

Whan that Aprille with his shoures soote  
The droghte of Marche hath perced to the roote,  
And bathed every veyne in swich licour,  
Of which vertu engendred is the flour;  
Whan Zephirus eek with his swete breeth  
Inspired hath in every holt and heeth  
The tendre croppes, and the yonge sonne  
Hath in the Ram his halfe cours y-ronne,  
And smale fowles maken melodye,  
That slepen al the night with open ye,  
(So priketh hem nature in hir corages:  
Than longen folk to goon on pilgrimages,  
And palmers for to seken straunge strondes,  
To ferne halwes, couthe in sondry londes;  
And specially, from every shires ende  
Of Engelond, to Caunterbury they wende,  
The holy blisful martir for to seke,  
That hem hath holpen, whan that they were seke.

# Wandsworth Society

Newsletter May 2012

# What is going on at St Georges?

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**D**espite having been appointed for just a few months, our February speaker, Miles Scott, showed an impressive mastery of his brief. Bringing experience from similar roles in the north, he spoke with assurance and fluency. The extent of his responsibilities as Chief Executive of St George's Healthcare may have surprised many. Not just the mighty hospital in Tooting but a broad spread of services including St John's Health Centre, much of the provision at Queen Mary's Roehampton, Kingston Hospital, Wandsworth Prison's health care and outstations such as GPs' surgeries.

With 7862 staff it probably exceeds the Council as the largest employer in the borough. Its employees are exhorted to provide 'excellent, kind, responsible and respectful service'. Miles concedes that this language may seem "American" but says that staff need a statement that is simple and direct.

One questioner thought a wrong tone was struck by notices on the walls of the hospital warning against abuse of staff. She thought these made no allowance for the frustrations caused to the public by the system.

We learned that St George's is national centre for penile cancer, a world famous infections unit (impressive progress having been made in reducing MRSA), specialist in neurosurgery, heart and stroke services, and a regional trauma centre. A & E here has one of the highest levels of consultant cover in the country. A benefit of being a teaching hospital increased awareness of the newest research, techniques and treatments.

Perhaps St George's is growing too big? Miles is convinced that concentration of provision into

sites of high expertise provides the best care. Other services e.g. the management of diabetes, can be provided by specialist nurses visiting G.P. surgeries. Phasing out mixed wards under special circumstances such as intensive care was difficult.

As for the financial and political framework, the Trust had to borrow £34 million six years ago, but is now about to pay this off and hopes soon to move into surplus.

This will clear the way for Foundation Trust status in 2014, when having an obligation to comply with performance standards set by government, it will have the freedom to determine how they are achieved. Management will answer to a Board of Governors elected by Trust members who are users, such as us. Indeed, invitation leaflets were brought by Miles for distribution to the meeting. Anyone in the area can become a member of St George's Healthcare.

Miles spoke of present changes in the NHS more as evolution than as a radical change in direction. Services to the private sector will grow and strengthen what will continue to be the Trust's government funded income.

Such was the volume and content of questions from the audience that there was no opportunity to probe further here – for example, what effect will competition on price have on quality when the Wandsworth Commissioning Group decides where to spend that government funding?

Alan Fennell and Valerie Taylor

NB On 20 September our speaker will be Dr Nicola Jones, the Chair and Clinical Lead of the Wandsworth Clinical Commissioning Group.

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## Front cover

Well, as you may recall, we were struggling to fill pages in the last issue, and this time it's the cover causing the problems. A photograph that captured Wandsworth in the rain was what was sought, not as easy as you may think. Hither and thither the Staff Photographer went between the April showers to no avail. And then a memory stirred, has anyone put it

better? We assume that Chaucer was looking out at the April showers from the comfort of the snug at the Tabard, rather than dashing hither and thither, that can dampen one's spirit not a little, but nonetheless he touches the spot.

And though a sudden shower can seem less than sweet, we were cheered by the conspiratorial, we're

all-in-this-together, smiles that greeted rain from a clear blue sky one lunchtime from those that hithered and thithered around that strange concrete spike at the end of the Old Burial Ground that we recall is intended to represent the Wandle, but clearly doesn't, and seemed such a suitable subject for Wandsworth in the rain, but wasn't.

