

No.169 Spring 2019



Wellesley Road,
Thursday 7th March,
9.20am

The Strawberry Hill CPZ

The new CPZ started on the 4th March and covers the area, in Strawberry Hill, between The Green, Hampton Road, Wellesley Road and Popes Avenue. It is in operation Monday – Friday from 10.00am until 4.30pm. The implementation has been gradual, with information signs appearing in the affected streets in mid-February, and turquoise warning-only tickets being issued in the first week.

As the photo shows, the streets are considerably emptier. One resident noted gratefully that the area is safer to drive around now that double yellow lines have been painted to stop car drivers from parking on dangerous corners and near the level

crossing. There will be a review in six months to see whether any changes need to be made.

Streets wishing to join the scheme need to draw up a petition to the Council, as some roads have already done.

SHRA Annual Christmas Carol Singing Event

The Christmas carol singing was held on Friday 14th December on what turned out to be a lovely, dry crisp evening. This year the event moved back to the heart of the village, Wellesley Parade.

We were very fortunate that the Mayor of Richmond upon Thames, Cllr. Ben Khosa and his wife were

able to attend the event. Cllr. Khosa opened the evening with some words of welcome. We thank them for attending and joining in for the duration of the singing.

Thanks are also due to the wonderful Richmond Brass Band who joined us for this event and supported our singing with such enthusiasm.

Mulled wine and mince-pies were provided for the adults and treats and soft drinks for the children.

Our thanks to Bruce Duff for preparing the mulled wine. The children finished decorating the tree with baubles and Sopa's lovely window lights contributed to the festive atmosphere. Donations for refreshments were shared equally

between SPEAR, Twickenham's Homeless charity and the Pope's Grotto Preservation Trust.

Everyone enjoyed the evening. It would be lovely if more children could attend next year to join in the fun and help decorate the tree.



Strawberry Hill Residents' Association Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 24th April 2019 at Strawberry Hill Golf Club.

Everyone who lives in Strawberry Hill is automatically a member, so do come along and tell us what you think.

After the meeting, you are invited to have a complimentary glass of wine and to stay for a chat to other residents.



If you would like to stand for election as a committee member at the next AGM, please email for details from: information@shra.org.uk by 16th April 2019. We are particularly keen to recruit committee members with good IT skills.

Follow us on Twitter: @SHResidents and join our Facebook group: Strawberry Hill Residents Association

RENEWAL OF SUBSCRIPTION £5.00 (minimum) PER HOME FOR 2019

This subscription renewal may be made by cash or cheque made payable to: Strawberry Hill Residents' Association.

Write your name & address on the form below and put in an envelope with your subscription. PLEASE HAND IT . . . TO EITHER:

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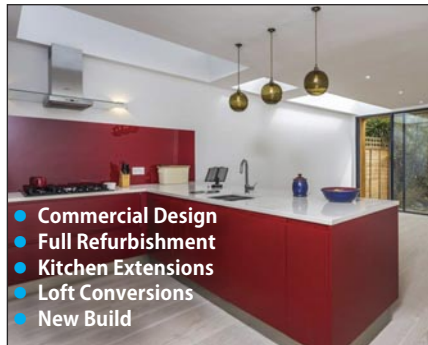
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Strawberry Hill House Music & Fun Day

The annual Music and Fun Day will be held on:

Sunday 9th June 2019, 12 – 7.30pm

Entrance is by suggested donation of £4.00 per person, £1.00 per child.

There will be live music, craft and community stalls, fairground rides, food and drink. You can bring a picnic, but drinks should be purchased from stalls. More information from: www.strawberryhillmusicday.co.uk

Radnor Gardens Café News

Friends of Radnor Gardens (FoRG) have announced that the Café will soon be re-opening under new management. Mustard and Cress were selected by the FoRG café committee from a field of six experienced local caterers. They are a family firm comprising, James, with 30 years catering experience, ably supported by his daughters, Siobhan and Emily, and a very strong team.

Currently, they have a catering contract for Haymarket Publishing during the week and East Molesey Sport Club during the weekend. They are fully committed to opening Radnor Gardens Café daily from 7.30 am until 'after the last customer goes'. SHRA would like to acknowledge the contribution made by Marcus and Michael who established the café as a welcoming meeting place for local residents. We wholeheartedly thank them and wish them well.

