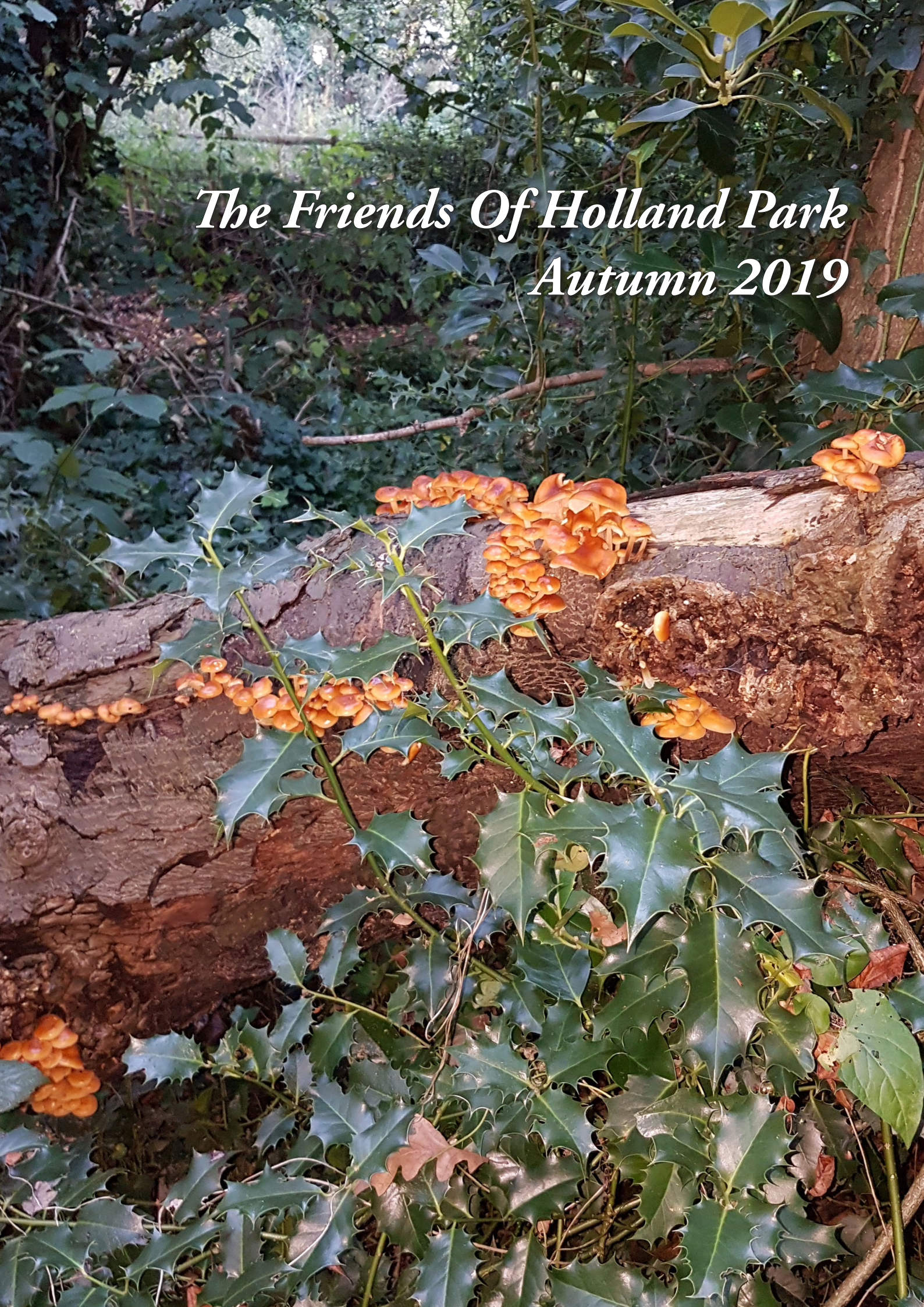


The Friends Of Holland Park
Autumn 2019



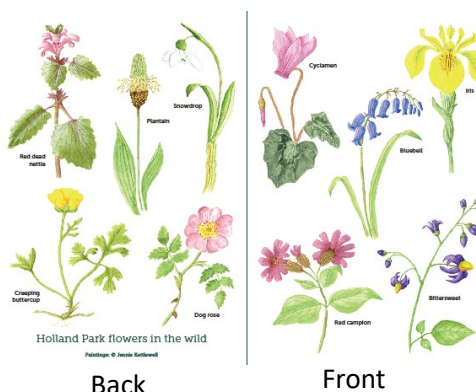
New! Bird guide, tea towel and greetings card

Guide to the Birds of Holland Park. 68 pages with full colour photographs and descriptions of 50 bird species that you can either see in the park, or can identify as they fly over the area.



