

Home life



**Home improvement
marks 30 years**

Page 3

**Online housing
repairs and advice**

page 4 and 5

**£5,000 golden
ticket winner**

page 22



**Affordable housing open
day roaring success**

See page 10

Work Match

securing jobs
for local
people



These local people got jobs through Work Match

Getting Wandsworth people into work

This month the council's Work Match team is offering training opportunities in construction, retail, hospitality and catering.

The bespoke training courses are linked to the many jobs being created across the borough as rapid regeneration continues.

Several new high street retailers have moved into Wandsworth recently, and Work Match is currently recruiting for Debenhams, Decathlon, Sky, RUSH, Pandora and more.

Work Match is a dedicated council team matching local people with job opportunities, apprenticeships and training. So far it has helped more than 300 people out of unemployment and into new careers.

Wandsworth businesses can also use the free service to recruit a locally-based workforce. Getting help is easy – all you have to do is visit the website, send an email or give them a call, and a member of the team will talk you through the process.

wandsworthworkmatch.org

wandsworthworkmatch@wandsworth.gov.uk

(020) 8871 5191





Welcome to the winter edition of Homelife as we look forward to the festive season.

It's been an exciting few months with many new services coming online and many new affordable homes being created - over 400 homes will be made available by early 2016.

The affordable housing open day was a real success with more than one thousand residents going along to find out more about the assistance we offer to people looking to buy locally. The open day offered a unique combination of housing, legal and mortgage advice and council affordable homes assistance all under one roof. To find out more see page 10.

I'm delighted to announce that even more services can be accessed from the convenience of your own home as more online council services are introduced. You can report housing repairs, seek housing advice through our new options form, pay and manage your council tax and much more.

Finally, we celebrated thirty years of the Home Improvement Agency, a service which offers assistance to older and disabled residents. It helps them remain safe and independent by adapting their homes to fit with residents' changing needs and keeping them warm and secure (see opposite).

I hope you enjoy this issue of Homelife, if you have any suggestions please contact me by email (see below).

Cllr Paul Ellis
Cabinet member for housing

email: homelife@wandsworth.gov.uk



Cllr Paul Ellis congratulates the team

Improving homes for thirty years

The council's home improvement agency celebrates three decades of adapting and improving residents' homes.

The agency marked the milestone at its annual training day. Cllr Paul Ellis, who hosted the event explained the many benefits that the scheme brings to older and disabled residents in the borough, "The Home Improvement Agency has given vital support to around 3,000 residents in its 30 years of service by keeping homes accessible, warm and safe.

"The service was created to ensure that our more vulnerable residents could continue to live in their own homes. By offering advice to residents about adapting, maintaining and repairing their homes over the last three decades, we have helped them make choices about where they live and more importantly remain safe and retain their independence."

The home improvement agency offers assistance with improvements and adaptations. This might include offering advice on building works such as installing a ramp, so residents have easy access to their front doors or hand rails and shower rooms to make everyday living more convenient and safer at home.

It also offers inspections, supervises approved contractors' works and assists residents with grant applications. If you want to find out more about the home improvement agency contact **020 8871 6940**
Email: hia@wandsworth.gov.uk

Free dog micro chipping

The new law means that by April 2016 all dogs aged six weeks or over must be micro chipped.

Those who fail to have their dog micro chipped can be prosecuted with a maximum fine of £500.

The council is offering a free dog micro chipping service to tenants and leaseholders for a limited period. For more information contact the animal welfare service 020 8871 7606 or email: dogcontrol@wandsworth.gov.uk



New and improved online housing service

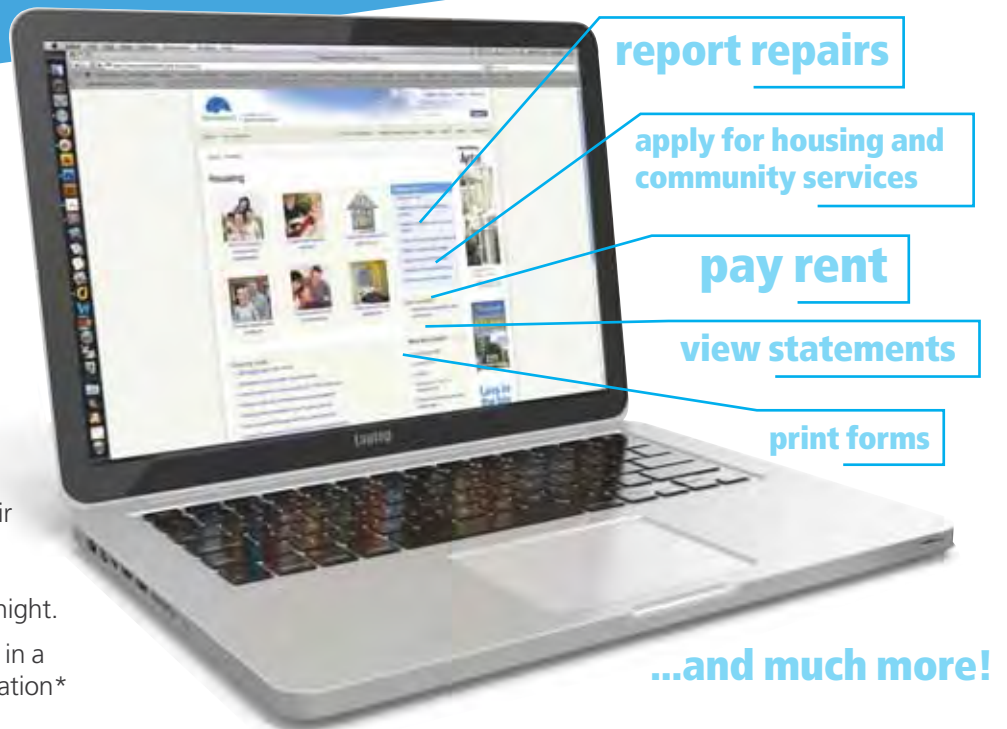
Repairs online form launched

A new online form has been launched so you can report repairs easily.

