



# Wandsworth Older People's Forum

## NEWSLETTER NEW YEAR 2022

Happy  
New Year  
to  
everyone



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### Have your say on step-free stations



TfL's public consultation asking for views on the future of step-free access on the Tube closes on **10 February 2022**. You can register on the TfL website to take part in the survey. If you prefer, email your thoughts to [haveyoursay@tfl.org.uk](mailto:haveyoursay@tfl.org.uk) or write to Freepost TFL HAVE YOUR SAY, 5 Endeavour Sq, E20 1JN. You can also call **020 3054 6037** to leave your name and number and you will receive a call back.

## Keeping Covid at bay

Wandsworth residents were urged to be extra vigilant over Christmas as Plan B came into effect in England and new measures were introduced to tackle the spread of the Omicron variant.

- Face masks to be worn in most indoor public places;
- People to work from home if possible;
- Vaccination status or a recent negative Covid test to be shown in high-risk settings.



Unlike in the rest of the UK, no further measures were planned for up to New Year, as the PM emphasised our "personal responsibility" for keeping safe. As infection rates in London soared, with Wandsworth, Southwark and Lambeth in the lead, Leader of Wandsworth Council Ravi Govindia urged as many people as possible

to get their jabs: "The more people who are vaccinated, the better chance we all have." Infections were highest in young adults aged 25-29.

Venues in Wandsworth doing vaccinations, from a first jab to a booster, include:

- Roehampton Vaccination Centre, Queen Mary's hospital;
- Southside Shopping Centre (in the former Gap Store site);
- WJ Boyes Chemist, Balham;
- Pearl Chemist, Tooting.

As we go to press, we don't know what restrictions may yet come in. But vulnerable people like former shielders who had hoped for stronger measures might consider investing in non-reusable (NR) "high-filtration" masks or respirators. Go for FFP2 masks, on sale at Boots and on Amazon.

### Council 'salutes' members of the community for work in pandemic

At a ceremony in the town hall at the end of last year, Wandsworth Borough Council recognised the "outstanding contributions and service" provided by a number of "exceptional volunteers to so many in our community in Wandsworth during the pandemic".

Among that number was our very own membership secretary and administrator, **Su Elliott (right)**.

Two others on the roll of honour were WOPF committee members **Syeda Islam** MBE and **Mo Smith** MBE.



**REMINDER!**  
Free  
devices  
to keep  
vulnerable  
connected

Wandsworth Council is reminding vulnerable people they can apply for easy-to-use communication tablets to help keep in touch with loved ones and carers (see article in WOPF newsletter, New Year issue, 2021). The council, in partnership with Alcove, provides Carephone devices to clinically vulnerable people to help tackle loneliness and isolation. The devices can be used by those with little or no expertise. Go to: [wandsworth.gov.uk/video-carephone-service](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/video-carephone-service)

# Remembrance of times past

It's Christmas and it's a new year and this has made me think of bygone times when I was acting. The few pantos that I did in my time were in rep and one year I came back from Theatr Clwyd in North Wales to have Christmas in Battersea. A fellow actor, a nice chap called Clive Panto (yes, really), lived nearby so he arranged to pick me up on Boxing Day morning at 5.00 from Clapham Junction, to get back to Clwyd for the matinee. How will I find you? he asked. Blimey, I said, it's Boxing Day at 5 in the morning, how many people will be around? The answer was loads. No really, LOADS. All the care workers and cleaning staff and what looked like the complete staff of Knightsbridge Wing at St George's were there. It was Casey's court, as me granny used to say.

There's a story about repertory theatres on Boxing Day; "Buckets in the Wings". The theory is that most actors have imbibed freely



over the short time they had off and are hugely the worse for wear and wouldn't make it to their dressing room if a wave of nausea assailed them. Much easier to hoppity-skip into the wings (usually as the wave of noise from the kiddies reached your headache) during a spirited rendition of "A Wombling Merry Christmas" or "A You're Adorable" or somesuch, and make use of the bucket! To be honest, I don't know anyone who had to avail themselves of this but it is in keeping with actors' stories.

On a much more sombre note, I know a lot of us have suffered bereavement this year and though it is terribly, horribly difficult, I've heard you say we can get through it with the support of friends, faith, family and whatever inner resources we dredge up. As you say, we keep on keeping on and that's why you're an amazing generation. Best wishes for 2022.

