



# Hampton Wick

The newsletter of the Hampton Wick Association  
(founded 1962)

[www.hamptonwick.org.uk](http://www.hamptonwick.org.uk)

November 2014

## HAMPTON WICK FESTIVAL 10TH AUGUST 2014

Undeterred by torrential rain all morning HWA volunteers and local businesses battled on with preparations for the Festival. Bands that were planned for open air performances relocated to the White Hart in the morning and the Swan in the afternoon. Plastic sheeting was deployed over stalls and gazebos were drilled to the ground.

**FOR FULL STORY SEE PAGE 4**





## A short word from the Chair



### Welcome to our latest newsletter.

At this time of the year, we look back at another Hampton Wick Festival which was successful notwithstanding the best efforts of Hurricane Bertha. You can read about the Festival in these pages but particular thanks are due again to Mark Buckley and Carol Dukes, our organisers in chief. What was great this year was to see the Festival trailed in the papers, including the Evening Standard and Daily Telegraph, as well as being reported in the Richmond and Twickenham Times.

We also look forward in the Autumn to some key events in Hampton Wick life – the Remembrance Sunday Parade and our usual Christmas events. And, before I forget, it is time for many of us to renew our Association membership

– the usual form is on the back page. Please encourage friend to join as well – the more members we have, the stronger we are as an Association.

Finally, as this will be the last newsletter of 2014, may I and the Association wish you all the best for what remains of 2014 and for the coming year.

Mark Merrington, Chair, Hampton Wick Association

Remembrance Sunday – 9th November 2014 – meet outside the Foresters at 10.30am

## Airspace trials to end

Since the end of July, Heathrow Airport has been operating an airspace trial for departing aircraft when on easterly departure routes over Hampton Wick. Heathrow has been seeking feedback from residents to help shape the final airspace design.

As we went to press, Heathrow had announced that that it would be ending the current airspace trials two months early on 12 November 2014. This follows feedback from the Association and residents and meetings with local groups, authorities and MPs.

Matt Gorman, Heathrow Director of Sustainability and Environment said: “These trials are crucial in helping us develop ways to manage our airspace more effectively and to reduce noise from Heathrow. We do, however, appreciate that some residents will have experienced a temporary increase in noise as a result of these trials. The feedback we have received during the trials is very important to this process. We are always looking to minimise the disturbance residents may experience as a result of flights around Heathrow, and so we are pleased to have been able to work with NATS to bring an early end to the trials.”

Any permanent changes to airspace require Government approval and will be subject to full public consultation.

Notwithstanding this good news, if you notice more or louder aircraft disturbance than usual it's important that you register your complaint by emailing [noise\\_complaints@heathrow.com](mailto:noise_complaints@heathrow.com) – please include your name, address, postcode and telephone number to ensure that your comment is registered. The Association has been tracking developments on its own website and also recommends [www.teddingtontown.co.uk](http://www.teddingtontown.co.uk) for further information about this issue.

## Update on Hampton Wick Post Office

Following our front page story on the last newsletter, the Association spent some time discussing the future of the Post Office with our Councillors, our MP and the Post Office itself. We now understand better the reasons for any proposed changes having regard to the business of the Post Office both in Hampton Wick and nationally. We have also received some reassurance that the reduction of services is not likely to be on the scale that we feared.

The immediate consequence of this is that the Association has withdrawn its objection to the related planning application made by our Postmaster, Mr Patel. However, the Association and its members will want to consider carefully any changes to the Post Office as and when they are announced.



## South West Trains comments on station

The Association met recently with our MP, Dr Vince Cable. One of the things that we discussed was the potential to improve Hampton Wick station. What follows is a summary of a response received from Tim Shoveller, the Managing Director of South West Trains.

