

RUSKIN ROAD REPAIR CAFE

Newsletter

In March we held our pop-up session at Little Holland House. People brought in:

- Nutribullet blender
- 2 rucksacks with split seams
- China dishes and cup
- Table lamp
- Microwave
- Commemorative china plate
- Iron
- Toaster
- Heaters
- Jardiniere
- Halloween toy
- Dyson stick vacuum cleaner
- Coffee machine
- Kettle
- Bracelets
- CD player

March Repair Statistics

Pre-booked: 20
Walk-ins: 0 (we only dealt with pre-booked items at this session)
Not repairable 1
No shows 2

Total: 17

Saturday donations: £102.40
Café: (No café)
Total to bank: £102.40

NEXT RRRC SESSIONS

Saturday 27th April from 2 to 4 p.m.

Saturday 25th May from 2 to 4 p.m.

Both at:
Ruskin Hall,
Ruskin Road,
Carshalton
SM5 3DE

April's Repair Café Volunteer—Polly



- **How long have you been volunteering for RRRC?**

Since November 2023.

- **What inspired you to join?**

I saw the stall at the Environmental Fair, took a leaflet and brought along an electric fire to be mended. I went to buy a coffee and there were no cups so I volunteered to wash up and ended up helping—and that's what I do now!

- **What is your role?**

I am a general volunteer—helping out with whatever needs doing at the time.

April's Repair Café Volunteer cont'd

- What is the most interesting or challenging repair you have seen come in to RRRC?

As I'm mostly working behind the scenes nothing particular springs to mind at this point.

- How would you like to see RRRC develop in the future?

I come from South Norwood—so it would be good if there was a Repair Café nearer to where I live. I think it would be good to publicise the café more widely—so long as we can cope with the increased volume of repairs. Maybe put up posters at the local waste and recycling centre, and/or put out leaflets more widely.

Pop-up Repair Café at Little Holland House

Our first pop-up session at Little Holland House on 16th March was a great success, proving that our volunteers are flexible and creative enough to take the Repair Café on tour!

It was lovely to be working in such a beautiful historic building, with a strong connection to the Arts and Crafts movement. Tony and Peter worked in Frank Dickinson's workshop and we set up a gazebo in the back garden for people to wait, in case of rain, much to the chagrin of the ginger cat who normally has the garden to himself!



Clients were welcomed in the kitchen and booked in, Garreth and Steve worked under a triptych of paintings and the sewing team were inspired by Florence Dickinson's sewing machine.



Pop-up Repair Café Cont'd

Upstairs Richard fixed a Halloween skeleton under plans and pictures of old Carshalton. A bit different from Ruskin Hall! On the downside we had to take our tea and cake discreetly in the garden as we weren't allowed to offer it to clients.

We even managed to harness the hidden talents of Siobhan, London Borough of Sutton Heritage Development Officer and our host at Little Holland House, who revealed a background in ceramics which came in useful when glueing together a precious plate commemorating the client's wedding.



If you've not been before, the house is definitely worth a visit - open every first Sunday of each month, 11am-5pm.

In total we carried out 17 repairs and Sue collected £102.40 in donations.

