

# Brightside

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**Thames Bridge finalists announced**

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#### YOUR BRIGHTSIDE

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# Formula E comes to Battersea Park

## The finale of the 2015 Formula E electric carracing season is set to take place in Battersea Park on June 27 and 28.

As well as the main events there will be a Formula E school series race which will see children from ten local schools compete in self-assembled electric kit cars.

Wandsworth Council's planning committee have approved plans for a temporary racing circuit to be created largely following the path of the park's existing internal roads. A pits area would be located on an existing tarmacked space.

The event organisers have agreed a series of controls to protect the park from harm and to minimise the impact of the event on park users and neighbours. Following the event they will quickly restore the park back to normal use.

The event will generate a major financial windfall for the park, which will be invested in maintaining and improving this much-loved open space. The championship has been hailed as a touchbearer for promoting clean electric motoring to a global audience.

The two day event would be ticketed with an estimated 30,000 people attending each day. This compares to 90,000 who came to the park for the Diamond Jubilee event.

▶▶ [Read more at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/formulaE](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/formulaE).



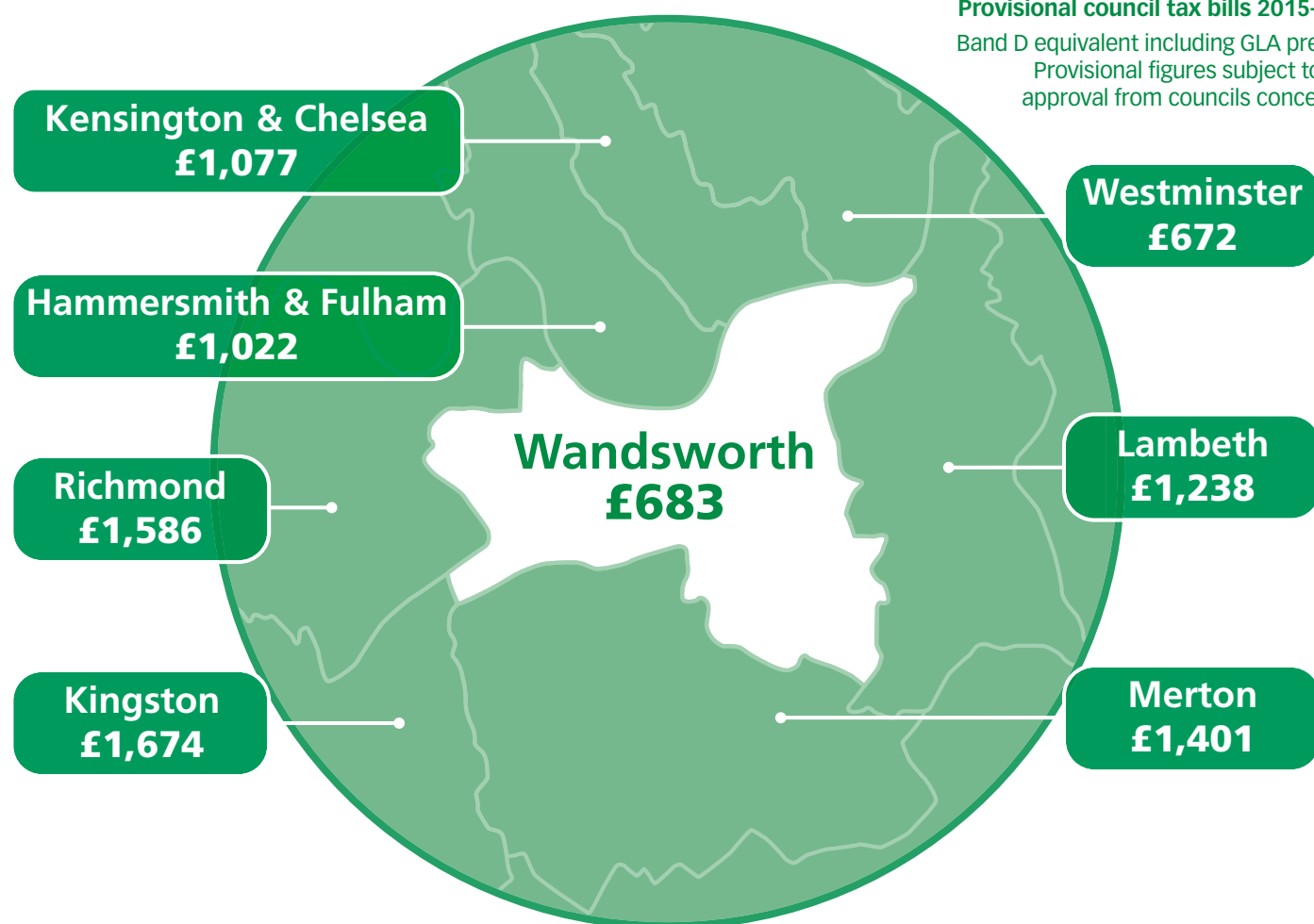
# Council tax frozen

Wandsworth residents should continue to pay the lowest average council tax bills in the country this coming year, after councillors agreed to freeze the tax rate for the second year in a row.

Provisional council tax bills 2015-2016

Band D equivalent including GLA precept.

Provisional figures subject to final approval from councils concerned.



Band D properties are set to pay £677.65 in council tax during 2015/16. This is approximately half the London average which stands at more than £1,300.

Some residents in the west of the borough will pay slightly more (£704.57) as they are also subject to the statutory levy imposed by the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Conservators.

Council spending is now £90m a year lower than it was in 2010. Further reductions of more than £50 million will be required by 2017 in order to balance the budget.

Ravi Govindia, leader of Wandsworth Council, said:

“Our spending continues to fall year-on-year but unlike many other councils we are not making up the shortfall with higher taxes or widespread cuts to frontline services. Instead we have drastically reduced our back office, slashed our senior staff wage bill and cut down the number of council departments.

“More services than ever before have been market tested, driving out waste and uncovering better and more efficient ways of performing our duties. Time and again we prove that embracing ideas from outside organisations can generate real benefits and improve the services our residents rely on. The net result is that Wandsworth Council is now a much leaner and more efficient machine than ever before, but with the same high quality service standards and low tax rate.

“In the years ahead savings will become increasingly hard to find and we have to consider more imaginative ways of working. Part of the solution will be to share staff with Richmond Council so the council can continue to reduce spending while protecting front line services and keeping council tax low. These principles will continue to guide the council in the years ahead.”

**Help keep bills low by paying with direct debit.  
Visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/counciltax)**

# BAC and museum to merge



**Battersea Arts Centre and Wandsworth Museum are to unite as one organisation offering an integrated programme of culture and heritage.**

From this spring the museum's staff will be based at the BAC's Grade II\* listed former town hall on Lavender Hill. This initial transition would be followed by a year of exploring and testing exciting new ideas for interpreting the museum's collection before the two organisations operate as one from spring 2016.

The BAC is in the final phase of a £13.3m capital project of restoration and redevelopment in collaboration with RIBA Stirling Award-winning architects Haworth Tompkins. This has been primarily supported by Arts Council England, Big Lottery and Heritage Lottery Funds, as well as donations from hundreds of generous individuals, and has been made possible through a 20-year rent-free period granted by Wandsworth Council.

The reach of both the BAC and Wandsworth Museum would grow through the new partnership, with the capital project expected to increase the number of people coming through the doors each year to 200,000 by 2018.

Together, the two organisations would bring this history to life and tell stories inspired by the museum's collection, with offers shaped by educators, artists, storytellers, musicians and theatre-makers working alongside museum and heritage experts.



## Helping business flourish

**Around 700 local businesses went along to one of the 20 Wandsworth Enterprise Week events to learn how to help their business flourish.**

The event offered help and support to people considering setting up a business in the borough, as well as giving established businesses and existing start-ups support to flourish and grow. The picture shows young people pitching an idea at one of the final events, Youth Enterprise Day. Find out about the help offered to local businesses at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/business](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/business).



### Big Advice Survey

The Big Advice Survey is coordinated by Wandsworth CAB and seeks to discover how people deal with problems in their daily lives and where advice fits in. Results will help shape future free, independent advice services. Take the survey at [bigadvice.org.uk](http://bigadvice.org.uk) before the end of March.

### Protection for club

The council has agreed to name the Tooting Constitutional Club an Asset of Community Value (ACV), reflecting its important contribution to the social history of the borough and giving local people more of a say in its future.

Designating it as an ACV means that if the current owners wish to sell the building they must give the local community the chance to buy it. The listing gives local residents a six month window in which to raise sufficient funds to purchase it.

The building itself dates back to around 1730 and is one of only a few still standing which date back to the time when Tooting was still a small Surrey village.

### Open Longer

The Haider Practice, a GP surgery in St John's Therapy Centre, Clapham Junction, has increased its opening hours to improve access for patients. It is now open from Monday to Wednesday 8am to 7pm and Thursday and Friday from 8am to 6.30pm.