- Best places to find these birds in the park
- Tips on bird watching
- How to identify the birds
- Spotters' check list
- Where to find out more

£6.00



Greetings card, with paintings on both back and front, but blank inside. includes envelope. 105 x 148 mm

£2.50 each.

All available from:

- Holland Park Reception in The Stable Yard
- Rhoddy Wood on 020 7602 0304 & rhoddy.wood@virgin.net
- Order on-line on www.thefriendsofhollandpark.org +P&P

Cotton tea towel. **£6.50**



Have you booked your Chocolat Treat?



Talk on Tuesday, 29 October 2019, at 7pm in The Orangery

This really will be a treat, because Camila Westphal Valenti (pictured) from Artisan du Chocolat will not only tell us the inside story of producing artisan chocolate from plant to palate, but you will also have the chance to taste some of their very superior chocolate; we are exploring whether we can seat people at round tables in the Orangery.



Come and hear chocolatey tales from 'conching' and refining their own chocolate to sending chocolate gingers into space and supplying treats to three Michelin-starred restaurants. The chocolatier business was founded in 2000, and it is still a hands-on process in the atelier in the Kent countryside.

I asked one of Artisan du Chocolat's experts at which point the distinctive aroma was evident in chocolate: you can smell it as soon as you enter the shop. She knew, and I was fascinated by the explanation. I thought you ought to have the chance to hear about it too.

Tickets are £18, to include wine and Janice Miles' delicious canapés. To order tickets please use the order form enclosed with your newsletter, or buy tickets on The Friends of Holland Park website (www.thefriendsofhollandpark.org).

Christmas Concert

Sunday, 8 December 2019, at 7.30pm, in the Orangery

It won't be long now before our popular winter event and our first taste of Christmas: the wonderful singing of The Tallis Chamber Choir under their conductor, Philip Simms, interspersed with readings and a chance for us to sing some carols too. As

usual, the evening will be rounded off with Janice Miles's delicious canapés washed down with wine. Tickets, at £22, can be ordered on our website (www.thefriendsofhollandpark.org) or on the enclosed order form.

Silent Howlers

You have probably noticed the three silent children adorning the Napoleon Garden, and wondered about them. They are thought provoking.

These bronze sculptures were created by Laura Ford and are said to be 'faithful representations of fantasy, with sometimes bitter-sweet and menacing qualities mixed with tenderness.' Her talent is the accuracy with which she captures stance, body language and gesture to imply misery, all without any glimpse of the face. The group of



A silent howler



Another silent howler

weeping, sulking girls are named *Silent Howlers*.

Just look at the detail: slumped bodies, hair obscuring the face, and arms crossed protectively, all poses that incite sympathy and emotional connection. They are both charming and a little unsettling, but that seems to make observers want to get close to them to try to understand more. They

are certainly attracting a great deal of interest.

Old tiled dairy

The Friends have worked with the Council to install protection for these historic tiles. Even protection has to be carried out under the guidance of a conservation architect. The Council have been most helpful, and we hope that, in time, the fabric of the structure can be restored, and the tiles and stone shelves conserved. The room is currently being used as a café storeroom, and the tiles are being irreparably worn away.



Floor tiles in the dairy

Before the official tape-cutting, the formal opening party had their turn. Not for a long time have I seen so many grown-ups have such fun. The Mayor on the see-saw, councillors on the zip wire, and a whole lot of us on the 'viper snake swing'. Shame we had to hand it over to the rightful 'owners': the children.

The pathways and bridge are fully accessible, with a wheelchair-accessible roundabout and accessible swings. The design was created in accordance with the response from a public consultation.

This is a great result from much hard work by the RBKC officers involved.

Tile conservation

Conservation work was delayed but is now due to start in late September on the tiles under the arches outside the café.



Launch of the Adventure Playground

Adventure playground

The newly built playground was opened on Friday 19 July, to the delight of a group of children waiting impatiently at the gate. The minute the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Cllr Will Pascall, cut the tape, he had to stand aside to let the avalanche of little folk rush in, all excited to try out the new equipment.

Holland House conservation

We have not heard anything officially, but gather that the proposed conservation work on the house is close to approval. We await a start date as there is only a small window of opportunity for the work to be done while the opera is off site during the winter.

Erosion

You will notice that wire fences have been erected to the west of the North Lawn and also in the south east corner. These are temporary and intended to prevent further erosion and tree compaction until 'impenetrable' planting can provide protection. At that point the fences will be removed.

Protective fencing has also been agreed around the trees to the north of the Sun Trap Lawn. There used to be chestnut fencing there, but it was removed and, as a consequence, cut-through paths are compacting the tree roots, wearing away the under-storey plants, and creating bare paths across the lawn itself.

