

Friends of Grosvenor and Hilbert Park (FoGH)

Newsletter 9 Winter 2013



Community Awards for FoGH!

Royal Tunbridge Wells Civic Society Community Contribution Award

"Prestigious" is how the Courier recently described Civic Society Awards. So it was good to see the hard work of the Friends given public recognition at the annual Awards, at the Royal Wells on 10th October in the presence of the Mayor. The ceremony has been a high-profile event in the town calendar for over 30 years.



When the first Awards ceremony was held in 1979, the Civic Society already had an impressive 20-year record of environmental campaigning. The Awards scheme was introduced as part of the Society's balanced approach and concentrated on heritage restoration and good new buildings. In 2006, a further award was presented, for Contribution to the Community and it is in this category that the FoGH Award was made. The Award was received on behalf of the Friends group by Dave Barnett, Carolyn Gray and Sue Kaner.

It is indeed remarkable how, within a relatively short space of time, the Friends group has helped to make Tunbridge Wells' first Municipal Park better known, its interesting history, wildlife and facilities better understood, and its future prospects brighter.

Dr Philip Whitbourn OBE

We Made That received the Civic Society Award for Grosvenor Rocks, in the Public Art category.



Heart of the Community Award A big thank you to all who voted for us in the Courier Heart of the Community Awards, sponsored by Axa PPP Healthcare. We gained 2nd place in the Community category, winning £1000 and a glass trophy. The awards were presented at Trinity Theatre on 15th November, by Sonia Wolsey-Cooper from Axa PPP and Greg Clark MP. June Elliott and Chris Hughes received the Award on behalf of FoGH. The money will go towards our Community Day on Bank Holiday Monday 5th May, celebrating the Park's 125th Anniversary.

Chairman's Letter

This being the last newsletter of 2013, I have been looking back at our second complete year as a very successful follow up to all the extra activity initiated in 2012. The Friends group formed to broaden the use of the Park and raise awareness of the value of the open space for all ages and interests. This has been reflected in the events organised by FoGH and others in the Park.



The response from the local community has been overwhelming, to the extent that we have moved from hoping to make each event successful to expecting to achieve success. This has been made possible by a fantastic team of volunteer members, who have contributed so much of their time and have developed as a vital think tank and a real group of friends. So, a heartfelt thank you to all for the hard work, and the fun too.

We were delighted and honoured to receive a Community Contribution Award in October from the Royal Tunbridge Wells Civic Society, along with 'We Made That' and the Museum arts department for 'Grosvenor Rocks'. The certificates were presented by Dr Philip Whitbourn, who made special mention of our website and has greatly helped in our work drawing attention to this area of the town. Further to this, our Heart of the Community Award is a fantastic addition to our plans for a very special 125th Birthday in May.

This autumn has brought a spectacular abundance of fruits and seeds in the Park, which has raised questions about the prospects of another hard winter ahead. Whatever the predictions, I'm sure the plants are simply reflecting last winter and hedging their bets on regeneration while they can.

The Friends group now belongs to the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS). There is a ticket that gives 30% discount off the entrance fee to Wisley, Harlow Carr, Rosemoor and Hyde Hall RHS gardens, for the ticket holder plus one adult. Any member wishing to use this should contact Jane Melville our Secretary. There is a £20 deposit and the ticket should be returned within 7 days.

Whether we receive a major injection of funds from the Heritage Lottery Fund or not, there is much to look forward to in a new year of plans and activities. I hope as many of you as possible will feel inspired to come along and help bring those plans to life. By the time this newsletter is read, it will be the final few weeks before the Christmas season and the start of a fresh year. I send all good wishes to everyone for a very happy festive period and an exciting 2014.

Liz Edwards

Update from the Parks Department

The wait continues on the Parks for People HLF application and, apart from a couple of queries from our monitoring officer, all seems to be going well. In late November, the decision makers from the HLF and the Big Lottery fund will visit the Park to gain a better understanding of our application. Both our consultants will join us for the tour of the Park, along with representatives from the Friends group.