# Wandsworth Society

May 2012

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Wendy Cater - Jenny Massey

Catherine Headley - Diana Godden

## Newsletter Team

Peter Farrow Iain Gray Wendy Cater

## Distribution Team

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### Open Spaces

Bruce St Julian-Bown

### Planning

Phillip Whyte

The Society's website is

[www.wandsworthsociety.org.uk](http://www.wandsworthsociety.org.uk)

## Musings from Newsletter Towers ...

A thankful and fond farewell to Valerie, who stood down as chairman at the AGM in March, and a warm welcome to Philip as our new chairman. We are reasonably sure Valerie enjoyed being chairman. Organising the motley crew that is the committee has its highs and lows, we trust the former outnumbered the later. We have both enjoyed and benefited from her chairmanship these past years. A refreshing and stimulating term of office, many thanks

*(Apologies to those who find a female chairman incongruous. We think chairman is, or should be, gender neutral, and that while, in this context, chair is acceptable as a verb it lacks credibility as a noun, others may, but we cannot).*

Much as we enjoy meeting at the West Side Church there are those of us who miss our erstwhile home, the late lamented Alvering Library. It is no more, and that's official. Planning permission was granted for the new preparatory school – with its nice new fence, which 'is not considered to have a significant impact to an unacceptable degree'. We wait and see – it will have to be an extremely beautiful fence to compensate for the open space it will hide.

And gone, but more permanently erased, the former Eltringham School. Although fairly obvious it was not a building you noticed much, but nonetheless we think the decision to demolish was poor. We are told the cost of repair was uneconomical and that the value of the site had to be maximised. Not entirely sure we buy into that completely. Neat and tidy though it be, there are other values than cash.

And another farewell, to soirées at Patten Road, David and Elizabeth are to move, indeed to leave Wandsworth, can you imagine such madness? There are those of us who cannot believe it has been 25 years or so since the first: an event both strangely lost in the mists of time and also seeming as if it were yesterday. We have been fortunate indeed to have had for so long such a wonderful variety of music and other entertainments performed by so many fine talents, right on our doorstep. When they make the move we will wish them well, but before their departure we have one more ! (Note to self, book tickets before this gets delivered ... )

Ed

# Wellington comes to Patten Road

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“Please don’t applaud at the beginning – you’ll see why” said our host, as the lights went down and the Iron Duke walked quietly into our midst.

Tall and erect, at 82, in his black tailcoat and topper, he spun round and played imaginary hide-and-seek with us, his godchildren, on the battlements of Walmer Castle. He then assumed the characteristic pose of the famous silhouette, legs stretched ahead on a second chair, and began to reminisce.

David and Elizabeth Ward had invited us to another spellbinding soirée – with a difference. There was no live music, but instead a very live actor in the person of Martin Wimbush, the astonishing double of the great Duke of Wellington. Martin, with his co-writer Ellis Jones and the collaboration of Benedict Cruft on the accompanying sound recording, created an absorbing one-man play. Set in Walmer Castle, Kent in 1851, where Wellington was Warden of the Cinque Ports, he came face to face with the old Duke looking back over his extraordinary life.

As the play progressed, we gained insights into the Duke’s character through various incidents in his personal and public life, revealing the private man behind the public face.

At the age of 12 Wellington lost his beloved father, a Professor of Music in Dublin, who had developed young Arthur’s delight in playing the violin. Arthur’s mother did not share in this delight and promptly broke the instrument. Thereafter life became tougher. At 17 he was sent to Angers, France to learn equitation – a rich irony! His elder brother then obtained a lowly commission for him (any level would do!) and his Army career began. He soon fell in love with 17-year-old Kitty Pakenham, but her family rejected his proposal of marriage because of his lowly status. He vowed he would make good and marry her. Unfortunately this was 14 years later, when Kitty was no longer attractive, but Arthur stuck to his promise. The match was not a success; although the relationship mellowed a little later in life, Wellington



THE EARL OF WELLINGTON BY SIR J. RAEBURN (1804)

regretted his cold treatment of her. She died when he was 62. Many ladies sought to become his Duchess but Wellington had no wish to marry again, because he felt he did not understand women well enough.

