

SUTHERLAND GROVE CONSERVATION AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

www.sgcar.org.uk

SGCARA

admin@sgcara.org.uk

Reaching out to Residents

August/September 2025



a fabulous front garden
Could it be yours?



Why the Wimbledon Windmill Museum logo?
See item Pg2

Why does the windmill have 6 chimneys?
Answer on **Pg4**, along with answer to **Pg3's Sudoku**.

SAVE THE DATE- SGCARA QUIZ NIGHT
3RD NOVEMBER (see below Pg1)



July was a v good
month for moths &
butterflies in SGCA



Greater Spotted Woodpecker
seen peeping out of a
cavity in a precious old
apple tree.



Reaching out to Residents can also be read online at www.sgcar.org.uk to access the links more easily

A friendly reminder: Living in our lovely leafy Conservation Area does restrict the changes you can make to your property. Make sure you check the guidance (including the 'Management Strategy' section of the SGCA Appraisal) at: <https://www.sgcar.org.uk/our-conservation-area-special-status/>



There you will also find the email/phone number for the council 'Conservation' Dept if still unsure. SGCARA may be able to put you in touch with other residents for advice on cost-effective suppliers, eg for authentic replica front-doors. Just email us!

SGCARA's NEW LOGO



We are delighted to showcase SGCARA's new logo, following a competition offered to Saint Cecilia's pupils earlier in 2025. We had invaluable support from the school. There were 6 excellent Finalists:

Y10: Atifa Julia Sanika **Y7:** Malachi Mimi Ziad

Sanika created this delightful winning entry, with **Atifa** a very close runner-up. Both received 'One4All' Gift Cards, generously donated by a local business who wishes to remain anonymous. We really appreciated the creativity of all entries, so the other 4 finalists also received rewards.

Look out for our new logo in future communications from SGCARA

Children might like to find & count the mini SGCARA-logos hidden in this newsletter. Answer on Pg4!

'SUSTAINABLE SEPTEMBER' STREET TREE-PIT PLANTING – SUNDAY 21ST September



Following the success of the SGCARA street tree-pit planting day in Sept 2024, SGCARA is delighted to have been awarded a council micro-grant once again to buy plants, bulbs, compost & seeds for residents to plant round street tree-pits.

This will take place on **Sunday 21st September**.

• **All Sutherland Grove Conservation Area residents are invited to take part**

- The plants etc will again be distributed from 8 Skeena Hill SW18 5PL in two sessions:
10.00am -12.00 midday then 2.00pm – 4.30pm



- When coming to collect plants you will need to sign up – your name, address & the whereabouts of the street tree-pit you are going to plant up.

MORE ON Pg2

!SAVE THE DATE! SGCARA QUIZ NIGHT MONDAY 3rd NOVEMBER evening
Save the Date for a SGCARA Quiz Night at the Park Tavern 212 Merton Rd SW18 5SW.
Full details still tbc, so keep an eye on the SGCARA website for update in a couple of weeks.
Details will also be circulated by email. All residents very welcome (extra charge for non-members)

MORE ABOUT STREET TREE-PIT PLANTING 21st September

- You will need to **bring a bucket** for some compost to help the plants on their way, provide your own implements to prepare the ground round your tree... and be prepared to keep your plants well-watered afterwards!
- We hope more residents will be prepared to take on a London Plane large tree-pit in Sutherland Grove. Not for the faint-hearted! These gorgeous trees are very unloved at the moment. So many people walk along Sutherland Grove every day, it would lovely to brighten up their walk, help people take more notice of these beautiful trees & discourage casual discarding of rubbish. Our Tree officer says it is fine to cut away the 'basal growth' round the tree, so any resident can do that at any time – taking care to stay clear of the tree bark.



What we learnt from the 2024 tree-pit planting

- The big Sutherland Grove tree pits need many more plants, so we have an extra £100 for more plants in this year's grant.
- Planted tree-pits in Sutherland Grove need notices so rubbish bags aren't put on the plants!
- We need to remind participants to water their tree-pits when there is no rain, as some of the wild-flower seeds just didn't flourish in this summer's hot very dry weather.
- Some tougher, more drought-resistant plants are needed this time eg little evergreens & ferns.

SGCARA NEWS ROUND-UP

WPCC OPEN DAY – SUNDAY 14TH Sept 10.30am – 5.30pm

Something for EVERYONE to enjoy!

Organised by Wimbledon & Putney Commons Conservators (WPCC)

<https://www.wpcc.org.uk/things-do/events/profile/commons-open-day>

You can also sign up for the WPCC newsletter at: <https://www.wpcc.org.uk/>

WIMBLEDON COMMON WINDMILL

This Grade II Listed windmill was struck by lightning on 6th July.

Fortunately its first-class lightning protection prevented a worst-case scenario. A full structural inspection by one of the few UK millwright contractors followed - no major structural damage, but some impact to the sails & fantail. The crowdfunder set up to raise the £13k needed for the repairs has already passed its target. (Extra money raised will go towards future maintenance). Read the whole story, with action-photos of the repairs, at the Wimbledon Windmill Museum's Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=wimbledon%20windmill%20museum>



WILD WANDSWORTH

'Wild Wandsworth' is



Wandsworth Council's ambitious new Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) supporting the goals set out in the [2020 Wandsworth Biodiversity Strategy](#). The council would like YOUR feedback using the Online Survey link below. If you need to request a paper questionnaire or any other format, please contact biodiversity.wandsworth@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk or call 020 8871 6000 quoting *Wandsworth Biodiversity Action Plan survey*.



