



Autumn 2021 edition

2022 AGM
Tuesday 11 January 2022 @ 18.00
at Strand Infants' school

The Chairman's Foreword

This last six months has been a time consumed with local traffic measures. Many of you have suffered disruption and confusion over the disjointed and ill-judged traffic measures that currently exist across SOTG/RV/CS/FR in the area west of Sutton Court Road. These four separate CPZs each have separate traffic rules. As a result, SoGA is working with the Grove Park Group and other Burlington Lane and Staveley Road groups to achieve a common traffic zone stretching from Hogarth Roundabout to Chiswick and Kew Bridges bounded by the A4 to the north and the A316 to the south controlled by 9 APNR timed controlled cameras to prevent through traffic. This will NOT prevent any Chiswick resident/visitor/delivery/taxi etc. from entering the area but it will stop through traffic from the A316 to the A4 and vice versa unless a stop is made for instance at the dentist, surgeries, deli or church. It will mean that to reach Chiswick High Road residents south of the A316 will have to divert via Hogarth Roundabout as the SoGA/GPG scheme is designed to achieve a Low Traffic Neighbourhood in line with government policy. So far, the Director of traffic, Jefferson Nwokeoma, has been intransigent and will not entertain this scheme but a residents' protest forced the Council to call-in his proposal due to absence of evidence on which to base a decision/it being contrary to policy framework & not being proportionate to the desired outcome. We have also had a meeting with Nick Rogers (the Conservative London Assembly Member for Hounslow) and events may well overtake this message. The map below outlines the area we would like to be controlled by the 9 cameras.



I am at a loss to understand how low calibre councillors like Jefferson Nwokeoma, Hanif Khan and Katherine Dunne can be elected to senior positions where their own colleagues unanimously see fit to agree that their ill found and disjointed traffic scheme should be put on hold and referred back to Cabinet. Jefferson Nwokeoma's last ditch ploy to include residents east of the A316 in the white list to use Staveley Road off the A316 (not previously discussed during any of our meetings) was obviously designed to stifle critics. The announcement that cameras were not now to be installed in Thames Road and air quality monitoring equipment installed at key locations was a further indication of their scheme's shortcomings. Congratulations to all SoGA members and residents who made their feelings known prior to and outside the Council offices contributing to the five member panel Decision.

We still await with bated breath the opening of the throughway Arch under Kew Bridge. LBH & TfL lawyers are making a meal out of crossing the T's and dotting the I's over the lease agreement.

Earlier in July I learnt that there was a maintenance and repair program being scheduled for SotG footpath. A meeting was arranged and I and two other SotG residents walked the SotG footpath with LBH Officers and Councillors to highlight deficiencies in both the surface and river wall. Whilst the relevant items were noted I fear that as in 2014 any maintenance and repair including tree replacement will be piecemeal and unsatisfactory. Almost certainly my request that the surface be replaced with a bonded resin will be ignored.

SoGA has made a £50 donation to Strand Infants' School in support of their scheme to create calm and peaceful spaces for the children.

During COVID our SoGA activities and AGM meeting have been severely restricted. The Committee proposed some sort of gathering as soon as conditions permitted and accordingly we have now arranged an evening reception at The Steam Packet. The limited number of spaces were quickly taken up by members and I apologise to those who missed out but I hope that we can make amends at the AGM on Tuesday 11 January 2022 at Strand Infants' School at 18:00.

Gold at Strand on the Green

A telecommunications box on Strand on the Green has been painted gold in honour of the achievements of the British team at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. The painted box marks the staggering achievement of the team which racked up 124 medals, taking second place in the overall medals table and winning medals in more sports than any nation has ever achieved at the Paralympic Games.

Boxes have also been painted in other parts of the UK, including Belfast, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Loughborough and Stoke Mandeville.



Smile please

You may have noticed that a traffic camera was recently installed on Strand on the Green at the junction of Spring Grove. We have been approached by various members asking if this is an ANPR camera. Fear not - we understand this camera is part of the ultra-low emission scheme (often referred to as ULEZ). From 25 October 2021, ULEZ is expanding from central London up to (but not including) the North Circular and South Circular roads. Most vehicles driving in the ULEZ must meet tight



emission standards or pay the daily charge. When the ULEZ expands, the standards will stay the same, but the area covered will be 18 times larger.

