

# Brightside

Issue 200 July 2023

The magazine of Wandsworth Council



**We're going for  
London Borough of Culture** page 8

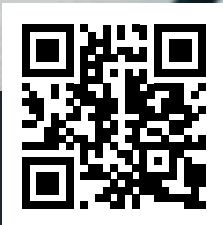
Delivered to 159,000 homes - Balham Battersea Earlsfield Furzedown Putney Roehampton Southfields Tooting Wandsworth





# Keep your vote

You now need to show  
photo ID when voting in  
person at a polling station



A list of accepted photo IDs can be  
found at [gov.uk/voting-photo-id](https://www.gov.uk/voting-photo-id)

If you don't have photo ID don't worry –you can  
apply now for a free Voter Authority Certificate for  
use at future elections.

Visit [voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk](https://voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk)  
or call the helpline on 020 8871 6023.



11



19



20



# Inside this issue

Cost of Living support	page 5
Living Wage for all	page 7
Wandsworth Bridge	page 12
Creating future streets	page 13
More Mega Skips	page 14
Recycle right	page 15
Housing Action	page 16
Wandsworth Civic Awards	page 17
Air quality update	page 24
Tree planting	page 25
What's on	page 30
Useful numbers	page 35

Cover image: Celebrating the launch of the Borough of Culture bid. Visit [wandsworth.gov.uk/culture](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/culture)

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

#### OUR BRIGHTSIDE

Brightside is delivered to every home in the borough and pushed fully through the letterbox.

If you have any suggestions for articles or have a story you would like to tell us about please email: [brightside@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:brightside@wandsworth.gov.uk) or call: **Editorial (020) 8871 8902 Advertising (020) 8871 7266**

We would love to hear from you.

Brightside is printed on environmentally friendly paper, please recycle.

# Helping you through hard times

Wandsworth is committed to becoming a fairer, more compassionate borough. We've set aside £10 million to help local people through the cost of living crisis and build resilience for the future.

## What have we done so far?

**Free gym and swim** – Families on Universal Credit or free school meals, as well as asylum seekers, foster carers and care leavers, can use swimming pools and junior gyms for free at off-peak times. Ask about it at your local leisure centre.

**Help with uniform costs** - We have given more than 180 school uniform vouchers to children from low income families when they move into Reception and Year 7.

**Warm Spaces** – Venues including libraries and community centres offered a hot drink, a chance to chat and even food and children's activities in some places. Children's Centres alone provided families in need with more than 26,000 meals over the winter.

**Advice and support** – We've worked with Citizens Advice Wandsworth to give 559 people financial assessments, advice and ongoing support, helping them access more than £42,000 in total.

**Payments for frontline workers not on the Real Living Wage** – 638 people received a one-off payment. We also have a long-term plan to make sure contracted workers are paid the Real Living Wage.

**Warm Homes** – We funded South West London Energy Advice Partnership (SWLEAP) to offer home visits and telephone advice to help people reduce energy costs. Thinking Works was funded to install energy efficiency measures on residents' heating systems.

**Voluntary sector support** – We have directed £900,000 to a range of local groups and charities to give grass-roots support to local communities.

**Cost of Living Hub** – Our online hub helps direct people to sources of support, and includes a benefits calculator to make sure people are claiming what they are entitled to.

**Crisis payments** – People facing the most serious hardship can apply for food vouchers, fuel payments and furniture.



27,000 hot meals given out at council spaces

£563,000 brought into 117 households via Pension Credit Campaign



£900,000 directed to the Voluntary Sector



172,000 flyers distributed across the borough



54 home energy visits, saving each household on average £231

EntitledTo calculator completed 733 times



Libraries open for an extra 224 hours each month over winter 2022/2023



55 warm spaces open over winter 2022/2023



# Let's do this, together

**We need your help to create a fairer, more compassionate, more sustainable Wandsworth.**

So much of the change we want to see can only be achieved in partnership. With residents, with dynamic local businesses and with our amazing voluntary sector.

Listening to you is at the heart of this partnership. The independent Cost of Living Commission has listened to local residents to find out what help our communities need.

That's why we're committing an extra £5 million to provide cost of living support.

Wandsworth has the largest Cost of Living support package in London – and to ease the burden on residents we continue to charge the lowest average Council Tax in the country.

In this Brightside, you can read about the support we offer, including free gym and swim for low income families, help with food and fuel costs – and a commitment to paying the Living Wage to all our frontline workers.

Fresh thinking will help us reach our ambitious goal of being a carbon neutral council by 2030. We're investing in a fleet of 32 new refuse and recycling collection trucks that will run on used vegetable oil from local restaurants. This will mean cleaner streets, cleaner air and a reduction of 90 per cent in carbon emissions.

Wandsworth is a fantastic place to live, with people from all different cultures and backgrounds working together to create a welcoming, vibrant community. We want to celebrate that – which is why we're bidding to become London Borough of Culture 2025.

We can't wait to show London and the world what our wonderful borough has to offer. Your support will be central to the bid's success.

We can achieve so much when we all work as a team.

**Let's do this, together.**



**Simon Hogg**

Leader of Wandsworth Council





A meeting of the Commission

# Commission reports back

**We set up an independent Wandsworth Cost of Living Commission to talk to local people and see what support they need.**

The commission has come back with its initial recommendations. Ideas already being explored include:

**Developing a Wandsworth Food Strategy** so everyone has access to affordable, healthy food.

**Creating Community Spaces.** These could be developed to provide an ongoing programme of support including advice on

energy, employment and housing.

**A dedicated Healthy Start officer** will work with families at Children's Centres and other key locations to support them to apply for Healthy Start Vouchers.

Over the next six months the commissioners will gather further evidence to help them develop longer-term solutions before coming up with a final report.

**You can share your ideas by emailing [wandsworthcommission@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:wandsworthcommission@wandsworth.gov.uk)**

**Wandsworth Council** **Cost of Living support**

- Help with grants, bills and benefits
- Support for families
- Where to turn in a crisis and more

visit: [wandsworth.gov.uk/hub](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/hub)  
call: 0808 175 3339



# Living Wage for all

**We've pledged to make sure everyone working for a contracted service is paid the Living Wage as a minimum.**

Wandsworth was recently granted formal Living Wage Foundation accreditation, sending a clear signal to companies bidding for council contracts.

"We greatly value all the people that work hard to keep this borough running. The lowest paid are also some of the hardest working, and are the people that need our help the most during this Cost of Living crisis," said Council Leader Simon Hogg.

