

Brightside

**Council Tax
frozen**

See page 4-5

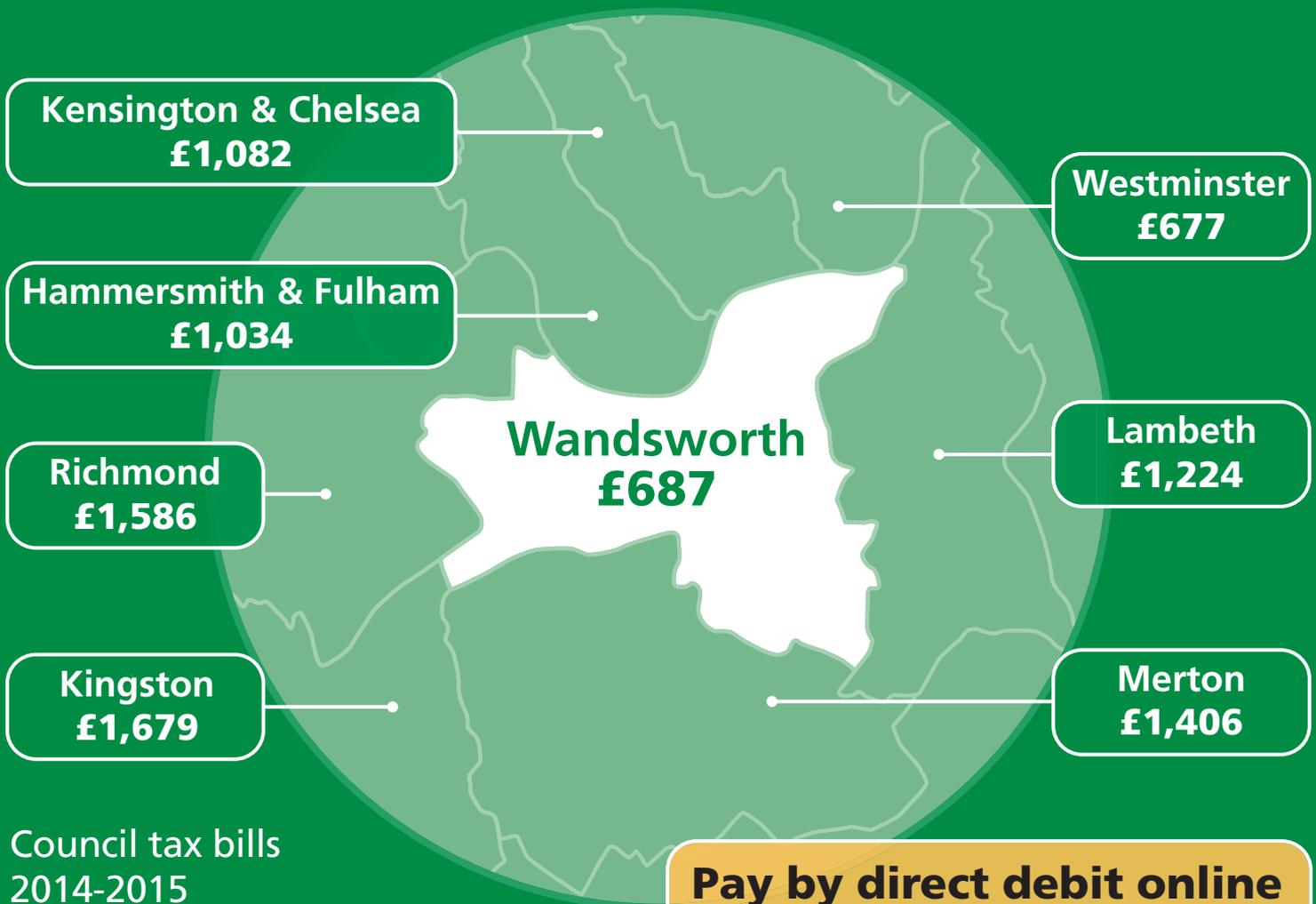
Free wi-fi

See page 7

Wandsworth Arts Festival

See page 26

Pay council tax **online** and help keep your bills low



Council tax bills
2014-2015
(Band D equivalent properties
including GLA precept)

**Pay by direct debit online
- it's quicker and easier**

People living in a Band D property will pay £682 in council tax next year compared to the £1,300 London average. Some people in the west of the borough will pay slightly more because they are subject to the statutory levy imposed by the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Conservators – giving a borough-wide average of £687.

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/counciltax



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Cover: St Annes Church, St Anns Hill as featured on page 24

To obtain a copy of Brightside in large print or audio version please telephone (020) 8871 7266 or email brightside@wandsworth.gov.uk

YOUR BRIGHTSIDE

Your Brightside is distributed by London Letterbox Marketing. We expect all copies of Brightside to be delivered to every home in the borough and pushed fully through the letterbox. This issue of Brightside is being delivered from **March 26 to March 31**.

Your next Brightside will be delivered in **June**. If you don't receive your copy call us on (020) 8871 7520. Brightside is the civic magazine of Wandsworth Council.

It is produced by the council's corporate communications unit. It is the only publication delivered to every household in the borough.

We would like to thank all our advertisers for their support. Brightside will consider display advertisements from non-council bodies (excluding recruitment) and reserves the right to decline advertisements.

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- Editorial (020) 8871 8902
- Advertising (020) 8871 7266

If you have a comment about the magazine please telephone: (020) 8871 8902/6173 or email: brightside@wandsworth.gov.uk.

Brightside is printed on environmentally friendly paper, please recycle.



Community helps out in Putney Village

A new community support network for retired people, the Putney Village, has been set up.

Members can get out and about to local social events and have access to a Village coordinator who will help them take care of their home and general well being.

The idea comes from America, where there are almost 200 senior villages up and running. Sandy Sidhu started Putney Village with seed funding from Wandsworth Council's Big Society Fund. She was inspired by her own experience of caring long-distance for her mother. "I wished there was someone living close by that she could call when she needed help with the computer or filling out forms," she said. "Many of her close friends and family had moved out of London, so she didn't have a good local network that she could rely on."

Putney Village members can call the coordinator Anita Brown, whenever they need help, and to help keep charges low volunteers help with tasks that don't require a professional such as changing a light bulb or hanging curtains. For jobs that do require special expertise, the Village is developing its own directory of vetted preferred service providers.

There is currently a half-price offer on membership. For more information call 020 8144 3460, email info@putneyvillage.org.uk, or visit www.putneyvillage.org.uk

►► Find out about the Big Society Fund at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/WBSF.

Building an even stronger Wandsworth

Council tax frozen

Council tax levels in Wandsworth have been frozen for the fifth time in six years.

It means that residents will pay less from April when taking into account the fact that the Mayor of London has reduced his share of the bill by one per cent.

Wandsworth residents living in an average-sized Band D property will pay £682 in council tax next year. This compares with a £1,300 bill paid by the average Londoner. Some people living in the west of the borough will pay slightly

more because they are subject to the statutory levy imposed by the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Conservators – giving a borough-wide average of £687.

Cabinet member for finance and corporate resources Cllr Guy Senior and Wandsworth Council leader Cllr Ravi Govindia announce this year's average Band D bill.

Cllr Govindia said: "Residents of

Wandsworth have always appreciated and understood that they receive really excellent value for money services from their town hall.

"Keeping council tax bills to the absolute minimum is hugely important for local people, especially those struggling on low incomes.

"The council's budgets do of course remain under pressure and further action is required to make the necessary savings in the years ahead to ensure the financial burden on residents does not increase.

"That is why steps have already been taken, and these will continue, to slim down the council even further, by reducing senior staff numbers, reducing executive pay, cutting back-office costs, reducing the amounts spent on running and maintaining office buildings and seeking new efficiencies across all our services.

"The priority is to make sure the council continues to play a full role in supporting people and helping them to make the most of their talents, ensuring our neighbourhoods continue to improve, and working to create new jobs, better transport links and extending educational choice and opportunity for all residents."



What you will pay

(The figures in brackets show the charge payable by those affected by the additional WPCV levy)

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| Band A | £455 (£473) | Band E | £833 (£867) |
| Band B | £530 (£552) | Band F | £985 (£1,024) |
| Band C | £606 (£630) | Band G | £1,136 (£1,182) |
| Band D | £682 (£709) | Band H | £1,364 (£1,418) |

These figures show bills for homes in which two or more adults reside. Single people who live alone qualify for a 25 per cent discount.





Improving your borough

- Resident survey results published in the autumn revealed that 84 per cent of local people agreed that “keeping council tax low is essential for residents” up from 67 per cent a decade ago. Only six per cent disagreed.
- Crime levels have dropped 11 per cent in a year.
- 92 per cent of the boroughs schools are good or outstanding.
- All the boroughs libraries have been kept open.
- Rubbish collections are, and will remain, weekly.
- Wandsworth has some of the best parks in London (see page 8).
- 84 per cent of residents are satisfied with the council’s performance overall, compared with a London average of 75 per cent.
- People who have lived in a Wandsworth Band D property since 1993 are £10,000 better off than in they had lived in a different borough.
- Wandsworth has the highest growth rate of all London boroughs, according to the Demos-PwC Good Growth for Cities index.

▶▶ For more information about council tax levels in Wandsworth and what makes up the charge visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/counciltax.

Wandsworth Council Adult Care Information Service

The Adult Care Information Service (ACIS) connects people in Wandsworth to information, advice and services



Where can I find it?

The Adult Care Information Service (ACIS) can be found on the council’s website:
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/acis

If you don’t have internet access, contact Adult Social Services who can provide information over the phone or in another format if required.

 (020) 8871 7707

 accessteam@wandsworth.gov.uk



AD-1071 (7.13)

Tooting on screen

Common People, a feature film entirely shot on Tooting Common, has played to packed houses at the Clapham Picture House.

The film was made with help from the council's film office and parks department, as well as local people, and weaves together six stories and more than thirty characters around a report of a missing parrot to present a tale of a community coming together to help each other.

Prior to its London Premiere Common People won the Independent Spirit Award at the Sedona International Film Festival, and was nominated for Best Narrative Feature at the St. Louis International Film Festival.

Co-Directors Kerry Skinner and Stewart Alexander have lived next to Tooting Common for more than ten years: "We walk there every day, it's an essential oasis in the city; somewhere to de-stress, and recharge. The stories and characters are inspired by life in London right now, but the parrot lends the whole thing a magical, almost poetic quality."

- ▶▶ Find out more at www.commonpeoplethemovie.com
- ▶▶ Find out about the work of the council's film office at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/film.



Extra Care Open Day

Prince of Wales Drive Extra Care

Self-contained flats to rent for the over-55s who need extra care to live independently.

- Ideal location next to Battersea Park.
- Communal spaces and large roof garden.
- 24 hour on-site care and support.

Tenants must qualify for help from Wandsworth adult social services and need care or immediate support at night.

10 April (tours at 11am and 2pm)
Book your tour: **(020) 7738 9122**

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/extracare



Designed and produced by the Corporate Communications Unit, Wandsworth Council. AD.1082 (3.14)



Free wi-fi in Wandsworth

Free wi-fi coverage is now available across much of the borough.

The Wandsworth Council-branded wi-fi service gives registered users 30 minutes' free wi-fi a day.

The websites www.wandsworth.gov.uk, www.gov.uk and www.locallife.co.uk/wandsworth will be free to use for any length of time without the need to register.

