



The Twickenham Society

www.twicksoc.org.uk

Eel Pie Update

Issue 7 - November 2004

From the Chair

HEADLINES

- AGM POSTPONED TO 4TH FEBRUARY 2005
- WORK STARTING NOW ON DEMOLITION OF THE POOL SITE
- RFU SOUTH STAND – REVISED PLANS
- RICHMOND UPON THAMES COLLEGE PLANS EMERGING
- TWICKENHAM ADOPTS STRAWBERRY HILL

Thank you members of the Twickenham Society for your patience during this year – we have had fewer meetings, a new location and now a few things postponed.

Many of us were tied up at the beginning of the year with the Public Inquiry into the poolsite which lasted longer than most of us had hoped. The report took longer than we had hoped and the Council had then to formally adopt it (see report from Jack Betteridge on page 3) and watch this space.

This last summer others of us were dramatically distracted by the BBC 2 Restoration Programme which featured Strawberry Hill in the London and South-East Regional heat. Many people felt that the programme presented the Horace Walpole House as of specialist interest rather than of general appeal. Nonetheless the voting was tremendous and we thank all of you who voted. The local community vote was supplemented by enormous support from the alumni of St. Mary's College (known as Samaritans).

Twickenham Society AGM 2005

4th FEBRUARY 2005 19:30
AT THE TWICKENHAM CLUB
7, CHURCH STREET

The meeting will be asked to approve two years' accounts 2003 and 2004. This time the AGM will also approve the election of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer and Membership Secretary and all the Committee members. This change was proposed at the last AGM in November 2003. There will be refreshments and after the formal business we will have time for discussion of local issues. Please come prepared to contribute.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the last meeting
3. Treasurer's report and accounts 2003,2004
4. Election of officers
 - Chair
 - Vice-Chair
 - Hon Secretary
 - Hon Treasurer and membership secretary
 - Other Committee members
5. Annual Report by Judith Lovelace
6. Refreshments
7. Open Forum

Anyone who wishes to proposed themselves or a friend for membership of the Committee should write to the:

Hon Secretary Roger Hackett,
96 Clifden Court,
Clifden Road,
Twickenham,
TW1 4LR

Or

e-mail Roger.Hackett@twicksoc.org.uk

Strawberry Hill



The public view

The Friends of Strawberry Hill and The Strawberry Hill Trust were delighted to have the support from the community for the Restoration Programme which we sadly did not win. The money still needs to be raised and people are now very aware of the existence of the House and its delicate state, however lovely it can look!



The less glamorous interior

Chair of the Friends of Strawberry Hill, Michael Snodin writes:

The Restoration programme in July was a drama on large scale, and one in which many Friends were tirelessly involved, from badge making to raffle ticket selling – and of course voting!

Losing in the first heat was of course a great disappointment, especially as we were only some 2000 votes off winning in a total of 83,500. But we did fantastically well, from a standing start in May, to be able to raise so much interest in the house through such a vigorous and imaginative campaign. And Restoration was in fact the start of a much brighter future for Strawberry Hill, firmly establishing its cause both locally and nationally (a process that will continue with catch-up programmes).



In desperate need of proper renovation

To see how far we have come you have only to think back to last January, when Strawberry was well below the horizon. In addition to the 2.5 million viewers nationally who saw the house, the programme greatly increased levels of local support. Restoration has laid a firm foundation for the next phase in our campaign that will lead to the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund early next year for support for capital works to the house. In addition, since July, a total of £21,800 has been most generously given by individual Friends and other private benefactors, the Rugby Football Union, the Twickenham Festival. These gifts have hugely helped the immediate work of the Strawberry Hill Trust in laying the ground for the restoration project.

www.FriendsOfStrawberryHill.org

RFU South Stand Plans

You may be surprised to hear that there are revised plans for the South Stand. Surely they were already agreed!!! Planning Permission was granted!!!! But as is often the way, the world is not static and new ideas came forward which the Project Team investigated. The key facilities for the benefit of the hotel guests and the community remain unchanged.

Richmond upon Thames College building plans

For many years the College Governors staff and students have been concerned about the appropriateness of the accommodation. Residents have been concerned about their location and facilities. The College is now ready to share ideas – which will have an impact on the Harlequins site and the Council Depot and buildings and the Crane Valley which has already been the subject of concern through the UDP consultations.

