

Home life



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Do it online

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

Apply for housing and transfers

wandsworth.gov.uk/hcs/housingoptions

Report a repair to a council property

wandsworth.gov.uk/repairs

Report a waste problem

wandsworth.gov.uk/waste

Report graffiti

wandsworth.gov.uk/graffiti

Pay your council tax

wandsworth.gov.uk/paycounciltax

Pay your rent

wandsworth.gov.uk/rents

Other payments

wandsworth.gov.uk/payments

Talk to us online

weekly e-newsletter

wandsworth.gov.uk/e-news



facebook.com/wandsworth.council



twitter.com/wandbc

Report It app



Wandsworth Report It

makes it easier for anyone to report problems like flytipping, graffiti and other environmental issues. Search for the Wandsworth Report It app on the Apple, Android or Windows app store.

My Account

Create an account and you will only have to sign in once to access the main council services.

wandsworth.gov.uk/myaccount

Housing contacts

Housing Customer Centre

90 Putney Bridge Road,
London
SW18 1HR

Western Area Housing Office

38 Holybourne Avenue,
Roehampton
London
SW15 4JE

Housing hotline: 020 8871 6161

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

Wandsworth Emergency Control (housing emergencies, out of hours)

020 8871 7490

Home Ownership

housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk

Downsizing options

allocationteam@wandsworth.gov.uk

Landlords looking for tenants

privatelandlords@wandsworth.gov.uk

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

Battersea, Clapham and Central Wandsworth (or throughout the borough if your heating is supplied by a central communal boiler.)
[Smith and Byford Ltd](http://SmithandByfordLtd.com) 0800 028 0824

Putney, Roehampton and Tooting

[T.Brown Group Ltd](http://T.BrownGroupLtd.com) 0800 977 8472

To find out your gas contractor 020 8871 7040

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



Welcome to the spring edition of Homelife.

It is great to see those living and working in the borough taking advantage of the various options we have available to help them buy their own homes. Read how two council tenants became home owners with the help of a House Purchase Grant (see page 7).

During my recent visit, I was thrilled with the progress on the new blocks on the Patmore and Savona estates which are going to be rented to council tenants from the local area. These are being delivered as part of the council's Building Homes for Wandsworth People programme and significant savings are being achieved by building on council land (see opposite page).

Congratulations to this year's Housing Community Champions who were commended by the Mayor at a ceremony in January. The Housing Community Champions scheme recognises people who are making a difference in their community through voluntary activities which benefit their estate and local area. Find out more about the champions and the various events and activities which have been going on in our community (see pages 14 to 17).

I hope you enjoy this issue of Homelife. If you have any suggestions please contact me at HMS@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk

Cllr Clare Salier
Cabinet Member for Housing



New council homes for local people

Three exciting developments of 57 high quality new build council homes to rent are well underway on the Patmore and Savona Estates.

Good progress is being made with this council led development on three sites which are due to complete by the end of the year. The 57 homes are being built to latest quality design and size standards by Glenman Corporation and will be available to local council tenants who wish to stay local and downsize, with some larger homes being provided for those needing to move who are overcrowded.

These new homes are just the start of the council's Building Homes for Wandsworth People programme, launched last year to build 1,000 new homes for people who live or work in Wandsworth to rent or buy. Building on council land enables the council to save on purchase costs and achieve outstanding value, that means we can deliver 60% of the homes in the programme at discounted rates.

The Leader of the Council, Cllr Ravi Govindia, and the Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr Clare Salier, recently visited the building sites to see progress on the developments. Cllr Salier said: "It is great to see progress on these new blocks which will provide high quality, affordable

homes in this case for low cost rent to local people. Wandsworth needs more reasonably priced homes for its residents and workers and the council is committed to delivering them through its own development programme."



Work Match has helped more than 750 local people into jobs

The scheme matches residents' ambitions with local employment opportunities. Since it was launched in 2013, a total of 750 residents have been helped into work, often gaining new skills or qualifications in the process.

Here are some of the scheme's latest success stories:

Eva is now a trainee quantity surveyor working on the Battersea Power Station redevelopment with Sir Robert McAlpine.

Saad is working as a design and social media assistant with local company The Print Design.

Daria is employed at the Coffeeworks Project at Battersea Power Station.

Ben is a security officer at the Tideway development in Nine Elms.

Perry is now a trainee painter and decorator at Battersea Power Station with the company Cousins. He said: "I didn't expect I would be in a trade, but now that I am I'm very happy about it and positive about my career prospects for the future. Cousins are putting me through my painting and decorating NVQ. It's been challenging, but also exciting and the staff at Cousins are very positive and helpful. Growing up very close to Battersea Power Station I feel privileged to be a part of the project and its future development."