It means you can report a non-urgent repair to your property from your home using a laptop or while you're on the go using a tablet or mobile at any time of the day or night.

There's no need to register or login. Just fill in a quick form, you'll receive an email confirmation* and your request will be dealt with.

(*where you've given an email).



One: Go to repairs online



Two: Fill in your details



Three: Submit the form



You can also register for all our online services too. www.wandsworth.gov.uk/housing

The form is for non-urgent repairs ONLY.

Leaseholders can only report communal repairs (not repairs to your own home).

If your repair is urgent contact WEC (Wandsworth Emergency Control) 020 8871 7490.

Housing advice at your fingertips

You can now get housing advice online with our new web service.

You have the chance to get housing advice from the comfort of your own home thanks to the council's new housing options online form. This new service gives you information about the housing choices open to you based on your personal circumstances.

Simply fill in the online form and it instantly provides a range of housing options based on your own current circumstances. For example, this might range from advising you to consider applying for a transfer, private renting, applying for social housing or buying a home to contacting us for more detailed information and assistance.

No need to phone the council or wait for an appointment. Whatever your circumstances the housing options form will make it easier for you to know your next step.

The form is not intended for people:

- who are without housing now or will lose their home in the next two days
- at immediate risk of harm (including domestic violence or abuse) or



- aged under 18 without children (contact children's services for further advice).

For housing advice at your fingertips go to www.wandsworth.gov.uk/hcs/housingoptions

Sign up for new online service portal

You can now sign up for a brand new online service to view and manage council tax accounts on the web.

And even more online services are moving across to the new user-friendly portal in the months ahead so you will also be able to manage your council tax, parking and benefits accounts all in one place.

You just need to sign in to the new "My Account" page to access a range of other services coming on stream. So, set up your new account today. It's a quick and easy process which takes around ten minutes.

For more details, visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/your_accounts



Money advice service



Helen Meehan offers advice and support to a client



Alton regeneration moves ahead

The regeneration of the Alton area has moved another step after planning guidance was accepted.

The Roehampton Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was voted through unanimously by all political parties of the council. The document provides strong guidance for residents, stakeholders and developers on the level and type of development the council wants to see in that part of Roehampton.

The SPD, based on the Alton area masterplan, sets out eight core principles to guide regeneration, including building high-quality housing, improving infrastructure, delivering a high-quality landscape and improving access and connections. It also includes planning guidance for four sub-areas to help shape the development of these spaces in more detail.

Additionally, central government ministers have confirmed that Allbrook House and the library will not become listed buildings. This site has been earmarked for new homes, a community facility, village green and library. So, the decision to reject the listing application means regeneration plans to revive the area can now proceed unaffected.

Cllr Ravi Govindia, leader of the council said, "These are important decisions for Roehampton, we are pleased that the listing application has been rejected by government and Historic England and the planning document was voted through by the council. It means our ambitions to improve this housing estate can move ahead with selecting a development partner to help us carry out these vital improvements."

For more information see:
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/roehampton

Help paying your major works charges

Major works are normally larger project designed to prolong the life of our housing stock and keep it in a good state of repair.

Council loans

The council has a deferred repayment scheme to help owner occupiers pay for works. You must live in the property to be eligible for this scheme. The term of the loan varies from 2 to 25 years, depending on the nature of the work. For further information please contact the income collection service on 020 8871 6299 or email l&m@wandsworth.gov.uk

Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)

If you are a pensioner on a low income you may be entitled to pension credit or if you are in receipt of income support or job seekers allowance, you may be entitled to assistance from the DWP to pay towards your service charges and any major works bills.

To make a claim, you will need to send the DWP copies of your bills, the summary of costs and any Major Works Section 20 Notice. The DWP will confirm if you are eligible under their guidelines. It is best to make any application as soon as possible otherwise your claim may be delayed or refused. However, you should not withhold payment while your claim is being assessed.

Pension Service - freephone advice number: 0800 991234 or direct 0845 606 0265.

If you are receiving Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance (DWP) 0345 608 8545
email: enquiries@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Or contact your local office where your benefit claim is assessed.

Want to vote for Mayor of London?

Make sure you are registered!

Mayoral and London Assembly elections are taking place on 5 May 2016. If you want to vote in these elections you must be registered.

Those who have recently moved, anyone renting their property and young people are the least likely to be registered. If you are not on the electoral register, you need to visit www.gov.uk/register-to-vote straightaway to make sure you can vote next year.

British, Irish, Commonwealth and European Union citizens are all eligible to vote. Registering can also be beneficial to your credit rating.

