



## We think we all know about the advantages of living in Hampton. But did you ever think having a heart attack would be one of them?

Although there are life-saving devices at local organisations such as Hampton Pool, Hampton & Richmond Borough Football Club and some schools, they are not available for use 'after hours'. Hampton is now leading the way in the Richmond borough to be so well supplied with life-saving defibrillators that are available for use 24 hours a day. Three have recently been installed around the village and a fourth one is proposed.



Inspired by our Hampton Village Traders Association (HVTA), the project's £7,000 cost for the first three came through donations from generous local businesses and organisations, including The Hampton Society, and also some of the proceeds of the Classics on the Green show (and associated raffle).

Because these machines must be easily accessible you'll find them in cabinets already installed on outside walls at the White House (seen above on the wall bounding the café facing the car park); at Hampton Social Club on Ashley Road (opposite the station) and at Hampton Ferry's boathouse (opposite The Bell pub). Siting the fourth defibrillator at Hampton Green, scene of so many of our fun events, is not so simple. There is no electricity on the site so the search is on for a suitable outside wall. *Continued on page 3...*



*The defibrillators are protected within these bright green boxes. Phone assistance is always on hand and the boxes can be unlocked after calling 999 or 112 and following instructions from the Ambulance service.*

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# Notes from the Chair



**What a lovely summer we have had this year. The amazing hot weather has made me appreciate our wonderful surroundings even more.**

Whether I was taking pictures of the locations of the community funded 24/7 life saving defibrillators; walking beside the Longford river in the woodland

gardens of Bushy Park; enjoying the sell out Summer Picnic Concerts and swimming in the open air at Hampton Pool; or ambling along the Thames footpath and looking back at Hampton after crossing the river on the ferry, the sunshine really brings out the best in the area.

I walk into Bushy Park most lunchtimes and, although I love the way that the scenery changes through the seasons, it is the warmer months that I really enjoy. But as the nights start to draw in, it indicates that our programme of fascinating talks on local history (and more) will resume. I hope you manage to make some of them this year if you have not been to one before.

## Safe as houses?

Representing the Society, I regularly attend HVTA meetings. Unfortunately our shopkeepers have been subject to a series of recent burglaries, some of which follow a very similar pattern. The last traders' meeting was attended by Constable Ian Salmond and Police Liaison Officer John Murray. They reported that contrary to the traders' concerns, Hampton is not experiencing a crime wave, but is, on average, no better or worse than any other area in the borough. So don't be overly anxious, but also don't be complacent by overlooking the basics. Make sure your house is secure and don't forget to lock your back doors and windows. This alone should be just enough to put off this type of opportunist.

William Redfern, Chair

## Royal Mail's Delivery Office Relocation

**It's been confirmed. From March 2019 Hampton residents needing to collect their mail from our local delivery office in Rosehill will have to travel to Ashford instead.**

People not at home when over-sized or signed-for mail deliveries arrive will have to make an eight-mile round trip to the distant delivery office instead. If they don't drive, the 216 bus from Hampton station must serve.

But unlike the practice at Rosehill, where such mail can only be collected daily until noon (except Sundays), the Ashford office will also remain open on Wednesdays only until 8.00pm *and* between 11.00am and 3.00pm on Sundays. There is parking for a few vehicles there, including one for disabled drivers.

We must interpret this last concession as a sweetener to Hampton residents, for most of whom, Royal Mail claims, "There will be no impact on deliveries to our customers as a result of this move." It is an action needed to "modernise operations and provide better and fit for purpose facilities for our customers and our people".

The press release from Royal Mail explains the move thus: "We have explored options for retaining a mail collection facility in Hampton using nearby Post Office branches but they do not meet our requirements for safeguarding mail integrity, nor do they have sufficient space to securely store mail awaiting collection." Readers will recollect in our March newsletter that the main reason for the move was the inability of the existing Rosehill office, built in 1960, to cope with the increase in mail volume.

For more detailed information, Royal Mail recommends consulting the "Something for You" card when left or by visiting its website at [www.royalmail.com/redelivery](http://www.royalmail.com/redelivery).

Finally, it stresses no job losses among the 30 or so staff are expected as a result of the move to Ashford. **THS**

## News

### Hampton Riviera Pontoons – Council Victory

**It took the combined powers of Richmond Council, the Environment Agency, both the Met. and River Police plus marine engineers and dive specialists to remove piles and pontoons and restore the Hampton Riviera bank of the Thames to its former glory.**

For more than three years, the council has tried to enforce breaches of planning law at this particular stretch of the river between Huck's boatyard and the bridge to Taggs Island. The boatyard's owner tried to sell the site as a residential marina with pontoons stretching out into the river. Long-term mooring rights were offered to luxury boat-owners along with sundecks set off with tropical plants.



