

## Editor's Introduction

### Welcome to the Strawberry Hill Residents' Association Bulletin

The SHRA Committee is pleased to invite our Bulletin readers to a social evening on **Wednesday 24 April from 7pm at Strawberry Hill Golf Club**. In a departure from previous years, we are incorporating the SHRA annual general meeting into the social evening where complimentary drinks and finger food will be available. Residents will be able to meet members of the Committee and discuss issues concerning our local area. Regrettably, this issue has an extended 'Crime' section. Everyone was shocked and appalled when knife crime came to Strawberry Hill station with the tragic death of local student, Anojan Gnananeswaran, and our thoughts



are with his family and friends. This was a reminder that although it is traditionally a low-crime area, no place can be entirely immune from such tragedies.

A key objective of SHRA is 'to promote community spirit' and this is embodied by the work of our Environment Coordinator, Louisa Carradine, and the Litter Pick Group of local volunteers. The Green Pages celebrate their work and provide a calendar for the year, so that more residents can get involved in keeping our streets clear of litter. Community spirit was also demonstrated by the excellent turnout for the SHRA-organised 'Carols in the Village' event at Wellesley Parade in December.

Strawberry Hill House and St Mary's University give the community much of its identity. SHRA is pleased to promote the latest events at the House which includes a lecture from TV art critic, Andrew Graham-Dixon, on 17 May. There are also a range of short courses available at SMU with discounts for residents including, 'How to write a novel', which will be of interest to budding authors.

SHRA's interest in local history features in the form of new Streetwise research from Mike Cherry on Radnor Road and a short history of St James's RC Primary School.

Finally, John Tjaardstra, Business Liaison coordinator, introduces a new directory of Strawberry Hill's business which can be accessed via the website ([www.shra.org.uk/business](http://www.shra.org.uk/business)).

The SHRA Committee has vacancies for volunteers, so please be in touch if you are interested in finding out more at [contact@shra.org.uk](mailto:contact@shra.org.uk).

**Andrew Miller, Chair, SHRA**

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### In this issue:

**Local Issues :** Councillor Richard Bennett, Leader of the Green Group, comments and asks for feedback on rail and bus issues. June Collins reports on crime in Strawberry Hill. [CLICK HERE](#)

**The Association :** Andrew Miller reports on the forthcoming SHRA Social Evening & AGM, Committee vacancies, the 150th Anniversary of Strawberry Hill Station, and the saga of the noise barriers.. [CLICK HERE](#)

**Green Pages :** Here we celebrate the work of the SHRA Litter Pick Group and present the year's calendar so that anyone can join in.. [CLICK HERE](#)

**Events:** This year's 'Carols in the Village' before Christmas was the best attended in recent times.. [CLICK HERE](#)

**St Mary's University :** Helen Barnes from the short courses team provides a description of upcoming courses with discounts for local residents. [CLICK HERE](#)

**Heritage & History :** Rebecca Leuw informs us on upcoming events at Strawberry Hill House. The Streetwise series continues with the highlights of Mike Cherry's research into Radnor Road. Andrew Miller explores the history of St James's RC Primary School. [CLICK HERE](#)

**Business :** John Tjaardstra introduces the new directory of Strawberry Hill businesses. [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 ([Cllr.r.bennett@richmond.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.r.bennett@richmond.gov.uk)).

A recent puzzle is the installation of the fencing on the platform of Strawberry Hill Station closely followed by its de-installation. Network Rail say that they installed it in response to residents with gardens facing the platform who had concerns about privacy and noise. Network Rail and South Western Railway then 'agreed' to take it down and install the chain fencing. The reason given was maintenance costs, notably graffiti. It later emerged that South Western Railway was responsible and that this issue should have been discussed with Ward Councillors. Network Rail now say that they are exploring the possibility in May of planting vegetation to enhance privacy.

**I would welcome your comments/ideas for our Station. Similarly, your feedback on our local buses would also be welcome.**

On buses, it is encouraging that Fulwell Bus Garage is now about 60% electric. The newer buses are also GPS governed, which limits them to the speed limit of 20mph (more accurately to 18mph which is even more unpopular with drivers). The R68 has been restored to its Kew Retail Park terminus after finishing in Twickenham for the last six months. Sadly, this does not mean that the TfL Manor Road roadworks in Richmond has been completed.

I have often encountered misleading information on the digital information displays at bus stops. An example is a long predicted delay in the arrival of a R70 or a 33 bus followed by an almost immediate arrival of one. Alternatively, one is predicted to imminently arrive but then disappears from the screen. Please do let me know if I am not alone in the experience.

