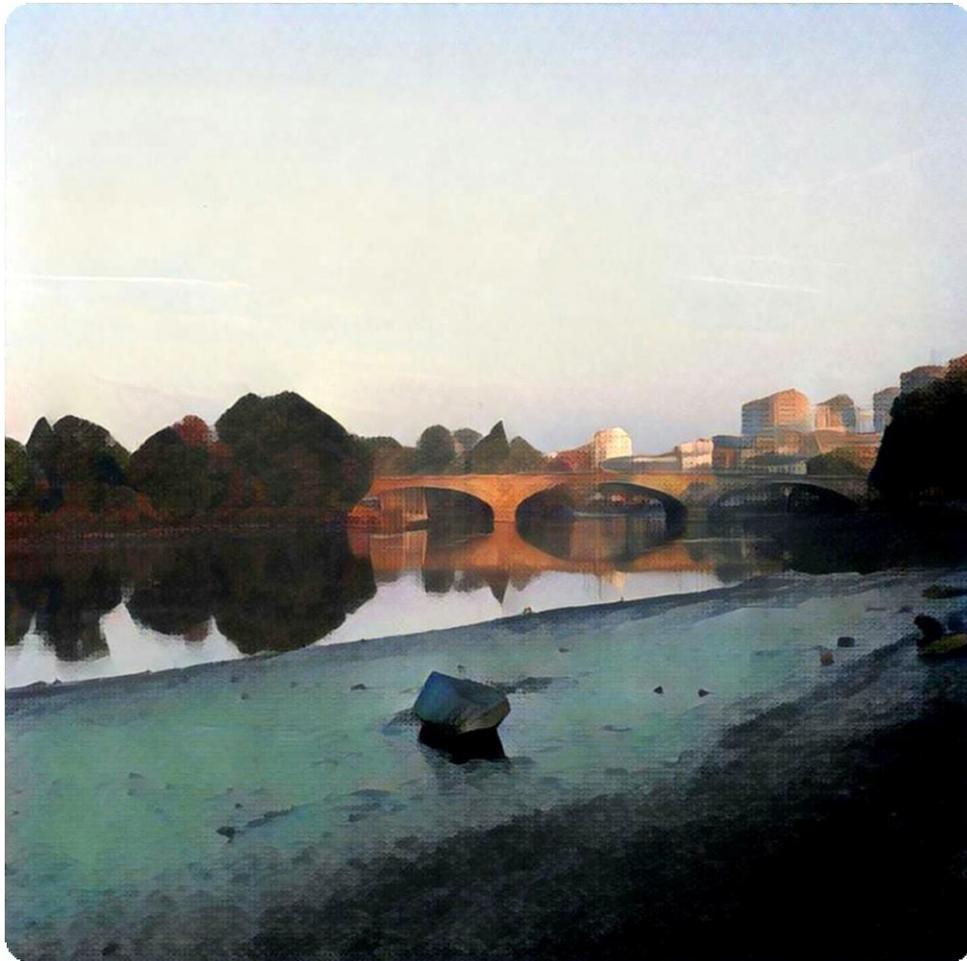


SOGA   
Strand on the Green Association



Autumn 2016 edition

**AGM – Wednesday 11 January 2017 at 7pm**  
Strand on the Green Junior School  
(Brooks Lane entrance)

## The Chairman's Foreword

Welcome to this edition of *Signals*.

### *Kew Bridge Arch*

SoGA is continuing its discussions with the Environment Agency, LBH, TfL and St George to have an Arch under Kew Bridge opened as a throughway for disabled carriages and pedestrians. We are beginning to see results in that a number of Councillors are now supporting the scheme. In the meantime, St George has proceeded with its cheapskate cosmetic upgrade to the steps under Kew Bridge putting in visibility strips in each step, a new handrail and some lighting - all in all a thoroughly wasteful addition to the Kew Bridge development's Section 106 planning condition.



*St George's cosmetic upgrade*

### *Along the towpath*

The loss of the large willow tree along the Strand has been the subject of diverse comments ranging from a disastrous loss to what a welcome lift to both up and downstream views from along the Strand. It now remains to resolve responsibility for the removal of the stump and repair to the footpath.



