

The Friends of Holland Park
Autumn 2017



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Jacobean Country Houses in the London Countryside

Wednesday, 18 October 2017, at 7pm in the Orangery

There is still time to book for our autumn talk on Jacobean country houses given by Malcolm Airs, Emeritus Professor of Conservation and the Historic Environment at Oxford University.

He will tell us about the changes in architecture and appearance of country houses in the early seventeenth century, placing Holland House in the wider context of a distinctive group of houses in the London suburbs, such as



Professor Malcolm Airs

Charlton House, Ham House and the Dutch House at Kew. He will examine the roles played by patrons, developers and designers, and will explain why Holland House is so important.

Tickets are £18, to include wine and Janice Miles' delicious canapés. To order tickets, please use the order form enclosed with your newsletter, or download it from The Friends of Holland Park website.

Christmas Concert

Sunday, 10 December 2017, at 7.30pm in the Orangery

Yes, it's true: Christmas will be upon us again soon, and we need to book for our favourite event of the year. Our loyal Tallis Chamber Choir, conducted by Philip Simms, will be delighting us with a variety of Christmas carols and readings, after which we can enjoy a glass of wine and mouth-watering canapés. Tickets, at £22, can be ordered on the enclosed order form, which can also be downloaded from our website.

Crab Apple Jelly

At the time of writing (early September) the one tree in the park that bears authentically bitter green crab apples was pleasingly laden, though none were yet lying within reach on the ground. Let us hope they can presently be harvested and combined with other fruit from the countryside to be metamorphosed into tangy red jelly. When you read this, do ring Rhoddy Wood on 020 7602 0304 to place your orders, as supplies are soon exhausted.

Silvi Spassov Co-opted as Trustee and Treasurer

In our last newsletter we announced that Silvi Spassov had taken on the role of Accounts Co-ordinator. This has worked so well that we asked Silvi if he would become a trustee and our Treasurer. We are delighted that he has agreed.

The Treasurer's role involves oversight of the financial health of the charity, and keeping the trustees informed about the state of our finances. He will continue to handle all the day-to-day accounts and payments. Simon Lindesay-Bethune continues as Assistant Treasurer.

We have already enjoyed the benefit of Silvi's considerable experience as a qualified accountant, having worked for many years as a PricewaterhouseCoopers consultant with client-facing roles. He has introduced new ways of doing things that make managing the data quicker and simpler, and that is a huge advantage.

Silvi lives locally, loves the park and has shown himself to be ready to help out with many of the tasks faced by the



Silvi Spassov

trustees. You will most likely meet him when you come to one of our events.

We are looking forward to working with Silvi as one of the trustees.

Jennie Kettlewell



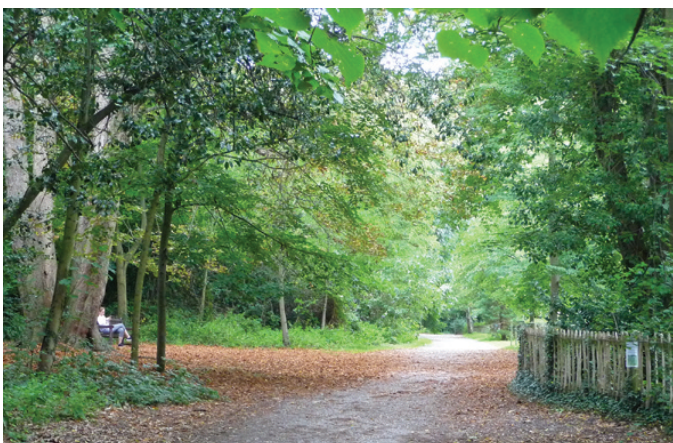
Enjoying green space on the Sun Trap Lawn

The ten-year strategy for RBKC's parks states: *'All residents of the Royal Borough will have easy access to a green, open space for relaxation, a variety of leisure pursuits and quiet reflection in an area of London with a dense population and competing demands on space. These green spaces will be safe and pleasant for people to use.'* This is important because there is a growing body of research that shows that natural green spaces are not only beneficial to physical health, but also to mental wellbeing.

