



The Bulletin

September 2017



Community Gardens, Community Orchards... and Bees!

7.30pm on Monday 25th September at the Community Church, Werter Road, London SW15 2LL.

The Putney Society and the Dover House Estate Residents Association are working together to plant, next November, a community orchard on one of the greens on the Dover House Road, Putney. So, to help us all to know more about community gardens, community orchards and bees, this meeting has an array of speakers who are practitioners in the field.

Martin Cobby, of the Wendelsworth Residents' Association, will tell us all about the community garden created in 2011 and the community orchard planted in 2016 on the Wendelsworth Estate, in the heart of Wandsworth - off Garratt Lane. He will also give us practical advice on successful composting.

Rowan Salim leads the Putney Community Gardeners group who have been creating community



gardens on the Ashburton Estate, Putney with great enthusiasm - and with help from the Roehampton Garden Society.

Emma Pritchard from the charity, The Bee Friendly Trust, will tell us about the importance of bees to us all and the Trust's efforts to create gardens to help the bee community. You may have noticed their raised planter beds at East Putney and Putney stations.

All are welcome to come along and find out more about the growing importance of wildlife friendly gardening. (Free to members, £3 donation for non-members)

Protecting Wandsworth Park

Congratulations to the Friends of Wandsworth Park who have managed to gain Asset of Community Value (ACV) status for a section of the park which some residents of Deodar Road wanted transferred to private ownership.

As we reported last month, the Society (as well as many local residents) put in a strong objection to the proposed change of use of this corner of Wandsworth Park. It is in clear contradiction of the adopted council policies on open space.

As we go to press we have learned that Wandsworth Council have refused the application to lease this land to adjacent owners for their private use. This is excellent news.



FULHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

Stevenage Road, London W6 6HA

Tuesday 3 October 2017 At 11.00 A.M.

We have arranged for a private guided tour of Craven Cottage, the oldest professional football club in London.

The tour will include visiting the Johnny Haynes Stand, the Pitch Side dugouts, Chairman's Box, the Home

Team changing room and the Tunnel Entry.

We will have a guided tour of approximately one and a half hours.

To book your place please send a sae or your email address, with your name, address and contact phone

Closing date for applications: 18 September 2017 – please do not wait until the last minute, as we have to guarantee numbers for this trip.

number, together with a cheque made payable to 'The Putney Society' to Maureen Howley, 1 Elystan Court, 121 Howards Lane, London SW15 6QH.

Putney Society members £12.00. Guests £14.00.

Police: We are now down to 17 officers over 7 wards, with just 5 PCSO's. They're very stretched and are finding it hard to police the area as they would like, but are doing their best. All are now armed with body cameras, which will be a useful tool. There have been reported problems in some areas with youths on mopeds. Dealing with this is an issue for the police as they are not allowed to give chase to them, as it is too easy for the mopeds to crash. The riders are aware of this, but something will have to be done so that the police can deal with problem riders. The next public Safer Neighbourhood police meeting is on 14 November at 7pm in Jubilee House (*white building corner of Putney Bridge Rd and Putney High St*). The Safer Neighbourhoods Board, which brings together all SNT activity in the Borough has an open meeting at the Town Hall on October 12th at 6.30pm.

Community Panel
Convenor:
Victoria Diamond
07746 022654
vickysw15@aol.com

Shingles: The Wandsworth Clinical Commissioning is running The Keep Well and Prevent Shingles Campaign. Residents aged 70-73 who are eligible for a free shingles vaccination are encouraged to get it this summer ahead of the flu vaccine season and those aged 78 and 79 can also have the jab right up until their 80th birthday. It only needs to be administered once. Call your GP practice if you're eligible.

Foodbank Donation sites: reminder that there is a collection box in Sainsbury's, on the wall by the tills, so you walk past it as you exit the store. There is also one in Waitrose, except it's not so easily seen – on the atrium side of the cigarette counter. DO make contributions. They are much needed and appreciated.

Stop press - The Putney Rotary Club have donated a defibrillator to The Exchange. It will be put up outside Waitrose in the next few days, we hope. This is great news and we thank the Putney Rotary for their donation. We will be renewing our campaign to try and get a defibrillator installed at the station with the new franchisee, First MTR.

The limited time available to respond to planning applications and many government consultations means that your Buildings Panel meets even in August even when others can take a well-earned break. This August brought a thin crop of new proposals which suggests that not only have most of Putney's major sites already come forward, if not yet all built, but that householders too are thinking twice about big expenditure in the face of unpredictable times. But we did have a fresh crop of consultations on which we would be keen to hear the views of you, the members we represent.

