

Homelife

Issue 101
July 2024



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Useful contacts

There is a range of housing services and information available on our website wandsworth.gov.uk/housing

Housing contacts

Housing Customer Centre

90 Putney Bridge Road London SW18 1HR
(serving Central, Eastern and Southern Area Teams)

Western Area Housing Office

Roehampton Parish Hall, Alton Road,
London SW15 4LG

Housing Area Teams

Central: 020 8871 5333

Eastern: 020 8871 7439

Southern: 020 8871 7288

Western: 020 8871 5530

If you do not know your area team email:
hms@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk

Housing hotline: 020 8871 6161

Mould Removal Team:

020 8871 8887,
mould.removal@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk

Joint Control Centre (formerly known as Wandsworth Emergency Control) (housing emergencies, out of hours) 020 8871 8999

House Purchase Grants

housinginitiatives@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk

Downsizing options

allocationteam@wandsworth.gov.uk

Landlords looking for tenants

privatelandlords@wandsworth.gov.uk

Details of how to make a complaint are on our website at: wandsworth.gov.uk/complaints

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

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

Smith & Byford 020 8722 3431 or 0808 196 1791
CommercialServices@smithandbyford.com

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

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

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

T Brown 0800 977 8472 or 020 8786 1244
repairs@tbrown.com

To find out your gas contractor call 020 8871 7040

Housing Ombudsman

If you have made a complaint to your landlord and you feel your complaint is not being dealt with correctly, you can escalate your case to the Housing Ombudsman who will provide impartial advice and support to try and resolve the matter for all parties.

The Housing Ombudsman can be contacted via:

Email: info@housing-ombudsman.org.uk

Telephone: 0300 111 3000

housing-ombudsman.org.uk

Other council contacts

Adult social services 020 8871 7707

Births, Deaths, Marriages and Voting
020 8871 6120

Child social services 020 8871 6622

Environmental services (including pest control, private housing) 020 8871 6127

Finance (including council tax, benefits, rent, service charges) 020 8871 8081

To make a telephone payment: 0800 021 7763

Parking and Streets 020 8871 8871

Rubbish, recycling and litter 020 8871 8558

South West London Fraud Partnership (Fraud Team) 020 8871 8383

Email: swlfp@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk

Keep connected!

We would like to encourage our residents to ensure their contact details are correctly updated with the Housing Department.

There are times where it may be important for us to contact you without delay or need to send you information about your home or community.

You can update your details via Wandsworth Housing Online:

wandsworth.gov.uk/housing/wandsworth-housing-online or you can contact us using the details below:

■ Email: hms@wandsworth.gov.uk

■ Central Area: **020 8871 5333**

■ Eastern Area: **020 8871 7439**

■ Southern Area: **020 8871 7288**

■ Western Area: **020 8871 5530**

Welcome to the summer edition of Homelife



It's fantastic to see residents and visitors alike enjoying the green spaces and amenities in Wandsworth.

Our recent achievement on winning London Borough of Culture for 2025 (page 19) will enable us to access funding for a year-long programme of activities to celebrate our local culture and heritage even further! However, we also recognise that more works needs to be done to improve communities, and we are inviting residents to share their views on which areas need improvement so that we build a fairer, more compassionate, and more sustainable borough for everyone (page 8).

This includes the recent opening of the Thessaly Oasis green space in Battersea as part of the council's drive to renew local neighbourhoods (page 5).

I would also like to invite residents to participate in the annual Resident Conference in October 2024, where you can spend a day sharing your views and suggestions to help us improve our housing services alongside residents from different estates across the whole borough (page 5).

We will soon begin consulting on a borough-wide licensing

scheme for all HMOs, which will help us push up standards for private renters on our estates along with a new selective licensing scheme for the broader private rented sector on page 18.

We've recently installed more bike hangars across housing estates (page 11), and we outline the benefits of establishing a Residents' Association in your community on page 4.

