



OWGRA

Osterley & Wyke Green Residents' Association

eNewsletter – 31st May 2020

It now seems that, hopefully, we are over the worst of the Covid-19 crisis, and are now slowly coming out of lockdown. So this eNewsletter, the 7th OWGRA eNewsletter of 2020, includes all the standard sections with the addition of Covid-19 –specific ones. This eNewsletter includes information in the following categories

- **Health advice.** The official sources of information (government and NHS) for the best health advice on Covid-19, including details on testing.
- **LBH advice.** Information on parking regulations, using parks, rubbish and consultations.
- **Planning.** The latest update on the Tesco/Homebase development proposals, and the start of construction of the new Access Storage site on the old Petrol Station site on the Syon Lane / Great West Road junction.
- **Local News and things to do.** Local shops and services that may be useful, garden centres, restaurants, DIY stores, parks, cultural activities, theatres, festivals and training – some on-line, some you can actually visit.
- **Crime and Local Police Advice.** Information on overall crime patterns, protecting yourself from scams, motor vehicle incidents and burglary protection.
- **Community help.** Where people can go to get, or provide, community help, including our visitor initiative and a local scrubs initiative
- **Other News.** 2 surveys, information on travel into Central London, the Open Houses charity, an update on the Red Route scheme for the Leigham Drive / slip road area, and sad news of a fatal traffic accident in Osterley..

We hope you find this information useful and welcome hearing from you as to what more you would like from us, or any feedback (good or bad !). Please stay safe and follow the government's advice – especially on social distancing. As always we welcome offers to help with OWGRA.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

At the time of writing we have 221 membership subscriptions for this year, of which 12 are new. Last year we had 481 members in total, which means that more than half of you have not yet renewed your membership. As of the end of June, if you have not renewed, you will cease to receive this e-newsletter. There are several ways you can renew. Earlier in the year you will have received a membership form along with our latest paper newsletter, which you can complete and return. If your details remain the same you can simply make an online payment of £10.00. The account holder is OWGRA, the sort code is 08 92 99, and the account number is 65291223. Please ensure that such a payment has a clear reference to your name or address. Further details can be found on our website. We do hope that you think being a member of OWGRA is good value and will re-subscribe if you have not already done so.

Laurence Hawcroft, (Vice-Chair), and the OWGRA Committee.

Health Advice

NHS ADVICE ON COVID-19

The single most reliable source of health-related advice on Covid-19 is the NHS. Their website is <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> . Please use this as your first point of call for any health-related questions about this. It has sections covering

- Advice for people at high risk
- Symptoms and what to do
- Self-isolation and
- Other reputable links.

GOVERNMENT ADVICE



The [UK Government website](#) provides comprehensive and wide-ranging information about Covid-19, with advice about what to do if you have symptoms and updates on what the government is doing about the virus. There is also information for businesses and other organisations on how to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

GOVERNMENT EXPANSION OF TESTING



The Government has increased access to coronavirus tests. Tests should be taken within five days of developing symptoms as this is when the test is most accurate.

Testing for key workers and their families:

Symptomatic people who are key workers, those who cannot work from home and, people over 65, and members of their households are able to get tested for coronavirus and can book an appointment via the [self-referral portal](#).

Testing for members of the public:

The Government has now extended its testing programme to include any members of the public aged five and over. Please register via the [NHS website](#).

Once you register and book your appointment via the self-referral portal or NHS website you will receive a 16-digit code text message. At the testing site, you will need to show your 16-digit code text message to staff members as confirmation for the test. If you have any difficulty or any questions about testing, please email publichealth@hounslow.gov.uk

You can find out more about the testing criteria [here](#) (see “Testing for coronavirus” part-way down the page) and anyone eligible can book a test using the [getting tested online portal](#).

There seem to be relatively regular testing sessions (both walk-in and drive-thru) at Grasshoppers RFC on Syon Lane 2 days each week (normally the weekend). This weekend it will be Sunday 31 May and Monday 1 June 10.30am-3.30pm.

For households with grandparents, parents and children living together, or for those living with a member of an ‘at risk group’, the Government has published additional advice, including precautions to take and advice for children in the household. Find out more [here](#).

NEW ANTIBODY TESTING PROGRAMME

Antibody tests will be available to NHS and care staff, eligible patients and care residents in England to see if they have had coronavirus as part of a new national antibody testing programme announced by Health and Social Care Secretary Matt Hancock on 22 May.

Tests will be prioritised for NHS and care staff, and clinicians will be able to request them for patients in both hospital and social care settings if they deem it appropriate.

The new antibody testing programme starts this week. Find out more about the national antibody testing programme [here](#).

ADVICE VIDEOS FROM HOUNSLOW GPs



Firstcare Practice in Hounslow, also known as HIYOS (Healthy In Your Own Skin), has released [a series of videos](#) advising people on a whole range of topics to support them during the coronavirus outbreak. Topics include diet, mental health, diabetes, high blood pressure, COPD and pregnancy.

It followed a survey, responded to by nearly 2,000 people, which asked how they could support patients and what they want from them during this difficult time.

GOING OUT TO EXERCISE & KEEPING FIT

We can now go out for exercise, provided we practice safe social distancing (i.e. stay at least 2 metres away from everyone else). Many people are also now taking the opportunity of exercising to online classes or YouTube videos. Examples we have heard of include

- [MINDs Guide to getting active in the home or garden](#), a fun A-Z guide to getting active at home, and you can even use household items as equipment.
- [Anytime Fitness Hounslow](#) wants to help support our community to maintain a healthy lifestyle with a free 4 week health boost program for you to download. Visit the website for more information.
- [Let's Go Outside And Learn](#) are keen to introduce people to the natural environment. They are putting weekly activities on their website and facebook pages that everyone can use.
- [Betterpoints](#) have put together a short checklist for walking with little challenges to make it fun. May is 'National Walking Month', so join in the fun – to get to work, to exercise the dog, or simply for the joy of walking.
- [Better](#) on demand provides access to workouts for free on the Better UK app, available from the Apple or Google Play stores. Enter BETTERFREE as the Club Access Code, club ref: Gunnersbury Park Sports Hub.
- [Joe Wicks](#) also known as the Body Coach or, the nation's PE teacher, is now offering virtual classes for seniors on his YouTube channel.
- The older age group might like [Senior Fitness with Tona](#)
- The [Green Goddess](#) is good for all ages. People can watch on TV if they don't have the internet. These exercise segments are on BBC Breakfast at around 6.55am and 8.55am on Mon, Wed and Fri. They are streamed, either live or pre-recorded, from her home.
- [Brentford FC Community Sports Trust](#) have some great free fitness sessions for Hounslow residents including Pilates, Yoga and [chair based exercise for over 60s](#), all part of their #BeeatHome campaign.
- [#10today](#) offers short routines for healthy activity. If you like listening to the radio why not try listening online, tune in to join many others taking part
- [NHS fitness studio](#) offers a range of online exercise videos from 10 -45 minutes.
- [Better](#) on demand provides access to workouts for free on the Better UK app, available from the Apple or Google Play stores. Enter BETTERFREE as the Club Access Code, club ref: Gunnersbury Park Sports Hub.
- [Make Movement your Mission](#) designed by Later Life Training, includes a series of short online regular movement sessions done in a chair or standing holding onto a support.

