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What's On

Arts & Culture in and around
the borough of
Richmond upon Thames

November 2021

The Arts Richmond newsletter

Richmond Literature Festival

Arts Richmond are thrilled to be hosting three talks at the Richmond Literature Festival and this year we can enjoy this celebration of words in person and on a screen. Here are details of our events.

**WEDNESDAY 10 NOVEMBER AT
DUKE STREET CHURCH, RICHMOND.**



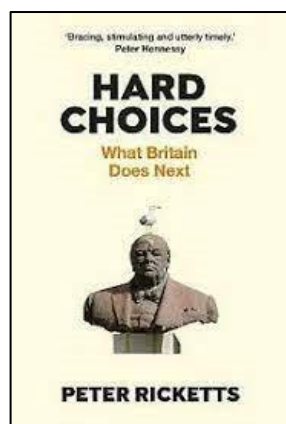
Steve Richards, one of the most highly respected political journalists in the UK, with excellent connections across the political spectrum as well as the media, will present his analysis of *'The Prime Ministers We Never Had'*. His recently published book is a piercing and original study which looks at eleven prime ministers we never had. It is a fascinating exploration of failure and success and sheds

new light on some of the most compelling characters in British Public Life. Steve is also a very experienced performer and this event promises to both entertain and inform.

TICKETS:

www.richmondliteraturefestival.com/events/the-prime-ministers

**MONDAY 15 NOVEMBER AT THE
EXCHANGE, TWICKENHAM.**



Peter Ricketts will be discussing his recently published book, *'Hard Choices: What Britain Does Next'* which provides a lucid and ground-breaking analysis of the issues now facing Britain as the international order put in

place after World War II is rapidly coming to an end. *Hard Choices* highlights the key dilemmas that Britain now faces, from trade to security. Peter argues that international co-operation and solidarity will be the surest way to prosper. Join one of Britain's most experienced diplomats for lessons on an uncertain future in conversation with Geeta Guru-Murthy, BBC World news presenter.

TICKETS:

www.richmondliteraturefestival.com/events/hard-choices

**WEDNESDAY 17 NOVEMBER AT
DUKE STREET CHURCH, RICHMOND.**



New York Times bestselling author *Anne Sebba* will be discussing her moving biography *'Ethel Rosenberg: A Cold War Tragedy'* who was the wife and mother whose execution for espionage-related crimes were said to have defined the Cold War and horrified the world. Ethel and

her husband were found guilty of spying for the Soviet Union in 1953 despite very questionable evidence. Seventy years after her trial, this is the first time Ethel's story has been told. Simon Sebag Montefiore has described this biography as 'Absolutely gripping in so many ways; beautifully written and superbly researched, a brilliant and a fresh take on a famous case.'

TICKETS:

www.richmondliteraturefestival.com/events/ethel-rosenberg

To see all details of Richmond Literature Festival events or to book tickets go to the following website:
richmondliteraturefestival.com

RADIO PLAYS COMPETITION **FINAL**

Sunday 7 November 3-5pm a free online broadcast. Join Arts Richmond for the final of their Radio Plays Competition in memory of Twickenham actor, Colin Skipp. Colin played the beloved farmer, Tony Archer for 46 years.

The afternoon will be hosted by Nancy Baldwin and LBRUT Mayor, Cllr Geoff Acton in the Mayor's Parlour. Joining our finalists are special guests who include the Skipp family and Buffy Davis who plays Jolene Archer in the UK's longest running radio drama. Our four finalists, Anna Burns, Pat Cammish, Annie and Carolyn Pertwee Morris will present their pre-recorded plays and the winner will be presented with a cup and £100 prize by the Skipp family. This will be a free live stream event, however donations will be

welcome to support Arts Richmond and its local projects. Tickets;
<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing?eid=22239>
&

Visual Arts



Teddington Artists Fri 29 to Sun 31 October Friday 6-8pm, Saturday and Sunday 11am-4pm. *Teddington Artists Art Fair.* Visit Walpole's extraordinary gothic creation by the Thames to see work from 21 professional artists in a wide range of media - painting, jewellery, ceramics, print, textile art, photography, mosaic. Admission £6 (includes admission to the house and garden). At Strawberry Hill House, Waldegrave Road, TW1 4SX.
teddingtonartists.co.uk

Orleans House Gallery Sat 6 to Sun 21 November at the Stables Gallery. *Breaking Ground.* Local artists, designers and makers explore our hopes and visions for the future: how we can build a better world that is more sustainable, more inclusive and more equal? *Breaking Ground* is an opportunity for visitors to experience local reflections on this question, investigating the most pressing issues we face as we look forward as a community. Each artwork on display is original, for sale, and made in the borough.
orleanshousegallery.org

