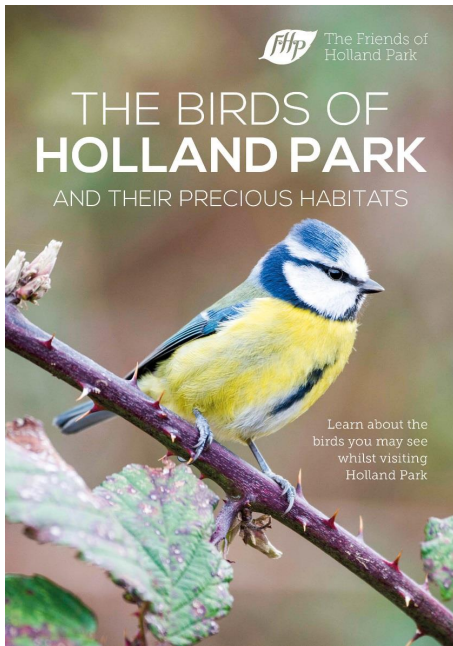




*The Friends of Holland Park
Summer 2019*

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.



34 Great tit
Parus major
The bird is distinguished from other tits by its broad black cap and its distinctive orange-red face and breast. It is a common bird in the park and is often seen feeding on the ground. It is a very noisy bird and is often heard before it is seen. It is a very common bird in the park and is often seen feeding on the ground. It is a very noisy bird and is often heard before it is seen.



35 Coal tit
Parus ater
The coal tit is a small bird with a black cap and a white breast. It is a very common bird in the park and is often seen feeding on the ground. It is a very noisy bird and is often heard before it is seen.



36 Robin
Erithacus rubecula
One of Britain's most recognized and loved birds, the robin is a very common bird in the park. It is a very noisy bird and is often heard before it is seen. It is a very common bird in the park and is often seen feeding on the ground. It is a very noisy bird and is often heard before it is seen.



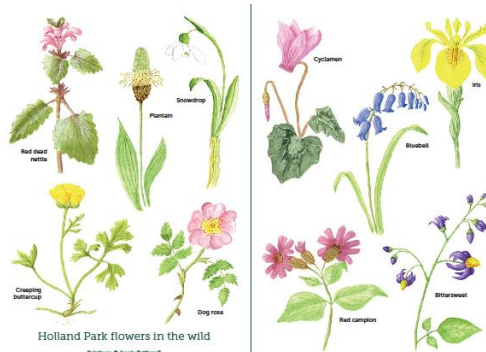
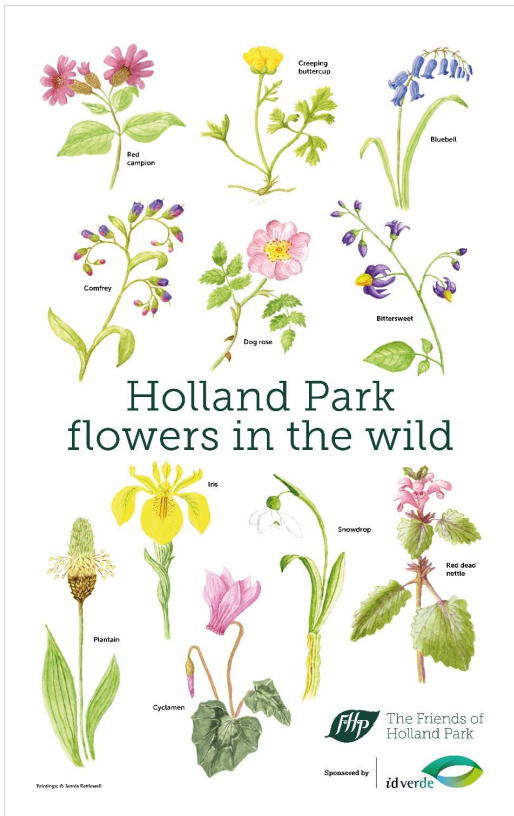
32 Blackbird
Turdus merula
The male is easily recognizable with its glossy jet black plumage and a yellow bill. The female is usually seen on grassland and in formal garden areas in the park, where she feeds on worms and other invertebrates. The blackbird sings its loud, clear, and often repeated 'twee' note, which is often heard in the park.