We have inherited a wonderful park and, I hope, helped to enhance it. Both the Council and The Friends must act as stewards to ensure that we leave an equally natural green space for future generations. The Friends enjoy a constructive dialogue with councillors and council officers on this subject, but all councils are faced with tough choices in the light of cuts from central government. These choices mean park budgets are often reduced, and that has been the case with Holland Park.

Sustainability of natural green space

In the context of budget constraints, one councillor said to me: 'The Friends can't expect to have all the flowers they want'; but our priority is sustainability for the long-term, not short-term floral glory. Sustainability is one of the four priority themes in



Reading in the woodlands

the park's ten-year strategy. If there is a decline in the tree stock and natural green space, it will be a permanent loss for the health and wellbeing of the community.

The Friends are currently working with Park Management to increase sustainability:

- The Mediterranean Bed has been re-designed and is being filled with plants that should last for many years, with no need for regular replacement.
- The tree-strategy working group has started assessing the park's trees, area by area. This is not just about health and safety – that is mandatory – but about creating a vision for what we want the park's avenues, lawn margins, boundary strips, gardens and woodlands to look like in 50 years' time. Then work will start to move towards that vision.

All good work, so what are the issues?



Erosion in the south-east corner of the North Lawn

The impact of budget cuts

Natural green spaces can become eroded, little by little, for different reasons. In time, all these small erosions will add up to substantial depletion, and the park will be less green in future. We need to pay attention when erosion occurs, and counteract the loss with new planting or dead-hedging.

As RBKC balances its annual budgets, we hear the call to make more money from parks: to sweat the assets. We must remember our stewardship role and take great care not to commercialise the park in any way that negatively affects the natural green spaces that offer the potential to restore wellbeing.

We are not alone in recognising the health benefits of green space to the community.

Clive Betts MP, Chairman of the Communities and Local Government Committee, said: 'Every local authority should have a strategic plan, recognising that parks are much more than just grass and tulips, and bringing in resources from outside the traditional budgets. Parks make

The Fukushima Garden, just to the east of the Kyoto Garden, was established in Holland Park in 2012 by the Japanese to show their gratitude to the people of the UK for supporting Fukushima after the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake of 2011. On 20 July, the fifth anniversary of its establishment, a ceremony took place hosted by

Fukushima-Minpo Co. Ltd and the Fukushima Prefectural Association in UK whose chairman, Mr Yoshio Mitsuyama, was involved in the creation of the garden. It was called the Sister Garden Memorandum of Friendship Signing Ceremony. The signing took place in the RBKC Town Hall, in the presence, among others, of Japanese Ambassador, Mr Koji Tsuruoka; a delegation from Motomiya City in Fukushima Prefecture which included school children and ordinary citizens of the city led by its mayor, Mr Gigyo Takamatsu; the RBKC mayor, Cllr Marie-Therese Rossi; and RBKC Police Cadets.

After the signing, all moved to the Fukushima Garden where pupils of the junior high school in Motomiya and the ambassador gave speeches in Japanese and English (in which sympathy for the Grenfell Tower fire was also expressed), followed by Mayor Rossi inviting the guests to help plant a tree, a *Euonymus sieboldianus* or Himalayan Spindle ('Mayumi' in Japanese), which produces conspicuous red berries and whose leaves colour well in the autumn. Gifts were exchanged between the school children



Mr Koji Tsuruoka speaking at the ceremony

and Police Cadets. The planting was followed by a reception at the Town Hall. Friends of Holland Park who attended reported that the ceremony was a very positive experience, especially with the school children present; that there were about 100 people, largely Japanese; and that badges from Fukushima were handed out.