For more information please visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/vote
Or to check if you are registered please phone 020 8871 6023 or email electoral@wandsworth.gov.uk



Landlords

Looking for trouble-free letting?

- Guaranteed rent for the duration of the lease
- Rent paid direct to your bank account
- No management fees or commission
- Free professional management service
- Property leased for 3½ years

We are looking for properties in the borough of Wandsworth and surrounding areas.

For further information on this scheme and other letting opportunities, call us on (020) 8871 7333 or email privatelandlords@wandsworth.gov.uk





Find out about major works online

You can now find out what major works are planned in your community through the council's new online service.

The future major works service is easy to use. Simply insert your postcode or estate name to find out if there are any major works, such as window or roof

renewals, replacement of heating and hot water systems or communal decorations planned on your block or estate.

You can also find out when the works are likely to begin (subject to resident consultation) and also which blocks or properties are affected on the estates.

For more information see www.wandsworth.gov.uk/leaseholders



More homes and businesses set for Wandsworth

A new-look Wandsworth town centre is starting to take shape including hundreds of new homes, new public squares, a better library and improved one-way system.

Highlights from the area's fast-moving regeneration programme include transforming the long-derelict Ram Brewery site into a new pedestrian quarter complete with a micro-brewery, shops, restaurants and hundreds more homes.

Work is also set to start on three sites next to the old burial ground on Garratt Lane. This will see several 1960s office blocks replaced with 200 homes, a new state-of-

the-art library, public square and a play area for under-fives. A quarter of the new homes will be offered to eligible local residents to rent or buy at a discounted rate.

Finally, the transformation of Wandsworth town centre also includes a complete redesign of Wandsworth one-way system to reduce traffic on the high street and make the town centre more pedestrian-friendly. If you would like to take part in the consultation or view the proposals in more detail please see: www.tfl.gov.uk/wandsworth-town-centre. (the consultation will run until 17 January 2016). There will also be a drop-in session for local residents on Saturday 12 December at Wandsworth town library.

Rogue landlord brought to book

A landlord and property agent have been fined almost £10k for breaching bedsit regulations.

Mr Javid Akhtar, the owner and his managing agent, Mr Zahoor Mansoor, who failed to declare they were letting a series of bedsits at an address in Tooting, have been prosecuted and fined after the council took legal action.

The owner and agent failed to apply for a HMO licence and disclose that they were renting out eight bedsits in a three storey end-of-terrace house in Rectory Lane, Tooting. Houses in multiple occupation, such as this one, must have a licence to ensure legal safety regulations are met.

The HMO licence makes sure that where large numbers of non-related people live under the same roof, the building can be inspected to make sure it is safe, not overcrowded and complies with fire safety regulations.

Both men pleaded guilty to breaching the Housing Act 2004 when they appeared before magistrates. Mr Akhtar was ordered to pay £7,120 in fines and court costs and Mr Mansoor £2,550.

Cllr Paul Ellis, the cabinet member for housing said: "This legislation was introduced to make sure that tenants are fully protected from landlords who might want to cram in too many tenants or cut corners on safety. Residents considering renting this type of accommodation should always ask to see the owner's HMO license."



Get ready for winter

Ten tips for keeping warm, healthy and safe

- 1** Have a flu vaccine. They are available from your GP or some pharmacies.
www.nhs.uk/flu
- 2** Plan ahead – check your electric blanket is safe, make sure you have enough of your prescription medicine and stock up on tinned, dried and frozen food in case you can't get out in bad weather.
- 3** Wear layers – several layers of thin clothing will keep you warmer than one layer of thick clothing and tuck curtains behind radiators – it helps keeps the heat in.
- 4** Have hot meals and drinks – they will help keep you warm – and keep moving as much as possible.
- 5** Try to keep your home to a minimum of 18C (64F) which is the safe level for your health.
- 6** Vulnerable people can sign up for the UK Power Networks free priority register. This will mean you get help quickly during a power cut.
www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk
- 7** Download the Keep Warm Keep Well leaflet for more tips.
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/keepwarm
- 8** If it is snowy or icy the council will grit roads and pavements, but you can also do it yourself. Find out how, and see the locations of your neighbourhood grit bins. www.wandsworth.gov.uk/snow
- 9** Cold weather increases the risk of heart attacks, strokes, breathing infections and falls. If the weather turns cold, keep an eye on elderly neighbours or family members.
- 10** Find out how to avoid damp and mould and get tips on heating and insulation at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/damp

Contact WHARF (Wandsworth Housing Adaptations and Repairs Forum) for information, advice and support about how to stay warm this winter. **(020) 3198 8945**

info@wandsworthwharf.org.uk
www.wandsworthwharf.org.uk

The council's adult social services team will also be supporting vulnerable people this winter. **(020) 8871 7707.**

The council has a cold weather plan, that explains what roads and pavements are gritted and when. Read it at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/snow.

Home ownership special

More than a thousand people flocked to Wandsworth's Affordable Housing Open Day in October.

Buying in London's fast-paced housing market can be daunting and seem impossible to first-time buyers who are perhaps renting and trying to save for a hefty deposit too. But, the council's commitment to the affordable housing programme and our expert team make sure that both lower cost homes are developed and priority is given to residents living and working locally.



The open day was a huge success with well over a thousand visitors.

Meet the team

The home ownership team were extremely busy throughout the day, offering advice about the council's schemes to help residents realise their dream of buying a home in our vibrant, exciting and popular borough.

