The Chronicle is teaming up with staff and volunteers at the Hammersmith and Fulham Foodbank, and encouraging readers to donate whatever they can to help needy families this Christmas. From left, volunteer driver Ken Fountayne, foodbank manager Daphine Aikens and manager of the foodbank’s White City hub Kate Renshaw

By Jack Dixon
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Today the Chronicle is launching an urgent appeal for help to feed hundreds of people in danger of going hungry in Hammersmith and Fulham this Christmas. We are teaming up with staff and volunteers at the Hammersmith and Fulham Foodbank and encouraging our readers to donate whatever they can.

The charity expects to feed up to 200 people a week in the run-up to Christmas Day – its busiest time of the year.

Picking up a few extra items on your Christmas shop could make a huge difference to those living on the breadline. The foodbank team will be working around the clock over the next two weeks to distribute emergency food parcels to the borough’s most vulnerable families. But the charity is relying on generous donations from members of the community to keep its shelves stocked.

Daphine Aikens, founder and manager of the Hammersmith and Fulham Foodbank, said: “During the year an average of 104 men, women and children benefit from our food packages every week.

“But over the last few weeks the numbers have started to increase. We could be looking at 200 a week over the Christmas period.

“The last 30 days before Christmas is going to be very busy – we definitely want people to donate.”

GPs, social workers and other care professionals can refer vulnerable individuals to the foodbank using a voucher system. The vouchers can then be redeemed at one of the borough’s three foodbank stores – in Hammersmith and Fulham – to collect a three-day emergency food pack.

With more and more families struggling to put food on the table, the demand is continuing to rise in the borough.

Between January and November this year, around 4,500 people benefited from foodbank packs in Hammersmith and Fulham – almost 1,000 more than for the same period last year.

“We’ve distributed about 45,000 meals in that time – and that’s not including nappies, sanitary towels and other toiletries that we also hand out,” said Ms Aikens.

“We have opened a new store in Bloemfontein Road this year and that is making an impact on numbers. But the implementation of the universal credit system is also having an effect. People are having to wait so long for their benefits.”

Tinned meat, fruit and vegetables are among the items most urgently needed for the foodbank stock room. Volunteers are also appealing for soup, long-life milk and juice to top up the supplies. The team will even be handing out donated Christmas presents to families in need during the festive period.

Ms Aikens said: “It’s easy to forget about those less fortunate than ourselves at Christmas. But even a few tins of food picked up on your next supermarket trip could make the world of difference to Hammersmith and Fulham’s most vulnerable families.

“In the spirit of the season, please donate whatever you can to help the foodbank continue its fantastic work in our community.”

Items can be donated to the foodbank’s Fulham store at 67 Studdridge Street, preferably on a Monday morning. For a full list of opening times and to make a cash donation, visit hammersmithfulham.foodbank.org.uk or call 020 7731 3693.
Groundbreaking business is out to shatter stereotype

It is often said that the home is a woman’s realm – and professional childcare roles have traditionally fallen into line with this stereotype. But a pair of London entrepreneurs hope to give men a leg up in the industry as part of a groundbreaking new business.

Manny & Me is the brainchild of Jamie Leith and James McCrossen. The agency aims to offer time-poor parents the combined service of a nanny and tutor while promoting the role of men in childcare.

Around 60 per cent of the agency’s workforce are men, combining the care responsibilities of a traditional nanny with educational tuition and sports coaching. Despite a surge in the number of men taking up childcare roles, Jamie and James say old stereotypes persist.

“We are there are definitely more and more men entering the industry, there is still a long way to go before working in this capacity is seen by everyone as something that men and women can do equally,” says Jamie.

“We still rightly have parents ask us many questions around child protection and safety but we find every family an individual specific to their needs. That can be male or female.”

“With current news surrounding historic child abuse, now more than ever the profile of the right males working with children needs to be promoted so we don’t go backwards and define parenting and childcare roles by gender again.”

Both men have backgrounds in education and childcare. James started out as a tennis coach before moving into football, gaining a teaching degree and travelling across the country.

Their business model is built on the idea of offering families more than just a nanny. It serves as a platform for parents to meet multi-skilled individuals who can inform, educate and coach as well as tending the shoeboxes.

“London has a wealth of great nannying and tutoring agencies,” explains James. “But they are all essentially offering the same singular service. No-one is offering an individual who can be both nanny and tutor.”

“Our overriding aim is to offer a service that benefits everyone – from child to parent, parent to nanny or nanny to dad.”

The agency is up and running across West London, with nannies jobbing around Fulham, Shepherd’s Bush, Notting Hill, Holland Park and Marylebone.

“Having both been primary teachers, James and I are all too aware of the pressures teachers are under today and how all-consuming the profession is,” Jamie says.

“Working as a nanny or nanny can allow for a break from the classroom while continuing a role in education that can offer a different perspective on one’s pedagogy. This can lead back to school or off on a different path.”

Jamie and James were recently selected as Virgin Money’s start-up of the week after impressing industry experts with the Manny & Me model.

Now their aim is to expand the network across London and tackle the myth that childcare is a women-only role.

“Manny & Me grows we are seeing a community within in it,” says James. “Our aim is to continue to build on this and create something new and exciting for both families and mannies and nannies.”

Jamie says: “In today’s climate, families’ time and money have to stretch further and further, as does that of graduates and educators.

“We have a number of plans on the horizon that will encourage the breaking down of long-standing barriers, hopefully working towards a more inclusive and multi-dimensional childcare industry.”
Killer cocktail of air pollution and cold weather threatens thousands

the winter weather and heightened pollution lev-els like those seen across the city recently could spell grave danger for those at risk of breathing problems. “All it takes is a change in the weather plus pollution and that could create a situation that puts people at risk of life-threatening asthma at-tacks,” he said.

With winds from France blowing in more pol-lution recently, air-quality alerts have been is-sued across the capital by Sadiq Khan for the first time.

Warnings have been displayed at bus stops. Tube stations and roadsides because of high pol-lution levels – and parents have been warned not to walk babies by busy roads.

According to research conducted for the British Lung Foundation, 11,677 of every 100,000 Londoners have asthma, putting the total of those most at risk at this time of year at 1,012,862.

Mr Khan recently revealed that he is now suf-fering asthma attacks because of London’s toxic air. But the mayor is now taking tough action to fight the city’s pollution, with a crackdown on diesel vehicles and moves to push older polluting vehicles off the roads.

The mayor has announced that £375 million will be invested in action to improve the quality of the capital’s air through to 2021-22, dwarfing the £425 million committed by the previous mayor.

Mr Khan said: “With nearly 10,000 Londoners dying early every year due to air pollution, tack-ling poor air quality is a public-health emergency that requires bold action. I want London to be a world leader in how we respond to the challenge of cleaning up our air, and I’m announcing that TfL will be doubling spending on improving Lon-don’s air over the next five years.

“In taking action such as setting up for the world’s first ultra low emission zone and pur-chasing only hybrid or zero-emission buses I’m ensuring that tackling air quality becomes a cen-tral part of how our transport network operates.

“London’s air quality continues to breach legal levels, which is why I have taken this unprec-edented action.

“The onus is now on the government to prove that they share my ambition. By funding a na-tional diesel scrappage scheme and reforming vehicle excise duty, the government could also prove that they understand the enormity of our air-quality emergency.”

The mayor’s big clean-up has been supported by Dr Samantha Walker, Asthma UK’s director of research and policy.

She said: “It is clear that action is needed and we welcome the extra investment to help clean up the air we breathe.

“Two thirds of people with asthma tell us poor air quality can make their symptoms worse. It means they are at much greater risk of a life-threatening asthma attack. And there is strong evidence linking air pol-lution with the development of asthma in the first place. For some of the people in London with asthma, seemingly simple tasks like going to the shops, school or commuting to work can leave them battling to breathe on days of high air pol-lution.

“Because of the heightened danger, Asthma UK has produced a survival guide for sufferers, which is chaired by Dr Whittam ore. He said: “During the winter, people are at greater risk of having a life-threatening asthma attack. Air as well as reducing their falling temperatures and abundance of cold and flu viruses.

“In fact, around 90 per cent of people with asthma have told us cold and flu viruses make their symptoms worse and around 75 per cent of people find that cold air can trigger an asthma attack.

“Despite this, there are a number of ways peo-ple can keep themselves safe from asthma attacks this winter. Regular use of the preventer inhaler builds up protection in the airways over time, so that when someone encounters an asthma trig-ger, they are less likely to have an attack.

“People with asthma tell us the humble scarf can also be a good defence against asthma at-tacks.

“Cold air is a common asthma trigger, so by wrapping a scarf loosely around your mouth and nose, people with asthma can warm up the air before they breathe it in, which could potentially save their life.

“Also, it is a good idea to keep warm and dry and try to breathe through your nose rather than your mouth, as your nose is designed to warm the air as you breathe it in.

“There’s good evidence to show that use of a written asthma action plan makes people four times less likely to be admitted to hospital for their asthma as well as reducing their daily symptoms. For those who don’t already have one, actions plans can be download from Asthma UK’s website.

“Dr Whittamore said asthma sufferers should ‘carry your reliever inhaler, usually blue, with you at all times and use your reliever inhaler as soon as you notice asthma symptoms, such as coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath and tightness in the chest. You should feel a difference to your breathing within a few minutes. ‘However, if you are using your reliever in-haler more than three times a week or if your asthma is waking you up at night, it is not well managed and you should see your GP.”

For more information, visit asthma.org.uk/ winter or call the Asthma UK Helpline, which is staffed by expert asthma nurses, on 0300 222 5800.

CHRISTMAS came early for London’s Connaught Villas Primary and Preparatory School, based in Connaught Village and South Kensington, which marked the start of the festive season with a fair.

The event was complete with a real Christmas camel, Santa’s grotto and singing performances from the Hyde Park School, Havley Place School and Eaton Square School choirs.

Hosted for parents, teachers and friends of the school, as well as special guest the Lord Mayor of Westminster, the fair also featured stalls from local independent businesses and a wide array of hot food and drinks. Guests also had the opportunity to buy handcrafted gifts made by children and teachers.

Headmistress Hilary Wyatt, said: “It was great to see so many friends of the school join us in our an-nual Christmas celebration. It was also such an enormous honour to also have the Lord Mayor join us to enjoy this wonderful time of year.

“2016 has been another fantastic year for us – a great number of improvements have been made to ensure we keep providing the highest-quality education possible for our pupils. Today is really a day for pupils, teachers and parents to come to-gether and champion everything that has been achieved, as well as toast the year ahead.

“The Hyde Park School was founded by Lady Macpherson in 1962 under the same name before changing to Ravenstone School in 1988. Since its inception, the school has grown from a small day nursery into a 190-pupil pre-prep and prep school.

Have say on how fire service deals with terror threat

BY GEOFF BAKER

SADIQ Khan is urging Londoners to have their say on how the capital’s fire and rescue service deals with threats of terrorism and with flooding over the next four years.

The draft London Safety Plan, published for public consultation today, includes pro-posals to expand the London Fire Brig-ade’s capacity to respond to a terrorist inci-dent.

“Last year’s Paris attacks brought the emergency services’ capability to respond to a marauding terrorist firearms attack into sharp focus. Delivering two manifesto com-mittments, the mayor commissioned an inde-pendent review into London’s terror preparedness, led by Lord Toby Harris, and a review of London Fire Brigade’s resources led by Anthony Mayer,” said the mayor’s spokesman.

“The draft plan echoes the recommenda-tions of Lord Harris, setting out intentions to boost the number of specialist firefighters trained to move in behind the police to fight fires and help treat casualties in a terrorist incident.

“It also proposes an extensive evaluation of the role of fire rescue units and the poten-tial to give them attendance time targets, after Anthony Mayer’s review highlighted the importance of these specialist vehicles in responding to major incidents.”

Londoners are also invited to give their views on whether capability to respond to flooding should be expanded.

Mr Khan said: “Keeping Londoners safe is my first priority.

“And as the capital faces new challenges and threats, we need to make sure our fire brigade is prepared and ready to respond to whatever may be around the corner.

“This new plan sets out a series of propos-als for the coming years and I encourage all Londoners to have their say in the consulta-tion, and help make sure we are doing every-thing we can to keep our capital city protected.”

London Fire Commissioner Ron Dobson said: “This year has been a monumental one as we’ve celebrated 150 years of the service firefighters have given to London. Modern firefighters face a range of challenges from road traffic collisions, to flooding and chemi-cal spillages.

“Work to improve diversity and community re-lations within the brigade. Fire chiefs want to throw open the big red doors of their fire stations, allowing the community to engage more with fire-fighters and freeing up facilities for community use. As well as placing stations at the heart of the community, fire chiefs want to make sure their staff experience an inclusive culture in the work-place.

The consultation is on the Talk London website and will run for eight weeks. There will be seven drop-in events across London and four online meetings for Londoners to learn more about the brigade and ask questions.

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Cyclists react with fury to a petition signed by 37,000 people which blames bikes for making the roads dangerous.

The controversial petition is calling on the Prime Minister to introduce a new law compelling all of London’s 610,000 daily cyclists to have the same insurance as motorists – and that cyclists have to pass a cycling test before they are allowed to ride.