The scheme is being delivered by the technology company Arqiva at no cost to the council. The council has received half a million pounds from Arqiva at the beginning of the contract for the use of the council's lampposts to install the network, and will get a share of any income generated.

This is the first phase of the project, with locations now live across the borough centred on town centres in Putney, Balham, Wandsworth, Clapham Junction and Tooting. More of the borough will come online in future phases later this year.

▶▶ **To access the system check your list of available wi-fi networks. If it is available in your area, WANDSWORTH_FREE will appear near the top**

Free wi-fi is part of the council's Wandsworth Connected campaign to make it easier for residents and businesses to access council services online whenever they choose.

- Many services are available online, including applying for parking permits, paying penalty charge notices, managing council tax and housing accounts, library services and booking MOTs and holiday and afterschool playschemes.
- The council recently modified its website so that it is optimised for whichever device is being used. People are increasingly using tablets and smartphones to access the site, rather than PCs.
- The website navigation system has also been improved, content has been rationalised and the homepage redesigned to make it even easier for people to find what they want on the site.
- A 'single sign-on' system is being developed so that people accessing online accounts do not need to sign in multiple times.



Have your say online
 Follow the council on twitter at @wandbc
 Visit the new-look newspaper and comment on press releases at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/news
 Sign up for the weekly e-newsletter, Wandsworth24seven, at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/24seven.



Griffin art prize

Year 6 pupils at Griffin School in Battersea are the runners-up of the 2014 Saatchi Gallery / Deutsche Bank Art Prize for Schools. The international competition was hotly contested by schools in the UK and abroad.

Judge, author and illustrator Laura Dockrill, said, "The standard and quality of work entered was absolutely remarkable."

Du Cane online

Vincent Gregory's book on the history of Du Cane Court in Balham, featured in a previous edition of Brightside, is now available in an e-edition. Du Cane Court was built in the mid-1930s and included a restaurant, bar and club. Famous residents included Margaret Rutherford, Hermione Gingold and Tommy Trinder. Today comedian Arthur Smith is probably the best known person to live there.

A History of Du Cane Court: Land, Architecture, People and Politics is available from Amazon, Waterstones and via Apple ipads. The book is £11.99 and the ebook £3.29.

Help shape Wandsworth

There's still a few days left to give your views on how money from the Wandsworth Local Fund should be spent. The fund is a charge made on developers to fund new infrastructure projects. Visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/WLF to find out more.

Swimming champ

Reiss Ormonde, 15, from Chestnut Grove School has been crowned Surrey County Swimming Champion in the 400m Individual Medley and has been awarded the Jim Sanderson Memorial Shield. Reiss qualified for all 16 events at the County Championships.

The Summerstown 182

The Summerstown 182 is a project to find out more about the 182 local people named on the war memorial plaque in St Mary's Church in Summerstown. It aims to mark the centenary of the first world war by putting together a picture of the area 100 years ago by telling the stories of the men that died.

If you, or anyone you know, is a relative of one of the soldiers, the organisers would like to hear from you. Find out more at www.summerstown182.wordpress.com.



Great news for park lovers

Keep an eye out for improvements to the borough's parks and open spaces this year.

Wandsworth is one of the greenest London boroughs, with 40 per cent covered by parks, open spaces and private gardens. This summer a range of measures is being carried out to make them better for wildlife and more pleasurable for visitors.

Improvements include

New shallow pools on Tooting Common to provide a home for frogs, toads and newts. The council, working in partnership with the wildlife charity Froglife, the Tooting Common Management Advisory Committee (MAC) and the Friends of Tooting Common, is building three pools in the common's existing ecology pond. Later this year once the pools are established local volunteers will be offered training to help monitor the pools to see if they have been successful in improving the habitat for local wildlife.

This winter council staff were busy **planting 109,000 bulbs** to ensure a colourful display this spring. These have been planted in grass areas on Wandsworth Common at Spencer Park, near St Marks Church, Battersea and at The Pleasance and Leaders Gardens, Putney. The aim has been to make the flowers appear as though they grew naturally.

Meanwhile **11,000 shrubs** have been planted in Wandsworth Park, Leaders Gardens, Bramford Gardens, Garratt Green, Swaby Gardens and Battersea Park.

Rose gardens have also been replanted in York Gardens, and Christchurch Gardens. The work was done in partnership with grounds maintenance contractor Quadron Services Ltd

Fitness fans will be able to use an **improved Trim Trail** in Battersea Park. Money from the council and the Marathon Trust will be used to install £15,000 of new equipment to help people access free outdoor fitness facilities.

▶▶ **If you would like to be kept updated with the changes contact parks@wandsworth.gov.uk.**



Battersea Park has received two accolades recently

The famous Old English Garden has won the runners-up prize in this year's Garden of the Year category in the BBC Countryfile Magazine Awards.

The award follows a rejuvenation of the garden through the work of disabled people and charity Thrive which uses gardening and horticulture as therapies to help people with a range of disabilities. With the support of Wandsworth Council's parks department, Thrive has been working with disabled people at two locations in Battersea Park for many years.

The park also received the ultimate thumbs-up recently – an endorsement from football and fashion icon David Beckham

He said one of the great pleasures about living in London is the chance to visit Battersea Park. "I love living back in London," he said. "I enjoy its big parks, especially ones like Battersea. I love walking through them after I've been playing five-a-side with some friends."

Battersea Park covers 200 acres and is visited by around three million people each year."

Last year it was given a prestigious Green Flag award by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy, which described it as "the jewel in the crown of London's parks."

More low-cost homes built to rent

A new £4m scheme has been launched to increase the supply of affordable housing in the borough.

The new Wandsworth Affordable Housing Grant Programme (WAHGP) will help fund the construction costs of an extra 130 low cost rented homes.

The money will be raised using the proceeds from Right to Buy sales and other funding set aside to support affordable housing development.

The aim is to create homes for working households on low and middle incomes and for people with an urgent need for housing such as those living in over-crowded conditions.

Housebuilders will be invited to apply for WAHGP funding and will need to demonstrate how the council's funding will provide more low-cost housing.

The town hall's financial contribution will be used as seed money to lever in additional funding. This means that up to 30 per cent of the overall costs will come from council funds with developers providing the remaining amount.

Wandsworth's housing spokesman Cllr Paul Ellis said: "This is an ambitious but achievable target to increase the borough's supply of affordable housing over the next three to five years."

Across Wandsworth as a whole, more than 1,600 affordable homes are expected to be built in the next four years.



Royal visit

Trinity Hospice received a visit from its royal patron, the Duchess of Cornwall, recently. She inspected the new physiotherapy gym and chatted with staff, patients volunteers and children taking part in Trinity's annual fundraising Easter Chick campaign (pictured). The Clapham Common North Side hospice must raise most of its income through charitable donations. Find out more at www.trinityhospice.org.uk.

Working right

Wandsworth's Work Right scheme is helping local people with disabilities get jobs.

The council-run scheme is not about creating extra jobs, but about matching people with real vacancies at the council and elsewhere. The aim is to improve people's wellbeing, make them more independent and reduce their reliance on benefits.

The scheme has been running two years and so far 96 people have been referred to the scheme and 18 now have paid jobs within the council, plus a further 10 elsewhere. Many more have been given work experience.

For more details visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/employmentsupport

Blue badge fraud

Around 500 drivers have been brought before the courts for fraudulently using disabled parking badges since the council's fraud team began to actively investigate misuse of the scheme. This has led to £650,000 being returned to the public purse in fines and court costs. Anyone with information about blue badge misuse can call freephone number 0800 085 0866 or email parking@wandsworth.gov.uk.

Cutting energy costs

Tenants living in 1,800 council properties in Wandsworth are to see their heating and hot water bills cut by up to 15 per cent from April due to council investment in cavity wall insulation, the installation of modern energy efficient boilers and heating systems and the prudent bulk purchasing of gas ahead of recent price increases.

Councillors have also approved a rent freeze for around 17,000 council tenants from April.

Start work and get a home

Twenty year old Georgia Driver is just one of 15 young people accepted onto the council's Housing into Work pilot scheme.

The scheme works by offering a council or housing association property to 18 to 30 year old unemployed people or part-time workers, on condition that they find work, increase their part-time hours significantly, or take part in training to make them ready for work. Georgia is one of four who are now in their own home, while eight have successfully got jobs.

"I've been really lucky because my new flat is next door to my aunt's in Battersea," said Georgia. "I've now got an apprenticeship with the NHS and I'm taking a business administration course at college on day release. I feel really lucky at 20 to have a job and a home to call my own. And I can't wait to put personal touches to it."

"The Housing into Work scheme is brilliant. It gives you the start, stability and opportunity to move forward with your life and really go for what you want."

▶▶ **If you are aged 18 - 30 and interested in finding out more about Housing into Work visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/housingintowork.**





Fishy tale for youngsters helped by mayor

Youngsters from borough schools have been battling it out in the Wandsworth Young Chef of the Year competition.

The finalists received tips from the experts at an early morning trip to Billingsgate Fish Market and were due to compete against each other in the final at Burntwood School as Brightside went to press.

The Wandsworth Young Chef competition is the brainchild of the mayor of Wandsworth, Angela Graham. She has teamed up with Nick Vadis, UK Executive Chef of the major catering contractor Compass, who provided chefs to train and mentor all the finalists. All the finalists were taught key techniques by their mentor and will have to stick to a budget. The winner will see his or her menu served at a gala dinner in the Portrait Room at Roehampton University on April 3. All the finalists will help Compass chefs cook the meal.

The winner will also be offered work experience with the Compass Group, helping to cater for a major event. Compass is responsible for the catering at the Brits, the Oscars, Twickenham Stadium and other major venues and events.

Cllr Graham has spent her mayoral year creating opportunities for young people. She has arranged a Big Conversation event for the town hall, a Wandsworth Dragons' Den competition for young entrepreneurs (see page 15), is supporting local youth groups and charities, and has held a Youth Fashion event to find Wandsworth's top young designer.

All the fashion competition finalists' work will be displayed at the Pump House Gallery from April 25 for a month.



Have your say in Roehampton

Residents of Roehampton are being presented with a clearer masterplan for how the Alton area could be improved.

The new proposals include ideas which received high levels of local support in last October's consultation, while less popular options have been set aside.

The 'preferred option' introduces new layers of detail which have been developed based on the feedback received so far during the options consultation held last year, but it is not a fixed plan and residents can influence the design and development approach.

Alongside the estate masterplanning scheme, the council has focused its new employment support services on this part of Roehampton and a major public health initiative is underway in the area which includes free gym memberships, free health checks and healthy eating classes.

A booklet summarising the preferred option has been delivered to all properties on the Alton estate and is available at the Roehampton Library on Danebury Avenue and the council office on Holybourne Avenue. Exhibition boards explaining the preferred option and a 3D model showing how the area could look, will be on display at Roehampton Library until April 7.

►► **Find out more and sign up for e-newsletters at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/roehampton.**





Ground breaks at Bosco

Work has officially started on Wandsworth's new Catholic secondary school and sixth form college at Surrey Lane, Battersea.

The building will be the permanent home for St John Bosco College.

The school is currently located on the former John Paul II site at Princes Way, Southfields and will move to its new Battersea home once the new building is ready - expected to be in 2015.

It will include a specialist council funded unit which will support up to 25 pupils with autistic spectrum disorders. The wider Battersea community will be able to use the school's drama studios and fully-equipped sports hall.

New homes will be built on the site by developers Lend Lease. The former John Paul II site at Princes Way, Southfields will also be used for new homes.

