

# The South Parker

## Friends of South Park Gardens

Local people working to restore, protect and improve South Park Gardens



Registered Charity no.1097483

December 2014

## **BREAKING NEWS: Proposed changes to the management of Merton's parks!**

Merton Council needs to save £32 million over the next four years. It is therefore proposing to make savings in parks maintenance by merging and contracting out the services across the four Boroughs of Merton, Kingston, Sutton and Croydon.

We do not have many details at this stage but what we have can be found on our website [here](#). From our previous experience of contracted out garden maintenance, this is of serious concern.

If you would like to express your views please [email us](#) your comments and do write to your local Councillors.

## **Thank you for making the Halloween Event such a success!**



Our sell-out family Halloween event took place on 1 November. More than 300 children got involved in treasure hunts, a fancy dress parade and a pumpkin competition judged by our sponsors Ellisons.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers for all the decorations, stalls and fantastic food and drink.

And congratulations to our three winning pumpkins – don't they look fabulous?!

## **Bulb Planting by 1<sup>st</sup> Wimbledon Beavers**

Beavers from 1st Wimbledon Scout group (which meets Monday evenings in All Saints primary school) achieved their Environmental Partnership badge early November by partnering with the Friends and planting bulbs. New bulbs were planted by the cedar tree and meadow and the six-to-eight-year-olds all thoroughly enjoyed the experience. They all look forward to returning in the spring to see their efforts in bloom.



## **Gardeners' compound refurbishment update**

Moy Construction is making great progress on the new building. Do take a look through the viewing panels to see. We anticipate the building will be up by January, internal work carried out in February and then inaugurated in March, but we are dependent on the good weather continuing.

## Maintenance (Railings)

New railings have been delivered and are due to be fitted shortly. They replace the section squashed by the falling poplar tree. A new tree will be planted in the spring. This is likely to be a multi-stemmed white birch or a Judas tree.

## Chalk

Please try and refrain from letting children chalk on the paths and fountain, as it's not always washed away by rain and is damaging.

**DON'T FORGET: We are now online at**

[www.southparkgardens.org](http://www.southparkgardens.org)

We're particularly keen for more photos of the Gardens (in all seasons) plus those capturing events such as Halloween. Please log onto our website for details of how you can add the images to our Flickr account.

## South Park Gardens 100 years ago...



## FSPG Membership

A huge number of you renewed or joined in time for our Halloween event but we know there are many more of you enjoying the Gardens. Please do join us! Your support shows the commitment of the local community to the Gardens and is a great help to our campaigning. And don't forget: priority booking for our events for our members.

Membership is only £5 per household and in future it will run over a calendar year from January to December. We will be writing to current members and people on our contact lists shortly with regards to renewals.

In the meantime if you'd like to renew your membership, or join for the first time, please fill out the form sent separately with this newsletter or alternatively join online [here](#)

*Advertisement Feature - In order to help meet the cost of producing the newsletter, this, and future issues, will carry an advertisement.*

### Want to get fit, stay fit right on your own doorstep?

I use the creative exercise canvas that is South Park Gardens to design, deliver and support your fitness programme. I work 1-1 or in group sessions; always mindful of ability and motivation. I am a living-local Level 3 Personal Trainer qualified in:

Post and Pre-Natal      TRX Suspension Training      Kettle bells      Boxing  
Nutrition GP Exercise Referral

Jane Burdett 'awesome' in the delivery of fun and effective fitness.

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