It's all change at Sodexo as we say farewell to the contract manager Andy Hodgson and supervisor Russell Hearsom, who have moved on to another company and we wish them well in their new jobs. A new manager has been appointed, Martin Hickman, who joins us from a contract in the Midlands. Martin brings with him a wealth of experience, having worked on both the contract and client side and has already indicated he wants to be involved with our Friends groups.

The reinstatement of the access road created by the contractors is now complete and I am pleased to see the grass seed has germinated well, without too much damage from foraging wildlife and our four legged visitors who use the Park daily. Thank you to everyone for helping us by keeping off this area and allowing the new grass to come through.

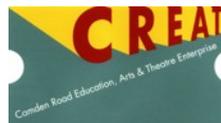
In the spring newsletter, I mentioned that Tunbridge Wells had entered the South and South East bloom competition and the National Bloom competition, run by the Royal Horticultural Society. Both sets of judges were impressed with the quality of our entry and by the enthusiasm shown by the volunteers. In the South and South East competition, the Town and Dunorlan Park won a Gold award (no reason why Grosvenor and Hilbert can't enter after the work is completed) and the Town won Silver in the National competition.

For the 2014 competition, we still need community involvement and we are looking for local groups, shops or neighbourhoods to get involved in the competition. A neighbourhood can be a street, flat, church or a project undertaken in the Park, which we can support with a grant of up to £500 for materials.

If you have any questions or comments about the HLF bid or the Park, you can contact me on 01892 554031 or peter.every@tunbridgewells.gov.uk **Peter Every - Parks & Sports Team Leader TWBC**

Camden Road Education, Arts & Theatre Enterprise

CREATE presents:



Going Carolling.....Saturday 14th December 2 – 4pm

The Choir will be performing from their repertoire of carols, new and old
At the Oxfam Bookshop, Chapel Place & at the Rotary Club's .
Christmas celebration on The Pantiles

Winter Lantern Parade.....Saturday 8th February 5.30pm

From outside the Library down Monson Road and Camden Road, finishing at St Barnabas School for food and entertainment.
The theme is **Myths and Legends** and everybody is invited to join in.
More information on the website www.camdenroad.org.

CREATE Community Choir

A FUN informal choir for those who enjoy singing, with no auditions: just turn up and join in!
Rehearsals on Thursdays at 7.15pm Church of Christ, Commercial Road, off Camden Road
A voluntary donation of around £3 a week helps to cover costs.
For further information contact choir@camdenroad.org

At the
Bowls Pavilion
Open 7 days a
week

10:30 - 4 PM
(weather permitting)

for hot & cold drinks, light
refreshments

www.panionthepark.co.uk



Ramblings of a merry mum

Autumn is a great time for nature. And a fun time for walks in the Park with pre-schoolers. We're out most days wandering around the Park (trying to tire out the little darlings). On our strolls we look for acorns, conkers, leaves and anything colourful to stick onto paper and make 'nature pictures'.

Our walk through the Park usually starts along the track through the Hilbert allotments. This is our 'running track' which my son throws himself along at top speed, with the little one toddling after him. We (mainly my two year old daughter) have been enjoying the late crop of blackberries on the side of this path. She loves them all - even the mouth-puckering sharp ones!



Next we run (yes, more running) across the lower football field and traverse the Park to the playground. To tear them away from the swings, I bring grains so that we can feed the ducks on the way out.

A fun adventure and different every time, especially with the changing of the season and nature's colourful journey through to winter.



Emma Melville

The Balaklava Chargers

On 13th November, local historian Mike Hinton returned to give another talk on the Crimean War, this time looking more closely at the people involved, especially in the Battle of Balaklava and the famous Charge of the Light Brigade. A number of local connections exist, as well as the two local 'Chargers' John Boxall and Albert Mitchell. Our sincere thanks to Mike for his interesting and informative talks!



Heritage Open Days 2013

Based on the second full weekend each September, this year Heritage Open Days ran from Thursday 12th to Sunday 15th. There are a wide range of tours and special events to explore in the area and I went to just three of them.