### Home is award-winner

Chestnut House extra care home won the gold award for best UK retirement housing scheme, and bronze for best UK housing with care in the 2014 National Housing for Older People Awards.

The awards are voted on by the residents of homes for older people, such as assisted living, extra care, sheltered or retirement homes. Chestnut House provides self-contained flats with on-site 24 hour care. Find out about that and the council's other extra care home in Battersea at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/extracare](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/extracare).

# Car dealer nabbed for blocking parking space

A second-hand car dealer who blocked a resident's parking space in Tooting for a fortnight while he tried to offload a gold coloured Peugeot has been fined for unlicensed street trading.



Todor Vakrilov of Elmhurst Avenue in Mitcham parked the car more than a mile away outside someone else's house while he attempted to sell it.

Staff in the council's operational services team spotted the vehicle - complete with a £1,190 price tag hanging in the window. When Mr Vakrilov was interviewed under caution he admitted the offence and confirmed that he had bought the 2005-reg Peugeot 307 from a scrap yard in Lancashire for £525. Lavender Hill magistrates fined Mr Vakrilov £170 and ordered him to pay another £120 in court costs and victim's surcharge

Residents in Mitcham Lane regularly have their parking spaces taken up by cars that are being sold by professional car dealers and Mr Vakrilov was collared as part of the council's ongoing efforts to free up these spaces for people who live in the area.

Transport spokesman Cllr Jonathan Cook said: "Professional car dealers who park vehicles in the same spot for days or weeks on end cause real inconvenience to local residents. They are using the public highway like it's their own private garage forecourt."

▶▶ Highway obstructions can be reported at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/report-it](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/report-it)



## Wandsworth Radio on the air

Wandsworth mayor Cllr Stuart Thom was the first voice on the air when he launched new community radio station Wandsworth Radio.

Wandsworth Radio is run by local people and includes music, local news and more. Visit [www.wandsworthradio.com](http://www.wandsworthradio.com), download the TuneIn app or listen on an Internet Wi Fi Radio device. If you are interested in getting involved, email [info@wandsworthradio.com](mailto:info@wandsworthradio.com)

## Renew your pass

People who use a disabled person's Freedom Passes are urged to renew it. Failure to do so will result in the pass being deactivated at the end of this month.

The council has sent a reminder and a form to everybody who has not yet renewed their pass. Please send it back straight away if you have not already done an online renewal. For more information, call (020) 8871 8871.

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# Plan to share staff with Richmond

The leaders of Wandsworth and Richmond councils have announced plans to share staff.

The proposals would see the creation of a single staffing structure across the two boroughs by March 2017, delivering savings of up to £10 million per year for local tax payers in each authority. This will help keep Wandsworth's council tax low and protect front-line services.

Initially the focus would be on merging management structures - reducing duplication, and the proportion of spending that goes on senior management. In the longer term there would be opportunities for further savings to reduce overheads - for example, getting better deals from suppliers when commissioning services.

The intention is that the two councils would be managed by a single chief executive, Paul Martin, currently chief executive at Wandsworth.

Wandsworth and Richmond councils would continue to be separate sovereign bodies with their own elected councillors, cabinets and leaders, maintaining their distinct identities and retaining the ability to develop policies and priorities that matter to their local residents.

"By working together we can tap into more opportunities for savings and innovation that will mean better outcomes for residents."

**Ravi Govindia**  
Leader of  
Wandsworth Council



Do you think the shared staffing arrangement is a good idea?

Take our online survey and give us your views. Visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/consult](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/consult).

For a paper copy of this survey, call 020 8871 6084.

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[www.wandsworthworkmatch.org](http://www.wandsworthworkmatch.org)

# New team keeps Wandsworth streets clean

**A new dedicated street care team has been formed to keep the borough's streets clean and tidy. It will focus on issues such as litter, flytipping, highways obstructions and broken pavements.**

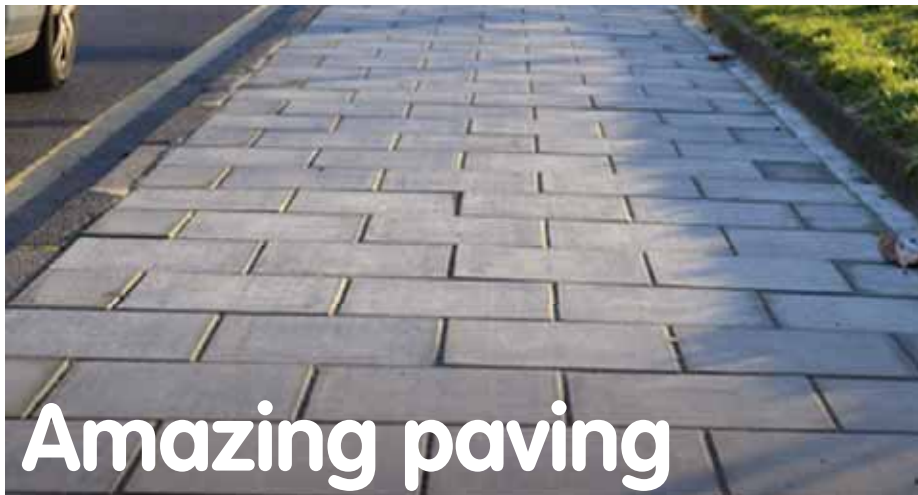
The borough's litter squad has been merged with its group of highways inspectors to form the new enlarged team. It has been created following the introduction of new streamlined departmental and management structures that will save council taxpayers around £600,000 in the next financial year.

Environment spokesman Cllr Jonathan Cook said: "We believe that bringing these two teams together under a single management structure will deliver really tangible benefits for local people.

"As well as saving money in back office costs, it means that there is a larger team of people that can be used to address specific areas of public concern, whether that is littering and flytipping, second-hand car dealers clogging up residents' parking spaces or builders storing bricks and bags of cement on the carriageway or using skips without permission.

"It will mean that additional resources can be used proactively to blitz an area that's experiencing these problems while having other staff available to respond to other issues."

►► **To report a street defect or highway obstruction email [onestreetservices@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:onestreetservices@wandsworth.gov.uk)**



## Amazing paving

**A pavement blitz has seen miles of new paving slabs to the tune of just under £2m laid across the borough in the past 12 months**

Around 35 major reconstruction projects are due to be completed by council workers in the year ending March 2015. This involves repaving extended sections of a road, or along entire streets. It does not include the small-scale repairs carried out every day. Among the bigger schemes are Westleigh Avenue in Putney (pictured), Wimbledon Park Road, Northcote Road and Ansell Road.

The pavement revamp follows a town hall blitz on potholes last year which saw more than 17,000 repaired as part of a £6.4m spend on improving the borough's roads.



## Raising funds to help blind children

Wandsworth's Sensory Support Service provides education, care and support to almost a thousand deaf, visually impaired and deafblind children and their families.

The service is raising funds to build a much-needed state of the art Family Centre on the site of Linden Lodge School in Southfields to provide information, support and advice to families of sensory impaired children and young people.

To find out how the appeal is going, visit [www.wandsworthsensorysupportservice.org.uk/268/progress-to-date](http://www.wandsworthsensorysupportservice.org.uk/268/progress-to-date). If you want to make a donation, follow the JustGiving link from that page.

## River's lost treasures

Local people have been helping to find the lost treasures of the River Wandle.

The Wandle has a rich industrial history but many important artefacts disappeared along with the mills along its banks. The Wandle Treasure Hunt is an ambitious project to find and record them and create a digital map the whole community can access. It has been run by Living Wandle – a partnership of local authorities led by Wandsworth – in association with The Building Exploratory.

Volunteers have helped find treasures, including items linked to the Ram Brewery, the Forest Tapestry by William Morris and even a long-lost Wandle dance. Their findings will be presented as part of the Wandsworth Heritage Festival on May 23 at Wandsworth Town Library.

For more information about the project and the Living Wandle Landscape Partnership see [wandlevalleypark.co.uk/projects/living-wandle](http://wandlevalleypark.co.uk/projects/living-wandle) or email [livingwandle@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:livingwandle@wandsworth.gov.uk)

## Healthwatch survey

Healthwatch Wandsworth represents the views of patients and users of local health and social care facilities. Last year it made some changes to its website and would like to know what local people think. Follow the link to a short survey at

[www.healthwatchwandsworth.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchwandsworth.co.uk)





## Princess remembers heroes

**HRH Princess Anne has unveiled a plaque at Balham's Nightingale House care home for elderly members of the Jewish community to commemorate three young women sent as agents into occupied France in the Second World War.**

The three Frenchwomen, Denise Bloch, Andrée Borrel and Madeleine Damerment, had been in resistance movements that had links to the British authorities. Pursued by the Germans and Vichy French, they were forced to escape to Britain. They were interrogated and security cleared by M15 at what became known as the 'London Reception Centre' – now Nightingale House.

