



The Bulletin

March 2019



Annual General Meeting

Monday 25 March 2019 at 7.30pm

The Community Church, Werter Road, Putney

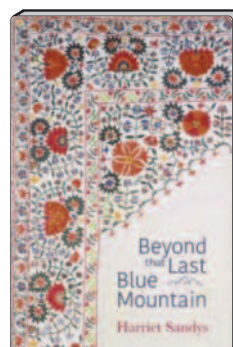
Enclosed with, or attached to, this bulletin you will find the papers that you need for the AGM: the AGM agenda with 2018/19 Annual Report, and the Treasurer's report and 2018 accounts. Please bring them with you to the meeting at which elections of the Society's President, Vice Presidents, Officers, Executive Committee and Auditor will take place. **Do please come along to VOTE and have your say on any of the Agenda items.**

Our guest speaker is **Harriet Sandys**. The title of her talk is: **Beyond that Last Blue Mountain**; a story of silk weaving in Afghanistan, bartering in

Peshawar and snipers in Bosnia.

Harriet Sandys will describe her life as a young woman working alone in the North West Frontier, Afghanistan, Iraqi Kurdistan and Bosnia during the years of conflict 1982 - 95.

Born in Cumbria, Harriet lived in Fulham for many years; the base for her travels. She now lives in Somerset with her husband and their horses and dogs.



Putney Society Bird walk

A fantastic chance to find out more about the bird life of Wimbledon Common.

Sunday 14th April 8am - meeting place to be confirmed - please email Judith.chegwidden@gmail.com as soon as possible if you want to join the walk.

Local volunteers have kept records of bird sightings on the Commons since 1974. These are currently compiled by Adrian Podmore and before him, Dave Wills, Ron Kettle and Eric McMillan. Copies of all these records are available at the Ranger's Office.

The variety of habitats yields a wide diversity of species, including tree-,

hole- and ground-nesters, wildfowl and birds of prey. Given that Wimbledon

Common is essentially an urban setting, and that the Commons are widely used for a lot of activities, the number of species to be seen is astonishing.

Maybe we will see or hear a Black Cap and be able to compare it with a Garden Warbler and for the less expert among us there will still be plenty of birds to enjoy.

Warm drinks available before and after the walk.



How can you help with the work of the Putney Society?

Do you have good organisational or bookkeeping skills? If so please think about coming forward as a Trustee of the Society. We are looking for a new Treasurer, Secretary and minute taker. If you have an interest in our built environment, transport issues, air quality, waste reduction, our open spaces or anything that makes Putney a better place – then think about getting involved. If you can spare a couple of hours a month, please do contact the Chair or the Secretary to find out more. The last date for nominations for officers and the Executive Committee is Monday 18 March 2019. A nomination form is enclosed/ attached with this Bulletin.

The ‘Palmhouse’ scheme for a bar and food court on top of the Putney Exchange Car Park raised more attention from members and the wider Putney public than any I can remember, even the big towers on the Upper Richmond Road (*or did we all just realise those were inevitable*). But after several meetings and lots of emails the Society’s response – on balance against - went in just ahead of the deadline. Now all we (*or your councillors*) can do is wait for a committee date, probably in April or May. As a clue to how Wandsworth now view late night noise, this month they gave planning consent for a gym (*closing mid evening*) in the Exchange, but refused a 24 hour one on the Upper Richmond Road.

Otherwise February brings little new to report. Neither the proposals for the Alton Estate nor the full scheme for WH Smith on the High Street mentioned last month have yet appeared – the former now being over a year later than originally promised by Wandsworth Council. A lull may be a

‘good thing’ after the Panel’s huge efforts – many thanks to all – in responding to the local plan and DHCLG ‘permitted development’ reviews.

The numbers of planning applications overall is clearly declining, waiting some certainty perhaps, but not as fast as the number of planning officers - spending on this by councils having dropped 15% nationally over the past seven years according to a recent report.

But Wandsworth can move fast too. The Government recently announced a fund – applications by March – to fund major schemes for town centre improvement. A serious team has been assembled to bid for this for Putney, and have been meeting with the Society and other stakeholders to agree what the right approach is.

We wish them luck.