- 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

33 Redpoll
Redpoll rubecula
The redpoll is a small bird with a black cap and a white breast. It is a very common bird in the park and is often seen feeding on the ground. It is a very noisy bird and is often heard before it is seen.



Back

Front

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**

Chocolat Treat



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

Many of you will have taken up Artisan du Chocolat's generous offer of 25% off their exquisite chocolates, or tasted their very indulgent hot chocolate drink. Now you have the opportunity to hear what goes into making these chocolates special, from plant to palate.



Artisan du Chocolat

An expert from the business will fascinate us with chocolatey tales from 'conching' and refining their own chocolate to sending chocolate gingers into space and supplying treats to three Michelin-starred restaurants.

When talking with one of Artisan du Chocolat's experts about joining our Friends & Neighbours programme,

I asked 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.

The chocolatier business was founded in 2000, and it is still a hands-on process in the atelier in the Kent countryside.

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

Jennie Kettlewell

Pimm's in the Park

Wednesday, 10 July 2019, 6-8pm, in the marquee east of the Dutch Garden

There is still time to book for our annual summer party, again to be held in the marquee on the raised terrace to the east of the Dutch Garden, thanks to Michael Volpe, General Director of Opera Holland Park. We will be protected from anything the weather can throw at us, as well as enjoy a lovely view of the formal garden.

This is the one event of our year that is only open to Friends and their immediate guests, but not to the general public. Pimm's, soft drinks and canapés will be served. Tickets, at £18 each, can be booked on the enclosed order form or via our website.

A Very Big 'Thanks' to Tasso Leventis

You will have seen in the advertisement at the beginning of this newsletter that The Friends have produced a guide to the birds of Holland Park. We could not have done this without the generous support of member Tasso Leventis. The guide was Tasso's idea, and he has taken most of the stunning photographs of the 50 birds it contains. He has also advised on the contents, based on his considerable knowledge of birds. Best of all, he has generously donated the full cost of producing the 68-page guide. Thank you Tasso. Now you must all buy a copy.



Tasso Leventis

Photo of a heron from the guide

Tiles: good news

Following the Friends' search for experts to conserve the Florentine tiles on the wall under the café arches and above, along the higher causeway, the RBKC conservation case officer has approved the proposal submitted by Richard Rogers Conservation. This follows several meetings of Council officers, experts and the

Friends and a very detailed tile-by-tile report. The work on the lower causeway tiles has now been commissioned and should start shortly. The Friends have agreed to fund the cost of the work. The two causeways, upper for fine weather and lower for rainy days, were created to link Holland House with the summer ballroom, on the orders of the 4th Lord Holland. The tiles were added between 1851 and 1858, are beautiful and well worth conserving.



Jennie Kettlewell

Little tiled room



Rebecca Byrne

Few are aware of the little tiled room between the west wall of the café arcade and the Ice House. Nicholas Cooper is one of the greatest experts on the history of Holland House and its owners, so I asked him what he thought the room might have been. He reckons it was the dairy, which makes sense because walls and floor are tiled, it is cool inside and would have been near

the farm buildings. The room is currently being used as a café storeroom, and the tiles are being irreparably worn away. The Friends feel it is a matter of urgency to get what remains protected, if not restored, immediately.

Holland House: more good news

In our spring 2019 newsletter we reported that Historic England had placed Holland House on their At Risk Register, due to the building's very poor state of repair. The Council is now required to conserve this Grade-1-listed building, which they own and which is the subject of a Conservation Management Plan. The good news is that the Council has commissioned Conservation Architect Matt Cox, from the respected firm Allies & Morrison, to oversee the project. Matt told us that the photographic condition report is now completed and, after elevation and roofing studies, the next stage is to scope the work and find specialists to tender and

produce costed proposals. Once this is done, the project proposal will be submitted for Planning and Listed Building consent. The Friends have been kept in touch throughout this work and it looks to be progressing very satisfactorily.

