

# Home *Life*

Wandsworth Council's housing newsletter [wandsworth.gov.uk/housingnews](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/housingnews)



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# Useful contacts

There is a range of housing services and information available on our website [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/housing](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/housing)

## Housing contacts

### Housing Customer Centre

90 Putney Bridge Road  
London SW18 1HR

### Western Area Housing Office

Roehampton Parish Hall  
Alton Road, London SW15 4LG  
Housing hotline: 020 8871 6161

### Housing Area Teams

Central: 020 8871 5333  
Eastern: 020 8871 7439  
Southern: 020 8871 7288  
Western: 020 8871 5530

If you do not know your area team email: [hms@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:hms@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk)

**Joint Control Centre (formerly known as Wandsworth Emergency Control)** (housing emergencies, out of hours) 020 8871 7490

### Home Ownership

[housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Downsizing options

[allocationteam@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:allocationteam@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Landlords looking for tenants

[privatelandlords@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:privatelandlords@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Details of how to make a complaint are on our website at

[www.wandsworth.gov.uk/complaints](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/complaints)

### For breakdowns, leaks and servicing heating/hot water systems speak to your gas contractor:

■ For properties across the borough where heating is supplied by a **central communal boiler.**

#### Smith & Byford

020 8722 3431 or 0808 196 1791  
CommercialServices  
[@smithandbyford.com](mailto:@smithandbyford.com)

■ **Battersea, Central Wandsworth and Earlsfield** with an individual domestic heating system.

#### PH Jones

020 3657 0304 or 0333 004 2333  
[wbcrepairs@phjones.com](mailto:wbc repairs@phjones.com)

■ **Putney, Roehampton and Tooting** with an individual domestic heating system.

#### T Brown

0800 977 8472 or 020 8786 1244  
[repairs@tbrown.com](mailto:repairs@tbrown.com)

To find out your gas contractor 020 8871 7040

## Other council contacts

### Adult social services

020 8871 7707

### Births, Deaths, Marriages and Voting

020 8871 6120

### Child social services

020 8871 6622

### Environmental services (including pest control, private housing)

020 8871 6127

### Finance (including council tax, benefits, rent, service charges)

020 8871 8081

To make a telephone payment: 0800 021 7763

### Parking and Streets

020 8871 8871

### Rubbish, recycling and litter

020 8871 8558

## Report It App

You can report issues directly to the housing department through the council's app!

This is a quick and easy way to tell us about any issues with cleaning, gardening and maintenance on your estate.

Report it in just three easy steps:

- 1 Choose your location
- 2 Take a photo
- 3 Choose the council housing estates category

Once you've submitted your report, it will go straight to our dedicated estate services team to be dealt with.

Search for Wandsworth Report It on the Apple, Android or Windows app store

Find out more at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/reportitapp](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/reportitapp)



## Welcome to the winter issue of Homelife

I was delighted to attend the opening of McKinney House, part of the Alton estate regeneration. The Council has honoured the late Rev. Jim McKinney who gave so much back to the local community by naming the block after him, with his two children cutting the ribbon to officially open the development. Read more about it, and the other ways the regeneration is benefiting local residents, on page 16.

The recent rise in gas prices has affected us all, particularly with winter here. On page 6 we've included some useful tips on reducing energy consumption and lowering your household fuel bills. There's also some helpful information on the

different financial assistance schemes run by Thames Water on page 4 - please do see if you're eligible for help with your water bills.

I hope you enjoy this issue of Homelife. If you have any suggestions please contact me by email on [hms@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:hms@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk).

Finally, I'd like to wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas and new year.



**Cllr Jonathan Cook**  
Cabinet Member for Housing



## New area repair contracts begin

New area repair contracts for the council's housing stock started on 1 October.

A competitive tendering process ensures that value for money is achieved, with contracts awarded for an initial period of three years, with the option to extend for a further four years, two years at a time.

