ask a member of staff
- tfl.gov.uk/accessibility
- @TfLAccess

Support offered by: 
- Transport for London

MAYOR OF LONDON...
Developer in court over rogue adverts

BY LWN REPORTER

Jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

BASEMENT developers who put up advertisements without proper consents on two sites in Kensington and Chelsea found themselves in court last week.

The firm pleaded guilty at the City of London Magistrates' Court to breaching the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 2007.

The court, sitting on September 3, heard how officers from the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea’s Planning Enforcement Team had witnessed advertisements for Cranbrook Basements Limited at 6, Earl’s Court Gardens SW5 and 26, Scarsdale Villas W8, both situated within conservation areas.

The council has been cracking down on developers who advertise without consent in conservation areas since May 2014.

Cranbrook Basements displayed 28 square metres of advertisements along the front of 6, Earl’s Court Gardens and 23 square metres of advertisements along the front of 26, Scarsdale Villas. The company did not have permission for advertisements of this size and type and in May 2014 had previously been advised to remove all unauthorised adverts from the borough or face prosecution.

In mitigation the court heard that the company believed the prosecution should have been dealt with in November 2014 when it was prosecuted for similar offences on other properties. Furthermore, it was asserted that they had not breached the advertisement regulations since November 2014 and had amended how they advertise themselves in other residential locations.

In sentencing, District Judge Blake said that there could be no criticism of the council’s decision to prosecute. The judge also acknowledged the effect adverts have on the amenity of residents and visitors to the council’s conservation areas.

The company was fined £2,400 for advertising on each site (£1,200). The fine was reduced from £3,200 due to the company pleading guilty before a trial commenced. It was also ordered to pay the council’s full costs of £8,000 and a victim surcharge of £120. The company must pay the total figure of £10,520 within 28 days.

Councillor Timothy Colledge, the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea’s Cabinet Member for Planning Policy, said: “If companies have any doubt about what advertising is permitted and how to go about getting advert consent we provide an excellent pre-application advice service which can help people avoid expensive mistakes. I would urge companies to seek formal advice from our planning officers rather than end up in court.

“In this case the company did not have permission to advertise in this manner and ignored previous warnings to remove the advertisements. We will not tolerate developers advertising illegally on residential streets within our borough’s conservation areas. The company’s actions left us with no alternative but to prosecute.”

Westminster City School

Where tradition and religious ethos merge with modern standards

Westminster City School is a boys comprehensive school for pupils aged 11-19 which provides an active learning environment for all pupils founded on a Christian ethos.

The school offers a broad curriculum, encourages independent learning and provides a rich extracurricular programme. The curriculum, which Ofsted say is outstanding, is designed to fast track the most able pupils to complete their GCSEs in Year 10 and begin A-levels in Year 11.

Exam results in recent years have been very successful with the school receiving national recognition for its pupils high achievement at GCSE. The national schools’ membership organisation for improvement and collaboration (SSAT) identified the school’s success using in-depth analysis of official Department for Education data on all state-funded schools in England.

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT, said: “Westminster City School has been recognised for their exceptional achievement. They have proved themselves to be leading the field in improving GCSE outcomes for their pupils.”

The school is in the top 20% for high attainment of non-selective schools and as such has qualified for two SSAT Educational Excellence awards. The first is for progress made by pupils between Key Stage 2 results at primary school and GCSE results at age 16. The second is forvalue added progress which measures the amount of academic progress each pupil makes.

Mr James Wilson Headmaster, commented: “These awards are a testament to the commitment and hard work of the pupils, teachers and leadership team at Westminster City School, and show what can be achieved when skilled teachers have high expectations and ambition for every young person. I am proud that this school is a member of the SSAT.”

A Level results have also been very pleasing with many students going on to degree courses at highly respected Russell Group universities.

Headmaster James Wilson said: “I am delighted with these outstanding A level results. Our students have secured places at Russell Group universities including Durham, Exeter, Edinburgh, Leeds and Manchester to study degree courses such as medicine, engineering, mathematics and politics.”

The school’s overall A level results for 2015 are as follows:

- 97% A*-A
- 44% A*-B
- 97% A*-E

The main building was opened in 1877 and the school was given its present name in 1890. In its long and rich history, the school has had particularly strong links with St Margaret’s Church, Westminster Abbey. The school has kept pace with modern developments with approximately £15 million spent on refurbishment and new buildings providing the school with wonderful learning facilities. Continued development of the site, in partnership with neighbours Land Securities during the regeneration of the Victoria area, will allow the school to continue to provide first class facilities for all its pupils in the heart of London.

Westminster City is a member of the United Westminster Schools & Grey Coats Hospital Foundations, which together operate some of the highest performing schools in the country. The school holds a church service at St Margaret’s Church, Westminster Abbey at the end of every term, a privilege that affords our pupils the opportunity to celebrate achievement, reward endeavor and promote a sense of pride in the school. The annual awards ceremony is also held in College Gardens of the Abbey at the end of the summer term and is a fantastic evening for all the parents, pupils and staff.

Contact details

Westminster City School
55 Palace Street, London SW1 E 5HJ.
Tel: 020 7963 6300
www.wcsch.com

WESTMINSTER CITY SCHOOL

A high achieving boys secondary school in the heart of London. Attend one of our open events to find out how to apply for a Year 7 place starting in September 2016.

Open Evening
Thursday 24 September 5.00pm

Open Mornings
Saturday 26 September 10.00am
Thursday 1 October 9.30am
Friday 2 October 9.30am
Wednesday 7 October 9.30am
Thursday 8 October 9.30am

Phone 020 7963 6300 for more information or visit www.wcsch.com

KENSINGTON NEWS
Experts say Kate’s right to put her children first

WHINING critics of the Duchess of Cambridge have been slapped down by modern childcare experts who say that “the invisible princess” is actually proving that mum knows best.

The Duchess has faced much moaning recently from alleged “insiders” and royalist trolls gossiping that she is so much missed on the social circuit of which she and Prince William were the outstanding stars before she had Prince George and Princess Charlotte.

Following her absence from some high-end events, including several weddings, carping critics claimed that she was wrong to be putting family life above the royal star-walk, with some fans even calling on the duchess to get her infant children more out into the spotlight so that they could grow accustomed early to the lifelong glare of attention ahead of them.

But although Catherine is to start a reduced return to royal duties this week with a visit to the children’s Anna Freud Centre on Thursday [September 17th] and is said to be making an appearance at the Rugby World Cup in Twickenham, child experts say she is absolutely right in taking a gradual approach to getting back to work – for her children’s sake.

Aside from the “whose life is it anyway?” element which many Kate-commentators appear to entirely overlook, child psychologists say that the Duchess is giving her children the very best start in life by giving them most of her time.

Scientific studies have found a connection between early tender social experiences and the volume of the amygdala in the brain, which helps regulate the pro-

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

PARENTING SKILLS: The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge with new baby Charlotte.
Tiny royals will prosper from early nurturing

Cores of early parents help children’s brains develop

Cores of early parents help children’s brains develop

Experts endorse Kate’s parenting instincts

Positively parenting: Psychiatrist Dr Joan Luby,

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RUCKING RUGBY EXTRAVAGANZA

Your Guide to the 2015 Rugby World Cup

The 8th Webb Ellis trophy is coming home to English soil this Autumn as rugby fever grips the nation between 18th September and 1st October 2015.

Over six years ago on the 28th July 2009, just after the British & Irish Lions tasted heartbreak defeat in South Africa, smiles once again graced the faces of English rugby fans as England was awarded the Rugby World Cup 2015.