Charged by Churchill with "setting Europe ablaze", the three women volunteered willingly to be sent back as secret agents, but were captured and died in German concentration camps when all still only in their 20s.

## Improving your neighbourhood

**A range of possible improvements to local neighbourhoods has been drawn up, and now the council wants to know what residents think.**

The Wandsworth Local Fund (WLF), is part of the Community Infrastructure Levy - a charge the council makes mainly on new homes to pay for the infrastructure needed to support the development, such as new or safer roads, park improvements or a new health centre. The WLF is the part spent on smaller local projects meeting the needs of local communities.

Around 500 residents and groups responded to a consultation last year on how the money should be spent. The five issues highlighted by most of them were making the area safer, improving parks and commons, new green spaces such as pocket parks and community gardens, repairing roads and pavements and better cycling facilities.

Councillors have been working with the residents and local groups in their wards to come up with specific schemes that reflect these priorities. These will be considered, along with your feedback, at a committee meeting in June 2015.

▶▶ [Read the list of proposed schemes and give your views at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/wlf](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/wlf)



### Common concern

The council has welcomed changes to the Crossrail 2 proposal which aim to reduce the scheme's impact on Wandsworth Common.

Transport for London (TfL) had wanted to place a ventilation shaft and emergency access point on this valuable green space but has now agreed to seek alternative locations after pressure from local residents and the council. Environment and transport spokesman Cllr Jonathan Cook said: "Crossrail 2 could bring vital new underground stations to Clapham Junction and Tooting Broadway but the above ground impacts must be minimised. We're glad TfL is thinking again." Find out more at [www.crossrail2.co.uk](http://www.crossrail2.co.uk)

### Leisure investment

Councillors have approved plans to invest an extra £1m in keeping the borough's leisure centres in tip-top condition, and have set aside an additional £1.3m to pay for a proposed new 3G all-weather pitch in Battersea's Falcon Park. Between now and March 2017 an extra £1m will be spent on renewing the roofs of swimming pools at the leisure centres in Balham and Putney, refurbishing the poolside walkways at the Tooting Bec Lido, enhancing water quality and safety at the Tooting Leisure Centre pool and replacing the sports hall roof at the Wandle Rec. At Barn Elms sports centre £200,000 will be spent on resurfacing tennis courts. Work on the new Falcon Park 3G pitch is expected to begin in the coming financial year.

### Plantation pier

A new passenger pier at Plantation Wharf is expected to open within weeks, opening up river transport to more Battersea residents. Find out more about river transport at [www.tfl.gov.uk/river](http://www.tfl.gov.uk/river).

### Digital council

The council's website, [www.wandsworth.gov.uk](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk), has been given a top four-star rating in a national survey. SOCITM (Society of Information Technology Managers) looks at all the country's council websites every year and grades them for ease of use. They liked the way Wandsworth's works on both desktop and mobile devices and its focus on helping people quickly find the information they need.

### Check the list online

People on a waiting list for a Wandsworth School can now quickly and easily check their position on the list online. Simply go to [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/admissions) and enter your pupil ID number.

## Building an even stronger Wandsworth update



A network has been set up to bulk buy and locally distribute fruit and vegetables, run by Roehampton locals at a profit with the help of the Plunkett foundation

# How we're making the borough even brighter

Two years ago the council announced ambitious plans to regenerate whole neighbourhoods, create more homes, help people get into work and encourage everyone living in Wandsworth to aspire to better, safer, healthier lives. How have we done?

## Building Better Neighbourhoods

We've talked extensively to people living on the Alton Estate in Roehampton and the Winstanley and York Road estates in Battersea to find out how we can make the estates better. We've drawn up detailed plans which will see many people's homes completely rebuilt and much better community facilities provided. Work will start soon.

## Better health

The council's public health team has been carrying out extensive work in Roehampton and the Battersea estates. A package of free health and lifestyle help includes cookery clubs, health trainers, mental health first aid, exercise classes and stop smoking courses, with the incentive of free gym or swim membership for those who take part. Local people have been encouraged to become 'Change Champions' and mental health mentors so that skill can be passed around within the community.





Official reopening last year of Caius House

## Creating opportunities for young people

We've greatly expanded the number of nursery places for two year olds. More than 61 per cent of eligible disadvantaged children have a place, one of the highest figures in London. 96 per cent of primary schools are rated good or outstanding by school inspectors and we're also creating more schools and expanding others. We've built a new home for Caius House – which is now one of the largest youth centres in England.

## Helping people get jobs

The innovative Work Match scheme has helped match 207 local people with available jobs. Its free construction training scheme has been a particular success, with a number of unemployed Wandsworth people subsequently going on to work on one of the borough's various construction sites – development at Nine Elms alone has created hundreds of construction jobs.

### CASE STUDY: Sonia Wilson



**Sonia Wilson** applied to Work Match in December, and by the end of January had started her new job. The former teacher, administrator and Princes' Trust volunteer worked with a Work Match careers support advisor to polish up her CV. When he saw it, her placement officer realised she would be perfect for a vacant post in the council's Economic Development Office. "I'd definitely recommend that people use Work Match – they take a holistic approach to make sure you're placed in a job that best suits you," Sonia said.

## Mentoring young people

Wandsworth already has the lowest crime rate in inner London. We want to keep it that way, and are working with young people to help them find jobs. Various mentoring schemes have been set up around the borough, and so far 41 young people have been supported into work or training.

### CASE STUDY: Paul Ellis

**Paul** works as a mentor for STORM, a neighbourhood charity commissioned by the council to run a mentoring scheme on the Winstanley Estate. "At the moment I'm working with two mentees; Joel and Yaw. Yaw has got himself a job at Tesco and also works with me part time doing outreach work. These youngsters don't know about the help that's available. If they're ready for help the scheme is a godsend, but with others our job is to motivate them and make them realise there's more to life than street life. Yesterday I signed up two more for mentoring. When I was younger I was into violence and crime and I went to prison, so when I'm on the estate I can relate to them because I've been there myself – I'm not a suit."

## Troubled Families

Wandsworth was one of the pioneers of this approach, in which agencies such as social services and police work in a joined-up way with a whole family. The council is acknowledged to run one of the most successful Troubled Families programmes in the country. All the issues that could affect a family are looked at and tackled, such as drug use, crime, truancy and unemployment, because these issues are usually linked. Of the 660 families identified at the start of the project, Wandsworth has 'turned around' 564 of them. This means that the children now attend school, parents are free from crime and in some cases back in work or training and incidents of antisocial behaviour have reduced.

Because of this success, Wandsworth has been chosen by the Government to be an early adopter of the next phase of troubled families, allowing us to turn round hundreds more families in the next five years.



## Creating More Homes

A plan has been drawn up to create 18,000 homes in the next ten years, including new social housing, affordable housing and homes for private rent and sale. Meanwhile we've been working with young people to link giving them a home with encouraging them to get a job – of the 19 people in our pilot Housing into Work scheme, 14 have found work.

Turn the page for more information about the Wandsworth Housing offer.

# Wandsworth unveils London's most ambitious housing strategy

The council has launched a raft of new initiatives to boost the borough's home building programme and to create new and improved housing options for local people.

This far-reaching council strategy is called The Wandsworth Housing Offer. It includes a commitment to deliver 18,000 new homes in the next ten years. That's a 63 per cent increase on the borough's previous target.

At least 5,000 of these new properties will be homes targeted to meet local housing demand.

Here are just a few of the initiatives that make up the Wandsworth Housing Offer:

## More shared ownership

In the next year around 230 new shared ownership homes will be completed in Wandsworth and local people will be given priority when applying to buy them. Most of these new homes are in the Nine Elms and Wandsworth Town regeneration areas.

[www.wandsworth.gov.uk/homeownership](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/homeownership) or call 020 8871 6016



## Decent Homes Plus

The council's new housing strategy includes the 'Wandsworth Decent Homes Plus' investment programme which will see £77million spent on improving council housing over the next three years to keep it well above the national standards.



The new-look Winstanley Estate

## Transforming Estates

In Battersea and Roehampton the council is taking forward two of London's most ambitious estate regeneration projects. 1960s and 70s blocks will be replaced with high quality energy efficient housing. Every council tenant and resident homeowner directly affected will be offered a brand new home in the local area. The schemes will also see thousands of additional social rent, affordable and market homes built.





The Khan family move in to their new home in Ribblesdale Road

## Partnerships with home builders

Wandsworth has teamed up with other home builders to deliver new low cost housing on council land. These partnerships will provide 77 affordable homes across eight local sites. They include new family sized homes built by Wandle Housing Association on Ribblesdale Road, Tooting (pictured) and a new extra care housing scheme.

