

ROYAL BOROUGH  
JUBILEE EDITION

1952

2012

Queen's



Diamond  
Jubilee







*With my humble duty, I have the honour to convey the loyal greetings  
and heartfelt good wishes of the Council of  
the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea to*

*Our Most Gracious Sovereign  
on the occasion of Your Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.*

*Your Majesty's unswerving devotion to the service of the people of this  
nation and throughout the Commonwealth during the sixty years of  
Your Majesty's reign is echoed by the deep and enduring affection of  
your loyal subjects.*

*By Letters Patent graciously granted in the thirteenth year of Your  
Majesty's reign, Kensington and Chelsea has continued to enjoy the  
style and distinction of Royal Borough, granted first by His late  
Majesty King Edward VII. As a Royal Borough it gives especial  
pleasure to express our loyalty and devotion and to pray that Your  
Majesty may long enjoy good health to reign over us.*

*Mayor*



## Salute the troops

Over 200 soldiers from the Territorial Army and  
a detachment of Chelsea Pensioners will be  
taking part in the Royal Borough's

## DIAMOND JUBILEE MARCH PAST

along Kensington High Street at 11am on

**Saturday 9 June 2012**

**Come along to give them a cheer as they pass!**

The route is along Kensington High Street, from  
Holland Park to Kensington Church Street.  
All the TA regiments and the Royal Hospital  
have the Freedom of the Royal Borough.  
The regiments have had personnel on deployment  
in the current conflict in Afghanistan.





Is my tail the 2012 Games  
waggiest? round-up

SEE PAGE 7

SEE PAGES 14 AND 15



Around the  
borough's  
parks

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THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
KENSINGTON  
AND CHELSEA

# Royal Borough

[www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk)

SUMMER 2012 No. 173

## Portobello Station

The new Crossrail station the Council is determined to see built on the old Kensal Gasworks site should be called Portobello, the Royal Borough has proposed.

The Council's long-running campaign for a 'Portobello' Crossrail station has won much local support from residents and businesses and also has the backing of a number of high profile MPs and Members of the London Assembly.

Cllr Sir Merrick Cockell, Leader of the Council, floated the idea of the Portobello name on his blog, sparking much debate and provoking a number of alternative suggestions.

Although most people were broadly in favour of the name, other suggestions included Grand Union station and Sainsbury Junction. The most popular alternative to date has been North Kensington, with some support for the compromise solution of Portobello North.

The Council is sticking with Portobello because it believes it has the best chance of catching the public imagination and winning wider support, as well as being justified in both historical and geographical terms.

In the eighteenth century, Kensal sat on the northern tip of Portobello Farm, and Portobello Road itself is just a short stroll away from where the station would be built.

The Council also thinks the name is justified in transport terms

because as well as carrying local people east and west to new job and leisure opportunities, the new Crossrail station would also deliver visitors to North Kensington and, in particular, Portobello Road.

With the Midlands just 45 minutes away via HS2 and the eastern and western reaches of the city made more accessible by Crossrail, it hopes for a whole new class of day-trippers to Portobello and Golborne that will keep the markets in business for generations to come.

Portobello would also meet the critical need to create an attractive and familiar brand that will make the thousands of new homes and business units that might be built on the Kensal site that bit more appealing.

In the end the final decision on station names rests with the Crossrail sponsors but, as it has agreed to underwrite the station construction costs, the Council expects to have some influence.

For further information, please see [www.rbkc.gov.uk/crossrail](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/crossrail)

Lend your support by writing to:

Boris Johnson  
Mayor of London  
Greater London Authority  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
London SE1 2AA

Email: [mayor@london.gov.uk](mailto:mayor@london.gov.uk)

The Rt Hon Justine Greening MP  
Secretary of State for Transport  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

Email:  
[greeningj@parliament.uk](mailto:greeningj@parliament.uk)

Join our list of  
supporters by emailing  
[crossrail@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:crossrail@rbkc.gov.uk)

Like our Facebook page at  
[www.facebook.com/KensalCrossrail](http://www.facebook.com/KensalCrossrail)

Join the station naming debate at  
[www.rbkc.gov.uk/leader](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/leader)



↑ The architect's impression of the south-east viewpoint of the academy, leisure centre and public realm.

## ACADEMY AND LEISURE PLAN

Exciting plans for a new leisure centre and academy in North Kensington have been submitted to the Council by architects Studio E.

The academy proposals will provide much-needed school places to tackle the fact that more than 30 per cent of local students currently travel outside the Royal Borough for their secondary education.

The planning application also includes a state-of-the-art leisure centre to replace the current facility, an improved Lancaster Green, better access to the area and new homes that will be sold to help fund the scheme.

Over the past two years the Royal Borough and the Aldridge Foundation have consulted widely on the proposals through a series of drop-in events, workshops and exhibitions. Local people have also been kept informed through newsletters, a residents' forum, the leisure centre's user group and websites.

If the plans are approved in September, a phased construction programme will begin in the autumn of 2012, with the Kensington Aldridge Academy opening in September 2014. The leisure centre is expected to open at the same time.

For more information, see [www.rbkc.gov.uk/kalc](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/kalc) or visit the Planning Information Office, Ground Floor, Town Hall, Hornton Street, W8 7NX.

## LEADING THE WAY

The first stage of a rollout that will see London become Europe's largest free wireless internet access zone has been launched in time for the Olympics.

O2 Wifi has launched in the Royal Borough, with access available on Exhibition Road

and Kensington High Street, with coverage to expand over the coming years across the borough and Westminster.

The system does not require a password or username, it does not impact on the user's mobile's data allowance and it works for everyone, not just O2 customers.

To find out what areas are available and when, see [www.o2wifi.co.uk/my/hotspots](http://www.o2wifi.co.uk/my/hotspots)

# Contacting the Council

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### RoyalBorough

*Royal Borough* is produced for residents by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

It is delivered to 87,000 homes and businesses in the Royal Borough and is also available from community venues. The newspaper is produced by the Council's Media and Communications Office, designed by Go4 Marketing and Public Relations Ltd and printed by Harmsworth.

We welcome comments about *Royal Borough* as well as letters submitted for publication. Write to *Royal Borough* Editor, Media and Communications Office, Town Hall, Hornton Street, London W8 7NX or email [pressbox@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:pressbox@rbkc.gov.uk) Mark your letter 'for publication' if you wish it to be considered for publication (the Editor's decision in such cases is final).

If you, or someone you know, would like this newspaper on tape, in Braille or in another language, call **020 7361 2826** or write to the Media and Communications Office (see above).

#### COMPETITION TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A winner will be drawn from the correct entries. Entries will not be returned. The editor's decision is final and no individual correspondence can be entered into. Entry is restricted to residents of the borough, excluding Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea staff and their families. Entry is subject to these terms and conditions.

# CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL

Enquiryline	020 7361 3000
Email <a href="mailto:information@rbkc.gov.uk">information@rbkc.gov.uk</a>	
Streetline	020 7361 3001
Email <a href="mailto:streetline@rbkc.gov.uk">streetline@rbkc.gov.uk</a>	
Environmental Healthline	020 7361 3002
Email <a href="mailto:environmentalhealth@rbkc.gov.uk">environmentalhealth@rbkc.gov.uk</a>	
Arts and Leisureline	020 7361 3003
Email <a href="mailto:leisure@rbkc.gov.uk">leisure@rbkc.gov.uk</a>	
Parkingline	020 7361 3004
Email <a href="mailto:parking@rbkc.gov.uk">parking@rbkc.gov.uk</a>	
Council Taxline	020 7361 3005
Email <a href="mailto:counciltax@rbkc.gov.uk">counciltax@rbkc.gov.uk</a>	
Benefitsline	020 7361 3006
Email <a href="mailto:benefits@rbkc.gov.uk">benefits@rbkc.gov.uk</a>	
Paymentsline	020 7361 3007
Pay online at <a href="http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/onlinepayments/general">www.rbkc.gov.uk/onlinepayments/general</a>	
Housingline	020 7361 3008
Email <a href="mailto:housing@rbkc.gov.uk">housing@rbkc.gov.uk</a>	
Educationline	020 7361 3009
Email <a href="mailto:education@rbkc.gov.uk">education@rbkc.gov.uk</a>	
Librariesline	020 7361 3010
Email <a href="mailto:librariesandarts@rbkc.gov.uk">librariesandarts@rbkc.gov.uk</a>	
Recruitmentline	020 7361 3011
Email <a href="mailto:recruitment@rbkc.gov.uk">recruitment@rbkc.gov.uk</a>	
Planningline	020 7361 3012
Email <a href="mailto:planning@rbkc.gov.uk">planning@rbkc.gov.uk</a>	
Social Servicesline	020 7361 3013
Email <a href="mailto:socialservices@rbkc.gov.uk">socialservices@rbkc.gov.uk</a>	

## Here to help – your Councillors

Kensington and Chelsea is served by 54 elected Councillors, three for each of the Royal Borough's 18 wards. They are available by telephone, email and letter. Personal appointments can be arranged and in some parts of the borough you can visit a ward surgery.

You can find out which Councillors represent you, and how to contact them, by visiting **[www.rbkc.gov.uk/councillors](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/councillors)** or calling Librariesline on **020 7361 3010**.

## Surgeries

### Colville ward

Cllrs Carol Caruana and Tim Jones: 2pm to 3pm, last Saturday of every month except August – Portobello Court Clubhouse, Portobello Road, W11.

Cllr Dez O'Neill: 1pm to 2pm, first Saturday of every month – Tabernacle, Powis Square, W11.

### Cremorne ward

Cllrs Maighread Condon-Simmonds, Matthew Neal and Gerard Hargreaves: 9.30am to 11am, 9 June, 1 July and 5 August – Chelsea Theatre, World's End Place, King's Road, London SW10.

### Earl's Court ward

Cllr Linda Wade: 10.30am to 12.30pm, 8 and 23 June, 7 and 21 July and 4 and 18 August – Brompton Library, 210 Old Brompton Road, SW5.

### Golborne ward

On a rota basis, Cllrs Bridget Hoier, Emma Dent Coad and Pat Mason: 7pm to 8pm, Mondays (except Bank Holidays and August) – Venture Centre, 103 Wornington Road, W10.

### Notting Barns ward

Two out of Cllrs Robert Atkinson, Judith Blakeman and Todd Foreman: 10am to 12 noon, second and fourth Saturdays of every month (excluding Carnival weekend) – EMB Community Hall, opposite the playground beside Grenfell Tower on Lancaster West Estate, just off Station Walk, south of Latimer Road station.

### Norland ward

Cllrs Catherine Faulks and David Lindsay: 10am to 11am, 7 July and 8 September – Henry Dickens Court Club Room, St Ann's Road, W11.

### Pembridge ward

Cllrs Barbara Campbell, David Campion and Doreen Weatherhead: 10am to noon, 23 June, Bangladesh Centre, 24 Pembridge Gardens, W2.

### Redcliffe and Earl's Court wards

Cllrs Marie-Therese Rossi, Frances Taylor, Charles Williams, Terence Buxton and Jonathon Read will hold joint ward surgeries: 6pm to 7.30pm, 11 June, 2 July and 6 August – Brompton Library, 210 Old Brompton Road, SW5.

### St Charles ward

Cllr Matthew Palmer: 6.30pm to 8pm, first Monday of every month (except Bank Holidays) – Feathers Youth Club, Dalgarno Community Centre, Dalgarno Way, W10.

Cllrs Pat Healy and Bob Mingay: 11am to 1pm, second Saturday of each month – Club Room, Balfour Burleigh estate (basement of Treverton Tower); 6pm to 8pm, third Monday of each month (except Bank Holidays) – Tenants' Association Rooms, Peabody Estate, Dalgarno Gardens; 6pm to 8pm, fourth Monday of each month (except Bank Holidays) – Community House, Sutton Way.

➔ [www.rbkc.gov.uk/contactus](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/contactus)

### Local Democracy Information

June to August 2012

SCRUTINY COMMITTEES	<b>Public Realm</b> 2 July	COUNCIL MEETINGS	<b>Council</b> 27 June
	<b>Family and Children's Services</b> 26 June		<b>Planning Applications Committee</b> 19 June, 3 and 17 July and 7 August
	<b>Health, Environmental Health and Adult Social Care</b> 4 July		<b>Major Planning Development Committee</b> 12 June and 10 July
	<b>Housing and Property</b> 12 July		<b>Audit Committee</b> 18 June
	<b>Cabinet and Corporate Services</b> 11 June and 16 July		<b>Cabinet</b> 14 June and 19 July

Unless the time is given in brackets, all meetings take place at 6.30pm at Kensington Town Hall, Hornton Street, W8 7NX.

Meeting times or dates can change. Before attending, please call **020 7361 2265** or visit **[www.rbkc.gov.uk/councilanddemocracy.aspx](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/councilanddemocracy.aspx)** to confirm the meeting date, place and time.

The web page above also has information about the Council's decision-making process and allows key decisions to be tracked.



## Serving residents

## TRI-BOROUGH SURVEY

## Tri-borough triumph

Moves to save taxpayers' cash and improve council services by combining them across three local authority areas have been backed by residents.

In a recent poll of 1,500 people, 73 per cent of west London residents, asked whether they backed the sharing of some council services between Hammersmith & Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster, said they supported the integration.

The results of the 'Tri-borough' survey, released in late April, also reveal that nearly four in five (79 per cent) of residents are satisfied with the way their council is running the area, up from 77 per cent at the start of 2011.

The news coincided with the signing of legal agreements that formally create the combined departments in major areas – such as adults', children's and libraries services. The arrangements are expected to deliver savings to taxpayers of around £40million a year by 2015-16.

Much of the saving comes from merging senior and middle management posts. Half of the management jobs have been shed in the Tri-borough departments, dramatically reducing the overhead costs of delivering services.

Each of the three councils retains its identity, decision-making powers and local councillors and continues to set its own budget and policies.

The Tri-borough plan promises to deliver additional back office savings by creating greater buying power when dealing with outsourced contracts such as cleaning, buildings maintenance and IT. The joint procurement of facilities management services, for instance, is expected to lead to annual savings of £2 million a year by 2014-15.

A shared youth service is making it faster and simpler for young people and their families to get back on their feet, while the councils are also sharing foster placements in a move that avoids the additional cost of using independent fostering agency placements.

Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Leader, Cllr Sir Merrick Cockell, said: "Providing services for families and children is a vital part of what councils do and is always a challenging task, particularly when money is tight.