- [Sport Impact](#) works with schools across Hounslow to give pupils the best opportunities in PE, Sport and Health, as well as encouraging Leadership and Volunteering. The team have created some *Stay at Home Challenges* to support learning whilst in the home.
- [OurParks](#) coaches Ange and Premika encourage exercise at home and workout sessions via their [facebook](#) or [YouTube channel](#). Why not try Saturday 10am [Live HIIT Workout](#).
- [The One You Hounslow Move More page](#) provides support, tips on staying active and a variety of different activities for all age groups and abilities.

and for children and families:

- [Hounslow Children's Centres](#) are still offering support. There's a whole host of ideas for great activities you can do with your child.
- [Beat the bug](#) is packed with hints, tips and ideas to help individuals and families of all ages stay physically fit, strengthen their immunity and improve mental and emotional wellbeing.
- [imoves](#) for 4-11yrs help keep primary aged children as active by offering free access.
- [Superhero Fitness](#) for 3-7yr olds is 15 mins of fun movement every day at 3.30pm and available anytime via videos on the OurParks Facebook page.
- London Sport have worked with Played and imin to update the Get Active activity finder website so that Londoners can now search for the right activities for them. Find new activities via [Get Active](#)
- [#Daily Mile At Home](#) is here to help children stay active with their parents/carers– that's 15 minutes of jogging or running, front door to front door, with some extra challenges along the way to keep everyone motivated.

Visit oneyouhounslow.org for more support and information.

But please note - **if you haven't exercised for a while, please seek medical advice beforehand.**

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE ABOUT THE IMPACT OF COVID-19

Community Voices would like to collect stories from our Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds (BAME) residents, community representatives, faith leaders, staff and health and care leaders about how they are coping during the coronavirus pandemic. They state “*COVID-19 appears to be affecting BAME communities disproportionately. We need to understand why this is happening and what we can do to support our communities.*”

If you would like to get involved you can share your story in any way you choose. You can write, draw, paint, speak or sing about your experience.

The stories that we collect will be analysed by the Community Voices team working alongside the people who contribute their experiences. The themes will be used to help us and our organisations understand the challenges being faced by our communities and our BAME workforce and recommend immediate action to take.

Email houccg.communications@nhs.net to find out more. We will send you more information and a consent form to complete first. Community Voices is a collaboration of different health, care and community organisations, community activists and individuals working across North West London.”

COVID-19 FATALITY LEVELS

[This report from the TW8 website](#) analyses data produced by the Office for National Statistics on the Covid-18 outbreak. It shows that, whilst sadly 25 people have died of it in the Brentford and Isleworth area (as of 17 April), Hounslow's mortality rate is comparatively low compared to other parts of London. There's also a map at the bottom where you can see data per area (our area is split into multiple different areas)

TAKING CARE OF OTHER HEALTH ISSUES

Despite the coronavirus pandemic you should still visit the hospital in a serious or life-threatening emergency, or childhood illnesses and injuries. NHS staff have worked hard to put in place measures that enable you and your family to access care safely.

You should also continue to attend appointments for ongoing treatment, unless these have been postponed or you have been told not to attend during this time.

GPs are now consulting with their patients in many different ways including by telephone, video and email but also face to face if this is needed. So, if anyone requires medical advice about anything including the coronavirus don't be afraid to contact your surgery online or by telephone. NOTE : if your baby or child is due any routine vaccinations, you can get this as usual from your GP practice.

For medical advice, the [NHS 111 online website](#) will tell you when and where to get help and can arrange for you to be contacted by a nurse, if required. Only call 111 if you are unable to get help online. In an emergency, dial 999.

WEARING FACE COVERINGS IN PUBLIC

The Government has advised that people should aim to wear a face covering in enclosed spaces, such as public transport, where social distancing is not always possible. Dr Ellie Cannon explains in this [video](#) why this is important and how a face covering can help reduce the risk of transmission. You can read further information, advice and safety guidance on face coverings [here](#).

SAFE DISPOSAL OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

We've had reports of people out walking finding discarded used masks, gloves, etc. on the pavement. These appear to be where joggers would finish their jog. PLEASE, if you are out and about using PPE, when you've finished with it either take it home to dispose of, or find a litter bin to put it in (NOT a recycling bin). Look out for each other as well as ourselves

ISOLATING AT HOME WITH A NEW-BORN BABY ?

If you know someone isolating at home with a new-born baby, one way to help could be via [Simple First Aid](#). This is a locally run business based in Isleworth whose prime objective, is to deliver life-saving first aid to all the family but especially in support of young children and babies. You could help by donating, booking a course or gift. Options available include :

- Mental wellbeing online workshop
- Online Baby First Aid Course - 1 hour
- The Perfect Baby Shower Gift
- Baby and Child First Aid Course 3 Hours
- Private Baby and Child Course 3 Hours

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

In these strange, uncharted times, if you need help here are some useful telephone numbers:

- Childline: 0800 1111
- Samaritans: 116 123
- Domestic Violence Hotline: 0808 2000 247
- Mind: 0300 123 3393
- Age UK: 0800 169 6565

LBH Advice

LBH WEBSITE

Hounslow Council are constantly updating the information on [their website about the coronavirus](#), pulling together relevant information and support available for everyone in the borough. They have now reorganised the content to make it easier to find the information you need (whether you are a family, vulnerable person or business person), and to direct you to the widespread community support that has come together in response to the pandemic.

LBH NEWSLETTERS

The council are also sending out daily eNewsletters providing useful guidance to Hounslow residents. You can sign up to receive this newsletter at the website in the article above. The only information you need to provide is an email address.

USING COUNCIL PARKS

LBH have revised their guidance for using public parks, as below:

" Whilst you can meet a friend in our parks, play tennis or use selected sports pitches, remember to keep a distance of two metres away from other people not in your household. The Council is playing its part in keeping parks and green spaces open, and you can do your bit by following these instructions:

- *Remain at least two metres away from people not in your household*
- *Only exercise with people from your household or with one other person*
- *Keep dogs on a lead at all times*
- *Follow hygiene advice when you are outside, don't touch your face, and wash your hands as soon as you are back indoors*
- *Playgrounds and public toilets are closed to reduce the spread, don't try to use them*

To find parks near where you live, use our [parks finder](#)

Your efforts will help save lives.

- *If you see people ignoring these rules you can inform our Enforcement Team [here](#) or call [020 8583 4141](#). Please also tell us of any gatherings you are aware of in public places or anyone you consider to be behaving irresponsibly.*
- *And, remember, don't touch your face when you're out and wash your hands when arriving home*

Be considerate to others and, when staying home, think of your neighbours - keep the noise down and no bonfires.."

Please follow [Government guidance](#) on what you can & can't do when in parks / public spaces.

