



Park Life

News from the Friends of Grosvenor and Hilbert Park



News from the Committee

As I write this, we have seen a lot of much needed rain over the last few weeks. This is in stark contrast to the previous few months, which were very sunny, but with virtually no rain. This leads me to say a big thank you to our volunteers (Gabi, Roy & Sophie) for their dedication in watering the baskets around the Hub and Bowls Green during July and August. The plants very much appreciated it, as did all of us who enjoyed the display the plants gave us.

Talking of volunteers, I would like to mention our local experts who support our walks and talks around the Park. They give up their time to lead many of our events, sharing their knowledge and helping us better understand the plants and wildlife in our Park. So, another big thank you to Ian Beavis (Moths, Bees, Butterflies etc), David Scully (Bats and Trees) and Martin Sutton (Pond Dipping), along with Keith Palmer who will lead our upcoming Fungal Foray in late October. The RHS In Bloom judging took place on 2nd July. As a Friends Group, we support the TWBC Parks Team by joining them and the judge, as he tours the Park over a 2-hour period. We show how FoGH contributes to the Park through our horticultural work and our events, like Moth ID mornings, Pond Dipping, and Bat, Tree and Bee walks. We were very pleased to hear that the judge felt the Community Orchard was flourishing and that FoGH were managing it very well. We must be doing something right, as the apple trees this year are literally dripping with fruit! We are still waiting for the results and will let you know once we get them.

It's hard to believe but it's 10 years since the Heritage Lottery Funded work took place and what a difference it has made to the Park. Over time the various works have settled in and become part of the everyday life of the Park. The children's playground continues to delight the kids using it, the Community Orchard has grown beyond our expectations, and the Wetland area has flourished. It really shows that all the work put into the project has been worthwhile, as its legacy continues to benefit all those that use the Park.

Finally, the Committee have been working hard arranging our Autumn/Winter programme. We have lots of events lined up, so hopefully there is something there that will appeal to you. It takes a lot of work to plan and organise these events and we are always looking for people to help us out. If you would like support us by getting involved in any of the events, please let us know - it will be much appreciated.

Chris Hughes/FoGH Chair - October 2025

Some Upcoming Events

Fungal Foray : Sat 25th October : The Hub

Discover the Park's fungi on this exploration & identification walk led by expert Keith Palmer.
This is a ticketed event. See the website for details.

Halloween Crafts : Sun 26th October : 2-4 pm : The Hub

Get the family into the spirit of Halloween with the Fiends of Grosvenor & Hilbert Park themed craft event.

Apple Howling with Iron Spring Morris : Sat 3rd January 2026 : 2:00 - 3:00 pm : Hilbert Gates / The Oast

Join us as we start the year with Iron Spring Morris as we scare bad spirits from the orchard. We'll start at the Oast where there will be refreshments and dancing, then process to the orchard where we gather to frighten any malignant spirits. Remember to bring pots and pans, whistles and drums to make as much noise as possible.

Please note: children must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all events

Ticketed Events: FoGH members get exclusive access to tickets before they go on general release

Event details are provisional: date and times can change, events might be cancelled.

For more information about any event please check our website, emails, posters or social media