The early rejection by the Pakenhams spurred Arthur’s military ambitions and his determination to succeed, first in India, where he read and studied prodigiously, to great effect, and thereafter establishing a glorious career in the course of the Peninsular War against Napoleon’s forces in Spain, after which he was created Duke of Wellington. Up to this point in the performance Martin had touched, charmed and engaged us with anecdotes, letters, quips and heartfelt comments. Then came the highlight of the evening, the electrifying account of the battle of Waterloo – the eerie calm beforehand, the pouring rain, the look of resolve or fear in the eyes of his men, the tactic of drawing back until the right moment, the ringing commands from a visible position, the clamour of battle, the tragedy of huge losses. the “hideous leopard” as Napoleon described him, because he watched, waited and pounced, had won the day. The audience was stunned!

Wellington was also called the Iron Duke. In order to conduct an efficient campaign he demanded complete discipline from his

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# The Peabody development at ... Clapham Junction

soldiers and from himself, the meticulous study of the military situation and preparation of supply lines. Back home in Parliament, it was a different story. The Duke deplored democracy because he could no longer order his men about. Martin delighted us with a duel fought in Battersea against Lord Winchelsea over Catholic Emancipation in Ireland. The young Queen Victoria, who thought Wellington could solve any problem, asked him how to deal with flocks of sparrows fouling the stands inside the Great Exhibition. Easy, sparrowhawks cleared the lot!

Wellington was always involved in battles of one kind or another – against Napoleon, Kitty, Army bureaucracy and Parliament. Martin conveyed the sharp ripostes and the iron will. But he also delighted us with intimate moments reflecting the Duke's pleasure in his very small group of friends, some humour and self-mockery (he was a terrible shot!) and the joy of playing with children, the only people who did not seek his power and influence, but only his time and attention. Late in life he reflected soberly on his faults as a husband and his responsibility for so many deaths in battle. "What awaited him on the other side of the hill?" The utterly absorbing performance ended gently, as it had begun, with an imaginary game of hide-and-seek.

Martin created a powerful presence, heightened by background recordings of Bach partitas, birdsong, gunshot and the clamour of battle. We owe huge thanks to Martin for his virtuoso performance and to the Wards for inviting us to another magical and memorable evening.

Helen Blumer

On Thursday 19 January, a meeting was organised by the Wandsworth Society in order to discuss the plans to redevelop the Peabody estate. Richard Stanway-Williams, the Peabody – Project Leader, presented the proposal with a brief history of Peabody (2012 is the 150th anniversary of the Peabody Donation Fund established by George Peabody, an American Philanthropist).

Due to the new government criteria for estates, Peabody must repair/redevelop some of its estates, including Clapham Junction. After looking at the options of refurbishment/repair, it was decided that the only viable solution was a full redevelopment of the estate.

Richard explained that the aim of the proposal is to break down the barrier with the rest of the neighbourhood and create an open development. The new plan is based on more, different and larger units, from 12 storeys stepping down to four. The building dedicated to community services should host Peabody's offices and a reception room for the estate.

The size of the dwellings has been increased in line with the new London design's guidelines. One-bedroom flats previously 40 square metres will be 50 square metres; a flat with 2 bedrooms will be 70 square metres (previously 5 square metres) and 3 bedrooms will be 95 square metres (previously 70 square metres).

Peabody organised an exhibition in November 2011 (about 150 people attended according to their numbers) and following the consultation they received a lot of feedback and emails, Richard said.

Their plan included a planning application in February 2012. But we are now at the end of March and it is likely that the

continues ...

process will be delayed (the planning application was meant to be received on Tuesday 20th March, but nothing came by the end of the day, Councillors told us). The original schedule was:

- 1 January: consultation
- 2 February 2012: Planning Application
- 3 Late Spring 2012: Planning Consent
- 4 End of 2012: Start
- 5 2018/19: Completion (although it is more likely to be after 2020!)

The earliest date for the proposal to go before the planning committee is June 21st. But it is likely to slip to July 18th or even Autumn 2012.

The biggest announcement of the meeting was actually a change in the size of the building facing Wandsworth Common. Originally with 10 storeys, Richard Stanway-Williams explained that it was reduced to 6 storeys following a request during discussions with Wandsworth planning officers.

During the time for questions, I asked specifically why the local residents are not offered the same consideration (as we were told at numerous times that any size reduction will compromise the viability of the project). Richard answered "at the end of the day, the officers are the one to be convinced in order to get a planning application". As honest or cynical as it can be, the officers will only give a recommendation; it will be up to the Councillors, in charge of representing the interest of the residents, to approve or refuse the plan.

There is an additional change in discussion regarding the Community Centre: the facility could be moved to an existing building in order to leave a bigger open square.

