

# BrightSide

Issue 116 Dec '07 - Jan '08

The magazine of Wandsworth Council

## Tooting Library go-ahead

**ACTION ON FLYTIPPERS**

**BAC'S LOOK AHEAD**

**LOCAL HOMES CALL**

**FREEDOM PASS BOOST**



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photographed for first union by ian littler, January 2004

## GETTING STARTED

People in Tooting will have been delighted at the news that their library, situated in the heart of the town centre, will finally get the investment it deserves.

The building, which has been bursting at the seams for some time, will now be improved and extended at a cost of £3m.

It's a bold and imaginative design which will create some superb new reading and study spaces for users of all ages.

We had looked at a new location for the library but everyone agreed that it should stay on its current site where it is easily accessible.

While the construction period will be difficult, the result will be a revitalised and expanded town centre library of which the whole community can be proud.

The library announcement follows October's unveiling of the new-look Tooting Hub youth club.

With Tooting leisure centre attracting record numbers following last year's £2m refit, there's no shortage of top-notch facilities for people in the south of the borough.

**Edward Lister**  
Leader of  
Wandsworth Council

For local news visit  
[www.tootinglife.com](http://www.tootinglife.com)



New heritage displays illustrating the borough's rich and varied history are now appearing in local libraries. Exhibition panels and digital screens show pictures, maps, film footage and archive documents from yesteryear, while historical artefacts are also being put on display to provide a flavour of what life was like in the borough in days-gone-by. Pictured here at the Balham display is the council's executive member for leisure Malcolm Grimston (centre) with new heritage officers Sarah Bowden and Richard Holmes.

## 'Local homes for local people' call

People dreaming of moving into a low-cost home in Wandsworth are being warned that they could end up living miles away on the other side of London under plans put forward by the Mayor of London.

By 2012, the Mayor wants London's boroughs and housing associations to surrender a quarter of all their properties that become available for rent each year. This figure represents an annual total of around 330 council homes in Wandsworth.

It means that people waiting for a council flat in Putney or Tooting could be told they must go and live in places as far away as Hackney or Dagenham.

It would mean that people who have jobs, families and friends in the area could be sent to parts of London where they know absolutely no-one and where they have no links or support network.

Wandsworth's executive member for housing Cllr Martin D Johnson said: "If these plans are allowed to proceed unchecked it will mean the end of the idea of 'local homes for local people'. This approach seriously threatens the stability and sustainability of London's local communities."

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[www.e-brightside.com](http://www.e-brightside.com)

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### DELIVERING YOUR NEW BRIGHTSIDE

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We expect all copies of BrightSide to be delivered to every home in the borough and pushed fully through the letterbox.

Your next BrightSide will be delivered January 28 to February 1. If you don't receive your copy call us on (020) 8871 7520.

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# Tooting's £3m library refit



Tooting library is set to benefit from a £3m refurbishment after the council's bid for lottery funding proved successful.

Up to half the costs will be met by a lottery grant with the council contributing the rest.

The building's layout will be improved to make better use of space and provide access to all areas. The entrance to the library will be opened up by moving the main staircase.

A four-storey rear extension will be added to create new study areas for young people and adult learners. The project will also deliver new heating and lighting, better toilet facilities and lifts to all floors.

Work is expected to start next September with the new

library scheduled to open a year later.

Jane Allen, head of libraries, said: "It's good news for Tooting. The community wanted to keep the outside facade of the building but we will completely change the appearance inside.

"Everybody gets something different from the library - babies, school children, older students and elderly people. It's a world of imagination, a community resource and it doesn't cost them anything."

Tooting will be the second town centre library project to move forward in 2008. The council will also be starting work next year on the new Wandsworth town centre library. This is also due to open in 2009.

For more information visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/libraries).

## 2M two million voices against Heathrow expansion

Council leaders from the 2M Group have joined in launching a new online petition opposing the further expansion of Heathrow.

A new campaign website [www.stopheathrowexpansion.com](http://www.stopheathrowexpansion.com) will keep residents up to date with all aspects of the Government's proposals once they are formally announced.

For more information visit [www.2MGroup.org.uk](http://www.2MGroup.org.uk)

## Noise findings could derail runway plan

A Government study of people's attitudes to aircraft noise shows much lower thresholds of annoyance than previously thought.

The findings reveal that the level at which people become significantly annoyed has fallen from 57 to 50 decibels.

Official maps of areas affected by noise from Heathrow currently use the 57 decibel contour. This includes 258,000 people in communities from Windsor to Barnes.

But if the line is drawn at 50 decibels this covers 2 million people in an area running from Slough and Maidenhead to Clapham Common and Battersea.

Council leader Edward Lister said: "The report's timing is crucial because the Government is about to launch its campaign for a third runway at Heathrow.

"If this official research shows that noise nuisance is already a bigger problem than it was when Terminal Five was approved, it will make it much harder for ministers to claim that a third runway would not make matters worse."

The report, which was commissioned in 2001, was published in November following pressure by the 2M group of local authorities.

The Government is expected to publish the latest expansion plans shortly. These could add another 900 flights a day to the airport.

## Council urges end to stamp duty 'gamble'

First time buyers purchasing their home through the Government's shared ownership scheme are being forced to pay stamp duty on the full value of the property even though they may only be acquiring a quarter share.

For a typical two-bedroom property valued at £280,000 this adds another £8,400 to expenses at a time when purchasers can least afford it.

The only alternative is to gamble on paying the bulk of the duty later when buying additional portions of equity. The downside is that if values have risen, the tax liability will be higher.

Now the council is calling on the Chancellor to ease this tax burden for these first time buyers.

Council leader Edward Lister said: "The stamp duty catch is a huge anomaly which undermines an initiative which is intended to help people afford the cost of home-ownership in high value areas.

"Shared ownership is a good product which every year helps thousands of people get a foot on the property ladder. Ministers should remove the tax trap now so young buyers whose incomes are stretched can work out exactly what they can afford."

To find out more about low cost home ownership in Wandsworth visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/homeownership](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/homeownership).



## Arts centre's 'dynamic future'

The council and Battersea Arts Centre (BAC) have announced details of a new agreement that will secure the future of this vibrant arts venue.

The council, which owns the freehold of the Grade II\* listed building, will grant BAC a 125-year lease of the premises. This will enable them to develop their own long-term plans for the venue.

BAC will take on responsibility for repairs and will raise the money to develop and safeguard the future of the building. The council has granted a ten year rent-free period to enable this to happen.

BAC chair Nick Starr said: "What we have with the council is a straightforward arrangement where BAC takes on ownership of the building and responsibility for its upkeep.

"Our dream is to make Battersea the most dynamic arts space in the country. Thanks to the council we now have that opportunity."

The council will continue to support youth theatre work at the centre as part of its grants programme. This funding is worth £85,000 this year.

**For listings and bookings visit [www.bac.org.uk](http://www.bac.org.uk)**

## Minister approves hospital closure

Health Secretary Alan Johnson has formally backed the controversial decision to close Battersea's Bolingbroke Hospital.

The minister's decision finally brings to an end the long-running local campaign to keep the hospital open. All its remaining services will now be split up and moved to other NHS facilities in the borough.

Responding to the decision, the chairman of the council's health scrutiny committee Ian Hart said: "While it appears that the battle to save the Bolingbroke as a community hospital may have been lost, what we must all do now is work together to deliver the best possible future healthcare facilities for the people of Battersea and north Wandsworth.

"We still believe that a modernised and refurbished Bolingbroke is an affordable and realistic option and that it could house a range of services including those for the elderly, young families and mothers-to-be.

"We will keep on arguing its case as a hub for health care in north Wandsworth."

## Expansion plan for Northcote market

The council is to look at plans for extending and improving Northcote Road's popular street market.

There are currently 26 pitches and a waiting list of 40 traders. The busiest days are Friday and Saturday.

The review will examine the potential for creating new pitches to help meet the demand. The council also wants to improve electricity and water services for traders.

The exercise is being carried out in conjunction with a wider study commissioned by the council in the summer which is examining the opportunities for preserving the unique character of Northcote Road.

For more information visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/northcote](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/northcote).



# Town hall cuts emissions by 26 per cent

The council has achieved its target for cutting carbon emissions three years ahead of schedule.

The original aim had been to reduce CO2 emissions by 20 per cent over a 20-year period up to 2010. This was boosted in 2005 to 25 per cent. The target was reached earlier this year with the latest figures showing a 25.8 per cent fall.

The reduction is equivalent to more than 11,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide or 3,200 family homes. Much of the success is down to increased use of 'green' low carbon energy as well as reduced consumption.

A new computerised energy management system has cut energy usage by 23 per cent on five housing estates by ensuring boilers operate at maximum efficiency with temperature controls linked automatically to weather conditions.

Combined energy savings since 2006 are cutting around £700,000 a year off the council's £6 million energy bill.

In the last year the council has spent £110,000 on new projects which will produce annual energy savings of 178 tonnes. Measures include cavity wall insulation for buildings and automatic lighting controls.

On housing estates the council is testing solar water heating systems and photovoltaic panels to generate electricity. Voltage reduction devices have been fitted successfully at Putney library and will now be extended to include Balham and Tooting leisure centres.

The council is also using 20 per cent less water than three years ago. This is mainly the result of the new Battersea Park borehole which provides water for the fountains and also for irrigation in all the borough's parks and open spaces.

Environment spokesman Malcolm Grimston said: "More and more people are ready to adopt a more sustainable lifestyle and they expect their local council to lead by example."

Find out more about what local residents and business are doing to reduce their carbon emissions at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/greenpledge](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/greenpledge).



## More benefits for Freedom Pass holders

London's older and disabled people can now enjoy greater free travel benefits from their Freedom Pass - the concessionary fares scheme paid for by London's town halls.

Disabled Freedom Pass holders can now use the London overground network free of charge at anytime as well as London's trams, buses, Docklands Light Railway (DLR) and tubes, while people aged 60 and over are entitled to free travel on the network from 9am on weekdays instead of 9.30am. For national rail services the 9.30am start time remains.

The Freedom Pass is the country's most comprehensive free travel scheme. London's 32 boroughs pay for it using a mixture of national grant and local income, including council tax and surpluses from their parking accounts.

## Kelly urged to think again on cross-London link

The council has asked transport secretary Ruth Kelly to rethink plans to close down a threatened cross-London rail service.

Southern Railway want to withdraw the Watford Junction-Brighton link from December 2008. The service provides a direct connection to Gatwick from north London and allows travellers to avoid central London.

Take-up of the existing service is strong with trains full during peak hours. The route provides interchanges with other south London lines at Clapham Junction and East Croydon.

The council is also concerned that recent announcements on the Thameslink and Crossrail project have provided little reassurance that much needed investment will be available for rail services south of the river.

The council's transport spokesman Guy Senior said: "The Watford to Brighton line is that rare species: a genuine north-south link. Yet it has never been marketed effectively and now, it seems, it will be allowed to disappear. Successive transport secretaries have had a blind spot when it comes to south London - we need to get Ruth Kelly to see how properly joined-up services can ease pressure in other parts of the network."

# Sentences for flytippers 'need to be tougher'

**Two men – dubbed “London’s worst flytippers” – have been brought to justice following a two month investigation by the council’s flytip squad.**

Barry Running and Derek Kilty ran a lucrative business dumping waste and refuse across Wandsworth. On some occasions they dumped so much waste in the middle of the street that roads were blocked to traffic.

