



Wandsworth Society

Newsletter August 2010

Twenty is plenty : what do you think?



The overwhelming answer to the question was - Yes - 20 is plenty, 80% of those that responded were in favour of a 20 mph limit. Regretably the turnout was disappointingly low, so possibly not statistically significant - but you can still vote!

20 mph for Wandsworth!

Are you one of Wandsworth's 'persecuted' motorists? Caught in the gridlock of the Wandsworth gyratory around the Town Hall? The victim of speed cameras that seem to pop up unexpectedly; traffic wardens with only one thing on their minds – to get you; speed limits to left and speed limits to right? Why on earth even think of another rod for our backs – lowering the speed limit in our residential and local shopping streets?

Won't a 20 mph general speed limit just slow down our getting to where we want to be? Cost us more in petrol? Raise blood pressure? Simply be disregarded?

So why are people all over the country winning the argument to lower the general 30mph speed limit that has been in existence since the 1930s? Portsmouth led the way in 2008 and introduced, with the exception of some principal through routes, a 20mph default speed. Oxford followed suit. And several other cities and towns are doing the same.

We in Wandsworth have a chance to think afresh about how we would like our local streets to be. The Council is finalising its Local Implementation Plan for the Mayor's Transport Plan for London. It has also been experimenting with 20 mph streets – not just around schools (where they have become standard), or where local residents have pressed for them, but – for the first time – across a whole residential area, the Shaftesbury Estate just off the Wandsworth Road. We have a new Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation, Ravi Govindia, one of our most experienced councillors. And the Wandsworth Environment Forum, of which the Wandsworth Society is a member, is arranging a meeting with him to

discuss the matter.

One starting point in thinking about the issue is this. We are all pedestrians – walking to the shops, or to catch a bus or train, or getting a bit of exercise and fresh air. Our streets and pavements are not just ways of getting to somewhere else; they are also places where we spend time. Most of us also have several identities – pedestrian, car driver, user of public transport, cyclist, parent whose children have to get to school or want to play on the street, or someone just happy to sit outside in summer at a pub or coffee shop. Car driving is only one of the things we do and 'are'. Which is why so many car drivers are supporting the idea of making our local roads more peaceful, safer to be on and less polluted, by lowering the speed limit to 20mph.

A lot of research has been done into the issue. Just to give a flavour of it, in Wandsworth in 2005, of the 117 severely injured road casualties, nearly half were pedestrians and cyclists, and 29% were children.

What's your view about speed limits? Do let the Society know by contacting pf@wandsworthsociety.org.uk.

And if you want to hear more of the benefits of slower traffic speeds, a group of local residents are forming a group, Wandsworth Living Streets, that will be campaigning for more liveable, safer, people-friendly roads. Contact Susie Morrow at sem@semorrow.com.

Robert Molteno

Wandsworth Society

August 2010

Chairman
Valerie Taylor
35 Fishponds Road
SW17 7LH
020 8767 3814

Vice-Chairman
Phillip Whyte
49 West Side Wandsworth
Common London SW18 2EE
020 8874 4745

Secretary
John Dawson
210 Beechcroft Road SW17 7DP
phone 020 8785 0077

Treasurer
a vacant post

Membership Secretary
Gill Gray
1 Keble House Manor Fields
Putney Hill SW15 3JLS
phone 020 8780 0866

Committee
Sheila Allen
13 Earlsfield Road SW18 3PB
phone 020 8874 2341
Bruce St Julian-Bown
39c Heathfield Road SW18 2PH
phone 020 8874 6966
Iain Gray
Studio 8 Royal Victoria
Patriotic Building SW18 3SX
phone 020 8870 4567
Linda Ulrich
6 Spencer Park SW18 2SX
020 8874 5648

Meetings Team
Valerie Taylor - Aviva Walton
Wendy Cater - Brenda Ferry
Jenny Massey
Catherine Headley
Dianna Godden

Newsletter Team
Peter Farrow Iain Gray
Wendy Cater

Distribution Team
Paschal Allen - Iain Gray
Jan Passey - Wendy Cater

Sub-Committee
Convenors
Roads and transport -
Linda Ulrich
Open Spaces -
Bruce St Julian-Bown
Planning -
Phillip Whyte

A view from the chair

What great news that the Ram Brewery proposal has been turned down following the Public Inquiry – see page 6 for details.

