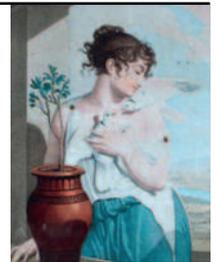




The Bulletin

April 2017



Transforming Healthcare in Our Area

7.30pm April 24

Putney Community Church, Werter Rd, SW15 2LL (Opp. Sainsbury's)

Puzzled about the future of GP and hospital services in your area?

Despite confusing national stories, our local Commissioning Groups in South West London (Wandsworth, Richmond, Merton, Kingston, Croydon, Sutton) have come together to devise radical (and possibly controversial) new plans for delivering integrated services closer

to your home using innovative ways which aim to reduce unnecessary visits to hospitals and make better use of GPs.

Rebecca Wellburn, Director of Commissioning and Planning, Wandsworth Clinical Commissioning Group, together with Dr Rumant Grewal, Clinical Lead, will speak about the plans.



LAST CHANCE TO BOOK FOR VISIT TO SIR JOHN SOANE MUSEUM

13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3BP
Friday 28 April 2017 at 2.00 p.m.

Sir John Soane was an architect who is perhaps best remembered for his designs for the Bank of England and the Dulwich Picture Gallery. He formed a collection, for the benefit of his pupils, of antiquities, books and works of art and these, together with his architectural drawings, he arranged in his house.

We will visit this unusual museum, originally built by Soane as his home around 1792. He established the house as a museum by an 1833 Act of Parliament requiring that his romantic and poetic interiors be kept as they were at the time

of his death. It is now a centre for the study of architecture. Soane's Private Apartments and Model Room, not seen for 160 years, are now opened.

We will have a self-guided tour, together with an introductory talk by one of the curators. The visit will last approximately one and a half hours.

To book your place please send a SAE (or email address), with your name (and name of your guest), and contact phone number, together with a cheque for £10 (members) and £12 (non-members) made payable to 'The Putney Society' to Maureen Howley, 1 Elystan Court, 121 Howards Lane, London SW15 6QH.



FUTURE PANEL MEETINGS

All members welcome
www.putneysociety.org.uk

COMMUNITY:
13 April, 11 May
At 6 Norroy Road,
SW15 1PF (18.30)

Convenor:
Vicky Diamond
vickysw15@aol.com
T:07746 022654

TRANSPORT:
11 April, 9 May
At 46 Disraeli Road,
SW15 2DS (19.30)

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

BUILDINGS:
5 April, 3 May
At 154 Putney High Street,
SW15 1RS (19.00)

Convenor:
Andrew Catto
ac@andrewcatto.co.uk

OPEN SPACES:
6 April, 4 May
At 71 Norroy Road,
SW15 1PH (19.00)

Convenor: John Horrocks
John.horrocks10@btinternet.com
T: 020 8789 2956

Have you heard of Easy Fund Raising (EFR) or Give as you Live (GAYL)? They're online fundraising websites for UK charities, helping people raise money for charity through their everyday online shopping. For example, you sign up to GAYL or EFR first, nominate your charity of choice, then go to Amazon or whichever trader you want that is affiliated, and when you've made your purchase, the organisation (EFR or GAYL) is paid a commission by the retailer, and they split that with the charity. The charities must be registered with the Charity Commission, or as a good cause with HMRC, or be a Community Interest Company or Community Amateur Sports Club. Thousands of retailers have signed up, including Amazon, eBay, John Lewis and Marks and Spencer, Tesco, etc. It's completely free to the charities. Millions of pounds have been raised so far – GAYL have raised over £8 million, and EFR over £14 million for charities to date. So every time you shop online, you can raise money for charity, without it costing you anything extra. Do look up both organisations to see which suits you best. Or sign up to both if you see they have different retailers which you use. With the catastrophe unfolding in Africa with some 20 million people's lives hanging in the balance, every penny towards those charities that help is needed.

Community Panel

Convenor:
Victoria Diamond
07746 022654
vickysw15@aol.com

We're arranging a tour of Smuggler's Way recycling centre. It's been reported by those who've been that it's a fascinating tour. They can only take 10 people at a time, so would those interested please email me, putting Smuggler's Way in the subject heading. Please include your phone number in the email. Thank you. (First Aid class hasn't been forgotten – those who were interested will be hearing from me soon!)

Don't forget, the Putney Society is on Twitter and Facebook!

