

# Friends of Grosvenor & Hilbert Park (FoGH)

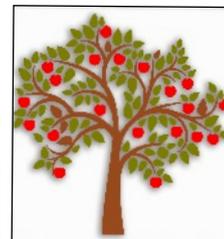
Newsletter 22 Spring 2017



picture courtesy of Tunbridge Wells Museum

## The Community Orchard – Final Planting

26th November 2016 saw the final 23 fruit trees being planted in the Community Orchard, which brings the total number of trees to an impressive 89! Look out for the blossom in the spring and hopefully some fruit developing over the summer and autumn.



The Drake family plant their tree



The trees have been sponsored by individuals, families or groups with connections to the Park. Every sponsor has a different reason for wanting to plant a tree: celebrating the birth of a child, commemorating a loved one or simply to celebrate the Park. Whatever the reason, it really brings a sense of community to the Orchard and it will be interesting to see how this develops over the years.

As usual, FoGH supplied refreshments and volunteers were on hand to

help with the planting, and to plant any trees when the sponsors weren't able to come. We also supplied the cider, so the newly planted trees could be wassailed in with traditional rhymes.



The FoGH refreshments table

Wassailing the Packham family tree



Mayor Dave, Mayoress Jill & Gerry

to the Orchard, as he brought last year's Mayor David Elliott, who sponsored a tree.

The Mayor of Tunbridge Wells David Neve ('Mayor Dave') and Mayoress Jill came to plant their tree in full regalia, enhanced by wellington boots. Mayor Dave had his usual fund of jokes and puns.....The Mayor's driver Gerry made his second visit

St James's School sponsored a tree: the appropriately named 'Conference' pear. Ben and Tessa Melville, pupils at the school, were on hand to help with the planting. A variety of people of all ages have sponsored trees in the Orchard and we hope their trees will bring enormous pleasure over the years.

The St James' School tree



Our special thanks go to fruit tree expert Roger Worraker, who has been invaluable in helping us with support and advice throughout the project.

**Chris Hughes**

*Roger will be back in the Park on Saturday 11th March, running an Orchard Pruning Workshop (meet at 10.30am by the Oast House).*

Roger gives advice at the 2016 workshop



*This will be followed by a talk in the Hub on pruning cordon and espalier fruit trees (ideal for small gardens).*

*All are welcome, and if anyone has an overgrown fruit tree in their garden, Roger will advise on pruning if you bring a photo.*

The Barrett family & their damson tree



## Chairman's Report

As I write this, the weather is showing promise of the spring to come, and leads to thoughts of what might be going on in the Park this year. You may have noticed in our 'Dates for your Diary' on the last page that there is no Family Fun Day planned this year. This is partly because the small number of volunteers who plan and deliver this large event are not all able to give so much time this year. We thought it best to take a year off and renew our energies next year.



Judging from the numbers who attend, the Fun Day has been a brilliant and popular focus for our local community. The event has truly served our intention to raise the profile of the Park and advertise it as a wonderful space for all users and ages. We are planning to hold a series of family oriented activities, with something happening every month. This will be augmented by Steff D'Agorne's varied and interesting programme, making plenty to do and see. If any of you could give some time to help us with any of the events, however much, it would make a huge difference.

The latest central government report on our parks and open spaces shows the direct government grant has already fallen by 40% and is due to fall further each year. This paints a challenging picture of how local authorities are going to finance upkeep and repair. Helen Griffiths, the CEO of 'Fields in Trust', rightly highlights the asset that parks are, contributing to public health and lifestyles. They benefit the whole community and save the government much more than any gains from spending cuts.

Clearly we all need to understand that volunteer contributions from the community will be vital to keeping our parks as the safe, vibrant and valuable places we all enjoy. We have had the benefit of a fantastic upgrade here during the past three years and, to maintain this welcome standard, we will need to contribute some time and effort to make it our 'Park for the People', now and into the future.

I forward to seeing as many as possible of you in the Park during the year ahead.