The value created through both will finance the creation of the new school campus at Surrey Lane.

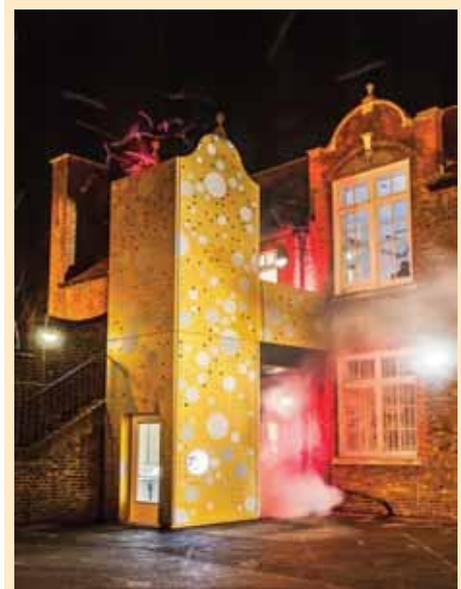
The picture show Head girl and boy Sibongile Zulu and Alexander Olivette with headteacher Simon Uttley, the council's education spokesman Kathy Tracey and leader of Wandsworth Council Ravi Govindia.

Get ready for elections

Borough Council and European Parliamentary Elections are being held on Thursday 22 May 2014.

Poll cards will be delivered to all registered electors from April 18-21. If you are not registered you have until midnight on May 6 to get your completed form into the council's Electoral Services department. If you wish to vote by post, the deadline for completed postal vote application forms is 5pm on May 7.

For more information call (020) 8871 6023 or email electoral@wandsworth.gov.uk



Place of wonder

Oily Cart has returned to its newly refurbished premises at Smallwood School.

The Tooting-based theatre company creates theatre for young people with Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities or an Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

The new offices, rehearsal room and workshops are as accessible as possible and feature interactive and multi-sensory features including a gold-clad lift in the playground.

Visit www.oilycart.org.uk.

New art market

Art on the Putney Embankment will be held on the first Sunday of every month from May 4.

The borough's best artists specialising in fine art, ceramics, mixed media, graphics, glass, jewellery, photography, textiles, wood carving/furniture, sculpture and illustration will be showing their wares.

To find out more email ngrant@wandsworth.gov.uk.

Youth grant up for grabs

Applications are now being accepted for the latest round of Youth Opportunity Fund grants. The fund is a £130,000 pot given to young people to fund community projects, or to spruce up premises used by youth groups.

Email yof@wandsworth.gov.uk, call Antonia on (020) 8871 8530 or download an application form at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/youth.

Tie the knot

Same sex couples can get married from March 29. Same sex marriage is only available to couples who are not already in a civil partnership.

Couples will be able to convert their existing civil partnership into a marriage if they wish, but not until later this year.

Contact the register office on (020) 8871 6120.

Getting the measure of aircraft noise



Wandsworth Council and the all-party 2M Group has launched an independent noise report in the House of Commons which challenges the way Sir Howard Davies and his Airports Commission are measuring the impact of aircraft noise.

The 'ANASE update study' by acoustician Dr Ian Flindell highlights the inadequacy of the existing 57 decibel noise benchmark which the Commission is using as the basis for recommending additional runway capacity and night flights.

According to this benchmark Putney, Wandsworth Town and Battersea are not affected by noise from aircraft. The council and local residents living in these areas strongly dispute this assessment.

Council leader Ravi Govindia said:

"We first submitted the updated ANASE study to Davies in September last year. We have also highlighted the volume of noise complaints from residents in Wandsworth and other places outside of the 57 decibel area.

"The Commission has not engaged with us over this crucial evidence. As a result Davies was able to propose more night flights over Wandsworth as well as shortlist Heathrow as a potential site for a new runway.

"Our launch of the ANASE report at the Commons will make it harder for Davies to ignore its findings.

"We also need residents to join our campaign for a fair deal on noise. You can write to Howard Davies, write to the Transport Secretary, come to our public meetings and ask your neighbours to do the same.

"It was public pressure that forced the abandonment of previous runway plans in 2010. Send your first email today and we can win this battle again."

To put your views on record and help demonstrate the strength of feeling about aircraft noise in Wandsworth you can email Sir Howard Davies, Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin and Heathrow airport:

- Howard.Davies@airports.gsi.gov.uk
- transportsecretary@dft.gsi.gov.uk
- noise_complaints@heathrow.com

To sign up for Wandsworth Council's e-newsletter on Heathrow email aviation@wandsworth.gov.uk with 'subscribe' in the subject box.

Find out more at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/heathrow



Music success

Quinn Oulton, a sixth former at Saint Cecilia's school, has been offered a place to study at the prestigious Royal Academy of Music. Quinn is a talented saxophonist, drummer, guitarist and composer. He has attended the Grammy Camp in LA, has had the opportunity to perform in venues such as the Royal Festival Hall and attended the World Heart Beat Music Academy in Southfields, which helps local youngsters develop their musical talent.

Libraries open later

Libraries contractor GLL has extended opening hours at Balham and Putney libraries on Fridays.

Instead of closing at 2pm both libraries will remain open until 5pm. For more information about library opening hours visit www.better.org.uk/libraries

Citizenship help

The council's Nationality and Settlement Checking Service is run in partnership with the UK Border Agency and aims to streamline the process for people applying for British citizenship. It will help ensure your form is filled out properly and will copy your documents and post the application to the Home Office. You can keep your passport and travel during the process.

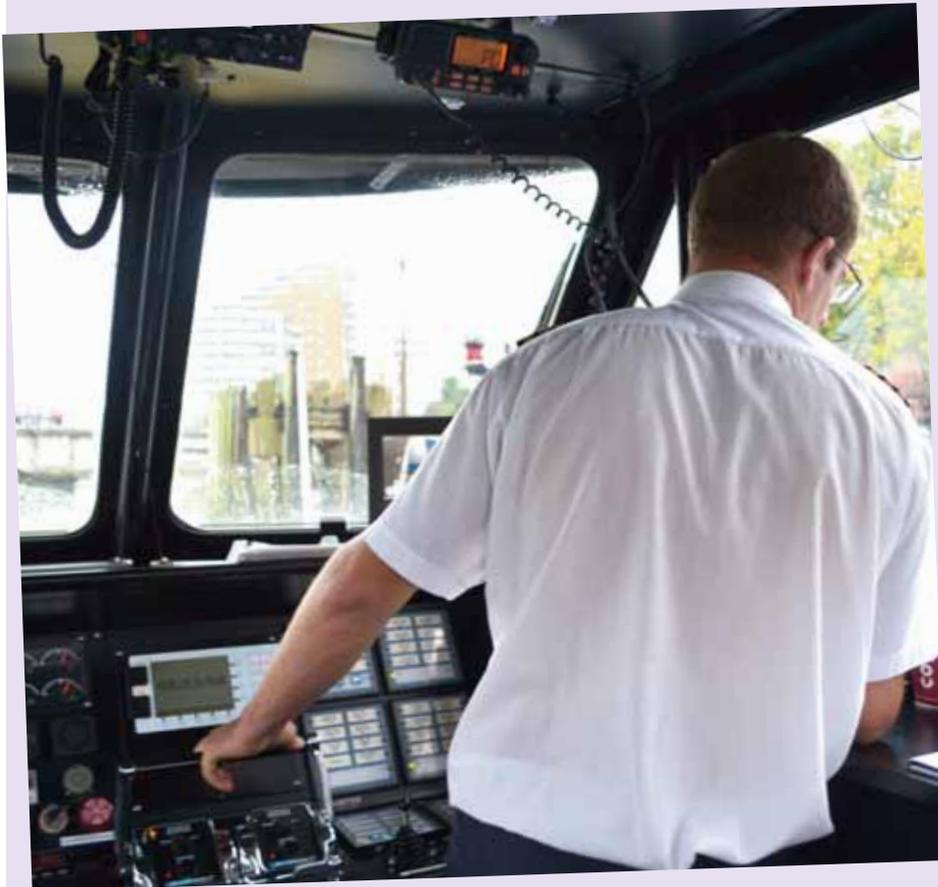
It also offers the Settlement Checking Service for those who have a two years spousal visa and are applying for indefinite leave to remain.

Visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/ncs or call (020) 8871 6124.

Pub consultation

A public consultation has been launched after the council published two 'Article 4 Directions' for The Wheatheaf pub on Upper Tooting Road. If the directions are approved the owners would need to apply for planning permission before changing the building's use or starting demolition work.

The consultation runs until April 3. Find out more at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/wheatheaf.



More people go by riverbus

Major improvements to Wandsworth's riverbus services are attracting more and more local commuters onto the Thames, new figures show.

The Putney to Blackfriars route has seen a 130 per cent increase in passenger numbers since its re-launch in April 2013.

And as demand has increased more services have been added to the timetable with some boats now travelling direct to Canary Wharf. Journey times from Putney to central London are now just over 40 minutes, with commuters enjoying on-board coffee shops and free wi-fi.

Services currently stop in the borough at Putney Pier and Wandsworth Riverside Quarter, and the town hall is using its planning powers to secure new passenger piers at Plantation Wharf and Battersea Power Station.

Cllr Russell King, Wandsworth's transport spokesman, said:

"The council has worked long and hard to help secure a riverbus service with the frequency and speed today's commuters expect. I'm delighted so many local people are now enjoying this new travel option and we will continue our efforts to build up the timetable and deliver new piers."

Bigger, better trains on District Line

A new generation of bigger and better 's-class' trains are now being rolled out on District Line services between Wimbledon and Edgware Road – bringing overcrowding relief to thousands of local commuters.

Wandsworth Council has campaigned for major improvements to this section of the District Line which is one of the most over-stretched parts of the Tube network.

The s-class trains are longer than the carriages they're replacing. Passengers can walk the whole length of the train, so it is easier to get to the least crowded parts, and this also improves passenger safety and security, according to Transport for London.

The new trains provide an 18 per cent increase in capacity. They are built by Bombardier in Derby and are all air conditioned and have lower floors to ease accessibility for disabled people and parents with buggies. CCTV also enables the driver to see into every carriage while track-to-train video links give the driver a better view of the outside of the train before leaving a station.

Other transport improvements either achieved, or in the pipeline, include:

- ✓ The extension of the Barclays Hire Scheme to the north of the borough
- ✓ A massive road and pavement repair programme
- ✓ A new cross-London Overground route from Clapham Junction
- ✓ The extension of the Northern Line to Battersea
- ✓ Prioritising the removal of the Wandsworth one-way system
- ✓ Lobbying for new bus routes
- ✓ Longer, higher capacity trains are now running on Southern Railways services into Victoria and London Bridge

► **Find out more about the council's transport development plans at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/travelchoices**

Rates relief for shops

Borough shops will get help with their business rates to help high streets flourish.

Shops, pubs and restaurants can apply for up to £1000 in business rates relief in the coming financial year and in 2015/16. Around 3,000 business could benefit and a total of £1.5m could be handed out in the first year alone.

Businesses that could qualify for the scheme, set to come in from April, include shops, restaurants, cafes, takeaways, pubs and bars, post offices, charity shops, hairdressers and beauty salons, dry cleaners and other high street stores, food outlets and services.

To be eligible, they would need a rateable value of £50,000 or less. To apply they would need to complete an application form. Business rates are collected by the council on behalf of the government, and the cost of the rate relief would be met by the government. Any reduction would be applied after other schemes for which firms may be eligible, such as Small Business Rates Relief.