*Su Elliott*  
Administrator & Membership Sec

## Forum response to the council's Draft Walking & Cycling Strategy

Wandsworth Older People's Forum supports the aspirations in the Introduction to the Draft Strategy for streets where we all feel safe and confident walking and cycling as much or as little as we wish. For older people, there will be a significant number who cannot cycle or walk far and use a car, driven either by themselves or others, to get about. Some do not feel safe travelling alone, most feeling unsafe because of broken or uneven pavements or because



Broken and uneven pavements and where shops have a lot of goods outside blocking the way make older people feel unsafe going out

of crowds, in particular at some road crossings and where shops have a lot of goods displayed outside on narrow pavements. Many are concerned about the air quality of the streets, both for themselves and for children. The Forum would not want the older people of Wandsworth to be discouraged from walking, whether it is to local shops or to join in community activities, as it is important for their health and wellbeing that they should walk regularly, get about locally and feel part of the local community.

The Forum supports the 10 indicators for Healthy Streets. Streets should be welcoming places to spend time in and to engage with other people. It should be easy to cross roads, there should be trees for shelter and seats for rest. There should be clean air and people should feel safe, ie, there is enough space and no trip hazards on the pavement. Busy crossings should be wider and there should be sufficient time to cross, especially where the roads are wider. There

**Speakers you  
may've missed  
at the Forum**

In-person Forum meetings began again in October. But due to Omicron, our November and December speakers were asked to speak via Zoom at the Forum management committee meetings

At the Forum's October meeting **Shannon Katiyo**, director of public health on Wandsworth Borough Council (WBC), talked about how the recent *Annual Public Health Report* describes Wandsworth as a thriving and diverse borough but with large differences between groups and communities in terms of

their risk of ill-health and public health outcomes.

He also spoke about the upcoming Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), which all local authorities are required to produce to improve health and wellbeing and help reduce inequalities. The JSNA can be read at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/JSNA](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/JSNA) and its findings will inform the next Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Lately, the Public Health Department has been focusing on ensuring that a high proportion of us are vaccinated against Covid.

The second speaker was **Becky Howarth** from the council's Planning and Transportation Department, who talked about the Walking and Cycling Strategy which will shortly be issued for

*Contd on p4*



are some streets where the lighting is not sufficient.

Forum members were surprised at what the survey produced as respondents' priorities for future works. The survey was responded to by a preponderance of cyclists, 45% cycling regularly, rising to two-thirds cycling occasionally. Walkers' needs were therefore less likely to be prioritised.

#### The Forum's priorities

- Safer pavements with no trip hazards and wide enough for wheelchairs and prams as well as pedestrians to pass;
- No cyclists or electric scooters on the pavements;
- Frequent seats, especially at all bus stops;
- More trees and bits of greenery;
- Good air quality.

#### Action Points

The Forum is pleased that the council will regularly review infrastructure that impedes mobility. Loose and uneven paving slabs cause problems for older people and there are many streets where these hazards are frequent. The fear of tripping prevents some people from going out. Sloping pavements and cobbled areas are also hazards for people with uncertain balance.

A-boards and goods in front of shops can be impediments and can make narrow streets crowded. Parking on footways should not be allowed if it stops people passing and makes difficulties for wheelchairs.



The availability of crossing points is important in shopping streets that are also main roads. Crossings that are much used need to be wider. Island refuges are a great help. There is a need for better information outside stations, eg, at Tooting Broadway there should be direction signposts to St George's hospital. There is a poster inside the station, but it would be helpful to have a signpost outside.

Lilias Gillies & John Horrocks

## Scams soar by 30% in 2021

As Age UK says in the introduction to its *Older People, Fraud and Scams* booklet, "people of all ages and backgrounds are victims. [But] older people are especially at risk, either because scammers target them or their circumstances make them vulnerable, for example if they are bereaved, lonely or living with dementia. The financial and health impacts can be devastating."