Many congratulations to the Society's Planning Team and all Society members who gave presentations to the Public Inquiry and we look forward to a new design for the site with a focus on the listed buildings and of a scale more suitable for our town centre.

It is for such battles that we need a strong membership and therefore, at the risk of being really boring, I exhort each member to find one new member for the Society. A membership form is given herewith so do please pass this newsletter on to a friend or neighbour. We could double our membership by the end of the year!

We are also still in need of a Treasurer. There are a number of duties carried out by our current, reluctant incumbent (who has been doing a grand job for an unreasonably long time) which could be shared so that the simple tasks would be pure pleasure. Do volunteer to help us. An hour a week, on average, would more than cover it, I feel sure.

We have tried some experiments on the Event front this summer in the form of three Sunday afternoon walks, to see if we could, thereby, attract a different "audience". It would be very helpful to have your comments: would you have come had it not been for the World Cup? Or had it not been so hot? Or if they had been on a Saturday? Or would prefer a summer evening?

We are also trying a new format in using the back cover of the Newsletter for our events instead of separate flyers so please ...

Do look back – *Now!*

Valerie Taylor

The cover photograph was taken in Wandsworth, a free copy of the next newsletter to the first correct answer pulled from the hat, what could be more exciting?

Our Chair, Valerie Taylor, leads the Events Subcommittee which, since the end of May, has organised a series of most interesting meetings and walks – 5 in 6 weeks!

The first, on 27 May, was a lecture on Diaghilev by Joy Melville, author of the recently published and acclaimed *Diaghilev and Friends*; the second, an illustrated talk about the history of Wandsworth Common by our own Shirley Passmore, a founding member of the Wandsworth Society; the third, an hour of discovery with Roy Vickery on a scrubby patch of land near King George's Park; the fourth, a stroll along the Thames from Battersea to Wandsworth Bridge with Alan Fennell and John Dawson; and lastly, in July, Bruce St Julian-Bown led a walk from Earlsfield up river along the Wandle to Carshalton Ponds.

A more diverse and interesting set of events could not have been better arranged, with 3 of them out of doors in the glorious summer weeks, and our thanks are extended to Valerie and Co for their imagination and organisational skills – and weather forecasting!

The Wandsworth Museum

coming very soon ...

The soon-to-open Wandsworth Museum has received a more than glowing tribute from Professor Jack Lohman, the Director of the Museum of London, a man who presumably knows a good museum when he sees one. He has written to the Board of Trustees to praise the progress that has been made, the design of the displays and the energy and commitment of the museum's director Andrew Leitch.

We very much look forward to its opening on the 3 September.

by the Wandle

Hot sunshine, a gentle breeze and a fresh group of members and their friends, plus several others who had seen our walk advertised in local libraries – 20 in total – strolled along the length of the River Wandle from Earlsfield (Trewint Street bridge) to Carshalton Ponds, 7+ miles away.

Two of the “others”, New Zealanders currently living in Putney, thought how remarkable it was that we could walk such a length of river, surrounded by mature trees, shrubs and a fine display of flora and fauna, in the midst of a great, dense city. On reflection, it was difficult to recall the time, 30 years ago, when the Society had to campaign long and hard to have the Wandle walk to Plough Lane opened up. Other lengths were out of bounds, too, for years. Happily, the Wandle is now enjoyed by fishermen, scout clubs holding raft-building days and young children paddling and splashing in the river, all of whom were sighted as we made our way along the banks. Plans are now afoot for the Wandle to become a Regional Park, and we are represented as an interested organisation.