Who can we help?

Whether you're a council, housing association or private renting tenant we can help you – as long as you live or work in the borough, are a first time buyer and your maximum household income is £71,000 (for a one or two bedroom) or £85,000 (for a three bedroom or more).



Paulina Purska came along with her baby Viktor (9mths), she had a chance to speak to the cabinet member for housing, Cllr Ellis, about her future housing aspirations.

"Me and my partner have been renting privately for eight years. Now we've had a baby we'd like to buy a home but it's so expensive in London. I went along to find out what help is available for couples with a young family.

"The team have been really helpful. It sounds like shared ownership is a real possibility. I've got the forms and once I've discussed it with my partner, we'll probably register so we can take our first steps into home owning."





Alex and his partner Debbie are expecting their first child and were hoping to buy a new home but were undecided whether to buy their council flat or buy on the open market.

Alex explained, "I rent a one-bedroom council flat, which I could buy through right to buy – but we're expecting our first child so we're interested in buying a bigger family home anywhere in Wandsworth or London. We wanted to see what other options are available for us. The presentation and

question and answer sessions were really useful and put the different council schemes into context and explain in more detail about the range of help available.

"But, the best part was that everything was under one roof. It's a useful combination to have financial, legal and housing advisers all together."

Steven King, a young professional, who lives in a privately rented house-share in Balham.

"I've been renting a house with four people in Balham for several years and I'm ready to move onto the next stage and buy my own place.

"The event has been really useful and I'm hoping it'll be my way of getting on to the property ladder. I've had a chat with the mortgage advisers and have a home ownership pack so I can register for a shared ownership scheme, so let's see what happens."



Council help to buy a home

Big discounts with right to buy

Right to Buy gives you the chance to buy your council home with a huge discount.

You can get up to £103,900 discount through the council's Right to Buy scheme. If you've lived in your council home for three years or more why not contact us to find out about buying your home.

The Right to Buy scheme helps council tenants purchase their council property.

Right to buy mobility grant

Right to Buy Mobility is similar to both our right to buy and house purchase grant schemes.

It's where you qualify for right to buy but decide to buy on the open market. You may be eligible for a grant that you can use towards buying a property on the open market.

This scheme gives the added benefit and flexibility of moving elsewhere.

House purchase grants

This scheme offers a grant of up to £80,000 to qualifying council tenants who want to:

- buy a house on the open market or
- extend a family property that they will move into or
- use the discount towards a deposit for a shared ownership property.

The amount of grant awarded depends on the size and how long you've lived in your council property.

Shared ownership

This is one of the most popular ways to buy a home for those hoping to own their own place. It's a financially easier option where you can buy and rent at the same time. It gives you a chance to buy at a rate you can afford. You buy shares in your new home and can buy more as your income increases.

* All schemes are subject to eligibility, terms and conditions.

Homes for sale

Apply today for a chance to be a home owner

Shared Ownership Developments for sale



Riverside Quarter, Viridian - SW18

A selection of modern apartments at Riverside Quarter in Wandsworth. Ideally located near the River Thames and convenient for commuters.

To register your interest, please email: sales@viridianhousing.org.uk or 0800 012 1442



Butler Court, Thames Valley Housing - SW11

11 modern, one-bedroom apartments in a vibrant area of Battersea due shortly for sale.

020 8607 0550
Email: sales@tvha.co.uk

Elmwood Court, Peabody Housing - SW11

10 spacious one and two-bedroom apartments with large balconies in Battersea.

Call 0800 022 4040 (free from landlines)
Email: peabody.direct@peabody.org.uk or look on the website



Battersea Reach, Notting Hill Housing - SW18

Modern apartments at Battersea Reach in close proximity to the River Thames and Wandsworth Town station. To buy a shared ownership home you should register with the home ownership team (see above right).



Tileman House, Viridian, SW15

A contemporary collection of new apartments on Upper Richmond Road, Putney. Tileman House offers outdoor space or balconies and is located close to Putney town centre, the rail station and the River Thames.

Call: 0800 012 1442
Email: sales@viridian.org.uk



Westfield House, Thames Valley Housing - SW18

A selection of 33 contemporary one, two and three-bedroom apartments located just minutes from Earlsfield Station and close to fantastic parks

Call: 020 8607 0550
Email: sales@tvha.co.uk

Home Ownership Team

If you want more information about the council's home purchase schemes, an information pack or application form, please contact:

(020) 8871 6016

Email: housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/homeownership



Putney Plaza, Octavia Living - SW15

34 stylish one, two and family-sized apartments have been launched at Putney Plaza. The development boasts a great location with excellent transport links.

Call: 020 8354 5500 Email: sales@octavia.org.uk

Osiers Place, Paragon Housing - SW18

19 modern apartments ideally located close to the River Thames. One, two and three-bedroom contemporary homes.

Call quickly as half have already been sold or reserved 01932 235801
Email: sales@paragonchg.co.uk

Home Ownership Team is moving!

We've moved to a new location. You can find us at 90 Putney Bridge Road. Wandsworth SW18 1HA



OAKHILL PARK
PUTNEY



ONE AND TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS
AVAILABLE TO BUY THROUGH SHARED OWNERSHIP,
THE AFFORDABLE WAY TO OWN

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST WITH US TODAY:

020 3535 2555 mhosales@metropolitan.org.uk www.mho.co.uk @flythenest

FIRST STEPS
To home ownership in London



Metropolitan

Tenant awarded at national conference

Senia Dedic, a resident of Falcon estate in Battersea has been recognised for her community work at this year's ARCH conference.