As a symbol of mutual support for the people of Motomiya and Kensington, the Fukushima Garden will be twinned with the English Garden in Motomiya, due to open in November.

Joy Puritz



Both mayors, Head Gardener Rob May and the Ambassador plant the tree

The Healing Power of Nature (contd)

vital contributions to physical and mental health and bring significant community benefits...'

Richard Louv's book *Last Child in the Woods* describes the staggering divide between children of the wired generation, and those enjoying the outdoors. He coined the phrase 'Nature Deficiency Disorder' and explains that there is increasing research-based evidence showing that time spent in the natural world not only has a significant impact on physical wellbeing, but can produce marked improvements in attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, learning ability, creativity, mental and psychological health.

London's mayor has recently announced a package of measures to help 'make London the greenest city in the

world', seeing it as an opportunity to improve the health of all Londoners.

Leaving a green legacy for future wellbeing

A significant body of research shows the health benefits of parks, and we are fortunate that Holland Park offers not only facilities for sports activities, historical buildings and formal flower gardens, but also leafy, green woodland where there is relative tranquillity to calm the busy mind. We have stewardship of the green legacy we have been left in Holland Park, so we must make sure we embrace that role and leave tranquil green space for the physical and mental wellbeing of future generations. We cannot afford to let financial drivers erode these benefits.

Text and photos: Jennie Kettlewell



Jennie Kettlewell

Stonework on Holland House

Landscaping improvement

By the time you read this, Opera Holland Park is likely to have cleared the canopy and ancillary buildings from the Holland House site in record time, and Blakedown Landscapes will have started work on improving the environment around Holland House. This entails relaying the surface of the south terrace; re-siting the access road to that terrace, making the café yard a much more attractive space; and conservation of the walls and steps related to the terrace. Time is tight to finish the work before Opera Holland Park reclaim the site in March 2018. Some practical considerations are:



alamy.com

Box tree caterpillar

- The Friends' Nature Walk on Saturdays 7 Oct., 4 Nov. and 2 Dec. will meet by the entrance to the Stable Yard.
- Holland Park Café will remain open throughout but, at some point, the entrance might be from the north. Look for the signs. The café seating area outside to the south will be closed until March 2018.
- The Stable Yard, Police and Parks Offices will remain open throughout.
- The south terrace of Holland House will be closed until October 2018.

Holland House conservation

We understand that the surveyor's technical assessment of the state of Grade-1-listed Holland House has not yet been

completed and that this cannot be done until the opera canopy has been removed to allow free access. After the surveyor's report comes the proposal of works to be done, then RBKC approval. This will take time, so any work proposed is unlikely to start before the end of the 2018 opera season. This puts it well behind the schedule stated in the Conservation Management Plan for Holland House. From sight alone and, given that loose finial stones had to be removed this summer, it is likely that much work is urgently needed. By 2018, it will be ten years since repairs were last carried out on the building, as a result of the property being put on Historic England's (then English Heritage) 'At Risk Register'. We want to see this historic building, at the heart of Holland Park, preserved for the enjoyment of future generations.



Jennie Kettlewell

Dutch Garden and Belvedere tower restoration

Belvedere building refurbishment

Exterior refurbishment of the Belvedere Restaurant has started and the restaurant will be closed during October and November 2017. This work entails removing non-compliant additions to the building (listed under the curtilage of Grade-1-listed Holland House) and rationalising the maze of service plant on the roof. The tower will be renovated to halt deterioration. The restaurant hopes to re-open in December for its busy Christmas season. The Belvedere is one of our



Joy Puritz

Box tree moth taken on a Nature Walk in the park

Last year we had a cloudless sky for our Pimm's party; this year, on 11 July, it was teeming with rain. But no one cared because we were under cover, and still with a fine view of the Dutch Garden, thanks to Michael Volpe, General Director of Opera Holland Park, who had again allowed us to use the marquee overlooking the garden. Mr Volpe was of course



Pimm's out of the rain

a welcome guest at the party, thanked publicly by FHP Chairman, Jennie Kettlewell. The Pimm's was perfectly mixed, and the canapés were plentiful despite the 80 or so attendees. We were pleased to see quite a few new faces as well as old friends. Every now and then we could hear the lovely sounds of an opera rehearsal in the distance...

