

Brightside



Boris Bikes come to Wandsworth

See map on page 16-17

Looking back to Battersea

See page 14-15

Cover story - Finding homes for families

See page 8

Don't know who to call for medical help?

Don't go to A&E.

Receive expert advice immediately.



Don't go to A&E if it's not a serious emergency.

Other NHS services are everywhere.

Call 111, free of charge, to find the right treatment.

news

Thousands of potholes fixed	4
Bid to curb legal highs	5
Residents' survey results	7
Helping families get homes	8
Work match job service	10
Green light for Putney school	11
All aboard the riverbus	12
Looking back at Battersea	14-15
Sign up for cycle hire	16-17
Keep winter at bay	19

features and regulars

What's On	27
Useful numbers	31

Cover: Mr Lucky and his son with their new council property. Read his story on page 8.

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

YOUR BRIGHTSIDE

Your Brightside is distributed by London Letterbox Marketing. We expect all copies of Brightside to be delivered to every home in the borough and pushed fully through the letterbox. This issue of Brightside is being delivered from **November 27 to December 1**. Your next Brightside will be delivered in **February**. If you don't receive your copy call us on (020) 8871 7520. Brightside is the civic magazine of Wandsworth Council. It is produced by the council's corporate communications unit. It is the only publication delivered to every household in the borough. We would like to thank all our advertisers for their support. Brightside will consider display advertisements from non-council bodies (excluding recruitment) and reserves the right to decline advertisements. The council neither accepts responsibility for the content of nor endorses any non-council advertisements.

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

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

Cleaner Wandsworth



Community cleans up

78%*
of residents say streets are clean

*Results from the council's residents' survey 2013

The people of Wandsworth turned out in force last month to join the council in a community clean-up of a litter hotspot on private land near Wandsworth Bridge

Residents, local businesses, charities, and office workers filled 40 binliners with rubbish and litter and they collected six broken bike locks, five broomsticks, two pairs of shoes and a car's broken bumper. The clean-up was organised by Delphis Eco, an environmentally-friendly Battersea company.

Meanwhile the council has put up more wanted posters as part of its crackdown on flytipping. Two posters feature different suspects that waste enforcement officers want to speak to following reports of rubbish and an unwanted mattress dumped in Selkirk Road, Tooting on October 3. If you recognise these people call the waste enforcement team on (020) 8871 8546.

The new approach to catching flytippers is designed to support the council's Cleaner Wandsworth campaign to ensure the borough's streets are among the cleanest and tidiest in the capital.

► Visit

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/cleanerwandsworth.

Find out more and report it

Flytipping: Report online at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/flytipping

Call (020) 8871 8558 Email wasteservices@wandsworth.gov.uk.

Potholes: Report online at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/potholes

Email onstreetservices@wandsworth.gov.uk

WANTED!



Can you identify this person?

Contact the Waste Enforcement Team on (020) 8871 8546





10,000 potholes fixed

More than 8,000 potholes have been repaired as the council's dedicated pothole repair crews come to the end of a seven month-long pothole blitz.

Now residents can expect even more action as the council announces a second wave in its biggest-ever road and pavement repair project.

To date, the borough's three pothole crews have repaired 9,897 potholes in 17 wards with the last three wards being completed this month. And now there's plenty more to come. The hard-working crews will be doing it all again as they revisit wards across Wandsworth, with an emphasis on pavement repairs.

The council says the improvement project has been made possible thanks to shrewd management of the council's finances, which has enabled this year's road repair budget to be increased to £6.4m.

A very harsh winter caused an unusually high number of potholes to appear in roads throughout the country – and in Wandsworth, the council says it heard the message from residents that they wanted urgent action to sort out the problem.

In a recent survey of borough residents, 54 per cent rated street repairs as good or very good, up from 48 per cent in 2011. In some areas, such as Latchmere, Queenstown and St Mary's Park, more than 60 per cent of residents said the council has been doing a good job in tackling potholes.

▶▶ To report a pothole online visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/potholes or email onstreetservices@wandsworth.gov.uk.



Pothole repairs so far

Southfields	252
Furzedown	401
St Mary's Park	302
Wandsworth Common	267
West Putney	375
Queenstown	942
Northcote	1,048
Shaftesbury	180
Roehampton	932
Tooting	419
East Putney	711
Balham	331
Fairfield	328
Thamesfield	296
Earlsfield	606
Nightingale	1,052
West Hill	407
Bedford	297
Latchmere	365
Graveney	386

Closing date for applications is 14 February 2014

Have you applied for a nursery place in a school?

If your child was born between September 2010 and August 2011, your child can have up to **15 hours free** nursery education from September 2014.

Contact the Family Information Service for more information on (020) 8871 7899 or email fis@wandsworth.gov.uk or visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/fis



Bid to curb legal highs

Parents are being urged to keep their children away from a newly-opened 'head shop' in Earlsfield.

The shop sells a wide range of synthetic projects that mimic the effects of illegal drugs. But under existing legislation it is not illegal to sell or possess artificial 'copycat compounds.'

Council leader Ravi Govindia wants parents to be fully aware the shop is trading so they can make sure their children have nothing to do with it. And he is writing to the Home Office to call for tougher rules and regulations against these substances.

"It is a matter of very great concern that this shop has opened in our borough and we believe it is quite wrong for these kind of mood-altering substances to be on sale in such a prominent setting," he said.

"We have also received some quite worrying reports from our colleagues in the NHS that a number of patients at Springfield Hospital have also been frequenting this shop. The local community will be rightly concerned that people with a range of mental illnesses are able to very easily purchase these mood-altering substances."



Piglets prove popular at Nightingale

Nightingale school for boys with learning difficulties, has opened its own farm to help calm pupils with emotional problems. It has pigs, sheep, alpacas, rabbits, guinea pigs, chinchillas, ducks, hens and an aviary, and recently welcomed some tiny piglets. It is usually closed to the public, but hosts open days, birthday parties and a young farmers club. Call (020) 8874 9096 or email kdaniels@nightingale.wandsworth.sch.uk.



Council cars go green

The council has added two electric vehicles to its fleet. The Nissan LEAF vehicles, which are part of a Low Carbon London project, produce no local air pollutants or carbon dioxide. One is pictured above with council environment spokesman Jonathan Cook.

The council is a member of Source London, the pan London electric vehicle charging network. Six charging points are available at Coverton Road, Spencer Park, Grant Road, St Johns Hill, Putney Leisure Centre and the Wandle Leisure Centre. Read more at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/driveelectric.

Poppy help

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Women Association of Tooting held a poppy morning in the Tooting Grove Clubroom, attended by Mayor of Wandsworth Angela Graham, to raise money for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Visit www.alislam.org for more information about the association.

Flight noise battle continues

The Department for Transport is set to continue with the existing Heathrow night flight rules until 2017 despite mounting evidence about the real damage they cause to local peoples' health and quality of life. The council is pressing for early morning arrivals to be phased out but a new 'consultation' on the airport's night flight regime offers no significant changes.

Ravi Govindia, leader of Wandsworth Council said: "Phasing out the pre-6am arrivals is achievable and would dramatically reduce the impact Heathrow has on Wandsworth. This consultation offers no hope of change and fails to challenge the aviation industry to improve its performance."

Residents can tell the Government about their experiences with early morning arrivals by emailing night.noise@dft.gsi.gov.uk or at www.gov.uk/government/consultations/night-flights

Report helicopter noise

The Barclays London Heliport in Battersea is responsible for about a third of helicopter activity in London. Residents with concerns about noise or other issues related to helicopter activity can report it online at www.londonheliport.co.uk, or call (020) 7228 0181.

Telephone Scams

Protect your **bank** and **credit card** details.

Telephone scams are on the increase in Wandsworth.

We want to make you aware of how the criminals persuade you to give your bank card details over the phone to prevent you from becoming a victim too!

A typical phone call goes like this:

- The criminals (who maybe a man or woman) may cold call you on the phone claiming to be from your bank, the Police or a well known store.
- They claim that your bank card has been used fraudulently and needs replacing or someone has been arrested using your details and card.
- They may ask you to give them your PIN number or type it in on the phone keypad.
- They may suggest you hang up and phone the number on the back of your card or phone the Police. Don't be fooled into doing this. The criminals keep the line open at the other end so you are still talking to them!
- Finally they send a courier or mini cab to collect your card.

Be very careful if you get one of these calls.