The council's finance spokesman Guy Senior said:

"The council is keen to do what it can to help shops and restaurants which are the lifeblood of our high streets. The borough's town centres have weathered the recession relatively well, but we know times have been difficult for traders – especially with the challenge from online retailers."



Enterprising week

Hundreds of local business people took part in the inaugural Wandsworth Enterprise Week in February.

Key events included a Business Forum, featuring motivational talks from guest speakers including Jo Jo Maman Bebe founder Laura Tenison, plus special events for food businesses, young entrepreneurs, women in business and older people interested in starting up their own business. The pictures show Laura Tenison, and young entrepreneurs Revive showing off their wares in Southside Shopping Centre during Youth Enterprise Day.

Business loan fund launch

Wandsworth businesses struggling to get the finance to grow can now apply for loans of up to £22,000 thanks to the new Wandsworth Business Loan Fund.

The Fund will give the borough's small and medium-sized businesses, who may have been turned down by mainstream providers such as banks, a new funding option.

The £800,000 loan fund has been created with a £400,000 investment from Wandsworth Council and a matched amount from GLE oneLondon – a leading provider of finance for new and growing businesses specialising in lending to those who have been turned down by commercial lenders.

Businesses can use the loan for a number of purposes, including investing in equipment, boosting sales, promoting their product or services or safeguarding jobs.

A free one-to-one business review is available to businesses interested in applying for a loan. To be eligible, businesses must be based in Wandsworth, have been trading for more than 12 months and employ less than 100 staff.

►► **Find out if your company is eligible and apply on 0845 603 2820 or email wandsworthloans@gle.co.uk**





Facing the dragons

Enterprising students from Graveney School won first prize in this year's Wandsworth Dragon's Den competition.

All the borough's schools and colleges were invited to enter teams of 16 to 18 year olds to pitch to a panel of 'dragons', and each group was given a business mentor to help them develop their ideas.

The winning group from Graveney School hit the jackpot with their product Runaway Teen – an alarm clock on wheels with a high-frequency alarm that can only be heard by young people, or those with exceptional hearing. They took home the first prize of £500.

The competition was run by the Wandsworth Education Business Partnership with support from the Putney Rotary Club as part of the Mayor of Wandsworth's programme of events to provide more opportunities for young people.

The picture shows the winning team, Laura Aimable, Aamina Alidina and El-Hannah Emadago, giving their pitch.



Pizza the action

If you have a taste for Firebread keep an eye out for the Well Kneaded vintage Citroen van.

The company was started by Bridget Goodwin and Briony Lewis from their homes on the Winstanley Estate. Firebread is a wood-baked sourdough pizza topped with organic British fare.

Now they work with local youth groups to take on local young people to work in the business. One of them, Carl (pictured), has been running the van every Saturday during March in Northcote Road Market. Search for wellkneadedwagon on Facebook.



Housing estate to be transformed

The council is improving the York Road and Winstanley Estates in Battersea and has been talking to local people to get their views.

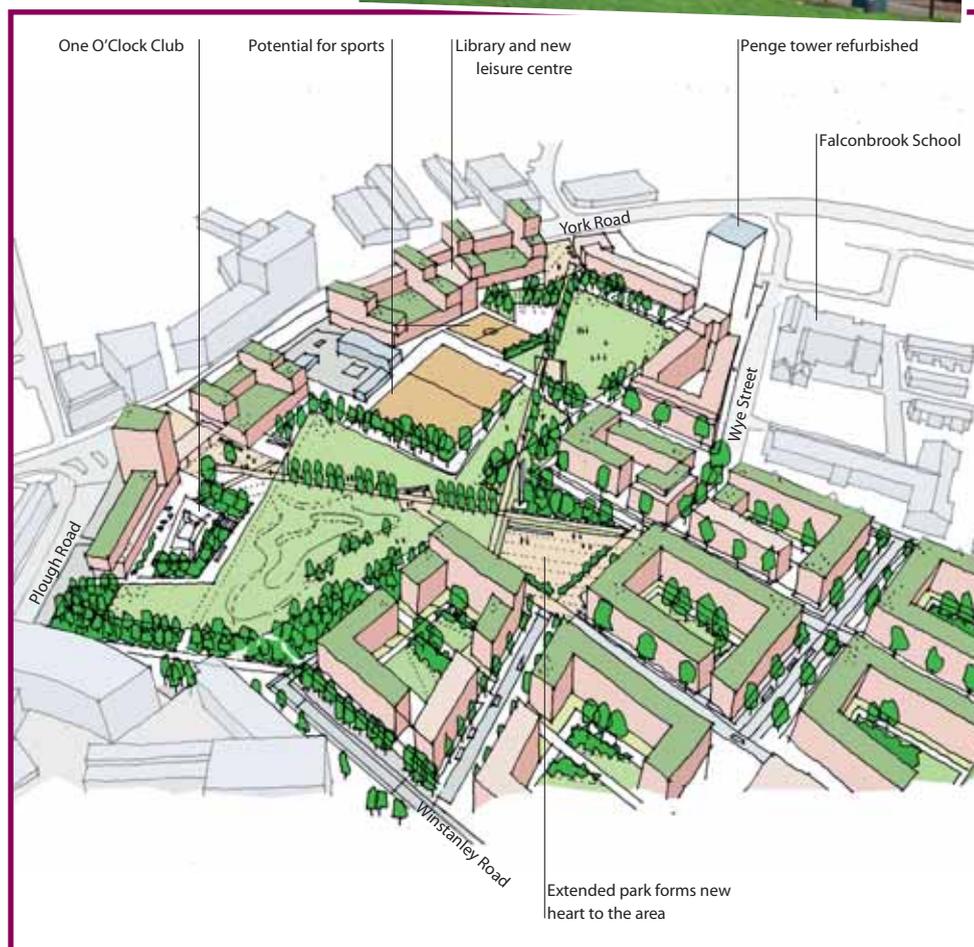
Local residents have come out in favour of a major redevelopment project which will see the estates completely transformed.

Given the choice between four different options, 70 per cent chose a more radical approach. These now form the basis of a 'preferred option', which the council will continue to develop alongside the community.

The changes will mean

- Many of the existing 1960s and 70s housing blocks and shops would be replaced with modern buildings built around a traditional street pattern. Some other blocks will be refurbished.
- New streetlighting, landscaping and other environmental improvements will be carried out.
- A new library, leisure centre and community centre will be built.
- The existing park will be improved, with new sports pitches and better children's play facilities.
- A public square will be created outside the entrance to Clapham Junction Station on Grant Road, which will be lined with new shops, cafes and businesses.
- A network of new and improved pedestrian and cycle paths would be created to better integrate the estates with the surrounding area.

►► Find out more and sign up for e-newsletters about the project at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/winstanleyorkroad



Join the adventure

Wandsworth District Scouts are searching for volunteers to help provide fun, friendship and adventure to young people across the borough.

Around 800 young people are involved in scouting in the borough. Helpers and leaders are always needed, but if you cannot make a regular commitment every week you can still help out as a Group Executive Committee Member. They support groups by helping with tasks such as financial management, administration and event management.

►► To find out more about volunteer vacancies contact Jack Gibson, the Development Officer for Scouting in Wandsworth, at Jack.gibson@southlondonscouts.org.uk or call 07449318940.

Going straight

A new team keeping the borough's most prolific burglars and shoplifters on the straight and narrow has helped slash reoffending rates.

The Integrated Offender Management Team looks at why people reoffend – often to fund a drug habit – and works intensively with them to overcome problems. The service has been running just over a year and almost 60 per cent of the people helped by the team subsequently committed few offences.

The team is made up of specialist officers from the council, the Probation Service, the police, drug services and the prison service and is linked with projects such as AIR Football, which uses sport to help people change their behaviour.

Clients are closely monitored by the police, and are given the help they need to turn their back on offending. This could include help with housing or employment, support to tackle a mental health issue or drugs problem, or the chance to get one-to-one mentoring from someone who has been in a similar situation in the past.

The picture shows the IOM team at a Well Being day. All the offenders were invited to a get-together to meet with probation, drugs, mental health and employment workers, were given a bag of emergency food and small donated gifts and given advice. They were also introduced to local community groups, including Carney's Boxing Club.



John's story

John (not his real name) was sentenced to a Community Order with 12 months Supervision and six months Drug Rehabilitation. He was put on the IOM scheme and given access to a drugs worker, intense probation supervision, increased police monitoring and an outreach worker.

"I finished my hospital detox and was put on a 12-week programme in the community. I had to do drug tests, but they were all negative. When you leave hospital is the time you need the most support, and I was able to meet my probation officer and drugs worker every week. They also helped pay for six months' gym membership, which helped keep me fit and, more importantly, busy. At the end of the 12 weeks they helped me get on a college course, and now I'm doing well and free of drugs."



Beat the burglars

The council is running an anti-burglary drive to help keep people's homes safe.

Reported crime fell by 11 per cent in the borough last year, including a significant fall in burglary, and Wandsworth remains inner London's safest borough.

But the council's community safety team, working with the police and neighbourhood watches, is determined to see burglary levels fall even further.

A grant from the mayor of London has helped it draw up an anti-burglary plan, and it is targeting hotspots, holding roadshows and distributing leaflets in those areas giving tips to householders, and carrying out practical measures such as hedgecutting and lock fitting.

It is also visiting properties that have previously been burgled to check if security is improved, but is urging local people to beef up home security before they are burgled – not after.

One of the most common ways for burglars to get in is through insecure sash windows.

- Check sash window fastenings regularly to ensure they are tightly done up. They can work loose over time.
- Chose a 'lever arm' type of lock, which is more secure.
- If you have sash bolts, fit them as low as possible so the window cannot open at all. Just opening a couple of inches will mean burglars can use a tool to prise off the beading from the inside of the window which will then allow the window to be pushed in like a cat flap.
- Fit a house alarm, register your property marked and register your valuables on www.immobilise.com.

► Get more tips at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/homesecurity

Thanks to volunteers

The Katherine Low Settlement in Battersea has thanked its hard-working volunteers.

The Mayor of Wandsworth went along to present 139 volunteers with her special Volunteer pins and has put their names on her Roll of Honour. You can view this online at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/rollofhonour.

Katherine Low Settlement has a long tradition of volunteering. It was founded by volunteers and they still form its lifeblood, carrying out tasks including working in the crèche, helping at the older people's lunch club and the homework club, teaching English classes, and being a learning mentor.

The charity provides support to the community across Battersea. This year it celebrates its 90th anniversary. Events include Question Time with local councillors on May 1 and its official birthday party on May 17. If you want to find out more or go along, visit or call (020) 7223 2845.



Fardous Addulrahman with the Mayor

Get Growing this Spring

Improve your gardening skills, meet other gardeners and help your community at Grow Active food growing workshops run by the council for local residents.

The sessions will involve learning new skills, sharing tips and getting involved in practical activities. You will be able to ask questions and receive expert advice, and time is set aside for networking with others. They are aimed at gardeners from Wandsworth community gardens, allotments, housing estates and schools.

It doesn't matter if you don't have a garden. You can grow food in pots or volunteer to work on local gardens that need a helping hand. Workshops are free, you'll just be asked for a donation towards refreshments.

Sessions run from 6.30pm to 8pm at the Penfold Centre, Neville Gill Close, Wandsworth. Upcoming dates are April 22, May 19, June 23 and July 21. Call Jo Baxter on (020) 8871 6774 or email jbaxter@wandsworth.gov.uk.



