

The Twickenham Society

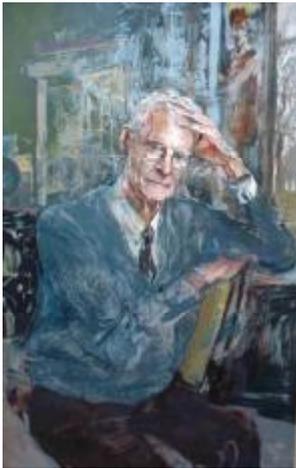
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Eel Pie Update

Issue 2 - May 2002

BRIAN PARKER'S PORTRAIT

Jonathan has now finished the portrait. Here is the photograph of it which is also on our website and in the RTT.



Thank you to those of you who have sent money. If you pledged money or if you would like to make a contribution please send donations to the Treasurer now. Do you know people who are not members of the Society who would like to contribute? Please encourage them to contact me or the Treasurer.

Jonathan has asked if he may enter the picture into one or two forthcoming exhibitions. It will

return to us soon after and then we need a home for it. Ideally it would be good to hang it wherever the Twickenham Society meets most (If only we had our own premises!!!) Any suggestions?

The Portrait - Jonathan Parker

Before being asked I had already prepared a panel for painting Dad, knowing that it was now or never. My approach was to establish the pose and likeness in essence while priming so that subsequent paint layers could be rubbed back without the need to start completely afresh, I used an old 1998 sketch of Dad typically wrapped up with concern for a matter close to his heart.

Tackling the subject was helped by reading 'Renoir, My Father' by Jean Renoir, who made the most of his opportunity to portray his father, Pierre-Auguste, with words. Also, Paul Cézanne's painting of his father that hangs in the National Gallery. With the aid of a book, so not be frustrated by tourists crowding through their favourite room, I would sit and avidly view this powerful picture, in which subject and technique vie for attention.

Dad always expressed concern as I rubbed back the paint to achieve greater subtlety. I'm not sure that he liked seeing all of that work seemingly go to waste. To me it was all about my craft. He thought it courageous of me to recognise and accept when something is not right and to make the most of what is left – I think the same of him!

Jonathan Parker - April 2002

The portrait will be on display at the social event at Strawberry Hill House on Friday the 24th of May.

TWICKENHAM RIVERSIDE

As you know, the Council's Development Control Committee meeting on 28th February approved the planning application submitted by developers Dawnay Day. The application had been amended on 5th February to exclude consideration of traffic management and the pontoon.

Local groups and individuals had submitted objections to the Council and the Government Office for London. As a result, a Section 14 Notice was issued that prevents the Council from issuing the approval until the Secretary of State has decided whether or not to call in the application.

The Secretary of State will review all the representations made together with the official minutes of the meeting before arriving at his decision. No decision will be announced until the local elections are concluded (2nd May).

In order to carry forward the many objections from local groups and individuals, a fighting fund has been set up. The Fund, managed by the Twickenham Society, will be used to pay for professional support such as planning consultants and lawyers. These experts will then be able to help us through the next stages of the campaign. (*A contribution form is on page three of this Bulletin.*)

The Society, in conjunction with the co-ordinating group, has written to the Council's Monitoring Officer about the propriety of the process leading to the Development Control Committee's decision.

Also on behalf of several local groups, the Society has made urgent representation to the Government Office for London outlining the case for a public enquiry. The case is based on the scheme's inadequate public benefit, lack of affordable housing and failure to comply with the Borough's UDP and other planning guidelines.

At the same time, various procedural issues were raised. These include the propriety of considering plans for the buildings while the issues associated with traffic, access, parking, the environment and river-related matters remain unresolved. The representation also endorses that made separately by the Community Advisory Group of the Thames Landscape Strategy

We owe a great debt to members and others for their tremendous support throughout the process. People have contributed in many ways - attending meetings, researching topics, writing letters, providing valuable time and expertise as well as giving much appreciated encouragement. Thank you all!

THE POULETT CONNECTION

Poulett Gardens in Twickenham was no doubt named after Poulett Lodge, which in turn was named after Earl Poulett. There have been many earls, but the connection is almost certainly with the third Earl, Vere, who was born in 1710, went to Christ Church Oxford, and became MP for Bridgewater. He married Mary Butt of Overton in Gloucestershire in 1755. He succeeded to the title in 1764, and went on to be Lord Lieutenant of Devonshire. He also improved the family home, Hinton House, at Hinton St George (not far from where I now live, and where there is an "Earl Poulett" inn.)

In a book I found about the Pouletts it says: "Vere had a house with a fine frontage to the River Thames at Twickenham, which he purchased in 1761, known as Poulett Lodge. His younger son Vere was baptized in Twickenham parish church and the Rector there described the Earl and Countess as 'very affable and good natured people'. Like his brother John, in his last years he suffered a long and painful illness 'under which he expressed no murmur' and he died on 14th April 1788 at the age of 78. Mary, his widow, lived on at Twickenham for some time after her husband's death and died on 26th April 1819 in St James's Place, London after having lived to see her two sons pleasure her with 16 grandchildren. Vere and Mary are both buried in the family vault at Hinton Church, and there is a handsome memorial plaque to them designed by Sir Richard Westmacott."