I have picked up a new acronym. The new barriers outside Richmond Station are referred to as HVM. It is an anti-terrorism measure of the sort we have become all too familiar with and means Hostile Vehicle Mitigation.

### Audit and Standards

I am now the Chair of the Council's Audit and Standards Committee. This is the only Committee that can be chaired by an Opposition Party Councillor. I aim to make it independent, objective, assertive, and respected. I take the Committee's scrutiny role very seriously but must rely on ensuring a non-party political ethos.

I shall after six years be taking a break from the Planning Committee. However, this offers the prospect of more help and advice to residents on planning applications because I am permitted to become an 'Interested Councillor'.

Richard Bennett



## Local Issues

### Crime in Strawberry Hill

by June Collins

The last Police Liaison Group meeting (PLG) was held on 15 January 2024. South Twickenham has a full team of a Sergeant, two police officers and one PCSO. The team are Kyle Mackenzie, PC Greg Roberts, PC Raymond Sullivan and Sgt. Jason Hudson. The current abstraction rates from the Ward (where our officers are called in to help in other situations) are now 20% with an average of 18% for the year.

The number of reports for violence has fallen since the last set of figures. Theft of/from motor vehicles/pedal cycles has fallen overall. Burglary reports have risen this quarter. However, these are mostly shed burglaries. The Home Office has changed the reporting systems. This will show a split in these crimes so that house burglaries and shed burglaries are counted differently. The majority of shed burglaries involve bicycles that are the thieves' target item of choice.

In November there was an increase in burglaries, most of which have been where the suspect has gained entry by smashing a window or breaking through the front door and, on a few occasions, taking car keys and stealing the vehicle parked on the driveway. Five of the pedal cycle thefts were from sheds.

Offence	Sept - Nov 2022	Sept - Nov 2023	Change
Burglary	6	9	+3
Criminal Damage	6	3	-3
Robbery	3	4	+1
Theft from M/V	15	11	-4
Theft of M/V	2	7	+5
Theft of pedal cycle	9	9	0
Non Domestic	12	11	-1
Domestic	8	7	-1
Youth Violence	0	0	0

The main area of vulnerability for bike thefts has been St. Mary's University, outside Pure Gym and Strawberry Hill Station.

**Robbery:** Two of the robberies were attempted and, luckily, no property was taken.

Another was on the Green where they stole the victim's phone. St. Mary's University generates the most amount of crimes per postcode. There was a suspect arrested at the University who had been stealing laptops from the Library which accounted for six crimes.

Two arrests were made during this period. One male was arrested after a house burglary where the vehicle was stolen. A vehicle pursuit was authorised when the vehicle was spotted and the suspect was detained and arrested. One suspect was arrested for burglary and fraud after an investigation. The suspect is currently on remand in prison and appeared in court on 1 February for sentencing. This suspect has numerous other offences to count, i.e. criminal damage, two instances of racially aggravated public disorder; two assaults on police.

**Stabbing at the Station:** British Transport Police officers were called to Strawberry Hill Station at 23.53pm on Monday 8 January to reports of an injured man in his 20s. Officers quickly attended alongside colleagues from the Metropolitan Police and paramedics from the London Ambulance Service. The victim who had been stabbed, died at the scene and a 16-year-old boy was found with a stab wound to the leg in Alexander Close shortly after the attack. The murder investigation team is led by Detective Inspector Paul Attwell and four men were soon arrested. The Station remained closed on the Tuesday and many trains were cancelled while an intensive search of the crime scene was undertaken. Areas were also taped off in Wellesley Court and Alexander Close which Scene-of-Crime Officers attended.

The victim was later named as 21-year-old Anojan Gnananeswaran, a third-year University student of accountancy and finance. He was also a black belt karate ace who competed in the World and European championships. Floral tributes were laid outside the station on Wellesley Parade. His family requested that their privacy be respected at a very difficult time.

On 13th February, Dino Donaldson, 19, of Caxton Road, Ealing, appeared at Westminster Magistrates Court charged with one count of murder and two counts of possession with intent to supply Class A drugs. He was next due to appear at the Old Bailey on 15th February.

#### Helpful Links

The neighbourhood watch team will provide bike marking to anyone on the ward.

Contact their email address: [southtwickenham.snt@met.police.uk](mailto:southtwickenham.snt@met.police.uk)

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 and they will go out and help them.