News Update (contd)

Friends & Neighbours partners, and offers a 10% discount on presentation of a Friends' membership card, so make sure you book a table and enjoy the very tempting menu when it re-opens.

Poetry Seat

Sadly our Poetry Seat, carved by Martin Pigg, has succumbed to the elements. It looked at home in its setting just east of the Lord Holland Pond, but we always suspected that the wood would not last for ever.

Box tree caterpillar

Many of you might have experienced the rapacious box tree caterpillar (*Diaphania perspectalis*) in your own garden, so you know what a stubborn beastie it is and that it can completely defoliate a box plant in days. It is the larva of a moth and has been named 'Top Pest' by the Royal Horticultural Society. As it spreads fast across the south east of the country it has now reached the Dutch Garden in Holland Park where, you will be aware, all the formal beds are edged with clipped box. Treatment is specific and difficult because the insect passes through several stages from May to October. Most widely available sprays are ineffective but idverde have the product with the necessary ingredient. You might, on occasion, find the Dutch Garden closed while this work is carried out. We suggest that you do not touch the box hedges or let children touch them. We hope this treatment works but, if the caterpillar wins, we will have to replace the box with an alternative.

Stable Yard


Repairs are due to the leaky roof of the Stable Yard buildings that house the parks police office, park reception, sports booking office, sports changing rooms and public WCs. We await information on

approval and start date. We also await news on upgrading of the public WCs, which are in a poor state.

Adventure Playground

The schedule of works we included in our summer newsletter showed that much needed work on the playground would happen in 2018. We await confirmation of approval and start date.


Jennie Kettlewell



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Readers will remember that in our last issue we wrote about a generous gift that enabled us in partnership with idverde to embark on a re-design and re-planting of the long border against the wall in the formal garden. Head Gardener Rob May is working hard to make our joint vision a reality. Our purpose was to provide a border that would look organised and attractive throughout the year with a minimum of maintenance. This would be achieved by providing a framework of larger plants, many of



Catalina Ironwood



Red Bottlebrush

them evergreen and flowering in season, interspersed with smaller ground-covering plants, and bulbs to provide additional colour. Also we would take advantage of the



Luma apiculata

protection of the south-facing wall to choose plants from Mediterranean climates that can increasingly be grown in the London heat island. The greater the variety of plants, the fewer the losses we will suffer if disease wipes out particular groups. Planting is not yet complete but will continue as suitable specimens become



Luma apiculata flower

available. Meanwhile, here are descriptions of some plants that have arrived.

Probably the rarest is the Catalina Ironwood, *Lyonothamnus floribundus subsp aspleniifolius*, which is native only to a group of small islands off San Francisco. When more mature it will produce panicles of creamy white flowers and can already be identified by its stringy chestnut and grey bark, like a miniature redwood, plus its evergreen leaves with distinctive oblong leaflets.

Also evergreen but with long pale leaves, is the Red Bottlebrush or *Callistemon citrinus*. This comes from Australia and is widely grown in Mediterranean areas. Its showy flowers have the unusual ability to allow the branches to continue growing beyond them, and this is obvious even when the flowers have faded, as leafless stretches on the branches retain hard brown seedcases for many months. The long stamens are typical of the Myrtle family.