	Primary contractor	Secondary contractor
<b>Eastern area</b>		
Tenanted properties	Purdy	ECS-Operational Services
Vacant properties	MNM	ECS-Operational Services
<b>Southern area</b>		
Tenanted properties	Breyer	ECS-Operational Services
Vacant properties	Purdy	ECS-Operational Services
<b>Central area</b>		
Tenanted properties	Breyer	ECS-Operational Services
Vacant properties	Purdy	ECS-Operational Services
<b>Western area</b>		
Tenanted properties	Purdy	ECS-Operational Services
Vacant properties	MNM	ECS-Operational Services
<b>Communal repairs</b>		
Eastern area	FG Keens	ECS-Operational Services
Southern area	Breyer	ECS-Operational Services
Central area	FG Keens	ECS-Operational Services
Western area	Breyer	ECS-Operational Services
Boroughwide plumbing	Drain Surgeon	ECS-Operational Services
Boroughwide metalwork	J Carroll & Sons	W C Evans Ltd



## Wandsworth Arts Fringe wants you!

Wandsworth's annual arts festival is back from **10 to 26 June 2022**.

Expressions of Interest and applications for WAF Grants of up to £2,000 per project are open now.

WAF's calling out for artists, community groups, schools, venues and businesses who want to get involved in South West London's bold and eclectic fringe festival

**Got a creative idea you'd love to try?** Find out more at [wandsworthartsfringe.com](http://wandsworthartsfringe.com)

# Animal welfare service's court success

In September, two dog owners were found guilty at court of breaking the dog byelaws on the Doddington estate in Battersea, and the Alton estate in Roehampton.

Each was fined £220, must pay a victim surcharge of £34, and pay a contribution towards the council legal costs of £220. In total each had to pay £474.

In both cases the offender showed no remorse for their actions and was uncooperative with the animal welfare officer who was reporting them. However, they were both fully cooperative when the officer subsequently attended their homes in the company of police officers to complete the process.

The estate amenity greens are for the benefit of all residents, particularly those who do not have direct access to their own private garden. Children and families use these areas for play and recreation. Dog faeces puts resident's health at risk, particularly children. The animal welfare service receives numerous complaints about dog faeces being left on the amenity greens and will take legal action against irresponsible dog owners who break the byelaws.

The animal welfare service may be contacted for further information on the byelaws, or any aspect of responsible dog ownership, at [animalwelfare@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:animalwelfare@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk) or 020 8871 7606.

## Stand up against fraud

People who commit fraud against the council are taking services away from you and your family. Regrettably Covid restrictions have not stopped the fraudsters.

With council services in great demand (for example, council housing and social care funding) we need to ensure that all available funding is used effectively for those in genuine need.

Wandsworth Council will take action against fraud and abuse. Over the last three years, with support through referrals from you, the public, the council have recovered 110 properties as a result of subletting, abandonment and false successions. These properties have then been made available to those in need. The council has also taken action against those who seek to abuse other council services.

Together with neighbouring councils, Wandsworth has a dedicated professionally qualified team of fraud investigators who can investigate your suspicions of fraud and abuse of council services.

If you suspect someone is committing fraud against the council please let us know. Don't let them get away with it, your report could make a real difference.

Contact us today: [SWLFP@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:SWLFP@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk), **020 8871 8383** or **[www.report-fraud.co.uk/wandsworth](http://www.report-fraud.co.uk/wandsworth)**. Your report will be treated in the strictest confidence.



## Do you struggle to pay your water bills?

If you struggle to pay your water bill you may be entitled to help from Thames Water.

If you are on a low income (less than £19,747) you could be entitled to 50% off your bill under the WaterHelp scheme.

If you are on a water meter but find it difficult to save water because you have a large family or certain medical conditions you may be entitled to help under WaterSure. This caps your annual bill at the average price paid by other customers; this year bills would be capped at £419. To qualify you must be in receipt of a means-tested benefit and either have 3 or more children living with you or have a medical condition which means you require more water.

There is also help for qualifying people already in debt through the Customer Assistance Fund which matches money paid towards debts, pound for pound.

For more information, visit **[www.thameswater.co.uk/help/account-and-billing/financial-support](http://www.thameswater.co.uk/help/account-and-billing/financial-support)** or call **0800 009 3652**.

# Building safety update



## Fire safety in winter

During winter, there are more potential fire hazards and residents should take extra care over the coming months.

Below is some guidance on fire safety in the home.