HOUNSLOW COMMUNITY HUB

Hounslow Council set up the [Community Support Hub](#) to ensure their most vulnerable residents get the food, supplies and support they need. It has now contacted 10,165 'shielded' residents and delivered 4,359 food packages in less than 2 months. They are continuing to increase the range of food, household goods and support it can offer, and finding more and more jobs for the 400+ residents who have volunteered to join the effort.

The Hub can be contacted on 020 7084 9697 or email hub@hounslow.gov.uk. The Hub is also the place for people, community groups and businesses to volunteer to help, and there's an online form to register.

PARKING FINES

As people start to travel a little more given the revised guidance from the government, please be aware that LBH are still enforcing parking rules strictly. So even if there is plenty of spaces, you must still obey parking rules (and pay for parking if necessary) – otherwise you risk getting a ticket. The TW8 website covered this in [a recent article](#). It appears that parking whilst helping

people during the Covid-19 crisis (e.g. to pay in cheques for an elderly neighbour) does **not** remove the need for you to pay for parking in the eyes of LBH. LBH state the following

“In line with government guidelines, our parking restrictions and controls currently remain in place and enforcement activity is continuing. However, we recognise that the current situation requires flexibility on our part and have introduced the following changes to our normal arrangements.

Additional temporary resident permits are available for purchase if permit holders have additional family members or carers temporarily living with them for extended periods. This is also available for those that didn't previously require an annual parking permit but do at the current time. This is being priced pro-rata at £27/ 4 months. This is cheaper than providing visitor permits over a longer period. The same rules apply for this permit as would for a normal residents permit, you have to be a resident in the borough and live in a CPZ. Proof of residency and vehicle ownership (further information [HERE](#) on what proofs are accepted) should be emailed to permits@hounslow.gov.uk. You will then be contacted to arrange payment.

The number of visitor permits residents can purchase has been increased to 25 booklets.”

RUBBISH, RECYCLING AND SPACE WAYE

SOCIAL DISTANCING AT SPACE WAYE



Space Waye is now open for domestic users as of Mon, 18th May; HOWEVER LBH state that “...As per Government guidance Household Waste and Recycling Centres are for essential use only, so please only visit if storing waste at home could cause injury or illness.... We understand that due to social distancing only 2 cars at a time are being allowed in, and

that as a result the queue to enter it is 2-3 hours long at times. Also staff managing queues have had to restrict vehicles from joining queues at busy times – this is when the volume of waiting vehicles begins to impact other trading estate visitors.

Full details of the Space Waye reopening guidance can be viewed [here](#).

Cllr Guy Lambert, Cabinet Member for Highways, Recycling and Trading Companies at Hounslow Council has provided an update from Space Waye Reuse and Recycling Centre following the site reopening to the public last week. Cllr Lambert talks about the importance of reopening the centre and reminds residences of **essential use only**. See the video [here](#)

Other ways to dispose of non-routine items include

- Take advantage of [Bulky](#) and [Garden Waste](#) services to manage waste
- Textiles and small electrical items- put them in a bag on top of your other recycling boxes and the council will take them away
- Osterley Library – there is a metal container there for electrical items recycling
- Currys – several people have reported they will take old electrical items (TV,s printers, etc.).

PANDEMIC HAS “COST LBH £28.5M”

The [TW8 website](#) report that Coronavirus has cost Hounslow Council an estimated £28.5 million so far as the borough has stepped up services to protect residents from the virus. Hounslow Council was awarded a total £14 million from the government to help provide key services during the crisis, out of a £3.2 billion budget for local authorities. Hounslow Council leader Steve Curran, however, said the cash boost will not be enough to manage the long-term hit.

Looks like we can expect price rises from the council soon....

CONSULTATIONS UNDERWAY

Public Consultations being run by Hounslow Council currently open for feedback from residents include the following (with their summary of each included):

- [COVID-19 – Hounslow streetspace](#). Where do we need more space so people can get around safely on foot or by bicycle? We want to improve our network to ensure the safety of

key workers as they travel about, as well as those using their local streets for exercising or visiting local businesses. Officers are reviewing all suggestions as they come in, so please don't delay clicking on the link below to share your views. Consultation Closing Date 25 June ([Details here](#)).

- **Draft Allotments Strategy**. We are seeking your views to inform how we can improve your experience and the service of the allotment sites we manage in the borough. The draft allotment strategy (2020 - 2025) will help determine the future direction of these services. We know they are important to you. The draft allotment strategy sets out the wider context for the strategy and provides background information on allotments in the UK and within Hounslow. The strategy also sets out local allotment provision and current demand. It has been shaped from the extensive engagement process we carried out during 2019, in which we consulted with both allotment holders and non-users to understand their needs, priorities and perceptions.

The purpose of this consultation is to give you the chance to feed back on the draft allotment strategy, in particular it's vision and action plan for 2020 - 2025. Please note, if you have any comments on the structure or background of the strategy, please add these in the additional comments box at the end of the survey. Consultation Closing Date 23 June ([Details here](#)).

Planning News

TESCO & HOMEBASE REDEVELOPMENT

It has been quiet since lockdown and since Berkeley/St Edward held their 2nd public exhibitions at the end of Feb showing their plans to relocate the current Tesco store to the Homebase site and to still build over 2,000 home across the two sites.

OWGRA, Brentford Community Council and Brentford Voice submitted their detailed responses in mid-March. We have heard very recently from the developer that they will be responding to us, that they will be issuing revised plans, that the consultation centre in the Tesco car park will be removed, that consultation meetings will move on-line, and that they still plan to submit planning applications for the two sites in the summer.

For full details of what has happened to date and OWGRA's response please see <https://www.thbredev.picadorltd.eu/> which is the new website that is being developed for OWGRA <https://owgra.org.uk/>

REPRIEVE FOR GUNNERSBURY PARK BOWLS CLUB – FOR NOW.....

[A plan by Putt in the Park to convert the bowling green in Gunnersbury Park to a mini golf course has been refused](#) by Hounslow Council's planning department. The reason given was that no justification was submitted for the loss of the bowling pavilion and club. Worryingly, the council stated that if satisfactory evidence was received 'for loss of vacant bowling club', the application may be approved.

The bowls club has occupied the site since 1931. It was due to reopen to members last month but has been unable to do so due to the coronavirus outbreak. Club members say they were given verbal assurances by the Gunnersbury Park Community Interest Company (CIC) that their presence in the park was valued. However, towards the end of last year the CIC stated that given 'the relatively small and declining numbers who have exclusive use of the facility' they were exploring new uses for the green.

ACCESS STORAGE STARTING WORK AT GILLETTE CORNER

We have been advised that Access Storage has commenced work on the construction of their storage facility on the old Shell Petrol Station site at the corner of Syon Lane and the Great West Road. The contractor for the work is Harmonix. They have promised to work closely with local residents and their first Newsletter is enclosed as a separate attachment with this eNewsletter.

Further details may be [found here](#), including the proposed sequence for the construction, which consists of

- a six stage build sequence through to around September 2021
- delivery vehicle routes (Great West Road, Syon Lane, Northumberland Avenue)
- hours of operation (Monday to Friday 08.00 to 18.00, Saturday 0.900 to 13.00, not on Sunday or a Bank Holiday without council permission).