Don't forget to explore the council's Cost of Living Hub for financial information and assistance on page 19, and finally, remember to submit your entries for this year's gardening competition on page 12. We really want to hear from you to help us drive up housing standards and deliver a fairer borough for all.

I trust you'll find this issue of Homelife enjoyable. Should you have any suggestions, please feel free to contact me via email at hms@wandsworth.gov.uk.

Aydin Dikerdem
Cabinet Member for Housing

Window safety

If your home has windows above ground floor level, they can present a safety hazard if left open, particularly to a small child.

If there is a fault with your window, report it immediately and keep the window closed until the repair is completed.

If you need to open windows to ventilate your home, ensure they are out of reach of children and double-check that window restrictors are in place and secure. Never leave children unsupervised in rooms with open windows and remind everyone in the household about the dangers of open windows.



Images: Marina Gordejeva

Doddington Estate playground improvements

The residents of Doddington Estate recently celebrated the reopening of their newly refurbished playground.

Helen Chantry, the previous secretary of the Doddington West Residents' Association initially started the push to improve the playground facilities. In celebration of the new playground's completion, a grand opening was organised on April 4th, welcoming children and their parents or guardians.

A variety of snacks awaited the children and parents were pleased to see them running around and enjoying the safe environment provided by the playground.



We can help you set up a Residents' Association

The council encourages involving residents in the management and upkeep of their blocks and estates and Residents' Associations (RAs) are a great way of achieving this.

Establishing an RA offers numerous advantages and residents can work with the council to address community concerns or make improvements to their estate. RAs will also keep residents informed about information and news regarding their homes, community and local housing services. Any estate or block can establish one, but it must be:

- **Open to all households** living within the area that the association aims to represent
- Where there are **21 properties or more**, have a membership of at least 20% of the householders in the area it represents
- Where there are between **10** (which is the minimum number of properties) **and 20 properties**, have a membership of at least **51%** of the householders in the area it represents
- Keep a membership list, updated every year
- Have a **written constitution**
- Hold an **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** every year
- Keep open **financial accounts**, which are independently audited on an annual basis and open to inspection
- Have an approved **Code of Conduct** for members

Given the numerous benefits, such as eligibility for grants, organising community

events, requesting minor improvements around the estate, we strongly encourage the formation of RAs. If you are interested in forming or supporting an RA or would like further information, please contact your local Resident Participation Officer:

- **Vanessa Santos - Eastern team**
Vanessa.Santos@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk
- **Sarah Stevens - Western team**
Sarah.Stevens@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk
- **Foday Kamara - Southern Team**
Foday.Kamara@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk
- **Tom Gates - Central Team**
Tom.Gates@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk



The Platt Residents' Association (RA) recently used the Small Improvement Budget to turn an old disused room into an RA office located in Phelps House.



New opening for Thessaly Road green space

After years of being locked up, the gates of what is known as the Oasis green space, on Thessaly Road, Battersea, were opened wide by the council for a community open day on 8 June.

People living in Carey Gardens and Patmore Co-ops and Savona Estate were welcomed with free ice-creams and refreshments, live music and mural painting as they gave their views on how the large green area should change for future use.

Older residents recalled memories of playing on the grass while Eloise Barnes, daughter of the late local artist Brian Barnes, took part in tree planting with children and other residents.

The project is part of the council's drive to renew local neighbourhoods by listening to residents and using funds collected from developers to make improvements.

Battersea residents can have their say on the future of the green space at wandsworth.gov.uk/oasis-renewal



Save the date: Wandsworth Annual Residents' Conference 2024

The council's annual Residents' Conference will be held on Wednesday 23rd October from 9.30am to 3.30pm.

More information can be found on the back page.



Remodelling from recycling

Kevin Stark moved into Wandsworth Sheltered Housing with his wife Joanna, shortly after retiring from a long career as a painter and decorator. After a few months he noticed his arthritis flaring up, causing difficulties with his mobility. Determined to maintain the use of his hands, Kevin decided to explore woodworking, using discarded wood items he collected from the estate—old bookcases, shelves, tabletops, and pallets.