"By working together and sharing management we will reduce our costs and get the best value for our money and we will maintain consistently high standards of services for our children and families."



## New school at Middle Row

**A rebuilt Middle Row Primary School, fit for the demands of twenty-first century teaching, could be open by September 2014.**

A planning application to replace the existing buildings with a modern, two-form entry school with lower maintenance and running costs is due to be submitted this month.

The new Middle Row will also accommodate a new Speech and Language Centre, initially for 16 pupils.

The new school will be a three-storey building, rather than being made up of a number of separate buildings, and will have a games area and a dedicated playground for the youngest pupils as well as a playground for older children and

a number of outdoor terraces on each floor.

Some homes are included in the plans for the site and this will help provide funds to build the new school. The new housing will be on Kensal Road, Middle Row and Southern Row and will consist of one, two and three-bedrooms apartments.



Cllr Christopher Buckmaster will serve a second term as the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea after being elected to hold the post for 2012-13.

Cllr Buckmaster, who was mayor in 2003-04, is only the second Councillor to be elected for a second term as Mayor, with the other being the late Cllr Miss Elizabeth M Christmas MBE.

He said it was "a very great honour to have been elected as Mayor for a second time, particularly in this Diamond Jubilee and Olympic year."

## RARE HONOUR

Born in Liverpool in October 1938, Christopher Buckmaster read Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Oxford, where he was Chairman of the University Conservative Association. He went into business and travelled widely and has lived and worked in the Caribbean, North America, Australia, New Zealand, and latterly in Africa.

For three years he was a member of the London Regional Board of the Confederation of British Industry and he has been a keen supporter of voluntary organisations, including Open Age and Kensington and Chelsea People First.

Cllr Buckmaster was elected to the Council in May 1994 and represents Campden ward. He is currently Chairman of the Council's Licensing Committee and before that was Chairman of the pan-London Health

Committee, bringing together the scrutiny committees of all London boroughs on trauma and strokes.

Cllr Buckmaster has appointed Cllr Victoria Borwick as the Deputy Mayor, Anne Hobson, who worked tirelessly in support of the Mayor's Charity during his first Mayoral year, as his Mayoress and the Rev. Robert Thompson, lead chaplain to the Royal Brompton and Harefield NHS Trust and Associate Priest at St George's Church, Campden Hill, as his chaplain.

Cllr Buckmaster's Mayoral Charity for 2012-13 is the **Brain Tumour Research Campaign**



## SUPPORT FOR ST QUINTIN

Prime Minister's wife Samantha Cameron joined parents at the St Quintin Centre for Disabled Children and Young People in North Kensington to celebrate securing funds from the Cheyne Charity to provide new activities for children with cerebral palsy.

## Credit rating still top

While both the USA and France have lost their Triple A credit rating from Standard and Poor's, Kensington and Chelsea has retained its top status.

The Council's success comes despite the dramatic reductions in central government grants that have impacted on all local councils.

"This achievement reflects the way we have adjusted to the post-credit crunch world and the fact that we built up enough reserves in the good years to allow us to deliver our current ambitions without additional borrowing," said Leader of the Council Sir Merrick Cockell.



## News round-up

### RBKCBusinessDirect

## Directly Involved

### In business?

Sign up for the Council's views on business in the Royal Borough and receive *Business Direct*, our online magazine.

*Business Direct* only covers issues that could affect the profitability of local businesses or that relate to trading conditions in the borough.

Learn about major public realm and transport infrastructure projects, large-scale planning issues, parking, law and order, education, employment and training, visitor management and business initiatives.

*Business Direct* offers high-level briefings on what is relevant – not PR 'puffs'.

To subscribe, email or visit:

[businessdirect@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:businessdirect@rbkc.gov.uk)

[www.rbkc.gov.uk/businessdirect](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/businessdirect)

### RBKCPartnerDirect

## Let's Stick Together

### Part of the Big Society?

If you belong to a voluntary organisation in Kensington and Chelsea, work for the police, health service or a social housing provider or run a company that works for the Council, then we've got news for you.

*Partner Direct* is a monthly e-bulletin aimed at keeping you – our partners – up to speed on the Council's priorities, ambitions and challenges.

If you need to understand our budgetary position, check the state of play on major planning and infrastructure projects or find out about some other strategic issue in the Royal Borough, *Partner Direct* is the place to start.

To subscribe, email or visit:

[partnerdirect@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:partnerdirect@rbkc.gov.uk)

[www.rbkc.gov.uk/partnerdirect](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/partnerdirect)

### RBKCDirect

## Higher Interest Rates

### Want to take more of an interest in what the Council is doing?

If you are one of the thousands of residents who participate in civic life through residents' associations and in other ways, you can keep yourself even better informed by reading *RBKC Direct*.

With the Royal Borough already a Big Society borough, the Council recognises that involved residents are a vital part of improving the local quality of life, which is why it works hard to keep them up to date and well informed.

Aimed at active and engaged residents, *RBKC Direct* gives readers an insider-style briefing on the big issues facing the Council, explains the thinking behind the policies and tells them what we know, when we know it.

To subscribe, email or visit:

[rbkcdirect@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:rbkcdirect@rbkc.gov.uk)

[www.rbkc.gov.uk/partnerdirect](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/partnerdirect)



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
KENSINGTON  
AND CHELSEA

## SURVEY SNAPSHOT

Despite the financial crisis and the decline in government grant to help pay for Council services, 84 per cent of residents continue to think the Royal Borough is doing a good job.

That's just one of the headlines from this year's *Annual Survey of Londoners*, the most authoritative take there is on the performance of London's local authorities.

Each year a representative sample of a thousand residents across London answer questions about their perceptions of their councils and areas.

According to the survey, the Royal Borough continues significantly to outperform the rest of London in a number of key services including street cleaning, repair of roads and pavements, street lighting, parks and open spaces, refuse collection, libraries and parking services.

Seventy seven per cent of residents report finding the Council "efficient and well run", 15 per cent more than the London average, and 65 per cent believe the Council provides "good value for money".

But it's not all good news. The survey reveals, for example, that while crime is less of a concern for Royal Borough residents than it is for the capital as a whole, six per cent more residents now identify it as an area of personal concern.

## ELECTION

A by-election will be held in Brompton ward on Thursday 28 June 2012 following the death of Councillor Baroness (Shireen) Ritchie.

Residents who took part in the recent London elections, or have registered since, will be able to vote without re-registering. If you are not registered you must submit a completed form to Kensington Town Hall by Wednesday 13 June 2012.

Applications for new postal votes or to amend or cancel existing postal or proxy votes must also reach Electoral Services by Wednesday 13 June. Applications for a proxy vote must be received by Wednesday 20 June.

For further information or a registration form contact Electoral Services on **020 7361 3444**, visit [www.rbkc.gov.uk/byelection](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/byelection) or email [elect@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:elect@rbkc.gov.uk)

## A ROYAL TREAT

More than 250 residents enjoyed a rare chance to explore Kensington Palace out-of-hours at a special event organised by the Council in April.

The event gave guests who might not normally visit the borough's cultural attractions an intimate account of Queen Victoria's extraordinary life through the palace's new *Victoria Revealed* exhibition.

Guests included representatives from tenants' and residents' associations, migrant and refugee communities, the traveller community based at Stable Way and residents of the Wornington Green estate in North Kensington.

Opened by the former Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington

and Chelsea, Cllr Julie Mills, the evening included speeches from the Head of Kensington Palace, Natasha Woollard, and Head of Access and Learning Dr David Souden.

Mouna El-Ogbani, from Al-Hasaniya Moroccan Women's Centre, said: "This event was an opportunity for me and my children to visit Kensington Palace. We enjoyed the history and the stories about Queen Victoria."

Abdulkadir Abukar, a Trustee of Hodan Somali Community, said: "This event was very important for me and my colleagues as new British nationals. It gave us an insight into the great history and identity of this country and a sense of belonging."



## Dalgarno decision

The future of the Dalgarno Neighbourhood Trust (DNT) looks bright after the Council agreed £100,000 of funding to enable it to improve its building at 1 Webb Close and extend its lease.

The decision means DNT can now improve the community centre and will be able to secure an extra £150,000 from The Social Investment Business to complete the improvement works.

The fact that the Council's donation has helped secure funding from The Social Investment Business means the trust can now help support local people who want to set up their own enterprises.

The DNT works extensively with young people and supports a number of projects run from the community centre including IT classes, keep fit and a crèche.

## Home from home

This summer sees work start on a £1.65 million refurbishment of Piper House, which provides specialist accommodation for borough residents with learning difficulties and complex physical and/or behavioural needs.

The work will take approximately 30 weeks, with the new Piper House due to open by summer

2013. The work will convert the existing three six-bedroomed flats into 12 flats, ten of which will be specifically designed for wheelchair users.

The reopened Piper House will increase the number of residents who can remain living in the borough, in a familiar environment, near their families and friends.





↑ (Left to right) Sue Redmond, Clive Wilson, Cllr Julie Mills with Robin Tuck's award, Ruby Edwards and David Elavia.

## Rewarding community spirit

Five people who have made a contribution to Kensington and Chelsea had their efforts recognised by the former Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Cllr Julie Mills, on Thursday 26 April.

The Mayor's Awards acknowledge the positive difference made by those who live or work in the Royal Borough. The award is given to people who make an outstanding contribution to

their local community and add significantly to the quality of life of those around them.

### Awards were presented to:

**Clive Wilson** for his work with the Norland Conservation Society

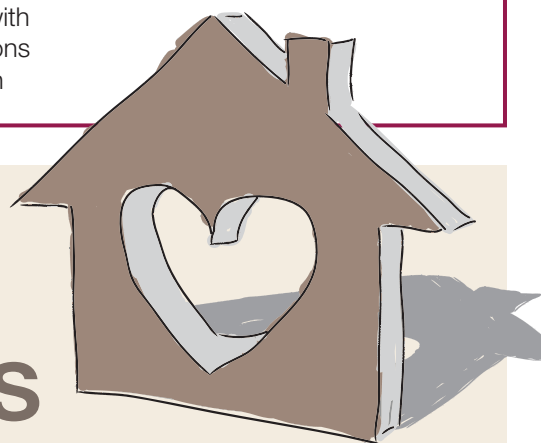
**David Elavia** for his work with Inkerman Housing Association

**Robin Tuck** for his work with many voluntary organisations in the north of the borough

**Ruby Edwards** for her work in supporting the elderly in Chelsea

**Sue Redmond** for her work with *Full of Life* in supporting those with learning difficulties.

The former Mayor said the awards "give us a chance to say thank you and acknowledge their sterling efforts."



## Speeding up vital decisions

The three London councils of Kensington and Chelsea, Westminster and Hammersmith & Fulham are shining a spotlight on children's care proceedings in a ground-breaking national pilot to speed up the family court process.

The care proceedings pilot, launched in April, is a national first that could set the benchmark for similar initiatives across the country.

It involves a new 'pact' between the councils and family court judges designed to speed up proceedings. In particular, it will try to meet the target set out in the recent Family Justice Review for children to have a permanent plan agreed by the court within six months.

Councils have agreed to deliver their assessments promptly and to a set standard, and in

return judges will place the child's timescales at the heart of their decision-making process.

**"Every child needs a stable home and strong family base"**

The agreement involves the Inner London Family Proceedings Court (ILFPC), the Principal Registry, the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service and the three councils, and will apply to all proceedings in respect of children who have suffered significant harm.

There will be specially designated days at the ILFPC for Tri-borough cases being heard under the pilot and, wherever possible, the same judge will be used throughout a case to ensure continuity and further speed things up.

A new project manager and a new case manager will coordinate

approximately 100 cases across the three boroughs each year. It will be their job to track the progress of each case and ensure the six-month deadline is achieved.

Tri-borough Head of Children's Services Andrew Christie, who oversees the children's departments in all three boroughs, said: "While the measurable focus of this pilot might be to speed up family court proceedings and hit the six-month target, the overarching aim is to achieve greater permanency and emotional stability for vulnerable children in our care."

"Every child needs a stable home and strong family base, so we hope this new programme will transcend targets and checklists and make a real difference to these young children's lives."

## Help for you at a difficult time

A one-stop service designed to help residents make sure they tell the right statutory services when a relative or friend dies has been launched by the Council.

The *Tell Us Once* service means that those affected just need to provide the required information once, to Council staff, to be sure that the correct central and local government agencies are informed.

Anyone registering a death with the Registrar will be given a reference number that has to be used within 28 days. They then simply have to contact the Council, either by calling **020 7361 3940** or going to **www.direct.gov.uk/death-tellusonce**

The process is made much easier if the person registering the death has the national insurance number of the deceased and details of any benefits or services they were receiving.

As well as contacting all Council departments, *The Tell Us Once* service can pass on information relating to:

- Department of Work and Pensions
- Pension Service
- Disability Service and Carers Service
- Jobcentre Plus
- Identity and Passport Service
- DVLA
- HM Revenue and Customs
- Child Benefit
- Tax Credits



## Street naming and numbering

The Council has received street naming and numbering applications for the new 'Portobello Square' development at Wornington Green.

Have your say – contact us with your comments:

Email: **building.control@rbkc.gov.uk**

Telephone: **020 7361 3838**

Post: Building Control, Town Hall, Hornton Street, London W8 7NX

Further details and a map of the street location can be found at:  
**www.rbkc.gov.uk/planningandconservation/buildingcontrol/namingandnumbering**



## Leader's Leader

# LEADER'S LEADER

This summer we have the rare opportunity to celebrate in style two momentous occasions, the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II and the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The borough's connections with the monarchy are cherished and centuries long. They resulted in Kensington becoming a Royal Borough just over 100 years ago, recognising the fact that King Edward VII's mother, Queen Victoria, had been born in Kensington Palace and lived there until becoming Queen.

Queen Victoria was the first, and until this year the only monarch to celebrate a Diamond Jubilee. And what celebrations we will see this summer. On Sunday 3 June more than 1,000 boats of all shapes and

sizes will muster on the Thames before setting off from Battersea Bridge to Tower Bridge.

This will give residents a chance to witness this historical spectacle, but the advice is to find your place early as huge crowds are expected. And be sure to give a cheer to some of the intrepid kayakers who form part of the flotilla and regularly use the Council's community facility at Cremorne Riverside.

