

# WIMBLEDON UNION OF RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS

Newsletter 56



## **Join us for Wimbledon Choral Society's Carol Concert on Saturday 14th December at 3pm!**

We are delighted that [Wimbledon Choral Society](#) will be supporting Linden Lodge Charitable Trust afternoon carol concert at St Paul's Church, Augustus Road, Southfields SW19 6EW by way of a c at the end. This promises to be a truly beautiful concert suitable for all ages.

Tickets are £15 for adults and £10 for students and children and can be booked via the link below hope to see you there!

[Book Tickets](#)



**WIMBLEDON**  
CHORAL SOCIETY

SATURDAY

14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

**ST PAULS' CHURCH**

SOUTHFIELDS

SW19 6EW

at 3 pm

retiring collection in aid of  
Linden Lodge Charitable Trust

# *Carols for Choir and Audience*

TICKETS:

£15 and £10 for students/children

Funds raised will help to provide instruments and specialised equipment for the Music Room which is undergoing renovations. If you are unable to attend but would still like to make a donation to support children of Linden Lodge School, payments are via online banking to **Linden Lodge Charitable Trust**, sort code **60-20-09**, account **35185643** or via Just Giving page using the link below.

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[Donate with Just Giving](#)



7.00pm 10<sup>th</sup> December St Mark's Church SW19 7ND

Tickets for the Wimbledon Guild Carol Service on 10 December are now on sale!

The service will be held at St Mark's Church SW19 7ND, and feature performances from The Study Wimbledon and Bishop Gilpin Church of England Primary School.

Doors at 6.30pm with the performances starting at 7pm, and drinks and mince pies to follow!

More information and artwork can be downloaded from our dedicated website page: <https://www.wimbledonguild.co.uk/our-fundraising-events/event/114/wimbledon-guild-carol-service>

And the direct booking link should you need it is: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/wimbledon-guild-carol-service-tickets-78953537155?aff=LoConts>



**WIMBLEDON CHORAL**  
**Wimbledon Choral Society Christmas Concert**  
**Saturday, 14 December 2019 – 3pm and 6pm**  
**St Paul's Church (Parkside), 120 Augustus Road, Southfields, SW19 6EV**

We hold two performances of our Christmas Concert for Choir & Audience; such is the popularity of this event. In the wonderful acoustics that St Paul's Church has to offer, come and hear the choir in full voice with a mix of familiar and new items, and give your voice a good exercise by joining us in the traditional carols.

*"Wimbledon Choral Society is one of the most substantial – and formidable-choirs in London"*,  
Church Times, 24 May 2019

Tickets from [www.wimbledon-choral.org.uk](http://www.wimbledon-choral.org.uk)

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## Hotel du Vin Cannizaro House

### Father Christmas Wishlist on the 12<sup>th</sup> December

Have they got their wish list ready? Come and join us as the children meet Father Christmas and share their wishes with him. Feel the festive spirit and enjoy an afternoon in our ambient and cosy setting, we'll be serving up ginger bread biscuits, mince pies, mulled wine and fruit juice for the little ones. £5.00 per child, all benefit will go to the Wimbledon Guild charity which supports people in need in Merton.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/father-christmas-wishlist-tickets-80064423847>

### Christmas Celebrations FROM £29.95 per person

It is not too late to enjoy our three course celebration menu, along with a glass of sparkling wine and half a bottle of house wine but be quick as limited availability!

Contact us today to organise your festive soiree at [events.wimbledon@hotelduvin.com](mailto:events.wimbledon@hotelduvin.com) and quote W. Wimbledon Common

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## Wimbledon and Putney Commons

### Conservators General Open Meeting

9th December 2019 from 7.00pm

London Scottish Golf Club, Windmill Car Park

The Conservator's Open Meeting - come along for an opportunity to talk to the Conservators



### Carols at the Windmill



## Carols at the Windmill



# Carols at the Windmill

The Windmill Museum Trustees  
and the  
Wimbledon and Putney Commons Conservators  
invite you to join them for

## “Carols at the Windmill”

with the Wandle Concert Band

Saturday

14th December 2019

from 3pm

*Mulled Cider, Mince Pies and Santa!*

*Free entry – no need to book – just come along*

*The Windmill, Windmill Road , Wimbledon Common, London SW19 5NQ  
Parking in the Windmill Car Park which will remain open  
until the event finishes*



14th December 2019 from 3.00pm  
Wimbledon Windmill

We are delighted to invite you to join us  
for the annual  
"Carols at the Windmill"

concert on

Saturday 14th December  
starting at 3.00pm



## Event Details

Location: The Windmill, Wimbledon Common SW19 5NR

Time: From 3.00pm

Cost: This event is free of charge but donations gratefully accepted

Refreshments: Mulled wine and mince pies

Booking: Not required

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## Update on Wimbledon and Putney Commons National Lottery Heritage Grant Award and on the Constitutional Framework

See attachment

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**Santa Run event**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> December**

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Santa Run event on the common on 22<sup>nd</sup> December that will raise funds for the restoration of the Beverly Brooke Bridge in the REM Fields  
It's all on the common so no road disruptions and a lot of Santa's roaming around the village after the run on that day should be quite festive!