*All that remains*

To that end, SoGA has posted a petition with LBH asking them to provide funds for the repair and resurfacing of the footpath. Although we have already achieved over 90 signatures (the number needed before it will be put before Councillors for deliberation), if you have not already done so then we should be grateful if you would sign up at: <http://petitions.hounslow.gov.uk/SotGfootpath>.

### *The Recreation Ground*

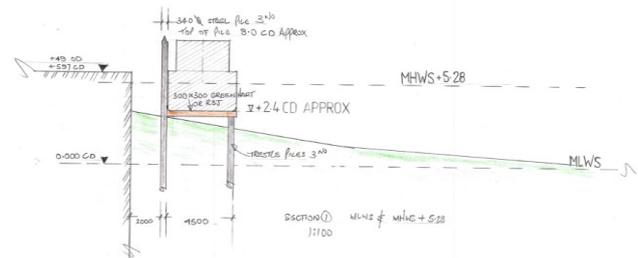
A new notice board has been placed in the recreation ground and members and residents are invited to post advertisements, notices and announcements etc. Please email these to: [info@strandonthegreen.org.uk](mailto:info@strandonthegreen.org.uk).

### *Local planning developments*

There are now a myriad of developments being proposed locally in Brentford - not only the Brentford Football Club in Lionel Road but also Capital Interchange, Wheatstone House, The Golden Mile, Chiswick Roundabout and Brentford Leisure Centre. In all instances SoGA is supporting the other local resident groups in their representations to the LBH planners.

### *Residential mooring application*

SoGA (along with many members and residents) has lodged its opposition to the application put to the PLA for a permanent residential mooring opposite Cafe Rouge at Steam Packet steps.



*Sketch of the proposal at Steam Packet steps*

Finally I would like to congratulate the committee members who organised and thank the members who volunteered to help in making the Summer Party such a success this year. If you have any new ideas for next year's party then get in touch with us at: [info@strandonthegreen.org.uk](mailto:info@strandonthegreen.org.uk).

I look forward to meeting you at the AGM on 11 January 2017.

### Wheelie bins and recycling

LBH have asked us to remind members that wheelie bins and recycling should only be placed on the pavements on Wednesday mornings. Disappointingly, certain residents are leaving bins and recycling out as early as Tuesday lunchtime. Aside from the bins making the area look unsightly, the loose bags are a magnet for foxes at night time.



*The foxes had a treat*

### Crime Prevention Event

Our local police team (in partnership with Neighbourhood Watch) is holding a crime prevention event. A talk will be given by a crime prevention officer about what simple changes you can do to make your home more secure. The talk is being held in the new Sixth Form Hall, Lampton School at 2pm on Saturday 29 October.

There will also be representatives from companies in the home security market in attendance, showcasing some of their latest products in crime prevention - ranging from cost effective simple security solutions to more significant changes you can make to improve home security.

### Are the roundels working?

Simple answer no. But are we surprised?!



We previously reported that Hounslow Council was intending to introduce 20mph zones around schools. Earlier this summer, Hounslow Highways painted three sets of 20mph roundels on Thames Road but a lot of motorists are paying zero attention to them. SoGA is liaising with Chiswick Riverside police regarding enforcement. We are grateful the police have already been down to Thames Road three times in the last few weeks to “educate” the Niki Laudas.



There is an ongoing problem with people cycling along the towpath and on the pavements of Thames Road. This is not only illegal but incredibly dangerous. SoGA has been liaising with LBH, the Chiswick Riverside police and Councillor Sam Hearn in an attempt to educate such cyclists. SoGA has requested new and clearer signage from Hounslow Highways for along the towpath and on Thames Road. Hopefully the new signs together with periodic enforcement by police officers will improve matters.

Chiswick Police Team @MPSChiswick · Oct 5  
#Riverside officers on Thames Road/Brooks Lane. Enforcing 20mph/Crossing and cycling on pavement



*Chiswick Police Team on patrol on Thames Road*

### Telecommunication boxes

You may have noticed the shocking state of most of the green telecommunication boxes in our area. SoGA is liaising with Hounslow Highways in an attempt to get these boxes repaired and repainted.