The ULEZ is in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, all year round (except Christmas Day).

Latest Chiswick Riverside crime figures

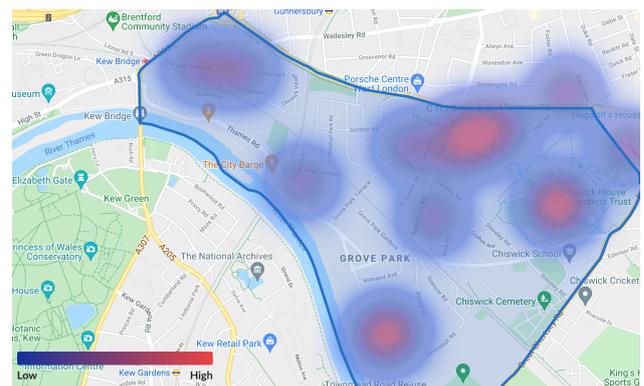
The figures below are based on the total number of crimes reported for August 2021:

<i>Theft from a vehicle</i>	14
<i>Harassment</i>	11
<i>Miscellaneous theft</i>	5

As usual, theft remains the most common crime. The most common items stolen were as follows:

<i>Leisure and sports equipment</i>	7
<i>Miscellaneous items</i>	2
<i>Tools and machinery</i>	2

Although, please note, a single case of theft could involve several items.



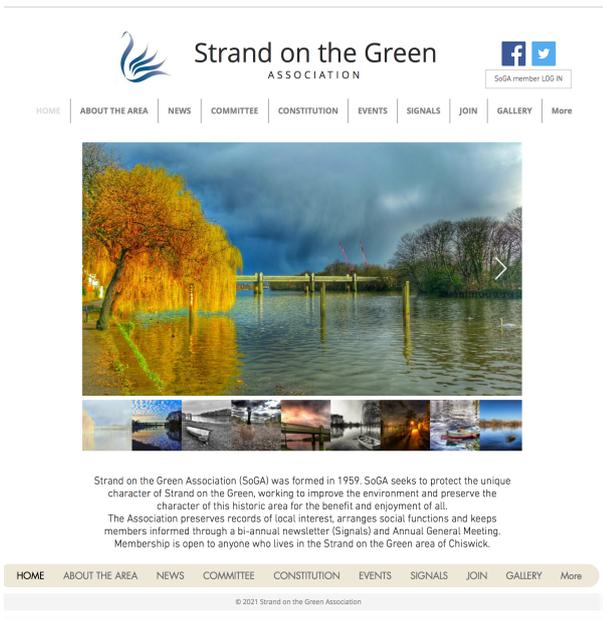
The above map shows the crime hot spots in the Riverside area for August.

SoGA social: 7 October at 6.30pm

The committee looks forward to meeting those members who signed up for our upcoming social at The Steam Packet (upstairs room). Apologies that numbers were limited to 50 on a first come first served basis.

New SoGA website

At the start of May, we spent some considerable time revamping our SoGA website (www.strandonthegreen.org.uk) and also changing our hosting provider. We do hope you like the new look. As previously, we have created a SoGA paid-up members' only forum – bizarrely only about 20 members have signed up but nobody seems to have anything to say (which can't be right!). Please do feel free to chat – there are 3 categories to choose from: 1) SoGA related; 2) Chiswick related; and 3) Everything else.



As for our Facebook group, that is open to all (i.e. whether you are a paid-up member of SoGA or not, as long as you agree to abide by the group's rules). One point to note: the purpose of the group is to discuss topics of interest that are related to the Strand on the Green area and/or SoGA's aims. It is not a forum to advertise local businesses nor to promote activities or interests unrelated to Strand on the Green.

We can be found at:
[facebook.com/groups/www.strandonthegreen.org.uk](https://www.facebook.com/groups/www.strandonthegreen.org.uk)



We are also on Twitter at: twitter.com/strand_on

A message from Chiswick Riverside police

Autumn has arrived, the days are getting cooler and shorter and the evenings are getting darker earlier, which often leads to an increase in residential burglaries. Improving your home security reduces the chance of you becoming the victim of a burglar so make sure your home is secure.

