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# The Barnes Village Bugle

November 7, 2022

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## A concrete solution for Hammersmith Bridge's pedestals



**A**fter a period of silence, this month there is much to tell about progress with the works at Hammersmith Bridge.

The pedestals have been stabilised with bespoke concrete, a planning application is being prepared for the double decker temporary bridge-within-a-bridge solution and the suggestion of a toll to drive across the bridge is being forcefully opposed by Conservative councillors in Wandsworth. As ever, we have provided links for those people who want to get a more in depth understanding of the latest developments, but we've given a quick summary of the main points below.

### **Stabilising the bridge**

The key problems with the safety of the bridge are twofold. Firstly, the cracks that have been discovered in the four cast iron pedestals which bear the weight of the structure and, secondly, the seizing up of components in the chains themselves. A major milestone has been reached in making the pedestals safe this month with the pouring of a specially formulated concrete into the pedestals' hollow centres. As anyone who has ever watched Grand Designs knows, concrete pours are tricky. And this particular concrete pour had no margin for error. The specialist magazine New Civil Engineer has given a genuinely fascinating account of the operation and you can [read it here](#). The magazine's article also revealed that the next stage of the process - the attachment of steel reinforcements – requires a consignment of steel, the shipment of which was delayed by the Ukraine war.

For an even more in-depth explanation of what's happening with the bridge stabilisation project there's a [handy 20 minute video](#) to check out.

### **The double decker temporary solution**

The same magazine, New Civil Engineer, (we're big fans) has also given much more detail of the proposed double decker bridge-within-a-bridge temporary solution. The temporary structure running above the existing deck of the bridge would allow pedestrians and motorists to cross while permanent repairs are carried out to the bridge both on and off site. Elements of the bridge, like the decking, that need repair, would be lifted away using the temporary bridge as a works platform and transported by barges to an off-site facility for safer and easier repair and restoration. The temporary bridge would have a pedestrian and cyclists span and a vehicle ramp above. At first, pedestrians and cyclists would use the vehicle ramp to cross while the lower level was used by workers removing the decking. Once the deck of the bridge has been safely removed the lower level will be used by pedestrians and cyclists. Cars would then be able to use the upper level.

The next question is when will work start on this solution? Well before anything happens the planning hurdle needs to be jumped and the Hammersmith Society reports that before work can begin a gas main will need to be diverted at the cost of £5million. The society's newsletter concludes after outlining the next stages that ***“an apocryphal story floating around social media that the bridge will be open to motorised traffic by Christmas seems rather wide of the mark.”***

## Toll fee rumblings

The website [Putney SW15](#) reports that Conservative Councillors in Wandsworth have “slammed” Hammersmith & Fulham Council’s plans to charge drivers a toll to use the bridge once it is repaired. H&FC have repeatedly said that raising funds via a toll is the only solution to getting the bridge repaired. The government has said that the council must fund a third of the repair costs leaving it to find between £33 and £47 million. It can’t raise council tax to do this (there are legal constraints on what it can do) so the council contends its only option is to charge a toll. The most controversial element of the toll plan is that H&FC only wants to charge a toll to those people who don’t live in Hammersmith and Fulham. H&FC council tax payers will apparently get to cross the bridge for free.

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## A sad goodbye to our handsome cob swan



Picture: Andrew Wilson

**V**ery sadly Barnes Pond's male swan (cob) died this week. His death was most likely caused, according to a volunteer from the Swan Sanctuary, by avian flu. This seems to be an increasing problem in swan populations and has also affected some of the swans who now gather near Small Profits Dock. Avian flu strikes quickly and a swan can seem fine and then suddenly die after only three days.

The female swan (pen) still seems healthy so it is hoped that she hasn't been infected.

Passers by on Monday October 31 reported seeing the pen approach the cob who was resting near the steps to the pond to try to rouse him. According to a report on the [instagram account Barnes Pond](#) ***"she started making neck movements towards him. They then both started mirroring their neck movements back and forth like swans will do when they mate for life; when they love each other."***

The fact that the female realised that her partner was ill is a small blessing, in that she is, apparently, likely to understand that he has died. If he had just been removed before being so obviously unwell she would likely have spent weeks pining for her lost partner.

Swans do indeed mate for life but that doesn't mean that a widowed swan won't look for a new mate. There are plenty of young single males in the Small Profits Dock population and it is a possibility that the pen may seek a new mate when the breeding season starts in February. It is however also a possibility that another breeding pair may come along to try to displace our lone female from the pond.

Our cob swan was first ringed as a three year old at Barnes Pond in 2013 so he was around 12 years old. His mate is the same age. Swans can live to be up to 30 years but that's rare and their average age of death is normally around 12 years.

Will there be cygnets again next year? Well only if the female finds a new mate or if a new breeding pair arrives. The Swan Sanctuary won't introduce a new breeding pair to the pond if our female swan leaves but there have been enough cygnets born in the pond over the years to have marked the place out as swan territory. It could be that a female born in the pond could return. It's in the lap of the gods, and all we can do is hope for a happy ending after the sad loss of our wonderfully characterful cob.

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## Who has won our best restaurant poll?

**“The food and ambience at Church Road is wonderful.”**

**“What keeps me coming back is that they get the balance of being a neighbourhood restaurant and providing a high quality menu just right.”**

**I**n what passes as excitement in the Bugle household we've been watching the votes for October's Best Restaurant in Barnes poll roll in with bated breath.

It was a close-run race with the leadership changing frequently between the two front runners (Church Road and Riva) but in the end Church Road prevailed and can don the mantle of Barnes' favourite restaurant.

Although it was a light-hearted poll with a self-selecting sample it has told us a lot about how and where we eat in Barnes.

Firstly, Barnes has a restaurant quarter. The top five restaurants (Church Road, Riva, Oka, Awesome Thai and The Red Lion) are all within an 80 metre radius at the Castelnau end of Church Road.