### Resurfacing Strand on the Green – or maybe not

You will have seen the NO PARKING signs on the road at the top end of Strand on the Green. Hounslow Highways had scheduled resurfacing works at the end of September. Although there were notices on lamp posts days before and then clear road markings, for whatever reason, car owners chose to ignore these signs, and as a result ended up with fines. It is likely that if there had not been so many cars, the tow truck would have been out in force.



It is our understanding that the works have been rescheduled for mid-November. We don't think Hounslow Highways will be so lenient next time!

### Strand on the Green

by Liz Wilde (SoGA member)

*Carefree folk of Chiswick  
Need not roam  
Far for conversation  
Close to home.*

*Wander down the river  
Watch the geese,  
Rapidly your friendships  
Will increase.*

*Sit awhile and view the  
Bobbing boats,  
Never will you hear more  
Anecdotes.*

*Stop to chat a moment  
By the pub,  
Soon you'll be a part of  
The book club.*

*Busy folk of Chiswick  
Please take heed –  
Concentrate your gaze and  
Move with speed!*



### Need a PA system?

Recently we purchased a portable PA system with two radio microphones and an MP3 player, mainly for use at the summer party and the AGM. The unit is designed to play music from a memory stick but it will also play music from iPods or iPhones which may be connected to the system via mini-jacks. We thought it would be a good idea to offer the system to members for their use for a small sum in return.

It would be great if by hiring the system out to members (only) we could eventually recoup the cost. It will cost a mere £30 a night to hire but we will need a £100 deposit from you until the system is returned and in full working condition.

With Christmas coming up it could be fun at parties. If you are interested then please email us at: [info@strandonthegreen.org.uk](mailto:info@strandonthegreen.org.uk).



### Even more Hounslow receptacles

In an edition of *Hounslow Matters* some months ago it was announced that Hounslow Council had been "listening" to local residents and this attention to our outpourings has resulted in the Council deciding to inflict on us more recycling receptacles to clutter up our front gardens – or if you don't have one – our homes and the streets throughout the Borough.

I am minded to campaign vociferously against these hideous receptacles, which are due to be inflicted upon us in January 2017, but can only do so if there is really strong support amongst local residents. We can all see what the effect of the grey wheelie bins has had in particular along Thames Road where the appearance of all the front gardens has become appalling. Imagine each garden with at least one red, one green and one blue box piled up at the front alongside the grey wheelies!

In my view the white plastic recycling bags, the green boxes and the blue paper recycling bags do the job well. Also they can be flattened for storage when not in use. As a resident of Spring Grove I have managed

to hide my grey wheelie behind a rose bush – the wheelie that I never use as my landfill rubbish fills just one third of a black bin bag each week. If you feel strongly about this matter then please email [info@strandonthegreen.org.uk](mailto:info@strandonthegreen.org.uk) and perhaps together we can try to stop this.

NICOLA ROBERTS

### Riverside Ward crime figures

A meeting of the Ward Panel Committee was held on 8 September. Our PCSO Paul Kingsmill advised us of the following crime figures:

	MONTH	PERIOD THIS YEAR	PERIOD LAST YEAR
<i>Burglary</i>			
	June	5	4
	July	5	7
	August	8	5
<i>Theft of Motor Vehicle</i>			
	June	2	4
	July	5	5
	August	3	9
<i>Theft from Motor Vehicle</i>			
	June	14	10
	July	9	4
	August	9	12
<i>Theft of Pedal Cycle</i>			
	June	2	9
	July	5	4
	August	1	0
<i>Criminal Damage to Motor Vehicle</i>			
	June	6	1
	July	1	3
	August	2	4

### Cleaning it up

SoGA is trying its best to persuade the various contractors responsible for different areas of Strand on the Green to deliver the services they are contracted to provide. This is proving to be a very frustrating process and whilst there have been some improvements the standard of street cleaning is still low. It also seems to be a low priority for the Council and/or Hounslow Highways or Carillion.

