BITICINESICE The magazine of Wardsworth Council

Issue 194 July 2021

The magazine of Wandsworth Council





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wandsworth.gov.uk

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Get ready for full fibre ultrafast broadband

Work has begun on installing full fibre broadband across the whole of Wandsworth.

The council is working alongside broadband infrastructure provider G.Network which has started work upgrading Wandsworth's broadband connections - many of which still rely on copper based wiring. The work will be carried out in phases, with parts of Battersea the first to benefit.

G.Network is planning to invest £105m installing around 230 miles of full fibre cable throughout Wandsworth guaranteeing ultrafast download and upload speeds to more than 100,000 homes and businesses in the borough.

The rollout builds on the success of a parallel project which has seen more than 30,000 households on Wandsworth housing estates enjoying superfast internet speeds as a result of a joint council project with Community Fibre.

G.Network's infrastructure is being made available on an 'Open Access' principle which means the company will work with other broadband providers so they can serve their customers via G.Network infrastructure in the future. The council supports the installation of broadband because it helps local businesses and people working from home.



The process of applying to G Network via Work Match was easy and simple, and the added help of receiving pointers and tips on how to prepare for the interview were invaluable. My new job is amazing. It is exciting, focused on modern technologies, relatively easy to do, well-respected and well-paid.

It is allowing me to finally think about the future rather than living paycheck to paycheck, and I have begun formulating plans in areas such as finally escaping flatsharing, saving up a considerable emergency fund, as well as being able to invest into my own health and fitness due to my disposable income.

Find out how Work Match can help you prepare for and find employment on page 25.



Culture moves in

Two cultural institutions are moving into new premises as part of the council's 'Cultural Anchor' strategy.

Theatre 503 will open a state-of-the-art theatre space in Nine Elms in 2023 to nurture new writers and the London Children's Ballet has opened its doors in a building in Lombard Road, Battersea, provided for free by the Big Yellow Self Storage Company as part of its commitment to the local community.

Other cultural organisations new to Nine Elms include Matt's Gallery, World Heart Beat Academy and Chocolate Films. Battersea is already home to the Royal Academy of Dance, Tavaziva Dance and BBO Dance (formerly the British Ballet Organisation).

The council's Cultural Anchor programme works strategically with developers and partners to bring cultural organisations into the borough. It is a key piece of the Wandsworth Arts and Culture Strategy which is currently open for public consultation. Find out more on page 27.



Young's brewery has announced it will open its new headquarters in the heart of Wandsworth Town centre - helping to safeguard the future of the Spread Eagle Pub.

Last year the council awarded planning consent for the creation of a 21-bedroom boutique hotel on the pub's upper floors – boosting its income and prospects. These plans also create space for Youngs' new headquarters plus a training base for young chefs and kitchen staff who will be employed in the company's pubs.

Other investment in the town centre includes a new entertainment mega-hub in Wandsworth's Southside shopping centre in space previously occupied by Debenhams and the relocation of Sambrooks Brewery to the former Ram brewery site.

Work is also nearing completion on the redevelopment of two former council office blocks fronting Garrett Lane and Wandsworth High Street along with another formerly owned by South Thames College. This will provide a brand new and improved public library opening up onto a newly created public square plus 200 new homes. Fifty of these will be affordable and will be offered to Wandsworth residents on lower incomes to rent or buy at a discounted price.

The words Youngs and Wandsworth are totally synonymous and represent a hugely successful and historic partnership. Taking all the investment schemes together, they represent one of the biggest urban renewal projects in London with well over £1bn flowing into the town centre, hundreds of new jobs and homes being created and the opening up of new public spaces and better links between

the Old Burial
Ground and the
High Street.

Cllr Ravi Govindia Leader, Wandsworth Counci

Putney funding confirmed

The Government has confirmed Putney High Street will receive more than a million pounds from the Future High Streets Fund.

A series of measures worth around \$4m is underway to improve air quality and make the town a more pleasant destination for visitors and shoppers. The rest of the funding, almost \$3m, has come from the council, plus a contribution from the Putney BID. The next phase of work will include redesigning the Lower Richmond Road junction, further improvements for cyclists, extending the Putney Embankment to better connect the High Street to the river and relocating the taxi rank from outside the station.



New local tube stations

Two new Northern Line tube stations will open in Battersea and Nine Elms this autumn in the first major extension to London's Tube network since the Jubilee Line opened more than 20 years ago.

The vision to turn former industrial wasteland into a thriving new central London neighbourhood is becoming a reality, and connecting the area to the tube network is bringing new opportunities for everyone who lives or works in the area. Already, moren than 950 local people have landed jobs with Nine Elms employers through the council's Work Match initiative as the district attracts new businesses.

New Zone 1 stations will open at Battersea Power Station, on Battersea Park Road, and Nine Elms, on Wandsworth Road. Passengers will be able to travel to and from the West End and the City within 15 minutes.

In a further boost to jobs in the area, Battersea Power Station is due to open in 2022 housing more than 100 shops, restaurants and cafes, an events venue, unique chimney lift experience and new office space, 500,000 sq. ft. of which will be home to Apple's new London Campus.



Councillor Ravi Govindia, Leader of Wandsworth Council said: "Wandsworth Council always saw the Tube extension as key to the vision for Nine Elms as a new central London district – and we can see how that decision has created transformative change over the last decade."



Get fully vaccinated

All adults aged 18 years and over are encouraged to get their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible. There are now more options than ever to get the vaccine locally.

Any adults who had their first dose more than eight weeks ago are reminded to get their second vaccine. Having the second dose gives you the best possible protection again COVID-19.

Over the past few months, Matron Maggie Murphy (pictured) has been helping to spearhead the vaccination drive in Wandsworth. She highlights:

"Being fully vaccinated is the only way to ensure you are getting maximum protection for yourself and the people you love. A lot of people suffer from a fear of needles but we've got great teams to reassure you and put you at ease. I am amazed every day at how people get stuck in and create a team atmosphere. Everyone comes with the same aim and desire to see people in south west London vaccinated. We want the service to run smoothly, efficiently and safely. We want people to leave feeling happy and encouraged. When that happens, I'm happy!"



