

SILVER DAYTRIPPERS SPRING 2023

A very warm welcome to the Spring edition of the Silver Day Trippers' newsletter. The days are getting longer and at last the temperature is starting to climb. The first signs of spring are evident, as gardens start to come to life after being frost-locked during the winter. There is plenty to look forward to in this programme, with visits to National Trust properties Chartwell and Bateman's planned. We also have plenty of seaside trips so if you fancy dipping your toes in the channel please call us to make your bookings. For those of you who love a visit to a garden centre there are trips to Polhill and South Downs garden centres.

New Booking Procedure

We will continue with the new booking procedure for this programme. You will be able to have a **maximum of four live bookings** on our system at any one time. As soon as you return from the first trip you can book another one. Hopefully this will give people every chance of booking (and attending) the trips of their choice.

Council Contract

We are currently in discussion with Wandsworth Council regarding the extension of our contract to provide community transport services for a further five years. This includes not only the Silver Day Trippers programme, but also the Shopping Shuttle, the Shopmobility Service, the provision of minibuses for community groups and much more! Negotiations are progressing well as the Council recognise our work in delivering innovative solutions to enhance the lives of Wandsworth residents. Further details will hopefully be provided in our next newsletter which will be distributed in July.

Shopping and Shopmobility

We are looking to recruit new members to our door-to-door shopping shuttle. If you find it difficult doing your weekly shop we have the solution! Our minibuses will collect you from your home and take you to Sainsbury's at the top of Garratt Lane, opposite the Southside Shopping Centre. The fare is £2.50 and we operate from Monday to Friday. Do call us on 020 8675 3812 if interested.



We were delighted to welcome the Mayor of Wandsworth, Councillor Jeremy Ambache, to our Shopmobility service in January. He met office staff, volunteers, drivers and passenger members and kindly helped out by taking a member to Sainsbury's to do their shopping. Here he is pictured with Shopmobility Manager Marcia and ever-popular driver Johnny.

A visit to Chartwell House— The home of Winston Churchill

We are looking forward to visiting Chartwell, the home of Winston Churchill, on Monday 24th April.

There has been a house on the site since Tudor times, when it is said that Henry VIII stayed here whilst courting Anne Boleyn at nearby Hever Castle. Churchill bought the property in 1922 and resided there until his death in 1965.

You will be able to visit the house and discover more about Churchill and his family. The house is stocked full of treasures, gifts and personal belongings. There is a collection of 900 books and a painting of Charing Cross Bridge by Claude Monet. You will also want to visit the stunning garden with far-reaching views over the Weald of Kent. Discover various water features including a lake that attracts a wide variety of wildlife and a waterfall. There is also the studio, housing a large collection of Churchill's paintings, many depicting views of Chartwell.

There is a café on site to cater for all our refreshment needs and to recharge your batteries after exploring the grounds.



Chartwell—Looking glorious!

PLEASE CALL US ON 020 8675 3812 TO BOOK A PLACE ON THIS TRIP. IF YOU SECURE A PLACE ADVANCE PAYMENT IN THE SUM OF £26 PER PERSON IS REQUIRED. MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL TRUST ARE ENTITLED TO FREE ADMISSION TO THIS PROPERTY AND SHOULD PAY £8 FOR THE MINIBUS FARE. THESE ADVANCE PAYMENTS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE. CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO "SILVER DAYTRIPPERS CLUB" AND SENT TO WANDSWORTH COMMUNITY TRANSPORT, 1B YUKON ROAD, LONDON, SW12 9PZ. PAYMENT CAN ALSO BE MADE BY INTERNET TRANSFER-PLEASE CALL US TO DISCUSS. ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FOR PAYMENT IS MONDAY 3 APRIL. IF WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR PAYMENT BY THIS TIME YOUR BOOKING WILL BE CANCELLED.

Thanks to the Nightingale Walk!

