

The Friends of Holland Park
Summer 2013





Your Committee

President Sir Angus Stirling

Chairman Jennie Kettlewell

Secretary Rhoddy Wood

Treasurer Madeline Denmead

Publicity Nigel Brockmann

Editor & Minutes Secretary Joy Puritz

Talks Organiser Andy Walker

Art Exhibition Organiser Gordon French

Website Nicholas Hopkins

Kathleen Hall

www.thefriendsofhollandpark.org

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

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 all and would ask you to show your thanks by supporting them, please.

Pigeons

A pigeon flaps around your feet
Begging for a crumb to eat.
Biscuit, cake or pie will do
Bounty makes him friends with you.

Ah but.....

Greedy pigeon tells his friends
'Come on in before it ends'.
First it's two and then it's twenty
More and more for food a plenty.

Soon the pigeon flocks are gathered
All your neighbours now are bothered.
Messy food and guano splatters
Now's the time to do what matters.

STOP FEEDING THE PIGEONS!

Jennie Kettlewell

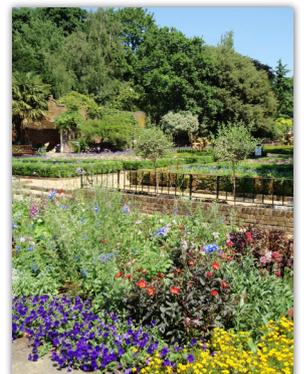
Pimm's in the Park

**Wednesday. 10 July, 6–8pm
in the youth hostel garden**

We look forward to seeing you at our annual summer party in the lovely garden between the east wing of Holland House and the youth hostel. The hostel's manager, Sally Martyn-Johns, is again kindly allowing us to hold the party there, and we have chosen an evening when we will not have to compete with an opera performance. This event is only open to Friends and their immediate guests. We also like to invite a few special guests to thank them for their work in making the park such a pleasure to be in. We are delighted that the new RBK&C Mayor, Charles Williams, has said he will be coming to the party, as has Tim Ahern, the newly-appointed RBK&C cabinet member responsible for Environment and Leisure.

Please book your tickets, at £12 each, to include Pimm's and light refreshments, on the enclosed order form (also downloadable from our website).

The cover photo was taken by your editor on 28 June 2010 in the Dutch Garden



The Annual General Meeting was held on 20 March 2013 in The Orangery. The President, Sir Angus Stirling, welcomed all those present. Apologies were accepted from Carron Batt, Mary Lambert and George Law. The minutes of the previous AGM were approved. Sir Angus explained that, following the resignation of Stewart Katz, Jennie Kettlewell would stand for the post of Chairman. He thanked Nicholas Hopkins for the leadership he had shown during a difficult time without a Chairman.

Andy Walker delivered the report for 2012 on behalf of the trustees. She said The Friends had sponsored several Ecology Centre events, had donated two stone seats for chess players, hosted two talks and published two books: *The Families of Holland House* and *The Pleasure Grounds of Holland House*. The 30th Art Exhibition under the new and creative management of Gordon French turned in a profit of £1,500. Grateful thanks were conveyed to Ian Thomson, George Law and Janice Miles for their services to The Friends during the year. Transition to unified teams across Kensington, Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham had affected both parks management and parks police. The Friends' vigorous campaign of objection to application for the opera canopy to be in place all year resulted in a withdrawal of the application. Work progressed on the old Commonwealth Institute site and residential redevelopment would start shortly on the Holland Park School's old playground site. The YHA had relinquished its long-term lease on the park hostel and would lease the hostel from RBK&C for another five years, after which the Borough would find a new use for it.

A set of 2012 accounts was available to all. Jennie Kettlewell, on behalf of the Treasurer, pointed out the unusually high assets due to a legacy of £25,000, and the extraordinary item which was explained by Nicholas Hopkins as a bad debt by the maker of the wave benches.

The Secretary, Mrs Rhoddy Wood, presented her report, saying there were 807 paid-up members, and around 180 might still renew. In spite of the 96 new members, a transient local population meant around 20% of the membership needed to be replaced each year, so she urged all to help to secure new members. Mrs Wood thanked the regular newsletter deliverers who had saved FHP £2,000 in postage, and asked for further volunteers.