- Your bank will **NEVER** ask you for this sort of information especially your PIN number.
- Your bank or the Police will never send a courier or mini cab to collect your card.
- If you receive one of these calls put the phone down straight away and call the Police and report it from ANOTHER phone or wait 10 minutes before using your phone.
- **IF YOU HAVE BEEN VICTIM DO REPORT IT TO YOUR LOCAL POLICE.**

If you would more information call
**Community Safety on
(020) 8871 6603.**



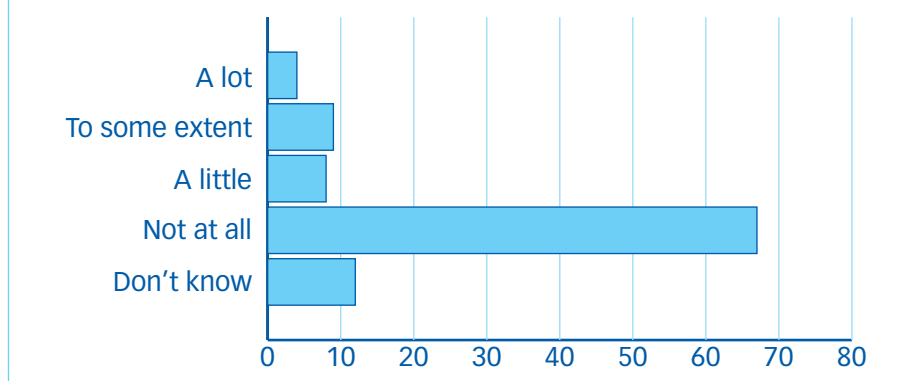


Residents happy with council performance

Wandsworth people say the council is managing an £80m spending cut well, minimising the effect on local families.

In a just-published comprehensive council survey, 84 per cent of residents said they are satisfied with the council's performance, compared to a London average of 75 per cent last year.

How much have you been affected by the cuts in council spending?



"We have worked incredibly hard to reduce our spending without cutting libraries, refuse services, park maintenance and all the other public services our residents rely on," says council leader, Cllr Ravi Govindia.

"It is heartening to see that residents from all backgrounds, in all parts of the borough, support what we have been doing and trust us to manage public finances well. We have been able largely to protect our residents from the negative effects of dramatically reducing public spending, while still charging the lowest average council taxes in the country. That's what we set out to do and it's rewarding to hear residents say it has been working."

The Wandsworth survey shows extremely high levels of satisfaction with the way Wandsworth council runs things compared to other boroughs. Eighty-four per cent of residents said they are satisfied with the council's performance, compared to a London average of 75 per cent last year.

The council's drive to keep council tax bills low also received very strong backing, with 84 per cent of people supporting its low-tax stance.

Levels of satisfaction with the council peak at 95 per cent in East Putney and Thamesfield wards and exceed 75 per cent in 15 of the remaining 18 wards, with the lowest satisfaction at 74 per cent in Tooting, Graveney and Furzdown.

"There are still some major challenges ahead," adds Cllr Govindia. "We have to find another £43 million of savings by 2015 and that isn't going to be easy. However, we have asked residents if they support our plans to continue to reduce back-office costs, to pass service delivery over to private contractors where we think they can do a better job at less cost, and to keep council tax low. Residents say they support that approach, so we will be rolling up our sleeves and getting on with the job."

▶▶ [Read the report at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/OSC/finance/nov2013](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/OSC/finance/nov2013), paper number 13-715.



Tasty treats from SHARE

Battersea charity SHARE, which provides training and employment support for disabled adults, has catered two major borough events. They provided the food for the launch of the council's Work Match service and the recent Work Match jobs fair. Read more about Work Match on page 10. The SHARE catering enterprise was launched earlier this year. If you would like to book it for your event or business meeting, email info@sharecommunity.org.uk or call (020) 7924 2949.

Scholarships

Scholarships worth £26,000 per student are on offer from Roehampton University to local people who can demonstrate a clear commitment to their local community through volunteering or some other public service.

Candidates must have lived in the borough for two years, have top A-level grades and must submit a UCAS application by January 15 with Roehampton as one of their main choices. For full details see www.roehampton.ac.uk/Roehampton-Scholarships.

Hestia history

Hestia Wandsworth Domestic Abuse Services has celebrated its 40th anniversary. The charity, formerly Wandsworth Women's Aid, is one of the oldest domestic abuse services in the country and has provided refuge for at least 40 women and 20 children each year.

Hestia is marking the anniversary by recording its history and wants to hear from people who have worked for it, or have been helped. Stories recorded in the history can be confidential. Email Emily.gillatt@hestia.org, or call (020) 7378 3142.

1&2 bed apartments

Available to buy through the Government's part-rent, part-buy Shared Ownership scheme.

Putney Point

Putney Point, SW15 is ideally situated next to East Putney Tube Station. Available to people living or working within the borough of Wandsworth with a minimum income circa £37,000*.

– Register your interest –

Contact our Sales Team quoting: PPB12

020 8357 4444

sales@nhhg.org.uk | www.nhhg.org.uk/putneypoint

*Maximum income applies, please speak to member of the sales team for further information.

SUPPORTED BY

MAYOR OF LONDON



Helping families get homes

Nearly 190 Wandsworth families have been found homes that better serve their needs following the Government's decision to remove the spare room subsidy for tenants in social housing.

People living in cramped and overcrowded conditions have been able to move into 94 larger council-owned properties. And 94 tenants whose homes were bigger than they actually needed and had spare bedrooms have been helped to move into smaller sized properties that suit them better.

Tenants who have opted to move into smaller properties are not affected by the Government's subsidy changes and will not see a reduction in their housing benefit. They are eligible for a payment worth £1,500 for each bedroom, subject to conditions. Those who remain living in council flats that have empty or spare bedrooms are seeing their benefit reduced.

Wandsworth's housing spokesman Cllr Paul Ellis said: "I'm delighted that we have been able to help so many tenants move into more appropriately sized accommodation.

"This has been instrumental in helping families, often with young children, move from overcrowded and cramped housing that is wholly unsuitable for their needs, into the right sized home. This is good news for taxpayers who are no longer having to fund the rents charged by private sector landlords for larger properties, which are often the only ones available for very large families.

"At the same time it has meant that tenants who no longer need a larger council flat with unused bedrooms are not having reductions in their benefit payments."

The council's housing department will help the borough's tenants who are affected by the subsidy changes if they wish to move into smaller sized properties. Call (020) 8871 6812 for advice.

John's story

When John Lucky got a call from the council offering him a home in Derinton Road, Tooting he finally had a place he and his family could call home. John, a groundsman in a cemetery, had been living with his wife Jenny and three young children in a homeless hostel. "We've been here for around five months now and it's really nice," said Mr Lucky. "I'd been in the hostel for about a year, which was very difficult with three kids, but we're delighted with our new home." The lady that moved out of the house is now living in another property of a more suitable size in the same street.





Get on the housing ladder

A record number of people were given advice on buying their first home at the Affordable Housing Open Day.

Around 1300 turned up to the free town hall event to chat to local housing providers, independent financial advisors and solicitors, members of the council's Home Ownership Team and the council's housing spokesman Paul Ellis (pictured).

The council has launched its Affordable Housing Programme to work with developers to make more affordable homes available to buy and is directly supporting the creation of affordable homes to rent. Its Housing into Work scheme links the provision of social housing to younger people with help to secure employment.

▶▶ **To learn more about home buying opportunities in Wandsworth visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/homeownership, call the Home Ownership Team on (020) 8871 6016/6017 or email housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk.**

Voter form warning

If you have not yet returned your voter registration forms, do so now to prevent someone coming to your home in January to collect it.

Freephone, online or text facilities are available to households whose details have not changed since last year's canvass. Quote the unique reference number contained on your form and follow the printed instructions. Signed and completed forms can also be returned by faxing (020) 8871 8382.

It is a legal requirement to fill in and send back your form. Do not assume you are automatically registered because you have voted before or because you pay council tax. You will need to register in order to vote in next May's Council and European elections.

▶▶ **For more information call (020) 8871 6023, email electoral@wandsworth.gov.uk or visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/vote.**

NOW VIEWING

BATTERSEA REACH ≈ RIVERSIDE LIVING

PRICES FROM
£87,000*



A SELECTION OF STUDIOS, 1 & 2 BEDROOM Shared Ownership Apartments

TO BOOK A VIEWING PLEASE CALL:

020 8357 4444

SALES@NHHG.ORG.UK
WWW.NHHG.ORG.UK/BATTERSEA

Quoting: BRB12

*Studio apartments start from £87,000 based on a 40% share of the full market value of £217,500. Estimated minimum household income £31,132. Eligibility criteria apply, please speak to a member of the Sales Team. Image shown is computer generated.



