

WOW MUMS

Women of Wandsworth

NOVEMBER 2018 ISSUE 132 WOWMUMS.COM

W.O.W Parent Forum on every Saturday term time from 12 -1pm in KLS

W.O.W Enterprise Club networking every last Wednesday from 10am—3pm in Stamford Bridge

W.O.W Inter-Generational Coffee Morning Twice a month in local Lodges

WoW Karate Every Saturday term time in KLS 10am—12

NEXT MONTH:

WoW Xmas Disco

Xmas Competition

WoW Secret Santa

WoW Enterprise Club

WoW Karate Championship

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER:

SENIA DEDIC

WoW in Doris Emmerton Court



WoW Mums with elderly and children

WoW Mums have been commissioned by Big Local Sw11 to extend our intergenerational service

to Doris Emmerton Court. We have organised a fun Guy Fauxes' Day celebration in their spacious

lounge with elderly residents and young children, who enioved scrumptious hot dogs and a game of sitting down valley ball with a balloon. WoW Mums were asked to come back again for some more intergenerational bonding. Please join our project if you'd like to get involved as a young volunteer in supporting elderly in

sheltered accommodation. There are a lot of opportunities to help the elderly in John Kirk, Haven Lodge, Homleigh Court or

their lodges and

WoW at Armistice 100

WoW Mum Senia Dedic has been invited by The Royal British Legion to the unique commemoration at the Cenotaph on the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice to recognise the significance of the end of WWI and the sacrifice made by so many men and women during the war. Senia noted that she is particularly pleased to have been able to pay respects and take part in this honorable procession, since she is from Sarajevo, where the cause for the WWI started.



WoW Mentoring NCS Youth

National Citizen Service (NCS) is a government funded initiative that supports community engagement, social action and social mix amongst young people. NCS helps build skills for work and life whilst taking on new challenges and meeting new friends. This programme involves trying new things as well as taking part in a team project in the local community and much more.

WoW Mums, as chosen NCS partner, mentored youth from South Thames College this month, as part of NCS inter-generational project to break the barriers between generations and to help elderly to be more involved in our community. Through this WoW intergenerational project we bring together schools, colleges, community organisations and businesses to build a stronger and more cohesive society.



From left: Yuri, Senia, Andrea, Trevor and Primrose with Joyce celebrating her 88th birthday in Haven Lodge

WoW in Winstanley Magazine

COMMUNITY VOICES SENIA DEDIC, FOUNDER OF WOMEN OF WANDSWORTH AND COMMUNITY CHAMPION



I made Battersea my home 25 years ago after escaping war-torn Sarajevo. I started my career working with government agencies such as Sure Start and joined their Multidisciplinary Partnership Board in 2003. I had my three children in Battersea and became the Governor of Christ Church School in 2005. I met most of my friends there and got to know the local neighbourhood very well. I formed the School PTA and started fundraising to help the school establish the Secret Garden on the Falcon Estate, where I had already founded the Falcon Estate Residents' Association.

In 2007 I formed Women of Wandsworth (WoW) - a community organisation with the primary aim of holding a weekly forum to help parents with their family problems. This led me to start the WoW Enterprise Club in 2010, to teach single mothers about entrepreneurship as a solution to their employability and child care issues. Over the years, I have founded or had active involvement with several groups, with the objective of addressing a number of issues which are important to our community, including helping those in temporary accommodation and parents with disabled children.

I have been honoured to receive a number of accolades for my community work including an ARCH national award and the Team London Award from the Mayor of London, following which I was selected to be a London Ambassador for the 2012 Olympic Games. In 2013 I was chosen to become a Housing Community Champion and I took that honour very seriously. I became even more involved in my local neighbourhood and organised excursions for children and families with respiratory problems

caused by the high levels of pollution in inner city London. We are very grateful for the grant provided by the Council's Regeneration Team which enabled us to make a trip to the Eden Project and surf the waves in beautiful Cornwall earlier this year.

Last year I was delighted to be presented with the Mayor of Wandsworth's Civic Award, which is granted to unsung heroes for improving the lives of local citizens. Through WoW Mums, I have been organising regular intergenerational lunches since 2010 in local sheltered accommodation and lodges for the elderly. More recently, we have joined the Regeneration Team in holding coffee mornings and serving dinner to local elders, which has been an opportunity for them to share their memories of the Winstanley and York Road estates. I am also a Coordinator of the Rotary Christmas Day lunch, where we serve lunch to 700 senior members of the Wandsworth community, and I have organised events, such as carpentry workshops, for Battersea Men's Shed on several occasions.

I have been a Big Local SW11 Partnership Executive Member since 2012 and my vision is to achieve less pollution in Battersea; for instance, by putting solar panels on the carparks at ASDA and Lidl, which could also be used to charge electric cars. I would like to see solar panels introduced onto the new Winstanley and York Road blocks to make our neighbourhood more self-sustainable, and to supply free energy to local organisations including schools, hospitals and the fire station.

New Bridge

Wansworth Council is proposing a pedestrian and cycle bridge to connect Westminster with the new neighborhood in Nine Elms. This new bridge will improve access to green spaces, jobs and provide access to Northern Line stations.

After consultation in 2017, three locations have been proposed for further exploration and public exhibition are organised in Wandsworth and Lambeth.

Please have your say by selecting the preferred option for a car free bridge by visiting nineelmspimlicobridge.co.uk.



WoW in Chelsea

Several self-employed WoW Mums attended Edge of the Box networking event at Stamford Bridge, which was organised by Chelsea Foundation. We benefited from finance advice workshop, business mentoring and a chance to promote our enterprises to a wide range of other guests and businesses.

Next networking event in Chelsea Football Club VIP lounge is on 5th December. Guest speaker is Mr. Bill Esterson, Shadow Minister for Business and International Trade.

Photo from left: WoW Mums Senia Dedic, Maria Wright and Sandra Munoz – Alvarez



WoW Enterprise Club

WoW Mums Enterprise
Club for self-employed
Mothers, attended the
Wandsworth Chamber of
Commerce networking
event in Scratch Hub in
Battersea Art Centre.
It was very beneficial for
our entrepreneurs to learn
that BAC offers beautiful
and flexible workspace in
this iconic cultural centre.
This newly refurbished

building is in the centre of our community in Battersea and accessible for all. Hot-desking opportunity starts from £125 per month.

Next networking event is in Metro Bank on Monday, 3rd December from 6pm.

Photo from left: James McCallum CareMark CEO, Senia Dedic and Steve Pinto Chair of Wandsworth Chamber of Commerce



Children's Centres Consultation



WoW Mums attended recent consultation on Children Centres in Battersea with Mr. Paul Martin Director of Children's Services. Parents of young children found it unacceptable that our One O'clock clubs were closed

recently and now
Children's Centres
services are under threat.
We need assurance that
new building in York
Gardens, after regeneration, will have the library,
as well as the Children's
Centre on the top floor
as agreed in previous

consultations. We heard from Mr. Paul Martin that this space is now secured in the new building, but not necessarily for Children's Centres. Unacceptable!
Concerned parents, carers and childminders at Yvonne Carr and York

Gardens Children's Centres asked for extension of 'stay and play' for all parents and for reinstating services in some One O'clock Clubs.



WBC Health Plan

WoW Mums were invited to Wandsworth Health and Care design event for a consultation on future health and wellbeing strategy in Wandsworth.

The aim of this event was to work more closely with Wandsworth health and care organisations to make services more connected and beneficial to service users. Photo: Senia Dedic and Cllr Paul Ellis, Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board.