I know that away from the river many residents' groups are maintaining a fine British tradition and holding street parties to mark the event. I am confident that the Queen's health will be toasted far and wide as we all mark our respect and admiration for the role she has played in the life of the country.

We will be organising our own celebrations, including a parade on Saturday 9 June of regiments and units that hold the freedom of the



borough. The Council will also be presenting all schools and residential care homes with a framed copy of the official Diamond Jubilee portrait of The Queen.

As the Jubilee celebrations get underway we will begin counting down to London 2012, the world's biggest sporting event and one in which Kensington and Chelsea has a keen interest. The Olympic torch will be carried along some of our roads before being greeted in Holland Park by the singers from Opera Holland Park and a community choir, giving residents a chance to get into the Olympic spirit before competition begins.

While much of the action takes place over to the east of the city, the first weekend of sporting

competition will see the men's and women's road cycle races hurtle down Knightsbridge, Brompton Road and Fulham Road before heading out to Surrey and then returning to the borough for what will be a frantic finish along the Mall. With top British cyclist Mark Cavendish a leading contender for a gold medal, crowds will once again be huge and expectant.

Over in Earls Court Exhibition Centre thousands of people will be drawn to the volleyball competition that will run for the duration of the Games and culminate on Sunday 12 August.

The Olympics will not just be a chance to see sport but also an opportunity to take in some of the artistic and cultural treats London will be laying on.

Where better to see some of this at close hand than on the newly-transformed Exhibition Road, which will be hosting ROADSHOW, our very own street party to which everyone is invited. From 28 July to 5 August, Exhibition Road will feature the work of artists, writers, musicians and acrobats, making it the place for Londoners and visitors to unwind and recharge during the Olympic Games.

I hope the summer of 2012 will go down in history as the year communities came together to show

Britain, London, and of course the Royal Borough, at their finest to mark the historic achievements of Queen Elizabeth II and to cheer on the finest sportsmen and women in the world.

**Cllr Sir Merrick Cockell**  
Leader of the Council

➔ [www.rbkc.gov.uk/leader](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/leader)

*Cllr Sir Merrick Cockell has a blog on which he comments on a range of issues. Read his views and add your comments at [www.rbkc.gov.uk/comment](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/comment)*

Follow us...  

If you use social media, be sure to follow us on Twitter and 'like' our Facebook page. Be one of the first to receive news updates and stories from the Council, find out about the latest borough events and see photographs and make comments on borough life.

Follow us on Twitter  
@RBKC and check out  
our Facebook page at  
[www.facebook.com/RoyalBorough](http://www.facebook.com/RoyalBorough)

## Dedicated to families

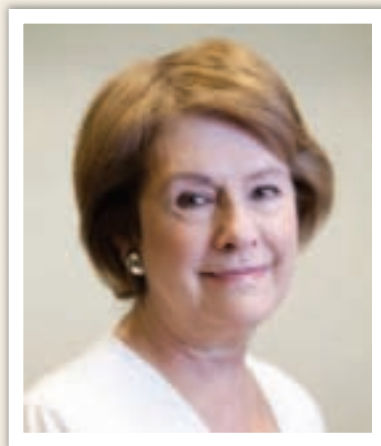
Baroness Ritchie of Brompton, an influential figure in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea who oversaw the Council's outstanding children's services, has died.

Elected to Brompton ward in May 1998, Shireen Ritchie was an active and influential local Councillor and leading member of the Conservative Party.

She became Cabinet Member for Social Services and Health in 2003 and then Cabinet Member for Family and Children's Services in 2005. She held the position with distinction until ill health prevented her from continuing to hold such a demanding portfolio, but even then she continued to support the new Cabinet Member.

She helped the Conservative Party raise awareness of the importance of diversity to the party through campaigns including *Women2Win* and the Priority List, which was controversial with some party

members. She also chaired the party's Candidates Committee.



Shireen Ritchie was dedicated to ensuring that excellent services were delivered for families in Kensington and Chelsea, particularly to those who were disadvantaged, and she succeeded in that aim. The quality of the services provided by the Council's Directorate for Families and Children's Services, for which Shireen Ritchie was the Cabinet Member for seven years, were regularly praised by Ofsted as being amongst the very best in the country.

As recently as 2010, inspectors noted that in Kensington and Chelsea the difference between the performance of potentially vulnerable children and others of the same age was consistently smaller than in similar areas and across the country.

Shireen Ritchie was determined that glowing reports from inspectors would never result in complacency and always sought to ensure that officers looked for new ways to improve and to increase the chances and opportunities for the young.

Recognising the importance of strong families at the heart of the community, she worked ceaselessly to make sure that the services delivered by the Council helped families to thrive. Shireen Ritchie played an energetic role in the civic life of the borough and was Deputy Mayor in 2008-09.

Baroness Ritchie was also an active member of the Local Government Association's Children and Young People Board and was its chairman. She led a number of high profile campaigns, particularly in relation to safeguarding and child protection.

Shireen Ritchie successfully campaigned to reduce unnecessary demands on social workers so that they could focus on working directly with vulnerable children and their families and she was a strong advocate for local government on a number of high profile groups including the Family Justice Review and the Social Work Reform Board.

In 2010 she was made a life peer, taking the title of The Baroness Ritchie of Brompton.

Cllr Sir Merrick Cockell, Leader of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, said: "Shireen Ritchie made a major contribution to the life of the community and, in particular, the borough's families and young people through her leadership and determination to make sure that the services the Council provided made a real difference. Shireen's many qualities and skills made her a respected voice in the Conservative Party and resulted in her elevation to the House of Lords.

"She will be greatly missed by all who knew her."

## CASH HELP

Diamond Jubilee street parties, funding for a local history DVD and gardening workshops are among the latest projects put forward for funding from the *City Living, Local Life* initiative.

Councillors and residents in each of the borough's 18 wards have access to £20,000 to support schemes they believe will improve their neighbourhood.

In Cremorne ward, residents and Councillors have decided to support several local projects, including setting up a new monthly parent and toddler group on the World's End Estate. They are also considering a request from the Cremorne Residents' Association to fund a local history DVD.

In Earl's Court, residents and councillors are looking to establish two new community kitchen gardens and a gardening club.

Contact your local ward councillors or the Community Engagement Team on **020 7598 4633** or by emailing [locallife@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:locallife@rbkc.gov.uk)

➔ [www.rbkc.gov.uk/cityliving/locallife](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/cityliving/locallife)





## HALLO BALOO

Floppiest Ears and Waggiest Tail were just two of the classes in this year's Parks Police Dog Show, which raised more than £300 for *Full of Life* – the local charity for disabled children.

Best Dog in Show was Baloo, a Leonburger (pictured above with owner Diana Poole), who triumphed over the other 54 dogs.

The show was organised in partnership with the dog welfare charity Dogs Trust. To find out about next year's show email [rose.francis@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:rose.francis@rbkc.gov.uk) or telephone 020 7938 8190.

➔ [www.dogtrust.org.uk](http://www.dogtrust.org.uk)



## PEDAL POWER

Cyclists can now travel both ways along sections of a number of one-way streets in the borough following changes made by the Council.

The experimental changes are designed to make cycling more attractive and allow riders to take the most direct route to their destination, as well as preventing situations in which one-way streets force cyclists onto busier main roads.

The streets now have 'Except cycles' signs below the existing 'No Entry' signs together with signs and markings warning drivers that cyclists are allowed to travel in the opposite direction.

The Council will monitor the success of the new arrangements before taking a decision on whether to confirm the two-way cycling schemes, which are on:

- ➔ Elystan Street (between Whitehead's Grove and Ixworth Place)
- ➔ Elystan Street (between Ixworth Place and Fulham Road)
- ➔ Park Walk (between King's Road and Camera Place)
- ➔ Park Walk (between Camera Place and Elm Park Road)
- ➔ Pavilion Road (between Pont Street and Hans Street)
- ➔ Pavilion Road (between Hans Street and Herbert Crescent)
- ➔ Sedding Street.

These build on the success of the five pioneering two-way cycling schemes introduced by the Council in 2009 on Gilston Road, Holland Street, Hollywood Road, Old Court Place and Thackeray Street. These trial schemes helped persuade the Department for Transport to allow all councils to use 'Except cycles' signs below 'No Entry' signs.

The Council plans to introduce two-way cycling in four more sections of one-way streets later this year. These are:

- ➔ Bolton Gardens (section off Earl's Court Road)
- ➔ Logan Place
- ➔ Nevern Place (between Earl's Court Road and Templeton Place)
- ➔ Pembroke Gardens.

There is a map of the two-way cycling schemes on the Royal Borough's cycling web page [rbkc.gov.uk/cycling](http://rbkc.gov.uk/cycling)

It is important to remember that there is no blanket exemption from one-way restrictions for cyclists, with the only exemptions indicated by signs.

To comment on the experimental schemes or to put forward other sections of one-way street you believe should be made two-way for cyclists, email [traffic@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:traffic@rbkc.gov.uk)



## In town for Jubilee Celebrations

Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko (front) visited the Kyoto Garden in Holland Park as part of a five-day state visit that included celebrations for Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee.



## READ ALL ABOUT IT

With service improvements underway in Kensington's Central Library, its reference library will operate a restricted service until early July.

The rest of the building, including the lending and children's libraries, are unaffected and will be open at the usual times. Although there may be possible disruption, this will be kept to a minimum and users will be kept informed.

The next phase of the works, scheduled for July, will mean closing the main area of the lending library. During this phase the first floor, the children's library and the main entrance will be unaffected.

For more details speak to a member of staff, email [libraries@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@rbkc.gov.uk) or visit [www.rbkc.gov.uk/centralworks](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/centralworks)

## Touring on two wheels

A summer programme of cycling tours and guided rides aims to encourage more people to take to two wheels to discover the secret haunts and history of the borough.

The programme includes a magical musical mystery cycling tour organised in association with the *Festival of the Bicycle* and featuring musical connections ranging from the royal palaces of William III to seventies punk.

As well as visiting some of the key locations of a borough that is home to the richest musical history in London, the tour will include a climb of 'Col du Ladbrooke Grove', the cobbles of Kensington and some of its beautiful streets and parks.

The tour is designed and paced for those new to cycling and will suit both cyclists with their own machines and those who would prefer to pick up a hire bike from a nearby docking station.



The tours take place on Saturday 9 June and Saturday 7 July.

Meanwhile this year's *InTRANSIT Festival* includes two-wheeled excitement in the shape of a tour of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* arranged by the Council in association with Exquisite Folly Theatre.

The cycle tours, which take place from 18 to 22 July, will take in the beautiful nooks and crannies of Kensington and Chelsea while following Alice in a tour that uses storytelling and puppetry to create a most unusual and interactive show.

Places on the tour, suitable for adults and children over 11, can be booked at [www.bikeminded.org/events/bike-tours](http://www.bikeminded.org/events/bike-tours).

The Royal Borough has also joined with British Cycling to offer ten Sky Ride Local rides between June and September. These free bike rides for friend and family groups are led by a British Cycling-trained leader who can provide support and tips.

Register for free by visiting [www.goskyride.com/rbkc](http://www.goskyride.com/rbkc)



## People and places

# A dramatic difference

In working to support communities across Kensington and Chelsea, the Council is keen to harness the talents and energy of local organisations and to support their work with carefully targeted grant funding.

The Council has committed a total of £30,500 annually to support the work of Specially Produced Innovatively Directed (SPID), an award-winning theatre and film company that uses the arts to regenerate neglected spaces.

The company creates projects that are designed to foster stronger communities by engaging people with their local environment, as well as running free weekly activities throughout the year.

Although based in the Grade II\* listed community rooms of west London's Kensal House council estate in Ladbroke Grove, SPID does not create pieces for the stage.

As Helena Thompson, Artistic Director, explained: "The space that

the cast and audience share is our stage. There are no rules for where or how our stories unfold, and our aim is to collapse the distance between the actor and the audience.

"Our performances are adventurous and immersive. We make professional shows and shows with young people, and we believe that both are of equal artistic value. This style has been called 'wraparound theatre' or 'living film', and appeals especially to young audiences and to those who would not otherwise go to the theatre."

SPID typically produces one professional show, one youth show and a film for and by young people every 12 to 18 months.

"Our twice-weekly youth theatre sessions are free to attend, as are our youth shows, while our professional shows are free to local residents," said Helena. "Our weekly community classes such as yoga, T'ai Chi and animation are also free to attend, and the space can be hired cheaply by local residents."



Kholo Masenya

The organisation took up residence on the Kensal House estate in 2005 before refurbishing the community rooms and bringing them back into regular use.

SPID also works in other local estates and has won national prizes for promenade performances in neglected community spaces. The aim is to involve local residents in the research, creation and performance of shows whenever possible.

Helena added: "Our work has three principle aims: developing a new form of high quality theatre that engages audiences with the space that it inhabits, regenerating Kensal House community rooms and other neglected spaces and creating shows that empower neighbourhoods."

Kholo Masenya, a teenager who took part in the recent touring version of SPID's *Team Spirit* show, told BBC London: "SPID's more about today's subjects and issues that we face every day. Coming here and working on stuff that you see every day, or in some cases go through, and then being able to act it out and play it to an audience is really inspiring."

See [www.spidtheatre.blogspot.co.uk/search/label/Home](http://www.spidtheatre.blogspot.co.uk/search/label/Home)

## ROLL UP!

Entrepreneurs Jo Hawtree and Emily Ellen Dell, whose business ideas have won them two trading pitches on Portobello Market, are preparing for their first day's trading on Saturday 30 June.

Jo, who is starting a men's fashion label called *Gunsmoke & Lavender*, and Emily Ellen, who will sell bespoke art on canvas under the name *Girl on a Swing*, won six months rent-free market stall space at the world famous market as winners of the *Market Enterprise Launch Pad* last December.

## Councillor Question Time

**Cllr Catherine Faulks**  
Norland ward

*Royal Borough meets a Councillor who is used to making quick decisions.*

**When did you first consider becoming a Councillor?**  
October 2011.

**Did you need a lot of convincing?**  
Yes, as I only had three days to make up my mind to fight a snap by-election.

**How did you feel when you were elected?**  
Very excited by the possibilities but also rather daunted.

**What is the most rewarding part of being a Councillor?**  
Working with local people and trying to help bring about change on local issues.