Get your free NHS Health Check in selected Wandsworth pharmacies

You may be eligible for a free NHS Health check if you are aged between 40 and 74, haven't already been diagnosed with heart disease, stroke, diabetes or kidney disease and have not had an NHS Health Check in the last five years.

Having the check can identify early signs of Cardiovascular Disease and help you identify small lifestyle changes you can make that reduce the chance of complications.

Where can I have my health check?

You can pop into five local pharmacies:

- Auckland Rogers Pharmacy, 892 Garratt Lane, SW17 0NB
- HealthChem, 4-5 Station Parade, Balham High Rd, SW12 9AZ
- Nettles Pharmacy, 18 Upper Tooting Road, SW17 7PG
- Northcote Pharmacy, 130 Northcote Road, SW11 6QZ
- Pearl Chemist, 136 Mitcham Road, SW17 9NH

You can also call your GP to find out if you are eligible and book an appointment, or alternatively visit the Solutions 4 Health mobile clinic. Find out where it is at www.myhealthcheckwandsworth.co.uk.

Find out more about free NHS Health checks from the council's Public Health team on (020) 8871 5026 or visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/healthchecks.

Design for Life

Some of the borough's best new and renovated buildings have been recognised in this year's Wandsworth Design awards.

The Royal College of Art building won the Mayor's Design Award for outstanding contribution to the borough. Read more about the RCA's expansion in the borough on page 25.

The other Design Award winners were 3 Rosehill Road in Wandsworth - judged an imaginative and contemporary solution to extending the existing building - the King's Head in Roehampton High Street, described as an exemplary and well-mannered restoration of a grade II listed pub, and Burntwood School in Tooting - which judges felt was an imaginative solution to provide additional floor space.

The Wandsworth Design Awards, run by the council, are in their eighth year. They aim to recognise and raise the profile of good design and help architects and designers raise their game.

There were also nine commendations, including Earlsfield Station, the former Granada Cinema in Battersea and Roehampton House.



The Kings Head

Come along and join in

CYCLE FUN DAY

Alton Primary School
Saturday May 10th 2014
10am till 4pm

- Cycle training for all ages and abilities
- Static bike racing
- Pedal power smoothie making
- Dr Bike
- HGV experience - drivers eye view
- Cycle rides in Richmond Park

Goodie bag giveaway
Free raffle - top prize
£100 of cycle vouchers

Find out more
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/roadsafety

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Wandsworth

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Reach thousands of local buyers in a few easy steps. ■ ■ ■ ■

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One person's trash is another person's treasure
Post ads for FREE
Get saving, get selling, turn your unused items into cash!

Declutter your home

Don't use it?
Sell it.



The council's environment spokesman Cllr Jonathan Cook meets recycling crews.

I don't know what I can recycle

The only things that should be put in recycling sacks or banks are:

- Paper and card/cardboard (excluding shredded, wet or dirty paper)
- Glass bottles and jars (but no broken glass in the clear sacks!)
- Plastic bottles, pots tubs and trays
- Cans, tins and empty aerosols
- Food/drinks cartons (e.g. TetraPaks)

Food residue should be rinsed off before recycling and lids should be removed from food containers and bottles. Get full details of what can and can't be recycled at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/recyclefromhome.

What do I do with the rest?

Find out what to do with things you can't recycle in the council's clear sacks and orange-lidded recycling banks at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/recyclinga-z.

There's no point recycling – it all goes to landfill anyway

We no longer send anything to landfill, and if you put something out for recycling then we promise we recycle it. Visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/what-happens-to-recycling.

Carry on recycling

A survey of 15,000 local homes last November showed more than 90 per cent of you recycle.

Since 2011, Wandsworth has gone from the council sending the most contaminated recycling to the Smugglers Way plant, to the one sending the least – from almost 20 per cent of loads to just under 15 per cent. This has saved council tax payers £28,818 a year.

But the council wants to make sure everyone recycles as much as they can. It saves council tax payers' money because it's cheaper for the council to send items for recycling than it is to send them to the energy-from-waste plant in Kent for disposal.

Recycling bosses are also keen to make sure recycled loads are not 'contaminated' with non-recyclable items, such as textiles and plastic bags. The council has to pay twice for any contaminated recycling – firstly to sort it out and then to dispose of it along with other general rubbish.

The survey showed many of you still are not clear about what you can recycle and how to get hold of clear sacks, so here we answer some of your questions.

I can't recycle because you don't deliver enough sacks

Households that run out do not have to wait for their next delivery. Extras can be ordered whenever you need them in the following ways.

- Request an extra delivery online at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/recycling
- Email: wasteservices@wandsworth.gov.uk
- Text: 07797 805 456
- Telephone: (020) 8871 7497



I can't recycle because I live in a flat

If your general rubbish is collected in large, communal wheeled bins (as is the case at most purpose built flats), it is true you are not eligible for the clear sack scheme. But instead you can put your recycling in orange-lidded recycling banks. Free reusable orange bags are available for you to transport your recycling to the banks. Email wasteservices@wandsworth.gov.uk if you would like one delivered to you.



Recycling sacks are on their way...

Households that receive the clear sack recycling service should get a delivery of three rolls of 30 clear sacks to their doorstep by the end of March.

If you run out of clear recycling sacks, contact us to request an extra roll — it will be delivered within nine days. Or collect a roll from the town hall.

If you don't receive your delivery, please tell us.

Thank you for recycling.



Meet the non-recyclables at www.nonrecyclables.com



Contact us:
online www.wandsworth.gov.uk/waste
email wasteservices@wandsworth.gov.uk
phone (020) 8871 8558



Be Clear on Cancer

Wandsworth women aged 70 and over are urged to Be Clear on Cancer.

The national NHS Be Clear on Cancer Campaign wants older women to be aware of the key symptoms of breast cancer and to discuss any concerns with their doctor. When cancer is picked up early, treatment is more likely to be successful.

Locally the mayor of Wandsworth Cllr Angela Graham is spearheading this campaign working closely with public health and its local partners to get the message out.

Being breast aware means getting to know how your breasts look and feel at different times and telling your doctor straight away if you notice any changes.



“If you’re worried, pick up the phone and get seen by a doctor”

“I’ve had cancer in my family – my sister and aunt had it, and my mum and dad both died of it. But what’s marvellous now is that we’re much more able these days to nip it in the bud. Did you know if you’re over 70 you can still get screened?” said Cllr Graham.

“If you’re worried, pick up the phone and get seen by a doctor. You might be frightened of facing up to it, but these days cancer is treatable and beatable. It might not be anything, but if it is something you will get immediate treatment that could save your life.”

▶▶ For more information visit www.nhs.uk/breastcancer70.

If you want to talk in confidence about cancer, call Cancer Research UK’s information nurses on Freephone 0808 800 4040.

If you are aged 70 or over and haven’t been for breast screening in the last three years you can book an appointment at the South West London Breast Screening Unit on (020) 8725 2723.

Facts about breast cancer in older women

- Nationally one in three women with breast cancer are over 70
- Breast cancer is the most common cause of cancer for women in Wandsworth
- The older you are, the more likely you are to get breast cancer
- On average women in south west London wait 68 days between first noticing a symptom of breast cancer and visiting a GP
- Women over the age of 70 can ask for NHS breast screening every three years, even though they are not routinely invited for screening.

Changes to look for

If you notice any changes in your breasts or any of the symptoms below, contact your GP immediately

- A lump in your breast or armpit
- Nipple changes
- Changes to the skin of your breast
- Changes in the shape or size of your breast
- Pain in your breast or armpit



nhs.uk/breastcancer70

1 in 3 women who get breast cancer are over 70.

A lump isn't the only sign of breast cancer. If you're worried about any changes to your breasts, tell your doctor straight away.



NHS
Joan Brown, 81,
cancer survivor

Vidula's story

'I had a pain in the right side of my breast so I went to the GP. I have always gone for regular breast screening so the doctors were able to compare it to my last mammogram which I had at 70. They found I had a very, very tiny cancer. It was only half a millimetre in size, but I was told it might increase quickly because of my age. The whole process only took two weeks from when they found the cancer to having treatment.

I believe in one thing - whatever comes let it come, but face it so I decided to remove my breast because I didn't want to go through it again. You know, everyone thinks that after 70 you don't get this kind of thing. I never thought that after 70 I would be having this, but I wasn't frightened. I was determined that I will do whatever I want to do. I'll enjoy myself, I'll go on holiday and do whatever I have always dreamed of. I wasn't going to let breast cancer take me over.

I want to say to all women who are over 70 if you have any concerns with anything in your breasts, please don't ignore it. If I had not gone to my GP so quickly it might have been a different situation altogether.



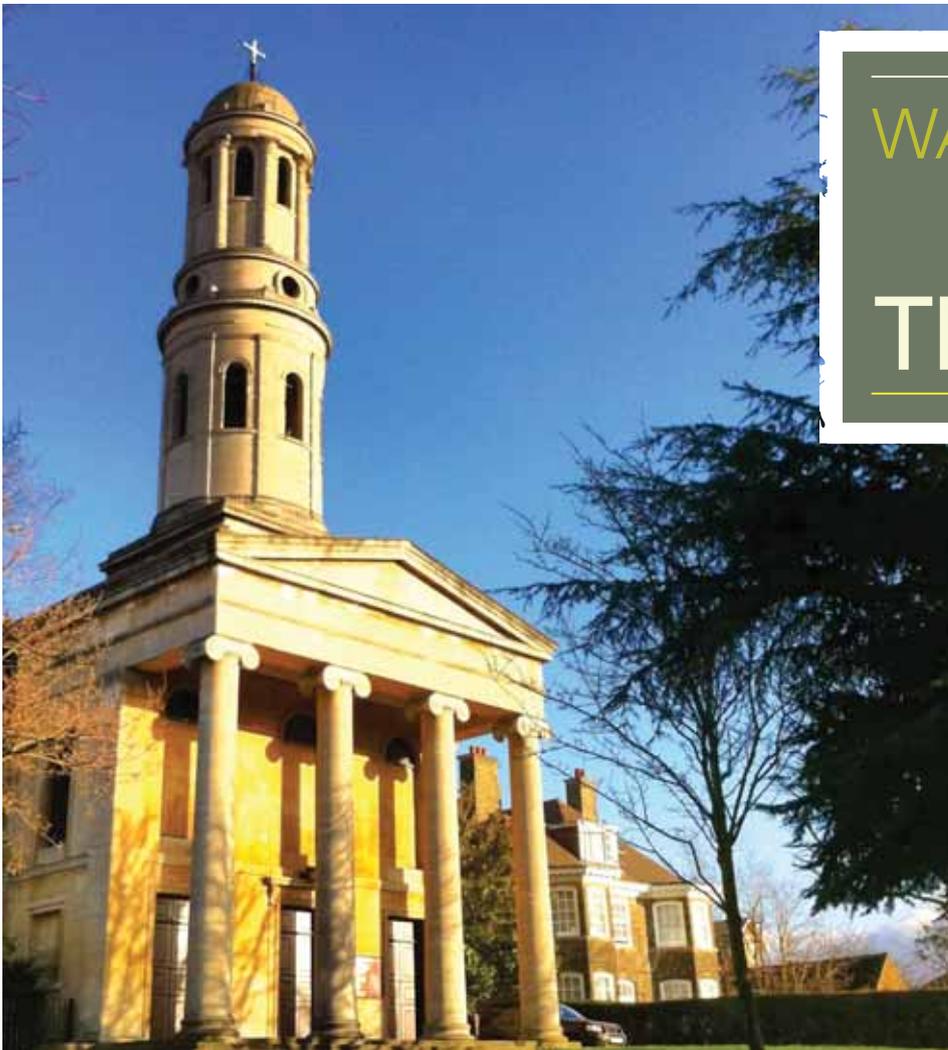
Reassurance and peace of mind
at the touch of a button

WATCH

Lifeline Alarm Service

If you are interested in finding out more
about the WATCH alarm service
call 020 8871 8198
or visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/watch





WANDSWORTH'S HIDDEN TREASURES



In the last edition of Brightside, we asked you to share your Hidden Treasures – borough gems other people may not know about.