In addition, the pair also committed fraud by using the two civic amenity sites run by the Western Riverside Waste Authority at Smugglers Way and Cringle Street, where they would claim the waste was “household” rather than commercial and therefore exempt from charges.

In total the pair made 87 unlawful visits to the two waste sites – dumping an estimated 105 tonnes of refuse. On each occasion either Mr Running or Mr Kilty signed a declaration that the waste was from their own homes. The loss to taxpayers from unpaid disposal fees was just under £6,000.

At South Western magistrates court, the owner of the van, Mr Running, of Hafer Road, Battersea, pleaded guilty to five charges of flytipping and one charge of deception. He also asked for 86 other counts of deception to be taken into consideration by the judge when sentencing.

Mr Kilty, of Freedom Street, Battersea, admitted four counts of illegal flytipping, one count of deception and asked for 33 other offences of deception to be taken into consideration.

Both were sentenced to 200 hours community service. Mr Running was ordered to pay £250 compensation to Western Riverside and Mr Kilty £200.

The council’s environment spokesman Malcolm Grimston is now calling on justice ministers to ensure “tougher sentences for such blatant environmental vandalism”.

Cllr Grimston said: “If ministers want to assist local authorities in tackling the growing problem of flytipping then the criminals who are dumping waste and rubbish in our communities need to understand that, if they’re caught, they face a realistic prospect of being sent to prison.

“Councils up and down the country are fighting a daily battle with flytippers to keep their streets clean. If ministers don’t give clearer guidance to judges and magistrates about the seriousness with which they should treat these offences - then we will be left to fight this battle with one hand tied behind our back.”



## Flytip fast food shop owner nailed

**The owner of a fast food restaurant in Tooting has been nailed with a £1,000 flytip penalty after a load of unwanted wood was dumped on the street.**

Ahmed Ali, who owns The Kebab & Hamburger Bar in Tooting High Street, was convicted by magistrates following an investigation by the council’s flytip squad.

The court heard that council officers discovered a huge pile of wood and building waste in Garratt Terrace and as a result of their investigations, were able to trace the wood, timber and rubble back to Mr Ali’s restaurant, which was undergoing a refit.

For breaching environmental protection laws, the court fined him £300 and ordered him to pay £684 to cover the council’s legal fees and also the cost of clearing up the mess.

Anyone who wishes to report a flytip or litter problem can telephone the council’s litter team on (020) 8871 6396 or email [streetcleansing@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:streetcleansing@wandsworth.gov.uk).

People can also report flytips by sending the town hall a text message from their mobile phone.

The number for text messages is 07797 805456. A typical message might read “Flytip at 114 Olympic Way”.

Once the message is received the council will arrange to remove the flytip within 24 hours.

For further information about street cleaning services visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/streetcleaning](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/streetcleaning).

People who want to know when their refuse is collected – and so ensure that they do not leave their rubbish and recycling sacks on the highway too far ahead of collections – can find out at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/refuse](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/refuse).

# Deadline for primary school applications

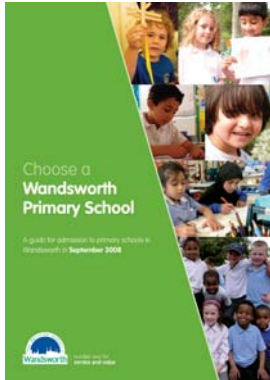
Parents who want to enrol their children at a Wandsworth primary school next September must apply by January 18.

To be eligible for a reception class place in September 2008, children should have been born between September 1, 2003 and August 31, 2004.

The council's *Choose a Wandsworth Primary School* brochure gives detailed guidance on how to make an application and contains information about all the borough's primary schools, plus details of after-school care schemes and other early-years services.

Parents will receive a letter confirming their offer on Friday, March 19. The final date for parents to confirm that they accept the place is Friday, April 2.

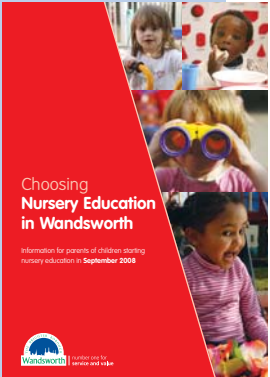
Copies of *Choose a Wandsworth Primary School* are available from schools and nurseries, online at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/schools](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/schools). Call (020) 8871 8265 or email [edpupserv@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:edpupserv@wandsworth.gov.uk).



## Nursery places

If your child will be three or four in September 2008 and you would like a place at a local nursery school or nursery class, contact the school direct. A list of schools can be found in the council brochure *Choosing Nursery Education in Wandsworth*. To get a copy call (020) 8871 7899 email [edcis@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:edcis@wandsworth.gov.uk) or visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/childcare](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/childcare).

The deadline for applications is February 8.



## Balham shops take to the airwaves

**Shopkeepers, pub landlords and traders in Balham now have improved safety and security with the introduction of a new Retail Radio scheme in the town centre.**

Businesses have been given two-way radios which are linked not only to their neighbours but also to the council's CCTV control room and the local police.

The initiative means that shopkeepers can quickly raise the alarm or warn their neighbours about a whole range of emergencies. The council's spokesman on community safety James Cousins said: "As well as providing an instantaneous method of communication with the emergency services, this scheme will also foster a greater sense of community among the traders."

Retail Radio schemes also operate in Clapham Junction, Putney, Tooting and Wandsworth town centres. Shops and businesses interested in joining the Balham scheme can contact Tony Bernhard-Grout on (020) 8871 6562.

An independent survey conducted on behalf of the Home Office revealed that in areas covered by retail radio:

- Nearly 70 per cent of retailers reported a drop in thefts.
- The average estimated savings in stock losses was 34 per cent.
- Forty four per cent of staff reported feeling less fearful of crime.

## Dogs helpline for worried residents

**Dog owners on council estates who fail to control their animals could find themselves in court.**



Local bye-laws for housing estates mean that dogs should be kept on a lead at all times. Residents can call (020) 8871 7532 at any time to report problems on their estate.

These can include problems with strays and fouling as well as concerns about intimidating and dangerous animals.

The council's dog control officers prosecute up to 100 dog owners a year for a variety of offences. As well as investigating dog nuisance they work with residents groups throughout the year to encourage responsible dog ownership.

Council tenants whose dogs cause a nuisance could also face action under their tenancy conditions.

**Anyone concerned about dog-related activities in other parts of the borough should call the police.**



## Work starts on £20m Southside plan

**The owners of Southside have started work on a £20 million redevelopment of the shopping centre's Garratt Lane frontage.**

The investment will create 20,000 sq ft of new retail space and an improved shopping environment on Garratt Lane. The new shops will open early in 2009 and could include offices and flats on the upper floors.

Steve Burgin of the Metro Shopping Fund said: "The Garratt Lane phase will provide modern shop units, allowing us to attract a vibrant mix of high quality retailers and create an attractive shopping environment on this busy street."

The centre will also see the arrival of a major new tenant in April 2008. The fashion retailer Gap will open a new store in the Central Mall in new space being constructed between Next and River Island.

The council's town centre manager Ian Taitte added: "We have around £1bn of new investment coming into the town



centre. The latest phase of the Southside redevelopment will transform this part of Garratt Lane.

"There is so much happening in Wandsworth today - it's good news for shoppers and incredibly exciting for the hundreds of people moving into the new wave of town centre apartments."

## Criminals warned to steer clear

A raft of new crime fighting initiatives were unveiled in Wandsworth to mark the borough's participation in the country's first "Not In My Neighbourhood Week".

The council worked with residents, businesses and voluntary groups to launch a crime prevention helpdesk for elderly people, seven new neighbourhood watch schemes and a new crime-alerting system for shops and businesses in Southfields village.

In addition a number of sessions were held throughout the week where people had their bicycles and mobile phones security marked, while dog owners were able to get their pets microchipped free of charge as an anti-theft measure.

Community safety spokesman James Cousins said: "Wandsworth is already inner London's safest borough, thanks to all the hard work done by the council, voluntary groups, residents and businesses all pulling together in partnership with the police. We aim to keep it that way."

**For more information about the work the council is doing to keep Wandsworth safe visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/communitysafety](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/communitysafety).**

## Be seen in the dark

**Now that the dark winter evenings are upon us the council is offering elderly residents and children high visibility safety aids to ensure they can be easily seen by motorists.**

Older residents can pick up high-visibility reusable shopping bags at local luncheon clubs and day centres, while children who enrol on council-run bike safety courses will be given fluorescent armbands.

**To reduce road safety casualties this winter, people should:**

- Always use pedestrian crossings on busy roads
- Wear bright clothing during the day and reflective badges or armbands after dark.
- Display bright lights at the front and back when cycling - and ensure the rear-facing reflector is not obscured by long coats or bags.
- Make sure that lights are always switched on when riding a motorcycle - even during the day.

For more information about road safety and to find out about childrens' bike safety courses contact Martin Andrews on (020) 8871 6670 or email [mandrews@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:mandrews@wandsworth.gov.uk).

# Smoke-free Wandsworth - how are we doing?

Five months after the introduction of the smoking ban, early signs suggest that most people in Wandsworth are obeying the new laws and the impact on business has been minimal.

There were fears the ban, which came into force in July, would be flouted, or would drive people away from pubs, clubs and restaurants.

But evidence suggests smokers are adapting, non-smokers are enjoying the smoke-free atmosphere and business owners are enforcing the new rules. Some are even booming as a result.

"I don't think it's affected our customer numbers," said Becky Newman who runs the Bricklayers Arms in Putney, the Campaign for Real Ale's regional pub of the year.

"People did sulk at the beginning and we got some stick, but there was nothing we could do and people got used to it. In fact, it's become a talking point."

Pubs and restaurants that have a garden or some other outside space have been least affected. Chris Wyatt, chairman of the Wandsworth Chamber of Commerce, said others have more difficulties.

"I would envisage an increase in outside blinds on frontages to allow for the 'rainy days' smokers," he said.

Nightclubs tend not to have outside areas, and Mark Pope, manager of The Grand in Clapham Junction, said people were thinking twice before going clubbing as a result.

"I think this will level off as people get used to it, though," he said.

"We have to keep an eye on people because they're trying to find places where they can hide inside to smoke. On the plus side the club's a lot cleaner, there are no dirty ashtrays and no cigarette butts on the floor. I'm certainly not against the ban."

Government figures show that 99 per cent of businesses in London were complying with the ban within two weeks of its introduction.

Sue Cox, the borough's smoking programme co-ordinator, said the figure is similar in Wandsworth.

"The whole thing's gone through without a whimper. We've had very few complaints. Pubs that don't have outside spaces have suffered a little bit, but we've also had reports from some pubs saying their business is booming and they wished this had happened years ago."