Landmark Arts Centre Fri 19 to Sun 21 Nov - 6-8pm Fri / 10am

to 4pm Sat and Sun. *Sparkle: Contemporary Craft & Gourmet Food Fair.* The perfect place to shop for something special for Christmas with the best in contemporary craft plus mouth-watering artisan gift food. Admission: £5 / £4 / Under 16s free
landmarkartscentre.org

Fountain Gallery Tue 26 Oct to Sun 7 Nov *Sharon Withers. Colour of Life.* Gallery artist Sharon Withers creates exciting, large-scale abstract landscape paintings in oils. Showing alongside *Malcolm West's* sculptures in bronze & bronze resin. Tue 9 to Sun 21 Nov *Jennie Ing.* Linocut prints focusing on London and the local area - iconic buildings and favourite views. Exhibiting with *Timothy Sutton*; Tue 23 Nov to Sun 5 Dec *Jill Storey and Andrew Blyth.* Atmospheric watercolours, vibrant acrylics and pastels inspired by changing moods of river, sea, land and sky. Ceramics by *Beryl Hole.* Tuesdays to Sundays from 11am to 5pm. At 26 Bridge Road, East Molesey, KT8 9HA.
fountaingallery.co.uk

The Art of Nature
Further details Alex Robb: 07914 509 833. Email: alexandra.robbs@gmail.com or Rachel Labovitch: 07944911598 Email: rachel.labovitch@gmail.com

Wurkshop
wurkshop.co.uk/adults

Saturday Watercolour Workshop
patharvey.co.uk

Molesey Art Society
moleseyartsociety.co.uk

Art And Soul
artandsoul.org.uk

Kate Howe Studios Ltd
katehowe.com

Willow Bank Studio
janleejohnson.co.uk/

The Surrey Sculpture Society
surreysculpture.org.uk

Orleans House Gallery
orleanshousegallery.org

The Bowman Gallery
bowmangallery.co.uk

One Paved Court Gallery:
onepavedcourt.co.uk

Handmade Workshops,
handmadeworkshops.co.uk

Redlees Artists
redlees.org

Literature



Poetry Performance meet on the first Sunday of the month at The Adelaide Pub, 57 Park Road. Teddington. For further details please contact Anne Warrington at warringa@blueyonder.co.uk. Numbers are restricted so please book early.

Drama



Orange Tree Theatre Sat 9 Oct to Sat 13 Nov *Rice* - the UK

premiere of a powerful new play from Asian-Australian writer Michele Lee; Sat 20 Nov to Sat 8 Jan 2022 *While the Sun Shines*. London in the Blitz, and identities get confused: time to make hay... Performances at 7.30pm and matinees. 1 Clarence Street, Richmond TW9 2SA orangetreetheatre.co.uk

Barnes Community Players
Barnes Community Players Fri 29 and Sat 30 Oct at 8pm (Sat. matinee at 4.30pm) at OSO Arts Centre, 49 Station Road, SW13 0LF, Sat 6th Nov at 5pm and 7.30pm at Queen Charlotte Theatre, Parkshot, TW9 2RG. *Blackadder in Barnes and Richmond* features stage versions of three episodes from the much-loved BBC TV series written by Richard Curtis and Ben Elton. barnescommunityplayers.co.uk

Teddington Theatre Club Wed 17 to Sat 20 Nov *Stones In His Pockets* by Marie Jones. Hollywood comes to rural Ireland in the hilarious *Stones in His Pockets*, showing in Hampton Hill Theatre's auditorium from 17th – 20th November 2021. teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk

Richmond Shakespeare Society
richmondshakespeare.org.uk

Optik Theatre
thescriptroom.com

Bluefire Theatre Co
bluefiretheatre.co.uk

OHADS Follow OHADS on Facebook for information.

Wild Duck Theatre podcasts. Their Season Two of brilliant short plays continues to be available as a Podcast: *Short*

Plays for Short Journeys on all major podcast servers or via their website. wildducktheatre.com

Ignite Me Workshop Theatre C.I.C
ignitemewt.com

SHOWCOACH

THE MILL AT SONNING THEATRE Saturday 20 November

Come along to a pre-Christmas musical extravaganza of "TOP HAT" based on the film of the same name with music and lyrics by Irving Berlin. The ticket price of £78 includes coach travel and a delicious two course Festive lunch followed by a Matinee performance at 2.30 pm.