ARCH is an association of councils in England, such as Wandsworth, who manage their own council homes. Their annual conference gives tenants the chance to discuss issues surrounding council housing and what this means for them.

Senia Dedic, secretary of the Falcon Road residents' association, was shortlisted for this year's Tenant of the Year award. The judges were so impressed with her community involvement that they awarded her a Highly Commended Certificate. They said; "We wish to acknowledge Senia's tireless efforts to improve her local community and her work with a broad range of local groups."

Senia has been working alongside the council since 2009, when she helped set up the Falcon Road RA. She founded local group WOW Mums (Women of Wandsworth) which

provides support for people with children and is involved with many other local services and groups.

Micky Gwilliam, chairperson of the residents' group, said: "I would like to add my own enormous gratitude for all she does for the residents of Falcon estate. It is to her credit that next year will mark the 10th anniversary of Falcon estate RA, which is entirely due to her energy and enthusiasm."



Senia receives her award



Wendelsworth garden gets a helping hand from volunteers



Residents enjoy their garden

Community garden grows

A council grant has been put to good use by green fingered community gardeners.

Wendelsworth RA was awarded a council grant of £14,000 earlier this year to improve their community garden. This paid for ground levelling, large timber planters, paving to allow wheelchair access and the creation of a wildflower meadow. The newly designed garden means residents can grow fruit and vegetables organically and it has increased environmental stability in the area.

Their garden also has the added benefit of providing a lovely

setting for community events and a space for people of all ages to enjoy. For example, young volunteers from the National Citizen Service Challenge scheme recently visited to help in the garden and learn about growing their own produce.

Stephanie, co-chair of Wendelsworth RA said: "The garden is a talking point for people on the estate. It has led to greater cohesion on the estate, people are more neighbourly and there's a greater sense of belonging. I'm very keen to help develop the idea of growing fruit elsewhere on the estate, which the gardeners have been discussing."



Residents of Totteridge House in Battersea threw a Halloween party for their neighbours. Children and adults alike enjoyed games and pumpkin carving. Thanks to the residents for their kind donations which made this event possible!



Residents from Francis Snary Lodge took part in a Poppy craft afternoon to mark Remembrance Day and raise money for the Poppy Appeal.

Are you interested in becoming a resident mystery shopper?

We are looking to expand our panel of mystery shopper volunteers who will make unannounced telephone calls to the housing and community services department and report back on the service they received by completing a questionnaire.

Mystery shoppers help us to check how well we deal with our customers and this helps us to improve our services to all residents.

Volunteers may include tenants, leaseholders or adults in their household*. We hold a training session and once you have completed a one-day training course you can then become a mystery shopper. Those taking part will be offered shopping vouchers for their time.

If you are interested or would like more information please contact Beverley Paul 020 8871 6801

Or email bpaul@wandsworth.gov.uk

Or you can find out more at: www.wandsworth.gov.uk/housing

*Adult is those aged 18 or over.

Chelsea FC comes to Putney Vale

A sports and educational programme for local children run by a premier league football club is coming to Putney Vale estate.

Chelsea Kicks gives children the opportunity to take part in football based activities led by professional club coaches. The sessions are open to girls and boys aged 11- 19 years old. This has been made possible due to a successful collaboration between the council, Putney Vale residents' association and Chelsea FC, but the real driving force was the local children themselves.

Estates services refurbished the estate's ball games area with a 3G synthetic pitch following recommendations from Wandsworth's Youth Council. These works are now complete and the new pitch looks great!

The local children heard about Chelsea Kicks and set out to bring this to their estate. They put together a bid for funding from the Youth Opportunity Fund (YOF), which they presented in person to the YOF panel – an exciting but nerve wracking opportunity. Their hard work paid off as funding was granted and Chelsea Kicks will be coming to Putney Vale in the New Year.

If you wish to find out more about attending these sessions please contact Bernie Brennan on 020 8871 5505.

Report crime

If you see anyone suspicious please call the local police, Crimestoppers (anonymously) 0800 555 111

Or WEC 020 8871 7490 (out of hours)

Welcome to our new residents' associations

Congratulations to our three newly accredited residents' associations, Innes Gardens, Wentworth Court and Francis Snary Lodge.

Innes Gardens

Over the last six months residents of Innes Garden have been working with the council to become a recognised association.

Noble Onyeka, chairperson for Innes Garden RA said: "We're delighted that our residents' association is now established and accredited. We are looking forward to working in partnership with the council and helping to bring our community closer together."



Francis Snary Lodge

Sheltered residents of Francis Snary Lodge, in Wandsworth, have also set up their own group. They became accredited earlier this year and are thrilled with how this has already benefitted their community.

Angie Braybrook, their chairperson, said, "We've been so impressed by how quickly and positively council officers have responded to us. We now have the opportunity to meet with officers directly and we've already received funding for some lovely garden furniture. Most importantly, it's really brought the residents together. I wish we'd set it up years ago."

Wentworth Court

Wentworth Court RA became accredited in June 2015 and are delighted that their new residents' association is up and running.