Many of you nominated a hidden green oasis. On Twitter, Battersea Events suggested Battersea Rise Cemetery – “wildflowers, quiet place to sit - true treasure.”

On Streetlife, Geoffrey C likes the swathes of daffodils in the grass on either side of Battersea Rise. “They are a credit to those who planted them and must give countless pleasure to motorists stuck in this notoriously slow moving section of the South Circular.”

Painted adverts, or ‘ghost signs’ were a popular suggestion. Maggie Jones pointed out a sign in Russell Yard, off Putney High

Street, that says ‘fire watchers bell’ (pictured). You can see more of her pictures on her flickr page www.flickr.com/photos/maggiejones.

On Streetlife, Gwen E nominated the ghost sign for Peterkin Custard seen at first floor level on the corner of Saint John's Hill and Sangora Road, which shows a Dutch boy in a pair of enormous yellow bloomers, while mungomuffin likes the old Roberts EkdcVision sign above the Indian Room on Bedford Hill.

There were plenty of buildings nominated. Ian Bull on Streetlife likes the Battersea Reference Library – “It’s a terrific confection of Arts & Crafts with a touch of Art Nouveau.” Local photographer Andrew Wilson posted this photo of St Anne’s Church in Wandsworth. “I literally stumbled across it on my bike several years ago - love it - when I finally get around to doing a book on Wandsworth this will definitely feature.”

Some of the more unusual hidden gems include dragons on a roof in Howards Lane, Putney, a Putney milestone and even a person - John who used to stand at the Wimbledon Park/Replingham Road crossing in Southfields shouting out his political views.

The www.welovetooting.com website suggested fans of hidden gems should explore a project they are working on – a map of the hidden treasures in Tooting (left). See it on their website.



We have teamed up with Putney app TiCL to help you find the location of these hidden treasures. Visit <https://ticl.me/Wandsworth/headlines/8321/view>

Keep your ideas coming:
 Post them on our Hidden Treasure webpage www.wandsworth.gov.uk/hiddentreasures
 Tweet them using the hastag #hiddentreasures
 Join the conversation on www.streetlife.com.

Battersea shapes up as culture hub

Battersea's future as a cultural hub has come a step closer with the topping out of the Royal College of Arts new campus development.

The completion of the RCA's £8.4m Woo Building frame was marked by Rector of the Royal College of Art Dr Paul Thompson, Leader of Wandsworth Cllr Ravi Govindia and Vinci Project Manager Mark Johnson.

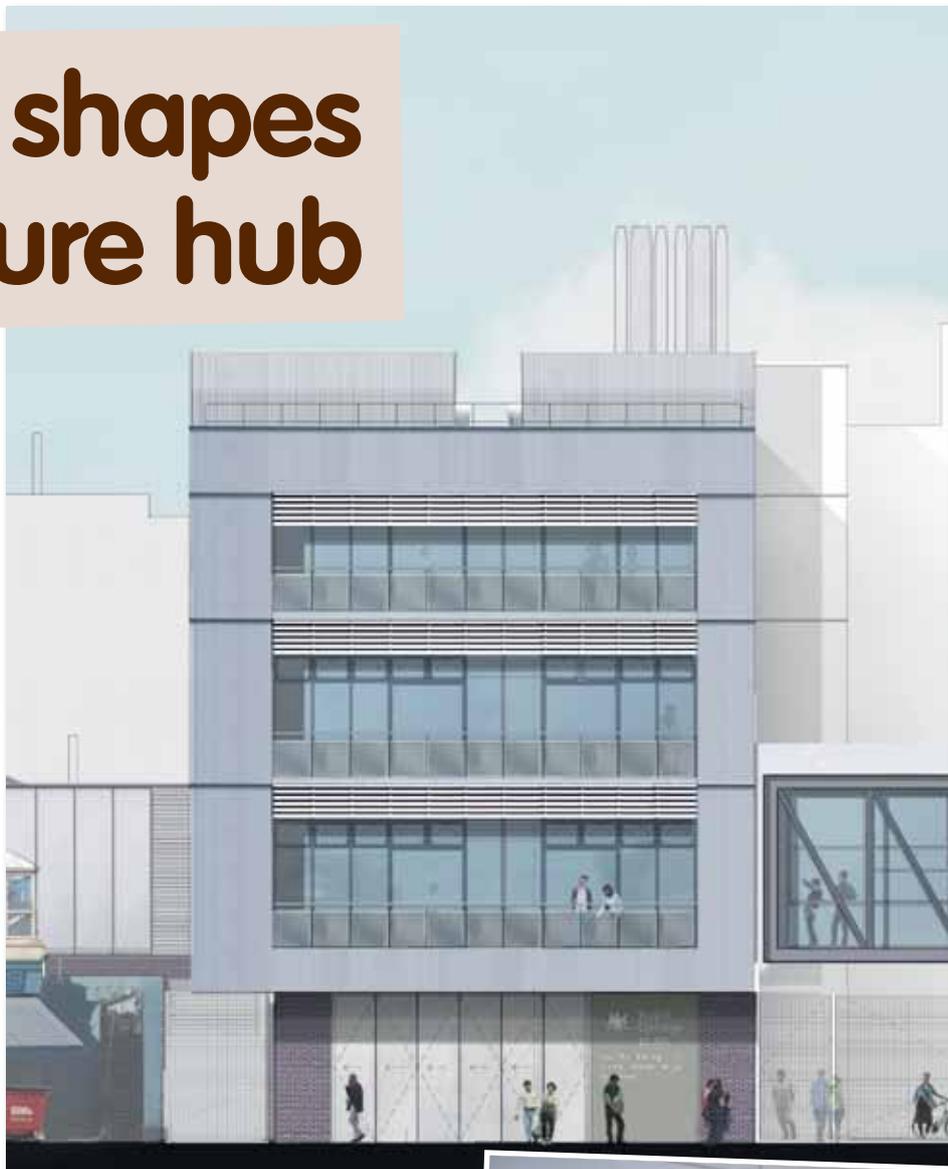
The Woo Building near Battersea Bridge will be handed over by Vinci to the College in September 2014. Following a full fit-out, it will receive its first intake of over 100 students and researchers in January 2015. Upon completion, the building will house a world leading research and teaching centre for ceramics and glass, jewellery and metal. The space will also provide technical facilities to foster innovation for future generations of applied artists.

Rector of the Royal College of Art Dr Paul Thompson said: "When our applied arts programmes move into the Woo Building in January 2015, they will be moving into the finest facilities to be found anywhere in Europe."

As well as its new campus, The RCA has announced plans to open a project space at Riverlight, a new development by St James in Nine Elms on the South Bank. The partnership will offer RCA students an opportunity to engage with a public audience and provide a test-bed for their ideas.

St James has also funded an art competition for local schools. Young artists were invited to share their ideas about what Battersea will look like in the year 2050.

Artist Honor Pinner ran workshops with each school and helped fire up the pupils' imaginations. Three of the best pictures from each school were then entered into the competition final. Rabiah Mohammed from Griffin was awarded the first prize and Tiegan Birchall came runner up.



St James art competition

Below is winner Rabiah Mohammed and right is runner-up Tiegan Birchall.





www.wandsworthartsfestival.com

WANDSWORTH ARTS FESTIVAL +FRINGE 2014 2-18 May

The Wandsworth Arts Festival and Fringe is back this May and promises something for everyone.

The Wandsworth Fringe, led by a group of local arts organisations, features more than 40 performances and events including poetry, theatre, music, exhibitions and workshops. Here are a few highlights.

Blackshaw Theatre will be presenting two theatre pieces: An adaption of Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* suitable for all the family (3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18 May) and the funny and dark story of *Character* by Florence Vincent (2-3, 8-10 and 15-17 May) – both at The Selkirk Upstairs.

Furzedown Oak Sculpture trail exhibition and workshops at various venues (6 May) will engage people in the plans for developing Furzedown Sculpture trail.

For a lunch time treat enjoy a recital by **National Opera Studio** (7 May) in All Saints Church, Wandsworth.

If hip-hop, street dance, live music and beat boxing are your thing, **Urban Industry Hub** will be running a day of workshops for young people followed by an evening performance (17 May).

For cinema fans, try the **Roehampton Outdoor Film Screening** at The Bull Green (16 May).

The **festival launch event** is on Friday 2 May at 6pm at the Ram Brewery, Wandsworth. This is your chance to explore the range of events and activities going on and meet the people who make Wandsworth Fringe. Find out more about the shows or workshops you'd like to attend in the coming two weeks – with the chance to snap up discount tickets.

Meanwhile the **Wandsworth Arts Festival**, a curated festival organised by the council's Arts Team, will be offering events at Church Square, Putney Wharf, the Brick Box in Tooting and the Pump House Gallery, plus town centre events such as **Fire Garden Magic** on the Roehampton Library Green.

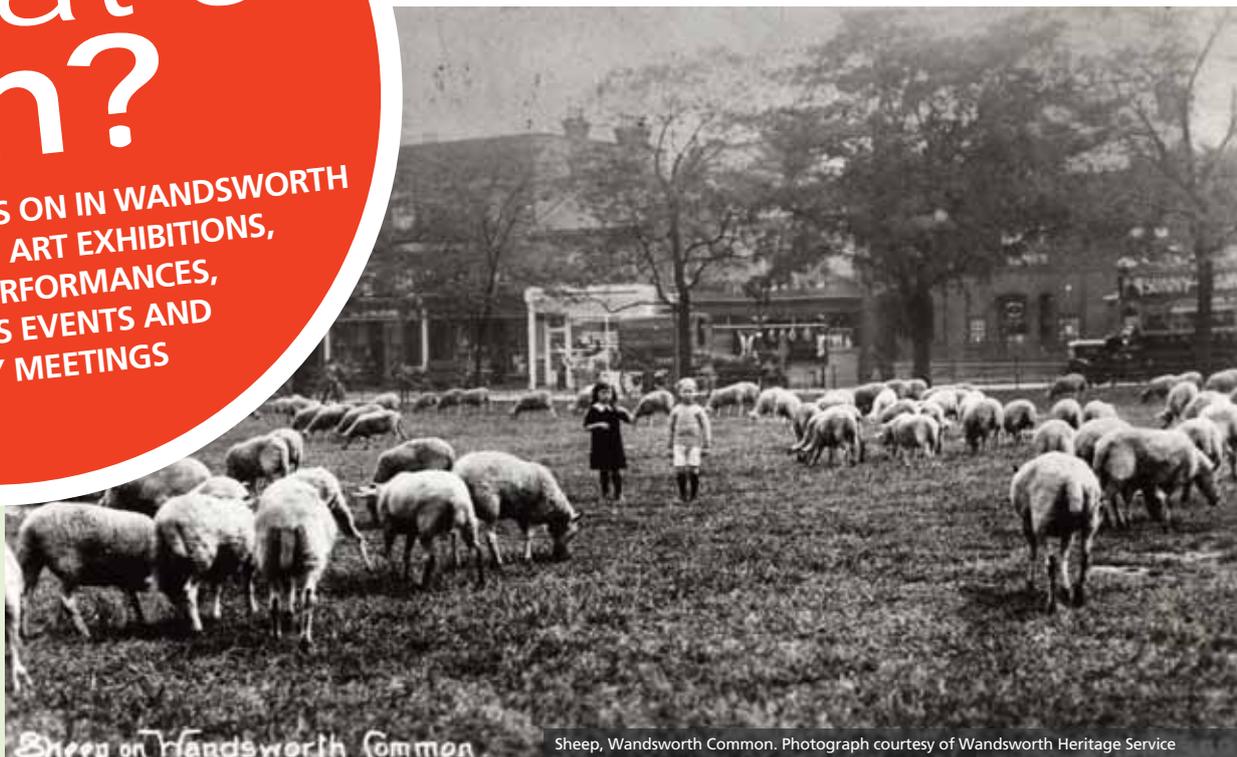
For full Fringe and Festival events visit www.wandsworthartsfestival.com or pick up a brochure in your local library or from some local businesses.

what's on?