The Friends had a table in St Barnabas Church on Saturday to chat to visitors about the Park. There were memories of the past, including the old swimming pool, and ideas for the future, such as wildflower planting. Once again a brilliant history display hosted by Geoff Copus and Kempsters, in the magnificent setting of the church.

On Sunday morning I went on the tour of Trinity Arts Centre/Theatre, led by Dr Philip Whitbourn. Trinity Church was built of sandstone quarried from Quarry Road, in fact St Barnabas Church sits on top of the old quarry site. It was an excellent tour and talk, and I recommend you to watch out for it next September.



In the afternoon, it was time to don walking boots and waterproof jackets as a varied group of us met at Hilbert Road gates for the Heritage Walk with Dr Ian Beavis. We toured the Park from its start as the first public recreation ground in Tunbridge Wells, to the addition of the playing fields in the 1930s. We also learnt about the wide range of flora, fauna and wildlife in the ancient woodlands, and Ian kept everyone up to date with the Heritage Lottery Plans.

Carolyn T Gray



Bird, bat and bug box workshop

With wildlife in mind and an eye on next spring, on 19th October Kent High Weald Partnership offered a Saturday morning's workshop by the Bowls Pavilion. Adults and children could build a bird nestbox, bat roosting box or a bug hibernation 'hotel', to take home or put up in the more sheltered woodland areas of the Park.

It was rather a grey day which dissolved into rain, but using the flatbed of their trailer and the shelter of a gazebo, Ian Johnstone and Sarah Tree soon

produced all the tools needed and packs of pre-cut wood ready for assembling.

After a fairly quiet start, all were hammering and drilling away, which provided the best advertising we could have thought of and it did not take long for every available work space to be occupied.

It was a great way to keep warm on a rather uninviting morning and many families and individuals went home well pleased with their results. Thank you Ian and Sarah, for such fun on a wet day!

Liz Edwards



Children's Halloween Party

Once again we welcomed a selection of witches, goblins and assorted ghosties and ghoulies to the Bowls Pavilion on 31st October! We estimate that 120 children took part in the various activities on offer.

Decorating cupcakes was a popular, if messy, pastime and the results certainly went down well (thanks to Georgina Bongers). Children could also decorate bats, make and decorate ghosts and spiders and take part in a Halloween Trail around the play area.



The ever popular face painting was busy from start to finish (thanks to Vicky Lawford and Kathleen Davies from VAWK).

The carved pumpkin competition results are as follows:

Under 5's William Ould, Age 5 – 8 Emma Hunt, Over 8

Thomas Hunt

Thanks to everyone who came and we hope you all enjoyed yourselves!

Mary Hughes

Friendly Face of the Force

My name is Sophie Lusher and I am a Neighbourhood PCSO for Kent Police. I cover the St James and Park wards of Tunbridge Wells and am based at Tunbridge Wells Police Station.



I joined Kent Police six years ago, in May 2007. I always knew I wanted to join the police from a young age, as I enjoyed talking to people and helping people. I spend much of my time on foot patrol, showing a visible police presence in the community, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour and offering reassurance to the public. I provide support to my police colleagues and work with partners and community organisations.

I have gained good knowledge of my wards and am often "the eyes and ears of the streets". My duties include attending incidents of disorder, nuisance and anti-social behaviour; speaking to people who might be drunk and causing problems and confiscating alcohol and tobacco if necessary; checking out abandoned vehicles; and gathering evidence through observation. I also regularly speak to victims of crime and take details of an incident they are reporting, then carry out any necessary house-to-house or CCTV enquires. I can also offer victims of burglaries home security and crime reduction advice.

I feel it is important to know the community, so at every opportunity I get out and about on foot, speaking to people and attending community events.

We occasionally receive information on underage drinkers in Grosvenor and Hilbert Recreation Ground, or youths causing anti-social behaviour. We also receive reports about drugs use in the Park. Because the area is part of the Tunbridge Wells Alcohol Control zone, police have powers to seize alcohol from anyone committing anti-social behaviour, and we aim to have a police presence at key times to tackle these issues.