**Accessibility:** the installation of a lift is not a priority as Kingston station is fully accessible and nearby. However, if a passenger with disabilities wishes to travel from a station that is inaccessible, SWT will provide an accessible taxi at their cost to the next accessible station. Full details of their Passenger Assistance scheme are available here: [www.southwesttrains.co.uk/assisted-travel.aspx](http://www.southwesttrains.co.uk/assisted-travel.aspx). SWT recommends that you let them know at least 24 hours before you travel if you need assistance. You can do this by contacting their Assisted Travel team on Freephone 0800 52 82100 or Textphone 0800 6920 792 (available 6am to 10pm every day) or using the form on their website or in person at any staffed ticket office.

**Security:** there is no realistic prospect of installing barriers at Hampton Wick having regard to the configuration of the station and the availability of station staff.

**Aesthetics:** our Station Manager, based in Kingston, is keen to work in partnership with the local community on improving surrounding station areas. The issue with the leaky roof has been noted and should be addressed by Network Rail.

Although this is generally disappointing, members may be interested to learn of the Passenger Assistance scheme. In addition, the suggestion that it may be possible to improve the areas surrounding the station is very welcome and the Association would like to take this forward more vigorously. If you would like to be involved in a larger project to achieve station improvements, please contact [membership@hamptonwick.org.uk](mailto:membership@hamptonwick.org.uk).

## New face at Hampton Wick Station – welcome Sabesh!

The station again has a permanent member of staff in the shape of Thurairajah Sitsabeshan, who prefers to be called Sabesh. He has worked for South West Trains for the past four years, being based primarily at Fulwell and Hampton stations.

Sabesh is settling in well, serving 200 to 300 customers each morning. He enjoys meeting people of all ages on their way to work and school. After the rush hour, he has noticed that there are more elderly and disabled customers and he takes extra effort to ensure that they have a good journey.

### Sabesh says:

“ Customer service is the lifeblood of any organisation and it is the most underestimated gift anyone receives... SWT staff are the first people that any customer meets when they commence their day and this often steers how their day progresses. I always put myself in their shoes when I think of what kind of service I would expect to get when I start my work... ”

## We were saddened to hear of the death of Maria Ayton on 21st August

Maria was a great friend to Hampton Wick and a loyal supporter of the HWA. Her hairdressing salon was one of the longest established businesses on the High Street, having been trading from the same premises opposite the station for 51 years. She will be missed by her many loyal local customers and her passing is a sad loss to our community.

## SSSI designation for Bushy and Home Parks

On 5 September it was announced that Bushy Park and Home Park had been designated as a combined Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) by Natural England, subject to consultation over a four month period. The announcement, notification documents and maps can be viewed <http://www.sssi.naturalengland.org.uk/special/sssi/notification.asp>

This is a great accolade for both the Bushy Park and Home Park teams that work hard to conserve and protect this unique environment.

The Parks received notification of SSSI status for their exceptionally large population of ancient and veteran trees, extensive areas of semi-natural lowland dry acid grassland, and their internationally significant populations of rare invertebrates.





# © HAMPTON WICK FESTIVAL

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And we were rewarded! At about mid-day the rain stopped and the sun came out – just in time for the Grand Parade along the High Street. And what a joyful Grand Parade it was, led by the West Side Syncopators playing Dixie jazz accompanied by the clown, the amazing buggets and Henry VIII in Andy's wonderful vintage Rolls-Royce. And then followed Tudors, including one in a self-powered invalid carriage, and vintage cars and a giant teddy bear and vintage motor-bikes and an ice cream van and a sailing boat and a penny farthing and lots of people from our churches and plotholders from the allotments and councillors and a pony and the FBHP and a 'sociable bicycle' and, of course, the gorillas.



From nowhere it seemed, hundreds of spectators appeared to cheer on the Parade and then stayed to enjoy the bands and the BBQs and the HUGE bouncy castle.

This year, Siôn Tudor Owen and the Hampton Wick Tudors were joined by period band Waytes & Measures (pictured left) for added sixteenth century festivity.

