

filmrichmond | NEWSLETTER



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We know it's nearly the end of January, and Christmas and New Year celebrations are a distant memory, but Happy New Year! Here's hoping that 2015 brings another bumper year of filming for us all.

This year, we will continue in our drive to add new properties to our books and will be making every effort to make filming as easy as possible in Richmond upon Thames. On-street filming continues to be free of charge and we are on the end of the phone if you are looking for locations or need some advice.

This month we bring you one of the council's oldest locations - Orleans House Gallery in Twickenham. Many of you will

know it as it's been used on and off over the years for filming but it recently moved under the management of a Trust and they are very keen to host filming in order to bring in much needed additional income.

A little bit of history . . . the original Orleans House was built in 1710 and was designed by John James and owned by James Johnston, secretary of state for Scotland under William III. Johnston commissioned the building of the Octagon Room in 1716 to entertain George I and his family. Designed by James Gibb in baroque style, the Octagon Room retains many of its original features. The original house was demolished in 1926 however, thankfully the

Octagon Room and remaining buildings were saved.

Today, Orleans House is a thriving art gallery, with renovated Stable block, gallery space with mezzanine and ample grounds surrounding the buildings with parking available on site.



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Richmond Stars

Twitter was alive over Christmas with residents recognising borough locations in many of the Christmas TV specials this year. The Boy in the Dress featured Ham Parade and Grey Court Secondary School in Ham and used the ever popular Ham Street car park as their unit base for a great deal of October and November. The BBC's Christmas Day comedy Professor Branestawn came to film on Twickenham Riverside in October and Charlie Brooker's dark drama Black Mirror filmed scenes in St Margarets and Twickenham.

Urban Hymn continued to film in October and made very good use of the council's Youth Centre, Heatham House for three days, even setting fire to a car in the front car park. They also filmed in York House and various other locations in Strawberry Hill and Twickenham. Richmond regulars Off Their Rockers came back to

their two favourite locations - Richmond Green and Riverside for some more hidden camera fun, and feature film Genius shot at East Sheen Cemetery with the very lovely Colin Firth. And in Stills news, Vanity Fair chose Richmond Riverside as a setting in which to photograph Ralph Fiennes.

November saw Boy in the Dress continuing to film in Ham, Woman in Red based at Twickenham Studios and TV insurance commercial Bubble filmed on Twickenham Riverside. Coalition, a new TV drama, filmed scenes in Teddington and TV comedy Josh filmed around East Twickenham and St Margarets. Humans, a new TV drama from Kudos shot around Ham and had a two day road closure next to the Thames in St Margarets for two night shoots with stunts. They were able to make a donation to the local residents association which was much appreciated. Online hidden

camera show The Big Start, filmed for Nescafe on Queen Elizabeth Walk in Barnes and US TV reality show 'House Hunters International came back to film on Richmond Green.

With over 45 productions visiting us in October, November and December, it's definitely been a busy time!

If you're looking for a controllable road to film in for possibly a road closure or temporary traffic holds, then look no further than Ranelagh Drive in Twickenham. The road runs parallel to the river in Twickenham (close to Twickenham bridge) and is close to Richmond Lock with its Victorian footbridge leading over the river to Old Deer Park. Ranelagh Drive and the surrounding roads have unrestricted parking too. We ask that if you do film in this area that a donation is made to the local residents' association.



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News

Contract won

You probably weren't aware but the Communications Contract (which includes filming) at Richmond Council was up for tender again at the end of December. After a lengthy process, and stiff competition, WestCo retained the contract for another 4/5 years, thereby ensuring that we will be here to help you with all things filming for a good while yet!

FilmApp

We are pleased to announce that we will be joining the long list of London boroughs (not to mention a couple stateside) who are using FilmApp. We are busy preparing for this and will email you when we know our launch date (we're aiming for mid to end of February). Most of you will be familiar with this application process already and we really hope that FilmApp will make filming in Richmond even more straightforward, if that were possible . . .

And last but not least, don't forget to take a look at our online photo library –

www.richmond.gov.uk/filmrichmond

- we have several new private properties listed and if you can't find what you're looking for, just give us a call.