Job seekers can register with the scheme and be 'matched up' with suitable roles, as well as receiving guidance with applications, interview coaching, pre-employment training and ongoing support once they find work.

Work Match is part of a package of free support offered by the council to local residents and businesses to help them make the most of the opportunities opening up in the borough. This includes the opportunity to work in, and supply to, the Nine Elms Regeneration area and its burgeoning tech quarter, including Apple's new UK headquarters at Battersea Power Station.

If you're looking for a job or apprenticeship or know someone who is, get in touch and find out how Work Match can help.

For more information visit
wandsworthworkmatch.org,
call 020 8871 5191
or email wandsworthworkmatch@wandsworth.gov.uk

Work Match

securing jobs
for local
people



Learn something new

The council's Lifelong Learning team provides a wealth of learning opportunities to Wandsworth residents.

Lifelong Learning can help develop your skills for work and employment as well as offering courses that improve health and well-being.

Each year thousands of residents benefit from free learning opportunities and there are learners of all ages.

Courses include:

- Apprenticeships for young people and adults
- Traineeships for young people
- Accredited courses such as English for speakers of other languages (ESOL), English, Maths and ICT
- Work experience and preparation for employment

For further details on how the service might be able to help you visit:
www.wandsworthlifelonglearning.org.uk
or contact 020 8871 8618.



Lauren, a level 3 business administration apprentice, was named Wandsworth Learner of the Year 2017

Helping local businesses

Wandsworth
enterprise
2018 **week**
March 5-10



Wandsworth Enterprise Week takes place 5-10 March, featuring 30 individual events taking place across the borough.

Organisations taking part in this year's event include Richard Branson's Virgin StartUp, the Prince's Trust, Google and NatWest. Speakers include Thomasina Miers, founder of Wahaca and Guardian food writer. Since its inception in 2014, more than 6,000 people have attended the award-winning, flagship event.

To mark the event's fifth anniversary, the programme is extended to schools with Wandsworth Enterprise Schools Week taking place in schools across the borough from 12-16 March, in partnership with Wandsworth Ambitions. The week will feature a series of interactive workshops to give students an insight into self-employment and inspiring talks from young entrepreneurs. Organisations taking part in schools week include the Peter Jones Foundation and Virgin StartUp. Schools will also be encouraged to get their students involved with enterprise activities across the week.



Schools interested in participating should email wesw@wandsworth.gov.uk or visit wandsworthenterpriseweek.biz/schools

For more information on Wandsworth Enterprise Week visit www.wandsworthenterpriseweek.biz

Tenancy Support users event

Past and present users of the Tenancy Support Service are invited to a users' group meeting on 9 May 2018 from 12-2pm at the Penfold Centre on Neville Gill Close, SW18 4TJ.

We are keen to hear your views, as part of our commitment to improve. You will also get to meet other people who have used the service.

There will be refreshments and we are happy to arrange transport, if needed.

Contact the Tenancy Support Service on 020 8871 6617.



Our service provides free one-to-one support to vulnerable council tenants at risk of losing their home.

To refer yourself or someone else call:
(020) 8871 6617 Monday to Friday (9am - 5pm)
Email: supportedhousing@wandsworth.gov.uk
[@wandsworth.gov.uk](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk)



Beat the cheats

You can report fraud and benefit cheats on
Freephone 0800 783 2263
Email: swlfp@wandsworth.gov.uk
Or the council's hotline 020 8871 8383

Home Ownership Team

Improving purchase options for council tenants



A range of options to help you buy a home

House Purchase Grant

The council's House Purchase Grant scheme has been increasingly popular this year. 46 tenants are using it to move into their new homes. From April 2018, we have a budget of £2.9 million and already 126 tenants have registered their interest in the scheme.

The House Purchase Grant helps council tenants buy a home on the open market. You could be eligible for up to £80,000. This can be used towards buying a home in the UK or abroad, towards a share of a UK shared ownership property or to adapt a family member's home within the UK to enable you to move in (for example, an extension).

You need a minimum of two years tenancy, must have a reasonable rent account and be willing to vacate your council property. We will carry out a financial assessment to make sure you need the grant and can afford any mortgage repayments.

Right to Buy

If you have been a secure council tenant for at least three years and wish to purchase the home that you live in, you will need to complete a Right to Buy application form. The maximum discount available is £104,900 off the market value of your property.

Right to Part Buy

Right to Part Buy is a unique sales scheme for council tenants who qualify for the Right to Buy but who can't afford to purchase their council home outright. It allows you to buy a share of your property and pay a low rent on the remaining share.

To be eligible you must be a secure tenant with at least three years tenancy, not have received Housing Benefit in the 12 months prior to your application and you must pass an affordability test.

You will be able to purchase a minimum initial share of either 25% or 50% and can buy additional shares in the future, giving you the possibility of owning your home outright over time.