Burglars are opportunistic and observant; they will look for homes with windows or doors left open, or with vulnerable features they can exploit.

When you leave your home it's important to ensure you leave it as secure as possible.

What to do before you leave your home:

- Close and lock all your doors and windows, even if you are only going out for a few minutes.
- Set your burglar alarm.
- Make sure the side and/or back gate is locked.
- Lock your shed or garage.
- Make sure that any valuables are not in sight.
- Use automatic timer-switches to turn a light on after dark so that your home appears occupied. This is particularly important during the winter months when the days are much shorter.
- Put keys out of reach of letterboxes.
- In the evening, shut the curtains and leave some lights on.
- Never leave car documents or ID in obvious places such as kitchens or hallways.

If you are going to be away for days or weeks at a time, you will need to take additional action, such as cancelling newspaper and milk deliveries. Consider asking your neighbours to close curtains, or park on your drive. Use a timer device to automatically turn lights and a radio on at night.

You can find more burglary prevention advice for your home and garage/shed at: <https://www.met.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/protect-home-crime/>

Callum Norris

Senior Office Assistant

Email: c741575@met.police.uk

Can you spare some time?

Strand on the Green schools are looking for reading volunteers. If you are interested then please call (020 8994 7921) or email the school office at office@strandin.hounslow.sch.uk with your details.



Then and now



44-47 Strand on the Green circa 1930



44-47 Strand on the Green in 2021

Excerpt from A Victorian Legacy by Jennifer Buckle

At the turn of the (20th) century, Strand on the Green was a thriving waterside village dominated by the river Thames. The Thames influenced not only the lives of the community but in its often unpredictable ebb and flow affected the very house in which they lived. Every house along the Strand had a tideboard at the door and sandbags ready for when an unusually high tide was not prepared to

content itself with merely lapping over the footpath but tried to assault the wall of the house themselves. The river itself presented both excitement to the children and ever present danger to the very young who had not yet learnt to be afraid of it. In 1908 a two year-old, Winnie Mancey, realised her mother's worst fears when she ran down Post Office Alley straight into the water. She was in imminent danger of being swept away by the tide when a young shopkeeper from the Post Office, Bill Winslade, saw her and with great presence of mind, used the shop blind hook to hook her out and then carried her back to her mother at 2 Post Office Alley. Mrs Mancey for her part was doubly alarmed since the child appeared to be covered in blood, fortunately only the dye from her red dress. Winnie was taken home and dried and after a good nights' sleep was none the worse for her adventure, other than it left her with a lifelong dread of the water.

PLA Harbour Revision Order

SoGA has been made aware of a recent PLA harbour revision order. The PLA are seeking to amend the 1968 Act under which they operate, extending their powers quite extensively.

An issue concerning local riparian residents and the Sailing Club is that they are trying to change the rules under which residents can moor dinghies on the foreshore. Currently any mooring that existed before 1857 can remain and if the PLA wish to remove it, it is for the PLA to prove that the mooring did not exist in 1857.

They wish to switch the burden of proof so that the mooring can only remain if the owner can prove (on a balance of probabilities) that it was there in 1857 and that the owner has rights to use the land on which any boat sits at low tide. Obviously, this effectively prevents moored dinghies in the future.

It is theoretically possible to apply for a new licence, but the PLA has no duty to grant such a licence and if it does so charges for it are entirely at its discretion.

SoGA has written in support of those who are writing letters of objection which have to be submitted during the first week of October.

Plants for Wellbeing

Strand on the Green Junior and Infants' school requested help to create calm and peaceful spaces at their school through the donation of house plants. SoGA in partnership with The Steam Packet kindly purchased plants in a variety of shapes and sizes for all of the classes to enjoy.



We wish the children and staff a tranquil year ahead.

How NOT to have a Canal Boat trip

My esteemed Chairman having extended me a 'three line whip', since I did not have any local news to give you, I thought I would pen a few words about my recent 'holiday'.

On a Friday morning in September, my wife and I set off for Skipton in Yorkshire, where we and four others had rented a canal boat for a week. This would be our third attempt to navigate the Pennine parts of the Leeds & Liverpool canal. Three years ago we had been stymied by a lack of spring rain which stopped the operation of the locks, initially to the west and as the drought continued, to the east as well. That had left us with a total distance of some 17+ miles between locks, going initially west to Gargrave, turning round coming back through Skipton and proceeding almost to the famous 'Bingley Five' set of locks, before turning again.