**And the least?**  
Being cornered at parties by angry residents who want to let off steam.

**What are your ambitions in the political sphere?**  
To be re-elected as ward Councillor in 2014.

**What are the main concerns raised at your surgeries?**  
Housing and planning issues.

**How many hours a week, on average, do you spend on Council work?**  
13 to 20 hours – it changes every week.

**What one thing would improve the lot of your constituents?**  
This is a very mixed ward that combines 40 per cent of social housing with some of the most expensive houses in the whole of London, so the issues vary enormously.

**What one thing are you most proud of doing since becoming a Councillor?**  
Having only been a Councillor since October 2011 I am not sure I have achieved an individual triumph yet, but I am very

proud to have been elected by Norland ward.

**Do you have any hobbies?**  
Tennis, skiing, singing and dog walking.

**A favourite book?**  
*Any Human Heart* by William Boyd and all Sebastian Faulks' books.

**A favourite film?**  
*Days of Heaven*.

**A favourite song or piece of music?**  
*Elijah* by Mendelssohn.

**A favourite part of, or place in, the borough?**  
The sculpture *Physical Energy* by Watts in Kensington Gardens.

**A recommended place to eat?**  
*Uji* in All Saints Road.

**If you could take a holiday anywhere in the world, where would you go?**  
Madagascar.

**If you could have one wish granted for yourself what would it be?**  
That my husband and children remain healthy and happy in what they choose to do.

**If you could have a wish granted for everybody what might it be?**  
Good health – both mental and physical – that allows everybody to be the best they can be.



# REAL GEMS

Once a hodge-podge of bric-a-brac, nylon cast-offs and knitting patterns, today's charity shop is an Aladdin's cave of luxury goods that can provide real finds for those who rifle through the rails.

But the real gems work behind the scenes to make the treasure hunt possible; they are the volunteers that run the shops.

As part of a new series focusing on charity shops, *Royal Borough* spoke to Cathy Shimell, manager of the British Red Cross shop at 67-71 Old Church Street, SW3. The shop is open Monday to Saturday from 10am to 6pm.

**What made you choose to work for the British Red Cross?**

Because it helps people in need wherever they are in the world. Also there is such a lovely community feel in Chelsea. Our neighbours are incredibly generous; the beautiful designer and vintage clothes they donate are what makes this branch so special.

**What do you most enjoy about working here?**

Apart from the fantastic atmosphere, the shop specialises

in antiques and designer and vintage clothes, and I enjoy learning from the garments and antiques we receive.

**Why should people visit your shop – does it offer anything special?**

We specialise in designer and vintage clothes and accessories – Yves Saint Laurent, Junya Watanabe, Alexander McQueen, Valentino... We also sell antiques, old silver, china and ivory.

**What was your favourite donated item and why?**

A Chanel handbag we received four months ago; cream in colour, classic design.

**Are you looking for volunteers?**

We always need volunteers. Give us a call on **020 7376 7300** or just come by the shop to find out how we work and what we do. In fact, we are about to host a big art event, and any help would be really appreciated.

For information on the shop's art sale see the events diary on page 19.

For further information and to donate to the British Red Cross, visit [www.redcross.org.uk/donate](http://www.redcross.org.uk/donate)



# Celebrating

## THE BEST OF THE ROYAL BOROUGH'S PARKS

**While Royal Borough residents will be joining in the celebrations for Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, local people have another cause for 60th birthday celebrations.**

News that Holland Park is celebrating 60 years as a public park in 2012 will surprise those who thought it had a longer history.

The confusion arises because, for nearly 350 years before its purchase in 1952 by London County Council, Holland Park was a private estate owned by the 6th Earl of Ilchester.

Throughout its history – in both private and public ownership – Holland Park has not been without drama.

Some of the park's more colourful episodes are chronicled below:

**1605** Sir Walter Cope builds the house that is now the backdrop for Opera Holland Park, originally known as Cope Castle.

**1649** Henry Rich, the 1st Earl of Holland and then owner of the estate, is beheaded for Royalist activities during the Civil War. His ghost is said to haunt the house and grounds – some say it carries his head.

**1653** Lady Diana Rich (daughter of Henry Rich) sees an apparition of herself, which she describes as an identical mirror image, while out walking in the grounds of the estate. A month later she dies of smallpox.

**1800 to 1840** Under the 3rd Lord Holland and his wife, Lady Holland, the house becomes famous as a social, literary and political centre with Byron, Thomas Macaulay, Samuel Rogers, Charles Dickens and Sir Walter Scott amongst its celebrated visitors.

**1802** The 3rd Lady Holland planted the first dahlia seeds to germinate successfully in England.

**1804** Lord Camelford is killed in a Holland Park duel with Captain Best. Lord Holland puts up an anti-duelling memorial on the spot.

**1812** Buonaiuti, a member of the Holland family's staff, creates the Portuguese Garden, later renamed the Dutch Garden when

England's relationship with the Portuguese deteriorated.

**1939** Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and King George VI attend the last great ball held at the house shortly before the outbreak of World War II.

**1940** The house is largely destroyed after being hit by an incendiary bomb.

**1952** Ownership of the estate passes to the London County Council and Holland Park officially opens as a public park.

**1987** Storms destroy Lime Tree Walk. The clean-up operation takes three months.

**1991** The Kyoto Garden is officially opened by HRH the Prince of Wales

and HIH, the then Crown Prince (now Emperor) of Japan, as a reminder of *The Japan Festival* that marked the centenary of the Anglo-Japanese Society.

**1996** Opera Holland Park performs for the first time.

**2012** New ecology centre planned.

**Royal Borough spotlights the borough's parks on the next two pages.**





# Things to see & do IN HOLLAND PARK



## The Kyoto Garden

The Kyoto Garden was designed and built to celebrate the *Japan Festival* in London in 1991 and was a joint project between the Royal Borough and the Kyoto Chamber of Commerce.

Created from a small piece of woodland near to the site of a Japanese garden that has been a feature of the Holland House estate from about 1900, the Kyoto Garden was designed and built by the Kyoto Garden Association, a consortium of the principle garden construction companies in Kyoto.



Kyoto Garden

HRH the Prince of Wales and HIH the Crown Prince of Japan – joint patrons of the *Japan Festival* – formally handed over the Kyoto Garden to The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in September 1991.

The design of the garden incorporates simplicity, harmony and atmosphere, and provides another haven of peace and tranquillity within Holland Park.

## The Ice House

The circular ice house first appeared on a plan dated 1770 and was built for the storage of ice for Holland House. It is now used solely as a gallery exhibition space. Exhibitions change every two weeks.

## The Napoleon Garden

The garden has been used to highlight the work of up-and-coming sculptors for a number of years. It has recently featured *The Garden of Earthly Delights* by Daniel Pasteiner and *Black Sun* by Douglas White.

It also housed Graham Hudson's controversial work *Sajida Talfah* that had to be redesigned following fire damage.

## Sports

Holland Park offers a range of sports facilities, all of which can be booked through the sports booking office in the Stable Yard during the park's opening hours.

- Full-size grass football pitch available from October to April
- Cricket practice nets in the summer
- Tennis courts, including two with floodlights
- Cricket pitch from April to September
- Golf practice nets, including a bunker
- Petanque court
- Netball courts



To book telephone **020 7602 2226** or email **sportsbooking@rbkc.gov.uk**

## The Ecology Centre

Currently housed in the old Holland House stable yard, the Ecology Centre runs a number of outdoor and creative activities ranging from holiday activities for children to bird and bat walks and art classes for adults.

For those who prefer to be more hands-on, the 'Taskforce for Nature' programme is seeking volunteers to help improve and restore the wildlife value of parks and open spaces across the borough.

For more information visit **[www.rbkc.gov.uk/ecology](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/ecology)**

The Council has recently applied for planning permission to build a new ecology centre next to the Holland Park Adventure Playground with funding support from Kensington and Chelsea Environment Ltd. This will offer better facilities and be more sustainable and will also provide a home for the *Children's Forum* and *Play Rangers*.

The new centre will allow the Ecology Service to grow and offer more opportunities for children and adults to learn about what wildlife surrounds them.

✎ *An artist's impression of the new Ecology Centre.*



## Giant Chessboard

A chessboard with a set of giant chess pieces is a gathering point for all ages and abilities. Installed in 2010 it is regularly visited by novices, masters and grandmasters alike.

## Opera in the Park

Don't forget Opera Holland Park's season starts on 7 June with a programme of superb performances that are sure to enthral audiences young and old.





### St Luke's Gardens

St Luke's Gardens ceased to be a burial ground around 1857 and was converted into a public garden in 1881, with the gravestones being moved to form a boundary wall that is still present today.

A grant from the London County Council in 1887 helped to develop the gardens and James Veitch, a local nurseryman and prominent plant collector, helped plant the formal gardens.

The park suffered from bomb damage during World War II and the original railings surrounding the park were removed in the early 1940s to help with the war effort. These railings were restored in 2009 as part of improvements to the park.

### Ropers Gardens

The site was part of the marriage gift of Sir Thomas More to his daughter Margaret on her marriage to William Roper in 1521 and was once an orchard.

A parachute mine on 17 April 1941 destroyed the buildings here and a small sunken garden was created on the bomb damaged area. Cllr Lady Heath, Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea, laid the foundation stone on 11 March 1964.

### Cremorne Gardens

The gardens commemorate the site of the famous Cremorne Pleasure Gardens, which opened in 1845 and closed in 1877.

## Holland Park is not the only park in the borough, and nor is it the only one that has a rich history

After renaming the house after himself, Thomas Dawson, Lord Cremorne, who had bought Chelsea Farm in 1778, had the house enlarged.

In 1831 the house was purchased by Charles Random De Berenger, Baron De Beaufain, who first turned it into a sports club and then opened the pleasure gardens. Entertainment included concerts, fireworks, balloon ascents and galas.

The wrought-iron gateway that had stood at the King's Road end of the original gardens and belonged to Lord Cremorne's house was incorporated when the riverside park was newly landscaped in the early 1980s.

### Kensington Memorial Park

Kensington Memorial Park has been a public park since 1926, when Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, opened it to the public. The land was

bought in 1923 with funds provided by the Kensington War Memorial Committee, which wanted to create a suitable tribute to those who had given their lives in the First World War.

### Emslie Horniman's Pleasance

During a meeting of the London County Council on 14 March 1911, the chairman read out a letter containing an offer from politician and ex-council member Emslie J. Horniman:

"Recently I have been able to secure nearly one acre of land, which I consider suitable to lay out as a public garden, with sand-pit, etc., and, having now completed the purchase, I have much pleasure in offering the same to your council, and am ready to make over the freehold, the only condition being that the land be dedicated in perpetuity to the people of London as a recreation-ground. I propose to clear

the land and lay out same at my own expense."

Emslie Horniman lived in Chelsea but was inspired to create the park in North Kensington that today bears his name by Sister Ruth, a local nun who worked with the poor of Kensal Town. Emslie Horniman was interested in the arts and commissioned architect Charles Voysey to design the park, which prompted the name 'Voysey Garden'.

This year the park has been refurbished, resulting in a new playground and improvements to the Voysey Garden, with a new games area to follow.

### Dovehouse Green



Children playing on the Dovehouse Green bomb site.

Dovehouse Green was laid out as a garden in 1977 to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II and was refurbished in 2002 in celebration of her Golden Jubilee. Sir Hans Sloane had originally given the site to the borough in 1733 for use as a burial ground that closed in 1824. There is a memorial plaque on the green to 457 civilians killed in World War II.



### Avondale Park

This former slurry pit, once known as 'the ocean', was part of a notorious range of piggeries as well as kilns and brickfields. The land was bought in 1889, officially opened on 2 June 1892 and named after the recently deceased Duke of Clarence and Avondale.

The Council has recently submitted plans to rebuild the toilet facilities at the park following a public consultation two years ago that showed local residents wanted a new amenity building in the park. The work should be completed by Spring 2013.

An artist's impression of the new facilities at Avondale Park.





Local living

RAIN NOT ENOUGH

Despite enduring the wettest April in the UK since records began in 1910, followed by more rain in May, parts of the country are still officially in drought and the hosepipe ban is set to remain.

That's because, according to the experts, while this April was the wettest ever recorded, the past two years were the driest. At the end of March 2012 the cumulative deficit in rainfall over the previous 24 months was 417 mm. Between 1 and 24 April, there was 68 mm of rain, which may have been impressive but only reduced the deficit by a fraction.

To make matters worse, April was comparatively warm and the impact of evaporation was greater. By the end of March the soil was so dry that most of the April rain was just sucked straight up, with very little getting through to recharge the groundwater sources – and as soon as the weather warms, the plants will put on a growth spurt and suck up most of that moisture.

That's why Thames Water is saying that the hosepipe ban is here to stay, at least until we have had some proper winter rainfall to really recharge the groundwater levels that are still, in places, lower than they were in 1976 when Denis Howell was appointed Minister for Drought.

And if that rain doesn't come in the volumes we need, Secretary of State for the Environment Caroline Spelman has warned we may see the return of standpipes, not seen in England in a big way since that long summer of 1976.

What's to be done?

The Government is drawing up contingency plans and the water companies themselves are promising to tackle the level of leakage, which is startlingly high. In the Thames Water region an incredible 26 per cent is lost through leaks.

While the Council is very proud of its parks, gardens and floral displays, it takes a lot of water to keep them looking as magnificent as they do, and the Royal Borough is also keen to show leadership in saving this precious resource.

That's why the Council has reduced its dependence on seasonal annual plants for summer colour in favour of woody or bulbous plants that are better able to withstand or recover from drought.

In addition our displays will now be watered by hand, which is much less wasteful, with priority given to high profile spots like the Dutch Garden in Holland Park. Less popular spots will be watered less frequently.

The Royal Borough's two popular water play facilities – Cremorne and Kensington Memorial Park – will stay closed until the hosepipe ban is lifted.

The Council is also reviewing the number of hanging baskets it has so that it can balance the enhancement they provide with the need to conserve water.

These measures tie in with the Royal Borough's existing long-term strategy of becoming a greener, less resource-greedy Council, under which it has been substantially reducing water consumption. The table below shows how consumption has fallen (in litres) since 2007-08.

2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
149,980	119,133	125,159	105,114

YOU CAN HELP

There are lots of ways to save water; here are a few ideas.