After facing strong competition from rival bids from Italy, South Africa and Japan, Rugby World Cup Ltd recommended England to the International Rugby Board (now known as World Rugby) with the final to be held at the famous Twickenham Stadium.

After England were appointed tournament hosts, the proposed stadium was revealed, with only four out of the thirteen stadia being dedicated rugby grounds, with the remainder being association football grounds. This move proved to be a controversial decision especially in the east Midlands where Welford Road, home of the famous Leicester Tigers, was expected to be announced as one of the host venues.

Instead, the Walkers Stadium, home of Barclays Premiership side Leicester City, which can be seen from Welford Road was awarded the privilege.

A decision was also made to award cities which aren’t in the usual rugby heartlands the chance to hold pool matches, including Brighton and Birmingham. A decision that has so far proved fruitful as ticket sales have soared.

Cardiff’s Millennium Stadium was also awarded several matches, including knock out games, and is the only city to feature outside of the host nation England.

The qualification process for the 2015 Rugby World Cup began during the pool stages of the 2012 tournament in New Zealand, during which the top three teams from each of the four pools were awarded automatic qualification for the 2015 event. A further eight teams qualified through regional tournaments and the repechage process.

In all, 96 national teams have been involved in the 2015 World Cup – 12 as automatic qualifiers and 84 as entrants in the qualification rounds.

The regional rounds are split into 5 worldwide geographical areas; Americas, Asia, Europe, Oceania and Africa. Some of you may be surprised at some of the countries who participated in the regional qualification rounds. From the Americas, countries included the Bahamas, Barbados, and Bermuda making it very tropical round of matches! From Asia, the likes of India, Pakistan and China joined in. In Europe, it was a Scandinavian affair with Sweden, Finland and Norway aiming for World Cup qualification. Finally, from Africa and Oceania, Botswana, Cameroon, Zambia, Tahiti, Papua New Guinea and the Soloman Islands all vied for those precious World Cup spots.

The development of rugby within these countries is encouraging, and means that the game of rugby is finally starting to make a world wide impression. Players from developing countries are even starting to break into the professional domestic game in Europe with the likes of Dimitri Arhip from Moldova, and Davit Zirakashvili from Georgia playing their trade with Ospreys and Clermont-Auvergne respectively in the top tier of European rugby – The Champions Cup.

This autumn is also going to be an emotional time as we bid a very fond farewell to some of the giants of the international game, with the likes of Paul O’Connell, Ma’u Nonu and Dan Carter retiring from international rugby after the World Cup. O’Connell and Nonu are finishing their careers in the south of France with big spenders Toulon, and Carter is heading to the French capital with Racing 92. All three have been wonderful servants to their respective countries with an incredible 297 caps between them.

When all is said and done, rugby and the World Cup has the ability to bring the global community together, and this Autumn is going to be amazing. So grab your flags, scarves, and that all important pint of beer and enjoy the ride as we welcome the Rugby World Cup 2015 to England!
### Your Guide to the 2015 Rugby World Cup

#### POOL DRAWS

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#### KNOCKOUT STAGES

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All dates & times are correct at the time of going to print.
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London Weekly News 17 Thursday, September 17th 2015 editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

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Milton Keynes
Stadium MK

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The eccentric side of royal life illuminated

Kingdom of odd fellows

If you look far enough back into its history, every family has its eccentric members, the royal family is no exception.

George II, for instance, had a highly-irrational hatred of books and anybody caught reading one in his presence would catch it in the neck as the 18th century king would fly into a rage until the offending tome was removed from his sight, wrote Geoff Baker.

Elizabeth I suffered from anaphrophobia, the fear of flowers – roses in particular. Clearly this must have made sitting on her throne somewhat unsettling, decorated as it was with three white roses of the House of York.

James I had a fear of getting stabbed – not such a strange-ness, given the often-brutal ways of the Middle Ages – and sought to protect himself against the threat by wearing such heavily-padded clothing that his walk around Court was reduced to an awkward waddle.

And woe betide anyone who upset the frequently-irrational King John, whose fury was so fierce that he was said to gnaw at anything to hand if upset by some disobedient baron. John was also said to be in the habit of setting fire to his host’s house if he did not especially enjoy a visit.

The Stuarts were no strangers to extreme behaviour. As a lover Charles II indulged himself in having more than 30 mistresses whom he also indulged to such an extent that he once took – in today’s money – £2.3 million from the public purse to pay off the gambling debts of his long-time mistress Lady Castlemaine.

But stranger still was “the merry monarch” when it came to cosmetic down for upper Obsessive about cleanliness, he employed a “gravy-dabber” whose sole purpose at Court was to hover about His Majesty at mealtimes, ready with a cloth to dab at the king’s lips and remove any speck of food or smear of drink.

Mind you, the dabber had his work cut out. Dinner in those days began at three in the afternoon and went on for hours. At one state banquet in 1671, Charles and his doubtlessly-bursting guests munched through a menu that contained 142 dishes.

He was of course famous for making fashionable the eating of pineapple in Britain but his less known for his habit of regularly taking The King’s Drops, an alleged medicine made to prevent apoplexy.

Don’t go asking your pharmacist for such drops today as Charles’s tincture was a gruesome brew of alcohol and powdered human skull taken from mumified corpses.

But if the offer of “brandy or

poured into the pit to kill it – because at the time many towns had by-laws regulating the sale of meat, which stipulated that bull’s flesh should be bailed before any bull was slaughtered as it was believed that basting improved the flesh.

Anyway, into this enlightened world grew Jeffrey – a perfectly-proportioned little chap but very, very little, technically a pygmy dwarf suffering from a growth hormone deficiency – although local talk had it that Jeffrey was such a Tom Thumb because his mother had “choked on a gherkin while pregnant”.

His miniature standing made him something of a little big star and shortly after his seventh birthday he was presented to the Duchness of Buckingham, who made him part of her household and then served him a little later as pie filling for the royals.

Enchanted by the tiny chap, the queen accepted Jeffrey as a gift and moved him into her home at Denmark House, now Somerset House, to be part of her retinue of oddity which included two other dwarves, a monkey and a Welsh giant called William Evans.

Evans and Jeffrey developed a double act which wouldn’t get past the censors on Britain’s Got Talent these days but which delighted the Court – the giant would take Jeffrey from his pocket along with slices of bread and proceed to make a sandwich.

As Jeffrey grew in age, his frame did not and he remained at only 18 inches tall. But he became a Court favourite, starring in skits and masques, appearing in portraits of the queen and known as Lord Minimus.

At the age of 10 (!) he was considered sufficiently mature to be sent to France to fetch a mid-wife for the then-pregnant queen. Their ship was attacked and plundered by pirates on the voyage home but somehow the queen’s emmisary got his important charge back to London, where he spent the next decade learning courtly manners, how to ride and, significantly, how to shoot.

Soon came the Civil War and Jeffrey was appointed Captain of Horse with Prince Rupert’s cavalry, joining the Royalist army at Oxford. It is not recorded whether he did or didn’t see service in the field against the Roundheads but as the Royalists’ fighting was not going well he was sent to accompany the queen in fleeing to France.

And there it all went pear-shaped for Captain Jeffrey Hud- son, who had become tired of being the butt of jokes and, following one such from another exiled courtier, challenged his defamer to a duel.

The amused aristocrat accepted but he arrived for the appointed combat armed only with a toy. Roaring his laughter as the referee gave the command to fire, he soon stopped as Jeffrey shot him straight through the forehead.

But duelling was illegal in France and the disgraced Jeffrey, now aged 25, was sent back to England in disgrace. En route, his ship was attacked by Barbary pirates and he was taken to Africa, where he spent the next 25 years in slavery from which he did not escape back to Lon- don until 1669. By then his queen had gone and, after suffering further imprisonment for being a Catholic, he died a pauper.

