



NEWSLETTER

Registered Charity No. 1096322

Editor: Doreen Brading
September 2011



Wandsworth Older People's Network



Liliias Gillies

Report of meeting with Rob Persey at Wandsworth Adult Social Services 28 June 2011.

Present: Rob Persey, Wendy Morton, Peter Forde (Housing & Council Tax Benefits), Barbara Willerton, Liliias Gillies. **Apologies:**

Tony Tuck, Su Elliott, Dawn Warwick, Kristina Watson

1. Arising from last meeting

Visit to Telecare demonstration flat Barbara will arrange to visit.

Falls Prevention The programme which is run by NHS is going strongly and is rated highly against other districts.

Charging Policy Adult Social Services are monitoring attendance and ceased attendances due to increased charges at Specialist Day Centres.

Centre for Independent Living

Noted that the first AGM had taken place. Terms of reference had been agreed for the Centre. WM will circulate these.

2. Income Dimension of OP Strategy

Peter Forde talked through an amended version of the recent plans of the work the Pensions and Benefits joint team. DWP had made cuts to the staff so that they are having to rethink how they provide a good service with reduced staff resources. On-line claiming and telephone interviews help and an appointment service at their office where if all the correct documents are brought the claim can be processed and some telephone claiming. Visits are much reduced but sessions are still held at Pocklington and Age Concern DASCAS and other centres can help on-line completion of the form. Several agencies requested training for their staff following the Older People's Network Conference. The Fairer Charging team has been transferred from Social Services and people in receipt of housing or council tax benefit will not have to provide all the information again if they are moved onto assessment for care.

3. Network Conference

The report of the conference is available and has been circulated. There are a number of questions for which answers will be supplied in the Annual Report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in September.

4. Day Service Review

(1) Open Access It was reported to us that although there are a number of problems the voluntary Day Centre providers have all put forward plans for the next year. The Department will now examine these for value for money. There may be a different view of this from the providers. It would be good if I could have views from you all.

(2) Specialist Centres

All the attenders at Church Lane Day Centre have been seen and assessed for their needs and wishes. Most have chosen to go to Gwyneth Morgan but a number are going to Randall Close which is a more active centre with more choice of activity. It was reported that all were content with the arrangements. The moves will take place in a phased way from early August. A visit will be arranged to the Specialist Day Centres including Holybourne.

5. Partnership with Health

Public Health has moved into Town Hall. Co-location of the Health Commissioning team is delayed till January. WBC is putting in a bid to a national programme for a project similar to the Virtual Ward for a cohort of dependency and risk just short of those monitored through the Virtual Ward. They will know shortly if they have progressed through the first stage. Discussions are going on with DWP on work on smoking and health, one of the priorities agreed for older people in Wandsworth.

6. Next meeting

Alternative dates of Thurs 6 Oct at 10 or Fri 14 Oct at 2. To be confirmed

Liliias Gillies
30 June 2011

Wandsworth Older People's Network

Report of local Strategic Partnership of 27 June 2011

Cllr Ravi Govindia took the chair and introduced himself and briefly described his wish for his leadership to better connect with the population and not just the representatives present at various meetings including the LSP. New Councillor members were Cllr Jonathan Cook, Environment & Culture, J Cousins, Health, Community Safety & Partnerships, Mrs Kathy Tracey, Education & Children's Services, represented this evening by Cllr Peter Dawson, and Cllr Rex Osborn, leader of the Opposition.

Health Graeme Mackenzie, new Borough General Manager for Wandsworth, reported on recent developments, most of which was that the listening period on the NHS Bill was over, the changes had been announced and the Bill was more or less as before. GP Commissioning was in train in Wandsworth and the GP Commissioners were expected to be delegated to carry out commissioning by November. The Health and Well-being Board was set up. Public Health had moved into the Council offices, some in the Town Hall and some in Adult Social Services, depending on their work. Paul Martin, Chief Executive WBC, said the Council welcomed the opportunity for greater collaboration as a result. Wandsworth was a pathfinder for PPI and they will be trying to develop new ways of commissioning, reflecting the emphasis in the Bill in using local needs and views. Jenny Weinstein, LINK/HealthWatch, said they were already working with nine diverse groups to develop a commissioning plan.

Community Budgets An update on progress with the project to help some of the most disadvantaged and problematic families. An academic had been engaged to evaluate the plan's work, its impact on the families and a cost benefit analysis.