The petition, on the lobby website change.org, claims that if the roads are unsafe then it’s the cyclists’ fault.

“The answer is not to punish cyclists with tests and insurance but to have far fewer cars and lorries in London. If more people cycled and fewer people drove there would be a lot less pollution in this city and it would be healthier all round,” City Hall declined to comment on the petition, which will be delivered to Downing Street once it has been signed by 50,000 people.

But London mayor Sadiq Khan is showing that he’s backing cyclists in the row over who should own the roads, announcing a massive investment to promote cycling in the capital.

Mr Khan is to spend a record £154 million per year on cycling over the next five years.

The investment, part of the Transport for London draft Business Plan, goes way beyond his manifesto commitment to increase the proportion of TFL’s budget spent on cycling.

“This record investment will help Londoners get about quickly and efficiently, without being a burden on the environment,” said the mayor’s spokesman.

Cyclists in Westminster have reacted angrily to the petition’s claim that they are responsible for making the roads unsafe.

“Cycling is the most obvious thing I have ever heard,” said Sarah Green, who cycles each day to work in the West End from her home in Kensington.

”It is outrageous to blame cyclists when so many motorists are inconsiderate of us and so many lorries have been involved in so many accidents. A bicycle poses no threat to a lorry but they’re saying it’s our fault that there’s a crash,” City worker Peter Denning said.

“Cyclists have to pass a cycling test before they are eligible to cycle on public roads, without theVRT that motorists have to use the roads safely,”

The petition is running until January 25.

The Christmas tree at Paddington Recreation Ground

Rapturous applause greets turning-on of rec’s Christmas lights

Paddington Recreation Ground, operated by Everyone Active on behalf of Westminster City Council, threw its gates open to the public to host the 2016 Christmas tree lighting event.

The Christmas tree at the centre was purchased to support the Trees4Xmas project, which is run by the Paddington Youth Enterprise, a not-for-profit company with social-enterprise aims.

The project was set up to create employment for local youth throughout the winter months, supervised by adult volunteers, creating both social benefits and local trade.

The event saw talented local singer-songwriters Rosie Holloway and Andreas Liberos take to the stage to perform an hour of music, before the Lord Mayor Steve Summers turned the festive lights on to rapturous applause.

“Trees4Xmas is a fantastic cause and we were thrilled to see such a great turnout for the event,” said Everyone Active general manager Ashton Rennie.

“It was lovely to see so many people from the local community coming together to enjoy the live music and refreshments. We hope to continue this tradition year on year.”

Paddington Recreation Ground will also be holding a Trees4Xmas stall on Friday to encourage the sale of Christmas trees and wreaths to support the local project, with free mince pies and hot drinks on offer.

On Friday December 23, stalls will be erected by a number of local businesses selling last-minute Christmas gifts. Santa will hand out presents to each child who visits, and carol singers from Harrow Road Choir Group and Church Street Choir Group will be performing Christmas carols and festive songs.

For more information, call Paddington Recreation Ground on 020 7641 3642 or visit everyoneactive.com.
WISHING YOU A

Merry Christmas
AND A
Happy New Year!

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A FIVE MINUTE WALK FROM FULHAM BROADWAY STATION
MP’s appeal for witnesses to killing of trainee engineer, 24

BY JACK DIXON
jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LOCAL MP Greg Hands has led calls to catch the killer behind a shock ambush shooting outside a fast-food restaurant in Fulham.

Detective Inspector Salim Coulter was gunned down as he left Jerky’s in Walham Grove – only yards from one of Fulham’s busiest shopping areas.

Detectives have launched a murder investigation and are continuing to probe leads in a bid to track down the lone gunman.

Police said the killer had been lying in wait for the 24-year-old to emerge from the restaurant before shooting him in the head.

Mr Hands, MP for Chelsea and Fulham, said he was shocked and saddened by the murder, which happened in a normally quiet residential street.

And in a direct appeal, he called for witnesses to help police track down the killer.

He said: “I urge anyone who can provide information on this crime – whether a local resident or a car driver, pedestrian or a shopkeeper – to contact the Met.”

Salim, from White City, was shot as he reached the front passenger seat of a friend’s car after they stopped for food at the Caribbean restaurant last Monday (December 5).

“Police and ambulance teams pronounced him dead as they arrived on the scene at around 9:30pm. He was found slumped in the passenger seat of a silver and black Renault Captur of which the passenger seat was blood-soaked to the head. The murder happened only yards from the junction with North End Road.

The owner of Jerky’s restaurant, where Salim and his friend had visited moments before the shooting, described the blood-spattered car seats.

“I didn’t get that close but you could see there was quite a lot of blood on the driver’s side. He was wearing a baseball cap and was slumped over the driver’s seat,” said the restaurant owner, who asked not to be identified.

“He was unresponsive, he’d been shot on the left hand side of his head next to his ear.”

“I was right there with my staff. We were all shocked, we couldn’t understand what was going on.”

He said a member of staff rushed out to check Salim’s pulse but that it was clear Salim was already dead.

He also said Salim’s friend returned to the scene around 10 minutes later and was heard shouting “Oh my friend is dead.”

Detective Chief Inspector Noel McHugh, from the Met’s Homicide and Major Crime Command, is leading the murder investigation.

He said this part of Fulham is a low crime area and that the incident had shocked the local community.

“There is a strong neighbourly spirit in the area and I would encourage the very vigilant local community to contact police with that they saw during and after the attack,” he said.

Officers worked through the night knocking on doors and examining CCTV cameras in an attempt to uncover crucial evidence soon after the shooting.

Detectives have since appealed for cyclists and drivers to come forward and for anyone who may have recorded images on their mobile phone or camera to share the footage with police.

Appealing directly to witnesses, DCI McHugh said: “Please think back to (last) Monday night and if you were out and saw something or heard something, no matter how minor you think it might be, then please get in touch with us.

‘Your information could be a really important piece of our jigsaw.’

Local politicians moved to reassure shocked members of the community after the murder.

Mr Hands said he had been contacted by several residents with serious concerns over safety but that police were “working hard to make sure our streets are safe”.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, said: “Most of the residents I’ve spoken to are in shock that such a murder should have happened on this quiet residential street.

“I am very sorry for the victim’s family.

“I want to reassure residents that in our first two years in office, the council’s Labour administration has spent millions putting the largest ever number of council-funded police on the borough’s streets in history and we have increased the borough’s CCTV coverage.

“Our residents’ safety and wellbeing is our highest priority.

“Anyone with information is asked to call the Met’s incident room on 020 8785 8099 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.”

New diabetes tests for obese, pregnant women

A NEW, cheap test to identify obese women at high risk of developing diabetes in pregnancy has been devised by British scientists.

Currently all obese women are considered at risk of gestational diabetes but only a quarter go on to develop it.

Obesity is a known major risk factor for the disorder by increasing the likelihood of getting it three to five fold. It happens when high blood sugar develops during pregnancy and usually disappears after giving birth.

Although it can occur at any stage of pregnancy, it’s more common in the third trimester and women considered at risk are given a screening test called an oral glucose tolerance test, which takes about two hours.

It involves blood tests after fasting overnight then two hours after drinking a glucose drink. But obesity is rising and one in four UK adults is obese.

Women with the disorder require intensive antenatal care to control blood glucose and to identify other common complications, particularly foetal macrosomia – a newborn who’s significantly larger than average.

The King’s College London study looked at how to correctly identify obese women with heightened risk for pregnancy so early treatment can be given.

From the many factors tested, those that predicted gestational diabetes included maternal obesity, gestational age – whether a woman’s blood pressure and anthropometric measures such as skin thickness, waist and mid-arm circumferences. A number of changes in hormones such as haemoglobin A1c, added strength to the predictive tool.

Out of the 1,303 women in the study, 337 were affected by gestational diabetes.

Lead author Dr Sara White said: “There is currently no accepted strategy to identify obese women at high risk of gestational diabetes, early in pregnancy.

“Today, all those classified as obese are considered high risk. With escalating rates of obesity worldwide, a more accurate way of defining risk is necessary in this group.

“In this, the largest and most comprehensive study to date, we used an extensive range of different measures to develop prediction tools.”

The study was published in the journal PLOS ONE.

Mums against driverless cars for school run

ALL overwhelming number of London mums have said that there is no way they would let their children go to school in a driverless car.

Although City Hall and the government have both expressed enthusiasm for the new technology, most mums do not see its appeal, according to a new survey.

The survey, by car dealership Citygate, revealed that 85 per cent of mums would not let their children be taken to school in a car that was driven by a computer.

This year, City Hall announced that it would be keen for trials of driverless cars to be held in the capital. And in April, Volvo announced that a limited number of semi-autonomous driving cars will take to the streets of London early next year, before the scheme is extended in 2018 to up to 100 vehicles.

Then Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin also announced: “Driverless cars are the future of the motoring industry and we are determined that the UK leads the way in developing this new technology.

“These vehicles will make road travel safer, smoother and smarter, transforming journeys for millions of people. I expect to see thousands of these cars on London’s streets in the years to come.”

However, a Citygate spokesman said: “Women surveyed were less enthused by the idea of using driverless cars for school drop-offs, with just 15 per cent of female respondents saying they’d hand over their keys.”

Dads were also less excited about the new cars either, with 73 per cent of fathers saying that they would not let their children be driven to school driverlessly.

However, the vehicles – a version of which is being tested at Greenwich by the Gateway Project, which claims autonomy is probably the most significant change in transport that we’ve seen in 100 years – did have some appeal to London motorists, with 27 per cent of those surveyed said that they would use them when they were drunk.

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Pub’s 21,000 lights bring festive cheer

BRITAIN’S most festive pub – in Kensington – has added even more Christmas trees to its annual display this year.

The changes bring the new record to 90 trees and 21,000 lights.

The Churchill Arms is famous for its festive decorations, which took a week-and-a-half to put up and include five interior trees, reindeer lights and even stars on the roof.

Landlord Gerry O’Brien, 65, has decked out the pub with festive cheer for 32 years with a display that began with just one tree.

The pub spends more than £30,000 on decorations annually.

Some £25,000 is spent on flowers alone. The pub is adorned with hanging baskets and flower boxes in the summer.

Gerry said: “We want to make the lights look better every year and it really does make a striking impression.

“Every year we’ve got a lovely reindeer outside the door in front of the Queen’s picture, so it looks like she’s taking a ride to Buckingham Palace on the sleigh.

“We’ve got the 12ft tree outside, five inside, and then all the others, with 21,000 lights.

“We do it for the area. It’s lovely to see people’s reactions, and Christmas is such a special time of year. It’s only once a year and we should make the most of it and enjoy it.

“It’s good for business too. People come from all over to look at the lights.”

Assembly urges mayor to demand tougher action on dangerous dogs

CITY Hall is calling on the mayor of London to demand tougher action on the growing problem of dangerous dogs, following more than 300 seizures by police after attacks in the capital this year.

London Assembly members say current laws are not fit for purpose in protecting residents against dog attacks.

The assembly has passed a motion that the mayor should write to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to request a formal review of the Dangerous Dogs Act.

The assembly believes the Act – which uses breed-specific legislation to prohibit certain types of dog – has not reduced dog-bite incidents and fails to protect dog welfare.

The Met’s dangerous dogs unit has seen a seven per cent increase in dog attacks this year – and 300 dangerous dogs have been put down.

Assembly Member Steve O’Connell, who proposed the motion, said: “This is about recognising the current policies designed to protect people from dangerous dogs aren’t fit for purpose, as well as improving animal-welfare standards.

“It’s important that, if the current system is not working, we look at other ways of handling what is a growing problem.

“The consequences for victims of a dog attack can be devastating and I hope the relevant authorities take note of our motion.”

Leonie Cooper AM, who seconded the motion, said: “It’s abundantly clear that the breed-specific legislation isn’t effective. We need stronger, more extensive legislation to reduce the number of dog attacks and bring irresponsible owners to justice.

“Government must work not only with the police and councils, but organisations such as Battersea Dogs & Cats Home too, to consider the best way to protect people from dangerous dogs and safeguard animal welfare.

“It’s reassuring to see we have cross-party consensus over what is a really important issue.”

The full text of the motion is: “The assembly notes that the Dangerous Dogs Act is 25 years old this year. It is noted that the Metropolitan Police will destroy around 300 dogs that have been seized by its officers this year.

“The Status Dog Unit, a special team of police officers only dealing with dangerous dogs, has seen a seven per cent increase in seizures in 2016.

“The Act’s aim, to use breed-specific legislation to prohibit certain types of dog, has not reduced dog-bite incidents and fails to protect dog welfare.

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The Motion is:

“The assembly notes that the Dangerous Dogs Act is 25 years old this year. It is noted that the Metropolitan Police will destroy around 300 dogs that have been seized by its officers this year.

“The Status Dog Unit, a special team of police officers only dealing with dangerous dogs, has seen a seven per cent increase in seizures in 2016.

“The Act’s aim, to use breed-specific legislation to prohibit certain types of dog, has not reduced dog-bite incidents and fails to protect dog welfare.

“The assembly notes that other authorities have started to review and overturn BSL such as the Netherlands, Italy and Lower Saxony, Germany, and have identified other ways of reducing dog-bite incidents.