Find out about walk-in clinics by visiting the Wandsworth pages of the local NHS website **swlondonceg.nhs.uk/covid/**Or book your vaccine now at **nhs.uk/coronavirus** or type 'book my vaccine' into Google.





The council's MyWandsworth campaign is all about keeping our borough clean and tidy, and looking its best for you, our residents.

Our street cleaners, road sweepers, rubbish collectors and enforcement officers work 24/7 to make sure your neighbourhoods are clean and litter free.

Our busy town centres are cleaned up to five times-a-day, and we clean more than 400km of streets every week - that's the same distance as Wandsworth to Antwerp, Belgium.

But this isn't enough. An inconsiderate minority think they can get away with spoiling our borough, and as lockdown measures have eased we have seen more people who think its ok to drop litter on our streets, parks and town centres, as well as dumping waste illegally.

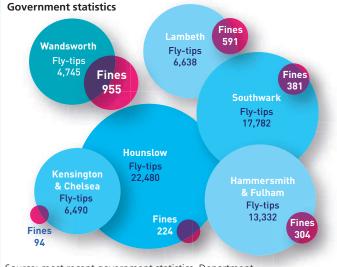
Our message is simple

it's **NOT OK** and we WON'T TOLERATE it!

#MyWANDSWORTH

Clamping down on fly-tippers

Last year Wandsworth suffered from only 1.3 per cent of the capital's fly-tips, the second lowest number of recorded flytips in inner London. However, our detection rates compare favourably with many other London boroughs, when you look at fines issued, against number of fly-tips (see below) – highlighting just how effective our enforcement teams are.



Source: most recent government statistics, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs 2019/2020

30 ways to keep Wandsworth Clean and Tidy

We've been running a campaign on social media to highlight what we can all do to keep the borough looking clean and tidy. Here are just a few of the things that we do as a council to keep Wandsworth looking spick and span.



Keeping your streets clean

More than \$4.3 million a year is spent on cleaning your streets, with roadsweepers and street cleaners out and about, in all weathers, all year round doing their bit to pick up rubbish and keep things looking at their best.



Report it

No one likes a fly-tipper, which is why Wandsworth Council is relaunching its CCTV appeal to catch litter louts in the act, as well as putting up signs to let people know when we've fined a fly-tipper.

If you see someone dumping litter or flytipping, we need as much information as possible to help us prosecute the offenders. Try and film or photograph the incident (but please don't put yourself or others at risk). Let us know what's been dumped and where, and make a note of any vehicle registration numbers. Email to flytipwitness@ richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk



Organise a community clean

Whether you're out and about on a walk or a litter picking pro, anyone can pick up litter or organise a community clean up or join an established group.

There's lots of advice out there on how to organise a clean up safely and responsibly, and help do your bit for the environment. Read more about how to get involved wandsworth.gov. uk/mywandsworth

Get involved

There are lots of ways that people locally can get involved in keeping the borough looking at its best. Here are just a few of them, but make sure you are following us on social media to keep up to date with the 30 ways to keep Wandsworth clean and tidy campaign.



/wandsworth.council



@wandsbc



@wandsworth_council

Give away, don't throw away

Got stuff you don't need? Looking for something? Sites like Freegle or Gumtree match you with someone local who wants your stuff. Often it's completely free, or much cheaper than new. So, don't throw it away, give it away.

Learn the world

Parents and teachers can access free resources, downloadable activities and a free educational App, for 3-7 year olds, created by a Tooting resident, to inspire young people to learn all about protecting the environment. Help the Parky Pigeons find all the litter, learn about plastic pollution and reusing plastic lids. Read more: earthcubs.com

Bin the butt

To encourage people to do the right thing with their cigarette butts, which blight the borough's busy train, bus and tube stations, we are installing an eye-catching cigarette butt voting bin outside Tooting Broadway station. Smokers, do the right thing and use your cigarette butts to tell us whether you prefer red or brown sauce.



Take your rubbish home

It's a really simple thing to do but next time you're out and about, and you've had a cup of coffee or a packet of crisps, take your litter home or use a bin. It doesn't require any effort and makes such a huge, huge difference to the environment.

Reduce plastic litter and consumption

8 million tonnes of plastic ends up in our oceans every year, the equivalent of a rubbish truck a minute. But this is something that can be easily avoided by reducing the amount of plastic litter dropped and avoiding plastic consumption wherever possible. Read more about our nine tips to reduce plastic pollution: wandsworth.gov.uk/ mywandsworth

Did you know?

More than 80 per cent of litter that finds its way into in the Thames is made up of single-use items such as metal drink cans, food packaging and plastic drinks bottles.



Nominate a local hero



If you know someone in your community who is making a difference to the borough, yet whose efforts go unsung, help us shine a spotlight on them.

Wandsworth Mayor, Cllr Richard Field, said: "The Civic Awards this year are going to be extra special as we know that so many people have gone above and beyond to help their friends and neighbours during the pandemic. We have seen wonderful community spirit throughout Wandsworth during these terribly difficult times and so it is our turn to now give something back and recognise those people who have done so much to help others.

"Please take the time to nominate someone you think deserves to be highlighted in this way and let's collectively say a big thank you to those people who have stepped up across the borough."

Nominations can be made for anyone who makes a difference to our borough, such as

helping out a neighbour in need, coaching a local sports team, giving up their free time to volunteer, organising a community event or carrying out an exceptional act of bravery. There will be three special awards. The first will recognise those who have shown leadership on the issue of climate change and the environment. This follows the council's declaration of a climate change emergency and its pledge to become carbon neutral by 2030. And two further awards – one for a group and one for an individual – will focus on work that people have done during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Nominations are now open and the closing date is Wednesday, September 8th. Please submit your suggestion at wandsworth. gov.uk/civicawards

Are you a carer?

If you look after someone who cannot cope without your support because of an illness, disability, mental health problem or addiction you could be considered a carer and entitled to help. Find out about support for carers and how to get a carers assessment at wandsworth.gov.uk/carers

Parent champions

If you live in Wandsworth, have a child under five and use children's centres or any other childcare or early education service you can become a parent champion. Share your experiences of early education to encourage other parents to take up the offer of free childcare for two year olds and other sources of support.