He set up a workstation in his home and began carving items, including plaques, animals, intricate models of a steam traction engine, an open-top bus, a fire engine, caravan and model cars from the 1930s onwards. Kevin not only discovered a hidden skill but also found a meaningful way to exercise his hands while repurposing discarded materials into stunning works of art.



Ashburton Estate coffee mornings

Join us at Boyd Court Club Room on the Ashburton Estate in West Putney for our weekly coffee morning. Held every Tuesday from 10am – 12 noon, it's the perfect opportunity for residents to meet nearby neighbours, chat and enjoy tea and toast at an affordable price. Don't miss out – come along and join in the fun!





Safer Neighbourhood Team visits Cowick Road and Washington Court residents

Officers from the Tooting Safer Neighbourhood Team visited the Cowick Road and Washington Court Sheltered Housing Schemes where residents took part in a safety talk and community engagement session led by police officers.

The event was an opportunity for residents to meet their local police officers, express concerns, and discuss issues such as crime and anti-social behaviour.

Cowick Road resident Patricia Armstrong, expressed appreciation for the officers' visit, stating, "it was nice that the police officers came to the scheme to talk to us. They provided us with lots of useful information about safety. I am very grateful for the opportunity to get involved with my local community."

Overall, the visit was a success, showing the positive impact of community policing. With proactive engagement and empowerment, the Tooting Safer Neighbourhood Team is committed to making a safer community for all.



Adapted scooter sheds

Five scooter sheds have been installed at Hepplestone Close in Roehampton much to the appreciation of tenants, who can now house their mobility scooters safely and securely.

One tenant, Frank, is particularly pleased with his adapted double scooter shed – pictured above at its inauguration!



Happy 100th birthday Joan!

Happy 100th birthday to Joan of Hepplestone Close! Joan received a well-deserved birthday card from King Charles and Queen Camilla on her special day. Many happy returns!



Tell us what needs improving

The Leader of Wandsworth Council is asking residents to send in their ideas and suggestions for neighbourhood improvements which will be paid for using funds collected from developers, known as a Neighbourhood Renewal Fund.

Simon Hogg said: "Our Neighbourhood Renewal Fund ensures that developers in our borough contribute to making it better for all. We need to know what really matters to people living in all our town centres and neighbourhoods so please take five minutes to look at our interactive map and tell us what you think about your area."

The new online map makes it easy for people to tell the council how they'd like to shape their neighbourhoods by dropping a pin and leaving a comment or request.

The council will use this feedback to help make decisions on how to re-invest developer contributions back into local community improvements, for example, by installing zebra crossings, better pavements or playgrounds.

See the map and find out more at wandsworth.gov.uk/renewalfund





Promoting safety in high-rise buildings

■ Do you live in a high-rise building (at least 7 storeys or 18 metres in height)?

If so, we are creating more opportunities for you to be involved in decisions about the safety of your block.

We are establishing a dedicated **Fire Safety Steering Group** which will review draft publications, including webpages and letters, and suggest changes. The group will consist of between 10 and 20 residents and be facilitated by the council's Building Safety Team. If you would like to take part, please contact: buildingsafetyteam@wandsworth.gov.uk

Residents' Associations (RAs) in high-rise buildings are also encouraged. These are a great way to engage with other residents and officers from the council. If you would like to set up a RA or find out more, please contact your Resident Participation Officer (please see page 8 for contact information).

Recycle your batteries responsibly to prevent fire

Lithium-ion batteries, loose batteries and vape batteries can all cause fires!

We are reminding residents of the dangers of disposing of lithium-ion and normal batteries in with your rubbish and recycling. This follows several fires recently, in waste trucks and when rubbish and recycling are unloaded. Each time this has happened, the fire has been contained quickly by the Fire Brigade, working with Serco, our waste team and Western Riverside Waste Authority.