If you would like to contact me about the community, you can do so by writing to me at sophie.lusher@kent.pnn.police.uk You can follow us on Twitter @kentpolicetwell and visit our Kent Police Facebook page - see www.kent.police.uk/socialmedia - but please do not use social media to report a crime as these accounts are not monitored 24/7. Instead, call me on 101, or if it is an emergency use 999. You can visit us at Tunbridge Wells Police Station and we also have mobile Police Contact Points which park at prominent locations, enabling residents to drop by and speak to a PCSO. For a list of times and dates, visit www.kent.police.uk/policecontactpoints

Sophie Lusher

Allotment water supply and grass by the wall

Since early February this year the allotments have been without any water supplied from the series of tanks that are situated throughout the site. Whilst the winter kept its iron grip on gardening prospects throughout the first four months of the year, demands were fairly light but it became an arduous and time consuming duty to carry heavy water containers from the stand pipe or bowser to the plots during the warmer weather in the summer. It was with great relief that this vital supply was eventually repaired in September and all the plot holders will be hoping that it will last now for many years to come.



Additionally it is very welcome to see fresh grass growing along the site of the works trackway beside the Dorking Wall. Despite a few holes dug by foxes and dogs, and a triangular patch near the allotments that has been missed by the seed sowing equipment, it is making good growth. The soil remains very soft and wet so it will still be helpful if people avoided using this area for a few more months.

Liz Edwards

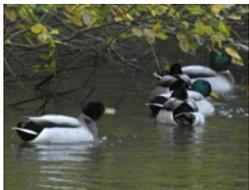
Lighting in the Park

There have been a number of requests to increase the amount of lighting that there is in the Park. Whilst on the surface this seems a simple thing to do, a number of factors need to be considered. These include who is going to pay for it, is there a readily available power supply and what sort of lighting should it be. Other considerations are how it would impact on the local wildlife and the Local Nature Reserve and whilst lighting illuminates one area, it can cast deeper shadows in another area. As part of the HLF bid, lighting is a sensitive subject and would need to be included in any plans put forward should the bid be successful.



Chris Hughes

Feeding Bread to the Ducks



Concerns have been raised about feeding bread to the ducks. Wildlife organisations advise that bread has little nutritional value for ducks and waterfowl and can lead to malnutrition and increased susceptibility to disease. Wild ducks eat a wide range of different food, including grass, aquatic plants, insects, seeds and grains. Among the recommended foods to offer are grapes cut in half, cracked corn, barley, oats or other grains, chopped salad or greens, and defrosted frozen peas.

Mary Hughes

Returning some of our Park to farmland?

On a lovely sunny afternoon in early October a small group of committee members travelled to Five Oak Green to view Capel Community Orchard. Cllr Jane March organised a trip to meet orchard co-ordinators Roger and Celia Worraker. Roger is a retired lecturer, having taught fruit growing at Hadlow College, and was a great source of information. There is a thought that Grosvenor and Hilbert Park could set up a community orchard, between the top football pitch and Roundabout Woods. This is included in the Heritage Lottery Fund bid.



The Capel Community Orchard was set up in 2012 via a grant, and public donations. A £20 donation provided a tree, sturdy stake, a variety label and a nomination plaque. The orchard, which can be accessed via Five Oak Green village hall and car park, is now at capacity, with about seventy trees. There are different varieties of apples, pears, plums, cherries and crabapples and at present the sponsor can collect their own fruit. Eventually as the trees mature, it is hoped the fruit can be shared more widely. The trees are planted in rows wide enough for the council mower to drive between, and will still be an accessible height for easy picking when fully grown.

When the trees were planted, to add to the traditional community feeling, the group took on the folk ceremony of wassailing, where new orchards are blessed for the future with songs and gifts of cider, from existing, thriving orchards. There are several regional songs, but this one from South Hams is quite amusing:

“Apple-tree, apple-tree,
Bear good fruit,
Or down with your top
And up with your root.”