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

Street Safe online reporting App. <https://www.met.police.uk/notices/street-safe/street-safe>

Also, Richmond Safer Neighbourhood Board offer a free crime prevention visit to residential addresses.

Email. [crimepreventionadvice@yahoo.com](mailto:crimepreventionadvice@yahoo.com)

Protect your bike from theft: [www.bikeregister.com](http://www.bikeregister.com)

Join the UK's national, Police approved, bicycle marking & registration scheme.

Here is a link to the crime statistics which are all available on the MPS website, just put in your postcode:

<https://www.crime-statistics.co.uk/>

## The Association

### SHRA Social Evening incorporating the AGM

This year we are changing things for our annual general meeting. The 'SHRA Social Evening for Residents incorporating the AGM' will be held on **Wednesday 24 April at Strawberry Hill Golf Club from 7pm for a 7.30pm start**. Voluntary associations usually hold AGMs at the end of the financial year – looking back to the previous year and forward to the year ahead. In the past SHRA has combined the formal proceedings (plus visiting speaker) with an opportunity for a complimentary drink and a chance to talk to members of the Committee. This year we would like to meet residents who have been following us closely on social media, members of the litter pick group as well as anyone who lives in the area and wants to find out more about SHRA. This year there will be nibbles and finger food to accompany the complimentary drinks. You will be able to talk to members of the Committee about any issues that concern you and meet fellow residents. Please let us know if you plan to attend by emailing us at [contact@shra.org.uk](mailto:contact@shra.org.uk) – this will help us with our catering plans.

### Vacancies on the Committee

Joining the SHRA Committee provides an excellent local volunteering opportunity for those people living in Strawberry Hill who would like to contribute. In recent years we have tried to recruit people into particular roles so that everyone is clear about what is expected of them. However, there are currently six vacancies on the 15-person Committee which we are seeking to fill. The Committee meets six times a year in the evenings from 19.30-21.00 at local venues including St Mary's University and the Alexander Pope Hotel. If you would like to discuss joining the Committee then please email us at [contact@shra.org.uk](mailto:contact@shra.org.uk).

### 150th Anniversary of the Station

On Friday 8 December Her Worship the Mayor of Richmond, Councillor Suzette Nicholson commemorated the 150 Anniversary of the opening of Strawberry Hill Station on Monday 1 December. In her welcoming speech to SHRA's 'Carols in the Village' event, she acknowledged the role of Lady Waldegrave in pushing for a station in Strawberry Hill, so that the many distinguished visitors to her salon at Strawberry Hill House could arrive more easily from central London. It is also suggested that she had a financial interest as a local land owner who could see the potential for residential development. To remind residents and commuters of the anniversary, we also posted a poster on the SHRA noticeboard at the station. .



### The saga of the noise barriers at Strawberry Hill station

Back in April 2023 we reported that Network Rail had begun installing noise barriers (thick wooden fencing) on platforms 1 and 2. The fences were not treated with anything other than wood preservative and we expressed concern that (as one resident put it) they would become 'large blank canvasses free for the taking'. Given other graffiti attacks in the area we were worried that the boards would soon be covered by tags creating an uglier and more threatening atmosphere. Network Rail said that they would prosecute if taggers are caught on camera (24-hour graffiti helpline is 03457 114141). There was also a concern that the new barrier on platform 2 obscured the view of the alley running to Popes Avenue increasing the feeling of insecurity for commuters returning in the dark. However, the contractor left the job before its completion leaving metal fencing behind on platform 1 and the noise barrier also unfinished. No one seemed to know why the job was left unfinished.

Then in January the plot thickened as residents received a letter from the Network Rail Community Relations team headed 'Resuming of Rail Improvement Work – Installation of Chain-link and Noise Barrier fencing, platforms 1 and 2, Strawberry Hill Station'. The description of works was unclear, to say the least, so we contacted the helpline and a query was duly logged. In the meantime, residents were shocked to see the removal of the expensive noise-barrier fencing on both platforms. The reason given by Network Rail was that the Train Operating Company, South Western Railway, had (for reasons unstated) rejected it and demanded its replacement with standard link fencing. We were under the impression that, in such infrastructure developments, Network Rail would call the shots, but apparently not. Whatever the merits or drawbacks of the noise-barrier fencing, everyone should be appalled at the lack of joined-up planning, and the waste of taxpayers' money and all that wood!

