

Editor's Introduction

Welcome to the Strawberry Hill Residents' Association e-Bulletin

This newsletter is for all our members, which is everyone living in Strawberry Hill.

It is now a full year since residents elected the full complement of 15 SHRA Committee members at the 2022 AGM. This enabled us to allocate roles to all members of the Committee and to expand our activities. We hope that Bulletin readers will join us at this year's Annual General Meeting at Strawberry Hill Golf Course on **Wednesday 26 April** for a 7.30pm start, doors open at 7pm.



SHRA Annual General Meeting

Strawberry Hill Golf Course
Wednesday 26 April 7pm for 7.30 start

All residents of Strawberry Hill are members of SHRA and are invited to the meeting
Items for the agenda must be submitted by 12 April

Join your Committee for a complimentary drink
 Guest Speaker - Laura Nee, Rewilding Arcadia, Thames Landscape Strategy

Submit an agenda item or let us know you will be coming by emailing us at contact@shra.org.uk or just turn up on the night



The Chair, Andrew Miller, will review the year and look ahead to the coming year. Laura Nee from the Thames Landscape Strategy is our guest speaker, talking about work on re-wilding our Arcadian stretch of the Thames. Residents are invited to have one free drink from the bar after the AGM and to meet members of the Committee.

In this edition, we look back on another successful 'Carols in the Village' event last December. We look forward to the first **Strawberry Hill Spring Clean** between 9-11am on Saturday 1 April when we are attempting to litter pick over 90% of the 42 streets in our area, with resident volunteers joining our regular team of litter pickers. We are also pleased to announce a series of **Supper Talks at the Legion**, a SHRA collaboration with the Royal British Legion in Pope's Grove. The first is a fish & chip supper with a talk by Peter Lamb on 'A Strawberry Hill Resident's Personal Investigation of World War 1' to be held on Monday 17 April (tickets must be bought in advance).

If you enjoy reading The Bulletin, then please recommend it to friends and neighbours who will receive it to their Inbox by emailing us at Bulletin@shra.org.uk. They can also register to receive SHRA communications on the Home page of our website – www.shra.org.uk.

Andrew Miller, Chair, SHRA

Contents

1. Editor's Introduction	1
2. Local Issues	2
3. The Association	4
4. Green Pages	7
5. Events	8
6. Roads & Transport	9
7. Heritage & History	10
8. Business Pages	12

In this issue:

Local Issues : Councillor Richard Bennett, Leader of the Green Group and Leader of the Opposition, writes about Council Tax and other changes affecting Strawberry Hill residents. June Collins presents her regular crime report based on the latest Police Liaison Group meeting. [CLICK HERE](#)

The Association : Residents are invited to our AGM. There are reports on our latest meeting with the Vice Chancellor of St Mary's University and the SHRA response to a major building project at St Catherine's School. [CLICK HERE](#)

Green Pages : SHRA's ongoing campaign to keep Strawberry Hill litter free is featured here. St Mary's students picked Radnor Gardens as part of their volunteering project. The Strawberry Hill Spring Clean on 1 April 2023 is explained.. [CLICK HERE](#)

Events : We report on 'Carols in the Village' 2022 and look forward to the Family Picnic at Strawberry Hill House on 25 June 2023. Residents are invited to the first Supper Talks at the Royal British Legion. [CLICK HERE](#)

Heritage & History : Bethan Wood introduces the latest exhibition at Strawberry Hill House – Treasures from Faraway. Andrew Miller uncovers the history of the Pope's Grotto Hotel and its enterprising Edwardian publican, Joseph Frank Ewington. [CLICK HERE](#)

Roads & Transport : SHRA Committee members have been complaining about the poor service offered by South Western Railways from our local station. [CLICK HERE](#)

Business : Zoe Prindiville features our Village off licence, Lot 56, in Tower Road which is under new management. [CLICK HERE](#)

Local Issues

To ensure that residents are informed about developments at the Council, we have invited **Richard Bennett**, one of our councillors for South Twickenham Ward, to provide an update on issues that will affect Strawberry Hill. SHRA is an apolitical organisation and any opinions expressed are the councillor's own.

Councillor's Update

Councillor Richard Bennett, Leader of the Green Group & Leader of the Opposition, London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames

Council Tax

The Finance & Resources Committee agreed the Budget for 2023/24 on 28th February. As I write it still requires approval at the Council Meeting on March 7th, but this is always a formality. As are the rejection of Opposition attempts at amendments. The Greens rather modestly proposed more significant increases in EV charging point installations and numbers of bike hangars.