Leonie Alexander, their chairperson, said: "Setting up a residents' association is a good way to link in with the council and keep up to date with matters concerning our estate. It's also a good forum to get to know your fellow neighbours and work towards a common cause."

If you would like further information about setting up a residents' association please contact your resident participation officer.



Your resident participation team

There are a variety of ways for you to get involved in deciding how your home is managed and other housing matters. You can attend your local residents' association meetings, or come along to council events. Get involved in your community and decisions about your housing.



Foday Kamara
southern team
(020) 8871 8639
fkamara
@wandsworth.gov.uk



Sandra Evangelista
eastern team
(020) 8871 8638
sevangelista
@wandsworth.gov.uk



Jo Baxter
central team
(020) 8871 8694
jbaxter
@wandsworth.gov.uk



Bernard Brennan
western team
(020) 8871 5505
bbrennan
@wandsworth.gov.uk



Left to right: Antonia, Philip, Louise, Rahul and Charlotte

Regeneration office opens its doors

Residents living in the Winstanley and York Road regeneration area will now find it easier to keep in touch with what is happening as the council has opened a local office at Pennethorne Square, Battersea.

The Winstanley and York Road estates' regeneration team will be available at the new office and residents will benefit from having council officers available on their doorstep.

Philip Morris, regeneration project manager, said "Opening a local office is the next step in ensuring that residents of Winstanley and York Road estates are kept as fully informed as possible about the regeneration proposals that affect their community.

"The office, being in the heart of their community, offers a convenient way for residents to give feedback and contact us. Having a local team on hand means they will be available to answer questions and deal with queries, whilst also ensuring that residents remain well informed about the ongoing redevelopment process.

"It is open for drop-in sessions, appointments and we hope it will become a local hub for residents affected by the regeneration programme."

The council's ambitious regeneration programme, which was supported by 70 per cent of residents who responded to the consultation, will see millions of pounds invested into the area. The redevelopment includes replacement of all social rent homes affected, around a hundred and fifty

new social rent homes in the area, new homes for resident leaseholders, around 1,400 new homes for a mix of affordable rent and buy, private rent and private for sale homes and the refurbishment of two existing tower blocks.

These new homes will be provided in a design based on streets, courtyards and squares with a new leisure centre, library and community centre, new shops, businesses and play areas and a remodelled, improved York Gardens. The changes will transform the existing estates into a new vibrant residential neighbourhood.

As well as extensive and far reaching physical regeneration the plans also aim to create employment, training and mentoring opportunities to help local people reach their full potential and improve the health of the community.

Currently, the council is working alongside residents and agencies to secure a procurement partner to implement the regeneration works, further information will be available online, by e-newsletter or from the team.

You can visit the office at: Lavendar Road, Battersea SW11 (Pennethorne Square)

Contact 020 8871 6802

News: Nine Elms and the surrounding area

Battersea Power Station

Battersea Power Station and its contractors are offering job opportunities to local people. There are currently a range of vacancies across the site including labourers, carpenters, administrators and various other roles. Please contact 020 8871 5191 or email wandsworthworkmatch@wandsworth.gov.uk



US Embassy visits Battersea

Volunteers from the US Embassy and contractors from Sir Robert McAlpine helped with improvements at the ROSE Centre as part of the Embassy's 9/11 Day of Service. The US Ambassador spent time at the centre meeting staff and speaking with children at St. George's primary school.



Tube is coming!

Northern Line Extension works are continuing. For more information contact 0343 222 2424 or nle@tfl.gov.uk

If you would like to know more about development in the area contact 020 8871 7366 or cdavies2@wandsworth.gov.uk

For details of opening hours see: www.wandsworth.gov.uk/winstanleyyorkroad



Joan John stocks up on wrapping paper

Christmas shopping at Kempton

Residents from Minstead Gardens sheltered scheme enjoyed a day out shopping at Kempton Market.

Everyone from the scheme, in Roehampton, enjoyed a day at the market in the run up to Christmas, picking up bargains, buying fruit and veg and stocking up on other goodies. At the end of a day's shopping the residents sat down to a welcome cuppa and a bite to eat.

Bluebell rail trip

The Bluebell Railway in Sussex was the ideal day out for residents to reminisce about travelling on steam trains.

The heritage railway has been running since 1960s and offers an eleven mile run through the beautiful Sussex countryside, with staff in traditional uniforms, old-style stations and good-value pub grub.

Geoff Cox, the sheltered housing officer said, "The Bluebell Railway trip is always popular with our residents. We enjoyed tea in the old-fashioned buffet car, whilst the steam train puffed its way through the countryside and passed the old lever-signal boxes. There's a great railway museum, workshop where carriages are restored and a chance to pick up a memento from the gift shop."



Grace Addo and Mary Njotea



Michael Hayes and Gordon Hunter



Grace Addo, Janet Crawley, Joyce Neal and Carole Hitchings

Big quiz night

Roehampton was the scene of a fiercely fought battle for glory at this year's Big Quiz.

The annual quiz tested both participants' memories and general knowledge, with teams representing the entire borough. Minstead Gardens' team was victorious, in what was a closely fought battle right to the end, and was awarded the champions trophy.

The Big Quiz is held every year for older residents in the borough and provides a fun get-together that promotes positive health and reduces social isolation.