## Battersea Riverside Housing Zone

Wandsworth is home to one of the very first Housing Zones in the country which will cover the area between Clapham Junction and the Thames riverside. This means the Mayor, Transport for London and the Greater London Authority will work with the council to unlock the area's full housing potential which could amount to 5,000 new homes over the next ten years. This will include social and affordable housing reserved for Wandsworth residents.

## A new type of private rent housing

Wandsworth is pioneering a new model of private rent housing which will offer longer contracts, no hidden fees, clear landlord service standards and capped rent increases. The first scheme of this type in the country is now being built in Nine Elms and Wandsworth residents will be offered first refusal when the homes are complete.

## A new breed of starter homes

Wandsworth will consider plans for a highly innovative new breed of 'pocket sized' starter homes. These starter properties would come in buildings with a range of modern communal facilities and shared social areas. Their small size means they can be much cheaper.

## Council building programme launched

Wandsworth has now begun one of the biggest council-led home building programmes in London. Around 300 homes will be built in the next three to five years and all of them will be offered to local people to rent at well below market prices. The first properties are now being built in Nine Elms.



Council leader Ravi Govindia explains more:

“ In recent months the Government has agreed to give councils new freedoms to help tackle the London-wide housing shortage and Wandsworth is the first authority to take full advantage.

“Through the Wandsworth Housing Offer we will help a broader range of people than ever before to resolve their housing issues and achieve their aspirations. Most importantly, we will ensure new social rent, affordable homes and properties for private rent and private sale are built in far greater numbers. ”

## 'Do It Yourself' schemes

The council is looking to pilot a 'Do It Yourself Shared Ownership' scheme. This would involve the council helping low to middle income households buy a property on the open market on a shared ownership basis. Another pilot scheme could see a small number of underused plots of land offered to local people willing to develop their own housing. More details will be released later this year.

## House Purchase Grants

Hundreds of council homes will be freed-up through the improved House Purchase Grant scheme. It offers existing council tenants a grant to help them buy a home on the open market. The council property they leave behind is then offered to another local family who really needs it. This is just one part of a 'Moves and Mobility' scheme to help council tenants find homes that better suit their needs. [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/homeownership](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/homeownership) or call 020 8871 6016

Find out more about your housing options at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/homeownership](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/homeownership)

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super  
kids**

**Adopt**

[merton.gov.uk/superkids](https://merton.gov.uk/superkids)





# Introducing the Wandsworth Grant Fund

The way Wandsworth gives small grant funds to community and voluntary groups is changing.

One fund – the Wandsworth Grant Fund – will replace Wandsworth’s Big Society Fund, various arts grants, the Youth Service Community Grant, the Children and Young People’s Plan Small Grant and the Wandsworth ECO Fund.

People will now need to apply just to one council team, rather than across several council departments, so cutting down on red tape. It will also make it much easier to see on the council website what funding is available.

The amount of money handed out over the coming year will be the same as the previous grants added together – just under £400,000. The proportion awarded to each area of work, such as arts or young people, will remain the same. Bidding for the first round of funding starts on March 17 and closes on May 5. Another round opens in October.

Applications are invited under one or

more of the following themes:

- Arts and Culture
- Environment and Attractive Neighbourhoods
- Children and Young People
- Citizenship and Civic Engagement
- Achieving Aspirations and Potential
- Health and Well being

Ward councillor acknowledgement of each application is required. The new fund was designed after consultation with the voluntary sector, and specialist council officers will evaluate each application

The Youth Opportunity Fund will remain separate as it is allocated by young people, for young people.

Read more and sign up to receive regular updates at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/wgf](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/wgf)  
Email: [wgf@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:wgf@wandsworth.gov.uk)

Get Wandsworth Grant Fund updates on twitter - [@grantswandbc](https://twitter.com/grantswandbc).

Investing in the Brighter Borough



## Find out more

Go to [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/wgf](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/wgf) and follow the links to reserve your place on one of the following events. Tell us when you register if you would like one-to-one advice on the day:

- March 19, 2pm to 4.30pm, the Penfold Centre, Wandsworth Town
- April 15, 10am to 12.30pm, Roehampton BASE
- April 16, 2pm until 4.30pm, the Katherine Lowe Settlement Centre, Battersea
- April 22, 5pm until 7.30pm, Tooting library

## ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE

## AT THE GENERAL ELECTION?

### THE GENERAL ELECTION IS ON THURSDAY 7 MAY.

Only eligible residents who are on the electoral register will be able to vote at this election.

If you have moved in the last few months or don't believe you are registered yet, you will need to visit [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote) to add your details to the register. 16 and 17 year olds should also visit this website to register, to ensure they can vote as soon as they turn 18. If you need to register or change your information, please do so immediately. Information can take several weeks to change.

- The deadline for registering to vote is midnight Monday April 20.
- The deadline for applying for a postal vote is 5pm Tuesday April 21.
- The deadline for applying to vote by proxy is 5pm Tuesday April 28.

### WHY SHOULD I REGISTER?

**To vote:** You need to register in order to be able to vote. If you aren't registered to vote, you won't have the chance to have a say on who represents you.

**To apply for credit:** Credit reference agencies use the register to confirm where someone lives when they apply for credit in order to prevent fraud.

#### For more information about voting

- visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/vote](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/vote)
- email [electoral@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:electoral@wandsworth.gov.uk)
- phone 020 8871 6023.

If you need to update your details  
It's simpler, clearer and faster online  
[www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)



# Thames Bridge finalists announced

The bridge would span the river between Nine Elms and Pimlico, plugging the wide gap between the Vauxhall and Chelsea bridges.

The four shortlisted designs have been whittled down from 74 submitted by professional teams from across the globe, including some of the biggest names in the architecture and engineering industries as well as some of the most exciting up and coming talents.

They have been chosen by a jury panel including Wandsworth Council leader Ravi Govindia, Lambeth councillor Joanne Simpson, architect Graham Stirk, engineer Henry Bardsley and CABI chair Pam Alexander. The architects will now be asked to develop more detailed plans.

A £26million contribution to fund the new bridge is already identified from the development of Nine Elms and the new design would be used to lever-in further funding. The scheme has the support of the Mayor of London. Once the winning design is selected, it would need to go through the planning process before work could begin.





These are the four finalists in an international design competition run by the council for a new pedestrian and cycle bridge across the Thames.



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

# Country Court Care invests in community care home

Country Court Care has announced it has acquired Lyle Court Care Home in Roehampton.



Country Court Care is an award-winning family run care provider, working within communities since 1983 and specialising in bespoke, personalised care. Locally, it has also acquired Marling Court in Hampton.

Lyle House Care Home in Roehampton offers personalised care in a home away from home environment. It is a purpose-built 45-bedded residential home bringing the highest standard of individualised care to both older people and those living with dementia.

Country Court Care has also used many different initiatives to make sure residents get the best food or drink available.

Each resident will have a food profile which records their likes and dislikes, as well as any special requirements and allergies. In addition to the standard menu residents will be offered a Foodbox, an industry leading initiative, endorsed by the Alzheimer's Society and accredited by Age UK.

The Foodbox is filled with the resident's favourite foods and kept refrigerated within easy reach of the nursing floor. Portion sizes are kept small so they make the ideal finger food, where residents

can graze in their own time.

Manager Sharon Simpson said: "I am looking forward to working with Country Court Care and feel confident that they will continue to support the staff team in our mission to provide the best possible care for our residents. I admire their ethos and how the organisation places a great emphasis on creating a home, and believes in treating residents as individuals, with sensitivity and dignity. These values are at the heart of Lyle House".

Alykhan Kachra, Managing Director of Country Court Care said: "All our homes are designed and managed with our residents and families in mind and with an ageing population there has never been a more important time for the provision of exceptional care."

For more information, please contact the homes directly:

**Marling Court - 020 8873 0157**

**Lyle House – 020 8878 3806**

Email: [info@countrycourtcare.com](mailto:info@countrycourtcare.com)

or visit our website [www.countrycourtcare.com](http://www.countrycourtcare.com)

**Whatever stage your family's at we can give free expert information and advice**

**Contact us about:**

- ▶ Childcare
- ▶ Disability and special educational needs
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Family and parenting support
- ▶ Health
- ▶ Leisure activities for your family
- ▶ Money

**020 8871 7899**

**[fis@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:fis@wandsworth.gov.uk)**

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

# Family Information Service

Your family friendly guide





# Sailing through their silver years



Founder Sandy Sidhu

**The Putney Silver Village is one year old and has proved so successful it is expanding to other parts of London.**

The village was featured in Brightside last April, after starting with the support of local councillors, the community and seed funding from the council. Since then dozens of local older people have joined.

The concept of silver villages comes from America, but Putney's was the first to be set up in the UK. Founder Sandy Sidhu explains that members can draw on support with daily tasks, but that the main draw has become the chance to join a thriving social network.

"We've got the word out through people such as GPs and physiotherapists, and we've engaged with other agencies such as (housing adaptations and repair forum) WHARF. We also offer health and fitness activities like walks and chair-based exercise.