The Queen’s Dwarf: The Life Of Jeffrey Hudson, Hampton Court Palace, October 14th, 7.0 pm.

Tickets £15
Reckless: My Life As A Pretender

SHOW BIZ SPECIAL

Great Pretender who takes rock and role model seriously

by Geoff Baker

ROCK and roll was never meant to be respectable or appeal to, as Mick Jagger perfectly... 'sex worker' pop divas.

20 London Weekly News Thursday, September 17th 2015 editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk


But pop rock then discovered that it could make even more money if it made itself sexy, appealing to the uncertain pathos of its impressionable listeners by showing a succession of boy bands from The Beatles to One Direction to an audience that demonstrated its uncertain grasp on maturity by screaming.

But has pop, the preferred choice of Miss and Master Mainstream, gone too far? Has the music, but despite being comparatively safe and harmless, the music actually become the real threat by making itself blantly lascivious? And if so, outside of a pulpit where the voices to warn about that.

One voice, a gravelled old one from the very belly of rock and roll, spoke up last week, surreally on Woman's Hour of all places, telling the notoriously-scare Chrissie Hynde warned the washed that they had better watch out.

It was an amusingly-chippy interview, as you would expect from the founder of The Pretenders, causing much ring of cymbals and guzzaws as Hynde countered Jenni Murray's probing “now we both, you and I, lived through the sam e sexual revolution...” with “Ha! How was it for you?”

But then the rock and roll defiance surfaced, not by Hynde trashin the studio or swearing or anything as clichéd but by challenging the norm of Mr Mainstream which has allowed the kids of young teenagers – Rhianna, Beyoncé, Lady Gaga, Miley Cyrus and Rita Ora – to appear on television in provocatively-skimpy costumes.

Many parents, especially those of young daughters, have repeatedly expressed alarm in recent years over the impact it has on impressionable young teenagers to see their idols dressed like a stripper. There is a common thread among young pop stars and beautiful, as Dame Shirley Bassey – herself no stranger to sexiness – recently pointed out.

“They’re all in competition with each other who can wear the skimpiest outfit,” complained Dame Shirley. “In my day it was for stage only. You didn’t go out like it. I think you have to leave a lot to the imagination.”

It’s not every day that Shirley Bassey and Chrissie Hynde share a songsheet but the rocker joined her in giving the sleaziest standards of modern pop the goldfinger

Sex attacks, she said, are “provoked by pop stars who call themselves feminists but they’re not feminists on behalf of music if they’re bumping and grinding and wearing their underwear in videos.”

Hynde added: “You’re a sex worker, that is what you are; it’s provocative in a way that has nothing to do with music. I would say that those women are responsible for a great deal of damage.”

It probably wasn’t what Jenni Murray was expecting to hear but then Chrissie Hynde – currently promoting her autobiography Reckless – is in herself not what you might expect if intimidated by her rock and roll image. In person she has a sensitive fragility behind the trademarks of her heavy fringe, made-dark eyes and tight mouth – and as a mother of two daughters she has an un-expected strong sense of responsibility that is hardly a hallmark of her profession.

Many other stars, especially the pop ones, appear to use their children almost as props or accessories, something extra to grab the attention of the paparazzi if the outfit from Raimond’s Revue Bar isn’t quite doing the trick. But such cheap and questionable stunts fall way below the standards of Chrissie Hynde.

“I always put my kids first. They always had their bedtime. They didn’t see a show of mine until they were about 14,” she said. “It’s not cool to have a famous parent. I pulled back once I had them. I did just the least amount to get by. I think it’s a real burden to be living in the shade of someone. I never talk about my kids.”

“You’ve never seen me photographed with my children; you’ve never seen me walk through an airport with them. If one of my kids wanted to be a librarian, and was very quiet and reserved? I want them to come from a colourless background like I did, and have the opportunity to invent themselves when the time comes.”

Now Chrissie Hynde has re-invented herself as an author with an autobiogaphy which is already being hailed as the best since Keith Richards released Life. Like Bob Geldof and unlike almost everybody else in the business, she wrote it herself, shocked at the very idea that anyone would give their own story to a ghost writer.

The book is already causing much excitement on both sides of the Atlantic and publishers Penguin Random House are positively frothing over it:

“Few other rock stars have managed to combine her swagger, sexiness, stage presence, knack for putting words to music, gorgeous voice and just all-around kick-assedness into such a potent and alluring package. Her signature songs project a unique mixture of toughness and vulnerability that millions of men and women have related to.”

A kind of one-woman secret tunnel linking punk and new wave to classic guitar rock, she is one of the great luminaries in rock history.

“Now, in her no-holds-barred memoir Reckless, Chrissie Hynde tells, with all the fearless candor, sharp humor and depth of feeling we’ve come to expect, exactly where she came from and what she crooked, winding path to stardom entailed.”

Chrissie Hynde took that path, to London from Ohio in 1973 – not to be, as she briefly was, a shop assistant at Vivienne Westwood and Malcolm McLaren’s King’s Road Punk store, nor, as she was also, a very cynical writer on the NME, but to be in a band.

It is entirely all that she has ever wanted.

“I never was too interested in high school. I mean, I never went to a dance, I never went out on a date, I never went steady. It became pretty awful for me. Except, of course, I could see sex bands, and that was the kick.”

“My life has been very much more interesting than the book. I never had a great deal of the same. I was a music fan. I used to go to Cleveland just to see any band. So I was in love a lot of the time, but mostly with guys in bands that I had never met. For me, knowing that Brian Jones was out there, and later that Iggy Pop was out there, made it kind of hard for me to get too interested in the guys that were around me. I had bigger things in mind. I wanted to be in a band, I wanted to be in a band so bad.”

The band she eventually got to be in, by forming herself in 1978, became one of the best of the Eighties. As other post-punk bands penconed around as New Romantics and poppy divas, The Pretenders gave an edge to London in the decade with hit after hit, including Stop Your Sobbin’, Kid, Brass In Pocket, Talk Of The Town, Don’t Get Me Wrong, 2000 Miles and Back On The Chain Gang.

What made The Pretenders so distinctive and impressed so many, wasn’t that it was a woman fronting a rock band, the punk scene had caused the shift of that, it was women making a rock band playing a guitar and being able to play it very well. She is self-ef-facing about that, as she told The Guardian last year.

“There’s always been women doing this, just not many. I don’t know why the feminists have to say so about it. Over the years, you’d hear, ‘We weren’t encouraged.’

“Well, I don’t think Jeff Beck’s mother was saying, ‘Jeffrey! What are you doing up in your room? Are you re-hearsing up there?’ No one was ever encouraged to play guitar in a band.

“But I never found it harder because I’m a woman. If anything I’ve been treated better. Guys can carry my gui-tars and stuff – who’s going to say no? Guys always tune my guitars, too. If they want to tune it, go ahead, I don’t care. They probably think they can do it better than me. They probably can. I always surround myself with people who are better than me and I don’t doubt they can. That’s how, having primitive skills, I got away with it.”

There is clearly much more to Chrissie Hynde than that, as is revealed in her book. Cer-tainly Madonna thinks so. The empress of pop credits Chrissie Hynde as being the one who gave her the confidence to also launch herself into such a histori-cal male-dominated world as the rock business.

“I saw her play with The Pretenders in Central Park in 1980,” Madonna recounted. “She was amazing. The only woman I had ever seen in performance where I thought, Yeah, she’s got balls, she’s awesome! It gave me courage, inspiration, to see a woman with that kind of confidence in a man’s world.”