We are one of the lowest funded Councils in terms of general Government support. Government policy also appears to be reactive to events and crises arising from specific funding shortfalls. Understandably, COVID was a merited example. However, the preference for additional ringfenced grants rather than longer-term commitments on future funding levels seems to have become established. Regrettably, this tends to inhibit planning and produces a situation in which everyone becomes reactive.

Inflation has been running at 10% and greater in some areas (e.g. building materials). Government has set an increase limit of 2.99% on Council Tax plus a Social Care Precept of 2%. A referendum is required by Councils that propose more. The outcome is that this level of increase is the universal norm. London Boroughs also have the Mayor's GLA Precept, which is increased by 9.74% this year. The overall increase from April 1st is, therefore, 5.92%.

Fortunately (and here I must be fair) Richmond enjoys responsible stewardship of its finances. There will be 'efficiencies' (i.e. cuts). These may be necessary but I feel the need to explore and better understand the implications. Government has decided that COVID-19 will not impose further financial demands in 23/24. Cost of living grants in their many forms will also be phased out as inflation is expected to fall.

Parking & Roads

Parking permits will increase by 5% and by 10% for multiple household permits. For the first time ultra-low emission vehicles will pay for permits. These vehicles now amount to 9% of overall resident permits. The rationale is that an electric car parked is, in effect, simply another parked car occupying kerbside space. A discount of 50% applies to both permits and payment for on-street parking. Pay and display charges are increased by 10%. The Richmond Card discounts still apply.

As a reminder, all revenue from parking and contraventions goes into a separate account, and Councils are required by law to only use this revenue for transport-and-highway-related expenditure.

Highways work for 23/24 has also been approved. Strawberry Hill related works are:

- Strawberry Hill Road - carriageway resurfacing for areas throughout;
- Waldegrave Gardens - footway repairs;
- Cross Deep Gardens - footway repairs throughout & carriageway repairs of entire road.

Local Issues

Crime in Strawberry Hill

by June Collins

The last Police Liaison Group Meeting (PLG) was held on 23rd January. The South Twickenham Neighbourhood Policing Team comprises of Sergeant Rumi Miah; Police Constable Raymond Sullivan; PCSO Kyle Mackenzie and a new police officer – PC Greg Roberts, who is expected to join in February.

Below are the crime figures for South Twickenham Ward (including Strawberry Hill) May- December for 2022 and their comparison with those of similar period in 2021. It should be noted that, after Kingston upon Thames we are the London borough with the second lowest crime rate of 56.7 per 1000 residents.

Crime Figures;

Offence	May - Dec 2021	May - Dec 2022	Change
Burglary	9	8	-1
Criminal Damage	17	10	-7
Robbery	6	5	-1
Theft from M/V	18	25	+7
Theft of M/V	11	14	+3
Theft of pedal cycle	19	19	0
Non Domestic	25	30	+5
Domestic	26	19	-7
Youth Violence	1	0	-1

Motor Vehicle Crime:

This is still on the rise. Police advice is to always lock vehicles, don't leave property on display and lock any valuables in the boot.

Anti-Social Behaviour:

Engagement with Achieving for Children and strong enforcement from the Licencing Officer, in regard to availability of alcohol from Twickenham Local and Sainsbury's, has displaced the problem away from Twickenham Green.

Shed Burglaries:

These are common with bicycles being the most common theft. Police advice is to lock the bike securely in the shed and secure the side gates to the property. Register the bike on bike register. www.bikeregister.com The team can mark your bike for you, if required.

Current Long Term Investigations:

- Possession with intent to supply Class A and B drugs.
- Possession of an offensive weapon - a charge has been received for this and awaits a court date.
- Two cases where a dog has bitten a member of the public. These cases are complete and awaiting a charging decision from The Status Dog Unit.
- A voyeurism investigation which awaits phone location work and then will be ready for a charging decision.
- PC Sullivan will either be taking on, or assisting, CID into looking at four burglaries which have taken place at the Antipodea café in Radnor Gardens.