Staff at the Duke's Head in Putney who went smoke-free before the ban was in place



# Take the stress out of Christmas shopping!

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020 7207 8004

**Putney Leisure Centre,**  
Putney, SW15 1BL  
020 8785 0388

**Roehampton Sport and Fitness Centre,**  
Roehampton, SW15 4JB  
020 8785 0535

**Tooting Leisure Centre,**  
Tooting, SW17 0NE  
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**Wandle Recreation Centre,**  
Wandsworth, SW18 4DN  
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020 8772 9577  
wqpa18@balhamleisurecentre.co.uk

**Latchmere Leisure Centre**  
Burrin Road, Battersea, SW11 5AD  
020 7207 8004  
wqpa19@latchmereleisurecentre.co.uk

**Putney Leisure Centre**  
Deyburgh Road, Putney, SW15 1BL  
020 8785 0388  
wqpa20@putneyleisurecentre.co.uk

**Roehampton Sport and Fitness Centre**  
Laverstock Gardens, Roehampton, SW15 4JB  
020 8785 0535  
wqpa21@roehamptonandsportandfitnesscentre.co.uk

**Tooting Leisure Centre**  
Greenes Place, Tooting, SW17 0NE  
020 8333 7555  
wqpa22@tootingleisurecentre.co.uk

**Wandle Recreation Centre**  
Muggleton Road, Wandsworth, SW18 4DN  
020 8871 1149  
wqpa23@wandleandrecreationcentre.co.uk

# More than a hospital



An aquability session in the pool

Each day thousands of people drive past the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability on West Hill without any idea of the special work that goes on there.

Founded by Victorian philanthropist Andrew Reed, the hospital cares for people with profound or complex neurological disabilities.

Patients come from all over the country but, unlike other hospitals in Wandsworth, the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability is not part of the NHS and relies heavily on voluntary contributions to continue its work.

The imposing façade, recently renovated with help from Wandsworth Council, conceals state-of-the-art units that deal with rehabilitation, care, research and even pioneering wheelchair design.

Uniquely, the hospital provides all its treatments and therapies on site so patients receive complete care, from diagnosis to the provision of a solution, under one roof.

One patient had, for years, been misdiagnosed as being in a persistent vegetative state but was actually found to be suffering from locked-in syndrome; he was awake and aware but locked in a paralysed body.

Barbara Garnham talking to violinist Maxim Vengerov after a recent performance at RHN



“We were able to develop a communication tool for him and the first thing he typed was ‘I love you’ to his wife,” said communications head Sue Shillabeer.

The hospital used to be called the Royal Hospital and Home, and, according to Sue, providing a home is still a key part of its work.

“We want to give patients the things that others take for granted, even if it’s just the independence to switch the TV channel themselves. That’s the bit that adds quality of life and that’s the bit we receive no funding for.”

A large recreation department provides around 90 activities, including art, music, a pool, theatre and shopping trips and access to computers. There are also services such as a hairdresser and a bank.

Although some patients may only be at the hospital for a few months, others stay for years.

Barbara Garnham arrived 11 years ago after breaking her back in a fall. “This is my retirement home and I love it here,” she said.

“There are live concerts at least once a week and lots of outings. I also enjoy gardening and art and I have piano lessons.

“It’s also very spacious and if we want to be quiet and alone there’s always somewhere we can go.

“We have therapies and treatments, of course, but generally we try to forget about the medical side and enjoy ourselves.”

Visit [www.rhn.org.uk](http://www.rhn.org.uk), email [info@rhn.org.uk](mailto:info@rhn.org.uk) or call (020) 8780 4500 for more information on the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability and to find out about making a donation or becoming a volunteer. How about showing your support by buying this year’s Christmas cards from the hospital? Call Irene Deredas on (020) 8780 4567 or email [ideredas@rhn.org.uk](mailto:ideredas@rhn.org.uk).

# Green gifts



Instead of dreaming of a white Christmas this year, try a green one! Help make the borough greener by shopping locally and finding the great gifts that are available on your doorstep.



A stroll along Northcote Road will reveal a wide range of specialist shops and a market selling fair-trade fashion accessories, food, flowers, fragrances and much more.

**The Northcote Road Christmas Fair**, December 7 (4-8pm) will get you in the festive spirit with carol singing, mince pies, mulled wine and even a visit from Santa! The market will trade on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays throughout December and daily from December 13.

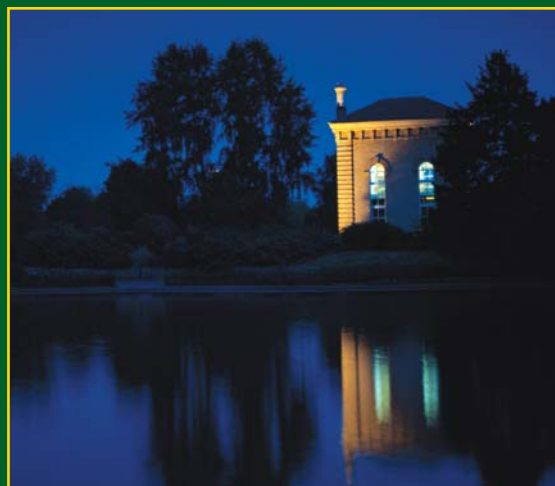
**Hildreth Street Market** in Balham is also set for the holiday season with extra stalls selling arts and crafts, Christmas trees and fresh food for the Christmas table, including organic meat, fruit and veg and cheeses. Open every Sunday.

Wandsworth's shopping centres boast a variety of shops with something to suit all ages and everyone's purse. Visit **The Pantry** (Old York Road, SW18) for divine chocolates and a huge range of Christmas goodies by Daylesford Organic. You could find the perfect pampering gift in Putney's **Green Room** (Body Shop) or the latest bike accessory at one of the borough's cycling shops would be ideal for a cyclist.



## Wishing you all a very merry green Christmas!

If you're walking in Battersea Park you couldn't find anywhere better for stocking fillers than the **Pump House Gallery** (right), where you can choose from woollen animals, silk purses, jumping frogs, mini kaleidoscopes and monster feet!



## and...

For those that like a good show there's **John Hegley's Christmas Creatures** at BAC from Dec 20 - Jan 5. Suitable for ages seven and up. Songs, poems and even dancing! Phone (020) 7223 2223 to book.



# Town centre on the up

Sue Roscoe Watts is on a mission - to turn Wandsworth into south London's premiere shopping and business destination.

Sue is the chairman of the Wandsworth Town Centre Partnership (WTCP), which has drawn up a new vision for the town.

Record levels of private investment are being pumped in, but the WTCP wants Wandsworth to grow in a planned, sustainable way, with new homes, shops and restaurants opening up in an atmosphere of environmental improvements, better transport links and reduced traffic.

Since regeneration began back in 1994, Wandsworth Town Centre has gone through some massive changes.

The tatty old Arndale was transformed into the shiny new Southside Shopping Centre, complete with cinema, restaurants and leading shops. Other developments

saw improvements to the Arndale Estate, the Riverside Quarter, Hardwicks Way and Old York Road.

Now Wandsworth is poised for more sweeping changes, with £1bn of investment in the pipeline.

A £20m redevelopment of Southside will see new shops, offices and flats, and there are major plans by developers Minerva for the former Young's Brewery site.

"Opening up the riverside has really changed the face of Wandsworth. Now people can go to one of the specialist shops in Old York Road and it's only a hop and a jump to the High Street. The Minerva development will open things up even more," said Sue.

"We're lucky that Minerva have a very good vision and they're prepared to listen to the Wandsworth Society, the town centre manager and us."

The WTCP, which includes representatives from developers, residents, business and the council, wants to ensure future developments happen within an agreed framework. It has drawn up a Vision and Agenda (V&A) for the next ten years, and a shorter term three-year Action Plan.

It wants a good mix of shops, restaurants and public spaces in an atmosphere that is cleaner, greener and more attractive. More planting, plus pieces of public art, are planned, with better facilities for cyclists and pedestrians and enhanced public transport links.



New flats in Hardwicks Way

"We'd like to green up the whole town centre by actually cladding the walls with greenery," said Sue.

"All town centres have partnerships like ours but Wandsworth is the only borough using it in such a creative way. Wandsworth is one of the youngest boroughs in the country and it has a real buzz about it. We want to build on that."



Al fresco dining in Old York Road

**Now Wandsworth is poised for more sweeping changes, with £1bn of investment in the pipeline**

# 2007

## The year in focus

**The council works with other public sector agencies including the police and the local NHS to improve the quality of life for all residents of the borough.**

The aim is to make Wandsworth an increasingly safe, sustainable and healthy place that offers good opportunities for young and old alike to share in its growing vitality and prosperity.

This ambitious agenda for change is set out in the borough-wide 'community strategy'. In this special BrightSide review of the year we look at the many different areas where the council and its partners have been achieving real progress for local people.

This review of the council's activities during 2007 follows the three-page summary of the council's 2006/2007 accounts published on pages 19-21. You can view these in full together with a detailed analysis of the council's performance as measured against Audit Commission indicators at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/performance](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/performance).



Preserving and protecting independent traders in Northcote Road is a priority

### Encouraging regeneration

The long term regeneration of Wandsworth town centre continued with new investment now set to reach £1bn. The plans include new homes and retail development on both the Young's site and in Southside.

The year also saw the go-ahead for plans to give Wandsworth its own town centre library. An estimated 300,000 visitors a year are expected to use the new library which will provide state-of-the-art facilities for local people when it opens in 2009. The new library was made possible by the relocation of the local museum to new premises in West Hill, where it will be managed by an independent trust.

In Roehampton, work was completed on the £1.8m refurbishment of the recreation centre. The new facility is part of a plan to attract £45m of new investment to the area including better shopping and new homes.

The council also launched a campaign to safeguard the unique diversity of Northcote Road, where some of the smaller independent shops faced a greater threat from bigger retailers.

### Protecting the environment

Safeguarding and protecting the environment were key themes for the council in 2007. Recycling services were expanded, especially for residents in tower blocks, while more items were identified as being suitable for Orange sacks and recycling banks. By the end of the year recycling levels had topped 25 per cent.

The council also worked hard to reduce its carbon footprint, and achieved its target for cutting carbon dioxide emissions three years ahead of schedule. The latest figures showed a 25.8 per cent fall. Fifty six per cent of the council's electricity supply is now purchased from green sources.

The council set up a new body to monitor noise at Battersea Heliport - the first of its kind in the country. Its first achievement was to establish a new streamlined complaints service at the heliport. This was followed by the publication of a guide explaining the heliport's operations to residents.



Problems caused by helicopter noise are now being addressed

The council's long running opposition to expansion at Heathrow Airport continued amid growing concerns about air noise and pollution. Wandsworth set up a new cross party alliance of local authorities opposed to further expansion at Heathrow. The 2M Group - so called because of the two million residents who live in the area affected by the airport's operations - vowed to fight Government plans to build a third runway and other changes that could allow the number of flights using Heathrow to increase from 480,000 a year to 800,000.

# 2007 The year in focus

## Delivering more homes

The council's own house building programme reached a year end total of 140 new houses. Wandsworth builds more new rented houses than any other London council.

In the preceding three years some 700 new affordable homes had been built - mainly by housing associations. A further 1,400 were in the pipeline.

As the year progressed the borough's new draft local development framework (LDF) was published, which set a target of 7,500 new homes to be built in the borough over the next ten years, of which half will be affordable. By the end of the year every dwelling on the council's estates met the Government's Decent Homes standard. Wandsworth was the first local authority landlord to meet this target.

The council's home ownership unit continued to help local first time buyers get a foot on the housing ladder. Since the team was set up in 1979 it has helped around 28,000 borough residents purchase their own affordable home. The unit is responsible for marketing virtually all the low-cost affordable homes being built locally that are offered for sale on shared-ownership terms.