RAIL - after yet another delay the highway works to make the entrance to the station compliant with Disability Legislation finally began in March and are scheduled to be completed at the end of April. The two retail outlets within the station have now opened with a Pasty takeaway and also a new coffee shop (Nero) for those already feeling thirsty after walking the 20 yards from the Costa at the entrance to the station.

Unfortunately at the time of going to press we had not yet heard the outcome of the competition to run our local rail franchise. It was originally due in February and there were only two bidders. We hope, on the assumption that the outcome is known shortly, to have a Members meeting in May on rail where the successful bidder could outline their proposals to improve passenger services.

AIR POLLUTION AND BUSES - in March the Mayor formally launched London's first Low Emission Bus Zone which is for routes running through Putney. The new greener buses, will be a combination of hybrid and cleaner buses that meet Euro VI standards.

Last month I reported that temporarily the air quality monitor in the High Street had temporarily broken down but after the Society contacted Kings College who operate it, it was soon up and running again. Fortunately since the end of January, primarily through favourable windy weather conditions, the number of recorded exceedances of EU NO2 limits has been very few. This may make it initially difficult to measure the impact of the new green buses since the start date coincided with an unusually low level of NO2 readings.

Finally, readers of this column will be aware of the ongoing saga in replacing the second bus shelter outside the station. It was destroyed in November 2015 when it was hit by a bus and we wait with bated breath if, as part of the current highways work, a new shelter is installed. Such a shelter will of course need some space for its base and also cables to power the bus timetable indicator. This may require raising some of the nice new paving stones which have just been laid.... Just to put the lengthy bus shelter story into context. While TfL has so far taken 16 months to fail to install a plastic bus shelter the PM, who has rather a bit more on her plate, is granted only a few months longer to deal with the more onerous task of taking the UK out of Europe.

Transport Panel

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

New Executive Member

Welcome to Kate Pugh OBE, who was elected to the executive committee at the Society's AGM on 20th March. Kate is a long standing Putney resident and active on the Buildings Panel. She spent her working

life campaigning through various NGOs to ensure that the benefits of heritage are recognised and realised by government, businesses, communities and individuals.

One most contentious schemes to come our way in my time on the Buildings Panel was the proposed 'Blades' tower proposed for a site on Putney Bridge Road close to the High Street. In the face of extensive protest this planning application was dropped. Inevitably the site, which includes the former Robert Dyas store and adjacent Boots on the High Street, was sold on and the new owners, an investment group headed by the agents Savills, have now come back with fresh and very different plans for development. Last month I told you there would be an exhibition of these plans at St Mary's in late February, and I hope that all members went to see this.

It's different in that the site now takes in Brewers decorators' merchants, allowing the proposed 15 storey glass tower to be replaced by a courtyard plan. But this court is not open to the public, and the buildings around will still rise to 11 storeys on Putney Bridge Road facing the police offices. We think this is too high and have said so in our response to the developers. There's no planning application yet. We will of course also respond to the council once there is, and hope you will too.

That's because the planners are supposed to take account of public comments. Normally anything with over three objections has to go to the full Planning Applications Committee, but last month consent was given to Roehampton University to keep a group of Portacabins built without consent next to a Grade 1 listed building. Apparently this was justified because of the benefits the University brings to the vitality of Roehampton.

Putney is not alone in being faced with proposals for ever bigger blocks of flats. In Wandsworth there are now plans to replace both Homebase and B&Q on opposite sides of Swandon Way, with the plans for B&Q site proposing 14 towers of up to 15 storeys. The further east you go in Wandsworth, the bigger they get. At the far end of the borough in Nine Elms the biggest tower now under construction will be a staggering 62 storeys. Curiously the quantity happening there helps when we say 'enough' to 11 storeys here.

Buildings Panel

Convenor:
Andrew Catto
ac@andrewcatto.co.uk

020 8785 0077

Society's Tree Fund

The Society has always taken a special interest in our area's trees - because they contribute so much to the amenity of Putney and Roehampton. We like to add to the local stock of trees whenever there is a good reason for doing so. This is why the Society has a Tree Fund - to pay for the new trees we arrange to have planted.

Back in the late 60's, the Society, working with the London County Council, planted a Cherry tree on the newly constructed Tibbet's Corner roundabout. It was the first of a good number of trees later planted there. Perhaps our finest Society tree is the well-established London Plane on the Upper Richmond Road frontage of what is now the Putney Plaza development, opposite East Putney Station. The borough council acknowledged the importance of this tree by giving it the protection of a Tree Preservation Order a few years ago.