**Liz Edwards**

## Camden Road Education, Arts & Theatre Enterprise

For full details see the CREATE website [www.camdenroad.org](http://www.camdenroad.org)  
& Facebook [www.facebook.com/createTW](http://www.facebook.com/createTW)



### CREATE Community Choir.....Rehearsals on Thursdays 7.15pm

At the Church of Christ, Commercial Road, off Camden Road

A FUN informal choir for those who enjoy singing: no auditions, just turn up & join in!

### Nose in a Book Night.....First Thursday of every month 8.30pm

At the Church of Christ, Commercial Road.

An informal hour sharing & performing favourite pieces of writing based on a theme

& bringing them alive with performance. (Unhappy to read in public? Someone else can read your piece.)

table 8

**The Cafe at the Hub**

Light Refreshments

Cakes & Biscuits

Milkshakes & Ice Cream

Hot & Cold drinks

Daily Specials

Open Daily 9am – 5pm

## Update from the Parks Department

By the time you read this, the snagging work should be finished and replacement trees planted, including the yew hedge by the bowling green. The paths have been cleared of loose gravel, although there will be small amounts for a while, it won't be as much as when the paths were first laid. Blakedown will maintain the new planting and other new areas until later in the year, including pruning the new pleached limes. The sleeper wall in the play area has been installed and, though some sand still migrates onto the footpath, the volume has reduced.



In January, we said farewell to Jasmin Ashworth, our graduate ranger, who has gone to study landscape architecture and we wish her luck in her new career. We are seeking funding for a new volunteer ranger for the summer, to assist our Community Engagement officer.

As many of you will have noticed, our rough sleepers have moved on from under the railway footbridge and I understand they have found accommodation in a homeless shelter. To try and prevent further access to the bridge, we have planted a thorny hedge and put wire fencing in the gap.

We have received calls from concerned dog walkers about the new signs in the Park. Unfortunately, dog fouling has increased over the past year and, although we realise we have many responsible dog walkers, a minority do not control their dogs. There were comments was about a lack of dog bags in the dispensers and, while we try to keep the dispensers full, we are aware some visitors take more than one or two bags for their visit to the Park. While we are happy to provide dog bags, please only take what you need. Of course, we encourage dog walkers to bring bags from home just in case.

As we are starting to see signs of spring in the Park, and warmer weather is just around the corner, do take time to visit and have a look at the volunteering opportunities. If you have any questions please contact us on 01892 554031 or at [parks@tunbridgewells.gov.uk](mailto:parks@tunbridgewells.gov.uk)

**Peter Every – TWBC Parks & Sports Team Leader**

## Christmas Carols with CREATE

We've enjoyed singing carols in the Park with the CREATE Choir since 2012, but this year there was a slight difference: we were outside! FoGH have to admit this was accidental, because the Hub was already booked. We made plans in case of poor weather (lots of gazebos) but we had glorious sunshine.



Carols beside the Hub

We offered mulled wine, mulled fruit juice, soft drinks for children and a plentiful supply of mince pies and biscuits. The Choir were in fine voice and crowds gathered to join in, including residents from nearby Tunbridge Wells Care Home.



The CREATE choir

Holding the event outside is certainly something we'll consider in future (weather permitting!) Thanks to all who came along, and of course to the Choir. All donations went to CREATE for the Lantern Parade. **Mary Hughes**



## News from the FoGH Committee



The existing grind rail

This is very much a follow up from the Winter 2016 newsletter.

An update on the additional grind rail in the skate park. The quote we have received to install the rail, including new tarmac sections, is much higher than anticipated. The committee agreed to try and seek extra funding for this project, but we are very keen for it to go ahead.

The biggest decision we have had to make recently as a committee is not to hold a Family Funday this year. This event started in 2012 as a picnic for The Queen's Jubilee, and has grown bigger and bigger year on year. 2016 saw the Grand Re-

opening of the Park, which was a great day.

However, the members of the Funday committee felt it was time for a year off. A lot of work goes on behind the scenes to arrange and host the day. We would welcome any extra help in planning for 2018 – let us know if you are interested. Planning starts in November, with informal meetings until early May. We would like to hear about any local businesses interested in sponsoring the day, so if you have any suggestions, please get in touch.