For all details and to reserve a ticket contact the Arts Richmond office:

Phone
020 8892 9446

or email
jean@artsrichmond.org.uk

Dramacube
dramacube.co.uk

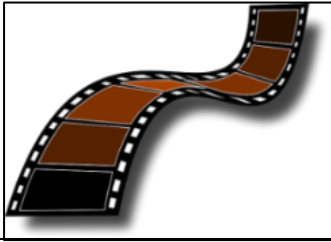
Hampton Hill Theatre
hamptonhilltheatre.org.uk

OSO Arts Centre
osoarts.org.uk

The Exchange
exchangetwickenham.co.uk

BROS
brostheatrecompany.org

Film



Richmond Film Society's 58th Season continues on Tue 9 Nov with *'Bait'* (UK) - preceded by the Members' AGM – and *'Portrait of a Lady on Fire'* (France) on Tue 23 Nov. All films are screened at 8pm on alternate Tuesdays at The Exchange, 75 London Road, Twickenham, TW1 1BE. See their website for further information on membership and the programme of films, phone 020 8893 3503 or email admin@richmondfilmsoc.org.uk richmondfilmsoc.org.uk

Dance



No dance events scheduled for November.

DanceWest
dancewest.co.uk

Music



Richmond Opera Fri 12 to Sat 13 Nov at 7.30pm and Sun 14 Nov at 2.30pm. Richmond

Opera presents *'The Dragon of Wantley'* by Lampe. Tickets £19 available on website or by calling 0333 1212 300. At The Normansfield Theatre, The Langdon Down Centre, Langdon Park, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9PS. richmondopera.org.uk

Hounslow HLO Sat 20 Nov 9am-6pm. *The Mikado From Scratch*. Spend the day with us, learning and singing one of Gilbert & Sullivan's most popular shows, with soloists and our unique orchestral organ arrangement. Concert-only tickets available. Tickets available from mid-October. Full day: £18. Concert only: £5. Score hire: £2. Box office: 07942 365157, email info@hlo.org.uk. Online ticket booking (with booking fee): www.ticketsource.co.uk/hlo. At St Stephen's Church, Parkside Road, Hounslow TW3 2BP hlo.org.uk www.hlo.org.uk

Landmark Arts Centre Sun 28 Nov at 7pm *Harmony Returns* in support of Momentum Children's Charity. Presented by actor and loyal supporter, Michael Simkins and featuring young stars of the future, Milly Forrest: Song Prize Winner, Kathleen Ferrier Competition 2020, Stephanie Wake-Edwards: Jette Parker Young Artist, Royal Opera House and Young Welsh Tenor: Rhydian Jenkins. Ticket prices: £28 - £35. At the Landmark Arts Centre, Ferry Road, Teddington, TW11 9NN. Phone 020 8977 7558 landmarkartscentre.org

Philharmonic Choir's next concert will take place on Sat 27 Nov at All Saints' Church, Kingston. Conducted by Music

Director Harry Bradford, the Choir will perform Mendelssohn's *Lauda Sion and Hear My Prayer*, and Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs*. The concert will also feature TPC's new Choral Scholars. Accompanist James Orford will perform solo on Kingston's celebrated Frobenius organ (music to be announced). To find out more about this and other events, go to the website. thamesphilharmonicchoir.co.uk

Richmond Concert Society 16 Nov at 7.45pm Catriona Morison (mezzo-soprano) and Malcolm Martineau (piano). At St Margaret's Church, Twickenham, Tw1 1RL (opposite St Margaret's Station). richmondconcerts.co.uk

Instant Opera
instantopera.co.uk

The Middlesex Yeomanry Concert Band
mycb.org.uk

Thames Brass From The Past 15 Apr 2021 to 15 Jan 2022 A virtual concert played on original Victorian instruments, an introduction to the instruments of the past. This is an online concert that can be watched at any time and they would like you to share it with anyone in care homes, lonely or isolated. It was generously funded by crowd funding, please donate if you can. Click on <https://www.queenvictoriaconcertsociety.co.uk/virtual-concert.html> brassfromthepast.com

Twickenham Chamber Choir New members welcome. Starts in-person rehearsals (and also streamed online) Sept 9-to Dec 16. Waldegrave School, (The Music Room),

Waldegrave School,
Twickenham. 7.00pm-8.30pm.
Enquiries: 07710 245 904.
thehelenastridsingingacademy.com