Local Services and Things To Do

TESCO EXTRA OSTERLEY

Tesco Osterley now apparently have Click and Collect slots, and can arrange “no contact” pickups, where they will even put the shopping in your car boot.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SHOPS

Many local shops now do home delivery, and are often less busy than the big supermarkets and also better stocked. Ones I have tried (and there are others just as good) include

- ([Isleworth Greengrocers](#)), a traditional greengrocers in the small square off South Street in Isleworth, has an excellent range of fruit and vegetables and also does home delivery.
- [Kind Juice](#) is a fresh juice business that operates from within the Isleworth Greengrocers store, with a home delivery service, with juices freshly made and delivered the same day.
- [Tuppers](#), the butchers, opposite the Woodlands pub in St John's Road, has been in Isleworth for over 60 years and stocks a wide range of quality meat and meat products. Telephone 020-8560-4959 for home delivery.

Others we are aware of (but have not tried yet) include

- Cost Cutter in St. John's Road, Isleworth. They offer a home delivery service - contact them on 0208 568 0623 for details. There is no charge for delivery.
- Daves Dairy is still taking new customers and can also deliver eggs, bread etc. Phone 07970 535157 or email davesdairy@yahoo.co.uk
- [The Gluten Free Kitchen](#) can deliver Gluten free meals & have Vegan & Vegetarian options.
- [New Covent Garden Market](#) , the main wholesale fruit & veg market, now do home delivery.
- [The Kings Produce](#) offer home delivery of fresh fruit & vegetables, meat, groceries & cases of wine in our area. Deliveries Mon, Wed and Fri. Order by 5.30pm for next day delivery. All fruit & veg sourced from Nine Elms, Covent Garden Market; meat sourced locally.
- [Fruit4London](#) do free delivery of fresh fruit and veg inside the M25.
- [Natures Choice](#) deliver fresh fruit & veg. 4 different sized boxes. Delivery 2-3 days.
- [Detox Kitchen](#) deliver healthy meals direct to your door. 10 meal plans to choose from.
- [Wiltshire Farms Foods](#) have over 300 different meals to choose from delivered to you. They are ONLY accepting new customers who have received a letter from the NHS putting them on the high risk list, If this is you then could be worth checking out.
- [Marie Cooks](#) are doing home delivery of meals especially for the elderly and vulnerable.
- [The Ethical Butcher](#) deliver a wide variety of meat and as the name implies pay particular attention to how the meat is produced.
- [The Crosstown Collective](#) delivers a range of products including fresh doughnuts; if you have a sweet tooth this might be for you.

There are also a number of [Isleworth-based businesses](#) in this listing that do home deliveries.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL RESTAURANTS

In closing all restaurants, the government has allowed them to provide a takeaway service instead (normally this requires a separate licence). So if you would like a meal from one of our local restaurants, see whether they are offering this. Ones we are aware of include

- Memories of India on Thornbury Road (deliveries via UberEats and Deliveroo)
- Tiger Lily on Thornbury Road (the same)
- Burchells cafe in Isleworth is offering ready meals delivered in our area, menu changing every week. Two committee members have been impressed by them. info@burchells.co.uk
- [La Rosetta](#) in Brentford is open for Call & Collect - on 020 8560 3002
- [Holy Spice](#) in Brentford is open for takeaway and delivery - on 020 8230 1117
- Galata Pera is open for takeaway and delivery on 020 8560 1798 (or via deliveroo, UberEats and Just Eat)
- [Pizzaiolo](#) on Windmill Road in Brentford, located just off the A4, for fantastic Italian pizzas (recommended by one of our committee members...), available for delivery or collection.

- Lam's Kitchen Chinese takeaway on Thornbury Road also apparently do fish and chips.

Also, if you're out and about in that area, the Park Cafe in Thornbury Road is open again for outdoor eating and drinking and is now staying open longer to about 4.00pm. It's the ideal place to go to if you're hot and thirsty after a walk round Osterley Park...

LOCAL GARDEN CENTRE OPEN

I'm sure everyone is well aware of this, but just in case, Osterley Garden has re-opened as of 13th May. They have a thorough system for social distancing, which in summary is

- One queue outside, roped off, to enter the store
- Sanitise before you enter the gate into the centre with trolley or basket.
- Wander freely (maintaining social distancing) to select your purchases
- When it's time to pay, there is one queue down the centre which splits about 4m from the checkouts and you are called to the next checkout available.
- 2m markings are on the floor for social distancing.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PUBS

Some local pubs have started up a home delivery service. We haven't tried these (but may well do in the near future !)

- The Express Tavern, Kew Bridge. This seems to be offering home deliveries of beer via [Deliveroo](#) and via [The Big Smoke BrewCo](#).
- [The Griffin](#) in Brentford. They are offering takeaway food – details on the link.
- [The Globe](#) in Brentford. If you're interested contact them (see contact details on link).
- We understand The Rising Sun in Isleworth is doing food via UberEats..

DIY STORES OPEN

Guidance from the government is that you can go out for DIY parts for urgent repairs (e.g. to repair a broken fence) but not for non-urgent work (e.g. to repaint a kitchen). If you need any such DIY materials, our local Seccombes is open. There are 2 ways to buy materials from them

- Order [from their website](#)
- Phone them on 0208 560 2246 and place your order directly with them.

Your order will either be delivered by them or you can pick it up from the gates of their site. If you do go to pick it up, if it is small you park at the gate and they bring it to you. If it is large / bulky your order will have been laid out at a separate location in the yard. They will direct you to it and you then load up your vehicle yourself (their staff cannot help you due to social distancing rules).

In addition other major DIY stores (B&Q Chiswick, Homebase Osterley, etc.) have now reopened, with strict social distancing measures in place. Also Screwfix are offering a Home Delivery service and a Click & Collect service (we have found the latter works extremely well).

PINING FOR A PINT

If you're really missing visiting a pub for a pint or two, who not get some beer delivered to your home ? Ones we are aware of include

- [Wierd Beard Brewery](#). If you've had enough of ordinary beer from the off licence/ supermarket, then [Wierd Beard](#) can deliver their craft beers directly to you. Based in Hanwell delivery is free within two miles with a small charge further afield.
- Fullers. Missing a pint of Fullers ? You can have Fullers beer delivered to your home from their [online shop](#). And if it's Real Ale you're missing, and London Pride, then they even have a Mini Barrel (18 pints). And I can vouch for it being just as good as that in a pub... ☺
- Want something different. If you want a range of different beers, then [Real Ale](#), based in Richmond, is now doing home deliveries.

OSTERLEY, SYON AND GUNNERSBURY PARKS AND KEW GARDENS START TO OPEN

Osterley Park reopened as of 20th May. The statement from the management is included below

“Osterley Park is delighted to announce we will be opening the estate to pedestrians only, as of Wednesday 20th May, as part of a phased reopening plan. The National Trust are adhering to all Government advice & guidance, and countryside properties have started reopening as of the last week. At Osterley we are keen to reopen the estate, 7 days a week, allowing pedestrian access, all visitors will be asked to adhere to the Government advice maintaining safe social distancing, the pedestrian gates will be open from early morning until early evening for all. The public toilets will be open 10am to 5pm daily.