The 2016 Dog Show

We are planning a mix of events, with some aimed at raising funds, and others as free community based activities. The popular Dog Show will be a 'stand alone' event this year on Saturday May 20th. Planning is still in process, so keep an eye out for posters in the Park, and on social media. Thanks to Jenny and Chris Maslin for taking on this task.

Other events planned are an Orchard Pruning workshop on 11th March, a Quiz Night with a fish and chip supper on 25th March, and an Easter Hunt on Sunday 16th April. Further on in the year, we will be taking part in Heritage Open Days again,

and plan to also host another Bird, Bat & Bug Box Building workshop, Apple Day and Halloween Party.



The 2016 AGM

Our Annual General Meeting will be in the Hub on the evening of Thursday 18th May, and will again include Cheese and Wine. The AGM is no way as scary and formal as it sounds. It's a chance for paid members to have a say, and even to join the committee. We meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in The Hub. We also keep in touch by email during the month – all you need to be a committee member is the ability to attend most of the meetings.

There may be events not mentioned here, so, as always, check on social media and watch out for posters.



Grand Re-opening & Funday 2016



Apple Day 2015



## Steff's Sum Up (or Community Engagement Officer Update)

Winter has been very busy so far: full of activities and events. We have even been lucky enough to have seen the odd patch of snow in the Park. I was, however, delighted to see the first signs of spring popping up in Hilbert Woods over the past week or so, as plants that have been dormant through the coldest months start to poke their tips out of the soil.



The volunteers with the finished hurdle

In early January, the conservation volunteers did a great job at constructing a willow hurdle by Redleaf Close, making this pathway less dangerous to walk along. Thanks go to John Waller from Underwoodsman, who ran a course for the volunteers on how to construct a willow hurdle. The course day was very cold, but we warmed up by using the post rammer to push stakes 2ft into the ground.

We were delighted to spot 29 different species during the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch on

Monday 30th January. This included a rare spotting of a Grey Heron in the Park, some great views of Goldfinch, and other winter migrants such as Redwing. If you want to help with our next bird walk, pick up a schedule from the cafe, as a monthly bird count is one of our volunteer tasks.

Kent High Weald Partnership, along with the help of the conservation volunteers, finally finished the main stretch of boardwalk through Hilbert Woods, and we are delighted with the result. I will certainly be making the most of this mud free route for many winters to come!



Jazz at work

Sadly, Jasmin Ashworth (Jazz), who has been assisting me with leading events in the Park over the past year, came to the end of her contract in January, and has now headed back up North to start a course in landscape architecture. We wish her the best of luck and her presence will be missed in the Park! Thanks to her help, our Christmas 'Deck Your Halls' event went off without a hitch. Thanks also to those who joined in, and made a variety of Christmas decorations out of materials from paper to willow.

I ran a winter wreath making workshop before Christmas, which was fully booked far quicker than we could have hoped, so we aim to run more next year. The event ran smoothly, with plenty of Christmas spirit, and some amazing wreaths were created.



The proud weavers with their baskets

We had another weaving event, when John Waller returned to teach us how to weave a basket. The Hub became a hive of creative activity and some fantastic baskets were made.

Alongside the Friends of the Park, we have a jam-packed list of events coming up over the next couple of months, suitable for all ages. Look out for leaflets in the cafe.

To book on any upcoming events and activities in the Park, or if you have any questions, please see me when I'm in the Park, or contact me by email on: [steff.dagorne@tunbridgewells.gov.uk](mailto:steff.dagorne@tunbridgewells.gov.uk) I look forward to seeing you in the Park soon.

**Steff D'Agorne**



  
**LOTTERY FUNDED**



Grey Heron



Completed wreaths

## Graffiti in the Park

During October, the Community Engagement Team and Dave Eagles opened a legal graffiti wall. FoGH supports this, as it gives the Council extra strength to combat people defacing surfaces elsewhere and gives younger users a stake in the Park. Local residents will be aware that over time, waves of 'tagging' and different graffiti styles appear in parts of the Park.