"But we've found it's the social activities that are most popular. We go to lunch every week and run theatre trips and quizzes. Amongst older people isolation and loneliness can be a real issue and this gives them a chance to socialise out in the real world in the restaurants and cafes everyone else uses – not in a day centre.

"We don't have to be alone when we're older – this club is for people who want to do all the things they did before."

The club is run on a small budget as a social enterprise. Members pay a small monthly fee and there is one village co-ordinator for every 30-40 members.

Sandy is keen to hear from anyone who would like to start a village in their area, or from any potential members or sponsors. Visit [www.putneyvillage.org.uk](http://www.putneyvillage.org.uk), email [info@silvervillages.co.uk](mailto:info@silvervillages.co.uk) or call (020) 8144 3460.



## Ambassador visit

US Ambassador Matthew Barzun has visited Saint John Bosco College ahead of the school's move to its new Battersea building in September. The US Embassy is also moving to Nine Elms in 2017 and is keen to establish links with local schools. Mr Barzun awarded specially minted US Embassy coins to two of the school's outstanding students, Darlene Auguis and Oliver De Frietas. Read more about the new St John Bosco building, see a timelapse video of the building and view a live camera at [www.sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk](http://www.sjbc.wandsworth.sch.uk)

## Help charity Thrive

The charity Thrive, which uses gardening and horticulture as therapies to help people with a range of disabilities, is searching for volunteers to help in its new sales kiosk and office. With the support of the council's parks department, Thrive has been working with disabled people at two locations in Battersea Park for many years – the Herb Garden and the Old English Garden. Full volunteer job descriptions are available at [www.thrive.org.uk/](http://www.thrive.org.uk/).

## Football coaching

Young people aged 12-17 on Battersea's Surrey Lane estate can take part in organised football coaching sessions on their brand new £30,000 floodlit astroturf pitch. Go along on Thursdays between 7.30pm and 9pm.

## Neighbour network

Neighbourhood Network SW12 and SW17 is a community group run by and for people living or working between Balham and Tooting Bec.

It runs activities to help the community get together, including a local history group, and is a forum to offer support and share skills. It holds a monthly get together at Southside Scout Centre in Balham High Road. The next is on April 8. To find out how to get involved, email [info@neighbourhoodnetworksw17.org.uk](mailto:info@neighbourhoodnetworksw17.org.uk) or call 075817 16916.

## Gillian's story:

"When I retired there just weren't enough people I could ring up and say "Are you doing anything this afternoon? Fancy a cup of coffee/walk on the Common?" So Silver Village has filled a gap. I go to coffee mornings on Mondays and lunches on Thursdays, go line dancing and, after 30 years of living in Putney, I've found Putney Arts Theatre. In the helping others out field, I've accompanied a Village friend to hospital and have been taken to the doctor and hospitals. We exchange information and help each other out."



## Beth's story:

"At aged 75 I moved from Australia to be closer to my two daughters. I moved into my own apartment just off the Putney High Street and, after having a very busy and fun social life back home, I decided I had to make it happen here.

I noticed the then Putney Village advertisement in Brightside and went to a coffee morning. It was very impressive with a doctor, physiotherapist etc. all attending.

As well as offering a social life it's also a great support for any needs in the future."

# DEMENTIA AWARENESS WEEK: 17-23 MAY 2015

This year the Alzheimer's Society in Wandsworth is busting the myths about dementia



## Remember that:

- Dementia is NOT a mental illness, and it's not just about losing your memory
- You can live well with dementia
- There's more to a person than the dementia

Look out for the team during the week in Southside Shopping Centre and Roehampton Asda for more information.

The Alzheimer's Society runs cafes and groups to help people with dementia and their carers.

Singing for the Brain are structured weekly musical activities to help access deep memories and abilities for people with dementia.

Dementia cafes are held monthly where people affected by dementia or their carers can meet others and access information and support.

- The Sunflower Café runs on the first Saturday of every month from 1.30pm - 4pm at the Platt Christian Centre, 22 Felsham Road, Putney.
- The Clover Café runs on the second Sunday of every month from 2pm - 4:30pm (with an optional church service from 1:30 - 2pm) at Holy Trinity Church, 74 Trinity Road, Tooting.
- The Poppy Café runs on the third Saturday of every month from 1.30pm - 4pm at St. Luke's Community Hall, 194 Ramsden Road, Balham.
- The Bluebell Café runs on the fourth Saturday of every month from 2 - 4pm at the Katherine Low Settlement, 108 Battersea High Street.

To find out more about these, plus other support groups, call the Alzheimer's Society on 020 8877 0033.

If you have questions or worries about your memory or someone you know, ask your GP or contact the Alzheimer's Society on 020 8877 0033.

## Can you help vulnerable adults with a learning difficulty?

The council is looking for people willing to serve as trustees on the new Adult Social Care Public Service Mutual (PSM).

The PSM will help people, many with complex needs, live full and independent lives.

As a trustee you will help develop new services to clients and their carers, and help navigate a smooth path through financial and regulatory complexities. All positions are unpaid but expenses are available.

Email: [wolmi@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:wolmi@wandsworth.gov.uk) or call: (020) 8871 7779 for a Trustee Information/Application Pack and attend one of our open evenings on March 24 and March 31 at 7pm at 21 Church Lane, Tooting.





# Free slimming club membership

People keen to lose those last few Christmas pounds can get vouchers from the council for free Weight Watchers or Slimming World membership.



Lots of men and women have already taken up the offer, with people referred by the council to one of several groups across the borough. A new Slimming World club recently opened in Dimson Lodge on Battersea Church Road (pictured).

The groups combine advice and support on healthy eating, physical activity and motivation. In addition to the help given during classes, online support is offered. Some restrictions apply. To find out more or book your free place, contact the Wandsworth Weight Management team on (020) 8871 5017 or email [health@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:health@wandsworth.gov.uk).

**Live on the Winstanley, York Road, Patmore or Savona Estates in Battersea?**

You could also be eligible for free gym or swimming membership. Visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/healthystates](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/healthystates).

**Want to get fit as a family?** MoreLife Family

Clubs are designed for young people over the age of 5 and their families to attend together. Call 0113 812 5233 or email [team@more-life.co.uk](mailto:team@more-life.co.uk)

**NHS**  
Wandsworth  
Clinical Commissioning Group

**Have you got some SPARE TIME?**




**Do you want to become a WANDSWORTH DIABETES CHAMPION?**




**ARE YOU PASSIONATE about health? WELL CONNECTED with Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities? MOTIVATED to help others? Do you want to build CONFIDENCE and SKILLS?**



Then we'd like to train you to raise **AWARENESS of DIABETES**. We're holding **TRAINING WORKSHOPS** across the borough.

TO FIND OUT MORE please phone 020 8812 6732 or email [Janice.Obrien@wandsworthccg.nhs.uk](mailto:Janice.Obrien@wandsworthccg.nhs.uk)

[www.wandsworthccg.nhs.uk](http://www.wandsworthccg.nhs.uk)  
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[www.diabetes.org.uk](http://www.diabetes.org.uk) | @DiabetesUK | [www.facebook.com/DiabetesUK](https://www.facebook.com/DiabetesUK)

**THE BRIGHTER BOROUGH**  
Wandsworth

**DIABETES UK**  
CARE, CONNECT, CAMPAIGN

**THE BRIGHTER BOROUGH**  
Wandsworth

**NHS**

**Get your FREE NHS Health Check from your GP or selected Wandsworth pharmacies**

For more information call the council's public health team on **(020) 8871 5026** or visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/healthchecks](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/healthchecks)

You must be aged 40-72, have not been previously diagnosed with diabetes, kidney disease, heart disease or stroke and have not had an NHS Health Check in the last five years.

NHS HEALTH CHECK

Helping you prevent

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

AD.1086b (5.14)

# London has been our home for over 150 years. **Make it yours.**

1, 2, & 3 bedroom apartments available from March

**LAUNCHING  
MARCH 2015**

## **Elmwood Court SW11**

Battersea Park Road

Your chance to purchase modern and stylish apartments just 5 minutes' walk from Battersea Park. All apartments have a private balcony, along with a roof top garden for shared ownership properties.



**LAUNCHING  
APRIL 2015**



## **Chancery Building SW8**

Nine Elms

This scheme at Nine Elms is part of a wider regeneration to provide over 6,000 homes, and is one of the largest urban regeneration projects in London. Our block of all shared-ownership homes will face onto the new park that will be provided.

**LAUNCHING  
MAY 2015**

## **Carter's Yard SW18**

Wandsworth High Street

Your chance to purchase a high spec apartment in a great location with a beautiful landscaped private garden. In the heart of Wandsworth, close to the shops and restaurants of this extremely popular area.



Computer generated images are indicative only and subject to change.  
Typical Peabody interiors.