Ambitious plans were published to improve the street scene outside Clapham Junction station and improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists

## Improving transport

The council stepped up its campaign for investment in new lines and better facilities at Clapham Junction station.

Ministers were urged to ensure that the proposed East London Line Extension is brought to Clapham Junction – giving local people a fast and convenient rail link to Surrey Quays and Canada Wharf.

Rail chiefs promised local travellers that Oyster pre-pay cards could be accepted at the borough's overground stations by 2009.

Councillors also called for new investment in river services to provide local residents and businesses with an alternative to crowded rail and tube journeys. The existing Putney-Blackfriars link was extended in April to include a new stop at Riverside Quarter next to Wandsworth Park.

The council also launched a new borough-wide car club. By the end of the year the scheme had more than 2,200 members who were able to pick up cars from 51 locations across the borough. Because car club members drive less, the scheme reduces congestion on local roads.

## Supporting older people

The council announced it was expanding its popular Telecare scheme which fits electronic sensors in the home of vulnerable people. Information is relayed to the town hall's 24-hour control centre allowing emergency wardens to identify problems and contact carers. The announcement meant another 200 people were able to join the scheme.

There was an £8m boost for sheltered housing with the announcement of a programme to improve specialist homes for the elderly over the coming three years.

Ministers were warned that cuts in Government funding for social care were straining services for the elderly. Councils across the country said that national grants were failing to keep pace with rising numbers of very elderly people and the growing complexity of their care needs.

A new council-funded service was launched to introduce older people to a variety of hobbies and interests. Hundreds of people over 50 signed up for the Active Days programme which successfully developed a host of pastimes including gardening, reading, cooking, photography, crafts and games clubs.

Government funding cuts for traditional evening classes led to a 15 per cent fall in adult learning. Ministers are switching resources to basic skills training for younger people. The council announced plans to increase participation by older people in 2008.

## A safer Wandsworth

People in Wandsworth were less likely to see anti-social behaviour as a problem than in other parts of the capital. The local figure of 16 per cent compared with 29 per cent across London. Two thirds of residents were satisfied with action taken locally to reduce crime and vandalism and there was strong support for security cameras, neighbourhood watch, parks police and the use of anti-social behaviour orders.

Figures showed that a record number of measures to tackle anti-social behaviour had been implemented. A total of 13 anti-social behaviour orders were obtained against individuals whose unruly and disorderly behaviour sparked legal action. In addition, 42 council tenants were threatened with eviction from their council-owned homes as a result of their anti-social behaviour.

Steps were also taken to combat doorstep conmen. A "No Cold Calling Zone" was set up in West Putney covering 650 households. As a result the number of unwanted callers in this part of Putney fell 70 per cent.

The council also took tough action against shops, businesses and residents that dump their rubbish on the streets. In just six months 81 people were given £300 fixed penalty notices for litter offences. The council's efforts to keep the borough clear of flytippers were recognised by independent litter watchdog Encams, which awarded the borough its highest rating.



## A healthier borough

The council fought a long battle to save Battersea's Bolingbroke Hospital from closure. Its demise was finally announced by health secretary Alan Johnson in November. The council is continuing its campaign to have a range of medical services for the elderly and other community health services returned to a modern new NHS facility on the site.

There was also a big fall in the number of teenage pregnancies. Since 1998, the number of girls under 18 becoming pregnant fell by almost 31 per cent. The average fall across London was less than 13 per cent.

Figures from Sport England showed that Wandsworth residents were among the fittest in the country. The results pointed to a direct correlation between the level of participation in sports and fitness activities and the quality of an area's leisure facilities. Since 2000 the council has spent more than £16m on improving its leisure centres.

## Cohesive communities

A 'speed-dating' event at the town hall enabled local students to fire a series of quick-fire questions at representatives from the borough's different faith groups. The Faith Direct initiative brought together speakers from local Muslim, Christian, Hindu, Sikh, Jewish, Baha'i, Humanist and Buddhist communities.

Hundreds of people were welcomed as new UK citizens at town hall citizenship ceremonies where they were asked to take an oath and pledge of allegiance to the Queen.

The council's support for 350 local voluntary sector groups topped £25m this year. More than a quarter describe themselves as faith or community-based organisations. The council also announced ambitious plans to get another 5,000 local people involved in volunteering over the next three years.

The council's policy of fostering sustainable and cohesive communities was also at the heart of its strategy to save the borough's remaining network of small post offices. Fourteen have closed since 2003 with more threatened in 2008.



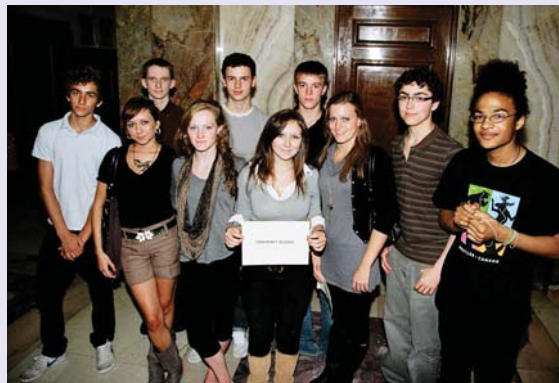
Students learned about different religions at the Faith Direct initiative

## Providing value for money

The council once again set the UK's lowest council tax bills. The council's average band D charge for 2007-8 was pegged at £377 while the Mayor of London's element of the bill rose to £304 – making a combined total of £681.

The Audit Commission ranked Wandsworth as one of the best performing councils in the country. As well as judging the council's services as excellent across the board, the commission also gave the town hall the maximum score for its use of resources. Wandsworth was one of just five councils in the country to receive top marks for services and value for money.

Nine out of ten people in a survey said the council was making the borough a better place to live compared to just 76 per cent in other parts of inner London. A similar proportion, 85 per cent, said Wandsworth was a good place to live, with schools, parks and facilities for young children scoring high marks.



Local pupils celebrated exam success

## Young people

Ambitious plans were published to rebuild every secondary school in Wandsworth over the next decade. The £270m programme is part of the government's Building Schools for the Future initiative.

Schools in all parts of the borough learned they were to benefit from a £900,000 programme geared to improving community facilities. The funding is part of the extended schools project and will help to provide more activities at the end of the school day as well as facilities for parents.

People concerned about child abuse were able to get expert advice from a new website - [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/safeguarding](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/safeguarding). This covers a range of issues, such as child abuse, bullying, domestic violence, private fostering and teenage sexual health.

Pupils at the borough's secondary schools achieved great success in this summer's GCSE and A Level exams. The number of students gaining five or more A\* to C grades at GCSE, including English and maths, jumped nearly seven points on the previous year - from 42 per cent to just under 49 per cent.

# 'Tis the season to recycle

London will produce around 375,000 tonnes of rubbish this Christmas – that's the equivalent weight of 50,000 double-decker buses.

Recycle Western Riverside has come up with ten top tips to help you cut down on your rubbish over the Christmas season. After all, recycling in Wandsworth is as easy as (mince) pie!

## At the shops

- 1** This Christmas you could treat someone to an 'experience' present that doesn't create waste, like tickets to an event or a trip to the cinema.
- 2** When buying the ingredients for your Christmas dinner, make sure you buy loose vegetables – it will help you cut down on the packaging you have to throw away.
- 3** Buy gifts made from recycled materials. From fashionable bags and drinking glasses to cushions and clothing, you'll be amazed at what you can find. Visit [www.recyclenow.com](http://www.recyclenow.com) for more ideas.
- 4** Around 125,000 tonnes of plastic packaging are thrown away over Christmas – that's the equivalent weight of more than 50,000 polar bears! When buying gifts, try to avoid heavily-packaged items.
- 5** Say "No" to unwanted carrier bags. When doing your Christmas shopping, take a reusable shopping bag with you or reuse old plastic bags.



## At home

- 1** It is estimated that up to one billion Christmas cards could end up in bins across the UK. Try sending e-cards instead – they are cheaper and more environmentally friendly. Remember that cards can also be recycled or turned into next year's gift tags.
- 2** If you have a real Christmas tree, make sure you recycle it in the New Year. Your council will collect it from outside your home or you can take it to your nearest drop-off point.
- 3** After preparing Christmas dinner, why not put your left-over vegetable peelings in a compost bin? With around one billion sprouts sold during the Christmas period, that's a lot of composting just waiting to happen!
- 4** More than 80,000 tonnes of old clothes are thrown away over Christmas. If you get any new additions to your wardrobe, donate your old clothes to charity shops. You could also donate those gifts you didn't really need or want!
- 5** Remember, the main sources of extra rubbish at home are wrapping paper, Christmas cards, glass bottles, cans and food and drinks cartons. You can recycle all of these items in your orange sack or at a bring bank in Wandsworth, it's easy!



## A green resolution

Make it your New Year's resolution to reduce, reuse and recycle! And remember to use your council's Christmas tree recycling service.

The council's statement of accounts for 2006/07 was prepared following recommended accounting practice. The independent auditors provided their opinion that the accounts present fairly the financial position of the council at March 31, 2007 and its income and expenditure for the year. The figures in this summary have been based on the audited accounts but some modifications have been made to provide more meaningful information. A full copy of the council's statement of accounts is available on the council's website.

**Chris Buss**  
Director of Finance and  
Deputy Chief Executive

# A summary of the council's accounts 2006/07

The following pages provide details of the council's spending and income during 2006/7 and summarise the council's financial position at March 31, 2007.

**GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT -** The General Revenue Account represents the cost of running council services between April 2006 and March 2007, where the money came from to finance those costs, and the balance at the year-end.

	GROSS SPENDING	GROSS INCOME	NET SPENDING
	£'m	£'m	£'m
Culture, Environment and Planning	65.8	9.3	56.5
Central Services	36.1	67.5	(31.4)
Education	196.0	171.6	24.4
Transportation & Roads	29.4	17.6	11.8
Housing Services	252.9	255.5	(2.6)
Social Services	146.0	44.5	101.5
<b>Cost of services</b>	<b>726.2</b>	<b>566.0</b>	<b>160.2</b>
Less: Interest and investment income			(12.1)
Add: Additions to reserves			26.8
<b>Amount to be met from Government grant and local taxation</b>			<b>174.9</b>
Paid for by:			
Council taxpayers			44.1
Government grant			133.7
<b>Total Income</b>			<b>177.8</b>
<b>Surplus for the year</b>			<b>2.9</b>
Balance at end of March 2006			11.9
<b>Balance at end of March 2007</b>			<b>14.8</b>

The council made a surplus of £2.9 million in 2006/07 compared with a £5.7 million deficit in 2005/06. However, the council had budgeted to make a surplus of £0.9 million to restore the balance in the revenue account to £10 million. In addition, in-year budget reductions and underspendings of £8 million were partly offset by £6.0 million set aside to pay for future general capital spending plans. The final balance in the general revenue account was £14.8 million.

Government general grants increased by the minimum two per cent in the year to £133.7 million, based on the Government's calculation of a like-for-like basis, but £106.2 million less in absolute terms than the grant for 2005/06, chiefly due to the introduction of the separate Dedicated Schools Grant in 2006/07. This compares with increases of three per cent nationally, and 2.7 per cent for the London area. Wandsworth is likely to receive just the minimum annual increase in grant for the foreseeable future which is unlikely to cover general inflationary pressures, implying continuing real-terms reductions in Government support for council services.