### Heating your home

- Always turn off portable heaters before going to bed.
- When using a portable heater, follow the manufacturer's operating instructions properly.
- Keep heaters clean and away from your curtains and furniture.
- Do not sit or stand too close to a heater.
- Do not use a heater to dry clothes or any materials.
- Never leave a portable heater on when young children or animals are alone.
- Never use flammable adhesives, cleaning fluids or aerosol sprays near a heater.
- If you live in a flat or maisonette, you are not allowed to keep or use liquid petroleum gas, unless it is in

disposable containers, such as aerosols which comply with the current British Standards.

### Keeping warm - electric blankets

- Never use hot water bottles in the same bed as an electric blanket, even if the blanket is switched off.
- Unplug electric blankets before you get into bed, unless they have a thermostat control for safe all-night use.
- Store electric blankets flat, rolled up or loosely folded to prevent damage to the internal wiring.
- Test electric blankets every 3 years. You can contact Age UK (if you are over 60) or your local fire brigade to carry out these tests for you.
- Where possible, try to avoid buying second-hand blankets and check regularly for signs of wear and tear.

### Lighting and candles

- Keep a battery-operated light or torch handy to use in the event of a power cut or failure.
- Keep a mobile phone handy to make an emergency call in the event of a power cut.
- If you need to use candles or matches, always take special care to put them out completely before leaving the room or going to bed.
- Make sure candles are secured in a proper holder and are kept away from flammable materials, like curtains.

### Christmas trees and decorations

- Only use non-combustible or flame-resistant tree decorations.
- Do not leave fairy lights on when you go out or go to sleep.
- Do not let the bulbs on Christmas lights touch any flammable materials, like paper.

**And finally... make sure you have a working smoke alarm! Contact your Area Housing Team without delay if you don't have one.**

# Tackling the climate emergency

## Worried about fuel bills? Wandsworth has a free service to help

Wandsworth Public Health fund local not-for-profit partners, Thinking Works, to offer advice and support for vulnerable people in the borough to stay warm for less.

### The service is free if you:

- are 60 or over, or
- have a long-term condition or disability, or
- have a low income

If you are eligible, Thinking Works deliver an assessment via telephone or home visit and offer the following:

- ✓ **FREE** carbon monoxide detector (CO alarm)
- ✓ **FREE** LED bulb x2
- ✓ **FREE** radiator reflector panels for 3 radiators\*
- ✓ **FREE** water saving showerhead and other water saving devices\*
- ✓ Assessments for **Water Help 50% Thames Water discount\*\***
- ✓ Specialist advice on lowering your heating bills
- ✓ Advice on heating controls and hot water settings
- ✓ Support to apply for the **£140 Warm Home Discount\*\***
- ✓ Advice and referrals for debt and financial assistance
- ✓ Advice on health and wellbeing services in the borough

\*Subject to survey but wherever possible

\*\*Subject to eligibility check

Giles Read, managing director at Thinking Works said: "Because of Covid, last winter was extremely tough, and now with increasing gas prices, we are expecting the coming winter to be even tougher. Usually, we would recommend that Wandsworth residents switch fuel supplier to save, but with gas prices soaring, only cutting down the

energy we use will help keep costs under control. Even if you aren't eligible for our service, there are loads of no-cost and low-cost ways you can use less energy and save money – here are my top tips:

- Install LED bulbs – LED bulbs can use 10 x less energy than traditional tungsten bulbs
- Plug those draughts! Use your fingers to detect draughts around skirting boards, doors and windows and block them. DIY kits are available from most local hardware stores.
- Don't wash away savings – do an extra spin after you've washed your clothes. Clothes come out drier and doing an extra spin costs a fraction of what the same time costs in a tumble drier.
- Solar gains – winter sun offers significant free heating so open curtains during the day and close at sunset to keep the heat in.
- Dry your clothes on clothes horses next to windows that get winter sun – you'll be amazed at how quickly clothes dry, and it's free!
- Know your heating controls! Do you know how long your heating and hot water is on for each day?



In 2019 Wandsworth Council declared a climate emergency, setting a target to be a carbon neutral organisation and the greenest inner-London council by 2030. We will be keeping residents up to date with the actions being taken and encouraging you all to play your part in tackling the climate emergency.