Lithium-ion batteries in particular can be an issue – the sort of

A message from Grant Bishop Borough Commander for Wandsworth

“ With warmer days approaching, we want to make sure you're familiar with our advice and safety guidelines regarding BBQs.

While we encourage you to enjoy the opportunity to spend time outdoors and cook in your garden, it's also essential to understand the fire risk that disposable BBQs can pose to our green spaces across the borough. **Visit london-fire.gov.uk/safety/the-home/cooking/bbqs to learn more**”.

Remember, you can help identify potential fire risks in your home by using the Brigade's Home Fire Safety Checker.

This free online tool is designed to keep you and your loved ones safe, offering tailored advice for where you live”.

Use QR code or visit:
london-fire.gov.uk/safety/the-home



Keep up with our work across Wandsworth by following us on X @lfbwandsworth



battery you find in a camera or other electricals. Batteries from vapes, along with loose, everyday batteries can also cause fires.

Follow the guidance on how to dispose of lithium batteries safely, london-fire.gov.uk/safety/lithium-batteries or visit: wandsworth.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling

Never put batteries in your bin or recycling.

To find your nearest battery recycling point search 'recycling your electricals'.



Tackling the climate emergency

Introducing the Wandsworth Library of Things

Why buy when you can borrow?



Can you believe a drill is only used for three minutes a year? Instead of cluttering your cupboards with stuff you don't use often - share useful household items with neighbours instead!

Introducing the Wandsworth Library of Things: a community-driven initiative that promotes sharing and sustainability by enabling you to borrow what you need for a lower cost than buying new, from carpet cleaners to drills and projectors you can find items for DIY, gardening, entertaining and more.

Since the Library of things opened, over 300 items have been borrowed saving residents over £30,000.

You can browse the collection of items online, reserve the item you need, collect it from the lockers at Southside Shopping Centre, and return it when done. Join us in saying no to wasteful one-time purchases and build a more sustainable Wandsworth together.

You can find the Library of Things opposite Waterstones inside the Southside Shopping Centre, Wandsworth High Street, London SW18 4TF. Opening hours are Monday to Saturday from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM, and Sunday from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. You can reach by car (Southside has two car parks), train (nearest stations are Wandsworth Town and East Putney), or bus (multiple routes stop right outside Southside).

To find out more, browse for items or sign-up for a discount on your first loan, head to the website: libraryofthings.co.uk/wandsworth



Bike hangar installations on William Willison and Doddington Estate

Battersea Fields Residents' Association recently upgraded their bike shed and worked with their local Resident Participation Officer to identify another estate, which could use their old one.

The shed was installed on William Willison using a Small Improvement Budget and is now happily being used by its residents.

Following high demand for more metal bike racks, 27 were installed across different locations, including outside Lucas Court, Cromwell House, behind Bank Court and next to Park Court on the Doddington Estate.



Recycle Your Cycle

“Recycle Your Cycle” is a social enterprise that partners with the prison service to refurbish bicycles, which are then supplied to UK charities for fundraising purposes.

Since 2015, they've established cycle workshops in 10 prisons across the UK, providing employment opportunities for over 150 offenders. Through these workshops, prisoners receive training in bicycle repairs to support their rehabilitation and employability upon release.

Currently, they refurbish approximately 400 bikes per month, contributing to the reduction of landfill waste while providing meaningful work and employment opportunities for offenders. This initiative also enables more people to access the social, health, and financial benefits of cycling.

To recycle your unwanted bike, please contact your Resident Participation Officer (RPO) and join us in making a positive impact on the environment, communities, and the lives of individuals.