Other Issues:

Moving forward, the Team will be attending all addresses which have been burgled to speak to the victim and to complete door-to-door enquiries. On the first Monday of each month, the team support the Women's Equality Group Vigil at Twickenham Green. Every Friday they are a partner at The One Stop Domestic Advice/Violence Shop in the Citizens' Advice Centre in Hampton Hill High Street. Residents can view crime figures on the Met website for their area. It should be noted that we are the: South Twickenham | Your area | Metropolitan Police | Metropolitan Police

Also, Richmond Safer Neighbourhood Board offer a free crime prevention visit to residential addresses - email: crimepreventionadvice@yahoo.com

There is a Faraday protector which is an anti-theft device for cars, see link
<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Faraday-Blocking-Keyless-Antitheft-Protector/dp/B077XTMHZW>

You can report people who are homeless to SPEAR, the homeless charity based in Heath Road, and they will go out to help them.

Spear 0208 288 6506 <https://www.spearlondon.org/>

Find below a link to the Street Safe online reporting App
<https://www.met.police.uk/notices/street-safe/street-safe/>

Twitter address for South Twickenham [SNT @MPSSTwickenham](https://twitter.com/SNT@MPSSTwickenham)

South Twickenham SNT email address: southtwickenham.snt@met.police.uk

The Association

SHRA AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Association for 2023 will take place at Strawberry Hill Golf Club on Wednesday 26 April at 7.30pm, doors open from 7pm. Andrew Miller, Chair, will review the past year of activity and June Collins, Treasurer, will provide an overview of the financial position. Members will be invited to elect/re-elect the SHRA Committee. Our special guest is Laura Nee, Partnership, Outreach & Education Officer for Rewilding Arcadia, which is a project within the Thames Landscape Strategy. She will talk about work underway to re-wild the landscape along our stretch of the Thames. As usual members are invited to join members of the Committee in a complimentary drink in the clubhouse after the AGM and talk. The event provides an opportunity for residents to raise issues they feel that SHRA should address.

SHRA Meeting with St Mary's University

Peter Lamb and Andrew Miller for SHRA met with Anthony McClaran, Vice Chancellor, and Chris Paget, Director of Estates & Campus Services for their second meeting of the year. Andrew praised the student volunteers who took part in the Radnor-Gardens-and-surrounds litter pick for National Student Volunteering Week on 15 February. Anthony pledged £100 sponsorship for the SHRA Family Picnic at Strawberry Hill House and a First Aid training place for a SHRA Committee member is on offer in August. We agreed to remind residents via our social media of the opportunities available on the University's programme of short courses (20% discount for locals) and the facility provided by the gym and gym membership. Those interested should visit the short courses and CPD section of the website www.stmarys.ac.uk. There are a range of language courses in French, Italian, Spanish and Mandarin. The Art Workshop classes run from 26 April to 21 June from 10am-1pm and are held at The Exchange opposite Twickenham station.

St Catherine's Music Block Planning Application

St Catherine's School has submitted a major planning application to demolish the existing Music Block and to replace it with a larger three-storey structure. While SHRA does not object to the proposal in principle, we have raised concerns with the Council because of our remit to preserve the heritage of the area. The concerns were twofold, first the potentially damaging impact of pile driving upon the newly refurbished Pope's Grotto – we have conferred with Pope's Grotto Preservation Trust which has also submitted a letter of concern. Second, SHRA is concerned about the potential impact of the 420 or so heavy lorries due to drive up Grotto Road (already in poor condition) and over Stanhope's Cave at the junction with Radnor Road. Residents in Cross Deep and Cross Deep Gardens have submitted objections, as has the owner of Radnor Lodge, where there is an entrance to Stanhope's Cave. We await a decision from the Council and hope they will act to ameliorate potential damage to our heritage.



Stanhope's Cave

The Association

Profile of SHRA Committee members

We are gradually publishing profiles of current members of the SHRA Committee.



Robin Moran, Marketing & Communications

Robin Moran, one of our newer committee members, joined us last summer and has lived in Strawberry Hill since 2021, having grown up in Southampton. She loves visiting museums and galleries, painting, drawing, getting outdoors (up high peaks or onto the water if possible), camping and if you're ever in need of someone to look after your dog for a few hours, no one would appreciate the call more.

In her career, Robin specialises in cultural and digital engagement having worked predominantly across marketing, communications, and event management. Some of the local organisations she has worked with in recent years include Grow Wild (Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew), Ham House and Osterley Park (the National Trust), as well as Kingston Museum and History Centre (Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames).