That rock and roll, now at the grand old age of 60, is no longer a man’s world is considerably due to Chrissie Hynde. She would hate to be called a pioneer of women in rock but when rock and roll marks its centenary in 2056 that is doubtless how she will get written up in the history of it all.

“I’m in a facts person,” she said back in 1994, “I’m not into theories. I’m a woman. If anything I’ve been the other way.”

Chrissie Hynde. Out now
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**Builder’s just desserts**

ICHARD Burr might not have won last year’s Great British Bake Off, but he’s definitely one of the show’s most memorable contestants, writes Claire Spreadbury.

Maybe it’s the pencil behind the ear. Maybe it’s the consistency that saw him scoop the most Star Baker accolades the programme’s ever seen. Or maybe it’s his delectable, down-to-earth demeanour, which never saw him flap, fluct or throw a Baked Alaska in the bin.

And while a new crew of bakers craft their showstoppers in this year’s series, 39-year-old Burr has been beavering away releasing his first cookbook.

“I got to spend the whole weekend making all of my favourite food,” he tells me in the kitchen of his North London home, all doe-eyed and dainties.

The house, which was derelict when he joined in when we’re chatting, nips off to M&S insisting she cover to cover, here (“the crew all but moved in”), and includes lovely images of old tools from Burr’s toolbox, including his beloved grandfather’s saw.

It’s clear that family’s really important to him. He’ll join with his wife Sarah, who joins in when we’re chatting, nips off to M&S insisting she needs to buy us sandwiches and tells me stories about being woken up at 2am for Bake Off tests, and drunkenly devouring an entire Baked Alaska when the pair clambered in after a night out. And then there’s their two adorable daughters, three-year-old Genevieve, all tousled hair and dainties, and Elizabeth, six, who’s at a summer camp today. There’s another bundle of joy on the way too, due in December.

Baking has always filled a delicious hole in Burr’s life.

“Mum baked cakes and kept us alive, but I got a Saturday job in a bakery and scrumpd a number of doughnuts as I could. That’s where my love of baking really comes from,” he says, as he lays out the ingredients needed to make the millefeuille recipe from his book, BAKE IT YOURSELF. “And now I cook with the kids and it’s such an early bed, so I’ll often be kicking around with the girls in the morning, and if it’s a choice between cooking in the kitchen or watching Nickelodeon, I’d rather have them in here with me.”

As we get to work on one of Burr’s favourite recipes, he’s a pleasure to share a kitchen with, giving me instructions, tips and encouragement as I do my very best not to split the creme patisserie.

After the success of Bake Off and landing a book deal, you’d be forgiven for thinking he might decide to knock the hard graft of building on the head. But building is a big part of Burr’s life—evident as he draws out his steel tape measure to size up the slices of cooked puff pastry.

“The business went huge after Bake Off,” he reveals, whipping out some piping bags and wandering about the hub of his home, sporting a T-shirt, jeans and bright green socks. “I could have just used it to expand, but I wanted to have some fun with it, too. I try not to say ‘no’ to anything.”

Indeed, he has a degree in biodiversity and conservation—which he took on while doing Bake Off and running a building firm, and he somehow managed to get a first.

Burr’s also a keen fisherman. And now, he’s an author, too.

My favourite recipes from the book include the blackberry and elderflower pavlovas. My wife is actually pathologically addicted to them. The millefeuilles are great, and there’s a brilliant mincemeat muffin in there, that doesn’t look much, but once you have it, you’ll never eat mince pies again.”

And with that, he shows me how to pipe the custard and stack the millefeuille, we throw a load of icing sugar over the top, skip lunch and go straight to dessert—delicious!
Blood Brothers
New Wimbledon Theatre ***

THE last time I watched the classic Willy Russell musical Blood Brothers was when I was just 16 and I can safely say I’m quite a lot longer in the tooth now. Unfortunately, so are the majority of the cast in this new offering of the Bill Kenwright formulae, which has been travelling the country on and off for the past 20 years.

That’s not to say they are bad. In fact, Maureen Nolan as Mrs Johnston is still a fine figure of a woman, but I can’t help but feel that the impact of the story would be even more heartfelt if the actors were just a bit less seasoned.

This is Nolan’s tenth year playing the role which three of her sisters before her had fulfilled, earning them an entry into the Guinness Book of World Records.

One of the most iconic leading ladies ever to have been written, Mrs Johnston is an unlucky woman who gives up one of her twin babies in the hope he will have a better life and she will be able to keep the wolf from the door.

With a story hinged on superstitions, it ends with tragic consequences for both of the brothers.

Joel Benedict as Eddie, the brother who is given away, is perfect as the shy public school boy wishing for some excitement to infiltrate his bland existence with his overbearing mother.

His blood brother Mickey, played by Sean Jones, is truly superb, going from the cheeky dirty little street urchin to morose depressant. His portrayal of the jobless drug dependant was particularly powerful and gave act two a real depth beyond just the regular story.

There are also great performances from Danielle Corlass as Linda, the object of both

**TOUCHING: Blood Brothers’ leading lady, Maureen Nolan, is Mrs Johnston, with Marti Pellow the narrator.**

Dusty confined to the bin

Dusty *

WHEN it was first announced they were doing a musical featuring the music of 60s icon Dusty Springfield, I have to say I was quite excited.

With so many memorable hit songs, even the jukebox format, which is not my favourite type of musical, couldn’t possibly be that bad. How wrong can one person be? The show playing at the Charing Cross Theatre is one of the worst things I’ve ever watched and without trying to sound cruel, I’ve struggled to find anything positive to say about it.

The one-star rating is given because I felt so sorry for the performers who have been given a job to do with appalling direction, a terrible script and ill conceived and thoroughly ham-fisted staging.

Billed as a show which mixes live action with state-of-the art technology, the story is told through the eyes of fictional childhood friend Nancy Jones, and follows Dusty’s life from childhood up until her recording in Memphis. In a confused array of scenes set in recording studio and concert venues, we are given a superficial view of the singer’s career without ever exploring the real Dusty. The more sensitive areas of her life were so badly covered that I put my head in my hands on more than one occasion and actually had to stifle a giggle of embarrassment at how corny and stiff some of the dialogue was.

Set changes were clunky, with loud knocks and bangs during quiet moments, and the actors were the abhorrent wigs. More Fraggle Rock than sixties bountiful, at more than one point they looked like they might get up and run off of their own volition.

The worst distractions of all were the abhorrent wigs. More Fraggle Rock than sixties bountiful, at more than one point they looked like they might get up and run off of their own volition.

The show has been in previews since May, and you have got to ask where the time has been spent.

This was a show my boss really wanted to see, but my advice to him would be firstly don’t and secondly if you really want to, you had better hurry, as I don’t expect it will be a long run.

Nicky Sweetland
Listings

Kensington Olympia Festival of Music and the Arts
The Kensington Olympia Festival of Music and the Arts – KOFMA – is being held in the beautiful parish church of St Matthew, Kensington Olympia, on the corner of Sinclair, Masbro and Fielding Roads until Sunday, September 20. For detailed information about all the events, including ticket prices which are all bookable online – go to www.kofma.co.uk. Or just turn up on the day. Tickets for the gala dinner are also available through Laura Lamph on kofma2015@gmail.com or 07779 108108.