Future operation of LSP As the present Government has removed a huge set of targets and the monitoring of them much of the work of the LSP is no longer required. There are a number of important other items on LSP agenda and it was decided at the previous meeting to continue the LSP and to have a longer meeting in October when there would be more time to give more detailed consideration to a smaller agenda. A paper(B) was presented with some ideas on themes which could be discussed. There was some opposition to the ideas at this meeting and to the idea of a longer meeting but it was decided to go ahead with a discussion of themes raised by respondents in the Borough residents' survey, results of which should be available in August

The papers are available from the Committee Clerk (8871 6035) or from the Council website

Lilias Gillies
28 June 2011

LOPSG Annual Meeting

The London Older People's Strategy Group exists to link older people to the Mayor and the GLA. The Annual Meeting was held in July and was addressed by Boris Johnson. He didn't wait for questions but Richard Barnes, Deputy Mayor, was present for the rest of the meeting. Questions were asked but most were on local authority responsibilities, such as transport to Day Centres being cut. The Chair, Ellen Lebethe said we must work closely with our local authority.

Professor Alan Walker spoke on Putting Ageing at the Top of the Political Agenda and emphasised tackling poverty, social exclusion and loneliness. There were 20 extra deaths a day during last December to March and increasing fuel poverty will make it worse. The difference of 18 years expectation of life between Westminster (92) and Barking (74) is shocking. He hoped the Olympics might give an impetus to more active regimes, exercise possibilities and healthier eating.

In the afternoon there were four workshops from which we could choose two. These were:

- Working longer vs Right to Leisure; the Mayor's volunteer advisor spoke of Team London, which is a plan to recruit 1000 new volunteers;
- Tools to tackle Loneliness and Isolation;
- Our Voice Counts: Inclusion of Older Voices in shaping London's Landscape; Ian Willmore, AgeUK, urged us all to tackle authorities and said they were surprisingly easy to influence, citing the withdrawal of the proposal to end the use of cheques;
- Increasing Age: Decreasing Health

It was an interesting day as LOPSG meetings usually are. I can recommend them.

Lilias Gillies

Low Vision Aid Service

The service aims to help Wandsworth residents with visual impairment or visual difficulties.

You do not have to be registered blind or partially sighted to be seen at the clinic. The service is free of charge and all 'low vision' aids and magnifying devices will be loaned to you free, as long as they are of use.

Pocklington Resource Centre
1c Yukon Road, Balham, SW12 9PZ
020 8675 4246

How to find us
Clapham South station: turn right out of station and walk for 300 metres, then turn left onto Yukon Road and the centre is 50 metres up the road on the lefthand side.

Battersea Power Station



Sarah Banham

"When I see the chimneys from the plane's window, I know that I'm home", as Su Elliott neatly sums up the affectionate attitude of many of the locals to Battersea's iconic power station. On 12th July, Sarah Banham, from the Battersea Power Station Group, gave WOPF members a presentation of the plans to

redevelop the site. By all accounts, the new planning seems to indicate a Phoenix-style rebirth.

The power station has been a fixture on Battersea's horizon since 1933, with the construction of the first phase of the power station (A Station). In 1945, construction begun on the second phase, B Station, identical to A Station from the outside, which gave the power station its now familiar four-chimney layout. The site's generating capacity was the third largest in the UK at the time, providing a fifth of London's electricity needs. It was also the most thermally efficient power station in the world when it opened. On 17 March 1975, A Station was closed after operating for 40 years. The site was declared a heritage site in 1980, and in 1983 Station B closed too. The first redevelopment project would be

converting the site into an indoor theme park, based around Britain's industrial history. This was halted in 1989, for lack of funding. By this point, however, huge sections of the building's roof had been removed, so that machinery could be taken out. Without a roof, the building's steel framework and its foundations were left exposed to severing weathering.

In November 2010, Real Estate Opportunities were granted permission to redevelop the power station site. With Treasury Holdings, it announced that previous planning by Parkview had been dropped and that it had appointed the architect Rafael Vinoly as the new master planner for the site. The new plans will include reusing part of the station building as a power station, fuelled by biomass and waste. The former turbine halls would be converted to shopping spaces, and the roofless boiler house used as a park. Plans now include the construction of 3,400 apartments and 3,500,000 square-foot (325,000m²) of office space. Approximately 28,000 inhabitants and 25,000 workers are expected to occupy the space once complete. An essential part of the regeneration is an extension of the tube to service the area. The proposed extension would branch from the Northern Line at Kennington and travel west to Nine Elms and Battersea.