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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

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### SHRA on social media

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

**Website** – [www.shra.org.uk](http://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/Strawberry_Hill_Residents'_Association)

## Green Pages

By Louisa Carradine & Andrew Miller

### The SHRA Litter Picks



Members of SHRA litter-pick group

Who would have thought litter picking would hit the national news? The Great British Spring Clean took place between 15-31 March when individuals and groups were urged to fill a bag of litter in their locality. The Strawberry Hill Spring Clean is taking place on Saturday 13 April from 9-11am, when we aim to litter pick all of the 42 streets and closes of our area.

The monthly SHRA litter picks are now a well-established part of the local community scene. There is a What's App group of 20 committed residents who form the core of regular pickers who have been turning out in all weathers (to join the group, email us at [contact@shra.org.uk](mailto:contact@shra.org.uk)). Louisa Carradine, our environment coordinator, manages the group and provides all equipment courtesy of our partnership with Habitats & Heritage. Newcomers are welcome to join regulars on the second Saturday of each month at 9am on the 'SHRA-bench' in front of Wellesley Parade. A complete list of dates for 2024 are set out in the table below. We usually pick for up to an hour and leave the bags collected by the recycling centre at the Wellesley Parade and Popes Avenue junction. These bags are then collected by the Council's contractors, Continental Landscapes.

Litter picking is a surprisingly satisfying way of contributing to the collective well-being of the community. The presence of our pickers on their streets reminds residents of the value of keeping our streets litter free. We encourage residents to take charge of their own streets and we know of at least four people who make regular picks of the street in which they live. We also encourage everyone to pick up their own spillages that inevitably occur on collection day. There are people who think that it is the job of Council workers/contractors to keep the streets clean, however, there is no harm in lending a hand and picking up the smaller items that are often missed – plastic bottle caps etc.

### Radnor Gardens and Student Volunteers



St Marys Student Litter Pick

SHRA also works in partnership with the student volunteering team at St Mary's University. On St Valentine's Day we repeated the experiment of last year by including 'Radnor Gardens Litter Pick' in the list of options for National Student Volunteering Week (12-16 February). Matt Doyle, the Student Opportunities Coordinator said that various volunteering organisations would be visiting the University to talk to students about opportunities in the area. Students also have a session on how volunteering can boost employability while bringing enjoyability. Matt expected about 50 students to volunteer during the week.

On a cloudy Wednesday morning we attracted nine students to the pick in Radnor Gardens. They were mainly members of the Rugby League team who were happy to go into the murkier corners of the park to shift some of the hard-to-reach rubbish. They also cleaned the rockery areas which are next to the railings on Cross Deep and which tend to attract a lot of rubbish thrown or blown through the fence.

#### 2024 Litter pick dates for your diary

Second Saturday of the month

9 March  
**13 April – 'The Big Litter Pick'**  
11 May  
  
8 June  
13 July  
12 August

14 September  
**12 October- 'The Big Litter Pick'**  
9 November

14 December

## Events

### Carols in the Village



*The Mayor Admires SHRA Tree*

The annual 'Carols in the Village' event took place on Friday 8 December between 6pm and 7.30pm at Wellesley Parade. Planning for the event started months before as we had to seek permission from the Council for road closures and to have electricians test the lamppost to be used for lighting the Christmas tree. The cost of living crisis has also affected the price of the annual Village tree which now costs £660 (includes erection, lighting decoration, removal, recycling). SHRA is assisted by a Council grant which covers most of the costs of the tree but the event itself costs more than double that amount. As last year, we have filled the funding gap with the generous help of our sponsors: Architecture WK Ltd; Bright-life Chemist; Everydays Convenience Store; Faith Hair & Beauty; Jawbone Brewing; LJ Motorcycles; MKG 3000 Mazda & Volvo; Riverside Supermarket; Sopa Thai Restaurant; St Mary's University; Strawberry Hill Golf Club; Strawberry Hill Local & Post Office; Twickenham Body Health; V3 Design & Print. We produced a banner advertising the event and thanking our sponsors which was displayed on the SHRA bench in Wellesley Parade next to the Christmas tree.

We were fortunate in that the night was cold and dry. Members of the SHRA Committee had sourced the mince pies and treats for children and warmed up several containers of mulled wine. The members of Richmon-

Brass Band turned up early on their pitch outside of Sopa Thai Restaurant to play some tunes before the official start of the proceedings. This year we were pleased that Her Worship the Mayor of Richmond Councillor Suzette Nicholson and her Consort (husband) was able to kick off the event by commemorating 150 years of Strawberry Hill Station. Those attending were invited to contribute to the Mayor's two charities and altogether £220 was raised on the night.