We do have a well established Common Myrtle, *Myrtus communis*, the plant

used by the Romans to crown victorious sportsmen and generals. Its leaves, also evergreen, are small and dark, and its small white flowers which cover the bush in August have the typical long stamens. Now we have introduced a close relative, the Chilean Myrtle, which used to be called *Myrtus luma* but is now *Luma apiculata*. Its chief glory, eye-



Cootamundra Wattle

catching throughout the year, is the bark on established plants: bright chestnut, which peels to show white patches. Our photo of this was taken in Edwardes Square near the pub. It used to be considered tender but has been creeping into London. Our new plant has five slender stems, each no fatter than my finger and still a pale grey, but peer into the bushes behind the café and you will find two plants, not much bigger and already showing white patches.

Another anchor tree of the future is our Cootamundra Wattle, *Acacia baileyana*, from Australia, which in spring is covered with yellow balls much like a mimosa's. This has



Punica granatum Flore Pleno

blue ferny foliage year round, but because it is the cultivar 'Purpurea' the youngest growth is purple, making a spectacular contrast with the older foliage. Compare it with the very similar flowers but quite different leaves of the Prickly Moses, *Acacia verticillata*, which is the dark green bush that has been arching over the path near the aedicule for some years.

Pomegranates, originally from West Asia, have been cultivated for their fruit around the Mediterranean since antiquity. We have two cultivars, a tall, established double-



Punica granatum Nana

flowered one, *Punica granatum Flore Pleno* and a dwarf form, *Punica granatum Nana*. The latter plants are replacements for ones we have had previously, and have been nick-named 'Micky Mouse plants' by some children for their red noses. They bear fruit that does not usually ripen for us.

Now we could look at some of the smaller plants that provide ground cover and bring intermittent colour. One photo shows a patch combining three plants which all flower, but not at the same time. The fading purple flower spikes of the *Phlomis lanata* are emerging from its silver furry leaves in front of the



Eucomis Sparkling Burgundy, Phlomis and Artemisia

delicately divided silver leaves of the *Helichrysum italicum* *Artemisia*, which earlier had yellow flowers. These two are both common plants in English gardens, but much less so is the Pineapple Plant, *Eucomis Sparkling Burgundy*.

'Pineapple' because the flower spike is surmounted by a top knot of leaves like a pineapple. The wild one comes from South Africa, and leaves and flowers are green, but in this cultivar they are suffused purple. The flowers last for half the summer, but in our picture there are just pairs of purple leaves which contrast strikingly with their silver-leaved companions. The whole makes a carpet that should need little weeding.



Leucadendron Burgundy Sunset

Cone Flowers (*Leucadendron*) are relatives of Proteas, and like them come from the Cape. The flowers appear at the tip of the woody stems and merge into the usually similarly coloured leaves. We have several different cultivars

(contd on p.10)



Leucadendron Safari Sunset

On 6 July ornithologist Bill Haines, who knows the birds of Holland Park well, and Nettie Ribeaux, treated us to another intriguing talk about parakeets. Here are some of their fascinating facts.

1. The parakeet is the most northerly breeding parrot in the world.
2. Half the length of an adult bird is its tail.
3. The longest recorded age of a parakeet in the wild is 8 years 11 months, but they are difficult to track and ring because they are clever and will not stand being caught twice. The oldest bird recorded in captivity was 30 years.
4. They are not a native bird and the rumour that they came from escapees during the filming of *The African Queen* is probably incorrect. It is more likely that they escaped from a bird centre near Heathrow some 30 years ago.
5. They are now established in the UK, with a reported 1000% increase from 1995-2012. The numbers have now stabilised.
6. At one point, 8,000 were recorded at the Wormwood Scrubs roost, but they have now moved on.
7. Half the breeding pairs in London are on Wimbledon Common.
8. Parakeets were first recorded in Holland Park in 2004 on



Rhoddy Wood

Parakeet in Holland Park

the North Lawn. At that time, they were not breeding in the park, which they now are.

After the talk Bill took us to see large numbers of parakeets flying into the area of the park just south of the Orangery, in preparation for their onward flight to their night time roost at Wormwood Scrubs.