When the rain made a brief but dramatic reappearance it could do nothing to dent the feel-good atmosphere. The West Side Syncopators simply took shelter in a doorway and played 'Singing in the Rain'. Drenched passers-by laughed and clapped and, in the case of one guy, danced with an umbrella through the puddles...

**Huge thanks to everyone who kept smiling through everything and who indeed made this a Hampton Wick day to remember.**



## Thank you for all the support we have received from local businesses

The Association would like to thank those businesses who supported the Hampton Wick Festival and particularly the following which generously donated raffle prizes:

Charlie Chandler's Guitar Experience, Chase Lodge Hotel, The Foresters, Hampton Wick Tandoori, The Jolly Barber, Kernow, The Kingston Laser Clinic, Machaan, Man's Chinese, Martha Pountain, The Old King's Head, Pomegranate Bistro and The White Hart

In addition, Vince Cable MP and Sharon Bastion donated respectively an autographed bottle of House of Commons champagne and a luxury hamper.

We also welcome new businesses Collective Creative Ltd (a boutique graphic design agency) at 47 High Street and Azure Bridal Gallery at 15 High Street. We wish them and all new businesses in the Wick every success!



**Stop press: the gorillas shared with us the lovely news that since last year they have got married and had a baby gorilla who made his first public outing at the Festival. Our very own Prince George moment.**

**SEE YOU NEXT YEAR! SUNDAY 2ND AUGUST 2015**



## News from St Mark's Church

St Mark's is the Parish Church of South Teddington and Hampton Wick. Its long serving vicar, Rev David Lund, officially retired on 28 September 2014, although he may still be seen around for a few more weeks. The parish is in the process of finding his successor.

Many will not be aware of all the things that go on at St Mark's. The Church has been associated with the Scout movement since 1934 and is home to the 7th Teddington (St Mark's) Air Scout Group. There is also a Come and Play group providing about two hours of fun activities for young pre-school children held on weekdays during term time. Happily, you can now find out more about these and other activities on the Church's new website at [www.stmarkteddington.uk](http://www.stmarkteddington.uk).



The HWA's home-made Tudor Throne pram

**Sunday 29th June 2014** was the date of the Teddington Pram Race, brought back to life by our friends at the Teddington Society. Teams from local pubs, firms, clubs and associations built prams, dressed up and raced through the streets of Teddington to finish at the Teddington Village Fair at the Landmark Centre. Nearly £3,000 was raised for local charities.

Our Hampton Wick Tudors took up the challenge, handing out leaflets for our own Festival on Sunday 10th August as they went along. The cast of characters included:

Chris Drayson (King Henry VIII) Iain Burgess (Jester) Ronnie Findlay (Mary, Queen of Scots) Sharon Bastion (Ann Boleyn) Richard Hawkins (Monk 1) Mark Merrington (Monk 2)



## Local history news



The long-awaited third and final volume of Brick by Brick by Ray Elmitt is expected to be published towards the end of November. It will cover Barge Walk, Beverley Road, Bushy Park, Elton Close, Hampton Court Road, Home Park, Home Park Terrace, Marina Place, Old Bridge Street, Upper Teddington Road, Warwick Road and Woffington Close. Ray plans to hold a launch event at Hampton Wick Library on 29 November 2014 and we expect to have copies for sale at the Association's stall at the Christmas Craft Fair, planned for 6 December 2014.

Following her successful talk, "Great War Lives", at Hampton Wick Library on 24 September 2014, Alison Merrington is working on a website, "Hampton Wick Remembers". The website (produced with the support of the Association) will hold her research into the names of the World War I dead on the Hampton Wick War Memorial as well as other related material. The idea will be that further information can be added to the site over time. Look out for further information on the Association's website.

## Pavement repairs

Our list in the last newsletter of streets and roads in the Wick that were going to benefit from pavement repairs excited some comment. The most frequent was how these pavements had been chosen over others.