Call 020 8871 8356 or visit facebook.com/EECP.Wandsworth

Safety app

Wandsworth Council and Wandsworth Police have partnered with safety app provider Zecure to help keep children safe as they journey to and from school. The Zecure app is free to download and use and allows children to alert emergency contacts if they need help by holding down a panic button or by shaking their phone. You can download Zecure now from the app store. To register use the six letter code specifically for Wandsworth: WANSAF. Parents can also sign up to Wandsworth Schools Watch for personal safety advice, information and updates on safe transport routes. Visit wandsworth. gov.uk/owl-online-watch-link





Learning available onsite or online



Worth a visit.

Advice & Guidance | Short Courses | Qualifications | Apprenticeships



wandsworthlifelonglearning.org.uk

Address: Wandsworth Lifelong Learning

Gwynneth Morgan Centre 52 East Hill, London SW18 2HJ













Two Bedroom Apartments now available at Elmbridge House

Elmbridge House at Windsor Apartments has now launched. Own your very own two bedroom apartment on the edge of Battersea Park. SW11.

Elmbridge House is a stunning collection of two bedroom homes located at a prestigious development in Wandsworth, available with Shared Ownership. Prices from £210,000

for a 25% share of a 2 bedroom apartment

Windsor Apartment applicants must live and/or work in the London Borough of Wandsworth. All applicants are required to register with the Wandsworth Home Ownership team.

Please visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/sharedownership

Call 0300 100 0309

Visit WindsorApartments-SW11.co.uk



Metropolitan by Nature





New homes boost the whole borough

The council has committed to deliver 1,000 new homes across the borough by 2027. All of the homes built will be prioritised for local residents and workers with 60 per cent available for low cost rent and discounted purchase.

This is in addition to the planned major regeneration projects on the Winstanley, York Road and Alton estates.

But the Housing for All programme doesn't just benefit those people who are set to move in. The council ensures that every building project includes sustainable improvements to the surrounding area that benefit existing as well as new residents. This ranges from providing and upgrading play space to games pitches, parks to community gardens, depending on what the local community tells us they want. The majority of new blocks will have biodiverse roofs and we work to encourage wildlife with bird and bat boxes.

New homes will also be built to be more energy-efficient, with low energy lighting, better insultation and communal heating systems and homes that are either wheelchair accessible or built to fully adaptable standards, meaning that homes are 'future proofed' as people's needs change. Electric vehicle charging points are being added to car parks, alongside bike racks and storage areas.

Wandsworth ensures that partners invest in the communities

they work in by providing jobs, training and apprenticeships and that they spend a proportion of the total project budget with local businesses. Contractors are also committing to undertake and support local community projects, giving their own time to activities such as sprucing up a community facility.

New Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr Jonathan Cook explains: "We have the third highest house building rates in London, but that is not enough. We are also committed to ensuring that our building projects improve everyone's lives,

whether you are a child needing a safe place to play, a young person supported to take your first steps into the construction industry or a first-time buyer looking for a home close to work. I'm extremely proud to be taking on responsibility for housing in the borough and will work with the community to deliver the homes local people need."



Sphere is nearly here

Sphere Walk, Shuttleworth Road, Battersea will comprise 62 social rented apartments and nine shared ownership homes, ranging from one to three bedrooms. The project has attracted more than a million pounds in community investment, including employment and skills initiatives for 37 local people and support for 364 students who have taken part in education activities with housing developer Wates. In all, almost 6,000 hours have been invested in employment and skills on this project.

Playing the (Kers)field

A new play space for young children and estate-wide landscaping improvements are part of the programme at Kersfield Road, East Putney, along with 41 new homes.

The developer, Wates Residential, will also spend £20,000 with local social enterprises including Belu Water, Kenny Waste Management and Commercial Foundations and 10 per cent of the total project sum will be spent with local businesses.

Roehampton Community Week

Roehampton residents came together last week to celebrate their community with seven days of community-led events and projects that have left the place cleaner, greener – and some people a little leaner.

Created by the Roehampton Response Network, and supported by the council, Racquets Cubed, the Roehampton Club and more than 50 local organisations, projects included spring cleaning communal spaces; planting and growing; history, arts and culture and health and fitness activities

There was something for everyone, from music to mosaics, litter picks to mega skips and dance to decorating.

Roehampton Community Week built on the strong community support fostered during Covid and is part of the wider regeneration of the Alton Estate.

Local artists and schools created a massive outdoor art gallery on hoardings around Danebury Avenue. Curated by Estate Arts, the Panel of Art exhibition is open 24/7 for around six months.

Estate Arts founder, Lynne, told us: "For local people to be able to see their own work, or that of a friend or family member hung next to pieces from professional artists in this huge space is just fantastic. I was blown away by the quality and diversity of the art we have here and it's right in the heart of the community where people can walk past it, and get a little zing of excitement, every day."

For photos and more details of what went on during Roehampton Community Week, plus ways to continue to get involved, check out www.altonestateregen.co.uk



Tackling Air Pollution

A new Air Quality Action Plan has been drawn up. It will work to reduce pollution and its impact as part of the council's actions to tackle climate change under the Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy.

It will now go out to public consultation, with the views of the public feeding into the final plan.

A great deal of progress has been made reducing air pollution in Putney High Street, Tooting High Street and Clapham Junction since the publication of the previous plan in 2016. There have also been significant reductions in Particulate Matter pollution from construction sites in Nine Elms.

This is thanks to a raft of measures including lobbying TfL for cleaner buses and better public transport links, improving access to car clubs and an extensive network of electric vehicle recharging points, reducing carbon emissions from council buildings and close regulation of construction sites.



The new plan will build on this progress including:

- Prioritising areas including schools, hospitals and care homes as well as town centres.
- Working with schools including educational projects for children and practical measures such as school travel plans.
- Protecting green spaces, planting trees and enhancing biodiversity, including providing an air quality fund to help greenup local neighbourhoods.
- Putting air quality issues at the heart of the council's planning, transport planning and procurement processes.
- Continuing to improve walking and cycling infrastructure.
- Making the council's fleet of vehicles less polluting.
- Zero emissions zones for council buildings and working with schools to bring in zero emissions zones there.
- Funding groups to help the council monitor and report air quality in their neighbourhoods.
- Communicate air quality issues to local people, including working with GPs, pharmacists and care providers to get information out to vulnerable groups.

