

# SAVE OUR TRAINS

## Outcry at Southeastern’s plans to slash peak-hour services on the Greenwich line from December without consulting users

**S**OUTHEASTERN are changing their timetable on Sunday 11 December. For Westcombe Park residents this means a reduction in morning peak Greenwich line services from 13 to 8 trains and a reduction in the evening peak Greenwich line services from 12 to 6 trains. The gap between off-peak services will increase to 23 minutes twice an hour towards central London resulting in a very uneven service with trains running alternately 23 and 7 minutes apart. There will be no improvement to the 10- and 20-minutes gaps for the off-peak services from central London. Off-peak Charing Cross services from Blackheath will cease. There has been no consultation, despite other operators consulting on their proposed changes and despite strong opposition to similar changes to the distribution of Charing Cross and Cannon Street services when first proposed in 2017. More details of the new timetable are available on [www.southeasternrailway.co.uk](http://www.southeasternrailway.co.uk) and other rail websites.

### Strong cross-party opposition to the changes

The peak hour service was only increased on the Greenwich line in early 2022 due to overcrowding. The Westcombe Society have long been campaigning for a return to the pre-Covid every 10 minutes “turn up and go”. We also supported Blackheath residents in their fight against the loss of Charing Cross services in 2017. Southeastern say the changes will mean: space on trains where it’s needed most, a more consistent timetable throughout the day and more trains on time. There is strong cross-party opposition to these changes from councillors and MPs from Greenwich, Lewisham and Bexley. At a Royal Borough of Greenwich Transport Scrutiny meeting on Thursday 20 October, representatives from Southeastern, including the managing director, Steve White, were grilled for three hours. Despite claiming a move towards a “turn up and go” service on its Metro lines, Mr White admitted that the Greenwich line through Westcombe Park and Maze Hill will suffer from the new timetable. He also apologised for the lack of consultation citing lack of time for meaningful consultation. His apologies were not well received, attendees felt they were too little too late. The Westcombe Society and others have already written to Southeastern and the

Department for Transport asking them to delay the implementation of changes to allow for consultation, retain the additional peak-hour trains introduced earlier this year on the Greenwich line, improve the off-peak service on the Greenwich line with evenly spaced timing, preferably six an hour as the service was pre-Covid and to retain Charing Cross services via Blackheath. Unfortunately, it appears to be too late for the December changes to be stopped but Southeastern have undertaken to listen and take feedback into consideration for possible timetable changes in 2023. However, they will only listen if a

significant number of people make their views known. If these changes affect you, we strongly encourage you to write. You can also sign online petitions – details are given on a post about the changes on [www.westcombesociety.org](http://www.westcombesociety.org). Please write to: **Southeastern** Steve White, Managing Director, SE Trains Limited, Second floor, 4 More London Riverside, London, SE1 2AU. [steve.white\\_MD@southeasternrailway.co.uk](mailto:steve.white_MD@southeasternrailway.co.uk) Please also copy to George Patterson [George.Paterson@southeasternrailway.co.uk](mailto:George.Paterson@southeasternrailway.co.uk)

**Department for Transport** (Southeastern is currently under government control) The Rt Hon Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP Secretary of State for Transport Great Minster House 33 Horseferry Rd London SW1P 4DR [annemarie.trevelyan.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:annemarie.trevelyan.mp@parliament.uk) You may also like to copy to the following: **Transport Focus** Anthony Smith Esq, Chief Executive