All existing trustees were re-elected with the exception of the Treasurer, Carron Batt, who no longer wished to stand due to frequent travel. Mrs Batt was thanked for her work with The Friends, and members were invited to put forward names of people suitable to fulfil the role of Treasurer. Jennie Kettlewell was elected as Chairman of The Friends. Roger Foreman was elected as the Independent Examiner

and Leslie Du Cane was thanked for the work he had done previously in that role.

Jennie Kettlewell presented the Chairman's Outlook for the coming year and said plans fell into three categories:

Building developments: As a result of The Friends' strong objection to the Opera's revised application

for closure of the terrace for a full eight months, planning consent had been reduced to 6½ months – a gratifying outcome, given the original request for 12 months. Performances should not start before 31 May or continue after 31 August; erection of the canopy should not start before 13 March. The canopy and all materials had to be off site and the site cleaned up by 30 September at the latest. The decision had now been made, and should be accepted with dignity. The Friends were liaising with the Council and the developers to establish and influence the impact of the new Design Museum on the site of the Commonwealth Institute – in particular, deployment of the Section 106 Agreement for £100,000. The new Ecology Centre was due for completion in early autumn. *Funding:* For a second year Ecology Centre events would be funded by The Friends which would result in higher attendance. Three funding projects were being progressed: repair or replacement of the non-functioning fountain outside the Stable Yard; carved gates for the Wildlife Enclosure, designed to be attractive and improve security; and a replacement for the sculpture stolen from the Sun Trap Garden. The committee was seeking significantly large projects for full or seed funding to ensure the park benefited from the current high level of assets. The newsletter was now produced in full colour throughout in order to do justice to photographs and illustrations.

Events: The art exhibition had been rejuvenated by Gordon French; sponsorship from Killik & Co. had allowed additional promotion; a display of pictures by Sir Hugh Casson celebrated a past president of The Friends, and the smartened catalogue was now free to visitors. Planned events included the annual *Virtuosi* concert, Pimm's party and Christmas concert. The autumn talk would take account of members' preferences based on a survey.

There were questions and answers about the opera canopy, pigs in the park, queues in the cafeteria, pigeon feeding and dog mess. Sir Angus Stirling closed the meeting at 8.40pm.



Caeanothus in the car park



Jennie Kettlewell Elected Chairman



We are delighted that Jennie Kettlewell was elected as our new chairman at our AGM.

Jennie has lived in Holland Park for 30 years, been a Friend for many years and served on the committee since September 2011. She is very familiar with the park, its assets and particularly its plants.

Her career has involved much that is relevant to The Friends committee: working with boards to determine their strategic priorities, advising clients on managing organisational reputation, culture change programmes and

development of individuals and teams especially relating to productive leadership. She is an interviewer for the Institute of Directors Chartered Director programme, through which she builds knowledge of what organisations do that makes them successful.

For the past three years she has studied with The Plant School to learn why plants do what they do and she says: 'I live so close to the park that I hear birdsong from its trees when at home, but it is my love of plants that tempts me into the park almost every day. We are fortunate to have such a wonderful green space to enjoy, and I feel The Friends' objectives of preserving, protecting and enhancing the historic and wild assets of the park are critically important. I look forward to carrying out my role and, although it will have its challenges, I am reassured that I already know the experienced and able trustees.'

Madeline Denmead Co-opted as Treasurer

Madeline Denmead has been co-opted onto the committee as treasurer and we are not only delighted to have found someone to replace Carron Batt so speedily but count ourselves fortunate that Madeline is so well qualified for the role and also interested in the broader remit of The Friends. Carron Batt resigned in March due to frequent absence abroad and we thank her for all she has done during her time as treasurer.

Madeline is already familiar with the park, being a frequent visitor and having been a member of The Friends for several years. She says: 'I value living so close to the park and take

every opportunity I have to go into it. I look forward to working with the trustees to preserve, protect and enhance the environment of the park.'

Madeline is a chartered accountant and currently the Chief Operating Officer at the Design Council, a charity that champions great design to improve people's lives. Before that she worked at the BBC.