Jennie Kettlewell

New Jigsaw Puzzle

Taken from our popular Christmas card for 2018, our new jigsaw features Catherine Masterman's watercolour of Holland House viewed from beside the new café layout. Premium quality, laser-cut, 250-piece wooden jigsaw featuring



Wentworth's unique 'whimsy' pieces. 360mm x 250mm. Reproduced by kind permission of Mountbatten Cards. £23.50 including p&tp.

Winter fun in Holland Park

Join a Guided Tour of Holland Park



The Friends have often been asked why there is no information in the park about its history. We hope there will be information boards soon and, even better, we have two experienced Blue Badge Guides to inform and entertain us about the history of Holland House, the families that lived there and the pleasure grounds they created. Or find out about the decorative art in the park: both the ornaments on the listed buildings and the more recent sculptures.

Each tour will be led by one of two qualified Blue Badge Guides, Leila Sukiur and Rowan Freeland, chosen by the Friends for their passion for our park, as well as their expertise. Join us on one of the four tours organised for this autumn:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|------|---------------------|----------------|
| • Saturday, 28 September | 11am | History tour | Leila Sukiur |
| • Tuesday, 8 October | 2pm | History tour | Rowan Freeland |
| • Saturday, 26 October | 11am | Decorative Art tour | Rowan Freeland |
| • Tuesday, 5 November | 2pm | Decorative Art tour | Leila Sukiur. |

Each tour will last about 90 minutes and is limited to a small group so that all can hear the fascinating stories about the park and its history, and have an opportunity to ask questions. However much you already know, you are sure to learn something new.

Booking is essential. To book a ticket, visit www.thefriendsofhollandpark.org or call Jennie Kettlewell on 020 7243 0804. The cost is £8 per person. The meeting point will be shown on the ticket.



Leila Sukiur



Rowan Freeland

Alert! Works in the Park

Work on improvement never stops. Sometimes this means areas of the park you like to visit will be closed for a short time. Here's what to look out for:

1. Resurfacing of the paths in the Dutch Garden will commence on Wednesday, 9 October, and will take around three weeks.
2. Opera Holland Park will vacate the Holland House site on schedule in September, but the area might be closed to the public for a short while, due to snagging works required by Park Management. We hope those grey 'Dalek' structures that cover the canopy anchor points will be painted in a more appropriate colour.
3. Repairs to the gravel surfaces in the Fukushima Garden will take place sometime around mid-September to early October.
4. The road leading from Ilchester Place to the Duchess of Bedford Gate needs resurfacing to make it fit once again for the heavy use it bears. The first stage is for trial pits to be excavated in order to explore what is under the road and therefore to determine exactly what works are needed.
5. The path that runs up from the Sun Trap entrance is cracking badly. We know the ground around that area is always shifting, hence the big retaining wall in the Sun Trap garden, and trial pits are planned to provide more information on the nature of the shift. Remedial work can then be proposed.
6. New, bat-friendly lighting will be installed along the path between the Ecology Centre and the car park.

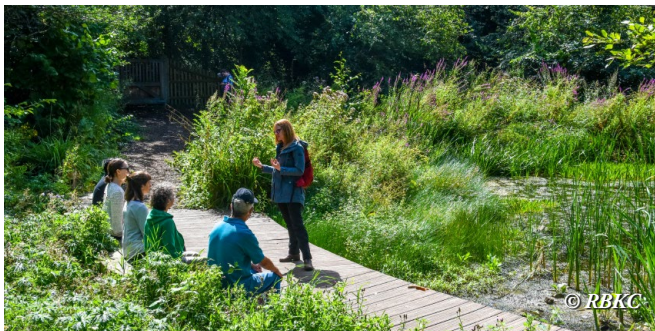
Lots of necessary work on paths....now it's time to focus on the green elements of the park.

We were fortunate to have sunshine for the launch of Holland Park's Nature, Health and Wellbeing initiative on Saturday, 17 August. The Ecology Service had organised healthy activities, such as outdoor yoga and mindfulness, which sought to raise awareness of the natural green surroundings.



Rhoddy Wood on The Friends' stall

The Friends had a stall alongside Ecology's pitch where we engaged visitors in conversations about the park, what we do to support it, and we offered them the challenge of locating the leaves of 10 different tree types. The only tree many could not find was the *Ginkgo biloba*, but you all know where it is, don't you? Lots of children asked when we will next have a pop-up stall with things for them to do, and The Friends will be back in the Café Yard on Tuesday, 22 October, during half term (see p.11).



Mindfulness in the Wildlife Area

Regular conservation volunteers did some energetic work scything the Arboretum: keeping the grass short will encourage wild flowers in the pollinator meadow around the bee hives. Probably the most popular offer was the smoothie bike. Visitors, large and small, pedalled away on the static bike to create their own smoothie: a healthy, super-charged drink

which they then got to enjoy.

