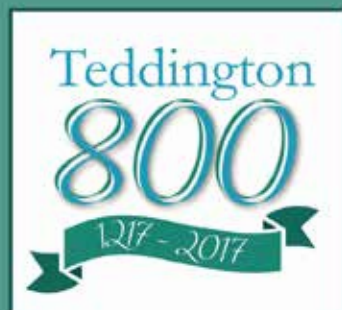




Teddington 800

A six-month festival of events celebrating the 800th anniversary of the Parish of Teddington





The Teddington 800 has been made possible thanks to the amazing generosity of so many people and organisations, in terms of time, money, expertise, enthusiasm, facilities and sheer hard work. We'd like to say a huge thank you to them all and especially to the Teddington 800 Steering Group who created the programme.



*Anne McTear,
800 Chair*

The Teddington 800 Team

Anne McTear

Katherine Mathews

Josie Shantonas

Agnieszka Smith

Sheena Harold

Rev Azariah France -Williams

Rev Joe Moffatt

Sian Morgan

Dawn Stoddart

Krysia Smith

Chris Darling

Steve Randall

Jane Vines

Peter Stevens



Teddington is undoubtedly a special place in which to live and work. But let's take a journey back through the mists of time to 1217.

It was then that the Abbot of Westminster was asked to present to the Bishop of London 'a suitable chaplain, with maintenance, for Tudinton'. This marked the birth of the parish 800 years ago.

To honour this very significant anniversary, and with the great help and generosity of many local groups, clubs and individuals, we are holding a big festival of events this Summer and Autumn. It will encompass all the many interests and aspects of our town, whether that is sport, fun, art or history and will recognise our sense of belonging and togetherness.

A parish is an area, a district, the whole country is split up into parishes, but each parish has a unique identity, Teddington 800 is about our identity, from 1217 right up until 2017 and beyond. We are still a community, we are still a parish, let's have fun together celebrating that!



*Rev Joe Moffatt,
Vicar of St Mary with St Alban*



THE PAST

THE MEDIEVAL BUILDING

It's tempting to look for a Saxon origin for our church but evidence is slight.

In 969 King Edgar granted the mother church of Staines to Westminster Abbey and there was very likely a simple chapel in the then tiny village, serving the needs of the farmers and fishermen.

The first written reference to St Mary's Church however is 1217, when the Abbot of Westminster was asked for the first time to present a chaplain for Teddington to the Bishop of London – the moment at which we became a parish.

Records 140 years later, show the church building must by then have been substantially constructed in chalk and flint.

Unfortunately, by 1385 the Abbey, perhaps decimated by the Black Death, no longer concerned itself with the area and leased out the manor



lands, but the church was still well enough established to attract taxes under Henry VI.

From 1511 we have the names of all the Vicars, the first being Sir Thomas of Todyngton.

In 1536 the entire manor was seized by Henry VIII and leased to his friends. No doubt the building of Hampton Court by Wolsey in 1520 encouraged the building of other large houses and by



St Mary's from the northeast, pen and wash, artist unknown, c. 1800



Caroline Jones Photography – 2017



picture courtesy of John Salmon

1547 St Mary's was a growing parish of 100, 72 of whom attended church.

In 1603, the manor passed to the Hill family who held it into the 18th century.

In the 16th century, a timber-framed west tower with shingle-covered spire was added and south aisle was added. You can still see Tudor brickwork on the outside wall, plus a large nail which would have held a basket of bread for the poor.

It was in this building that Thomas Traherne (c. 1637–1674), poet, writer and domestic chaplain to Sir Orlando Bridgman, was buried.



18TH CENTURY ALTERATIONS BY STEPHEN HALES

By the early 18th century the church was too small for the growing village and in a poor state of repair. In 1709 Dr Stephen Hales (1677-1761), the natural scientist, philanthropist and campaigner for social causes, was appointed perpetual curate of St Mary's. He made many major changes.

In 1716 he had the church roof repaired and south aisle extended. In 1748 a loud bell was installed (since the existing ones could not be heard at a distance). The spire was replaced by a lantern and in 1754 the entire wooden tower was rebuilt in brick with a cupola. In this Hales incorporated a ventilation system which he had designed for use on ships and in hospitals. The overcrowded graveyard too was extended.

Despite the work of Hales, the church deteriorated again in the late 18th century. Burials were still being carried out beneath the church, but this ceased in 1823 after complaints of rats under the floorboards and when it was noticed that at high tides the vaults flooded, causing coffins to float!