“The assembly calls on the mayor to write to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs asking for a formal review of the legislation as proposed by the RSPCA and for London bodies such as the Metropolitan Police, Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, the stray dog services of the London boroughs and relevant non-governmental organisations to be part of this review.”
AN ex-footballer who played for Leyton Orient has also claimed he was abused by former Chelsea chief scout Eddie Heath when he was 15 years old.

Peter Hodges, now 69, has told of occasions he spent “uncomfortable” evenings alone with Heath when he was 15 years old. Mr Hodges said: “Eddie Heath was quite friendly with everyone. It was first-name terms, laughing and joking in the changing rooms.

“He asked me to go around his place – I was about 15 at the time and I did not know any different. It was quite genial. He gave me a drink of pop and a magazine while he pottered around in the background.”

However, Mr Hodges said Heath’s behaviour became increasingly strange as time went on. Mr Hodges said: “I had left school by then and he told me to pack up my job and he would get me on the ground staff, which was the first step to becoming a player back then.

“I left my job but the manager at the time, Johnny Carey, came to my flat and said Eddie had jumped the gun and I couldn’t get on the ground staff until I had done my training.”

Mr Hodges says he later stopped visiting Heath at his flat after he was trapped on the sofa by the coach.

“The last time I went to see him at his flat he got a little bit too close for comfort,” said Mr Hodges.

“He pressed me against the arm of the sofa. “I couldn’t move – he was a big man. I couldn’t tell whether he touched my genitals or not but it was horrible – he was certainly assaulting me physically.

“I became very uncomfortable and I just thought it wasn’t right and I wouldn’t go around there anymore. After that, all of a sudden I couldn’t get a kick of a football, I couldn’t get a game.”

Former Chelsea striker Gary Johnson alleged last week he was sexually assaulted by Heath while Heath worked as a scout for the club and around Bridge side in the 1970s.

Jimmy Scott, an Orient captain when Heath worked at Brisbane Road, has also stepped forward to claim the coach was a known child abuser during his time at the East London club.

Heath died in the mid-1980s long before claims about his conduct first surfaced.

Leyton Orient Football Club has refused to comment on allegations surrounding Heath at this time, due to ongoing police investigations into historic child sex abuse at clubs across London.

Mr Hodges, who later played in the Tottenham Hotspur youth side but never signed a professional contract, says he wants the public to understand the scale of the abuse carried out by Heath.

“We were all young lads and all expected to do was play professional football,” said Mr Hodges.

“It is by the grace of God I did not go around to his flat again.

“I just knew he wasn’t right. I knew he had gone to Chelsea and when this all started it made me feel sick. I said to my wife ‘I bet it was Eddie Heath’.

“I just want it out there that this was happening even in the early 1960s. It was going on long before the 1970s.”

Mr Hodges has reported his story to the hotline, set up in the wake of the national scandal, to allow footballers to report abuse.

Most of capital’s young drivers are rubbish without sat-nav – survey

MOST of London’s young drivers are rubbish without their sat-nav, a new survey has revealed – and almost half of them would call off their trip if it broke.

The survey, by car-leasing company Cars On Demand, revealed that the majority of millennials – aged 18 to 34 – struggle to read a map and 44 per cent would abandon a journey if their sat-nav broke down,” said a spokesman for Cars On Demand. “We discovered that more than half of us, 54 per cent, would struggle to read a road map these days.

“However, if we look more closely, 67 per cent of those were aged between 18 and 24, and 55 or over, demonstrating perhaps that we are slowly but surely losing the skills of finding our way by good old fashioned map-reading.”

The survey also revealed that 91 per cent of people aged 18 to 24 do not even keep a map in their car, whereas there’s an A to Z in the glove compartments of cars driven by 66 per cent of drivers aged more than 45.

“Maybe it’s because they’ve gathered so much wisdom over the years – including the fact that when a phone battery dies, if you don’t have anything else to fall back on, you’re pretty much stuck,” said the spokesman.

“Overall, however, people feel safer using GPS than a printed map, with 85 per cent of us agreeing with that.

“But on the other hand, perhaps we’re also losing a bit of common sense as the survey showed that more than a third of us would take an illegal turn, or drive down a bus lane, if our sat-nav told us to.”

Crossrail firms face court over worker’s death

THREE Crossrail construction firms are to be prosecuted after one worker died and two were seriously injured working on the project.

Crossrail connects East London and West London with tunnelling under Central London and is billed Europe’s largest construction project.

Rene Tka’cik was crushed by a tipper truck and suffered severe leg injuries while working between the Bond Street and Paddington section of the tunnel on January 16 2015.

Six days later Alex Vizitiu was working in the same stretch of the tunnel when he suffered head and hip injuries when he was struck by a high-pressure mixture of water and concrete during a routine operation to clean concrete lines.

The Health & Safety Executive informed BAM Nuttall Limited, Ferrovial Agroman (UK) Ltd and Keir Infrastructure & Overseas Ltd that they will be prosecuted.

HSE’s head of operations Annette Hall said: “We have informed the three contractors that they will each be prosecuted for the death of a worker and injuries sustained by two others, in three separate incidents on the construction project.

“These were all serious incidents and resulted in the death of one of their workers. We have concluded following thorough investigations that there is sufficient evidence to prosecute and bring the public interest to do so.”

BAM Nuttall of Camberley, Surrey, Ferrovial Agroman, of West London, and Keir, of Sandy, Bedfordshire, face four charges, each, two relating to the death of Mr Tka’cik and one each relating to injuries to Mr Hughes and Mr Vizitiu.

The three firms are due to appear before Westminster Magistrates’ Court next month.
Suicide is the single biggest killer of men under the age of 45. Yet research reveals that men often have real difficulty opening up and talking about their problems. As part of the London Weekly News and South London Press Change Is Possible appeal, reporter Jack Dixon meets the team behind a new West End musical that aims to put suicide in the spotlight.

IVE friends gather on the evening before a funeral. Dean, someone they thought they knew so well, has taken his own life.

As the plot slowly unravels, each must examine their own lives, their own relationships, as they struggle to come to terms with the sudden and unexpected loss.

This is the framework for a new musical, Catch Me, which opened in the West End last month.

But it is also a familiar story faced every day by the thousands of people whose lives have been affected by suicide.

It remains the single biggest killer of men under the age of 45 in the UK – claiming more lives than car crashes, alcohol abuse, and even cancer.

According to male suicide charity CALM, the Campaign Against Living Miserably, more than 4,500 men kill themselves every year in Britain.

Suicide is a particular problem among the male population, research suggests, with men three times more likely than women to take their own lives. Yet, despite all the warning signs, men still find it difficult to open up about their feelings and seek help for mental health problems.

A CALM study published in November revealed that less than half of men who said they had felt depressed reached out to others for help, while more than two thirds of women did.

Arnoud Breitbarth and Chris Czornyj, the writers behind Catch Me, believe we must all learn to talk about our emotions.

“The central message of the show is ‘do not be afraid to open up and ask for help if you need it,’” says Arnoud.

“All the characters are struggling with actually being able to tell their friends or other halves what they really want. Most of them fit a specific type and they cannot really break out of these locks.”

Chris adds: “It’s a taboo subject, it’s painful to talk about it let alone sing about it. But that’s what we did, we put it in a musical – and Catch Me is the result.”

“The show tells Dean’s story, in two halves, as his five friends wrestle with the consequences of his sudden death.

Reuben Beau Davies plays Dean, whose struggle is gradually revealed during the show’s second act.

“At first you think, ‘how do I get into the head of someone who has committed suicide?’ But actually this play is not about that at all,” he says. “Dean is just an ordinary guy. It’s looking at suicide from the angle that it could happen to anyone.”

Reuben has brought his own personal experience of mental health problems to the role. He was only 12 years old when a close friend took his own life.

“It was very weird, having that experience so young. It made me very wary,” he adds. “Three of my friends suffer with depression and have been prescribed medication for it, but I’m not sure that’s really the answer. It’s like you plug them in for a short time and then you take the plug out and they are gone again. I meditate every morning because I believe what ‘the arts’ needs to be. It’s a great way to tackle a really serious issue that has a big impact on society.”

It was a similarly emotive experience for Kathryn Pemberton, who plays Dean’s fiancée in the show.

“I’ve never experienced anything like this but reading through it I’ve drawn so many parallels with my own relationship, it’s made me look at my own life.”

Both Arnoud and Chris were inspired by experiences of suicide in their own friendship circles.

But they wanted to tackle the subject on stage without being preachy or judgemental.

Carefully-timed moments of comedy coupled with a rousing soundtrack help to give the show an uplifting finale, despite the seriousness of the subject matter, says director Jill Patterson.

“It’s about a mindset, how Dean feels trapped and the other characters end up feeling trapped too,” she explains. “That inertia, that inability to see light at the end of the tunnel. We explored that a lot in movement and how the characters interact with each other on the stage.”

It takes bravery to tackle a subject like suicide through the medium of musical theatre, says Jill. But this is also a story about human relationships and how we get along with friends.

“What I really love about the piece is that most of what you take away is what is not said, rather than what is said,” she adds. “I believe theatre should be something that has a relationship with what people are experiencing in everyday life. That’s what ‘the arts’ needs to be.”

For many people who experience ongoing suicidal feelings, it can seem as though there’s no hope of recovery. But there is support available that can help.

**Visit your GP**

You may feel worried about talking to your doctor, but they will be used to helping people in your situation. Your GP can refer you to other forms of treatment and medication.

**Talking treatments**

These involve speaking about your feelings with a trained professional, such as a counsellor or psychotherapist. They may be able to help you understand why you’re experiencing these feelings and suggest ways of resolving them.

**Medication**

Your doctor may prescribe you psychiatric medication to help you cope with your symptoms. This could include antidepressants, antipsychotics or mood stabilisers.

**Crisis services**

There are lots of services available at short notice to help you resolve an immediate mental health crisis. Specialist teams can support you at home, through drop-in centres or in dedicated ‘crisis houses’.

**Telephone support**

You may find it helpful to speak to someone about your problems over the phone. Many helplines are available out-of-hours and provide a confidential, non-judgemental service.

**Musical tackles tricky subject of suicide**

**Telephone support**

You may find it helpful to speak to someone about your problems over the phone. Many helplines are available out-of-hours and provide a confidential, non-judgemental service.
Inspector says no to window removal appeal

A PROPERTY owner who fitted upvc windows to a property in a conservation area in Kensington High Street, has lost an appeal against a planning enforcement notice to remove them.

The independent Planning Inspectorate is dealing with the ruling after hearing that planners from the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea had issued the enforcement notice in May after the upvc windows had been fitted to the property at 2 Warwick Close, W11 without planning permission.

The owner said the windows were fitted to help reduce noise from traffic on Kensington High Street and had been fitted by a builder somewhere in the borough where the council had permitted the fitting of upvc windows to help reduce traffic noise.

However, the Inspector noted the council’s decision that the windows fitted at this property were in keeping with its character, which was not the case at 2 Warwick Close.

In the Planning Inspector’s written decision it stated that the installation of the upvc windows had “unacceptably harmed the character and appearance of the host building”, the residential block of which it forms a part and the surrounding area, and views from within both the Edwards Square/Scarsdale & Abingdon Thorne Estate Area and the Holland Park Conservation Area.

In his decision, the owner of the property has two months to remove the windows to match those that existed previously.

Cliff Timothe Colledge, Chief executive of Planning Policy, said: “I am pleased that the Inspector has upheld the enforcement notice we served earlier this year.

“It was our belief that the windows were out of character and would not have received planning permission, had it been applied for. Borough residents who are thinking of making alterations, including changes to the materials of their windows and whose applications seek guidance through the council’s planning advice service.”

Palace man: case dropped

A CHINESE student accused of carjacking and murdering a man in Buckingham Palace claiming to be “on a mission to kill the Queen” has had his case discontinued, a court heard this week.

Hang Zhang, 25, was arrested after a “violent” struggle with police, having made it through the gate of the Royal residence on the afternoon of August 12.

When officers arrived they found the small blade in his shoe. The University of Sheffield student who previously pleaded not guilty to a charge of murder, had been one of a group of violent men planning an emergency to kill the Queen.

A Charge of making a threat to kill the Queen and the Office for Planning Service, Westminster Council, the Crown Prosecution Service.

Westminster’s Chief Magistrates’ Mr Arnot said: “The case against Zhang has been discontinued.”

She Majesty is not believed to have been at the Palace at the time of the incident, which was one of several security alerts sparked by intruders this year.

Mr Arnot said the defendant, from Hennessy, 41, was arrested in the Palace grounds on Monday and held for four months at Westminster Magistrates Court.

Carols are a sound move for children’s charity

HUNDREDS of guests filled the pews of St Paul’s Church, Knightsbridge, for a charity-supported carol concert which aimed to raise £30,000 for Rainbow Trust Children’s Charity.

ITV presenter and Rainbow Trust Patron, Annabel Croft, Prime Suspect star Colin Salmon and Rupert Young, BBC’s Merlin guests enjoyed mulled wine and mince pies and heard a range of festive readings, including one read by a young sister from one of the families supported by Rainbow Trust.