There is increasing and well-documented evidence of the health benefits of natural green space, with research claiming that time spent among trees can lower cortisol (a stress hormone) levels, boost the immune system and reduce anxiety. Focus on health whilst amongst trees offers us a double bonus. So we must appreciate and care for the park's trees for the enjoyment and wellbeing of the local community. We must also remain aware that this concept is based on quiet activities in the tranquillity of natural surroundings. It is not about sport in the woodlands, which would completely miss the point and disturb the peace so many appreciate.

We look forward to more outdoor yoga and mindfulness sessions organised by the RBKC Ecology Service. Keep an eye on their website.

Jennie Kettlewell

Forest Bathing

What does forest bathing mean to you? Maybe after a rough trail in the tropics, a chance to slip off your sweaty clothes and take a cleansing dip in the pool at the bottom of a waterfall. Which is not a bad metaphor for struggling through the stress and pollution of city life to a temporary haven of green quiet in Holland Park's woodlands.

During the recent wellbeing day, your secretary enjoyed a half-hour taster session of mindfulness. We sat on benches in the woodland and concentrated on our surroundings with all our senses. We did exercises



Millaa Millaa Falls, Queensland, Australia

to increase our breadth of vision. We listened to the tiniest sounds of birds and falling leaves and wondered whether we could hear worms crunching. What a treat, said our leader, to be in a quiet place where we did not first have to shut out traffic and phones. We felt the textures of different leaves and the feel of breezes on our skins. Above all we gave thanks

that there were still places to rest our minds and bodies and refresh our souls.

Long may they remain.

Rhoddy Wood

Zoë Smith, Urban Peregrine Project Officer at the Hawk & Owl Trust, talked with enthusiasm about these fascinating raptors. It was all interesting, but tawny owls particularly so because they are a species that can be found in Holland Park and might breed there, though this is not certain. The talk on 8 August was well attended, much enjoyed, and extended due to the many questions asked. Zoë told us that:



*Tawny owl as shown in our guide book:
The Birds of Holland Park*

1. Owls have one ear higher than the other to increase their range of hearing.
2. They hunt by listening for their prey, so urban noise reduces their ability to find food.
3. They often stand on one leg to rest the other.
4. Tawny owls have 'amber status' on the Birds of Conservation Concern list of endangered birds in the UK. They are in decline due to climate change and tree loss.
5. Tawny owls are adapting to feed on passerines instead of their usual diet of rodents.
6. The iris in the owl's eye dilates at night to let in more light and improve night vision.

Jelly

As always we wait to see what this year's harvest brings. I have just visited a friend whose orchard grass was strewn with vast cooking apples, so the omens are good. But apple trees are as individual as people, and whether I will find the small sour crab apples that produce the tangiest jelly, I will not know until I go searching. Also, last year for the first time, two separate friends gave me quinces of different sizes and shapes, but both made jelly that was commended by those who tasted it. I have not yet heard from those people as I write at the beginning of September, but hope I will. So, if you are interested in crab apple or quince jelly, give me a call on 020 7602 0304 or email rhoddy.wood@virgin.net when you read this, and I will be able to tell you the position.

Rhoddy Wood

7. The female is noticeably larger than the male, as with all birds of prey.
8. Their wings are adapted to allow silent flight, which avoids alerting their prey.
9. There used to be historical superstition about owls, due to their night-time habit and the strange noise they make. Now they are a much loved bird.
10. When the female tawny is brooding, she will not tolerate the male in the nest with her.

The talk was sponsored by The Friends, so that attendance could be free. Check out the Ecology Service website (www.rbkc.gov.uk/ecology) for further talks and events in 2019, including a bird-ringing demonstration on Saturday, 12 October, and The Friends' autumn bird walk, led by ornithologist Bill Haines, on Saturday, 9 November.

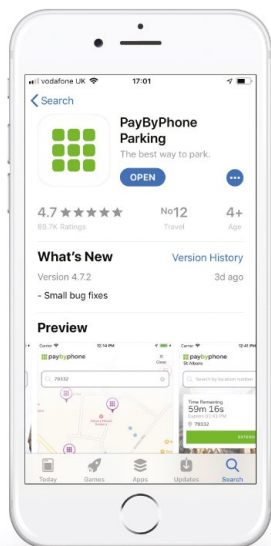


Some members and visitors are puzzled that the car park meters no longer take cash. This saves the cost of emptying the machines and means they are of no interest to the light fingered who cost the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea up to £120,000 a year from theft. By 2020 all existing parking meters in the borough will be replaced by PayByPhone and

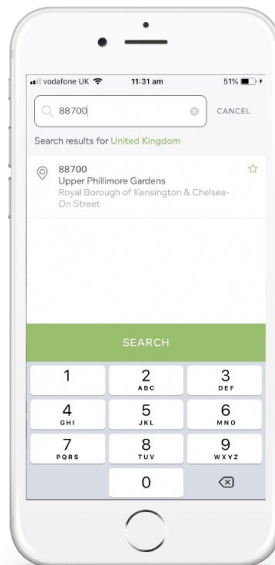
this includes Holland Park's car park, which will change over in October 2019.