Buildings Panel

Convenor:

Andrew Catto
ac@andrewcatto.co.uk
020 8785 0077

The Council’s long awaited plans to enhance the High Street now show signs of life. Before Christmas, members will have noticed up-lighting on St Mary’s Church and a new road barrier erected in the middle of the High Street opposite the station. It is designed to limit the number of taxis waiting in the middle of the road - although some now park on the slope leading up to the station. The Council has shared with the Society their planned phasing of work. In spring we should expect to see the start of works to widen the pavement in the High Street and, potentially, the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit. In the summer, subject to agreement with the building’s owner, there may be a green wall on the Odeon façade and a contra-cycle lane trial in Norroy and Disraeli Roads. Also still under discussion are plans to redesign junctions; further up-lighting; improved cycle parking; the removal of guard rails and more planting. The Council has also secured funding for

phase 2 of the programme which includes further junction and crossings improvement work and additional cycling facilities.

Looking ahead, the Council also intend to bid for funding from the Future High Streets Fund. This is a government fund designed to “help local leaders implement bold new visions to transform their town centres and make them fit for the future.” Encouragingly, the Council are keen to seek the Society’s input into this.

Finally, on air quality, some mixed news. High Street NO₂ exceedances so far in 2019 are well down on this time last year, however, there is no room for complacency as the current mean level of NO₂ in the air is actually up.

Transport Panel

Convenor:

Stephen Luxford
Stephen.luxford46@gmail.com

FUTURE PANEL MEETINGS

All members welcome, but please contact Convenor if new to the panel to check if there is sufficient space.

COMMUNITY:

14 March, 11 April
at 6 Norroy Road,
SW15 1PF (18.30)

Co-convenors:

Vicky Diamond
& Val Jones
vickysw15@aol.co.uk,
jones.val@gmail.com
T: 07746 022654

TRANSPORT:

12 March, 9 April
at 46 Disraeli
Road, SW15 2DS (19.30)

Convenor:

Stephen.luxford46@gmail.com

BUILDINGS:

6 March, 3 April
at 154 Putney High Street,
SW15 1RS (19.00)

Convenor:

Andrew Catto
ac@andrewcatto.co.uk

OPEN SPACES:

7 March, 4 April
at 28 Howards Lane,
SW15 6NQ (19.00)

Convenor:

Judith Chegwidan
judith.chegwidan@gmail.com
T: 020 8788 4489

When you're doing some decluttering and sorting out, there are now so many different ways to recycle and upcycle things – there is just too much 'stuff' going to landfill which could be used, including massive amounts of clothes. Below is just a very basic guide for more ways to upcycle things, aside from your local charity shops – more detailed information will be on our website shortly. They're all charities for very good causes putting our no longer needed items to good use.

The Work and Play Store – <https://www.workandplayscrapstore.org.uk/> A very good article in the latest Wandsworth Magazine. They collect all sorts of things from scraps of material, wallpaper, spare artists' materials, unused postcards, bubble-wrap, screws etc. Do check before taking anything though that it isn't on their 'we do not want' list.

Give and Makeup – <https://www.carolinehiron.com/page-give-and-makeup> - a non-profit initiative supporting Refuges and Women's Aid in London, that aids women and children escaping domestic violence. They're after clothing that is clean and nearly new – no unwashed or tatty items please! Underwear and bras, clothing for women and children, toys, toiletries. Nothing religious or violent when it comes to books, comics or DVD's.

Where to send: **GIVE AND MAKEUP, PO BOX 855, LONDON, W4 4AW**

GONE FOR GOOD – App on either AppStore or GooglePlay store Have a fleet of vans, collect from you and deliver to one of the charities (Mind, YMCA, Cats Protection, Children's Air Ambulance, Royal Trinity Hospice, Shaw Trust, or Barnardo's). On the App you can book a time that suits you. The list of requirements is on our website.

And for products made from recycled goods:

Elvis and Kresse – <https://www.elvisandkresse.com/> make luxury goods from decommissioned fire hoses, parachute silk, printing blankets used by printers, auctioneer banners, coffee and tea sacks, shoe boxes and off cuts/scrap of leather from Burberry to make a variety of products from purses, handbags, wallets, belts, to flooring, travel bags etc. Mamoq.com make sustainable clothing, including swimwear from upcycled fishing nets! Weavergreen.com, Rexlondon.com and layeredlounge.com use recycled plastic bottles to make waterproof bags, washable rugs, soft handwoven textiles that feel like wool, but are easy to clean, hard wearing, stain resistant, and good for allergy sufferers.