Some concern was also expressed regarding the increase of population and the need for school space. A question was asked regarding the preservation of the old Victorian lodges, but as they are not listed Peabody decided not to keep them in order to achieve the full redevelopment, Richard explained. Another point not answered was questioning the multiple choice of material, instead of keeping a single style for all the estate.

Last but not least, a new name should be proposed for the estate, currently called Clapham. Battersea? The Junction (as per the current branding campaign started by the Clapham Junction Town Centre Partnership)?

I cannot believe it is a year since I last thanked my colleagues of the Executive for their support and for their time and expertise. Not only do they regularly attend some 10 Executive meetings a year but they also serve elsewhere, thus:

**John Dawson** – Secretary and serving on that busiest of all, the Planning Committee

**Philip Whyte** – Vice Chair and Convenor of the Planning Committee who has also been supporting the new Roads & Transport Committee in its early days

**Peter Farrow** – Newsletter Editor and Planning Committee

**Norman Holmes** – who has just completed his first year as Treasurer. Not having had long experience on the Executive, this was not an easy task for him.

**Gill Gray** – Membership Secretary and with husband **Iain**, distributes newsletters. They are the wine table organisers as well as stalwarts when it comes to parties, always supportive of the efforts of others.

**Linda Ulrich** - welcomed back into Roads & Transport with open arms

**Bruce St Julian-Bown** – Convenor for Open Spaces which currently is largely taking the form of Charing the Wandle Forum. This of course involves attending other committees too, in the thick of planning the Wandle Regional Park – yes it looks as if it really will happen! See updates in the newsletters!

And **Sheila Allen** – generous in sharing her long experience, totally supportive to us all and heading up the Friends of the Museum.

# retiring chair, at our AGM ...

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But the society isn't all about the Executive – what about the Committees?

Last year I was pleased to announce the formation of the new **Roads & Transport Committee** now operational under the Chairmanship of Harry Waddingham, supported by **Pru Raper, Ian McDonald, David Hole, Robert Molteno, Linda Ulrich and Philip Whyte**. They are down to business from monitoring Night Flights at Heathrow and the plans for improving public transport thereto and local cost thereof, to congestion at the Burntwood Lane and Trinity Road junction and other blackspots, pavement conditions and “to be or not to be” buses in Old York Road. They have investigated the efficacy of speed bumps, supported 20mph, looked at cycle lanes and we thank them all and look forward to following their progress in the newsletters.

In the **Planning Group**, **Tony Taylor** and our President **Shirley Passmore** are every bit as committed as John, Philip and Peter.

It is not only a matter of monitoring new planning applications and deciding on which to comment, on but also the whys and wherefores, for example why is the Council so reluctant to impose the findings of the Inquiry into the height and shape of the Skydeck roof? Another year has passed and it is no lower nor has its shape been changed.

Questioning how it came about that Eltringham School was demolished before the Planning Application for its redevelopment had been seen?

Being invited to and attending more and more consultations with architects and developers prior to Planning Applications being lodged. At least one of these “consultations” included revised plans for the Ram Brewery. Could we be looking forward to another Public Inquiry? Will the Localism Bill allow for such a thing? How this is to be implemented? For London at least, it is still unknown.

The newsletter – thank you Peter for putting it all together so beautifully. I think the inclusion of Events information on the back page works well and gives a rhythm to the production. And appreciation is also due no less to our DELIVERERS – thank you all too!

Just a word about Membership. We seem to be averaging about 25 new members a year. One of our members, **Roger Bone**, kindly invited the society to make a presentation to a meeting of the residents association in the apartment block where he lives. He has also done much delivering of our colourful membership forms and new members have been forthcoming as a result. Our thanks to Roger, an example to us all. If anyone would like to do likewise that would be great!

The **Events Group** organises public meetings, social events, walks and visits and I am deeply grateful to have been so strongly supported by **Jenny Massey, Diana Godden and Wendy Cater**. We are to be joined by **Libby Spurrier**, a new member of the society and very very welcome.

During the past year we

enjoyed two parties, including the 40-year celebration at the Nature Study Centre, Talks by two published authors, (both Society members) - John Gimlette and Veronica Cecil – and another local writer is to come in June, Simon Winder of Germania fame.