Teddington Choral Society (TCS) will resume its rehearsals indoors at St Catherine's School, Twickenham from September 6th, 2021. This year is a very special year for TCS, its 70th Anniversary Year! The choir will be working on a special repertoire in preparation for its celebratory concert scheduled for 4 December at the Landmark Arts Centre, Teddington. TCS is open to new members willing to join the choir. They are a welcoming, friendly and dynamic choir! Feel free to contact them: infoteddchoral@gmail.com teddingtonchoral.co.uk

Landmark Arts Centre
Tuesdays for 10 weeks from 7 Sept at 7.30pm. Landmark Sound. An established community choir, the *Landmark Sound* cover a wide range of non-classical music and have vacancies for basses and tenors. Cost £130 for 10 weeks. Tutor: Charlotte Brosnan.
landmarkartscentre.org

Whitton Adult Community Singing Whitton Adult Community Singing 11.15am to 12.15pm each Saturday from 11 Sept to 11 Dec (Half Term break on Sat 23 Oct). *Singing Safely for Enjoyment, & Wellbeing*. A Singing Group for all adults of all ability levels – no need to read music. They learn great songs from a wide variety genres and styles: Gospel, Classical Pop, Folk etc etc. They are currently learning great songs for their informal Christmas presentation on Sat 11 Dec

from 11.45am to 12.30pm. At Whitton Community Centre, Percy Road, TW2 6JL. Please contact Loulla Gorman for full details: Email: loulla82gorman@gmail.com Phone: 07788664957

In Flagrate choir The choir has kept singing since the outset of lockdown and their excellent Musical Director, Eamonn O'Dwyer, has continued with rehearsals on Tuesday evenings, 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. working with old and new repertoire. They are thrilled to have restarted singing together at the gorgeous venue of The Royal Mid-Surrey Golf Club (<https://www.rmsgc.co.uk>), whilst still offering the option of joining in to sing through Zoom. To end the year, the choir will be holding a *Winter Concert* which will take place at The Royal Mid-Surrey Golf Club on Tuesday, 30th November 2021, 7.30 p.m. The Concert will be free, but donations to their designated charity will be most welcome. Tickets will be allocated in advance as places will be limited. Check website or contact Cathy Jago at catherine@cjhenergy.co.uk for further information. inflagratechoir.com

West London Chamber Choir is delighted to have resumed live rehearsals on Thu 9 Sept at St Michael & All Angels Church in Barnes. Plans for the autumn term include and a festive collaboration with a local primary school in Twickenham in early December. They are a friendly and lively bunch and always welcome new singers with prior singing experience and some sight-reading skills so why not join them? Further

information is available on their website.
westlondonchamberchoir.com

Kew Wind Orchestra
kewwindorchestra.org.uk

Richmond Orchestra
richmondorchestra.org.uk

Stoneleigh Orchestra
stoneleighyouthorchestra.org.uk

Richmond upon Thames Festival of the Performing Arts
www.richmondfestival.org.uk

OSO Arts Centre
osoarts.org.uk

Langdon Down Museum of Learning Disability
langdondownmuseum.org.uk

Whitton Choral Society
whittonchoralsociety.net
Richmond Concerts
richmondconcerts.co.uk

Concordia Voices For further information contact secretary@concordiavoices.org or visit their website concordiavoices.org

Queen Victoria's Consort
queenvictoriasconsort.co.uk

Rock, Jazz & Folk



Eel Pie Club Thu 4 Nov *The Downliners Sect* £12; Thu 11 Nov *Dr Feelgood* £17; Thu 18 Nov *Hitman Blues Band* £12. Eel Pie Club at The Patch, 67 London Road, Twickenham TW1 3SZ. Doors 8pm. Music 9-11pm (unless otherwise advertised). Tickets via website. Future Club Dates or cash on the door (if still

available). Enquiries: 07732
322610
eelpieclub.com

Landmark Arts Centre

landmarkartscentre.org

The Jazz Sanctuary

thejazzsanctuary.co.uk

Powerjam Band Project

powerjambands.com

Mark's Jazz Sessions phone
07799 582337 for information

OSO Arts Centre

osoarts.org.uk

JKL-Jazz See

Facebook.com/JKL-Jazz for
dates of appearances in the
area. The band is also always
available for Weddings, Private
Parties and Corporate events.

Museums



Musical Museum

musicalmuseum.co.uk

The Museum of Richmond

Wed 3 and Sat 6 Nov *Coffee
and Crafting*. Using a 200 year
old sampler from the
Museum's collection as
inspiration, they will help you
create samplers on aida fabric.
museumofrichmond.com

Historic Houses



Strawberry Hill House Fri 29 to
Sun 31 October *Teddington
Artists Exhibition*.

strawberryhillhouse.org.uk

Turner's House

turnershouse.org

Marble Hill House

english-heritage.org.uk/support-
us/our-appeals/marble-hill-appeal/

Walks, talks and courses



The Arts Society Richmond is
continuing with a full
programme of events.