But Vere had an even more illustrious predecessor with a Twickenham connection – Sir Amyas Paulet, the gaoler of Mary Queen of Scots. He was a strong Puritan, born in around 1532, the son of the Governor of Jersey, a post to which he himself succeeded. He prospered under Queen Elizabeth I as Ambassador to France, Privy Counsellor and Knight of the Garter. He took over the guarding of Mary at Tutbury, and subsequently at Fotheringay Castle, where he presided over her execution in February 1587. Her last words were "Thanks, Sir Amyas, this will be the last trouble I give you". He wrote an account of the trial and beheading. In 1588 the family history goes on: 'In April he was staying in Twickenham, and he died in London on 26th September at the age of about 56 when the whole country was celebrating the defeat of the Spanish Armada.' He was buried in the church of St Martins-in-the-Fields, and was later re-interred at Hinton St George in 1728.

Sadly the last Earl died without issue (despite being married three times) and the line has died out. Hinton House is broken up into flats, after a grand sale of possessions.

Peter Hill

Twickenham Talks

Since the last update we have had four Twickenham Talks.

- In January The Leader of the council Serge Lourie spoke to us about his career in public life and his current role as leader of the Council. He was very optimistic about the outcome of the Riverside plans and the new buildings – much to our dismay. He was aware that we disagreed with the scheme and fielded our comments with good grace.



- In February a Senior Volunteer from Painshill Park, Bill Tomlin came to talk to us about the developments in gardening and its influence on painting and literature. He brought a magnificent selection of slides to illustrate Painshill and landscape art including work by Cuyp currently on show at the National Gallery
- In March Ros Borley came and told us about the changes to the Community Health Councils and the effect on health provision in Twickenham. It was a stimulating talk and led to a lively discussion of assorted woes within the local hospitals, clinics and surgeries.



- Mary Harper gave us a splendid talk about the Richmond upon Thames Society for Voluntary Guides which she has been leading for 16 years. She also brought gales of laughter to St Mary's Hall when husband David showed the video of the TV series "postcards from..." With a younger Russell Grant interviewing a younger Mary some years ago – the laughter related to the "out takes" which Mary had been able to keep

If anyone has an idea for a Twickenham Talk or visit please let me or a member of the Committee know.

May Fair on The Green

This years Fair in support of HANDS is being held on the first of the two Jubilee Bank Holidays 3rd June. The Committee confidently booked a stall for the Twickenham Society as usual and then found to our dismay that many people were already supporting other stalls and others were committed to family and Jubilee events. It is with much regret that we have decided not run a separate stall this year

Please continue to support the day in a different way by giving your books, bric-a-brac etc to John Bell for the Friends of Twickenham Green or to David King for the Rotary Club of Twickenham

Reply Slips - Please send to Richard Spires, 70 Pope's Avenue, Twickenham TW2 5TT

Twickenham Riverside Fund

Cheques should be made payable to: **Twickenham Society (Riverside Fund)**

<i>Amount:</i>	
<i>Name:</i>	
<i>Address:</i>	

In the event that funds raised exceed demand, I/we would like the pro rata share of this contribution to be:

Option	Please tick your selection
Returned to me/us	
Shared between the three local charities: ·1 HANDS ·2 the local Playgroup ·3 the River Thames Boat Project	

Yes I would like to attend the Social Event on Friday 24 May

Number of tickets required at £12.50 per ticket _____

Cheque enclosed payable to the Twickenham Society for £_____

Name _____ Telephone Number _____

Yes I would like to join the trip to Painshill Park on Saturday 22 June

Number of tickets required at £12.50 per ticket _____

Cheque enclosed payable to the Twickenham Society for £_____

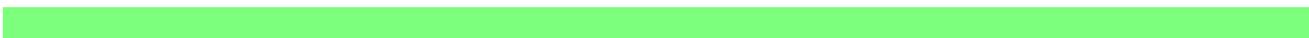
Name _____ Telephone Number _____

Yes I would like to join the trip on the Richmond Venturer on Friday 9 August

Number of tickets required at £20 per ticket _____

Cheque enclosed payable to the Twickenham Society for £_____

Name _____ Telephone Number _____



Forthcoming Events

Friday 24th May
19:00-21:30 Strawberry Hill House
Social Event and Speaker
with wine and canapés

Jason Debney

of the Thames Landscape Strategy
£12.50 inclusive

Saturday 22nd June
11:00-14:00

Visit to Painshill Park and Lunch
Make your own way there
£12.50 including lunch

Friday 9th August
10:00-16:30

A trip on the Richmond Venturer going down-
stream. Board at Barge Dock in Kingston.

£20 including picnic (bring your own drinks)

Thursday 19th September
19:30-21:30 St Mary's Church Hall

An Open Meeting

**What is important to us as a Society in the
next three years?**

Friday 8th November
19:30-21:30 St Mary's Church Hall

Annual General Meeting

December TBA

Christmas Party

Twickenham Society Executive Committee Members

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Subscriptions for 2002

Please send to **Richard Spires at 70 Popes Avenue, Twickenham TW2 5TT**. I know that some people have not yet paid for 2001 and that some may not be sure whether they have. Richard has the records and can clarify what you owe him!

Subscriptions remain at:

Individual: **£5.00** per calendar year
Couple: **£7.50** for per calendar year

Life Membership is **£50.00** per person