**Carbon neutral by 2030** | **Zero Carbon by 2050**

Do you check how hot rooms that you don't use much are getting? Audit your heating controls – see how much you can reduce heating, hot water and the temperature of rooms that get little use to see how much you can save.

- Remember, if it gets hot, it's using a lot of energy! Did you know that most fans run at 50w or less, whereas most fan heaters run at 2000w or more!
- Home alone? Why not use a hot water bottle instead of turning on the heating, or so you can keep the thermostat down lower than usual.

- Fill your freezer – did you know that a full freezer uses less energy to run than a half empty one? Fill up with emergency essential like bread and it will keep your running costs down

For more information on the support available please call or email Thinking Works:

Freephone: **0800 118 23 27**

Text: **07928 394 482**

Email: [enquiries@thinkingworks.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@thinkingworks.co.uk)

Find out more at [www.thinkingworks.co.uk](http://www.thinkingworks.co.uk)

## Together on Climate Change

Residents were able to get tips on saving energy and reducing bills, reducing, recycling and reusing household items and cycling at the recent Wandsworth Together on Climate Change Festival.

Timed to coincide with COP26, the week-long festival was organised by Wandsworth Council as part of its pledge to tackle climate change. Events took place on several estates across Wandsworth.

At Tooting Grove residents were treated to workshops focused on reusing milk bottles, with the opportunity to make decorative bowls and trinket trays from bottle tops and bottles.

Thank you to all residents who got involved, either in helping to run events or attending. If you missed the festival, you can see videos of sessions at [wandsworth.gov.uk/climate-change](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/climate-change).



# Tackling the climate emergency



## Have your say on air quality plan

A new draft Air Quality Action Plan has been drawn up setting out how the council will continue its work to further reduce air pollution in the borough.

Local people are being asked to take part in a consultation and their views will feed into the final plan.

The council has pledged to reduce pollution and its impact as part of its actions to tackle climate change under the Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy.

Actions included in the draft plan include increased monitoring of air quality, working with schools, increasing biodiversity, planting trees, improving the walking and cycling infrastructure, making the town hall less polluting and putting air quality issues at the heart of transport and planning decisions

Read more and take part in the consultation at [haveyoursay.citizenspace.com/wandsworthecs/aqap-21](https://haveyoursay.citizenspace.com/wandsworthecs/aqap-21)

The consultation ends on 4 January 2022 and the council welcomes opinions, ideas and contributions to the plan.

## Try before you bike scheme

Wandsworth Council has partnered with Peddle My Wheels to enable people who live, work or study in the borough to hire a bicycle, e-bike, cargo bike, e-cargo bike or trailer.

The scheme includes:

- A brand new or nearly new bike for a small monthly fee
- The fee (which includes lights, lock, helmet) is fully refundable if you buy the bike
- Free maintenance call-out for your peace of mind
- If you fall in love with your bike buy at a reduced price, set up a payment plan or, if you work for the council, use the Cycle to Work scheme
- Bikes are delivered by qualified cycle instructors who can give you advice and pointers during your free induction

Visit [www.peddlemywheels.com](https://www.peddlemywheels.com) to find out more.



# TRY BEFORE YOU BIKE



The flexible, affordable, supportive bike scheme

Try out a new or nearly new bike for a monthly fee

Monthly fee from **£10** for kids, **£20** for adults, **£20** for folding, **£50** for electric, **£100** for cargo and e-cargo bikes.

**FREE** helmet with every delivery whether you buy the bike or not

**FREE** delivery to your door by a qualified cycle instructor who will help you get started

Choose from a range of bikes and accessories  
**Loving your bike** - buy the bike at a discounted price after your trial. Range of options including interest free payment plan and cycle to work scheme

**Model not for you?** Free collection of your bike and nothing further to pay

**Insurance available** for peace of mind

For more info visit [peddlemywheels.com/try-before-you-bike](http://peddlemywheels.com/try-before-you-bike)



Peddle My Wheels run the programme on behalf of





## Tube stops at Battersea!

New underground stations open in once-in-a-lifetime Northern Line extension

The Leader of Wandsworth Council, Cllr Ravi Govindia, was one of the first passengers on the brand-new Northern Line extension in September when the tube started running to Battersea for the first time in its history.