Bi-Borough Police Badge

Since the sharing of services between RBK&C and Hammersmith & Fulham a new police badge has been designed by the Parks Police Inspector responsible for the two boroughs, Mike Rumble, who studied calligraphy and heraldic art at Reigate School of Art in the '70s, and has been a member of the Heraldry Society for over 40 years. The badge will go on uniforms and on the doors of a new vehicle fleet which should come into service in the summer. Inspector Rumble describes the design thus: 'The design utilises the "male" gryphon supporter from the Hammersmith & Fulham arms. The male gryphon is distinctive in that he has bursts or rays emanating from



his body rather than wings; these symbolise enlightenment and advancement whilst his pointed ears indicate vigilance on behalf of the residents of the borough(s). The gryphon is also associated with guardianship and protection. It emerges from an ancient crown from the Kensington & Chelsea shield which indicates the royal status of the borough. He is portrayed holding a leaf from the London plane tree, symbolising the protection of our parks, woodlands and open spaces. (The plane-tree leaf is also used in the logo of the New York Parks Department.)'

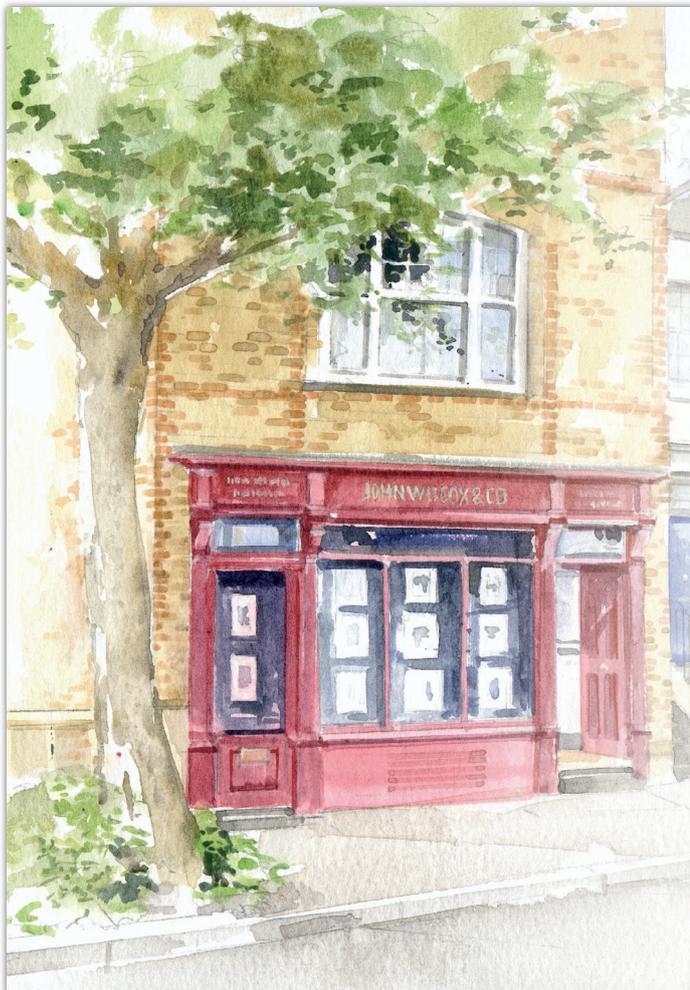
We were delighted once again to welcome the Russian Virtuosi of Europe on 23 March, led by our old friends Natalia Lomeiko and Yuri Zhislin, together with the British cellist Richard Harwood. There were some empty seats in the Orangery, but the absentees missed an inspiring and most entertaining evening.

The first half of the concert comprised Beethoven's *String Trio in G, Op. 9, No. 1*, composed in 1897, when Beethoven was 27. The three string trios Opus 9 were the last that he wrote before turning to the string quartet. The G major trio is all light and joy. The mood of the first movement is overall calm and features little conflict. The second movement is generally serene and conveys an atmosphere of dreaminess. The third movement has an unusual structure with the trio section repeated four times. The finale is a lively and colourful *presto*. This trio is a remarkable work, which it is thought was nearly the landmark in chamber music that Beethoven's third symphony, *The Eroica*, was in the symphony genre. One wonders what was the reaction of those who first heard it. The work in the second half was the *Sonata for Two Violins in A minor* composed in 1915 by Eugene Ysaye (1858-1931), a Belgian violinist, composer and conductor, and dedicated to Queen Elisabeth of Belgium, who was one of his pupils. Yuri told

us that Ysaye had intended that the Queen should perform in the piece, but unfortunately it proved too difficult for her. Ysaye was the most celebrated violinist of his time. However, in his early career he was leader of the Benjamin Bille Orchestra in Berlin, later to become known as the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, and from 1918 to 1922 he was music director of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. During his career he composed a large number of chamber works and works for violin and orchestra as well as one complete and one uncompleted opera. The sonata shows influences of many different styles with echoes of Debussy and Ravel and even early Schoenberg, and translates Ysaye's great knowledge of the violin's capabilities into thrilling music. The first movement is dramatic and more or less in traditional sonata form, whilst the second movement is more rhapsodic with the main theme reappearing in different versions throughout the movement. The lively, and technically demanding, third movement is similar to a classical *rondo*.