SUPPORTED BY
MAYOR OF LONDON



NottinghillHousing
Homes for Londoners since 1963

Matching local people with local jobs

Unemployed Wandsworth residents now have a dedicated council recruitment team to help them find a new career – it's called Wandsworth Work Match.

The expert team only supports local people who are out of work and has access to a wide variety of jobs, trainee roles and apprenticeships.

Work Match can also direct applicants to the pre-job training they need to get them ready for the workplace.

►► Find out more at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/workmatch

New jobs come up every week – here's a small sample of recent Work Match vacancies:

- Labourer
- Receptionist
- Retail assistant
- Plastering apprentice
- Apprentice carpenter
- Apprentice hairdresser
- Site surveying assistant
- Waiting staff
- Administrator

On site in Nine Elms

Work Match is helping unemployed Wandsworth residents to find work on construction sites in Nine Elms, east Battersea. Brightside spoke to two local people to find out what it's like working on London's biggest development programme.

"I got this job through Wandsworth Work Match. I gave the team my CV and they called me into their office to go through it and talk about the type of job I wanted. The first job I went for didn't work out but a couple of days later they got me an interview with Ballymore and I was successful. The people are great to work with and there's always something new to learn. My aim is to keep putting the work in and see how far I can progress."

Ben Cook

Age: 25

Trade: Chain person (engineering)

Nine Elms Site: Embassy Gardens (Ballymore)

Billy Mohan

Age: 23

Trade: Cladding Apprentice

Nine Elms Site: Riverlight (St James)

"If you like hands-on, practical work then this is great role. Since starting on site I've picked up a range of new skills and been involved with other trades like glazing, window fitting and curtain walling. I work as a fixer's mate which means a qualified tradesman teaches you the job bit by bit. It's a good way to learn and I'd definitely recommend an apprenticeship to other people."

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

Buy, Sell & Trade Locally the items you no longer use
One person's trash is another person's treasure
Plus acts for FREE
Get saving, get selling, turn your unused items into cash!

Disinter your home

Don't use it?
Sell it.

More primary school choices now on offer

It is time to apply for primary school places for next September and parents now have more choice than ever before.

Three brand-new primary schools opened last September and, over the past three years, 25 new reception classes have opened in existing primary schools.

And there are more to come. Approval has now been given to use the derelict Putney Hospital site on Putney Common as a new school (see below) and there are plans for a new 420 pupil school at the Atheldene Centre in Earlsfield. Additional classes will also open at five other primaries next September.

More places are badly needed to make sure all children get in to one of their top-choice schools. The school-age population is rapidly expanding. Research by the Local Government Association has shown that demand for reception class places is set to rise by 15 percentage points between now and September 2016. That means Wandsworth will need 2,532 more places over the next three years.

As well as an increased birth rate, the rise in demand is also being attributed to rising standards at the borough's schools.



Apply now

It is time to apply now for school places next September. The easiest way to do it is online at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/admissions where you will also find details of the borough's schools and how to make the best choice for your child. Parents and carers of children born between 1 September 2009 and 31 August 2010 must apply for a primary school place by 15 January 2014.

Court gives green light to Putney school plan

Plans to build a new primary school on land occupied by the derelict and vacant Putney hospital can now move forward after opponents lost their High Court bid to block the scheme.

The court rejected an attempt by objectors that could have derailed the plans for the school.

The council has resolved to approve a planning application for the new school, which will eventually cater for 420 pupils and help meet the growing demand from parents in this part of Putney for additional reception class places.

The cost of demolishing the derelict hospital buildings and building a school will be largely funded by the sale of land for 24 flats at the northern end of the site, which is currently occupied by the disused nurses' accommodation block. The flats have also been approved.

This means that the cost of building the school is borne mainly by the developers rather than local council tax payers.

Only a little over half of the land which was used by the hospital is needed for the new school and flats. The rest of this brownfield



land, which is now mostly covered in buildings or tarmac, will be grassed over to form an integral part of the green space of Putney Common.

The hospital was closed to patients in 1999. It has remained vacant ever since and was acquired by the council as the site for a new school in 2012.

All aboard the riverbus



More and more local people are swapping cars, trains and buses for a comfortable seat on the riverbus.

Thames Clippers took over the Putney to Blackfriars route in late 2012 after a council-led campaign to enhance the service. Since then the route has gone from strength to strength with the timetable frequency trebling and journey times for the full route dropping to around 42 minutes.

The Thames Clippers catamarans run every weekday starting at 6am and include free wifi and a coffee bar. They stop at Putney and Wandsworth Riverside Quarter (west Battersea) on their way to and from central London. Some peak time services now continue direct all the way to Canary Wharf. The service also scores top marks for reliability as they proved by running a full and on-time service during the St Jude Storm on October 28.

View the timetable and ticket prices at www.thamesclippers.com

Brightside climbed aboard a morning service to find out what Wandsworth's river commuters think about travelling to work on the Thames.

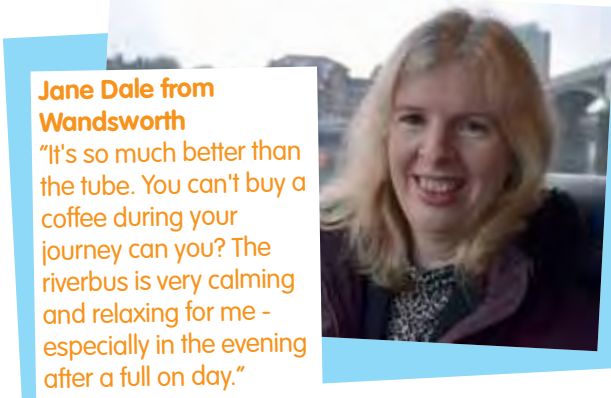


Cllr Russell King joins a service at Putney



Mark Scott from Wandsworth

"This morning is the first time I have used this service. Based on today's trip I think it's a brilliant thing - absolutely fantastic. I wish they had done this twenty years ago!"



Jane Dale from Wandsworth

"It's so much better than the tube. You can't buy a coffee during your journey can you? The riverbus is very calming and relaxing for me - especially in the evening after a full on day."



Simeon Stevens from Putney

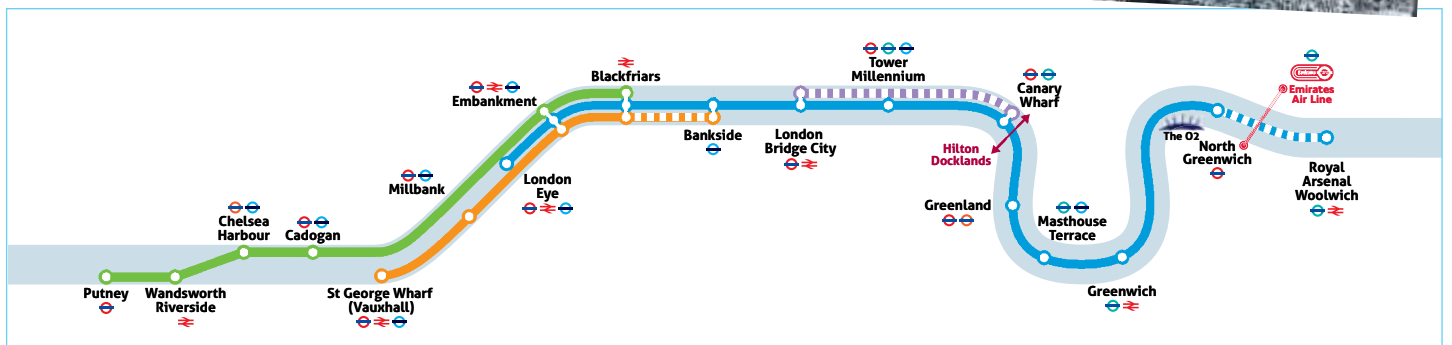
"I use it every day. Much less busy than the train or tube. The frequency since Thames Clippers took over is fantastic."

Anna Foster from Putney

"It's so much easier to get out of bed and get the riverbus - it's so much more civilised!"



►► For more information on the council's transport plans visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/travelchoices





How the new embassy will look

The Nine Elms regeneration site

July 4 opening for embassy in 2017

Work is now underway on the new US Embassy in London and the first phase of the Battersea Power Station development.