<https://www.runthrough.co.uk/event/wimbledon-christmas-run-2019/>

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## **Nature Notes** by Tony Drakeford

We are extremely fortunate to have Tony Drakeford living in our area. Tony is a renowned naturalist, photographer, and author. His reputation grew as a result of his Nature Notes column first published in the Wimbledon News 15 years ago and subsequently in the Wandsworth Borough News, Surrey Comet and other newspapers. With his agreement we will be publishing Tony's Nature Notes on a regular basis.

Recently I came across a delightful little book entitled 'round the year in Richmond Park', written by H.R. Hall way back in 1923.

The author gives us a monthly account of the wild flowers, trees, birds and animals he encounters in the park and although many of the species he saw are still with us today, it is fascinating and somewhat disturbing to note just how many birds the park has lost in the past ninety odd years.

For example, common then include nightjar; turtle dove; red backed shrike; hooded crow; wryneck; tree sparrow. rook; tree pipit and whinchat to name but a few.

He makes no mention of the little owl, now a very common resident of the park because the bird was only introduced into Kent in the late nineteenth century so had little time to colonise. Apparently a few Canada geese were introduced but quickly 'removed'!

Black headed gulls were beginning to be seen in winter having flown inland during the severe winter of 1895 and liking what they saw, gradually increased in numbers year by year. Of the animals, deer were there of course, red squirrels were still present but rarely seen and hares were rapidly declining.

Stoats and weasels were common but very few foxes took up residence in the park. However, water voles lived along Beverley brook.

I wonder what Mr. Hall would have thought of rose-ringed parakeets?

Wimbledon and Putney Commons Conservators (WPCC)  
Manor Cottage  
Wimbledon Common London SW19 5NR  
Chief Executive: Simon Lee



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**DECEMBER 2019**

**Update on Wimbledon and Putney Commons National Lottery Heritage Grant Award and on the Constitutional Framework**

The 'Commons for the Next Generation, Green Space for All' project to develop a new masterplan for the Commons was officially launched on the 1st November 2019. Funded by a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the project will enable work to be undertaken to better understand the challenges and requirements of the Commons as the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passing of the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Act 1871 ('the 1871 Act') that brought the Commons into public ownership approaches.

Working with the highly regarded cultural consultancy firm Barker Langham, the first stage of the public engagement strategy is designed to provide a better understanding of the profile, purpose of visit and user-experience of current visitors to the Commons as well as an understanding of the barriers faced by those who do not visit the Commons.

In support of this stage of the project, Barker Langham will conduct two surveys:

**On-site Survey** - Over four days between December 2019 and mid-January 2020, researchers will be on the Commons conducting face to face interviews with current users.

**Self-selecting Online Survey** – This survey will be conducted during December 2019 and January 2020, distributed through WPCC's existing mailing lists and other relevant channels targeting both current users of the Commons and audiences who are not currently using the Commons.

Another key part of the project involves an assessment carried out by landscape architects of the quality of the natural landscape of the Commons, recognising the importance of the site's special designations by Natural England for its rare heathland and associated fauna.

In addition, an assessment of the built heritage will be carried out identifying the significance of buildings and structures in terms of their historic importance, setting and vulnerability. Initially this work will focus on the Statutory Listed buildings and structures, including the windmill, war memorials and other structures, followed by an assessment of the other buildings including those within the windmill enclosure and the residential lodges.

In recognition of the need to address issues in key operational buildings, the Conservators have agreed to extend the scope of the investigations to include a detailed feasibility study of the Richardson Evans Memorial Playing Field Pavilion. This important community facility, the oldest section of which was constructed in the early 1930s, is in need of significant investment. To carry out this study, Barker Langham is working with an award winning RIBA chartered architectural practice to undertake a full review of the current state of the building. A full feasibility study and concept design involving current users will be undertaken to develop a clear strategy for significantly upgrading the existing facility.

Implementation of the masterplan will require sustainable financial capacity, operational clarity and effective governance. In pursuit of these objectives, the Conservators have over the course of the past 18 months, begun to examine the constitutional amendments necessary to provide this resilience.

The exploratory work in this area has been carried out by the charity's Constitutional Working Group, the terms of reference for which provide clarity of scope and purpose:

"The purpose of the Group is to consider amendments necessary to WPCC's constitutional framework that will enhance WPCC's ability to achieve its fundamental

purpose of preserving, protecting and enhancing the Commons for the purposes of exercise and recreation as established by the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Act 1871.”