 **First Contact**
0845 600 1090

The Service

Information and advice for older people in Richmond upon Thames, Sutton, Wandsworth and Croydon boroughs

Opening Hours

Monday - Friday
10 am - 4 pm

AGE Richmond upon Thames
Concern

AGE Sutton
Concern

AGE Wandsworth
Concern

 **Croydon ageUK**

Suite 301, 3rd Floor, Parkway House, Sheen Lane, East Sheen, London SW14 8LS

AGE Annual General Meeting *Concern*

ACW will hold its Annual General Meeting on
Wednesday 9 November
2pm to 4pm
in the Civic Suite, Wandsworth High Street, SW18 2PU.

Join us to hear more about the charity's activities over the past year, followed by tea.

Community Advice Day

Wednesday 26 October,
10am to 2.30pm, Civic Suite, Wandsworth High Street, SW182PU.



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delicious meals to your door

Health/Nutritious Food at Your Door

Worried about long trips to the supermarket, preparing foods, managing boiling pots?

THE ANSWER IS NO, NOT ANY MORE.

If you, your relatives or your friends have special dietary requirement you can arrange to have meals hand delivered by specialised companies directly to your door. WILTSHIRE FARM FOODS, the UK's leading delivery service. Our meals are prepared in Trowbridge, Wiltshire by our talented and dedicated team of chefs, dieticians and nutritionist, frozen the moment they are cooked, and deliver across the UK & Northern Ireland through a network of local outlet *like us.*

Our drivers are friendly, CRB checked. You can order now and again or in a regular basis...CHOICE IS YOURS. WFF makes a range of over 240 meals. WFF frozen meals/desserts are delivered in handy plastics trays that fit easily be stored into your freezer, and all you have to do is heat in microwave or an oven.

To order:

Telephone: 0208 855 7785

Online: www.wiltshirefarmfoods.com

To your driver: Hand your order form to your driver.

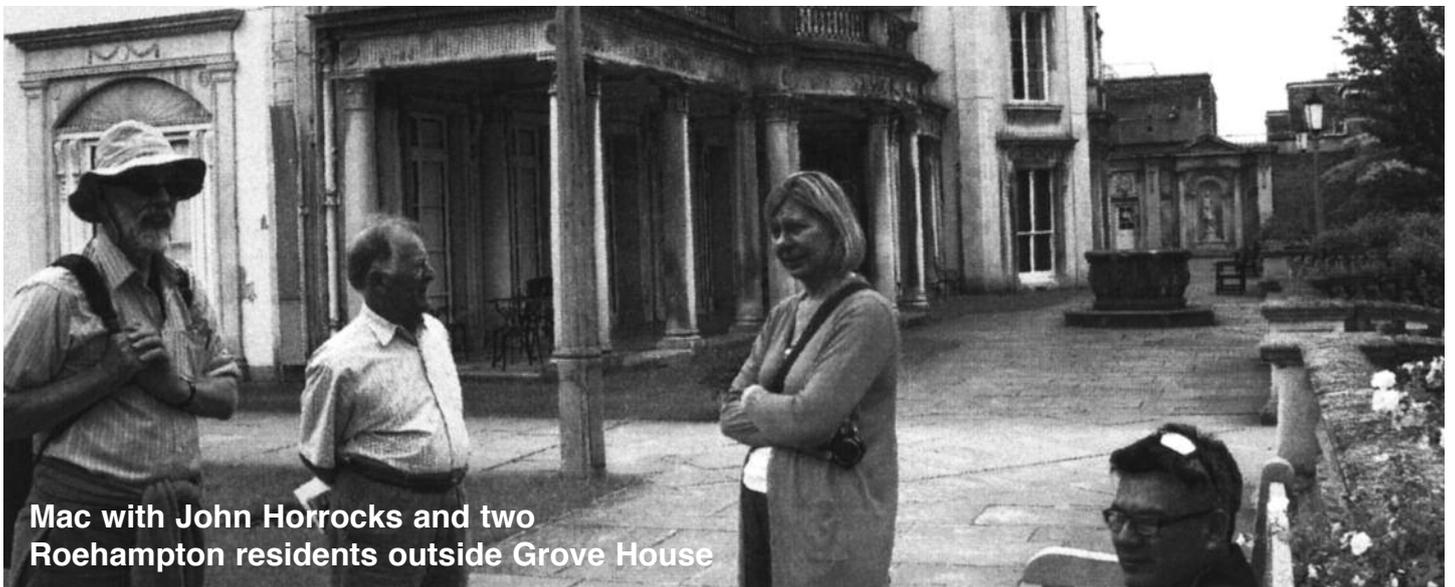
To request your brochure you can call our outlet and can have bit of chit-chat on how we work for you.