Feel free to say hi and introduce yourself if you see her around the village



Julia Fiehn, Events Coordinator

Julia is a former teacher who became a Political Education Advisory Teacher and, then a DISCO (Divisional Industry-School Coordinator) in the Inner London Education Authority. For many years she worked on a national education-business links project, based at the University of Warwick, but working across the country. She was the head of a national initiative to promote citizenship education to 16-19 year olds and wrote several citizenship text books for secondary schools. She retired from employment in 2007 and ran a successful education-consultancy business.

In 2005 Julia moved to Strawberry Hill from Richmond. She joined SHRA in 2014 and edited the hard-copy Bulletin for seven years before leaving the Committee. She re-joined as Events Coordinator in 2022 and is a very contented grandmother.



Sam Kamleh, Bulletin Designer

Sam Kamleh returned to Twickenham in 1997 after leaving home to study architecture. Following her time at the Royal College of Art and the Architectural Association, she worked in sole practice from her first home in Lion Road, Twickenham, before moving the company to Colne Road. The architectural practice is now based in Teddington in the former public conveniences, which she converted into offices and an art gallery. Sam was a member of the RIBA's Chartered Practice Committee and a member of the Disciplinary Committee. More locally, Sam was, until recently, a Trustee of the Twickenham Riverside Trust. Sam has been on the SHRA Committee for several years and has designed the Bulletin since issue 174 and launched the SHRA Instagram account.

In 2004 she completed an MBA at Imperial College to better understand the needs of commercial clients and believes that learning is the best way to keep an active mind, she qualified as a Yoga instructor in 2019 and a Pilates instructor in 2021 and has recently started experimenting with a small back garden allotment.

Message us on Instagram and we'd love to share what you or your local business are doing!

The Association

RENEWAL OF SUBSCRIPTION:

Your contribution is vital in allowing SHRA to maintain and develop its events and activities including litter picks, the Big Family Picnic, the planter, the Bulletin, local history, protecting the heritage and monitoring planning applications. We also maintain a fund for legal fees which are required if there is a need to challenge local planning decisions. All Committee members are volunteers. The suggested subscription fee is £5-£10 annually per household (April-March).

You can pay by BACs, Standing order or cheque.

BACs - please email the Treasurer (june.collins@hotmail.co.uk) when making a BACs payment so we know what it is for and who you are. Details:

NatWest Account Name: **Strawberry Hill Residents' Association**

Sort Code: 55-50-39

Account Number: 71550410

Standing order – please email the Treasurer (june.collins@hotmail.co.uk) for a SO form.

Cheques payable to **Strawberry Hill Residents' Association**, drop in or post to June Collins, **23b Tower Road**, TW1 4PD OR Post Office, 50 Tower Road, TW1 4PE (please enclose a note with your name, address and email).

RENEWAL OF SUBSCRIPTION : Your contribution is gratefully received and helps maintain the planters near the station, assists in publication costs and allows us to run and manage the AGM's as well as funds for possible local legal and planning requirements. All committee members are volunteers.
Suggested subscription fee is **£5-£10 annually per household**.

Cheques to Strawberry Hill Resident's Association

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ **POSTCODE:** _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ **TELEPHONE:** _____

Please drop in to either A: June Collins, 23b Tower Road, TW1 4PD or
B : Post Office, 50 Tower Road, TW1 4PE

The Committee

Officers

Andrew Miller,
Chair & Bulletin Editor,
07866801299,
activelearning@blueyonder.co.uk

June Collins,
Hon. Treasurer, 020 8891 0448,
june.collins@hotmail.co.uk

Pamela Crisp,
Hon. Secretary,
020 8898 1878,
contact@SHRA.org.uk

Members

Mike Allsop, Planning Monitor
020 8891 1614
Peter Lamb, Local Historian
lambpc0950@hotmail.com
Sharon Willoughby, Environment Coordinator
swilloster@gmail.com
Louisa Carradine, Environment Coordinator
louisa@strawberryfillstation.com
Sam Kamleh, Bulletin Designer
Richard Hudspith, Committee Member
Zoe Prindiville, Communication Support
John Tjaardstra, Business Liaison
tjaard@btinternet.com
Mary Hughes, Roads & Transport Coordinator
maryhughesx736@gmail.com
Robin Moran, Marketing & Communications,
robinemoran@gmail.com
Cathy Bird, Events Coordinator cathy@cathy-bird.me.uk
Julia Fiehn, Events Coordinator juliafiehn@blueyonder.co.uk

SHRA on social media

Please join/visit the following for more regular posts about Strawberry Hill.