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

020 8871 6161
Email: housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/homeownership



House Purchase Grant

Case Study: Chloe and Alex

Last year, Chloe and Alex from Putney bought their own family home with the help of the council's House Purchase Grant.

Chloe lived in her council home in Putney for seven years before buying a home. She spoke to us about her experiences:

"I was made homeless by my parents when I had my daughter at 16 years old. After that, I lived in temporary accommodation, before moving into my council home in Putney.

"My home in Putney was ideal for me and my children. It helped me to find stability in my home life and focus on raising my young family. However, as my children got older and my partner moved in it became a bit of a squeeze.

"I am so very grateful to have been given a council property, especially when I was in desperate need. Now it is time for us to move on so that another family can benefit from our property.

"We found out about the House Purchase Grant through a family friend and were attracted to our new location (near Peterborough) because of the good schools and newly built homes. We love our new home. We now have a large kitchen to cook family meals and bake with the children, they have their own rooms and it's a quiet and peaceful neighbourhood.

"I would recommend the House Purchase Grant to other council tenants. It's a fantastic opportunity to own your own home and free up much needed social housing. Most working families struggle to save for a deposit on a mortgage so this is a huge support to anyone who is trying to get on the property ladder.

"The Home Ownership Team were very helpful throughout the process and were always available via phone or email to discuss any questions we had. When I first contacted the team, I was very nervous as I didn't know how the scheme worked, but they made me feel at ease and gave us all the information we needed.

"I am extremely thankful to the whole team for allowing my family and I to take part in this scheme. It's unbelievable to think that we went from being homeless to home owners, that is all thanks to Wandsworth Council for giving us the chance to better our lives."

To find out more about the House Purchase Grant and how it can help you, contact the Home Ownership Team today.

“ I would recommend the House Purchase Grant to other council tenants. It's a fantastic opportunity to own your own home and free up much needed social housing. ”

If you would like more information on any of these schemes contact the Home Ownership Team who will be able to guide you through the process.

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

020 8871 6161
Email: housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/homeownership



New shared ownership developments in the borough - apply now!



West View Battersea, SW11 - Peabody

A scheme just recently launched which overlooks Battersea Park; 54 units with 19 one-bed and 35 two-bed units, plus an additional 14 intermediate rent units to follow. For further information, contact the sales team on 020 7021 4842 or check the website www.peabodysales.co.uk



Falcon Road, SW11 - Thames Valley Housing

Several modern two-bed apartments are available in Battersea. Located in SW11, with great rail connections, the development is ideally placed. Register your interest today to be kept informed on the launch. For further information you can call 020 8607 0550, email sales@tvha.co.uk or sign up for updates on the website tvhsales.co.uk/properties/search



Mapleton Crescent/Pocket Homes, SW18 - Pocket Living

53 brand new one-bed apartments in the heart of Wandsworth are due to be available in May. These are unique from standard shared ownership in that you can purchase 100% of the property at a reduced market price and units are perfectly located very close to a big shopping centre. You can call 020 7291 3683, email sales@pocketliving.com or sign up for updates on the website: www.pocketliving.com/

Resales

Did you know you can also access resale shared ownership units? These are previously sold units where the shared owner is moving on. A total of 16 were sold in Wandsworth from April to November 2017 at sites such as Time House in Battersea and Devonshire House in Putney, SW15. They are available to those who live or work in Wandsworth.

If you are registered with Wandsworth Home Ownership and you meet the minimum income and savings requirements for that specific property, then you will be notified by email, letter or text message once a housing provider is ready to market a resale.

Please note: Wandsworth council tenants with over two years tenancy can use the House Purchase Grant towards buying a shared ownership property. To find out more please contact a member of the Home Ownership Team on 020 8871 6016 or email: housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk



WEST VIEW

BATTERSEA



LUXURIOUS 1 & 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS

Moments from Battersea Park and
available through shared ownership

Register your interest
WestView-SW11.co.uk

A NEW PERSPECTIVE



Could you be eligible for a council tax discount?

There are several council tax discounts available. Some of these are listed below:

Low income - the Council Tax Reduction scheme helps those on a low income to pay part or all their council tax bill. To qualify you must be on a low income and responsible for the council tax payment at your address. The amount of reduction you get depends on your circumstances.

Only one adult lives in the property - you can get 25% off your bill if you are the only adult living in your home.

People who are exempt from paying council tax - you can get a 25% discount if all the adults, except one, are exempt. For example:

- aged 18 but still at school receiving child benefit
- 18 or 19 year old school leavers
- full time student / student nurse / youth trainee / apprentice
- non British spouse of full time student
- part time student under the age of 20
- foreign language assistant
- patient in hospital, nursing or care home
- carer for someone with a disability who is not a spouse, partner or child under 18
- person who is severely mentally impaired (e.g. dementia, parkinson's, severe learning difficulties or has had a stroke)
- serving time in prison

If all adults living in the property meet any of these criteria, the household can receive 100% discount on their council tax.