The two high-profile projects are just a short walk from each other within the Nine Elms regeneration area in north east Battersea.

This district's transformation is now well underway and will bring more than 16,000 new homes and 25,000 new jobs to this underused stretch of the South Bank. Every residential development includes new affordable homes for local people. The embassy is expected to open on July 4, 2017.

Ravi Govindia, leader of Wandsworth Council, seen above with the new US ambassador Matthew W Barzun at the embassy's groundbreaking ceremony, explains how Nine Elms is on course to be a new artistic and cultural centre.

"Nine Elms would be the perfect place for the Smithsonian Institute to establish a new American art collection in the UK. We hope we can attract this fantastic organisation to join the likes of Damian Hurst and the Royal College of Art who have confirmed they're coming to the area."

The new Nine Elms will also be a centre for fresh produce at New Covent Garden Market, and there will be a new town centre built within and around Battersea Power Station, plus a networks of parks, public squares, riverside walks and gardens.

►► **Find out how unemployed local residents are being helped to find work on the Nine Elms project on page 10. Turn the page for a look at the area's history.**



An artist's impression of the interior of the regenerated Power Station and (above) its chimneys

Looking back at Battersea

Nine Elms regeneration may be the future, but The English Heritage Survey of London has turned its attention to the area's history and architecture from medieval times to today.

The books cover the whole of the old parish of Battersea – a big swathe of territory stretching from Vauxhall at one end almost to Balham at the other and including half of Clapham Common and Wandsworth Common.

Battersea has seen amazing changes over the last century and a half. As late as 1850 it was still largely an agricultural area, famed for its market gardens down on the flood plain near the Thames, now the site of Battersea Park. On higher ground beside the two commons a few wealthy City merchants had built their suburban villas. There was a smattering of industry along the river and a single main-line railway running out of Waterloo, but Clapham Junction had not yet been thought of. The population numbered under 10,000.

Boys and girls at Lavender Hill School in about 1906



Building workers construct the Shaftesbury Park estate

Duchess of York pub, Nine Elms, about 1880, on the site of the present Duchess pub





St John's Road with Arding and Hobbs (now Debenhams) in the distance, about 1920

Modern couples and their children at outside tables enjoying the eateries of Northcote Road



Then industrial and railway development exploded, and a housing bonanza followed. By 1900 the population had rocketed to over 170,000. The old village centre by the Thames was swamped, and every available space smothered with housing, a tangle of railway lines and factories. Battersea became a pioneer in providing council housing and other social services and built itself a town hall on Lavender Hill.

The industrial tide turned after the Second World War, leaving Battersea cleaner but poorer. Then came gentrification. Now even Battersea Power Station, the last great monument to the area's industrial history, is being regenerated, and the whole of Nine Elms is undergoing its second total transformation since the war.

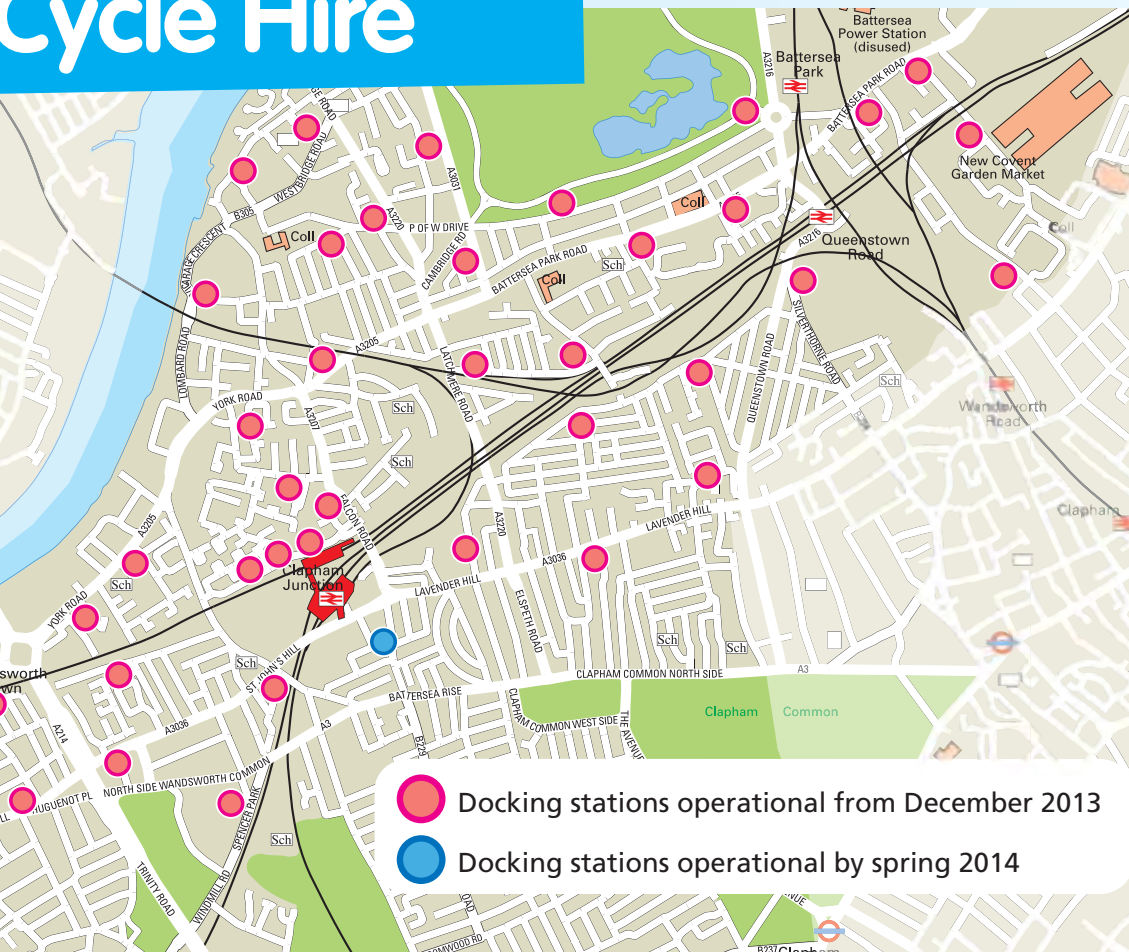
The Survey of London has been publishing books on different areas of London for more than a hundred years, and these two volumes are the 49th and 50th.

►► To order a copy, contact Yale University Press on (020) 7079 4900 email sales@yaleup.co.uk or visit www.yalebooks.co.uk.



Railwaymen in the depots and women shovelling coke in the grime of the Nine Elms gasworks

Cycle Hire



© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Licensed to Wandsworth Council. LA 1000019270 (2013)

Transport for London (TfL) has confirmed the borough's new docking stations will be stocked with bikes and ready to go live on the morning of December 13.

The council has fought hard to extend the cycle hire scheme into the brighter borough and transport spokesman Cllr Russell King wants this to be the first step towards complete borough-wide coverage.

He said: "Now is the time to join the scheme so you can start using this brand new travel option right from day one. It's an early Christmas present for Wandsworth commuters!"

►► **Find out more**
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/cyclehire

Landlords



Looking for trouble-free letting?

- **Guaranteed rent** for the duration of the lease
- **No management fees** or commission
- Your property **leased for 1, 2 or 3 years**
- **Free** professional management service
- **Rent paid direct** to your bank account

We're looking for furnished properties with 2, 3 or more bedrooms in the borough of Wandsworth or surrounding areas.

For competitive rent call us today

020 8871 7365

or email privatelandlords@wandsworth.gov.uk



This festive season, give yourself a free NHS Health Check



The leader of the council Ravi Govindia having an NHS Healthcheck at a recent Roehampton Challenge event. Find out more about the Roehampton Challenge at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/roehamptonchallenge, or in your Roehampton Voice newsletter, delivered to Roehampton homes with Brightside.

If you are aged between 40 and 74 years old and don't already have heart disease, stroke, diabetes or kidney disease, and have not had an NHS Health Check in the last five years, then you may be eligible.

The purpose of NHS Health Checks is to find people who may feel well and think they are healthy but may have a hidden disease; often people can go for years without knowing they have high blood pressure or diabetes until these conditions have damaged their body.

So take the time this month to visit your GP and find out how your can improve your health.

I think I can have an NHS Health Check, what should I do now?

The NHS Health Check is available from most Wandsworth GPs; visit or call your practice to book an appointment. Alternatively you can have an NHS Health Check at selected pharmacies within the borough or on the Wandsworth NHS Health Check mobile clinic.