Website – www.shra.org.uk

 [@SHResidents](https://twitter.com/SHResidents)

 [Strawberry_Hill_RA](https://www.instagram.com/Strawberry_Hill_RA)

 [Strawberry Hill Residents' Association](https://www.facebook.com/StrawberryHillResidentsAssociation)

Green Pages

By Louisa Carradine & Andrew Miller

Strawberry Hill Spring Clean – aka The Big Litter Pick – Saturday 1 April, 9-11am

Following the success and popularity of our regular monthly Saturday picks around the Village, we have decided to hold an event dubbed the **Strawberry Hill Spring Clean** aka the Big Litter Pick on Saturday 1 April between 9am and 11 am. Although litter picks are not everyone's cup of tea, there is core of residents who want to make a difference in their local neighbourhood.



Litter picks provide a very concrete way of achieving the SHRA goal of maintaining and improving the amenities of the area. Residents can also pick alongside Committee members and, maybe, find out more about SHRA. The aim of the Strawberry Hill Spring Clean (SHSC) is to try to cover 90% of the 42 streets and closes.

Ideally, we would like people to register in advance to participate so that we can organise teams to cover the area – email spring-clean@shra.org.uk. However, people can also turn up on the day. There will be two pick-up points where pickers can collect bags, pickers and rings and meet fellow pickers. For the north of Strawberry Hill people should attend the garden of 69 Upper Grotto Road and for south Strawberry Hill the address is 3a Strawberry Hill Road. On returning equipment pickers will be offered refreshments (coffee/biscuits). Filled bags can be left at drop off points by large black bins in the streets or returned to the two collection points for disposal. Continental Landscapes will be informed that there will be extra bags to pick up. We hope pickers will take some 'before' and 'after' photos which can be posted on the SHRA Facebook, Twitter or Instagram pages

St Mary's Students Volunteer to Support SHRA



There was an excellent turnout of St Mary's University students for a special litter pick in Radnor Gardens and surrounding streets. Matt Doyle, Student Volunteering Coordinator, advertised on SMU social media following a meeting with Andrew Miller from SHRA. It formed part of activities during National Volunteering Week (13-17 February) and it attracted 30 students, including most of the Rugby League squad. Alfie and Alex decided to dredge up a shopping trolley and old pram that had been discarded in the river despite a warning not to pick on the river banks. We are grateful to see so many young people wanting to help SHRA keep Strawberry Hill streets and green spaces litter free.

Events

By Julia Fiehn



Carols in the Village - Christmas 2022

Carols in the Village

This annual SHRA Christmas event took place on Friday 9 December at the customary venue of Wellesley Parade between 18.00 and 19.30pm. For the first time this event was branded 'Carols in the Village' and we sought business sponsors to defray the rising costs of providing the traditional, large Christmas tree. As in previous years the Council provides us with a grant but that only covers about 50% of the costs. Fortunately, our Business Liaison Coordinator, John Tjaardstra, found a favourable response from many businesses in Strawberry Hill. Our sponsors were: Architecture WK Ltd, Brightlife Chemist, Jawbone Brewing, Kyzan, Riverside Supermarket, St Mary's University, Sopa Thai Restaurant, Strawberry Hill Golf Club, Strawberry Hill Local & Post Office, Twickenham Body Health and Alexander Pope Hotel. For the first time a banner was created celebrating the event and wishing residents a merry Christmas and acknowledging our sponsors – it was displayed on the 'SHRA bench' beside the Christmas tree.

The (very cold) night began with messages of welcome from Andrew Miller, Chair of SHRA, and Leader of the Green Party, Councillor Richard Bennett. Richmond Brass Band members went through the repertoire of eight familiar carols while the audience sang along enthusiastically. The event attracted a crowd of about 80 people, in line with previous years. Residents were warmed by the mulled wine and mince pies. The many children present helped to decorate the tree and enjoy the treats on offer at the SHRA stand.