Community Panel

Co-convenors:
Victoria Diamond
& Val Jones
Vickysw15@aol.com
jones.val@gmail.com
07746 022654

Some of you may have noticed that a large tree fell into Beverley Brook at Ashlone Wharf last October, blocking access to this basin, which is used by both the Sea Scouts and the Sea Cadets. The basin is quite deep and dangerous for children who have been climbing on the tree. The good news is that it will be removed by the Environment Agency in March.



Many thanks to Sandi Blomfield for the photograph

In mid-February, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government announced £9.7 million for local authorities to improve their parks and green spaces. In addition a further £2.75 million was

confirmed for the Pocket Parks Plus programme. This latter fund is designed to support the establishment of new pocket parks, creating safe and usable green

spaces. A pocket park can be defined as a piece of land of up to 0.4 hectares (although many are around 0.02 hectares, the size of a tennis court) which may already be under grass, but which is unused, undeveloped or derelict. We are keen to identify places in Putney that meet these criteria and would like to work with Wandsworth Council to develop more pocket parks. The site on the corner of Upper Richmond Road and Charlwood Road is one option but we would welcome suggestions from our members for other sites.

At their Executive meeting on 18 February, the Society agreed to become a supporter of the London National City Park.

Open Spaces Panel

Convenor:
Judith Chegwidden
020 8788 4489
judith.chegwidden@gmail.com

PUTNEY SOCIETY CONTACTS

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

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Volunteers wanted

Royal Trinity Hospice

Living every moment

Royal Trinity Hospice has **30 shops** across South and West London. They currently have some volunteering opportunities available in the **Putney High Street** and **Putney Bridge Road shops**.

Please contact Celia Abbott, the Volunteer Manager, if you can help
cabbott@royaltrinityhospice.london
Tel: 020 7787 3203

SHEILA MOYNIHAN 1927-2019

Sheila who lived at 71 "Park View" Festing Road for thirty years, passed away on St Valentine's Day. Sheila came from an old Putney family; her grandfather having been a Victorian entrepreneur who acquired a large property empire in Putney, the remnants of which include number 71.

Sheila went to the girls' grammar school that was Mayfield and has now become Ashcroft College. Her family sponsored one of the Jewish children who escaped the Holocaust on the Kindertransport. Sheila graduated, went to teacher's training college and became a school teacher specialising in home economics. Her husband's job took them all round the country and for many years they lived in Liverpool and Epping where Sheila taught.

They moved back to Putney in 1991 and Sheila became an active member of the Society in the following two decades. As well as serving on the Executive, she also contributed to the work of the Buildings and Open Spaces panels.

Dates for your Diary

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

Tracy Chevalier

Author of *Girl with a Pearl Earring* will talk about the writing life.

Wednesday 6 March
6.30pm – 7.30pm

No booking required

Putney Library, Disraeli Road.

The Putney Debates 2019 — the Courts: Friend or Foe?

13-14 March 2019,
St Mary's Church, Putney

As the UK approaches the most significant change to its constitutional settlement for decades, the Oxford Foundation for Law, Justice and Society revisits for the third time the historic Putney Debates, to ask:

What role do we want for our judges in the 21st Century?

The 2019 Putney Debates will be chaired by the renowned legal commentator Joshua Rozenberg and the founder of the New Putney Debates Professor Denis Galligan. Full details and registration at: www.PutneyDebates2019.co.uk

Putney Charity Pop-Up Fair in aid of Hammersmith & Fulham Foodbank

Friday 22 March 2019
at St Mary's Church, Putney
from 10.00 am – 2.30 pm.

Entry on the door £5 per person (children are free). All proceeds will go to the Hammersmith & Fulham Foodbank for their Children's Holiday Mealcamps which are held for underprivileged children who, without the H&F Foodbank would go without food during the school holidays. Many local traders will be running stalls.

A feast of rowing in March with four major events:

**All events run from the University
Stone Mortlake to Putney on the
ebb tide.**

- The Schools' Head of the River Race on 15 March start 12 noon
- The Women's Eights Head of the River Race on 16 March start 11.30am
- The Head of the River Race on 30 March at 10.15am start 11.30am
- Vesta Veterans Fours Head of the River Race on the 31 March 13.30pm