The answer is that the Council has an annual community road and pavement funding pot of £35,000, available for highway maintenance in each of the fourteen village areas in the borough. This is in addition to other maintenance work being carried out by the Council. Each year local residents are invited to suggest how the money should be spent in their area. The most frequently mentioned nominations are evaluated by the Council's highways officers with the final decision taken by the Cabinet Member for Highway and Street Scene.

The present position is that all agreed repairs will be completed by April 2015 and further applications are closed. However, there is expected to be a further opportunity to submit suggestions early in 2015 – so members should look out for that. Further information is available at [www.richmond.gov.uk/fund](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/fund).

## Planning

Work continues on the railway bridge which spans the river from Hampton Wick to Kingston, and it is now over a year since the repainting started. But we're pleased to report that it should be completed by Christmas, possibly sooner.

Building work at St John's Baptist C of E Junior School is now complete, as is that at Hampton Wick Infant and Nursery School, both providing much needed additional primary school places.

On the High Street Bermuda and Brentham Houses appear quiet, with no boards in evidence and no work in progress. However, scaffolding has been erected next door at the former Library and UDC Building and work has definitely commenced, although what exactly is not clear.

No sign of progress at 6, 8 and 10 High Street formerly home to Manuel's and A D Baker though, although vendor's boards are up inviting enquiries.

The Swan has closed for refurbishment and work appears to have started. We look forward to the re-opening of the pub in due course.

## Hampton Wick Library Reading Group

First Saturday of every month 11.00am – 12 noon

The Library Reading Group provides a lively informal meeting to discuss books in a friendly library environment

## New group for dads and toddlers – St John's Church

The group is called "Who Let The Dads Out?", and runs every second Saturday of the month from 10-11:30am for dads and their preschool kids. Bacon butties, toys, a craft activity, and lots of other dads to chat with. There's no charge. For more information contact [joel@stjohnshamptonwick.org](mailto:joel@stjohnshamptonwick.org)





# Christmas Carols evening

Wednesday, 10th December 2013. 5:30 pm

Hampton Wick's much-loved annual tradition of Christmas Carols in Christmas Square, followed by the arrival of Father Christmas with presents for all the children.

Meet at the Library at 5.30pm for a candlelit procession to Christmas Square and carols at 6pm.



## Christmas Craft Fair

6TH DECEMBER 11am – 4pm  
in front of The White Hart

Come and sample the crafts of local people at our village craft fair. A chance to pick up some unique Christmas gifts. For more information or to book a stall please phone Sharon on 07950 305370 or e.mail [business@hamptonwick.org.uk](mailto:business@hamptonwick.org.uk)



## Current Committee Members

Following the Association's 52nd Annual General Meeting in the Bullen Hall on 27 March 2014, the membership of the Committee is now:

Mark Merrington – Chairman/ Membership Secretary
Chris Drayson – Honorary President
Fraser Wilson – Secretary
Carol Dukes – Treasurer
Anne Hardy
Sharon Bastion
Roger Hall
Catherine van den Broek
Ronnie Findlay
Mark Buckley
Jenny Bourne

## The HWA membership form

Pay now for 2015

I/we would like to join/renew membership of the HWA (PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPS)

Name/s: .....

Phone: .....

Address: .....

Postcode: .....

Email: .....

Tick here to receive  
free email news ☐

Individual (Full) £5 p.a. ☐

Concessions (Full) £3 p.a. ☐

Family/Business (Full) £10 p.a. ☐

Individual (Associate) £5 p.a. ☐

Concessions (Associate) £3 p.a. ☐

Family/Business (Associate) £10 p.a. ☐

I enclose an additional donation to the HWA £ .....

I would be interested in volunteering to help ☐

Please make your cheque payable to The Hampton Wick Association, and send with this form to  
The Hampton Wick Association, 2 Baygrove Mews, Glamorgan Road, Hampton Wick, KT1 4HD.

Or why not pay online at [www.hamptonwick.org.uk](http://www.hamptonwick.org.uk)