



RGN Newsletter

Summer 2026



Welcome to our Summer Newsletter

The heat has presented some challenges but it has been lovely to wake up to blue skies for the last three months! We hope that you enjoy reading about what we have lined up for the next three months and if you can join us at an event please do let us know.



We are delighted that Waitrose Richmond has chosen us to be the beneficiary of their "green token" collections. If you or a family member are shopping in Waitrose please grab a couple of tokens and pop them in to the Good Neighbours box.

This runs for two more months so every token counts.

May Fair 2026

The sun came out for us again this year at the May Fair, and our RGN tombola did a roaring trade. We made over £2500 and we were able to raise awareness of who we are and what we do in our community. Huge thanks to those volunteers who helped set up and run the stall, and to all those who brought a fantastic variety of "Ten Green Bottles" for the tombola stall.



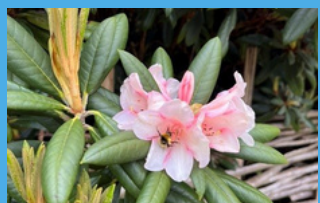
She did it!

Huge well done to Fay Davidson who completed the London Marathon in April, on a very hot April morning, raising an amazing £3638 for RGN. Thanks to all who supported through donations and cheering her on.

We have also secured a place in the 2027 TCS London Marathon.



Registered Charity Number 1187997



Outings

A number of us have enjoyed getting out an about over the last few months. Thanks to all those volunteers who helped make the trips a success, providing escort, transport, cakes and tea.

Here are some highlights:

Isabella Plantation, May

We caught the azaleas in full bloom.



Trumpeter's House, June

Twenty RGN guests enjoyed the most delightful afternoon in the gardens of Trumpeters House followed by tea and home made cakes.

Special thanks must go to Susanne Lap for making everyone feel so welcome in her cosy kitchen, and to her gardener John, who showed us round, helping clients navigate paths and slopes safely!

"The garden brought peace, the company stimulation... and what can I say about the tea party? YUM! YUM! Our hosts were so hospitable. A delightful afternoon."



Kew Gardens, July

The FiSH bus took a group to Kew Gardens, and despite the very warm weather, everyone enjoyed a walk around the colourful shaded paths and avenues. Along the way, we admired Henry Moore's Monumental Nature exhibition. We were delighted that brand-new RGN volunteer Rhisa joined us!



Events for your diary

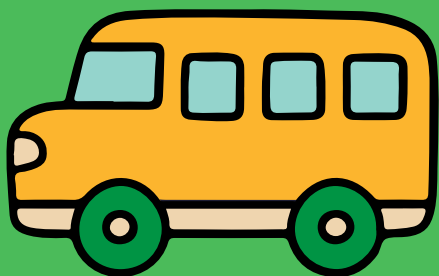
- Thurs 20th August: Shepperton Squires Garden Centre (no shopping bus on 20th Aug). Bus pick ups start from 10am return 12.45pm
- Fri 18th September: Gunnersbury Park "Spot the difference : A walk though time, outdoor photo exhibition. Plus 100 years of Gunnersbury Park exhibitions are running at this time. £5.00 suggested contribution. Bus pick ups start from 10am return 12.45pm
- Fri 16th Oct: Holly Lodge Trip: A visit to the Victorian Pharmacy for a Soap Making Workshop. Pick ups from 1pm return 3.30pm

Cambrian Centre

Refurbishment works are due to begin in October which will change our access to the gym and cafe. We'll keep you updated on alternative arrangements.

- Weds 12th Aug: Age UK will be running a drop in advice afternoon after the TRJFP lunch so do come along.
- Weds 9th Sept: Tea at Grove Chapel

Please get in touch if you are interested in taking part in any of these events.



Shopping bus:

All are welcome to join our regular shopping trip from Richmond to Kew Retail Park.

Next bus dates: Thursdays, 6th August, 3rd September, 17th September. Please note, there is a £5 per trip charge.

Volunteers

We had a very successful Volunteer's Fair in May and are delighted to welcome several new volunteers to Richmond Good Neighbours. I am sure you will meet them on excursions or the shopping bus.

On behalf of all the clients, staff and Trustees at RGN, a huge thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who have in the last three month given to RGN clients

- 410 hours of befriending
- 177 hours shopping
- 200 hours driving clients or accompanying trips.
- Not to mention the time spent on the phone to the office staff!

A total of....787 hours

Welcome to our new Trustee Chris Long

Chris is a long time resident of Richmond and has a background in HR roles in industry, commerce and in particular, the international drinks sector. This was followed by 15 years in senior recruitment, specialising in consumer markets. After retiring, Chris volunteered in fundraising for Cancer Research for 8 years. He joined the board of trustees in April 2026 to focus on putting something back into his local community.



A big thank you to...

Lara and Philip, who have taken time out from their studies to volunteer with RGN as part of their DofE award. They have each made and delivered a cake for our events and coffee mornings since September - every one delicious! Best wishes to them both.



Kew Village Market

Our Chair Louise and Director Anne were delighted to receive a cheque for £1000 from the Kew Village Market in June which will cover costs of printing and mailing newsletters and cards. Thank you!



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