SOUTHFIELDS HARVEST – Saturday 27th Sept 12.00 - 3.00pm

Southfields Harvest will once again take place in St Barnabas Church 146 Lavenham Rd SW18 5EP. <https://www.southfieldsharvest.org.uk/> Last chance to buy cider (from local apples) made by Abundance Southfields, led by inspiring SGCA resident Richard König. If you've never been to Southfields Harvest before, make 2025 the year you do!



MET ENGAGE

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In 2025 the Met launched a new information platform called MET ENGAGE. This is a single communications channel that allows messages to be targeted to the specific neighbourhood or interest group that the police wish to reach.

MET ENGAGE enables targeted crime prevention, providing updates based on individual or local needs. Check it out for yourself & sign up at: <https://www.metengage.co.uk/Content/Pages/Sign-Up>

RENTAL E-BIKE PARKING – Station end of Sutherland Grove



Alongside pro-active residents, SGCARA contacted the council & 3 West Hill Ward Councillors about the problem of large numbers of badly-parked e-bikes at the station end of Sutherland Grove (pictured in July).

Council's reply:



'.... I have been in regular contact with the Operators about this location on Sutherland Grove & requested that they

monitor this location more closely & remove any excess vehicles. We.....will seek to extend the Sutherland Grove Bay to increase the capacity. I will also arrange for a metal corral to be placed around the bay to keep the e-bikes within the designated area.'

In the meantime, please continue to report problem-bikes as follows:

Forest: londonops@humanforest.co.uk Phone: 020 8157 7491

Lime: london-ops@li.me Phone: 0800 808 5223

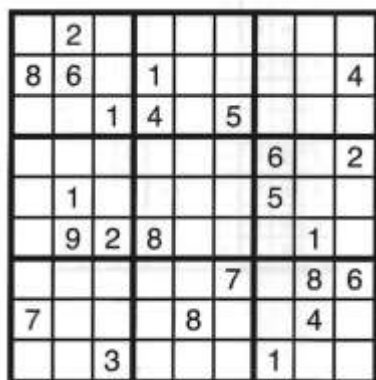
You can also report through the Forest or Lime apps.

'RAT-RUN' & SPEEDING TRAFFIC

Resolution of this problem continues at a snail's pace. If only that applied to the speeding cars. Following the January 2025 meeting convened by MP Fleur Anderson (reported in **'Reaching out to Residents'** Feb/March 2025), the promised ATCs (Automatic Traffic Counters) were in place at various traffic hot-spots for a week late March. We suspect that the raw data has been processed. Our everyday experience suggests the numbers will be high – way above the threshold for mitigation-measures. The council have indicated that any action should be coordinated with TFL (who are considering a 'No Right Turn' from West Hill into Sutherland Grove as part of a review into traffic flow). SGCARA will be chasing this up now the holiday season is at an end.



SGCARA SUDOKU – answer on Pg4



RECOGNISE THESE EVENTS? More on Pg4!





Residents of Combemartin Rd & Skeena Hill took advantage of 'no charge' road-closures for VE Day 80th w/e celebrations to organise Street Parties. Skeena Hill's was on Sunday 4th May & Combemartin Rd's on Monday 5th so they could share & swap tables, chairs & the all-important tea urn! Combemartin Rd has lots of wonderful street-party experience. This was Skeena Hill's very first street party with loads of enthusiasm to organise, help out & just be there to chat & get to know other residents. A few Skeena Hill residents brought along moving written testimonies of family-members' involvement in WWII to share, including stories of dramatic escapes. This helped us all better empathise with the sense of relief at the end of war in Europe in May '45 & then in the Far East August '45.





If YOU or a business contact would like to advertise in 'Reaching out to Residents' please get in touch: admin@sgcara.org.uk



HILLSIDE CARPETS

MAKING A HOUSE A HOME SINCE 1989

We are a family business, established in Southfields 1989. We fit all carpets, vinyl flooring, wood-engineered flooring, laminates and luxury vinyl tiles. We always use our own company fitters. For your free quote please call on 020 8877 9595 www.hillsidecarpets.co.uk



'From our kitchen to your heart'

20% Discount until the end of 2025!

(Bring this newsletter)

Nearest Branch

38 Replingham Rd SW18 5LR

<https://bosakitchen.co.uk>

If you use the advertised services, please tell the company that you saw their advert in this newsletter



Answer to the Pg3 Sudoku:

9	2	4	3	6	8	7	5	1
8	6	5	1	7	9	3	2	4
3	7	1	4	2	5	8	6	9
5	3	8	7	1	4	6	9	2
4	1	7	6	9	2	5	3	8
6	9	2	8	5	3	4	1	7
1	4	9	5	3	7	2	8	6
7	5	6	2	8	1	9	4	3
2	8	3	9	4	6	1	7	5

Answers to the Pg1 question: Why does the windmill have 6 chimneys?

Built in 1817, the thriving mill closed in 1864 when the Lord of the Manor evicted the miller, announcing his intention to enclose Wimbledon Common & build himself a new manor house on the site of the mill. Local opposition led to a 6-year legal battle, resolved by the 1871 Wimbledon & Putney Commons Act. This handed the commons to the local community, administered then & now by the Conservators. People Power prevailed! When the Windmill stopped working all the machinery was removed. It was converted into cottages for 6 families - 3 on the ground & 3 on the first floor - hence 6 chimneys!

Read more here: <https://www.wimbledonwindmill.org.uk/history>

There are 27 mini SGCARA-logos hidden in this newsletter

Just in case you missed it....

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