

## **Westcombe News**

### **Editor Report 2025**

The *Westcombe News* continues to reflect and foster the vibrant spirit of our local community, reaching every household in Westcombe Park—whether or not they are members of the Westcombe Society—and with growing interest from neighbouring areas. Eighteen years on from receiving our first copy through the letterbox, I remain struck by the sense of inclusion and continuity that The Westcombe Society and this paper brings to our corner of London.

As always, the paper is the result of a team effort, from our dedicated contributors to our tireless distributors. The tradition of collective involvement that began with the first edition in 1973 remains at the heart of the *Westcombe News* today.

One of the most significant topics covered this year has been the introduction of the Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) scheme in the Westcombe Park area. The topic has prompted strong and diverse responses within the community, and we have sought to reflect this through balanced reporting, thoughtful commentary, and reader contributions. As with all local developments, our aim has been to inform, provide space for dialogue, and support constructive engagement.

I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to the many individuals who make the *Westcombe News* possible. Marilyn remains a cornerstone of support and knowledge, not least through her oversight of advertising and her work with the printers. Annie Grey's meticulous proofreading and good cheer are always appreciated.

The environment continues to be a key area of focus for our readers, and I am particularly grateful to Maggie Gravelle for steering the environmental section with such dedication, supported by the thoughtful input of the environment committee. Emily Norton deserves special mention for her role in managing distribution alongside her environmental work, and thanks also to Anne Hill for her reliable and detailed oversight of local planning matters.

Our features on local people, history, and community events continue to resonate with readers, and I remain grateful to our excellent editorial team and regular contributors – including Geoff, Diane, Anne Robbins, and Neville – for their insight, effort, and commitment. Polly's work on the What's On page, and thanks also go to Jane, Miles, and Christine, as well as all other volunteers whose behind-the-scenes contributions help bring each issue to life. I would also like to thank Dave from Trojan Press for his exceptional work with the layout and printing of the *Westcombe News*.

Taking on the role of editor has been both a challenge and a privilege. While I was aware that producing a community paper would require a great deal of time and coordination, the reality has been even more demanding—and even more rewarding. The encouragement, camaraderie, and generosity of those involved have made the journey immensely fulfilling. I feel proud to have played a part in continuing the legacy of the *Westcombe News* and look forward to what the year ahead brings.

**Christine Fells**