COUNCIL TAX	2006/07	2005/06
Average amount for band D properties		
- Wandsworth Council	<b>£359.63</b>	£359.63
- Greater London Authority	<b>£288.61</b>	£254.62
<b>Total</b>	<b>£648.24</b>	£614.25

Business rate per £ value		
- Standard rating multiplier	<b>43.3p</b>	42.2p
- Small business rating multiplier	<b>42.6p</b>	41.5p

The council's share of the council tax has not changed since 2003 in terms of the average band D amount of £359.63. The Greater London Authority share has increased by 13.3 per cent since 2005. The combined average band D amount for 2006/07 was £648.24, a 5.5 per cent increase on 2005/06.

The average council tax per dwelling of £606.36 remained the lowest in Great Britain and amounted to only 57 per cent of the average £1,055.78 for England.

**GENERAL CAPITAL SPENDING** - Capital spending represents money spent by the council on purchasing, upgrading and improving assets such as buildings and roads (capital spending on council housing is treated separately). The council receives the benefit from capital spending over a longer period of time. The table below shows the significant general capital schemes for 2006/07.

<b>CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE</b>	<b>2006/07 £M</b>	<b>HIGHWAYS</b>	<b>2006/07 £M</b>
Ernest Bevin – sports development/sixth form block	3.4	Carriageway and footway repairs and improvements	2.2
Other secondary school schemes	1.3	Safety, accessibility and other schemes	2.8
Chesterton – roof renewal/nursery	0.8		(5.0)
Other primary school schemes	2.5	<b>RENOVATION GRANTS</b>	
Garratt Park – extension and adaptations	0.9	Regional empty homes grants	1.9
Other special school schemes	1.7	General renovation grants	1.0
Youth and play schemes	0.5	Loans to leaseholders	0.1
Family centre, 2 Smallwood Road – refurbishment	0.4		(3.0)
Other children and families schemes	0.4	<b>ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE</b>	
Other education funded schemes	3.3	Refurbishment of leisure centres	4.4
	(15.2)	Parks and open spaces improvements	0.1
<b>COMMUNITY SAFETY</b>		Putney Vale Cemetery – disabled access/roof	0.1
Crime reduction strategy	0.2		(4.6)
Safer stations	0.2	<b>ADULT CARE</b>	
Safer and stronger communities	0.1	Adaptations for the disabled	0.1
	(0.5)	Other care and support schemes	0.3
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>			(0.4)
Town centre improvement schemes	0.3	<b>CORPORATE SERVICES</b>	
Roehampton regeneration framework	0.1	Administrative buildings – repairs and improvements	0.4
	(0.4)	Council tax and benefits – IT improvements	0.5
		Other property improvements	0.1
			(1.0)
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30.1</b>

The council spent £30.1 million on general capital schemes during the year, £2.5 million higher than 2005/06. This was paid for with capital grants and reimbursements of £14.2 million and £15.9 million of capital receipts from the sale of assets.

**COUNCIL HOUSING** - This account shows all revenue and capital spending and income relating to the council's housing. The council owns 33,520 dwellings, of which 15,898 have been sold on long-term leases.

<b>REVENUE INCOME</b>	<b>2006/07 £M</b>	<b>REVENUE SPENDING</b>	<b>2006/07 £M</b>
Council house rents	81.1	Repairs and maintenance	21.8
Service charges from leaseholders	11.1	Estate and management costs	37.0
Other income	11.9	Rent rebates	5.8
	(104.1)	Subsidy payable to the Government	19.7
<b>CAPITAL INCOME</b>		Other costs	4.9
Government subsidy	14.8		(89.2)
Capital receipts from sale of council housing	20.6	<b>CAPITAL SPENDING</b>	
Leaseholder major works charges	1.7	Repairs and improvements	24.5
	(37.1)	Contribution to Major Repairs Reserve	11.9
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>141.2</b>	Cash incentives to tenants to assist private purchase	0.7
			(37.1)
		<b>TOTAL SPENDING</b>	<b>126.3</b>
		<b>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>14.9</b>
		All monies held to underpin the business plan for council housing	109.9

Capital receipts from the sale of council houses came to £29.3 million, compared to £27.5 million the previous year. However, £6.4 million of these receipts had to be paid to the Government. Of the remainder, £20.6 million was used to help finance spending of £25.2 million on major repairs and refurbishments, and cash incentives to tenants to assist private purchase. The spending and income from council housing must be kept separate from other council spending. The Housing Revenue Account and the Major Repairs Reserve underpin the longer-term business plan for housing.

## COUNCIL HOUSING - CONTINUED

### ANALYSIS OF COUNCIL HOUSING CAPITAL SPEND 2006/07 £M

Alton Estate - Installation of individual heating, lift refurbishment, entrycall replacement, heating repairs, water booster plants	3.4
Wilditch Estate - Major refurbishment and regeneration at Weybridge Point	2.1
Henry Prince Estate - Regeneration and refurbishment	1.4
Wayford Street - Boiler, windows and roof renewal	0.8
Burtop Road - Roof renewals and paving	0.6
St James Grove - Regeneration and refurbishment	0.5
Hidden Homes - Continuation of the council's programme	1.6
Adaptations for the disabled	0.9
Other repairs and improvements to housing stock	13.2
Cash incentives to tenants to assist private purchase	0.7

**TOTAL 25.2**

Capital spending on housing represents money spent by the council chiefly on upgrades and improvements to the housing stock. The council receives the benefit from capital spending over an extended period of time. The council spent £25.2 million in 2006/07, a decrease of £3.9 million on the previous year. The vast majority of this was spent on improvements to housing estates; in particular there was significant continuing spending on major refurbishment works on the St James Grove Estate and Weybridge Point in Battersea.

### AVERAGE RENTS AND SERVICE CHARGES 2006/07 £

Average annual leasehold service charge bill	657
Average weekly rent	93.14

Between 2005/06 and 2006/07, the average annual leasehold service charge bill rose from £634 to £657, and the average weekly rents rose by an average of £6.22 to £93.14.

## COUNCIL BALANCE SHEET - What the council owes and is owed

### BALANCE SHEET 31 MARCH 2007 £M

Buildings and land owned by the council	1,627
Vehicles, plant and machinery	8
Stocks and work in progress	1
Investments	261
Money owed to the council	54
Money owed by the council	(155)
Pensions liability	(117)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,679</b>

#### Financed by:

Accounting reserves	1,470
General Fund balance	15
Housing reserves	110
Usable capital receipts	39
School balances	13
Other balances	32
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,679</b>

The council's balance sheet total increased by £84 million to £1,679 million between 2005/06 and 2006/07. This was chiefly as a result of the reduction of the assessed pensions liability and the increase in money invested by the council.

## FEEDBACK

Wandsworth Council is always keen to provide the best information for its residents, and would value your opinion on these summary financial statements. If you would like to provide feedback, please take a few moments to answer the questions below and return to:

Ernie Jarvis  
Head of Corporate Finance  
Town Hall  
Wandsworth High Street  
SW18 2PU

or email your comments to: [ejarvis@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:ejarvis@wandsworth.gov.uk)

Please put a tick in the boxes 1-5, with 1 meaning you strongly agree with the statement, and 5 meaning you strongly disagree with the statement.

	1	2	3	4	5
1. I found the summary informative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I found the summary easy to understand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The layout made the summary easier to read	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The summary would benefit from the inclusion of charts/diagrams	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any other comments, including information you would like to see included in the summary statements.

# Support for fathers

Single dad Billy Morgan was finding it tough bringing up his young son and needed reassurance that he was doing a good job.

He wanted to chat to other men about their shared experiences of fatherhood but found that support for single parents was geared towards mothers.

A friend at his son's nursery suggested Billy attend a new parenting course aimed at fathers that was starting up at Welcare in Tooting. Billy made so much progress on the ten-week course that he was selected to be trained as a course facilitator himself.

"I didn't feel I needed help but I thought it would be good to meet other single parents in my position," said Billy, 36, who is now working as a volunteer co-facilitator at Welcare.

"I wanted to know that everything I was going through was normal. I just wanted to share my experiences. Men deal with things in a different way. Women find it easier to meet other mothers and chat but men are less likely to open up. And communicating with children can be a very difficult thing."

Clinical psychologist Sandra Rotenberg, a Welcare family support worker for the Children's Fund, runs the classes.

She said the aim is to help fathers, not judge them. "They talk about their difficulties and we help them become more focused when they're dealing with their children. We also teach them the importance of play because that's a very important tool to create a positive relationship with their children."

The group is run on Fridays from 10am till noon and is based at the Wandsworth Welcare Centre, 79 Trinity Road, London SW17 7SQ

For more information on the courses contact Sandra Rotenberg on (020) 8767 1020



Billy Morgan with Sandra Rotenberg at the Welcare Centre in Tooting

"I didn't feel I needed help, but I thought it would be good to meet other single parents in my position"

They use discussion and role-play to work through different scenarios and are trained to control their temper, praise good behaviour and set effective limits.

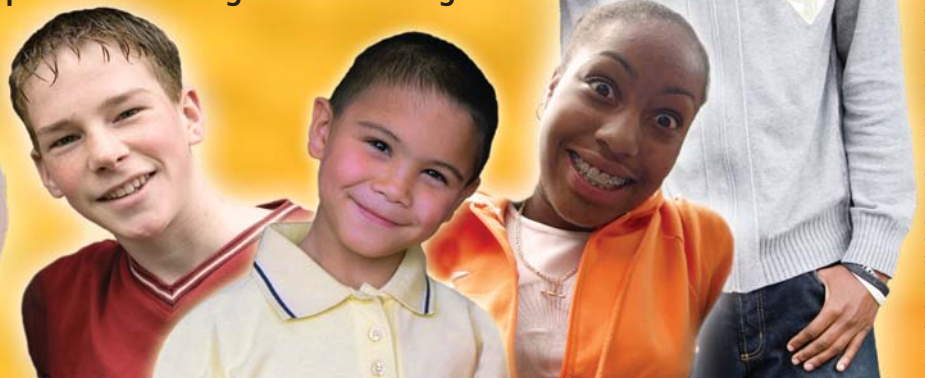
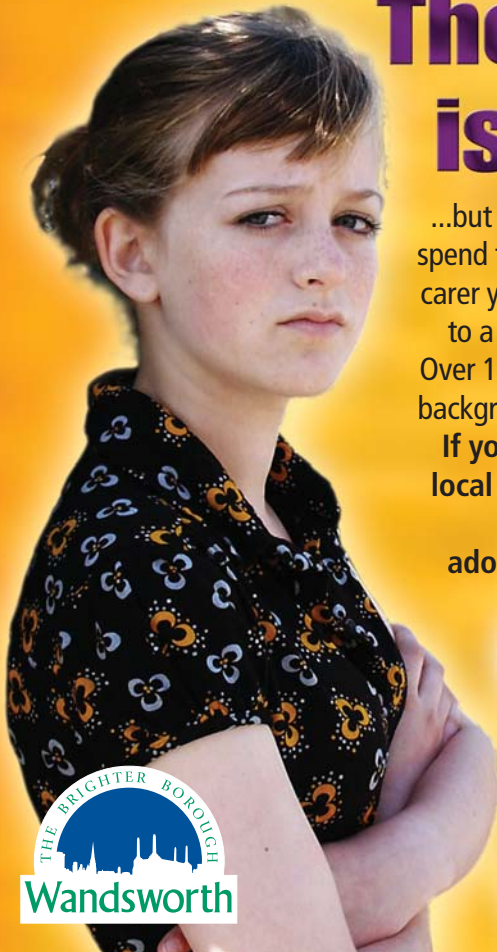
Ultimately, they are taught to bond with their children so that they can make them feel secure and loved.

