

ROAD RUNNER

A very warm welcome to the Spring edition of the Road Runner newsletter. As usual we have plenty of seaside trips for you to enjoy and we are resurrecting some of the old favourites like the river trip to Greenwich. Pictured right is the new Battersea Power Station which makes a great trip out, with shops, restaurants and the lovely river Thames.

Price Rises

But firstly, it is with some regret that due to inflationary pressure over the past few years, we have had to increase our prices with immediate effect. It is the first increase for at least ten years and we hope you will still be able to come shopping with us (**now £3**) and on the outings (**now £8 short/£14 long**). Use the enclosed survey to let us know what you think about these rises.

Membership Renewal & Survey

You will find enclosed a membership renewal and survey form. We need to keep our records up to date and we are also very keen to discover your opinion of the service. Please would you take some time to complete the form. It will ensure you keep your place on our mailing list and receive future newsletters.



New this summer—traditional British seaside resort, Herne Bay

Fundraising Appeal

The next few years could be very challenging. In the past you have been very generous with your donations and we would like to request your support once more. We would like to raise £10,000 in donations this year. If every member donated £15 then we would be able to achieve our target. We do not charge membership fees, and we haven't made an appeal like this for many years, so please help us if you can. Cheques and Bank Transfers are fine, or you can hand in cash at Shopmobility, but not to the drivers please, as they have enough on their plates already.



Shopmobility – Free Voucher

You will also find a free voucher for the Shopping Shuttle in your newsletter (for first time passengers only) so you can book up and give us a try. £3.00 for a return trip, (including a wheelchair, volunteer or mobility scooter if you need help) - is fantastic value for a door-to-door service. You can go weekly or fortnightly and you get one hour and 45 minutes, which gives time for a chat and a cup of tea or a trip over to Southside Shopping Centre.

Lidl to Open Soon at Southside

This is welcome news for those struggling with the cost of living crisis. You will easily be able to save the 50p increase in our fares!



Getting Out and About



Last Year's Mad Hatters Tea Party

New Logo for Wandsworth Community Transport

We are updating our logo and are halfway through a consultation with all our memberships. Those of you on email will have had a chance to contribute and above is the front runner, with a strap-line "Getting Out and About" which will replace the versions illustrated.

It definitely came out that you loved our original script, and we aren't changing that, but the roundel looks great and will be easier to fit onto leaflets and newsletters. Thanks to all those who contributed, and it shows it is worth giving us your email addresses to keep in the loop.



Hold on Tight Please—a public information message from the 50s

Please Spread the Word

From our last survey we found out that a third of all new members came through word of mouth. This makes all of you incredibly important as our agents out there telling people about what we do and encouraging them to give us a try.

The free voucher is for first time users, so if you are already one of our regulars, why not pass it on to a friend who can benefit? There are still people out there who don't know about us and it is so sad to hear people say "I wish I had found out about you years ago—it would have really made a difference."

June's Story

June Collins (pictured) has been with WCT for many years, first supporting her Mother and latterly as a passenger in her own right. She also volunteers in the office (and makes a mean cup of tea) as well as sitting on our Management Committee and singing in the choir.

"I really want to encourage more people to get involved and try the Shopping Shuttle and the Outings. Everyone is so friendly and it makes such a difference to get door-to-door transport instead of risking life and limb on the London buses. They never wait for you to get to your seat and brake and accelerate so sharply that a nasty fall is a real danger." Why don't you take June's advice and give us a try? She is pictured at Shopmobility with favourite driver Deepak.



River Trip to Greenwich from the New Wandsworth Pier

This ever popular trip has been re-instated with the added bonus that the boat now stops at Wandsworth Pier. It will make life a lot easier and you can cruise down the river in style and enjoy the market and historic Greenwich with the famous Cutty Sark and naval buildings.

We return by minibus as the picture shows. Let's hope it's another lovely day!



Picking up at the Cutty Sark and Beach Huts at Herne Bay



Thanks to WBC, Sainsbury's, and our Volunteers

A special thanks needs to go to Wandsworth Borough Council, (who fund us of course), and to Sainsbury's who provide us with our fantastic Shopmobility premises. Our partnership with them has made all this possible and they deserve all the praise we can give them. Of course, none of it could happen without our superb team of volunteers who drive the minibuses, help at Shopmobility, support our passengers on outings and act as trustees on our Management Committee. They are all brilliant!

INFORMATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

For those of you who have joined us recently and have not quite worked out how we can help you, the following explains it all!

Shopping Shuttle — We collect you from home and take you to our Shopmobility Centre at Sainsbury's. We have volunteers to push wheelchairs and to help.

Outings — We run a programme of outings throughout the year. Please refer to the back page for full details.

Shopmobility — Based at Sainsbury's in Garratt Lane, provides free wheelchairs, scooters and volunteers.

Silver Daytrippers — Trips for people who are 60 plus and able to travel independently to our collection points in the Borough. A wide range of popular destinations.

Scooters and Wheelchairs — Always available for rent or to buy — try before you buy and some great lease/purchase options.

HERNE BAY

New this summer is Herne Bay, which is a traditional British seaside resort, with everything you would expect. But of course we are going to all the old regulars as well, as we know you all love a day out in the summer. Getting out of London and breathing some sea air is just what the Doctor ordered!

THE MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY

On Wednesday afternoon, 3rd July, we are again having a celebratory tea party at the Home Community Cafe, St Andrew's Church, Garratt Lane SW18 4SR. Tickets will be £10 (including transport) or £7 if you make your own way there.

But places are limited, so book early. We expect them to go like hot scones with clotted cream. Don't forget we also hope you will go along with the theme and wear your favourite hat, but stress this is optional.



Let the train take the strain! The land train at Kew Gardens

ROAD RUNNER SUMMER TRIPS 2024

April

Tuesday	16	Forest Lodge Garden Centre, Farnham	£10
Thursday	18	Southall (Shopping)	£6
Monday	22	Jovial Sailor, Ripley (Pub Lunch)	£8
Wednesday	24	Kew Gardens (including entry fee)	£10
Tuesday	30	Richmond Park & Isabella Plantation	£3

May

Thursday	2	Walthamstow Market (Shopping)	£6
Wednesday	8	Herne Bay	£14
Monday	13	Worthing	£14
Wednesday	15	Drummond, Albury (Pub Lunch)	£8
Monday	20	Battersea Power Station	£3
Thursday	23	Bexhill-On-Sea	£14
Tuesday	28	Brighton	£14
Thursday	30	RHS Wisley Gardens, Surrey	£8*

**(entrance fee is an additional £18.50. Free entry for RHS members)*

June

Tuesday	4	Eastbourne	£14
Thursday	6	Green Street (Shopping)	£6
Monday	10	Whitstable	£14
Wednesday	12	Westfield Shopping Centre, Shepherd's Bush	£6
Tuesday	18	Polhill Garden Centre, Sevenoaks	£8
Monday	24	Hastings	£14
Wednesday	26	Brighton	£14
Friday	28	River Trip to Greenwich (plus boat ticket)	£8

July

Tuesday	2	Battersea Power Station	£3
Wednesday	3	Mad Hatter's Tea Party	£10
Thursday	4	Ealing Road, Wembley (Shopping)	£6
Tuesday	9	Herne Bay	£14
Monday	15	Kew Gardens (including entry fee)	£10
Wednesday	17	Bexhill-On-Sea	£14
Monday	22	Garson's Farm & Restaurant	£8
Thursday	25	Eastbourne	£14
Tuesday	30	Whitstable	£14

August

Thursday	1	Walthamstow Market (Shopping)	£6
Monday	5	Brighton	£14
Wednesday	7	Battersea Power Station	£3
Tuesday	13	Hastings	£14
Thursday	15	Worthing	£14
Monday	19	Westfield Shopping Centre, Shepherd's Bush	£6
Thursday	22	Herne Bay	£14
Wednesday	28	Whitstable	£14

September

Thursday	5	Southall (Shopping)	£6
Monday	9	River Trip to Greenwich (plus boat ticket)	£8
Wednesday	11	Worthing	£14
Tuesday	17	Kew Gardens (including entry fee)	£10
Monday	23	Polhill Garden Centre, Sevenoaks	£8
Thursday	26	Thames Court, Shepperton (Pub Lunch)	£8

Please note: We reserve the right to cancel any trip should we consider it is not economically viable. Fares do not include admission prices unless otherwise indicated.

Please call 020 8675 3812 to book – maximum of 3 trips at any one time