Wiltshire farm foods, South London 17 Bowater Road, London, SE18 5TF

Roehampton Photoworkshop

During June three photoworkshop walks were held in Roehampton, funded by Wandsworth Arts and organised by Mac Downes, Forum's Outreach Manager. I attended one with the digital camera which I have had for two years but still barely understand. I learnt a bit about the various settings and how to change them from the two tutors accompanying the walk. John Horrocks led us, first to Parkstead House, formerly Manresa House, now Whitelands College. Having admired this beautiful Grade I listed building and the view across Richmond Park we moved

along Roehampton Lane passing Downshire House and into the grounds of Grove House, part of Froebel College, another very beautiful listed building. The gardens here are extensive with ponds, a grotto and a mausoleum used by the former family who lived there. There is also a tunnel under Roehampton Lane to ease travel between this college which specialises in early years teaching and the infant school across the very busy road. It was a most interesting morning and I have some good photographs as a result.



Mac with John Horrocks and two Roehampton residents outside Grove House

Writing Competition

Runners up

The Present

by Mr C.J Kettle

One day whilst browsing inside a charity shop, I saw this object on a shelf. Plain and dusty I felt I should purchase it, why, I don't know, I just liked it

As this story unfolds you must understand, some 15 months ago I become destitute and homeless, I tried to end it all, but the Doctors in the hospital saved me, they told me my heart stopped once.

After so many complications I was rehoused in sheltered accommodation, around two weeks before Christmas I received a card inviting me to dinner on Christmas Day, to the local Methodist Church Hall, I duly accepted. Having no where else to go.

Before that day came I looked at this object and decided to wrap it as a Christmas present. On that day, going to the church hall and having a wonderful time, after some time decided to present the gift to the Vicar and his Wife, he smiled and thanked me.

Towards the end of the festivities I asked the Vicar if any one in the congregation could guess what was inside the present, as a sort of game (I had wrapped the present in an empty wrapping paper tube with a slight bulge at one end) The hands shot up, the place came alight, all kinds of answers, periscope, golf stick, seaside rock, and so on. Sitting beside me was a very huge man looking very miserable, he said to me I'll never get it I never do so I leaned over and whispered "It will put lights out in this church" he said questioningly "A light switch?" I said softly "No no no" and I sighed thinking I got my lighter out and touched the flame, his hand shot up immediately "Sir,sir,sir." He insisted, as you can imagine the hall, a deadley hush and he blurted out, "A candle holder", smiling at me, I shaking my head and burning my fingers on the flame, changed his mind and with a sigh said "A candle snuffer".

There were some claps but all were looking at me including the Vicar I nodded and everybody started clapping and stamping their feet all towards this man next to me, the man now with tears running down his face, tears of joy.

The Vicar opened the gift and there it was 12 inches long brass thin barley twist stem, a ring at one end and a small bell like shape at the other with a tiny bird perched on top. When seeing it the crowd clapped and laughed.

At the side I noticed a lady skipping for joy, I looked towards the Vicar and he said "Chris that lady is so overjoyed because her tiny fingers are now redundant we have our very own CANDLE SNUFFER.

Is there a morale to this story, Why,Who,What made me buy this thing of beauty that brought joy to that church.

Evacuation

By Mrs E Leicester



Iwas six years old. My Mother worked days, my Father worked nights. Many friends looked after me, so I was sure it was right to look after myself. Evacuation started and I had my address put on a label and attached to my collar, just like a suit case, is what I thought at the time. At

the train station I joined up with other children who were crying. The other children did not like leaving their parents, but I was looking forward to seeing the animals in the country. From the train station at Brecon in Wales we were taken by lorry to a school in a village where we lined up to be picked for billeting. As I stood in the line up a couple of elderly people came to me and asked me to stay with them. I replied "I want to live on a farm". The couple looked at me and said "We have relations who have farms but we live in the Post Office we promise to visit the farms". I agreed so off I went to live with Mr & Mrs Paddy.

The next day I was told to take a bowl of corn to feed the chickens which were housed across the village road. I crossed the road, opened the gate to see NO CHICKENS! I rattled the bowl of corn and out came fifty chickens they were hiding in the green dock leaves. I quickly scattered the corn and then went back across the road to the Post Office.