As Bruce explained, the river supported London's principal industrial belt from Norman occupation through to the last century with mills scattered along its length. A break was had at Merton Abbey, beneath the A24 and alongside the Savacentre, where kings were crowned and Thomas Becket was educated. Here John Hawks of the Merton Priory Trust gave us an enthusiastic tour of the remains of the Abbey's Chapter House – a privilege as they are not open to the public generally.

By 4.30 the group, still 15 strong, eventually reached Carshalton Ponds and long-awaited cups of tea before we caught the 127 bus back to Tooting and on to home.

A thoroughly enjoyable day meeting many new faces as a bonus!

John Dawson

And there's more on this walk a little further on ...

Walkabout

from Battersea to Wandsworth Bridge, on the north bank of the Thames

For many of our diehard footie fanatical members, the afternoon of Sunday 27 June was filled with hope for an England win. However, whilst TV reigned over the hearts and minds of the many within hot, darkened rooms, eight indefatigable Society members, led by Alan Fennell and John Dawson, explored the glorious sunlit Thames, and became immersed in a two-hour reflection of the two river banks from the less familiar northern side.

As we stood at Battersea Bridge by the Whistler statue, looking across to Norman Foster's office and penthouse suite, to Joseph Bazalgette's five-span iron Battersea Bridge, looking sleek and well engineered in grey finish with gold details, to the low-key, domestic late 60s housing on the once Morgan Crucible site, to Bazalgette's Chelsea embankment, the interest that is London started to spin its web.

We moved slowly along, to the abandoned Lots Road power station, surprisingly built and funded at the turn of the 20th century to provide electricity to the new underground lines such as the District and

Circle, by American entrepreneurs. Then on to smart Chelsea Harbour, to sleek Imperial Wharf, past late 80s "Hanseatic" styled blocks of flats, reaching, eventually, Wandsworth Bridge by the strange, architecturally illiterate Sainsbury's store which has blank facades to the capital's river and acres of parking asphalt as its joyless offering of landscaping by the riverside.

As we walked, we regularly paused to reflect upon the changes to Wandsworth viewed across the river – the changes in scale, land values, housing - in part due to Government pressure - but primarily, of course, the loss of industry.

Inquiries suggest a reprise of the walk may be called for. If so, whilst a promise of nearly 30° warmth cannot be guaranteed, a pleasant stroll certainly can!

John Dawson

Surprised by flora ♦♦♦

... in a surprising place. A little track running parallel to Garratt Lane and the Wandle at the intersection with Mapleton Close to be precise.

On a hot June afternoon, a little band of Wandsworth Society members gathered at this rather less than salubrious spot expecting a walk round King George's Park with Roy Vickery of the South London Botanical Institute inspecting the flora in this neat municipal area. Roy had other ideas. We clambered over a "fence" onto the track and found ourselves surrounded by an amazing collection of wild plants, which we would perhaps associate more readily with a country lane, all happily growing in Wandsworth. Roy held us entranced for an hour as he identified and talked about plant after plant – Germander Speedwell, Stitchwort, Trefoil, Dock and nettles, brambles, Elder, Horehound, Cow parsley... – telling the folklore behind them and encouraging us to add our stories and knowledge. People were very keen to comment on Elder – the wine and champagne naturally, but also its medicinal properties, the wine apparently being good for flu and sore throats. We have all used Dock leaves to soothe nettle stings but I didn't know that plantains wrapped round joints are thought to ease arthritic aches and pains. How

many of us know that Horehound, found especially in Suffolk and Norfolk, can be used to make tea and ale, the latter particularly in Norfolk; or that Cow Parsley is also called Queen Anne's lace?

It was a fascinating hour and Roy certainly made us all more aware of nature's power to take over when people leave even a tiny patch of land alone. In fact, a few days later, I found myself peering at a very rough patch of grass at the side of the pavement in a typical 1930s housing development as I walked the grandchildren to school and, to everyone's delight, spotting the tiny white flowers of Stitchwort.

If Roy can be persuaded to organise another walk for us, do come along and experience his knowledge and enthusiasm. You will enjoy it!