I myself have noticed that scam calls – mainly on my landline but also on my mobile – have not only increased massively but are easier to fall victim to. The other day, I had a landline call from a jolly nice man, cheeky-chappie persona and a mild London accent, claiming to be PC Matt Something-very-ordinary-and-English. They had just arrested, so he said, a man using my debit card who had spent (he named a three-figure sum) in a certain shop in Roehampton. Had I lent my card to anyone? I said "absolutely not" and hung up, assuming it was a scam, although I admit to checking my account later online just in case my card had been cloned. No money had gone.

It was the voice, so unlike the usual tinny, strangely accented voices of most other scam callers, that fooled me for a few minutes before realisation dawned. It was also that the call purported to come from someone official and "safe".

I searched online for any mention of this police scam call and found various versions of it, on police websites as well as Age UK. Callers can also pose as employees of your bank, in which case the amounts stolen have ranged much higher, with people being tricked into moving vast sums out of their supposedly vulnerable accounts into new "fake" bank accounts.

Had I hung on, according to most websites, I would have been asked to verify my account and card details, including my security and PIN numbers. PC Matt might even have asked me to "key in" my PIN number on the phone – the

number would then have been captured by the offenders.

Age UK recounts what happened to a woman they support in Barnet. The story began just like mine. However, on this occasion, the supposed officer "said he didn't want any card details but would put her onto a 'secure line' at her bank" so she could give them the information. He also gave her the name of the person they had in custody, asking if she knew him or if there was anyone in the household who knew him. A way of "finding out about who she lived with", said Age UK.



Luckily, the client became suspicious at the mention of the "secure line" and hung up. Rightly so: the person answering the secure line would have been the fake police officer, putting on another voice, who had simply remained on the original line.

According to a report last month by UK Finance: "The pandemic has seen an evolution in fraud as criminals look for new ways to target potential victims." Latest figures show the scale of the problem is only growing, despite the efforts of the banking and finance industry. "In the first half of this year [2021], criminals stole a total of £753.9m through fraud, an increase of over a quarter (30 per cent) compared to 2020."

The advice is always the same: NEVER panic when you get calls about your bank account being under attack. Ring off, and if you're going to call your bank, first make sure there is a dialling tone (if you're on a landline). Then calmly check up on your money.

Vicky Hutchings

If you are the victim of fraud, report it at: <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/reporting-fraud-and-cyber-crime>

Contd from p2

consultation. A survey had already been completed by around 2,500 people and, using slides, she showed a list of the priorities people had chosen for action by the council to improve conditions for walking and cycling. She went through each suggestion and asked if the audience agreed. People did not agree, rating the removal of cyclists and scooter users from pavements as the most important. It was felt that cyclists had a strong lobby that tended to drown out the voices of older people. It was agreed that the committee would discuss the survey and the Draft Strategy and comments would be prepared (see the Forum's response on page 3).

At the November Zoom meeting, **Andrew Hagger** and **Bethany Pepper**, climate change and programme & policy leads for Richmond and Wandsworth councils, spoke about our warming world. After discussing COP26, they turned to WBC's vision to reach net zero carbon dioxide emissions by 2030 and to do this by working on sustainable transport, air quality, energy and waste management, urban greening and open spaces, water

management, flood resilience and appropriate planning. As part of this, Wandsworth Borough Council is promoting active travel, making it easier to walk or cycle; it will use LED bulbs and electric vehicles and 100% green electricity. The council has a scheme to help older people do this if they have incomes of under £30,000 and a house rating of EPC E, F or G: grants of up to £10,000 are being offered.

**Marsha de Cordova MP** then urged all of us to get vaccinated and to take the booster when it is offered. She is concerned about pensioner poverty and the many people who do not apply for pension credit although they would be entitled to it.

**Christine Ansell**, CEO of Wandsworth Oasis, told the December meeting how HIV had appeared in Britain by 1982 and the lack of understanding led to stigma and fear of people with HIV. Wandsworth Oasis was set up in 1985 and raises money in shops selling second-hand clothes, bric-a-brac and books and the profit provides people with HIV/Aids with practical advice, opportunities to meet and

meals together. Good nutrition is crucial to metabolise the drugs given for HIV/Aids. A hardship fund has been set up for people often living on very small incomes to help with emergencies. Oasis also work with River House Trust, supporting men and women living with HIV/Aids, especially the over-50s and those in poverty.