As is the custom, Richmond Brass Band went through the repertoire of eight traditional carols – Committee members had distributed copies of the words so that everyone could sing along. There were a large number of children in attendance compared to previous years and a lot of them helped to decorate the tree with additional baubles. The inclusion of Archdeacon Cambridge's C of E Primary School and St James's RC Primary School within the SHRA boundary meant that for the first time the schools advertised the event to parents. This may have helped raise the number of families attending.



*Richmond Brass Band at Carols in the Village*

We estimate that at least 120 people attended a significant increase on recent years. The atmosphere as usual was festive and convivial. The extra numbers meant that once again we slightly underestimated the demand for mulled wine on a cold night.

We look forward to doing it all again at Christmas 2024.

## St Mary's University

### Short Courses – Strawberry Hill Residents Welcome!

By Helen Barnes, Short Course Administrator

Over the coming months we have a number of new short courses on offer. Most of them have a special discount in place for our local Strawberry Hill neighbours. You can access them via our dedicated neighbours' page via [stmarys.ac.uk/neighbours-discounts](http://stmarys.ac.uk/neighbours-discounts).

#### Level 3 Certificate in Health Coaching

**Saturday 20 April 2024 – Saturday 31st January 2025.**

We are thrilled to introduce our brand-new Health Coaching qualification. A Health Coach is someone who supports and guides their clients, empowering them to make a particular health or behaviour change to achieve a wellness goal, by offering guidance and keeping their clients motivated and accountable. You will acquire the skills to deliver personalised care as part of a health coaching programme, in order to promote the health and wellbeing of individuals, groups, and communities. The course is part-time running once a week on a Saturday and is delivered online via both pre-recorded and live sessions plus on campus dates. You can save 10% and book at the rate of £855 (usual price £950).

#### Computer Science - Intensive Python Course

**Tuesday 2nd April – Saturday 6th April 2024**

Unlock your potential with our brand new five-day Intensive Python coding course. Whether you are a complete beginner or have some experience in other programming languages, our five-day intensive Python course is designed to equip you with the knowledge and skills you need to excel in today's tech-driven world. You can save 10% and book at the rate of £450 (usual price £500)

#### Learn to Lift

**Wednesday 17th April – Wednesday 26th June 2024**

If you have been watching Gladiators and feel inspired to build your strength our Learn to Lift courses have you covered! Running for an hour on a Wednesday evening you will learn how to safely lift weights and get fit in a friendly and supportive environment. The sessions run in our state-of-the-art Performance Education Centre (PEC) on campus and we have a course for every experience level, Beginner (6-7pm), Intermediate (7-8pm) and Advanced Level Olympic Weightlifting Group (8-9pm). You can save 10% and book at the rate of £135 (usual price £150).



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## St Mary's University

St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London



# Short Courses at St Mary's University, Twickenham



Explore a new career path, start a new hobby or learn a new skill with short courses in Gym Instructor, Sports Massage, Nutrition and Creative Arts.

As a local neighbour you can take advantage of a number of exclusive discounts. To book:

visit: [stmarys.ac.uk/neighbours-discounts](https://stmarys.ac.uk/neighbours-discounts)

email: [shortcourses@stmarys.ac.uk](mailto:shortcourses@stmarys.ac.uk)

or call: 020 8240 4321

### Faith Literacy Courses

A selection of brand-new courses hosted by the Centre for Catholic Education, Research and Religious Literacy (CCERL), as part of its outreach programme in developing faith literacy.

- Muslim Studies is Wednesday evening course running 7-8.30pm over eight sessions from 24th April 2024
- Sikh Studies will run online on a Thursday evening, 7-8.30pm, over eight sessions from 16th May 2024
- Catholic Education Studies will run on Thursday evening, 7-8.30pm, over eight sessions from Thursday 18th April 2024
- Newman and Catholic Education will run on Friday mornings, 11am-12.30pm, over eight sessions from Friday 3rd May 2024. You can save 10% and book at the rate of £157.50 (usual price £175).

### Theatre Technology

We have three dedicated theatre technology courses that will launch shortly and will run in July 2024. They will include: The Lighting Visualiser, Sound Design & Audio Control for Live Theatre and Introduction to Lighting for Theatre.

A full list of all our courses is available via <https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/short-courses/overview.aspx> or call 020 8240 4321 for more information.