Importance of Being Earnest at the Vaudeville Theatre
To November 7
David Suchet stars as Lady Bracknell in Oscar Wilde’s much loved masterpiece. Directed by Adrian Noble, Wilde’s superb satire on Victorian manners is one of the funniest plays in the English language – the delightful repartee and hilarious piercing of hypocrisy and pomposity can still make you laugh out loud. www.importanceofearnest.com

Exhibition of work by artistIrvin Crosthwait at Gray MCA
September 17 to 22
Unseen and rediscovered works by the former Canadian war artist, fashion illustrator and modern painter Irvin ‘Bud’ Crosthwait (1914 – 1981), will go on sale in an unprecedented selling exhibition by Gray MCA in London this September. The exhibition will present the most extensive selection of works by Crosthwait in 65 years, from across Europe and North America, including many works that have never before been on public view. The exhibition will feature a total of more than 60 original works ranging in price from £350-£10,000. Location: Gallery 8, 8 Duke Street St James’s London SW1Y 6BN. Opening hours: Thursday 17 September – 9.30am – 8.00pm; Friday 18 September, Saturday 19 September, Sunday 20 September, Monday 21 September, Tuesday 22 September – 9.30am – 6.30pm.

Sinatra: The Man and His Music at the London Palladium
To October 10th
The iconic music of Frank Sinatra is brought to life at one of the capital’s most iconic venues in Sinatra: The Man and His Music at the London Palladium. This multi-media concert, which has the support and endorsement of the singer’s family, marks the centenary of Sinatra’s birth and features his greatest hits including Fly Me To The Moon, New York, New York and My Way.

London Design Festival
September 19 to 27
The London Design Festival was conceived by Sir John Sorrell and Ben Evans. Building on the art of the London Design Festival – KOFMA – is being held in the London Design Festival, which raises money for the Whitechapel gallery and celebrates the bounty of the autumn harvest, with the use of the arts – KOFMA – is being held in the retailers and educators to deliver an unmissable celebration of design. First staged in 2003, the London Design Festival is one of the world’s most important annual design events. The festival programme is made up of over 400 events and exhibitions staged by hundreds of partner organisations across the design spectrum and from around the world. A major feature of the London Design Festival each year is the ambitious programme of installations that organisers call their Landmark Projects.

Hamlet at the Barbican Theatre
To October 31
Directed by Lyndsey Turner and starring Benedict Cumberbatch, Benedict Cumberbatch takes on the title role in Shakespeare’s great tragedy. Directed by Lyndsey Turner (Posh, Chimerica) and produced by Sonia Friedman Productions, the Barbican presents an exclusive twelve-week run of this compelling new production in summer 2015.

Pearly Kings and Queens Harvest Festival
September 27
Celebrate the harvest with the Pearly Kings and Queens, who will be wearing their traditional pearl-button suits as they parade from Guildhall to St Mary-le-Bow church. The Pearly Kings and Queens of London are a charming and unforgettable sight. At this festival, which celebrates the bounty of the autumn harvest, they will be staging traditional entertainment at Guildhall before processing to St Mary-le-Bow church for a service of thanksgiving. You can expect marching bands, donkeys and a host of colourful characters at this traditional event, which raises money for the Whitechapel Mission.

West London Philatelic Society
September
West London Philatelic Society is ten years old this month. Meetings start at 8pm and are held at The Church Rooms, behind Acton Hill Church, Woodwardes Avenue, Acton, London W3 9BU. In general, meetings are on the first Tuesdays of each month, from September to July, unless noted otherwise. They are a small, friendly society. New members welcome. For more details contact Honorary Secretary Chris E Oliver on Tel: 020 8940 9833 or e-mail: olivers.of ham@virgin.net. Web: sites.google.com/site/westlondonphilatelicsociety

Buckingham Palace summer opening
To September 27th
Visit Buckingham Palace, the official London residence of the Queen, this summer. Buckingham Palace is one of the world’s few remaining working royal palaces - don’t miss the chance to see it.

This is a FREE listings service for local charitable and community organisations.
Email your listings to: listings@londonweeklynews.co.uk

Talk Of The Town

Porrayal of gay culture appeals to wide audience

F*cking Men review

F*cking Men runs at the King’s Head Theatre until September 26

Hatched and Dispatched

Hatched and Dispatched runs at the

Sordid revelations become compelling
WORLD champion ballroom dancer and Strictly Come Dancing favourite Joanne Clifton has joined presenter Zoe Ball on the show’s daily BBC2 sister show It Takes Two this year. But how has the hotshot hoofer managed to trade in her heels for a new career in TV presenting?

Well, the dazzling dancer has taken lessons from one of the country’s top TV presenting experts, Kathryn Wolfe at Pukka Presenting. Wolfe runs bespoke classes for anyone wanting to take the first step into the world of TV presenting. With over 20 years of experience as a director for both the BBC and ITV, Wolfe offers a unique programme of training and has helped to steer the Strictly star to her first on-screen anchor role.

I spoke to Kathryn about how she came to meet Joanne Clifton, and the opportunity her classes have afforded the dancer. “Joanne Clifton came to the Actors Centre last summer to take part in my two-day presenting course. She’d already reached world class standard with her ballroom dancing and was looking to explore TV presenting, acting and singing as another career path but being a naturally cheeky performer she took to presenting like a duck to water.”

Kathryn offers courses which teach the basics of reading ad copy, talking to camera convincingly; and being the guest expert as well as giving you the skills which will enable you to fulfil interviews confidently and write and memorise scripts.

Joanne started dancing ballroom and Latin as a child in her home town of Waltham and was taught by her parents who were former world number ones Keith and Judy Clifton. She competed nationally and internationally as a child, initially partnering her brother Kevin, who is also a firm favourite with Strictly fans.

Joanne then took part in her first series of Strictly last year along with her brother, who has recently wed his dance partner Karen. Joanne partnered Radio 1 DJ Scott Mills and after some very memorable dances, they were eliminated in week six on the Halloween show.

Trainer Kathryn tells me: “During the last series, producers gave Joanne some opportunities to do some presenting and realised she was actually going to be very good, so this year she is taking part in the show and presenting It Takes Two.”

After the initial two days of basic training Joanne wanted to maintain her high career standards so undertook some one to one private coaching sessions to ensure she is the best she can be on screen. The training is ongoing, with the pair meeting for lessons regularly. When I told Joanne the new role sounded amazing she tweeted: “I’m mad excited. Thank you, and what an opportunity to work with the legend Zoe Ball.”

Kathryn at Pukka Presenting also offers specialised genres of shopping channel presenting and children’s presenting and has written two leading books on TV presenting, The TV Presenter’s Career Handbook, published by Focal Press 2015, and How To Want To Be a TV Presenter published by Nick Hern Books, 2010. If you would like more information on how to become a TV presenter have a look at the website pukkapresenting.co.uk

TV debut for Strictly star

By NICKY SWEETLAND
LWN Theatre Critic

the show and presenting It Takes Two.”

For more details visit their website at this address: elfthemusical.co.uk

Elf: Santa’s little helper

FOLLOWING overwhelming pressure, the producers of this year’s must-see Christmas show, Elf, have announced they are to release a limited number of tickets for the greatly reduced price of £30.

The show hit the headlines a few weeks ago when ticket prices beat West End records, with the top seats costing a whopping £250 – which put them way out of reach of the average family.

Although the box office was busy with sales due to the added publicity, the unpredicted move has been welcomed by theatre goers who questioned the motives of the producers of the show, which is likely to be an extremely popular addition to the West End for its limited run.

The production is based on the 2003 film of the same name which starred Will Ferrell as the child who is adopted by Santa’s helpers, only to return to the human world and struggle to fit. The heart warming and hilarious comedy was a big hit on Broadway and enjoyed a limited but very successful run at the Theatre Royal in Plymouth last year.

The cast will be led by ITV’s Superstar winner Ben Forster as Buddy the Elf, alongside former Girls Aloud star Kimberley Walsh, who will play the role of Jovie. The show will open with a glittering charity gala performance on November 5, with proceeds going to the Alzheimer’s Society, and will then run throughout the Christmas period.