As we discussed in the last newsletter, much of the land for Grosvenor and Hilbert Park was originally farmland, the Dorking Charity Estate, or 'Charity Farm'. Further back in time, the land was woodland, and part of the estate at Somerhill. Sold by Somerhill in the 16th century, land around this area was farmed. The Charity Farm retained two areas of woodland, which probably provided the farm with its timber needs and they still remain in the Park today as Roundabout Wood and Folly Shaw. There was a hop field, where the upper football pitch now is, and our Oast House was built in the early 19th century.



A title map of 1838 shows an orchard to the south of the current woods and the oasthouse and farmhouse. Locals remember cows being on the farm in the 1920s, where the lower football pitch now is. Cllr E. J. Strange bought and donated the land in the 1930s, to become a recreation ground.

Work to landscape this area was delayed by World War Two, and the Park played its part in the “Dig for Victory” Campaign. One and half acres in Hilbert Recreation Ground were planted with potatoes and the Oast house was used to store manure. The allotments remained in place until the early 1960s and can be clearly seen in this 1947 RAF aerial photograph (courtesy of KCC Historic Environment Record). The large number of allotments in 1947 are a reminder that growing as much food as possible was important because rationing continued until 1954.

Land surrounding the Park, such as Haslett's Close and Sandhurst Road, was used as nursery growing areas, and the whole of Sherwood and Greggswood were woods, until the post war building boom.

We are very fortunate that this space of green land has been preserved as Grosvenor and Hilbert Park for future generations to enjoy.

We welcome any thoughts on planting a community orchard and any memories people may have of the allotments in the Park during and after the war editors@FoGH.org.uk

Carolyn T Gray

Lots of photos of the Capel Community Orchard can be found at http://www.theenglishappleman.com/journal_120302.asp

A Mini beast Retrospective

Grosvenor and Hilbert Park is a wonderful place for introducing people of all ages to the smaller wildlife which lives right on our doorstep, but which often goes unnoticed. Back in August, I led the Museum's annual Young Nature Hunters and Mini beast Safari sessions in the Park, and as usual we found a wide range of creatures. We focussed on the grassland and woodland edges around Folly Shaw – the smaller of the two woods in the Park – and on the wetland area and flower-rich slopes leading down to it.



Speckled Wood

Several species of butterflies were spotted, including Meadow Brown, Gatekeeper, Speckled Wood, Green-veined White and Common Blue. We saw the daytime active Straw Dot moth and an interesting moth caterpillar which turned out to belong to the Mother Shipton – so called because of the 'witch's face' markings on its forewings.



Mother Shipton caterpillar

We found several types of bumblebees, along with honey bees, mining bees and digger wasps – plus examples of the hoverflies which gain protection from predators by mimicking their appearance and often their behaviour too. These mimics included the hornet hoverfly *Volucella zonaria* – Britain's largest species – and its relatives the nationally scarce *Volucella inanis* and the white-banded *Volucella pellucens*.



Volucella zonaria

Common Darter dragonflies were active over the wetland, and skimming over the water surface were a number of pond-skaters. Pond-skaters are characteristic of still water, while the related water-cricket – found on the chalybeate stream – prefer running water. Both of these insects feed on small land-dwelling creatures that get themselves trapped in the water.



Meadow Grasshopper



Slender Groundhopper

The Park's flower-rich grassland always produces a good variety of grasshoppers and crickets. This year we found all three of the regular grasshoppers – Field, Meadow and Common Green – and the delightfully named Long-winged Conehead, a type of bush-cricket. A more unusual find was the Slender Groundhopper. Groundhoppers, which are well-camouflaged and often live near water, are the forgotten members of the group

to which the more familiar grasshoppers and crickets belong.

Britain's largest fly, the dragonfly-sized Giant Cranefly, which breeds in wetland areas, made an appearance, as did the impressive Violet Ground-beetle, with distinctive metallic edges to its wing cases.