WELCOME TO WHAT'S ON IN WANDSWORTH
YOUR GUIDE TO ART EXHIBITIONS,
THEATRE PERFORMANCES,
CHILDREN'S EVENTS AND
SOCIETY MEETINGS

Children's
events are
shaded
yellow

EVENTS FOR APRIL AND MAY



Sheep, Wandsworth Common. Photograph courtesy of Wandsworth Heritage Service

May 24 – June 8

Wandsworth Heritage Festival

This annual festival brings to life some of the history of the borough. There'll be talks, guided walks and family workshops. Highlights include: the festival opening day at Wandsworth Town Library; an interactive local history display at a number of libraries; a talk about Battersea Mayor 1913-14 John Archer; and the hidden history of Putney Library. All events are free but booking is essential.

Full details pick up a programme from your local library from April or visit website www.better.org.uk/libraries

How to be listed

Send details (including access for people with disabilities) to:

whatson@wandsworth.gov.uk

We cannot guarantee that your entry will be inserted. This is a free service. The information in this guide has been provided by the advertisers themselves.

Wandsworth Council accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of the information or for any event not organised by the council.

Free entry
Wheelchair access
Hearing loop

Saturday March 29
7.30pm

Concert: Sinclair Sinfonia
Performing a varied programme of works from Bach to Bruckner. **Tickets £12, concession £8.**

Festival Chorus at St Luke's Church, Thurleigh/Ramsden Roads, SW12. Box office 07951 791619. www.festivalchorus.co.uk
wheelchair

Tuesdays April 1 – May 27
10am-3pm

Needlework Embroidery Classes

For beginners to advanced stitchers. Limited places - advance booking essential. Please bring your own lunch. **Cost £30 per person per day, or £45 with a child under 14.**

Conference Room, Staff Yard, Battersea Park SW11. Visit www.bembroidery.co.uk

Email info@bembroidery.co.uk
Call 0796 181 5115.
wheelchair

Saturday April 5 –
Sunday April 6 12-4pm

Toddler photography
Young children will be shown how to document their earliest memories. **Free.** Pump House Gallery at Southside Shopping Centre, Wandsworth High Street SW18. Call 8871 7572. www.pumphousegallery.org.uk

Starts Monday April 7,
10am

The Putney Village Network for Seniors

Coffee morning every Monday for anyone interested in joining a new support network for older people living in/around Putney. After joining, members can call the

Network coordinator for all kinds of help and also make friends at our social events. Meet at BB's Muffins in Putney Exchange, Putney High Street SW15. Call 8144 3460, email info@putneyvillage.org.uk, or www.putneyvillage.org.uk.

Thursday 10 April 7.45
for 8pm

Local Election Forum

Council Leader Cllr Ravi Govindia, Cllr Rex Osborn leader of Labour Group and other party candidates. All welcome, admission. **Free.** Wandsworth Society, West Side Church, Melody Road, SW18. Call 8870 4567
wheelchair

Saturday April 12 7.30pm

St Matthew Passion

By George Philipp Telemann. SW London Choral Society, St Anne's Church, St Ann's Hill SW18. Tickets email

contact@swlcs.org.uk
www.swlcs.org.uk
wheelchair, loop



Monday March 31
8pm

Talk: Comparing Notes
Soloists and orchestral players, the violinist Thomas Bowes and the cellist John Heley talk with Andrew Keener about life in and out of the orchestra. **Visitor £5, members and under 18s free.** Putney Music, Dryburgh Hall, Putney Leisure Centre, SW15. www.putneymusic.org.uk
Wheelchair

what's on?

APRIL - MAY

Sunday April 13 11am

Clean up the River Wandle

Aiming to improve the habitat of the Wandle Valley.

Venue: In Wandsworth; exact location TBC. Visit website for up to date info. www.wandletrust.org

Thursday April 17 10am-1pm

Make a bunny Easter workshop

Make your own Easter bunny to take home. For children aged 4-8 years. **Cost £22 each child, includes lunch.** Parents drop-off their child for this workshop. Book online at Eddie Catz Putney, 68-70 Putney High Street SW15. www.eddiecatz.com Call 0845 2011268.

Saturday April 19

An evening with Sandi Thom

Sandi recorded her early material in Tooting. Tooting Market, Tooting High Street SW17. Tickets and times www.wegotickets.com/event/249641

Tuesday April 22 – Wednesday April 23 7.30pm

The Paper Cinema's Odyssey

Raging storms and supernatural forces prevail over one man's almighty quest to get home. **Tickets £15-£17.50.** The show is part of BAC's Gods, Myths & Legends season. BAC Lavender Hill SW11. www.bac.org.uk Call 7223 2223.

Friday April 25 8pm

Talk: Battersea in the frame - a short cinematic history

With speaker Aileen Reed, member of the Survey of London team and the Cinematic Geographies of Battersea project. Wandsworth Historical Society, Friends Meeting House, 59 Wandsworth High Street, SW18. Call 8874 6341. Email ngrobson@tiscali.co.uk www.wandsworthhistory.org.uk



Tuesday April 15 - Wednesday April 16, 2-4pm

Wild Wandsworth

Help us to create a menagerie of clay creatures inspired by the beasts and birds of Wandsworth. Experiment with carving, modelling and wire sculpting with experienced potter Bessie Millar. **Cost £3 per child.** For children aged 5+ and their families.

Wandsworth Museum, 38 West Hill SW18. Book in advance, email bookings@wandsworthmuseum.co.uk or call Zoe or Kathryn 8870 6060.

Saturday April 26 7.30pm

Flanders Recorder Quartet

Performing the music of Bach, Vivaldi, Telemann and Geysen. **Tickets £18, concessions £14.** St. Luke's Music Society, St. Luke's Church, Thurleigh Road SW12. Box office 07951 791619. Book online www.slms.org.uk

Wednesday April 30 – Saturday May 3 7.30pm

Stepping Out

Comedy about a beginners' tap dance troupe. **Tickets £9, concessions £5.** New Stagers, St Anne's Church Hall, St. Ann's Hill SW18. Call 0781 461 1239. www.newstagers.co.uk

Tuesday May 6 7 for 7.30pm

Talk: the artist George Watts

Talk with Nick Tromans. **Cost £5.** The Battersea Society, St Mary's Church Battersea Church Road, SW11. www.batterseasociety.org.uk

Wednesday May 7- Saturday May 10 performances 7.45pm plus 2.30pm on Saturday.

Loserville

A musical set in the 1970s and telling the story of a group of American college kids who set out to change to course of history, fashion and dating. **Tickets £15, concessions £12.** Putney Light Operatic Society (PLOS) at Putney Arts Theatre, Ravenna Road SW15. www.plos.co.uk Call 07594 464 799.



Ends Saturday April 26 (open Tues-Fri 12-4pm, Sat 11am-5pm)

Men in Pants: Evelyn De Morgan's drawings

Male life drawings by Evelyn De Morgan, which explore her time at Slade School of Art. **Admission £4, children free.**

The De Morgan Centre, 38 West Hill SW18. www.demorgan.org.uk Call 8871 1144.



Wednesday April 16 to Sunday May 25 (Wednesday-Sunday and Bank Holidays 11am-5pm)

The Garment Project: a fashion exhibition

Celebrating the creative processes involved in making clothes for the fashion industry. Pump House Gallery, Battersea Park SW11. Call 8871 7572. www.pumphousegallery.org.uk

Thursday May 8 1.10pm

Lunchtime opera recital
Part of the Wandsworth Arts Festival. **Free, no need to book.**

All Saints Church,
Wandsworth High Street.
www.nationaloperastudio.org.uk

Monday May 12 8pm

Lecture: Sue Jackson - Art and Architecture in Docklands – Past and Present

Visitors £7.

South-West London
Decorative & Fine Arts Society, Dryburgh Hall,
Putney Leisure Centre,
SW15. Call 8876 1917.

Thursday May 15 7.45 for 8pm

Danubia: a Personal History of Habsburg Europe

Local author Simon Winder will talk about his new book. No need to book. The Wandsworth Society, West Side Church, Melody Road SW18
Call 8870 4567.
www.wandsworthsociety.org.uk

Wheelchair

May 15-18

Open Studios Art Show

Buy directly from 150 artists. Free entry.
10 Riverside Yard, Riverside Road SW17.
www.wimbledonartstudios.co.uk
wheelchair

Thursday May 15- Saturday May 17 7.30pm

Something to Hide

A nail-biting thriller.
Tickets £10, concessions £8.
The Magdalene Players, St. Mary Magdalene Hall,
Trinity Road SW17. Box office 07535 925268.
www.magplayers.org.uk

May 28-31 7.45pm Wed-Fri, 5pm Sat

The Ashgirl

A twist on the Cinderella story. **Tickets £10, concessions Wed and Sat £7.50.**
Southside Players, Chestnut Grove School Theatre,
Boundaries Road, SW12.
Box office 07914 657524.
www.southsideplayers.org.uk



Edge 16 by George Robertson

Wednesday April 9 – Sunday April 20 (open daily 10.30am – 5pm, 4pm Sundays and late night 8pm Thursdays)

By the Edge

Solo exhibition by George Robertson.
Oil&Water, 340 Old York Road, SW18. www.oilandwater.co.uk

Saturday May 31 9.45am

Bliss London Buggy Push and Walk

In aid of special care babies. **Cost £10 each.**
Battersea Park Bandstand SW11. www.bliss.org.uk or call 7378 1122

Saturday May 31 11am-5pm

Bowls Open Day

If you're interested in learning to bowl come along to our taster day. Or, if you can't make it, try a bowls taster session, held each Saturday starting 3rd May, 11am-1pm.
Wimbledon Park Bowls Club, Wimbledon Park, between Arthur Road/Revelstoke Road entrances.
www.wimbledonparkbowls.co.uk or call Barry 8265 5475.