Parlour School Chapel Choir, from Andover, sang arrangements of classical Christmas songs and led the congregation in singing of traditional Christmas carols. Trailblazers, an award winning barbershop quartet from London, also performed festive songs.

Emma Haines, Rainbow Trust’s Director of Marketing and Fundraising, says: “Rainbow Trust’s annual carol concert is one of our most admired and popular events and this year was no exception. “Our heartfelt thanks go out to everyone for supporting this event. Christmas can often be one of the hardest times of the year for the families we support.

“Everybody really got into the festive spirit at the concert while fundraising for a fantastic cause, meaning that our family support workers can help those families have the best Christmas possibly.”

Have your say on future of London’s fire service

BY GEOFF BAKER
geo@londonweeklynews.co.uk

SA DJIQ Khan is urging Londoners to have their say on how the capital’s fire and rescue service deals with threats of terrorism and with flooding over the next four years.

The draft London Safety Plan (LSP), published for public consultation today, includes proposals to expand the London Fire Brigade’s role in terrorism, with a review of London Fire Brigade’s response to a terrorist incident.

“Year last Paris attacks brought the emergency services’ capability to respond to a marauding terrorist attacks on the UK,” Mr Khan said.

“Delivering two manifesto commitment - the Mayor commissioned an independent review into London’s terror preparedness, led by Lord Toby Harris, and a review of London Fire Brigade’s resources led by Anthony Mayer,” the Mayor’s spokesman said.

“The draft plan echoes the recommendations of Lord Harris, setting out intentions to boost the number of specialist firefighters trained to move in behind the police to fight fires and help treat casualties in a terrorist incident.

“It also proposes an extensive evaluation of the role of Fire Rescue Units (FRUs) and the potential to give them attendance time targets, after Anthony Mayer’s review highlighted the importance of specialist vehicles in responding to major incidents.”

Londoners are also invited to give their views on whether capability to respond to flooding should be expanded.

Mr Khan, said: “Keeping Londoners safe is my first priority, and as the capital faces new challenges and threats, we need to make sure our fire brigade is prepared and ready to respond to whatever may be around the corner.

“This new plan sets out a series of proposals for the coming years and I encourage all Londoners to have their say in the consultation, and help make sure we are doing everything we can to keep our capital city protected.”

London Fire Commissioner Ron Dobson said: “This year has been a monumental one as we’ve celebrated 50 years of the service firefighters have given to London. Modern firefighters face a range of challenges from road traffic collisions, to flooding and chemical spillages.

“We also need to plan for the very worst. Even though we hope it never happens, we must prepare our firefighters to be part of the response to a terrorist incident. This consultation is a chance for Londoners to have their say on a range of work we are doing to keep Londoners safe for the next four years and how we deal with changing threats.”

Other proposals in the plan include:

■ In a bid to help drive further performance improvements, the brigade plans to dispatch a fire engine within 10 minutes to any incident anywhere in London 90 per cent of the time. This is an improvement on the current standard of 12 minutes on 95 per cent of occasions.

■ To work to improve diversity and community relations within the brigade. Fire chiefs want to throw open the ’big red doors’ of their fire stations, allowing the community to engage more with firefighters and freeing up facilities for community use. As well as placing stations at the heart of the community, fire chiefs want to make sure their staff experience an inclusive culture in the workplace.

■ The consultation is on the Talk London website and will run for eight weeks.

There will be seven drop-in events across London and four online meetings for Londoners to learn more about the brigade and ask questions.

Major Peake’s spacecraft to be a museum star

THE Soyuz spacecraft used by Tim Peake in his Principa mission is set to land at the Science Museum in Kensington. Science Museum Director Ian Blatchford signed the landmark acquisition document for Soyuz TMA-19M on the premises this week.

Energia, the craft’s manufacturer, and Roscosmos, the Russian Space Agency, agreed earlier in the year, on the 50th anniversary of the first ever manned Soviet manned flight, to lend the Soyuz spacecraft to the UK for a “science museum collection”, said a spokesman.

Ian Blatchford said: “Russian ingenuity led to the birth of the space age and it still plays a critical role, notably in long duration missions to pave the way for the next great leap into the cosmos.”

“It is a great honour to be here to officially acquire the first flown human spacecraft in the world. I would like to hope this will become one of the most successful exhibition ever.”

Vladimir Solntsev, General Director of ISS Rauch, commented: “We are very honoured that a flown descent vehicle produced by our corporation will take its rightful place in the collection of the most important science and technology museum groups in the world. We believe this special symbol of Russia will become one of the highlights of the Science Museum Group collection, attracting many new visitors.”

Further details about the display of the Soyuz TMA-19M will be released in due course.

Astronaut Tim Peake’s spacecraft will feature at the Science Museum in Kensington

Planners tipped for top accolade

KENSINGTON and Chelsea planners are in the running to be named the best in London.

The council has been shortlisted in two categories at the London Plan Awards, run by the Best Practice Network, for “its proactive use of the historic environment in the Best City-Led Project” category for its proactive use of the historic environment.

The council has also been shortlisted in the Best Community-Led Project category for the significant improvements to the historic environment in the Best Community-Led Project category. Also, the St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Plan is shortlisted in the Best City-Led Project category.

The awards are organised by London First, in partnership with the Mayor of London, London Councils, the Planning Officers Society and the Royal Town Planning Institute.

Charity supporters, from the left, are Mary Nightingale; eight-year-old Selina Dattani, whose family is supported by Rainbow Trust; Annabel Croft; Rupert Young and Poly Walker.
Markets have this Christmas wrapped

Shop local this Christmas and get your presents wrapped at a first-of-its-kind fundraising gift wrap stall at Portobello and Golborne Market.

On Saturday in Portobello Square W11 (the pedestrianised section of Tavistock Road between Portobello Road and Basing Street), shoppers can bring gifts to be wrapped, and can also purchase limited-edition market-themed Christmas wrapping paper to support local social enterprises, start-ups and gifts.

Nippar is fundraising to develop an app exclusively for parents to safely store precious photo and video memories of their little one with the friends and family who matter to you.

The platform will be parent and grandparent-friendly, enabling you to share updates to the people via mobile and web, whilst staying up to date on the adventures of the little ones that are important to you.

We want to make the world a smaller place and more interconnected for families so that no one misses out on those treasured moments of children growing up.

Please come down to the stall and show your support today.

For more gift wrap stall and general market information visit www.rbkc.gov.uk/ourmarkets.

The Great British Market Awards

The Great British Market Awards are organised each year by the National Association of British Market Authorities.

If you can help Portobello & Golborne Market win the title of ‘Britain’s Favourite Market’ by voting at www.nabma.com.

There is no limit to the number of votes cast. With the cut-off on Tuesday, January 10 2017 please get voting early and often – and get your friends and family to vote as well.

To cast your vote for Portobello & Golborne in the Great British Market Awards, visit www.nabma.com.

For more Portobello & Golborne Market information visit www.rbkc.gov.uk/ourmarkets.
Challenging times on the horizon at Buckingham and Kensington

O n the face of it, the Press offices at Buckingham and Kensington palaces face a bit of a challenging time next year, not from the usual tussle with the troublesome paparazzi but to keep the Royal Family in the headlines to the joyous level that they have recently become accustomed.

Like all institutions, the Royal Family are somewhat dependent upon publicity. As, like so many other pillars of the establishment, they are publicly funded, good PR helps maintain the feeling of their entitlement to the cash as very few mind financially supporting the royals when the bunting is flickering and the flags are flying along The Mall and around the city. But to set the flags a-flying, PRs need events to which to tag the celebrations.

In recent years the Royal Family has been fortunate in the number of milestones and occasions to which the flag-waving could be effortlessly pinned.

There’s been the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, the births of George and Charlotte, the Queen’s diamond jubilee, Her Majesty’s record-breaking longest reign, the poignancy of the 100th anniversary of the First World War, the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World War and, of course, this year all of the many events that went on around the Queen’s 90th birthday.

The aggregate of all of this has been that whereas the Royal Family were once an institution like the Church, always there but not always essential to popular culture, now they have become showbiz, supported by such a surge of popularity that they are now the new pop stars, with every newspaper, magazine and news site wanting to tell an avid audience everything about them.

Much of this new demand for the royals is due to the high profile of William, Kate and Harry, who have propelled the institution almost to the level of The Beatles. They have become The Threeatemias and public demand for their every appearance and utterance at times approaches a mania.

But, to continue the analogy, at first glance 2017 looks set to be a non-album year, with fewer events and reasons to get the bunting out than we have seen in recent years.

The big royal celebratory event of the coming year will be the 70th wedding anniversary of the Queen and Prince Philip. Netflix’s blockbuster series The Crown has already anticipated the vicarious interest in this, which is why the television company has spent £100 million on the saga. And many, many Press articles and television programmes will yet be created to join the celebration and commentary on a remarkable achievement.

But the wedding anniversary does not occur until November 20 and even though the Royal Press offices are likely to release never-before-seen photos of the occasion or organise the like of an exhibition at Buckingham Palace of the life and times of Elizabeth and Philip, and doubtless both the BBC and ITV will be planning documentaries featuring expert commentary on the success of the marriage, there is a great deal that spin doctors can do to spin it out.

Unlike other great stars of our times, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh cannot go on The Graham Norton Show or do an exclusive cover story for You magazine to perpetuate their constant presence in the public eye. They need a good event, most usually an anniversary, around which to be seen to be in the heart and mind of the public.

But next year those events look to be a bit thin on the ground.

Yes, there’s a much-rumoured royal tour of Canada pencilled in the schedule. But that occasion, to mark Canada’s 150th birthday, does not fall until July. And even if a royal tour does happen, it’s Canada and Canada is rather off-Broadway as far as it affects us.

Both The Prince’s Trust and The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award can’t help much, as their big anniversaries were this year. So what else could be turned into a right royal occasion?

There’s Prince Harry’s Invictus Games, an excellent and admirable sports festival starring more than 500 ill, injured and wounded servicemen and women from 17 countries. But that’s not until September and it’s in Canada and therefore is unlikely to get the crowds out in their tens of thousands in The Mall.

Of course, next year both Harry and William are likely to continue their earnest and genuine campaigns for the plights of elephants, rhinos and other endangered wildlife and that should help maintain some media presence. But, commendable and necessary as saving the animals is, it is risky getting a bit tedious to hear the same message year after year after year because, like it or not, the modern consumer of media nowadays expects the sensational to grab his attention.

Similarly, although Prince Harry’s heartfelt campaign with the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge for greater awareness and understanding of mental health is one that too is commendable, as with the threatened extinction of wild animals, if the same message – no matter how crucial and important it is – is just recited over and over, the old phrase “change the record” could soon come to some media minds.

However, a good opportunity for some The Threeatemia promotion is in April when the young royals’ mental-health charity Heads Together is the official charity of the year at the Virgin Money London Marathon – although the potential media explosion that this good cause generates could be rather dependent upon either William, Harry or Catherine running in it.

But while the sight of the peerlessly glamorous Duchess of Cambridge in running shorts is a photograph that would wig itself around the world on to every website, television news bulletin and front page and would truly put the Heads Together message firmly in the mind of billions, such a PR stunt is fraught with potential dangers.

Aside from the obvious security concerns – which would be so massive that those charged with maintaining the safety of the royals would most likely veto the very suggestion – there is also the evident problem of maintaining the royal image: even if Harry or William or Kate was to train for the marathon, it’s a long, hard run and we would really want to see red-faced and puff-out pictures of any of our first family crossing the finish line on the point of collapse!

This is why many top rock stars run the marathon – the risk is that the pictures are may not be pretty and, if you’re a superstar, it’s the look that matters, image is all – and at this level, wheezing for breath is not a great image.

And besides, dignity is another factor to be maintained because one is a royal. It is all very well if, as has been reported, Kensington Palace PRs favour heavily promoting their charges on social media in preference to traditional media minds.

Twitter and Facebook have their importance but nobody wants to see Harry, William and Kate become the British equivalent of the Kardashians. We saw the like of that once before when some bright spark advised the then-young royals that it would be a fabulous idea, which it wasn’t, for them to do their equivalent of It’s A Knockout, the associated embarrassment of which would have set the monarchy back a thousand years had not Her Majesty’s various jubilees occurred to resuscitate it.

But despite a lack of significant anniversaries, the royals will still feature in the news of 2017 as other events not of their stewardship involve them.

For instance, with the planet warming up...
2017 marks the 20th anniversary of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales

Indeed it was Diana who pioneered the institution, broadening its involvement and appeal by giving her time and, moreover, her care. Looking back, it is quite staggering to realise the breadth of her involvement with so many of the disadvantaged and needy.

She changed the nation’s attitude and awareness of HIV and AIDS, she campaigned for victims of leprosy, worked for animal protection and fought against the use of landmines. She was the patroness of charities and organisations working with the homeless, youth, drug addicts and the elderly. She was president of Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, she was a patron of Headway, a brain-injury association, she was patron of Natural History Museum and president of Royal Academy of Music.

She was president of Barnado’s, patron of the British Red Cross and her other patronages included Help the Aged, the Trust for Sick Children in Wales, the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, the British Lung Foundation, Eureka!, the National Children’s Orchestra, Royal Brompton Hospital, British Red Cross Youth, Relate Marriage Counsellors, Guiness Trust, Meningitis Trust, Dove House, the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children, the Royal Marsden Hospital. It is amazing what Diana did.