- The hosepipe ban means you need to wash your car with a bucket, but think about whether or not you really need to wash it at all. Just keep headlights, mirrors and windows clean.
- Don't let washing up water run to waste while waiting for it to get hot – use it to water plants.
- Avoid running the tap until the water runs cold every time you want a drink. Keep a jug of water in the fridge.
- Let your grass grow – this provides shade for the soil and helps retain water.
- Reuse bath water for the garden. You can collect it using a watering can or buy a device to siphon bath water from the bath to the garden.
- Don't leave the tap running while you brush your teeth, shave or wash your hands.
- A five-minute shower uses about a third of the water of a bath, but remember that power showers can use more water than a bath in less than five minutes. Taking a quicker shower could give you an extra few minutes in bed.
- Dripping taps can waste up to 15 litres of water a day. Replace worn tap washers for a quick and cheap way of saving water.
- Collect rainwater in water butts and use a watering can.
- Regularly weed and hoe your garden to ensure that rainfall helps plants and not weeds.
- Plant flowers and shrubs that thrive in hot and dry conditions such as thyme, evening primrose, rock rose, Californian poppy, pinks, lavender, buddleia and hebes.
- Mulches such as wood chips, bark and gravel help to prevent water evaporation and also suppress weed growth, saving you both water and time spent weeding.



Savings

Clever energy-saving technology has already helped the Council use ten per cent less energy in two civic buildings.

The voltage optimisation technology is one of a number of measures being introduced to save energy as part of the Council's climate change programme.

The equipment allows the Council to reduce energy usage by drawing just the right amount of electricity from the national grid. The process has been compared to using a smaller straw to make a drink last longer.

The ten per cent reduction in two civic buildings exceeded expectations and has been one of the simplest and most cost-effective ways of reducing energy consumption.

The technology is also available for domestic use, although it is not yet widespread. Meanwhile, residents can reduce their home electricity bills by checking out energy-saving advice at [www.rbkc.gov.uk/greenliving](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/greenliving). The website covers topics such as how to save energy and water, what to recycle and how to find greener and healthier ways to get around the city.

Businesses and schools can find out what they can do as well as how the Council can help their organisation save money and protect the environment by visiting [www.rbkc.gov.uk/greenerbusiness](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/greenerbusiness) or [www.rbkc.gov.uk/greenerschools](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/greenerschools)

THEIR SHOUT

Teenagers from Hammersmith & Fulham, Westminster, and Kensington and Chelsea will be speaking their minds at the first *Big SHOUT* at Stamford Bridge on June 23.

The summit of 100 young people from each area will focus on subjects identified by the young people themselves – sexual and mental health, communication between the police and young people and promoting opportunities for young people.

Celebrating reading

Residents, librarians and councillors highlighted the importance of libraries in getting the nation reading when they gave away 700 free books during a World Book Night bus tour of libraries in Kensington and Chelsea, Westminster and Hammersmith & Fulham.

A range of classic and contemporary novels were given away to the public during the event in April, which Cllr Elizabeth Campbell, the Royal Borough of Kensington and

Chelsea's Cabinet Member for Libraries, described as "an opportunity to celebrate reading and to share books with our residents".

She added: "Our libraries are well used and valued. We want to maintain our services and we are pleased that by working together we are able to widen the range of books and services available to our residents."

The three councils have protected their libraries from budget pressures by launching the Tri-borough programme that has merged the

management of libraries across the three boroughs to meet financial challenges and keep all their libraries open.



The Chickenshed Kensington and Chelsea youth theatre performed its entertaining new show, *Olivia Twisted*, an energetic take on Charles Dickens' classic tale, at Kensington Central Library as part of the World Book Night in April.



# Eat it, don't waste it

With the average family estimated to throw away around £50 of good food every month, Kensington and Chelsea Council is supporting the *Love Food Hate Waste (LFHW)* campaign that aims to raise awareness of the problem.

LFHW is a national initiative to take action on food waste. The organisation has calculated that the UK throws away 7.2 million tonnes of food and drink, most of which could have been eaten safely, every year.

The cost of all this wasted food has been estimated at £12 billion, with 8,500 tonnes thought to be thrown away by Royal Borough residents every year.

Council officers believe residents could reduce their food bills significantly by wasting less food and have been handing out free recipe books and providing advice on how to minimise waste and cut costs.

According to LFHW, most waste relates to fresh vegetables and salad, drink, fresh fruit and bakery items such as bread and cakes. Campaigners believe that a better understanding of 'use by' dates and knowing how to store food to keep it fresher for longer could help cut waste.

Here are some food myths that could be costing you money, together with tips to help you make the most of your freezer:

## "You can't freeze cheese"

You can make sandwiches with frozen grated cheese and frozen sliced bread. Ensure they are thoroughly defrosted before eating.

## "You can't freeze onions"

Onions can be diced and frozen if you have a few that need to be eaten before you have the chance to use them.

## "You can't freeze bananas"

If you have bananas that are starting to turn brown, chop them and freeze them. You can then use them

in cake recipes or make them into a healthy ice cream; the natural sweetness means you won't need to add sugar.

## "You can't refreeze defrosted meat"

If you defrost raw meat and then cook it, it can be refrozen afterwards, according to the *Love Food, Hate Waste* campaign. For example, if you cook a frozen chicken you can freeze the leftovers.

You need to take great care to defrost meat thoroughly and re-heat it until it's piping hot.

Do not reheat leftovers more than once. For guidance on using leftovers safely, visit [www.food.gov.uk](http://www.food.gov.uk)

For more information, tips and recipes visit [www.lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com)

## Environment Day

Residents looking for a greener lifestyle can pick up practical advice on how to save energy and be more environmentally friendly at the Council's Environment Day on Thursday 7 June.

The event, inspired by *World Environment Day*, takes place at Sainsbury's car park, Ladbroke Grove.

For further details email [environment@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:environment@rbkc.gov.uk) or call 020 7341 5770.

→ [www.rbkc.gov.uk/greenerliving](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/greenerliving)



## Messy business

While a dog may be man's best friend, not everyone is quite so fond of those owners who fail to clear up after their pets.

In response to the age-old problem of dog fouling, the Council launched a campaign in June to encourage owners to clear up after their dogs by disposing of waste in the bins provided or taking it home.

Posters have been displayed in hot-spot areas, while Council enforcement officers and the Parks Police have targeted problem areas and spoken to dog walkers and owners about responsible ownership.

Anyone who fails to clean up and bin their dog's waste could be prosecuted and taken to court.

The message is simple: *Bag it and bin it. Leave it behind and you could get fined.*

Not only is dog mess unpleasant and messy, but it carries harmful bacteria that can cause infections and even toxocariasis, which can lead to blindness.

### Remember:

- Take some plastic bags so that you can bag it and bin it every time your dog fouls
- Never let your dog onto the street to foul
- Rain does not wash the problem away
- Use special 'dog toilet areas' in parks if they are provided
- Respect dog-free areas.



## Be safer with training

The Council offers training in health and safety, food safety, basic infection control, fire safety awareness, and for personal licence holders who want to sell alcohol. You can undertake training in person or by guided learning.

Community groups, businesses, employees in health and social care or education, voluntary organisations, and individuals are welcome to attend. Training takes place across London.

For further details and how to book:  
[www.rbkc.gov.uk/publichealthtraining](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/publichealthtraining)  
020 7361 3002



# RECYCLING REMINDER

With *National Recycling Week* running from 18 to 24 June, the Council is encouraging residents and businesses to be 'recycling saints' by washing, squashing and taking lids off before disposing of items such as plastic and glass bottles, jars, tins and cans in their orange bags and mixed recycling banks.

Recycling saves energy, resources and protects the environment. Recycling saints are being encouraged to recycle:

- Paper (not shredded paper), newspapers, magazines, junk mail, telephone directories and envelopes
- Cardboard
- Glass bottles and jars (without lids)

- Tins and cans (rinsed please)
- Plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays
- Food and drink cartons (rinsed and flattened).

### They are also asked to avoid these recycling sins:

- 1 Don't put recyclable material in black bin bags.
- 2 Never put food waste in your recycling and rinse out jars.
- 3 Don't include non-recyclable plastics such as cling film, plastic sheeting, other food wrappings or plastic toys in your recycling.
- 4 Never put textiles in your recycling bag or mixed recycling bank. Use textile banks for clothes

or call *Traid* on 020 8733 2580 (option one) for a free collection.

- 5 Make sure you remove bottle lids and tops then put them in the rubbish.
- 6 If in doubt leave it out. Check items against the list above, and if you are not sure about something, play it safe and put it in the rubbish.

For further information about recycling and waste collections call *Streetline* on 020 7361 3001 or visit [www.rbkc.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/recycling)





## London 2012 Games

# Countdown to the Games

The Olympic Games will begin on Friday 27 July and promise to be a marvellous sporting and cultural spectacle.

Athletes from across the world will be competing at the very highest level, watched by millions of spectators.

The influx of visitors to London, coupled with the need to ensure that the athletes, coaches, officials, media representatives and others

connected with the organisation of the Games can get to and from the venues in good time, means that there will be real pressure on London's roads and public transport network.

eight have actually decided how they might need to change their travel plans during this time.

Cllr Warwick Lightfoot, Member Lead for 2012, said: "It is very important that people who live and work in the borough are aware of the key dates and plan for some inevitable disruption."

"I urge everyone to check out the *Get Ahead of the Games* website, as well the borough's own website. While it is clear that the Games will be a fantastic occasion, the sheer scale of the event means that, for a few weeks, we will all need to plan ahead to minimise disruption to our daily lives and business."

### Key dates and information for events in Kensington and Chelsea

#### Olympic torch relay Thursday 26 July

The Olympic torch will be visiting the borough on Thursday 26 July, as part of its 70-day journey around the United Kingdom. This is the final day of its journey by road before it takes to the Thames to arrive at the Olympic Stadium on Friday 27 July.

The torch is expected to enter the borough across Chelsea Bridge and take in parts of the south of Kensington and Chelsea including King's Road.

One highlight is expected to be the arrival of the Flame into Holland Park for a community celebration. The torch is also expected to return to the borough after visiting Hammersmith and Fulham by travelling along Holland Park Avenue to Notting Hill Gate before finally leaving the borough.

Organisers hope as many people as possible will come out and line the streets of the borough to welcome the Olympic torch and support their local torchbearers. The torch relay promises to be a great spectacle topped off with some wonderful entertainment courtesy of Opera Holland Park. To find out more about the route and celebrations of the torch in the borough, visit [www.london2012.com/olympic-torch-relay](http://www.london2012.com/olympic-torch-relay)

Information about further details and timings of the torch's visit to the borough will appear on our own website [www.rbkc.gov.uk/london2012](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/london2012)

To find out more about how you can cheer the torch on its journey, take a look at the *Line the Streets* campaign by visiting [www.london2012.com/get-involved/local-leaders/line-the-streets/](http://www.london2012.com/get-involved/local-leaders/line-the-streets/)

#### Men's and women's road cycle races Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 July

The route of the two races will include Knightsbridge, Brompton Road and Fulham Road. Some other roads in the borough, as well as in other parts of west London and out to Surrey, will also be closed.

The events are predominantly free to view and will attract thousands of spectators along the route, affecting traffic and bus routes, and there will be temporary changes to parking, including the suspension of some parking bays. On Saturday 28 July, road closures in the borough will begin at 3am, with roads reopening after the race as soon as the organisers consider it safe to do so. On Sunday 29 July, roads will be closed from 5am and will reopen as soon as possible.



#### Volleyball at Earl's Court Saturday 28 July to Sunday 12 August

The volleyball tournament at Earl's Court is expected to attract 12,000 spectators to each session of competition (there are three sessions a day for most of the tournament). Along with the increased number of visitors to the area, there will be changes to the entrance and exit routes from Earl's Court Tube and closure of some local roads. Changes to parking will include the suspension of some parking bays.

#### ROAD SHOW

The Council's *ROAD SHOW* is a cultural and scientific event taking



place on Exhibition Road (see *next page*). Activities will include dance, scientific experiments, music and aerial displays. Exhibition Road will be closed to traffic at the following times:

- **Saturday 28 July**  
9.30am to midnight
- **Sunday 29 July**  
9.30am to 11pm
- **Monday 30 July to Thursday 2 August**  
5pm to 11pm
- **Friday 3 August**  
5pm to midnight
- **Saturday 4 August**  
8.30am to midnight
- **Sunday 5 August**  
8.30am to 11pm

#### The borough's roads

For the duration of the Games Transport for London (TfL) will operate a fast-track road network, called the Olympic Route Network (ORN), so that athletes, officials, media representatives and others working at the Games can get to events in good time. A smaller Paralympic Route Network (PRN) will operate during the Paralympic Games.

TfL is responsible for ensuring this network operates effectively during the Games period, with the minimum of disruption for those who live and work in the capital.

In the borough these changes will include banned right turns, relocated bus stops and changes to loading and parking. There will also be changes to some side roads just off the ORN.

The A4 from Earl's Court Road to Hyde Park Corner is part of this network and will link Heathrow to the Olympic Park and other competition venues in east London.

General traffic will still be able to use this part of the ORN and PRN and residents and businesses will still have access to their properties. However, to keep traffic moving on the route, TfL will make some temporary changes to the way roads in the area can be used.

Games Lanes are lanes that can only be used by accredited vehicles at specified times. When the Games Lane is in use, the adjacent lane will remain open to general traffic. In Kensington and Chelsea, Games Lanes will only be on off-side sections of the ORN and PRN along the A4 and A40. They will be easily identifiable by clear markings on the Lanes and signs along the roadside.

The changes along the A4 will be in place during the Olympic and Paralympic Games and for a couple of days before and after. The ORN will also include the A40 Westway and parts of the Earl's Court one-way system, but here the ORN will only be in place for the Olympic Games.

Drivers of vehicles that park or stop illegally on the ORN or PRN will be fined and their vehicles could be removed to a pound.

When the road cycling race takes place, some parts of the ORN will be closed and the athletes going to other venues and their support crews will need to use alternative routes. General traffic will still be able to use these routes and residents and businesses will still have access to their properties, but to help keep traffic moving

"It is very important that people who live and work in the borough are aware of the key dates and plan for some inevitable disruption"

Kensington and Chelsea residents will not be immune from this as the borough will be hosting the Olympic volleyball competition at Earls Court and the men's and women's Olympic road cycle races will come through some of our busiest roads on the first weekend of the Games.

Residents and businesses should familiarise themselves with the key Olympic calendar dates that will have a local impact and make sure they know where to look for up-to-date information on how the Games will affect roads and public transport.