Secondly, these top five restaurants/pubs are in a pack of their own (rather like the pack that breaks away in a middle-distance race) with more votes combined than the 27 other restaurants nominated.

Thirdly, our voters were either regulars at restaurants like Riva and Church Road or didn't eat at these types of restaurants at all. For lovers of data (we love data at the Bugle) this explains the shape of the response graph. People who ate out at smarter restaurants opted for those in the top five, but those who didn't spread their custom much more widely.

In the chasing pack there were some interesting developments. For a brand-new restaurant, Postbox near Hammersmith Bridge scored pretty highly and was the best performing Indian restaurant. Other new restaurants like The Nest and The Crossing scored well too. For those eating on a budget Côte was consistently well

reviewed and the Olympic had good support too. When it comes to pubs the Red Lion is the cream of the crop with its roasts and its pies getting rave reviews.

And as for the winners the Church Road team says they are **“absolutely thrilled”** to win. Owner Rebecca Mascarenhas says **“Barnes means everything to us. We live here and work here.**

**“We’re a part of Barnes and Barnes is a part of us. We love the fact that we have such loyal and regular customers and it’s fantastic that they have made the effort to vote for us.”**

If you’re a data nerd like us you can see the results in full by [clicking here](#).

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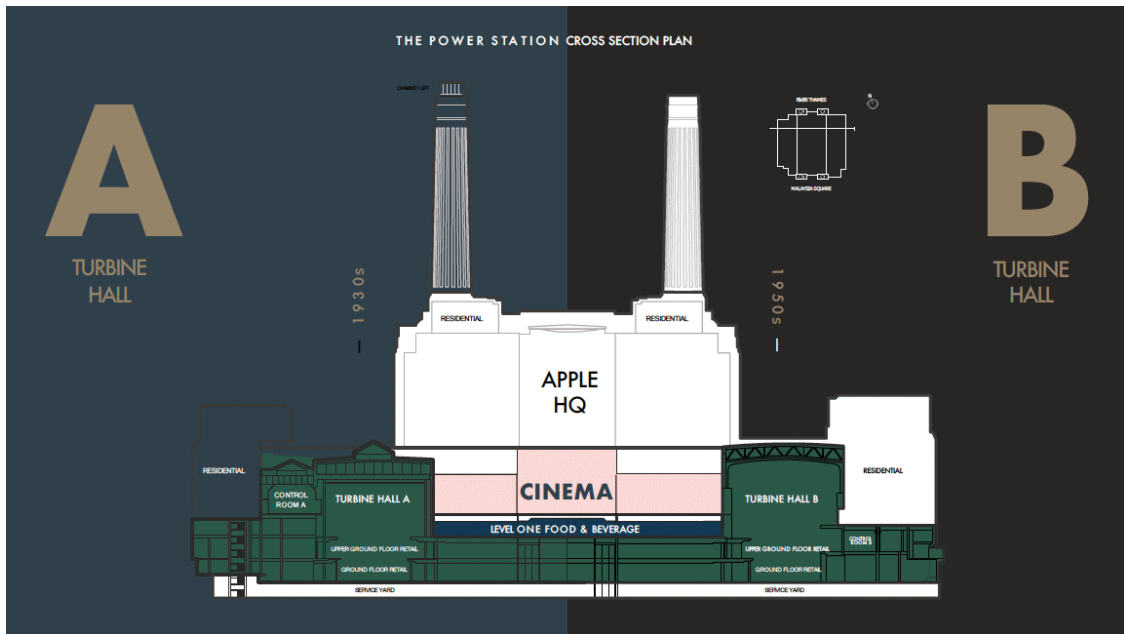
## Eyes on the prize



**W**inning the Bugle restaurant poll wasn’t the only good news for Rebecca Mascarenhas. Her casual dining restaurant in Putney, [Home SW15](#) was also named a runner up in the best restaurant category in the Observer Food Monthly awards last month.

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## Powering ahead



It's great to see Barnes businesses making their mark elsewhere in London, and the team at the Olympic Studios have now done that big time with the opening of their new cinema and members club at the spectacularly restored new Battersea Power Station development. The whole new development is well worth seeing and easily accessible by river boat from Putney although you need to time your journey carefully as the boats only travel to Putney during peak commuting times.

**Winkworth**

for every step.

Heritage:  
Opened in Mayfair  
in 1835

Twinkle, twinkle



**T**hanks to a grant from the local council and to funding from the Barnes Community Association Christmas lights are returning to Barnes this year. The lights will be situated on lamp-posts and should be switched on for us all to enjoy anytime now.

**Winkworth**

for every step.

## **This month's featured property**

Sunny and spacious  
5 bedroom house  
Full of period charm  
Heart of the village

Grange Road, SW13



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## Road to nowhere



**R**oad closures and traffic curbing measures are the order of the day at the moment and this month has seen the temporary closure of some of the roads in Richmond Park to through traffic become permanent and news of speed enforcement cameras arriving on Priory Lane.

The Richmond Park traffic restrictions have been in place since lockdown and were the result of a plan to reduce commuter use of Richmond Park roads. One of the roads which is now permanently closed to traffic is the Sheen Gate entrance of the park and a local group of Sheen residents are campaigning against the change.

Meanwhile, anyone driving to the park via Roehampton Gate will need to adhere carefully to the 20mph limit, as Wandsworth council is installing speed cameras. The move came about after local residents complained about speeding drivers.

Drivers exceeding the limit caught on camera will initially receive warning letters but after an introductory period the warning letters will be replaced with £130 fines with a 50% discount if paid within two weeks.

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Advertorial

LIVING FOR TOMORROW

Meet the Barnes-based event planners

who are doing things differently.



What happens when you combine the talents of two highly experienced events professionals, both of whom are passionate about the environment?