Lectures are back in their
venue at Duke Street with full
capacity now that social
distancing has been relaxed.

Lectures will be
simultaneously available
online via Zoom and YouTube
for the time being, with 7-day
recordings sometimes
available for later viewing. Live
& Virtual lecture Tue 2 Nov at
8pm *A Paradise Garden - The
Art of Mediaeval Natural
Symbols* a talk by Jonathan
Foyle; Virtual Visit– Wed 17
Nov at 11am. Leo Heaton,
London Blue Badge Guide of
the year 2016, will explore *The
Archaeology of Crossrail*, using
Zoom & YouTube. £5
contribution please. If you
wish to join for any of these
events email

richmond@theartsociety.org

for further details and to
arrange payment, and you will
be sent the Zoom link 24 hours
in advance.

theartsocietyrichmond.org

Richmond & Twickenham

Photographic Society Thu 4
Nov at 8pm – *'I can't see the
Wood for the Trees'* with Eddie

Hyde; Thu 18 Nov at 8pm –
'It's a Small World' with Andy
Sands. RTPS has a number of
special interest groups where
members come together to
exchange ideas, support and
learn from one another. This
month our Nature Group will
be meeting on 2 November,
the Infrared Group on 3
November, Post Processing on
9 November & Monochrome
Pictorial Group on 23
November. they will also be
holding the Open Print
Challenge Competition on 11
November and their Monthly
Print Competition on 25
November. At St Luke's
Community Hall in Kew.
Prospective new members are
invited to join them for one or
two meetings before
becoming a member.
Email info@rtps.org.uk
rtps.org.uk.

Landmark Arts Centre Thu 11
Nov at 8pm: *The Comedy
Network* - In association with
Avalon featuring two top
comics + MC. November's
headliner is Carl Donnelly
(*Mock The Week*) supported
by Travis Jay (*Dave Chappelle
& Friends*) and Sara Barron (*8
Out of 10 Cats*). Special Offer:
£25 Comedy & Curry ticket
includes a delicious pre-show
supper. Online booking; Fri 12
Nov at 12 noon *Landmark
Book Club*. This month's book
is *Instructions For A Heatwave*
by Maggie O'Farrell. Tickets:
£5 adults / £3.50 concessions
At the Landmark Arts Centre,
Ferry Road, Teddington, TW11
9NN. Phone 020 8977 7558
landmarkartscentre.org

**Richmond and Twickenham
Historical Association** Thu 25
Nov at 8pm. A Zoom talk
'Barren Rock to World City' A
History of Modern Hong Kong
by Clinton Leeks, Historian &
Diplomat. Booking is

unnecessary for Branch Members, for other HA members and visitors, please contact Richard Turk, Chair, on 07958 729526 or richardturf@yahoo.com history.org.uk

What's On

in the thriving local arts scene.

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Instagram
[artsrichmonduk](https://www.instagram.com/artsrichmonduk)

and Twitter
[artsrichmond_uk](https://twitter.com/artsrichmond_uk)

To become a regular recipient of this Newsletter, why not become a member?

Contact Us or Join Us

ETNA Community Centre
Room 21,
13 Rosslyn Road
Twickenham, TW1 2AR
020 8892 9446

info@artsrichmond.org.uk

Barnes Literary Society Tue 30 Nov at 7.30pm *Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason*, mother of BBC Young Musician of the Year, cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason, opens up about what it takes to raise a musical family in a Britain divided by class and race. She will be accompanied by her daughters, Konya and Aminata Kanneh-Mason who both play piano and violin.

They will perform for us as part of this event.
barnesliterarysociety.org.uk

Richmond Heritage Guides

Sun 7 Nov at 2pm. A cultural stroll through the streets of Richmond to find out about the lives and works of many famous writers with local connections. Meet outside Richmond Theatre, Richmond Green, Richmond TW9 1QJ. No need to book. Richmond Heritage Guides 020 8894 3678 or 020 8948 2612.
richmondwalks.co.uk

York House Society

Fri 13 Nov at 7.30pm in the Terrace Room, York House, Twickenham. Speaker: Alan Winter, historian: *Twickenham in Postcards*. Alan Winter was born in Orleans Road, Twickenham, and he has long collected local postcards. He meticulously researches the lives and times of the people they and places they show, so his very popular talks are like a walk through the town's changing history. If necessary due to COVID they will meet on Zoom. For login email the Hon Secretary, Susan Chappell, yorkhousesociety@gmail.com yorkhousesociety.org.uk