Both works were performed with great musicianship and technical brilliance and we should feel privileged that such exceptional musicians are willing to come and perform for us.

George Law



About half of
Holland Park
is covered by park,
pavement &
public property.
We cover the rest.

HOLLAND PARK'S SPECIALIST AGENT
13 Addison Avenue, Holland Park,
London W11 4QS
Tel: 020 7602 2352 FAX: 020 7603 1217
EMAIL: enquiries@johnwilcox.co.uk
www.johnwilcox.co.uk



Art Exhibition 2012

An enormous amount of work was done this year to improve the presentation and administration of the exhibition, to maximize exposure and increase the sale of artworks. Unfortunately the weather was against us and we had rain, sleet and a brutal wind almost every day. Attendance was down on past years but we still managed to make a profit thanks to the high quality of the artwork and a few new initiatives. The Friends of Holland Park (FHP) art exhibition obtained its first sponsor this year, Killik & Co., the long-established investment and wealth advisors located at 281 Kensington High Street. Aside from being excellent financial consultants the Kensington branch of Killik & Co. are extremely community-minded and supportive of FHP. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Fabrizio Argiolas and his team and encourage The Friends to support Killik & Co. as they have supported us.

This year we introduced a Feature Artist, and the FHP chose to honour Sir Hugh Casson – a past president of The Friends who organized the first FHP art exhibition 31 years ago. With the generous support and co-operation of the Casson family and the Royal Academy of Arts, whose *Sir Hugh Casson PRA: Making Friends* exhibition opened on 31 May, the FHP were able to stage a small tribute to Casson's architectural work in Holland Park namely the renovation of the east wing of Holland House after it was bombed during the Second World War, and the building of the youth hostel as well as a selection of his Kensington drawings. The Casson family kindly allowed us

to reproduce Sir Hugh's wonderful watercolour of the Lord Holland statue in the park for our poster and catalogue which gave the exhibition a beautiful continuity. We were sorry that Isabel Langtry was unable to judge this year's exhibition but were very grateful to Dr Neil Bingham, an architectural historian and curator of the Royal Academy's Hugh Casson exhibition, for agreeing to take her place.

There were some changes to the layout of the exhibition this year which I feel took more advantage of the space and allowed an easier flow for visitors. Once again Alison Beckett rose to the daunting task of hanging over 150 paintings in record time, for which we are most grateful. This year the FHP could accept credit cards as payment and, as 85% of the sales were credit-card transactions, this was obviously a success. Thanks to our sponsor, Killik & Co., the catalogues were free of charge for visitors. We received generous support from local businesses who donated wonderful prizes for our raffle, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Belvedere Restaurant, Daunt Books, Gallery 19, Lidgate, Maison Blanc and Jeroboams. Finally I would like to thank all the artists for the high quality of work they submitted, the stewards and the trustees for their time during the exhibition, an extra special thank-you to Joy for her exceptional work on the catalogue and last, but not least, all the visitors who braved the weather to support the exhibition.

See you all next year!

Gordon French



Enthusiastic Friends brought a wealth of talent and variety and warmth to this year's exhibition in the Orangery, from superb landscapes and fine portraits to extraordinary collage and an unusual range of glass art.

First prize went to Jim Foreman, one of several painters drawn to the River Thames. He evoked the relentless but irresistible power of the river in a scene at Blackwall by depicting the sky, water and boats with the utmost accomplishment, all in shadowy greys. In a large impressionist view of the river, Wendy Mackenzie focussed magnificently on Tower Bridge, while Brenda Sakoui captured its mystery at Hammersmith. Krystyna Dankiewicz homed in delightfully on craft moored on the Thames and Sheri Rahmanian conveyed her fascination with boats in a picture in mixed media. The allure of the water was portrayed splendidly, too, by Elizabeta Chojak in her vision of light on rocks and waves, and by Catherine Bajour in her Matisse-inspired view of a Mediterranean bay. Pam Mara thoughtfully depicted figures in a more northern beach scene digging for shellfish, while John Schetrumpf, with great aplomb, presented a Picasso-esque couple unashamedly enjoying love on the sands beneath the fronds of a palm tree.