Last year's Gardening Competition winners share their gardening tips and prize enjoyment

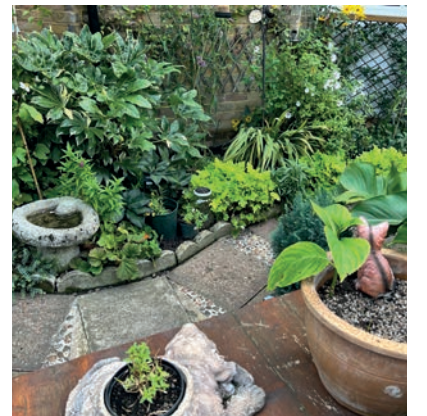
Ian and Susan Donoghue have transformed their backyard garden where they now enjoy themselves in the sights, scents, and sounds of nature.

When asked about their favourite aspect of gardening, both expressed their love for the individual qualities of plants and flowers. "Each plant has its own unique characteristics, whether it's the colour, scent, boldness, or delicate nature. We find joy in seeing our garden come to life, particularly when our cherry tree blooms or when our climbing rose bursts into flower, signalling the arrival of spring" they said.

Over the years, Ian and Susan discovered some helpful tips and tricks and found that packing plants tightly together enhances the visual appeal of the garden and helps keep weeds at bay by depriving them of light. Daily weeding becomes a breeze with just a few minutes of maintenance each day and using mulch helps to conserve moisture and suppress weed growth. For plants that don't thrive in their soil, they use pots to provide the perfect growing conditions as well as to contain plants that threaten to overtake their beds.

As previous winners of the gardening competition, Ian and Susan made the most of their prize vouchers by replenishing their garden with geraniums, petunias, and other colourful delights. They encourage others to appreciate their gardens for their visual appeal and for the creativity they inspire along the way.

"Participating in Wandsworth's garden competition serves as an added incentive to cultivate beautiful outdoor spaces and share the joy of gardening with others".



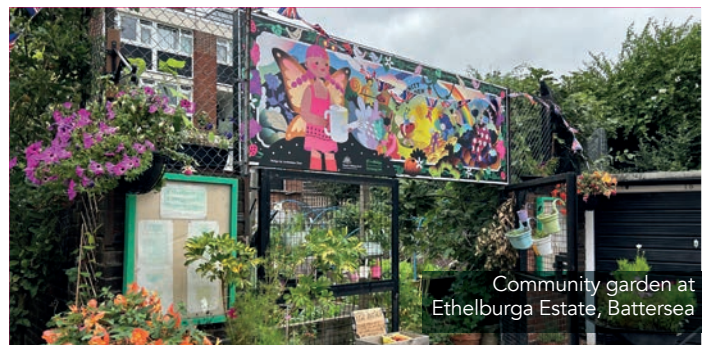
Tim Graham: Ethelburga community garden winner

"I love how the Ethelburga Community Garden has become a cherished place for social connection among local residents of all ages. I'm always amazed by the variety of beautiful flowers and tasty vegetables that can be grown in such a small space, as well as the diverse birds, animals, and insects that have made the garden their home.

Last year, it was wonderful for our community garden to be recognised in the Wandsworth gardening competition and to receive a prize voucher. We used the voucher to install simple water irrigation pipes in some of the raised beds. Additionally, we were able to buy some perennial plants and bulbs, which will hopefully ensure colourful displays of flowers for years to come.

Inner-city gardening typically takes place in limited spaces, such as small gardens or balconies. You don't need any experience to enjoy and get involved in gardening. Just a few seeds, some water, and sunshine, and you're good to go!

If I had to pick a favourite plant, it would probably be the daffodil. They come in beautiful varieties, and when they start to appear, you know that spring and longer, warmer days are just around the corner."





Do you have green fingers?

£200
GARDENING
VOUCHERS
TO BE WON

Take part in the Housing Gardening Competition

- Has your garden got what it takes to stand out from the rest?
- Have you got big plans for your community garden this year?
- Is your balcony greener than your neighbours?

If so, you could be in for a chance of winning £200 in vouchers.

The council's 2024 Gardening Competition launches this month, with submissions closing on the **July 31 2024**.