Research published in March by Transport for London (TfL) shows that although 84 per cent of Londoners are aware that travel will be affected during the Games, fewer than one in



## London 2012 Games

there will be some temporary changes to the way roads in the area can be used. The changes mean that restrictions on parking and loading will be increased and residents may need to make adjustments to deliveries and parking.

For more detailed information about how the borough's roads are affected, including maps, visit [www.tfl.gov.uk/corporate/projectsandschemes/22387.aspx](http://www.tfl.gov.uk/corporate/projectsandschemes/22387.aspx).

### Tips about parking during the Games

#### Parking suspensions, skips and materials licences

Certain stretches of roads in the borough will be kept free of suspensions and obstructions such as skips during the Games. If you are moving home, having some work done or trying to arrange deliveries, you may not be able to reserve space near your home or business during the Games period, from Friday 27 July to 9 September. For more details call **020 7361 4385**.

#### Long-term off-street parking for residents

If you are thinking about leaving the borough during the Games, please remember that residents with parking permits are entitled to concessionary rates in the Council's off-street car park in Hornton Street. The resident rate for long-term absence (minimum one week and a daily charge for stays of more than one week) is £42 (minimum) and £6 per day beyond the first week. For further information please contact the car park staff directly on **020 7937 7040**.

### Public transport information

With information on how journeys could be affected, alternative routes and updates on what stations to avoid and when, [www.getaheadofthegames.com](http://www.getaheadofthegames.com) is the one stop shop for people travelling around London this summer.

As well as the wide range of information available through both that website and [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk) London's travelling public will also be able to get live travel updates on Twitter via the **@GAOTG** handle.

Some stations in the borough will be particularly busy, including Earl's Court, West Brompton, Gloucester Road and High Street Kensington. Disruption can be minimised by avoiding these stations at the busiest times.

# ROAD SHOW



Sculptures housing bees, a real meteorite embedded in the ground, a particle accelerator, a bicycle orchestra and a pop-up ballroom hosting everything from waltzes to line-dancing are just some of the spectacular highlights of ROAD SHOW.

ROAD SHOW, the Council's major cultural and scientific festival taking place over the first nine days of the Olympic Games, runs from 28 July to 5 August and promises a wealth of creativity inspired by Exhibition Road's institutions and galleries.

It will include new art commissions from Katie Paterson, Tomas Libertiny and Graeme Miller and live music performances from Patrick Wolff, Eliza Carthy, Mike Westbrook and others, as well as the Roving Crows.

There will also be readings from a book of short stories, *Road Stories*, specially commissioned for ROAD SHOW and written by such luminaries as Michel Faber and Ali Smith.

Much of the live action will take place using pop-up stages in the form of customised trailers that will move in and out of Exhibition Road over the course of the afternoon and evening. Organisers promise that each day "will surprise and delight in different ways, taking the visitor on a lively journey and allowing them to see the iconic institutions and buildings of London's cultural heartland in a new light".

The length and breadth of the road will be filled with high-energy acrobatics provided by resident troupe *The Exhibitionists*, an international ensemble of dancers and acrobats brought together for the festival under the direction of

Sue Broadway, Circus Director for the Opening Ceremony of the Sydney Olympics.

→ [www.exhibitionroadshow.co.uk](http://www.exhibitionroadshow.co.uk)

→ [www.facebook.com/exhibitionroadshow](http://www.facebook.com/exhibitionroadshow)



↑ Live music performances will include Mercury Music Prize nominee Eliza Carthy.

#### Bus service alterations

Because of the anticipated increased demand during the Olympics and Paralympics, there will be more frequent buses on several routes in the borough. There will also be some temporary diversions and bus stop changes. For details of specific route changes and when they will take place, visit [www.getaheadofthegames.com](http://www.getaheadofthegames.com) or look out for notices at bus stops.

#### New interactive map

TfL has developed an online map to help people find out more about the temporary road changes that will be in place during the 2012 Games. The interactive map enables road users to search by date, postcode or area and see all planned changes to the road network, including restricted turns, stopping restrictions and Games Lanes. It can be found on [www.getaheadofthegames.com](http://www.getaheadofthegames.com)

#### Drop-in sessions

Public information stalls and drop-in sessions during June and July will allow residents to ask questions about transport during the Games. Details will be published on the Council's website.

#### Station hotspots

Earl's Court, South Kensington and Knightsbridge stations will be exceptionally busy during the Games. The stations are among 88 Tube, rail and DLR 'hotspots' deemed to be the most hectic this summer. Stations will be affected on different days and at different times, so Londoners are advised to check the stations they use on the

[www.getaheadofthegames.com](http://www.getaheadofthegames.com) website and start planning and exploring alternative travel options.

### Managing business deliveries during the Games

With the ORN and PRN passing through the Royal Borough, the cycling road race routed along Knightsbridge, Brompton Road and Fulham Road and the volleyball competition being staged at Earls Court, the road network in the borough is going to be under pressure during the Games from 28 July to 9 September.

Traffic restrictions during this time will have an impact on delivery and servicing for businesses in the borough and will almost certainly lead to an increase in 'out of hours' activity between midnight and 6am.

This may be a problem for those businesses where delivery times are restricted by planning permission or premises licence conditions, because deliveries that take place outside the specified hours may be in breach of conditions and could be open to enforcement action by the Council.

The Council will ensure a balance between its wish to support the Games and help businesses and its statutory planning and licensing duties regarding 'out of hours' delivery activity.

For clarification about planning conditions contact the Planning Information Office at the Town Hall on **020 7361 3012** or email [planning@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:planning@rbkc.gov.uk)

Businesses that may be thinking of applying for a minor variation under the Licensing Act 2003 to suspend any conditions that restrict delivery/rubbish collection times, or that

have any other questions relating to licensing during the period of the Olympic Games, should contact the Licensing Team on **020 7341 5152** or email [licensing@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@rbkc.gov.uk)

**How will your travel be affected during the Games?**

27 July – 12 Aug and 29 Aug – 9 Sept

Find out which tube, rail and road journeys will be busier than usual and how to get around more easily at [GetAheadoftheGames.com](http://GetAheadoftheGames.com) and follow us on Twitter **@GAOTG**

Working together:

**MAYOR OF LONDON**



## Leisure time

# Inspiring opportunities

The London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay, which will travel to within ten miles of 95 per cent of the UK population on its way to the opening ceremony on 27 July, will pass through Kensington and Chelsea on 26 July.

Residents who are inspired by the 2012 Games can take up a new sport, or revive an old one, by making the most of the excellent facilities at Kensington Leisure centre and Chelsea Sports Centre.

The two centres provide facilities for all sorts of activities including swimming, exercise classes, martial arts, basketball, outdoor five-a-side football and racquet sports, as well as offering a children's play gym and much more.

### Changes to your local leisure centre

#### Working in partnership

Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL) is the charitable social enterprise that manages the two leisure centres in Kensington and Chelsea on behalf of The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and, because of its status, invests the profits back in to the centres.

#### Your feedback to us

A number of changes are on the cards as a result of GLL's annual user survey, which highlighted some confusion amongst customers. As a result we will be introducing a single customer brand that will badge all products, memberships and services, and a new easy-to-use website.



The new brand will be *Better*, which reflects the company's aim of making our customers' day-to-day lives that little bit better, whether that is by giving people a chance to exercise and wind down, somewhere to socialise or a new interest to pursue.

The new website can be found at [www.better.org.uk](http://www.better.org.uk) and should be easier to use. Customers who have previously used the site to book classes, courses or courts will find that their login details are the same.

## WIN A 'BETTER' YEAR

Name: .....  
Address: .....  
..... Postcode: .....  
Telephone: ..... Mobile: .....  
Email: .....

Kensington Leisure Centre, Walmer Road, London W11 4PQ  
Telephone: 020 7727 9747 Email: [kensington.enquiries@gll.co.uk](mailto:kensington.enquiries@gll.co.uk)  
Chelsea Sports Centre, Chelsea Manor Street, London, SW3 5PL  
Telephone: 020 7352 6985 Email: [chelsea.enquiries@gll.co.uk](mailto:chelsea.enquiries@gll.co.uk)

#### Terms and Conditions

Offer cannot be used in conjunction with other promotions. Offer excludes use of any other facilities. Participants must abide by terms and conditions of GLL, which can be viewed at reception. Offer is non-transferable. No cash alternative. Photocopied tokens not accepted. Please note activities and facilities vary at each site. **The closing date for entries is 31/7/2012.**

Website users can book online up to six days in advance, registration takes just a couple of minutes and the booking process is quick and easy.

#### Questions or comments

We'd love to hear from you. You can:

- Visit [www.better.org.uk/feedback](http://www.better.org.uk/feedback) and leave us your comments
- Speak to a member of staff at the centre
- Fill in a comment card available at reception.

To celebrate the new *Better* website, here is a chance to win a better year. Just enter our free prize draw for the chance to win an annual membership to the two leisure centres in your borough.

### What's on this summer for youngsters?

#### Healthy Lifestyle Activity Camps for Children at Kensington

The *Fit For Sport* Healthy Lifestyle Kids' Camp is a fantastic way to keep children active and entertained. They take part in a wide range of activities and enjoy trying different sports, games, keep-fit activities and arts and crafts as well as learning about a healthy lifestyle.

The courses are suitable for children between three and 12 and take place during half term (4 to 8 June), the summer holidays (23 July to 31 August) and half term (29 October to 2 November).

**Cost** (if applicable) Standard day: £25 per day or £110 per week; Extended Day: £32 per day or £140 per week. There is a wide range of discounts available throughout the

year – contact *Fit For Sport* to find out more. (Standard day: 9.30am to 4.30pm. Extended day: 8.30am to 5.30pm. Half day: 9.30am to 1pm).

Ring **0845 456 3233**, email [enquiries@fitforsport.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@fitforsport.co.uk) or see [www.fitforsport.co.uk](http://www.fitforsport.co.uk)



#### Summer swimming courses

London Swim School is a comprehensive swimming development programme that not only teaches people how to swim but also develops skills and water safety.

London Swim School caters for all ages and abilities and anyone interested can join via the website ([www.sportscourses.org](http://www.sportscourses.org)) or by getting in touch with their local centre at Kensington or Chelsea.

There are also intensive courses during school holidays. For information on summer courses email [carly.oatway@gll.org](mailto:carly.oatway@gll.org) or [mohamed.jama@gll.org](mailto:mohamed.jama@gll.org)

Children under five benefit from free swimming in both the borough's centres.

#### St Helen's Jubilee Festival

Kensington Leisure Centre will be taking part in the fun at St Helen's Jubilee Festival on 9 June – and giving out free day passes.



## Competition time

Jubilee weekend is not just a time to recognise the Queen's 60-year reign but a chance to reflect on being British – and what better way to celebrate both than by taking afternoon tea.

Thanks to the generosity of the Milestone Hotel, *Royal Borough* is offering readers the chance to sample tea fit for royalty.

The Milestone, a five-star, Grade II listed hotel with views over Kensington Gardens, takes its name from the old cast iron milestone that stands in its original position beside the hotel.

For a chance of winning a champagne afternoon tea for two, just answer the following question:

*From what material is the milestone from which the hotel takes its name made?*

Send your entry for the attention of the editor either by email to [pressbox@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:pressbox@rbkc.gov.uk) or by post to *Royal Borough*, Media and Communications Team, Town Hall, Hornton Street, London W8 7NX

Make sure you include your answer, name, address and a contact telephone number. The closing date is Monday 25 June 2012 at 5pm and the winner will be contacted after the draw and announced in the next edition.

*See page 2 for competition terms and conditions.*

Hosted by St Helen's Church, the Notting Barns and St Charles ward Councillors and the shopkeepers and residents of the St Helen's area, the festival is aiming to build on the success of the first event last year.

This year's Diamond Jubilee event promises to be bigger and better and will include a dog show, photographic cat show, horse rides, fun races, face painting and a children's fancy dress competition.

There will be visits from the Safer Neighbourhood Police team and the North Kensington Fire Brigade as well as stalls showcasing Kensington Leisure Centre and *Fit For Sport*.

New events for this year will include an auction of promises conducted by a local celebrity, a Jubilee cake competition and prizes for children who take part in the best crown competition.

Visitors to the Kensington Leisure Centre stall on the day can pick up a free day guest pass to visit the centre in June 2012. For enquiries

about the event please email [Cllr.Blakeman@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.Blakeman@rbkc.gov.uk)

Early warning: Kensington Leisure Centre will be closed from 1pm on 26 August and all day 27 August because of the Notting Hill Carnival.





# The feelgood factor

A new health and well-being centre has opened in the heart of Kensington and Chelsea, offering GP, dental, sexual health and community well-being services to patients and the public.

Conveniently located opposite Earl's Court Tube, the modern centre offers a range of NHS services and comes with a commitment from the NHS that it will go beyond simply treating medical conditions in order to address physical, mental and social well-being.

The centre provides a full range of clinical services including preventative healthcare, childhood immunisations, vaccinations, family planning and sexual health advice, obesity management and a stop smoking service.

As well as registering new patients, the GP and dental services are providing urgent, on-the-day appointments on request. The new centre also offers services such as well-being coaching and employment advice.

The *Wellbeing Service* is described as an innovative way of helping people manage their own health and social wellbeing. It is delivered by experienced coaches who are registered healthcare professionals.

Frankie Lynch, Borough Director at NHS Kensington and Chelsea, said: "The new centre has been a big success and the feedback we are receiving is that patients like the wide range of services offered under one roof and the whole community atmosphere that has been created."

The Earl's Court centre also offers a number of non-medical services to support local community development such as community rooms and Earl's Court Community Connect, which rewards people who help others in their community by giving them back a similar amount of time. It works by offering those who volunteer an hour of their time an hour of 'time credit' that they can 'spend' on getting help from somebody else.

The Health and Wellbeing Centre is funded by the NHS and operated by Turning Point, Greenbrook Healthcare, Terrence Higgins Trust and NHS Dentist.

## OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday, 7.30am to 6.30pm (except Thursday 8.30am to 6.30pm) and Saturday 9am to noon.

To find out more or to register, visit the centre, see [www.echwc.nhs.uk](http://www.echwc.nhs.uk) or call **020 7341 0300**.

# FIRST AIDS

A new scheme to provide simple aids to help residents with day-to-day living has been hailed a success after issuing more than 330 prescriptions and 564 items since January and receiving positive feedback from users.