"It will take time to move all contracts onto the Living Wage, but I have asked for the process to be done swiftly, with a clear roadmap setting out when targets will be achieved.

"In the meantime, we've given more than 600 frontline workers a one-off payment of £300, or £150 for part-time workers. It's one way we can show our gratitude and support."

**"I and my family are very grateful for the bonus. It really helped us with energy bills and considering the Cost of Living, it was really handy."**



Ibrahim who works for a council contractor providing facilities and cleaning services.

## Time to Sparkle

**Wandsworth is home to London's first intergenerational community centre, and everyone is invited to take part.**

Since its launch just over a year ago, Sparkle has grown to a second day at their Putney venue, and has opened in a new venue in Wandsworth Common. Activities include craft, singing, gardening, games and also guest speakers and performances. Older people can also enjoy a gentle exercise class and hot lunch.

**Visit [sparkletogether.org](http://sparkletogether.org)**

Sparkle is partially funded by the Wandsworth Grant Fund which offers grants to Wandsworth-based community and voluntary group for projects that will benefit the residents of the borough, including those that support local communities, help people stay healthy and increase sustainability.

**The next deadline is July 31, followed by December. Find out more at [wandsworth.gov.uk/WGF](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/WGF)**







# Let's do this together!

**Wandsworth has become the first borough to officially enter the race to be named London Borough of Culture 2025.**

This exciting opportunity will reach all corners of our borough and showcase its fantastic culture and creativity and vibrant communities.

Simon Hogg, Council Leader, said: "We're delighted to be going for London Borough of Culture 2025 – it signals real confidence in a changing, modern Wandsworth. We can't wait to show London and the world what our wonderful borough has to offer."

Kemi Akinola, Deputy Leader of the Council said: "We need to do this together - so we want to hear your ideas to shape the borough's bid."

The Mayor of London's culture scheme provides the winning borough with funding towards a year-long programme which celebrates local culture and heritage and helps create new



employment opportunities and creative programmes for residents.

Wandsworth is home to world-renowned creative and cultural organisations including Royal College of Art, Battersea Arts Centre, National Opera Studio and Royal Academy of Dance.

They're joined by high-profile and grassroots organisations such as Tara Theatre, Oily Cart, Sprout Arts, Putney Arts Theatre, Matt's Gallery, World Heart Beat Music Academy, Wandsworth Music, Sound Minds and The Baked Bean Charity.

And that's not all. From dance and music to food and heritage, there are so many ways that we all experience our own culture and other people's – so get on board and join the campaign to win!

Tell us what you love about Wandsworth in our survey and sign up for our e-newsletter to hear about more ways to get involved.

**Visit [wandsworth.gov.uk/culture](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/culture)**





“Our young people are bursting with talent”

Kemi Akinola, Deputy Leader of the Council







Pupils from St Mary's Primary School have been learning coding and digital creativity skills

# Apple joins the community

Council Leader Simon Hogg has welcomed the innovation, education and cultural opportunities brought by tech giant Apple establishing their London base here in the borough. "Already Apple has had a huge impact on our local area and

communities. It was brilliant to take two primary schools to the Power Station recently to hear about the coding skills pupils have learned through the schools' partnership with Apple," he said. Apple has also opened a new Apple store in Battersea Power Station and will hold free workshops there for local people. Find out more at [apple.com/uk/retail/battersea](http://apple.com/uk/retail/battersea)

**Get your FREE NHS Health Check from your GP**

You must be aged 40-74, have not been previously diagnosed with diabetes, kidney disease, heart disease or stroke and have not had an NHS Health check in the last five years.

For more information visit - [wandsworth.gov.uk/healthchecks](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/healthchecks)

**NHS HEALTH CHECK**

Helping you prevent

- diabetes
- heart disease
- kidney disease
- stroke & dementia





Emma and Floriana with dad James and sister Ishbel

# Concerns over child cancer care

A Balham mum says accessing local care was vital when her two-year-old daughter was diagnosed with kidney cancer in March 2020.



Simon Hogg hears the views of senior medical staff at St George's

Emma van Klaveren Finlay said daughter Floriana received “fantastic” care throughout the pandemic at St George’s Hospital and the Royal Marsden and is now in remission.

But she is worried that if Floriana needs further treatment from child cancer specialists local care may not be there. NHS England proposes transferring children’s cancer care services from St George’s to the Evelina in central London.

Wandsworth Council and local MP Dr Rosena Allin-Khan have written to the health secretary highlighting that St George’s has 25 years of experience in delivering children’s cancer care. They have expressed concern about sick children with suppressed immunity having to travel to central London on public transport, and urge NHS England to listen to local parents.

Emma says Floriana needed to attend St George’s at least weekly during her care, and traveling to central London would have added great to their already high levels of stress.

“Caring for someone with cancer is a 24/7 job and the slightest thing means you have to leg it to the hospital – a raised

temperature could mean sepsis.

“You can’t easily drive to central London and you can’t take an immunocompromised child on the tube, so it would have really added to the stress and expense.

“I will be completely devastated if this change goes ahead because you never know with cancer – it may come back. I’ve been spreading the word but it’s worrying that not many people seem to know about this.”

The council has welcomed news that the Mayor of London has announced an independent review of the plans.

Wandsworth Council Leader Simon Hogg said: “We will continue to fight to save children’s cancer services in our local area. NHS England must ensure its consultation is thorough, fair, and prioritises the voices of families affected by children’s cancer.

“If you are a Wandsworth family who will be directly affected by these proposals, please get in touch with me at [leader@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:leader@wandsworth.gov.uk)”



## Wandsworth Bridge closes for essential repairs

■ Wandsworth Bridge will close on July 24 for essential repairs.

The bridge will be shut to traffic for approximately ten weeks. It will remain open for pedestrians and cyclists who can wheel their bikes across.

The repairs are needed to safeguard the long-term future of the 83-year-old bridge. Checks have revealed that some of its weight-bearing parts need to be replaced. If these critical repairs are not completed, it could result in longer-term closures and other restrictions.

The timing of the repairs has been drawn up following discussions with Transport for London, neighbouring Hammersmith and Fulham Council and other partners to ensure good co-ordination with other major roadworks in south and west London.

There will be temporary changes to bus services that normally cross the bridge once the closure is in place. Find out more about these, road diversions and other information at [wandsworth.gov.uk/wandsworthbridge](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/wandsworthbridge)

## SOUTH THAMES ADULT EDUCATION

Learn something new with one of our exciting Adult Education courses, whether you want to get back into education, enhance your skills for work, start your own business or improve your wellbeing.