Continued on page 2



## Foodbank warns of ‘biggest challenge yet’ this winter

AS WINTER approaches Greenwich Foodbank finds itself facing its biggest challenge yet: rising foodbank use coupled with falling donations as the cost-of-living crisis bites, writes its chief executive, Jamie Ginns. Each week, 3.5 tons of food come as 4.5 tons go out. The cost of living crisis has brought with it a cost of giving crisis. People cannot afford to support their local foodbank as they once could. To help give you a clear sense of the current challenge, take a look at these statistics. In 2013 (our first full year of

operation) we distributed 35,091 meals. In 2021 we distributed 91,602 meals. In 2022, at time of writing, we have distributed 104,778. Pre-pandemic almost 100 per cent of the food Greenwich Foodbank distributed was physically donated by members of the public, community groups and companies. As the current economic climate takes hold we have begun to purchase food for ourselves – £9,000 of it each month. A challenging time to say the least. But we are not without hope. Time and time again we have seen provision beyond our

expectation at just those moments when we need it most. As we enter into this winter we do so with confidence that the Greenwich Foodbank story will continue as it has for the past 10 years, providing uninterrupted love and support for those in need in our borough. But we need your help if you are able to give it. Three things for you to consider this winter: making a direct monetary donation to Greenwich Foodbank via our website [www.greenwich.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.greenwich.foodbank.org.uk); making a donation to Greenwich Foodbank Bankuet

at [www.bankuet.co.uk](http://www.bankuet.co.uk) – they help us buy in bulk orders of food that will be a lifeline to us this winter; downloading the Bank the Food App from [www.bankthefood.org](http://www.bankthefood.org). Follow us on here to keep our up to date shopping list in your pocket and receive updates as you enter your local supermarket. In this time of great need in our borough, it is a privilege to see the practical evidence of the generosity of people’s hearts each day. Don’t underestimate the impact a single act of kindness can have this winter. Stay positive! Take action!

# WESTCOMBE SOCIETY

## WESTCOMBE NEWS

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## Fundraiser nets £1,300 for cancer charity

THE WORLD’S biggest annual coffee morning recently came to Mycenae House courtesy of the Westcombe Society and, as always, the charity event was a hugely successful fundraiser for Macmillan Cancer.

More than £1,300 was raised on the day with upwards of 150 people popping in for coffee and homemade sandwiches and cakes.

Guest of honour was Greenwich’s deputy Lord Mayor, Dominic Mbang (pictured), who stayed for a couple of hours mingling and chatting to everyone – mums with babies, retirees from nearby Tudor Grange, representatives from Macmillan Cancer, and busy folk who popped in for a quick lunch and to give their support to this worthy cause.

Alan’s Plants Garden Centre on the Woolwich Road generously donated lots of for sale, and this went down a treat. A big thank you to all who volunteered their time and baking talent to this always uplifting coffee morning.



## Friends relieved

THE THREAT to the future of the Friends of Mycenae Gardens has lifted. After its annual general meeting attracted too few people to be quorate an urgent appeal for support was answered. The group now has four new committee members – Bruce Atherton,

*Continued from page 1*  
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### London Travelwatch

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### Greenwich Blackheath Westcombe ward councillors

Leo Fletcher Leo  
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Mariam Lolavar  
[mariam.lolavar@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:mariam.lolavar@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)



Anne Robbins, Virginia Williams and Stewart Williams. Sarah Peters-Harrison is to attend as an invited member.

FREE WEEKLY classes for Ukrainian families with small children start on Thursday 3 November (13:00-15:00) at MEfA Montessori School, 135 Westcombe Hill SE3 7DP. Please call Wendy for more details on 07710 433 994.

THE ANNUAL meeting of the Vanbrugh Community Association takes place in room 20 at Mycenae House on Thursday 22 November. It will also be on Zoom. Details from [info@mycenaehouse.co.uk](mailto:info@mycenaehouse.co.uk)

POSTMAN Iain Love’s hopes of a world record were dashed after heat and the heavy load he was carrying forced him to retire from the London Marathon.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**  
(See also [www.westcombesociety.org](http://www.westcombesociety.org))

75 Foyle Road ref 22/3442/HD

Christine St Matthew-Daniel  
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**Lewisham Blackheath ward councillors**  
(re Blackheath train services)  
Juliet Campbell

WITH THE nights drawing in , what better excuse for a jolly afternoon tea get together with local friends at Mycenae House, writes Diane Blackwerll.