The scheme is aimed at people who have difficulty carrying out normal tasks like bathing, getting dressed or preparing meals, and whose quality of life can be improved dramatically by a simple piece of equipment.

Those who have benefited from the service have been helped by inexpensive items such as raised toilet seats, bath boards to help them get in and out of the bath, walking sticks and simple items that make life easier in the kitchen.

Residents who are assessed as being eligible for help receive a 'prescription' entitling them to receive the appropriate piece of equipment free of charge from an accredited high street retailer.

The prescription can be 'topped up' if the user chooses to pay extra in order to have a version of the equipment that is more to their taste, such as a different model or a colour they prefer.

Anyone who feels they could benefit from the scheme should contact Social Services on **020 7361 3013** or via email [socialservices@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:socialservices@rbkc.gov.uk) to request an assessment.



↑ Cllr Nick Paget-Brown helps with planting.

## COMMUNITY

# GROWING OUR OWN

Three new community kitchen gardens in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea are giving more residents the opportunity to grow their own fruit, vegetables and herbs.

The community kitchen gardens located in North Kensington at Russell Road (opposite the junction with Russell Gardens), Ruth House (Kensal Road) and Robinson House (Bramley Road) have all been developed on what used to be derelict or unused land.

The Russell Road garden, which has 40 raised beds, was opened by the former Mayor of Kensington and Chelsea, Cllr Julie Mills, in March. As the borough's second biggest kitchen garden, it provides facilities for nearly 100 green-fingered residents.

Family Mosaic Housing Association, Catalyst Housing and L&Q Housing have worked

in partnership with the Council to deliver the scheme.

The project is part of the Royal Borough Environment Project, the Housing Regeneration Programme and Decent Neighbourhoods initiative, all of which are aimed at improving the environment and making social housing cleaner, greener and safer.

The Royal Borough's Deputy Leader, Cllr Nick Paget-Brown, said: "I am delighted that more than 500 residents can now grow their own vegetables in these kitchen gardens.

"Outside the City of London we are the smallest and most densely-populated borough in the country, but by putting underused land to good use we are now able to introduce people to the relaxing and healthy hobby of gardening. The gardens also promote a great sense of community and provide an opportunity for people to get to know one another."

Since 2009 the Council has transformed 30 derelict sites into thriving gardens, taking the number of allotments in Kensington and Chelsea from nil to more than 300.

Most of the sites were provided to the Council for free. Surveys have shown that 97 per cent of residents say the scheme has improved their environment, while 71 per cent of garden holders say it has improved their quality of life.

Two community gardeners, Will Gould and Lisa Wilkinson, provide free gardening support and advice to all plot holders, helped by the Council's new Environment Apprentice, Chris North, who has his own plot at Russell Road.



# Stay cool – and safe

If we are lucky enough to get plenty of sun during the London 2012 Games:

→ don't forget your sunscreen, apply generous amounts of at least SPF 15 and re-apply regularly

→ try to stay out of the sun or in the shade between 11am and 3pm when the risk of burning is especially high

→ wear a hat and clothing that will keep you cool and covered.

Be sure to drink plenty of water or soft drinks during the day to keep you hydrated – especially if you are drinking alcohol as well.

Travelling on public transport can get hot and stuffy in summer, so don't forget to carry water with you.

If you take regular medication, carry

it with you at all times and keep it in a secure place.

Plan your journey on public transport by visiting [www.tfl.org.uk/journeyplanner](http://www.tfl.org.uk/journeyplanner) or [www.getaheadofthegames.com](http://www.getaheadofthegames.com)



# Events diary

KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

## Events Diary

SUMMER 2012

### NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Cromwell Road, SW7 5BD  
Telephone: **020 7942 5000**  
Nearest Tube: South Kensington  
**www.nhm.ac.uk**

#### WILD PLANET

Until 30 September, 10am to 5.50pm (last admission 5.15pm).

The wildest landscapes and most endangered species will be showcased in a free outdoor exhibition running throughout the summer of the Olympics. *Wild Planet* will feature 80 classic shots from Wildlife Photographer of the Year – the world's most prestigious wildlife photography competition and an international leader in providing new insights into the natural world.

Free admission.

#### SCOTT'S LAST EXPEDITION

Until 2 September, 10am to 5.50pm (last admission 5.15pm).

Explore Robert Falcon Scott's epic *Terra Nova* expedition to Antarctica at *Scott's Last Expedition*, which goes beyond the well-documented journey to the South Pole and the death of the polar party to reveal powerful tales of endurance and celebrate the many scientific achievements of the expedition.

Visitors can also walk around a life-size representation of Scott's base camp hut that still survives in Antarctica.

Tickets: Adults £9, children and concessions £5.50 (family £26).

### VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM

Cromwell Road, SW7 2RL  
Telephone: **020 7942 2000**  
Nearest Tube: South Kensington  
**www.vam.ac.uk**

**BRITISH DESIGN 1948-2012**  
Until 12 August 2012, 10am to 5.45pm (until 10pm every Friday).

Celebrate the best of British post-war art and design from the 1948 'austerity' games to the summer of 2012. The exhibition highlights significant moments in the history of British design and how the country continues to nurture artistic talent and be a world leader in creativity and design.

Tickets £12 (concessions available).

### CADOGAN HALL

5 Sloane Terrace, SW1X 9DQ  
Telephone: **020 7730 5744**  
Nearest Tube: Sloane Square  
**www.cadoganhall.com**

### ROBIN HOOD: MUSIC TO THE FILM

Thursday 12 July 2012, 7.30pm.

For one night only, Cadogan Hall will screen the 1922 Robin Hood film accompanied by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra performing John Scott's score.

Tickets: £37.50, £30, £22, £12.50.

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC

Prince Consort Road, SW7 2BS  
Telephone: **020 7591 4300**  
Nearest Tube: South Kensington  
**www.rcm.ac.uk**

### MUSIC FROM THE LONDON OLYMPIC YEARS

Recital Hall, 20 June 2012, 6pm.

To celebrate the London 2012 Olympics, this concert features significant works premiered in the previous London Olympic years of 1908 and 1948. The final work is the String Quartet no 5 by RCM alumna Elizabeth Maconchy.

Free admission but tickets required.

**MOZART: LE NOZZE DI FIGARO**  
29 and 30 June and 2 July, 7pm;  
1 July, 2pm.

Mozart's comic masterpiece, *Le nozze di Figaro*, performed by some of the world's best young singers in the intimate surroundings of the RCM's Britten Theatre.

One of Mozart's best-known and most loved operas, *Figaro* has been delighting audiences for more than two centuries.

Tickets: £10, £20, £30, £40.

### NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM

Royal Hospital Road  
Chelsea, SW3 4HT  
Telephone: **020 7730 0717**  
Nearest Tube: Sloane Square  
**www.national-army-museum.ac.uk**

### FIGHTING FIT FATHER'S DAY EVENT

16 and 17 June 2012,  
10am to 5.30pm.

Explore the ways in which the Army has kept itself in trim historically, as well as the contribution the British Army has made to sports, including its Olympic achievements.

## ROAD SHOW

Have your event featured here by sending the details, marked for the *Royal Borough* Editor, to **pressbox@rbkc.gov.uk**

Please make sure you include all the details shown in the listings below, such as times and admission charges.

### Exhibition Road

28 July to 5 August

Nearest Tube:  
South Kensington

**www.exhibitionroadshow.co.uk**

Sculptures housing bees, a real meteorite embedded in the ground, a bicycle orchestra, a particle accelerator and a pop-up ballroom hosting everything from waltzes to line-dancing are just some of the spectacular highlights of ROAD SHOW, the Council's major cultural festival planned for the first nine days of the Olympic Games.

**www.facebook.com/exhibitionroadshow**

Highlights include shooting on a 1940s-style rifle training range, a 1940s-style assault course, rock wall climbing and 19th century swordplay.

Tickets not required.

### CHELSEA PHYSIC GARDEN

66 Royal Hospital Road, SW3 4HS  
Telephone: **020 7352 5646**  
Nearest Tube: Sloane Square  
**www.chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk**

**PAPER STIXX AND WONDERFUL WIRE SCULPTURES**  
1 August, 10.30am to 2.30pm.

Artist, inventor and designer Darcy Turner returns with another great opportunity to make wonderful sculptures to take home, discover hidden talents and see paper and wire in a different way.

Please bring some newspapers with you. For children aged six and upwards.

Tickets: Adults and senior citizens £9 (concessions available).

### MUSEUM OF BRANDS, PACKAGING AND ADVERTISING

2 Colville Mews, Lonsdale Road,  
Notting Hill, W11 2AR  
Telephone: **020 7908 0880**  
Nearest Tube: Notting Hill Gate  
**www.museumofbrands.com**

### JUBILEE, JUBILEE

Until 31 August, Tuesday to Saturday, 10am to 6pm and Sundays, 11am to 5pm (closed Mondays except Bank Holidays)  
Last entry 45 minutes before closing.

To celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of 2012, *Jubilee, Jubilee* will showcase souvenirs and commemorative products made to mark the royal jubilees of the

past. Mementoes of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee of 1897, George V's Silver Jubilee of 1935 and Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee of 1977 will be on display alongside the newly-released keepsakes launched to commemorate this year's event.

Tickets: Adults £6.50, children £2.25, concessions £4.

### LEIGHTON HOUSE MUSEUM

12 Holland Park Road, W14 8LZ  
Telephone: **020 7602 3316**  
Nearest Tube: High St Kensington  
**www.leightonhouse.co.uk**  
**museums@rbkc.gov.uk**



**LEIGHTON'S MUSICS: SUMMER CONCERT**  
12 June, 7pm.

Following his successful recreation of one of Leighton's 'Musics' last summer, musician and broadcaster Sandy Burnett returns to host another concert at Leighton House. The programme includes the E minor violin sonata by Mozart and the A major sonata by Brahms, songs by Schubert, Gounod and Britten and some of Chopin's best-loved piano music. Richard Edgar-Wilson steps into Lord Leighton's shoes, accompanied by violinist Kathryn Parry and Juliet Edwards at the piano.

Tickets: £25 (includes refreshment).

Booking essential – visit **www.leightonhouse.eventbrite.co.uk** or ring **020 7471 9153**.



Preparations are underway for this year's Notting Hill Carnival, which takes place as usual over the Bank Holiday weekend, Sunday 26 and Monday 27 August.

This year Carnival welcomes back some of its most popular sound stages including Norman Jay's Good Times, Rampage and KCC.

It will start at 9am and the judging point on Great Western Road will close at 6.30pm. The fun will finish by 8.30pm, when all vehicles will be off the route and the music will stop.

To help Carnival run smoothly, the police will be checking all vehicles entering the Carnival area from 6am on both days and only floats will be allowed on the route from 7am each day. Residents are asked to help the clean-up by not bringing their vehicles back into the Carnival area until the morning of Tuesday 28 August.



## WINNERS

Congratulations to Tomoko Takemoto, who correctly answered 'Walter Scott' as the author of the novel on which the opera *Lucia di Lammermoor* is based. Tomoko won a pair of tickets to Opera Holland Park's opening night performance.

Julie Rutherford also deserves congratulations for knowing that 1839 was the year Queen Victoria became engaged to Prince Albert. Julie won a pair of tickets to Kensington Palace's new exhibition – *Victoria Revealed*.

### THE ARTISTS' HOUSES WEEKEND

23 and 24 June  
Tours: 11am to 12.30pm, 1.30pm to 3pm and 4pm to 5.30pm.

A weekend of special tours celebrating the exceptional group of artists' studio houses built during the second half of the nineteenth-century in Melbury Road and Holland Park Road.

Tours include access to some private gardens not normally open to the public.

Tickets: £20, limited availability.

Booking essential – visit [www.leightonhouse.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.leightonhouse.eventbrite.co.uk) or ring **020 7471 9153**.

### ECOLOGY CENTRE

Holland Park  
The Stable Yard, W8 6LU  
Telephone: **020 7938 8166**  
Nearest Tube: Holland Park  
[ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk)  
[www.rbkc.gov.uk/ecology](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/ecology)

### SUMMER WILDLIFE AREA OPEN DAY

7 July, 2pm to 6pm.

The Wildlife Area Open Day is a great chance to explore a hidden corner of the park.

Enjoy woodland walks and identify different native trees, search for minibeasts in the woods and explore the wildlife pond.

Free admission.

### SUMMER HOLIDAY CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES IN HOLLAND PARK

23 July to 5 September (except 27 July to 12 August)

A fun-filled, environmentally-themed programme of outdoor and creative activities. Popular activities include shelter building in the woods, minibeast hunting, searching for dragonflies and mask making.

Two-hour sessions suitable for five to ten year-olds only. Four-hour sessions suitable for eight to 12 year-olds only. £4 per two-hour session; £7.50 for four-hour session for Royal Borough residents.

Booking essential by calling **020 7938 8186** or emailing [ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk)

### KENSINGTON CENTRAL LIBRARY

Phillimore Walk, W8 7RX  
Telephone: **020 7361 3010**  
Nearest Tube: High St Kensington  
[www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk)



### STORYTELLING SESSIONS FOR THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE WITH DIANA OLUTUNMOGAN

6 June, 11 to 11.30am.

Diana Olutunmogan is a professional storyteller with more than a decade of experience who has written an informative and enjoyable story about the Queen's Diamond Jubilee for children aged five to 10. The free event is also taking place in North Kensington Library from 2 to 2.30pm with no need to book.

### CUSTOMISE A T-SHIRT WORKSHOP WITH EITHNE FARRY

7 June, 2pm to 4.30pm.

If you are passionate about clothes and accessories and would like to create something of your own, bring an old t-shirt to this workshop and let Eithne Farry

help you customise it. Suitable for young people aged 11 to 15.

Free admission.

### SAATCHI GALLERY

Duke of York's HQ,  
King's Road, SW3 4SQ  
Telephone: **020 7811 3070**  
Nearest Tube: Sloane Square  
[www.saatchigallery.com](http://www.saatchigallery.com)

### OUT OF FOCUS: PHOTOGRAPHY

Until 22 July, 10am to 6pm.

*Out of Focus* presents 37 artists who offer an international perspective on current trends in photography, working with the medium in diverse, innovative and arresting ways.

Free admission.

### GOOGLE PHOTOGRAPHY PRIZE

Until 22 July, 10 am to 6pm daily.

Work by the ten finalists of the global prize for students. Free admission.