Most of the Friends' events are in the evening and the car park is free after 6.30pm, so this will not apply. If you want to park during the day, you need to bring your phone and a credit card. Here's how you do it:

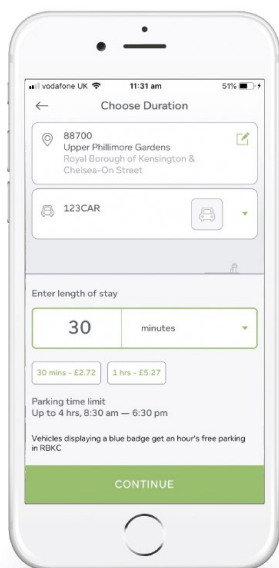
How to Park with PayByPhone



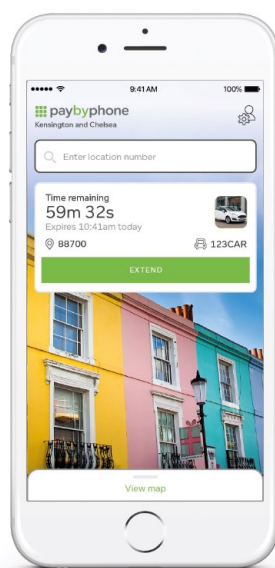
1
Download the PayByPhone
app from the App Store or
Google Play.



2
Enter your location code.
Select the suggested nearest
location code or enter the
location code found on
the nearby PayByPhone
signage.



3
Enter your parking
duration. Enter the length
of time you wish to park and
check your details before
confirming your selection.



4
Extend your parking
anytime. Add more time
from wherever you are.
Simply open the app and
press 'extend'.

There are alternatives if you don't wish to download the app:

- Pay online at www.park.paybyphone.com
- Call the telephone number shown on the parking signage and follow instructions
- Text 65565 and enter the location shown on the parking signage.

RBKC is the first borough in the UK to join PayByPhone's 'Meters for Trees' programme so that the borough benefits from a donation of one new tree for every 10 meters, and the world climate benefits by donations made to verified projects combatting deforestation in the Amazon.

Jennie Kettlewell writes:

Liz responded to the request for help in our summer newsletter, as did several others. We are delighted that she has agreed to join as a trustee to provide assistance to Membership Secretary, Rhoddy Wood, principally by managing the member database. Rhoddy will retain the title of Secretary, which is effectively Membership Secretary, and Liz will become Membership Administrator.

You all know how hard Rhoddy works, and it is appropriate now to be a little less heavy on her time, while retaining the benefit of her experience and expertise on the committee.

Liz told us she has lived within walking distance of Holland Park for many years and comes to the park often. She is a member and is familiar with what the Friends do to protect and enhance the park, which she regards as very special. Her career has been in international banking, so she is well aware of what it means to work in the context of regulators, as we do with the Charity Commission. She said: 'I joined the Friends because I thought I should give something back, and it is in that spirit that I am offering to help.' Liz has a wealth of useful experience to bring to the committee, including marketing, product development and IT systems.

It is better that Rhoddy explains whom you should now contact for what.



Liz Merica

Rhoddy Wood writes:

I am very grateful to Liz for coming to help the Friends. I have been a trustee since 1979 and, since 1996, as Membership Secretary; I have kept the membership records on the Friends' database. The role has grown and acquired other functions, some more closely connected to the database than others. The time has now come to split the role into two.

Liz will keep the records on the database. So that she knows what information to input, **everyone will need to send subscriptions and orders for merchandise and tickets to Liz.** Her address will be on the order forms and membership application forms and on the list of trustees in the newsletter. Because she is keeping this record, she will have the most up-to-date knowledge of what is on it, and it is therefore to her that queries on these subjects should be addressed. Her e-mail address is ejem2052@gmail.com and her phone number is 020 7937 1781.

I will continue to organise newsletter deliveries and publicity drops. I will welcome new members and be responsible for membership cards. I will organise sales at events and in the park office, and run the Mini Market at the Art Exhibition. I will update the noticeboards.

Inevitably there will be queries to begin with, but a quick phone call or e-mail to either of us should sort these out.