**Jason Andrews**, pollution manager (air quality), of the Regulatory Services Partnership (for Richmond, Wandsworth and Merton councils) came to talk about air quality in Wandsworth. WBC is at present consulting on a new Air Quality Action Plan (see WBC website) with comments due in by 4 January. Jason was able to listen to views from attendees.

Putney High Street once had the worst air quality in Wandsworth. Now much improved, attention has moved on to the other town centres, eg, Tooting and Clapham Junction. There is also work being done to plant trees as screens for schools on busy roads. Attendees at the meeting urged similar measures be extended to residential care homes, many of which are on busy roads.

*Lilias Gillies*



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# Fit, Active, Involved and Interested

Check first  
for changes  
due to  
Omicron!

## Active Lifestyles

To book low-cost sessions for the over-50s, contact Enable Leisure & Culture (which manages leisure & sports for Wandsworth Council) on 020 3959 0033 or email [activelifestyles@enablelc.org](mailto:activelifestyles@enablelc.org) To keep up with changes, visit <https://enablelc.org/activelifestyles>



### Tuesday Keep Moving with Annamarie

**(50+)** £3. 10.30-11.30am. Online session via Zoom.

### Walking Netball with Victoria (50+)

**£3.50.** 10.30-11.30am Tooting Leisure Centre, SW17 0NE

### Keep Fit for Life with Quentin (50+)

**£4.** 11.30am-12.30pm Tooting Junction Baptist Church, SW17 9LD

**Thursday Yoga with Will £3.** 9.30-10.30am. Newlands Community Hall, Stroud Crescent, SW15 3EP.

**Stretch & Movement with Will £3.** 10.30-11.30am. Newlands C/Hall.

**Friday Tone & Stretch with Agnieszka (50+)** £4. 11am-12pm. Roehampton Methodist Church, SW15 4EB. **£4**

**Keep on Moving with Susan (50+)** £4. 1-2pm. St Barnabas Church, Lavenham Road, SW18 4EB.

**Saturday Chi Gung (Relax & Breathe) with Janet £3.** 11.15-12.15pm. Zoom

**Active Chats (Age UK)** Free gentle seated exercises. For housebound over-60s with limited mobility. Tel Sorrel on 020 8877 8940 or email [exercise@ageukwandsworth.org.uk](mailto:exercise@ageukwandsworth.org.uk)

**Asian Women's Association** offers a drop-in service Tuesday and Wednesday for older women who want to meet up socially or seek advice. Talks given. Call 020 8875 9465 for further information

**Autumn Rose Over-60s Club** offers lunch/social day on Tuesday. 10.45-3pm. Call Joan or Esmie on 020 8673 8038 (Tuesday) or email [autumnrose@balhamsda.org.uk](mailto:autumnrose@balhamsda.org.uk)

**Furzedown Project** is open every weekday for a limited range of activities as at present we are still maintaining social distancing. 91-93 Moyser Road, SW16 6SJ. Call 020 8677 4283 and get on our mailing list for the latest news/updates.

**Hestia Age Activity Centre** for older adults. 966 Garratt Lane, SW17 0ND. Every weekday except Thursday, 10-4. A range of activities while at present still maintaining social distancing. For more info and to book, call 020 8767 8426.

**Katherine Low Settlement** offers a meeting place, advice, support, exercise and lots of new activities (see below) for older people in Battersea. Tel 020 7223 2845/6471.

**Lavender Bridge Club** meets at York Gardens Library Hall for tea/coffee, cakes and bridge every Wednesday and Friday. Call Andrew on 020 8767 3886 or 07940 354203; email: [andrewstimson@yahoo.com](mailto:andrewstimson@yahoo.com)

**LGBTQ 50+ Club**, part of the Age Well programme at KLS. Meets fortnightly on a Wednesday. A place to talk safely and openly. **See Katherine Low Settlement.**

**Men 60+ Club**, part of the Age Well programme at KLS. Fortnightly on a Thursday. A welcoming place for men to converse and create. **See Katherine Low Settlement.**

**Monday Club** 2-3.30 on Mondays St Barnabas Church, SW18 5EP. Opportunity for over-50s to share refreshments and entertainment. Nominal charge. Call Margaret on 020 8870 5364.

