



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

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.

FoGH Green Team: Orchard Pruning : Sun 18th August : 11:00 am - 1:00 pm and 2:00 - 4:00 pm : Hilbert Gates / The Oast / Orchard

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. Join us at the Orchard to help with summer pruning and other orchard related activities.

Park Safari with Dr Ian Beavis : Thu 29th August : 10.30 am / 2.00 pm : The Hub

An expert on the natural world and an approachable guide, Dr Beavis (Research Curator at The Amelia Scott) will be leading fun, lively and informative trails across the parks of Tunbridge Wells. This is a ticketed event. See the website for details.

Pond Dipping : Sun 8th September : 10:30 am - 12.30 pm : The Hub / Wetlands

Join us for a pond dipping session in the wetlands. Discover the creatures that live in the Park's water habitats with local expert Martin Sutton. This is a ticketed event. See the website for details.

Heritage Open Days: The Swimming Pool : Sun 15th September : 11.00 am-1.00 pm : The Hub

Join FoGH volunteers for an Heritage Open Days exhibition and a brief talk about the Swimming Pool that was once in our park.

Apple Day : Sat 5th October : 9am-3pm : Hilbert Gates / The Oast

Join FoGH for children's craft activities & refreshments and we'll be making juice with our apple press.

Halloween Crafts : Sat 26th October : 12.30-5.00 pm : The Hub

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

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