Our part time courses fit around your lifestyle, running either in the daytime, evening or on Saturdays. Courses are delivered using a variety of methods, including face-to-face and online classes.

ART, CRAFT & DESIGN • BAKING, CAKE DECORATING & COOKING • CHILDCARE & EARLY YEARS • DIGITAL SKILLS • DISTANCE LEARNING COURSES • ESOL • ENGLISH & MATHS • HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE • HORTICULTURE • LANGUAGES • INTERPRETING MUSIC • PILATES & YOGA • TEACHING ASSISTANT ...

Enrol by visiting our website or telephoning us:

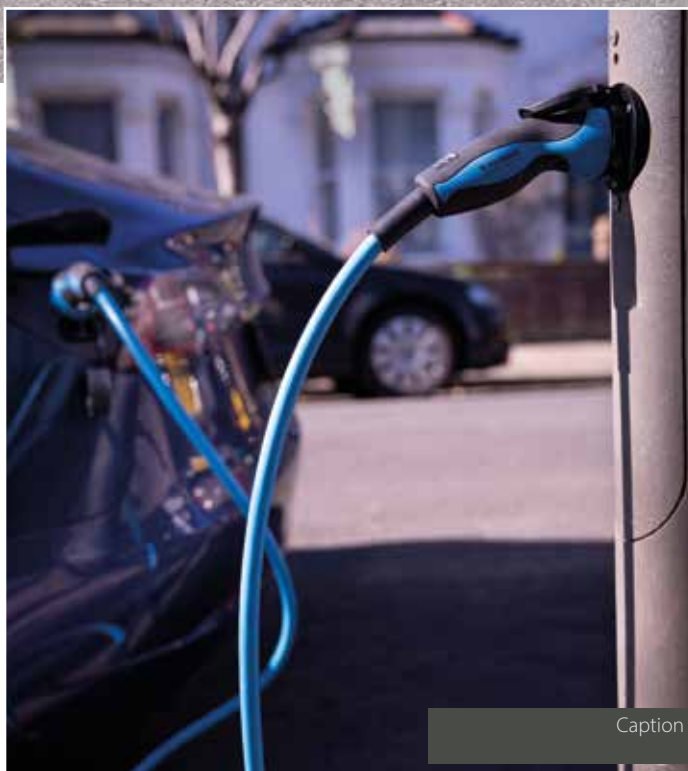
020 8918 7777 • [stcg.ac.uk/south-thames-college/adult-education](http://stcg.ac.uk/south-thames-college/adult-education)





# FUTURE STREETS

TRANSFORMING TRAVEL IN WANDSWORTH



Caption

Two more primary schools have School Streets. Children at Smallwood in Tooting and Riversdale in Balham can now travel to and from school more safely.

Wandsworth now has 25 School Streets – which stop vehicles from driving past school entrances at drop-off and pick up time. The council has pledged to introduce them at half of all borough primary schools by 2025. Read more at [wandsworth.gov.uk/school-streets-scheme](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/school-streets-scheme)

We're continuing our rollout of cycle hangars to provide safe on-street storage for bikes – we've set an ambitious target of installing 300.

And this summer will also see 525 electric vehicle charging points installed on lampposts around the borough. In total there will be 1,431 public chargepoints available by September – one of the highest numbers in the country.

Find out where they are at [wandsworth.gov.uk/electric-vehicles](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/electric-vehicles).





## More Mega Skips

■ We're increasing the number of Mega Skips Days from 12 a year to 18.

Residents tell us they find the skips a really helpful way of getting rid of large, bulky household items they no longer need but can't put out with their normal rubbish.

Since we started monthly Mega Skip days last July we've collected nearly 200 tonnes of unwanted items for recycling and seen an 11 per cent reduction in flytips.

Judi Gasser, Cabinet member for the Environment, said: "The beauty of our scheme is that everything left in a Mega Skip is recycled, which is not only good for our local environment, but because it reduces our disposal costs, means we can also continue to offer our residents the same low council tax.

"And the success and popularity of our Mega Skips has led to a significant reduction in the number of flytips left on our streets. Increasing the frequency of the scheme should help drive down that number even more.

"Expanding this service is another important step in making Wandsworth a more sustainable, healthier and greener place to live."

The council publishes details of Mega Skip Day dates and locations on its website and its twitter feed. If you think you need a skip near you, this may be possible. **Email [flytipwitness@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:flytipwitness@wandsworth.gov.uk)**

## Reduce and reuse

■ Mega Skips are great, but we also want you to give your unwanted items a new lease of life, which helps to preserve the environment and creates a more sustainable future.

### Here's some ways to do it

**Donate to Rework:** the Rework project at the Smugglers Way Waste and Recycling centre accepts everything from bicycles, TVs, large appliances like fridges. Check the website [wrwa.org.uk](http://wrwa.org.uk) for further details before visiting.

**Donate to your local charity shops:** local charity shops accept everything from furniture to clothes and bric a brac.

### Donate, sell or giveaway online:

■ **Wandsworth Freegle:** giveaway or find items for free. Search for "Wandsworth Freegle" to join your local group.

■ **Facebook marketplace:** sell or buy items. Facebook is a good place to look for and sell a wide range of items.

**More ideas at [wandsworth.gov.uk/recycle](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/recycle)**



Our new Recycle Right campaign encourages everyone to recycle as much as they can and do the right thing with their rubbish



## Top tips to recycle right



**Recycle using a council recycling sack or any clear, plastic sack.** Don't put your recycling in a black rubbish sack. Black rubbish sacks are for household rubbish. If you run out of council recycling sacks order online or go to your nearest library.



**Remember to tie any recycling sacks or black sacks** for collection and put them just inside your front garden entrance **by 6.30am on refuse collection day.** Foxes love food waste and nappies, so please don't put bags with these in overnight. If you don't have space for this, put them on the pavement just outside your front entrance (if this doesn't cause an obstruction).



**Put your recycling in loose in communal recycling bins or in any clear, plastic sack.**



**Flatten and cut down cardboard, place underneath your recycling sack** or in with your recycling when you put your recycling out for collection.

**If you have your own dustbin,** not a wheelie bin, and live in a house with a garden you can put your rubbish and recycling in the dustbin for the bin crews to take away. Make sure it's in a tied black sack, or for recycling in a council recycling sack or a clear, plastic sack.