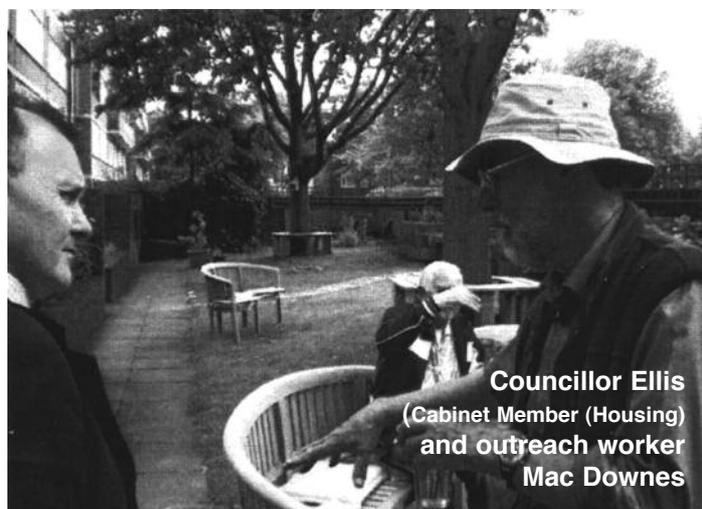
My second task was to get the milk from the farm at the top of the village, but I had to pass some geese which had a very unpleasant attitude towards visitors. I waited until the gander wandered away from the gate then I ran swiftly, picked up the milk in a small chum then returned repeating the waiting and the running. I decided to name Mr & Mrs Paddy aunt and uncle. I told them I would hang a pillowcase up for Christmas not a stocking, so was happy to stay with them. I went rabbit hunting with Uncle Paddy we took a ferrit. There are two holes in the ground, one places a net over one hole and sends the ferrit down the other. Uncle Paddy then catches the rabbit and hits it over the head thus we had rabbit stew. I had to go to church every Sunday so I got used to going. I was invited to sheep dipping. I learned to ride a horse as this was the only way to travel to a farm, There was only one bus a week only on a Friday to Brecon to get shopping. I picked wild strawberries and then thread them on a stem . The school had a band, I played the bells at first then I tried the triangle then I played the drum which was better for me . A good time as an evacuee

Gardening at Carey Gardens



The new look at Carey Gardens Clubroom

As part of WOPF's Comic Relief-funded outreach project, Mac Downes has been working with staff and residents at Carey Gardens Sheltered Housing Scheme. This scheme has 84 flats spread across the estate plus a pensioner's clubroom, where a range of regular activities including embroidery, exercise classes and bingo take place. It is a welcoming place where sheltered housing residents and other elderly people living on the estate are always made welcome.



**Councillor Ellis
(Cabinet Member (Housing)
and outreach worker
Mac Downes**

Although the clubroom is a happy and busy place, it is difficult to get some residents to take part in activities or even visit it for a chat and a cup of tea. We found that residents wanted improvements to the garden adjacent to the clubroom. It was a fairly bare space and needed to be filled with plants and additional seating, in other words, spruced up to become a more cheerful and welcoming space. Groundwork came and had a look and immediately identified Japanese knot weed - which had to go! They also introduced Nando's Restaurant to the scheme and on 6th July Nando's turned up with 2 lorries full of gardening supplies, workmen and volunteer staff and the transformation began.



**Councillor Ellis, Nando's Volunteers
and Staff Member Amanda Bridges**

On 14th July staff organised a BBQ to celebrate the creation of a lovely space that already encourages a greater number of residents to pop in and enjoy their own little garden haven. And when it rains? No fear: Mac also worked with residents to apply to Wandsworth Big Society fund for a wide screen TV so that they could run regular film afternoons. We are happy to inform that the application was successful.



**The residents enjoy
the barbeque**

Scam Alert

General warning to ATM users: to be aware of others around you, when using the machine, to cover key pad when entering pin number, to take care to remove card and cash and put them away safely.