The Westcombe Society’s popular annual Chrysanthemum Tea attracted a chatty gathering of our community’s senior citizens who enjoyed homemade sandwiches and cakes washed down with bottomless cups of tea.

The tables were adorned with vases of the season’s happiest flower, the chrysanthemum, and a fun (and challenging!) quiz compiled by the society’s Jean-Jacques Aune kept everyone on their toes.

The afternoon ended on a high with a raffle offering lots of goodies and a round of applause for a good time.

To construct single storey side and rear wrap around extension, replace windows, and alter facade.

Flat 1, 14 Vanbrugh Hill ref 22/3045/F

To construct single storey side garage with office space.

93B Humber Road ref 22/2673/F

Retrospective application to replace all windows.

Flat 4, 14 Glenluce Road ref 22/2404/F

To replace all windows to first floor rear.

18 Westcombe Park Road ref 22/3025/HD

To install air condition inverter heat pump on roof of rear extension

### TREE WORKS

151 Westcombe Hill ref 22/3391/TC

To fell eucalyptus in rear garden.

9 Vanbrugh Park Road West ref 22/3411/TC

To fell sycamore in front garden and remove branch of a second sycamore in rear.

63 Vanbrugh Park ref 22/3410/TC

To fell sycamore and ash in rear garden. To lift canopy of lime to 5.5m in front garden.

42 Beaconsfield Road ref 22/3388/TC

To fell 4 Leyland cypress in rear garden.

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Janet Daby, Lewisham East (re Blackheath services)  
[janet.daby.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:janet.daby.mp@parliament.uk)



Scan the QR to go to the petition against the timetable changes

■ The full meeting of the transport scrutiny panel can be viewed at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=v43LhJKedio&t=7701s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v43LhJKedio&t=7701s)

## Parking permit purgatory: a battle to buy visitors’ vouchers from the council website

NAVIGATING Greenwich Council website is like a journey down the rabbit hole into Alice’s Wonderland, says resident Mary Harding.

I recently had to buy some visitors’ parking vouchers from Greenwich Council, which can only be done online now that the paper permits have been scrapped. You are required to supply proof of address. Fair enough. The website offers a drop-down menu with only one relevant option to me: a council tax statement.

Unfortunately I was unable to find a current statement. I phoned the Parking Services helpline and spoke to a young man who was very polite and tried to be helpful.

He asked a colleague for advice and then told me that I could upload an alternative proof of address such as a utility bill or bank statement. But “just to be on safe side” I should upload several documents. When I pointed out that this option didn’t appear on the menu, and the whole process was very unclear he said: yes we do get calls from people who are confused but we are able to help them through it.

So I off I go to collect my “several” documents, three of them “to be on the safe side”. I choose council tax statement on the menu, upload a bank statement, then try to upload a second document. The website will only accept one! But, hey presto, I can

nevertheless buy my set of four-hour vouchers. Buoyed by my success, I decide to buy some all-day vouchers as well so I start the process again. Despite my having chosen the visitor voucher option, the website decides I want a carer’s voucher and offers me a list of options such as a letter from my GP or care manager. This time however, I know how the system works. I ignore what the website asks for, upload the same bank statement, and buy my vouchers.

The whole process is frustrating and farcical, Greenwich Council website is – in the currently popular phrase at Westminster – “not fit for purpose”.

# NEIGHBOURHOOD

## Park traffic ban permanent

A BAN on through-traffic imposed in Greenwich Park during the Covid crisis is now permanent.

Vehicles are barred from using The Avenue (pictured) as a cut-through between King William Walk and Charlton Way. It used to be open during weekday rush hours. Similar bans have been confirmed in other outer London royal parks, including Richmond and Bushey, after trials started in August 2020 “to reduce the impact of cut-through traffic, improve the park visitor experience and open new spaces for park visitors to enjoy”.

The Royal Parks charity, which looks after the royal parks, said that consultation responses from across the parks indicated that a majority of respondents supported the proposals. “With the closure of the roads, The Royal Parks will look to explore how



the space will be repurposed, engaging with local communities and park visitors on measures that help to improve the parks.”