Sadly, during January the Wind in the Willows mural was defaced and tags were sprayed elsewhere in the Park. FoGH were in the process of gaining council funding to protect the mural, so we are quite upset about this. We are currently talking with Dave and the Council to see what solution can be reached. Hopefully Dave can repaint some sections and we can cover the work with perspex. The bridge over the railway is treated with anti-graffiti paint, so should be easily cleaned.



The defaced Wind in the Willows mural

**Carolyn Gray**

## The Open-Air Swimming Baths in the 19th Century

I have been investigating the history of the swimming baths in the Park, via Kent & Sussex Courier articles in the British Newspaper Archive. The baths began as a reservoir, part of Calverley Water Works, which supplied water to the town, until a new reservoir at Pembury made them redundant. The largest reservoir was divided by a dam, and in 1873 the Local Board (forerunner of the Borough Council) converted the eastern part into a swimming bath.

This was substantial, with "a length of 300 feet (over 90 m), with a width varying from 60 to 150 feet (18 – 45 m)." I think the pool would have been cold, because "A continuous supply of water (about 40,000 gallons daily) flows in at the shallow end, and passes out by an overflow pipe at the deep end."



Professor John Luker

It was rented by Tunbridge Wells Bathing Association for £25 a year "for the reservoirs &c", and opened during the summer months. Professor Luker (see the August 2014 newsletter) was engaged as superintendent and remained in this capacity for the next 16 years. The Professor was credited with rescuing many who got into difficulties in the baths.

In 1875, the Bathing Association decided not to renew the lease, and local businessman (builder, brick maker and auctioneer) Mr Charles Adie became the new tenant. He rented the baths, two other reservoirs and surrounding land for an annual rent of £50. He landscaped the grounds, adding "pleasant walks and shrubberies..... seats and shelter from sun and rain."



Victorian-style shrubbery

In addition, Mr Adie used an adjacent reservoir to create another swimming bath, which became the "Second Class Bath". Prices were half the price of the First Class bath and opening hours were 5.30am until sunset, except Sundays (5.30 – 9.30am). Charles Adie overreached himself and went spectacularly bust in November 1877, with debts of £90,000 (millions today).

<b>FIRST CLASS, admitting at any hour of the day (with exclusive use of Large Dressing Boxes); —</b>	
<b>SEASON (Not Transferable).....</b>	<b>10s.</b>
<b>MONTHLY " .....</b>	<b>4s.</b>
<b>SINGLE " .....</b>	<b>4d.</b>
<b>SECOND CLASS, admitting at any hour of the day.</b>	
<b>SEASON (Not Transferable).....</b>	<b>5s.</b>
<b>MONTHLY " .....</b>	<b>2s.</b>
<b>SINGLE " .....</b>	<b>2d.</b>

On Saturdays, after 3 p.m., in the Second Class Bath, One Penny.

On Sundays from 5.30 a.m. till 9.30 a.m., at the usual charges.

The 1875 charges

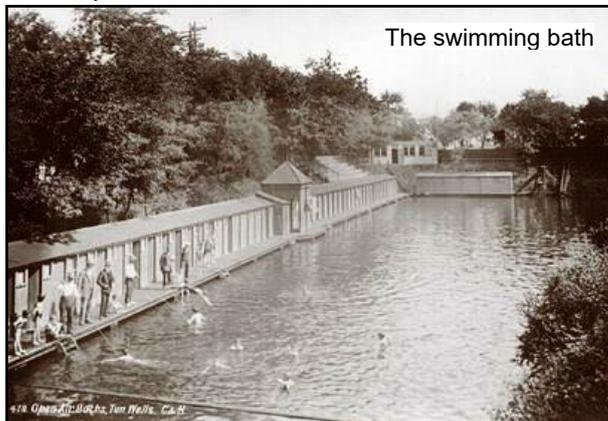
The Tunbridge Wells Bathing Association (Limited) took over the lease in September 1878. They leased the three reservoirs, with the adjoining grounds, for 14 years at a rent of £40 a year, to be reviewed after 7 years. The prices and hours for bathing were fixed by the Local Board. New boxes were installed in 1879. There was no mixed bathing: "Ladies" could bathe 11am. – 2pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

However, in 1880 there were reports of low attendance (due to poor weather) and the Association requested a



Ordnance Survey 1899

reduction in the rent. They had been unable to use the Second Class Bath, as it emptied after heavy rainfall. Problems continued in 1881 and the Board agreed to make repairs. It is unclear how much longer the Second Class Bath stayed in use, but any trace was swept away in the late 1880s in the development of Grosvenor Recreation Ground.