Cllr Govindia travelled underground from Nine Elms station to the new station at Battersea Power Station to celebrate the opening.

The two step-free Zone 1 stations have dramatically improved the connectivity of this riverside part of south London and support the capital's recovery from the pandemic at a vital time.

Transport for London started major construction on the 3km twin-tunnel railway between Kennington and Battersea Power Station, via Nine Elms, in 2015. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, the construction project stayed on track for an autumn opening. Wandsworth Council led the partnership to secure the funding and delivery of the new Tube line as part of a 20-year programme to transform the Battersea and Nine Elms area.

Councillor Ravi Govindia, Leader of Wandsworth Council and Co-chair of the Nine Elms Vauxhall Partnership, said: "Travelling on the Northern Line Extension as it opened its doors today, and seeing excited passengers use these stations for the first time, is a once-in-a-lifetime moment that I will never forget."

The Northern Line Extension is the first major Tube extension this century and is supporting around 25,000 new jobs and more than 20,000 new homes. In addition, construction of the extension boosted the UK economy and supported around 1,000 jobs, including 79 apprenticeships.

A peak-time service of six trains per hour operates on the extension and this will increase to 12 trains per hour by mid-2022 as more people move into new housing in the area and the demand increases. There are five trains per hour during off-peak times, with this set to double to 10 trains per hour next year.



## HESTIA take over domestic abuse advocacy

From 1 November advocacy and emergency accommodation services for survivors of domestic abuse in Wandsworth has been provided by Hestia.

Hestia support adults and children in times of crisis. They are one of the largest providers of domestic abuse services across London and the South East, as well as campaigning and advocating nationally on the issues that affect survivors. They offer emotional and practical support to victims of domestic abuse including mothers and children and ensure every service user has an up-to-date risk assessment and support plan tailored to their needs.

**Contact Hestia:**  
Telephone: 020 3879 3544,  
Monday-Friday 9am to 5pm



## Chelsea Kicks educating boys on healthy relationships

The housing and regeneration department and Chelsea Kicks teamed up to hold an event for boys aged 13-15 centred around maintaining healthy relationships.

The day-long event took place during half-term and comprised of a workshop on what a healthy relationship looks like, a talk from the MET police, pizza lunch, a tour of Stamford Bridge Stadium and playing a football tournament.

We recognise that educating our young people about relationships is of great value and will help them in their future relationships. Everyone is entitled to a happy relationship and young men should understand what a healthy relationship looks and feels like and should be able to recognise and act when something feels wrong. We also discussed the pressures

facing young men, challenging peer pressure and traits of toxic masculinity. By educating children we can ensure that they cultivate happy and healthy relationships when they are ready to do so.

This event is part of the council's commitment to ending violence against women and girls in all its forms. You might recall that the department achieved accreditation from the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance in July 2021. This certified the exemplary way in which domestic abuse was responded to in the borough. Wandsworth Council has achieved White Ribbon accreditation.



## Battersea and Nine Elms shine at Line of Light festival

Thousands of residents and visitors celebrated the Line of Light festival on 29 and 30 October to welcome the new Northern line extension.

The 3km route between Battersea Power Station, Nine Elms and Kennington Tube stations shone with dozens of light beams and large-scale projections mapping out the route of the train tunnels.

The Battersea Power Station Community Choir entertained crowds at the festival hub in New Union Square at Embassy Gardens, along with performances from World Heart Beat, the Bollywood Co and local pop-up bars and stalls.

Line of Light was presented by Wandsworth Council and Lambeth Council, with principal partners Battersea Power Station, Embassy Gardens, R&F Properties, Urbanest and New Covent Garden Market development partners VINCI St. Modwen. Supporting partners: Bloom Nine Elms, TfL and Vauxhall One, and technical partner PANI Projection and Lighting.

See festival pictures from the communities along the route at [nineelmslondon.com/lineoflight](http://nineelmslondon.com/lineoflight)



# community news



## The Wagon of Dreams rolls through Wandsworth's estates

Residents of estates across the borough were treated to an outdoor theatre performance as part of the Wandsworth Arts Fringe.