The cabinet member for climate sustainability, Cllr Kim Caddy, said the council had led the way on measures such as car clubs, electric vehicle charging points, opposing the expansion of Heathrow and planting trees.

"I am acutely aware that we still have many areas in the borough that exceed the legal targets for air pollution and I am keen to ensure that we are doing all that we can to tackle this problem.

"It is important to note that the issue of air quality is not just a responsibility of the council but one that requires

effort by national and regional government; and businesses and industry alike. We also need to understand our own personal contribution to pollution in the borough and what steps we can all take to tackle this problem.

Please take part in the consultation we welcome your views and ideas."

Pedal Power

Want to get on two wheels? Here are some ideas.

The **Try Before You Bike Scheme** is a chance to trial a new or nearlynew bike or cargo-bike for a monthly fee. The council is working with **Peddle My Wheels** to offer the scheme. If you like the bike, you can buy it at a discounted price, take out an interest-free monthly payment plan or buy through the **Cycle to Work Scheme**. Lights, lock and helmet are included. The council is developing a shared **e-Cargo Bike** Scheme for businesses and organisations. Express your interest now by emailing **transportation@wandsworth.gov.uk**

If you want to cycle but have no space to store a bike you can apply for a place in an **on-street bike hangar.** Register your interest at **wandsworth.gov.uk/rent-cycle-storage-space**

Free cycle training courses are available for adults and children who live, work or study in Wandsworth. Find out about these schemes at **wandsworth.gov.uk/cycling**



A new Walking and Cycling Strategy is being developed to increase rates of cycling and walking in the borough.

Key actions include improved signage, working with partners to improve access to cycle hire schemes and auditing the current cycle routes with a view to improving and expanding them in the future.

Current cycle infrastructure schemes include:

Queenstown Road - a new and improved Cycle Superhighway 8 should be coming to Queenstown Road later this year, with consultation to take place this summer. Plans to improve the rest of the Queenstown Road corridor are also in development.

Garratt Lane – A new design is in development to make the corridor safer, greener and more attractive to cyclists and pedestrians. A consultation on the first sections is expected to be held at the end of this year.

Southfields – this wide-ranging town centre improvement scheme is currently ongoing and includes more cycle parking and work to improve safety including raised tables and early release traffic signals for cyclists at the junction of Wimbledon Park Road and Replingham Road.

Putney – Better facilities for cyclists are included in the Putney High Street environmental improvement project including installing extra cycle parking and cycle contraflows.







What can I do?

The council wants to work with local people so that everyone plays a part in tackling climate change

Join a Climate Conversation

These are organised by the council's climate team and bring together experts and local residents to discuss climatecentred topics and share information.

Visit wandsworth.gov.uk/climateconversations to watch a recording of the first Climate Conversation about energy. Get tips on how to save energy, reduce energy consumption at home, renewable energy including solar power plus further tips and links.

If you are part of a community organisation in Wandsworth and would like the climate team to deliver a bespoke session to you on how to reduce your carbon footprint, email climateconversations@wandsworth.gov.uk



Council leader Cllr Ravi Govindia and Cllr Caddy met key local organisations including the police, fire brigade, NHS and Roehampton University to discuss a shared approached to climate change. They are all being encouraged take part in the Together on Climate Change Festival (see below).

Join the Together On Climate Change Festival

This will be held in November to coincide with the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow and will bring together residents, businesses and community groups from across the borough to raise awareness of climate change issues.

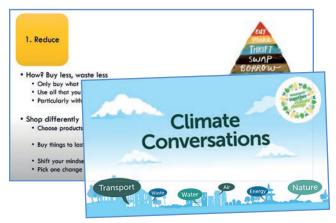
Save the dates of the festival - Monday November 8 to Saturday November 13, 2021. To get involved head to wandsworth.gov.uk/together-on-climate-change-festival and email us on TogetherOnClimateChange@Wandsworth.gov.uk to find out more. Individuals, residents and community groups and businesses interested in taking part or hosting an event must submit an expression of interest form online by Thursday 30 September 2021.



Check your carbon footprint

- Check your carbon footprint at **footprint.wwf.org.uk**
- Save energy and switch to renewable energy. Visit **simpleenergyadvice.org.uk**
- Waste less food. Visit lovefoodhatewaste.com
- Use sustainable travel. Visit sustainabletravel.org and wandsworth.gov.uk/electric-vehicles
- Donate unwanted stuff. Visit wandsworth.gov.uk/ donate-or-sell-your-unwanted-items

Get more tips at wandsworth.gov.uk/climate-change



Watch the Climate Summit

The event last November brought together the council, residents, community groups and organisations and outlined how the council plans to tackle climate change in partnership with local people, with a presentation by climate change charity Ashden.

It included sessions on transport, greening your home, how organisations can develop sustainability strategies, tackling air quality around schools, an introduction to the circular economy, recycling and waste, biodiversity and green spaces, sustainable shopping, reducing your carbon footprint and how to get involved locally. Visit wandsworth.gov.uk/climatesummit

Help to find charging points

New signs are being put up to help drivers find electric car charging points.

The council has been awarded funding from the Government's 'Go Ultra Low Cities Scheme' (GULCS) to install the signs. Wandsworth has 594 publicly available charging points with another 200 on their way shortly.

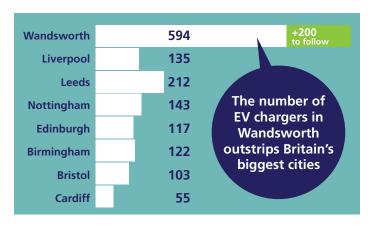
Most of the borough's charging sockets have been

electric vehicle charging point

fitted to lamposts to reduce pavement clutter and keep footpaths free for pedestrians. The power supply for these chargers, which have been installed in partnership with Ubitricity, along with those installed by Source London, comes only from zero carbon sources of energy.

Wandsworth has embraced electric vehicle technology as one strand of its efforts to tackle climate change and improve local air quality.

To view a map of the borough's charging points visit **zap-map.com.** For more information about owning an electric vehicle in the borough visit **wandsworth.gov. uk/driveelectric**



Have you heard of the Green Homes Grant?