**Open House in Southfields** A weekly social group for older people. Refreshments, activities and trips subject to social distancing. Every Monday, 10.30-12pm in Ackroydon Hall, Montfort Place, SW19 6QL. For more info, call 020 8877 3003.

**Photo Walks**, part of the Age Well programme at KLS. For the over-60s. Fortnightly on a Wednesday. **See Katherine Low Settlement.**

**Regenerate-RISE** open-access day centres in both Putney (020 8780 9330) and Battersea (020 7228 0245) providing lunches, activities including exercise classes, health and wellbeing topics, bingo and entertainment, plus an outreach programme. Currently limiting numbers, but if you are interested, please call.

**Roehampton Community Shed** run by Age UK. Weekly group where men (or women!) can meet and work on practical projects and enjoy tea and a chat. The shed has two venues in Minstead Gardens and Portwood Place, Roehampton SW15 4EB. Contact Emma on 020 8877 8955.

**60+ Café** A warm and friendly cafe for the over-60s, held in Minstead Methodist Church, SW15 4EB. Activities and food. Every Thursday, 11-4. Tel 020 8487 8285 or email [admin@roehamptonmethodist.org.uk](mailto:admin@roehamptonmethodist.org.uk)

**Tooting Graveney Day Centre** Activities, exercise classes and lunch for older people, from 11-3, Mondays and Thursdays at 14-16 Lynwood Road, SW17 8SA. Tel 020 3602 8251 for details/prices.

**Wandsworth U3A** (University of the Third Age) is always welcoming. While many U3A groups continue to meet via Zoom, guided and history walks, bird-watching and wildlife outings have begun to meet up again. Go to <https://u3asites.org.uk/wandsworth/home> where you can click on "Events" or "Contact" to get in touch.

**Walk Buddies (The Wiser Collective)** Intergenerational walks with neighbours. For info and to register for membership, go to <https://thewisercollective.com> or email [info@thewisercollective.com](mailto:info@thewisercollective.com)



**Walking Football (Age UK)** If anyone is interested to join a mixed or single-sex team in Roehampton or Battersea, call 020 8877 8940 or email Sorrel at [exercise@ageukwandsworth.org.uk](mailto:exercise@ageukwandsworth.org.uk) for more info. First game is FREE!

## Walk Wandsworth

Free walks in the borough. To book, contact Enable, Leisure & Culture (see top box for info and email address) **Wandsworth Common Wed** 10am (30-45mins)

**Southfields Wimbledon Park Thurs** 10.30am (45mins)

Please do not attend if you have any coronavirus symptoms: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/main-symptoms/#symptoms>



# Speak up if boarding a bus makes you **NERVOUS**

After Boris Johnson's mother, Charlotte Johnson Wahi, died last year at 79, many papers reported that she'd never tried to influence her son politically except in one respect. She asked him, as Mayor of London, to ensure bus drivers didn't move off until everyone was seated. Living with Parkinson's disease, she said this was because "if you're disabled, often you fall".

She will have discovered it was not in his power. As the Injury Lawyers website states: "Put simply, there is no specific duty on a bus driver to ensure passengers are seated before pulling away." After all, "people are allowed to stand on most buses, and rails and holds are there for use".

Yet Injury Lawyers also adds, rather bleakly, that they've noticed how "many people, especially elderly people, have a genuine fear of getting on a bus, as they worry the driver may pull away before they have the chance to sit down".

Turning to the Driver & Vehicle Standards Agency regulations, they say "before moving off,



**Artist Charlotte Johnson Wahi, who died last year aged 79, with her more famous son**

see" that a passenger is elderly or vulnerable? We've all been cheered by the headline "80 is the new 50". Yet osteoporosis or arthritis could still be there, hidden from view.

Perhaps that's why the Sunflower lanyard for "hidden disabilities" is being pressed into service by some UK bus companies. If you look at the Arriva London website, it says on seeing (or being shown) the Sunflower lanyard, its drivers "will be happy to allow extra time for a customer to reach their seat".

**If you feel unsteady on your feet, ask the driver to wait till you are seated**

**Konectbus**

[drivers should ensure] all doors are closed and all passengers are prepared to move off". They must also "understand the risks if passengers are not seated or standing safely".