The first of these is the Council's biennial Wandsworth Design Awards. These recognise mostly modest scaled new buildings, alterations and even landscaping. We already have suggestions of what we might nominate, but please tell us of anything you like locally that has been finished in the last 2 years. We can't very well keep asking for good design unless we also applaud when it happens.

For some years now new developments have been charged a levy (CIL) to contribute to the extra infrastructure needed by the increasing local population. A proportion of this is earmarked for capital spending schemes nominated by the community through your local councillors. Thanks to all the new flats around the town centre, Putney collects more CIL than any other part of the borough except Nine Elms, yet our local councillors don't seem to know what to

Buildings Panel
Convenor:
Andrew Catto
ac@andrewcatto.co.uk
020 8785 0077

do with this and some millions are now unspent. The Society aims to put suggestions to the Council in time for the annual allocation later in the year. This is in effect your money and we would love to hear any suggestions for schemes to put forward. Projects have to be new work, not overdue road repairs etc., and ideally should improve life in the areas most affected by the influx of new residents.

More CIL will come if the Levellers Court scheme for the site where Putney Bridge Road meets the High Street becomes reality, but although I wrote two months ago that this might be decided in September, we're still waiting for revisions after Mayor Sadiq Khan, prompted by the Society, wrote to tell Wandsworth that the low proportion of affordable homes and lack of public benefit was unacceptable.

FUTURE PANEL MEETINGS

All members welcome
www.putneysociety.org.uk

COMMUNITY:
14 September, 12 October
At 6 Norroy Road,
SW15 1PF (18.30)
Convenor:
Vicky Diamond
vickysw15@aol.com
T:07746 022654

TRANSPORT:
12 September, 10 October
At 46 Disraeli Road,
SW15 2DS (19.30)
Convenor:
Stephen Luxford
stephen.luxford@nao.gsi.gov.uk

BUILDINGS:
6 September, 4 October
At 154 Putney High Street,
SW15 1RS (19.00)
Convenor:
Andrew Catto
ac@andrewcatto.co.uk

OPEN SPACES:
7 September, 5 October
At 71 Norroy Road,
SW15 1PH (19.00)
Convenor: John Horrocks
John.horrocks10@btinternet.com
T: 020 8789 2956

Some good news to report this month.

Those who have been watching the progress of the ambitious landscaping scheme carried out on Putney Lower Common in the areas surrounding the new Oasis Academy School and the adjoining block of flats, will have noted that the grass-seeded areas to the south, west and north of the buildings have had their protective chestnut fencing removed. This is because the grass sward is now well established.

The area that used to be Putney Hospital's car park, the access road to the west of the Hospital and part of the Nurses' Home near to the bowling green, have all been transformed into grassed areas. It is all Common land, but, for as long as anyone can remember, it hasn't been greensward. Not until now. And what a difference it has made!

The areas of shrub and tree planting, also carried out as part of the landscaping scheme, will mainly continue to be enclosed with wooded fencing for some time - to enable the plants to become fully established.

This landscaping scheme has been a big success - as it should be, given that it is said to have cost the borough council over £350,000.

And it is also good to report that the Society's two Tulip trees, planted in Wandsworth Park to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday, have survived the long dry Spring - mainly thanks to watering by some of the Friends of Wandsworth Park. August's heavy rain will have helped too. The trees are in good shape - as are the two Catalpa trees the Society planted in the park a couple of years ago.

Our next Tree Fund expenditure will be on the Community Orchard to be planted next November on the Dover House Estate.

Air quality - problems with the air monitoring stations in and around the High Street persist. In July they failed for the third time this year which makes it increasingly difficult to measure what impact recent initiatives, such as the green buses introduced earlier in the year, have had. In the latest incident the kerb side monitor in the High Street was out for a month. The Council are aware and are seeking to address the technical problems. They are also discussing with Kings College London, who analyse the information for them, what data may have been lost or might still be made available.

On the trains, FirstGroup are taking over our franchise from Southwest trains in late August. We plan to arrange a Members Meeting with FirstGroup later in the year. We hope to have more news in September.

On the buses, as of mid-August TfL had still failed, despite several promises, to re-install the Countdown indicator on the bus stops outside the station that they took down in April. We will continue to pursue this matter.