If you are eligible, you could receive up to £10,000 of work to make your home more energy efficient, lowering your heating bills and helping to tackle climate change.

Work could include insulation, air source heat pumps, double glazing, heating controls or even solar panels.

Find out if you're eligible, and how to apply, at wandsworth.gov.uk/GHG







Love Parks returns to Wandsworth's green spaces this

summer



THE COUNCIL HAS PARTNERED WITH ENABLE LEISURE AND CULTURE TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL RESIDENTS TO GET THE MOST OF THEIR LOCAL PARKS AND COMMONS.

The summer line-up began on 6 June with a community-lead litter picking event hosted by Friends of Wandsworth Common as part of Great British Spring Clean. The Friends group worked in tandem with Plogolution to collect:

• 374 glass bottles • 361 plastic bottles • 674 cans

The event served as a timely reminder that the public can do their part to support clean green spaces by always using park bins, including an increased recycling facility being launched in early July.

Love Parks Wandsworth highlights will include dedicated 'Love Parks' days in Wandsworth Park and Tooting Common.

Come see us on the following dates for a great line-up of activities or just come down for a picture in front of our iconic 'Love Parks' letters!





Share your best park moments.

Did you know that Wandsworth is one of the greenest inner-London boroughs? Parks, open spaces and private gardens cover 40 per cent of it with 1,600 different species recorded within 27 different habitat types. Several rare and endangered species can be found in Wandsworth, including peregrine falcons, black redstarts and stag beetles.

Throughout the summer, Love Parks will be sharing more information about the biodiversity on your doorstep, as well as best ways to keep active outside and sustainable park usage. Follow us @LoveParksWandsworth on Twitter and Instagram over the summer to learn how you can get the most out of green spaces.



WANDSWORTH PARK

1 August

Featuring:

Drop-in art classes from Putney School of Art & Design

Tai Chi lead by Enable's Health & Wellbeing team

Live dance performances

Interactive butterfly hunt in partnership with Butterfly Conservation

TOOTING COMMON

29 August

Featuring:

Bring your picnic and lunch by the letters **Zumba** lead by Enable Leisure

...and on nearby Furzedown

Rec - Live Children's Theatre!

Please note that all events will be run in line with current government guidelines on social distancing.

Some events will require pre-booking, please check our website for more detail, as well as any amendments to the Love Parks programme: enablelc.org/loveparks/



A new 4.5 hectare linear park is opening in stages through the Nine Elms regeneration area, from Battersea Power Station in the west towards Vauxhall in the east.

The landscaped route connects additional public realm and existing green spaces with other public squares, shopping parades, hotels, parks and gardens.

A sustainable urban drainage system runs underneath the park, and above ground there will be bird, bat and insect boxes and hundreds of mature trees.

Wandsworth Council has worked together with neighbours, developers and landowners to create one continuous park, gradually taking shape as each development completes between 2021 and around 2025.

Cllr Ravi Govindia, Leader of Wandsworth Council, said: "This new green connection was important as part of our vision. The park runs like a spine through the area connecting to other new and existing green spaces as well as the river path which is now opened up."

Discover more at nineelmslondon.com/nineelmspark

How to look after your dog

The council's animal welfare manager, Mark Callis, has made a series of videos about how to choose and look after a dog.

Many people got their first dog during the pandemic and have no experience of dog ownership, so Mark has top tips in five main areas:

What should I think about before getting a dog? - Think about the time and money you can spare, the amount of space you have, and please make sure you get your pet from a responsible, certified source.

How important is it to train my dog? - Training your pet will keep it, you and other people safe and will help you bond. It's also fun for them and you.

Are dogs safe around wildlife? - Keep dogs on leads around wildlife, especially during breeding season.

Where can I take my dog? - Most parks in Wandsworth allow dogs off the lead in certain areas. Areas you can't go are usually fenced areas such as tennis courts and playgrounds. Each park has a sign at the entrance saying where you can and can't go.

Why is it important to pick up after my dog? - Dog mess can transmit a serious illness called toxocara canis. Do not leave it for someone else to pick up.

Watch all the videos at youtube.com/WandsworthBC

Wandsworth Council's Animal Welfare Service supports the borough's animals and pet owners, routinely scans many dogs each week and keeps a registration of all dogs kept in council properties. It is also keen to hear about any stolen dogs so it can investigate.

Contact animalwelfare@ richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk or call 020 8871 7606.



Improving mental health services

Over the past few months, people have needed more support than ever with their mental health.

Wandsworth Council is supporting young people with mental health training for teachers and youth workers and dedicated social workers in schools, and has welcomed new facilities at Springfield Hospital.

Vanessa Ford, Chief Executive of South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust, tells Brightside readers about the new facilities and about the creation of a brand-new public park.

"As many residents will have seen, we are well on the way to delivering two modern mental health facilities at Springfield Hospital that will provide a range of services. The new buildings are scheduled for completion by autumn 2022 and will sit at the heart of a new 'Springfield Village'. This will also see the development of hundreds of new homes and a new 32-acre park for Wandsworth - the first created in London since the Olympics.

We want to say thank you to everyone who has helped us to rise to the challenges of the pandemic

Vanessa Ford, Chief Executive of South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust

"The last year has highlighted how important nature and the outdoors are for our health and wellbeing, so we are excited about the benefits this new park will bring to our community, providing new areas for sport, arts and recreation and boosting local biodiversity. We're also

starting some exciting community engagement projects.

"Alongside this, we we're investing £2.8m to expand adult community services in south west London and developing joined-up local services.

"We want to say thank you to everyone who has helped us to rise to the challenges of the pandemic. As we emerge from a challenging period, we are clear in our mission to Make Life Better Together."





New homes for swifts

The Friends of Wandsworth Park have been working to protect a local colony of swifts.

The Swift Conversation Project has created 100 new nesting sites along Fawe Park Road, Bective Road and Wadham Road in Putney with funding from the RSPB and the Wandsworth Grant Fund.

Swifts nest under the eaves in old buildings and return to the same nest sites year after year. As buildings are replaced, insulated or repaired, swifts find themselves excluded, and their numbers are rapidly declining.

Local residents showed their support by agreeing to host handcrafted, sustainable nest boxes and they were installed for free by Investing in the

Putney-based family-run business the London Roofing Company. The council provided a cherry-picker for the taller properties.