The swimming bath

Better seasons followed and in 1884 the Association paid a 5% dividend on the shares. Despite this, it was never profitable and in 1891 they gave up the lease. Cygnus Swimming Club (formed in 1881) took over, but in 1893 the baths were reported as being in poor repair. The bottom of the pool was uneven and the dressing boxes (originally installed in 1879) needed replacing. The Cygnus Club did not have the resources for the works.

In 1895 the Borough Council applied for a government loan of £1800, to repair the bottom of the pool, rebuild a retaining wall, install new boxes and platforms and add paths and seats. They quoted annual attendance of 13,000 – 19,000 bathers a year, depending on the weather. In April 1896 the baths were

described as almost unrecognisable, with the bottom and sides concreted, new "commodious and substantial" dressing boxes, and a room for the attendant next to the new turnstile.

The indoor swimming pool in Monson Road opened in October 1898, but the open-air baths remained open until 1948. I'm planning to explore their history further, so there's more to come!

**Mary Hughes**

## Wildlife in the Wetland

Work in the Wetland finished in summer 2016, so wildlife could start to reclaim the site. But what plants and animals might we see in the Wetland this spring?

Many of the plants that were planted around the Wetlands will begin to flower in late spring – early summer and include the beautiful ragged robin, marsh marigold, marsh cinquefoil, water avens and yellow iris, and many others. We are also hopeful that



Ragged robin



Marsh marigold



Water avens



Yellow iris

species which were present before the works, such as marsh foxtail and marsh yellowcress, will soon return now the ground has had a chance to settle.

A variety of different trees were planted as part of the work. One near the Wetlands, and one of my favourites, is the Ginkgo biloba (maidenhead tree) which will be coming into leaf this time of year.



Ginkgo biloba leaves

Dragonflies are a distinguishing insect of wetland habitat. Even in 2016, after all the construction works, we saw beautiful emperor dragonflies (*Anax imperator*). These are Britain's largest dragonfly



Emperor dragonfly (f)



Emperor dragonfly (m)

and could be seen laying eggs in the Wetland. This is very promising and suggests the area will be a good stronghold for the species. We also saw many common darter dragonflies (*Sympetrum striolatum*), which were better at sitting still for a photograph.



Common darter dragonfly (m)

Dragonflies generally come out in the heat of summer, but both the above species can be seen as early as May on a warm day, if you're lucky. This time of year you can also expect to see frogs mating in the three ponds of the Wetland, so it will soon be dotted with patches of frogspawn and later the emerging tadpoles.

We hope to start pond dipping in the Wetland, a great chance to get up close to nature. These sessions will hopefully reveal



Smooth newt

whether any newts have colonised the ponds and will be a good way to monitor the progress of the Wetlands. Keep your eyes on our noticeboards and Facebook page for pond dipping events over the summer.



Common frog



Frogspawn

See what you can spot out and about around the Wetland and let us know what you see. We're always making a note of what species are spotted and when, so that we can monitor the changes in the Wetland and around the Park.

**Jasmine Ashworth, HLF Graduate Community Ranger**

## Sport Report

**Football** (see <http://www.wksl.org.uk/>)

The dry and mild winter has seen many fewer postponements in the West Kent Sunday Football League than usual. As a result, our local team St John's Yard have played all their matches in the nine team Division 3.

Being knocked out of both club competitions gave them more time to concentrate on the League. December started well with a 5 – 1 victory against Speldhurst Rangers. But this was followed by two 7 – 0 losses, and the poor run continued in 2017, as they lost the first two matches.

