



# WOW MUMS

## Women of Wandsworth

FEBRUARY 2015 ISSUE 87 WOWMUMS.ORG.UK

**W.O.W Parent Forum**  
every Thursday (term time) 4pm -6 pm in YGL and on every Saturday (term time) from 10 am—12pm in KLS

**W.O.W Enterprise and Work Club** every second Friday 11am—1pm in Pennethorne House

**W.O.W Inter-Generational Coffee Morning** Every First Wednesday 11am-1pm in Haven Lodge

### NEXT MONTH

Karate Championship

Cooking

Arts & Crafts

Drama Gala Show

**EDITOR:**

**SENIA DEDIC**

## Wow Kids on top of Big Ben

Wow teenage Kids were invited by our MP Jane Ellison to climb the 334 steps to the top of Elizabeth Tower to see the Big Ben bell and to hear it strike the hour. This clock tower was constructed of brick, iron and Anston stone in 1859 and designed by architect Charles Barry. Wow Kids were impressed by the spectacular size of the 13.7 tonnes bell, which is the biggest one of 5 bells in the clock tower, all well tuned to produce the famous Westminster chimes. The clock tower was officially named Elizabeth Tower in 2012 to commemorate HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Elizabeth Tower is over 96 meters high with 11 floors inside. Although no longer accessible, there are rooms in the tower which were used in the past to detain MPs or Peers for breach of conduct. The last time this happened was in 1880 when an atheist MP Charles Bradlaugh refused to swear the oath of allegiance to Parliament and wanted to affirm it instead. Each one of four clock faces are illuminated from inside by 28 energy efficient light bulbs. The clock dial is glazed with 312 pieces of opal glass. We would like to kindly thank Jane Ellison MP for these free tickets.



Wow Kids in front of Elizabeth Tower

## Wow Pancake Day

Back by popular demand, Pancake Day on Shrove Tuesday in Haven Lodge, sheltered housing accommodation in Battersea. The residents and the children enjoyed playing board games while Mums were tossing the pancakes for everyone to enjoy. We indulged in different fillings from around the world, including tradi-

tional Maple syrup, strawberries and cream, lemon with sugar, spinach with cheese and walnuts with bananas. All very tasty, but most importantly eaten with friends and family together. Next coffee morning is on Wednesday, 18th March from 11am in John Kirk.



Alicia, Bubbles, Clara, Joyce and Senia

# 50 Shades Of Gray

We are pleased to report that the pornographic film 50 Shades of Gary has received a film censor certificate 18 after a successful petition and campaign organised and led by Safermedia parents organisation. British Board of Film Certification has initially allowed a censor certificate 15 for this sexually explicit film, but we are

pleased that the film industry agreed to raise the censor certificate to 18 after the parents raised the awareness of high level of sex violence, torture and unhealthy approach to sex for young people. Daily Mail said that 'this film is set to feature more sex on screen than the 100 raunchiest films released in 2014 put to-

gether, making it most erotic mainstream movie in a decade. '

Read more about this in this article:

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/blogs/to-the-Christians-who-think-50-shades-is-all-sorts-of-awesome-please-stop-a>

# Intergenerational Chinese New Year

Our annual Chinese New Year celebration in Haven Lodge was special this year, because we had visitors from John Kirk House who were especially invited by WoW Mums to come with their

warden Winifred to share Dim Sums with us. Eduardo and Dandre (in the photo) were offering fortune cookies to everyone and Lilly taught the residents how to use the

Chinese chop sticks. We would like to kindly thank Jeanette Wickham for cooking a Chinese feast for all of us and serve delicacies we have never tried before.



# Create Art with WoW

On Saturday, 9th May WoW Mums are hosting a free intergenerational Move painting workshop at Haven Lodge, which is open to the public, run by a professional artist. It is suitable for all ages and abilities. This creative event is a part of Wandsworth Council's Art Fringe Festival.

Move is an independently curated celebration of art by emerging, aspiring and professional artists from ages 4 to 83, in collaboration with Wandsworth charities, schools, local businesses and residents. Please register with WoW Mums if you would like to attend at wowmums.org.uk.

## Making Our Voices Heard

A free conference involving young people aged 14-25 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, Parents, Carers and Professionals.

We will be sharing young people's ideas on how to involve them in preparing for their future.