Thames Water Trust Fund

This fund can help people who have difficulty Paying water bills. To find out more phone 0300 1236001

Grants Available for Disabled Gardeners

The Gardening for Disabled Trust offers grants to individuals in order that they may continue to garden, despite advancing illness, age or disability. In order to apply for a grant, individuals must be a member of the Trust's Garden Club and have a written note from their GP, social worker or occupational therapist, describing their disability. The Trust offers a range of support measures such as:

- adapting private gardens to meet the special needs of the disabled
- making grants towards tools, raised beds, paving and greenhouses
- providing help with special gardens in hospital, centres and schools
- distributing information on garden aid and techniques
- providing a forum for disabled gardener by publishing the Garden Club's magazine

The Trust's committee meet once a month to consider applications.

www.gardeningfordisabledtrust.org.uk/about.html

Alexa Kellow

Fundraising and Development Officer
Groundwork London

Direct Dial: 020 8687 4085

Switchboard: 020 8687 5250 Fax: 020 8686 2051

www.groundwork.org.uk/london

Wandsworth U3A

(Registered Charity No: 1096590)

Current Activities and Study Group

For more details Telephone 020 8785 0949
www.wandsworthu3a.org.uk

Our monthly meetings with guest speakers are held at Earlsfield Library

3rd Monday of the month at 2.00pm

Payments Council to keep cheques and cancels 2018 target.

The Payments Council has announced that cheques will continue for as long as customers need them and the target for possible closure of the cheque clearing in 2018 has been cancelled.

The Payments Council Board will continue to focus on security, efficiency and encouraging innovation in all types of payments to ensure customers have options best suited to the 21st century. The cheque guarantee card was abolished on June. read the UK Payments press release

Do you wear NHS hearing aids?

Come to our hearing aid support session



Come to our monthly drop-in sessions on:

On: Wednesday 22 June
Wednesday 27 July
Wednesday 24 August
Wednesday 28 September
Wednesday 19 October

At: Age Concern
549 Old York Road
London
SW18 1TQ

From: 10:00am – 12:00pm

We can help you with:

- changing batteries
- changing tubing
- maintenance advice

This is a FREE service.

Home visits are also available.

RNID Wandsworth Hearing Aid Support Project working in partnership with St George's Healthcare and Wandsworth PCT

For more information, please contact:

Beverley Leach

Telephone 07501 257 443 (Wed to Fri)

Email beverley.leach@rnid.org.uk

RNID •)))

Changing the world for deaf and hard of hearing people

The Wandsworth Hearing Aid Project is a partnership initiative between RNID, St George's Healthcare and Wandsworth PCT



2403-33R/0409 Photography Philip Meech The Royal National Institute for Deaf People, Registered office: 19-23 Featherstone Street, London EC1Y 6SL. A company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales number 454169. Registered charity numbers 207720 (England and Wales) and SC038926 (Scotland).



MEMBERS MEETINGS

All at Anchor Church Centre,
273 Garratt Lane, SW18. 2pm-4pm
Buses 44 and 270 pass the door

Tuesday 13th September

Sue Osborne, Alzheimers Society
Justine Kenyon, Wandsworth Art Officer

Tuesday 11th October

Peter Watt, Funding for Social Care

Tuesday 8th November

Daniel Nichols, Carillion
Changing over to Digital

Tuesday 13th December

Tinsel, mincepies and music !!

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month
(except August)

Wheelchair Access, Loop System, Refreshments
All are welcome - bring a friend

If you want to join the Wandsworth Older Peoples' Forum,
please fill in the subscription form below and return with
your payment to:

Membership Secretary, Wandsworth Older Peoples' Forum
WCEN inc. DRCA, Charlotte Despard Ave. London SW11 5HD

I wish to join the Wandsworth Older Peoples' Forum.

Individual Membership £5 per year

Name

Address

..... Postcode

Telephone:

Organisation Membership £5 per year

Organisation Title

Contact name

Address

..... Postcode

Telephone:

Cheques payable to Wandsworth Older Peoples Forum

Things to do places to go

Hestia Age Activity Centre

A range of activities on offer including art, Tai Chi,
computer classes, Latino Dance and more. A hot
lunch available all week except Thursdays.

966 Garratt Lane, Tooting Broadway.

Tel: 020 8767 8426

Taichi Classes

Wednesday 11.00-12.15 am Cowick Scheme
Clubroom 88 Cowick Road Tooting SW17 8PF
Carol Neville or Carol Fitzsimons 02087678579

Tai Chi! Chi Kung

Classes All you need is comfortable Clothing and
footwear, Come and have a go! Dimson Lodge
Battersea Church Road Mondays 12.15 -1.15 pm
Or contact Jane 07749 672346



NEWSLETTER

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Affiliated to National Pensioners Association



WOPF voice for older people in Wandsworth
Funded by Wandsworth