Shortlisting and judging will take place in August, with winners announced in the December edition of Homelife.

The competition is open to all council tenants and leaseholders.

Judging criteria

Judges will include both councillors and council officers, who will be considering design and presentation, use of space, variety of plants, cleanliness, health of the garden, and sustainable gardening practises.

Categories

- Best Community Garden
- Best Private/Remote Garden
- Best Container/Balcony Garden

Prize breakdown

- 1st Prize - £200 in gardening vouchers
 - 2nd Prize – £100 in gardening vouchers
 - 3rd Prize - £50 in gardening vouchers
- Prizes will be for each category.

How to enter

To enter, submit photos and a short description of your garden. Include your full name, address, contact number and category by 31st July 2024 by emailing housinggardeningcompetition@wandsworth.gov.uk.

Give it a go... Good luck!



Plaques now up

On Saturday, March 16, two blue plaques were unveiled to commemorate Eleanor Roosevelt's (former First Lady of the United States) time at Allenswood Boarding Academy founded by Marie Souvestre.

The school closed in the 1950s and was then purchased by the council, leading to the construction of Wimbledon Park Estate, now a co-operative. Idham Ramadi, the current Co-Op Manager said: "we're delivering amazing projects to improve the estate and to make residents proud of where they live". Idham emphasised the estate's historical significance and the importance of civil rights advocacy, a cause Eleanor Roosevelt passionately championed. The unveiling ceremony was attended by local councillors and Putney MP, Fleur Anderson.



Roehampton Estate Art Walking Group

Join the Roehampton Walking Group every Monday to support mental and physical wellbeing.

Open to all, they visit various places such as Barnes Pond, Richmond Park, Wimbledon Common and once a month they enjoy walking rugby with coaches from Rosslyn Park Rugby Club.

Meeting Point: Manresa Clubroom, Fontley Way, Roehampton SW15 4NF

Time: 10:45 AM

Estate Art Walking Group members from left to right: Jason Ward (Health Champion); Maureen Lawrence; Lynne Capocciana (Estate Art Founder), Jenny Deery, Numali Rehemq, Regina Hinkson, Jamie Ward, Assan Bobb.





Leader listens at local drop-in events

The council has been listening to neighbourhood issues and providing advice to local people in a series of community drop-in sessions around the Borough.

Council Leader Simon Hogg and local ward councillors chatted to residents and answered questions about housing, community safety and street cleaning in Wandsworth Town Centre, Tooting Hub, York Gardens in Battersea and West Hill's Open Door community centre. The next event is in Roehampton's Alton Estate on Saturday 13 July with more locations to follow from September onwards.

Find out more about the events and how to come along at wandsworth.gov.uk/here-to-listen

SW15 Music Project

SW15 Music is a group of tutors who teach music to young people in Wandsworth. During the 2024 Oxford & Cambridge Boat Race at the 5th Putney Sea Scouts Garden on the Putney Embankment, crowds were entertained by the talented youth from the SW15 Music Project.

They performed classic rock and pop tunes and the sunny weather added to the fantastic atmosphere, making it a great day. Free music lessons are available for all levels and ages at Toland Square community clubroom in Roehampton.

Contact Marney: sw15music@gmail.com and learn more at: sw15music.org



Proposed designs for Downshire Field and Alton activity

Early improvements for the Alton Estate are progressing well.

In the spring, we submitted a planning application for the first stage of the Early Improvement Plan for the Alton Estate.

The proposals include upgrading and improving the existing play spaces at Downshire Field and Alton Activity Centre, and landscape enhancements at Downshire Field, which include creating new wildflower meadow areas, new pathways and a new trim trail.

There will also be some subtle changes to the planting and lighting around the bull statue on Downshire Field so that it sits more visibly in the area. The submission of the planning application marks a significant moment for the regeneration of Alton Estate, as we seek to start delivering these benefits for the community. Many residents had the chance to comment on the proposals and this feedback helped to influence designs for the estate.