Planting in front of Holland House

The recent landscaping project to improve the terrace in front of Holland House included some planting, the cost of which was incorporated in the Planning and Listed Building consent in early 2017. The purpose of the hard landscaping was to provide a more fitted context for Grade-1-listed Holland House, as required by Historic England. It also redirected the terrace access road from running through the centre of the café yard, which meant large trucks were driving through an area busy with people, though banksmen were present. The work was not done to benefit Opera Holland Park and, in some ways, has presented them with more challenges. The planting in front of Holland House has only just been completed, is not what we expected, is puzzling, and the subject of discussion. It is not helped by the wire fence installed to protect the plants.



Allies and Morrison

Holland House conservation survey

Adventure playground

We have been informed that, after a major restructure, this playground will be open to the public by the end of June and that most of the new trees have now been planted.

Jennie Kettlewell

A bed full of tall bearded irises in clumps of different colours is a glorious sight. We had such in The Iris Garden in the 1980s and for many years previously. When the central fountain decayed and was replaced with William Pye's in



to pull it out. Total weed killers or flame weeding cannot be used where there are desirable plants. The result of the *Oxalis* invasion was that the iris beds out of flower became not merely uninteresting but unsightly.

1999, it was named 'Siberica' even though *Iris siberica* is different and smaller than the bearded irises. (*Iris siberica* can be seen in the Kyoto Garden.) The name 'Siberica'



is inscribed in the paving by the fountain, thus confirming the area as 'The Iris Garden'.

There came growing pressure to replace the irises with something that had interest for more than three weeks in the year. Most

other London gardens replaced their iris beds so that ours gained extra praise for its rarity, but also increased pressure to follow the trend. The Friends fought hard to keep our irises, but eventually were forced into a compromise that the bearded irises should be interspersed with others that were repeat flowering or flowered in different months. The result, in this author's opinion, was never very impressive. Instead of one spectacular burst of flower we had small patches of flower throughout a longer season.

Bearded irises need their corms to lie along the surface of the ground so that they get a good baking after they have flowered and the leaves have been partly cut back for tidiness and to let the sun in. It was the 'uninterestingness' of this between June and April that fuelled the pressure for replacement. It is also work intensive because the bare ground needs to be kept scrupulously clean. In the present climate of cut backs this did not happen, and the beds got invaded with weeds, and especially *Oxalis corniculata*, Creeping Woodsorrel. This is the plant with tiny red clover-like leaves and tiny yellow flowers. It is not unattractive but is known throughout the world as being difficult to control because it has creeping stems which root at the nodes, fruit that explodes when ripe, and any piece of root or stem left in the soil will sprout. It gets into cracks between paving from where it is impossible

So Owen, the new head gardener, was given the task of designing a new planting scheme which would have some colour from March to October and would always have something

green, would be easy to maintain and would keep some irises as a historical reference. He has chosen to do this by using a mixture of shrubs and herbaceous plants to a definite colour scheme of white, blue and purple to



form ground cover (which *Oxalis* cannot tolerate), except for swathes of irises to give strong colour when in flower. These need to be planted later in the season, so when this article was written (late May) the sites for the irises were still bare strips. We will have to wait until May 2020 to admire the irises in flower when several different cultivars, all in varying blue tones, will resemble a river running through dappled sun and shade.

The rest of the planting concentrates on shifting colour among anchor points. It features some evergreen shrubs such as the *Osmanthus burkwoodii* used to form a hedge which flowers sweetly in spring and will always give form and definition to the garden. The little trees are *Amelanchier lamarkii*, June Berry, which will be covered in white blossom in spring and have leaves that turn scarlet in autumn. Over time both will need to be pruned appropriately.

So, once established, we should have a garden that has interest throughout the year, has clear structure and is relatively easy to maintain. And we will still have irises: blue ones similar to the ones in the photographs.

Rhoddy Wood

Holland Park's excellent contract garden team work for idverde; you will have seen the logo on their shirts. Their sister division, idverde landscaping, won a gold at this year's Chelsea Flower Show for their 'Family Monster Garden' in the Artisan category. Not only is that a great achievement, given tough competition, but it gave our Holland Park apprentice gardeners (Zach Hermann, Henry Murphy and Saul Heath) a chance to



Zach Hermann in front of 'Family Monster Garden'

experience building a show garden for Chelsea: hectic, but thrilling.

I was told about the gold medal by enthusiastic apprentices and gardeners, who are justly proud to be associated with such well publicised success. Apparently, Prince William's visit to the garden was featured on television.