Tom Jarvis, its director of parks said: “As custodians of some of London’s finest green spaces, we’re delighted to announce that the successful trials to reduce cut-through traffic in our outer parks will be made permanent. The decision is a key part of ensuring The Royal Parks is delivering on its charitable objects.

“We’d like to thank all those who have been involved in the project since it was launched in July 2020, particularly those who responded to our public consultations.

“We’re looking forward to engaging with our stakeholders and the local communities to see how we may repurpose the spaces available, now that certain roads are closed permanently to vehicles.”

■ The Royal Parks Police at Greenwich Park are seeking people’s views on the Metropolitan Police Service within the park. They have set up short questionnaire which can be completed online at [www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/RU4DSG/](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/RU4DSG/)

They say that this survey will help them to improve their understanding of the various groups of park users and stakeholders they serve, which in turn will help them to improve their service to all the communities of London.

## Door-to-door Poppy appeal collections

CAPTAIN David Kerr hopes readers will find it helpful to know in advance that if the weather is dry he hopes to bring round poppies and enamel lapel badges when he makes his usual door to door collection in Westcombe Park between Monday 7 and Thursday 10 November.

He also hopes to collect under cover at Marks & Spencer at the Standard on wet days and on Friday 11 and Saturday 12 November. At the time of writing he does not know whether he will be provided with a card reader and therefore advises that donations should be in cash or by cheque please. Cheques should be made payable to “The Poppy Appeal”.

Poppies will also be available from collectors in Blackheath Village on Saturdays 29 October, 5 and 12 November and at the Farmers' Market on Sundays 30 October, 6 and 13 November. The Poppy Appeal runs from Thursday 27 October to 13 November 2022 (Remembrance Sunday).

## No bucks, no bangs

THERE WILL be no fireworks display on Blackheath again this year, Lewisham Council has confirmed, citing “funding cuts from central government”.

Its website said that before the Covid-19 pandemic, “the display was funded almost exclusively by Lewisham, supported by fundraising efforts from local residents and businesses, following other partners and neighbouring local authorities withdrawing funding”. The last display was in 2019.

“We will continue exploring possible options for future displays and remain open to offers of sponsorship and external funding,” the council said

■ The borough’s annual festive light trail, Sparkle in the Park, is back for a third year this Christmas. And it’s set to take over a brand-new location.

From 1 to 4 December, Well Hall Pleasaunce will be transformed into what it describes as “an enchanted winter wonderland for Royal Greenwich residents to enjoy”. Tickets to the free event will be available through Eventbrite. More details on tickets and planning your visit will be available closer to the event.

### Grant bids invited

THE GREENWICH Neighbourhood Growth Fund is money generated by a levy



WINNING smiles all round from (l-r) Kaz, Veli, Erol and Hasan at the Brothers Bakery at Blackheath Standard after it was named best food and drink venue at the Best of Royal Greenwich Business Awards, writes Diane Blackwell.

Thanks to their efforts the bakery has evolved into a lively hub where strangers become friends over coffee.

Kaz said: “We feel that our passion for great food and service has been appreciated and it’s lovely to know our customers voted for us, are proud of us, and that they feel part of the win.”

The awards, held in association with headline sponsor U+I and with the South East London Chamber of Commerce, presented an opportunity to highlight



excellence in the borough, which is home to 11,600 businesses providing more than 100,000 jobs.,

Brothers Bakery didn’t win the £3,000 prize money (that went to Business of the Year winners BPTW, a Greenwich-based architectural and planning practice that has been operating in the borough for more than 30 years), but they’re still beaming over their beautiful trophy, and the recognition of their hard work.

Also smiling was Westcombe Park resident Alison Wood, left, co-founder of Melodic Decoder, a music theory resources business for children, which took the award for best new business.

The awards were presented at the InterContinental Hotel – the 02 on Friday 7 October.