Aydin Dikerdem, Cabinet Member for Housing said:

"We remain committed to delivering what is best for the Alton Estate. We are thinking beyond housing numbers and are looking at the wider picture – how can we improve Roehampton and the Alton Estate for everyone? We are developing an overarching placemaking strategy with a package of improvements that will do just that. Downshire Field is a unique setting and these improvements are purposefully designed to enhance this much-loved part of the Alton Estate and benefit the whole community.

Roehampton, and the Alton Estate, present a unique set of circumstances. How we address the challenges here, and the decisions we take, will support our ultimate aim of creating a fairer, compassionate and more sustainable Wandsworth for everyone."



Kate Stock, Cabinet Member for Children, said:

"The Early Improvement Plan for the estate has been to ensure that the play space will be fully accessible and inclusive, and there has been a lot of focus on ensuring that there are areas designed for girls to feel safe. By reducing the height of the existing fencing, we will also improve access to this play area, making it more welcoming for the whole community."

Following the formal submission of the application, residents were able to comment on the plans before it is considered by the council's Planning Applications Committee (planning reference number 2024/1155).

Spreading the Joy

Group 64 Theatre Company is an inclusive young people's theatre company based in Putney Theatre.

On 10 April, they treated families on the Alton Estate to a preview of their new show, *Spreading the Joy (Across the Universe)*.

The show has been specially produced for this year's Wandsworth Arts Fringe. The show tells the story of Wendell, whose favourite possession is their moon rocks. Following a big explosion, the moon rocks disappear. The audience is then taken on a journey of courage through the universe to find the rocks. During the show, we meet Gladys the Alien, Jax the Space Bunny, Cindy the Emo Space Fighter, and other characters.

"It was so funny and entertaining" and "you rocked it" was some of the great feedback received from the children in attendance.



Buried treasure

During the Easter break, the Alton Regeneration Team held their regular school holiday Metal Detector Club.

With metal detectors and spades in hand, families set off to Downshire Field to explore the outdoors. Whilst they didn't find buried treasure, they did find a trove of other goodies, including an ancient pickaxe, an old key, coins from South Africa, Turkey, Australia and the UK, as well as Euros. After all the hard work, they took their finds back, washed them and enjoyed some refreshments. Well done to all who took part.



An Egg-Tastic Easter

The Alton Regeneration Team and Roehampton Library jointly hosted their annual Egg-Tastic Easter event during the school Easter holidays.

Children and their parents enjoyed crafting adorable hanging chicks with fun mix and match accessories. This was followed by a fun-filled scavenger hunt with clues hidden around the children's library. The children were rewarded with chocolate eggs on completion. It was a real success, with lots of children joining the library that day and taking out books.



Wandsworth Council to consult on borough-wide Property Licensing Scheme

Wandsworth Council will shortly be seeking residents', landlords and stakeholders' views on proposals for a five-year property licensing scheme across the private rented sector.

Around a third of Wandsworth's residents live in privately rented homes and the council is keen to take action to improve standards and employ measures to maintain a level playing field within Wandsworth for residents and landlords alike.



The plan includes the introduction of borough-wide **'additional licensing'**, covering smaller shared houses (typically 3-4 persons across 2 or more households) which are not currently licensable.

In addition, the council plans to introduce **'selective licensing'**, which applies to the remainder of privately rented properties not covered by existing or new additional licensing schemes. This selective element will be focussed in three wards known to possess a greater likelihood of poor conditions, namely: Tooting Bec, Tooting Broadway, and Furzedown.

This approach will enable the council to:

- **Raise standards** across the private rented sector
- **Hold poor performing landlords accountable** whilst incentivising and supporting responsible ones
- **Increase proactive inspections** to ensure properties meet safety and quality requirements
- **Offer greater support** to both landlords and tenants across the Borough

By participating in the consultation, residents and stakeholders can help shape the final scheme and ensure a safer, higher-quality private rented sector.