**Peabody is proud to offer Shared Ownership homes in Wandsworth**

**Call 020 7021 4842 or email [enquiries@peabodysales.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@peabodysales.co.uk)**



**PEABODY**





# New charity for learning disabled

## The council's Adult Learning Disability Day Service is set to become an independent charity.

The award-winning service currently supports 151 adults and more than 40 family carers. It primarily helps people who have more complex physical requirements, profound learning disabilities and those on the autistic spectrum.

Since 2008 it has been transforming the way it works under its 'Better Days' programme. This has seen a move away from segregated large-scale provision such as traditional day centres, moving towards personalised support.

The service now operates from a complex needs hub (pictured) offering state of the art facilities, therapies and equipment not available in the community. There are also four community bases offering a safe and welcoming environment.



Becoming an independent charity will give the service the freedom to further innovate and develop services.

A board of skilled and experienced trustees is being recruited to help build and establish the charity. For more information or to have an informal discussion contact Will Olmi on 020 8871 7782.

## Better care in Wandsworth



The Care Act 2014 comes into force on 1 April 2015 and Wandsworth Council is encouraging residents to find out about the changes to care and support and what it may mean for them.

The key changes, which will affect people who receive care and support, and carers in England, are:

- 1 Carers will have rights to an assessment and to council support if they meet the new national eligibility criteria for carers. This change puts carers on the same footing as those they care for, allowing them to get the support they need for themselves. This could be practical support like being able to take a break from caring responsibilities or they may be entitled to a direct payment to spend on things that will make it easier to carry on caring.
- 2 The changes will introduce a new national eligibility threshold, providing peace of mind that wherever you live in the country, or plan to move to within England, if your needs meet the threshold, you will be eligible for support.
- 3 Deferred payment agreements, which have been available in Wandsworth in previous years under a local policy, will now be available across the country, meaning that people should not have to sell their home in their lifetime to fund their care costs.

Wandsworth Council has always been committed to delivering high quality care services to the residents of the borough and will continue to do so in the future. For more information visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/careandsupport](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/careandsupport) or email questions to [careact@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:careact@wandsworth.gov.uk).



AD.1098 (2.15)



A recreation of the original Merton Road shop

# Museum is sew good

London is famous for its museums, but Wandsworth is home to one of the smallest – and most specialised.

The London Sewing Machine Museum in Balham has more than 600 machines on display showing the changes in the technology from the early days in the mid 19th century to the mid-20th, when they were popular domestic gadgets. There's also a wide range of memorabilia.

Highlights of the collection include the first ever Singer machine, a patent machine sent from America for the Great Exhibition and a unique machine originally owned by Queen Victoria's eldest daughter, Princess Vicky – mother to the future Kaiser Willhem II.



The Kimball & Moreton made in 1904 was a sewing machine hidden under a sculpture.





# WANDSWORTH'S HIDDEN TREASURES

*...more than 600 machines are on display showing the changes in the technology from the early days in the mid 19th century to the mid-20th...*



Top picture: The 1865 Pollack & Schmidt machine that belonged to Princess Vicky  
Above picture: Ray and his dad at the shop  
Bottom picture: Ray with a 1952 Singer machine made for sewing sails.

The collection is the life's work of the managing director of the Wimbledon Sewing Machine Co Ltd, Ray Rushton, and the museum includes a replication of his father Thomas' original Merton Road shop. The shop started after the war – Thomas Rushton bought and sold second hand machines, and placed a weekly advert in the Wandsworth Borough News.

The company often loans the machines to film companies – their machines have appeared in everything from James Bond to Harry Potter.

The museum is free to enter but is only open the first Saturday of the month. Call (020) 8767 0036 for details.





Join us at the launch party on Friday May 1 at Doodle Bar and Testbed1, 33 Parkgate Road SW11 – from 6pm, and raise a glass with the artists.

Image: Artist Miyuki Kasahara at The Shimmy



# WANDSWORTH FRINGE

1-17 May 2015

Image: Emergency Exit Arts



The Wandsworth Fringe is back and bigger than ever.

The Fringe is a cutting-edge festival with a community focus, led by the people taking part. This year there are almost double the amount of listings, including dance, workshops and exhibitions in schools, galleries, pubs and churches around the borough.

#### Highlights include:

**Roehampton Radio: open mic day** - Get to know your neighbours and show off your talents.

**Senses** - spine-tingling adventure which bills itself as dark, cold, claustrophobic and dangerous...

**Alice in Wonderland** - a new adaptation by Blackshaw Theatre.

**Mad Hatter's Tea Party** - storytelling with added cakes.

**The Star and the Sea** - join Rosie on an adventure along the tideline.

**The Work and Play Scrapstore** - young people aged 12+ can take a tour and get stuck into a workshop in this treasure trove of sustainable arts, crafts and reuse project materials.

**South African Voices** - bringing some fresh sounds.

**Kaleidoscopic Arts Platform** - showcasing experimental dance works by emerging female choreographers.

**The Wandsworth Fringe Variety Show** - comedy, jazz, fun-filled cabaret and poetry.

**Toast Temple** - out and about throughout the festival.

This is just a taste of what's on.

#### Keep up to date at:

 [facebook.com/wandsworthfringe](https://www.facebook.com/wandsworthfringe)

 @wandsworthfringe and #wafchat

[www.wandsworthfringe.com](http://www.wandsworthfringe.com)  
and download the brochure



# 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

EVENTS FOR MARCH, APRIL AND MAY 2015



## How to be listed

Send details (including access for people with disabilities) by end of April to:

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

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**

Between May 9 - 16

## Free Move workshops

Create Move art with a professional artist, inspired by performance and movement themes such as music, dance and theatre, reflecting the diversity of the local area. Suitable for families and all abilities: Workshops: 9 May at The Magic Garden and 12 May at The Mason's Arms, both Battersea Park Road; 9 May at Haven Lodge care home SW11; 14 & 16 May at Sprout Arts, Moyser Road SW16. [wandsworthartsfestival.com/2015/event/move-art](http://wandsworthartsfestival.com/2015/event/move-art)

**March 12-31**

### Easter activities with Katherine Low Settlement

12-30 March (weekdays)  
11am-3pm - Easter Egg painting workshop. We have hundreds of eggs to decorate for our trail, we welcome you to get involved and get designing. Drop in. Katherine Low Settlement, 108 Battersea High Street, SW11. [www.klsettlement.org.uk](http://www.klsettlement.org.uk)  
Tuesday 31 March 11am-3pm - Easter Egg Hunt Fred Wells Gardens, Orville Road SW11. Free ticketed event, contact [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)

**Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 March**  
10am - 2.30pm

### The Friends Easter table sales

Jewellery, home made cakes, chocolates, biscuits, jams, toiletries, candles, plants, DVDs. Queen Mary's Hospital, Ground floor, Roehampton SW15. Call 8487 6798.

**Saturday March 21**  
1.30-5.30pm

### Science Family Day

Fun packed afternoon of science for all the family. See Scotty's Science Circus, try our hands-on experiments, family

engineering challenge and more. For families with children aged 3-11. **Entry £3 per child, £2.50 for siblings, free for adults.** Plus Make & Take room (£1 per child), a science toyshop and refreshments. John Burns Primary School, Wycliffe Road SW11.

**Saturday March 21**  
7.30pm

### Spring Concert

Programme to include: Mussorgsky - a night on the bare mountain; Rachmaninoff - piano concerto no.2; soloist: John Flinders; Berlioz Symphonie Fantastique.

**Tickets £12 concessions £8; children under 16 free.**

Wandsworth Symphony Orchestra St Mary's Church, Putney SW15. Tickets [www.wandsworthsymphony.org](http://www.wandsworthsymphony.org) or on the door.

**Closing date for entries**  
**March 23**

### Wandsworth Heritage Award for Schools

Schools in Wandsworth are invited to enter the Wandsworth GLL Heritage Award for Schools competition – designed to inspire greater knowledge and interest in the borough's rich history and heritage. Aimed at primary

# what's on?

MARCH, APRIL  
AND MAY

and secondary school-age children upto 18 years. Prizes for winners. The competition is teacher-led so please contact your school to get involved.

**Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26 March 12-2pm**

### Pensioner's lunch club

Weekly lunch club for older people. Katherine Low Settlement, 108 Battersea High Street SW11. Call 7223 2845. Email [tracy@klsettlement.org.uk](mailto:tracy@klsettlement.org.uk)  
**wheelchair, loop**

### Saturday March 28

#### Music from Bavaria, Belgium and Britain

Choral music including works by Rheinberger, Desprez, Peter Philips, Martin Everett and Charles Wood. For venue and tickets please email [contact@swlcs.org.uk](mailto:contact@swlcs.org.uk)  
[www.swlcs.org.uk](http://www.swlcs.org.uk)  
**wheelchair, loop**

**Monday March 30 10am-1pm**

#### Green Doctor Surgery

Learn about energy

efficiency in the home. Bring along your utility bills so we can help you reduce them. Free goodie bag. **Free** Naturescope at Nature Study Centre, by the café at Wandsworth Common SW18. Email [mark.patterson@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:mark.patterson@groundwork.org.uk) or call 0792 169 9473

**Monday 30 March 2.30-5.30pm**

#### Gardening for pollinators

Learn how to encourage pollinators into your garden by selecting the right plants. Free seed packet for attendees. **Free.** Naturescope at Nature Study Centre, by the café at Wandsworth Common SW18. Contact [Mark Patterson](mailto:mark.patterson@groundwork.org.uk) @groundwork.org.uk or call 07921 699473.