### Clean-up award

LOTTA WALKER, 14, a pupil at John Roan, has received a Jack Petchey Foundation award for her environmental activities, including litter-picking. She encouraged a group of students from her school to join her to help improve various establishments in the local area, starting with Mycenae House.

Gemma Juma, the foundation’s chief executive said: “We want to recognise more young people across London and Essex doing inspirational things to improve their local environment.”

**REACH OUT Walk and Talk Group**

Mondays 12-2pm.  
Meet outside main entrance at Mycenae House, SE3.

Email:  
[befriending@volunteersgreenwich.co.uk](mailto:befriending@volunteersgreenwich.co.uk)  
Tel: Abdi 07444 182 741

**Exhibition: The Fairy Tale Forest**  
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## Song, prayer, care, and parquet floors

We recently printed a photo of a nun at the convent that is now Mycenae House and asked for readers' memories of that time. We were delighted to receive the reply printed below







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I remember it very well with great affection, writes Catherine Purtill. I lived with my family in Vanbrugh Park and we would always go to Mass at the Convent if we were going out on a Sunday. They must have had an earlier Mass than Our Lady of Grace or St Mary's where we would normally go. This would have been in the 1950s. The nuns were very welcoming especially to children and I told one of them that I wanted to be a nun when I grew up so she gave me a copy of A Form of Catholic Action, which I still have, although I didn't become a nun.

I remember the shiny parquet floor which squeaked when I walked on it and the nuns singing in very high pitched voices at Mass and Benediction. They had a crowning of Our Lady procession which took place in their beautiful garden and there were probably other processions, maybe a Sacred Heart procession, although I don't remember them very well.

At Christmas there would be a crib in the chapel which was very impressive, I'm sure the nuns must have loved putting it together. I suspect they took great care with everything they did, particularly looking after the sick in their own homes, which was a wonderful thing to do.

It was like a beautiful peaceful haven and I would love to be able to go back in time and visit it again.

According to the Mycenae House website, the building is a rare example of a purpose-built convent of the 1930s.

Although it has always been architecturally and historically overshadowed by its illustrious neighbour, Woodlands (the former home of John Julius Angerstein, one of the original founders of Lloyd's underwriters), Mycenae House nevertheless has an interesting history.

At the end of the First World War, Woodlands was empty and was sold to The Little Sisters of the Assumption – a Catholic Novitiate Order founded in France in 1865 – for use as a convent. The sale of land adjacent to Woodlands by the trustees of The Little Sisters paid for the building of a Novitiate House which was blessed in 1931 and opened in 1933.

In 1967 the Order left Blackheath and relocated to Paddington. At this time a local historian, Cyril Fry, who lived in Mycenae Road, persuaded Greenwich Council to



Top, nuns by the grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, no longer there, in the gardens. Above, nuns outside what is now Woodlands House. Left, the cover of the books given to Catherine Purtill

acquire Woodlands and the Novitiate House and thereby protected the grounds and Novitiate House from acquisition by developers. The municipality bought and converted the House into Kidbrooke House Community Centre in 1968 to replace the original Kidbrooke House, which was in Shooters Hill Road where the Sun in the Sands roundabout is today. Kidbrooke House was demolished in order to build the roundabout. The new Kidbrooke House was renamed Mycenae House in 1994 as part of the changeover from being council-managed to being independently run by Vanbrugh Community Association.

● Do let us know if you are able to share reminiscences that tell of our area in times gone by. Who knows, they may jolt another's memory. Email: [wnews@westcombesociety.org](mailto:wnews@westcombesociety.org)