So perhaps it is more than convenient that 2017 will provide less royal pomp and occasion as, if it becomes Diana’s year, it will provide the platform for what she may have wanted most – that her work would be carried on by her children.

Much of that work is already being continued and promoted by Harry, William and Kate through their commitment to helping the cause of the homeless and those suffering from mental ill health.

With the memory of Diana and her commitment to those causes flagged up by the 20th anniversary of her death, 2017 could become a landmark royal year for that which is better than the bunting – doing good. And that needs no great PR effort at all.

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The enduring appeal of vintage electro-pop proves that we still want The Human League after all.

Oakey, joined by Joanne Catherall and Susan Ann Sulley – the League are hitting the road once again. Having influenced modern artists as varied as Moby, Hot Chip and Little Boots, the band’s continued appeal proves that our appetite for infectious synth-pop has never gone away.

Fans can expect an airing of vintage hits Love Action, Open Your Heart and Mirror Man during this evening’s show at the Royal Festival Hall, which follows an emotional homecoming date at the Steel Hall in Sheffield.

“They’re a group who have sold millions of records, inspired generations of artists, written some of the all-time great classic pop songs, had number ones across Europe and the US and yet still remain fiercely independent,” proclaims the band’s official website.

The Human League may have been a band at home in the 1980s – but they are alive and kicking as strongly as ever today. The Human League will perform at the Royal Festival Hall tonight. The anthology collection, A Very British Synthesizer Group, is out now.

80s TV classic returns

IT’s time to dig out your leg warmers and ra-ra skirts and grab your Walkmans as BBC Four revives the classic 1980s programme Pop Quiz.

Pop Quiz: The Comeback will comprise two specials celebrating 1980s pop music.

Hosted by the original presenter Mike Read, these two programmes will pit two teams made up of legendary 1980s pop stars against each other in a retro treat.

The guests include Toyah Wilcox, Nick Heyward (Haircut 100), Carol Decker (T’Pau), Tom Bailey (Thompson Twins), Andy McCluskey (OMD), Steve Norman (Spandau Ballet), David Grant (Linx), Cheryl Baker, Jay Aston (both Bucks Fizz), Ranking Roger (The Beat), Mari Wilson and Lee John (Imagination).

Read says: “I’m delighted to be working with a great BBC team to bring back the classic television series Pop Quiz. “Once again the bongs of the famous will be furrowed, lips pursed and eyes narrowed as we test their music knowledge, watch some great classic footage and have some fun along the way.”

The quiz originally broadcast from July 1981 to January 1984. Cassian Harrison, channel editor, BBC Four, says: “BBC Four is the home of popular music on BBC television and it’s fabulous to bring back one of our greatest and most popular music quiz shows for a very special Christmas treat.”
**Great bands can carve out a successful career without saying a single word.** The posturing, the exhibitionism and the shock factor can sustain an artist's appeal for decades, if that's what it takes.

But for Bobby Gillespie, the iconic frontman of Scottish rockers Primal Scream, the musician's real craft is in the art of communication.

"Everything in society is now fractured and precarious," he told NME in a recent interview.

"Your job, my job, us as individuals. We're supposedly connected through the internet but we're not. We're more isolated than ever."

"Too many singers over-complicate their art - says Gillespie - wrapping clever messages up inside lyrics in a bid to beguile their audience.

But the process only cloaks their communicative paralysis. The trick is to express a common sentiment in simple, relatable language.

Primal Scream, fortunately, have the knack.

Despite an ever-changing line-up and a recording career spanning close to 30 years - 2017 will mark three decades since their debut album Sonic Flower Groove - the band have always been able to cut through.

Their music is built from the ground up, for the lowest common denominator. Simply put, it's primal.

That's not to say the Glasgow group are stuck in stasis. On the contrary, they continue to surprise, experimenting with new styles and forming unexpected creative collaborations.

On their latest album, for instance, special guests Sky Ferreira, HAIM and Rachel Zeffira populate tracks with an electro-pop edge.

For Gillespie, in the face of our broken world, music can still be an inspirational force.

"I still get so excited about music, super-thrilled by hearing other artists who are doing good stuff," he told Consequence Of Sound recently.

"New stuff that's inventive and full of imagination and energy."

"When (guitarist) Andrew Innes and myself make some music that we both think is actually good, it always surprises us. Not surprised but I'm happy that we're still pushing."

Gillespie is one of British rock's great innovators, looking at the medium through the eyes of an artist rather than a composer.

"I see music as art. When someone can express themselves really well - musically well - then I'm always very touched by that."

"I think it's an incredible thing to be able to express yourself that way."

Primal Scream are still best remembered as the acid house pioneers of the early 90s.

With their legendary album Screamadelica, they inadvertently soundtrack an entire era, combining pounding guitar rhythms with the roof-raising sounds of gospel.

Famous tracks like Movin' On Up put Gillespie's point into practice, with the effortlessly memorable lines: "I was blind, now I can see/You made a believer out of me."

A quarter of a century later and the band are still making a huge contribution to our musical landscape.

Gillespie says finally kicking his drug habit eight years ago has enabled him to widen his frame of reference, to read more and take care in his craft.

And Chaosmosis, the band's latest album, confronts the struggle for clarity and beauty in a world where the structures are constantly shifting.

"It seemed to me like the term was a very weird description of the creative process where you absorb everything if you're an artistic person," he explains.

"You absorb all the information, the data overload of the modern world and it's kind of hard to decode and decipher it."

"Instead of letting that stuff drag you down and make you depressed, you can turn it into an artwork. You can take that negativity and turn it into something spiritual for other people to be inspired by it. Put some light back into a dark world."

Primal Scream will perform at the 02 Academy in Brixton on Thursday. The new album Chaosmosis is out now.

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**Crowdfunding plea for help in bid to make Tin Pan Alley film**

Crowdfunding for the film of the history of Tin Pan Alley has now reached two-thirds of its target – but movie-makers have renewed their appeal as time is running out.

The team planning Tin Pan Alley Tales, the story of Denmark Street’s legend as the music centre of London, have now raised £34,000 towards their £21,000 target.

But they have to reach the goal figure by December 31 or, under crowdfunding rules, all the pledges could be lost.

“The support to date has been wonderful and we’re very grateful but we need a little more help from our friends,” said the movie’s producer-director Henry Scott-Irvine. “But I’m confident we’ll reach our target by the deadline as more money is coming in all the time. We just need that last-minute extra push.”

Funding for the planned documentary was boosted by another £900 last week through an eBay auction of rare records.

An acetate of The Best Of Madness sold for £365, £55 was paid for a white label of the Madness album Mad Not Mad and a collector paid £75 for a white label of the David Bowie hit Absolute Beginners. The records were donated by Madness producer Clive Langer. Another “undisclosed but significant” donation to the film fund has been pledged by the Flat Iron music industry hang-out the Gioconda Cafe at 9 Denmark Street.

In the early 1960s, Engelbert Humperdinck – then known as Jerry Dorsey – used to eat breakfast there in the hope that he could hire a pick-up band of jobbing musicians to hire for a UK tour,” said Mr Scott-Irvine.

“By the mid 1960s Davie Jones, who was later to change his name to David Bowie, used to meet his Mod mate Marc Feld, later to become Marc Bolan, at the Gioconda to plan their dreams of fame and fortune.

“The Small Faces also signed to Andrew Loog Oldham’s Immediate Records in the Gioconda and upstairs above the cafe was Central Sound Studios where the Bee Gees recorded their debut album. All of these stories will be in the film and we’re grateful to Flat Iron for helping fund it.”

Pledges for Tin Pan Alley Tales can be made on the crowdfunding site phunkee.com.

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**Robbie Williams has won the crown that all rock stars wanted – he will star in the BBC’s now-traditional New Year’s Eve spectacular.**

The end-of-the-year gig has become one of the most coveted in the rock calendar as previous broadcasts – Bryan Adams in 2015 and Queen and Adam Lambert in 2014 – have been the most-watched television music performances of the year, and therefore great for record sales.

Williams will be performing live at Central Hall Westminster, in Robbie Rocks Big Ben Live on New Year’s Eve, in the build-up to the clock striking midnight to see in 2017 and continuing again after the fireworks, on BBC One. Tickets for the gig sold out in minutes.

“Robbie will delight fans with an exclusive show including tracks from his current album The Heavy Entertainment Show as well as some of his greatest hits,” said a BBC spokesman.

Williams said: “I can’t wait to party with London and the rest of the UK on New Year’s Eve.”
AN ALTERNATIVE VIEW
by Clr Robert Atkinson, Labour Group leader, RBKC

We are lucky to live at a time when not only is life expectancy continuing to increase in leaps and bounds, but, contrary to norm, more people now live longer in both good health and in growing prosperity.

Pensions no longer constitute the most deprived section of the population. We should therefore give thanks for both antibiotics and for our beloved NHS – arguably the greatest boons of the 20th century.

As more and more of us live for 30 plus years after retirement it has become an increasingly urgent question as to how to pay for maintaining the retired in the security and comfort that most now take for granted.

There can be no argument in principle that people are asked to work longer before retirement – and as women still live longer than men this was sometimes quite unjust. There was no argument that the retirement age be equalised between the sexes. But there is great argument as to how transition of the state pension age has been achieved.

And one section of society, women born in the mid 1950s, has every right to complain about being poorly treated.

These women began their working life (the majority leaving school in their early teens) expecting that they might retire at 60. When it was then discovered that the retirement age was to be equalised, it was assumed that this could be achieved by lowering the male age of retirement.

It came as something of a shock when retirement was equalised at 60 or even 55 for all.

Women already in the workforce for decades were then promised a gradual scaling up of the retirement age over time but progressively and stealthily the timetable has been speeded up.

A woman born in 1955 has seen her projected state pension age increase from 60 to 65 and then 66. This has led to the formation of campaigning organisation WASPI – Women Against State Pensions Inequality – and bitter rap. A petition calling for fair transitional arrangements for all women born on or after April 6 1951 attracted more than 193,000 signatures.

During the passage of the 2011 Pension Act, the opposition expressed concern that as a result of the coalition government’s changes “500,000 women will have to wait more than a year to receive their state pensions and of those 300,000 will have to wait 18 months or more.” 33,000 women unlucky enough to have been born between March 6 1954 and April 5 1954 will have to wait exactly two years before they receive their state pension. In the closing stages of this Bill was amended so that the SPA maximum increase would be capped at 18 months relative to the timetable on the 1995 Pensions Act.

In March, the Work and Pensions Select Committee published a report on the SPA, inviting the government to make up for its mishandled changes to the state pension age. There are a range of options ministers could be pursuing, including the option of early access to a lower state pension.

Despite earlier blanchments, the current government has now refused further concessions to the now relatively small group of women left without a fair transition. This is not just a question of principle but many of this group are now experiencing hardship because their pension arrangements have changed so rapidly that they have had no opportunity to change their savings arrangements or seek additional or better paying work to allow them to bridge the gap that has been created for them.

Our pension system should ensure dignity in retirement, and properly reflect the contribution that older people have made, and continue to make, to our society. We have not heard the last of WASPI.

Girl shocks commuters by crossing Tube lines

LONDON Underground safety chiefs are to deliver a stern talking-to at the school of the child who shocked commuters at Latimer Road station as she dined with death by crossing the lines.

After talks with British Transport Police, Tube chiefs are to give the schoolgirl and fellow pupils a blunt explanation of the dangers of being fried by the 630-volt power lines or being hit by a train.

The incident, which was captured on his mobile by a passenger, horrified onlookers as the child obliviously dashed between platforms at the North Kensington station on Thursday. Mick Cash, leader of the RMT union which released the picture, said it illustrated how the 15-year-old’s death was being caused by a shortage of staff.

He said: “This is exactly what happened at Latimer Road where it took a passenger with a mobile phone to let London Underground know that a child was wandering across electrified track while trains run.”

Tube chiefs said they had immediately launched an investigation and quickly identified the girl’s school. They have been in touch with the school to reveal the girl’s alarming behaviour.

London Underground safety officers will now be visiting the school to advise pupils of the dangers of the railway and how to behave.

Tubes bosses denied union claims that the station was unstaffed at the time but they confirmed there was no staff member on the platform.

A spokesman said: “The station was not unstaffed. There was a member of staff on the platform. The station was not unstaffed. There was a member of staff on the platform.”

This city gives you access to many cultural experiences including Arabic events and festivals which showcase the diversity of London.

The mayor of London’s Eid festival is now internationally famous for promoting global artists and cultural activities from Qatar, Dubai, Morocco, Iran, Turkey and many more.

Additionally, the Shubbak festival of contemporary Arab culture – which will be celebrating its seventh year – also promotes talent from female Arabic artists and designers.

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea delivers the Nora festival which is a celebration of the very best in contemporary Middle Eastern and North African arts.

These events not only celebrate the diversity of London but also reinforce a great cultural, economic and political understanding between London and the Arab world.

“The mayor of London launched his global London is Open campaign to welcome and encourage visitors and investment to London. Whoever you are, and whatever your background, London is open to you.”