This is the first phase of reopening, in time we hope to open the car parks, but for now limiting to pedestrian access only allows us to control numbers visiting, and ensure the estate does not become a hot spot. It is really important we open safely and securely, adhering to all Government advice. The house, formal gardens, café, shop, car parks and play area all remain closed until further notice.

Thank you for your continued support, we trust the estate opening will be well received by all and everyone respects the measures we have put in place and safe social distancing.

Neil Cole, General Manager, Osterley Park & House”

This is excellent news, but sadly it seems some people are forgetting why the park was closed at the start of lockdown – which was because some people using it were not behaving responsibly. After enjoying the park, some people are just leaving their rubbish behind. This leaves the park looking a mess, and foxes make it worse by spreading the rubbish about during the night.

PLEASE, if you are eating or drinking in the park, **TAKE YOUR RUBBISH HOME WITH YOU!** If you see other people leaving rubbish, please ask them politely not to do so.

Also, don't leave litter next to a rubbish bin (even if it is full) as that counts as fly-tipping (which the council can and do prosecute) and also the foxes get to it overnight.

Please also remember to **keep 2m social distance** as apparently this is not always happening.

PLEASE BE THOUGHTFUL AND CONSIDERATE SO WE CAN ALL CONTINUE TO ENJOY OUR LOVELY SURROUNDINGS OF THE PARK.

Kew Gardens state that *“From 1 June 2020, we are reopening the gardens for people who are able to get to us safely and enjoy the fresh air. You must book a time slot in advance to visit [Kew Gardens](#)”* Further details may be found on the link.

As of 28 May, [Syon Park](#) state that they are still closed.

[Gunnorsbury Park](#) is still open. However they state that their museum, car park, cafe, playgrounds, tennis courts and public toilets remain closed, and their public programme of activities is suspended. This is also covered in the [attached TW8 article](#).

THISTLEWORTH CLUB MEMBERSHIP OFFER

Thistleworth Club advise us of the following offer

“ANYONE FOR TENNIS

At last, we can exercise and play tennis again outside! Thistleworth Club in Osterley is now open for tennis. They are offering an amazing membership offer of £50 per household for 3 months membership.

Just think, you can play singles with someone not from your household and doubles with members from your household throughout the summer.

Some great exercise for you and your children all for £50 for 3 months. And, you are not limited to exercise only once per day! If you would like to take up this offer please download a form from www.thistleworth.net or call John on 07511 886971 and start playing straight away.

Members are able to book a court on line. We have 7 all-weather courts and 3 have floodlights.

Of course, social distancing must be observed in line with government guidelines and these can be seen in our website.

Don't delay, join today 😊

Thistleworth Club

129A Ridgeway Road North

Osterley TW75LX"

MISSING CULTURE AND TRAVEL ?

If you're someone who likes to travel to see the sights and/or enjoys cultural activities like visiting museums, then [Visit museums and landmarks](#) around the world from your own home, and take virtual tours of places like:

- The British Museum, London
- Guggenheim Museum, New York
- National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul
- Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam
- The Eiffel Tower, Paris
- Stonehenge, England
- The White House, Washington

Many of the world's most famous galleries and museums' collections are also still very much on view, albeit virtually. Ones we are aware of include

- The [National Gallery](#),
- [Musee d'Orsay](#) in Paris
- the [Guggenheim](#) in Bilbao
- A [Virtual Reality experience of the Mona Lisa](#) in the Louvre, Paris
- The [Royal Academy](#) collection, London
- The [Van Gogh museum](#), Amsterdam
- The [Benaki Museum](#), Athens
- The [Rijksmuseum](#), Amsterdam
- [This link](#) has another collection of on-line tours of leading museums.

Other we are aware of include

- [Good Housekeeping](#) – offer a range of free virtual tours to museums, zoos and theme parks worldwide and two of NASA's Research Centres.
- [GoodtoKnow](#) – offer free virtual tours to a variety of castles, museums, zoos and other attractions worldwide.

WATERMANS ONLINE



Watermans has been busy bringing its programme online. Under its Cinema Club: No Ticket Required, every fortnight a film is discussed, hosted by Watermans resident cinephile Jon Davies. It's open to everyone so do visit their [website](#) to find out more.

Watermans has also recently launched Watermans Online, a new Online Gallery featuring the work of leading New Media Artists, and a blog full of cultural and film insight and recommendations from its busy team of curators and artistic programmers. Check it out [here](#).

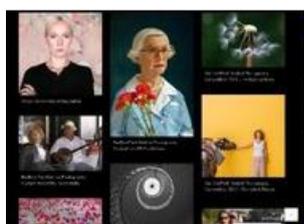
You can sign up to their newsletter for regular film, family and performance picks [here](#).

MISSING THE THEATRE ?

If you're missing the theatre, a number are available online. Ones we have heard of include

- The TW8 website report that, as the country's theatres remain closed, arts organisation [The Space is supporting cultural venues of all sizes](#) to bring award-winning productions directly to homes. The list is ever changing, and when we looked (27 May) there was an eclectic range of 20 different items from a whole host of arts organizations.
- [Phoebe Waller-Bridge's](#) stage version of [Fleabag](#) is available to stream online, and all the proceeds will be going towards COVID-19 charities. You can watch it on [Soho Theatre's On Demand](#) streaming website for a minimum donation of £4.
- [The Show Must Go On](#) are showing full length performances of classic musicals and other shows every Friday at 7pm via their YouTube Channel.
- [The National Theatre](#) are showing classic theatre productions online.
- [The Shakespeare Company](#) are streaming productions via their YouTube Channel.
- Thameside Theatre are providing creative content via their [Facebook page](#) and links to national theatre shows you can watch including [Andrew Lloyd Webber's free performances](#).

BEDFORD PARK FESTIVAL GOES ONLINE



[The Bedford Park Festival](#) in Chiswick is one of London's best-loved arts and community events, attracting thousands of people of all ages. This year there will be a **virtual Bedford Park Festival online**.

Green Days At Home will open the Festival, with lots of the usual events, albeit in a different form. There will be a [Children's Fancy Dress Competition](#); an online [Craft Fair](#); Bandstand performances online; and an Open Air Mass. There will also be sharing of lots of photographs

of [50 Years of Green Days](#), decade by decade.

The Bedford Park Festival photographic exhibition will take place entirely online, and entries are now open. It is being run in partnership with The Chiswick Calendar. [Read how to submit photos on their website](#).

The Bedford Park Summer Exhibition of artworks is also going to be hosted by The Chiswick Calendar. [Read how to submit artwork here](#).

MISSING A TRIP TO THE ZOO ?

London Zoo may have closed their doors, but the zookeepers are hard at work looking after the animals and giving you exclusive virtual tours of the zoo to enjoy from the comfort of your own home. Find out more [here](#).

WERE YOUR EVENINGS OUT BASED ON "TIME OUT" RECOMMENDATIONS ?



