



News from the Committee

As you may recall from my update in March, the FoGH committee faced some unexpected challenges earlier this year. However, I can now report that we've emerged from this period and I'd like to share some changes.

After many years of dedicated service, commitment and voluntary hours in the Park, Jane Melville is standing down as Membership Secretary. Jane was a founding member of this group and has worked tirelessly to support the Park, the Friends group and the many events we hold. We would like to formally thank Jane for her dedication and hard work over the past 13 years.

Her position on the committee is going to be taken over by Clare Kelly, who masterfully organised the successful April Dog Show and many other popular FoGH events. Clare's organisational skills and dedication are a fantastic asset to the FoGH team, and we look forward to her contributions in this important role.

Our events so far this year have all been successful, including the start of our Green Team projects, with volunteers kitted out in our new RTW In Bloom t-shirts. Join us on Saturday 8th June for our next project, replanting the baskets around the hub railings. All these baskets were purchased by FoGH and are looked after by volunteers.

In April we were pleased to see the water bottle filling station moved to the grassy area by Auckland Road gates, which we always felt was its ideal location. We were also glad when the wetland bridge repairs were finished, and we continue to liaise with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council about park maintenance. We understand several diseased trees have had to be cut down, or trimmed back, this spring.

Hopefully in the summer some of the logs will be moved into the community orchard to replace the seating installed in 2015. The orchard looked beautiful when the blossom was out, and we have spotted yellow rattle flowers, which we planted last autumn with Kent High Weald Partnership, the first stage in our wildflower meadow project.

Carolyn Gray/FoGH Chair - June 2024

Some Upcoming Events

FoGH Green Team: Bowling Green Flowerbeds : Mon 24th June : 2:00 - 4.00 pm : The Hub

The FoGH Green Team meets occasionally to undertake essential maintenance on the flowerbeds and other areas of the park. Please wear suitable attire for the planned task (gloves will be 'handy'). Please be aware some Green Team events will stray from conventional paths. Help FoGH brighten up the area around the Hub and bowling green by weeding the flowerbeds.

Tunbridge Wells Fringe : Sat 29th June - Sun 14th July : Various times : The Hub

Not a FoGH event, but the annual Tunbridge Wells Fringe Festival holds several events in the Hub. For more information check the TWFringe website - twfringe.com.

FoGH Green Team: Bowling Green Flowerbeds : Mon 8th July : 2:00 - 4.00 pm : The Hub

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Kent High Weald Volunteer Day: Alien Invasion : Wed 24th July : 10:00 am - 3:00 pm : Hilbert Gates / The Oast / Folly Shaw

Kent High Weald run regular volunteer days to help preserve the high standard of the park's natural resources. Help KHWP remove non-native plants including the invasive Himalayan Balsam which spreads rapidly and shades out native plants.

A Damselfly & Dragonfly Celebration : Sat 27th July : 10:00 am - 12:00 pm : The Hub

Join Ian Beavis for an illustrated talk in the Hub and a walk around the lake, wetland & streams to search for the colourful dragonflies & damselflies that live in the Park. This is a ticketed event. See the website for details.

Native Trees and Ancient Woodland in the Park : Wed 31st July : 5:30 - 7:30 pm : The Hub

Join TWBC's Landscape Officer David Scully to learn about the native trees and the ancient woodland that forms part of our Park. This is a ticketed event. See the website for details.

Moth Identification Morning : Sat 10th August : 10:30 am - 12:30 pm : The Hub

Drop in to the Hub to see what night-flying insects Dr Ian Beavis can identify from the overnight moth trap.

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