“London is a second home to many and you will know that you will be made to feel welcome in a city that is safe and secure, as well as to enjoy what London has to offer.”

£200m plan to make 100 stations step-free

BY GEOFF BAKER
grrf@londonw eeklynews.co.uk

LONDON mayor Sadiq Khan is to spend £200 million to make travelling by Tube easier for the elderly, disabled and mums with baby buggies.

Mr Khan is planning a massive investment to provide step-free access in more than 100 stations on London Underground. He has announced that he will instigate the biggest boost to step-free access on the Underground in the network’s 153-year history, by investing an additional £40 million a year over the next five years.

As part of its draft Business Plan, Transport for London has committed to making more than 30 additional Tube stations step-free by 2021-22.

“The move will bring the total number of stations with step-free access to all platforms to more than 100, representing more than 40 per cent of the Underground network and significantly increasing the proportion from the current level of 26 per cent,” said the mayor’s spokesman.

“It will substantially improve the accessibility of the Tube, making life easier for older and disabled people. It will also give a greater choice of travel options for everyone, and will directly benefit parents and carers with children and buggies.”

Major stations including Bond Street, Tottenham Court Road and Victoria will become step-free next year. Work will also progress at vital interchanges at Bank and Elephant & Castle.

“The full opening of the Elizabeth Line in 2019 will also be a huge moment for the accessibility of London’s transport network, with every station being step-free. The line will provide a key new east-west link across the capital, serving step-free stations at the heart of London, with all platforms and trains accessible from the moment,” said the mayor.

“Making the Underground more accessible is key to our customers – whether that’s mums with prams, disabled shoppers, the elderly, or simply those with heavy bags. We welcome the planned investment on this initiative across London, complementing the upgrades at Bond Street and Tottenham Court Road, which will help transform the shopping experience for many on Oxford Street.”

Stuart Cooke, chief executive of London TravelWatch, said: “We are delighted to hear about these new developments – step-free access is good for everyone. We will continue to speak for all Londoners to progress the further steps needed to make the network fully accessible and work collaboratively with TfL to achieve the ambition.”

Mark Wild, London Underground’s managing director, said: “Making the Underground more accessible for our customers is one of our top priorities. We should not only be aspiring to, but making a reality of, a transport network that can be used by everyone. We have made good progress but we’re determined to do even more even quicker. We will invest more than ever before in improving step-free access to ensure we provide services that serve every Londoner.”

TfL has the most accessible bus fleet in the world, with all 9,000 buses fully accessible and fitted with ramps.

Arab women win praise from MP

VICTORIA Borwick, MP for Kensington, has hailed the positive contribution Arab women have played in today’s society. The praise from Mrs Borwick came at the second annual Arab Women Awards.

The awards ceremony, held at the Jumeirah Carlton Tower Hotel, celebrated the tremendous achievements by Arab women from business, science, art, culture and education.

Mrs Borwick, who was presenting an award to HH Princess Ameera Al Taweel for social leadership, said in her speech: “London is the most culturally diverse and stimulating city on Earth.”

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Sadiq Khan was appointed to the job of mayor of London in 2016.
Wine & dine

The Slug and Lettuce on Hanover Street has undergone an extensive refurbishment

FOLLOWING an extensive refurbishment, the Slug and Lettuce on Hanover Street now boasts a plush and luxurious interior, which provides a warming and gracious atmosphere. With some excellent service, great food and all at a reasonable price, it’s the perfect place to meet friends for a festive feast, writes Nicky Sweetland.

My companion and I started with a couple of cocktails – but with such an extensive range I didn’t know which to try.

I went for Strawberry Daiquiri (Havana Club Three-year-old Rum, strawberry puree, fresh lime juice and sugar syrup, £9.20), while my friend sampled a porn star martini (Absolut Vanilia vodka, Passoa liqueur, caramel syrup, sugar syrup, fresh lemon juice, pineapple juice and passion fruit, with a shot of Prosecco on the side, £10.20).

Both were light and fresh and acted as a perfect accompaniment to our starters, for me kimchi steam buns (soft oriental buns filled with Korean-style pickled vegetables, baby spinach and a spiced lemon dressing, £5.29). My buddy munched on crispy calamari.

The kimchi was hot and substantial, while the calamari was crunchy and perfectly prepared.

Next I was treated to a grilled sea bass fillet served with a super food salad (£12.79), which was meaty and succulent.

My friend filled up on a deli beef burger (NYC-style classic, eight-hour slow-cooked cured British beef brisket, melting Cheddar cheese and French’s classic mustard, topped with pickles and served with skinny fries, £10.99), a hearty and fulsome winter warmer.

We also managed to squeeze in dessert. My friend had a real plate full, with a decadent display of mini delicacies, while I plumped for a classic rhubarb roulade, which was a tart and tantalising pleasure.

A thoroughly enjoyable dining experience – I would highly recommend the Slug and Lettuce on Hanover Street.

MARK HIX’S RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Roast goose with clementine and chestnut salad

Serves 6

GOOSE doesn’t need to be fatty, and with careful preparation you can end up with a nice, meaty, lean and moist bird. You can reuse the cooking fat from the legs for delicious roast potatoes, and the rest of the carcass, once you’ve removed the breasts for this recipe, is great for gravy.

Offering a salad on Christmas Day lightens up the whole feast, which can be very welcome.

1 goose weighing 3-4 lb, preferably with livers and gizzards

For the herb bag:
- A 25cm square piece of muslin; string
- A few sprigs of thyme
- A small piece of cinnamon stick
- 6 juniper berries, chopped
- 1/2 tbsp coriander seeds
- 1/2 tbsp white peppercorns
- 4 cloves
- 1 bay leaf
- 6 cloves of garlic, roughly chopped
- 400g duck or goose fat
- 2 tsp sea salt

For the salad:
- A couple handfuls of small salad leaves
- 4 clementines or satsumas, segmented
- Up to 4 chestnuts, fresh, frozen or vacuum packed, peeled and lightly toasted
- 1 tbsp orange juice
- 1 tbsp sherry vinegar
- 4 tbsp walnut oil
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Preheat the oven to 160°C/gas mark 3. First prepare your goose by removing the legs: loosen them by pulling away from the side as you cut the split with a sharp knife, then pull them all the way out and cut through the joint. Cut the legs in half at the joint then in half again, and pack them snugly with the string, then put it in with the legs. Melt the fat and pour over to cover the legs. Add the salt then slowly bring the fat to a simmer, drop in the gizzards if you have them, then cover the pan and cook in the oven for 1.5-2 hours or until the meat is soft but not falling off the bone. If cooking in advance you can store the pieces of leg in the fat in the fridge once cool.

On the day, preheat the oven to 220°C/gas mark 7. With the heel of a knife cut away the backbone so you are left with just the two breasts attached to the bones. Remove the legs from the fat and place in a roasting tray with a tablespoon or so of the fat, and cook in the oven for about 40-50 minutes, basting as they are cooking until they are crisp. Remove from the oven and keep warm but do not cover or they will go soggy.

Turn the oven down to 160°C/gas mark 3. Season the breasts, heat a large frying pan and cook them on a medium heat for 4-5 minutes to render the excess fat and until they are golden brown. Transfer to a roasting tray and place in the oven for an hour, keeping them pink, then leave to rest.

Carefully remove the breasts from the goose with a sharp knife then cut them into 1/2cm slices on a slight angle, and arrange on a warmed serving platter with the legs. You can serve this, as I’ve done here, with your favourite gravy recipe in which, to cut through the goose’s richness, you’ve simmered a handful of cranberries for a few minutes.

Toss all of the ingredients together for the salad, season to taste and arrange in a serving bowl or on the platter.
Kerry Ellis will bring a bit of Christmas sparkle to the Hippodrome Casino next week with her award-winning solo show, writes Nicky Sweetland.

The acclaimed performer, who is known as the First Lady of the West End, will present a one-night-only intimate show at the Leicester Square venue on December 20 and has promised a fun evening of song and laughter with an added Christmas feel.

The singer played a sold-out run at the Pheasantry on the King’s Road in Chelsea this year and won a West End Wilma Award in the Best Solo Performance category for her last engagement at the Hippodrome.

She said: “I’m super excited I love doing the Hippodrome. The last time I was there was about nine months ago and I won a lovely award for it, which was great.

“I just thought it would be really nice to do a one-off Christmas show. I’m going to do some of my stuff, do some Christmas songs and have a nice time.”

Ellis has played some of the biggest roles in the West End and on Broadway including Elphaba in Wicked, Nancy in Oliver and Grizabella in Cats.

She has recently returned to the London stage with an all-star cast at the Arts Theatre in the rock opera Murder Ballad.

She’s also a celebrated recording artist and has toured extensively with guitarist Brian May, her friend and mentor, with whom she will release a new album in March.

The sought-after star has just begun a broadcasting career with the UK’s first radio station dedicated to musical theatre – Encore Radio. She is hosting a show on Saturday afternoons and is relishing the new challenge.

Ellis said: “I’ve never done any presenting before. I’ve been involved on the radio hundreds of times and sung and I’ve always loved the intimacy of radio.

“It’s really relaxed, there’s no pressure and I like the quality of it. I’ve always had the dream of perhaps doing it one day.

“Encore Radio came to me with the idea of doing a musical programme on a Saturday afternoon.

“There are obviously other shows out there, with things like Elaine Paige on Radio 2, but there’s a real want for it and there just isn’t enough of it.”

The show airs from 1pm to 3pm on Saturdays and has proved immensely popular with fans of theatre.

Ellis said: “People seem to love it and it’s so lovely for me to be able to talk about people I know and experiences I’ve had. I just feel like I’m having a chat with people on a Saturday afternoon.”

She has a busy year planned for 2017.

And quite apart from doing promotion for her new album, she is also off on tour in a new musical called Wonderland, which will run at the New Wimbledon Theatre from May 2 to 6.

Before then, however, the singer has pledged to add some real glitz to the Hippodrome Casino in the week leading up to Christmas.

And, alongside her band, she is hoping to welcome some very exciting special guests – the identities of whom I’m not permitted to divulge – to join her onstage.

Ellis said: “I’ll probably do In The Bleak Midwinter because it’s on my last live album with Brian (May) and then I think we’ll probably do a big megamix of Christmas favourites for everyone to sing along with.

“I want everyone to feel a bit festive. Bring your sleigh bells and your Christmas outfits.”

Kerry Ellis will be performing at the Hippodrome Casino on Tuesday December 20. There is a limited number of tickets still available. For more details, visit hippodromecasino.com/events/christmas-with-kerry-ellis.

**Genre-defining show’s new run**

Southwark Playhouse will host the European Premiere of a musical by one of the most acclaimed theatrical composers in the world, when Working by Stephen Schwartz is staged next year.

Working is the genre-defining musical from Grammy and Academy Award winner Schwartz (Wicked, Godspell) based on Studs Terkel’s best-selling book of interviews with the American workforce – Working: People Talk About What They Do All Day And How They Feel About What They Do.

This highly original and universal portrait of the American workday is told from the perspective of those who the world so often overlooks – the schoolteacher, the housewife, the firefighter and the waitress among many – whose daily grind and aspirations reflect the truths of the people who make up a nation.

Working employs a range of musical styles and genres from contributing composers, including five-time Grammy winner James Taylor and Pulitzer Prize winner Lin Manuel Miranda (Hamilton, In The Heights).

Schwartz said of his new producers: “I am delighted that such a talented and distinguished theatre company will be presenting Working in London. I look forward to collaborating with them to ensure that the show is both entertaining and relevant to the contemporary British audience.”

Schwartz is best known for writing and composing the Tony, Olivier and Grammy Award-winning musical Wicked. Other shows for which he wrote music and lyrics include Pippin, The Baker’s Wife and Children Of Eden.

In film, he collaborated with Alan Menken on the songs for Disney’s Enchanted, as well as the animated features Pocahontas and The Hunchback Of Notre Dame, and wrote the songs for the DreamWorks animated feature The Prince Of Egypt. Schwartz has won the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Lyrics, three Tony Awards and three Academy Awards and has been nominated for six Tony Awards.

He received the 2015 Isabelle Stevenson Award, a special Tony Award, for his commitment to serving artists and fostering new talent.

Working director Luke Sheppard directed the Olivier Award-winning production of In The Heights (King’s Cross Theatre and Southwark Playhouse), for which he was nominated for Best Director at the Whatsonstage Awards, Night Must Fall (UK tour), Sig O’ The Dump (UK tour), Casa Valentina (Southwark Playhouse), The Secret Diary Of Adrian Mole Aged 13¾ (Curve, Leicester) and the forthcoming Euro premiere of Petar And The Plunderers (Royal & Derngate, Northampton). He is the associate director of Matilda (Stratford-Upon-Avon, West End, Broadway).

Working first opened on Broadway in 1978, under the direction of Schwartz, with a cast including Patti LuPone, Bob Gunton, Joe Mantegna, David Patrick Kelly and Rex Everhart.

The show has since undergone several revisions with additional songs by Miranda being introduced in 2009.

Working was last performed off-Broadway in December 2012, under the direction of Gordon Greenberg (Holiday Inn, Guys And Dolls, Jacques Brel Is Alive And Well and Living In Paris).