People with disabilities - if a room in your home is used to meet the special needs of a disabled resident, your council tax bill may be reduced by one band.

Alterations to your home could include the creation of extra space for a wheelchair to be used indoors, the use of a room for dialysis equipment or the addition of an extra bathroom or kitchen.

Annexed properties - you can get 50% off your bill for annexes that have a separate council tax charge and is occupied by either the residents of the main dwelling as part of their home, or a relative of the person liable to pay council tax for the main property.

Job related home - you may be entitled to 50% off your bill if you live in a property as a condition of your employment. This discount may also apply to members of the Armed Forces.

For more information or to apply for a discount visit wandsworth.gov.uk/counciltax or call 020 8871 8081.

Pensioner over £10,000 better off

Mr and Mrs S are both pensioners. They were struggling to make ends meet until the council's Financial Inclusion Team lent a helping hand.

Most of their pension went on paying the rent and they received no benefits. Mr S got in touch with the team who offered financial advice and identified benefits he was eligible for, including pension credit, housing benefit and council tax reduction.

The team gave information on how to apply for all these benefits and offered to help with the application process.

After council tax reduction and benefit payments, Mr and Mrs S are over £10,000 a year better off.

Hassan, financial inclusion officer said: "Mr and Mrs S were struggling to make their essential payments for rent and utility bills. Each month they were going through unnecessary stress and worry about whether they would have enough money. Many residents are unaware of the financial assistance they are eligible for. We recommend you check an online benefit calculator to see what you're entitled to."

Visit www.entitledto.co.uk for an online benefits calculator.

The council's Financial Inclusion Team offers support to residents on a range of financial issues. Contact 020 8871 8780 or financialinclusion@wandsworth.gov.uk



The wonderful world of WAF is back!

Wandsworth Council presents Wandsworth Arts Fringe (WAF), back 4-20 May with a huge array of things to do for all the family.

With over 170 events taking place in all corners of Wandsworth, from circus, comedy, spoken word, through to free music workshops, dance, and a fabulous outdoor carnival, there really will be something for everyone.

Highlights include our schedule of free outdoor family events offering a fun packed, accessible adventure throughout Wandsworth. WildCity will be hosting a picnic in the fields of Tooting Common and Heathbrook Park. Come and create a giant, interactive installation of the Northern Line extension, an underground city scape created over ground. Bring a picnic and enjoy an afternoon creating art in the great outdoors.

To celebrate the 250th anniversary of circus with #Circus250, Pitchbend Productions will be launching The Big Top in the Circus Garden at Shillington Gardens, Battersea. We will have an intriguing programme of contemporary circus and family shows.

To get a real taster of what WAF is about, look out for the Errant Stage - an outdoor showcase travelling across Wandsworth for the first two weekends in May. Watch out for a big red van that transforms into a mobile theatre showcasing all the best that WAF has in store for you in May.

For tickets, reservations, and more information see www.wandsworthartsfringe.com from 1 March.



Court in brief

Man evicted for cannabis factory and loaded gun

A suspected drug dealer has been evicted from his council flat in Battersea after police found a cannabis factory and a loaded firearm.

In December, Mark Quintyn, 45, was formally evicted from the address in Odger Street.

Wandsworth's housing department applied for an eviction order as committing such serious offences was a breach of tenancy conditions.

The court heard that police officers found 16 cannabis plants along with a loaded gun and a large quantity of cash. Mr Quintyn subsequently pleaded guilty to four offences and was jailed for five years.

He will not be able to return to the Battersea flat and is unlikely to be offered any new accommodation by the council.

Cabinet member for housing Cllr Clare Salier said: "People involved in this kind of criminal activity are simply not welcome on our housing estates.

"Our tenants and leaseholders rightly expect us to take the toughest possible action against those who choose to engage in criminal activity.

"When people sign on the dotted line to be given the keys to a council home in our borough they have to agree to a set of tenancy rules. Breaching those rules renders you liable to eviction. People engaged in criminal or anti-social behaviour should be under no illusion about what is likely to happen if they break those rules."

Cladding update

Significant progress is being made in the works to remove and replace cladding on Sudbury House.



NEWS: Nine Elms and the surrounding area

Riverlight Quay, 100% local

One hundred per cent of homes in a shared ownership development by the river have been sold to people who live or work in Wandsworth.

All 116 one and two-bedroom flats at Riverlight Quay were bought by people who had registered with the council's low-cost home ownership service.

Last year 90% of shared ownership homes across the borough were bought by people with a local connection, due to Wandsworth being one of only a few councils to prioritise in this way.