Richmond Scientific Society

The third lecture this season is on Wed 17 Nov at 8pm. The subject is *Animal Testing and the 3R's* by Dr Vicky Robinson. This year all lectures will be via Zoom, but there is a possibility that in 2022 physical lectures at Vestry Hall might be allowed. Previous members will be sent a link to the zoom lecture, and anyone else can ask for it by email to richmond.science.society@gmail.com
rss.chessck.co.uk

Richmond Association for the National Trust

Thu 25 Nov at 2.30pm. *Lecture on Ham House* by Jane Eade at the Whittaker Ellis Suite, Old Town Hall, Whittaker Avenue, Richmond TW9 1TP
Contact details: The Programme Manager on tel.no. 020 8979 3834, email: wendyasim@btinternet.com, nationaltrust.org.uk/features/richmond-association

Borough of Twickenham Local History Society

boths.co.uk/membership/

Richmond Local History Society

richmondhistory.org.uk

Hampton Hill Photographic Society

hamptonhillps.org.uk

The WEA (Workers Educational Association Richmond)

wea.org.uk/london/branches/richmond-branch

Friends of Whitton Library

For information contact: friendswhitton@gmail.com

Richmond U3A

u3asites.org.uk/richmond-on-thames

Richmond Society

richmondsociety.org.uk

Richmond Art Society

richmondartsociety.com

The Richmond Local History Society

richmondhistory.org.uk

Popes Grotto Preservation Trust

popesgrotto.org.uk

The Portcullis Trust

theportcullistrust.org.uk

Kew Society

kewsociety.org

RHACC (Richmond and Hillcroft Adult and Community College)
rhacc.ac.uk

The Friends of Marble Hill
friendsofmarblehill.org.uk

OSO Arts Centre
osoarts.org.uk

OBITUARY



With Joan Heath's death on 25th August aged 103 we lost a most remarkable borough resident. Joan was a Hampton councillor, school governor, Hampton Court guide, local historian and active supporter of numerous organisations, including the Hampton Residents' Association, now the Hampton Society, which she and her late husband Gerald joined in 1958, only two years after its founding.

She was much involved with the preservation and care of Garrick's Temple to Shakespeare and in recognition of this a party in her honour was held there each year on her birthday, between her 90th and 100th birthdays.

Joan was a generous supporter of Arts Richmond and a valued member of our newsletter 'stuffing' team until very recently, certainly well past her 100th birthday which we celebrated with a party at York House. We send our most sincere condolences to her family and many friends.

By Hilary Dodman

(With thanks to William Weisblatt, The Hampton Society).

OBITUARY

Frances Carter (nee Neale) passed away in Kingston Hospital on 16 August 2021. A long-time resident of Kew, Fran was active in Arts Richmond and the Kew Residents Association, and contributed her skills as a journalist and photographer to many other community initiatives.

She will be sorely missed by her family and her many friends. The funeral will have been held at Mortlake Crematorium on Thursday 7 October at 12 noon.

Donations may be made to one of her chosen charities, Macmillan Nurses, Sense, or Guide Dogs for the Blind, through Holmes and Daughters, 461 Upper Richmond Road West, East Sheen, London SW14 7PU, Tel 0208 392 1012

ROGER MCGOUGH POETRY COMPETITION

On the fourth of September I was lucky enough to attend the awards ceremony of the highly anticipated Roger McGough poetry competition. Though a little further spaced out than we once might have liked to be – our smiles now covered with masks – the afternoon was no less special, and there was a certain sense of community as we took our seats. Perhaps inspired by this

year's theme of 'identity' no doubt, my mind was instantly drawn to one thought: so many people, from so many different places - such different walks of life - all here to celebrate the one thing that unites us all, and has united us through these unparalleled, and at many points quite frightening, times: our love of poetry.



The concept of identity being so fundamental to our very sense of self, one would think that we would consider it far more frequently than we do. But having grown up in an age in which we consume far more from our screens than we do the world around us, I am almost ashamed to admit that I spend far more time contemplating the character of others than I do myself; *ah, the burden of the introvert!* I can only imagine the level of self-reflection and introspection it must have taken in order to capture such honest, raw reflections on who they are, and where they've come from.



One of the poems that earned third place, 'Riding Tandem' by Tony Trafford, was a personal favourite of mine; telling the

beautiful, tragic story of a first romance – a harsh reminder of both the beauty and pain which coexist in our world, leaving both fond memories and heartbreak in their wake.