### BRITISH RED CROSS SHOP

67-71 Old Church St, SW3 5BS  
Telephone: **020 7376 7300**  
Nearest Tube: Sloane Square  
[www.redcross.org.uk](http://www.redcross.org.uk)

### ART SALE

14 June, 4pm to 8pm.

Focusing on paintings and sculpture, this charity sale will feature work from many local and well-known artists including Flora Blackett.

Free admission.

Information correct at time of print.

➔ [www.rbkc.gov.uk/events](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/events)

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THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
KENSINGTON  
AND CHELSEA

## InTRANSIT

For all *InTRANSIT Festival* events and booking details see [www.rbkc.gov.uk/intransit](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/intransit)

### THE BIG DANCE BUS AT WORLD'S END

13 July, 4.30pm to 8.30pm.

As part of the InTRANSIT Festival, World's End Place, Chelsea, will be transformed into an amazing dance space that will include the Big Dance double-decker Routemaster bus with a fantastic dance floor, performances, workshops and lots more.

Free admission, no booking required.

### THE PORTOBELLO ROAD ARTS TRAIL

14 July, 1pm to 4pm

Portobello Road will be taken over by a giant friendly dragon, an enormous red lobster, some feisty historic suffragettes and a host of other street theatre performers. With puppet shows by the highly renowned *PuppetBarge* and a large-scale interactive street artwork by artist Edgar Mueller, this is an afternoon not to be missed.

Download a trail of the day at [www.rbkc.gov.uk/intransit](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/intransit)

Free admission.  
No booking required.

### A 1920s DANCE NIGHT

25 July 2012, 7pm to 11pm.

The stunning venue of the 20th Century Theatre (291 Westbourne Grove, W11 2QA) becomes the location for an evening of 1920s music and dance with singer Patricia Hammond and the band Ragtime Parlour. Vintage hair and

make-up artists will be present to make you look the part.

Tickets £20.  
Booking essential on [www.rbkc.gov.uk/intransit](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/intransit)

### 'ICE AND LAVA' ON PORTOBELLO SQUARE

Painting in progress 9 to 13 July.

International street artist Edgar Mueller comes to the Royal Borough as part of the InTRANSIT Festival to paint a special commission on Portobello Square. Titled *Ice and Lava*, the three-dimensional artwork will transform the square as never before seen. Once complete, the public will be invited to interact with the illusionistic scene by stepping into it.

Free admission.



## News



↑ Before and after: The Elm Park Gardens project.

## SOCIAL HOUSING

## SUCCESS SPREADS

The Council has agreed that cash raised by the sale of 23 new flats created from dilapidated basements at Elm Park Gardens should be used to fund improvement works to social housing in North Kensington.

The major beneficiary of the Cabinet decision will be Grenfell Tower on the Lancaster West Estate, which is set to receive £6 million worth of investment.

Tenants can look forward to new double glazing to reduce noise and help them stay warmer more cheaply, as well as individual new boilers to reduce the demand on the communal heating system.

Grenfell Tower itself is to have new external cladding to protect it against the rain and improve its thermal efficiency. The cladding will also dramatically improve the appearance of the Tower in a way that complements the new Academy and leisure centre being planned on the adjacent site.

At the same time, in the spirit of the Elm Park Gardens project, space that is currently unused on the lower floors of Grenfell will be converted into between four and six new affordable homes.

Cabinet members were so impressed with the success of the development that they agreed a further £700,000 should be spent developing similar 'hidden homes' at Holmeifield House, Greaves Tower and elsewhere.

"We have created 36 brand new homes out of dead space and the proceeds from that will now fund badly-needed work elsewhere," said Cabinet Member for Housing and Property Cllr Tim Coleridge.

"The Elm Park Gardens project really has been something of a triumph; the challenge now is to see if we can repeat the hidden homes formula elsewhere."

The basement developments at Elm Park Gardens, in the heart of Chelsea, have provided 36 high quality new homes, 23 for sale and 13 for affordable rent.

Elm Park Gardens was bought by Chelsea Borough Council in 1949, by which time the basements were already vacant. Over time they came to house communal heating systems, ducting, electricity units and more, as well as being used in some cases for storage by tenants.

## Bank on our help

Affordable financial services for local people in Kensington and Chelsea – whatever their circumstances – is set to become a reality after the Financial Services Authority approved the setting up of a borough credit union.

Called *Your Credit Union*, it will take advantage of new regulations that mean credit unions can have a broader membership. It will offer residents of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea the chance to invest money for social good locally and provide affordable financial services for those who may not be able to access mainstream banking.

See [www.yourcu.co.uk](http://www.yourcu.co.uk) or phone 020 8354 5663.



Illustration by Joshua Knowles

## Pageant prize

On Sunday 3 June more than 1,000 boats took to the Thames as part of a Diamond Jubilee Pageant to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's reign as Monarch.

To recognise this historic event, *Royal Borough* has two goody bags of official merchandise to give away.

**For a chance of winning just answer the following question:**

*For how many years has Queen Elizabeth been Monarch?*

*See page 2 for full terms and conditions.*

Send your entry for the attention of The Editor by email to [pressbox@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:pressbox@rbkc.gov.uk) or by post to *Royal Borough*, Media and Communications Team, Town Hall, Hornton Street, London W8 7NX. Make sure you include your answer, name, address and a contact telephone number.

The competition closing date is Monday 25 June 2012 (at 5pm). The winner will be contacted after the draw and announced in the next edition.



## THAMES TRIBUTE

No fewer than 72 kayaks from the Royal Borough paid their own tribute to Her Majesty the Queen when they launched from Cremorne Gardens to take part in the Diamond Jubilee Thames Pageant.

Young people, parents, service users, volunteers and staff from Cremorne Riverside were among the 1,000 boats taking part in this historic event to celebrate 60 years of Queen Elizabeth's reign.

As part of the man-powered fleet, the kayaks led the Royal Barge along the Thames through the city, joined by craft from all over the Commonwealth along with commercial, historic and maritime vessels from home waters.



## Post Office and Royal Mail Services Public Meeting

**6.30pm to 8pm, Tuesday 19 June 2012**  
**Small Hall, Kensington Town Hall,**  
**Hornton Street, London W8 7NX**

The Council invites you to come and have your say on how postal services in Kensington and Chelsea can be improved and maintained.

asked to provide details of their current plans and to answer questions from residents.

This public meeting has been arranged by the Council to

Anne Wright  
020 7361 2254  
[anne.wright@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:anne.wright@rbkc.gov.uk)



## Find a venue

A website that helps people book publicly-available space for events, sports, exhibitions, performances, meetings and conferences is signing up venues.

*Hire Space* will launch at the end of the summer and is already working with venues including the Harrow Club and St Charles Catholic Sixth Form College.

Will Swannell, formerly a teacher at nearby Paddington Academy, and Edward Poland noticed that space in venues such as schools and community centres was often underused and set up *Hire Space* to tackle that problem.

Email [ed@hirespace.com](mailto:ed@hirespace.com) or telephone 07786 013995.



# “Our hearts are thine”

Queen Elizabeth's is not the first Diamond Jubilee to be celebrated in Kensington and Chelsea. *Royal Borough* describes how Kensington's eminent Victorians made their cheers heard above the empire-wide celebrations for Queen Victoria.

Kensington is just one of hundreds, maybe even thousands of places transformed in the Victorian era, but it is also a member of a much more exclusive group that can claim close ties with the inaccessible, even reclusive figure who lent her name to that era.

Queen Victoria was born in Kensington Palace in 1819 and lived there until she was summoned to the throne in 1837, just a few weeks after her 18th birthday. As well as being her birthplace, Kensington was where her beloved husband Bertie had perhaps his greatest triumph. The Great Exhibition of 1851, which the Prince Regent did so much to bring about, not only made Kensington one of 'the' places to live, it provided the money for some of the great museums and institutions of South Kensington.

With these important connections, perhaps it was only natural that the Vestry – the predecessor of the Royal Borough of Kensington – should wish to make a special effort to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee, and to that end, a committee was formed in February 1897 to put forward suggestions.

On 19 May it reported back to the Vestry. One of its suggestions was that Her Majesty should be humbly petitioned to visit her old home during the Jubilee celebrations. On hearing that this petition had been granted, another committee, this time composed of the Vestry

chairmen, was formed; its terms of reference were to compose a “loyal and dutiful address to Her Majesty” and to consider “arrangements for its presentation”.

Amongst these ‘arrangements’ was a proposal from AJR Trendell of Ladbroke Square. Mr Trendell suggested that it would be a “graceful and popular thing” if the statue of Her Majesty in Kensington Gardens, which had been the parish's commemorative gift at the golden jubilee, were to be suitably decorated with flowers. The Vestry was impressed by this thought and ordered it “acted upon”, provided “of course”, that the expense “be defrayed from private sources”. The Vestry also did its best to encourage “decorating and illuminating on the main thoroughfares of the parish”.

The day of the Queen's visit – 28 June 1897 – was hot and sunny. More than 5,000 attended first matins at St Mary Abbots, and at the 11 o'clock service the church's organist and choir gave a powerful performance of the coronation anthem *Zadok the Priest*. But even so, it was the bells of St Mary Abbots which seem to have made the deepest impression, at least on one local poet who wrote:

“we hailed the hour when  
in thy youthful prime  
rang out the joy bells of  
St. Mary's chime  
At thy reign's birth.  
And still, though sixty  
rapid years have passed,  
They echo on the  
Summer's cheery blast  
With equal mirth”.

In the afternoon, 4,000 Sunday school children attended a grand fête in Kensington Gardens. Princess Louise and her children popped over from Kensington Palace to present each Sunday school with a framed portrait of the Queen by Bassona and watched as the children, led by the band of the Coldstream Guards, marched past singing *Onward Christian Soldiers* and *Queen of the Sixty Years*. In a nearby marquee 500 grown-ups were served free beer supplied by the Britannia Brewery.

But the highlight of the day was, of course, the Queen's visit. Queen Victoria arrived at Paddington Station from Windsor at about 12.45pm and proceeded by carriage to Notting Hill Gate, along the way passing under a triumphal arch inscribed “Our hearts are thine”.

She then turned down what is now Kensington Church Street and into the open space in front of the still newish St Mary Abbots church towards which she had contributed £200. The church bells pealed, the Middlesex Rifle Volunteers stood guard and the huge crowd cheered as the royal carriage drew up in front of the dais on which Kensington's sweltering dignitaries waited to be presented.

Amongst them were Victoria's daughter Princess Louise, the Marquis of Lorne, Lord and Lady Ilchester from Holland House, the vicar, the Reverend Canon Somerset Pennefather, West London's MPs and the senior members of the Vestry.

The chairman of the Vestry, Mr T W Wheeler, QC, read the address to which the special committee had clearly given their all and which the parish magazine of the day was undoubtedly correct in describing as “slightly more original than is usually the case”.

After the Queen had replied, the Vestry Clerk's daughter Beatrice Leete presented a bouquet and several ladies and gentlemen were presented. The elderly Queen then resumed her place under her parasol and drove away to deafening cheers, bells and military bands.

Her carriage travelled at walking pace to enable nearly 7,000 local children gathered behind the railings of Kensington Gardens to get a good view. They cheered as she travelled past the Albert Memorial and into the park at Queensgate, where a detachment of the local Church Lads' Brigade saluted her.

Amongst the children was a group from Nazareth House orphanage. One of them was moved to write: “We cannot go to bed tonight without writing a thank you for all the great trouble and care you took to make us happy today... This day will be remembered by us all our lives...”

## ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY



*May it please your Majesty*

*We, the Chairman, Vicar, Churchwardens, Members of the Vestry, and inhabitants of the borough of Kensington, approach your Majesty with this, the expression of our unfaltering allegiance to your Throne and person.*

*We are deeply sensible of the gracious kindness which has prompted your Majesty once more to visit the place of your birth and childhood. This too at a time when above and beyond the “cares that yoke with Empire,” and the heavy and anxious duties of your exalted place and station, the claims of all your loyal subjects upon your Majesty's time are many and are great.*

*Sixty years ago your Majesty was called from your home amongst us to ascend the Throne of your ever increasing dominions, whose citizens from every quarter of the world now throng our Imperial City to tender to your Majesty their homage and their affection.*

*However glorious your Majesty's reign has been, however great your Empire may have grown, we rejoice to think that both at home and abroad the happiness and welfare of your people has been widened and deepened. In their joys your Majesty has ever taken part. In their sorrows, not ignorant of grief yourself, you have ever shared.*

*Thus it is, and why it is, that your Majesty now witnesses a sight, nobler and grander no human eye has ever seen, the great home-coming of the English Nation.*

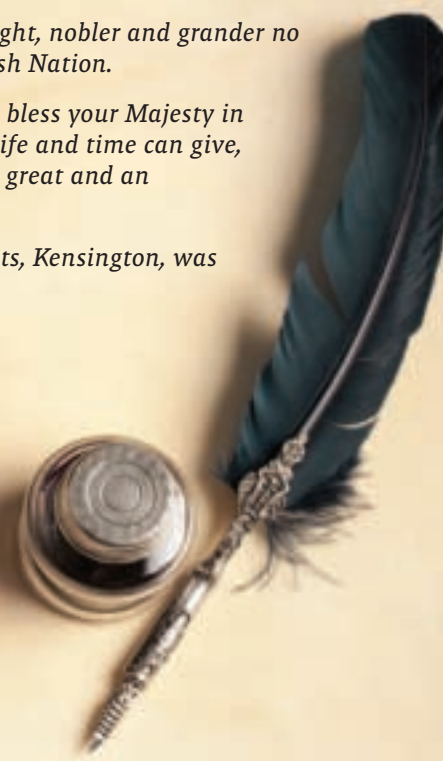
*We humbly pray that the Almighty Ruler of the Universe may bless your Majesty in the years that may be yet to come with every happiness that life and time can give, and with this not least or last the love of an united, a great and an understanding people.*

*The Common Seal of the Vestry of the Parish of St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, was here-unto affixed this twenty-eighth day of June, 1897.*

T.W. Wheeler, Chairman  
W.M. Chambers Leete, Vestry Clerk

## HER MAJESTY'S REPLY

I thank you for your loyal and kind address. It gives Me great pleasure to receive this assurance of devotion and goodwill from the inhabitants of Kensington, and I gladly renew My association with a place which, as the scene of My birth and My summons to the Throne has ever had, and will ever have with Me solemn and tender recollections.







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