"The course also develops the men's self-confidence and builds communication skills that they can use in other areas of their lives," said Sandra.

"Most of the men on my first course were unemployed but at the end they almost all returned to work."

# The festive season is a time for family...

...but sometimes parents and children are unable to spend this special time together. By becoming a foster carer you can help by providing a stable, loving home to a child, or children, for as long as they need it. Over 100 children and young people from a variety of backgrounds are cared for in this way in Wandsworth. If you think you could make a difference to a local family, contact the Wandsworth fostering service on (020) 8871 6666 or email [adoptionandfostering@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:adoptionandfostering@wandsworth.gov.uk).



Designed and produced by the Corporate Communications Unit, Wandsworth Council AD.779 (11.07) Photos: www.johnbradell.co.uk

## Don't get a bank holiday parking ticket!

Yellow line restrictions  
remain in force.

You can park for free in designated parking bays but check the signs carefully especially when using part-time bays (like those in bus lanes). The yellow lines will still be in force during morning and afternoon peaks.



AD.7931 (11.05)

## Putney School of Art & Design

Web Design  
Digital Photography  
Book Illustration  
Ceramics  
Digital Art  
Life Drawing  
Oil Painting  
Watercolour  
Learn to Draw  
Etching  
Screenprinting  
Lithography  
Diploma in Art  
and Design



Enrol now for part-time courses  
(020) 8788 9145  
[www.wandsworth.gov.uk/psad](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/psad)



AD.710 (11.07)

# Making a difference

Many children struggle to develop vital reading skills but volunteers who spend a few hours a week in the borough's schools are making a real difference.



Kezia Smith and her VRH helper Marsha Hunt. Photo by Stefano Cagnoni

Volunteer Reading Help (VRH) is a charity that recruits, trains and supports volunteers to provide one-to-one help for six to 11-year-olds. The charity already has 30 people working in just under 20 primary schools in Wandsworth but, with more volunteers, many more young people could be helped.

Children who benefit most from the scheme usually lack confidence or language skills or do not get the chance to read at home. They are selected by their school to take part.

Each volunteer visits the school twice a week and gives private, one-to-one reading support to three or four children. Volunteers use books and other materials provided by VRH and are encouraged to chat to the children and play educational games. Training for volunteers is extensive and ongoing.

Susan Murray has been volunteering at Earlsfield Primary School for ten years and says it's been the most rewarding job she's ever had.

"You do form a real bond with the children and it's quite

hard not to see them again when they leave. I call them 'my children' because I get so fond of them. I also know all the staff and really feel part of the school.

"But you've got to make a regular commitment and you've got to love children."

Kathy Owles, special educational needs co-ordinator at Earlsfield, decides which children will be picked for the scheme. She says it has a significant impact on their reading ability.

"In addition, their attitude to work improves because of the one-to-one support. They feel someone really cares about them and is taking an interest in what they're doing."

Jan Doole is a volunteer who is also a VRH trustee. She said the aim of the charity, which started in London over 20 years ago but now has 2,000 volunteers across England and Wales, is to give all children that need it the opportunity to read one-to-one with an adult.

"We want to try and get into every school in deprived areas but to do that we need more volunteers."

**If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, contact Amelia Shaw on (020) 7730 2429 or email [amelia.shaw@URH.org.uk](mailto:amelia.shaw@URH.org.uk)**



# Active Lifestyles

## Over 50s Activities and Walks

Hayley Goodin  
(020) 8871 6373

## Battersea Park Millennium Arena

(020) 8871 7524

## MEND programme

Lucy Howcroft  
(020) 8871 8391 or visit  
[www.mendprogramme.org](http://www.mendprogramme.org)

## Tea Dances

(020) 8871 7037

## Belly Dance Classes

07956 286166

Whether you're young, old or somewhere in between, the council has a range of activities on offer to help you stay active. From sports to tea dances there are lots of new things to try.

There's social tennis for players of any level at the Millennium Arena's floodlit courts in Battersea Park. The council's leisure centres offer a wide range of classes or you can just drop in for a swim.

The ten-week MEND (Mind, Exercise, Nutrition... Do it!) programme gives seven to thirteen-year-olds who may be worried about their weight a fun way to keep fit, healthy and happy. New programmes will run in Roehampton, Tooting, Battersea and Southfields in January 2008.

The council's leisure and sports services provide classes for the over 50s, including chair-based exercises and line dancing. If you enjoy walking, Hayley Goodin, the council's physical activity co-ordinator organises health walks throughout the borough and these are a good way to meet others whilst enjoying the outdoors. To find out more or to volunteer to lead a walk, contact Hayley on (020) 8871 6373.



For more information phone the contacts listed or visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk). To search for more events and activities near you visit [www.heywhatson.com](http://www.heywhatson.com).

The council launches its new Active Lifestyles directory in February.



# Listening to you

The council wants to hear your views on local services and issues. Whether it's to do with street cleaning, parking, policing, public transport or the NHS – we want to make sure we understand your priorities.

Public meetings are being held in each ward so that you have a voice. The next meeting is:

Ward	Date & time	Venue
Latchmere Ward	Monday January 14 7.30pm	Chesterton Primary School Dagnall Street SW11 5DT

If you cannot attend your local ward meeting you can still have your say. Submit your questions and views via [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/listen](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/listen).

## Important change to your Council Tax instalments from next April

Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations 1992 Part 1 of Schedule 1

From **1st April 2008** if you do not pay your Council Tax by **Direct Debit** your payment will become due on the 1st of the month.

- **1 instalment due on the 12th April 2008**, followed by
- **9 instalments on the 1st May to January 2009** inclusive.

This means that if the Council does not receive your monthly instalment by the due date of the 1st of each month you will risk receiving a reminder and possibly court action.

### Why set up a Direct Debit now?

- A wider choice of payment dates; choose from the **4th, 11th, 15th, 18th or 25th**
- You won't receive any reminders
- Keeping the cost of collection low will help us to keep your Council Tax low

**Call the Direct Debit hotline: (020) 8871 7799**  
8.30am - 5.30pm Monday to Friday or  
download a Direct Debit instruction at  
**[www.wandsworth.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/counciltax)**

If you have arrears that are subject to court proceedings, these will not be included in the Direct Debit and should be paid as advised.



## Christmas & New Year Refuse & Recycling

There will be no collections on Christmas Day or New Year's Day. All collections between Tuesday, December 25 and Saturday, January 5 will be made one day later than normal.

For exact dates visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/wasteservices](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/wasteservices).

## Christmas Tree Recycling January 7 to 19

Christmas trees will be collected from your front garden on the same day as your rubbish and recycling. The trees are chipped and turned into mulch. This service will run from Monday, January 7 to Saturday, January 19. If you have to put your tree on the pavement, please do so the night before or by 6.30am on your collection day. If you live in a block of flats, please leave your tree by the bin area but be careful not to block access to the bins.

You can also take your tree to one of the public tips at Smugglers Way or Cringle Dock.

For information call (020) 8871 8558  
email [wasteservices@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:wasteservices@wandsworth.gov.uk)



NOW LIVE...

# heywhatson.com

YOUR NEW ONLINE GUIDE

# hey... what's on?

Welcome to What's On in Wandsworth, your guide to art exhibitions, reading groups, sporting activities, children's events and more.

## AROUND AND ABOUT

FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON NEAR YOU

### Singing and piano tuition

Phone Gina Watson 07742 296738.  
Visit [www.ginawatson.co.uk](http://www.ginawatson.co.uk)  
Singing for all levels. Piano for beginners. Joint singing and piano course for children.

### De-stress and relaxation open day

Saturday 8 December, 11am-5pm.  
The Holistic Centre, 3 Token Yard,  
77 Putney High Street SW15.  
Phone 8780 0623.  
Find out about natural health. Free taster treatments for all.

### First Aid training

Phone 8675 4036. Visit  
[www.firstaidforlife.org.uk](http://www.firstaidforlife.org.uk)  
Training conducted by qualified nurse and first aider, at your premises.

### Christmas Day lunch for the elderly

Events marquee, Battersea Park SW11. Phone 7924 5377.  
Lunch and tea party for local elderly people. Volunteers needed to help on the day.

### Shape tickets

Phone 7619 6166, minicom 7619 6161 or visit [www.shapearts.org.uk/shapetickets](http://www.shapearts.org.uk/shapetickets)  
If you face obstacles getting to events because of disability, why not become a Shape Tickets member for £25 per year and a volunteer would accompany you to events.

### Barnardo's dad's dash

Sunday 24 February.  
Battersea Park SW11.  
Contact Kirsty 8498 7019 or [events@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:events@barnardos.org.uk)  
5km charity fun run.

### Clarinet tuition

Visit [www.lucaluciano.cjb.net](http://www.lucaluciano.cjb.net)  
Phone 07985 663272  
Experienced clarinetist/composer gives one to one tuition in jazz and classical clarinet from intermediate to advanced level.

### Piano lessons

Putney Heath SW15.  
Phone 07821 719755.  
Teaching children and adults; lessons cover theory and exam preparation.

### Crystal workshops and courses

Phone 7978 7360.  
Email [val-halla@lineone.net](mailto:val-halla@lineone.net)  
Visit [www.val-halla.co.uk](http://www.val-halla.co.uk)

### Guided meditation

Thursdays 8-9pm.  
Phone 7978 7360.  
Email [val-halla@lineone.net](mailto:val-halla@lineone.net)  
Visit [www.val-halla.co.uk](http://www.val-halla.co.uk)

### New singing group \*

St. Margaret's Church, Putney Park Lane SW15. Phone 8876 5065 or email [dhsingers@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:dhsingers@ukonline.co.uk)  
No experience needed and you don't need to be able to read music.

### Buy and sell baby items locally

Visit [www.nappyvalley.co.uk](http://www.nappyvalley.co.uk)

### Piano tuition with Mark

Phone Mark 8870 7830.  
Friendly, experienced and qualified teacher of children and adults.

### Flamenco dancing and guitar tuition

Phone Juani Garcia 8879 0102.  
All levels.

### Children's make-up/pamper parties

Phone Makeover Supreme 07985 140 886.  
Organised children's pamper parties including face painting and hair styling in your own home.

### Hands-on Reiki and Bach Flower remedies in Putney.

Phone 07717 250 627 or email [info@handsonreiki.com](mailto:info@handsonreiki.com)

### SHARE Community

64 Altenburg Gardens SW11.  
Phone 7924 2949.  
Visit [www.sharecommunity.org.uk](http://www.sharecommunity.org.uk)  
Free training for disabled adults and people facing health related barriers to employment.

### Halls for hire

Derinton Road Community Centre,  
101 a/b Derinton Road SW17.  
Phone 8682 9955 weekdays  
10am-3pm.

Do you know someone special?

## Wandsworth Young Person of the Year Award 2008



Recognising and celebrating young people and their contribution to society, which often goes unnoticed

To find out more please call (020) 8871 8112

Proud sponsors:



\* Access for people with disability

\*\* Access for people with disability and hearing loop



CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

## LOCAL GROUPS

LOCAL MEETING GROUPS ON VARIED SUBJECTS, FROM ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES TO THE HISTORY OF THE BOROUGH.