Elf will play at the newly refurbished Dominion Theatre from November 5 to January 2. For more details visit their website at this address: elfthemusical.co.uk
Bargain Buys

OUT OF THE FLOOR RECORDS
25 Years in Camden NW1
REGGAE + ALL JAMAICAN MUSIC (+ 70s Ska, Jazz, Boogie, Disco, Hip Hop, etc.)
Forget the rest! We pay the best!! Cash Waiting!!
Jake 020 7485 9958 / 07961 315874

BUTLER Sink, white, currently used as container for pot plants indoor or outdoors £38 ono. Glass & Flowers tin planter, sits on counter with electric plug, recipe book, unused in box, original packing £18. 020 7791 0097

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES
Loft stainless steel gas cooker with 5 rings. Grill and oven. 23 1/2 (w), 27 1/2 (l). £83. Tel: 07473 436 660

CAR TRAILER Aluminium 3f (6) by 4f 8. £95. Tel: 07473 436 660

7" TABLE as new in box £30. Tel: 07575 302 225

2 MOROCCAN LEATHER POUFFES in chestnut (brown leather). Bought from a family run business in Marrakech, traditional round design, cream embroidered patterns, new unused £55. Tel: 020 7799 5053

ROOF BOX made of canvas folds flat for storage. 020: 020 87715583.

25 Years in Camden NW1
REGGAE + ALL JAMAICAN MUSIC (+ 70s Ska, Jazz, Boogie, Disco, Hip Hop, etc.)
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Children Wanted

CHILD’S CIGARETTE STABILITY GATE £5. Piano stool needs minor repair £5.00. Tel: 020 8599 2925

ROLLATOR with undersack bag, very good condition £25. Rice Cooker £10. Never used £5.00. £5.00. Upright hoover pet £17.95, ex £15. Tel: 07507 437 357


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NEW ROOF BOX made of canvas folds flat for storage. 020: 020 87715583.
**London Weekly News**

**Thursday, September 17th 2015**

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**Leisure**

**Forthcoming Events**

- **Woking Leisure**
  - **Display Ent/Leisure**
    - The ultimate tribute to one of rock and roll’s most memorable groups.

**Car Boot Sales**

**SMB EVENTS**

**GIGANTIC SUPER BOOT SALE**

- **At PEDHAM PLACE, SWANLEY BR8 8PP**
- **On Sunday 13th September**
  - 6am-2pm
- **Full details**
  - [www.smbbootsales.co.uk](http://www.smbbootsales.co.uk)
  - **ENQ:** 01795 426 400
  - **MOB:** 07920 111 904

**BEST SATURDAY BOOT SALES**

- **Ark Oval Fields, Cherry Orchard Road, Croydon, CR9 5BA**
- **Every Saturday from 8am**
  - Sellers from 8am, Cars £10, Vans £15.
  - V.Busy, Sell Loads, Great Public
  - Buyers 9am-10am £1, after 10am 50p.
  - Free Parking, Loads Bargains, V.Busy.
  - Hardstanding available if field is wet.
  - [www.boot-sale.com](http://www.boot-sale.com)
  - **07929 847 405**
  - **www.boot-salesaroundlondon.com**

**Public Notices**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM**

**BOOT FAIRS**

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

**SECTION 14(1)**

**GOLDHAWK ROAD II**

**TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC**

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate scaffolding works in the above named road, it intends to make an Order the effect of which would suspend a section of bus lane in Goldhawk Road.

2. Whilst works are in progress or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, the westbound bus lane in Goldhawk Road between Wingate Road and Paddenswick Road will be suspended.

3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 will not be required.

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 would come into operation on Monday, 5th October 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

6. Works would be expected to commence in 3 phases between Monday, 5th October 2015 and 07th March 2016. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 1st day of September 2015.

Chris Bainbridge
Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
Transport & Technical Services

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**To advertise in the classified section**

**Tel:** 020 8768 4919

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**London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham**

**Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**

**Section 14(1)**

**Shepherd’s Bush Road II**

**Temporary Prohibition of Traffic**

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate scaffolding works in the above named road, it intends to make an Order the effect of which would suspend certain waiting and loading restrictions in the above named road.

2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, the waiting and loading restrictions on the east side of Shepherd’s Bush Road will be suspended from Monday to Saturday between the hours of 10am and 4pm to allow loading and unloading in connection with the scaffolding works at Gravelines Mansions, Shepherd’s Bush Road only.

3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would not be required.

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.

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Dated this 10th day of September 2015.

Chris Bainbridge
Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
Transport & Technical Services

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**Public Notices**

**PLACE YOUR PREMISES LICENSE WITH US FOR ONLY £112 plus VAT**

**Call Candy**

**020 8768 4919**

**Deadline is Friday at 3pm**

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**THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM**

**Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**

**Amendment No. 09 Order 2015**

**The Hammersmith and Fulham Waiting and Loading Order 2015**

**Amendment No. 30 Order 2015**

**The Hammersmith and Fulham Parking Places, Zone A**

**The Hammersmith and Fulham Parking Places, Zone B/C/CC**

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**Public Meetings**

**KENSINGTON & CHELSEA CAB SERVICE AGM**

**Thursday**

**8th October 2015**

**6.30pm**

**Committee Room 1**

**The Town Hall**

**London W8 7NX**

All Welcome

To confirm a place please telephone 020 7353 7456
PLANNING EIGHT BUILDING CONSERVATION AREAS ACT 1990

I give notice that applications have been made to the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham as follows:

FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA.

The Quadrangle 40 Atalanta Street

Applications to enlarge existing building (section 15: Listed Building) (Class B1) at 1st, 2nd and 3rd floor level, on top of existing basement, for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

6. Works would be expected to commence on Tuesday 29th September and last for 5 days. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Chris Bainbridge
Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
Transport & Technical Services

29 Thursday, Septemberr 2015.
 Chris Bainbridge
Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
Transport & Technical Services

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate gas main repair works in the above named road, it is intended to make an Order the effect of which would prohibit vehicle traffic in the above Gliddon 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 Gliddon Road.

3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via:

a) Hammersmith Bridge Road, Queen Caroline Street, Hammersmith Broadway, Hammersmith Road and North End Road;

b) Gliddon Road, Edith Road, Hammersmith Road, North End Road, Castleton Road, Verney Road and Barney’s Court Road.

c) Talgarth Road, Hammersmith Palace Road, Greyhound Road, Verney Road, Comeragh Road and Palmier Road.

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 vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.

5. The Order would come into operation on the Tuesday, 29th September 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

6. Works would be expected to commence on Tuesday 29th September and last for 5 days. The dates specified for are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

7. Anyone who wishes to make comments or objections to the application should do so by 4th October 2015. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

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8. You can also E-mail comments to: planninghomepage@london.gov.uk.

9. Initial enquiries call our information and advice line on 020 8753 1082.

10. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate gas mains repair works in the above named road, it is intended to make an Order the effect of which would prohibit vehicle traffic in the above Gliddon Road.

11. 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 Gliddon Road.

12. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via:

a) Hammersmith Bridge Road, Queen Caroline Street, Hammersmith Broadway, Hammersmith Road and North End Road;

b) Gliddon Road, Edith Road, Hammersmith Road, North End Road, Castleton Road, Verney Road and Barney’s Court Road.

c) Talgarth Road, Hammersmith Palace Road, Greyhound Road, Verney Road, Comeragh Road and Palmier Road.

13. 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 vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.

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18. Initial enquiries call our information and advice line on 020 8753 1082.