► **For more information visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/healthchecks, or call 020 8871 5026.**



Your guide to flu vaccination

Don't wait for a flu outbreak. You should have the flu vaccination if you are:

- aged 65 years or over
- living in a residential or nursing home
- the main carer of an older or disabled person
- suffering from lowered immunity, or are a household contact of a person with a compromised immune system
- a health or social care worker
- pregnant – even if you feel healthy
- diabetic
- suffer from kidney disease or a heart or chest problem or breathing difficulties, including bronchitis or emphysema, or have had a stroke, a neurological condition or a problem with your spleen.



Flu jab for children

This year, for the first time, children aged two or three years on September 1 2013 are also being offered the flu vaccination. Contact your surgery to make an appointment.

► **Visit www.nhs.uk/child-flu for further details**

Do you want to become fitter?

The Exercise on Referral service offers support and advice from an exercise professional who will arrange to meet with you at your local leisure centre. Your exercise instructor will develop a programme lasting up to 12 weeks that will increase your fitness and confidence in the gym. The cost is only £2 per session (normally £8.80). Swimming sessions will also be available at some sites.

See your GP to discuss whether the scheme is suitable for you. He or she can refer you directly.

Breastfeeding welcome

Don't forget if you are breastfeeding you have a right to feed your baby in public.

The council's Breastfeeding Welcome scheme supports mums when they're out and about. Local cafes, restaurants, shops and other businesses can join the scheme and put up breastfeeding welcome signs. Find out more by searching for Breastfeeding Welcome Wandsworth on Facebook.



Keep winter at bay

Top tips for older people

Every winter, many older people become seriously ill or even die as a result of cold weather.

Many of these deaths are avoidable, and the council together with the local health service, works hard to help prevent them.

Our top tips to stay safe and warm this winter:

- Get a free flu jab from your GP or a participating pharmacy (see article opposite to see if you are eligible).
- Wrap up warm and layer your clothing to stay warm
- Make sure your home is as energy efficient as possible.
- Eat well and have hot meals and drinks throughout the day
- Keep as active as possible when you are at home and try to regularly move as much as you can.
- If you are worried about falling when going out, increase your confidence by referring yourself to the B+OOST service (Balance and other opportunities for Strength and Balance). You will have a free one hour assessment by a physiotherapist and then be directed into the most suitable exercise programme for you.

▶▶ **Find out more about energy efficiency by calling the Energy Saving Advice Service on 0300 123 1234 or visit www.energysavingtrust.org.uk**

▶▶ **Contact the B+OOST Service on (020) 8812 4079**



Battersea Fire Station hosted a tea party for some of the borough's older people and Mayor of Wandsworth Cllr Angela Graham presented everyone there with a keeping warm in winter pack.

Winter ring-round gives advice

Council staff will ring around 1,300 of the borough's most vulnerable people to give them advice on keeping safe during cold weather.

Adult social services staff, with the support of the public health department, will give people tips on keeping warm and let them know what help and support is available. They may also refer people on to other trusted organisations for help and support.

The caller will check that the elderly person has had a flu vaccination and will give them information on the B+OOST service run by the Integrated Falls and Bone Health Service if they are concerned about falling. They will also talk about keeping warm at home and can make a referral for additional advice, help or support to efficiently heat homes.

Get details of services available for older people at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/acis, or ring the Adult Social Services Access Team on (020) 8871 7707.

Keeping pavements clear

The council has handed out hundreds of kilos of free grit to local residents, community groups and neighbourhood watch co-ordinators, and has a network of salt bins across the borough that anyone can use.

The council works flat out to clear snow and ice from the borough's 230 miles of roads and 450 miles of pavements when a cold snap hits. But this takes time and residents are offered grit so they can help speed the process up and, using their local knowledge, concentrate on paths used by elderly and vulnerable people.

For general advice about clearing ice from footpaths and to find the location of your nearest salt bin visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/snow.

Giving time to help others



Fair recruits new volunteers

More than 120 prospective volunteers went along to the 2013 Wandsworth Volunteering Fair to learn how they could give up their time to help others.

Volunteering Wandsworth, which works on behalf of the council to help people into volunteering, spent the afternoon offering expert information and advice to visitors, as well as signing up people who asked to be made aware of future volunteering opportunities. More than 30 charities and organisations were also there recruiting volunteers.

▶▶ **To find out more about local volunteering opportunities call 0300 365 9950, email enquiry@volunteeringwandsworth.org.uk, tweet @vwandsworth or visit www.volunteeringwandsworth.org.uk.**

Case study

One of the organisations at the fair, Free Cakes for Kids, signed up new volunteers and found other organisations to partner-up with. The volunteer-led service helps families who find it hard to provide a birthday cake for their child.

Volunteering Wandsworth encouraged prospective volunteers and voluntary organisations to engage with them and with each other on Twitter and awarded a prize for most inspirational Tweet of the day. This was won by Free Cakes for Kids who were networking on Twitter throughout the day. Founder Lourita Pusey said: "The fair was a great event and a great success for us."

Help KSL celebrate

The Katherine Low Settlement in Battersea High Street is celebrating its 90th birthday next year and is looking for volunteers to help organise and promote events throughout the year, such as a volunteers' award ceremony, a summer party and a fundraising walk. If you are interested then call Aaron Barbour on (020) 7223 2845 or email aaron@ksettlement.org.uk



Become a Community Connector

Community Connectors is a new volunteering project recruiting people to help carers.

Volunteers will work with an unpaid carer for six weeks, helping them pursue interests and activities, build links with their local community or take steps towards returning to work. They will need to commit three hours a week for a minimum of 18 weeks and will be given full training, supervision and a reference at the end.

If you have good listening skills, good communication skills and an ability to work independently and want to find out more, contact Claire Cassidy at the Wandsworth Carers Centre on (020) 8675 0811 email claire@wandsworthcarers.org.uk or visit www.carerswandsworth.org.uk and go to the Support Us tab for a full copy of the task description and the application pack.



Mayor of Wandsworth Cllr Angela Graham went along to Franciscan Children's Centre to celebrate the launch of its Volunteer Development Programme.

Parents, who have previously volunteered informally, will be given a role description and will work in partnership with staff and multi-agency teams. There are currently 15 volunteers helping with admin, story telling and child care. If you live in Tooting, attend the centre with your child and would like to join the programme, speak to a member of staff.

Vision for estates takes shape



Hundreds of local residents have been helping to shape major improvement plans for council housing estates.

The council is committed to spending up to £100million improving Alton West in Roehampton and York Road and Winstanley Estates which are just north of Clapham Junction Station.

During October and November a series of open days and drop-in sessions took place where residents could inspect different regeneration ideas and give their views of which of the proposals they would like to see put into action.

The feedback collected is now being used to develop a 'preferred' masterplan for the estates which combine the changes with the greatest level of local support. These will be published in the new year and estate communities will have another chance to shape and refine the proposals through a further public consultation.

The estate improvements are part of the council's strategy to create new jobs and improve the quality of housing, shops and local services in the borough's most deprived areas.

► Find out the latest at
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/roehampton and
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/winstanleyorkroad



Get cooking at South Thames

South Thames College has opened the doors of its new Hospitality and Catering Academy to more than 100 budding chefs and hospitality staff.

The £5.7m facility offers courses for all ages, from beginner to university-level. As well as learning theory in the classroom, students gain real-world experience by learning their trade in the College's commercial restaurant, Taste. The picture shows Raj Patel, who is taking an Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery. Find out more at www.south-thames.ac.uk.

Wandsworth Sash Windows

125 Lavender Hill

0207 924 7303

wandsworthsashwindows.com

Your local sash window specialists

Traditional Timber

Double Glazed

Draught Proofing

Overhaul

Sliding Sash Windows



Quote 'Brightside magazine'
for an immediate 10% discount

Family project is turning lives around

It's 7.30am and Joe is busy helping Maria Buchanan* prepare breakfast. Elsewhere in the flat, 13-year-old Max and Ryan, nine, are making little effort to get ready – they know that school is imminent. Maria shouts from the kitchen for them to get washed and dressed and, despite their groans, they do so.

It's probably a familiar situation for many families, but what sets this scene apart is that Joe is not a member of the Buchanan household – he works for Wandsworth Council's Family Recovery Project (FRP).

And, when he first met the family two months ago, life was very different.

