



Support: Mayor Martin Seymour at the gallery

All set for arts festival

A pop-up art gallery at Richmond Road's former Lyric Palace Cinema is brimming with artwork and culture as a taster of what is to come during next month's ARthouse festival.

The pop-up shop will open from 10am to 4.30pm on Tuesday to Saturday until July 10, when the festival begins. ARthouse is a project from Richmond Council's arts service and received funding from the Mayor of London's High Streets Fund.



Intake: Richmond Park Academy

More pupils at academy

Richmond Park Academy (RPA) said it will increase its intake from September 2015 to accommodate more students.

Parents unable to secure a place for their child at the school gave impassioned pleas to headteacher Lesley Kirby, who decided to approach the local authority and ask for an additional class for the next cohort.

The school has created an extra 30 places for year 7 in the 2015-16 academic year.

Ms Kirby said: "As headteacher, I do not have control over admissions. However, we at RPA felt very strongly that we had to offer what we could to support our local community.

"We are very happy that our approach was successful and look forward to welcoming an additional 30 students in September.

"All parents should be assured that we have the staffing, facilities and resources to enable us to do this."

Flight path concerns

Campaigners from Heathrow, Gatwick and London City airport action groups joined forces to deliver a letter to Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin demanding a voice for residents over changes to flight paths.

The groups, which included representatives from Teddington Action Group, Hacan, GACC and newly formed Caian, signed the letter outlining their frustration with "unacceptable and undemocratic" air space management and air traffic control arrangements and delivered it on Tuesday.

The move followed anger over changes to flight paths over recent years including trials at Heathrow that sparked a record number of complaints.

The letter urged Mr McLoughlin to take action to help minimise the impact of aircraft noise on communities and to ensure the Government prioritises the wellbeing of residents over the profits of the aviation industry.

Chairman of campaign group Hacan, John Stewart, was critical of National Air Traffic Control (Nats) and



Special delivery: Campaigners from Heathrow, Gatwick and London City airports

the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), organisations which are driving future airspace changes.

He said: "Nats and CAA are remote from residents. They plan these flight path

changes in their high-tech ivory towers. Our letter to the Transport Secretary contains positive proposals for flight paths that could work for both the industry and for residents."

£30k grant to improve understanding of deer

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A project that will share the history of Richmond Park's deer has received a grant of more than £30,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

The Hearsam Collection, based at Pembroke Lodge, has created Deer in the City to highlight the importance of protecting the royal park's unique landscape and the creatures within it.

The project will outline how deer have become an essential part of the park since it was opened and how they have survived in an urban growing landscape for more than 400 years.

It is hoped the project, which gained £30,600 from HLF, will promote a greater care towards the wild animals and the park environment.

Daniel Hearsam, chairman of the Hearsam Collection, said: "We are thrilled to have received the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund for our Deer in the



Running wild: Deer in Richmond Park

City project, which focuses on the historic role that deer have played at Richmond Park since Charles I introduced them in 1637.

"It enables us to deliver an exciting programme of in-care activities at the park and also online, including an exhibition and special events."

The programme of activities including an exhibition showing how the presence of the deer had shaped the park in the past four

centuries, talks from experts and heritage walks from the Friends of Richmond Park. Children and families are also invited to enjoy the project with hands-on workshops and arts and crafts related to the deer.

An exhibition of Deer in the City also takes place at Pembroke Lodge from July 2015 to January 2016.

Stuart Hoble, head of Heritage Lottery Fund London, said: "London is one

of the greenest cities in Europe and our natural heritage is home to an amazing array of landscapes and habitats, and a whole menagerie of plants and animals. We are delighted to support the Deer in the City project that will stimulate people's interest in both the park and the fascinating history of its most iconic residents."

For more information on the project, visit hearsamcollection.org.uk.



Good sports: Isabella Montagna with Roger Black and SportAid supporters

Grant for gym talent

A schoolgirl gymnast from Orleans Park School collected a grant award from SportAid at the May Fair Hotel on May 28.

Isabella Montagna, a year 11 student, was presented with the award by Olympians Roger Black and Steve Backley and Commonwealth decathlon silver-medallist Ashley Bryant.

Improving road safety

The safety of a main road in Kew could be greatly improved with a host of works.

Residents of Sandycombe Road have previously raised concerns with Richmond Council about vehicle speeds, pedestrian safety, congestion and collisions on the busy road.

The residential road, which has numerous bus stops and parked cars frequently narrowing the carriageway, often presents difficulties for drivers to pass one another and often have to accelerate quickly to get through pinch points.

The council has now launched a consultation about a number of safety improvement proposals and is asking residents for their views on the suggested measures.

The safety improvements which could be made include the introduction of yellow lines to create a passing area opposite Temple Road and raising sections of the road to slow down accelerating vehicles.

Bus shelters are also proposed to move to line up with existing bus stops and partial pavement parking on the western side of the road is proposed.

The consultation, which was launched last week, asks residents to state whether they agree or disagree with the proposed improvements and whether there were any other issues within the road that should be considered.

Councillor Stephen Speak, cabinet member for highways, said people had expressed concerns about the situation in the busy road, and said he was delighted the council was moving towards taking action.

He said: "Our proposals aim to improve the street scene in a way that allow motorists and cyclists to progress safely down the road, whilst ensuring the safety of pedestrians on the pavement and crossing the road.

"I encourage residents, particularly those in Kew and north Richmond, to have their say online now."

If the consultation is successful, works will begin later this year.

To give your views, visit richmond.gov.uk/council_consultations by June 26.

Rape charge

A man from Teddington has been charged with attempted rape following an incident in Maidenhead on May 28. Jeffrey Kachila, 18, of Addison Road, was arrested on May 31 and will appear at Slough Magistrates' Court on June 30.