Well done, idverde.

Jennie Kettlewell

Annual General Meeting 2019: Report

The Friends' AGM was held on 10 April 2019. Trustee, Nigel Brockmann, chaired the meeting in place of President, Sir Angus Stirling, who was unwell on the day.

The Trustees' Report for 2018 was presented by Andy Walker, the main points being:

- The improvements to the Holland House terrace, the approach road and the café yard were completed and looked excellent.
- The RBKC Ecology Service and The Friends, working jointly, succeeded in winning a grant of £11k from the Mayor's Fund for Greening London to pay for the restoration of the West Woodland Enclosure.
- The Friends published a children's guide to the park and had run a first pop-up desk in the park for children's activities during the October half-term break.
- Stage 3 of the tree health programme was carried out by Bartlett's Tree Experts and, once again, The Friends sponsored the Ecology Service walks and talks.

Silvi Spassov gave the **Treasurer's Report for 2018**. The balance for the financial year 2018 was £131,368: up on 2017 due to park projects earmarked for funding being postponed to 2019, and to exceptionally high income from donations (£38,418). The full accounts were printed

in the spring 2019 issue of the newsletter.

The **Secretary's Report** was delivered by Rhoddy Wood, who said that membership stood at 1,035, higher than the same time last year, with approximately 50% joining on-line. She encouraged members who paid on-line please to contact her to arrange payment by standing order in future. Jennie Kettlewell's talks on Holland Park, its history and current challenges, were generating interest in membership.

Election: Richard Kulczycki was elected as a trustee with responsibility for ecology matters. All other trustees had agreed to stand again and were duly re-elected. Roger Foreman was re-elected as the independent examiner.

Chairman's Outlook for 2019. Much has happened since the AGM and this newsletter is an opportunity to update you, rather than report on the situation as it was in mid-April: see *News Update* on pages 4-5.

Jennie Kettlewell thanked the trustees for their support and hard work and Sir Angus Stirling, in his absence, for his wise advice and reassurance.

Spring flowers in Holland Park are always a delight, and Dr Mark Spencer picked some interesting floral subjects for his Spring Botany Walk in the park.



Salmonberry

The first surprise, to me at least, was the discovery of a lovely *Rubus spectabilis* at the side of the Chestnut Walk. This plant is a relative of the raspberry but much more beautiful, with its arching stems and deep pink flowers that hang downwards. Its common name is the salmonberry, possibly because it was enjoyed as an accompaniment to salmon or perhaps because of the colour of the fruit, which is a favourite of birds. One might well walk past it when it is not in flower, but do search it out each April.

The other learning point for me was that the yellow head of the dandelion is not a single flower but a collection of individual florets. What I had always taken to be petals



Dandelion, showing a floret

each have their own means of reproduction, both male (style and stigma) and female (stamens). The fluffy bit that eventually forms the dandelion clock is already present at the base of the floret, just above the ovary. So that is why the family it belongs to is called

Compositae: each inflorescence is a composite of many florets. I should have known that.

This Botany Walk was one of many events planned each year by the Council's Ecology Service. Check out ecology_centre@rbkc.gov.uk or ring 020 79388186 for the full list.

Mark's next Botany Walk will be on 18 July. On 25 July there will be a talk on urban owls, and on 27 July a walk to learn about dragonflies.

Text and paintings: Jennie Kettlewell

Seeking Volunteers

Your membership secretary, Rhoddy Wood, works extremely hard and covers many roles, including management of the members database, new and renewing member communications, fulfilment of orders for merchandise and tickets, keeping the park noticeboards up to date, distribution of the newsletter, and much, much more.

She would now value some assistance, and The Friends are looking for one or possibly two volunteers to help with two functions: database management and sending out tickets and merchandise in response to orders. Volunteers will be working at home on their own computer, which allows the tasks to be organised around other commitments. While not particularly onerous in terms of time, it requires computer literacy, attention to detail and an understanding of the work of The Friends. You do not need to be a current member.

If you are interested, please contact Rhoddy Wood (Secretary) on rhoddy.wood@virgin.net, or Jennie Kettlewell (Chairman) on jenniekettlewell@aol.com to explore options.