Jellyfish Theatre company production, the Wagon of Dreams, is a family show for children 3+ and their parents and carers.

Ashburton South residents enjoyed a 'test drive' performance in July before the Wagon of Dreams made its way around Wandsworth. Shows were popular, with children and adults alike engrossed throughout performances!

## Partying at Putney Community Garden

Putney Community Garden put on a party to remember for residents!

There was live music from local south London musicians, talks and activities by SW15 Hedgehogs, a range of food prepared by residents to share, a workshop on medicinal herbs, tour of the estate and lots of other stalls and activities including face-painting, a jumble sale and a treasure hunt.

The diversity of people who attended was really wonderful, as well as how many people helped to set up and tidy afterwards. Thank you to all involved for a fantastic day!



## New outdoor sport and play areas in Nine Elms

Three estates in Nine Elms are set to get new sport and play areas by the spring, thanks to funding from local developers that Wandsworth Council is investing back into area improvements. Work is underway on the outdoor sport and play areas at Patmore Estate, Savona Estate and at the Yvonne Carr Centre. The refurbished outdoor area designs have been shaped by feedback and views from residents and are expected to be open for everyone to enjoy in early 2022.

Find out more about the outdoor areas at [nineelmslondon.com](http://nineelmslondon.com)



## FREE online courses for residents

Wandsworth Council is committed to engaging with residents, both tenants and leaseholders, and we want to encourage you to get involved.

We appreciate that not everyone will feel comfortable getting involved or may not understand what 'getting involved' entails. The department has commissioned TPAS provide a series of courses which will empower residents to get involved, hold their landlord to account and build on skills.

The courses being offered in the new year are:

- Embracing Your Community and Inclusivity (8 January 2022, morning)
- Understanding Scrutiny (15 January 2022, morning)
- Team Building (24 January 2022, evening)

If you would be interested in attending, please contact your RPO. Spaces are limited so register your interest as soon as possible!

## Folk Dance Remixed at the Ashburton South

As part of the Putney Festival in August residents of the Ashburton South estate enjoyed a performance from the Folk Dance Remixed dance company. A fusion of street dance and traditional folk dance, the company aim to rediscover old traditions through contemporary forms.

As well as a performance, the dancers lead a maypole workshop and socially distanced 'ceilidh jam' session for residents.



## Your resident participation team

There are a variety of ways to get involved in your community and decisions about your housing.

Speak to your resident participation officer.

### Southern Team



**Foday Kamara**  
(020) 8871 8639

[fkamara@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:fkamara@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Central Team



**Siovhon Crombie**  
(020) 8871 8694

[Siovhon.crombie@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:Siovhon.crombie@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Eastern Team



**Lee Bushell**  
(020) 8871 8638

[lbushell@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:lbushell@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Western Team



**Sarah Stevens**  
(020) 8871 5505

[sstevens@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:sstevens@wandsworth.gov.uk)

# sheltered housing news

## Movie making history of SW15 revealed

A year and a half ago, while researching a project about the many films shot in the Putney and Roehampton area, local film historian Philip Evison knocked at the door of the Minstead Gardens Clubroom and spoke to Steve Rees, Sheltered Housing Officer, and one of the residents, Mrs Dene Lyon.

Mr Rees, himself an avid film buff, took advantage of the chance meeting and asked Mr Evison if he'd like to present

his project, 'Film History of Roehampton and Putney', at the clubroom. Then along came the pandemic.

Fast forward to July 6 2021, and in collaboration with Jenny Bailey (Age Well Roehampton) and Jonathan Palma of Citizens Advice, Steve and Philip finally managed to stage the talk and slideshow as part of Roehampton Community Week. Run in a Covid-safe way across three sold-out sittings, a great time was had by all.

Residents were particularly fascinated to hear about 1960s science fiction classic Fahrenheit 451 which features Minstead Gardens. Minstead Gardens resident Mrs Dene Lyon said: "I really enjoyed it and learnt so much about the neighbourhood I've lived in for most of my life that I didn't know". It is hoped that the event can be re-staged in the future given its popularity.