Were you someone who decided where to go in the evenings based on what Time Out recommended ? Well they have put together a great selection of things you can do in the comfort of your own home and the latest on what to stream online. You find out more [here](#).

WANT TO LEARN NEW SKILLS ?

The Government has launched a new online learning platform to help boost the nation's skills while people are staying at home. Free courses are available through a new online platform hosted on the GOV.UK website called 'The Skills Toolkit'. This platform gives you access to free, high-quality digital and numeracy courses to help build up your skills and could help boost your job prospects.

You can access the skills toolkit [here](#). This includes Five courses made by the University of

Leeds and Institute of Coding, including:

- [Create a Professional Online Presence](#) to boost your employability
- build the skills you need to [Thrive in the Digital Workplace](#) and
- develop your entrepreneurial skills with [Digital Skills: Social Media \(for business\)](#).

The [National Career Service](#) has also enhanced their online and telephone services during the pandemic, to help you with your choices on careers, training and work.

In addition FutureLearn Schools, a new initiative in partnership with the TES Institute and Pearson UK has just launched. Students aged 13-18 will be given access to over one hundred short online courses from world-renowned universities including The Open University, Coventry University, King's College London and the University of Sheffield. Find out more about FutureLearn Schools, and get involved [here](#).

Further advice for the self-employed and anyone that is currently an employee during this coronavirus pandemic can be found on the council's [website](#).

Police Advice

CHANGES IN CRIME PATTERNS

The Police have advised us (see below) that, sadly, criminals are adapting themselves to these new circumstances...

“As a result of the CV-19 Lockdown there have been major changes to the crime trends. Due to the fact that most people are at home all day the burglars appear to have been put off. Different areas are seeing reductions of varying amounts. This is brilliant news - but with all good news comes bad!

There has been a substantial increase in online scams. These vary from taking your money for PPE that is non-existent to taking your LIFE SAVINGS!! So please, please check, check and double check the authenticity of all Internet sites prior to submitting or committing to parting with any credit card or bank details. If you are uncertain please contact your local safer neighbourhood officers who will be more than happy to investigate on your behalf. But PLEASE do this BEFORE you become a victim.

Due to the interruption in the supply chain of drugs the dealers have lost their income and I doubt they will be entitled to Furlough! So it appears that they are trying to top up their loss of income by committing vehicle crime. Mainly theft from motor vehicle. So please ensure that you do not leave ANY valuables in your car and always lock your car. Thieves will try hundreds of door handles throughout the day and night, they are mostly looking for the loose change in the centre console but will take anything else that they see. PLEASE LOCK YOUR CAR. “

BEWARE OF SCAMS



Since the coronavirus pandemic began the Government has only sent out one text message to the public regarding new rules to the public about staying at home to prevent the spread of coronavirus. Any others you may receive claiming to be from the UK Government are fake and a scam.

Criminals are able to use spoofing technology to send texts and emails impersonating organisations that you know and trust. If you receive an unexpected text or email, asking for personal or financial details, do not respond. Remember, do not click on the links or attachments in any texts or emails and instead visit the official website through a known route.

Other scams to be aware of are:

- Fake testing kits offered for sale.
- E-mails claiming to come from an official organisation seeking personal details or donations.
- Emails with government agency e.g. HMRC, DWP branding on making offers of financial support or saying you can get a refund on taxes, utilities, TV licences, etc. These are usually bogus – they are just after your personal and bank details
- Criminals trying to gain access to home computers - don't divulge logon details / passwords.
- E-mails about a breach of the 'stay home regulations' demanding payment of a fine.
- E-mails about free school meal provision looking for personal and financial details
- Online shopping scams where orders for protective face masks, hand sanitiser and other healthcare products have never arrived.
- People offering miracle cures or vaccines for coronavirus – there is no specific treatment for coronavirus (COVID-19).
- People impersonating healthcare workers, claiming to be offering 'home-testing' for coronavirus – this is a scam - these kits are not currently available to buy.
- Fake products available to buy online that say they can protect you or cure coronavirus. These will not help and are designed to take your money.
- Mobile phone applications that claim to give you updates on the virus but instead, they lock your phone and demand a ransom.

- People offering to do your shopping or collecting medication and asking for money upfront and then disappearing.

Remember – your bank, Building Society, the government/HMRC, etc. will never ask you to confirm your bank account details – they already know it.

The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) has launched [Suspicious Email Reporting Service](#). You can forward any suspicious emails directly to NCSC-including those claiming to offer services related to coronavirus.

If you think you may have been the victim of fraud or cyber crime, you should report this to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.

Find out more about how to stay safe and secure on the [National Cyber Security website](#).

STAYING SECURE ONLINE

As we start to become increasingly more reliant on technology at home it helps to stay in the know about staying safe online and protect ourselves from cyber threats. Here are some useful top tips to ensure that you and your family stay secure online:

- Protect your email by using a strong password and separate password
- Install the latest software and app updates
- Turn on two-factor authentication on your email
- Password Managers help you to secure passwords
- Secure smartphones and tablets with a screen lock
- Always back up your most important data

THEFT FROM/OF MOTOR VEHICLES - 1

As above, with many of are not using our cars much now, leaving them unattended for many days, this is making it easier for thieves to target them. Unfortunately there has been a recent spate of incidents of theft from motor vehicles. The Police advise us of the following incidents

- Eversley Crescent: Timeframe between 19/05/2020 at 1900hrs to 20/05/2020 at 0830hrs
- Syon Lane: Timeframe between 21/05/2020 at 1500hrs to 22/05/2020 at 0600hrs
- Jersey Road: At 0253hrs on 22/05/2020
- Great West Road: Timeframe between 22/05/2020 at 1800hrs to 23/05/2020 at 0100hrs

And we have heard reports from local residents of

- a car window broken on Thornbury Road (they were chased off before they got any further)
- a would-be thief disturbed by neighbours when rummaging through the interior pockets of a Ford Galaxy in Spring Grove
- 2 men using a flashlight at night to see something of interest inside a locked car in Worton Gardens, Isleworth and then smashing the side window to get to it
- 2 cars stolen from Lingwood Gardens and St. Marys Crescent respectively.

Please ensure you keep your vehicles secure at all times and do not leave anything in the vehicle (whether on display or hidden away), especially if you are not using it much at this time. The Police are well aware of these incidents and are actively seeking to arrest the perpetrators. Their advice is “*We are strongly encouraging everyone to keep nothing on display inside their vehicles. If you can park in a driveway or garage please do so, and ensure that your vehicles are fully secured at all time!*”

If you see anyone acting suspiciously looking into or tampering with vehicles contact 999 immediately, otherwise report via 101 in a non-emergency or online at met.police.uk. You can also report crime anonymously via [crimestoppers](#).”

THEFT FROM/OF MOTOR VEHICLES - 2

Our old friend returns - there was a Catalytic Converter theft on BLUMENTHAL CLOSE, ISLEWORTH. This occurred between 15/05/2020 at 0800hrs to 22/05/2020 at 1320hrs. Police advice on limiting the risk of this is

- Mark the convertors with a serial number to make them distinctive
- Place a protective cover over it
- Install CCTV and alarms
- Park vehicles so as to prevent access underneath.