**Flatten and cut down cardboard to fit inside the communal bin.** Don't put it beside the bin.



Find out about getting more recycling sacks and what can and can't be recycled at [wandsworth.gov.uk/recycle](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/recycle)

See the back page for more on what can and can't be recycled



# Housing action now

We have published our plan to reform housing in Wandsworth.

The five-year Housing and Homelessness Strategy sets out how the council will

**Improve standards for council tenants and private renters.** There will be an increased focus on cases of damp and mould and a new rapid response service. Around one third of households in the borough rent from a private landlord and if a property fails to meet basic standards we will intervene. We aim to introduce voluntary licensing to improve standards in the private rented sector and to crack down on rogue landlords.

**Build more council homes.** We've pledged to deliver directly as council 1,000 homes for council rent. Our projections show that we are on track to exceed this target by 2029.

**Tackle homelessness and rough sleeping.** We will focus on prevention, intervention and recovery. If we understand the triggers for rough sleeping, we can create tailored solutions and reduce the risk of repeat rough sleeping. We are also seeking to reduce our use of temporary accommodation over the next five years, building on the investment in new staffing made by the council.

**Support residents with additional needs.** We are proud to be leading the way in London with the provision of dedicated specialist housing occupational therapists who provide advice and support and make homes suitable for existing and future residents who may have health conditions or impairments.

Aydin Dikerdem, Cabinet Member for Housing, said:

“This is a council committed to housing justice and that is why we have brought forward this bold strategy to build on our achievements and create a fairer, compassionate and more sustainable borough for everyone.”

“This is a Council committed to housing justice.”

Aydin Dikerdem,  
Cabinet Member for Housing





# Nominate a local hero

Nominations are open for the 2023 Wandsworth Civic Awards awarded to Wandsworth residents who have made a positive impact on their community.

They may volunteer for a local charity or group, work to improve the environment or just keep an eye on vulnerable members of their community.

This year there will be two special awards:

■ For individuals or organisations who have made Wandsworth a warm and welcoming environment for refugees and asylum seekers.

■ For organisations who have championed, pioneered and or delivered innovative, inspirational and successful mental health and wellbeing interventions.

Mayor of Wandsworth Juliana Annan said: "The Annual Civic Awards is a testament to our commitment to building a strong, compassionate, and vibrant borough."

**Nominate by September 8.**

Visit [wandsworth.gov.uk/civicawards](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/civicawards)



The Mayor (right) with Deputy Mayor Sana Jafri

In her mayoral year Juliana Annan will support three charities: The Black Minds Matter project which supports young people's mental health, the Katherine Low Settlement which works with refugees, and Keeping Families Together helping families struggling with day-to-day issues. Keep up to date with the Mayor on her twitter feed -@WandsworthMayor.



## SHARE SKILLS

Social Impact Solutions is a new programme run by Wandsworth-based Link UP London. It is designed to make skilled volunteering easier, helping companies share their employees' expertise with small London charities in a meaningful way.

There is mounting evidence that skilled volunteering improves employee satisfaction, retention, leadership and skills. **Find out how your company can get involved at [linkuplondon.org/corporates](http://linkuplondon.org/corporates)**

## BE A FRIEND

Battersea Befriending Network is a registered charity which reduces the social isolation and exclusion often experienced by people with mental ill-health by facilitating and supporting one-to-one friendships with trained volunteers.

No previous experience is needed and you will get training and support. The next training course is in September.

**Visit [batterseabefriendingnetwork.org.uk](http://batterseabefriendingnetwork.org.uk) for more information and email [volunteering@batterseabefriendingnetwork.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@batterseabefriendingnetwork.org.uk) if you are interested.**

## PRISON HELP

The Wandsworth Prison Trust works to support men in Wandsworth Prison. Volunteers help to improve literacy, provide items such as art materials, books and radios and provide clothes for release or court appearances.

The trust is keen to hear from anyone who could help raise funds to cover running costs. **Donate at [givey.com/wandsworthprisonwelfaretrust](http://givey.com/wandsworthprisonwelfaretrust) or visit [wpwt.org.uk](http://wpwt.org.uk) for more information.**

## CANCER SUPPORT

The Macmillan Community Cancer Link Worker Service is a free service for adults living with or beyond cancer and their carers. You must be registered with a Wandsworth GP.

Link workers can help you access physical, emotional, practical, financial and spiritual support and can refer you to courses, psychological support, complementary therapy, welfare benefits advice, support groups and much more.

**Email [waccg.cancerlinkworker@nhs.net](mailto:waccg.cancerlinkworker@nhs.net)**

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Furzedown Project recently won National Lottery Funding for a gardening project for isolated older people. The charity is looking for volunteers. **Find out more at [furzedownproject.org](http://furzedownproject.org)**

## HOSPITAL APPEAL

St George's Hospital has launched a £5m appeal for its services for children. **Find out more at [stgerogeshospitalcharity.org.uk/time-for-a-change](http://stgerogeshospitalcharity.org.uk/time-for-a-change)**

# Creating a more compassionate borough

**We have made a renewed commitment to supporting refugees and asylum seekers.**

Our new Sanctuary Strategy was created in collaboration with refugees, asylum seekers and local groups. Wandsworth is also seeking formal Borough of Sanctuary status.

The three-year Strategy will include support to enable refugees and asylum seekers to access housing and employment, plus greater support for families and unaccompanied children.

There will be closer working with the voluntary sector and more

training for council staff.

Funding comes from a new £1.75m Borough of Sanctuary Fund. This will be at no cost to council tax payers, as it uses money from government funding.

With support from the council, Wandsworth families have housed more than 750 Ukrainians forced to flee their war-torn homeland – the second highest number among London boroughs. Wandsworth also supports refugees from Syria and Afghanistan.



The Mayor of Wandsworth held a Refugee Week reception for some of the Syrian and Afghan families who have settled in Wandsworth. It was also attended by the borough's Refugee Champion, Sarmila Varatharaj.

## Family help

Could you spare two- to four-hours a week to support a local family? Home-Start volunteers provide practical and emotional support to families with young children who may be struggling with post-natal depression, isolation, financial hardship or disability.