### How to Write a Novel

**Saturday 29th June 2024**

The course will introduce you to some key issues central to thinking about writing a novel, getting you started on your journey as a writer. Through a mix of lectures, discussion, and workshop, you will begin to explore planning a piece of long-form fiction. Bring your novel idea and your passion to the session and throughout the course of the day we will take your ideas and dreams forward to words on the page. You can save 10% and book at the rate of £63 (usual price £70).

### Eating Well, Inflammation and The Gut online

Our brand-new course is delivered online (with an optional evening in our nutrition kitchen on 15th May) and will educate and demystify everything to do with gut health. You can save 10% and book at the rate of £81 (parts 1-3) or £90 (parts 1-4).

### One Stop Planning for Your Autumn Marathon

**Sunday 30th June 2024**

For anyone who has ever thought of running a marathon or who has signed up to one in 2024. Hosted by expert tutor, Caitlin Limmer, founder of Twickenham's Bearcat Running Club and the Turks Head 10K, this inspiring one-day course that will start on the Sir Mo Farah race track and will furnish you with everything you need to know. You can save 10% and book at the rate of £49.50.

## History & Heritage

### Strawberry Hill House

By Rebecca Leuw, Marketing & Communications Manager

#### Two masterpieces by Jan van Huysum

Between the 18th May and the 8th September, Strawberry Hill House will present two exquisite 18th century masterpieces by one of the most celebrated painters of still life, Dutch artist Jan Van Huysum (1682-1749).

Flowers in a Vase with Crown Imperial and Apple Blossom at the Top and a Statue of Flora (1731-2) and Fruit and Flowers in front of a Garden Vase with an Opium Poppy and a Row of Cypresses (1731-2) will be displayed in public for the first time in ten years, on loan from a private collection. Evocatively demonstrating Van Huysum's gift for creating sophisticated still life compositions packed with detail, the pairing has remained together since leaving Van Huysum's studio - incredibly rare for these kinds of paintings.

Now these exquisite examples will be displayed in the Red Bedchamber, allowing viewers to immerse themselves in a setting that is not too dissimilar to the rooms and houses where the paintings would have been viewed centuries earlier at their inception. It invites the public to engage with the intricacies of a Dutch master, as well as the 18th century fascination with nature, as reflected in Horace Walpole's home, garden and art collection.

A programme of events will be held at Strawberry Hill House to accompany the exhibition.

A talk at the Long Gallery by leading art critic Andrew Graham-Dixon will explore Van Huysum and some of the critic's other favourite paintings on **Friday 17 May**. A photography workshop by floral artist Leigh Chappel and flower photographer Janne Ford will give attendees the chance to create and capture their own floral designs on **Saturday 18 May**. For two special dates, **Sunday 26 May** and **Wednesday 10 July**, Strawberry Hill guide and librarian Carole Tucker will lead a private view and garden tour exploring Horace Walpole's interest in landscape art. On Friday 12 July, Dutch fine artist and fellow of the Society of Botanical Artists Tanya Modersheim will give a lecture on the development of the genre in the 17th and 18th centuries. And there will also be children's workshops with art classes using real spring flowers throughout the summer.

There will also be a series of **Guided Landscape Tours of Strawberry Hill Garden and Pope's Grotto** - the dates for these are; 19th May, 16th June, 21st July, 18th August, 15th September, 20th October.

To find out more and to book tickets visit our website - <https://www.strawberryhillhouse.org.uk/jan-van-huysum-exhibit/>

To visit our new summer page visit - **Summer at Strawberry Hill - Strawberry Hill House & Garden.**