Although there are over 10,000 different types of convertors, the cars that are most targeted are hybrid cars (because the convertors on those cars are used less often, and so the metals in the convertors are less corroded and so more valuable).

THEFT FROM/OF MOTOR VEHICLES - 3

Good news – Police advise us that last week a serial offender for motor vehicle offences was arrested and charged with motor vehicle interference offences on Osterley & Spring Grove Ward this week.

Please do continue to report everything you see or hear to the Police. They may not be able to take action on a specific incident you report, but it will still add to their intelligence and allow them to build up a picture of what is happening and target their resources to best effect.

PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM BURGLARY

Police advise everyone that to minimise the risk of falling victim to house burglary you should become a “creature of habit”. Try to get into the habit of following your own course of action when you lock up your home. Make up a list and then follow it like a checklist - this will ensure that you don't forget anything.

Here's what they recommend you do before you go out:

- close and lock all your doors and windows, even if you're only going out for a few minutes
- double-lock any door
- make sure that any valuables are out of sight
- keep handbags away from the letterbox or cat flap and hide all keys including car keys, as a thief could hook keys or valuables through even a small opening
- never leave car documents or ID in obvious places such as kitchens or hallways
- in the evening, shut the curtains and leave lights on
- if you're out all day, then it's advisable to use a timer device to automatically turn lights and a radio on at night
- set your burglar alarm
- make sure the side gate is locked
- lock your shed or garage
- lock your bike inside a secure shed or garage, to a robust fitting bolted to the ground or wall, like a ground anchor

Please also see

www.met.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/residential-burglary

and

www.met.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/business-robbery/protect-your-business

FOLLOWING OUR LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Please follow the newly launched Twitter, Facebook and Instagram social media accounts from the Hounslow Borough Neighbourhood Watch Association (HBNWA).

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/HounslowNWatch>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/HounslowNWatch/>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/hounslownwatch/>

CONTACTING THE POLICE

Telephone 999 in an emergency where there is a danger to life or a crime is in progress.

Telephone 101 for non-emergencies where police attendance is required, to report a crime or to report any other incidents.

If you need to report something of concern **in your area** (that does not fall into the above categories) then it is best to contact your local Safer Neighbourhood team. Their [website is here](#). There are also details about the levels of crime in the area, and details of our Safer Neighbourhood Team.

SIGN UP TO OWL

[OWL](#) helps to keep communities safe, reduce crime and keep people informed of what's going on locally. It's a shared, secure platform for the public, police and local authorities to maximise the potential of Neighbourhood Watch, Rural Watch, Business Watch and dozens of other schemes. OWL sends you the latest local crime alerts and provides management tools for maintaining and expanding watches.

We recommend local residents sign up for it; you will then receive regular emails from the police with information on crimes in the area, crime prevention advice, and more.

Community Help

VISORS FOR FRONT-LINE MEDICAL STAFF AND KEY WORKERS IN HOUNSLOW

We launched our initiative to use 3D printers to produce and donate visors to NHS frontline staff in Hounslow on 8th April, leveraging an existing group producing them for Surrey and Kent, and another initiative launched a couple of weeks later, targeting Chelsea & Westminster. As of 20th May we have raised over £15,000 for the Hounslow initiative (and roughly the same for the Chelsea & Westminster one). The Hounslow funds were raised thanks to the incredible generosity of over 410 people who have donated to us. We thank you all. As of the same date we had delivered over 4,100 visors across Hounslow and Chelsea and Westminster areas; split roughly 50:50 between the 2 initiatives.



Following new guidance from the government we switched to sourcing them from a producer who has the necessary government approvals and certification as per the new guidance.

We received a delivery from them on 22 May (2,000 in total) and are in the process of distributing them across the NHS, split equally between the 2 areas. To date we have distributed the majority of this new delivery.

Further details may be found on the [crowdfunding site](#), which is now closed to further donations.

EALING AND HOUNSLOW VOLUNTEER CENTRE



Ealing and Hounslow Volunteer Centre is now the official volunteer centre for the London Borough of Hounslow, providing services across the whole borough. It helps volunteers and organisations in

all areas of the volunteer recruitment and management process; with the aim of benefitting communities through inclusive volunteering opportunities.

If you would like to offer your time to a local charity, voluntary organisation or community group to provide Covid-19 support but are unsure who to talk to, info@ealingcvs.org.uk

LOCAL COVID-19 MUTUAL AID SUPPORT GROUPS

There are also some local support groups that have been set up on Facebook - so you need a Facebook account to access them. The ones covering this area are

- Osterley Area (from the junction of Osterley Road and The Grove northwards).
Name – Osterley COVID-19 Mutual Aid.
Contact details www.facebook.com/groups/OsterleyAid/ .
Email : Osterley.Aid@gmail.com
- Isleworth Area (covering Isleworth and Osterley & Spring Grove).
Name : COVID-19 Isleworth Helping Others Group.
Contact details www.facebook.com/groups/3604442796294359/
- Hounslow borough-wide Group.
Name – Hounslow Covid-19 Mutual Aid.
Contact details www.facebook.com/groups/HounslowMutualAid/ .
Email: hounslow.covid19.aid@gmail.com.

We have no specific information about these groups e.g. what checks they carry out on volunteers and/or what safeguarding controls they have in place.

SEWING SCRUBS FOR FRONT-LINE STAFF



A local resident, and her family (and in particular her mum who's 85 and who's in the vulnerable group) have been working hard to sew as many scrub bags as we can. They have sewn 260 scrub bags and recycled over 30 pieces of Scrubs. They got the grandchildren involved too and they drew some personal messages thanking the NHS which we attached to the bags and delivered them to the West Middlesex.

On behalf of OWGRA and the residents of Osterley, thank you Bea and your family !

DONATE TO YOUR LOCAL HOSPITAL

Our local hospital, the West Middlesex, is run by the Chelsea & Westminster and West Middlesex Hospitals Trust. If you would like to make a donation to them to thank them for the great work they are doing, you can do so via the [COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund](#) .

DONATE TO A LOCAL FOOD CHARITY

If you want to make a donation to a local charity that provides emergency food and support and advice to those who are in need and live in the London Borough of Hounslow, then consider [Hounslow Community Foodbox](#). Their appeal for funds [can be accessed here](#).

NATIONAL COVID-19 APPEAL

There is also a national appeal underway for funds to help those most affected by the epidemic. Further details are here <https://nationalemergenciestrust.org.uk/coronavirus/>

Other News

NHS HOUNSLOW COVID-19 IMPACT SURVEY



NHS Hounslow Clinical Commissioning Group and Healthwatch Hounslow would like to know how the coronavirus had been affecting you and those close to you. They state

“We would be really grateful if you could complete our survey and share the link with any family, friends or neighbours who live in Hounslow for them to complete it too. We will use the findings to help us to understand how our residents have been coping and what we can do to support you. The survey takes 10-15 minutes to complete and asks questions about accessing health care, using technology, how you are feeling and your experiences of trying to stay informed about COVID-19.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/8PPTVF8>

We also ask some demographic questions (for example age, ethnicity, where you live in the borough). This is so that we know what is happening in different parts of Hounslow and we understand the experiences of our different communities. If you have any questions about this survey please contact Healthwatch Hounslow on 020 3603 2438 or email info@healthwatchhounslow.co.uk. You can also visit their website [here](#).”