Enforcement notices requiring the owner to remove his work failed: despite losing his appeal he took no action. But the council did, bringing on the aforementioned heavies, quite literally, to remove the offending structures right down to the river-bed. Piles were driven in down to the bottom, cut off by the underwater dive team and hoisted from the river. Electrical and water services fed from the pontoons were disconnected.

The owner had made a last-ditch appeal to prevent the work, but Kingston County Court dismissed it and work began to remove the structures on 30 July.

With the natural riverbed reinstated, the council intends charging the cost of their works back to Huck's owner and are considering further enforcements for the site.

Hampton councillor Gareth Roberts, Richmond Council's new leader, has been involved in the battle from the start. He describes the result as "a great victory for the determination and doggedness of both residents and council alike" and continues "I very much hope this is the end of an incredibly distressing and destructive period in the history of our beloved River Thames." **THS**



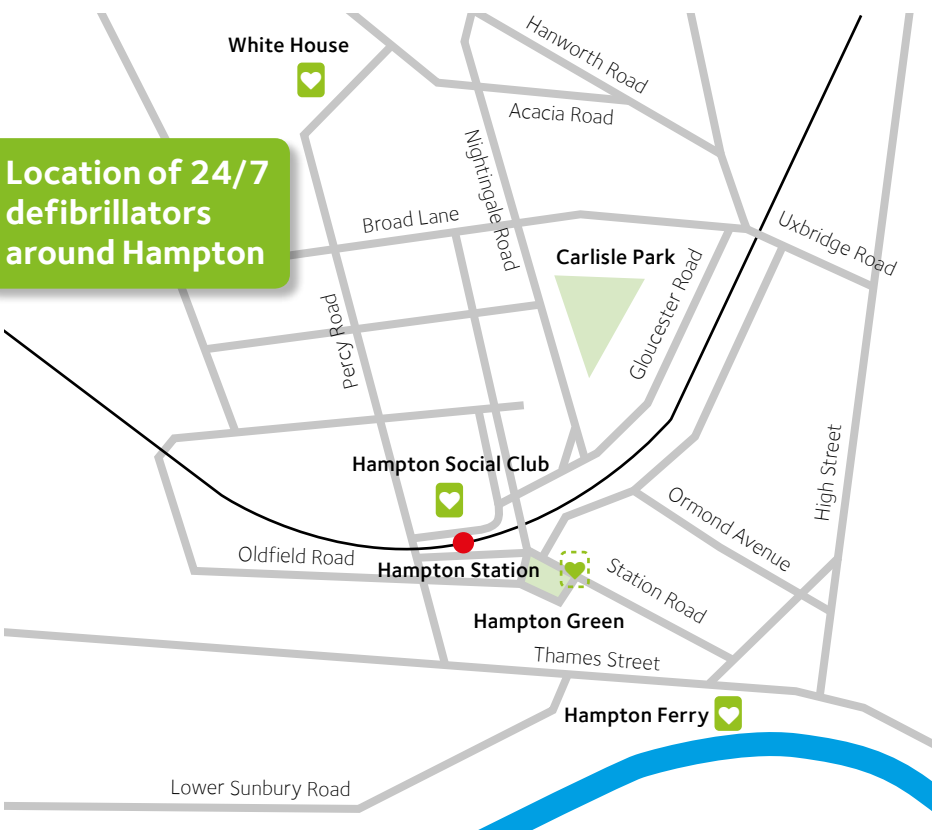
# Defibrillators for Hampton

Continued from front page



The defibrillators have been sited where they will be easily accessible. This one outside Hampton Social Club is opposite Hampton Station ticket office.

So what are the chances of these potential life-savers being used in Hampton? Sally Hornsey of Plush Folly, who had originally suggested the initiative to the HVTA, asked around for any instances of heart attacks among people out and about in the village. Three could be readily recollected of which two were fatal. The single success was the one where Hampton Junior School's defibrillator was brought into service – not for one of the pupils, note.



"Defibrillators are hugely important since they can save a life" explains Sally. "If someone has a cardiac arrest, a defibrillator cannot cause more harm, but it can help them. We're fortunate to have this life-saving equipment supplied entirely by kind donations and hard work from local businesses."

Sally tells us although the user instructions are very clear and simple, the Association will be meeting later in September to organise training sessions for anyone interested in using the defibrillators.

For more information about attending one of these training sessions, please ring **Sally Hornsey** on **020 8979 5478**. **THS**

## About your committee

The committee is the governing body of The Hampton Society. It consists of elected officers and six ordinary committee members. We meet four times a year to discuss current issues that affect the community to see where we can make a contribution. We also organise talks, visits and events for our members.