In other words, to ensure the safety of *all* their passengers, drivers must keep a special eye on elderly passengers who might not have the strength or balance to keep on their feet when the bus is moving. As the Injury Lawyers website argues: "Where a person is elderly and/or clearly vulnerable due to obvious ... mobility and balance problems, our argument is the bus driver should give them the opportunity to be seated."

A story on the BBC about an 82-year-old woman who succeeded in claiming compensation makes the same point about visibility. In the view of the judge, "the driver failed to ensure that a passenger who had been *seen by him to be elderly and unsteady* was seated before moving off. In doing so, he acted contrary to ... policy and in breach of common law." (*my italics*)

But what if a driver doesn't "clearly

Launched at Gatwick in 2016 so staff could "identify those who may need extra help" moving through the airport, the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower has since sprung up in other airports, as well as anywhere there are large crowds, such as supermarkets, visitor attractions, and rail and bus stations. It has now been recognised by TfL.

A hidden disability is one that may offer no visual clues (no white stick, no wheelchair, no plaster cast) to others and the Sunflower was meant to fill that gap for Gatwick staff – so they would know who might welcome their approach to inquire if any help was wanted. The reasons people wear one can range from having diabetes to autism to COPD and the help you may need will vary.

There is "no qualifying list of hidden disabilities", say its creators. "If you feel you would benefit from wearing a Sunflower product, please do." After all, it "does not entitle you to anything. It is NOT a pass to be fast-tracked nor for any other benefit." All you are doing is to "discreetly indicate to people around you that you may need additional support, help or a little more time".

But by becoming a part of a bus company's safety regs, the lanyard's role has subtly changed: no longer a signalling device to alert staff to your possible needs, more a way of identifying yourself as having the *right* to ask they be met – what

Age Well 60+

# Photo Walks

The walks for those 60+ that want to explore photography

**Starting November 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Wednesday Fortnightly**  
**11:30 - 13:00**  
**KLS Centre**

For more information  
Adalberto Lonardi  
[adalberto@klsettlement.org.uk](mailto:adalberto@klsettlement.org.uk)

**KLS**  
Kings Law Settlement

See previous page for news of all of KLF's latest Age Well activities



## New Year Sudoku *Solution on back page*

5		3						
2			3					
	4		7	1		2		3
		5	4				7	1
		4	2		1	8		
6	8				7	5		
1		7		6	9		3	
					4			6
						9		5

Each of the nine blocks must contain the numbers 1-9, with each number appearing only once in a row or column or block

the creators expressly reject.

Personally, I shall follow the advice on the (Norfolk) Konectbus website, which simply tells its customers: "If you feel unsteady on your feet, please ask the driver to wait until you are safely seated before he sets off." Ditto East Yorkshire buses. So rather than wait for the driver to notice (or fail to notice!) you're elderly or unsteady, just speak up! And if you

do feel too timid to do that without something official-looking in your hand, why not brandish your Freedom Pass?

*Vicky Hutchings*

Most large supermarkets supply **FREE** Sunflower lanyards to customers. See <https://hiddendisabilitiesstore.com/shop> to buy an official Sunflower lanyard + card for £4.74 (inc p&p)



**h althwatch**  
Wandsworth

**Do you care for someone who has been discharged from hospital?**

**Talk to Healthwatch Wandsworth and help shape how discharges from hospital work.**

## Your story has the power to make a difference

Healthwatch Wandsworth are keen to hear stories from people who, as family members or friends, have been providing unpaid care to someone discharged from hospital in the past six months. The aim is to understand how discharges are working for you and the people you care for and what matters most to you to improve quality.

If you think your experiences could help improve hospital discharge for patients, email [information@healthwatchwandsworth.co.uk](mailto:information@healthwatchwandsworth.co.uk) or telephone 020 8516 7767 or fill in an online survey at [www.healthwatchwandsworth.co.uk/share-your-views](http://www.healthwatchwandsworth.co.uk/share-your-views)