Christina Dawson

Planning matters

The Ram Brewery - we were delighted to be advised on the 1st July that the Secretary of State, Eric Pickles had resolved to accept the Inspector's decision to reject consent of the principal application for the redevelopment of the Ram Brewery site and had overturned the Inspector's decision to approve applications for the refurbishment of the listed buildings and the demolition of the unlisted buildings on the remainder of the brewery site.

The Inspector's recommended the approval of the application for the redevelopment of the Buckhold Road site for affordable housing, subject to a revised Section 106 Agreement. This was anticipated by some of the group and understandable in view of the relatively uncontentious nature of the application, apart from the height and massing. It does however beg the question of how this application could be implemented without support from an alternative source as there is no open market housing proposed for the site. We await the revised Section 106 Agreement.

The planning group presented a case at the Inquiry last November emphasising the scale and height of the two towers at the northern end of the site, which we are pleased to be able to report was strongly supported by the Inspectors. Another plank in our case was the adverse effect, if permitted, that the scheme would have on both the Conservation area and the immediately adjoining residential areas. This view was also supported by the Inspectors.

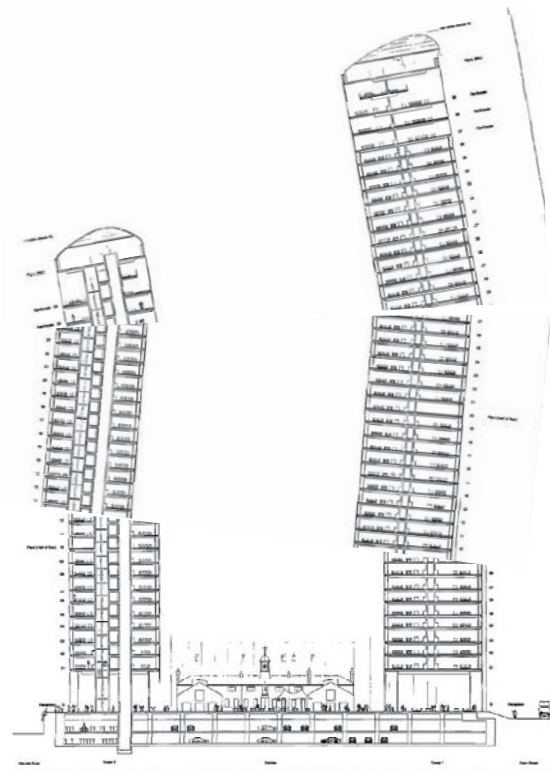
The other principal objector, The Health and Safety Inspectorate attended the Inquiry presenting their case as Advise Against, which is the technical term for advising the local planning authority to refuse the application on grounds of safety following various cases in both this country and abroad. We were slightly surprised to be told early on in the Inquiry that little consultation had taken place with the HSE before the application. The location of the two glass-clad towers represented an unnecessary risk, albeit that the risk profile appeared low in the developer's case.

One matter that the Inspectors picked up from our evidence which is most pleasing is that the images presented by the developers were not considered accurate and did not properly represent what

would have been viewed had the scheme presented been approved.

We are very conscious that a new scheme for the refurbishment and redevelopment of the site is required and we are hopeful that we will be invited to participate at an early stage in discussions with the developers and the Council as we do not wish to have another Battersea on our door steps.

Thanks go to all who participated in the preparation of evidence, the presentation of our case to the Inquiry and to the nerve-racking time of giving evidence and cross-questioning during the Inquiry. Special thanks to John Dawson for organising the photographic evidence and for presenting the Society's case.



and not forgetting other planning matters

We continue to monitor many of the applications which are submitted to the Council with comments and objections where appropriate. Some of the matters which we have dealt with over the last few months include -

Monitoring the Core Strategy and London Plan

which will form the basis of the planning strategies for the next ten years. This is a most complicated system of assessment of the anticipated needs for the growth of London and takes in transport, housing, shopping, community facilities, open spaces and redevelopment of brownfield (previously used land) and other spaces. London's population has declined in the last few years but is anticipated to grow again in the future. Infrastructure has lagged behind in many cases and with the present government cuts in available finance this will be a difficult case to pursue.