Applications are now open for the next training course that starts on September 21. Find out more at [homestartwandsworth.org.uk/volunteer](http://homestartwandsworth.org.uk/volunteer)





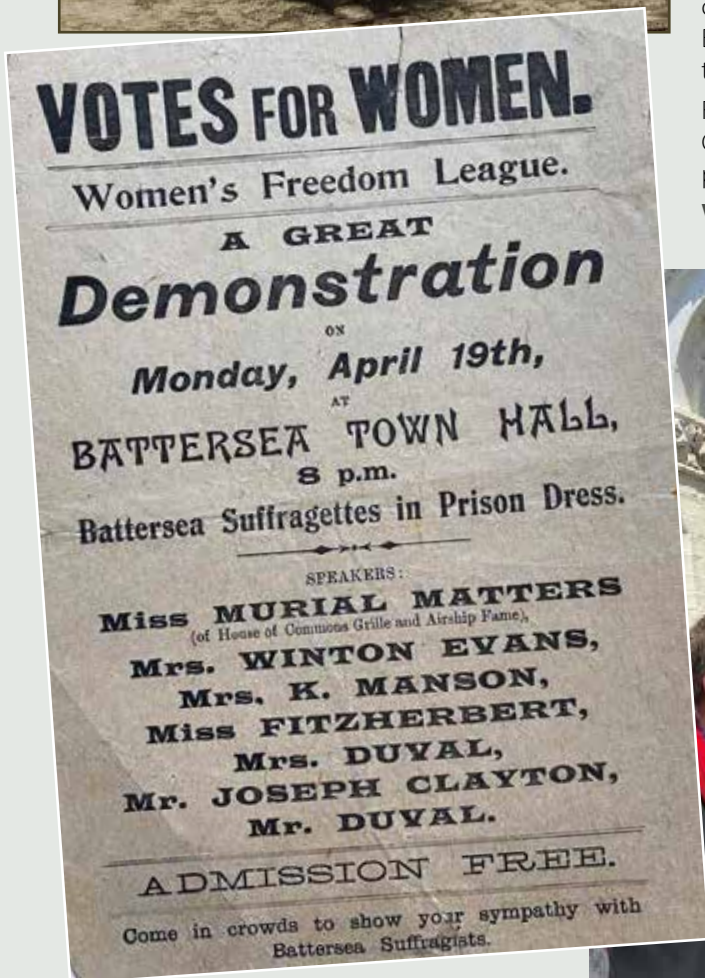


# Wandsworth has a new Green Plaque

A Green Plaque commemorating the Diederichs Duval family, who campaigned for universal suffrage, has been put up at their home in Lavender Sweep, Battersea. A ceremony marking the installation was organised by local historian Jeanne Rathbone.

The Wandsworth Council Green Plaque scheme honours famous people or places in the borough that are not covered by the English Heritage Blue Plaque Scheme. Local people can suggest people and places they think deserve a Plaque.

Find out more about the Diederichs Duval family, about all the other Green Plaques in the borough and how you can nominate a person, place or event that has helped shape the history of Wandsworth at [wandsworth.gov.uk/the-green-plaque-scheme](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/the-green-plaque-scheme)



Elsie on the megaphone is the great, great, great goddaughter of Emily Diederichs Duval and is named after her daughter who died in the Spanish Flu epidemic



Balham Park Road



# Wandsworth knows how to party

■ We went out and about over the Coronation weekend to see what you were all getting up to. Here are some of our favourite shots.



Balmuir Gardens, Putney – the former Mayor met 100-year-old Aftab Ahmad

St Mary's Church, Battersea



Carey Gardens Battersea



Fawe Park Road, Putney



Council Leader Simon Hogg at Carey Gardens



Granard Avenue, Putney



Hazlewell Road, Tooting



Selkirk Road, Tooting





Doddington and Rollo Estate residents enjoyed a cuppa and a chat with the US Ambassador to the UK Jane Hartley. The Ambassador took part in the Big Help Out during Coronation weekend, helping to plan a row of hazel trees on the estates' Community Roof Garden.

The Ambassador (seated second from left) with Marsha de Cordova MP (left), Cllr Kemi Akinola (third from right) and members of the local community.

# Grand day out

Wandsworth was represented at the King's Coronation by Colleen Harris, the Representative Deputy Lieutenant for Wandsworth.

Wandsworth born and bred, Colleen had a high-flying career in PR. She was the first Black public relations officer in the Government, working for top ministers including John Prescott, Margaret Thatcher and Gordon Brown and was also the first Black member of the Royal household – she worked as the King's Press Secretary for five years when he was the Prince of Wales.

As Representative Deputy Lieutenant she is the King's representative in Wandsworth. Duties of this voluntary role include welcoming the Royal Family when they come to the borough on visits, nominating and presenting honours, officiating at Citizenship Ceremonies and speaking to schools and local groups and organisations.

Colleen said: "It's an enormous honour to represent the borough that I was born and grew up in."



Colleen at the Coronation





## In the frame

The Battersea Society's second Photography Award is open for entries. Battersea Past, Present & Future, supported by the Royal College of Art, will celebrate and explore all aspects of Battersea life.

A shortlist of 30 entries will be displayed in a special Battersea Past, Present & Future pop-up show at the Royal College of Art in October. Enter by August 31.

**Find out more at [batterseasociety.org.uk/photo-competition](https://batterseasociety.org.uk/photo-competition).**



Judi Gasser visits the Pig and Whistle pub in Earlsfield, which has launched a cooking oil recycling scheme.

## Cooking oil will power bin lorries

■ New refuse and recycling collection trucks will run on used vegetable oil.

We are ordering 32 new trucks to replace existing vehicles that are old and increasingly unreliable. We'll work with local restaurants to recycle their used cooking oils.

Using vegetable oil will cut carbon emissions generated by the refuse service by 90 per cent.

The change is part of our work to become a carbon neutral council by 2030.



# Working together to clean up the air



Wandsworth  
**Citizens'  
Assembly**  
AIR QUALITY

The Wandsworth Citizen's Assembly on Air Quality has come up with 53 final recommendations.

The independent group of 50 people was chosen at random and met four times between February and April.

It heard the view of residents - collected via an online poll - and experts.

The 53 recommendations include greener public transport, ways to encourage walking and cycling, better use of local data and improving air quality monitoring.

Judi Gasser, cabinet member for the Environment, said: "This was a real example of local participatory democracy in action. We welcome the Assembly's recommendations and will look at the feasibility of each and every one."

Read the report, see videos of the Citizens' Assembly sessions and see the next steps at [wandsworth.gov.uk/aqca](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/aqca)



Air quality champion Jamie Colclough (third from right) and the council's air quality team were in Church Square, Putney on Clean Air Day last month talking to residents about what we're doing to clean up the borough's air, and what small changes they can make to reduce air pollution.