The answer is a new type of events company - one that still organises weddings, parties and corporate launches with enormous style but that puts sustainability right at the heart of what it does.

Barnes-based event planners, Sophie Mekhael and Hannah Harsent who together make up Living For Tomorrow, have the perfect CVs for their sustainable venture.

Sophie has curated high-end events across the world and Hannah, who began her career as a lifestyle manager, recently followed her passion for green issues by working as a production manager on *Eating Our Way to Extinction* a documentary about the climate crisis.

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*"Earth is our home, it's important to keep it 'eek'. We pledge to be carbon positive by offsetting our company emissions through Eden Projects." say Sophie & Hannah*

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Living For Tomorrow creates events for any occasion, in any location. From a private dinner for 12 in London, to brand PR launches, corporate parties or fundraisers, a three-day birthday party in the South of France for 200 guests, a wedding in Mallorca... They take care of every detail with a bespoke planning service designed to give you peace of mind. And, depending on your needs the team can organise the whole event for you from start to finish or simply help with an

advisory role. They offer four different packages, each one tailored to your specific needs.

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## Recent Projects



Summer wedding at Trumpeter's House & Petersham Nurseries

[\*see more\*](#)



Summer wedding at Strawberry House

[\*see more\*](#)



Film premiere at The Odeon, Leicester Square.

*see more*



Private Birthday at KOL, Mayfair.

*see more*

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See the planning packages and find out more

[www.livingfortomorrow.co.uk](http://www.livingfortomorrow.co.uk)

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If you build it, they will come



**S**ixty volunteers from Barnes Rugby Club rolled up their sleeves last month to build a brand-new outdoor exercise area by the pitches opposite the Barnes Club

House at Queen Elizabeth Walk.

Adult players from Barnes from both current and previous generations joined forces with the young boys and girls from the junior rugby teams to build a facility that all the local community will be able to use for years to come.

As a community rugby club Barnes RFC has always been active both on and off the pitch and even more so since the pandemic where activities have ranged from raising over £160,000 for the NHS in memory of a club stalwart to collecting 6,000 cans of food for the local food bank.

Over the last 12 months the club has raised more than £40,000 to fund its next project, The Big Build, which is an outside gym, activity centre and trim trail. They have achieved this in a variety of ways, from running marathons, to their own Barnes RFC Come Dine With Me experience as well as the generosity of members from across the whole club.

Club President David Doonan said ***"This is what Barnes Rugby Club is all about, we are a village club in the city, and we are all about helping the local community"***. Ted Mannix – an under 18 colts player added ***"I wanted to come and give something back for future generations"*** and Cameron Ruddock who plays in the men's first team said ***"Something that really resonates with me is how the whole club gets behind something like this."***

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## Who let the dogs out?



**B**arnes' own Roger McGough who has been dubbed 'the patron saint of poetry' is certainly never responsible for writing doggerel. He is, however, a good sport when it comes to herding dogs while helping out with the annual Barnes Goldens calendar.

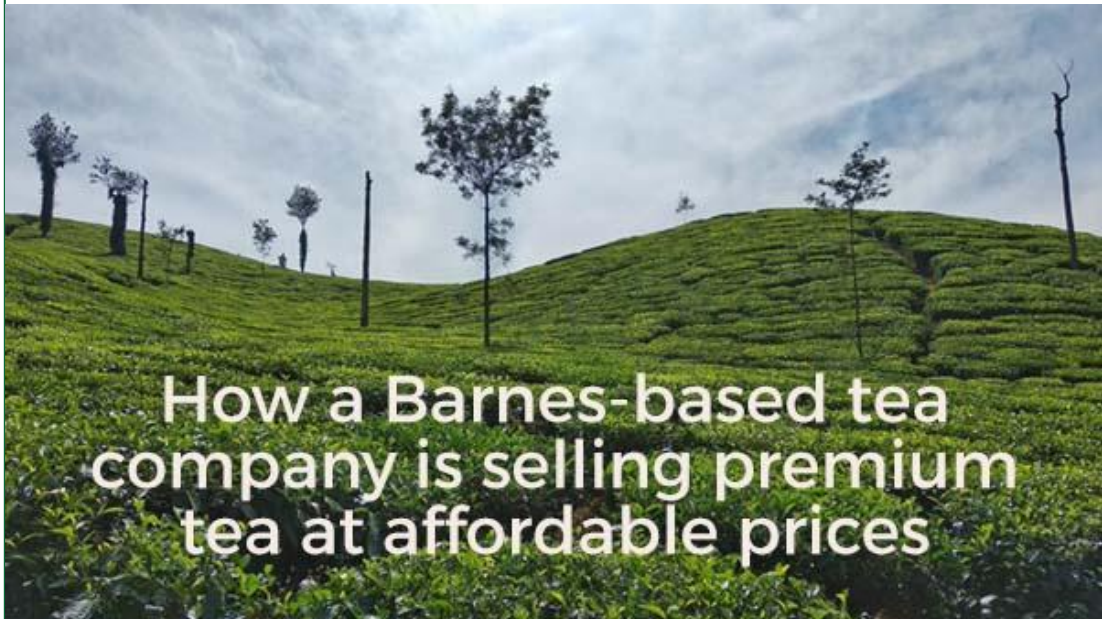
This year he's gracing the cover of the calendar which will raise funds for a humanitarian hub in Kyiv looking after people and animals who have lost everything. As well as including pictures of some of Barnes' beautiful golden retrievers posing outside Barnes landmarks there are also pictures of the "Dogs of War" some of the pets who have been rescued and looked after as a result of funds raised by local dog owners.

The calendars are now on sale in Natsons and The Barnes Bookshop.

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Advertorial

## PURE & SIMPLE



How a Barnes-based tea company is selling premium tea at affordable prices

Trading in tea is a centuries old profession. Merchants used to carry tea along the spice routes bringing tea to our own nation of tea lovers. Some tea merchants became household names and some traded quietly providing their teas to the major brand names.