Skydeck ...

yes, that building on the corner of Windmill Road and Heathfield Road. Following the Inspector's dismissal of the building owners' appeal against the enforcement notice in February nothing seems to have happened. We have written to The Planning Inspectorate and the Council, so far without a satisfactory response. We will continue to try and find out what is going on.

Marney Lodge, East Hill

This was an application for back land (brownfield) development for housing with access directly off East Hill. We wrote letters of comment and objection, however after a number of revised applications an application was approved.

Woburn House, Falcon Road, Clapham Junction

This was an application for an 8-storey hotel on the site of an outdated office building. A previous application, to which we objected, was for 16-storeys and was refused. We commented on various aspects of the scheme which was approved at the June Applications committee meeting.

Battersea Reach

The planning group were invited by St George to consider the latest planning proposals at a meeting on site. Outline consent for the whole scheme was granted in 2002 but detailed consent is required for individual phases. One matter of concern to us is the provision of affordable housing on the site which seems to be being pushed back with each phase of the development. We will be making this point to the developers. The site will have virtually no workspace in later phases which appears to go against the mixed use that was proposed initially.

Former Honda Garage site East Hill

The group were invited to attend the architect's office to be shown the latest proposals for the redevelopment of this prominent site. A previous application to which we objected was withdrawn before Committee consideration. The present scheme provides for an hotel on ground and five upper floors with underground parking and deliveries. The

scheme appears more sympathetic to the adjoining church and buildings opposite on Huguenot Place. An application is expected within the next two months at which time we will comment further.

Sainsbury's, Garratt Lane

Consent was granted towards the end of last year for a new hotel to be constructed as part of the redevelopment of the Sainsbury site in Garratt Lane. The store will be extended, with a multi-level car park to the rear. The hotel will be at right angles to the Garratt Lane frontage on the northern end and will be on four/five floors above ground. We objected to the orientation of the hotel and to the car parking provision but no account appears to have been taken of our representations.

Springfield Hospital

We have been invited recently to inspect the latest plans for the proposed redevelopment of the Springfield Hospital site following the refusal of the last application in the autumn of last year. We were supportive of the previous plans. We will be writing to the development team with our views in the near future after consideration of the latest plans.

Thames Tunnel

Thames Water are proposing a new relief sewer to run from upstream of Wandsworth to Beckton in east London to help alleviate unnecessary contamination at times of flooding. This will be a massive project and will require land-based sites for the extraction and dispersal of soil and waste material from the tunnel. Wandsworth is expected to have to provide at least one site which is likely to extend to about three acres while construction is underway, there is no "spare" land available thus either parks or compulsory purchase of existing business sites will be required. The timing for this is not certain but it will happen.

National Grid Tunnel

Wimbledon to Willesden

This is a new tunnel which will be constructed at depth along the site. The importance to Wandsworth is that one of the shafts will be located on a site adjoining Armoury Way at Hunts Trucks and Aussi-Van and Man site which is partially owned by National Grid. The scheme will take about five years to complete but the most significant point is that all the spoil from the southern end of the tunnel will be taken from the head site of the shaft by road in lorries with vehicle movements expected throughout the day adding to the existing traffic on Armoury Way. Let's hope that there are not too many breakdowns in the morning rush hour!!

The planning group would welcome additional members as the workload is quite considerable and we always have lively discussions at meetings which take place monthly.

If anyone has any questions please contact Philip Whyte.

Wandsworth Common – a history

The evening of our 2 June meeting found the Society with a genuinely new headache for, as the 70th visitor arrived to hear our local “star” speaker, Shirley Passmore, we were running out of chairs!

Yes, Shirley brought in the punters in droves to hear her well-publicised Heritage Week talk about our favourite, neighbourhood open space – Wandsworth Common.

Shirley, a founder member of the Wandsworth Society 39 years ago, explained that she was born and raised in Wandsworth, and has lived by the Common all her life, so her credentials are peerless.