It is not only our area that is badly affected. The Hounslow side of Kew Bridge is strewn with cigarette butts, litter, leaves and broken glass. Weeds and grass grow happily in the dirt. This contrasts noticeably with the Richmond side of the bridge.

Whilst your committee will continue to berate the Council over the poor service, there are things that we can all do to mitigate the effects of litter on the area. Stuart (our regular street cleaner) does as good a job as time allows. The problem is that one street cleaner for the whole area is just not enough.

We will continue to battle for a better service for the area but if you have any suggestions on how we can

get the council to provide an improved service please get in touch with us.

### Memorial garden tree

During the summer, one of our committee members came across four people working hard to maintain the little garden at the south-east end of the towpath just after the fountain. He was informed that a person(s) unknown had broken the tree that they had planted in what is known to them as 'Dianne's Memorial garden'. The garden was established in memory of their late mother (Dianne Fairman) who lived in the area for 20 years. Not only have they been maintaining the flowers and shrubs in this garden for some time, but slowly they have got rid of the rather awful briar growth, until there is only a little left.

To support their public spirited work, SoGA decided to make a donation of £100 towards replanting the tree. We understand the family will be planting a silver birch sometime this Autumn.

### SoGA website forum and social media accounts

Earlier this year we introduced a forum function on our website – similar to that used on the chiswickW4.com site. Although we have had quite a lot of members signing up for usernames and passwords, everyone seems to be incredibly shy. Please do feel free to start a new thread and start talking with fellow members!



Also, please remember that we are on Twitter and Facebook. Drop by and say hello. On Twitter we are @SoGAssn and on Facebook we are at: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/SoGAssn/>



**Then and now...**

We have been adding lots of old images of Strand on the Green to our website. We realize that some members may not have access to the website so we thought we'd start including some "then and now" images in editions of *Signals*.

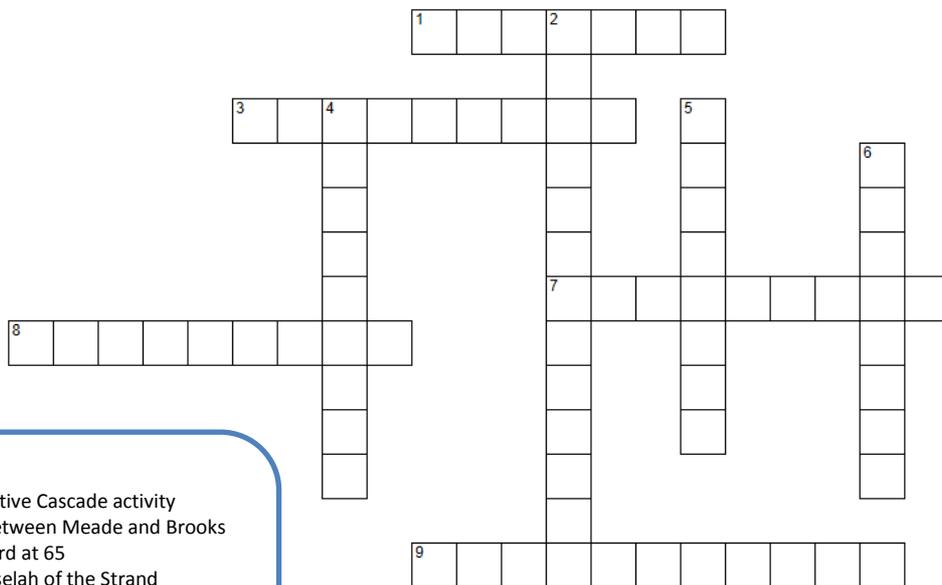


Strand End circa 1920



Strand End in 2016

**Strand on the Green crossword**



**ACROSS**

- 1 Alternative Cascade activity
- 3 Lady between Meade and Brooks
- 7 Liver bird at 65
- 8 Methuselah of the Strand
- 9 Mitford residence

**DOWN**

- 2 I was built in 1752
- 4 Pre-Prospect
- 5 Archaic name of Thames Road



With special thanks to Riverhomes for printing copies of *Signals* for us

The image on our front cover is kindly provided by Alastair Hilton.