Waking up and getting ready for school was not always a part of the Buchanan's daily routine. Alarms were missed and breakfast wasn't on the menu – often because the cupboards were bare.

But with Joe's help Maria, Max and Ryan have started turning their lives around.

"That's the key thing with the FRP," Joe said.

"It only works if the family in question wants it to. We can't do it for them – we can help and guide them but they need to make the change and stick to it."

The Family Recovery Project (FRP) is a multi-agency service that works intensively alongside families to strengthen and stabilise them - securing

better outcomes for children, young people and adults. The Government, council and other local partners all provide funding. The families offered help by FRP workers are identified through existing council services. In the Buchanans' case it was via Wandsworth's Youth Offending Team. Max had been skipping school and twice been caught shoplifting, while Ryan's attendance had also started to decline.

Joe met with Maria and explained that things couldn't continue as they were without the prospect of her facing serious consequences.

"They're difficult conversations of course and sometimes we experience resistance," Joe said.

"Many of the parents we work with have had poor parenting themselves, been the victim of domestic abuse or have fallen off the rails due to substance misuse. But if we see children and young people without good routines, on a poor diet and living in dirty conditions we have a duty to hold the parent's to account.



"We'll go in and introduce routines – help them all get ready in the morning, go on the school run and put on the marigolds to help clean when we get back. We also carry out parenting work and help mums and

dads access services they may need additional support from such as Job Centre Plus, the housing department or our adult mental health team.

"Obviously over time the goal is for the families to start following these routines and taking these steps themselves."

Wandsworth's FRP team has been hailed as the best in London according to official Government figures.

Almost 68 per cent of the families that the council is focusing its efforts on have successfully turned their lives around within one year – the highest ranked score in the capital.

"It's great when a member of the team comes back into the office punching the air because the dad they've been working with has found a job and his kids, are going to school and learning everyday, Joe added.

"There's a real sense of achievement for the family but it's also felt by us as workers because we invest so much time and energy with each family."

For the Buchanans, working with Joe and the FRP has been invaluable. Max and Ryan have not missed school for five weeks and Maria has recently secured part-time work in a local supermarket – and they now sit down together every evening to eat dinner as a family.

Although not every ending is a happy one, Joe is adamant that FRP teams up and down the country play a vital role in giving people like Maria, Max and Ryan a chance to have a brighter future.



* not their real names

“Catching it early can save your life...

and your family will thank you for that.”

Jas from Wandsworth

Get to know cancer pop-up shop in Wandsworth Southside shopping centre from 24 January for 3 weeks

Talking about cancer can be really hard - it can be embarrassing and it can be scary.

At our pop up shop, you can speak to nurse specialists, learn how to reduce your risk of cancer, spot signs, symptoms and understand the importance of early detection.

Pop in at any time no appointments needed!

More than 4 in 10 cancer cases can be prevented through changes to lifestyle, and cancer can be easier to beat if diagnosed early when treatment is often simpler and more likely to be effective.

Free health checks and chats with our nurses



Get to know cancer

It's treatable, even beatable





Public Health
England



www.gettoknowcancer.org
[@gettoknowcancer](https://twitter.com/gettoknowcancer)



Food waste

-  Clothing & textiles
-  Nappies
-  Shredded paper
-  Wood
-  Metal
-  Foil
-  Polystyrene
-  Electricals & cables
-  DIY material

KEEP THE NON-RECYCLABLES OUT OF YOUR RECYCLING

If you don't separate your rubbish properly, it can't be recycled. If in doubt, leave it out.



For more information visit [NONRECYCLABLES.com](https://www.nonrecyclables.com)



**RECYCLE
RIGHT**

Have a green Christmas

This Christmas, make sure you know what you can and can't recycle.

What can be recycled in clear bags and orange-lidded banks

- Wrapping paper – but not the metallic kind, please.
- Christmas cards
- Bottles
- Beer and soft drinks cans
- Glass jars – but not the lids
- Newspapers and magazines
- Plastic bottles – again, please remove lids, as they can cause problems at the recycling plant
- Plastic food pots and trays – clean and dry please

The council cannot recycle the following: tin foil, plastic bags (e.g. carrier bags and bread bags), textiles. Find out where these can be recycled at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/recyclingA-Z

▶▶ **Food waste cannot be recycled, and is best composted. Get details at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/homecomposting. Better still, find out how to waste less food by better shopping and using your freezer more at www.lovefoodhatewaste.com.**



Recycle your tree!

The council runs a free Christmas tree recycling service from January 2 to 15. Leave your tree out with your normal rubbish.

DON'T WASTE your Christmas



No waste collections: 25 December and 1 January

Collections run a day late between 25-27 December and 1-3 January.

For example, if your collection day falls on 26 December (Boxing Day), it will be collected on 27 December.

Normal collections on 23 and 24 December and 30 and 31 December.

Waste Services

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/waste

email: wasteservices@wandsworth.gov.uk

phone: (020) 8871 8558



Christmas opening hours

The Town Hall Customer Service Centre is closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. It closes at 4pm on December 24 and 31.

Parks are open, but facilities (such as toilets) are closed on Christmas Day.

All Sports sites are closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. They may also be closed on other days. Check the website for details.

Leisure Centres are closed Christmas day and Boxing Day. The exception is the Tooting Bec Lido, which is open throughout the Christmas period, including Christmas Day.

Libraries are closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. Libraries normally open on Tuesdays will close at 1pm on December 24 and at 5pm on December 31.

Check online for details of closures and special opening hours on other days over the festive period – www.wandsworth.gov.uk/openinghours.

First black mayor chosen for postage stamp

This year, John Archer has been chosen as one of 10 "Great Britons" by Royal Mail and included in a series of stamps. An English Heritage Blue Plaque has also been put up at Archer's former home in Brynmaer Road.

London's first black mayor, John Archer, was elected mayor of Battersea 100 years ago. Here we look back on his life and outline how his remarkable legacy is being celebrated.

John Archer, son of an Irish mother and Barbadian father, was a professional singer and had a photography business on Battersea Park Road, which he continued to run while involved in politics.

On the night of his election as mayor of Battersea Borough Council, as it was then, Archer said:



© Royal Mail

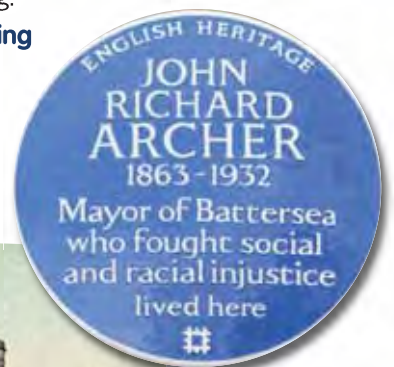
"My election tonight marks a new era. You have made history tonight. That news will go forth to all the coloured nations of the world and they will look at Battersea, and say, 'It is the greatest thing you have done. You have shown that you have no racial prejudice, but recognise a man for what you think he has done.'"

During his time as a councillor, the issues for which he campaigned included a minimum wage for council workers and black empowerment and equality.

When his term ended he remained a councillor, stepping down at the 1922 election, and subsequently became an election agent, an active member of the Board of Guardians of the Poor, a governor of Battersea Polytechnic and president of the Nine Elms Swimming club. He was re-elected in 1931 and at the time of his death in 1932, aged 69, was deputy leader of Battersea Council. His grave, in Morden cemetery, is to be restored next spring.

On the anniversary itself the council held a special citizenship ceremony in John Archer's honour, hosted by the current Mayor of Wandsworth Cllr Angela Graham, which included an address dedicated to his life. Councillors will also discuss his legacy at the December 4 full council meeting.

▶▶ There will also be a travelling exhibition in the borough's libraries. Find out where it will be at www.better.org.uk/libraries.



© Daily Mail



© Wandsworth Heritage Service

what's on?

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

Children's
events are
shaded
yellow



Tuesday December 3 6.30pm-7.30pm

Carols in Battersea Square

Carols and other seasonal music from Mardis Brass, helped out by singers from local churches and schools. Christmas tree lights switch on at 7pm by a celebrity guest.

Friends of Battersea Square, Battersea Square SW11. www.batterseasquare.org.uk

How to be listed

To be included in the February/ March edition send details (including access for people with disabilities) to:

whatson@wandsworth.gov.uk

to arrive by Friday December 20.

We cannot guarantee that your entry will be inserted. This is a free service.

The information in this guide has been provided by the advertisers themselves. Wandsworth Council accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of the information or for any event not organised by the council.