SHRA Family Picnic at Strawberry Hill House – Sunday 25 June

Following the success of last September's Big Family Picnic in the grounds of Strawberry Hill House, we have decided to repeat the event. This year's SHRA Family Picnic will take place on Sunday 25 June, beginning when the House closes at 16.30 and lasting until 18.30. As last year, the primary audience is families living in Strawberry Hill (but extended family members are welcome). Everyone is encouraged to bring their own food and drink to the picnic. Last year, one third of those who booked the free tickets failed to attend, so, to combat 'no-shows' and to cover some of our costs, we have introduced a £5 ticket fee for adults, all children can come for free.

Entertainment will be provided by Richmond Brass Band and for the children, Jolly Julie, will go through her repertoire of magic and educational skills. This year the limit on numbers has been increased to 250. Members of the SHRA Committee will again act as stewards to ensure the safety of all attending.

Supper Talks at the Legion – First talk - Monday 17 April 7-9pm

In partnership with the Twickenham branch of the Royal British Legion, SHRA is hosting three 'Supper Talks' during 2023. The purpose of the events is to promote community spirit in Strawberry Hill, to disseminate SHRA's work on the local history of the area, and to feature speakers with a relevant message to residents. The Legion is based at Thornton Lodge, 95 Pope's Grove, and the doors will open at 7pm, the presentation will be at 7.30pm and food will be served afterwards. The first talk is by long-time Committee member and local historian, Peter Lamb, who will present an illustrated talk on the subject of 'A Strawberry Hill Resident looks back at World War 1'. It is being held on Monday 17 April and the limited number tickets can be purchased ahead of the event by emailing supper@shra.org.uk. Tickets cost £20 which includes the talk, a fish & chip supper and one drink (beer, wine or spirits). There are a few tickets at £10 which includes the talk and the drink only. Book early to avoid disappointment.

SHRA Supper Talks
A Strawberry Hill Resident's Personal Investigation of WW1 - Peter Lamb
Presentation followed by fish & chip supper
First Supper Talk is on Monday 17 April 7-9.30pm at the Legion, 95 Pope's Grove
Tickets £20 including talk, meal & one drink
Or £10 including talk and one drink
To book your place please email - supper@shra.org.uk

Roads & Transport

By Mary Hughes

As reported in the last bulletin SHRA is working to identify transport problems and improve the travelling environment for us all. The last few months have been particularly difficult with the ongoing train and bus strikes. In addition, during the Christmas period, this situation was made much worse for the residents of Strawberry Hill by the additional unannounced and unexplained closure of Strawberry Hill Station from 18th December 2022 to 8th January 2023. The following complaint was made by SHRA on behalf of residents and circulated widely to our councillors, MP and on social media. There seemed to be no way of contacting SWR directly at that point.



For attention of Customer Services Manager SWR

On behalf of Strawberry Hill Residents' Association, I would like to register a formal complaint about the lack of service at Strawberry Hill Station.

As I am sure you are aware, when the rest of the SWR service resumed after the last rail strike (December 16th and 17th), there was no resumption of train services at Strawberry Hill Station. Strawberry Hill has been without trains since 18th December and, as far as we are able to tell, this situation is set to continue into January.

Residents' concerns are:

- No alert was given that this was going to happen.
- No explanation has been given for why this has happened.

Residents want to know:

- What is the justification/explanation for this?
- When will normal services be resumed?
- Why has Strawberry Hill been selected for such arbitrary disruption?

Businesses in Strawberry Hill have also suffered reporting up to 70% loss of business in the run up to Christmas. I would appreciate an immediate response to the issues raised.

Munira Wilson did reply to me at the end of January and there was an update in the LBRUT newsletter, as other stations were also affected. SWR's justification was that the closure was due to an overtime ban and the fact that staff were working to rule! She identified a named individual to whom we could address our concerns. Munira also wrote that although '*...the service is now up and running, it is still worthwhile expressing to SWR the concerns of local residents, as I fear we have not seen the end of train troubles in our area.*' This is now being followed up with SWR.

SHRA will continue to work with ward councillors to tackle infrastructure problems. These range from road surface problems (with pot holes, sink holes and 'lakes' after heavy rain) of particular concern is the enforcement of speed limits in particularly busy streets. Improvements to signage asking motorists to turn off engines when parked or waiting at the level crossing is also needed. Most recently we have also been monitoring the multiple road closures and diversions resulting from these works. Our strategy is to apply pressure to ensure that diversions from main routes do not go through the narrow, quiet residential streets of Strawberry Hill.