However, the season ended on a more upbeat note as they won the last two games. They finish the season in sixth place in Division 3, with a total of 19 points after 6 wins, one draw and 9 losses. The goal difference of -29 reflects a few substantial losses.

Since a number of teams have already finished their League programmes, the West Kent Sunday League will be running a Spring Cup. St John's Yard will be playing in the Junior Section (for the lower 2 divisions) and have three matches in March in the group stage. We wish them well: they play on the top football pitch in gold shirts with black shorts and socks. Come and cheer them on!



St John's Yard 2 – 1 Paddock Wood Reserves

**Mary Hughes**

## View from the Allotment



Beds ready for planting

I am thinking you cannot hurry nature. We have a few sunny days and we start thinking spring is coming, only to find a return of cold and wet weather. It is just a question of waiting until the ground warms up.

We have more or less dug the allotment ready for this year, and hope some of the frosts

have killed a few of the unwanted weeds. We have planned the rotation of crops and will soon be chitting the potatoes, ready for planting after spring frosts.

We have perpetual spinach, chard and leeks to give us fresh vegetables over the winter months. This year we have covered some of the rhubarb to force it, it is working and it will not be long until we can pick some.

Our real problem is the parking on Pig's Hill (King George V Hill), it just seems to get more and more difficult for the allotment holders to get a parking space.

**Jane Melville**

## Dogs in the Park

Hello, my name is Dixie, I'm a cheeky 4 year old Staffordshire Bull Terrier. My human Mummy and Daddy collected me at 12 weeks from a family who couldn't manage with their children and other pets.



Dixie

I now only live with my feline friend Molly.

I have been coming to the Park since I was fully vaccinated and I have made lots of friends and love exploring in the woods. I love to make new friends and have a good chase around.

When I'm at home, I am very lazy and cuddly. My owners will often see me sprawled out or in awkward places fast asleep. I've also been known to steal their bed and not leave any space!

Many of you may already know me and probably had a big kiss from me. If I haven't seen you, I hope to meet you when I am out and about.

**Natasha Wilson & Chris Adams**

## Building a Boardwalk

Walkers in the woods in the Park will hopefully have noticed a new boardwalk gradually growing through Roundabout Woods. Unless you stumbled across a jolly bunch of people armed with drills and hammers, you may have thought the woodland fairies had been busy!

But I can assure you there is no folk magic responsible. Since May 2015, this 300 metre recycled plastic footpath has been constructed by dedicated teams of volunteers. They were supervised by the Kent High Weald Partnership (KHWP) and funded by the Heritage Lottery Funded Project.



Completed boardwalk



KHWP & Steff's volunteers have a break!

Regular KHWP and Steff's team of volunteers deserve a humongous round of applause for all the time and effort they have put into building the boardwalk. Also worthy of mention are AXA PPP, the Borough Council and Skinners School, who all provided teams of willing volunteers looking to help their local community.

Lovely local people of all ages, from 8 to 80, with a range of abilities, have put in tremendous effort, worked successfully as teams and had great banter over tea and biscuits. Blood, sweat and tears have literally gone into building the boardwalk and I hope users are enjoying the new (slightly bouncy) path.

The new boardwalk is made from recycled plastic, as it is much longer lasting than wood. Roundabout Woods is quite a wet woodland, so the life of wooden boardwalk would be limited and require regular maintenance. The plastic will last a long time and is anti-slip, so doesn't need wiring on the decks. It weathers in well and is extremely tough.



Skinners School at work

To date, 29 days have been spent building the boardwalk, with a few more to come. We have to finish some steps, the Redleaf Close section and kickboard at the edges, which we aim to complete this year.

If you fancy coming along and getting involved, please feel free to attend our volunteer days, shown on the events page or on our website [www.khwp.org.uk](http://www.khwp.org.uk).