Jennie Kettlewell

Plants in the Mediterranean Bed (*contd*)



Canary Bellflower

whose names are broadly descriptive, but all remain colourful throughout the summer. Illustrated are Burgundy Sunset (note the silvery hairs on the red leaves) and Safari Sunset. The branching one is called Sixteen Candles. Coming from the Canaries is the Canary Bellflower, *Isoplexis*

canariensis. Seeing its spike of orange flowers, most people are surprised to learn that it is a member of the Campanula family like our native Harebell.

We show a picture of a very spiky rosette of leaves newly planted in our border. This should grow to make a large clump of groundcover. I am sorry that I know no English name for it, but scientifically it is *Fascicularia bicolor*. It might help you to remember when you know that it is based on 'fascies', meaning a bundle of stems as in Mussolini's fascists; 'bicolor' because its green leaves become scarlet in the centre of the rosettes when it flowers. Our



Fascicularia bicolor flower

picture of this, photographed in Ireland, explains why it is interesting to plant. Some people are reminded of baboons' bottoms. It is a member of the Bromeliad family, most of which grow as epiphytes in tropical trees, but this one grows on the ground in forest near the coast of Ecuador.

We will tell you about more plants in later issues.

Text and photos: Rhoddy Wood



Fascicularia bicolor

We have a new artist for our Christmas card this year. He is Peter Watkins who is skilled in architectural work and can make his bricks glow with warmth. His representation of our Stable Yard catches the romance of its style and reminds us how lucky we are with even our utilitarian buildings.

We will hold a ready supply of these cards in both the standard 152mm x 197mm format at £9.50 the pack of ten, and the small 118mm x 168mm at £7. We will also make up mixed packs of old designs of Holland Park at £6.50, which will very largely be of big ones in 4 or 5 different designs. These can all be delivered very quickly: the mixed packs from the date of your reading this, and the new ones from early November. 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 newsletter is hand delivered (no stamp), our delivery is free, but beyond that we have to charge an additional £1.60 per 10 cards.



The Stable Yard in snow

There are a number of other designs illustrated in the enclosed catalogue and on the website www.mbcards.co.uk. Indeed there is a choice of 17 cards by at least three different artists, portraying different aspects of Holland Park – surely enough for everyone to find something they like. We appreciate it if you also order these through us, as we get an extra discount, though Mountbatten can give you free delivery anywhere in the

UK. Overprinted cards must be ordered from Mountbatten. We do get a small donation if you fill in the appropriate line asking which charity you would like to support.

All cards will have the standard greeting ‘With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year’ unless you ask for them to be blank. Do avoid that last minute panic by ordering now.

Rhoddy Wood

Precious Cargo from Wakehurst

Since the opening of the Fukushima Garden in 2012, we have struggled to find the national flower of Fukushima : *Rhododendron brachycarpum*. On a visit to Wakehurst (Kew’s country garden) some years ago, your chairman discovered some of these plants being raised from seed in the nursery. Botanic gardens are very restricted about who can be given their collected plants, but the Friends made a good case for Holland Park, and approval was eventually given for us to have nine plants. These very verdant and healthy specimens, collected by Holland Park’s deputy head gardener, Mark Sinclair, on 14 June, are now planted and being taken good care of by the *idverde* team; and good care is important, because the plants come with a signed contract, a page-and-a-half-long biography and a passport. We are required to keep records of where they are planted in the Fukushima Garden, how they are being looked after and pretty much everything that happens to them.



Mark at Wakehurst

Text and photo: Jennie Kettlewell



Locust-like Honey Locust tree beans and drawing

People who come on our monthly Nature Walks often ask good questions. If we do not know the answer, we do try to find out. Two questions asked on a recent walk were:

1. Why is the *Gleditsia triacanthos* (on the Orangery Lawn) commonly known as a Honey Locust? The fruit of the tree is a long brown bean filled with a sweet pulp, relished by wildlife. This sweet pulp, or 'honey', was once used to brew beer in America. But what about the term 'locust'? References indicate that many bean trees are referred to as locust trees because the crop of beans looks like a swarm of locusts.