Britannia Tea is one of those tea trading companies. It's a family business, with its roots in the ancient spice route trade, based in Barnes.

Britannia Tea works directly with some of the best tea growers, selecting the very best leaves for the very best flavours. It is now offering a range of teas online, available both as loose leaf tea and in sustainable pyramid tea bags. You can check out the range and buy direct by clicking on the links below.

# Time for tea...



## THE CLASSIC RANGE

If you want to experience the purity of flavour of Britannia Teas, the Classic Gift Pack is the perfect introduction to your tea journey.

From the tea gardens of Assam comes a wonderfully delicate tea with a rich and malty flavour.

From the Yellapatty tea garden in the Munnar Hills of Kerala, there's a stunning fresh and smooth Green Tea.

The Classic Range not only makes the perfect treat-yourself indulgence for the tea lover, it's a fantastic gift too. And, what's more, it's great value as it offers four packs for the price of three.

DISCOVER THE CLASSIC RANGE



### THE CONTEMPORARY RANGE

This beautifully packaged array of teas makes a great gift. All the teas come in sustainable pyramid bags and range from soothing herbal teas, to a satisfyingly rich and malty English Breakfast, a light and fragrant Earl Grey and a delicate and aromatic winter warmer Spiced Chai.

The teas are sourced with the same care as the Classic Range and as befits a company that started trading on the spice route, flavours of cardamom, cinnamon and ginger are all included within this range.

DISCOVER THE CONTEMPORARY RANGE

# BRITANNIA® TEA

[www.britanniatea.co.uk](http://www.britanniatea.co.uk)

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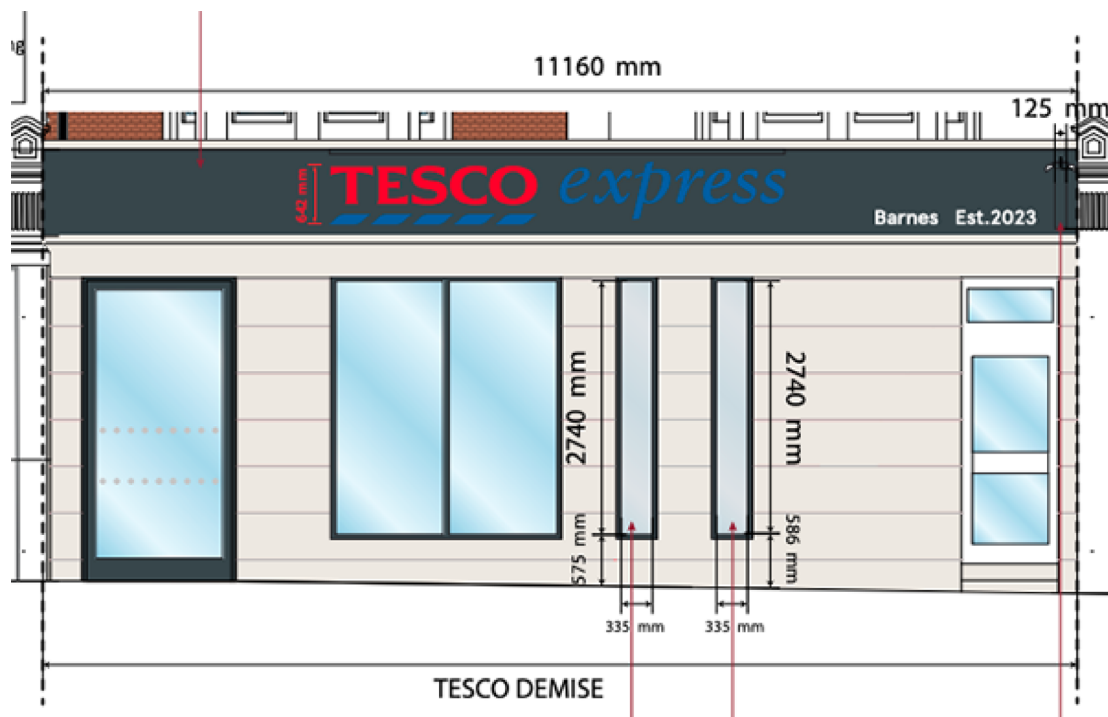
100,000 and counting - our amazing  
local vaccination team's success





If you spotted long queues by the Essex House surgery, that will have been the over 50s receiving their Covid booster shots. Our brilliant local vaccine hub (a collaboration between four local GP surgeries and an army of local volunteers) has been running big vaccine sessions in the carpark to the rear of Essex House and the speed and efficiency of the operation has been phenomenal. Between them the vaccination team have now passed the 100,000 mark. Quite an achievement.

## Tesco to set up shop in old Natwest premises



It looks as if Tesco is planning to open a second outlet in Barnes with plans to move into the old Natwest premises at the bottom of Castelnau. A planning

application has been submitted and is currently under local consultation. Since permission for a convenience store on the site has already been granted (Co-op were planning to use the site and then subsequently withdrew) the application is simply for the addition of a new fascia.

When Co-op were planning to use the building there were local concerns both about licencing hours and delivery protocols. It looks as if these concerns will again be raised now that the site is being earmarked by Tesco.

How long it will take for the site to be transformed into a new store after permission has been granted is unknown. We'll aim to keep you posted in future Bugles.

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**the champ  
agency.**

### **Barnes based digital marketing agency.**

We champion a personal & hands-on approach to digital marketing that caters to all needs and budget sizes.

Our founder, Emily, has 6+ years digital experience working for global beauty giants including Elizabeth Arden, Revlon & The Body Shop.



### **Do you need help with...**

- Growing your social media?
- Driving traffic to your website?
- Connecting with the right influencers?
- Being more cost effective with your marketing?