Working will run at Southwark Playhouse from June 2 until July 8. For more details, see southwarkplayhouse.co.uk and work
Play aims to restore reputation of first celebrity Brummell

EMMY Award winner Ron Hutchinson (Ros In The Skull, Moonlight And Magnolias) has reinvigorated his acclaimed black comedy Beau Brummell – An Elegant Madness.

And the play, which casts light on the patron saint of dandies Beau Brummell (1778-1840) will be revived at the Jermyn Street Theatre 15 years after it was last performed in London.

Sean Browsen (Doctor Who, The Forsyte Saga) and Richard Latham (Casualty, Some Mothers Do ‘Ave ‘Em) will bring the refreshed script to life – a text which resonates even more in today’s celebrity-obsessed world.

Brummell was the original celebrity but is largely forgotten now.

He revolutionised fashion, style and attitude in the early 19th century – and patron of Savile Row existed in a manner where he dominated the worlds of fashion, wit and dress.

His legacy is celebrated in his statue standing in his birthplace of and reflective of the impact his patronage of the Prince of Wales – and patron the now King George IV. The Trials of Oscar Wilde. Now we are telling the story of the original wit and man of fashion.

Brummell once said that to be truly refreshing public. The WhatsOnStage Awards are a true indication of what the public enjoy at the theatre.

Harry Potter And The Cursed Child leads the field with 11 nominations – the first time a play hasominated the name. It is in the running for Best Actor in a Play for a West End Production – an off-West End Production – the latter a co-production with a Musical for Half A Sixpence, with Andy Karl (Groundhog Day), Michael Xavier (Sunset Boulevard), Michael C Hall (Lazarus) and Ramin Karimloo (M食用品). And in the Best Actor in a Musical category there looks to be a close run for the award between multi-WhatsOnStage Award-winning Sheridan Smith (Funny Girl), Amber Riley (Dreamgirls), Carrie Hope Fletcher (Chitty Chitty Bang Bang), Glenn Close (Sunset Boulevard) and Devon-Elle Johnson (Half A Sixpence).

For Best New Play, Jack Thorne’s Harry Potter And The Cursed Child will fight off competition from the latest hit show from Mischief Theatre – The Comedy About A Bank Robbery, Annie Baker’s The Flick, Florian Zeller’s The Mother and Tony Kushner’s The Intelligent Homosexual’s Guide to the Arts.

And Best New Musical this year sees Groundhog Day, Aladdin, Half A Sixpence, Dreamgirls and School Of Rock compete for top honours.

The Best Musical Revival category looks to be a tough race between Funny Girl, Shout Boat, Sunset Boulevard, Jesus Christ Superstar and Dirty Great Love Story. And in the Best Actor category there looks to be a close run for the award between multi-WhatsOnStage Award-winning Sheridan Smith (Funny Girl), Amber Riley (Dreamgirls), Carrie Hope Fletcher (Chitty Chitty Bang Bang), Glenn Close (Sunset Boulevard) and Devon-Elle Johnson (Half A Sixpence).

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More than 20 years since the world was first introduced to the late Jonathan Larson’s groundbreaking theatrical work, his cult musical Rent has returned to the London stage, writes Nicky Sweetland.

The musical, first performed in New York in 1996 and is based on Puccini’s La bohème, possibly holds even more relevance amidst our current political climate, with the issues of social inclusion, acceptance and tolerance right at the centre of the heartwarming story.

The new production, which is directed by Bruce Guthrie, has enjoyed a six-week UK tour prior to its opening at the St James Theatre next week and stars former X Factor finalist Lucie Jones in the pivotal role of Maureen, a political activist.

I caught up with Jones in her dressing room in Malvern before one of last week’s shows and she told me: “Rent is about a group of struggling artists in New York City. They cover every sexual orientation, race and gender. It’s full of characters and every song is a different genre of music. It’s fun, it’s enigmatic and it’s a brilliant story about friendship, love and humanity. I love it.”

Although Larson used Puccini’s masterpiece as inspiration, the musical is also semi-autobiographical, as the composer lived in virtual poverty in the Big Apple and it includes many of his own experiences within the plot. The character of Maureen is also based on one of Larson’s ex-girlfriends and she is known for her feisty and flirtatious attitude, something that Jones is rejoicing in getting to grips with.

Jones said: “It’s exhausting but it’s brilliant fun because she’s a brilliant character. I do something different with her every day, which is so nice to be able to do; in theatre you quite often can’t do that. She’s so off the wall and, well, she’s crazy, and I’m having a great time playing her every night.”

Disney Frozen star Idina Menzel originated the role both in the original Broadway production and in the 2005 film version. Menzel’s version of the duet Take Me Or Leave Me has become a standard within musical theatre circles. However, Jones said that her take on Maureen is very different from Menzel’s portrayal.

Jones said: “She was the original Maureen but the director gave me the job because he said I didn’t do it anything like her when I went in for my audition.”

The story is set within 1980s New York, under the shadow of HIV/AIDS. The group’s dreams, losses and love stories weave through the musical’s narration to paint a stunningly raw and emotional portrait of the gritty bohemian world.

Jones said: “It’s so relevant to what’s going on in the world now, particularly for my character because she’s an activist and she’s fighting for the greater good. She isn’t specifically talking about the things we are struggling with now but it is almost directly related to them.”

Jones has noted how much audiences have drawn parallels between the show and our present-day social struggles, with many theatre-goers experiencing the now-classic musical for the first time and realising its important message.

“It’s been amazing that this has all been happening while we’ve been on tour and the conversations we’ve had with audience members about its relevance have been amazing,” she said. “It really is as relevant now as it was written.”

Rent began previews at the St James Theatre on December 8 and runs until January 28. For more details, visit rentonstage.co.uk.

Buried Child
Trafalgar Studios

****

WITH a catalogue of sordid family secrets at its centre, Buried Child by Sam Shepard is an uncomfortable and yet compelling drama, writes Nicky Sweetland.

Hollywood legend Ed Harris stars as Dodge, a decaying former farmer, who is chiding with his resentment towards life.

While he surreptitiously sips on a concealed bottle of liquor he has almost become another item of living-room furniture. His sharp-tongued spouse Hale (Harris’ real wife Amy Madigan) noisily mourns the passing of their son Ansel, while their surviving offspring – aggressive amputee Bradley (Gary Shelford) and tormented Tilden (Barnaby Kay) – devastatingly display the manifestations of earlier traumas.

The portrayal of an all-American dysfunctional family feels, at first, perfectly acceptable – that is until they are paid a visit by Dodge’s grandson Vince (Jeremy Irvine) and his girlfriend Shelley (Charlotte Hope), who, after a harrowing introduction, ensures the true horrors of the past become apparent.

When I say they become apparent, that is not entirely true. Although beautifully performed, some of Shepard’s plot twists are just a bit too cryptic and I was, at times, bewildered.

Harris gives a monumental performance as the fading patriarch, while Hope is equally impressive as the sweet and feisty Shelley.

There is a haunting hunger to Madigan’s grieving Hale and both Shelford and Kay provide formidable portrayals, which leave a feeling of quiet in the auditorium. Irvine’s demise into anarchy, facilitated by Derek McLean’s clever set design, is painfully potent and the depth of the three-act play is revealed within the final moments.

Baffling at times and yet thoroughly captivating, Buried Child is a powerful piece of theatre but should come with a pre-show briefing so audiences can further understand the implications of the story they have witnessed.

Buried Child continues at Trafalgar Studios until February 18. For more details, visit buriedchildplay.co.uk or call 0207 439 0012.

Beautifully performed but bewildering
PUBLIC NOTICE
LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM
DESIGNATION OF AN AREA FOR ADDITIONAL LICENSING OF HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION (HMOs)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with Section 59 Housing Act 2004 (Notification Requirements Relating to Designation) that the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham has decided that, in accordance with its local housing policy, it will designate an area in the Borough under section 80 of the Act for the purposes of the Housing Act 2004 (as amended by the Housing Act 2006) (the "Act") has designated for additional licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation ("HMOs") the area described in paragraph 4.

SECTION 1 - DESCRIPTION AND DURATION

1. This designation may be cited as the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham Designation for an Area for Additional Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation 2016.
2. This designation shall cease to have effect on 4 June 2022 or earlier if the Council revokes the scheme under section 60 of the Act.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

4. The designation shall apply to the whole area of the district of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

5. This designation applies to all HMOs as defined by section 254 of the Housing Act 2004 that are occupied by 3 or more persons comprising 2 or more households, within the area described in paragraph 4 unless:
   a) the building is a description as defined in Schedule 1 of HMO Regulations 2004 and is not an HMO for the purposes of the Act; or
   b) the building is not an HMO for the purposes of the Act; or
   c) the building is subject to an Interim Management Order under Part 4 of the Act; or
   d) the building is subject to a Temporary Management Order under Part 4 of the Act; or
   e) the building is required to be licensed under section 52 (b) of the Act (mandatory licensing).

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

6. Subject to sub paragraphs 5(a) to (e) above, every HMO of the description specified in that paragraph in the area specified in paragraph 4 shall be required to be licensed under section 61 of the Act.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

7. The designation was given general approval by the Executive Member for Housing under a delegated authority from the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham Council. The designation falls within a general approval issued by the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government under section 82 of the Housing Act 2004, namely the Housing Act 2004: Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation and Selective Licensing of Other Residential Accommodation (England) General Approval 2004.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

8. Upon the Designation coming into force on 6 June 2017 any person who fails to apply for a licence in the designated area shall be guilty of an offence under Part 2 of the Act, and shall be liable to prosecution and liable to an unspecified fine. In addition, they may be required to repay up to 12 months' rent if the tenant or the Council, in the case of a tenancy, licence or occupation of a house which is regulated under the following enactments:


APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

10. The designation does not require confirmation by the Secretary of State and falls within a general approval issued by the Secretary of State under Section 82 of the Act, namely the Housing Act 2004: Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation and Selective Licensing of Other Residential Accommodation (England) General Approval 2010.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

11. This designation may be cited as the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham Designation for an Area for Additional Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation 2016.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

12. This designation shall cease to have effect on 4 June 2022 or earlier if the Council revokes the scheme under section 60 of the Act.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

13. A tenancy, licence or occupation of a house which is regulated under the following enactments:

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

14. This designation may be cited as the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham Designation for an Area for Additional Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation 2016.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

15. This designation shall cease to have effect on 4 June 2022 or earlier if the Council revokes the scheme under section 60 of the Act.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

16. A building where the person managing or having control is a company or a partnership, any person managing or having control of any HMO or any tenant within the Borough may inspect the application, apply for a licence or seek further information or advice as to whether their property is affected by the designation.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

17. Any landlord, managing agent or other person managing or having control of any HMO or any tenant within the Borough may inspect the application, apply for a licence or seek further information or advice as to whether their property is affected by the designation.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

18. This designation may be cited as the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham Designation for an Area for Additional Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation 2016.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

19. This designation shall cease to have effect on 4 June 2022 or earlier if the Council revokes the scheme under section 60 of the Act.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

20. Any building which is occupied by two persons comprising two households.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

21. Any building which is occupied by two persons comprising two households.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

22. Any building which is occupied by two persons comprising two households.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

23. Any building which is occupied by two persons comprising two households.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

24. Any building which is occupied by two persons comprising two households.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

25. Any building which is occupied by two persons comprising two households.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

26. Any building which is occupied by two persons comprising two households.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

27. Any building which is occupied by two persons comprising two households.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

28. Any building which is occupied by two persons comprising two households.

APPLICATION OF THE DESIGNATION

29. Any building which is occupied by two persons comprising two households.
Local Planning Applications
London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
I give notice that applications have been made to the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham as follows:

FOR DEVELOPMENT WORKS WHERE THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A LISTED BUILDING IS A CONSERVATION AREA

79 Moore Park Road
London W14 9LX
2016/0515/FUL
Change of use from a 2 bedroom basement and ground floor room to a ground floor level; removal of existing roof terrace to the rear elevation; installation of 3no rooflights in the front roof slope; conversion of the existing dwellinghouse into 1 x 2 bedroom and 1 x 3 bedroom self-contained flats.

47 Turnerville Road
London W14 9PS
2016/05206/FUL
Erection of a rear extension: erection of rear extensions at basement, ground and first floor level; extension to the rear elevation; replacement of existing roof terrace to the rear elevation; installation of 3no rooflights in the front roof slope; conversion of the existing dwellinghouse into 1 x 2 bedroom and 1 x 3 bedroom self-contained flats.

14 Strett Road
Ealing
London W12 9NL
2016/05225/FUL
Demolition of existing rear storey back additions and erection of replacement two storey rear extension at ground and first floor level; erection of a single storey rear extension to the side of the extended back garden front to form a lightwells in connection with the relocation of the existing front off street parking space; conversion of the existing building with the self-contained flats into a single family dwelling with the associated landscaping.

2016/05111/FUL
Demolition of existing single storey workshop/unit and erection of a part one plus basement building in the rear garden to use as a live work unit (Class S1).

26 Napier Court
Ranelagh Gardens
London SW6 3UT
2016/05180/TPO
Fell to ground level of a Holly tree (T11) in the rear garden, subject to Tree Preservation Order TPO/314/1/4.