Saturday April 5 – Monday April 21 (zoo open from 10am)

Easter Egg Hunt

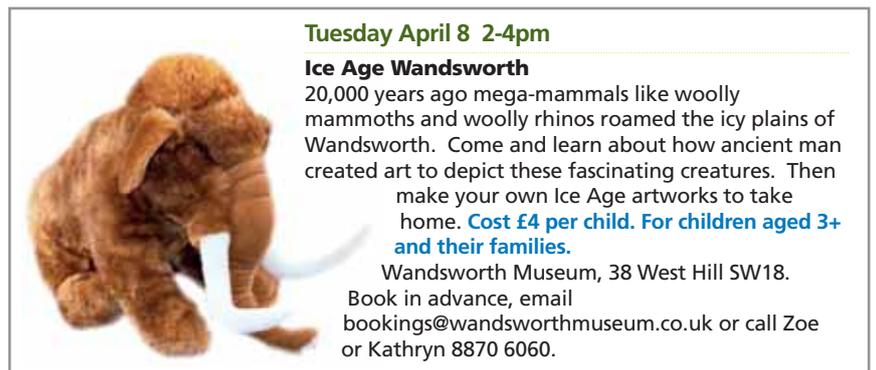
How many zoo animals have got colourful Easter eggs this year? Pick up a quiz sheet upon entry and use the clues to help you find them.
Cost £1 plus entry fee £6.50 child (2-15 years), £8.75 adult, £28 family ticket.
Children's Zoo Battersea Park, SW11. Call 7924 5826 www.batterseaparkzoo.co.uk



Wednesday April 9 (yoga 5.30pm, meditation, 6pm)

Repose Community Yoga

Hatha yoga and meditation classes for people with mental health issues, those recovering from injury and long term illness, and older/vulnerable people affected by isolation. For beginners and intermediates. **First class only £7.** St John's Therapy Centre, 162 St John's Hill SW11. Call 07721 496 470 or book online: www.ourcare.org.uk.
Wheelchair



Tuesday April 8 2-4pm

Ice Age Wandsworth

20,000 years ago mega-mammals like woolly mammoths and woolly rhinos roamed the icy plains of Wandsworth. Come and learn about how ancient man created art to depict these fascinating creatures. Then make your own Ice Age artworks to take home. **Cost £4 per child. For children aged 3+ and their families.**

Wandsworth Museum, 38 West Hill SW18.

Book in advance, email bookings@wandsworthmuseum.co.uk or call Zoe or Kathryn 8870 6060.

Just wild about Battersea



Local photographer Andrew Wilson's book explores Battersea through pictures.

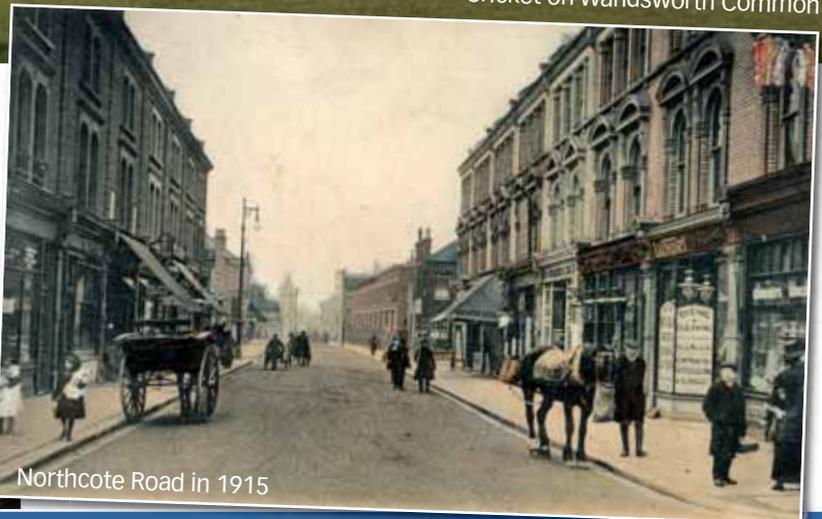
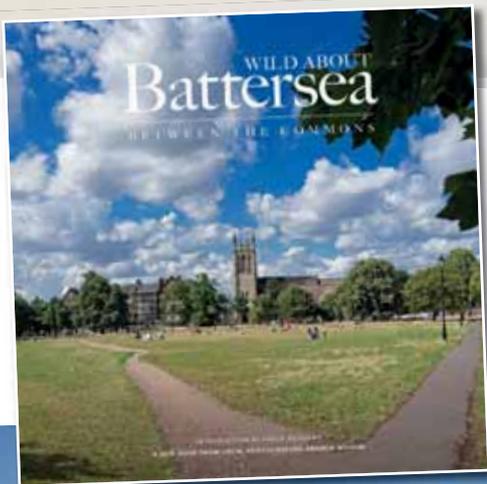
In *Wild About Battersea*, for the first time Andrew uses shots from the Wandsworth Heritage Service to look at how the borough has changed.

It includes sections on Wandsworth Common, Northcote Road and Battersea's residential streets, with the Northcote Road Summer Fete getting a chapter all to itself. The book is sponsored by Rampton Baseley and includes an introduction by Love Battersea campaigner Philip Beddows.

▶▶ **Wild About Battersea is published by Unity Print and Publishing and costs £21.99. It's available from Amazon, Waterstones, Huttons in Northcote Road and from the publisher. Visit www.unity-publishing.co.uk or call (020) 8487 2199.**



Cricket on Wandsworth Common



Northcote Road in 1915



The Northcote Road Summer Fete



Northcote Road now

>> WANDSWORTH CONNECTED >>

Talk to us online



weekly e-newsletter
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/24seven



www.twitter.com/wandbc



www.facebook.com/wandsworth.council



www.youtube.com/WandsworthBC

Doing it online

Using our website helps keep your council tax bills low

Pay your council tax

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/counciltax

Pay a parking fine

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/parking/payment

Apply for a parking permit/parking

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/parking

Join the e-library

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/libraries

Search planning applications

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/planningregister

Check your refuse collection day

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/refusemap

Request a housing repair

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/housingonline

Check local roadworks

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/roadworks

Report a pothole

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/potholes

Other contacts at the council

Adult Care Information Service (020) 8871 7707

accessteam@wandsworth.gov.uk
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/acis

Benefits Service (020) 8871 8080

benefits@wandsworth.gov.uk

Carers information and support Wandsworth Carers Centre (020) 8877 1200

info@wandsworthcarers.org.uk

Children's Social Work Service (020) 8871 6622

cssduty@wandsworth.gov.uk

Consumer Protection (020) 8871 7720

esd@wandsworth.gov.uk

Community Care Services (020) 8871 7707

accessteam@wandsworth.gov.uk

Council Tax (020) 8871 8081

counciltax@wandsworth.gov.uk

Education (020) 8871 8013

edadmin@wandsworth.gov.uk

Electoral Services (020) 8871 6023

electoral@wandsworth.gov.uk

Environmental Services (020) 8871 6127

esd@wandsworth.gov.uk

Family Information Service - including Nurseries (020) 8871 7899

fis@wandsworth.gov.uk

Food Hygiene (020) 8871 6139

esd@wandsworth.gov.uk

Fraud Hotline 0800 783 2263 (freephone) fraudhotline@wandsworth.gov.uk

Graffiti Removal (020) 8871 7049

graffiti@wandsworth.gov.uk

Home Ownership (020) 8871 6016

housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk

Housing Advice (020) 8871 6840

housingadvice@wandsworth.gov.uk

Housing Repairs and Tenancy Call your area team or management organisation

hms@wandsworth.gov.uk

Leisure Centres & sports facilities (020) 8871 8154

sportsservices@wandsworth.gov.uk

Libraries

wandsworth.libraries@gll.org

Neighbourhood Watch (020) 8871 7696

watchlinkmanager@wandsworth.gov.uk

Noise Complaints - council properties (020) 8871 7490

hms@wandsworth.gov.uk

Private properties (020) 8871 7869

esd@wandsworth.gov.uk

Parking (020) 8871 8871

parking@wandsworth.gov.uk

Parks (020) 8871 7530

parks@wandsworth.gov.uk

Rubbish, Recycling and Litter (020) 8871 8558

wasteservices@wandsworth.gov.uk

Births, Deaths, Weddings and Civil Partnerships (020) 8871 6121

registeroffice@wandsworth.gov.uk

Youth Clubs (020) 8871 7553

youthservice@wandsworth.gov.uk

Tell us what you think

You can post comments on all our news stories www.wandsworth.gov.uk/news

Make a complaint or comment on a council service

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/commentsandcomplaints

Come to a Let's Talk meeting www.wandsworth.gov.uk/letstalk

Contact your local councillor www.wandsworth.gov.uk/councillors



**You don't have
to do
anything
extraordinary
to do something
Special**

Fostering Teenagers

Are you someone special, with room in your life, and your home? Whether you're married or single, gay or straight, a homeowner or renting, and whatever your cultural background, we'd like to hear from you if you're interested in fostering older children.

As well as a spare bedroom, you'll need to adapt and be flexible. Fostering is challenging and rewarding, but we offer lots of support, and enhanced fees and allowances to enable you to make a lasting difference to a teenager's life.

To find out more about looking after a Wandsworth teenager:

Visit our website

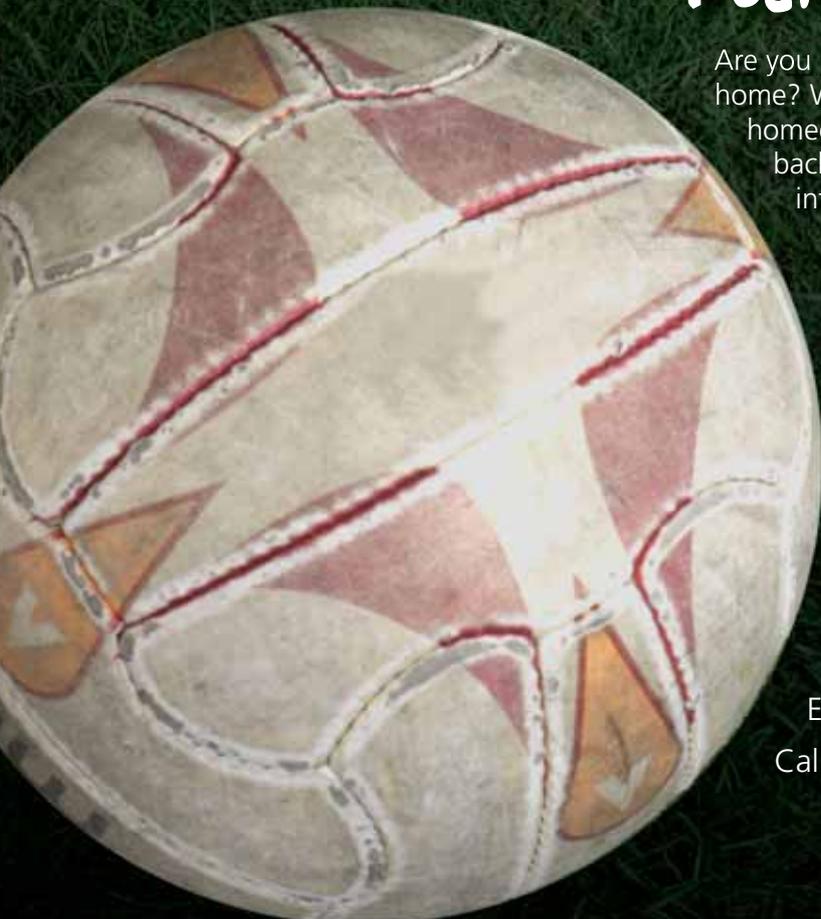
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/fostering

Visit our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/wandsworthfostering

Email carerrecruitment@wandsworth.gov.uk

Call (020) 8871 6666



Discover the rewards of fostering