July is the best time to see young swifts checking out new nest sites. Swifts are particularly active on warm July evenings – so don't forget to look up!

Wandsworth
GRANT
FUND

Contact the Friends of Wandsworth Park Swift Conservation project at FoWPswifts@gmail.com

Find out more about the Friends at **friendsofwandsworthpark.com**The deadline for applications for the next round of the Wandsworth
Grant Fund is August 2. Find out more at **wandsworth.gov.uk/WGF**



Dan and Melissa Annetts hosted one of the boxes: "It was Pat and Jan from the Friends of Wandsworth Park who told us about the project. Swifts are wonderful birds and we didn't realise they were at risk. Anything we can do to help the local population is a great thing to do."



TYPE 2 DIABETES KNOW YOUR RISK

Finding your risk of Type 2 diabetes only takes a few minutes. It could be the most important thing you do today...

Check your risk online at

riskscore.diabetes.org.uk



Wandsworth
Clinical Commissioning Group

Source: Public Health Annual Report 2016 - Diabetes in Wandsworth

Every week 15 people in Wandsworth are told they have diabetes



15,000 residents are living with the condition...



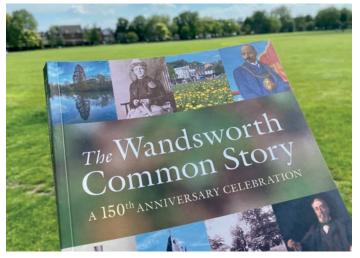
..and another 25,000 are on the verge of getting it.



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Happy birthday Wandsworth Common

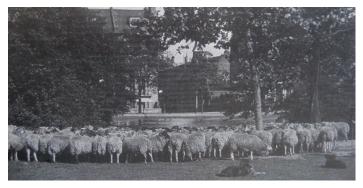
This year The Friends of Wandsworth Common celebrate 150 years since the Government Act that saved the common for future generations.



They have published a book, The Wandsworth Common Story, and have projects, walks and talks planned to mark the anniversary of the signing of the Wandsworth Common Act in 1871.

The story of the fight to save the common is hugely inspiring but not very well known. Did you know there was once a third lake beneath Spencer Park? That the 'Scope was once home to the world's largest refracting telescope? Or that prefabs and allotments once edged the common?

The common's inhabitants have included a famous female racing driver and the Wright Brothers. Even Beatrix Potter gets a mention. The book explores the stories of the two main characters in the common's history - Lord of the Manor Earl





These two landmark projects mean that everyone can enjoy the legacy of this anniversary year

said Friends co-chairs Julia Bott and Richard Fox

Spencer who was selling common land for development, and John Charles Buckmaster who campaigned over many years to protect it. The Friends will be unveiling a council green plaque this month to honour him and those who followed in his footsteps.

The creation of the London County Council in 1890 gave further protection, and the ownership transferred to Wandsworth Council in 1971. It's now managed by Enable Leisure and Culture on behalf of the council and is a Grade 1 Site of Borough Importance for Nature Conservation. This year the council published an ambitious ten-year plan to protect and increase biodiversity and make it easier for people to use for recreation.

The Friends have extended their outreach activities to schools and other organisations this year. To find out more and how you can get involved, or to buy the book, visit wandsworthcommon.org or e-mail info@ wandsworthcommon.org. You can also follow @wwcommon on twitter and instagram.

The Friends have raised over £10,000 for new tree planting which, with the help of Enable, has already funded 50 well established saplings and 100sqm of 'mini-forest' to join up existing woodland and encourage biodiversity. This is in addition to the 500 or so trees planted across the borough each year by the council. "The book and tree planting projects mean that everyone can enjoy the legacy of this anniversary year," said Friends co-chairs Julia Bott and Richard Fox.



Wandsworth is the first London borough to bring in a new way to support children and families.

The aim is to support children to live safely within their families and reduce the number of children taken into care.

New social workers are being recruited in time for the launch of Family Safeguarding in the autumn. They will work together with other multi-disciplinary professionals to provide support to families, tackling family issues of domestic abuse, parental mental health and parental substance misuse.

The team of professionals will work together to provide services to families and share in decision-making. It will include specialists in all three issues so parents won't have to wait to be referred to a specialist service, but can be helped straight away.

Social workers will be trained to work with parents' own motivations for change, work with their strengths and come up with a plan of action. Professionals can easily talk to each other rather than spending time on paperwork and meetings.

The Family Safeguarding model has been a success in several local authorities, but Wandsworth will be the first borough to use this in London, with funding coming from the Department for Education. Other local authorities that have implemented this way of working have seen an average fall of 40 per cent in the number of police call-outs and of 16 per cent in the number of children being taken into care.

Cabinet member for education and children's services Cllr Will Sweet said: "Domestic abuse is a particular target. It destroys lives and can have serious, long-term effects on children. We can't have the situation where the police are just called out time and time again or people have to wait weeks for help. By taking a really robust, timely approach within the team we hope to find lasting solutions."

Find out about working for Wandsworth Children's Services at wandsworth.gov.uk/childrens-social-work-jobs







School streets

Primary schools interested in having a school street are invited to get in touch with the council. School streets mean traffic is banned outside school entrances during drop-off and pick up time. Find out more at wandsworth.gov.uk/schoolstreets.

Working in partnership

The council is developing a partnership between state and independent schools in Wandsworth. So far 48 state schools and 14 independent schools are taking part,

The project will focus on academic achievement, enrichment and raising aspirations with children getting access to science, arts and sports facilities and to mentoring. There will also be a strong focus on professional development for teachers.

Schools recovery plan

The council is working with local schools on a £2.6m five-point recovery plan, including tutoring and mentoring schemes, extra mental health support, schemes to encourage participation in sport and the arts, access to digital technology and helping school leavers move into jobs or training.

This will include mental health training for teachers and a team of social workers in schools. Almost all schools are taking part in the Government's summer catch-up scheme, the Summer Unlocked scheme will provide activities and lunches for children on free school meals and digital devices and IT training are being provided through the Power to Connect scheme.