The Wandsworth Air Quality Action Plan is being updated and will be discussed by councillors in the autumn. It will include recommendations from the Citizens' Assembly on Air Quality.





## Ten year tree plan

More trees will be planted – with a focus on areas of the borough currently lacking greenery.

A new Tree and Woodland strategy will up the number of trees planted from around 450 a year to around 700. Up to 2,500 locations will get new street trees over the coming decade and there will also be an emphasis on habitat creation and tree planting in parks and green spaces.

The strategy also includes a commitment to new hedgerows and more biodiversity.







# Get involved

**■** To help continuously improve our Adult Social Care and Public Health services we need more people with lived experience to join us. Can you help?

We have a range of engagement and co-production opportunities that you can be involved in from one-off feedback and user testing to longer-term projects with opportunities to be part of a working group or panel.

Co-production recognises that you have invaluable knowledge and experience that can help us shape local services that are appropriate for you and others living and working in the borough.

One of our residents, who is also a member of our co-production group, told us, “I have seen first-hand how our involvement has made a difference to the services. I have learnt a lot from the other members of the group and they have been very supportive. It has given me back my self-worth and self-confidence. I do have something to contribute to society. I am able to use my own experiences to help others.”

To find out more about how you can be get involved, you can go to [wandsworth.gov.uk/get-involved-with-adult-social-care-services/](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/get-involved-with-adult-social-care-services/) or email us on [socialcareengagement@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:socialcareengagement@wandsworth.gov.uk) for more information.

## Help us get your health needs right

**We’re updating our plans for meeting local people’s health and wellbeing needs over the next five years.**

Our new strategy will set out how we will work with other local organisations, but we need your input to make sure our actions will be bold enough to make a real difference.

We’ve identified 19 steps that we can take to help people start well, live well and age well.

Please take a look and tell us if we’ve got it right. You don’t have to answer questions on everything - only the bits that affect you.

**Visit [haveyoursay.citizenspace.com/wandsworthasd/jhwb-23](https://haveyoursay.citizenspace.com/wandsworthasd/jhwb-23)**







## Dementia Awareness

# Top tips to help reduce your risk of dementia

Dementia is not a single disease but is a term used to describe the symptoms that occur when there is a decline in brain function. It can affect memory, thinking skills and other mental abilities.

Current evidence suggests that up to 30 per cent of the most common forms of dementia may be prevented or delayed simply by addressing some risk factors.

The council's Think Brain Health is aimed at people aged 40-65 to increase awareness of the healthy behaviours you can adopt which may help reduce your risk of getting dementia.

### ■ **Maintain a healthy weight**

Find out whether your weight is within a healthy range. Search for "NHS healthy weight calculator".

### ■ **Stop smoking**

It's never too late to quit and you are four times more likely to stop smoking for good if you use the council's stop smoking service. Search for "Stop smoking Wandsworth".

### ■ **Drink less alcohol**

The Drinkaware Drinkchecker tool allows you to 'take the drink test' to find out if you are drinking too much. Search for "Drinkaware drinkchecker".

### ■ **Exercise regularly**

Exercise can cut your risk of heart disease, keep your weight down, and reduce your risk of type 2 diabetes – all factors linked to a higher risk of dementia. Search for "Physical activity Wandsworth".

### ■ **Keep your blood pressure at a healthy level**

Check your blood pressure by getting a quick and free 20-minute check up with your GP. Search for "NHS health check Wandsworth".

### ■ **Being socially active**

Take time to connect with others by getting involved in your local community, going to a sports or leisure centre or your local park.

### ■ **Eat a healthy, balanced diet**

When it comes to your diet, there is evidence that eating a Mediterranean-style diet may reduce the risk of developing problems with memory and thinking and getting some forms of dementia. Search for "Healthy eating Wandsworth".

### ■ **Check your hearing**

People with unaddressed midlife hearing loss may be up to five times more likely to have dementia than those without. Help reduce your risk and get your hearing checked.

**Find out more [wandsworth.gov.uk/dementia](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/dementia)**





Kira (right) at the Violence Against Women and Girls Community Forum with Polly Newall from Roots to Change and Forum chair Mamatha Sumah.

# Kira's keeping people safe

Kira Gregory is Wandsworth's new Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) officer and is working to protectively tackle VAWG in the community.

She's out and about in the community, meeting local people, community groups and other services like the police.

Her new role is part of a doubling of support for domestic abuse services in Wandsworth.

"My aim is to take a proactive approach against violence against women and girls so I'm keen to meet as many people as possible. My aim is to become a point of contact, so get in touch if you'd like

me to come along to talk to your organisation or community or voluntary group," she said.

Kira's role is part of the council's three year plan to help prevent violence against women and girls, with more resources and a greater emphasis on working with the community as a whole.

**Email Kira at [Kira.Gregory@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:Kira.Gregory@wandsworth.gov.uk).**

**If you or someone you know is feeling isolated and unsafe at home, here are some other ways to get support**

- **One Stop Shops (see the ad on this page)**
- **Hestia Domestic Violence – call (020) 38793544 (9am-5pm)**
- **National Domestic Violence Helpline - call 0800 2000 247 (24/7)**
- **Men's Advice Line for men experiences domestic violence call 080 8801 0327**
- **Or call 999**

## Domestic abuse advice and support

at the

# ONE • STOP • SHOP

**Are you experiencing domestic abuse from a partner, ex-partner or a family member?**

The Wandsworth One Stop Shop is a free drop-in service providing legal advice, information, and support to those experiencing domestic abuse.

**No appointment necessary.**

### BATTERSEA ONE STOP SHOP

St. Mark's, Battersea Rise, SW11 1EJ  
(entrance on Boutflower Road)

Open every Monday,  
10am to 12pm  
(excluding Bank Holidays)

### ROEHAMPTON ONE STOP SHOP

Wandsworth Citizen's Advice,  
Picasso Building, Mount Clare,  
Minstead Gardens, SW15 4EE

Open every Wednesday,  
10am to 12.30pm





# SUMMER OFFER

**FREE DECORATION INSIDE YOUR LOFT SPACE**  
FOR CUSTOMERS WHO SIGN UP BEFORE THE END OF JULY 2023



**WE BUILD PROFESSIONALISM & INTEGRITY IN CONSTRUCTION!**

GET THE SPACE YOU CRAVE IN YOUR OWN HOME.