## Useful telephone numbers



**Action Fraud** 0300 123 2040

**Age UK Wandsworth**  
020 8877 8940 (switchboard)

**Age UK Handyperson** service for older people 020 8877 8949. Please note: this is not an emergency service

**Alzheimer's Society**  
020 8687 0922

**Citizens Advice Wandsworth**  
0300 330 1169

**National Domestic Violence Helpline** 0808 200 0247

**Gas Emergency** 0800 111 999

**National Dementia Support Line**  
0333 150 3456

**Over-50s Alcohol Helpline**  
0808 801 0750

**Relatives & Residents Association Helpline**  
020 7359 8136 (care homes)

**Silverline** 0800 470 8090

**St George's Hospital**  
020 8672 1255

**Victim Support Wandsworth**  
020 7801 1777

**Wandsworth Carers' Centre**  
020 8877 1200/020 8675 0811

**Wandsworth Community Transport** 020 8675 7460

**Wandsworth Hub is still here**  
If you need to know more about council services or the latest government advice, call **020 8871 6555** Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm

**Wandsworth Council**

- ◆ Switchboard **020 8871 6000**
- ◆ 24-hour emergency helpline **020 8871 7490**
- ◆ Council tax **020 8871 8081**
- ◆ Environmental services/noise **020 8871 6127**
- ◆ Adult soc care **020 8871 7707**
- ◆ Housing **020 8871 6161**



**Registered charity**  
**No 1096322**

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Convention



### WOPF Management Committee

**Tony Tuck** Chair  
**Wendy Speck** Vice-Chair  
**John Horrocks** Vice-Chair  
**Lilias Gillies** Hon Secretary  
**Pius Gnanapragasam** Treasurer  
**Su Elliott** Administrator

Valerie Hambelton, Syeda Islam,  
Nathalie Gibson-Wilson, Patma  
Patmaseni, Jasmin Elvie, Ricky  
Lucock, Vito Ward, Joyce Evans,  
Vernon Brookes, Fred Roberts,  
Margaret Brookes, Sarah Goodall,  
Sylvie Ramlogan, Agatha Anyiwo,  
Vicky Hutchings, Charles Runcie,  
Mo Smith, Jackie Clack, Lys Innes

### WOPF Privacy Statement

We only use your data to send you the newsletter or information about activities. We do not share your data with third parties. We hold your data securely.



## Meetings of the Forum

Although we managed one Forum meeting at the Anchor Church Hall in October, the resurgence of Covid in the form of the new Omicron variant meant the following months' speakers were again invited to enthral us via Zoom in November and December, where various members of the management committee got into the Christmas spirit with eye-catching headgear (above). While we cannot promise Zoom meetings in the New Year will be as visually exciting, we will do our best and hope to meet again soon in person at the **Anchor Church Hall on Garratt Lane, SW18 4DU**.

**Our next speaker** Transport for London's **Gary Murphy** will talk via Zoom on **11 January**. Please contact the Forum by email if you wish an invite. And have your questions ready on anything from step-free access to future projects to the funding of TfL and the proposed phasing out of the 60+ Oyster card.

### The Answers to our New Year Sudoku on Page 7

5	7	3	6	9	2	1	4	8
2	1	9	3	4	8	6	5	7
8	4	6	7	1	5	2	9	3
9	2	5	4	8	6	3	7	1
7	3	4	2	5	1	8	6	9
6	8	1	9	3	7	5	2	4
1	5	7	8	6	9	4	3	2
3	9	8	5	2	4	7	1	6
4	6	2	1	7	3	9	8	5

## Membership Application/Renewal Form

If you would like to join or re-join the Wandsworth Older People's Forum, please complete the subscription form below and return with your payment of £5 (annual subscription for individuals or organisations) to: **Membership Secretary, Wandsworth Older People's Forum, FREEPOST, c/o WCEN, DRCA Business Centre, Charlotte Despard Avenue, London SW11 5HD**.

### I wish to join/rejoin the Wandsworth Older People's Forum:

Name (individual or organisation) .....

.....

Address .....

..... Postcode.....

Phone (Home).....

(Mob).....

Email.....

(This is important because, in future, because of funding, we may need to communicate with you by email, not post.)

♦ I enclose a £5 cheque/PO payable to Wandsworth Older People's Forum ☐

♦ I have made a payment of £5 into the Wandsworth Older People's Forum account at **Lloyds Bank, Sort Code: 30-99-08, Account no: 22084368** ☐  
Please put your name as the reference or we won't know who sent it!

I might be interested in being a volunteer ☐

I am a UK tax payer and would like my subs to be gift-aided ☐

Signed ..... Date ...../...../.....