Our trees have been planted, mainly, on areas of public open space, like our Commons and parks - but, also, occasionally on private land where the tree will be appreciated by the public passing by (and where the owner agrees!). A good example of this is the Acacia Frisia on the road frontage of the Putney Methodist Church, with its golden-green foliage brightening up this spot.

In the last year we have planted two Catalpas and two Tulip trees (to mark the Queen's 90th birthday) in Wandsworth Park - working closely with the Friends of Wandsworth Park. Our next planting is expected to be the Community Orchard we hope to create on one of the greens on Dover House Road, which we would like to plant next Autumn - if we and the Dover House Estate Residents Association can get the borough council's approval.

Do you have any suggestions for suitable locations for us to plant trees? (We do not plant street trees as the council has its own planting programme.) Please contact the Panel if you have. We welcome your ideas.

Open Spaces Panel

Convenor:
John Horrocks
020 8789 2956

john.horrocks10@btinternet.com

PUTNEY SOCIETY CONTACTS

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

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22 Pentlow Street, London SW15 1LX
membership@putneysociety.org.uk
Treasurer: Gosia Jakubik, 07746409703
gosia.jakubik@hotmail.com

NEWS FROM

Wimbledon and Putney Commons

Windmill Bicentenary

This year, the Wimbledon Windmill celebrates its bicentenary. The Windmill Museum, which is housed in the Windmill, which displays an outstanding collection of windmill models and artefacts, as well as working mill stones where you can grind your own flour, offers free entry to all visitors throughout the 2017 season, which runs from 25 March to 29 October. Opening hours during the season are Saturdays 2pm to 5pm, and Sundays 11am to 5pm. The centenary celebrations will be launched at a special event at the



Windmill on Monday 17 April 10am to 4pm There will be music, gazebos, a baking demonstration, children's activities and much more. Entry will be free.

See the Windmill Museum website – wimbledonwindmill.org.uk, and the Facebook page

Join the scrub bashers on Wimbledon Common

In the first three months of 2017, volunteers on Wimbledon Common have been contributing to the tree safety programme and this work has included the removal of ivy and saplings (mainly Holly!) that have grown around many of the mature trees found along the area of Parkside North. Given the heavy flow of traffic along Parkside, the removal of ivy and saplings around trees growing close to the edge of the road will enable tree inspections to be carried out in a quick and efficient manner which will help to



reduce this risk of tree hazards occurring in this area in the future.

Join them by emailing Peter Haldane, peter@wpcc.org.uk to arrange to come along when you can on 8th & 29th April, 6th & 20th May and 10th & 17th June.

Putney Community Gardeners

This new group has been set up to create community gardens on the three sites on the Ashburton Estate – and they welcome volunteers. They are starting with clearing out and planting up 18 raised beds behind the Tildesley Road shops, which the council has given them permission to plant. They are also building compost bins behind the Ashburton Youth Club and involving Youth Club Members in planting seeds. They are getting support from the Roehampton Garden Society and have been to look at the allotments for inspiration. Some Putney Society members have already volunteered with this great project - so do check out their Facebook page and join in.

April Spring Walk on Putney Common

Wednesday 26th April 10.30 am
Join the Commons Senior Management Team for a walk around Putney Lower Common. A chance to look closely at the landscaping works around Oasis School and the removal of undergrowth on the borders with Barnes Common. To book for this free event (limited numbers) go to: <http://www.wpcc.org.uk/things-to-do/events/profile/spring-walk-at-putney-lower-common>

LOCAL EVENTS

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

Wandsworth Arts Fringe 2017

Runs from 5-21 May
Music - theatre - brass bands - art
Check out all the events at www.wandsworthfringe.com

Putney Choral Society

May 13th 2017 at 7pm
A performance of Handel's Coronation Anthems and Haydn's Mass in Time of War.
St Michael's Church,
71 Wimbledon Park Road,
London SW18 5TT

New Choir in Putney - Pulse Choir

Open to voices of any ability or style – from the more seasoned performer to those who just want to give it a go. The first weekly rehearsal will be on **Thursday, April 20**, at **St Mary's Church, Putney** from **7pm to 9pm**. For more information please contact Aaron Evans on: aaron@pulsechoir.com or **07533 315 696** or visit www.pulsechoir.com