We enjoyed the Forum on Localism which will effect the whole planning system (how we still know not, in respect of London anyway), the plans for redevelopment of the Peabody estate, what is happening at St George's Healthcare Trust, and tonight we have David Ward who has continued to provide the joy of four soirées this year.

We will be wise to make the most of this and the Midsummer one on June 17th as David has told me they are planning to move away from London this summer leaving such a void. As a family they have shared their home, their expertise and their knowledge of music - giving us such lovely times. We have been privileged to enjoy wonderful music in comfort and intimacy from many talented young people as well as from the family members themselves. Irreplaceable.

So ladies and gentlemen, with a last exhortation for some of you to join us in enabling this most worthwhile Society to keep its voice, thank you .

Valerie Taylor

# Planning matters

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**Ram Brewery** No application has been received to date. We asked the Leader to arrange another meeting with the officers but this was rebuffed and we have been advised that no further meetings will be arranged until the new application has been made.

**Springfield NHS Trust** We have been advised by The Trust that the outcome of the Inquiry will be delayed until after the Mayoral elections as any decision could be construed as political. We have been asked to attend a public meeting following the outcome to consider the Minister's recommendation.

**Skydeck** I wish I could bring you some news but unfortunately there is none. We are writing to the Council once again to try to get some action.

**Thames Tunnel** We submitted an additional comment on the Thames Water website prior to the closing date for the second round of consultations in February. Thames Water are due to release further comments in July but they seem intent in proceeding with the application later this year. The application is likely to be dealt with as a major infrastructure project, thus will not have to go down the usual route of planning.

**Peabody Estate, St John's Hill.** No application has yet been made by the Trust.

**Emanuel School Bridge.** This application has now been approved.

**Wiseton Institute, Wiseton Road** The application has not yet been considered by the Committee. It

may be that some additional alterations are being made.

**Eltringham School,** (by the Wandsworth roundabout south east corner). Consent is being recommended for the redevelopment proposed. We are taking up with the Council the procedure that has been adopted in this case.

**Southside (north end)** Despite our objections amongst others that the trees should be retained the application as proposed has been consented.

**Melody Road** car park. We have not heard anything more of this project at the moment.

**Old Alvering Library, new Wandsworth Preparatory School** Application no 2012/0220 has been recommended for approval at the meeting to take place on 18 April. We registered our objection to various aspects of the proposals, particularly a proposed 2.0m high close boarded fence around the site. It appears that the application has been amended to reduce the height to 1.8m and to move this back from the boundary by approximately 1.0m. This will apparently satisfy planning and highways requirements. Does this make a mockery of planning regulations? We have not inspected the Committee report at the time of writing this comment but understand that there were no objections on traffic grounds.

Please let us know if you have any matters which you wish us to consider or to join us at our regular monthly meeting.

Philip Whyte

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## The Wandsworth Historian no. 93 : Wandsworth Historical Society

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A person of colour from Syria living in mid-Victorian Putney, the Battersea undertaker who became one of London's leading funeral furnishers, and the German spy arrested in Southfields just weeks before the beginning of the First World War: three intriguing personalities that form part of the deep and constantly absorbing history of the Borough of Wandsworth.

Their fascinating stories can be found in the Spring 2012 issue of the Wandsworth Historian (ISSN 1751-9225), the journal that brings you the latest research into Wandsworth's past. The Historian is published by the Wandsworth Historical Society, and copies are available price £3.00 plus £1.00 for postage and packing from Neil Robson, 119 Heythorp Street, London SW18 5BT or by emailing [ngrobson@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ngrobson@tiscali.co.uk). Cheques payable to 'Wandsworth Historical Society', please.

The website address of the Wandsworth Historical Society is [www.wandsworthhistory.org.uk](http://www.wandsworthhistory.org.uk).



# Trinity Road, where is it going ?

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**M**y mother spent most of her childhood and young womanhood in Huntsmoor Road. It doesn't exist now. Her house was blitzed but the road survived until 40 years ago when it was demolished to bring London into the age of the car. The dual carriageway now stands above it. Built over flattened streets near Wandsworth Bridge and appropriated common land, this projected part of an inner motorway-style box was abandoned, half built, following massive London wide protests at `roads before homes` and a change of political control at County Hall.