# Search for answers to a signal mystery

By Mary Mills

I hope that the Westcombe News may be able to help me to solve a local mystery. I am a local historian researching the industries of Charlton. This area was once an industrial heartland providing employment throughout south-east London. The site I am interested in is just the other side of the Blackwall Tunnel Approach from Westcombe Hill. It is now the police car compound and sits in what appears to be an old chalk pit. At the south end of the pit

area is the railway line from Blackheath emerging from its tunnel below the shops in Bramshot Avenue. There is quite a grand tunnel entrance which hardly anyone ever sees. I know that the police site replaced a factory and, as it was the first factory over the border in Charlton, I want to find out more about it. All I have been able to find out so far is that it was the old South Eastern Railway's signalling works that opened sometime between 1860 and 1905. There was an engineer's department there

and they had a well-known works cricket team. It closed in the 1980s. I have been in touch with railway historians who specialise in signalling history, and ones who specialise in the South Eastern Railway. No one seems to know anything. And so I am asking Westcombe Park people: does anyone know of people who worked there? I'm attaching a photograph from the 1940s (thanks to Steve Hunnisett and Blitz-walkers). This shows the aftermath of a German V2 rocket hit on the works and part

of Siebert Road. The houses shown were badly damaged by the blast. Tunnel Approach now runs on their sites. The picture also shows the road frontage of the works – and it is a substantial factory with what look like metalworking areas and smoke stacks. Someone must know something about it. Hopefully, the industries of Charlton will end up as a book – like the one I published on the Greenwich Riverside and the one I hope to publish soon on Deptford Creek. If you can help, email Mary at marymillsmmmm@aol.com



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Tel: 0208 305 2203

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## Westcombe NEWS Editor Wanted

The Westcombe News is published  
10 times a year and seeks  
an editor or guest editors  
to work within a team to plan,  
revise and co-ordinate material  
for publication together with  
input from the Westcombe Society.  
This is a voluntary position.  
For further details please contact  
info@westcombesociety.org  
or call 07939 386215 (Marilyn Little)

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# WHAT'S ON

**MYCENAE HOUSE**  
Music at Mycenae House  
**Friday 11 November, 8pm.** Global Fusion present Juwon Ogungbe.  
**Friday 18 November, doors at 7.30pm.** Southern Aces.  
**Saturday 3 December, 1pm – 4pm.** Christmas Fundraising Fair run by Mycenae House Reach Out Project. All proceeds going towards the Reach Out Project, which offers regular programmes to reduce isolation and loneliness, develop skills and find support.  
[www.mycenaereachout.co.uk](http://www.mycenaereachout.co.uk)  
[mycenaereachout@gmail.com](mailto:mycenaereachout@gmail.com)

**BLACKHEATH FLOWER CLUB**  
**Third Friday of the month, 1-3pm.**  
Mycenae House. Call Sian: 07887 790028  
[sincaroline@googlemail.com](mailto:sincaroline@googlemail.com)

**THOMAS TALLIS SOCIETY CHOIR**  
**Saturday 12 November, 7.30pm.** A Concert for Remembrance Day, with Recent Brass. Works by James MacMillan, Bernard Hughes, Cecilia McDowall and Kerenza Briggs.  
**Saturday 3 December, 7.30pm.** A Very English Christmas. Works by Vaughan Williams, Finzi and Britten.  
St Alfege's Church, Greenwich.  
Tickets from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/tts](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/tts)

**GREENWICH INDUSTRIAL HISTORY**  
**Tuesday 22 November:** Cassie Newland on Landscapes of Telegraphy  
**Tuesday 13 December:** Paul Wyatt on the making of his film on the Greenwich Peninsula.  
Both lectures take place on Zoom. Booking on GIHS Facebook page in the week before the event or ask to go on their mail out.  
Last month's talk on Thames colliers was cancelled. Apologies. There will be a talk on Deptford Creek on **Friday 11 November** instead. Video will be available soon.

**AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL GREENWICH AND BLACKHEATH**  
**19 November, 10 am to 4 pm.** Book sale. Thousands of good quality books, fiction and fact, sold in aid of prisoners of conscience and human rights. Church of the Ascension, Dartmouth Row, SE10 8BF

**MUSIC FOR DANCE**  
**Monday 14 November, 7.30pm.** It's Not Just Tchaikovsky – Nigel Bates. James Wolfe Primary School, Royal Hill campus, London SE10 8RZ.  
A wide-ranging exploration of the music chosen by ballet choreographers through the years, from the grandness of Imperial Russia with the creation of Swan Lake,



PHOTO: © NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

Skaters on the ice rink outside the Queen's House. Skating is set to start on Thursday 17 November

Sleeping Beauty and other established and popular works through to the current modern repertoire of the Royal Ballet.