And we discovered several adult frogs of remarkably different colours, including one with a reddish tint, in one of the damper grassy areas where they regularly appear.

Dr Ian Beavis

Photos courtesy of Dr Ian Beavis



Giant Cranefly



Violet Groundbeetle

Sport Report: Football

The difficulties faced by teams playing at the 'grass-roots' level of football is well illustrated by what has happened to the lower football pitch. There is a slope to the pitch (possibly caused by scrap paper left over after WW2 being used in its construction), and there have been drainage problems before. However, the presence of the spring has made the ground in that area very boggy and the pitch is now unplayable. But even the better drained top football pitch can still get waterlogged. It is not uncommon for virtually all matches in the West Kent Sunday Football League to be called off due to waterlogged pitches.



The season began with a match between the two Park teams, which ended honours even in a 1 – 1 draw. .



Both teams play in Division 4 of the WKSFL: website www.wksl.org.uk

Athletico Allotment play in green and white hoops. They have had a difficult start to the season. In the league, they only have the 1 point from their first match and are currently bottom of the table. They did get through the first round of the Junior Cup, with a 2 – 1 victory over the Brown Trout, but unfortunately lost 6 – 2 to The Boars. Even worse, The Boars had already beaten them 6 – 2 in the League! The team got through to the second round of the Intermediate Cup, beating Langton Green 2 – 1.

TN1 FC play in navy, with a white trim and a Hospice in the Weald logo. They have made a solid start to the season and are currently sixth out of ten teams. Their only league win came early in the season, with a 2 – 1 victory over the Royal Oak. There have been 3 draws, against Athletico Allotment, Langton Green Rangers and Green Lane Reserves. A 2 – 1 victory over TV FC saw them go through to the second round of the Junior Cup, but losing 3 – 2 to Ramsay put them out of the Intermediate Cup.

We wish both teams every success during the remainder of the season.

Mary Hughes

If you go down to the woods today.....

You might bump into people in hard hats with saws! In that case, you've met some Kent High Weald Partnership (KHWP) volunteers. KHWP manage various local nature reserves, including the one in our Park, Hilbert Woods Local Nature Reserve. The LNR is made up of 2 areas of ancient woodland: Roundabout Woods (with the boardwalk) and Folly Shaw (the wood with a path through the middle).



Maintaining the rich habitats and biodiversity found in the woods and margins keeps the volunteers busy 4 – 5 days during winter and on a couple of days in summer. See Dates for Your Diary overleaf for winter and spring activities, which this season are being trialled on different days, to try and attract volunteers local to the Park. The work concentrates on maintaining light levels within the woods to support a wide variety of species, by tree thinning or coppicing. The flower rich remnants of the original meadows along the woodland edges are cleared of scrub so they don't get overrun.

During the summer, volunteers remove non-native, invasive Himalayan balsam and cherry Laurel, and maintain the boardwalks. On the first Wednesday in August, National Playday is held on the top football pitch and the volunteers help out with this as well.

As well as the hard work, the volunteers get to have some fun as well, with a barbecue in summer and Christmas wreath making in December! (see www.khwp.org.uk for more information) It's a great way to meet new people, try something different and enjoy yourself doing something useful outside! **Mary Hughes**

View from the Allotment



What year we've had. Parched, grainy soil, minute courgettes, salad crops rushing to seed and arms stretched by heavy cans of water. Potatoes did their own thing and produced late but not in plenty.

But despite this, raspberries, blackcurrants, apples and goosegogs have been marvellous, the best crops yet. Our larder is bursting with jars of chutney, jams and vodka/gin based fruit liquors.

Now comes the hard work, removing exhausted plants and pesky weeds, spading manure into soggy soil and prodding the compost heap. I am told a healthy compost heap should be two-thirds carbon (the brown stuff) and one-third nitrogen, (the green stuff). Carbon-rich materials aerate the heap to speed composting. I have no idea what's in ours but it smells nice and is covered to control the moisture.