Free entry
Wheelchair access
Hearing loop

**Thursday November 28
– Wednesday January 29**

ET IN ARCADIA EGO
Exhibition by Anglo-Irish artist Patrick Kinmouth. Maestro Arts Milliners House, Riverside Quarter, Eastfields Avenue SW18. www.maestroarts.com
wheelchair



**Saturday November 30
12-3pm**

Winter Wonderland Christmas Fair
Food and drink, live music, Santa's Grotto, fairground, bouncy castle, face painting, tuck shop, cake sale. **Free entry (donations welcome).** St Faith's School, Alma Road SW18 www.stfaithsschoolpta.co.uk

**Monday December 2
8pm**

Alfred Brendel
In conversation with Piers Lane. **Visitors £5, members and under 18s free.** Putney Music Dryburgh Hall, Putney Leisure Centre, SW15. www.putneymusic.org.uk
wheelchair

**Mondays
December 3 – January 27
10.30am-12.30pm**

Conversation group
For people with communication difficulties following a stroke. St Barnabas Church, Clapham Junction. Call Nathalie 7367 0874 or wandsworth@ukconnect.org

**Tuesday December 3
7.30pm**

South London Choir
Come and sing with us – non-auditioning choir. Ravenstone School Hall, SW12. www.southlondonchoir.co.uk Email slcadmin@me.com

**Tuesdays December 3,
10 and 17 12pm**

**Festive lunches
You must pre-book.
Cost £3.** All welcome. East Hill United Reformed Church, Geraldine Road SW18. Call Andrew 07957 817702.
wheelchair

what's on?

DECEMBER -
JANUARY

**Tuesdays December 3,
10 and 17 10.30am-3pm**

Hand Embroidery Classes for Christmas Special Projects

Embroidery club classes with Bella Lane, specialist in hand embroidery. For all levels. **Limited number of places - advance booking essential. Cost £25 each day.** Bring your own project and materials to work with. Battersea Park Conference Room (by the Staff Yard/Herb Garden) SW11. www.bembroidery.co.uk Email info@bembroidery.co.uk Call 0796 181 5115 . **wheelchair**

**Friday December 6 – Sunday January 4
2pm and 7pm**

The Good Neighbour

Help uncover the mystery of George Neighbour's lost memory in this magical adventure for children 6-11 years and families. **Tickets £12 child, adults £12 before 8 December, £16.50 between 13-22 Dec, £19.50 between 24 Dec-4 Jan.** BAC Lavender Hill SW11 www.bac.org.uk Call 7223 2223



**Friday, December 6 7.30
- 9.30pm**

Holy Trinity Christmas Fair

Gifts, tombola, raffle refreshments, Father Christmas. **Free admission.** Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Road, SW17. Email davidarathoon@hotmail.com **wheelchair**

**Saturday December 7
8pm**

The Funny Side of Earlsfield

The best acts from the comedy circuit. **Tickets £10.** Tara Arts Studio 356 Garratt Lane SW18. Box

office 8333 4457.
www.tara-arts.com

**Saturday December 7
11.30am-2.30pm**

Christmas Fair

Grand raffle, Father Christmas, gifts, toys, home-made cakes, bric-a-brac, jewellery, books, refreshments. **Entry £1 with lucky ticket, children free.** St Barnabas Church, Lavenham Road SW18 www.stbarnabas-southfields.org.uk

**Saturday December 7
10am-4pm**

Green & Ethical Christmas Fayre

Great selection of ethically sourced and environmentally friendly Christmas gifts and essentials. Visit Father Christmas in his grotto and take a break in the Green Cafe. **Adults £1, children free.** Holy Trinity Church, Clapham Common Northside SW4. www.greenethicalchristmas.com

**Saturday December 7
10.30am**

The Feather Catcher

Freda needs a friend's help to catch a special feather. For children 3 years and above. Tickets £10, concessions £8. Tara Arts Studio 356 Garratt Lane SW18. Box office 8333 4457. www.tara-arts.com

**Saturday December 7
4- 5.30pm**

Tai Kwon Do and Martial Arts

All levels. For aged 6 years and over. **Cost £5.** Christopher's Squash and Fitness Club Plough Lane SW17. Call 8946 4636.

**Saturday December 7
7.30pm**

Rossini: Petite Messe Solennelle

Tickets £12, concessions £10, children under 15 years go free. SW London Choral Society, St Ann's Church, St Ann's Hill SW18. Tickets email boxoffice@swlcs.org.uk, on the door or call

8354 5566.
www.swlcs.org.uk
wheelchair, loop

**Sunday December 8
11am-6pm**

White Christmas Fair

Enjoy some Christmas spirit. Quality gifts, seasonal foodie treats and a choice of decorations and real trees. The Doodle Bar will serve mulled wine, mince pies and sausage rolls. Test Bed 1, 33 Parkgate Road SW11. Call 07786 006 304. Email emma@gertrudeandivy.com

**Monday December 9
11am**

Cinders and the Prince

Pantomime. **Tickets for all ages £3.** You must prebook. East Hill United Reformed Church, Geraldine Road SW18. Call Andrew 07957 817702. **wheelchair**

**Monday December 9
8pm**

Lecture: Sally Dormer: 'The Christmas Story in Medieval Art'

Visitors £7. South-West London Decorative & Fine Arts Society, Dryburgh Hall, Putney Leisure Centre SW15. Phone 8789 0047.

**Tuesday December 10
4-6pm**

Volunteering Wandsworth

Meet the team and find out about volunteering. Drop in session. Southfields Library, Wimbledon Park Road SW18. www.volunteeringwandsworth.org.uk **wheelchair**

**Wednesday December 11
- Saturday December 14
7pm every evening,
2pm matinee on 14th**

A Very Victorian Christmas

Ghost stories, comedy sketches, a Victorian short story and more. Come dressed in optional Victorian costume and enjoy mulled wine, plus

children's activities and carols. **Tickets £12, concession £8.** Putney Arts Theatre Ravena Road SW15. Box office 8788 6943. www.putneyartstheatre.org.uk

**Friday December 13
3.30pm**

Midwinter Masterpieces

Concert – scenes from the operatic repertoire. No need to book. National Opera Studio, All Saints Church Wandsworth High Street SW18. Call 8874 8811. **wheelchair**

**Friday December 13
7.30pm**

Carols by Candlelight

Well known carols by candlelight, accompanied by a talented musical trio. Followed by hot chocolate or mulled punch with a mince pie to start off the Christmas season. All welcome. **Free.** St Mary's Church Summerstown, 46 Wimbledon Road SW17. www.summerstown.org.uk

**Saturday December 14
7.30pm**

An Evening of Jazz

With Ian Shaw on vocals and keyboard and Guy Barker on trumpet. **Tickets £18, concessions £14.** St. Luke's Music Society, St. Luke's Church, Thurlleigh Road SW12. Box office 07951 791619. Book online www.slms.org.uk

**Saturday December 14
4-7pm**

Christmas Tree Festival

See over 20 sparkling trees individually dressed for the festive season. Entertainment from PopChoir, seasonal stalls, kids games, afternoon teas and mulled wine. Santa arrives at 4.30pm. **Entry £1, children free.** St Mary Magdalene Church, Trinity Road SW17. www.smmwandsworth.org.uk **wheelchair**



Ends Sunday December 22
(open Wed-Sun 11am-5pm)

Pump House Open Exhibition

The Pump House Gallery's first Open exhibition on the subject of tradition and the passing down of culture. The exhibition will offer an insight into curating as well as showcasing local artists' work. Works for sale make an excellent Christmas gift.

Pump House Gallery, Battersea Park SW11.
www.pumphousegallery.org.uk Call 8871 7572.

Sunday December 15
4pm

Christmas Carols with a difference

Merton Concert Band performs a carol service with a Silver Band and strings too. **Tickets £5, pay on the door.**

East Hill United Reformed Church Geraldine Road SW18. Call Andrew 07957 817702.

wheelchair

Ends Wednesday
December 18 (open
10am-5pm Mon-Sat)

Putney Multi-Charity Christmas Card Shop

Choose from a wide range of designs and support one or more of over 34 charities.

Under the Tower in St Mary's Church, Putney Bridge SW15.
For other locations:
www.cardsforcharity.co.uk
wheelchair

Sunday December 15
11am-3pm

Christmas Craft

Escape the Christmas shopping and join "The Old School" for the opportunity to make

presents with your friends and family. **Free.**

Pump House Gallery
Battersea Park SW11.
Call 8871 7572.

www.pumphousegallery.org.uk

Friday December 27 and
Monday 30 December
10am-3pm

Holiday Fun Programme

For children 7-13 years – take a break from festive telly and take part in fun and fitness activities. **Cost £10 a day**; please bring a packed lunch.