Bingley Five

Fortunately it was only a short train journey further to Saltaire, named after the mill owner Sir Titus Salt, who built both the mill and the local workmen's cottages in the 19th century, so they wouldn't have far to commute. Saltaire is a Unesco world heritage site and Salts Mill has been converted into an amazing venue combining shops that sell rugs and wallpapers in the basement and the ground floor is a mixture of books on art and a vast gallery displaying the works of David Hockney.

Earlier this year, we had to postpone our second attempt to cross the Pennines when covid restrictions intervened. Third time lucky we hoped. Come Saturday morning we once again passed through Gargrave heading west and spent the night near Bank Newton after navigating through several locks. Sunday was lovely as we meandered more south than west still climbing past the last 'uphill' lock. At East Marton, we joined a group of canal boat owners making music on the bank.

On Monday we reached Foulridge Tunnel north of Colne. It is just over a mile long, the entrance for the canal boats being light controlled at each end. Imagine our surprise when 20 yards or so from the southern end, a northbound boat suddenly appeared. Fortunately by shouting and using our horn to warn the single crewed boat, we just stopped before colliding.



Approximately ¼ mile to go

Having turned round we went back through the tunnel, this time uneventfully and after a leisurely northerly passage past Barnoldswick, where Rolls Royce make the high tech fan blades for their jet

engines, we tied up just shy of the first of the 'downhill' locks.

Next morning we moved forward to the lock entrance, I dropped off my four 'lock crew' and entered the lock. Fairly shortly after the water started flowing out of the paddles at the lock gate by the bow, I realised that my rudder must be caught on the cill in front of the lock gate behind me, because the bow was starting to dip. I shouted to those ashore to close the forward paddles to stop any more water leaving the lock, and to open the stern paddles to permit more water in, which in theory would re-float the boat off the cill. Quite what went wrong after that is a matter of conjecture but the boat continued to sink at the bow and then started to tilt to port.



All a bit of a disaster, but the good news was that four Canal & River Trust staff arrived very quickly together with an efficient team from the canal boat company. By 1600 all our water-soaked possessions were ashore, the engine had been re-started, the sun was shining on a very hot day and we had been served bacon, avocado and tomato sandwiches and coffee from a café about 50 feet away.

By the following morning the boat was back at its home base and they hope to have it back in service only 10 days after the incident.

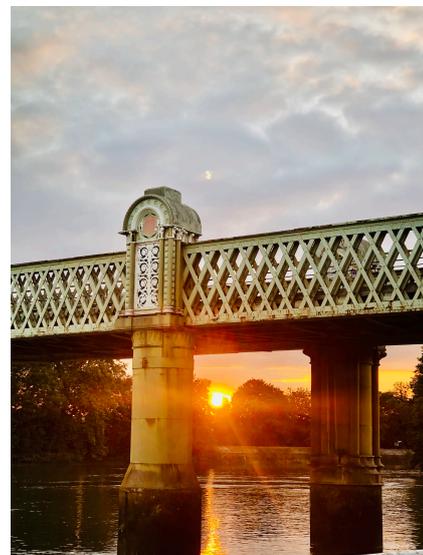


Some of our retrieved possessions

Don't let this incident put you off narrow boating. This is about the eighth one we have done with good friends and have had some memorable trips...but maybe this will have been our last! CLH