Perfectly encapsulated by our much-loved poet and judge Roger McGough, all of the poems were so beautifully written, and each held a different part of their poet's identity – and indeed of the poet himself – that it must have been next to impossible to judge. But, all that being said, the winning poem, (Self) Portrait 1503 by Stuart Fortey, was exceptionally witty and enthralling, giving a much-loved painting I'm sure we're all almost innately acquainted with a deeply touching backstory that truly moved me – and much of the audience too I'm sure.

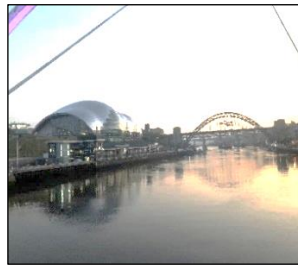
All in all, despite the multitude of challenges faced this year, this year's competition was a wonderful celebration of both the things that set us apart, and the ones that bring us closer together.

By Arts Richmond Young
Writer Laureate Simone de Almeida.

SHOWCOACH RESIDENTIAL TRIP TO NORTHUMBERLAND

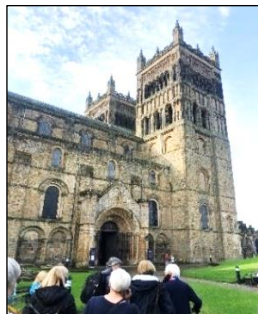
I just love being treated as a parcel on holiday by which I mean being picked up and dropped off at fascinating places. The Arts Richmond holiday in Northumberland elevated that to first class mail starting by collecting the holiday makers from as near home as possible. Pickups in Hampton, Teddington, Twickenham and Richmond worked a treat. There were

twenty-three of us on a very comfortable coach driven immaculately by the oh-so-patient chap called Scott. Stopping for loo and coffee was built in so discomfort was kept to a minimum. First stop was Keddleston Hall where the interior designed by Robert Adam delighted us all - as of course did the opportunity for a quick lunch. At all times time-keeping was at a premium and on the whole we were all good children.



We had a glimpse of the Angel of the North before arriving in Newcastle for the four-night stay at the four-star Hotel Indigo. Each room was large but then so were the beds. As a short person the sheer height of the mattress was one of the only flaws!

A buffet breakfast was provided every morning and the first day started with a visit to Durham.



Our Blue Badge guide called Jan was a joy - she knew an enormous amount about each place we saw and presented her knowledge beautifully. Oh, and I could hear every word she said! She walked us

around the deliciously old part of the city and of course we had an awesome time in the cathedral.



In the afternoon we beelied off to the wildness of the moors and Hadrian's Wall, or rather a small chunk of it. Someone told me of some students who walked the whole 81 miles of it with little to eat not having realised there are no shops for miles and miles around.

Jan was with us again the next day for the visit to Lindisfarne which of course is steeped in history being the centre of Christianity in Anglo Saxon England.



It is mightily impressive being driven over the causeway. Unfortunately, the place is wildly popular so you have to concentrate on the Priory ruins trying to imagine what it was like when there wasn't a mass of other visitors in the way.



Bamburgh Castle in the afternoon was wonderful. The

setting overlooking the fantastic golden beach is perfect and unlike some castles, which can be dank and cold, this one is a gem and you can actually imagine the family living there.



The third day of our jaunt was jam-packed with treasures. Alnwick Castle is just so impressive. It is the home of the Duke of Northumberland whose family, the Percys, have lived here since 1309 and the state rooms are really and truly stately and full of wonderful features.

But it's the exploration of the huge garden, reimagined by the current Duchess, which delighted most of us. The planting is so imaginative and with the many and various sections like the Cherry Orchard and the Poison Garden to explore we could have spent much more time here but we had to be off...

In the afternoon we visited Cragside House and Garden which I knew absolutely nothing about but a friend who used to live in Newcastle told me her family used to drive out there each spring for the rhododendrons alone! I just loved the house with some grand rooms, some cosy ones and right up top a huge drawing room featured a massive marble fireplace. A guide explained that this is so heavy, that this part of the

house is built into the rock behind which takes the weight a normal floor couldn't withstand.

Driving home we popped into Brodsworth Hall and Gardens, another first for me but for the garden alone it's worth noting for future jaunts. The trees, the topiary, formal gardens, marble statues and a rockwork grotto planted with ferns - it is nothing short of tremendous.

All these magnificent places to visit, a whole host of interesting people to get to know, friendly and gracious "herding" by Hilary Dodman and her lieutenants, it all worked like a dream.