Her illustrated talk ranged from the origins of the Common to its enclosure by Earl Spencer’s ancestor as Lord of the Manor of Wandsworth and Battersea, to the early 19th century encroachment by the railways, schools, prison, housing, a telescope (temporarily) to the arrival of the Royal Victoria Patriotic Asylum in 1859. Local skulduggery, politics and, of course, as ever, the Law all played their part in the Common’s struggle to survive cherry-picking by developers, but, in 1871, it was saved for posterity by the Wandsworth Common Act. We

learnt that, over the years, its guardianship has been in the hands of the Metropolitan Board of Works, the LCC and then, briefly, the GLC until 1970 when the Common passed to Wandsworth Council’s care.

Shirley drew the talk to a close with details about the way the Common is looked after today, all the statutes – 6 Acts – which govern its status, and her thoughts for its future.

What she failed to explain, due to her modesty, is the part she has played, through the Wandsworth Society, in helping to set up the Management Advisory Committee, which she chaired for a number of years and which aims to involve local people in the Common’s maintenance, and to keep track of the exploitation of its land by the Council and developers alike. Shirley has also represented the Society at public inquiries, opposing any new encroachments.

The full house eventually cleared the hall, well-satisfied by Shirley’s excellent narrative, and, for a bargain £2, able to purchase her written account as a permanent record of the Commons history.

Diaghilev and friends

On a fine evening in May, Joy Melville held our attention as she traced Sergei Diaghilev’s life from his birth in 1872 in Perm, Siberia to his death in 1929 aged fifty-seven in Venice.

Musically gifted with an ambition to become a composer, his studies took him to the university in St Petersburg, exposing him to a culture and sophistication to which he took with ease, immersing himself in the arts, falling in and out of love. His charm and shrewdness secured him the patronage of the wealthy intelligentsia who willingly paid for both his ambitious and costly productions in theatre and ballet, and his extravagant life-style. Diaghilev, in turn, paid for his lovers, the most personally heart-breaking of whom was Vaslav Nijinsky, and although his name was linked with other dancers – Anton Dolin, Leonide Massine, two of many, Diaghilev found long-lasting relationships eluded him.

In 1909 he founded the Ballets Russes, taking the company to Paris with the ground-breaking Rite of Spring and L’Après-midi d’un Faun which although initially shocking audiences with their pagan eroticism, found these same audiences rising to offer standing ovations.

Diaghilev worked with, among others, Stravinsky, Cocteau, Picasso, Bakst, all drawn by his charisma, seduced by his charm.

Joy Melville’s beautifully presented book shows plates and photographs from childhood to death – she certainly gives us the man!

Catherine Headley

Diaghilev and Friends, by Joy Melville, Haus Publishing
£20.00

More to the Wandle than a nice walk

Sunday July 11

A group of twenty stalwart walkers assembled at Earlsfield Station for the long promised walk along our local river. The 7-8 miles to Carshalton Ponds offers some remarkable sights and surprises. The first stage Trewint Street, Earlsfield to Plough Lane was one of the most enchanting because of its isolation from traffic and its wilderness character.

We saw herons but no kingfishers which are known in this stretch of the Wandle. The proximity of industry and the brisk flow of the water reminds us that the Wandle's fame is based on the ninety mills that once straddled it during the industrial revolution, tapping this free energy supply. That's of course why it was known at the time as the hardest-worked river in Europe.

Crossing Plough Lane the path looks down on the river banks which are as wild ever. Here Merton Council has erected one of several metal viewing platforms, not yet adequately blended with the foliage but nevertheless providing a useful wildlife viewing point. After passing under the "Bridge of Darkness" in Wandle Meadow Park (near Haydons Road) we arrived at Wandle Park, Colliers Wood. This park has seen considerable regeneration effort including a wetland zone only yards from the river.