Riverlight, which is just down the road from the new US Embassy and Battersea Power Station, is managed by Optivo housing association and was developed in partnership with St James.

Shared ownership buyers will pay as little as 1.25% deposit on the total property value, based on purchasing a



25% share. Council residents get highest priority in shared ownership properties in the borough.

Register with the council's home ownership team online at [wandsworth.gov.uk/sharedownership](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/sharedownership) or email: housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk or telephone 020 8871 6161

TACKLING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The council has a range of measures to prevent and deal with anti-social behaviour.

We recognise that living in communities can throw up all sorts of issues, from dogs barking and neighbours playing loud music to people causing damage to communal areas. Most issues can be dealt with easily. Often neighbours can have a quick chat to sort it out, although from time to time the council may need to intervene. We have a range of measures in place to prevent anti-social behaviour and take enforcement action where residents fail to change their behaviour.

How do I report anti-social behaviour?

Noise We can deal with persistent and unreasonable noise such as barking dogs, loud music and TVs.

To report noise nuisance in a council property that is happening now contact WEC on **020 8871 7490**. If you want to discuss an ongoing noise nuisance please contact your area team.

You may find it useful to make a diary of the noise nuisance you are experiencing.

Graffiti To report graffiti call the 24-hour telephone hotline: **020 8871 7041** or email graffiti@wandsworth.gov.uk We aim to remove offensive, racist or obscene graffiti within 24 hours and non-obscene graffiti such as tags within three days.

Dog nuisance To report dog control issues email dogcontrol@wandsworth.gov.uk All tenants and leaseholders are required by law to have their dog microchipped and registered with the council. The council offers this free of charge to residents and leaseholders.

For more information about dog control in the borough visit wandsworth.gov.uk/dogs

Fly-tipping To report fly-tipping on a council housing estate contact estate services at housingestateservices@wandsworth.gov.uk If you see someone dumping rubbish on a housing estate, without putting yourself or others at risk:

- Note the time, date, location, vehicle

registration number and descriptions of the people involved

- Take photographs if possible
- Report it to our estate services team

If you want to report fly-tipping on open land anywhere else in the borough please visit wandsworth.gov.uk/flytipping and complete the online form.

Illegal activity If you want to report a crime either that has happened or is taking place now you need to contact the Police in the first instance. **999** in an emergency or **101** to report non-emergency crimes.

After contacting the Police, you may also wish to report your concerns to your area housing team. The council will consider legal action where a tenant, member of the household or visitor to the property has committed a crime.

Worried about reporting anti-social behaviour and crime?

When you report an incident we offer support and keep your details strictly confidential. You can also report anti-social behaviour anonymously. Your identity will only be released with your explicit consent and only when required for legal proceedings in court.

If you have any concerns about anti-social behaviour, contact your area team:

Email: HMS@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk
Western: 020 8871 5530
Southern: 020 8871 7288
Central: 020 8871 5333
Eastern: 020 8871 7439

Recycle more!

We encourage residents to recycle as much as they can in their orange-lidded recycling banks, but it's also important that only the right things are placed in these. Sometimes even keen recyclers can get this wrong!

For example, clean plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays can be recycled in these banks but you can only recycle plastic carrier bags and packaging films at local supermarkets. Packaging films for recycling must be clean and display the "recycle with carrier bags at larger stores" logo.



Often the main problem can be people just putting their black rubbish sacks in the first bin they see, even if it is a recycling bank! If it is a recycling bank then this can render the contents as being contaminated and all the contents disposed of as general waste. That's why we've been relocating many recycling banks on estates and sometimes locking the lids shut too. You can open the letter-box style flap instead should you wish to deposit your recycling items. So, if your recycling banks are a little further away than before, please make the extra effort to use them and make sure you only put these things in them:





Housing community champions meet the Mayor

This year's Housing Community Champions have been announced and welcomed by the Mayor at a ceremony in January.

Andrew Beech, Hilaire McLiesh, Janet Montgomery, Jan Spivey, Alcide Thomas and a representative from Hazelhurst Estate were presented with a Mayor's pin and thanked by the Mayor for their dedication and commitment to improving their local area.

The Housing Community Champions initiative recognises people who are involved in community activities and volunteer on their estates, making a real difference to people on their estate and within the wider area. The champions will receive support and funding for projects that will benefit their estates and neighbourhoods throughout the year.

The Mayor of Wandsworth, Cllr Leslie McDonnell, said: "It a great honour to introduce you to the new housing community champions. Over many years these dedicated individuals have volunteered their time to improve their housing estates. From gardening to martial arts, their projects offer opportunities for residents to learn new skills and improve their local area.

"This is a wonderful initiative that recognises and supports the important work being done by residents. Congratulations to all our community champions, and I look forward to seeing their exciting projects develop in the future."