Visiting Viking Bay

Our residents had a great time soaking up the old seaside-charm of Broadstairs, in Kent this autumn. Tenants of a Battersea sheltered scheme, Althorpe Mews, took a stroll along the traditional promenade, enjoyed views of its wide, sandy beaches and bays (named after the area's historic past) and stopped off for lunch during their day trip to the seaside.



BBQ and karaoke

Older residents from sheltered schemes in Battersea had a great time at their annual BBQ party.

Residents from Dimson Lodge hosted the party for all the schemes in the area. They started with a barbeque and refreshments before they got into the swing of it with karaoke and dancing.

Gordon Hunter, the residents' association chairman, who along with his committee and other residents organised the event, said, "Our annual BBQ party is very popular with residents and is a great opportunity for us to let our hair down, have a burger, beer and sing-along. Now we're just looking forward to our Christmas-do in a few weeks time."



Robin Woodley



Jean Nunn, Derek Lane and Pam Crisp



Janet Crawley, Audrey Corfield and Pam Crisp

Trips are organised for residents and older people living in the community by sheltered housing officers throughout the year.

If you are interested in going along, please contact supported housing services 020 8871 8198

Email: supportedhousingervices@wandsworth.gov.uk

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/shelteredtrips

£5,000 cash might be just a call away

The council's moves and mobility scheme offers cash and help to tenants who want to transfer to a smaller home.

Maybe your property is too big now your family has moved out, your bills are too high or you're paying for a spare room. Whatever the reason, we may be able to help. Our moves and mobility team will help find you a new home, these are often brand new apartments. They can even help with removal costs, buying furniture and much more.

You could get up to £5,000 and move into into a modern, new apartment some of which are offered to our downsizers first. * The cash incentive of up to £5,000 is available depending on the size of property you move from and we could also offer a separate flat for an adult household member, such a grown up son or daughter, (if you're currently living in a large family home).

Give us a call to find out more and register your interest: 020 8871 7666 or see www.wandsworth.gov.uk/housing

* Subject to eligibility, terms and conditions. The cash incentive depends on the size of property you are vacating.



Savings and loans made easy

Wandsworth Plus credit union offers local banking services to local people.

You simply need to live, work or study in Wandsworth. It offers budget accounts to help you manage your money, savings account, loans and activities that benefit your communities.

To find out more or join go to: www.wandsworthplus.co.uk



What's on guide

Winter in Wandsworth

Celebrate your local sporting hero!

Nominations for Active Wandsworth Awards 2015 now open

Do you know a talented sports person, a successful team or club, a dedicated coach or a committed sports volunteer?

Active Wandsworth invites nominations for the annual award that recognises and rewards exceptional talent in the local sporting community. Nominations can be made until Friday 8 January 2016 on the website www.enablelc.org/awa2015

The winners will be announced at this year's awards ceremony on Thursday 11 February 2016, which will be hosted by Sky Sports News Presenter, David Garrido.



Holiday Fun 2016

Half-term activities at Battersea Sports Centre

15-19 February 2016 (9.30am-3pm)

Battersea Sports Centre will host a jam-packed week of sports, prizes, fun and games this February half-term for children aged 5-13.

Activities range from go-karting to trampolining, athletics to Brazilian ju-jitsu, and much more!

Price: £12 per day or £48 per week (10% discount available for siblings, weekly bookings only).

Book and pay up to two weeks in advance to be entered into the draw, with the chance to win a free place for the whole week.

For more information and to book a place, email bsc@wandsworth.gov.uk phone 020 8871 8529

>> WANDSWORTH CONNECTED >>

Talk to us online



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



www.twitter.com/wandbc



www.facebook.com/wandsworth.council



www.youtube.com/WandsworthBC



@winstanleyyork

Doing it online

Find out your housing options www.wandsworth.gov.uk/hcs/housingoptions

Pay rent, view statements, request and track a repair. Report a communal repair (leaseholders)
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/housingonline

Pay your council tax www.wandsworth.gov.uk/counciltax

Council website www.wandsworth.gov.uk

Housing and community services customer service centre

90 Putney Bridge Road
London SW18 1HR

Western area housing office

Holybourne Avenue, Roehampton SW15

Housing area teams:

Central area team(020) 8871 5333
Eastern area team(020) 8871 7439
Southern area team(020) 8871 7482
Western area team(020) 8871 5530

If you do not know your area team contact
(020) 8871 8327 or 6864.
email: hms@wandsworth.gov.uk

Homelife (write to the address above)
or email: homelife@wandsworth.gov.uk

Benefits service(020) 8871 8080
benefits@wandsworth.gov.uk

Garages (to rent)(020) 8871 6870
hms@wandsworth.gov.uk

Graffiti removal(020) 8871 7049
graffiti@wandsworth.gov.uk

Applying for housing/transfers

Housing options
and advice(020) 8871 6840
housingadvice@wandsworth.gov.uk

Illegal subletting(020) 8871 6556

Leasholder
service charges(020) 8871 6299

Rent collection(020) 8871 8987
rents@wandsworth.gov.uk

WATCH emergencies . . .(020) 8871 7741

WEC (council emergencies, noise)
.(020) 8871 7490
hms@wandsworth.gov.uk

Telephone payments 0845 835 0129
view online (charges may vary depending
on your service provider)

Please note: American Express and
Diners cards are not accepted. You will
need your council reference for the
individual service and your payment
details ready.