Next, with home-made fruit liquor, we sit and plan next year's planting. **Alistair Melville**

Dogs in the Park

Daisy is a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel and is 2 ½ years old. She was born in Whitstable and her official name is Queen Bee. Daisy is very gentle.



Photo courtesy of Kelvin Atkins

She likes sleeping on my lap or in her new bed, going for long walks and playing with tennis balls. She is happy to socialise with other dogs and tolerates young children!

Occasionally, if she sees a child or a dog across the street, she comes to a full stop and will not walk on until they have passed. She is fond of salmon skin or the occasional lamb bone as a treat.

Daisy belongs to Katrina Douglass, who is studying textiles at Falmouth University and has left Daisy in my care. You will often see her walking in Grosvenor and Hilbert Park in the mornings and afternoons. We belong to Lazy Dog Walkers, who meet regularly on the lower football pitch in the Park.

Daisy has a twitter account and can be followed on @Daisy_Douglass **Gillian Douglass**

Children's Activity

Once winter comes, it seems that there is less to see in the woods or the Park, but once the leaves have fallen, you can see more in the trees. Take a look around and see if you can spot things that have been there all along but hidden in the leaves! Here are some ideas and see what else you can find!



Witch's broom; a spiky deformity found in birch trees, maybe due to fungus or virus



Hart's-tongue fern; an evergreen from shady banks and streams, with long tongue-like leaves



Be amazed by birds nests; how well made they are! How many can you count?



Coral spot fungus; pink or orange spots on dead twigs or small branches.



Squirrels build dreys in trees near the trunk. Leaves & twigs are lined with dry grass.



Though trees will soon be bare, buds are waiting for spring like this horse chestnut!

Dates for your Diary

Christmas Carols.....Sunday 8th December 2 – 4 pm

At Grosvenor Bowls Pavilion.

Join FoGH and the CREATE Choir for Christmas carols

Do bring friends and family: mulled juice & mince pies available



Let There be Light.....Wednesday 11th December 10am

KHWP volunteer day

Meet at the Hilbert Road entrance for a day of practical action

tree thinning in Roundabout Wood to rebalance the light levels

Wear appropriate clothing & footwear.



Woodland Work.....Saturday 18th January 10am

KHWP volunteer day

Meet at the Hilbert Road entrance for a day of practical action

coppicing trees to increase light levels in Folly Shaw.

Wear appropriate clothing & footwear.



What Next?.....Wednesday 22nd January 7.30pm

Conservatory area of The Allotment Pub

Buy your own drinks and bar snacks, and join us to chat

about the Park, Friends group, and the future.

Did we or didn't we get the Heritage Lottery Funding?!



Climb and Punishment.....Wednesday 19th February 7.30pm

Conservatory area of The Allotment Pub

Local resident Laura Ansell, who helped at 2013 Family Day

by running the bric-a-brac stall for us,

talks about her charity climb of Mount Kilimanjaro in September 2013.



Chop Chop!.....Wednesday 26th February 10am

KHWP volunteer day

Meet at the Hilbert Road entrance for a day of practical action

We continue to re-establish the coppice cycle in Roundabout Woods

Wear appropriate clothing & footwear.



Chop Chop– Twoey!.....Saturday 15th March 10am

KHWP volunteer day

Meet at the Hilbert Road entrance for a day of practical action

A second chance to finish off the coppice cycle in Roundabout Woods.

Wear appropriate clothing & footwear.



Watch out for posters or further details on our website www.fogh.org.uk

Facebook www.facebook.com/GrosvenorHilbert or Twitter twitter.com/FofGH

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To join, contact the Secretary on Friendsghrp@aol.com

or at 41, Beulah Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 2NS

The Editors (Carolyn Gray & Mary Hughes) welcome all contributions for consideration.

Please try to keep to about 300 words or less, and include your name and contact details.

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Our sincere thanks to Tunbridge Wells Borough Council for all their support in printing and collating hard copies of this Newsletter



Other Contacts & Useful Information

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Toilets: Opening Hours 7am - 6pm