St Mary's from the southwest in 1794, pen drawing by Nathaniel Smith

During this time, many celebrated figures were buried in the church, including the actress Peg Woffington, architect Henry Flitcroft and John Walter, founder of The Times. By now the population of the village had reached around 580.

THE 19TH CENTURY

Yet more extension took place in 1833 when the chancel grew by 17ft then in 1877 the church closed for major reconstruction, adding a clergy vestry



St Peter & St Paul as built

and an organ chamber for the new pipe organ. Existing galleries were removed, old box pews replaced by open ones and cast iron pillars by stone ones. A font, pulpit, lectern, reading desk and stalls were installed and a choir vestry added, making the appearance of the building much as it is today.

Teddington changed completely after the arrival of the railway in 1863. New housing to accommodate the growing population was built on land on the other side of the railway bridge, and a new church, St Peter & St Paul was built by Rev Daniel Trinder in 1865 to serve the extra population.

St Mary's was becoming too small and it was decided that a new, large church



Rev Azariah France-Williams & Rev Joe Moffatt

should be built nearby. The new church, dedicated to St Alban, was dedicated in 1888. St Mary's was closed in 1889 and allowed to fall into disrepair.

THE 20TH CENTURY - NOW

Fortunately, an appeal to restore St Mary's was successful and it was rededicated in 1938 and used for weekly services. In turn, St Alban's itself gradually declined and was closed for public worship, subsequently becoming The Landmark Arts Centre after substantial refurbishment in the 1990s.

In 1979 St Mary's once again became the parish church with the addition of St Alban in its dedication – 'St Mary with St Alban'.

Today the church is thriving and continues its steadfast role in partnership with sister church St Peter and St Paul, as a Christian presence – two churches serving the people of Teddington.



St Mary with St Alban



Teddington 800 Official Launch Service

with The Dean of Westminster Abbey

Sunday June 11th at 6.30pm

St Mary with St Alban Church, Ferry Road

What else is on in June?

Flower Festival & Churchyard Teas Sat & Sun 10th-11th, 2-6pm, St Mary with St Alban Church, Ferry Road
View magnificent displays representing 'Visions of Teddington', hear talks from a local historian and sample delicious homemade cakes in our pretty churchyard. Plus listen to St Mary's Bells handbell recital at 3.30pm on the 11th.

Teddington in Flower & Open Gardens Sun 11th, 2-6pm

Thanks to The Teddington Society, showcase private gardens will open to the public for a small charity donation. See www.teddingtonsociety.org for details.

Ecumenical Prayerwalk Sat 10th, from St John's Church Hampton Wick to St Michael's Fulwell

A prayerful journey via local churches giving thanks for their work and care over the centuries.

Contact: teddingtonprayerwalkers@gmail.com

'From Every Seed' Floral Art Exhibit 1st-17th, Landmark Arts Centre

To complement the Flower Festival – a celebration of floral art. Mon-Fri 9.30am-12.30pm, Sat 11am-3pm.

Elleray Hall Open Garden Day Wed 21st, 10am-3pm, Elleray Road

Midsummer Mystery Thur 22nd, 7pm, Teddington Library

An exciting Murder Mystery evening called 'The Glass Room'. Contact the Library for tickets.

The Pram Race including a Tedd 800 team! Sun 25th, 1pm, from The Masons Arms

See teams dress up & race from The Masons Arms to the Village Fair. Our Tedd 800 team is called 'Beer on a Bier' (we'll be handling out beer from our old funeral cart – a 'bier').

To donate to The Pram Race and local charities including ours please go to www.teddpramrace.org.uk click sponsor a team and select 'BeerOnABier'.

Teddington Fair Sun 25th, 12-5pm, Udney Hall Gardens, Langham Road

A wonderful family day out. Entertainment, ice creams, burgers, bouncy castles, pony rides, music & in this 800th year 'A flavour of women's lives from 1217' by Plain & Pearl plus a 'Timeline of Science' from NPL. No entry charge.

Thanks to our lovely Sponsors ...and June Supporters

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The Teddington Pram Race

The Teddington Society
National Physical Laboratory (NPL)
Teddington Guides & Scouts
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Elleray Hall

Lucy, Sandy, Mary, Jo and all the cake makers!