There are a range of ways to get involved in your community. To get involved contact your local resident participation officer.



Janet Montgomery

Janet has lived in Battersea for over 20 years. She visits a neighbour several times a week to check on her, go shopping and help her in any way she can. She also assists another resident, an MS sufferer, several times a week helping him with cooking and cleaning, tasks his disability prevents him from doing. Janet does the gardening for Althorpe Mews, Dimson Lodge, as well as gardens in Battersea Church Road and has volunteered as a helper at the local contact club for the past eight years. Janet is also an active member of Battersea Men in Sheds at Dimson Lodge.



Andrew Beech

Andrew undertakes community work for Winstanley and York Road Estate, where he has lived for over ten years. Born and bred in Battersea, Andrew offers martial arts training to local residents to help build confidence and volunteers with the local church offering climbing training. Andrew has set up a sports programme for local residents and encourages smaller groups to integrate socially and join exercise groups. Andrew is also a Women of Wandsworth [WoW] dad, a community group founded by his good friend and mentor, 2013 housing community champion, Senia Dedic.



Hilaire McLiesh

Hilaire has lived on the Doddington Estate for many years. She helped set up the Wednesday afternoon gardening club at Doddington and Rollo community roof garden in 2015, which began with a Wandsworth Community Grant funded ten-week beginner gardening course in partnership with Thrive. Since then she has supported the group, opening the garden on most Wednesdays for the past two years and often volunteering in the garden on Saturdays. In 2016 Hilaire was appointed deputy chair of the roof garden committee and this year took on the role of chair. She helped organise a ten-week therapeutic gardening course and promotes the garden at community forums, which encourage residents to enjoy the garden and get involved. Hilaire also makes links with other local groups to increase the use of the garden.

For more information email: doddingtongarden@gmail.com
Twitter: @doddgarden Facebook.com/doddingtongarden



Jan Spivey

Jan has lived in Avening Terrace for 12 years. She set up an intergenerational community gardening group that has taken over a huge brick planter on the estate that had sat neglected for years. Jan and the Avening Terrace community garden group requested three tree pits on the estate via a small improvement budget and are experimenting by growing three different varieties of apple.

Alcide Thomas

Alcide has lived on the Sutherland Grove Estate for 24 years. He set up a community gardening group which has taken over an enclosed garden space that wasn't being used. Alcide requested two large wooden planters be installed via a small improvement budget along with a shed and composter. The group has been so successful they require two further planters. During the summer, Alcide put on some BBQ events in the garden for all the residents.



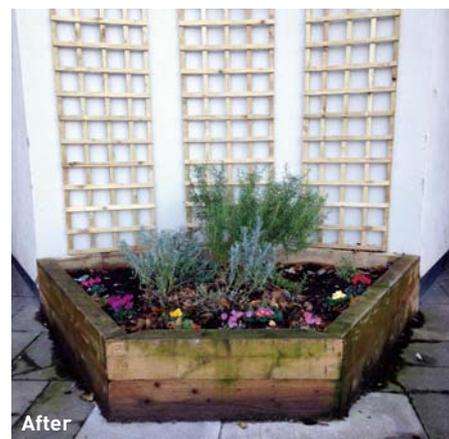
Hazelhurst Estate

Hazelhurst Estate community champions have regularly campaigned to improve parking provision and tackle vehicle related problems. They have also raised issues regarding anti-social behaviour, fly tipping and security.

They are particularly keen on any measures which can be identified to enable better access to estate areas and enhance and make more interesting the green spaces and under-utilised concrete areas within the estates urban environment. They are happy to work with officers, local councillors and residents and planners to develop suitable schemes.



Before



After

Estate improvements

Council funding allows residents to choose improvements to their estate.

The front of 52-138 Castlecombe Drive has been spruced up thanks to a grant from the council's small improvement budget.

Could your estate benefit from a small improvement grant?

The council's small improvement budget helps residents make improvements to their estate or block which will benefit the community. For example, community gardens and landscaping, railings, bike stores, bin enclosures or tables and benches for clubrooms or gardens.

Projects must:

- Be under £20,000.
- Not incur any ongoing maintenance costs.
- Not be part of an existing programme of works (e.g. door entry systems).

If you have an idea for a project, contact your local residents' association or your resident participation officer.



Dover House Road orchard

The residents of Dover House in Putney have transformed estate land into a wonderful new orchard.

Dover House residents' association teamed up with the Putney Society to plant the orchard on one of the greens to the east of Dover House Road. The residents living around the green backed the scheme and the project was supported by the council.

The RA and Putney Society raised funds for the project, which cost slightly less than £200. They planted seven trees in total; a mixture of apple, cherry, medlar, pear and quince to provide a variety of produce when they are ready to harvest.

