

The South Parker

Friends of South Park Gardens

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



Registered Charity No: 1162459

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PLEASE TAKE YOUR LITTER HOME!

Our volunteers are getting younger! Two local boys decided to spend a morning clearing the litter left behind after picnics in the summer. They did a great job!

Finn (age 5) "We didn't like the park looking all dirty so we cleaned all the litter up. It was fun but hard work."

Ben (age 4) "I liked using the blue picker to get the litter. I'm going to do it again cos it was fun."



Kids' poster competition!!

We would love the kids to send us colourful posters with themes like 'take your litter home if the bins are full.', 'Please put your litter in the bins', 'Please do not damage our precious trees and plants'. Successful posters will be reproduced and used in the Gardens to help us keep them tidy and beautiful! Please start sending them in.

Kiosk – the Strawberry Tree now open!

We are really delighted that the kiosk is now open. Please go along and try their delicious coffee and cakes!

Improving the Gardens for people in wheelchairs and parents with buggies

As part of our ongoing efforts to make the Gardens accessible to all the Trustees have committed funds to introduce a smooth surface corridor through the cobbles at the upper Dudley and Trinity Road gates.

Plants in the Gardens

The new bed by the pavilion is establishing really well. Our project for this autumn is to improve a section of the border on Kings Road and the ornamental beds at Kings and Dudley Road entrances. We will also be adding to bulbs in the grass circle in front of the pavilion. If you would like to get involved in our planting projects please just email us.

Classes in the Pavilion

We have some exciting new classes this autumn, including a pregnancy yoga and baby massage workshop. Many of the regular classes are back after the summer break: ceramic painting, art for both adults and children, yoga and mindfulness. The details are on the Events page of our website, so do take a look!

Please get in touch if you would like to run a class or hold a business meeting there. If you are a community group looking for a meeting place, don't forget that we have a

special rate for non-commercial events.

The **Gardening Club** has had a good first season growing courgettes, cucumbers, chillies, tomatoes, broccoli, sweet peas and radishes in the raised beds



behind the building. This autumn we are going to put fruit bushes in. We also helped

the gardeners stay on top of some of the difficult weeds.

Wildlife corner

If you stand under the small fir trees you may be lucky enough to



spot a gold crested wren, one of the Garden's prettiest and most elusive birds! You need to stand very quietly and you will hear them twittering long before you see them

Fireworks and Bonfire Event - Saturday 5 November

Tickets will go on sale on 5 October for this ever popular event. As usual it will be particularly catering for families with younger children through its use of lower noise fireworks.

The application form which is electronic this year will be available from our website and anyone on our circulation list will also receive an email with a link to it.

There will be a BBQ, glowsticks, cakes,

mulled wine and Wimbledon Brewery beer and other drinks for sale.

DON'T FORGET that to apply for a member rate and be given priority access to tickets you need to have been a paid-up and confirmed member of FSPG **by 23 September**. A member family ticket for up to 5 members is £20 and non-members £30. Adult member ticket £8. Child member £3. Under 3s go free. Payment by PayPal, bank transfer or cheque only. **If you are not sure whether you are currently a member, just email us.**

RECENT EVENTS

On 11 August, we joined with the Council to offer a wide range of activities to local children, with an Olympic theme. As well as a drama workshop, there was steel band "Panache", art, cupcake decorating, sports with YMCA, an Olympic treasure hunt and Brazilian snacks to taste!

On two Friday afternoons in June and July the Friends invited local people age 60+ to a free **cream tea** in the Pavilion. A range of cakes and home-made scones were enjoyed.

We were really lucky to have **Clobless Lobster** who put on two entertaining puppet shows for young children at the end of the school holidays.

On 17 September we were incredibly privileged to have **Adam Peaty**, Olympic Gold medal swimmer in the Gardens. People young and old enjoyed meeting him and getting autographs and photographs.

Continuing the sporting theme, the Gardens were host to a **family fitness day** on 25 September. It was fabulous to see so many people from the local community raising money for students with dyslexia.

Thursday 17 November – FSPG AGM.

Please join us for our AGM which will be held upstairs in the Trinity Club. All members are welcome to attend. We will also be asking for committee nominations including for the co-Chairs and Secretary in advance.

Volunteers. Please contact us if you would like to join in and help behind the scenes or with our events or gardening club. Please follow this link. <http://southparkgardens.org/volunteer-form/>



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