19. Anyone who wishes to make comments or objections to the application should do so by 4th October 2015. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

20. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate gas main repair works in the above named road, it is intended to make an Order the effect of which would prohibit vehicle traffic in the above Gliddon Road.

21. 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 Gliddon Road.

22. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via:

a) Hammersmith Bridge Road, Queen Caroline Street, Hammersmith Broadway, Hammersmith Road and North End Road;

b) Gliddon Road, Edith Road, Hammersmith Road, North End Road, Castleton Road, Verney Road and Barney’s Court Road.

c) Talgarth Road, Hammersmith Palace Road, Greyhound Road, Verney Road, Comeragh Road and Palmier Road.

23. 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 vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.

24. The Order would come into operation on the Tuesday, 29th September 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

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26. Anyone who wishes to make comments or objections to the application should do so by 4th October 2015. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

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28. Initial enquiries call our information and advice line on 020 8753 1082.

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30. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate gas mains repair works in the above named road, it is intended to make an Order the effect of which would prohibit vehicle traffic in the above Gliddon Road.

31. 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 Gliddon Road.

32. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via:

a) Hammersmith Bridge Road, Queen Caroline Street, Hammersmith Broadway, Hammersmith Road and North End Road;

b) Gliddon Road, Edith Road, Hammersmith Road, North End Road, Castleton Road, Verney Road and Barney’s Court Road.

c) Talgarth Road, Hammersmith Palace Road, Greyhound Road, Verney Road, Comeragh Road and Palmier Road.

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37. You can also E-mail comments to: planninghomepage@london.gov.uk.

38. Initial enquiries call our information and advice line on 020 8753 1082.
**Clerical/Administration**

**Drivers/Distribution**

**LONDON WEEKLY JOBS**

**Clerical/Administration**

---

**One Part Time Admin/IT posts available for General Practice in London SE1**

- We are based over 2 sites which are less than 10 minutes’ walk from each other.
- The successful candidate will be expected to work over both sites.
- One Administrator with good IT skills to work 24 hours per week (Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm), including 1 hour for lunch break.
- Salary range from £9,360 to £9,984 per annum.
- Five weeks annual leave per year.
- To apply please request an Application Form and email to sonia.mcvinnie@nhs.net.

**St Martin-in-the-Fields High School for Girls**

**School Premises Officer**

To start as soon as possible

- Permanent contract 24.5 hours per week
- Salary £21,120 FTE (£14,784 pro rata)

Further information, person specification and application form are available from Mr E Gooch, School Business Manager. Telephone 020 8683 9492 or email egooch@stmartins.academy

Closing date: Friday 25th September 2015.

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**RECRUITMENT**

**Clerical/Administration**

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**Drivers/Distribution**

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**General**

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**Part Time afternoon Receptionist wanted for General Practice in London SE1**

- We are a busy practice with over 15,000 patients and we offer a range of services to our registered population. We are based over 2 sites which are less than 10 minutes’ walk from each other.
- We are looking for a Receptionist with good customer care skills to work 21 hours per week from Monday to Friday afternoons.
- Salary range from £8,190 to £8,736 per annum.
- Five weeks annual leave per year.
- To apply please fill in the attached Application Form and email to Dominika Mencel Da Silva at nika.mencel@nhs.net.

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**Clerical/Administration**

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Closing date: Friday 25th September 2015.
Green in red game-changer

OALS change games and so do red cards. QPR looked to be on their way to a fourth straight win until their goalkeeper Robert Green was sent off in Saturday’s home defeat by Nottingham Forest, who came from a goal down to win 2-1 against 10 men.

Green’s poor first touch from an awkwardly bouncy Nedom Omuoha backpass resulted in him sending Chris O’Grady tumbling to ground inside the box, leaving referee Keith Hill with little alternative but to award a spot-kick and give Green his marching orders.

Replacement keeper Alex Smithies failed to keep out Henry Lansbury’s drilled penalty and was beaten again shortly afterwards by Nelson Oliveira, who sidefooted home from 15 yards to clinch Forest’s first away win since February.

R’s head coach Chris Ramsey said: “I thought the backpass was poor and Rob made a decision, he thought he could deal with it and unfortunately the guy (O’Grady) did well to keep running at him and cause him to bring him down.”

“The winning goal, I thought we could have defended that better. That goal wasn’t down to us being down to 10 men – it was poor defensive play. “It’s very disappointing. At the time we had 11 players on the field I thought there was only going to be one winner.”

After a dismal first half of few chances, Charlie Austin had given R’s the lead in the 65th minute with his fifth goal of the season from 20 yards. The striker made the chance for himself by shrugging off his markers, running into space and then driving a low, left-footed strike inside the keeper’s near post.

Context
But the Green dismissal altered the context of the game and QPR missed out on a fourth straight league win, ahead of Blackburn Rovers’ visit to Loftus Road last night (Wed).

“The game changed that one moment,” said Ramsey.

“I’ve no complaints with the penalty and the red card – it was the right decision.”

“T felt we were in control in the second half but we should have started like that.”

“I felt we were comfortable and would go on to score more goals after Charlie opened the scoring but then the mistake gave them the initiative.”

The fact is you go down to 10 men, they get the lifeline, and then they did a very professional job on us.”

R’s will welcome Green back for the visit to fellow promotion contenders Hull City on Saturday.

Then, the following Friday, it’s the eagerly-awaited west London derby, where R’s make the short trip to Craven Cottage for the live television championship clash with Fulham.

Keeper Ron remembered

ORRER QPR goalkeeper Ron Springett died on Saturday evening following a short illness. He was 80.

After signing for Rangers as a 17-year-old in February 1953, Springett (right) went on to make 147 appearances in two spells for the club.

In an interview he gave a few years ago, Springett – who made his debut against Norwich City in Third Division South in 1953 - recalled his delight at being offered a pro contract at Loftus Road, having been turned down by Fulham: “I got £10 for signing on and I went straight down Shepherd’s Bush Market and bought myself a suit!”

Springett left QPR for the first time in March 1958, when he joined first division Sheffield Wednesday. He played 384 games for The Owls, during which time he gained all of his 33 England caps. Although he didn’t play in the 1966 World Cup tournament, he was a member of the triumphant squad.

Ron returned to QPR in May 1967 in an extraordinary part-exchange deal that saw his younger brother Peter - also a goalkeeper - switch from Rangers to Sheffield Wednesday. ‘I played most of the matches in that 1967-68 season as Rangers gained promotion to the first division for the first time ever. It was a great period for the club and we had some fabulous players such as Rodney Marsh and the Morgan twins. It was nice for me to be there at the start of the modern era of success for Queens Park Rangers’ added Ron, who made another 45 league appearances for Hoops before handing over the gloves to Mike Kelly and retiring in 1969.

FOOTBALL FIXTURES
Saturday, September 19
CHELSEA v Arsenal, 12.45
Hull City v QPR, 3.00
Sheffield Wednesday v FULLHAM, 3.00

Tuesday, September 22
FULHAM v Stoke City (Capital One Cup 3R), 7.45

Wednesday, September 23
Walsall v CHELSEA (Capital One Cup 3R), 7.45

Friday, September 25
FULLHAM v QPR, 7.45

SURREY serve up cup thrills

ALTHOUGH Yorkshire were declared county champions on the first day of their game at Lord’s last week, Middlesex maintained their push to secure the runners-up spot with a stunning fight back to inflict a first defeat of the season over the White Rose.

Yorkshire arrived at Lord’s with a 43-point lead over their hosts and opted to put them in on a greenish surface after winning the toss.

The home side were dismissed for 106 on day one and trailed by 193 on first innings.

But they declared on their overnight 573-8 to set Yorkshire 381 to win.