**Monday March 30 8pm**

#### Talk: Violinist Anthony Marwood

Marwood, equally at home in concerto repertoire, in chamber music, on the stage and in new music written for him, talks to Andrew Keener. **Members**

and young people free; visitors £5.

Putney Music, Dryburgh Hall, Putney Leisure Centre, SW15 1BL.

[www.putneymusic.org.uk](http://www.putneymusic.org.uk)

**Wheelchair**

**March 30 – April 10 10am-3pm (registration from 9.30am)**

#### Easter holiday fun

Sports, games and prizes for children 5-13 years. Please bring a packed lunch.

Battersea Sport Centre, Hope Street, SW11. Call 8871 8529. [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/bsc](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/bsc)

**wheelchair**

**Wednesdays April 1 and 8 1-4pm**

#### Easter fun and crafts

Taking inspiration from Battersea Park's historical Easter Parade, get sticking, drawing and printing your own Easter decorations. Drop in. For children age 3+, with an adult. **Free.** 1 April at Balham Library, Ramsden Road, SW12; 8 April at York Gardens Library, Lavender Road, SW11. Contact Zoe or Michelle by emailing [bookings@wandsworthmuseum.co.uk](mailto:bookings@wandsworthmuseum.co.uk) or 8870 6060

**April 2 - 4**

#### Easter at St Augustine's

Maundy Thursday 2 April 8pm: Eucharist of the Last Supper; Good Friday 3 April 2pm: The Way of the Cross; Easter Day 4 April 11am: Easter Eucharist. St Augustine's Church, Broadwater Road SW17. Call 8672 4790. [www.augustinetooting.co.uk](http://www.augustinetooting.co.uk)

**Wheelchair loop**

**Sunday April 5 11am**

#### KICC Tooting's Easter celebration

Service with music and presentations. Refreshments. Admission free.

KICC Tooting at Hillbrook Primary School, Hillbrook Road SW17. [www.kicc.org.uk](http://www.kicc.org.uk)

**Wheelchair**



**Saturday March 28 - Sunday April 5 10am-5.30pm**

### Easter Egg Hunt

How many lucky zoo animals have got colourful Easter eggs this year? Buy a quiz sheet and use the clues to work out where the eggs are. Cost £1 (includes a prize). Activities are for toddlers with adult help and 5+ on their own. Check website for entry fees (prices changing at time of print).

Children's Zoo, Battersea Park, SW11. Call 7924 5826 [www.batterseaparkzoo.co.uk](http://www.batterseaparkzoo.co.uk)

**Wheelchair**

**Good Friday April 3**

#### Easter Bunny Day

Make a set of rabbit ears and complete the look with face painted whiskers. Plus: 11.15am and 1.30pm - rabbit storytime; 11.45am and 2.15pm - meet a real rabbit. Children must be with an adult.

Children's Zoo, Battersea Park, SW11. Call 7924 5826. Check entry fees at [www.batterseaparkzoo.co.uk](http://www.batterseaparkzoo.co.uk)

**Wheelchair**

**Tuesday April 7- Friday 10**

#### Performance: Annie

Put on a show in 4 days! Kids 4-6 years: 9.30am-12.30pm - **£110 each (£90 for siblings on same course)**; 7-16 years 10am-4pm **£140 each (£110 for siblings on same course)**.

Performance for family and friends on the last day. Stagecoach Theatre, Bolingbroke Academy, Wakehurst Road SW11. [www.stagecoach.co.uk/battersea](http://www.stagecoach.co.uk/battersea) or call 8946 2986.

**Wednesday April 8**

#### Neighbourhood Network SW12 and SW17

For people living or working between Balham and Tooting Bec. 9.30 - 10am Rhyme time with Blueberry Playsongs; 10-1pm Children's Wednesday-parents and children. Drop in. **Free.**

Southside Scout Centre, 197 Balham High Rd SW12. [www.neighbourhoodnetworksw17.org.uk](http://www.neighbourhoodnetworksw17.org.uk) or call 07581 716 916.

**Thursday April 9 7.45 for 8pm**

#### Parliamentary Election Hustings

Candidates from Conservatives, Greens, Labour, Lib-Dems and UKIP have been invited to speak. Admission free.

Wandsworth Society, West Side Church, Melody Road, SW18 2QQ [www.wandsworthsociety.org.uk](http://www.wandsworthsociety.org.uk)

**Wheelchair**

## Wandsworth U3A

Monthly meetings, talks and events aimed at retired or semi-retired people looking to learn something new or develop old interests. Wandsworth University of the 3rd Age, The Penfold Centre, 1 Neville Gill Close SW18. Call 8878 5783. [www.wandsworthu3a.org.uk](http://www.wandsworthu3a.org.uk)  
**wheelchair, loop**



**Thursday April 16, 23, 30 10am-12pm (with songs/stories at 10.45am)**

**Toddler Time-travel**

Explore Wandsworth's unique history from hunter-gatherers to the present day through songs, object handling and creative play. Designed for 6 months - 4 years. £5 for 1st child, £3 for siblings/extra children (siblings under 6 months get in free). Wandsworth Museum at BAC, Lavender Hill SW11. Contact Zoe or Michelle by emailing [bookings@wandsworthmuseum.co.uk](mailto:bookings@wandsworthmuseum.co.uk) or 8870 6060.

**Saturday April 18 7.30pm**

**Budapest Café Orchestra**

A unique blend of eastern European music and comedy, featuring folk, klezmer and gypsy music. Tickets £18, concessions £14.

St. Luke's Music Society, St. Luke's Church, Thurleigh Road SW12. Box office 07951 791619. Book online [www.slms.org.uk](http://www.slms.org.uk) Email [boxoffice@slms.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@slms.org.uk)



**Saturday May 30 11am - 5pm**

**Bowls Open Day**

Learn to bowl at our taster day. If you can't make it, try a bowls taster session, every Saturday starting 2nd May, 11am - 1pm. Wimbledon Park Bowls Club, Wimbledon Park, between Arthur Road/Revelstoke Road entrances SW18. [www.wimbledonparkbowls.co.uk](http://www.wimbledonparkbowls.co.uk) or call Barry 8265 5475

**Thursday April 21 6.30-8pm**

**Battersea Question Time**

Lively Q&A session with Battersea's political candidates. Free.

Katherine Low Settlement, 108 Battersea High Street, SW11. Book your free tickets at [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)

**April 21-25 7.15pm; April 25 2pm**

**Early Days (Of A Better Nation)**

The war is over and the nation lies in ruins. You and your fellow survivors must build the beginnings of a new country. Interactive theatre for a playing audience, drawing inspiration from the 2011 England riots, Arab Spring, and the rise (and fall) of Occupy. Part of our Taking A Stand Season. Age recommendation 14years+. Price: £12, £9 concs. BAC Lavender Hill SW11. [www.bac.org.uk](http://www.bac.org.uk) Call 7223 2223.

**April 23 to May 31 (Wednesday-Sunday 11am-4pm)**

**3 Branches of the Same Tree**

Explore the areas of science that are often hard to understand. Free Pump House Gallery Battersea Park SW11. Call 8871 7572. [www.pumphousegallery.org.uk](http://www.pumphousegallery.org.uk)

**Friday April 24 8pm**

**Talk: Slave-owners of Wandsworth**

Nick Draper, University College London. Research Associate of the Legacies of British Slave-Ownership project speaks on the legacies of British slave-ownership in the borough. Wandsworth Historical

Society, Friends Meeting House, 59 Wandsworth High Street, SW18. Call 8874 6341. [www.wandsworthhistory.org.uk](http://www.wandsworthhistory.org.uk)

**Saturday April 25**

**Indoor table top sale**

Pick up a bargain or sell your unwanted goods.

**Table hire £10.**

Penfold Centre, behind Waitrose at Southside Shopping Centre SW18. To book a table call Rachel 07538 713409.