Help for self-employed

The council is sponsoring 15 places to enable Wandsworth residents to take part in a 12-month business incubator free of charge. The programme has been designed to guide freelancers through the beginning of their self-employed journey, as well as help those who want to strengthen the foundations of their existing business. To find out more visit the Wandsworth Enterprise Hub at wandsworthenterprisehub.com

Getting back on our feet

Since the start of the pandemic, Wandsworth Council has provided more than £150m in financial support to local business, including cash grants and business rates relief.

Other support has included free workshops and courses for businesses and entrepreneurs, help with publicity, support to navigate Brexit and the pedestrianisation of key shopping streets Old York Road, Northcote Road, Battersea High Street and Bedford Hill.

Meanwhile it has also been taking action to help get local people into employment and training and to ensure Wandsworth residents benefit from new jobs being created in Nine Elms and across the borough, ranging from construction and hospitality to new sectors such as the digital and green sectors.

The free Work Match service matches Wandsworth's job seekers with local vacancies and apprenticeships and also provides training and support. The council's Life Long Learning team also runs free courses to boost skills and employability.

Now the council is looking forward to how it can help the borough bounce back after the pandemic.

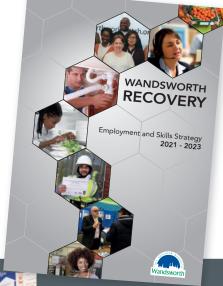
The Employment and Skills Strategy will look at how residents can be helped to get ready for work, get jobs and progress in their careers. The council will lead a partnership with other organisations such as the NHS, colleges, local businesses and Job Centre Plus to get people skilled up and into good jobs.

Find out about support for business at wandsworth.gov.uk/business Find out about Work Match at wandsworthworkmatch.org

Find out about adult learning classes at wandsworthlifelonglearing.org.uk



The council's business and skills spokesman Cllr Rhodri Morgan meets Toby Kimpton, a Northcote Road market trader. The road has seen a 30 per cent increase in footfall since it was pedestrianised at weekends.



Business management graduate Paulina Zolciak went to Work Match for support to get a job. She took a number of courses, including Construction Gateway, and was helped into a job with Horbury Joinery as a Construction Technician working at Battersea Power Station. She said: "Being unemployed and then the pandemic happening was depressing. I now feel I have a path to be on. I remember the Power Station when it was run down and empty but I really love the building and what the client plans to do with it. I am very grateful to Work Match for training me."





see world class comedy, theatre and dance for as little as £1*

Shows at Battersea Arts Centre are now available on a **Pay What You Can** basis. This means that you pay the price that works for you, even if that's £1. We want everyone to see our shows, and we'd love you to come along sometime.



bac.org.uk









Thanks to everyone who came along to the Wandsworth Arts Fringe 2021, which finished earlier this month.

The 2020 event was delivered entirely online, but this year saw a mix of online and physical events, including music, comedy, theatre, exhibitions, performance art and more.

One of the highlights was circus hosted in a big top in King George's Park, with social distancing rules followed so as many people as possible could enjoy it while staying safe.

WAF is organised by the council's award-winning Arts Team, which supports the borough's artists and cultural institutions and works with council departments to embed culture in the heart of the council's work, including planning, housing and public health.

The team is currently consulting local people on a new ten-year strategy. Read the draft Wandsworth Arts and Culture Strategy and have your say before August 31 at haveyoursay.citizenspace.com/wandsworthecs/arts-21/



what's on?

EVENTS FOR JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2021



SOUTHFIELDS HARVEST 2021 SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 25 12PM - 3PM

Lively neighbourhood festival celebrating all things local. Enter the Southfields Bake-off, enjoy craft beer and cider, homemade honey and jam, allotment veg and Southfields sausages, hot off the BBQ. Bring your garden apples to be juiced. Create a collective work of art with artist and children's author, Jane Porter. Find out what's happening in your community and how you can join in. Live music, tea, cake and good company. Supporting local charities. FREE ENTRY

St Barnabas Church, Lavenham Road, Southfields SW18 5EP

or follow @Southfieldsharv on twitter.

Roehampton Shed

Roehampton Shed is a relaxed and creative space where members can socialise and have fun, whilst engaging in practical projects that support the local community. For information about becoming a member email Anthony.Simmons@ AgeUKwandsworth.org.uk



Tooting Repair Week

12-18th July 2021

Celebrating the return of joyful repair part of Tooting Share and Repair



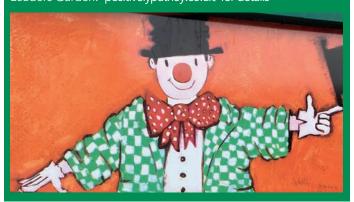
Tooting Repair Week Until July 18

Live events and workshops run by local groups transitiontooting.org

Mr Benn comes home

This year celebrates 50 years since the iconic character Mr Benn first appeared on our television screens. Mr Benn lived on Festive Road in Putney, and it is here in Putney town centre that all his magical adventures took place, at the local fancy dress shop.

This summer Mr Benn in all his different disguises will be popping up in Putney town centre. See 16 life-size Mr Benn's around Putney in different costumes and follow the story of Mr Benn and Putney on shop windows. There will also be summer activities in Putney Wharf, Upper Richmond Road and Leaders Garden. positivelyputney.co.uk/ for details



Summer Showtime July 17-August 19

Open air theatre and cinema from The Cinema in the Arches and The Turbine Theatre. Films include The Dark Knight, A Star is Born, Dirty Dancing, Back to the Future and Mamma Mia. Theatre includes Jane Eyre, Romeo and Juliet, Wind in the Willows and The Best of Frankie Valli.

The Coal Jetty, Battersea Power Station bpwrstn.com/summershowtime

SEND Summer Camp July 26-Aug 19

Activities for 6-12 year old for Wandsworth residents receiving free school meals with a social communication different such as ASD or ADHD, including cooking, arts, sports, games and trips out. Breakfast and lunch provided.

John Morris House Community Centre, SW11 Email info@sentalk.org to register and book.

Work and Play Scrapstore

Special July and August family membership rate Parents can dip into the Scrapstore in Tooting for two months for £25. Get access to the store twice weekly to top up on all the arts and craft materials you need to keep young ones occupied.