March 3rd, Tuesday, 2015  
Wandsworth Town Hall, Civic Suite

Schedule:

9:30 - Information Stalls, Arrival & Refreshments

10:30 - Registration

11:00 - Introduction to the day - aims and aspirations

11:15 - Presentations by students from Wandsworth Schools

12:15 - Buffet lunch, provided by Shore

13:00 - Baked Bean Drama - A Road to Transition

13:20 - Input from the Wandsworth Information, Advice and Support Service  
Contact A Family, Independent Supporters and Wandsworth Youth Forum

13:50 - Voiceability: Understanding the Mental Capacity Act

14:15 - Q&A Summary by Linda Jordan (National Development Team for Inclusion) & Thomasz Stefanski (George Shearing Youth Club)

14:30 - Close

Please book by contacting: [playservices@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:playservices@wandsworth.gov.uk)  
020 8871 8866



# WoW Curry Nights

You will be pleased to hear that WoW Mum Syeda Islam is going to cook authentic curry every Wednesday from 5pm to 7pm in Caius House with the youth and residents. During half terms, Syeda will teach the youth how to cook curry and how to use the spices properly for seasoning.

On Wednesday, 3rd March Syeda will cook Malaysian Curry with Jeanette Wickham and teach the children the versatility of this dish. We are grateful for the funding from Caius House.

Right: Senia Dedic and Syeda Islam with the youth in Caius House



# International Women's Day

WoW Mums have been invited to City Hall on 9th March 2015 to attend the International Women's Day event 'Women Who Inspire'. City Hall will be hosting five wonderful charities that inspire women to overcome and deal with difficult circumstances, including Daughters of Eve who fight against FGM and Refuge who fight against gender violence.

It is unacceptable that the women have to fight against these gruesome things in 21st century, but it is crucial that they do, as gender equality needs investing much more work to be reached. This event will be chaired by Emma Barnett, the Women's Editor of The Telegraph and guest host of BBC Radio 4's 'Woman's Hour'.



# WoW with Baroness Lawrence

WoW Mums were kindly invited to meet Baroness Doreen Lawrence this month in Caius House. Following the murder of her son Stephen, Baroness Lawrence has dedicated her life to campaigning for justice for her son, for other victims of racist crime and helping young people to overcome disadvantage and discrimination. Few people know more about the price of

violence on streets and how to overcome it. It was a huge honor to meet Baroness Lawrence and to learn about our rights as citizens to demand delivery of justice from people who were elected by us to serve us as public. It is impressive that Stephen Lawrence Foundation, founded by the Baroness, encourages young people go to university and become better educated.



Cllr Elspeth, Senia Dedic, Baroness Doreen Lawrence and Will Martindale

# WoW Arts & Crafts



As part of regular WoW Arts and Crafts events we already had several workshops including Origami, Loom bands, Valentine's cards making and creating with beads, but a special festive Masks making event was even more fun as we celebrated Spring Carnival in Europe.

Our next arts & crafts workshop is on Saturday, 7th March, from 10am in KLS. We will be making and Decorating a Castle. All welcome to this free workshop. We would like to thank our funders Walter St. John's Trust for their support.



## Meeting Harriet Harmon

Will Martindale, Labour MP candidate for Battersea, invited WoW Mums to meet Harriet Harmon, Deputy Leader of the Labour Party to ask her questions relevant to our group.

As WoW Mums are catering for families with children, we stressed the fact that everything is relevant to us, since the children need good health, good housing, good schools, good parks and good jobs. We are happy with Mrs. Harmon's aims, which are to highlight Labour's commitment to help parents with the cost of childcare, caring for elderly relatives, tackling domestic violence and improving pay and working conditions.

'Gender inequality has had profound implications on my life, my family's life and that of my friends. I've come to the conclusion that of the eight equality strands in the Equality Act, pregnancy and maternity is the forgotten one.' Said Mr. Martindale We need flexibility in employment – part-time work, job-shares, flexible working hours, more office-based childcare, and where appropriate, an open invitation to work from home. WoW Mums have proven that working from home can help the Mothers get employed, until we get affordable childcare, but most importantly that this strengthens the family bond.

## WoW Aquatic Trip

WoW Kids have chosen to go to Waterpark in Windsor this half term for some aquatic exercise. Water rides were fun and quite a long ride before the ultimate splash in the water. The best fun were the waves and the waterfalls. We wish we could have such a leisure centre in Battersea.



WoW Mums, WoW Dads and WoW Kids in Windsor