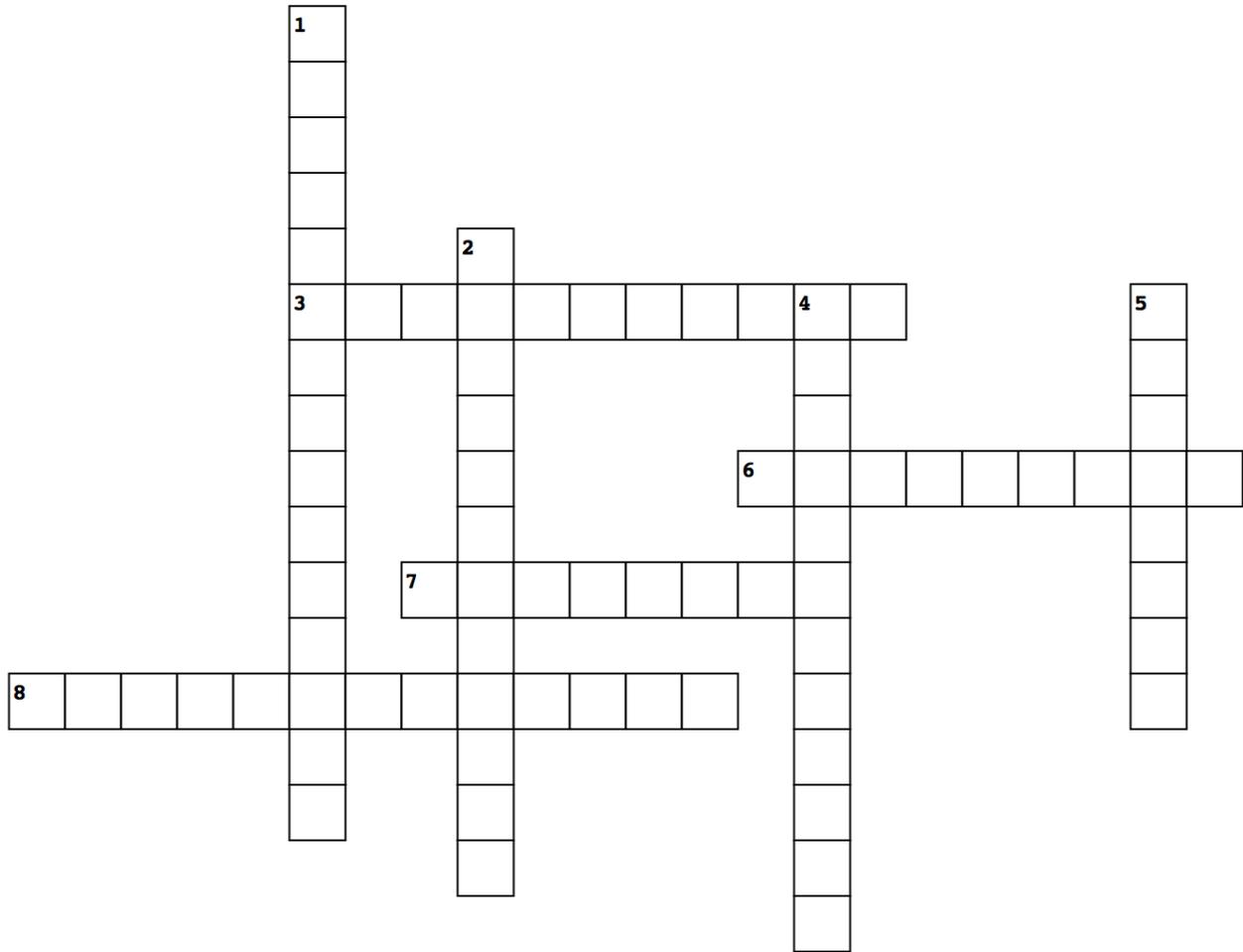
Contributions please!

Please feel free to contact any member of the SoGA committee with suggestions for articles for future editions of Signals.



Strand sunset, 22 September 2021

Crossword: The famous (past) faces of Strand on the Green



Across

- 3. Welsh poet who occasionally stayed at Ship Cottage
- 6. Butterflies and Bread
- 7. When Ultravox meets Band Aid
- 8. 18th century painter

Down

- 1. Actor best known for spooky movies including the Hallowe'en series
- 2. Authoress who wrote The Pursuit of Love
- 4. 1980s model and TV personality
- 5. Humorist, well-known for his writing in Private Eye magazine and for television comedy

With thanks to Riverhomes for printing copies of Signals for us.

RIVERHOMES

With thanks to Alan McBride for the front page photograph.

ACROSS
 3. Dylan Thomas
 6. Carla Lane
 7. Midge Ure
 8. Johann Zoffany

DOWN
 1. Donald Pleasence
 2. Nancy Mitford
 4. Anabel Giles
 5. John Bird