The Landmark Arts Centre
Plain & Pearl Group
St Mary's Teddington Bells
www.futuredesign.co.uk
Teddington Library



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Special Family Sports Service

Wear team colours to church as we give thanks for all the fun, skills, health and friendship we obtain through taking part in and supporting our favourite sports.
Sunday July 9th at 10am, St Mary with St Alban Church, Ferry Rd

What else is on in July?

Bushy parkrun 800 fancy dress run Sat 8th, 9am, Bushy Park

Whether you're a regular parkrunner or have never tried it, dust off your Benny Hill beret, Noel Coward trilby or Peg Woffington veil or something a bit 1217 and run an anniversary fancy dress 5K.
See www.parkrun.org.uk/bushy/ to register if a new runner.

Town Family Sports Day & Inter Club Challenge

Sun 9th, 2-6pm, Bushy Park Pitches, Clapperstile Gate

Come along to TCC, TTCC and The Antlers pitches for a good old egg & spoon race, tug of war & lots more. Then cheer your local sports clubs in a silly but competitive Inter-club Challenge and see who will lift the cup. Clubs will also be holding 'have a go' demos in tons of sports, so you can either find a new passion, dust off an old one or help your children to discover theirs. Bar and BBQ too!

800 Cricket – Bishop's XI v Teddington XI Wed 19th, 6pm, Teddington Cricket Club

Come & watch a brilliant Teddington team take on a top team captained by the Bishop of Kensington.
Bring a picnic or enjoy refreshments from the TCC clubhouse.

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Teddington Rugby – The Antlers

Teddington Cricket Club

Teddington Town Cricket Club

Teddington Athletic Football Club

Bushy parkrun

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Turing House School



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A special service designed by children, led by children and to pray for children around the world

Bring photos of children or organisations you care about and add them to our prayer board.

Sunday August 20th at 10am St Mary with St Alban Church, Ferry Rd

What else is on in August?

Entertain your children during school holidays with our fun activities and prizes.

Children's Town History Trail

Pick up a print out or download from our website and use the 800 trail to help your family discover more facts your never knew or had forgotten about our town.

NPL Children's Science Quiz with prize

Download the quiz from the Teddington800 website and use the NPL online history portal to help you find the answers; think about if you could measure anything what would it be and why. Return your completed quiz for a chance to win an NPL prize.

Teddington Minecraft Challenge

Are you amazing at Minecraft? Can you create incredible things? Can you model a building or part of Teddington? Send us screen prints of your creations to feature in our September 'Visions of Teddington' exhibit – prize for the best one. Closing date 31st August.

St Mary's Church & The Landmark Arts Centre Trails

Pop into the church or LAC and pick up a trail leaflet to discover the beauty and heritage of these historic buildings.

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THE STORY OF TEDDINGTON & THE TEDDINGTON SOCIETY

Our story begins in 1973 when a man was walking along Twickenham Road and noticed that one of the old houses in that road was being demolished....

Not having read any prior information about this, he was absolutely incensed and went to take up the matter with the local amenity group. All very well and good until he discovered that there was no amenity group. The house was “Stoney Deep”, then an old riverside mansion being used as a nurses hostel, now a highly desirable block of flats, and the man was Adam Joseph, an independent journalist who had only recently moved to Teddington.

Adam decided to forge ahead with a neighbourhood society and a number of small meetings was held to gauge support for such a group, culminating with a Public Meeting at Craig Hall in that July. The meeting was attended by about 250 people and from that the steering group of The Teddington Society emerged, Adam being the first Chairman. Ten separate working parties were set up to cover different aspects of Teddington life, the Nasty Smells Group being one of the less obvious and the evolution of these groups means that broadly speaking,

they are still functioning today. The groups in question were, not in any particular order – Riverside, Trees, Roads & Transport, Old & Handicapped People’s, History, Social & Cultural, Legal & Advisory, Young People’s, Nasty Smells and lastly Environment & Planning.

The aims of the Society were to promote and encourage on a non party and non sectarian basis the following objectives:

- (a) To encourage high standards of architecture, town planning and civic design in Teddington.
- (b) To stimulate public interest in and care for the beauty, history and character of the area.
- (c) To encourage the preservation, development and improvement of features of general public amenity, civic or historic interest.
- (d) To pursue these ends by means of meetings, exhibitions, conferences, lectures and promotion of schemes of a charitable nature.