I have been most grateful for all the support I have had from members and will, I am sure, continue to receive.

Holland House Ballroom?

Geoffrey Brown sent the Friends a photo of this charming painting. He told us that it was painted by his step-grandfather, George Rich, who died in 1929, and is said to be of the ballroom at Holland House in the 1920s. The Local Studies Department in the Kensington Central Library studied the photo but could not find anything in their records to say



categorically that it is the ballroom. However, note that the artist's name was Rich, so there might be a link with the family that owned Holland House, but they sold it in the early 18th century, so this is a bit of a mystery. If anyone can throw any light on this being the Holland House ballroom, please e-mail: jennie.kettlewell@thefriendsofhollandpark.org

Painting by George Rich

Hi there kids!

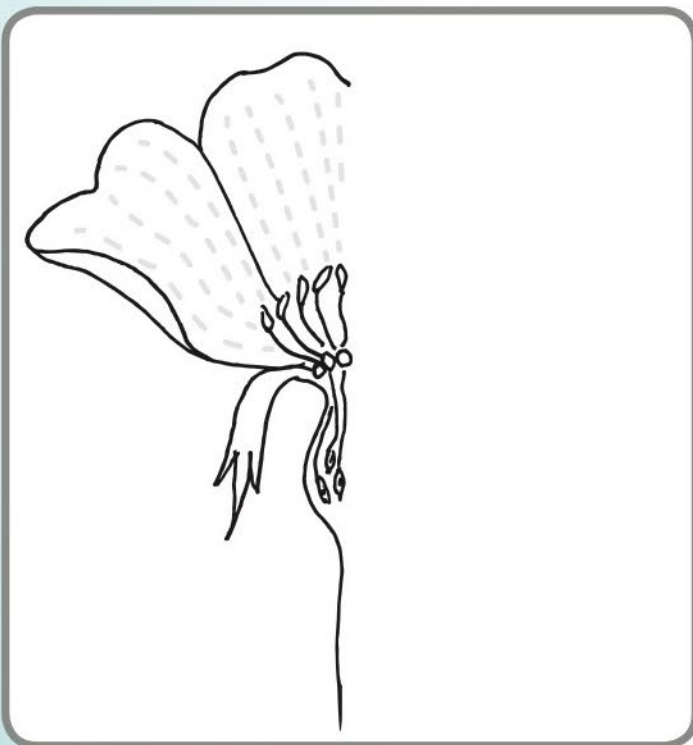
This page is for you, with fabulous things to discover about Holland Park and fun activities to do.

HOW'S YOUR DRAWING FLOWER POWER?



One of the prettiest wild flowers in Holland Park is the dog rose.

It has 5 pink petals and is found in the park's hedges in summer. Be the best artist you can be and draw in the missing half of the rose flower below. Then you can paint in the colour.



Do you know the answer?

Q Four children and their little dog were walking under a very small umbrella, but none of them got wet. Why do you think that was? Answer at bottom of page.



Omar Owl says:
“Did you know?”

Look carefully at the wall and you can see through in front of Holland House and you will notice some designs like this



The H is for the Holland family and what look like bobbles represent a baronet's coronet because these 'bricks' were put in place by the 4th Baron Holland in about 1848.

Can you find these words in the square below?

The words may be written from left to right, from top to bottom and some words are on a slant.

Words to find: spring, summer, autumn, winter, sun, wind, rain, cloud, mist, holiday.

V	B	C	A	L	T	M	I	S	T
R	H	L	A	U	T	U	M	N	J
S	C	O	X	E	Y	O	P	D	H
U	L	U	W	I	N	T	E	R	O
M	A	D	S	N	Q	S	O	M	L
M	S	Z	B	P	U	W	U	U	I
E	P	R	C	P	R	R	O	N	D
R	B	N	A	W	P	I	N	C	A
G	U	L	G	I	U	K	N	I	Y
C	A	R	W	I	N	D	J	G	D



**Imagine
you are a
Holland Park Detective!
What can you discover?**

The Friends will be running another 'Holland Park Detectives' day on Tuesday, 22 October, from 10am until 4pm, during half term. We will have a stand in the Café Yard with fun activities such as spotting things in Holland Park. Children who take part will earn a Holland Park Detective badge to take home. Come and visit us on the stand, bring your children, grandchildren or young friends and join in the fun.



Matthew Rose from the Ecology Centre carefully catching bees to help a school class learn. It looks fun but was hard work as it was a cool day, and there weren't many bees about. He found a few and released them after the children had had a look at them.

Green Flag Award for idverde

Congratulations to idverde who have, once again, won the Green Flag award for Holland Park. Andrew Kauffman, head of idverde's Greenspace Development Team says: 'The achievement of a Green Flag is so much more than a key performance indicator;



a Green Flag demonstrates that a community really cares about their park and provides a visible symbol of its value to the community.'