### Friends First

Third Saturday of month.  
Phone Annabel 07969 791246 for venue/time.  
A space for young adults affected by Multiple Sclerosis to socialise.

### Clean up the River Wandle

2nd Sunday of month 11am.  
Visit [www.wandletrust.org](http://www.wandletrust.org)  
Voluntary organisation aiming to improve the habitat of the Wandle Valley.

### Putney Music\*

Fortnightly on a Monday 8pm.  
Dryburgh Hall, Putney Leisure Centre, SW15. Phone 8788 0827.  
Visit [www.thefms.co.uk/putney.htm](http://www.thefms.co.uk/putney.htm)  
3 December - Tenor Adrian Thompson interviewed by vice-president Ian Partridge.  
17 December - annual social evening.

### Age Activity Centre

966 Garratt Lane SW17.  
Phone 8767 8426.  
Visit [www.ageactivity.org.uk](http://www.ageactivity.org.uk)  
For over 60s.

### The Furzedown Project

Weekdays.  
91-93 Moyser Road SW16.  
Phone 8677 4283. Email [manager@furzedownproject.org](mailto:manager@furzedownproject.org)  
Classes and services for older people. Membership £12 per year.

### L.A.R.A Community Centre

Fridays.  
St. Paul's Church, 92c St. John's Hill, SW11. Phone 7642 3713.  
A socialising club for older residents. Outings. Refreshments.

### Putney Town Bowling Club

Comondale, behind Putney Hospital SW15. Phone 8788 9370.  
Friendlies, league and county games. All ages welcome. Low membership rates. Parking facilities.

### Lavender Circle

Wednesdays 1-4pm.  
Ascension Church, Lavender Hill SW11.  
Offering friendship and support for those with time on their hands.

### Lavender Bridge Club\*

Wednesdays 12noon-4pm and Fridays 1-4.30pm.  
York Gardens Library & Community Centre SW11. Phone 8767 3886. [www.lavenderbridge.co.uk](http://www.lavenderbridge.co.uk)  
Friendly duplicate bridge. EBU registered. Partners provided.

### Wandsworth Historical Society

Last Friday of month 8pm.  
Friends Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street, (opp. Town Hall) SW18.  
Visit [www.wandsworthhistory.org.uk](http://www.wandsworthhistory.org.uk)  
Lectures and discussions on the history and archaeology of the Wandsworth borough and further afield.

### Earlsfield Evening Townswomen's Guild

2nd Tuesday of month 7pm.  
Earlsfield Library, Magdalen Road SW18. Phone 8544 0503.  
Friendly meetings with talks on various subjects. New members welcome.

### Streatham Voices

Meets 7.45-9.30pm every Monday in term time.  
St James Church, Welham Road SW16. Phone Moira 8769 1529.  
Fun, friendly community choir sings a range of music.

### Friends of the Earth

1st Tuesday of month, 8-10pm.  
Phone Stuart 8240 4075 or email [olivers@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:olivers@smuc.ac.uk) for venue.  
Working to improve the environment in Wandsworth.

### RETHINK - severe mental illness

Phone coordinator Christine Lewis 0789 902 7327.  
Informal drop-in sessions and self help groups for people living with long-term mental illness.

### St. Luke's Music Society

15 December 7.30pm.  
The Nonsuch Singers.  
St Luke's Church, Thurleigh Road SW11  
Box office 8673 9285.  
Visit [www.slms.org.uk](http://www.slms.org.uk)  
Tickets £16, concessions £12.

### Wandsworth Over 50's Activities Group

Phone 07958 440808.  
An activity/social group for you to make friends, try new activities and have fun. Membership £10 per year.

### Wandsworth University of the 3rd Age \*\*

Monthly on Monday.  
Earlsfield Library SW18.  
Phone 8871 2351.  
For retired people. Speakers on interesting topics and activity/study groups. Subscription £12 per year.

### Wandsworth Pensioners Forum \*\*

2nd Tuesday of each month 2pm.  
Anchor Centre, 273 Garratt Lane SW18. Phone 8672 5592.  
Visit [www.wandpensforum.org.uk](http://www.wandpensforum.org.uk)  
Speakers and discussions on topics of interest.

### Wilditch and Open Door Community Centres

Wilditch SW11, 8871 8172.  
Open Door SW19, 8871 8174.  
Come and try a new activity. Also halls to hire for parties and social events.

### Craft Group

Tuesdays 11am-12noon.  
Manresa Pensioners Club Hall, Holybourne Avenue, SW15.  
Bring your knitting, sewing and mending and share your crafting knowledge with others.

## ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

EXHIBITIONS, PLAYS, TEA DANCES AND OTHER ENTERTAINMENT CAN BE FOUND HERE.

### Wandsworth Museum \*\*

Wednesday-Sunday 1-5pm.  
The Court House, 11 Garratt Lane, SW18. Phone 8871 7074 or email [museuminfo@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:museuminfo@wandsworth.gov.uk)  
Local history displays, exhibitions, events, gallery, gift shop. Free entry.  
14 July-30 December Just the Job and Memories of Young's Brewery exhibitions.

### Senior Citizens entertainment subsidy scheme

Phone 8871 8476.  
The arts office gives grants of up to £45 to senior citizens organisations in the borough to book entertainers for their clubs.

### Tea Dance \*

Thursday 20 December and 24 January, 1.30pm.  
Civic Suite, Wandsworth High Street SW18. Phone 8871 8711.  
Dancing with DJ Mr Wonderful. Tickets £3.50, includes refreshments.

### The De Morgan Centre \*

38 West Hill, SW18.  
Phone 8871 1144.  
Visit [www.demorgan.org.uk](http://www.demorgan.org.uk)  
7 November - 5 January From Sea to Sand.  
Susan Fields Ceramics and Sid Burnard Driftwood Sculpture.

### A.C.W. Dance Studio

St Paul's Community Centre, Inner Park Road, SW19.  
Phone 8871 0890.  
Monday 7.30- 8.30pm general beginners class.  
Thursday 1.30-4.30pm Tea Dancing.  
Friday 7.30- 8.30pm general beginners class, and 8.30-10.30pm Friday Social.

### Putney School of Art and Design

Oxford Road SW15.  
Phone 8788 9145.  
Visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/psad](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/psad)

### Pump House Gallery

Wednesday-Sunday and Bank Holidays 11am-5pm.  
Battersea Park SW11.  
Phone 8871 7572.  
Visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/gallery](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/gallery)  
Until 20 January - Hunted (the cannibalism of colonial collectorexia).

### Winter Open Studios Art Show

29 November - 2 December  
Wimbledon Arts Studios, Riverside Road, SW17.  
Phone 8947 1183  
visit [www.wimbledonartstudios.co.uk](http://www.wimbledonartstudios.co.uk)

\* Access for people with disability

\*\* Access for people with disability and hearing loop

# CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, INCLUDING DRAMA WORKSHOPS, DANCE CLASSES, AND CHILDCARE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS.

## Children's Information Service

Phone 8871 7899.

Information on registered childcare for children aged 0-14 (16 for special needs)

## Children's Zoo

Daily 10am-5.30pm.

Battersea Park, SW11.

Phone 7924 5826.

Visit [www.batterseazoo.co.uk](http://www.batterseazoo.co.uk)

Visit Santa - 8,9,16-24 December, 10.30-1pm and 2-4pm. Usual entry fee plus £3.50.

Christmas trail - 8-24 December. Price £1 plus usual entry fee.

Entry fee £4.50 for children 2yrs and over and £5.95 for adults.

## Eddie Catz

68-70 (1st floor) Putney High Street, SW15. Phone 0845 201 1268. Visit [www.eddiecatz.com](http://www.eddiecatz.com)

Meet Santa - 10 and 13 December, phone for times and admission.

17-20 December and 3-7 January, 10am-1pm Holiday activity mornings for 4-7 yrs.

## Alton Community Playschool

Weekdays 8am-5.45pm.

Alton Road, SW15.

Phone 8780 9100.

Childcare and education for children aged 5 months-5 years. Children with special needs welcome.

## L.A.R.A Community Centre

Monday-Friday 8.30am-6pm.

St. Paul's Church, 92C St. John's Hill SW11. Phone 7642 3713.

Drop-in crèche for under 5s, weekday nursery, out of school and after school clubs.

## Ro's Nursery

8am-6pm, 51 weeks per year, or term time only.

Putney Leisure Centre, SW15.

Phone Ro on 8788 5704 or 0794 662 0331.

Visit [www.rosnursery.com](http://www.rosnursery.com)

Flexible day care for children aged 6mths to 5 years.

## Salsa for kids

2-4pm Saturdays.

Fitness First,

Clapham Junction SW11.

Phone 07903 847004 or 07725 164 715

£6 per class.

## Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Training and Resource Centre,

Alma Road SW18.

Phone Mark Chapman 8875 9905

Personal development programmes for people aged 14-25. Phone or pop in on a Thursday evening.

# SPORT AND LEISURE

SPORT FOR ALL: FOOTBALL, NETBALL, SWIMMING, YOGA, PILATES AND PLENTY MORE TAKES PLACE IN THE BOROUGH.

## Chair based exercise for over 50s

For details of other classes phone 8871 6373.

Monday 12.30-1.15pm. Graveney Day Care Centre, 14-16 Lynwood Road SW17. 50p.

Thursday 11am-12noon Hindu Society, 664 Garratt Lane SW17. £1.

## Tai Chi for over 50s

Phone Wandsworth sports team 8871 6373.

Wednesdays 2-3pm Tooting Neighbourhood Centre, 28 Glenburnie Road SW17. £1.50.

Thursdays 10.45-11.45am St. Nicholas Church, Church Lane SW17. Free.

## Women only exercise for over 50s

Mondays 7-8pm.

Club Jasmin's, 202 Upper Tooting Road SW17. Phone Wandsworth sports team 8871 6373.

£2.

## Outsiders Walking Club

Phone Sherry 8874 5366 or email [SherrySherratt@aol.com](mailto:SherrySherratt@aol.com) Visit [www.outsiders.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.outsiders.fsnet.co.uk)

Energetic 12-15 mile walks.

## Badminton Club

Wednesdays 8-10pm.

Upper Tooting Methodist church hall, Balham High Road SW12.

Phone 8767 5033 or 8672 8387.

Small charge per session.

## Martial arts and fitness

Wilditch Community Centre, 48 Culvert Road SW11.

Phone 7738 9833 or visit

[www.tanglungcombat.com](http://www.tanglungcombat.com)

Programmes for children and adults.

## Tooting Karate Club

Smallwood School Smallwood Road SW17. Phone 07771 932 963.

Visit [www.otgka.co.uk/dojos](http://www.otgka.co.uk/dojos)

Tuesdays 6.30-7.30pm and

Saturdays 10-11am,

children £4 per class.

Tuesdays 7.30-9pm and Saturdays

11am-12.30pm, adults. £6 per class.

## Women's football training sessions

Mondays and Thursdays

9.30-10.30am.

Wandsworth Common SW18.

Phone Mel 07828 891246

Drop in £5. Meet next to the

Common Ground café.