Get in touch

[www.thechampagency.com](http://www.thechampagency.com)

[hello@thechampagency.com](mailto:hello@thechampagency.com)

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## Lost beauty



**T**here's an economic downturn and once again we're seeing empty shops on our High Streets, and although it may be coincidental, all three businesses that have recently departed Barnes have been salons – The Head Spa and Impress at the river end of the High Street and Kate Anderson Spa at the bottom end of Castelnau.

There's no way of knowing what happened with the businesses we've mentioned, but as energy costs rise and profit margins become squeezed many small businesses are sailing through choppy waters right now. All of which means our local shops need our support more than ever.

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## And all that jazz



**T**he music room at [the Bull's Head](#) has re-opened after a big refurbishment, just in time to host several gigs that form a part of the London Jazz Festival. The room now has a new sound system, stage and newly upholstered seats. Check out our pick of this month's best Bull's Head gigs in our listing section below.

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Yellow line parking causing High Street traffic flow issues



**O**ur newly installed wider High Street pavements and bus stop are attracting a lot of attention. Many people on local social media sites report enjoying the wider pavement but a few are unhappy about the fact that parking places have been taken from the High Street itself and moved to side roads. One local shopkeeper at the Barnes Hardware Store says the change in parking options has affected his business adversely.

The other issue that's being brought up on social media is the problem of illegal parking. The new road arrangement has been designed to help traffic flow more freely but it seems cars are regularly being held up by people stopping and parking their cars on yellow lines. Local Town Centre Manager Emma Robinson says that Richmond Council has been made aware of the problem and that traffic enforcement officials are patrolling the High Street to help prevent parking at pinch points.

At the Bugle we'd love to hear what you think of the new High Street improvements. Just let us know by filling out our [short questionnaire here](#).

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Advertorial

**Christmas Craft Workshops**



**Workshop has some fantastically inventive courses lined up just before Christmas. As ever, they will ignite children's imaginations and give them a huge sense of pride in their achievements. Every participant will leave each class with a unique expression of their own creativity, whether that's a hand carved Christmas decoration or a pair of their very own customised trainers.**



## **Golden paintings in the style of Klimt**

**Take inspiration from the golden shimmering style of Gustav Klimt in this class which is part art history and part painting fun.**

**Leave with your own glowing artwork.**

**Book now**



## Christmas Custom Creps

Bring along a pair of box fresh trainers and leave with a pair that you've totally personalised to your own style. Use exciting techniques like spraying and splashing to perfect your look.

[Book now](#)



## Animals in the Snow

Learn charcoal and chalk drawing techniques and apply them to cute animals in the snow with artist Beatrice Boyle.

[Book now](#)



## Festive Jewellery

Join the wonderful Red Gibbons in this exciting craft workshop making gorgeous jewellery pieces and gift boxes, perfect for the festive season!

Book now



## Carved Christmas Tree Decorations

Come and carve these cute wooden decorations to sit on your mantelpiece, bedside table or grace your shelves or hang on your tree this Christmas.

Book now



## Santa's Workshop

Your chance to make presents of the highest quality for family and friends. You will make at least four separate presents and even hand print your own wrapping paper.

Book now

Book via: [workshop.co.uk](http://workshop.co.uk)

Follow us: @\_workshop



Studio 9/10 | The Mews | 46-52 Church Road |

Barnes | SW13 ODQ

## Cancel culture



**A**s excuses for pulling out of an event go, being unexpectedly made Chancellor of the Exchequer is quite a good one. Jeremy Hunt was due to speak to the Barnes Literary Society about his new book on the NHS on Tuesday October 18, but on October 14 Liz Truss (remember her?) appointed Hunt as Chancellor.

Eager not to disappoint the members, the society's committee managed to find a last minute replacement, and very good he was too. Chris Blackhurst, former editor of The Independent, amply filled Hunt's shoes with a talk about his book 'Too Big to Jail' which shows how HSBC came to be fined \$1.9billion in relation to money laundering linked to Mexican drug baron El Chapo

As far as we know, neither Fi Glover or Jane Garvey, who are the speakers at the next Literary Society event, are planning to seek high office anytime soon, so all is set fair for their talk on November 22.

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# Let's do lunch...



Lunch at Church Road is the most civilised way to catch up with friends and family, and surprisingly good value too. You can choose from our À la Carte menu or opt for our set lunch menu which costs just £20 for two courses and £25 for three. Our lunch set menu changes daily and is available on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. On Sunday we offer a different but equally delicious lunch menu including our famous roast beef.

**[See a sample menu](#)**



[Click to book](#)

*Voted by Bugle readers as Barnes' favourite restaurant*

92-94 Church Road, Barnes, SW13 0DQ

[info@churchroadsw13.co.uk](mailto:info@churchroadsw13.co.uk)

020 8748 0393

[www.churchroadsw13.co.uk](http://www.churchroadsw13.co.uk)

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**Shaggy dog story with a happy ending**



**W**hen anxious rescue dog Mimi bolted after being let off her lead last Friday her East Sheen owners were distraught. However, thanks to the power of social media, multiple people kept her owners up to date on sightings around Barnes (on the towpath and nearby) and finally with the help of a search party of volunteers, she was found and reunited with her owner.

People found out about Mimi's escape via NextDoor and local WhatsApp groups and an impressive number joined the search.

As one commenter on NextDoor said ***"We live in a very kind community that loves dogs ...We all felt your anguish and now elation on being reunited"***.

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It's never too late



**L**ocal artist Alasdair Saunders might well be the oldest exhibitor at this year's Barnes Art Fair (see listings below) but he's probably the one who has the most recent experience of art school as he has only just finished a five year course at Camberwell College of Art. His largest submission to the fair is a one metre photo collage of Barnes for the Coach and Horses pub (above).