Holly on lower lawn - Fell to ground level and posição stump as free becoming too large and causing damage to grass and patio: client to replace tree with a Tulip tree.

75 Langthorne Street
London SW6 6AU
2016/05177/FUL
Erection of a single storey extension at second floor level over part of ground floor; external alterations; relocation of the French doors; removal of existing rooflights in the rear roof slope; installation of new conditioning unit over the main flat roof at roof level; installation of new rooflights over the main flat roof at roof level.

156 Bishop’s Road
London SW6 7JG
2016/05192/FUL
Erection of an additional floor at roof level; erection of extensions at lower

Hammersmith & Fulham Council

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
SECTION 14(1) (PARSONS GREEN LANE)
TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate carriageway improvement works to be carried out in the above named road, it made an Order the effect of which prohibits vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.

2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of Bythe Road, Blythe Road, Hammersmith.

3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via: i) New Kings Road westbound, Munster Road eastbound, Fulham Road eastbound & diversion ends Parsons Green Lane.

4. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.

5. The Order will come into operation on the 23rd January 2017 and will be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

6. Works are expected to commence on Monday 9th January 2017 and last until Saturday 1st April 2017. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 8th day of December 2016
Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
SECTION 14(1) (DUCANE ROAD)
TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate carriageway improvement works to be carried out in the above named road, it made an Order the effect of which prohibits vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.

2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in the northbound section of Parsons Green Lane between its junctions with New Kings Road and Old Oak Common Lane.

3. 2 alternative routes for traffic in article 2 would be in place via:
   i) New Kings Road westbound, Munster Road eastbound, Fulham Road eastbound & diversion ends Parsons Green Lane.
   ii) New Kings Road eastbound, Hanwood Road northwest, Fulham Road westbound & diversion ends Parsons Green Lane.

4. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.

5. The Order will come into operation on the 9th January 2017 and will be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

6. Works are expected to commence on Monday 9th January 2017 and last for 7 days. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 8th day of December 2016
Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways
LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

SECTION 14(1)

(ROSTREVOR ROAD)

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate carriageway and footway excavation works to be carried out in the above named road; it intends to make an Order the effect of which would prohibit vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.

2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of Rostrevor Road at its junctions with Fulham Road.

3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would not be provided.

4. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.

5. The Order would come into operation on the 18th January 2017 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

6. Works would be expected to commence on Thursday 19th January 2017 and last for 1 day. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 8th day of December 2016
Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING PLACES) (AMENDMENT NO.2) ORDER 2016

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham made the above Order under section 6 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.

2. The general nature and effect of the Hammersmith and Fulham (Electric Vehicle Charging Places) (Amendment No. 2) Order 2016 is to amend the Hammersmith and Fulham (Electric Vehicle Charging Places) Order 2016 by introducing designated Electric Vehicle charging bays on the roads listed in the schedule to this notice.

3. A copy of the Orders, which will come into operation on Wednesday 7th December 2016 and other relevant documents can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive, until the end of a period of 6 weeks from the date on which the Orders are made, in the offices of the Transport and Highways Department, Environmental Services, Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 8JU.

4. Any person desiring to question the validity of the Orders or of any provision provided therein on the grounds that it is not within the relevant powers of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or that any of the relevant requirements thereof or any relevant regulations made thereunder have not been complied with in relation to the Orders, may within six weeks of the date on which the Orders are made, make application for the purpose to the High Court.

Dated this 8th day of November 2016
Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

Schedule:
Black’s Road, Caxton Road, Peterborough Road, Llor Street, North End Road, Ranelagh Gardens and Winslow Road
Public Notices

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
THE A3220 GLA ROAD (WARWICK ROAD, ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF STOPPING) ORDER 2016

1. Transport for London hereby gives notice that it has made the above named Traffic Order under section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for the purpose specified in paragraph 2. The effect of the Order is summarised in paragraph 3.

2. The purpose of the Order is to enable London Underground Ltd to carry out the works to take place near A3220 Warwick Road.

3. The effect of the Order will be to prohibit any vehicle except those vehicles being used for the purposes of those works or for the police constable in uniform or a person authorised by Transport for London or the police in connection with an application. The fire for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is an unlimited fine.

Dated this 13th day of December 2016
Mufu Durowoju
Network Impact Management Team Manager,
Road Space Management - Operations,
Transport for London, Palestra, 197 Blackfriars Road,
London, SE1 8NJ

MAYOR OF LONDON TRANSPORT

FOR LONDON

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0208 694 0233

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1.6 ltr in Black; Reg
MY07 FQD; MOT till
17 October 2017
£1250
MAC Motorcycles
020 8672 4631

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FORD FOCUS C MAX ZETEC “MPV”
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L533 YHU
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1.6 ltr in Blue; Reg
DG51 UFW; MOT till 14 June 2017
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MAC Motorcycles
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All Makes
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Articles for Sale

Vintage brown leather Gladstone bag, large with original brass latches £60. Brand new pink car seat £10. Philips juicer tail bowl yellow £10; Large wok covers £10; Rocking moses £50; Brand new pink car seat original brass locks bargain £75/ O N O BUYER COLLECTS

电气

TOMFON 02 93 Trush, brushes, coffee mugs, takeaway trays, and water bottles £10. Please phone: 0207 770 8127 or 07966 501475

自行车

Articles for Sale

For sale, child's bike red, 20" wheel. As good as new. £55.00 0797 4260077

 lockdown computer

Electrical

Microwave Oven. Trilogy Microwave Oven - Model 2006, with sensorcooking facility. Good condition and perfect working order. Dimensions 560 mm x 390 mm x 380 mm high. Coffee and cream colour. £40. For collection from SW1. Tel: 020 7273 8863 or 07654 112 773

Dyson Vacuum Cleaner serviced now like new. telescope wand floor and carpet. top of range, only £45 could arrange delivery. Tel: 020 8692 8449

Flymo Strimmer mains elec. grass trimmer, unused box carton model ideal Xmas gift £50 could arrange delivery. Tel: 020 8692 8449

2 Seater Black Leather Sofa £200, one seater new leather recliner in new condition £99.99, may sell separately, can deliver. Call 07961 501682

Bicycles

Executive desk in black oak with chrome legs and black executive high-back leather chair with chrome frame. Dimensions 1200 mm x 1000 mm x 73 cm high. £380 for desk and chair. Golden framed mirror with bevelled edge in elegant gilt frame. Dimensions 1360 mm x 1050 mm £50. Office chairs. Real steel frames with black padded upholstery. Comfortable padded seats and backs. Chairs can be stacked when not in use. Each chair 800 mm x 500 mm x 960 mm high £36.00. Suitable for office use. £399.00 for the set of 4. Chest of drawers from Stag Furniture. 5 sliding drawers. Dimensions 440 mm x 800 mm x 960 mm high £350. Rocking chair - elegant and stylish, in black ash with padded seat and back. Designed by Pascal Mourgue. Dimensions 1250 mm x 440 mm x 450 mm £50. All items are used, but are in good condition. For more details, contact 07961 501682

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Town .

ADVERTISERS NAME .

Text of advertisement (Max. 40 words) .

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PRIVATE ADVERTISERS ONLY.
Liver cancer claims life of member of Blues’ first championship-winning team

FORMER Chelsea winger Peter Brabrook, a member of the club’s first championship-winning team, has died from liver cancer at the age of 79.

Brabrook, who was snared from under the nose of his local club West Ham United by Chelsea scout Jimmy Thompson, made his debut for Ted Drake’s side as a 17-year-old in March 1958.

Brabrook said: “Ted was a very honest man, fair but hard. He demanded everything and used to smash cups on the walls in the dressing room. He ruled by fear but his honesty, fair but hard. He looked immaculate. Anybody who would put a shift in and he really looked after me when I was called up to do my national service.”

Despite Brabrook playing in two more games before the title was clinched in May 1958, The Football

Peter Brabrook

League

deemed he was not entitled to receive a First Division winners’ medal. But recognition came in the summer of 1958, when he gained the first of his three England caps – alongside Fulham’s Johnny Haynes – against the Soviet Union in the World Cup finals at Gothenburg, Sweden. His other two appearances were both away, in Northern Ireland later that year and Spain in 1960.

Over the course of eight seasons Greenwich-born Brabrook scored 57 goals in 271 games in all competitions before the arrival of Tommy Docherty provoked a move across the capital.

“We didn’t see eye to eye, but, again, no-one liked Paul Warne when he wasn’t anyone’s cup of tea. He didn’t want me to go to another London club but I knew that Ron Greenwood wanted me.”

Brabrook left Sw6 in the summer of 1962 in a £35,000 deal. It was a hefty fee at the time. The manager Greenwood, also a member of Chelsea’s league-winning side, knew what he was buying.

The tricky winger proved excellent value by playing 214 league and cup matches, scoring 43 goals, in a successful six-year spell that included his cross for Ron Boyce to head the winning goal in the 1964 FA Cup final against Preston.

Brabrook left Upton Park in the summer of 1968 to complete his league career with their near-neighbours Orient, where he made a further 123 league appearances (six goals) and played a key role in the Brisbane Road club’s Third Division championship-winning side of 1969-70.

Brabrook had one season with Southern League side Romford before hanging up his boots at the end of season 1971-72 to go into coaching and management with Ford United and Billericay Town.

He rejoined West Ham as a youth coach and had been scouting for the East London club in recent years. Brabrook had suffered a liver tumour and died in St Luke’s Hospice, Basildon – not far from his Laindon Hills, Essex home – last Saturday. He leaves a son, Wayne, and daughter Donna, plus grandchildren Daisy, Rosie and Peter.

NOW even Rotherham United, who are by far the worst team in the Championship, stopped hand-feeding out early that needed from a throw-in. That was the first of two headed by Paul Warne, claim ed temporary custody of caretaker manager Paul Warne, claiming he had made a one-in. When the cross was whipped in he went flying through the air and absolutely battered this ball into the back of the net before landing in a pile of mud which covered him from head to toe. “That’s how you head a ball.”

They came in the summer of 1958, when he gained the first of his three England caps – alongside Fulham’s Johnny Haynes – against the Soviet Union in the World Cup finals at Gothenburg, Sweden. His other two appearances were both away, in Northern Ireland later that year and Spain in 1960.

Peter Brabrook

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This week at
STAMFORD BRIDGE

By Paul Lagan

CHELSEA defender Gary Cahill reckons Chelsea’s goal-scoring sensation Diego Costa is the best striker in the world.
Costa, who scored the sensational equaliser on Saturday against Wolves, leaves Blues heroes Didier Drogba and Fernando Torres in his wake.

"It’s a good feeling to go out with the best striker in the world," said Cahill.
"He is exactly the same fella," said Cahill.
"But he is not getting as frustrated as he was sometimes, now he is channelling his energy in the right direction now.
"He has been patient, because he knows there is a lot of work to do."

Cahill said the visitors were looking to break them down. "The longer the game went (without Chelsea scoring), the more confidence they had to keep a clean sheet. They got bodies behind the ball – it proved difficult.
"The manager went to a four (at the back) when we got our goal. We switched to 4-2-3-1, then back to a five, so we had different solutions."

"We worked well, kept patient to get the goal and then found the brilliance (from Costa)."

"The game needed a bit of individual brilliance, because they were so well organised, and that’s exactly what happened."

A lot of talk this season has been on Costa’s goals and his personality, Cahill said: "He is getting the right to score that goal whatsoever."

The next minute it’s in the top corner. That’s just how he has been playing this season.

"Diego is the best striker in the world," said Cahill.
"He is on fire."

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A lot of talk this season has been on shapes and formation – and at Chelsea it is no different.

"He is exactly the same fella," said Cahill.
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Cahill said they had not been working on a specific formation to counter Wolves.
"We have been working on the style of the game we have adapted to now. It was quite easy to switch and we went back late in the game to a five, which gave us that extra bit of protection when they were pushing people forward.
"Chelsea have two away games coming up, tomorrow at Sunderland and against Crystal Palace on Saturday (12.30pm), before returning to Stamford Bridge on Boxing Day to face AFC Bournemouth (3pm).

All three matches are eminently winnable, so is there a sense that Chelsea are unbeatable at the moment?
Cahill was typically coy about giving a "Yes" or "No" answer but is clearly happy with the way things are working out.
"It’s a nice feeling when you go into a game off the back of the winning record and statistics we have," he said.

"We are scoring goals and keeping clean sheets for fun. It takes that pressure away from you collectively as a group. The forwards aren’t feeling lots of pressure to score lots of goals. It’s working.
"It’s a good feeling to go out with the confidence in the players and in the squad that we’ve got and try to deliver the performances and results we have been doing."

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Cahill said: “At this moment in time he is right up there (among the elite) in world football with the other clinical finishers.

“The statistics don’t lie and he keeps proving himself with his goals.
We just hope that continues for us.

“Everyone is playing well, that’s the most positive thing. He is getting the goals which are important to us but everyone is contributing to this run.

“Everyone is playing really well, individually, at the moment and that’s what’s giving us the success that we’re having.”

The England centre-back has also played with legendary striker Drogba at Chelsea and recognises that the fans are starting to love Costa just as much as they adore the Ivorian star.