Zoe Zenghelis called to mind idyllic Greek island holidays with her striking village-scapes. Marek Jakubowski captured the imagination with a haunting photograph of a corner house with a witch's-hat-shaped roof, and Hazel Fennell showed marvellous confidence with the uncompromising angles and definite hues of her two abstract paintings in black, white and green. The luminous green of Nick Cundy's grass field was both eye-catching and inviting, as were the tentacle-like branches of Patrick Killery's enchanted tree. Dorota Hrycak, who is also a highly creative jeweller, brought the same strengths to her painting with a gigantic blaze of red tulips, and Renate Ober triumphed once again with her brilliant use of colour in her picture of a parrot girl. Boney Le Touzel and Bud Murryweather both revelled in the abundant glories of Holland Park. Julia Martin found her beautiful iris there, too, to which Annie Leach's bloom was a stunningly bold contrast. The Spirit of Holland Park prize, however, went to Maria Kaleta. Her collage of peacocks, statues, trees and flowers, wonderfully combined everything everyone loves so much about Holland Park.

Local portraits, meanwhile, included an atmospheric photograph of Samuel Beckett in Notting Hill by Alessia, while others ranged from an arresting pair of black and white oil paintings by José Suárez to Keith Hunter's fine etching of a Kirghiz barber. Marie Thérèse Ross created two exquisite portraits influenced by her own experience as a ballet dancer, while David Dimmock caught a ballerina

in a momentary pose. Extremely accomplished portraits were also produced by Marika Eversfield, Peter Weitzmann, Karina Kennedy and S. Vakili who also demonstrated her affinity with horses in a painting of a white stallion. Meanwhile, the boy pictured in his granny's rooms by Bob Barling cleverly conjured up many enchanting memories.

John Schetrumpf, with wonderful versatility, brought another smile with his humorous 3-D piece, a sculpture in red cement, paint, copper and wood of a worried-looking Angler Fish. So did Tina Illana Kenward who had several small clay torsos, as if from antiquity, each escaping from their frame, while Susanne Bagner portrayed a selection of Kyoto Garden fishes on a series of glass plates with a lovely childlike sense of fun.

Lujain Razouki's glass pictures of Wye Bridge and other buildings had a contrastingly delicate and intricate quality, but the 3-D prize went to Rosamund Lyons whose maple-leaf-style glass bowl so entranced the judge that he could not resist buying it on the spot.

Alison Beckett

The InHaus Group

Residential 01482 881559 Retail Design
www.inhaus.co.uk

Architectural & Interior Design Consultants

Planning .. Building Regulations
Project Management



The Holland House Set – Wit, Scandal and Politics

Given to us at the beginning of this amusing and fascinating talk by Dr Leslie Mitchell on 21 February was a sketchy family tree, but one with a difference: it mainly showed various love relationships, with a continuous line drawn between spouses, and a dotted one between lovers. But then the spouses were usually lovers too. For example, Lord Edward Fitzgerald, who led the Irish Uprising and was shot as a traitor in 1798, was Mrs Sheridan's lover, and his wife Pamela was Sheridan's mistress. Very convenient. By the way, the aforesaid Lord was cousin to Charles James Fox (Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire's lover), brother of Stephen, the 2nd Lord Holland. But the main topic of the talk was Henry Fox, 3rd Baron Holland, or rather his wife, Elizabeth, Lady Webster, with whom he fell in love and had an illegitimate son (who therefore could not inherit the title) before Elizabeth could divorce her first husband (by whom she had had three children whom she detested and rarely saw). Charles, the illegitimate son, married Mary FitzClarence, illegitimate daughter of William IV and his actress mistress, Mrs Jordan. And so it goes on. There were fewer than 150 divorces in the whole of the 18th century; divorced ladies were ranked with scarlet women. Elizabeth, Lady Holland, heiress to two sugar estates in Jamaica (and later a passionate abolitionist), did not care, nor did she care

that she was never presented at court; why should she? Her salon at Holland House in the years 1797 to 1840 was the talk of London and a magnet to politicians, ambassadors, artists, writers, travellers and refugees; very often foreign ones came to stay. All her servants were from overseas; one particularly handsome one washed her feet in public on one occasion. This was considered shockingly 'foreign'.