We now have a peculiar hybrid – almost an urban motorway, turning into single lanes at the County Arms. Completing the dual carriageway is unthinkable, but the highway authorities would like to tackle a local problem at the junction of Trinity with Bellevue / Burntwood. This corner is part of that more intimate Wandsworth, not like the town centre or the other end of the Common. The roads are busy but not out of scale and not out of sympathy with life lived outside of a motorised box. Rather than gouging out a piece of the Common, here is another view.

Commission a masterplan for the entire length of Trinity Road. Recognize that the road, in part, severs neighbourhoods and the Common

and doesn't make sense. One side of the dual carriageway is in excess of requirements and could be considered for more beneficial uses. That part flanking the Common could either be returned to it or turned over to other recreational activities. The other end could be considered for housing, putting back homes that were once there. Flats of an acceptable height could be sold to pay for the costs of the project. We hear of brownfield development. Here we could have greyfield.

How would traffic be affected? Would there be more congestion? Perhaps initially, but motorists do adapt when road space is reduced. Think of bus lanes. Paris is transforming two stretches of expressway on either side of the Seine, banning traffic from one and reducing the other to a normal boulevard. Throughout the twentieth century car space grew, sometimes regardless of damage done. Liveable cities are now affecting redress. Boris Johnson has remarked that the Hammersmith Flyover and Park Lane could be put underground. It's time to rethink Trinity Road.

Alan Fennell

## Elizabeth Wilkes

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**W**e are very sad to report the death of Elizabeth Wilkes on 15th March. Although Elizabeth had only been a member since 2003 hers would be a familiar face to those who come to meetings, soirées and so on. She was outgoing and usually in the company of friends so when we needed a deliverer on her side of the Common she was the obvious choice. She made her last deliveries only a few weeks before she died. We'll miss her a great deal and our thoughts are with her family.

*Anthea Gaukroger writes :-*

Elizabeth and I lived next door to each other from the time I moved into Hillier Road in 1973. At that time she was a busy wife and mother, with four children under ten, two girls and two boys. They were a very close family and almost always did everything together. Sadly her husband Ivan died in 1995, but Elizabeth remained devoted to her

children and her eleven grandchildren, to whom she was a much-loved grandmother.

Elizabeth qualified and worked as an architect before starting her family. She retained an interest in the subject, especially in modern architecture. She was a keen member of the National Trust London walking group and used to lead walks, which would often have an architectural slant. She was particularly interested in the development of the Olympic site, and so it was perhaps appropriate that one of her last outings was to the Olympic swimming trials. She was gifted in many ways, and for some years turned her dressmaking ability to account, specialising in evening and wedding dresses. She was lively, energetic and enthusiastic about anything she undertook. She will be much missed by all her family and her many friends.

# Welcome,

to some new, and not so new members  
(sometimes we are a little slow to get around to these things, sorry)

Louise Elder	Crieff Road SW18	Miss Colwell	North Drive SW16
Ben Eley	Eastfields Avenue SW18	Carol Rahn	Salcott Road SW11
John Marsh	Lombard Road SW11	Adrienne Fell	Brocklebank Road SW18
Ifor Smout	Fitzhugh Grove SW18	Jennifer Feller	Hendham Road SW17
Mary Hoseason	Balham High Road SW17	Felicity Gill	St Anns Crescent SW18
Mr. & Mrs Martin	Worfield Street SW11	Tessa Cowie	North Drive SW16
Mr. Waddingham	Magdalen Road SW18	Julia Wykeham-Martin	Thurleigh Road SW12
Mrs Cox	Santos Road SW18	Sarah & Evelyn McDermott	Balham Park Road SW12
Francois Josserand	Spencer Park SW18	Lorna Alexander	Wiseton Road SW17
Alison Blair	Loxley Road SW18	Marcelle Ryder	Wiseton Road SW17
Robert Molteno	Barnard Road SW11	Mr. & Mrs Lockwood	Southfields Road SW18
Elizabeth Boyden	Wiseton Road SW17	Nick Varey	Shoreham Close SW18
Dee Platt	Glycema Road SW11	Roger Appleton	Eglantine Road SW18
Aileen O'Farrell & Stuart Young	Swaby Road SW18	Andrew Stanway	Eastfields Avenue SW18
Louisa Russell	Wiseton Road SW17	Dorothy Frankland	Spencer Road SW18
Norman Holmes	Standen Road SW18	Grace Chen	Carlton Drive SW15
Ian Ralph	Keswick Road SW15	Jane Ellison	House of Commons SW1
Dr. Frank Diafouka	Prairie Street SW8	Stuart Hastings	Eastfields Avenue SW18
Libby Spurrier	Hosack Road SW17	Peter White	Tunley Road SW17
Robert Creighton	Thurleigh Road SW12	Diana Boyd	Eastfields Avenue SW18
Martin Wimbush & Marie Hanley	Trinity Road SW18	Fiona Bateson	Eastfields Avenue SW18
Jackie Potter	Bevin Square SW17	Peter Faulkner	Bickley Kent