Over Merton High Street, we passed by what was once the Savacentre, then followed the river round to Merton Abbey Mills. Here we had a bonus – a visit to the ruins of the Abbey Priory hidden under Meruntun Way. John Hawks the market manager had kindly agreed to open up SW London's best kept heritage secret. His short talk covered its history from circa 1100 to Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries. The original Abbey complex would have matched Westminster in size and indeed in significance. The Priory which acted as a council chamber was the site of the promulgation of England's first parliamentary legislation. This we have subsequently learned may afford it to apply for a new category of World Heritage site status, i.e. not simply relating to the impressiveness of the remains but the importance of what took place at the site. Merton Council seems to have been hesitant about the application but one is nevertheless being made.

Hopefully the s106 funds linked to the site (several hundred thousand pounds) to develop it for controlled public access is still being held by the original developer who is presumably waiting to be asked to cough up.

The whole group was enthralled as few had seen the ruins before and all applauded John's Hawks's talk. We took an hour to lunch at one of several restaurants in the market and time to do some craft gift shopping before taking to the path

south again. The Belgian Crêperie and the Thai restaurants were popular as was the William Morris pub right next to the river.

The next sector was past Deen City Farm and across the tram lines to Morden Hall Park Wetlands, both these areas provide hundreds of acres of habitat and are well used by local walkers. We refrained from visiting the National Trust tea rooms, garden centre and heritage buildings one of which is a water mill.

The Park has its own character more reminiscent of Richmond Park with open grassy meadows between mature trees including a spectacular weeping beech. At the southern end we crossed the road and entered yet another park, Ravensbury. This again is again distinct in character and with some spectacular London Planes, ginkgo and other exotic trees. We passed an event which seemed to comprise several scouting troops competing in improvised rafts to cross the river which is wide, slow and shallow here. How nice to see the river being used for young people's leisure activities suitably supervised of course but not banned by the Dept of H&S.

After Ravensbury Park we crossed to Poulter Park which starts off with a section which could do with improving as it fences off the river for no apparent reason but opens out to a wide reach with a path that had been closed while the council undertook some reed bed work to increase the rate of flow and thus shift the silt build-up. This is another charming stretch completely isolated from traffic although the park a few yards from the wilderness belt consists of playing fields centred on the new and huge sports facility called The Hub which is a little too close for comfort if not comfort stops! I imagine it was a controversial planning decision and could have been sited the other side of the playingfields away from the river. (It was the venue for the recent Wandle Conference).

The next stretch brings us close to Mitcham Common and is partially fringed by a not unpleasant housing estate. Here some of the group split to visit the BEDZED ecologically-based housing estate by architect Bill Dunster conveniently close to Hackbridge Station (apologies if the trains were on bus replacement service!)"

The last stretch took us to the Grove Park, Carshalton which is about as attractive as a London urban village can look. After visiting what is claimed as the tallest known London plane in the country (120ft+ in 1964) it was tea all round and home in time for the World Cup final. The group was most appreciative and we may repeat the walk at a future date ...

Bruce St Julian-Bown

If you are not a member

and would like to join the Society

While there are those of us who think potential members should be vetted for looks, intelligence, a sense of humour, fluency in at least three languages and an ability to double on the spoons should the occasion demand – for the present joining the Society is fairly easy. Providing your name and address and paying an annual subscription are all that's needed.

Names and addresses can be given to our Membership Secretary by post, phone or email
Gill Gray
1 Keble House Manor Fields
Putney Hill SW15 3ILS
phone 020 8780 0866.

Subscriptions can be paid in ready money, and, if that's your preference, we will arrange for one of the boys to be sent round.

Or a better way (that is easier for us) is for you to set up a standing order with your bank.

One way of doing this is to arrange an afternoon visit to your bank manager, alas these days tea is not always provided, and advise him, or

indeed her, of what you want to pay, to whom and how often. And that would be - £10, or whatever you see fit, to the Wandsworth Society

account number 40990222

branch sort code 60-22-28

once a year, and if you could arrange it to be paid in early March each year that would be very helpful.

For those of you with the technical competence, or the aid of a young person versed in such matters, the same thing can be achieved on the interweb without the tedium of leaving your armchair. That would be on the assumption you have arranged to access your bank account on-line – you have arranged on-line banking haven't you? Well now's a good time to start.

