

## SILVER DAYTRIPPERS—AUTUMN 25

A very warm welcome to the Summer/Autumn edition of the Silver Daytrippers' newsletter. We hope you have been enjoying the outings so far this summer. The sun has shone, on the whole, and the trips have been very popular. Make the most of the last weeks of summer by booking one or more of the remaining coastal trips. Due to popular demand, we are delighted to return to the lovely seaside town of Broadstairs. A stunning seaside destination with a lovely sandy beach and some nice cafes and restaurants. Please book early for this one as I am sure it will be popular!

### Christmas at Hever Castle

On Monday 8th December we are making a return visit to Hever Castle in Kent to view their famous Christmas lights. This trip proved to be very popular last year so do book early. Witness the enchantment of the castle, gardens and lake festooned with twinkling lights, capturing the spirit of Christmas. Please note that we will be collecting from our usual collection points THREE HOURS LATER than usual. Please see inside for more information.

### Donations

Thanks to everyone who has supported us over the years by making generous donations. We have set up a fundraising page via the website [www.peoplesfundraising.com](https://peoplesfundraising.com). If you enter "Wandsworth Community Transport" in their search engine you will be able to make a donation. The link is <https://peoplesfundraising.com/donation/wandsworth-community-transport>. Your continued support is greatly appreciated by all of us at WCT.



Hever at Christmas! (Photograph reproduced with the kind permission of June Collins).

### Shopping and Shopmobility

We are still 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 £3 and we operate from Monday to Friday. Do call us on 020 675 3812 if interested.

### Bognor Regis

On Monday 11th August we will be making our first ever visit to Bognor Regis. Immortalised by George V's famous quote and the home of a huge Butlins Holiday camp, Bognor has had a very varied history. A nice beach and a wide range of shops should make the trip one to remember!

On Monday 8th December we will once again be visiting Hever Castle to see their famous Christmas lights.

Dating back to the 14th century, Hever Castle was once the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, second wife of Henry VIII and mother of Elizabeth I. It formed the unlikely backdrop to a sequence of tumultuous events that changed the course of Britain's history, monarchy and religion.

You will be able too wrap up warm witness the enchantment of the Castle, gardens and lake festooned with fabulous colours and twinkling lights, capturing the spirit of Christmas.

We aim to arrive at Hever Castle around 1.30 to 2pm and spend four hours there leaving around 6pm.

To facilitate this our buses will be collecting from **all** the usual bus stops **THREE HOURS LATER** than usual.

For example, the south area bus will depart Balham base at 12 noon, collecting from Halfords at Tooting Bec at 12.15 Tooting Broadway at 12.25, Earlsfield Library at 12.35, etc. The north area bus will depart from Balham base at 12 noon, collecting from Northcote Road at 12.13, Boots Clapham Junction at 12.20, Wandsworth Town Hall at 12.40 etc.

**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 IS REQUIRED. THESE ADVANCE PAYMENTS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE. CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO "WCT" 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 24 NOVEMBER. IF WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR PAYMENT BY THIS TIME YOUR BOOKING WILL BE CANCELLED.**

## FAREWELL TO SIMON

At the end of May we said farewell to our ever-popular driver Simon Erricker. Simon joined WCT over 20 years ago and he has been a very reliable and popular member of the driving team.

He was a regular on our door to door shopping shuttle and outings programme, but also drove for the George Shearing club and many schools. He was up with the lark when he drove the minibus for the annual Nightingale Walk Charity Event. This involved meeting at the Nightingale Pub at 7am before driving across south London dropping people at the checkpoints.

We all wish Simon a long and happy retirement and thank him for all his hard work.



Simon (pictured right) receiving a bottle of whisky from Paul on his last day. Following the presentation the revelry continued at the Duke of Devonshire Public House where colleagues past and present came to wish Simon "bon voyage". Thanks to Keith Prout for his permission to reproduce this photograph.



Due to great demand from our members we are returning to the idyllic seaside town of Broadstairs. We have outings to the “jewel in Thanet’s crown” on Thursday 14th August and Thursday 4th September.

You will be able to enjoy spectacular views across the Channel from the promenade and also spend some time basking in the sun on the sandy beach. You may wish to visit the Dickens Museum which has displays and information detailing Dickens’ affection for Broadstairs. He stayed in the town whilst writing “David Copperfield” and took inspiration from meeting some of town’s more eccentric residents. The museum is open from Wednesday to Sunday, from 1pm to 4.30pm.

Broadstairs has plenty of cafes, restaurants and even a pub or two to visit should you need some liquid refreshment. Do book early for these trips.



An emotional moment for Simon as he receives a retirement gift and card from his Wednesday passengers. Full story opposite. Thanks to Maureen Phillips for the photograph.

## Garden Centres

We know the garden centres are very popular so we are delighted to include several trips in this programme.

There are two trips to Polhill and one to Bagshot so there are plenty of opportunities to stock up on fresh fruit and veg. They also have nice restaurants on site so you will be able to have some lunch too.



Members enjoying the sun at Worthing. (Photo reproduced with kind permission of Alan Housden).

## 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.

# *Wandsworth Community Transport*

## **SILVER DAY TRIPPERS AUTUMN 2025**

Monday 11 August	Bognor Regis	£14
Thursday 14 August	Broadstairs	£14
Tuesday 19 August	Eastbourne	£14
Thursday 21 August	Margate	£14
Thursday 4 September	Broadstairs	£14
Thursday 25 September	Polhill Garden Centre	£8
Wednesday 8 October	Canterbury	£14
Monday 3 November	Polhill Garden Centre	£8
Tuesday 25 November	Bagshot Garden Centre	£8
Tuesday 2 December	Winchester Christmas Market	£14
Monday 8 December	Hever Castle Christmas Lights	£26

(Price includes entry to property—this is an afternoon/evening visit)



Viking Bay at Broadstairs in all its glory. (Photo reproduced with kind permission of Paul Attwood)

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