**WE BUILD PROFESSIONALISM AND INTEGRITY INTO CONSTRUCTION.**



Your consultation is free. Unveil potential in your home.



[enquiries@lmbgrouppltd.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@lmbgrouppltd.co.uk)



[www.lmb-lofts.com](http://www.lmb-lofts.com)



020 8406 9907



**CIOB**



**WE HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED OVER 150 LOFTS PER YEAR IN THE LAST 10 YEARS**





# WHAT'S ON?

## South Asian Heritage Month

Until August 17

The council's Arts and Culture Service is celebrating South Asian culture and heritage with a programme of community-focused activities and events.

- Wandsworth Carers will host of celebration of South Asian cuisine and art at Balham Baptist Church on July 26.
- Age UK Wandsworth have run weekly workshops on painting, drawing, framing and curation with South Asian elders. Their work can be seen in a public exhibition at Roehampton Community Shed until August 17.

- Pagrav Dance will hold dance workshops for local young people in August.
- Choogh choogh is a performance for two- to five-year olds inspired by the joy of travelling through India on a train. Look out for it at children's centres in Nine Elms and Tooting.

There will also be events and themed displays in libraries. Ask at your local branch. Visit [wandsworth.gov.uk/SAHM](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/SAHM) for details.



## Tea Dance with Mr Wonderful

First Monday of every month

Enjoy music, dancing, tea and biscuits, keep moving, socialise and have fun. £6.00 in advance £8.50 on the door.

Wandsworth Civic Suite

Book at [simpletix.com/e/wandsworth-tea-dance-tickets-127195](http://simpletix.com/e/wandsworth-tea-dance-tickets-127195)

## Guys Get Active

A free 12-week health programme for men who live or work in Wandsworth and want to improve their nutrition and fitness and conquer unhealthy habits.

Get 1-1 advice from registered Nutritionists plus a mix of in-person and virtual activities including social football and circuit and strength training, plus group chats and social events. During the course participants have free access to the Battersea Park Millennium Arena, Tooting Bec Athletics Track & Gym, Barn Elms Sports Centre and Battersea Sports Centre.

[enablelc.org/guysgetactive](http://enablelc.org/guysgetactive)

## Walk Wandsworth

Free led walks around Wandsworth Common, Wimbledon Park and Battersea Park

[enablelc.org/walkwandsworth](http://enablelc.org/walkwandsworth)

## Sport in the Park

July 24-28

Free summer fun in Battersea Park for young people aged 6-16 including sport, arts, crafts, music and dance.

[batterseasummerscheme.org.uk](http://batterseasummerscheme.org.uk)

## Summer Craft Fair

July 29, 10am-4pm

Browse arts and crafts, plus free activities for children.

Battersea Library, Lavender Hill  
(020) 7223 2334

## Royal Academy of Dance Mini Summer Series

July 31-August 25

Dance classes in a range of styles for adults and children.

[royalacademyofdance.org](http://royalacademyofdance.org)

## Blue Remembered Hills

July 26-29

New Stagers present Dennis Potter's deceptively simple examination of children at play.

[newstagers.co.uk/blue-remembered-hills](http://newstagers.co.uk/blue-remembered-hills)

## March For Men - July 23

Joins thousands of others marching through Battersea Park to raise money to fund vital prostate cancer research.

Sign up at [prostatecanceruk.org/get-involved/march-for-men](http://prostatecanceruk.org/get-involved/march-for-men)



**ALL YOU NEED IS PEACE LOVE AND FLOWER TO THE PEOPLE**

A MAGICAL MUSICAL HISTORY TOUR OF PLANET TOOTING

Friday 4th August 6pm from Tooting Broadway Station, SW17

[@summerstown182](https://twitter.com/summerstown182) [summerstown182.wordpress.com](http://summerstown182.wordpress.com)

## All You Need is Peace, Love and Flower to the People

August 4

Take this guided walk to discover the soundtrack of Planet Tooting. Celebrating 60 years since the Beatles played The Granada, see key locations, each illuminated with a relevant tune.

[Summerstown182.wordpress.com](http://Summerstown182.wordpress.com)





Wandsworth Connected is a programme of events at venues all over the borough, with a focus on children in receipt of free school meals.

The council works alongside schools and local community partners to deliver activities including sport, arts and crafts, cooking, drama, music, trips out, summer schemes and much more.

To find out more visit [wandsworth.gov.uk/fis](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/fis) and search for Wandsworth Connected.



### Battersea Jazz Festival

A celebration of jazz across the whole of Battersea. All events free of charge

- **July 22 and July 29:** Jazz at Nine Elms Pavilion
- **July 23:** Five-Way Split present their brand of contemporary bebop at St Mary's Church
- **July 27:** Nigel Price and Alban Claret at The Duchess Belle
- **August 5:** A Celebration of Nat King Cole at World Heart Beat Music Academy
- **August 6:** Social London Orchestra present Scheherazade at The Clapham Grand

[batterseajazzfestival.co.uk](http://batterseajazzfestival.co.uk)



## Tennis at Roehampton Playing Fields

The new tennis courts are now open, with coaching available for adults and juniors, private lessons and holiday camps available.

[clubspark.lta.org.uk/RoehamptonPlayingFields](http://clubspark.lta.org.uk/RoehamptonPlayingFields)





## Summer Reading Challenge

Wandsworth libraries will again be taking part in the challenge to keep reading during the summer holidays. Children who take part will receive stickers and other rewards for every book read, while those who complete the six-book challenge will also win a medal and certificate. This year's theme is Sport. Visit your local library for details or go to [summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk)

### The Canterbury Tales

August 30-September 2

Adaption by Lindsay Price  
[putneyartstheatre.org.uk](http://putneyartstheatre.org.uk)

### Faking Bad

August 19-September 23

This unauthorised 'Breaking Bad' parody condenses the epic story into one evening of musical comedy.  
[theturbinetheatre.com](http://theturbinetheatre.com)

### The Together Reading Group

Wednesdays, 4pm (term time only)

A practical reading group that encourages peers and families to read together. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Recommended for children over five.

Battersea Library, 265 Lavender Hill

### The Royal British Legion

August 9, 7.45pm

New members of the Balham and Clapham Branch are welcome to attend.

Go along to the United Services and Services Rendered Club,  
268 Balham High Road.

### Fostering Information Session

September 14, 10am-11.30am

Find out about a career as a Wandsworth foster carer.