JEROBOAMS

LONDON'S LOCAL WINE MERCHANT



Pop in and see Kathy and the team at
96 Holland Park Ave, London,
or call on 020 7727 9359
Jeroboams.co.uk



Hi there **kids!**



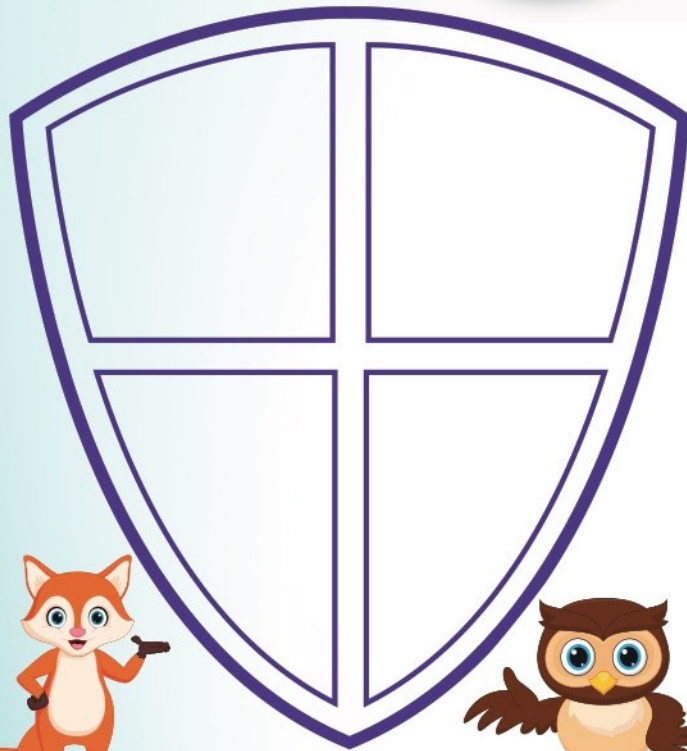
Page funded by
CITY LIVING LOCAL LIFE
HOLLAND

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

Design your own shield

This shield is above the gate into the north of the park.

Imagine you are a famous designer and draw your own shield for Holland Park. You can draw the very best things you see in the park and fit them into the shield below.



Become a park explorer

Hire an Explorers' bag to go on a nature quest around Holland Park. Ask at the Ecology Centre – £5 and £10 deposit.

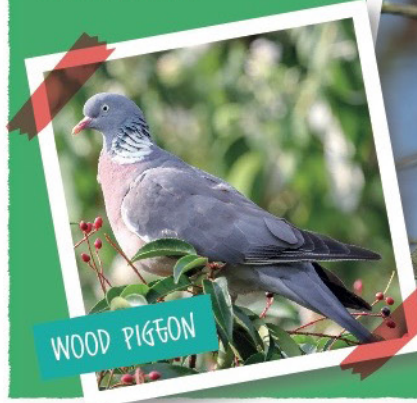
NEW!



Omar Owl says: "Did you know?"

Birds, like robins, make a loud song because they sing with their beaks open.

Wood pigeons make a muffled noise because they sing with their beaks closed.

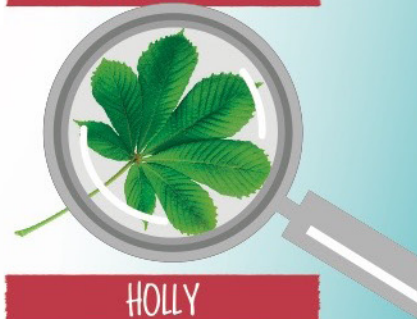


Can you identify this trio of leaves?

It's summer and all the trees are dressed in their best green leaves.

Be an expert leaf spotter and see if you can find the trees that have leaves that look like this.

CHESTNUT



OAK



HOLLY





Holland Park is a wonderful green space where a great many people come to enjoy themselves, whether it is to entertain the children, take some exercise, walk the dog, sunbathe, go for a coffee or sit under a tree and think. Many people mean many feet. Many feet tramping over the same area day after day can cause the grass to wear extremely thin.