Battersea Sport Centre
Hope Street, SW11.
Call 8871 8529.
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/bsc
wheelchair

December

Young Performer competition

Young people with a passion for performance, music or arts are invited to audition for the 2014

Young Performer competition. Auditions are open to anyone aged 14–19 who lives, goes to school, a youth club or works in the borough. For audition dates:
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/

youngperformer
Closing date for nominations is 20 December

Sports Awards

If you know a coach, volunteer, sports person, club, team or organisation that deserves recognition for their hard work, dedication or achievement in Wandsworth, nominate them for an Active Wandsworth Award. Where possible, download the nomination form at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/active. Or, call 8871 8154 for one to be sent to you.

Saturdays January 4 & 11
1-4pm

Creative Writing Workshops

4th: Creative Kickstart - start that novel, polish that short story, finish that poem! **£30.**

11th: Stage & Screen: create a One Act Play. **£30.**

Chalk the Sun at Balham Bowls Club Bar, 7-9 Ramsden Road SW12.
www.chalkthesun.co.uk.
Call 07852 483001.

Tuesday January 14
10am-3pm

Deaf drop-in service

Information and guidance to Deaf and hard of hearing people in Wandsworth. Adult Social Services, 90 Putney Bridge Road SW18
Email: accessteam@wandsworth.gov.uk Phone 8871 7707, minicom 8871 8485.

Thursday January 16-
Saturday January 18
7.30pm Saturday
matinee 3pm.

Jack and the Beanstalk

Ends January 25 (open Tues-Sat 11am-5pm)

Keep it Clean! A grubby history of Wandsworth and London

Just how dirty were the Tudors? How much rubbish does Wandsworth generate every second? Discover the answers to these grimy questions and learn the fascinating history of sanitation and hygiene.

Admission £4, concessions £3, under 6 years free. Wandsworth Museum 38 West Hill SW18. www.wandsworthmuseum.co.uk
Call 8870 6060.



Christmas in the town centres

Putney Friday 29 November 3-7.45pm Christmas lights switch-on, market, lantern procession - Church Square, Putney High Street.

Wandsworth Saturday 30 November 'A Christmas Journey'. Includes: 11am - Victorian decorations & crafts workshops - Southside Shopping Centre. 3.30pm Kids storytime - Wandsworth Town Library. 4.20pm Christmas lights and carols - All Saints Church.

Balham Saturday 7 December 4pm Carols, Christmas light switch-on, seasonal refreshments - Bedford Hill Place, Bedford Hill.

Clapham Junction 28 November 5.30pm Christmas lights and shopping night. Santa's Grotto, kids fun, promotions from businesses - Northcote Road.

30 November Christmas market - Northcote Road.

1 December Christmas markets at BAC and Bellevue Road. **3 December 6.30pm** Carol singing/Christmas lights switch on, Battersea Square. **8 December 11am-6pm**

White Christmas Fair TestBed 1, 33 Parkgate Road.

Tooting 30 November & 1 December, 12-5pm

WonderHill Handmade and Vintage Makers Market - Tooting Tram and Social, Mitcham Road. December 4, 4.15pm Christmas lights switch-on, carols by Sellincourt School, then mince pies at St Nicholas Church.

Full details for each town centre visit

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/towncentrechristmas

Family pantomime.

Southfields Theatre Group, Wimbledon Park School, Havana Road, SW19.

Advance tickets: £10 adult, £5 child/over 60's, family of four £25 from www.southfieldstheatre.org.uk (small booking fee) or box office 07535 117169. **On the day tickets cost more.**

Thursday January 16
7.45 for 8pm

Health and Wellbeing in Wandsworth

Talk by Wandsworth Councillor Jim Madden. Wandsworth Society West Side Church Melody Road SW18. Email meetings@wandsworthsociety.org.uk
wheelchair

Friday January 17

First Aid training

Call Emma Hammett 8675 4036.
www.firstaidforlife.org.uk

Monday January 20
2-4pm

The Geology of London

Talk by Dr Haydon W Bailey. Wandsworth U3A, Earlsfield Library SW18. Call 8878 5783.
www.wandsworthu3a.org.uk
wheelchair, loop

Wednesday January 22
1.10pm

Lunchtime Song Recital

National Opera Studio, All Saints Church Wandsworth High Street SW18
Call 8874 8811. **wheelchair**



Spectacular free lunch for pensioners this Christmas



The Rotary Club of Battersea Park is running its 51st Christmas Day Lunch and Party for older people in Wandsworth.

Every year more than 400 people attend, with many returning year after year. Guests are transported to and from a heated Marquee in Battersea Park, given a Christmas Lunch and goody bag to take home and are entertained with carol singing, bingo, dancing and a visit from Father Christmas.

The event is completely free, but the Rotary Club has to raise about £35 per guest to pay for it. You can help by donating online at www.justgiving.com/rotarychristmasday or by sending a cheque payable to the Rotary Club of Battersea Park to 61a Abbotswood Road, London, SW16 1AL.

The Christmas Day Lunch and Party also needs volunteers. You'll get lunch and you're guaranteed an enjoyable day.

To register visit www.rotarychristmasday.org.uk or call (020) 8696 6540.



>> WANDSWORTH CONNECTED >>

Talk to us online



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



www.twitter.com/wandbc



www.facebook.com/wandsworth.council



www.youtube.com/WandsworthBC

Doing it online

Using our website helps keep your council tax bills low

Pay your council tax

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/counciltax

Pay a parking fine

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/parking/payment

Apply for a parking permit/parking

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/parking

Join the e-library

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/libraries

Search planning applications

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/planningregister

Check your refuse collection day

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/refusemap

Request a housing repair

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/housingonline

Check local roadworks

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/roadworks

Other contacts at the council

Adult Care Information Service

(020) 8871 7707
accessteam@wandsworth.gov.uk
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/acis

Benefits Service

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

Carers information and support Wandsworth Carers Centre

(020) 8877 1200
info@wandsworthcarers.org.uk

Children's Social Work Service

(020) 8871 6622
cssduty@wandsworth.gov.uk

Consumer Protection

(020) 8871 7720
esd@wandsworth.gov.uk

Community Care Services

(020) 8871 7707
accessteam@wandsworth.gov.uk

Council Tax

(020) 8871 8081
counciltax@wandsworth.gov.uk

Education

(020) 8871 8013
edadmin@wandsworth.gov.uk

Electoral Services

(020) 8871 6023
electoral@wandsworth.gov.uk

Environmental Services

(020) 8871 6127
esd@wandsworth.gov.uk

Family Information Service - including Nurseries

(020) 8871 7899
fis@wandsworth.gov.uk

Food Hygiene

(020) 8871 6139
esd@wandsworth.gov.uk

Fraud Hotline

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

Graffiti Removal

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

Home Ownership

(020) 8871 6016
housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk

Housing Advice

(020) 8871 6840
housingadvice@wandsworth.gov.uk

Housing Repairs and Tenancy

Call your area team or
management organisation
hms@wandsworth.gov.uk

Leisure Centres & sports facilities

(020) 8871 8154
sportsservices@wandsworth.gov.uk

Libraries

libraries.administration@gll.org

Neighbourhood Watch

(020) 8871 7696
watchlinkmanager@wandsworth.gov.uk

Noise Complaints - council properties

(020) 8871 7490
hms@wandsworth.gov.uk

Private properties

(020) 8871 7869
esd@wandsworth.gov.uk

Parking

(020) 8871 8871
parking@wandsworth.gov.uk

Parks

(020) 8871 7530
parks@wandsworth.gov.uk

Rubbish, Recycling and Litter

(020) 8871 8558
wasteservices@wandsworth.gov.uk

Births, Deaths, Weddings and Civil Partnerships

(020) 8871 6121
registeroffice@wandsworth.gov.uk

Youth Clubs

(020) 8871 7553
youthservice@wandsworth.gov.uk

Tell us what you think


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

Make a complaint or comment on a council service

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/commentsandcomplaints

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

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



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

Fostering Teenagers

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

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

To find out more about looking after a Wandsworth teenager:

Visit our website

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/fostering

Visit our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/wandsworthfostering

Email carerrecruitment@wandsworth.gov.uk

Call (020) 8871 6666



Discover the rewards of fostering