Holland Park's idverde and Park Management teams celebrating their award.

Gift Aid

To all members, but especially those who have joined online

Increasing numbers of members are joining online. For those who are happy doing this, it saves time for both them and us. But there are disadvantages to this process, one of which is that we are not currently able to give an opportunity for signing a gift aid declaration. This costs you nothing, but means the tax man will give the Friends an extra 25% on all your donations and subscriptions until you cancel it. So if you have not yet given us a declaration, **your order**

form will be green, and you will find a declaration on the back. Please read the conditions carefully, though the main one is that you pay UK income tax. If your order form is white, you have signed in the past and you do not need to repeat. If you tell us that you are not eligible, we mark your record accordingly and will try not to ask you again.

Thank you for thinking about this.

NEW! Havan

Havan is an ethical lifestyle boutique and tea bar. It is a delightful shop full of treasures for the person and the home: cosmetics and toiletries, teas and foods from around the world, handbags and jewellery made in a studio below the shop. The tea bar offers drinks from family-run tea farms in China and Japan, the speciality being Matcha. Everything is ethically sourced. The owners are very friendly and will happily show you round the shop and tell you about what is on the shelves.

Offer: 10% off purchases from the shop, excluding bespoke jewellery and hats.

262 Kensington High Street, London W8 6ND.
t. 07813 707392. www.thehavan.com



Romulo Café

Romulo Café

We were concerned to find Romulo closed at lunchtime recently but relieved to find that that was temporary and due to work on a new interior design in striking black and white. It is now open and serving delicious dishes, both at lunchtime and in the evening.

Filipino food is a mixture of four culinary traditions: Spanish, American, Malay and Chinese, and at Romulo Café there is an appetizing range of bar food, snacks, main courses to share, healthy salad options, vegetarian options, desserts and homemade ice cream. Romulo Cafés are well established in the Philippines and they feature some of their most popular dishes for us to experience in London. **Offer:** 10% discount (when no other promotional prices apply).

343 Kensington High Street, London, W8 6NW
t. 020 3141 6390. reservations@romulocafe.co.uk



Havan

Gallery 19

Gallery 19 is not just your local picture framer; they specialise in architectural views of Kensington, London and Italy, with limited edition prints and photographs. Take the opportunity to pop in to their gallery where you can see Gordon French's own, very special, paintings and giclée prints. Daughter Alessia, another talent in the family, captures stunning images through the lens of her camera, shown on a wall in the gallery. Owners, Gordon, Sandra and Alessia French are well known to the Friends, not least for running our Art Exhibition. **Offer:** 10% off framing.

19 Kensington Court Place, London W8 5BJ.
t. 020 7937 7222

GALLERY
19

Neighbours at our summer party

The Friends offered all our 'Neighbours' the chance of promotion through posters, leaflets, and displays at our summer party. Some leapt at the chance, and some did not get around to it. Maybe they were baffled about what to display, so we intend to make it a little easier for them next year. Display tables were brought alive with some stunning purple blooms from Rassells, together with a printed history of their nursery. Artisan du Chocolat brought leaflets, and samples of their chocolate, which never got the opportunity to melt in the heat. Chakra, Romulo, Holland Park Café, Havan and Jeroboam all gave us posters and flyers. And Gallery 19 framed a large poster showing the logos of all 14 Neighbours. The party was a great success with more guests than ever, so we hope the promotion has brought extra business to those who so kindly offer our members a discount.

Kensington Gardeners' Club

(Information from www.kensingtongardeners.co.uk or please contact 07949 769702).

Talks and club meetings take place in the basement lecture theatre at Kensington Central Library, Phillimore Walk. Free to members. Guests pay £5:

5 October: Day visit to Sheffield Park — National Trust Property. Coach transport. Must book. Members £30. Guests £35.

3 November: Walk in Kew Gardens, led by Pat Smallcombe. 11am, meet at Victoria Gate.

16 November: Talk 'Roses in the London Garden', Michael Marriot, senior rosarian, David Austin Roses. Free to members. Guests £5.

Opera Holland Park

(All information from www.operahollandpark.com. Tickets available from 0300 999 1000):

12 November: Black tie Gala Dinner in aid of Opera Holland Park's Inspire outreach programme. 7.30pm Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton avenue, London EC2N 2DQ. £300 for a seat or £3,000 for a table of 10.

7 December: Christmas Concert, St Columba's Church. Price TBC.

The Kensington Society

(All information and on-line booking on www.kensingtonsociety.org/events):

10 October, 6.30-8.30pm: Visit to the Royal Society of Sculptors, Old Brompton Road. Kensington Society members £15, non-members £20. Please book.