Any member of the Society is eligible to join the committee and can stand for election at our Annual General Meeting in April. If you are interested in joining the committee and playing a part in the Society and Hampton's development, please contact the secretary below.

## Committee members

### Chair

William Redfern 020 8286 7071

### Deputy chair

Iacopo Sassi 07761 670911

### Secretary

Rosemary Hill 020 8973 3604

### Treasurer

Brian Brignall 020 8979 9499

### Membership

Trisha Shirt 020 8941 5162

### Newsletter editor

Maura Waters 020 8979 9654

### Other committee members

Alice Fordham 020 8979 3543

Sylvia Bridge Le Cluse 020 8941 4450

Christine Paganelli 020 8941 5927

Tricia Mole 020 8941 2126

Contact us at **enquiries**

@**thehamptonsociety.org.uk**

## Update on Membership

### Have you paid your 2018/19 subs yet, due back on 1 May?

Many members pay by standing order but 30% of over 600 members have yet to pay. To receive your green membership card and 18/19 programme details, please use the application form available from [www.thehamptonsociety.org.uk](http://www.thehamptonsociety.org.uk) or phone **Trisha** on **020 8941 5162** if this is a problem.

Newsletter production:

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Our thanks go to all photographic contributions.

Fundraising Christmas cards

## Christmas Cards available now

Make sure to place your order for this year's Christmas cards with Trisha Shirt on 020 8941 5162 as soon as you can to avoid disappointment. Our popular cards of local scenes sell out quickly.

This year's cards that capture Hampton during our visit from the 'Beast from the East' were voted for by attendees at our Society Summer Party.

At just £5 for a pack of ten, our unique cards are a genuine bargain. They are available from any of our committee members and we will also be selling them in selected local shops including Hampton Cellar on Station Approach. **THS**



This year's cards feature St Mary's church from the garden of Garrick's Temple to Shakespeare by Lew Lloyd and the old Police Station on Station Road by William Redfern.

## Events calendar

**Our talks are free to members but please bring your membership cards**

Due to the popularity of our talks and events and the size of our venues, we may have to turn people away if we run out of room. Arrive early to avoid disappointment.

### No email address?

If you want to be informed of the latest event information but don't have access to a computer, please contact Alice Fordham on 020 8979 3543 and she will try to call you directly.

## 2018

### October

#### Final talk on World War I

Wednesday 10 October 7.30pm for 8.00pm start

We have asked Paula Kitching to give us one last talk to cover the final year of the Great War, 100 years ago, at St Mary's community hall.

#### Connoisseur tour of Turner's house, by Catherine Parry-Wingfield.

Wednesday 24 October 10.45am for 11.00am start

**Limited to 12 people\***. Meet there: Sandycombe Lodge, 40 Sandycombe Road, Twickenham, TW1 2LR. £12 admission.

\*The tour is now fully booked (including the second on Thursday 25 October). Rosemary Hill has a waiting list and another tour may be arranged at a later date.

### November

#### Tracy Borman talk on Henry VIII

Thursday 8 November 7.30pm **DATE CONFIRMED**

Tracy will give one of her fascinating talks on her new book about Henry VIII and the men who made him, at St Mary's community hall.

### December

#### The King's Chocolate Kitchen (see right)

Thursday 6 December 7.30pm for 8.00pm start

Marc Meltonville, Royal Palace Food Historian, will be giving a talk that should get us into the Christmas mood! At St Mary's community hall.

Events

## New Day for Christmas Celebrations

SAT  
**8**  
DEC

This year's Christmas celebrations will be on a Saturday rather than a Sunday. As the shops will not have to open especially for the event as they do on a Sunday, it means that more will be open and involved in the event.



Go on, throw in a pound. It all goes to a good cause!

We wouldn't want a clash between Santa's annual parade and Beavers fans, now would we? As this year's Christmas Celebrations in Hampton will be the first on a Saturday, it will be held on 8 December to avoid a clash with Hampton & Richmond F.C.'s home fixture the previous week. However, along with this date-change has come more expense for the traders: bus re-routing and road closures are costing them, *not the council*, around £800.

For this its ninth year, all the usual attractions will be there: Santa's train ride around the village, ending at the Scout hut and his grotto; stalls a-plenty, many of them loaded with all manner of food from burgers to curries and loads of sweets. There's to be plenty of music, too, from the likes of the Rock Choir and local schools, while pop fans can hear tributes from Phil Collins and Adele, no less (well, a bit less).

Although events like *Classic Cars* and *Screen on the Green* raise funds for it, contributions from adults attending the Christmas Parade are always welcome – especially on Santa's train.

Come along, there's everything to enjoy! **THS**

### Do you have a story to share?

Please contact our editor Maura Waters with your news on 8979 9654.