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## North Barnes needs a de-fibrillator



**R**osanna Goodall was one of the brilliantly community minded people who helped to raise funds to replace the defibrillator that was stolen from the front of the Essex House surgery. While raising funds for that defibrillator it came to light that there is a real need for one in the Stillingfleet Road area of north Barnes.

All of this means Rosanna is fundraising once more. She needs £4,000 and has so far raised just shy of £600. With your help she could get much closer to her goal. Rosanna says ***"There will someone in your lifetime that will need a Defibrillator and I am very passionate about just how important***

***these are and how much we really to make sure we are keeping our community and visitors safe."***

If you would like to make a donation just [click here](#) to go to her fundraising page.

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## Bugle Classifieds



### **MINDFULNESS COACHING**

Would you like to learn to be more present with your family, or at work, cope better with daily stressors, manage feelings of worry or find ways to quieten a busy mind? Mindfulness can really work for you. I run one to one and group courses for both individuals and businesses. Find out more at

**[beingforwellbeing.com](http://beingforwellbeing.com)**

Contact Natalie – [natalie@beingforwellbeing.com](mailto:natalie@beingforwellbeing.com)

[07957 631043](tel:07957631043)  
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### **SOPHIE BEVAN, ACUPUNCTURE & QI GONG**

Sophie is a Chinese Medicine specialist, using acupuncture, moxibustion, laser and cupping to treat a wide variety of conditions. Sophie also teaches Qi Gong for Beginners, a gentle form of exercise which is relaxing and meditative. Find out more at [sophiebevan.com](http://sophiebevan.com) or contact Sophie at [sophbe@gmail.com](mailto:sophbe@gmail.com) and

[07502 403176](tel:07502403176)  
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### **MALE CARER (12 years experience)**

Live-in/out role in London or England. Excellent references, DBS.

[louiecoscos@gmail.com](mailto:louiecoscos@gmail.com)

[07405 117031](tel:07405117031)  
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**WANTED - INDEPENDENT EXAMINER  
Qualified accountant?**

Leading local charity is hoping you will carry out a formal examination of its accounts next year, its existing examiner having retired. Accounts kept on Sage, and not complex. Fee can be paid, although it is hoped that it would be pitched at a charitable level.

For more details, please call Patrick on 020 8876 5338 or email him at patrick@pfindlater.plus.com.

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**Advertise your service for only £25**

The Bugle has well over 4,500 subscribers and where else can you reach that many people in Barnes for such a small cost? £25 gets you up to 100 words to publicise your service. That's more than enough space to say what you do and provide your contact details. To advertise in the Classified section just email us here at [admin@barnesvillage.com](mailto:admin@barnesvillage.com). If you are looking for a display ad further up the page prices start at £100 and you can [find out more here](#).

## What's on in November?

Check out our guide to What's On in Barnes this month, and remember to double check dates on venues' own websites as although we check information to the best of our ability sometimes dates and other details are subject to change.

## Get the picture



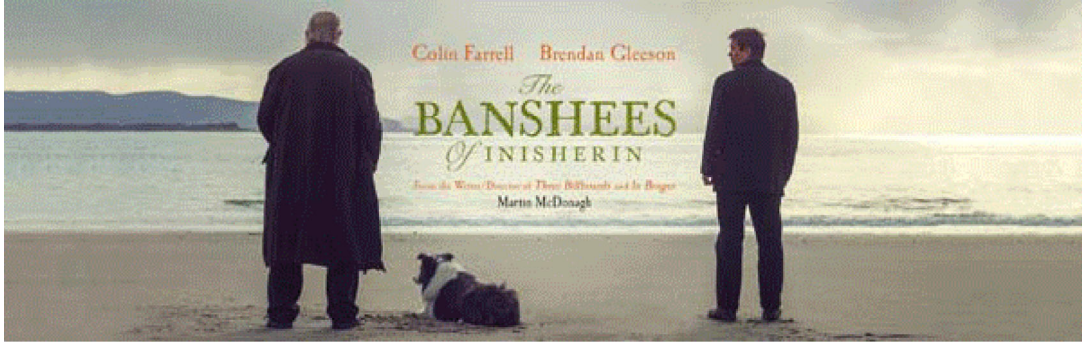
**Barnes Art Fair 2022**  
**East Meets West**  
An Exhibition of affordable Painting,  
Sculpture, Ceramics and Prints

**17th-19th November**  
10.00am – 6.00pm  
St Michael & All Angels Church  
Elm Bank Gardens  
Barnes, London SW13 0NX

**Barnes Art Fair**  
**November 17-19, St Michael and All Angels**

Stuck for a Christmas present with a difference? Why not check out the Barnes Artists exhibition at St Michael's. You will find a beautiful and affordable range of painting, sculpture, ceramics and photography, all done by some very talented local professional and amateur artists.

## Films at The Olympic



Some of the autumn's best films are still playing at the Olympic and there are plenty more good ones to come. If you've not yet seen *Mrs Harris Goes to Paris* or *The Banshees of Inisherin*, now's the time to get your skates on and to see them before they go.

Shiny new films replacing the jewels of October include the very much hyped *The Wonder* starring Florence Pugh as an English nurse visiting rural Ireland in 1862 to treat a young girl who is either possessed by the Holy Spirit or faking illness.

Competing against Pugh for the performance of the autumn are Bill Nighy in *Living* and Emma Mackey in *Emma*. Also arriving on the screen is *Decision to Leave* the new film from South Korean auteur Park Chan Wook described by the *Guardian* as a sensational noir romance.

There's also a tempting line up of theatre, ballet and exhibitions. Look out for Hopper - *An American Love Story* examining the life of the painter responsible for *Night Hawks* and other elegiac images of 40s America. There's a chance to see *Game of Thrones'* Emilia Clarke on stage in *The Seagull*, and perhaps the biggest treat of all (if you love ballet) is a *Diamond Celebration*, a wonderful Royal Ballet performance at the ROH.