SURVEY ON HOUSING DENSITY

We have been contacted by Jacob Karlsson, a research fellow at the department of Geography & Environment at the LSE, who with some colleagues is conducting research on housing density amongst outer London boroughs. He has asked us to pass the following details to our members

“Invitation to participate in study on density

It is hard to find land in London to build on. One suggestion is to increase density - to allow more to be built on a piece of land. To this end, my colleagues and I at the London School of Economics have put together a survey to better understand what Outer London residents think about this. The survey can be accessed by clicking on the link below and then, after having read the instructions, by clicking ‘Continue’. It consists of two parts. The first is a short questionnaire and the second contains a series of images for the participant to respond to. More detailed information, including a consent form, can be found on the survey’s introduction page. Participants are encouraged to complete the survey by May 31. Responses will be anonymous. If there are any technical questions or issues, please feel free to email: j.g.karlsson@lse.ac.uk.

Link to the survey: <https://urban-experiment.com/share/jzx8JB> “

TRAVELLING INTO CENTRAL LONDON

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, and Transport for London (TfL) have announced plans to transform parts of central London into one of the largest car-free zones in any capital city in the world. They state this *“is necessary to enable safe social distancing on public transport in London as lockdown restrictions are eased, and will help support increased walking and cycling and improve the city’s air quality.”*

The £11.50 a day Congestion Charge is now applied between 7am and 10pm, seven days a week, instead of just weekdays. This charge will rise to £15 from 22 June.

The Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) Charge, which costs £12.50 for most vehicles that don't meet the emissions threshold, has also been reintroduced as of 18 May for most vehicles that don't meet the emissions threshold, and £100 for heavy lorries or coaches.

In addition, children will no longer have free travel across London and restrictions on free travel passes for people with a disability or over 60 will be imposed during peak hours. To support NHS staff, the Congestion Charge reimbursement scheme is being extended and will also be open to care home workers.

Read more about the announcement [here](#).

They also state "... public transport should be avoided, wherever possible, to free up the limited space available to those who have no alternative way to travel. If you must travel, please plan ahead and travel outside of the busiest times, particularly first thing in the morning. The busiest times on the network are 5.45 to 8.15am and 4 to 5.30pm in the afternoon. Transport for London (TfL) are asking Londoners to travel outside these times if they possibly can.

TfL has produced a list of the [busiest times and places](#) on their tube and rail network. This list and the busiest times might change over time.

TfL has also updated its digital tools such as [journey planner](#), and the real-time data they provide to third party apps.

If using the transport network, stay two metres from others if possible, wear a face covering and respect the space of fellow passengers...."

This seems to us an interesting interpretation of the phrase "London is open for business.."

OPEN HOUSE CHARITY – APPEAL FOR DONATIONS

Open House is a charity that organises the opening up to the public of notable buildings all over London every year. Like many charities they have been hit hard by the Covid-19 crisis. Please see a statement from them below

"For three decades we have staged the extraordinary Open House festival every September opening the doors of amazing buildings all over London for hundreds of thousands of people to explore and enjoy for free. We have also created unique design-led education for children and young people from deprived backgrounds and with special educational needs across the city. We estimate that since Open House was founded, around 2.8 million people have come to the festival and tens of thousands of children have benefited from our workshops and learning programmes.

However, as a charity, we have always funded our work with income we earn from running events throughout the year, and as society takes important steps to defeat the coronavirus, we have been hard hit by the lockdown which has stopped almost all our sources of income.

Open House is not a big organisation. We don't receive central government grants or statutory funding but nonetheless do amazing things with modest resources. We have a tiny staff team supported by tireless volunteers but making the Open House festival happen every year, and delivering educational projects in communities on the ground is a huge undertaking. Right now our staff are working around the clock finding new ways to continue supporting the communities who rely on our learning programmes throughout the lockdown. We are creating new online and mail-order educational activities to ensure nobody is deprived of a holistic education due to the pandemic. And we are devising inventive ways to celebrate London's unique landscape for all even if Covid-19 means that we can't run a traditional Open House Weekend in September. But we can't do any of this alone.

In the past, we have rarely asked the public for financial support and have done everything we can to keep Open House free for all, but in this crisis, we now need your help. If you believe in our work and can afford to contribute a small monthly donation, please act now to become an Open House Friend. You can read more about the great rewards we are creating to say thank

you to everyone who donates below.

We understand that incomes are being hit across society by the virus, and that not everybody is in a position to give to charity at this time, but if just 1% of the people who come to Open House every year gave a small donation each month, it would safeguard the charity, guaranteeing the future of the free Open House festival and the critical work we do with disadvantaged young people across London.

Once again the link to our Friends appeal page is <https://www.openhouselondon.org.uk/appeal>

Thank you. Together we can ensure the future of London is open to all."

SCHOOL STREET RESTRICTIONS FOR LEIGHAM DRIVE

The council have advised us that the extension of the Red Route scheme to Leigham Drive and the Great West Road slip road will go ahead. They state

"Councillors have now agreed for this scheme to be progressed. We've been notified that Nishkam is preparing for staggered start/end times to aid social distancing and ease congestion and so, we are progressing with priority on this scheme considering the difficulties of an early implementation and the uncertainties of procuring the necessary equipment for enforcement to take place.

Subject to Transport for London's (TfL's) approval of camera location, we plan to have the scheme in place during the summer, ready for the new term in September. Once we have indicative dates in hand, we will write to the residents and update the [consultation page](#) in due course."

FREE LEGAL ADVICE

Elia Zee have advised us that, from Monday 11th May 2020 their Community Legal Advice Clinic has begun offering full advice services [via digital access only](#). In person services will remain suspended until further notice. To book an advice appointment call 0203 925 2340 or email contact@eliazee.com

FATAL ACCIDENT IN OSTERLEY

[The Evening Standard](#) reports that, sadly, a fatal traffic accident occurred last weekend in Osterley. We understand police are still investigating and will complete their report on the cause of it in the near future.

LOCAL CARE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Careplace www.careplace.org.uk/ is a web directory of local care and community services and how to pay for them. On this page www.careplace.org.uk/Services/16122 you can download the useful current "Guide to Self-Funding Adult Social Care and Support Services in Hounslow".

The Community Information Guide from LB Hounslow is an online directory of all of the voluntary and community groups in Hounslow and information about community buildings that are available to hire in the borough <https://cig.hounslow.gov.uk>

TW8 NEWSLETTER

You might have noticed that we frequently give links to news and stories on <http://www.brentfordtw8.com/> (it covers TW7 as well as TW8). This is a very informative website, and you can sign up to receive their weekly e-newsletter. There are similar websites for Chiswick (<http://www.chiswickw4.com/>) and Ealing (<http://www.ealingtoday.co.uk>).