Mustard and Cress have lots of wonderful ideas for making Radnor Gardens into a must-go destination for so many different people; dog walkers, families, Strawberry Hill Bowls Club members, keep-fit enthusiasts, senior citizens, young people, walkers, local business people, passers-by and commuters.

Comments or ideas about the café should be sent to:
 Clare Head, Chair of FoRG
 Email: clareorelhead@hotmail.co.uk

Strawberry Hill House Lost Treasures Exhibition

The Lost Treasures of Strawberry Hill exhibition closed on 24th February, this exhibition reunited many of the most important masterpieces in Horace Walpole's 'little gothic castle' from his famed and unique collection - one of the greatest in the 18th century.

The collection was dispersed to collectors far and wide in the great sale of 1842, but over the past decade, Strawberry Hill's curators have been sleuthing for Walpole's lost treasures using detective skills, his detailed descriptions and the sales catalogue from 1842. For the first time in over 170 years, Strawberry Hill could be experienced as Walpole conceived it, with the original collection in the interiors he designed for it.

Working with 50 separate lenders, 160 works were brought together across a five month winter season where the House welcomed over 30,000 visitors, of which 95% rated their exhibition experience as excellent or good. The exhibition received extensive positive media coverage and

critical acclaim, including a 5 star review in the Evening Standard and 4 star review in the Guardian.

More than 300 volunteers helped in various ways during the exhibition and gave more than 11,000 hours of their time. The Lost Treasures of Strawberry Hill mobile App, that features a 360-degree interactive room tour of the collection in-situ and an audio tour, is available free for download on iOS and Android devices.



The sleuthing for Walpole's remaining objects continues with the 'Strawberry Hill Treasure Hunt Blog'. You can keep up-to-date with the blog here: <https://www.strawberryhillhouse.org.uk/strawberry-hill-treasure-hunt/s>
 The spring season opens on 1st April 2019 and will feature 'Painted Glass Tours' once a month as well as 'Twilight Tours'.

With grateful thanks to Strawberry Hill House marketing team

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Heathrow Consultation

Heathrow started a consultation on Airspace & Future Operations in January 2019. The implications for Strawberry Hill include:

- up to 67 planes an hour
- flights using 4 concentrated departure routes
- our area being overflowed for 12-18 hours on more days with Westerly preference removed
- new arrivals routes concentrated in the early morning

Consultation closed on 4th March, but we urge all residents to be aware of the implications of this proposal which is not dependent on a third runway. Heathrow intend to introduce highly concentrated routes using new satnav technology which could result in 25,000 more planes per year on its two existing runways as early as 2022. This proposal is not included in the airport's application to Parliament for a third runway.

If this is implemented our area could be overflowed by either departures or arrivals every day.

Richmond upon Thames Council opposes these plans to operate new flight paths and increase the number of flights over our area.

The Council is already part of a consortium which has issued judicial review proceedings in the High Court against plans to expand

the airport, on the grounds that the Secretary of State for Transport has unlawfully designated the Airports National Policy Statement (NPS) under the Planning Act 2008. The proceedings challenging the expansion of Heathrow airport have been brought by the London Boroughs of Hillingdon, Wandsworth, Richmond upon Thames, Hammersmith and Fulham, the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Greenpeace and the Mayor of London.

Trains from Strawberry Hill

Some travellers have complained that the 8-car train, stops too far up the platform (next to the 10-car train sign), forcing late arrivals to walk a considerable way to board the train. Our chairman, David Cornwell, has asked whether this could be altered so that the train can always be joined at the platform entrance.

He has also been in touch with SWR about inaccurate signs and announcements.

On trains arriving at Strawberry Hill, announcements frequently say that the train has reached its final destination:

"All Change, please"

While locals are aware that the announcements are wrong and largely ignore them, newcomers to the area are confused.

One committee member recently said:

'A short while ago, we were on a train from Teddington to Waterloo via Wimbledon. The signs in the train and the announcements said that this was a Shepperton train.

At Hampton Wick, the announcement said we were at Teddington.

At Kingston, the announcement said we were at Hampton Wick.

It continued to say:

"This is a train to Shepperton".'



The onboard signs are often wrong, although frequently ignored, as this photo, taken on a train to Waterloo, shows.

Karen Hein, Executive Contact and Complaints Team, SWR, said:

'Further to our previous correspondence, I have had a reply from the information managers with regard to the announcements on the train from London Waterloo to Strawberry Hill.