2. What is the function of the two small, reddish glands found on the leaf stalk near to the base of the cherry leaf (an identifying feature of a cherry tree)? They are nectar glands, also called extrafloral nectaries, which exude a sweet substance. This substance is said to attract ants and these ants act as body guards, killing caterpillars, greenfly and other herbivorous insects that fancy having a munch at the leaves and fruit of the cherry tree.

On our August walk we were fortunate to see a goldfinch worrying over its fledgling which was scurrying about on the ground. Later we saw a pair of fox cubs, too curious to run, but happy to 'hide' and watch us from long grass that was not long enough to cover their heads.

*Text and drawing
by Jennie Kettlewell*



Cherry leaf with nectaries

Local Events Run by Neighbouring Organisations: 2017

Kensington Gardeners' Club (information from www.kensingtongardeners.co.uk or please contact 07949 769702)

21 October

Garden competition prize giving; talk and slide show of entrants' gardens by competition judge.

18 November

Talk in Town Hall by Andrew Babicz, the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh.

The Kensington Society (all information from www.kensingtonsociety.org or please contact 020 7942 5235)

This event was postponed from 27 July. A new date is expected soon. Check on the Kensington Society website.

Natural History Museum private viewing of Hintze Hall, and wine reception

President Sir Angus Stirling

Chairman Jennie Kettlewell

Secretary Rhoddy Wood

Treasurer Silvi Spassov

Events Organiser Graham Franklin

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Art Exhibition Sandra French

Park Observer Andy Walker

www.thefriendsofhollandpark.org

The Friends of Holland Park is registered as a charity, No. 281348



The front cover photo of 'Walking Man' was taken by Joy Puritz in November 2010. This sculpture by Sean Henry formed part of Bronze: Millenium Exhibition of Contemporary British Sculpture held in Holland Park from April 2000 to March 2001



The back cover photo was taken in the Dutch Garden by Rhoddy Wood in November 2007

OUR ADVERTISERS

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.



Dates for your Diary

All FHP events in the diary are printed in **bold**. The Friends' Nature Walks (NW, formerly BNW) are continuing to be led by varying regulars while we look for a new permanent leader with the requisite skills and commitment. We will have a one-and-a-half-hour stroll through the park looking at birds, plants, butterflies and park management of current interest. There is no charge and all are welcome without booking. Meet outside the Stable Yard at 9am on the first Saturday of each month. No dogs, please, as even well behaved ones on leads disturb the wildlife. We recommend you bring binoculars if you can.

Events organised by the Ecology Service of RBK&C are listed as 'ES', some of which are sponsored by FHP where 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. There is a charge for those marked £.

Holland Park Conservation Volunteer days (for adults) are every third Saturday of the month from 10.30am to 3pm; meet outside the Stable Yard. 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. Refreshments, gloves, tools and instructions 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 7 Oct	NW	
Weds 18 Oct	'Jacobean Country Houses in the London Countryside'	7pm
	<i>(see p.3), in the Orangery, £18</i>	
Sat 21 Oct	Autumn tree walk. Dr Alan Harrington. Meet by Stable Yard	11am-1pm
Mon 23 – Fri 27 Oct	ES. Children's half-term holiday activities. Must book £	
Fri 3 Nov	ES. Children's Night Safari (5-8 year-olds). Must book £	4-6pm
Sat 4 Nov	NW	
Fri 10 Nov	ES. Children's Night Safari (8-12 year-olds). Must book £	4-6pm
Sat 11 Nov	ES. Fungi Foray (sponsored). Must book	2-4pm
Thurs 16 Nov	ES. A Year in Holland Park: talk. Must book	6-7.30pm
Sat 2 Dec	NW	
Sat 2 Dec	ES. Feed the Birds: Ecology Centre Open Day	11am-3.30pm
Sun 10 Dec	Christmas Concert: Tallis Chamber Choir in the Orangery £22 <i>(see p.3)</i>	7.30pm

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.