If you do arrange to set up a standing order please do let Gill know that you have, so she can add you to her list. And at the same time you could confirm whether or not the Society can claim Gift Aid.

And if none of the above appeal, why you could complete the form over the page

To encourage friends to join

Tell them the Society has reviewed its membership policy and that membership is only open to good-looking intelligent people with musical talent, or perhaps better say latent musical talent.

That should do the trick.

And then run through the procedures described above.

Existing members - paying by standing order

We do understand that paying by standing order isn't everyone's cup of tea, and if you prefer to pay by cash or cheque that's fine. We will accept cash and cheques for as long as they are around.

But - if you are able to pay by standing order it would help.

A membership form

Subscriptions

Individuals £10
Over 60 or student £5
Additional cost for posting Newsletters £5

Any additional amount you feel able to pay will be much appreciated

Standing order mandate

Please enter your bank details below -

bank
branch
address
.....

please pay the sum of £
on the 5th March 2010 or as soon as possible there-
after and then annually on the 5th March until this
order is cancelled in writing to :

National Westminster Bank
98 Wandsworth High Street
LONDON SW18 4ZD
for the credit of the Wandsworth Society
account number 40990222
branch sort code 60-22-28

Please enter your details below -
name

address
.....
.....

account name (if not as above)
account number

Please cancel any previous standing order in fa-
vour of the Wandsworth Society

Signature

Date

Gift Aid Declaration

I want the Wandsworth Society to treat all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid donations.

name
address
.....
.....

Please note :

You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying the Wandsworth Society as below. You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the Wandsworth Society reclaims on your donations in the tax year (currently 28p for each £1 you give).

If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and capital gains equal to the tax that the Wandsworth Society reclaims, you can cancel your declaration (see note 1).

If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self Assessment tax return.

If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, ask the Wandsworth Society. Or ask your local tax office for leaflet IR65.

Please notify the Wandsworth Society if you change your name or address.

Signature

Date

Please send the completed form to
Gill Gray
1 Keble House Manor Fields
Putney Hill SW15 3ILS
phone 020 8780 0866

It would be very useful to have your
telephone number
and email address

Dates for your diary

not to be missed !

Thursday 9 September 2010

7:45 for 8:00 at the West Side Church, at the corner of Melody Road and Allfarthing Lane SW18

A presentation by Andrew Simpson
the Director of the Springfield Regeneration Programme
about the latest plans for

Springfield Village

Do come and air your views - direct to the man who counts!

Thursday 23 September 2010

7:45 for 8:00 at the West Side Church, at the corner of Melody Road and Allfarthing Lane SW18

A history of

Du Cane Court

land, architecture, people and politics

Greg Vincent talks about his book, including famous residents such as Margaret Rutherford and the infamous intended resident : did Hitler plan to use the building for his headquarters when he invaded Britain?

Tuesday 28 September 2010

A visit to the
spectacular Buddhapadipa Temple in Wimbledon
in its beautiful garden setting, 2 - 4pm, admission is free.

Meet at 1.50 at 14 Calonne Road, off Wimbledon Common Parkside
Those wishing to join the party please send names to Wendy Cater at 0208-870 4875 or
by email to wendycater@metronet.co.uk

Thursday 21 October 2010

7:45 for 8:00 at the West Side Church, at the corner of Melody Road and Allfarthing Lane SW18

WHAT IS WANDSWORTH DOING ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE?

Keiran Allen

Technology Acceleration Manager at the Carbon Trust

Among other initiatives The Carbon Trust advises local authorities on carbon management. Kieran will give the national perspective, and Robert Molteno, will report on how Wandsworth has responded to the advice given by The Carbon Trust.

Robert spent most of his professional life as a publisher of books on the developing world. Since retirement he has become active in our local Friends of the Earth group and the new group Wandsworth Living Streets. "My abiding concern is that we leave a planet in good shape and create a better society for our children and our grandchildren" he says. We welcome Robert as a new member of the Society