A group of residents helped and everyone got stuck into the digging and planting of the trees.

Julian, member of Dover House RA said: "We enjoyed the day planting and look forward to other opportunities to improve our neighbourhood.

"Dover House estate contains over 50 communal greens so we can see great potential for further orchard planting. For example, since planting the trees, we have been contacted by residents who live around Lysons Green to see whether an orchard could be planted on this site."



Family panto delights Sudbury House residents

Rah Rah Theatre company and Sudbury House residents' association presented Cinderarahella at the Penfold Community Centre.

Arndale estate residents and their families, adults and children alike, all enjoyed Rah Rah Theatre's alternative take on the panto Cinderella. The free show was funded from compensation money from the shopping centre for the disturbance during recent building works. There was popcorn on arrival and everyone was encouraged to stay after the show to meet their neighbours and eat hotdogs (regular, veggie and halal).

One resident said at the end of the show "Thank you so much for organising this, it was great to be able to come to a panto so close to home. I wouldn't ordinarily be able to afford to take the kids to a panto".

Your resident participation team

There are a variety of ways to get involved in your community and decisions about your housing.

Speak to your resident participation officer.



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(020) 8871 8639
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Jo Baxter
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(020) 8871 8694
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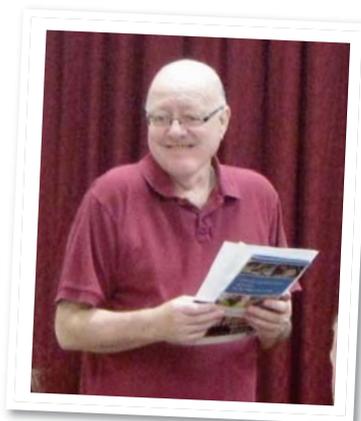


Sarah Stevens
western team
(020) 8871 5505
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David Lunt

The Roehampton community has been saddened by the death on Christmas Eve of David Lunt, a campaigning resident who chaired the Minstead and Manresa sheltered residents' association for the past five years.



David was also a member of the Western Area Housing Panel, Borough Residents' Forum, Roehampton Partnership and, for a time, Roehampton Forum Management committee. More recently he was chair of the local Police Safer Neighbourhood Panel, helping with the possible development of Neighbourhood Watch in the area. He will be sorely missed by those he represented so unwaveringly.

David was deeply committed to the residents and was enthusiastic about improving people's lives, not merely the sheltered residents he represented, but also the broader Alton community. He had high expectations of service delivery, yet was considered and understanding of the reality of what could be delivered. He successfully ran the residents' association along with his dear friend, Maureen Peartree, but without his

personal determination and drive, many enhancements to the local neighbourhood such as improved gardens and planters are unlikely to have happened. He was also influential in estate regeneration, involved in discussions with the council, consultants, developers and others to give his first-hand experience of living in the existing accommodation and putting forward suggestions for future improvements to ensure the new homes fully met the needs of older people.

The chair of another residents' association who knew him well, paid the following tribute: "David was a kind and thoughtful man, happy to give up his time and not afraid of actually doing the work rather than just shouting about what needed to be done, to help others in the community."



Sen Talk Lego Brick Club

The club is held during term time at the Kambala clubroom.

Parent, Emily, said: "The Sen Talk Lego Brick Club has been a fantastic place for my son to be himself, improve team-work and communication skills, make friends and have fun with Lego! He absolutely loves it and wants to do it 'forever'!"

Sen Talk is a local, non-profit organisation for parents and carers of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, ADHD and other related conditions. If you are interested in the club, email info@sentalk.org

Community fibre



A Christmas themed launch event was organised by Community Fibre and Wandsworth Council at the Penfold Community Centre on the Arndale Estate to promote digital inclusion and launch the new Arndale Youth Club, which runs every Friday between 4-7pm for 8 to 13 year olds.

Children and parents joined with local councillors and representatives from Community Fibre to experience the newly installed 1 gigabyte internet connection, which is free of charge for the centre's visitors to use. Retro video gaming pods were a hit with everyone and refreshments were served.

Internet access for housing estate residents is a priority in Wandsworth and the event highlighted the opportunities it brings to the community.

Contact Community Fibre Ltd on 0800 082 0770.

Report crime

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

Or WEC 020 8871 7490 (out of hours)



Keep well and warm over the winter period

Living in a cold home, particularly if you are older or have a long term condition, can cause serious health problems.

The Wandsworth and Richmond Assessment Point (WRAP) offers free home visits for advice and information on heating, insulation, benefits and health.

WRAP is a one-stop shop providing support including:

- Help and advice on staying warm and well for less
- Benefit checks and support with debt issues
- Advice on local services that will help keep you well

Contact WRAP and they will assess your needs and, if required, visit you at home. You can also get free devices to cut your water and energy use.