The Sun Trap Lawn

If this damage is allowed to continue, the park will look a sorrier place in several years' time, so we need to take action now. Sometimes the problem is because a cut-through has developed in a planted area where there was never a path before. This has happened above the Sun Trap Lawn where people have created a route through the trees and across the top of the lawn, part of which is now bald and no longer offers



West of the North Lawn: formerly trees and shrubs

the wonderful green grass that picnickers enjoyed in summer. There used to be a fence around the top of the lawn, but that disappeared, and now the roots of the big old chestnut are getting compacted by the cut-through, and this will eventually affect its health. We like that tree and want to keep it healthy. Regular visitors will recognise other areas of grass loss.

The good news is that The Friends are working together with the park's management team to see what can be done to protect vulnerable areas, without resorting to signage that admonishes those enjoying a relaxed visit to the park.

Our aim is always to ensure that future generations can enjoy a park that is just as green as the one we inherited.

Text and photos: Jennie Kettlewell

History Tours of the Park

In the spring newsletter we mentioned that we were looking into the possibility of professionally led tours, featuring the history and decorative art of Holland Park. We have made progress, have a short-list of very well qualified guides, and hope to have the first tours running

in the autumn. These tours will be open to members and to the local community rather than being designed to draw more visitors from far and wide. Watch out for information on the Friends' notice boards in the park, and in the autumn newsletter.



The art exhibition with two kinds of browser

Another year, another superb exhibition with exceptional attendance and sales; the Orangery looked fantastic. It is such a pleasure organizing this exhibition, my family and I get a great deal of satisfaction from seeing things working and growing, particularly when we have good weather, which we did this year, making the exhibition very special. To the artists a big 'thank you.' The exhibition is going from strength to strength, and this is thanks to you. People would not come, return year after year, spend their money and tell their friends about us, if it were not for your art. The standard of the work is excellent, and the sales figures prove it.

There was only one painting to return to this year's



This art-loving robin was a regular visitor

Feature Artist, Ihor Ropyanyk; he sold every other painting on the wall. This was unprecedented in the history of the Feature Artist, and we are of course delighted, for Ihor and for the exhibition.

As always, the exhibition was expertly curated

by Alison Becket with the assistance of Alex French, Neil Gidman and David Flynn. In addition to hanging the exhibition, Alison also judged it. Thank you, Alison. It was wonderful that two long-time Friends and artists won prizes this year. The Prize for Artistic Excellence

went to 'Portrait of Sangeeta' by Patrick Killery, and the prize in the three-dimensional category went to John Schettrumpf for his conversation piece entitled 'An Ancient Harpooner'. The Hugh Casson Prize for Drawing was awarded to Pauline Rafal for her intricate portrait 'The Ink's Tale', while The Spirit of Holland Park Prize, awarded by the FHP Trustees, went to 'Winter in Holland Park' by Krystyna Dankiewicz. Many congratulations to all the prize winners and to Alison for her considered judgement.

As always, Rhoddy Wood ran the Mini-Market brilliantly, and her administration in all areas is invaluable. Thanks also to Joy Puritz for her compilation of the catalogue, which is never a simple task and very time consuming. We are also most grateful to the other Trustees and the stewards for volunteering their time.

Special thanks are due to our sponsor for the second year, Ilchester Estates. The Ilchesters have been associated with Holland Park for many years. This year we featured a painting by Dowager Countess of Ilchester to demonstrate the great passion she had for the house and gardens. Ilchester Estates' new development, Holland Green, next to the Design Museum, has breathed new life into this end of the High Street. We hope they will continue to support the exhibition for many years to come.

As always, we had generous support from local restaurants, hotels and businesses who donated all the prizes for our raffle. Well done to the winners and everyone who bought a ticket. The entire proceeds of the raffle go to The Friends of Holland Park. The administration for next year's exhibition begins as this year's is finalized. Next time I write will be my call for artists to enter. Thank you again to the artists: you are the exhibition!

Gordon French

In 2013, the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC) and the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham decided to merge some of their services, including the Parks Police. The decision has now been reversed and we will, once again, have our own RBKC Parks Police service. What difference will that make? It means that the team based in Holland Park, though fewer in number, will be able to focus more specifically on our Borough's parks.



Police at work in the park.

Inspector Mike Rumble retired in April this year, after 10 years as head of the Parks Police. We were sad to see him go and owe him many thanks for all he has achieved while in post. Before he left he spoke at The Friends' Winter Warmer in February and regaled us with tales of his notable police career and some of the unexpected events he had dealt with in the Borough's parks.