## Refurbishment of Kirton Lodge

Kirton Lodge Sheltered Housing Scheme has recently had a complete refurbishment. Works were completed in December 2020 after a slight delay due to the Covid pandemic. A new extension was built onto the clubroom providing more space for residents to meet, socialise and participate in organised activities.

The clubroom design is open plan with a new modern fitted kitchen and integrated appliances as well as new seat



furnishings and heating radiators. The new layout has provided more space and natural lighting, transforming the clubroom into a more welcoming and relaxed space.

Other additions include a new laundry room, fitted with new industrial washing appliances, a new disabled toilet to allow access for wheelchair users, and a new office for the Sheltered Housing Officers. Two new secure communal scooter sheds have been built at each end of the scheme with facilities for residents to store and charge their scooters.

Activities have now been slowly re-introduced. Coffee mornings are being held on Wednesdays in the clubroom for residents to meet in a safe environment and enjoy each other's company.

# Residents enjoy garden party

A garden party for the tenants at Grosse Way, Hepplestone Close and Riplington Court was held in September, with the fabulous Ray Lowe as entertainment.

The sun was out and afternoon tea was served. Tenants enjoyed the music and the sunshine, and joined in with the singing.

A good time was had by all. It cheered everyone up and will hopefully be the first of many parties to make up for lost time!



Reassurance and peace of mind at the touch of a button

# WATCH

## Lifeline Alarm Service

### FREE four week trial

To find out more about our push button response services contact:  
call: 020 8871 8198  
email: [watch@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:watch@wandsworth.gov.uk)  
[www.wandsworth.gov.uk/watch](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/watch)



# TeleCARE

Automatic sensors and push-button alarms to help you remain living in your home.

Independence for service users

24-hour reassurance for carers

Phone: (020) 8871 7707  
Email: [accessteam@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:accessteam@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk)

[www.wandsworth.gov.uk/telecare](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/telecare)

AD.917 (2.21)



# regeneration updates



## McKinney House Opens

A new housing development in Bessborough Road, Roehampton, has been named McKinney House to celebrate the life of the former vicar of Holy Trinity Church, the late Rev. Jim McKinney who died almost three years ago.

The site which delivers 10 new council homes including five three-bed maisonettes, two three-bed flats and three two-bed flats, is the first stage of the regeneration of the Alton estate.

The Rev. McKinney was one of the founding members of the Roehampton Forum and Partnership. He also chaired the Wandsworth Community Empowerment Network for ten years, as well as being a local school governor at Roehampton Church School.

The Rev's two children Ruth, 32, and Alex, 31, cut the

ribbon to formally open the development on 15 October. The Bishop of Southwark also attended the event.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Ravi Govindia, spoke at the event and said: "I am delighted that we have been able to provide more good quality homes for our residents and I am also delighted that we have been able to honour the life of the Rev. Jim McKinney who was much-loved and did so much for the local community."

Cllr Jonathan Cook, Cabinet Member for Housing, added: "This development marks the first stage of the



redevelopment of the Alton estate and I am very proud that we continue to fight for better homes for our residents."

Each new home has access to either a private garden or balcony and all are fully adaptable to meet the future mobility needs of residents. The development also offers a secure communal garden with play equipment for children under five years old, secure communal bike and bin storage areas, five parking spaces and new homes for birds and bats.



## Bull's 60th Birthday

The Bull on Downshire Field, Roehampton a Grade II listed sculpture, turned 60 years old this year. It was first commissioned by the London County Council at the request of A. W. Cleeve Barr, one of the lead architects for the Alton estate. We celebrated with a birthday bash and naming ceremony!

Guests of all ages enjoyed a host of bull-themed activities, games and cake. For several weeks before the party, the Alton regeneration team collected suggestions for the name of the Bull. The winning name, Bobby, was revealed during the 'Happy Birthday' song; reflecting a thoughtful nod to the statue's sculptor, Robert Clatworthy.



## Run, Walk, Scoot on the Alton

Run, Walk, Scoot was a fun mini marathon in September. Participants of all ages and abilities devised their own routes, visiting the four community buildings on the estate and collecting stamps along the way. The route ended at the pop-up art gallery on Danebury Avenue, where race-finishers received a well-deserved medal.