For several years the good folk at the Nightingale Pub in Balham have raised money for Wandsworth Community Transport and other charities through their annual sponsored walk. Around a hundred walkers make the trek along the Thames from Walton to Putney and are refreshed at various locations en-route. We are fortunate to have the wonderful volunteers Mary and Vanessa (pictured below), who staff the WCT refreshment stall at Ham. They are both wonderful bakers and provide a delicious range of cakes and savouries for the walkers. This year we received £1300, so thanks to all!



Bateman's—A glorious Jacobean House set within beautiful countryside

Our National Trust outings continue on Wednesday 24th May when we visit Bateman's, the home of Rudyard Kipling.

Situated in beautiful countryside, just fifteen miles north of Hastings, Bateman's is a fine example of a 17th Century mansion. It was built in 1634 but by the time Kipling bought it, it had fallen into disrepair. Kipling commissioned his cousin to oversee the remodelling of the house. Bathrooms and central heating were installed together with a turbine at the mill to generate electricity.

In the house you will see elegantly furnished rooms, the oldest working clock in the Trust's collection and the study where Kipling worked.

Bateman's sits nestled in the High Weald countryside, surrounded by fields and woodland. The 12-acre garden includes a river, wildflower meadow, watermill, orchard, lily pond and formal rose garden. The garden should be in full bloom for our visit!

There is a tea room serving light refreshments and a shop selling a wide range of Kipling's books.



Below — *Bateman's in the sunshine!*

PLEASE CALL US ON 020 8675 3812 TO BOOK A PLACE ON THIS TRIP. IF YOU SECURE A PLACE ADVANCE PAYMENT IN THE SUM OF £23.30 PER PERSON IS REQUIRED. MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL TRUST ARE ENTITLED TO FREE ADMISSION TO THIS PROPERTY AND SHOULD PAY £10 FOR THE MINIBUS FARE. THESE ADVANCE PAYMENTS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE. CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO "SILVER DAYTRIPPERS CLUB" AND SENT TO WANDSWORTH COMMUNITY TRANSPORT, 1B YUKON ROAD, LONDON, SW12 9PZ. PAYMENT CAN ALSO BE MADE BY INTERNET TRANSFER-PLEASE CALL US TO DISCUSS. ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FOR PAYMENT IS WEDNESDAY 3 MAY. IF WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR PAYMENT BY THIS TIME YOUR BOOKING WILL BE CANCELLED.

THANKS TO WBC

We would like to acknowledge the support of Wandsworth Borough Council. They have funded us since the 1980s and have supported the Silver Day Trippers programme since its inception, more than 15 years ago. We look forward to continuing our partnership in the years ahead.



FAREWELL AND THANKS TO JULIE

We were very sad that Julie (pictured above, second from the left) recently left us to work nearer home. She was a brilliant driver and incredibly popular and we will all miss her.

Farewell Julie and good luck in the future.

Wandsworth Community Transport

SILVER DAY TRIPPERS SPRING 2023

Tuesday 21 March	Polhill Garden Centre	£8
Wednesday 5 April	Guildford	£6
Tuesday 18 April	South Downs Garden Centre	£10
Monday 24 April	Chartwell House	£26*

*(Including entry. National Trust members pay £8 for minibus fare)

Wednesday 10 May	Eastbourne	£12
Monday 15 May	Brighton	£12
Wednesday 17 May	Hastings	£12
Wednesday 24 May	Bateman's	£23.30*

*(Including entry. National Trust members pay £10 for minibus fare)

Friday 2 June	Worthing	£12
Monday 5 June	Broadstairs	£12
Tuesday 20 June	Whitstable	£12
Thursday 22 June	Herne Bay	£12
Friday 30 June	Brighton	£12
Monday 3 July	Rye	£12
Thursday 6 July	Eastbourne	£12
Friday 14 July	Worthing	£12
Friday 21 July	Littlehampton	£12
Wednesday 26 July	Broadstairs	£12

YOU MAY HAVE A MAXIMUM OF FOUR LIVE BOOKINGS AT ANY ONE TIME. ASSUMING YOU WISH TO MAKE FOUR BOOKINGS, ONCE YOU HAVE ATTENDED THE FIRST TRIP YOU CAN BOOK ANOTHER ONE.

BOOKINGS HOTLINE 020 8675 3812