More recently, Police Sergeants Helen Tilbury and Chris Ellinson have shared leadership of the Parks Police team and they will now report directly to Rachel Merriman, Senior Officer in the RBKC Community Safety Service.

Rachel is excited about her new role and will be based in the park one day a week. With on-going savings required across all Council services, RBKC is looking at how all of our uniformed presence is organised.

The Friends were invited to express their view to the Council, and emphasised that:

- It is important that we keep a consistent team of police officers, so that we know them, they know us, and they

understand how the park works.

- We continue the very welcome regular communication with the team.
- Police numbers be kept at a level that ensures that their presence in the park is evident.
- The Parks Police headquarters should continue to be in Holland Park.

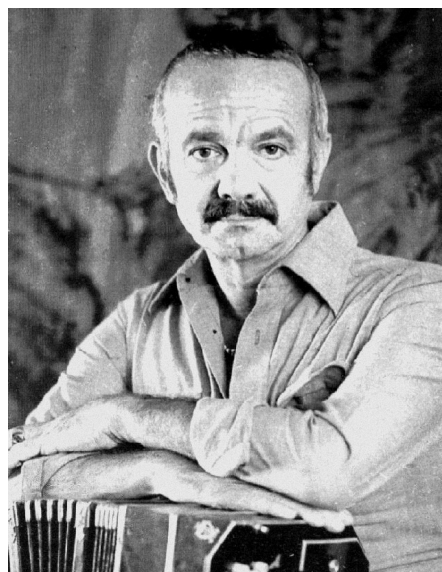
We understand that their 'home' will still be in Holland Park's Stable Yard and that we will retain the officers we know, and who know us and the park. The Friends very much appreciate the work that the Parks Police team does to keep Holland Park a safe place.

Text and photo: Jennie Kettlewell

Ancora Duo Excelled

Anne Allen and Sarah Freestone hit exactly the right tone when they entertained us at a concert on 12 April, surrounded by the colourful works of our art exhibition. Anne we knew from her lovely flute playing in last year's performance, with harp. Sarah and her accomplished guitar playing were new to us. It was hard to imagine what the combination of flute and guitar would be like, but it was stunning and very much appreciated by the audience.

What made the occasion even more special was their easy dialogue and



Astor Piazzolla with bandoneon

spirited introduction to each piece: a fluidity that comes from having played together as the Ancora Duo for nine years.

The final piece, in a varied programme, was Astor Piazzolla's *Tango Bordello* from *L'Histoire du Tango*. They managed to conjure up the mood of the bandoneon-playing composer's exotic music. I asked my Argentinian niece if she knew of him. 'Of course!' she said. 'I just wish I had been there to hear it.' She would certainly have enjoyed it, as did we all.

Jennie Kettlewell



Holland Park Detectives

A steady stream of excited children took part in the Friends' 'Holland Park Detectives' day on 29 May. From a pop-up stand in the Café Yard, trustees Joy Puritz, Sandra French and Jennie Kettlewell, handed out forms showing colour pictures of 11 items to spot in the park, together with clues as to where to find them.



The children's pop-up stand

The Parks Police entered into the spirit of the day by lending a set of old-style police hats, from a 'bobby-on-the-beat' helmet to a French policeman's kepi. The kids enjoyed trying these on, with proud parents taking photos. *idverde* gave support by delivering the 'desk' and chairs early in the day and storing them away after the event. Holland Park Café was characteristically thoughtful, bringing coffee for the organisers, and their chef arrived with an umbrella when it started raining. It was a real park team effort. When it did start to rain, parents and children were undeterred and donned rain gear and



Badges given to the successful

persevered, ticking the boxes for the items they had found on increasingly soggy paper.