Join online at [fostering.wandsworth.gov.uk/fostering-information-events](http://fostering.wandsworth.gov.uk/fostering-information-events)

### Recreate

From September

Creative freelancers, artists, makers and entrepreneurs can sign up now for this free business support and training plan.

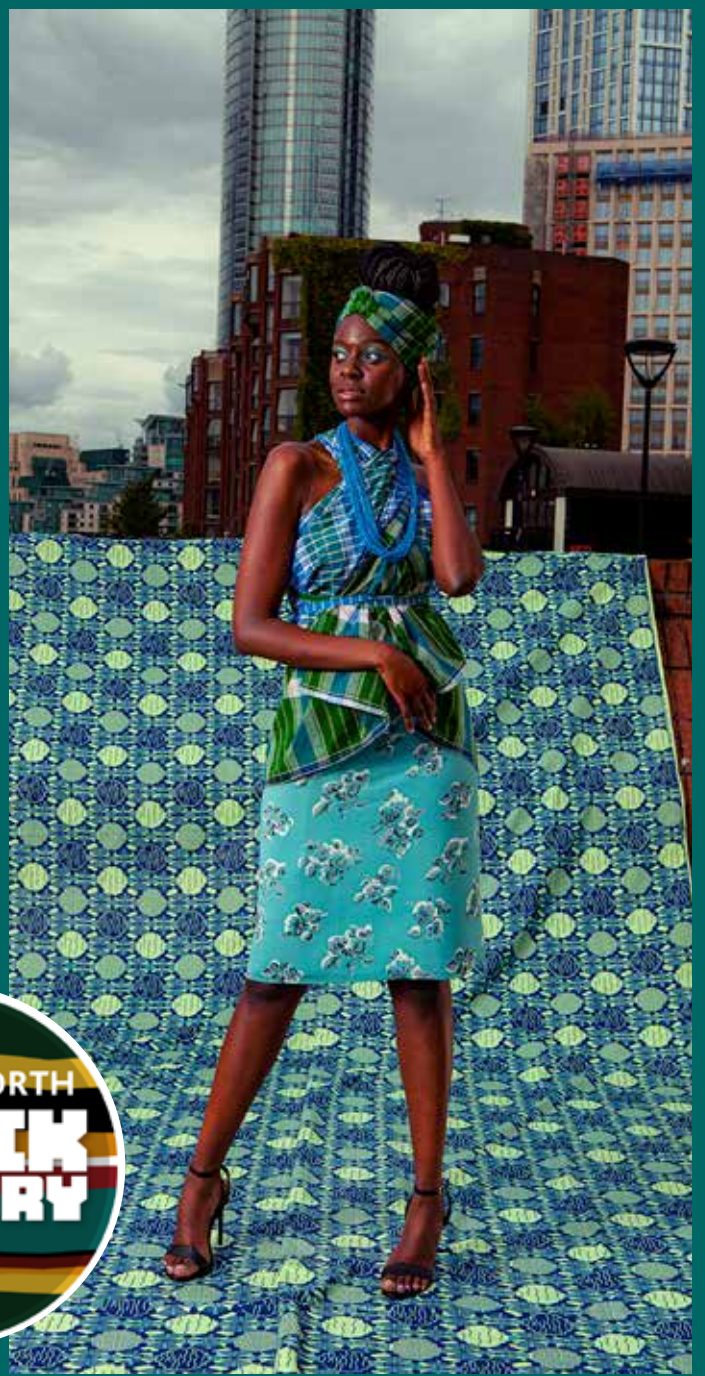
[Wandsworthenterprisehub.com](http://Wandsworthenterprisehub.com)

### Black History 365

Wandsworth celebrates Black history and culture all year round, with events, spotlights on black businesses and profiles of prominent local people. Upcoming events include:

- Family History Lessons from pioneering Black genealogist Paul Crooks
- African textiles and fashion workshops from artist Fee Uhssi
- Dance and Skills Workshop for local young dancers from producer Bawren Tavaziva. Recruitment starts in September.

For more information and details on how to book, visit [wandsworth.gov.uk/black-history-month](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/black-history-month)





# Battersea Park

*in Concert*

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY 2023

General Admission  
ON SALE NOW



## A LONG SUMMER'S WEEKEND OF OPEN-AIR PICNIC CONCERTS

SATURDAY 26 AUGUST

### A Night at the Musicals

PRESENTED BY

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC  
CONCERT ORCHESTRA

CLASSIC SONGS & MUSIC FROM

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

MAMMA MIA!

LES MISÉRABLES • GREASE

WICKED • OKLAHOMA • CATS

WE WILL ROCK YOU

OLIVER! • WEST SIDE STORY

AND MANY MORE

PLUS SPECIAL  
GUEST VOCALISTS

SUNDAY 27 AUGUST

### Proms in the Park

PRESENTED BY

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC  
CONCERT ORCHESTRA

WORLD-FAMOUS  
60-PIECE ORCHESTRA

CELEBRATING THE MUSIC OF

ELGAR • PUCCINI

VIVALDI • TCHAIKOVSKY

WILLIAMS • BRAHMS

AND MANY MORE

PLUS A SPECTACULAR  
FIREWORKS FINALE

MONDAY 28 AUGUST

### Gabrielle

LIVE IN CONCERT

WITH AN AFTERNOON  
OF SOUL & JAZZ

YOLANDA BROWN

THE RONNIE SCOTT'S  
ALL STARS

AND MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED

SCAN THE QR  
FOR A CHANCE TO  
WIN TICKETS!



SCAN ME

WWW.BATTERSEAPARKINCONCERT.COM



enable.

See TICKETS



---

## 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](https://www.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](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/enews)



[facebook.com/wandsworth.council](https://facebook.com/wandsworth.council)



[twitter.com/wandbc](https://twitter.com/wandbc)



[instagram.com/wandsworth\\_council](https://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](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/myaccount)

---

## 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



# RECYCLE

# Right

## Do the right thing with your recycling

Help protect the environment and make Wandsworth more sustainable.

## Your guide to household and communal bin recycling in Wandsworth



### DO Recycle

Food tins and drinks cans

Glass bottles and jars

Cardboard and paper

Plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays

Food and drink cartons

Rinse off any food from your tins, plastic pots and tubs



Household collection: recycle using any clear, plastic sack or a council recycling sack (if you run out order online or go to your nearest library).

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



### DON'T Recycle

Clothes and textiles

Plastic bags

Nappies

Tissues and wet wipes

Batteries



Cut me out & stick me on your fridge!