“Constitutional reform is not about introducing a more permissive regime or diluting the fundamental purposes of the charity, but about introducing a workable set of rules to enable the organisation to fulfil its core objectives.”

The exploratory work has helped identify the key areas requiring change and the procedures through which such change could potentially be effected. The Conservators therefore resolved at their Board meeting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 to commence a phased consultation to understand the views of stakeholders regarding potential amendments to WPCC’s constitutional framework in the following three areas:

1. Potential amendment of WPCC’s Special Levy, recognising that:
  - i. a founding principle of the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Act 1871 Act is that the Levy is intended to serve as the principal source of funding to maintain the Commons; and
  - ii. the Levy is currently insufficient to meet the long term maintenance and investment requirements for the Commons;
2. Regularisation and clarification of land and building matters enabling WPCC to resolve a number of operational matters associated with managing the Commons, recognising that there is neither a desire nor intention of diluting or diminishing the very high level of protection that is afforded by the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Act 1871 to one of the most unique and precious resources in the country but simply a need to ensure that the Act provides a sound legal basis for future investment in all aspects of the Commons; amendments to address the issues in this area would neither impact WPCC’s charitable objects nor diminish the duties imposed upon the Conservators but regularise the current state of the estate and clarify the Conservators’ powers and prohibitions in this area;
3. Modernisation of WPCC’s governance arrangements and election procedures recognising the practical challenges of working under legislation dating back to the founding legislation of 1871.

The primary means of effecting changes to WPCC’s constitution will be through secondary legislation.

### **Consultation on proposed changes to WPCC’s Constitution**

The Board has agreed that the consultation will be carried out on a phased basis, moving from preliminaries to concepts and principles before starting to formulate specific policies. The first phase of the consultation process will commence in February 2020 and it is anticipated that the consultation process will last until at least the end of June 2020. The Conservators have also agreed that any decision to make a formal application for constitutional reform to the relevant authorities will only be contemplated after the proposed changes have undergone public consultation.

As we approach the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Commons, the Conservators, as stewards of this cherished open space, want to ensure that all those with a passion and interest in the Commons are able to contribute to not only the long-term vision and masterplan for the Commons but to the constitutional reforms necessary to deliver that vision. More information on the consultation and engagement work will be published as the project evolves. Please do sign up to the Commons e-newsletter [here](#) to find out more.

### **Governance**

The [Resolutions](#) of the meeting of the Board of Conservators held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 have been posted on the Wimbledon and Putney Commons website. There are further Resolutions from the December 2019 Board meeting that will be released after the General Election on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

ENDS

NOTES for Editors - Wimbledon and Putney Commons is a charity managed by the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Conservators (WPCC). It was established under the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Act of 1871. The Commons comprise some 1,140 acres across Wimbledon Common, Putney Heath and Putney Lower Common.

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Issued December 2019

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Join us for a day of fun, food and festive shopping

# Christmas in the Village



10am-5pm  
Wimbledon  
Village

Sunday  
December  
8th

See Santa and his Elf arrive on horseback and enjoy...

- The Christmas Market
- Festive Food & Drink
- Choirs & Bands
- Children's Activities
- Face Painting
- Fairground Rides
- Carol Singalong
- Santa's Grotto
- Switching on the lights
- Pony Rides
- And lots more...



In aid of  
**Wimbledon  
Guild**

A local charity supporting  
people across Merton

[www.wimbledon-village.com](http://www.wimbledon-village.com)

# What's Happening on the Day!

**10 am - 4.30 pm: Santa's Grotto**  
*Dog and Fox, 24 High Street*

**10 am - 5 pm: Christmas Market**  
*Village High Street*

**10 am - 5 pm: Fairground Rides**

**10.30 am & 11.30 am: \*Free Storytime with Like Minders**  
*Day True, 19 High Street*

**11 am - 1 pm & 2 pm - 4 pm: Pony Rides**  
*Mason's Yard, 34 High Street*

**12 pm - 4 pm: Face Painting**  
*John D Wood, 5 Church Road*

**12.30 pm \*Free Class with Village School of Dance,**  
*Day True, 19 High Street*

**1.15 pm - 4.15 pm: Miss Ballooniverse**  
*Peacock & Co, 94 High Street*

**1.30 pm: Santa and his Elf arrive on horseback**

**2 pm & 2.40 pm: \*Free Monkey Music**  
*Day True, 19 High Street*

**3.30 pm: \*Free Class with Village School of Dance**  
*Day True, 19 High Street*

**5 pm: Switching on the Tree Lights, with singalong carols and complimentary mulled wine and mince pies,**  
*Village War Memorial*

\* These activities must be pre-booked on [www.wimbledon-village.com](http://www.wimbledon-village.com) Max 2 places per booking.

**Choirs, bands and lots more happening throughout the day, including festive treats and activities in many Village stores!**



Timings and activities may change – for updates and further information please check [www.wimbledon-village.com](http://www.wimbledon-village.com)