## Trampoline sessions

Tuesdays 4-5.30pm and Thursday 5.30-6.45pm

Battersea Youth Sport Centre,

Hope Street SW11.

Phone 8871 8529.

Tuesday sessions for 7-11 years,

Thursdays for 13-17 years.

## Yoga by the Radiant Hand

Phone 8682 5186.

Visit [www.theradianthand.co.uk](http://www.theradianthand.co.uk)

Wednesday 8-9.30pm All Saints

Church, 84 Franciscan Road SW17

Thursday 8-9.30pm 77 Charlmont

Road SW17.

## Pregnancy massage

Body Logic, 190 Battersea Park Road

SW11. Phone 7738 8712.

## Pilates on the go

Phone Margot 07957 484 069 or email [mtc3@hotmail.com](mailto:mtc3@hotmail.com)

Taught one to one or in small group at your home.

## Yoga for all levels

Contact Lucy Paul 07801 573279

or email [swyoga@paul.uk.com](mailto:swyoga@paul.uk.com)

Yoga classes in Battersea and

Balham. No charge for trial class.

Private classes available.

## Yoga with Vicky Oliver \*

Phone Vicky 01372 459 400,

email [askvicky@whyoga.com](mailto:askvicky@whyoga.com)

Visit [www.whyoga.com](http://www.whyoga.com)

Yoga classes £90 per 8 week

course, £135 for two courses,

£13.50 drop in.

5 and 19 January, 11am-5pm - Yoga

day including lunch.

Eartsfield Library SW18. £40.

## Yoga

Phone Lisa Askem 07976 705840

or visit [www.benditlikelisa.co.uk](http://www.benditlikelisa.co.uk)

Tuesdays 11.45-12.45

Pregnancy yoga.

Wednesdays 12.30-1.30pm post

natal with babies.

Yoga taught in your own home.

## Short mat bowls

Tuesday and Wednesday

1.30-3.30pm.

Open Door Community Centre,

Keovil Drive SW19.

Phone 8871 8174

New members welcome

## Battersea Yoga

Phone 7978 7995 or

07771 548160.

Visit [www.batterseayoga.com](http://www.batterseayoga.com)

All levels yoga.



Contributors: You can now input your details directly onto the site, at any time.

To be included in the February edition (distributed from 30 January) send brief details (including access for people with disabilities) to: What's On editor, Room 114, Town Hall, Wandsworth High Street, SW18 2PU to arrive by 17 December.

Phone (020) 8871 6832 email [whatson@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:whatson@wandsworth.gov.uk)

Please let us know if you would like to change your entry.

A large print version of "hey what's on" is available. Phone (020) 8871 6832 for details.

Because of the increasing demand for inclusion, we cannot guarantee that your entry will be inserted. Entries may have to be edited.

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WBC accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of the information or for any event not organised by the council.

## FALCON GROVE FAMILY CENTRE, BATTERSEA FAMILY ASSESSMENT WORKERS

£22,086 - £24,588 Grade: B (ref CC/011) Plus Sleep-in allowance

This is an exciting opportunity to join a diverse family service where programmes of early intervention, assessment and intensive support are provided, residentially and in families' homes. The children (aged up to five) and families reflect the diverse population served by the council and the assessments are predominantly in the context of care proceedings and are required to be of a high standard.

As a Family Assessment Worker you must be able to contribute to high quality assessments and have first rate report writing skills. You will need good engagement skills for work with socially excluded families, a proactive and energetic approach and a commitment to bringing about best outcomes for children. You would be under the supervision of qualified social workers and NVQ Level 3, NNEB, or a relevant degree (eg; psychology/sociology) is desirable. Non graduate applicants who have significant relevant experience in social work settings with young children and families will also be considered. These posts offer an excellent opportunity to gain good quality relevant experience if you are planning to enter psychology, social work, family therapy or allied professions.

Residential assessments are the main part of Falcon Grove's work so you will need to be able to work overnight sleep-in shifts and also early starts / late finishes on a rota basis. This will include alternate weekends.

For further information please contact Tolu Sawyerr, Centre Manager (020) 7228 0836 or Belinda Burt, Family Assessment Service Manager 07919 548 004

Please apply on-line at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk) or e-mail [resources.cf.ss@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:resources.cf.ss@wandsworth.gov.uk) for an application pack. If you do not have internet access please telephone (020) 8871 7241 9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday quoting reference number CC/011.

Closing date: December 14 2007. Interviews will be scheduled in new year

Appointment is subject to a CRB check

Please visit our website

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

for details of further job opportunities

The council as an Equal Opportunities employer welcomes applications regardless of race, colour, gender, nationality, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, religion or belief, marital status, disability or age. All applicants are considered on the basis of their merits and abilities for the job.



## Talk to a councillor

**Weekly** surgeries are held every Saturday from 10-11am with councillors attending on a rota basis at the following libraries:

**Battersea Library,**  
Lavender Hill, SW11

**Putney Library,**  
Disraeli Road, SW15

**Tooting Library,**  
Mitcham Road, SW17

No appointment needed.

Residents are reminded that they can raise any issues of local concern directly with their ward councillors at weekly surgeries.

Councillors will also make home visits to elderly and disabled people who are unable to travel to surgeries or the town hall.

Other surgeries are **monthly**, unless specified:

**Roehampton**  
Roehampton Library,  
2 Danebury Ave, SW15  
2nd Saturday, 10am-11am.

**Furzedown**  
Furzedown Project, 93 Moyser Road, SW16  
1st Saturday, 11.30am-12.30pm.  
St. Alban's Church Hall, Pretoria Road, SW16  
3rd Saturday, 11.30am-12.30pm.

### Latchmere

York Gardens Library & Community Centre,  
York Gardens, SW11. 2nd Monday, 6pm-7pm.  
Wilditch Centre, 48 Culvert Road, SW11  
3rd and 4th Mondays, 6pm-7pm.

### Tooting

Fairlight Centre, 52 Fairlight Road, SW17  
1st Monday, 7pm-7.30pm.

### Tooting/Graveney

Derinton Road Community Centre, SW17  
1st Saturday, 10am-11am.

For more information or to check which ward you live in visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/councillors](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/councillors).

ONLY A  
CALL AWAY

# Useful numbers

e-brightside.com

**Abandoned Cars**  
(020) 8871 6709

abandonedvehicles@  
wandsworth.gov.uk

**Benefits Service**  
(020) 8871 8080

benefits@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Childcare Information**  
(020) 8871 7899

edcis@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Children and Families Services**  
(020) 8871 6622

childreferralmanager@  
wandsworth.gov.uk

**Consumer Protection**  
(020) 8871 7720

esd@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Community Care Services**  
(020) 8871 7707

accessteam@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Council Tax**  
(020) 8871 8081

counciltax@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Cycle Training**  
(020) 8871 6670

cycletraining@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Drugs Hotline -  
to report drug abuse/debris**  
(020) 8871 7373

drugsreporting@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Education**  
(020) 8871 8013

edadmin@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Environmental Services**  
(020) 8871 6127

esd@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Food Hygiene**  
(020) 8871 6139

esd@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Graffiti Removal**  
(020) 8871 7049

graffiti@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Home Ownership**  
(020) 8871 6016

housesales@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Housing Advice**  
(020) 8871 6840

housingadvice@wandsworth.gov.uk

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

hms@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Leisure Centres  
and sports facilities**  
(020) 8871 8787

sportsservices@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Libraries**  
(020) 8871 7269

libraries@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Neighbourhood Watch**  
(020) 8871 7696

watchlinkmanager@  
wandsworth.gov.uk

**Noise Complaints -  
council properties**  
(020) 8871 7490

hms@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Noise Complaints -  
private properties**  
(020) 8871 7869

esd@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Nurseries**  
(020) 8871 7899

edearlyyears@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Parking Helpline**  
(020) 8871 8871

parking@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Parks**  
(020) 8871 6347

parks@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Parks Police**  
(020) 8871 7532/6789

parkspolice@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Pavement and road defects**  
(020) 8871 6708

highways@wandsworth.gov.uk

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

wasteservices@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Social Services information -  
CareLine**  
(020) 8875 0500

leaflets@careline.clara.net

**Births, Deaths, Weddings  
and Civil Partnerships**  
(020) 8871 6121

registeroffice@wandsworth.gov.uk

**What's On in Wandsworth**  
(020) 8871 6832

whatson@wandsworth.gov.uk

**Youth Clubs**  
(020) 8871 7553

youthservice@wandsworth.gov.uk

BrightSide is  
available in  
large print or  
audio tape.  
To obtain a copy  
of either please  
telephone  
(020) 8871 6031  
or  
email brightside@  
wandsworth.gov.uk

If you have difficulty understanding this in English, please contact:  
Wandsworth Interpreting Service: (020) 8672 1043/3649

English

যদি আপনার এটি ইংরেজিতে বুঝতে অসুবিধা হয় তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে এখানে যোগাযোগ  
করুন: Wandsworth Interpreting Service: (020) 8672 1043/3649

Bengali

Si vous avez des difficultés à comprendre ce texte en anglais, veuillez  
contacter: Wandsworth Interpreting Service: (020) 8672 1043/3649

French

અગર તે અંગ્રેજીમાં સમજવી મુશ્કેલ લાગે તો મહેરબાની કરીને  
Wandsworth Interpreting Service: (020) 8672 1043/3649 પર સંપર્ક કરો.

Gujarati

यदि हमें अंग्रेजी में समझने में समस्या हो तो कृपया Wandsworth Interpreting Service  
का (020) 8672 1043/3649 पर संपर्क करें।

Hindi

W razie problemów ze zrozumieniem tekstu w języku angielskim prosimy  
o kontakt z: Wandsworth Interpreting Service: (020) 8672 1043/3649

Polish

Se tem dificuldades em compreender isto em Inglês, por favor,  
contacte: Wandsworth Interpreting Service: (020) 8672 1043/3649

Portuguese

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ, ਇਸਨੂੰ ਅੰਗ੍ਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਵਿਚ ਸਮਝਣ ਵਿਚ ਮੁਸ਼ਕਿਲ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ:  
Wandsworth Interpreting Service: (020) 8672 1043/3649

Punjabi

Hadday kugu adag tahay inaad ku fahamto Ingriis fadlan la xiriiri:  
Wandsworth Interpreting Service: (020) 8672 1043/3649

Somali

Si tiene dificultad para entenderlo en inglés favor contactar a:  
Wandsworth Interpreting Service: (020) 8672 1043/3649

Spanish

இதை ஆங்கிலத்தில் புரிந்துகொள்வதில் சிரமம் இருந்தால் நீங்கள் தொடர்புகொள்ள  
வேண்டியது: Wandsworth Interpreting Service: (020) 8672 1043/3649

Tamil

اگر آپ کو انگریزی میں اسے سمجھنے میں دشواری کا سامنا ہو تو براۓ کرم رابطہ کریں:  
Wandsworth Interpreting Service: (020) 8672 1043/3649

Urdu

# Delicious Landscaping with Modest Water Feature

With restaurants, shops, exclusive leisure centre, river-taxi and security, the superbly specified apartments and penthouses at Gardens are some of the finest on the River. Gardens at Riverside Quarter, opposite Hurlingham in Wandsworth, will be the final phase at this very popular Thames-side location. Register now for an early preview of Gardens, launching later this month for completion from 2010.



## *Gardens*

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Eastfields Avenue · London SW18 1LP



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