



Lambeth Pensioners Action Group

Newsletter September 2025

Three important dates

Our next open meeting will be on Monday 22nd September from noon to 2.30pm. This is a week later than our usual third Monday of the month.

Lambeth say they could not accommodate us then. The meeting will be in Room 1 of the Town Hall, with the usual tea, coffee and biscuits. Please bring prizes for the raffle. We were hoping to have Cllr David Amos talking about improving services to residents. However, he does not reply to our emails. We are looking for an alternative speaker.

Our next stall outside Iceland in Brixton will be on Tuesday 28th October from 11am to 1pm. Please volunteer to help for the first or the second hour or both. It is very pleasant. All you have to do is talk about LAMPAG and give leaflets to passers-by who are interested. There will be a sign-up sheet at the September meeting.

At some point in the run up to the Council Elections, due in May next year, we can expect there to be a rally to launch a campaign for full restoration of Lambeth's Library Service. Please see Laura Swaffield's article below on the current surreal situation. Laura is a very knowledgeable and experienced libraries campaigner and Chair of the Friends of Lambeth Libraries.

Ellen Lebethe

Ellen had a fall on Sunday 31st August and is currently in hospital recovering from hip replacement surgery. She is very resilient but it is obviously going to be a while before she is mobile enough to attend meetings.

LAMPAG is in desperate need of more committee members to share in organising our activities. September will be especially challenging for the committee. Not only will Ellen be absent but two other officers will be away on holiday. Please volunteer if you can possibly spare a few hours.

LAMPAG'S elected officers are:

Chair: Ellen Lebethe 020 7582 5063 elebethe@talktalk.net

Secretaries: Hilary Rock-Gormley hilaryrockgormley@yahoo.co.uk

and Stephen Carlill 020 7274 7008 stephencarlill@gmail.com

Treasurer: Jennie Hall 020 8671 8752 jenniekh@hotmail.com

Be nice to your librarian!

The service is working hard to offset the damage caused by the £1m cut to the libraries budget. The main "achievement" of the managers who made the cut is to slash the books budget to zero. This is shocking. But libraries have managed to scrape up a few thousand - so you might get a new book if you order it.

The managers' second bright idea was to keep staff under-funded and over-worked. Their union, UNISON, has spent months fighting for a better deal. More posts are promised - but they haven't been filled yet. So, the staff are still under very heavy pressure. We know LAMPAG members will always stand up for libraries. But, for the moment, libraries' own efforts are serving to cover up the damage inflicted by the council! We are closely watching developments.

Laura Swaffield

Getting proficient in using digital devices

The National Pensioners Convention, to which we are affiliated, continues to campaign for alternatives to everything being online but, it must be admitted, with little success. We are therefore publishing the following details of an excellent and very friendly training organisation.

DIGITAL DROP-IN

Friendly and informal help with your laptop, tablet or mobile phone.

Set up accounts
Reset passwords
Build confidence

Transfer files
Be safer online
Start at the beginning

Mondays 2pm - 4pm

West Norwood Library
1-5 Norwood High St, SE27 9JX

Tuesdays 2pm - 4pm

The Old Laundry, 20 Eastcote St,
Stockwell, SW9 9BY

Fridays 10am - 12pm

Upper Norwood Library Hub
39 Westow Hill, SE19 1TQ

Call: 0300 102 4418 Text or WhatsApp: 07523 646 277

Email: info@clearcommunityweb.co.uk

Website: www.clearcommunityweb.co.uk

LAMPAG also has a website: www.lampag.org