**Saturday May 2 1.30-3.30pm**

**Family learning - drawing and painting**

For parents with children aged 7-13. Cost £40 for parent and one child; an extra £20 for one extra child. Ask us about our other art and design courses. Putney School of Art and Design Oxford Road SW15. Call 8788 9145. [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/psad](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/psad)

**Wednesday May 6**

**Neighbourhood Network SW12 and SW17**

Community group run by and for people living or working between Balham and Tooting Bec. 9.30 - 10 Rhyme time; 10am-1pm Neighbourhood Wednesday - jams and chutneys, crafts, games, book swap. Free. Southside Scout Centre, 197 Balham High Rd SW12. [www.neighbourhoodnetworksw17.org.uk](http://www.neighbourhoodnetworksw17.org.uk) or call 07581716916

**Thursday 14 May 7.45 for 8pm**

**Restoring an artists' village**

Illustrated talk by Perdita

**Friday April 10 1-4pm**

**The Buzz about Bees**

Illustrated talk about the importance of bees. Free bee-friendly seed packet and goodie bag. Free. Naturescope at Nature Study Centre, by the café at Wandsworth Common SW18 Contact Mark [mark.patterson@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:mark.patterson@groundwork.org.uk) or call 07921 699473.



Courtesy of Wandsworth Heritage Service

**Saturday May 23 - Sunday June 7**

**Wandsworth Heritage Festival**

This annual festival has guided walks, illustrated talks, workshops and family activities. The Open Day on Sat 23rd features stalls from society groups and talks, including "bringing a war memorial to life". Also find out about the two current Heritage Lottery Funded projects - Tooting Common and Living Wandle Landscape Partnership. Various venues. Full programme available from April at [www.better.org.uk/areas/wandsworth/news](http://www.better.org.uk/areas/wandsworth/news)

Hunt, Director of Watts Gallery Trust near Guildford. Free. Wandsworth Society, West Side Church, Melody Road, SW18 2QQ [www.wandsworthsociety.org.uk](http://www.wandsworthsociety.org.uk) **Wheelchair**

**Thursday May 14 - Saturday May 16**

**Time and the Conways**

JB Priestley's well known play, featuring the Conway family between 1919 to 1937 - the inter-war years. The Magdalene Players St. Mary Magdalene's Church Hall, Trinity Road SW17. Box office 8874 8348. [www.magplayers.org.uk](http://www.magplayers.org.uk)

**Saturday May 16 7 pm**

**Spring concert: A German Requiem**

Conductor Christopher Braime, with full orchestra, will perform Brahms' German Requiem. Soloists: Baritone Huw Montague-Rendall and Soprano Jessica

Gillingwater Tickets £16 (concessions £13) (includes refreshment and programme) Putney Choral Society St. Paul's Church, Augustus Road SW19. Box office: Carrie 07909 981278 or on the door.

**Wednesday May 27- Saturday May 30 7.45pm (5pm Saturday)**

**The Children's Hour**

The downfall of two schoolteachers. Tickets £10, concessions £7.50 (Wed and Sat). Southside Players at School Theatre, Chestnut Grove School SW12. Box office 07914 657524. [www.southsideplayers.org.uk](http://www.southsideplayers.org.uk)



# Get money help

**Are you a council tenant?  
Do you need help with  
your finances?**

Helen is part of a dedicated council team giving advice to tenants on how to manage their money and keep up with their rent.

Get friendly, informal advice on getting a better deal on utility bills, getting out of debt and claiming all the benefit you are entitled to. All advice is confidential.

►► **Call (020) 8871 8987 or email [financialinclusion@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:financialinclusion@wandsworth.gov.uk)**



This is the next in our regular advice column from the Wandsworth Citizens Advice Bureaux.



## Cutting down those energy bills

**If you're concerned about your energy bills, you're not alone: 65 per cent of Londoners now worry more about paying their fuel bills than their rent.**

Here are a few tips from the Wandsworth Citizens Advice Bureau

- **Check your energy deal and switch tariff/supplier:** Your energy company will send you an annual statement showing your tariff, energy usage and costs. You need this information to switch. Visit an accredited, independent website to compare tariffs. Your first switch could save you much as £200. Many people stay with the same supplier, even if it is comparatively expensive. Some comparison sites also give customer satisfaction ratings, so value for money can be checked.
- **Be energy aware:** Changes in lifestyle to save energy will save money. For example, do not leave appliances on stand-by, unplug mobile phones and use energy saving light bulbs.
- **Insulate:** Insulating cavity walls, topping up loft insulation (current recommended thickness is 270mm), installing double glazing and upgrading your boiler could save your household up to £320 a year. Go on line to check what grants are available.
- **Switch from prepay to standard metering:** Prepay metering has advantages for budgeting, but it's expensive. If you can pay by direct debit, standard metering offers significant savings. Your supplier may run credit checks and charge fees for changing.
- **Winter fuel payments:** If you are in receipt of a pension or certain benefits you should get extra help with winter fuel bills.
- **Struggling to pay your energy bill?** Contact your energy supplier and the CAB as soon as possible. Emergency charity funding may be available to help with fuel debt. The CAB can provide fuel debt advice.

►► **For more energy saving tips and information visit [www.wandsworthcabx.org.uk](http://www.wandsworthcabx.org.uk) and search 'energy'**

Wandsworth Plus Credit Union

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If you want to start saving money or to take out a loan, Wandsworth Plus Credit Union could help.

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To find out more call (020) 7471 2620, email [info@londonpluscu.co.uk](mailto:info@londonpluscu.co.uk) or visit [www.wandsworthpluscu.co.uk](http://www.wandsworthpluscu.co.uk)



# >> WANDSWORTH CONNECTED >>

## Talk to us online



weekly e-newsletter  
[www.wandsworth.gov.uk/24seven](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/24seven)



[www.twitter.com/wandbc](http://www.twitter.com/wandbc)



[www.facebook.com/wandsworth.council](http://www.facebook.com/wandsworth.council)



[www.youtube.com/WandsworthBC](http://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](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/counciltax)

### Pay a parking fine

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

### Apply for a parking permit/parking

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

### Join the e-library

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

### Search planning applications

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

### Check your refuse collection day

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

### Request a housing repair

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

### Check local roadworks

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

### Report a pothole

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

### Pay your rent

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

## Other contacts at the council

### Adult Care Information Service (020) 8871 7707

[accessteam@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:accessteam@wandsworth.gov.uk)  
[www.wandsworth.gov.uk/acis](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/acis)

### Benefits Service (020) 8871 8080

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

### Carers information and support Wandsworth Carers Centre (020) 8877 1200

[info@wandsworthcarers.org.uk](mailto:info@wandsworthcarers.org.uk)

### Children's Social Work Service (020) 8871 6622

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

### Consumer Protection (020) 8871 7720

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

### Community Care Services (020) 8871 7707

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

### Council Tax

(020) 8871 8081  
[counciltax@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:counciltax@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Education

(020) 8871 8013  
[edadmin@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:edadmin@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Electoral Services

(020) 8871 6023  
[electoral@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:electoral@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Environmental Services

(020) 8871 6127  
[esd@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:esd@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Family Information Service - including Nurseries

(020) 8871 7899  
[fis@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:fis@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Food Hygiene

(020) 8871 6139  
[esd@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:esd@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Fraud Hotline

0800 783 2263 (freephone)  
[fraudhotline@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:fraudhotline@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Graffiti Removal

(020) 8871 7049  
[graffiti@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:graffiti@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Home Ownership

(020) 8871 6016  
[housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Housing Advice

(020) 8871 6840  
[housingadvice@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:housingadvice@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Housing Repairs and Tenancy Call your area team or management organisation

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

### Leisure Centres & sports facilities

(020) 8871 8154  
[sportsservices@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:sportsservices@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Libraries

[wandsworth.libraries@gll.org](mailto:wandsworth.libraries@gll.org)

### Neighbourhood Watch

(020) 8871 7696  
[watchlinkmanager@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:watchlinkmanager@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Noise Complaints - council properties

(020) 8871 7490  
[hms@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:hms@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Private properties

(020) 8871 7869  
[esd@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:esd@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Parking

(020) 8871 8871  
[parking@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:parking@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Parks

(020) 8871 7530  
[parks@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:parks@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Rent collection Service

(020) 8871 8987  
[rents@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:rents@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Rubbish, Recycling and Litter (020) 8871 8558

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

### Births, Deaths, Weddings and Civil Partnerships

(020) 8871 6121  
[registeroffice@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:registeroffice@wandsworth.gov.uk)

### Youth Clubs

(020) 8871 7553  
[youthservice@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:youthservice@wandsworth.gov.uk)

## Tell us what you think

You can post comments on all our news stories [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/news](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/news)

Make a complaint or comment on a council service

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

Come to a Let's Talk meeting [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/letstalk](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/letstalk)

Contact your local councillor [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/councillors](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/councillors)

# Don't know where to go for medical help?

Call 111 for advice.



**Phone 111 before you leave home!**

There are doctors available in Wandsworth, evenings, weekends and bank holidays.

Visit [www.wandsworthccg.nhs.uk/urgent](http://www.wandsworthccg.nhs.uk/urgent) for more information.



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