From that day on The Teddington Society has played its part in the social development of the town with, as would be expected, varying degrees of success in the causes and projects undertaken. The Nasty Smells group changed its name to the Nice & Tidy group and in 1976 a Community Care group was formed. Some of the other groups merged with Borough organisations such as Richmond Arts Council, Old People's Welfare Committee and Community Care.

The Society has been very active in the last 40 odd years; the Planning Group is constantly at work on planning issues, conservation areas and the like going back to the debate in saving St Albans Church (now the Landmark), saving Oak Cottage, to modern day issues such as the Film Studios site and Udney Park Playing Fields. Roads and Transport also never tire of protecting our roads and spaces and lobbying our transport chiefs for better services. In addition they constantly monitor such items as controlled parking zones and flood control and the Ham Hydro scheme and the questionable Quietway cycle route.

The Environment Group is always busy, much of the time with issues arising out of Heathrow Airport such as aircraft noise. A little nearer to home they are kept on their toes in trying to manage and monitor the three recycling centres in the town which, unfortunately are looked upon as rubbish tips by some of our less salubrious citizens and organised litter picks help to clean up these centres as well as the riverside and the War Memorial on

Remembrance Day. The Riverside and Open Spaces Group also has a full load to deal with in keeping our river banks clear. They recently celebrated a great success in the removal of several hulks which had been an eyesore on the river for a few years.

The Trees and Gardens Group has been one of our most successful since the Society started. Teddington In Flower was introduced in 1975 and is still going strong. So much so that our neighbours have borrowed the idea and given us Richmond in Bloom which is extremely popular. Past enterprises include the old St George's Day Procession and Gardeners' Fair

Lastly there is the History Group. This was one of the founder groups and has been constantly in the forefront of Teddington life. Their first task was a survey of every house in Teddington and this has been updated a couple of times. A survey of St Mary's Churchyard followed, noting everyone who was buried there and then came a survey of the church monuments. A variety of History talks have been given and these are always well received. Starting with "A Walk in Teddington" we have produced several other historical publications including the evergreen "Teddington As It Was." With a constantly changing population, this title is always in demand. Visitors to the town will have seen our Information Boards at The Grove and Elmfield House, and more recently at the site of The Bronze Age Barrow in Sandy Lane. In conjunction with the Planning Group, we have reviewed the Buildings of

Townscape Merit, making adjustments to the list held by the Council. Currently we are seeking the names of the “Lost Fallen” to add to the Hospital War Memorial.

The Teddington Society is an obvious choice to partner St Mary’s Church in the Teddington 800 project and we are delighted to be able to assist in many different ways.

Now to take a look at the early history of Teddington, the question I have been most asked is “When did Teddington first begin?” and the simple answer is that I do not know.

A high class Bronze Age Burial took place in Sandy Lane which has been put to something like 1500 BC but it is unlikely that this was placed in the middle of whatever settlement existed at that time. A huge number of weapons and other artefacts have been recovered from the River Thames at Teddington Lock and thereabouts and these cover a vast age range but there is no sign of any early settlement in the Bronze Age or earlier. Julius Caesar is said to have crossed the Thames along our stretch of river and given battle with the local Britons but Brentford, Kingston and Sunbury, to name but three, all claim this distinction. However Romano-British dwellings have been discovered at Lower Teddington Road and Udney Park Playing Fields.

What we do know is that there was a small Saxon settlement here at the time of the Norman Conquest. The earliest written reference of it is in the will of

Aelfheah, an ealdorman, with land in “TUDINGGATUN” in 968 AD. It is said to have been granted to the Abbot of St Peter’s on Thorney Island (Westminster Abbey) in a Charter of 969 AD by King Eadgar as part of the Manor of Staines. This Charter seems to have become lost and it was necessary for the Abbey to forge a duplicate, to maintain their claim over various lands.

Life under the Normans was not very different. In Teddington and things drifted along without any major upset. Alas on the national stage there was a virtual revolution with the barons rebelling against the austere rule of King John. He was forced to sign the Great Charter at Runnymede in 1216 but almost immediately broke it and then the barons invited the son of the King of France, Prince Louis, to come to England and take over the Throne. John died and was succeeded by his son Henry III aged 9. 1217 saw most of England under French law until William Marshall gathered together the British forces at Lincoln Castle and inflicted a crushing defeat on the French.

In the meantime, the Abbot of Westminster was asked to provide a suitable for TUDINTON and that’s where our parish begins.

You can follow the rest of the story of Teddington in our Timeline Banners at the ‘*Visions of Teddington History and Art Exhibition*’ at The Landmark Arts Centre from Sept 23rd’.