## What's on at the OSO?





Our four stand out events at the OSO this month couldn't be more different. The first is a real treat for lovers of the classic era of musicals. West End performer Rosemary Ashe (*Les Mis*, *Mary Poppins*) is bringing her one woman show celebrating the life of the legendary Ethel Merman to the OSO. She'll be performing Call Me Merman for two nights on November 12 & 13. Expect fabulous songs by Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, Gershwin and many more.

Next up (between November 16 and 22) is a classic closed room murder mystery, Murder by the Book. The blurb reads *"A creative writing retreat on an island. Sounds idyllic? Should be. But, when eight ill-assorted writers are cut off from the mainland by a storm, then frayed tempers, old jealousies and new resentments could possibly lead to... murder."*

Moving away from performance there's a chance to experience the fantastic cooking of the OSO's very talented chef Yanete as she will be hosting a 'delicious and informative' evening of East African food. Food will be served buffet style and include vegetarian options and a dessert.

Finally there's an evening of bawdiness and rollicking regency comedy courtesy of break out Tik Tok star 'Lord Christian Brighty'.

## Wetland wonders



There's lots on at the Wetland Centre this month. Here's our pick of their events.

**Woodland Walk: Saturday November 12**

Discover more about the Wetland Centre's woodlands (an area not normally open to the public), including some of the flora and fauna that the habitat supports (fungi, long-horn beetles, and woodland passerines).

[More info here.](#)

**Illuminature - Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays from November 18 to January 8**

The unique light trail returns with new displays and more to see. Hot chocolate in hand, you can follow the twinkling lights and celebrate nature with an immersive light trail of glowing larger-than-life sculptures and installations. New this year, you can enjoy glimpses of real animal magic through night vision goggles, spotting birds and plant life, as well as visit the resident family of otters tucked up in bed, while also learning about phases of the moon and how they impact our environment.

[More info here.](#)

**Wildlife Photography - Autumn Colours - Friday November 25 10am to 4pm**

Photographer Jackie Rado will guide you through a practical and hands-on photography workshop focusing on how to explore composition and create the perfect arrangement of elements and colours within the frame.

The course will also cover camera lenses and how to capture both sweeping impressions and finer details using focal length to reveal inspiring new perspectives.

[More info here.](#)

## Classical gold



### **Alicia's Gift - November 10, OSO**

A narrated concert based on Jessica Duchén's novel *Alicia's Gift*, enhanced with performances of works by Chopin, Debussy, Granados, Ravel and Gershwin played by the award-winning pianist Viv McLean.

The novel asks what does a family do to a talented child?

Duchén's story follows the piano prodigy Alicia Bradley and her embattled parents from the revelation of her talent, aged three, through to her adulthood and her participation in the Leeds International Piano Competition.

[More info here.](#)

### **Mendelssohn's Eliza - performed by the Barnes Choir at All Saint's East Sheen - November 26th**

In a concert celebrating their 70th year, The Barnes Choir will be singing the *Elijah*, one of the most beautiful of Oratorios.

[More info here.](#)

## Music's back at The Bull



The Music Room at The Bull's Head has had a major revamp and re-opened just in time for the treat that is The London Jazz Festival. Our pick of the gigs this month are all Jazz Festival Performances.

Simon Spillet is an amazing jazz saxophonist and his gig on November 11 will be paying tribute to the legendary Tubby Hayes. Next up is the beautiful singing of Katriona Taylor on November 12. She'll be giving out a laid back vibe with her Bossa Nova special. And finally do not miss saxophonist Art Themen on Friday November 18 he's a true British jazz legend.

## Christmas is coming



Now's the time to start planning for Christmas. Here's our guide to the hottest Christmas tickets in Barnes.

**The St Mary's Christmas Fair**  
**Saturday November 9, 10am to 3pm**

Just the place to go to for Christmas gifts and cards, craft stalls, bric-a-brac and home baking.

**Panto: The Wizard of Oz, Barnes Community Players**  
**at The Kitson Hall**

**Tuesday November 29 to Saturday December 3**

Come with Dorothy on her magical journey to Oz. Help give advice to Scarecrow; hinder the Wicked Witch and her Cat; warn Tinman and Lion as they face perils on the yellow brick road; and so much more.

[Find out more.](#)

**Talk of the Town Christmas Revue**  
**The OSO December 1**

Join a team of West End performers celebrating the tradition of London's famous "Talk of the Town" musical revue featuring some special Holiday songs, guaranteed to get you in the festive spirit. Expect popular Broadway and West End numbers, blues & jazz while you enjoy a drink and a sharing board.

[Find out more](#)

**Panto: Cinderella at The OSO**

**Wednesday December 7 to Wednesday December 21**

Cinderella dreams of attending one of the Prince's lavish balls... But when, with the help of her hairy-fairy godmother, her wish is granted, she is shocked to discover that the Palace has not been entirely honest in their public communications. Prepare your cheers, boos, and glass shoes for a twist on the nation's favourite fairytale.

[Find out more.](#)

**Homestart Christmas Concert, St Mary's Barnes**

**Wednesday November 30**

This is the way to start Christmas. A lovely carol service with readings by local celebrities, all raising funds for a hugely worthwhile charity.

[Find out more.](#)

**The BCA Christmas Festival**

**December 4-9**

Starting off with the annual Turkey Run on December 4 the BCA's festival will also include special events in White Hart Lane on December 6 and on Barnes High Street on December 9. We'll give you more info in the next Bugle but now's the time to put the dates in your diary.

[Find out more](#)

# Talking the talk



**October 11, 7.30pm**  
**Barnes Philosophy Club,**  
**The OSO**

For those who say philosophy is dry and dull, the Barnes Philosophy Society is the ultimate antidote. In its recent seasons it has been exploring the contemporary issues that vex us all and finding that there's nothing new under the sun. Great minds have been examining conundrums such as 'what is personal identity?' well before social media ever reared its ugly/lovely head. This month's talk sees Professor Andrew Ward tackle the thorny issue of identity.