Toby Roland-Jones followed up his second-innings century by taking 5-27 as Yorkshire were dismissed for only 134, despite 62 from opener Alex Lees.

At one stage it appeared as if Yorkshire might win themselves within two days when Middlesex began their second innings a long way behind.

Maiden ton
But 149 from Nick Compton and a maiden Championship ton from Roland-Jones enabled Middlesex to fight back and set Yorkshire a challenging target.

James Harris led the charge when he had England duo Adam Lyth and Gary Ballance both caught behind in the space of three balls.

Roland-Jones then ripped through the Yorkshire line-up as they collapsed from 92-2 to 117-9.

It was left to Tim Murtagh to complete victory when he bowled Steven Patterson, leaving Middlesex 24 points clear of Nottinghamshire in the race for second place. They begin their final championship match of the season against Worcestershire at Worcester next Tuesday (Sept 22).

AFTER their thrilling Royal London One-Day Cup semi-final exploits, Surrey’s full attention turns to their clash with Gloucestershire in the ODI final at Lord’s this Saturday.

With promotion to the first division of the LV= County Championship already assured, they will be looking to land some welcome silverware in the 50-over contest.

Sri Lanka legend Kumar Sangakkara played one of the finest knocks of his long career at The Kia Oval as Surrey beat weakened Nottinghamshire by four runs to reach their first Lord’s final in four years.

The 37-year-old former Test star hit 166 out of Surrey’s total of 300-5 in last week’s semi-final.

Sangakkara’s knock was the best in English one-day cricket this season, the highest score since South African Jacques Rudolph made an unbeaten 169 for Glamorgan against Sussex at Hove in August 2014.

Notts Outlaws slumped to 16-3 when teenager Sam Curran took two wickets in two balls.

Greg Smith made 124, sharing big stands with Samit Patel (51) and Dan Christian (54) but, in a pulsating finale, Notts fell just short on 296-7.

Batted for almost three hours
Sangakkara batted almost the whole of the Surrey innings. Arriving at the crease in the third over when opener Steven Davies edged to slip, he batted for almost three hours before holing out off the first ball of the final over. By then he had hit a six and 13 fours.

Notts were able to pick England’s Stuart Broad for the first time in a one-day game since he played in their 87-run win over Glamorgan at Lord’s in the 2013 YB40 final.

But while he was not needed for one-day international duty against Australia last week, Notts opener Alex Hales and captain James Taylor both were, which weakened the visitors’ batting.

When young Curran removed both Riki Wessels and Brendon Taylor in successive deliveries before Michael Lumb also went cheaply, it looked as if Notts had no chance.

But, on his last A debut for Nottinghamshire, former Leicestershire batsman Smith helped turn the game around.

He shared a 92-run stand with Patel before putting on a further 112 with Christian.

Clever captaincy
But a clever piece of captaincy by Gareth Batty got rid of the big-hitting Australian when he snared him in a tight running over at short third man.

Even then, with Smith in such fine form, Notts were still favourites, but he was cruelly run out by Tom Curran following a sensible giveaway.

Their target of 14 from the final over proved too much.

Gloucestershire beat Yorkshire by eight wickets in the other ODI semi-final at Headingly.

CHESLSE Ladies’ excellent run of wins came to a shuddering halt on Sunday when they lost 1-0 to Birmingham City in the quarter-final of the Continental Tyres Cup.

A second half freekick by Josanne Potter dashed the Londoners out of the cup but they are still on course to win the WSL 1 league title.
**SPORTS DESK: 07711 169 427**

**Thursday, September 17th, 2015**

**CHELSEA are in crisis and, frankly, need two very good results in the next two games or their season could implode with catastrophic consequences for some players and boss Jose Mourinho.**

The Premier League champions have just four points from their opening five league matches, their worst start to a top flight season since 1986. They are closer to relegation than the top four and the pressure is mounting.

Saturday's inglorious 3-1 defeat by Everton at Goodison Park, which saw them drop to 16th place in the table, was lamentsable. Yes, the west Londoners had lots of possession but as Mourinho has said in the past, it's goals that matter, nothing else.

LWN Sport went to press before last night's opening Champions League encounter at home against Maccabi Tel Aviv – a game Blues were fully expected to win despite their poor start to the league campaign. Of more relevance will be the result against capital rivals Arsenal, who visit SW6 for Saturday's televised lunchtime showdown.

With keeper Thibaut Courtois likely to be out for at least 12 weeks following surgery to the knee he damaged in training last week, Asmir Begovic will remain between the sticks. He was excellent against Everton, one of the few visitors to emerge from the defeat with credit.

But the Bosnian international is fully aware of the team's disastrous start to the season and talks the talk when dealing with putting things right.

"Of course it was tough at Everton," he said. "The end result was obviously the worst thing. When you go there, you obviously expect a tough game. It was a bad result and we have no time to feel sorry for ourselves."

Trying to assess how and why things have gone wrong, Begovic said: "We lacked a bit of a cutting edge, a bit of luck – it was a combination of everything.

"If we are not scoring, we get punished at the back." He tended to agree with a suggestion that the side looks a bit flat: "That is probably a fair judgement. It is a case of getting our season back on track with a good result on Saturday that will get the confidence going again. We need a boost at the moment and hopefully it will come soon."

An £8m summer signing from Stoke City, Begovic does not know how confidence has evaporated so quickly since last season's championship triumph.

**Make a difference**

"I think we still have good characters in the squad, guys who believe in themselves, players can make a difference. Sometimes that can be an issue. We have characters and we will not hang our heads.

"Football is like this and you have your bad spells. We will get it out of our system, kick on and get stronger and stronger as the season goes on."

But the big question is: can Chelsea, already 11 points behind leaders Manchester City, win the league from the position they are in? City snatched a late winner at Crystal Palace on Saturday to maintain their 100 per cent winning start. They haven't conceded a goal in five games, while Chelsea have let in 12.

Chelsea lost just three games on the way to the title last season; they have already lost that many games in 2015/16.

"We have confidence in this dressing room that we can go on a big run," continued an upbeat Begovic.

"Once things start clicking for us, psychologically and physically, we can be a very powerful team and everyone knows that."

One man who has become the focus of the fans’ ire is right-back Branislav Ivanovic, who was criticized for not closing down Steven Naismith when he netted the first goal of his hat-trick on Saturday from around 25 yards, just eight minutes after coming off the subs' bench.

The Serbia defender has played badly this season and appears to be targeted by opposition managers as a weak link.

But he, too, knows that Chelsea has the ability to get out of the slump.

"The Everton game was very difficult," he said. "Especially now, when you see that we are not in our top form. I hope we will change it soon. We dominated most of the game but we lost concentration and conceded goals. We are getting punished for all our mistakes.

"I say one thing and this is true. We were one of the best defensive lines in the last couple of years but this is a team, not just the back four. Also the players in front.

"As a team, we played very well and because of that we got results. We have to get back to this form quickly. We have to defend as a team and try to win games on our defence."

**Massive game**

"Arsenal on Saturday is a massive game – it is always very, very hard against Arsenal but we have to look at ourselves." We have to believe one thing – the next game. We cannot think about catching other teams, we just have to win game-by-game. We must not think about anything else.

"One big win and things will change for Chelsea."

A defiant Mourinho, who refused to criticise any of his players publicly, said: "I am not feeling pressure. The results are the worst in my career. They are not adapted to my quality, my status, but I am coping well with the situation.

"I am the man for the job. I don’t think there is a better man who could come and do my job."

But acknowledging Manchester City’s perfect start, he admitted: "Even if we win every game between now and the end of season, we still depend on other results."