Ken Howe
May 2017



800 'Songs of Praise'

Vote for your favourite hymn or piece of music and join us for a service incorporating the most popular – don't worry we won't sing 800 of them!

Sunday 24th at 6.30pm, St Mary with St Alban Church, Ferry Rd

What else is on in September?

River Blessing & Celebration Sun 10th, 10am-2pm, St Mary with St Alban & Riverside

A service of thanks, followed by a celebration of the importance of the river to the existence, work and leisure of Teddington. Beginning in the church then processing to the river to celebrate with all our local river based organisations and clubs, followed by a BBQ and picnic.

Totally Locally 800 Fiverfest Fortnight 15th-30th

Celebrating our wonderful local shops and businesses.

800 Exhibition at the Open House London event Sun 17th, 10am-5pm, Bushy House, Bushy Park

NPL are once again opening this historic building for one day only, offering a rare glimpse into its scientific and royal significance. Join the 800 team in the history room.

800 Charity Quiz Fri 22nd, 7.30pm, hosted by Newland House School, Waldegrave Park

Pit your wits against a Teddington 800 team, a competitive Newland House team and many others.

See www.teddparish.eventbrite.com for tickets.

Visions of Teddington History & Art exhibition Sat 23rd Sept-Sun 8th Oct, Landmark Arts Centre & St Mary's Church. A display of the major historical developments over the last eight centuries (written by local historians), combined with depictions from artists, local schools and organisations plus a 'spoken history' film incorporating the memories of our longest standing townfolk.

The Teddington 800 Ball Sat 30th, 6pm, The Landmark Arts Centre

A proper celebratory ball with string quartet, delicious meal, band and dancing. Doors open 6-6.30pm for a reception drink. See Eventbrite (www.teddparish.eventbrite.com) for tickets.

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“Traherne For Our Times” Poetry talks and concert

Sat 14th, 2pm, St Mary with St Alban, Ferry Road

What else is on in October?

The Tedd800 Science & Religion Lecture

An evening exploring Science and Religion and their special Teddington relationship kindly held in the perfectly fitting location of the NPL Auditorium. With Prof John Charmley, Pro-Vice Chancellor of St Mary's University, historian Ken Howe and Rev Joe Moffatt. Featuring, in addition, a review of the work and ministry of Rev Dr Stephen Hales, Teddington clergyman, scientist, inventor, co-founder of the Royal Society of Arts.

Tues 10th, pre-lecture refreshments 6.30pm, lecture 7pm, The National Physical Laboratory, Hampton Road. See www.teddparish.eventbrite.com for tickets.

“Traherne For Our Times” Poetry talks and concert

An exploration of the work of Teddington priest and metaphysical poet Thomas Traherne (c.1637-1674), whose work represented a key moment in the development of Anglican spirituality and provides a unique window into traditions of Christian innocence and the quest for happiness for all peoples.

The day will include talks by Rt Rev & Rt Hon Lord Richard Harries and Traherne scholar Dr Beth Dodd and will culminate in a performance of Dies Natalis by Finzi.

Submissions of local Traherne or Teddington inspired poetry are welcomed for inclusion into a Teddington 800 poetry booklet.

Sat 14th, 2pm, St Mary With St Alban, Ferry Road. See www.teddparish.eventbrite.com for tickets.

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National Physical Laboratory (NPL)

Prof John Charmley & St Mary's University

The Traherne Reading Group

Historian Ken Howe

Lord Harries

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Finale Service with the Bishop of Kensington & Archdeacon of Middlesex

Sun 26th, 10am, St Mary with St Alban Church, Ferry Road

What else is on in November?

Fireworks

Fri 3rd, The Lensbury Club, Broom Road

Lensbury Club is making 1,000 tickets available to non-club member to help celebrate 800 years of the town. See www.teddparish.eventbrite.com to buy tickets.

Visit of The Dean of Hereford

Sun 5th, 10am, St Mary with St Alban Church, Ferry Road

‘The Teddington Review’

Sat 11th, 7.30pm, Normansfield Theatre, Langdon Park

An amusing and specially commissioned play of scenes based on the key historical development periods of the town and hosted in the wonderful Grade II* listed theatre of the Langdon Down Centre.

See www.teddparish.eventbrite.com for tickets.

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Lensbury Club

Normansfield Theatre

Cathy Randall

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