Still Life by Jan Van Huysum



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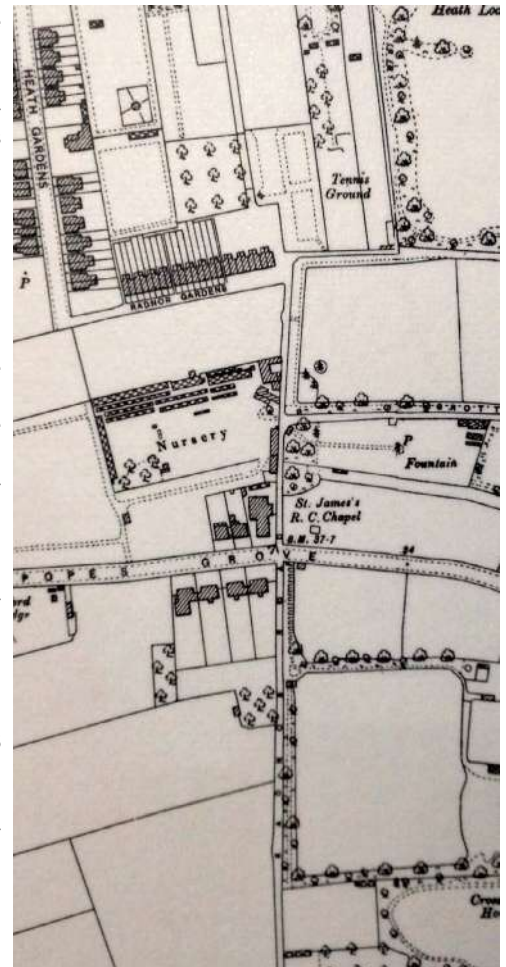
## History & Heritage Streetwise : Radnor Road



Streetwise is a series of articles about the history of the 42 roads of Strawberry Hill. Local historian, Mike Cherry, has written a street history of Radnor Road which can be found on the SHRA website ([shra.org.uk/history](http://shra.org.uk/history)). This article draws on Mike's research to highlight interesting facts about one of our oldest roads.

1. The name Radnor Road derives from John Robartes, 4th Earl of Radnor, who lived at Radnor House in Cross Deep between 1722 until 1757.
2. Radnor Road and much of Strawberry Hill lies within the medieval South Field in the village of Twickenham.
3. By 1746 the only significant property was Radnor Lodge, now 29 Radnor Road. Henry Fielding, the novelist, finished writing Tom Jones during his brief stay here during 1747/8.
4. On the Sauthier map of 1786/7 Radnor Road was a track providing a route from the south of South Field to Heath Lane.
5. The early Census returns (1841-1881) have different names for Radnor Road variously Back Lane, Narrow Lane, Chestnut Lane and Pope's Villa Gardens.
6. In 1878, Twickenham Local Board defined Radnor Road as beginning at Tower Road and ending at Heath Road.
7. The 1891 Census only had two houses that can be ascribed to Radnor Road growing to five by the 1911 Census – so it was largely undeveloped until well into the 20th century.
8. It is likely that for much of its life Radnor Road was as wide as the path just south of Pope's Grove.
9. Between about 1912 (1913 – Claydon and Co Iron and Brass Founders) and 1928 (1921- A T Lusty Iron founder) there was a foundry on the land now occupied by nos. 69-79 Radnor Road.
10. Plans for the proposed St James' Church Parish Hall were approved by Twickenham Borough Council in 1927 and the building was later opened by the exiled King Manuel II of Portugal.

*This 1915 map shows the narrow nature of Radnor Road at that time. Three tennis courts appear at the top of the road toward Heath Road. Radnor Lodge, a Nursery and St James's 'Chapel' are the main buildings.*




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## History & Heritage By Andrew Miller



St James's Catholic School, Courtesy of Google

### St James's Catholic Primary School

In 2023 I visited St James's to discuss changes to the SHRA-defined boundary of Strawberry Hill to include the school. This change was later approved by the SHRA AGM in April 2023. This brief history is based on two publications: St James's School Centenary 1893-1993 and St James's Catholic Primary School: 125th Anniversary Book.

St James's School has always been closely connected to the Parish Church in Pope's Grove. When consecrating the Church in 1887 Cardinal Manning stated that until a church had a school for the children of the poor 'it was but imperfectly finished'. The Rector, Father English, immediately began a school building fund and six years later the school opened in Grosvenor Road, Twickenham (close to London Road). The original mixed school cost £1,350 to build (excluding the land) and could accommodate 120 children aged four to fourteen.

In the period up to the First World War reports were generally favourable although attendance was sometimes poor because of a range of childhood ailments including 'ringworm, colds, chickenpox, rheumatism, scarlet fever and diphtheria'.

During the 1930s it was clear that the buildings were inadequate for the numbers attending. As early as 1922 discussions had been held about moving it to Orford Gardens (where Abbotsmede Close is today). However, the decision was made to rebuild it on the existing site meanwhile some children were taught in the Parish Hall in Radnor Road. By 1957 the school had six classrooms and a small hall. However, the inadequacies of the site continued as children had nowhere to play and Grosvenor Road was increasingly busy.