RBKC Active for Life

(Full details on www.rbkc.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/sports-and-leisure or ring 0207 938 8182):

Every Thursday, 10.30-11.30am: A varied programme of physical activities in Kensington from gentle walks to sport. Meet inside the Holland Park Café, then share a leisurely walk in the park.

Christmas Cards

Our new design is by Catherine Masterman, who gave us such a popular card last year. This is of Lord Holland with his pond with a cast of avian as well as human visitors, but the pigeons have been banished to the ground. It is in the same slightly swirly, cheerful style as before, and we hope a lot of you will brighten up your friends' mantelpieces with it.



HO20 Lord Holland's Statue

We will hold a ready supply of these cards in both the standard 152 mm x 197 mm format at £10 the pack of ten, and the small 118 mm x 168 mm at £8.50.

newsletter is hand delivered (no stamp) our delivery is free, but beyond that we have to charge an additional £1.70 per 10 cards.

We will also make up mixed packs of old designs of Holland Park at £6.50, which will be very largely of big ones in at least three or four different designs. These can all be very quickly delivered. And then there is a broad range of other views in the enclosed brochure. It would be a great help if you could order early, even the new design, so that the publisher knows what initial printing he needs. If your



Dates for your Diary

All FHP events in the diary are printed in **bold**; unless otherwise stated, the meeting place is outside the stable yard (the meeting places for the tours will be printed on your ticket). Events organised by the Ecology Service of RBKC are listed as 'ES'; where FHP have sponsored them, this is indicated; unless otherwise stated, the meeting place is in the Ecology Centre near the Adventure Playground. Some must be booked, in which case please call 020 7938 8186 or e-mail ecology.centre@rbkc.gov.uk. In order that some Ecology events can be free for participants, the Friends will continue to sponsor the walks and talks that are led by independent experts in their field and ensure their costs are covered.

Holland Park Conservation Volunteer days (for adults) are every third Saturday of the month from 10.30am to 3.30pm; meet outside the café. No specialist skills are required, and this is your chance to make new friends while getting healthy outdoor exercise: digging, chopping and planting in the wilder parts of the park, and you do not have to stay for the whole time. Tea, gloves, tools and instruction are provided. Wear sturdy shoes and old clothes, and bring waterproofs and your lunch. For further information from the Ecology Team visit www.rbkc.gov.uk/ecology, call 020 7938 8186 or e-mail ecology.centre@rbkc.gov.uk

Sat 28 Sept	History Tour , Leila Sukiur, £8	11am
Sat 5 Oct	ES. Autumn leaves. Wildlife Area Open Day. Drop in	12 noon-4pm
Tues 8 Oct	History Tour , Rowan Freeland, £8	2pm
Sat 12 Oct	ES. Bird-ringing demonstration by Bill Haines (sponsored). Drop in at the Wildlife Area	7-11am
Sat 19 Oct	Autumn tree walk , led by Alan Harrington	11am-1pm
Tues 22 Oct	Holland Park Detectives (<i>see p.11</i>)	10am-4pm
Sat 26 Oct	Decorative Art Tour , Rowan Freeland, £8	11am
Tues 29 Oct	Chocolat Treat (<i>see p.3</i>), in the Orangery, £18	7pm
Sat 2 Nov	ES. Fungi foray (sponsored). Must book	2-4pm
Tues 5 Nov	Decorative Art Tour , Leila Sukiur, £8	2pm
Sat 9 Nov	Autumn bird walk , led by Bill Haines	9-11am
Sun 8 Dec	Christmas Concert : Tallis Chamber Choir in the Orangery, £22 (<i>see p.3</i>)	7.30pm

President Sir Angus Stirling

Chairman Jennie Kettlewell

Secretary Rhoddy Wood

Membership Administrator Liz Merica

Treasurer Silvi Spassov

Events Organiser Graham Franklin

Editor and Minutes Secretary Joy Puritz

Publicity Nigel Brockmann

Art Exhibition Sandra French

Website Nicholas Hopkins

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Park Observer Andy Walker

Our website address: www.thefriendsofhollandpark.org

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That we are able to produce this quarterly newsletter for members is in no small measure thanks to the continued support of our advertisers. We are most grateful to them, and would ask you to show your thanks by supporting them, please.

Parks Police

Holland Park is generally a safe place, but we should never be complacent. If you see any antisocial behaviour, such as vandalism, please contact the Parks Police on:


0300 3655 101

Remember three key points:

- Keep yourself out of danger
- Take a description of the person, location and exactly what they are doing
- Contact the Parks Police and report the facts.

*The cover photo of the fungus *Flammulina velutipes*, or Velvet Shank, which can survive being frozen solid, was taken in the park by Joan Bovarnik on 3 November 2018*





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