They are aware of the issue which has been faulted and are awaiting our providers to update the database

with the corrections. I am still waiting for a response to the stopping position of the 8 car trains. As soon as I get one, I will contact you again.'

Local research reminds us that the station used to receive regular plaudits for being one of the best kept in the Southern Region. It would be good if SWR could be persuaded to show a similar degree of interest today.

DAME MARION KETTLEWELL

Horace Walpole, Alexander Pope and Francis Countess Waldegrave may well be the most famous and celebrated people associated with Strawberry Hill from times past, but it is interesting to discover other eminent individuals who have a connection with our area, but whose fame may not be so far reaching.

If they merit an obituary in the Times and Telegraph, they are worth investigating, and it was a full article in these newspapers outlining a long and distinguished life that drew our attention to **Marion Kettlewell** who spent her early childhood in Strawberry Hill.

Marion Mildred Kettlewell was born in **Harpree Cottage** on 20th February 1914 and baptised in St Mary's Church the following month. Her father, George Wildman Kettlewell was an electrical engineer. He moved to Strawberry Hill with his wife Mildred some time between 1901 and 1908, taking up residence at "The Cottage" at the end of **Waldegrave Road** opposite Strawberry Hill House. This particular residence has its origins from the time of Horace Walpole, but it is the Kettlewells who renamed it Harpree Cottage as George hailed from East Harpree, a village in the Mendips in Somerset. The name remains until this day. Marion's two elder brothers were also born in Strawberry Hill, but after the First World War the family moved to Chertsey where

they continued to live for many years. Marion's adventurous and extraordinary career began, when as a teenager she joined The Fellowship of the Maple Leaf, an organisation that promoted links between Britain and Canada. At the age of 16 she was exploring the wilderness of Alberta, living in camps, learning survival skills and honing her natural talent for self reliance.

She acquired her determination to help those in adversity initially from her family. Her mother was afflicted with acute arthritis and was profoundly deaf, and her father suffered a breakdown at the end of the First World War. At the beginning of the Second World War she worked for a charity helping Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany. In 1941 she joined the Women's Royal Naval Service as a driver. She was renowned for her resilience and indomitable spirit as she rose quickly through the ranks, attending high level meetings at the Admiralty and taking charge of the Wrens who were organising the landing craft at Harwich in preparation for D Day.

After the war the WRNS was reduced in number but she remained, and in 1951 she was promoted to chief officer, then later superintendent to the Air Command. She became famous for flying Hunter jets, broke the sound barrier, and earned herself the nickname "The Supersonic Superintendent".



Dame Marion Kettlewell on her 100th birthday

As director of the WRNS between 1967 and 1970 she travelled the world. Her outstanding service was honoured in 1970 when she was made a Dame Commander of the British Empire. She retired in 1978 but continued her work with the service from 1981 when she was appointed president of the WRNS association. She died on 11th April 2016 at the age of 102.

By all accounts she was sharp of mind and intellect until the end, and it is probable that when she reviewed the memories of her long life, she recalled her early childhood in the house at the end of Waldegrave Road.

Acknowledgements to The Times obituary column, 2nd May 2016

THE COMMITTEE

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A New Series from SHRA . . . *StreetWise*

From the next issue, we will be publishing brief histories of some of the streets in Strawberry Hill.

Longer versions will be available on the website: www.shra.org.uk

To start with, look out for the histories of:

- ✓ Waldegrave Road
- ✓ Tower Road and
- ✓ Upper Grotto Road

PLUS A NEW SERVICE . . .

If you live in one of the older properties of Strawberry Hill, have you ever wondered who resided there before you?

Would you be interested in finding out about the history of your house and the lives of previous residents?

Members of the SHRA committee have

already investigated the role of Strawberry Hill residents in the First World War, and we are familiar with records relating to the history of our area.

If you would like us to look into the past of your own house, who lived there, what the people did and possibly what became of them, we will do our best to give you as much information as we are able to gather. We would only ask that you make a donation to SHRA of £25.

This project will also help us to contribute to the history of Strawberry Hill and bring the past of our special part of London to life.

If you are interested, please contact Peter Lamb.

Contact details are shown on the Committee Contacts list – *left*.

The Bulletin is published by the Strawberry Hill Residents' Association and is distributed free, three times a year, to approximately 2400 homes in the area.

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