Wandsworth to be London Borough of Culture 2025

Wandsworth has been celebrating the news that the Borough has won the title of London Borough of Culture 2025.

Simon Hogg, Leader of Wandsworth Council, said: "A massive thank you to the hundreds of community organisations, creative venues, schools, businesses and residents of all ages who helped shape our bid. This is brilliant news for our borough.

"As a result of the Mayor's funding we're going to deliver a year to remember – using the power of culture to transform lives, connect



people and improve wellbeing, never more important than now. Let's do this together!"

The Mayor of London's culture scheme will provide funding towards a year-long programme which celebrates local culture and heritage. The title helps to attract inward investment, create new employment opportunities, improve creative programmes and widen access to culture for residents.

Find out more about London Borough of Culture 2025 at wandsworth.gov.uk/culture

Wandsworth
Council

Cost of Living support

■ Help with grants,
bills and benefits

■ Support for families

■ Where to turn in
a crisis and more



visit: [wandsworth.gov.uk/hub](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/hub)

call: 0808 175 3339



Cost of Living support

■ Visit the council's Cost-of-Living Hub for support, assistance and advice to help your finances.

[wandsworth.gov.uk/cost-of-living-hub](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/cost-of-living-hub)

Make sure you are not missing out on any financial help that you are entitled to by using our free online support calculator. This takes just ten minutes and can help you identify any entitlements you may not be claiming: [wandsworth.entitledto.co.uk/home/start](https://www.wandsworth.entitledto.co.uk/home/start)

Summertime in Battersea Park

Join us in Battersea Park this summer, with free activities and entertainment for all ages! Also new for 2024, the KERB Street Food Garden will be open on the Battersea Park Bowling Green every weekend until Sunday 14 July.

To see what's on, visit:
summerinbatterseapark.co.uk

Domestic abuse advice and support

at the

ONE • STOP • SHOP

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

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

No appointment necessary.

BATTERSEA ONE STOP SHOP

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

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

ROEHAMPTON ONE STOP SHOP

The Family Hub,
166 Roehampton Lane,
Roehampton, London, SW15 4HR.

Open every Wednesday,
10am to 12.30pm

For more information, contact Hestia's Independent Domestic Abuse Advisor (IDVA) on **020 3879 3544** (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

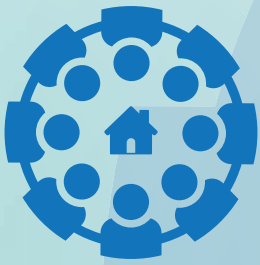


Wandsworth



CITY RISE
St Mark's - Battersea





Residents'
Conference
2024

Residents' Conference 2024

Wednesday 23 October 2024, 9.30am to 3.30pm
Civic Suite, Wandsworth High Street, SW18 2PU

We are excited to announce we are holding the Wandsworth Council Annual Residents' Conference

The Residents' Conference is for council tenants and leaseholders who are or would like to be actively involved in the departments formal and informal resident participation structures. This includes:

- Housing Community Champions
- Residents involved in a Residents Association or Resident Management Organisation
- Residents who are just interested in getting involved

Professional led training

Residents will be able to explore the different engagement options that the Council offers and attend workshops on common themes such as reducing damp and mould, accessing small improvement budgets and making the best use of community clubrooms.

Community groups

Voluntary and community groups will be holding stalls at the conference to give residents the opportunity to discuss the work they do and to give residents advice on accessing their services. In previous years, stall holders included the Community Safety team, Chelsea Kicks, London Fire Brigade and charities focused on providing financial and fuel poverty support.



Your view matters

If you are interested in attending the conference, please contact your Resident Participation Officer or you can email conference@wandsworth.gov.uk.

You can review the training offered from last year's conference on our Residents' Conference webpage here: www.wandsworth.gov.uk/residents-conference.

Refreshments and lunch are provided to all.



Scan for
webpage