Transport Panel

Convenor:
Stephen Luxford
stephen.luxford@
nao.gsi.gov.uk

Open Spaces Panel

Convenor:

John Horrocks
020 8789 2956

john.horrocks10@
btinternet.com

DISCOUNT SCHEME

We are delighted to add **FOUR** new businesses to the Discount Scheme:

1. **Bakehouse** - 232 Upper Richmond Rd (was Lazaro). **5% discount**
2. **Putney Salsa Club** - The Dance Lab ballroom Hall, 63 Upper Richmond Rd, SW15 2RD. There's a **free £10 class** when you buy one of the course packages. There are 3 types - 3, 6 or 9 week packages. When you sign up you'll get an **extra lesson for free**. For example, normal entry is £10, but if you buy 3 week Bronze Package, you will get a 4th class for free. So for £24 you get 4 classes, **saving 40%** of entry.
3. **Chalet Ciro Neopolitan Cafe** - 82 Putney High St. Famous in Naples. Gelati, pastries, sandwiches. **10% off**, minimum spend of £10. Ice creams are delicious!
4. **Flight Experience London** - The Flight Centre, 129 Upper Richmond Rd, SW15 2TX. **10% discount** off all advertised standard rate Flight Experience London flight simulator packages.

**Please use your cards
and support our local businesses!**

PUTNEY SOCIETY CONTACTS

See website for full details:
www.putneysociety.org.uk

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Interested in brushing up your Digital Skills?

The Society is planning some seminars on computing basics, including accessing the Internet, and online security (e.g. avoiding scams and viruses and making sure your operating system is up-to-date).

Each copy of the Bulletin now features references to websites and our own website is an important source of news of Society activities. We also use email to update members between editions of the Bulletin. We would like to ensure that all our members benefit from these additional resources.

Many of you will be confident of your skills but others may welcome some training. BUT before we

finalise the design of the seminars we need to know if there are members who would take up this offer and, if so, your main requirements - so we have included a questionnaire with this issue of the Bulletin. If you would be interested in participating please do complete the form and email or post it back to:

Judith Chegwidden,
28 Howards Lane, SW15 6NQ
Judith.chegwidden@gmail.com



Are you concerned about Air Quality?

Wandsworth Council is recruiting Air Quality Champions to promote their air quality initiatives, particularly by participating in anti-idling activity. It only takes up 2-3 hours a month and you will always be working in pairs while actively engaging with the public. If you are interested please contact Nicoletta Vianello (nvianello@wandsworth.gov.uk)

LOCAL EVENTS

If you have an event you would like us to list please contact: chair@putneysociety.org.uk

Reminder: Heritage Open Days and Open House London weekends in September

Programmes for the ever-popular Heritage Open Days 7-10 September and Open House London 16 & 17 September are out now. For HODS, check out <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/visiting/> where you can search by event or location or print out an area list. For Open House London, get the programme via <http://www.openhouselondon.org.uk/> A feast of historic and contemporary delights awaits!

Wandle fortnight from 9/9 to 24/9

Wandle Fortnight is a celebration of all things Wandle – run by the community for the community. With over 60 events and activities across the Wandle Valley there is something for everyone. Why not get out and discover the Wandle Valley Regional Park and enjoy the heritage, wildlife and culture on your doorstep. www.wandlevalleyforum.org.uk

Putney River Life Funday

Saturday 9 Sep, 10am - 5pm - Putney Wharf & Church Square, Brewhouse Lane, London SW15 2JX

Come and enjoy the beautiful Putney riverbank. A day full of activities including Radio Jackie roadshow, live music, gift stalls, delicious street food, as well as funfair, story shed and acrobatic pirates to entertain the younger members of the family. It is also a great vantage point for the Great River Race.



Foreshore Festival

Sat 23 Sep, 10am onwards

Westminster Boat House, Putney Embankment,

A fun family day at Putney Embankment to celebrate recreation on the river, including environmental activities on the foreshore. The day is hosted by Tideway, who are working to clean up the river by building London's 'super sewer'. River-interest organisations such as the RNLi and Port of London Authority will be giving demonstrations around the work they do to keep us safe, and show us some of the more fun things they get to do. There will be opportunities to try out Paddleboarding!

Putney Artists' Open House

Preliminary notice for this years' dates which will be the weekends of 7/8 and 14/15 October 2017 - 11am to 6pm. More details in the October Bulletin but look out for the Trail Maps which will become available in early September. You will find them in the libraries, Putney School of Art and Design, Jackson's Art Supplies, Zinc White Framing and Tried and True Café.