Up to this time a salon was considered a profoundly foreign thing – mostly French. A woman holding sway over one had to be strong-willed and of exceptional character. The 3rd Lord Holland's wife fitted the bill and was considered so terrifying by some – 'the only real despotism in Europe' – that chemists sold pills to people about to dine at Holland House. Dinners took place two to three times a week when parliament was sitting. In the summer the Hollands went abroad: they hated hunting and the real countryside. The lady of a salon also had to have money – to pay for the entertainment; this lady had the slave sugar money. A salon also needed a menu, and in this case it was politics – provided by her husband.

Lady Holland respected her much less forceful husband; nevertheless she was capable of treating him quite summarily: in later life he was in a wheelchair, and if she got irritated by his presence at her gatherings she would simply have him wheeled away. He seemed to take it in good part. Charles James Fox had dominated Whig politics until his death in 1806 when he handed the Foxite agenda to him, his favourite nephew. Tories were not invited to Holland House: the Foxites thought them far too dull. All statistics and no jokes. They also thought that England was threatened by despotic kings, especially German ones like the Hanoverian Georges (they did think Queen Victoria was all right until that 'dreadful' Prince Albert came along).

Lord and Lady Holland had travelled abroad from 1791 to 1796 and came to know a lot about foreign affairs. After the Napoleonic years Lady Holland held a salon in Paris whenever they went there. They both spoke French, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese, and often interfered with European politics, for example sending a suggested constitution to Joseph Bonaparte and advice on how to rule over Naples; or sending a manual to the Spanish on how to run a government. The Spanish politely pretended to be grateful. The Foreign Office threatened to confiscate their passports for meddling. Napoleon was a problem for the Hollands: they had to make terrible choices. They admired him enough to have his bust erected in the House grounds and, when he was exiled, the Governor of St Helena was invited to the House. Subsequently Lady Holland was permitted to send Napoleon clean shirts, ice-making machines and other luxuries. When he died he left



JEROBOAMS

Individually matured cheese from
one of London's last Affineurs.
Top quality wine.



Visit us at 96 Holland Park Avenue,
or call 020 7727 9359 and speak to Kathy.
www.jeroboams.co.uk

her a golden snuff box with a lock of his hair.

Another group of diners were the Scots. From 1789 to 1815 many Whigs thought the European Grand Tour to be dangerous: Bonaparte was locking up British travellers. And now young Whigs were often educated in Edinburgh and Glasgow rather than Oxford or Cambridge. Launched in 1802 the *Edinburgh Review* discussed serious books at great length. Any intellectual worth his salt had to subscribe. Lady Holland invited the writers to Holland House and promoted them; the *Review* was ‘The March of Minds’, ‘The Movement’. Suddenly the world was thousands of years old instead of just six; civilisation was progressing in huge strides, and Britain was ahead of the field.

Although she bullied him, Lady Holland was devoted to her husband and was devastated by his death in 1840. She no longer had the heart to continue with her regular dinners, and rarely stayed at the House. She preferred to live in her house in South Street and frequently invited herself to other people’s homes. Often she proved to be rather a difficult house guest. The *Edinburgh Review* wrote a eulogy to Holland House when it was shut up by Lady Holland in 1843. Nine months after her death in 1845, the 4th Baron Holland, her son Henry Edward Fox, returned from Florence and took over the running of it.