[Find out more here.](#)

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**November 17, 8.00pm**

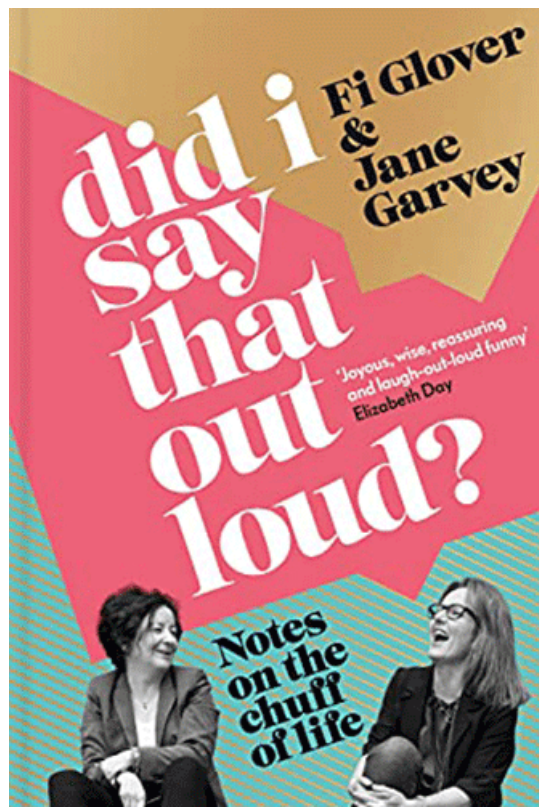
**The BBC, A People's History**

**St Mary's Church**

Historian David Hendy is giving a talk on his latest book *The BBC: A People's History* in the year that the corporation marks its centenary.

Taking the audience through the ark of his 'ground-breaking and deeply researched' book, he will chart the organisation from 1920s start-up to the behemoth it is today. It's a story with a grand sweep but he goes behind official histories with vignettes of everyday life at the BBC from the men in charge to those involved in day-to-day radio and TV production. [Find out more here.](#)

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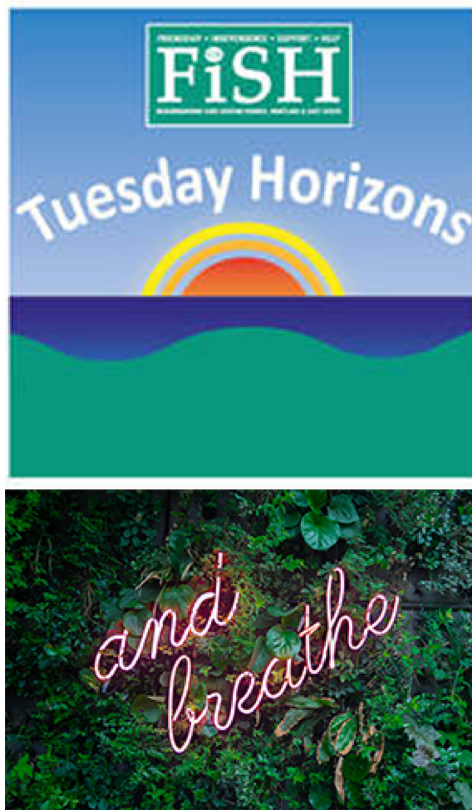
**November 22, 8pm**  
**Barnes Literary Society**  
**St Mary's Church**

*Did I say that out loud? Notes on the chuff of life* is a collection of sharp, candid and very funny essays from award-winning broadcasters Fi Glover and Jane Garvey. They take modern life by its elasticated waist and give it a brisk going over with a stiff brush. They riff together on the chuff of life, from pet deaths to broadcasting hierarchies, via the importance of hair dye, the perils and pleasures of judging other women, and the perplexing overconfidence of chino-wearing middle-aged white men named Roger.

[Find out more here.](#)

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**Every Tuesday, 11am**  
**FiSH Talks**  
**The Barnes Green Centre**

- **November 8th** - Mike Hildesley: Barnes Common - history and conservation on our doorstep
- **November 15th** - Isobel Williams: Sir Clements Robert Markham: FRGS FRS (1839-1916) - Success or Failure?
- **November 22nd** - Patricia Perry: Breath and Stress
- **November 29th** - Katy Makepeace-Gray: The Barnes Fund

[Find out more here.](#)

## About the Bugle

The Barnes Village Bugle is an independent publication. People often think it's produced by the Barnes Community Association, but no, they have their own excellent email Prospect Plus.

At the Bugle we endeavour to simply report what's going on in Barnes in as comprehensive and entertaining a way as possible. We have no agenda apart from spreading the word about the huge number of genuinely interesting things happening in and around Barnes and sharing information about local campaigns and news events.

If you have a story you would like to see featured in the Bugle do email us by clicking [here](#).

We can't guarantee that we'll run it, but if we think it's going to be interesting to our readers then we'll publish your information. If on the other hand you want to publicise a commercial venture then it's easy to advertise with us. Our mailing list has well over 4,000 subscribers so you'll reach lots of people in Barnes very inexpensively.

The Bugle is a labour of love, not a profit-making venture. We pay to send it out and our mailing costs are covered by the fantastic support we get from Winkworth and our other advertisers. We'd love to get more advertising as that would at least go some way into covering the costs of our time, so if you advertise with us you'll not only be reaching a large audience you'll be keeping a local resource going.

At the Bugle we endeavour to check information for accuracy to the best of our abilities. However we are reliant on information provided to us by third parties. On occasion, dates and times of events may be subject to change and we would urge Bugle readers wishing to attend events, or use a service mentioned to verify information in advance. Where possible we provide links to websites to allow readers to double check the most recent information available, as details can be subject to change.

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