Call (020) 8682 4216 or email info@workandplayscrapstore. org.uk

Albert Hill Blue Plaque Unveiling

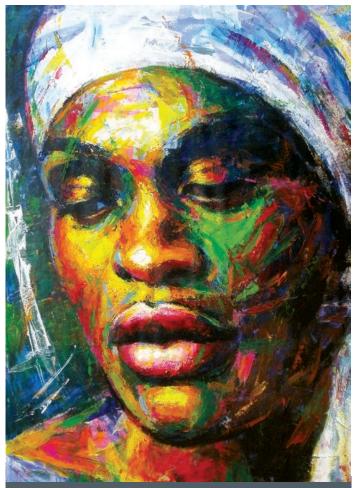
July 24

Celebration of the Olympic gold medallist by Summerstown182 Email rgbsimmons182@ gmail.com summerstown182.wordpress.com

New comedy at the BAC

Top performers will be performing new comedy this September, including Shaparak Khorsandi, Nabil Abdulrashid, Ivo Graham and Fern Brady. All performances are pay what you can. Battersea Arts Centre bac.org.uk





Framed

Look up while out on your local high street and you'll be able to see artworks by local artists hanging from the lampposts. Framed' is a new outdoor art project in Balham, Clapham Junction, Earlsfield, Furzedown, Tooting, Southfields, Wandsworth Town, Roehampton, and Putney, featuring 133 banners by 130 artists. You can find the full list of the 130 participating artists at wandsworthart.com/framed



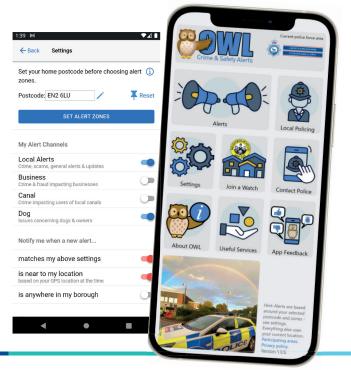
OWL app now live

Residents can now sign up for the OWL app and get crime prevention advice, appeals and warnings of scams and local incidents.

Online Watch Link (OWL) is already used by the police and council to send messages to subscribers by email. Now you can download the free app and get a notification as soon as a new message is sent by your local police officers or council community safety officers. You'll get information based on your postcode.

You can also share messages with social media and join your local Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

To get the app search your app store for 'owl crime alerts'.



High tech safety

The council's new Joint Control Centre is bringing together work currently carried out in several different offices to create one large, co-ordinated centre to keep Wandsworth people safe.

The centre will co-ordinate services include monitoring CCTV in town centres and on estates, WATCH and Careline services protecting older and vulnerable people, and the council's out of hours emergency service. CCTV in Wandsworth is currently being upgraded to deliver much better, evidential-quality images.



Hate crime help line

Anyone affected by hate crime can contact a new 24-hour helpline seven days a week, every day of the year.

Run by Stop Hate UK in association with the council, it's a safe and independent place to talk about your experiences and to explore your options for how to take things further. Anyone can call and young people who have experienced or witnessed hate crime are encouraged to get in touch. Call 0800 138 1625

Text 07717 989 025



You can now Report all forms of Hate Crime in the London Borough of Wandsworth to Stop Hate UK on: 0800 138 1625

www.stophateuk.org/wandsworth for more information and other ways to report

Doing it online

Using our website helps keep your council tax bills low

Report a waste problem

wandsworth.gov.uk/waste

Request a housing repair

wandsworth.gov.uk/housingonline

Search planning applications

wandsworth.gov.uk/planningregister

Report a street problem

wandsworth.gov.uk/streets

Apply for a school place

eadmissions.org.uk

Book an MOT

wandsworth.gov.uk/MOT

Report noise and nuisances

wandsworth.gov.uk/noise

Apply or renew a parking permit

wandsworth.gov.uk/parkingpermits

Report graffiti for removal

wandsworth.gov.uk/graffiti

Report an abandoned vehicle

wandsworth.gov.uk/abandonedvehicles

Tell us if you are moving in or out of Wandsworth

wandsworth.gov.uk/MIMO

Enquire about your housing options

wandsworth.gov.uk/housingoptions

Pay it online

It's now easier to pay online at wandsworth.gov.uk/payments

Pay your council tax

wandsworth.gov.uk/paycounciltax

Pay a parking fine

wandsworth.gov.uk/parking/payment

Pay your rent

wandsworth.gov.uk/rents

Pay for a marriage or civil partnership

ceremony

wandsworth.gov.uk/ceremonypayment

Pay your business rates

wandsworth.gov.uk/paybusinessrates

Pay a waste or littering penalty

wandsworth.gov.uk/waste-enforcement

Talk to us online

weekly e-newsletter wandsworth.gov.uk/enews



facebook.com/wandsworth.council



twitter.com/wandbc



instagram.com/wandsworth_council

My Account

Create an account and you will only have to sign in once to access the main council services. wandsworth.gov.uk/myaccount

Report It app



Wandsworth Report It makes it easier for anyone to report problems like fly tipping, graffiti and other environmental issues. Search for the Wandsworth

Report It app on the Apple, Android or Windows app store.

Other contacts at the council

Adult Social Services (020) 8871 7707

Births, Deaths, Marriages and Voting Hotline (020) 8871 6120

Early Years and Childcare Hotline including Family Information Service and After School and Holiday Play Centre bookings (020) 8871 7899 Environmental Services including noise, pest control, private housing and licensing (020) 8871 6127

Finance Hotline including benefits, council tax, rents and business rates (020) 8871 8081

Housing Hotline including housing management and repairs, service charges, home ownership, homelessness and housing advice

(020) 8871 6161

Parking and Streets Hotline including concessionary travel, blue badges, MOTs, highways and skip licensing and bay suspensions (020) 8871 8871 Planning and Building Control hotline including Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), land searches and street naming and numbering (020) 8871 7620

Schools and Admissions (020) 8871 7316

Waste Hotline including rubbish, recycling and litter (020) 8871 8558

WOULDYOU

leave this half-finished

ON'T do the same with COVID-19

get both

Make sure you get the second dose of the vaccine.

jabs!

It offers the best protection against COVID-19 and is 90% effective after the second jab.

HANDS • FACE • SPACE • FRESH AIR

wandsworth.gov.uk/coronavirus • nhs.gov.uk/coronavirus