Joy Puritz



London Estate Agent

Specialising in Residential Sales, Lettings & Property Management

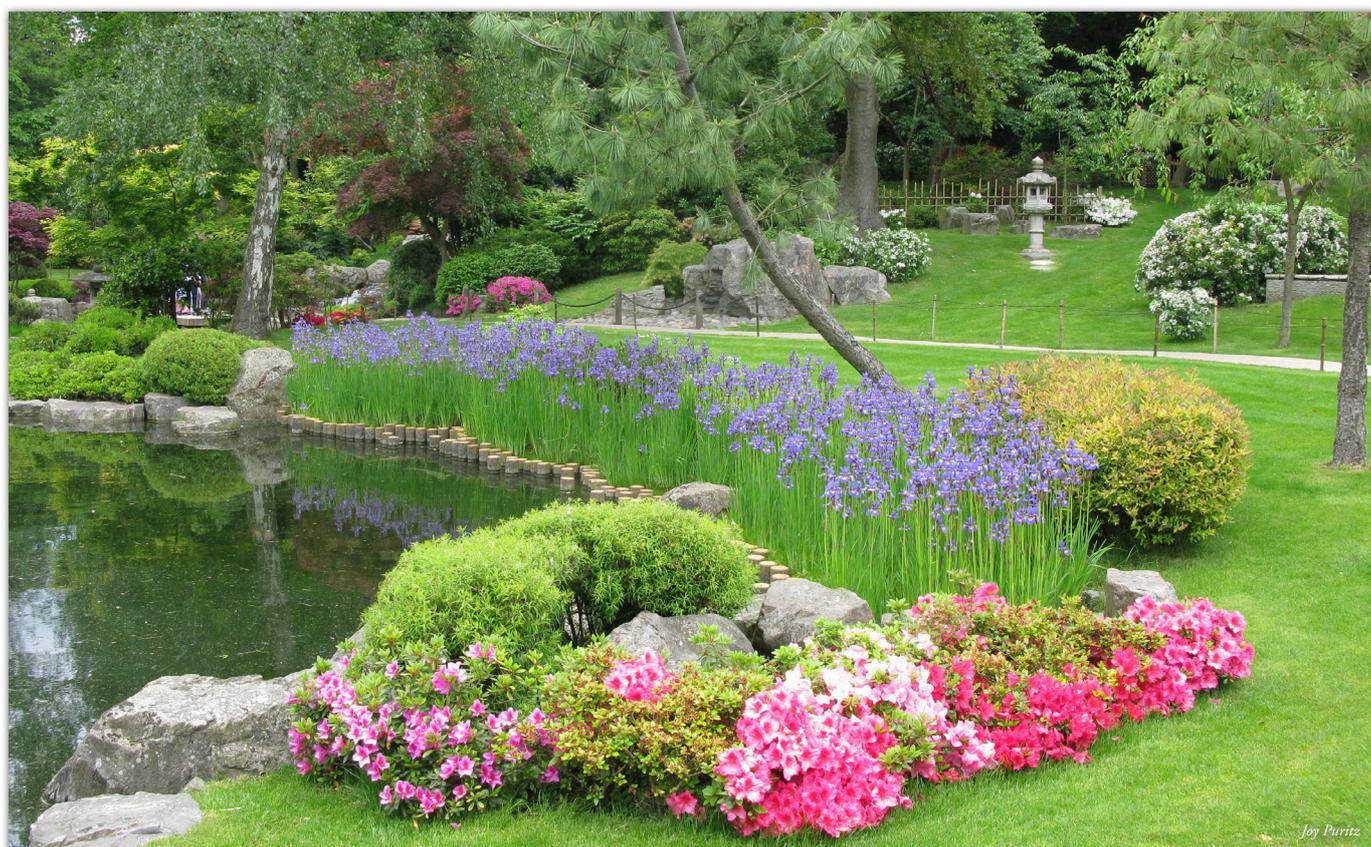
We offer a highly personal service, relying on all the traditional values of professional property advice whilst embracing the present day technologies and innovations.

Covering W2, W8, W10, W11 & W14

For further information, advice or help with the selling or letting of your property, give us a ring on the relevant telephone number below. Alternatively pop in to our office on Portland Road for a chat.

Sales	020 7727 5111
Lettings	020 7727 5222

www.jackson-stops.com
14 Portland Road Holland Park W11 4LA



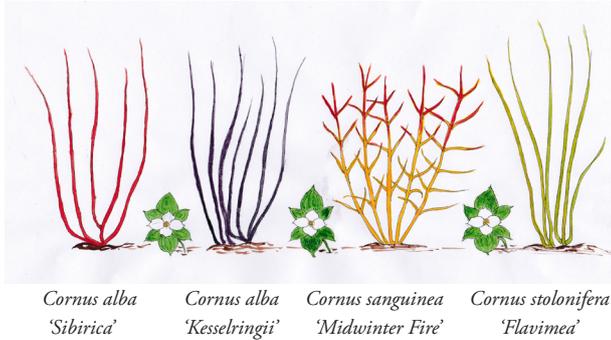
Kyoto Garden in June 2013

There are so many species of *Cornus* (dogwood) that it is easy to forget just how many we have in Holland Park, but it is not immediately clear from a quick glance that they are all from the same plant family.

In a garden setting the dogwood that people most easily recognise are the species grown for their vividly-coloured winter stems, and the park's head gardener Ian Fleming has designed the beds either side of the path to the Abbotsbury Road gate to show off these colours.

Cornus canadensis (creeping dogwood) has been planted as groundcover and will eventually form a dense mat of bright green leaves with small flowers that are set off, not by petals but by showy white bracts.