History & Heritage

Treasures from Faraway: Medieval and Renaissance Objects from the Schroder collection
19 March – 19 July 2023 at Strawberry Hill House & Garden

By Bethan Wood, Marketing & Communications Manager

Discover a world of precious materials and mysterious meanings in Strawberry Hill's next display: Treasures from Faraway: Medieval and Renaissance Objects from the Schroder collection, opening Sunday 19 March. The combination of rare and exotic materials and the skilled craftsmanship of Western goldsmiths is the starting point for Treasures from Faraway, which has been uniquely invited to display a selection of exceptional objects from this tradition, collected by several generations of the Schroder family.

This exhibition shines a spotlight on how diverse natural materials, from coconuts to rock crystal, along with trade networks with Asia and the Far East created new opportunities for European craftspeople to make objects of wonder for their wealthy patrons. The aristocratic habit of collecting valuable objects to create what were known as Cabinets of Curiosities, Schatzkammer or Studioli (respectively in Britain, Germany and Italy) developed in the courts of Northern and Southern Europe during the Renaissance.

A Cabinet of Curiosities usually comprised of anything its owner deemed to be unique, exotic, or valuable and therefore, worthy of collecting; including items from the natural world, alongside works of art and antiquities. As a microcosm, the Cabinet of Curiosities symbolically conveyed its patron's knowledge of the wider world through its indoor, miniscule reproduction. This exhibition aims to highlight both the symbolic and material characteristics of these objects as well as to explore the ways in which these exotic materials travelled far from their native sites production into new cultural contexts, where they acquired new meanings and values.

Tickets included in general admission.

strawberryhillhouse.org.uk/treasures-from-faraway



Nautilus Cup [Clementine Edney] Silver, parcel-gilt, nautilus shell and garnet. South Netherlands (Delft), 1595. The Schroder Collection.

History & Heritage

J F Ewington & Pope's Grotto Hotel

By Andrew Miller

The Pope's Grotto Hotel was built by the Young and Bainbridge Brewery in 1852 and it opened in 1853. Charles Young and Anthony Bainbridge had founded the company in 1831, when they bought the Ram Brewery in Wandsworth. Their partnership was dissolved in 1884. By 1882, the hotel was marketed as offering a 'beanfeast room to accommodate 150', the 'finest pull-up in the suburbs', and 'stabling for 20 horses'. The hotel was arranged over three floors with stabling to the side along Cross Deep and a function room along Pope's Grove.

Joseph Frank Ewington (1876-1915) was the 12th licensed victualler to run the hotel on behalf of the brewery and his tenure lasted from 1905 until his sudden death in 1915. Joseph had the postcards printed (pictured). He was the Kennington-born son of a publican brewer also called Joseph, who had a large family of 11 children. Joseph was experienced in the business (previously he was at the Pegasus, Green Lanes in North London).

In 1905, Twickenham Rugby Football Club made the Pope's Grotto Hotel their headquarters following their move to the Tower Road ground – 'a fine level piece of turf' - where they played until the start of World War 1.



The Pope's Grotto Hotel c. 1910

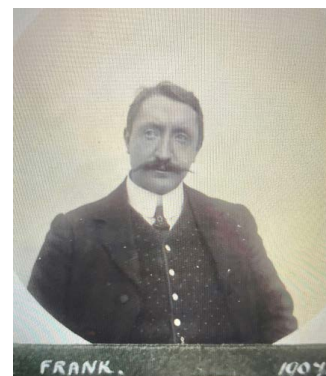
The ground was previously used by the now defunct Strawberry Hill Cricket Club. This was thanks to Joseph Frank Ewington who was obviously a rugby fan and who would also benefit from teams drinking in his pub after the game. He also played cricket as a batsman for Twickenham Cricket Club. In 1908, he was also Chairman of the Ealing & Brentford Licensed Victuallers' Society.

The postcard dating from around 1910 shows the original name 'The Grotto Hotel' in the stonework above the second storey and the name Pope's Grotto Hotel on the sign on the corner at ground-floor level. The bust on the roof is that of Admiral Lord Nelson, the hero of the Battle of Trafalgar. Ewington's name is prominently displayed on the upper floor stonework – on the photograph looking north up Cross Deep towards Twickenham.



Cross Deep with The Pope's Grotto Hotel in the distance

On 30 September 1914, Joseph married Florence Amelia Smith (1884-1957) in Birmingham but he died shortly afterwards on 24 February 1915 after a short illness.