## Alton Greened

Alton Greened is a new community gardening initiative involving residents and community groups who share a passion to green up the estate.

The group first spruced up the planters at Hilsea Point and Petersfield Rise using plants generously donated by the Wimbledon Foundation following the tennis tournament. Residents from across the Alton, Ashburton and Lennox estates, with help from Roehampton Sheds and the Putney Society, also gave the Grade II listed drinking fountain at Medfield Street a flowering make over.

If you pass by and it looks a bit dry, the garage opposite is happy to supply a filled watering can!

## Recycling week

During national Recycling Week, the Alton regeneration team held a recycling challenge to see if residents could correctly select what could and could not be recycled from a selection of everyday waste.

Of all the age groups taking part, primary school children scored the highest; but everyone learned something. The stall was in addition to a weekly information stand run by local volunteers, providing news about things happening on and around the Alton estate.



## Harbridge Square

As part of Roehampton Community Week, the Alton regeneration team worked with local volunteers on a mini makeover of a redundant space on Harbridge Avenue. The area was transformed with lights, planters and colourful playground games into a more usable and attractive area for play, picnics and relaxation, and is now known locally as 'Harbridge Square'. Local street artists have completed the renovation with a mural, based on design feedback from local residents.



# Home Ownership Team

Improving purchase options for council tenants

For further information please contact: 020 8871 6161

housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk • wandsworth.gov.uk/homeownership



Wandsworth Council opening  
the door to Home Ownership

## Affordable Housing Open Day

The Home Ownership Team hosted their annual affordable housing open day on 21 October 2021 and were delighted to return to providing a physical presence once again at the Civic Suite in Wandsworth.

In the interests of providing a safe and Covid-secure environment, this year's event was scaled down and required all visitors to book appointments prior to attending.

60 visitors were able to engage with members of the Home Ownership Team and several housing providers throughout the afternoon to find out what their home ownership options were.

One attendee said that the event was "extremely well run and informative" and a housing provider in attendance said: "Our sales executives were very busy right until the end of the day talking to applicants which is great".



The Home Ownership Team were also able to hold an online web event in November which gave those who could not attend the in-person event the opportunity to speak online with the team. These online events will continue to be held quarterly so keep an eye out on the webpage for more details.

## Shared Ownership

New Shared Ownership developments in the borough include the following:

### Optivo – Riverside Quarter / Waterway, SW18

A mix of one bedroom and two-bedroom units are still being marketed, ideally located on the banks of the River Thames with great transport links to central London, this development is perfect for young professionals. Please contact JLL on [sharedownership@eu.jll.com](mailto:sharedownership@eu.jll.com) or call **020 7852 4300**.

### Peabody – New Mansion Square, SW8

31 brand new apartments, 1 and 2-beds, will be available as part of the Battersea Power Station regeneration project. Purchasers will be able to benefit from excellent retail and dining options plus enhanced transport links with the new underground station at BPS now open for business. Please visit [www.peabodysales.co.uk/developments/new-mansion-square](http://www.peabodysales.co.uk/developments/new-mansion-square) or call **020 7021 4842**



## Immediate Rent

### Clarion Housing – Windsor Apartments, SW11

A combination of 68 brand new and affordable 1 and 2-bed units are available to rent. Please contact Clarion Housing for further information on **0300 01000303** or visit: [www.myclarionhousing.com](http://www.myclarionhousing.com)



There will be a large number of intermediate rental opportunities within the borough over the next few years including the above scheme. Intermediate rent offers the opportunity to those who are not able to purchase straight away to rent a brand new or refurbished home, or a home that is being re-let at less than the market rate. The rent is subsidised, normally at approximately 20% lower than if renting on the private market. As well as being more affordable, there is the reassurance that the home is built, managed and let by a registered housing provider. It is designed to give people a chance to use the saving made on the subsidised rent to save for a deposit to purchase a home within the next five years. If you would like to register for this scheme, please complete one of our Combined Sales Scheme (CSS) application forms.

**WOULD YOU**  
leave this  
half-finished ?



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