- Option 1 Council tax
- Option 2 Parking penalty charge notice
- Option 3 Council rents, garages, store shed or heating and hot water charges
- Option 4 Income collection, service charges, major works
- Option 5 Housing benefit overpayments
- Option 6 Business rates

Gas contractors:

Battersea Clapham and Central Wandsworth areas

Smith and Byford Ltd 0800 028 0824

Breakdown, leaks and servicing of individual
heating/hot water systems.

Or throughout the borough where your domestic
heating is supplied by a central communal boiler-house.

Putney, Roehampton and Tooting areas

T.Brown Group Ltd 0800 977 8472

Breakdown, leaks and servicing of heating/hot water of
individual systems.

To find out your gas contractor contact: 020 8871 7040

Cleaning contractors:

Putney and Battersea areas

Lewis and Graves
Phone: 020 8877 1917
Freephone: 0800 111 4613

Roehampton and Tooting areas

ISS Facility Services Ltd
Phone: 020 8788 4703

Gardening

Ian Harrison:
Horticultural Services
Phone: 020 8871 7900
email: iharrison@wandsworth.gov.uk

Some blocks and estates are managed by Resident Management Organisations (RMOs), which means that a resident group provides services to the estate or block. Residents who live in these properties are advised to contact their RMO office in the first instance.

Golden ticket winner

The first winner of the council's golden ticket recycling prize draw goes to a woman from Tooting.

Ms Osmond, a keen recycler, was thrilled to receive the good news that she was the lucky winner of £5,000 prize after her golden ticket was found at our recycling plant and entered into the draw. She extended her luck to three local charities by nominating them for the council's community recycling prize fund.

Her three nominated charities received a share of the £2,500 prize fund. But, Ms Osmond went even further by generously donating £500 of her prize to the community reward pot, increasing it to three thousand pounds so that each would receive £1,000.

Michael Singham, waste strategy manager, presented the three lucky community groups with a £1,000 cheque said, "I'm delighted to present these cheques to three local charities who both encourage recycling in their communities and offer a wide range of help and support to residents living in our community. I would also like to thank Ms Osmond for her tremendous generosity in adding to the council's community recycling reward fund.

"I would urge everyone to recycle as much as they can and continue completing their Golden Tickets and encourage community groups to register for our recycling prize fund."

The charities include FAST (part of emerge) who help young



Michael Singham, waste strategy manager, presents each charity with £1,000 cheque.

people to transform of their own lives, family and community, Transition Town Tooting who help local people adapt and respond to environmental issues and climate change and Share Community - a charity that works and supports disabled people to live independently.

The next Golden Ticket Draw will be on Friday 18 December. Make sure you're in with a chance of a big cash prize. Recycle right and pop your golden ticket in your bag or communal recycling bank each time you recycle.

It's not too late to win!

New homes snapped up at Nine Elms

Almost 100 affordable homes at Embassy Gardens in Battersea have been snapped up by local residents.

The shared ownership properties only went on sale this summer and within four months all have been sold to people living or working locally. The first of 98 buyers are now settling into their fabulous new apartments at Embassy Gardens, which offers contemporary living in Battersea's Nine Elms regeneration area.

Paris Penman-Davies, a 26 year old in sports marketing, bought his one-bedroom apartment at Embassy Gardens earlier this year. He previously lived in Battersea with his family, "I registered with Wandsworth Council in February and I moved in mid-September, so it really was an incredibly quick and easy process."

Paris continues, "I bought the apartment through shared ownership because I don't think I could have purchased on the open market as London is a challenging place for a young person. If it wasn't for a scheme like this, I would never have had the chance to get onto the ladder.

"My apartment at Chancery Building is a new build; it's modern and built to a high specification. The price I'm paying here would get me a small studio in Balham with no hot water – whereas here, I'm on the fifth floor of a beautifully designed apartment with a gorgeous view overlooking south London."

Chancery Building at Embassy Gardens is just one of dozens of exciting developments in the Nine Elms area, which is set to create 25,000 jobs, new business, housing and more travel choices through the Northern Line extension.

Large print version

Copies of this issue of Homelife are available in large print format contact (020) 8871 6800 or email: homelife@wandsworth.gov.uk

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN £5,000

when you
RECYCLE RIGHT
IN THE
Golden Ticket
Recycling Prize Draw



To enter the **£5,000 Golden Ticket** prize draw, just fill out a Golden Ticket and pop it in your clear recycling sack or bank along with the clean and dry items listed opposite. You can submit a Golden Ticket each time you fill a clear sack or use your recycling bank. So the more you recycle the correct materials, the more chance you have of winning.

The first prize draw took place in October with one lucky resident winning £5,000. The Golden Ticket competition will see three more Wandsworth residents win £5,000. Each winner will be invited to nominate up to five local community groups* to receive a share of a £2,500 community reward.

If you have run out of Golden Tickets you can collect more from your local library or leisure centre, the council's Customer Centre at the Town Hall, or from the Housing and Community Services reception in Putney Bridge Road. Or visit wrwa.gov.uk/GoldenTicket to print your own.

The next draw will take place on 18 December 2015 with further draws taking place in February and March 2016.

Good Luck!

For more details visit
wrwa.gov.uk/GoldenTicket

*Community groups must meet the competition criteria and register in advance, making a commitment to encourage recycling.



You can now RECYCLE PLASTIC items from your BATHROOM & KITCHEN