## Forthcoming events

further details to follow

### Tuesday 10 July

a Society day out to the G F Watts Gallery at Compton, Surrey [www.wattsgallery.org.uk](http://www.wattsgallery.org.uk). Train to Guildford station, then either a walk led by Alan Fennel to the gallery, or a shared taxi.

### Sunday 8 July

Bruce St Julian-Bown will be leading a visit to Merton Priory coupled with a walk along the Wandle, the date to be confirmed, and in September – Real Tennis at Hampton Court!

## Post script, and how to become a member

This is the Newsletter of The Wandsworth Society, a registered charity no 263737. The Society is concerned with the quality of life and the environment in Wandsworth town centre, Wandsworth Common and adjacent areas. If you are not already a member and would like to join please contact the Membership Secretary Gill Gray, by email [gg@wandsworthsociety.org.uk](mailto:gg@wandsworthsociety.org.uk) or phone 020 8780 0866

Please address Letters to the Editor, any comments, or, even better, contributions to -

Peter Farrow 5 Windmill Road LONDON SW18 2EU,  
or email to

[wandsworth.society@mac.com](mailto:wandsworth.society@mac.com)



THE LAST  
**SOCIETY SOIRÉE**

at 4 Patten Road, SW18 3RH

will be on

**Sunday the 17th June**



6.30 for *Bubbly* in the *Garden*, the music to start at 7.00, with *Supper* (provided as is the custom by the audience) at 7.45. The music to recommence at 8.45, farewell at 9.30.

The music will be performed by the *Ward* and *Nall* families, making their *final appearance* at

Patten Road -

*David and Elizabeth Ward,*

*Peter and Lucy Nall with Nicholas Ward*

contributing some readings.

The programme yet to be settled yet, but will include music by *Bach, Beethoven* and *Mozart,*

and hopefully some *Schubert,*

sung by *Norbert Meyn.*

There may even be *fireworks*, to bring to an end over 25 years of soirées.

Places at £10 as usual from the Wards on  
020 8874 4938 or davidwb.ward@virgin.net



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# The Wandsworth Society Walks and Talks

and, it is rumoured, sometimes at the same time - please also see pages 10 and 11 for more events

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## Thursday 17 May 2012

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

### *May I have the pleasure ?*

The importance of dancing in late 17th and 18th-century society

a talk by **Françoise Carter**



The talk will be accompanied by illustrations of contemporary prints and paintings.

From the Restoration of Charles II in 1660, dancing became increasingly important in social life. The expansion of trade, both at home and across the empire, brought higher standards of living and more leisure to the middle classes. At the same time there were changing attitudes to marriage.

At the new Assembly Rooms, which sprang up across the country, dancing was an essential accomplishment for social advancement. The performing of the minuet was the supreme test of grace and elegance, as well as John Playford's English country dances.

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## Monday 28 May 2012

Meet outside Battersea Town Hall at 2.30 pm



### In the footsteps of Edward and Helen Thomas

Richard Purver and Anne Harvey, members of the Edward Thomas Fellowship, will lead a walk from Battersea to Balham, taking in places associated with these local writers.

Meet outside Battersea Town Hall at 2.30pm. Length of walk about 2 hours. Free but please book with [dibgodden@aol.com](mailto:dibgodden@aol.com) (020 8870 5626)

The Wandsworth Society's event for the Wandsworth Heritage Festival.

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## Thursday 14 June 2012

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

Local author Simon Winder will talk about his highly successful history of Germany – and what is coming next ... ?

### Germania, and other stories

"While the British generally contemplate their European neighbours with puzzlement, none arouses a greater sense of bafflement than the Germans. Simon Winder's **Germania** subtitled **A Personal History of Germans Ancient and Modern**, offers an unusual and very entertaining tour of the oddities of German history" *John Adamson, Daily Telegraph*

Simon is also the author of the highly praised **The Man Who Saved Britain**