The children quite evidently loved the challenge of searching for things in the lovely surroundings of the park. A police car and the Walking Man statue were easy, but the bee proved elusive, probably due to the cold wet weather. The event was designed to encourage park

visitors to take an interest in our very special park. It is the second such event we have run, and parents are already keenly asking for the date of the next one. If they joined The Friends, they would know the dates of our events from our newsletter. We intend to run more children's days, but may need some of our members to volunteer to help with this and other events we are planning. Anyone interested should contact jenniekettlewell@aol.com

Text and photos: Jennie Kettlewell

Friends of Holland Park E-mail Reception

We are now using a multiple e-mail service (Mailchimp) to send out occasional e-mails of interest to members: mostly reminders of events, and not more than 12 a year. It seems that only a quarter of these are opened, and we think the reason might be that they are going into your "Spam" or "Junk" mail rather than your inbox, so you might be missing information and updates. We would like to remedy this if possible.

The simplest way to do this would be for you to open your

Spam or Junk mail box, search for a recent e-mail (mid-June) from **Susan Van Noorden, Friends of Holland Park**. This would have been a reminder about the Pimm's in the Park event. If you then move that e-mail to your inbox and open it, you should see at the top something like 'Add to Safe Senders' to click on. Alternatively, copy the sender address to your contacts list.

Please do this if you can, and we will see after the next mailing if this strategy has been effective.



<p>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.</p>	
<p>29 June</p>	<p>Visit to Bennington Lordship Floral Festival in Hertfordshire. Entry to private gardens plus plant sales. Coach transport. Must book.</p>
<p>14 July, 2 for 2.30pm</p>	<p>Judging of members' gardens competition by David Lewis. Library lecture theatre.</p>
<p>16-18 July</p>	<p>3-day excursion to visit gardens. Coach transport and accommodation included. Details TBC: check website for details. Must book.</p>
<p>15 August</p>	<p>Visit to 17th C Fenton House, Hampstead, with walled garden. NT property. Must book.</p>
<p>Opera Holland Park (all information from www.operahollandpark.com. Tickets available from 0300 999 1000)</p>	
<p>25, 27, 28*, 29 June at 7.30pm, 16 June at 2pm *Young Artists Performance</p>	<p>Un ballo in maschera by Verdi</p>
<p>4, 5, 6 July at 7pm, 6 July at 2pm</p>	<p>The Royal Ballet School</p>
<p>20, 25, 27, 31 July, 2 August At 7.30pm</p>	<p>L'arlesiana by Cilea</p>
<p>22, 24, 26, 30 July and 1, 3 August at 7.30pm</p>	<p>Il segreto di Susanna, by Wolf-Ferrari/Iolanta by Tchaikovsky (double bill)</p>
	<p>For information about the talks and insights programme, check the website.</p>
<p>The Kensington Society (all information and on-line booking on www.kensingtonsociety.org/events)</p>	
<p>16 July 6.30-8.30pm</p>	<p>Guided tour of Kensal Green Cemetery. Kensington Society members £15, non-members £20. Please book.</p>
<p>10 October 6.30-8.30pm</p>	<p>Visit to the Royal Society of Sculptors, Old Brompton Road. Kensington Society members £15, non-members £20. Please book.</p>



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. 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 ecologycentre@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 ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk

Thurs 4 July	ES. Summer tree walk: the basics. Must book	6.30-8pm
Wed 10 July	Pimm's in the Park , in marquee at east end of Dutch Garden, £18	6-8pm
Sat 13 July	ES. Pond surveying. Wildlife Area Open Day. Drop in	12 noon-4pm
Thurs 18 July	ES. Wild plants of Holland Park walk (sponsored). Must book	6.30-8pm
Thurs 25 July	ES. Urban owls talk (sponsored). Must book	6.30-8pm
Sat 27 July	ES. Dragonflies walk and talk (sponsored). Must book	1-3pm
Thurs 12 Sept	ES. Autumn bat walk (sponsored). Must book	7-8.30pm
Sat 28 Sept	ES. Small mammals of Holland Park walk. Must book	10-11.30am
Sat 5 Oct	ES. Autumn leaves. Wildlife Area Open Day. Drop in	12 noon-4pm
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
Tue 29 Oct	Chocolat Treat (see p.3), in the Orangery	7pm
Sat 2 Nov	ES. Fungi foray (sponsored). Must book	2-4pm
Sat 9 Nov	Autumn bird walk , led by Bill Haines	9am

Your Committee



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Our website address: www.thefriendsofhollandpark.org



*The cover photo of the Milo of Croton statue in the formal garden
was taken by Rhoddy Wood on 27 August 2017*

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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.



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