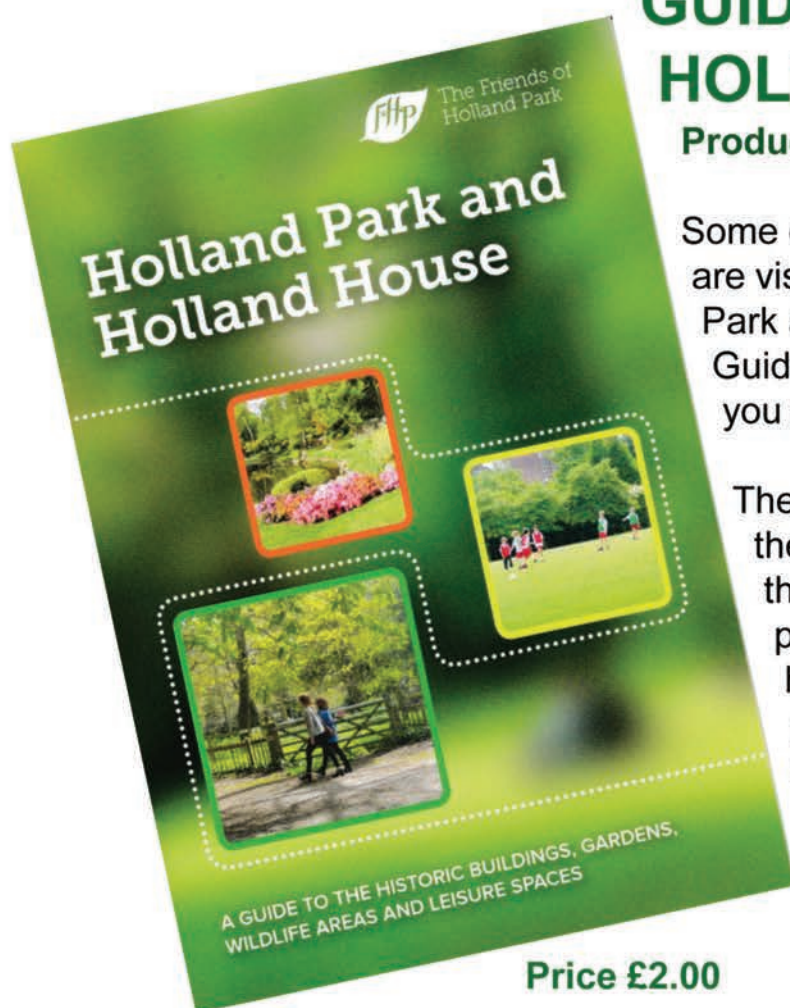


GUIDE TO HOLLAND PARK

Produced by The Friends of Holland Park

Some of you know the Park well and some are visitors wanting to know what's in the Park and where to find it. We hope this Guide will be interesting for all and that you enjoy reading it and find it useful.

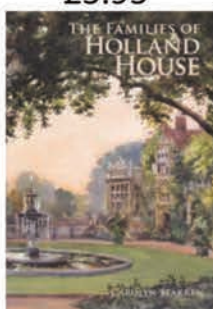
The Guide describes the various areas of the Park: the sports and other facilities, the work of the Ecology team, and the park services. It also gives a brief history of Holland House and the people who lived in it. A map in the centre shows you how to find your way around. Even if you do know the Park well, you might discover things you did not know.



Price £2.00

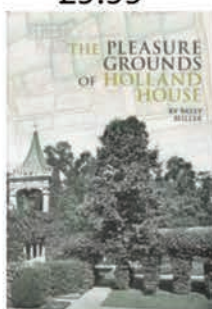
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65 notable trees in Holland Park and where to find them.

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