If you have any comments or questions about the boardwalk I would be happy to hear from you. Please email [cally@khwp.org](mailto:cally@khwp.org) or call **Cally Fiddimore – Partnership Officer, KHWP**



AXA PPP volunteers



LOTTERY FUNDED



## Dates for your Diary

- HLF boardwalk building**.....Thursday 23rd March 10am – 3pm  
Kent High Weald Partnership volunteer days  
Meet at the Hilbert Rd gates: wear appropriate clothing & footwear  
Thursday 30th March 10am – 3pm
- Pond Dipping #**.....Wednesday 22nd March 3.45 – 5.30pm  
Friday 7th April  
Discover what lurks in the wetland! Free events.  
Children must be accompanied by an adult.
- FoGH Fish & Chip Quiz Night**.....Saturday 25th March 7pm  
Come and test your brains at the Hub. Tables of 6: £10 per person.  
Booking essential at [editors@fogh.org.uk](mailto:editors@fogh.org.uk) & advise any dietary requirements.
- Light your fire! #**.....Tuesday 4th April from 10.30am  
Learn fire lighting with no matches & build your own den. Ages 4+.  
£5 per child: all children must be accompanied by an adult.
- KHWP Volunteer Day**.....Thursday 6th April 10am – 3pm  
A spring clean! Boardwalk work, path clearance and litter picking.  
Meet by the Oast House & dress appropriately.
- A taste of Hogwarts #**.....Thursday 13th April from 10.30am  
Woodland-based session: make a Sword of Gryffindor & your own wand. Ages 6+.  
£5 per child: all children must be accompanied by an adult.
- Easter Sunday Sunrise Celebration**.....Easter Sunday 16th April 8am  
Meet east of the Bowling Green for a 30 minute service.
- FoGH Easter Egg Hunt**.....Easter Sunday 16th April 2.00 – 3pm  
Meet at the Oast House. Come & hunt for Easter Eggs in the Park!
- Plant a Pollinator-friendly Pot**.....Saturday 22nd April 10am
- Potty about Plants Pot Painting**.....Monday 29th May 10am – 12.30pm  
At the Hub. Free planting workshop in April. Craft event in May.
- KHWP Volunteer Day**.....Thursday 4th May 10am – 3pm  
Help to plant the Cross Pollination Project bee beds  
Meet by the Oast House & dress appropriately.
- Moth Talk**.....Friday 12th May 7.30 – 8.30pm  
After a talk the Hub, Ian Beavis will set up a moth trap in a nearby garden.
- Moth Blitz**.....Saturday 13th May 9.30 – 11am  
Join Ian back at the Hub for this drop in event to see what's been caught!
- FoGH Annual General Meeting**.....Thursday May 18th 7pm  
At the Hub, with cheese & wine. Help shape the future of FoGH!  
Only paid up members can vote; please contact the Secretary.
- FoGH Dog Show**.....Saturday 20th May 10am – 12pm  
On the upper football pitch. See posters & social media for more details.

**TWBC conservation tasks every Friday: see schedule or contact Steff D'Agorne**

**Events marked #: Booking essential at [steff.dagorne@tunbridgewells.gov.uk](mailto:steff.dagorne@tunbridgewells.gov.uk)**

See posters, [www.fogh.org.uk](http://www.fogh.org.uk) Facebook [www.facebook.com/GrosvenorHilbert](https://www.facebook.com/GrosvenorHilbert) or Twitter <https://twitter.com/FofGH>

### FoGH Contact Details

Liz Edwards (Chairman)  
Jane Melville (Secretary)  
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[www.facebook.com/GrosvenorHilbert](https://www.facebook.com/GrosvenorHilbert)  
<https://twitter.com/FofGH>

Comments or contributions to  
Newsletter editors at  
[editors@fogh.org.uk](mailto:editors@fogh.org.uk)  
or 15 Dorking Road,  
Tunbridge Wells, TN1 2LN

To join, contact the Secretary at 41, Dorking Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 2LN or on [Friendsghrp@aol.com](mailto:Friendsghrp@aol.com)

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

TWBC Parks Service 01892 554031  
Out of Hours Service 07920 534369  
Toilets: Opening Hours 7am - 6pm

*Photos & images courtesy of Steff D'Agorne, Dave Barnett, Kevin Cross, Cally Fiddemore, Carolyn Gray, Chris Hughes, Penny Luker (via Edward James Gilbert) Jane Melville, Tunbridge Wells Museum & Natasha Wilson.*