Joseph Ewington

He was buried at Twickenham Cemetery leaving effects of £3280 to his widow. In 1915, Burgiss Brown became the manager of the Pope's Grotto Hotel after four years as manager of the Talbot Picture Theatre. Florence took over the role of licensed victualler and she remarried on 26 November 1927 at Holy Trinity Church on Twickenham Green.

Her new husband was Karl Anton Steidel (1877-1941) a bank clerk and son of a newspaper editor, Joseph Steidel. They went on to live at 31 Waldegrave Gardens. She gave up running the hotel in 1935.

(You can read about the more recent history of Pope's Grotto Hotel in Bulletin no. 180)

Business Pages

By Zoe Prindiville

LOT 56

Eagle-eyed residents may have noticed that Lot 56, the off licence on Tower Road, has recently reopened under new management. The owners of Everyday's on Strawberry Hill Parade have extended their empire and are the proud new owners. I spoke to Jay about both businesses and how they work together, as well as what he likes about the area.

The family-owned business started at almost the same time as the Covid pandemic, but happily has gone from strength to strength. While Everyday's is open from 7am - 10pm and sells a wide range of drinks and food, Lot 56 has maintained its remit as a specialist alcohol shop. There you can buy wine from all corners of the world, as well as international beers, spirits, ice and snacks to soak up the alcohol! It is open from 12 midday to 10pm currently, but Jay says this is under review.

I asked Jay how he saw the two businesses working, as there is a certain amount of crossover in produce. He says, 'People come into Everyday's for bread, milk and other essentials. If they are looking for more premium wine or beer, then we send them to Lot 56.' What does he like about the area? 'It is a great location, and a lovely area. Strawberry Hill is quiet, clean and calm - no fights, raised voices or noticeable trouble.' What would he change about Strawberry Hill? Apart from a potential business association, he thinks that nothing needs changing. And I concur with him when he says, 'Strawberry Hill is just perfect as it is!'



SHRA supports the establishment of a business association but the initiative needs to be seized by the owners of the businesses in the Village – maybe Jay and Everyday's/Lot 56 could contact their fellow businesses and get the conversation rolling.

SHRA Business Strategy Update By John Tjaardstra

Responsible for SHRA Business Liaison I've spent the last few months contacting and visiting businesses in Strawberry Hill, most recently including a number located in Heathlands Industrial Estate (Heathlands Close). Businesses can support SHRA events through sponsorship. Several of them generously contributed to last December's Carols in the Village. Our major summer event is the Family Picnic, planned for Sunday 25 June this year. The main winter event, Carols in the Village, will be on Friday 8 December. Sponsorship of these events is normally £50 or £100. We acknowledge business support through posters, social media posts and banners. Businesses can now also again advertise in the Bulletin, with rates starting at £50 for a small ad for the year's three editions. If you're interested in supporting SHRA through event sponsorship or Bulletin advertising, then please contact SHRA at business@shra.org.uk.

A Word from Our Sponsors

Advertising

Advertising in The Bulletin

If you would like to run an advert in The Bulletin, please contact our editorial team activelearning@blueyonder.co.uk

Costs are £50 for a quarter page, £75 for a half page for 3 editions per annum. We reserve the right to adjust size of advert to fit editorial.


If you would like us to design the layout for you, then the cost is negotiable dependant on artwork required starting at £50.

Kyzan
HAIRDRESSING

Get your Spring look with 30%
OFF ALL COLOUR SERVICES
EVERY MONDAY

DISCOUNT FOR SENIOR CITIZENS
AND STUDENTS ALL WEEK

39 Tower Road
Strawberry Hill
Twickenham
TW1 4PS
020 8891 2255

 **Get into golf**

Strawberry Hill is offering
four lessons for beginners
and novices for just £40.00
led by our PGA
professional, Peter Buchan

www.shgolf.co.uk.
Just call the secretary on: 020 8894 0165
Email: secretary@shgolf.co.uk.
Strawberry Hill Golf Club, Wellesley Road,
Twickenham TW2 5SD

ADVERTISE HERE FOR ONLY

£50 PER ANNUM
FOR THIS SIZE

**FOR 3 EDITIONS
OF
THE BULLETIN**

CONTACT US ON
activelearning@blueyonder.co.uk



architecture:wk ltd
0208 977 6999 - studio@architecturewk.com

Architecture
Interior Design
Project Management
Sustainability