By Helen Taylor

ARTS RICHMOND ARTIST OF THE YEAR



A very successful Artist of the Year Competition was held at Kempton Steam Museum on Saturday 28 August. Over twenty talented artists arrived full of both excitement and trepidation at the thought of capturing this truly impressive building. They had a guided tour and then settled down to work, choosing a variety of media, including watercolour, charcoal and acrylics.

They were allowed about four hours, after which they had to

bring their work to be judged. The three judges were Kate Howe and Corinna Button, two talented artists, and John Barnes, a representative of the Museum. They gathered and discussed at length the submitted work.

Then all gathered again to hear the news of the winner. As well as artists and staff from the Museum and Arts Richmond, we were honoured to have the Deputy Mayor of Richmond, Suzette Nicholson and her consort John, and our Presidents The Right Honourable Sir Vince Cable and Lady Rachel Cable in attendance.



Jill Storey was announced as the winner and two other artists were also highly commended. These were Caroline Gallop and Heather MacKinlay. Jill was presented with her certificate and her prize of £250 by Deputy Mayor Suzette Nicholson.

All the artwork produced has been displayed at the Museum for the month of September. We were delighted at the success of this new event and are now planning a similar one to be held in 2022. We hope all our artists will come again and produce more excellent artworks.

Join Us



Complete and return for
Individual Membership
£10 taster - membership until March 2022

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N.B. To ensure privacy under the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which came into force in May 2018 we are required to gain your consent to hold your personal details on our database. In order to continue to receive our newsletter please tick the box

A lack of response will NOT be accepted as your agreement.

I am paying £20 electronically for my membership.
Bank details: Arts Richmond Co-operative Bank, Sort
Code 08-92-99 Account No. 65130096. Please

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In the future I would like to pay £20 by standing
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Arts Richmond (*est. 1966*) is an independent charity (251359) supporting 100+ Arts and Cultural Organisations in and around the borough of Richmond upon Thames

Arts Richmond is an independent charity with 100+ affiliated societies based in and around the borough of Richmond upon Thames. As well as representing the voluntary arts sector on the Richmond upon Thames Borough Council's *Arts Advisory Forum*, we provide a wide variety of services and events aimed at promoting local arts and cultural activity including:

Regular Information about *What's On* and *How to Get involved* in the thriving local arts & cultural scene through our *website*, and monthly *What's On Newsletter*.

Showcoach: Excursions to plays, musicals, operas, concerts, exhibitions and places of interest – some with coaches from pick-up points across the borough. We know how important safe transport and companionship is for our members and we make every effort to ensure ease of access for all.

Literature: We run literary events throughout the year including our annual *Book Picnic* on Richmond Green, and *Young Writers' Festival*, as well as events in the Richmond upon Thames Literature Festival.

Drama: We promote the performances of local professional and amateur theatre companies and run the *Swan Drama Awards* – our local version of the Oscars – rewarding amateur talent in the borough – we also encourage new playwriting.

Music: We promote the extensive programme of concerts organised by concert societies, choral and other music groups throughout the borough.

Visual Arts and Photography: We promote the work of local artists and run exhibitions and competitions offering the opportunity to buy paintings, prints and photographs at affordable prices.

Heritage and Museums: We promote the events and exhibitions taking place at the large number of historic places in the local area. www.artsrichmond.org.uk



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**MANY THANKS TO ALL
OUR TREMENDOUS
SUPPORTERS**

Arts Richmond is blessed to have some wonderful people who work very hard to put on many cultural events, encourage self-expression and creativity in Richmond borough and beyond. Foremost of these are the Committee and the Patrons, amongst others. We thank them for such valued support. Here is the current list of the Presidents and Patrons and Executive Committee.

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John Coombs
Sandra Green
Gillian Thorpe
Rachel Tranter

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Clive Bradley (Literature)
Laurie Coombs (Drama)
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Heather Morgan (Showcoach)

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Mr John Stapleton
Mr Colin Starkey
Mr Sam Walters MBE & Ms Auriol Smith
Mrs Kay Williams

**COPY / FLYER
DEADLINES**

We have now resumed posting out the printed newsletter, therefore we can now accept flyers that can accompany it. The deadline for items to be included in the newsletter is:

**Thursday 25 October
For Events in December**

The deadline for flyers to go out with the mailing is:

**Wednesday 10 November
For events in December**

Disclaimer: Whilst every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information in this newsletter, we urge you to check details with the venues before attending an event. If you need help with contact details, please contact our office info@artsrichmond.org.uk