Riverside

A note from Jack Betteridge



Work on the Council's interim scheme for Twickenham Poolsite is due to commence at the start of November to be completed by next Easter. About one third of the site will be cleared to make way for seating areas and a childrens' play area, which will have a small refreshment stand.

The delay has arisen because of the Secretary of State's decision to hold a Public Inquiry into the scheme. This was held last Feb, and the report of the Inspector was published in May/June. The Inspector approved the interim scheme and left intact the guidelines for future development of the site that were laid down by previous Inspector's report of the M&S scheme.

The Society supported the Council at the Public Inquiry, and are relieved that the earlier guidelines remain operative. We argued that the scheme was a distinct improvement on what is there now, although the detailed design could have been better and bolder. Members will have a chance to judge for themselves when the contractors leave the site in the Spring and the public are allowed back on the site for the first time in more than 20 years.

But note, the poolsite saga is not over. The "interim scheme" is for a maximum of 5 years, and work on the projected second "long-term" phase was halted whilst the Inquiry took place. We understand the plans are being pulled out of the drawers and the mothballs thrown away.

Latest details at the Twickenham Riverside website:

<http://www.rivercentre.org.uk/>

Twickenham Talk by Esther Worboys

On 23rd September Esther Worboys came to the Twickenham Club to tell us in general about her role as Twickenham Town Centre Manager. She also had an excellent presentation showing pictures of last summer's Twickenham Festival and she was promising an even better Festival in 2005. The discussion which followed revealed how even the members of the Twickenham Society disagree about the ideal changes for the Centre and Riverside. Nothing new there then!!!

Forthcoming Events

Thursday 18th November

Joint Meeting with the Richmond Society
The Studio, Parkshot Centre

19:30

Deco Delights

Colin Hines author of '*Art Deco London*'

Including Twickenham Bridge, the Poppy
Factory and Odeon Cinemas

Friday the 3rd December
Christmas Party
At



30 Strawberry Hill Close

19:30

TWICKENHAM SOCIETY AGM 2005

Friday 4th February 2005
The Twickenham Club



See cover story

Thursday 10th March 2005

19.30 St Mary's Church Hall

Floodscape : In
preparation for global warming,

Kim Wilkie et al

Future meetings, events visits

Note that our regular venue for Twickenham Talks
has moved down Church Street to number 7 the
home of the Twickenham Club.

Any ideas for future speakers? Events or visits ?

Twickenham Society Executive and Committee Members

Judith Lovelace, Chair

30 Strawberry Hill Close,
Twickenham TW1 4PX
Telephone: 8404 4370

Judith.Lovelace@twicksoc.org.uk

John Bell, Vice Chair

34 Albion Road
Twickenham TW2 6QJ
Telephone: 8898 9618

John.Bell@twicksoc.org.uk

Roger Hackett, Honorary Secretary

96 Clifden Court, Clifden Road,
Twickenham TW1 2LR
Telephone: 8891 2565

Roger.Hackett@twicksoc.org.uk

Richard Spires, Honorary Treasurer and Membership Secretary - Telephone: 8898 6355

70 Popes Avenue Twickenham TW2 5TT

Richard.Spires@twicksoc.org.uk

Philip Morgan, Assistant Secretary

85 Heathfield South
Twickenham TW2 7SR
Telephone: 8892 6044

Philip.Morgan@twicksoc.org.uk

Jack Betteridge - Telephone: 8891 4159

14 Aquarius, Eel Pie Island
Twickenham TW1 2EA

Jack.Betteridge@twicksoc.org.uk

Doug Orchard - Telephone: 8977 3516 66 Sixth Cross Road, Twickenham TW2 5PD

Douglas.Orchard@twicksoc.org.uk

Michael Scott Cumming

221, Fulwell Park Avenue,
Twickenham TW2 5HD
Telephone: 8287 4105

Michael.ScottCumming@twicksoc.org.uk

Nicki Faircloth

1 Southfield Gardens
Twickenham TW1 4SZ
Telephone: 8892 0529

Nicki.Faircloth@twicksoc.org.uk