The Westminster Diocese and the local education authority discussed alternative sites and again the Orford Gardens site was in the frame but it was rejected as too confined. Land had become available in Wellesley Road after Fortescue House owned by Shaftesbury Homes had been demolished. The new St James's Catholic Primary school was opened in March 1976. Remarkably only two days were allowed to move the contents of the school from Grosvenor Road

In July the new building was officially opened by Cardinal Basil Hume. The school became a three-form entry in 2002 and a new motto was adopted 'put out into the deep'. Pupils are now drawn from four parishes: Church of St James, Twickenham; St Theodore of Canterbury, Hampton-upon-Thames; St Francis de Sales, Hampton Hill; and St Margaret of Scotland, St Margarets-on-Thames.



Evans Pritchard

### Famous Social Anthropologist lived in Strawberry Hill

While researching publicans at Pope's Grotto Hotel in Cross Deep, I came across the name of (later 'Sir') Edward Evan Evans-Pritchard (known as E-P) living with his mother at number 16 (Strawberry Hill/Twickenham border). During the 1920s and early 1930s he was undertaking post-graduate studies at the London School of Economics under Bronislaw Malinowski, while living in Twickenham. In 1930, while researching the Nuer people of the Upper Nile, he contracted a serious case of malaria and came back home to convalesce. By 1932 he took up a post at the University of Egypt in Cairo, so his time in the area was short. After the War he became one of the founders of social anthropology as Professor of Social Anthropology at Oxford University from 1946-1970.

## Business Pages

### SHRA launches Directory of Strawberry Hill's businesses

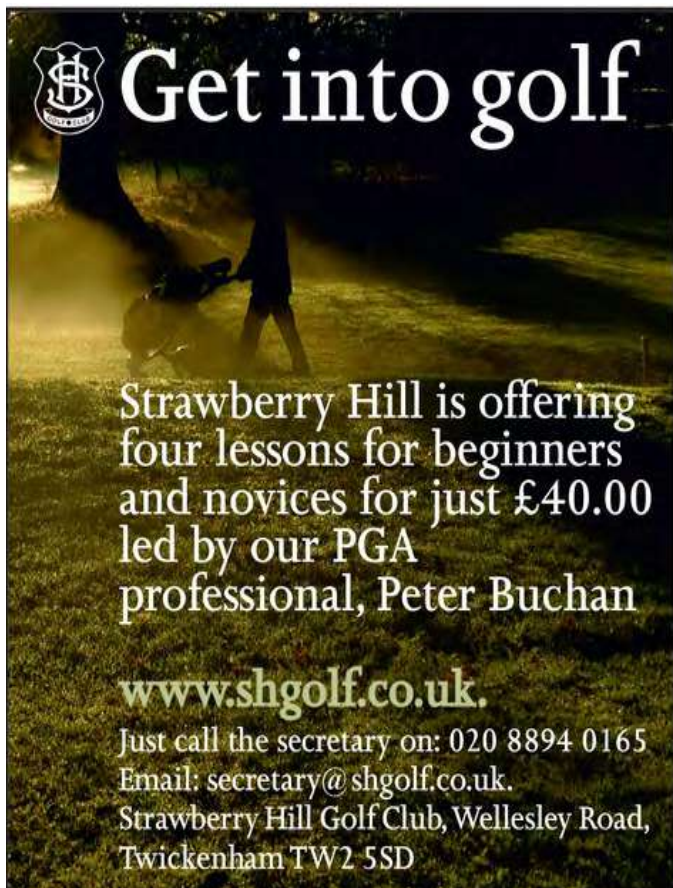
By John Tjaardstra, SHRA Business Liaison Coordinator


During the past year SHRA has sought to more closely connect with our local business community. Several of them have enthusiastically embraced our events by generously offering vital support through sponsorship and other donations. These businesses have an important role in the lives of local residents, some of whom may not be aware of what's on offer right on our doorstep. With this in mind, SHRA has compiled a comprehensive listing of over 30 Strawberry Hill businesses, with the aim of informing residents what shops and services operate in our area, including addresses, opening times and contact details.

For ease of use, the Directory is grouped into three main locations: the Station area, Cross Deep & Strawberry Vale and Heathlands Close. In addition, it lists the Golf Club, St Mary's University and Strawberry Hill House.

The Directory can be accessed using the following link – [www.shra.org.uk/business](http://www.shra.org.uk/business).

The aim is to periodically update the list based on any new information provided to SHRA by the businesses concerned. We feel this initiative will benefit both residents and our local businesses alike. SHRA encourages all Strawberry Hill's 2,500+ households to make use of them, so they can remain an integral part of our community.



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