The council also works with the charity Leonard Cheshire Disability to provide emergency support such as advice and winter warmer packs in the case of a cold snap, and with Age UK to provide a handyman service. If you need their help you can request it from WRAP.

Find out more and see if you are eligible for the service at thinkingworks.co.uk/wandsworth-wrap

To book a visit call 0800 118 2327 or email enquiries@thinkingworks.co.uk

People aged over 65 or those with a long-term health condition are also urged to get a flu jab. You can arrange for your vaccination through your GP or local pharmacy.

Visit wandsworth.gov.uk/flu

Leonard Cheshire Disability were supporting Michelle and her family with emergency help and referred her to WRAP. After visiting Michelle at home, the WRAP advisor found the central heating had not been working for three years and worked with a local heating installer to fix the boiler for £80. Michelle said: "I cannot thank them enough, after three years we finally have heating and hot water. This makes such a difference to our lives. I am so grateful to WRAP."

Community choir

'An A-Choired Taste' brought tuneful festive cheer to the Minstead Gardens sheltered housing residents' Christmas party.



An A-Choired Taste

The choir is made up of Roehampton residents who are all over 50 and have an enthusiasm for singing. It is led by the Community Development Team and supported by the sheltered housing officer at Minstead Gardens.

Anyone wishing to join 'An A-Choired Taste' can just turn up at sessions which run every Monday from 1.30-2.30pm at Minstead Gardens supported housing clubroom. No previous experience is necessary. Contact Elaine Curley ecurley@wandsworth.gov.uk or 07956 248 057.



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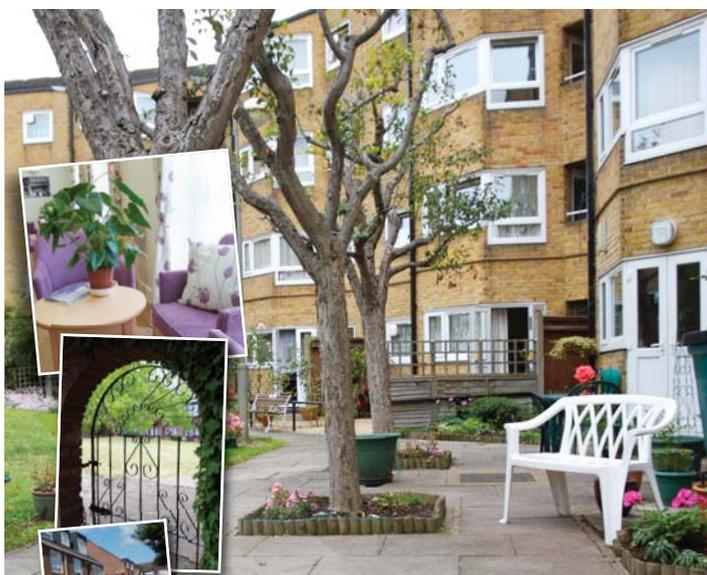
Classic cars come to Tooting

Sunday 5 November saw the 101st annual London to Brighton veteran car run.

First held in 1896, this is the longest running car event in the world. The run was first set up to mark the increase in speed limits from 4mph to 14mph.

Due to road works, this year's route was diverted through Clapham and Tooting as the cars made their way to Brighton.

Over 400 vehicles took part in this year's event. All the cars were made before 1905, meaning that they were all over 100 years old!



Are you interested in applying for sheltered housing?

We offer independent living in purpose-built apartments at schemes throughout Wandsworth.

If you are aged 55 or over and would like to find out more 020 8871 6840

www.wandsworth.gov.uk/shelteredhousing



AD.917 (5.15)

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www.wandsworth.gov.uk/telecare



AD.917 (5.15)

Don't lose your vote

Recent movers should register to vote

If you have recently moved home, you are less likely to be registered to vote. You aren't automatically registered at your new address, even if you pay council tax.

Why you should register

You need to register 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 your area.

Registering to vote can also help you apply for credit. Credit reference agencies use the electoral register to confirm where someone lives in order to prevent fraud.

How to register

- Go to gov.uk/register-to-vote
- Fill in your name, address, date of birth and a few other details. You'll also need your National Insurance number, which can be found on your payslip or on official letters about tax, pensions or benefits.
- Wandsworth Council will confirm when you've been added to the electoral register.

Borough Council Elections will take place on 3 May 2018. Don't miss out!

Visit wandsworth.gov.uk/vote for more information.

DO YOU HAVE A SAY IN YOUR FUTURE?

If you want to vote you must be registered

Borough Council Elections will take place on **3 May 2018. Make sure you don't miss out!**

Anyone not registered to vote should apply at **gov.uk/register-to-vote**

Find out more at **wandsworth.gov.uk/vote**

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