**ST PAUL'S SINFONIA**  
**18 November, 7.30pm.** Spirit of Innovation, Davies, Prokofiev and Brahms, Venue to be confirmed. [www.stpaulssinfonia.com](http://www.stpaulssinfonia.com)

**CONTEMPORARY PRINT FAIR**  
**Thursday 3 November to Saturday 6 November.** The seventh annual Woolwich Contemporary Print Fair will take Woolwich Works each day from 12 to 10pm. An online edition will run from 3 to 13 November. Standard tickets, £10.50, concessions, £8.50. [woolwichprintfair.com](http://woolwichprintfair.com).

**ROYAL MUSEUMS GREENWICH**  
All visitors, including members, are advised to pre-book their tickets at least 24 hours in advance. Please check [rmg.co.uk](http://rmg.co.uk) for the latest information on what is open.

**Cutty Sark**  
**Saturday 19 November.** Sea Shanty Festival.  
**Sunday 27 November.** Cutty Sark Comedy. Co-host of Wheel of misfortune and the Guilty Feminist podcast, Alison Spittle, will be headlining, joined by Tadiwa Mahlunge and Mark Cram.

**Royal Observatory**  
**Until 13 August 2023.** Astronomy Photographer of the Year 14

**Queen's House**  
**Sunday 13 November.** Remembrance Day: Voices of War and Peace. Queen's House Events include a talk and film screening of the fascinating documentary on the Chinese Labour Corps, who become the largest foreign labour corps to serve the Western Allies during WWI. A poetry workshop with Newham Poetry Group, as well as music, a spoken word performance, and an interactive workshop with BlackPoppyRose.  
**Thursday 17 November 2022 – Sunday 8 January 2023.** Queen's House Ice Rink

**National Maritime Museum**  
**Saturday 12 November.** SENSory Sailors Families with children with special educational needs and disabilities are

invited to a monthly session. Sessions are led by a SEND-specialist and will respond to the needs of the families participating.  
Date: 12 November  
URL: <https://www.rmg.co.uk/whats-on/national-maritime-museum/sensory-sailors>  
**Saturday 19 November.** LGBTQ+ Family Network. A safe space for local LGBTQ+ families to meet one another, get involved in creative activities for all ages and explore the stories within the collection.  
**Saturday 19 November.** Safe Harbour Safe Harbour is a series of free workshops created to provide a safe space for foster and adoptive families.

**Prince Philip Maritime Collections Centre**  
**Saturday 5 November:** Coder Dojo A free coding club for young people (7-17) interested in programming. The monthly club will consist of 90 minutes of programming; in which participants can take part in an array of specially designed coding activities inspired by RMG's vast collection.  
**Thursday 17 November, 7pm–8.30pm.** Join Simon Stephens, Curator of the Ship Model and Boat Collections at RMG, as he delves into the collection to showcase some of his favourite ship models.

**Old Royal Naval College**  
[www.ornc.org](http://www.ornc.org)  
**Saturday 5 November – Sunday 25 March 2023.** Blood & Battle: Dissecting the Life of William Beatty. This marks 200 years since Beatty took up the post of Physician to the Royal Hospital for Seamen in Greenwich – now the Old Royal Naval College. Tickets: £6 at [www.ornc.org](http://www.ornc.org) (Children 16 and under free)  
**Until Saturday 12 November.** 1797 The Mariner's Revenge. Admiral's House, Old Royal Naval College. Join the crew after the ill-fated Battle of Tenerife.

● Send submissions for What's On to [wnews@westcombesociety.org](mailto:wnews@westcombesociety.org)

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W: holisticcounsellingandyoga.com.  
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