The colours of the different species in this bed are illustrated below:



One of my favourite shows of dogwood in the park is a place I call 'dogwood alley', and you will recognise it as



the cool green tunnel leading to the Wild Life Enclosure. This is *Cornus sanguinea*, the common dogwood and our native hedgerow species. The white clusters of flowers are understated, followed by small black fruits in autumn.



Cornus kousa comes from East Asia and is known as the Japanese strawberry tree because of its strawberry-like fruits that are said to be edible though astringent, and I do not know who would want to eat them. The best of several examples in Holland Park is the pretty little tree just to the



left before you enter the ramp gate into the Kyoto Garden. In May the tree bears small green flowers surrounded by four large white bracts, rather like the creeping dogwood flowers.

Quite different again is *Cornus mas* or Cornelian cherry, though it is certainly not a cherry. This is the first of the dogwoods to flower, creating a haze of yellow round this small tree in February before the leaves appear. If you take the steps up to the lawn when you enter the Sun Trap gate you can see a fine little *Cornus mas* at the top of the steps on the left. Come back later in autumn and you might see the small red fruit.



A natural woodland habitat has three levels of plants: trees are the top storey, shrubs make up the middle storey and low-growing groundcover plants fill in the under storey. The dogwoods in Holland Park provide examples from each of these three levels.

Jennie Kettlewell (text and illustrations)



All FHP events in the diary are printed in **bold**. Our bird/nature walks (BNW) will continue to take place on the first Saturday of each month. Sadly, we heard just before going to press that Ian Thomson, who has led these walks for about 20 years, has had to retire for personal reasons. We are most grateful to him for his long service, and will have more to say about this in the next issue. We have agreed that we will continue to meet each month and, until we can find another permanent bird leader, whoever is present, willing and most knowledgeable, will help the rest of us to see the birds. Discussion of the plants we pass and any new activities in the park will continue as before. Meet at Lord Holland's statue at 9am. The walks are free and everyone is welcome, not just members, so please come and encourage your friends: they might become members too. We recommend you bring binoculars if you can – they make such a difference.

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 outside the Ecology Centre in the stable yard. 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 £.

The Holland Park Conservation Volunteers sessions are on every third Saturday of the month. For more information call 020 8762 0322 or visit www.groundwork.org.uk/london

Sat 22 June	ES. Wildflower and Folklore Walk (sponsored). Must book	2-4pm
Tue 25 June	ES. Wildlife Area Open Evening. Drop in at wildlife area	6-8pm
Sat 6 July	BNW	
Sat 6 July	ES. Butterfly and Moth Morning (sponsored). Must book	10am-12
Wed 10 July	Pimm's in the Park. In the youth hostel garden, £12	6-8pm
Sat 13 July	ES. Summer Wildlife Area Open Day. Drop in at wildlife area	2-6pm
Wed 17 July	ES. Tree Walk: The Basics. Must book	6.30-8pm
23 July - 30 Aug	ES. Summer holiday children's activities. Must book. £	
Sat 3 Aug	BNW	
Fri 30 Aug	ES. Children's Night Safari. Must book. £	7.30-9pm
Sat 7 Sept	BNW	
Sat 5 Oct	BNW	
Sat 5 Oct	ES. Nature photography creative skills workshop. Must book. £	10am-4pm
Sat 12 Oct	ES. Autumn Wildlife Area Open Day. Drop in at wildlife area	12-4pm
Sat 19 Oct	Autumn Tree Walk with Alan Harrington. Outside café	11am-1pm
Sat 26 Oct	ES. Fungi foray (sponsored). Must book	2pm

Youth Hostel Association Open Day Sunday, 8 September, 10am-5pm

On 8 September you will have another opportunity to visit the youth hostel garden, normally not accessible to the public. The hostel is again holding a YHA Open Day in the garden; there will be stalls with information and refreshments.

The difference BETWEEN for SALE & SOLD

CENTURIES OF EXPERIENCE

We've been selling property for our clients for generations, and we've built a reputation for doing it well. Throughout the years we've combined traditional values of discretion and outstanding service, with exceptional market knowledge and a passion for achieving results. Time and time again, it's the difference between 'for sale' and 'sold'.

Whether you're selling, letting or buying, we can make the difference.
Call us on 020 7371 1111 or visit us at carterjonas.co.uk/hollandpark

**CARTER
JONAS**