

The South Parker

Friends of South Park Gardens

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



Registered Charity No: 1162459

Issue no 32 • Spring 2017

Garden Maintenance – Your Feedback Please

As reported last time, Merton Council has appointed private contractors, *Idverde*, to maintain South Park Gardens and other Merton parks. They started work 1 February, promising to prove themselves by maintaining the high standards required by the contract and engaging with the community. Let us know how you think they're doing so far by logging on to <http://southparkgardens.org/feedback-form/> Alternatively just put a note in our post box.

New bins!

The new bins have been ordered and should be installed in time for Easter. We have tried to address some of our issues with the current bins to stop litter being scattered far and wide while retaining a heritage look. As you can see



they will have lids but we have also requested that they only have one entrance to limit access for the foxes and squirrels. They will be the same colour as the current bins.

Please help protect our bulbs and plants!

The Bulb area in front of the Garden Pavilion is starting to look really pretty! Please remember to keep off this protected grassy area so everyone can enjoy the display. Similarly, can you help us by not climbing on shrubs and young trees as we are discovering lots of broken branches.

We have also been saddened that one of our flowerbeds was recently destroyed by vandalism. The Gardening Club team arrived to find all the wallflowers from one of the beds had been removed and dumped around the edges.



Gardening Club and Maintenance projects

Our Gardening Club currently meets on Sunday mornings. We have just been enjoying the crop of purple sprouting broccoli which we put in last summer and we are preparing the raised beds for this year's crops! We are also continuing our support of the Gardeners in the main Gardens. If you would like to join in, but Sundays are not the right day, do email us because it is all quite flexible. It

is a lovely sociable way of enjoying and contributing to the Gardens!

We may also need some help with maintenance projects and we would love to hear from people who like to wield a paint brush!

Wildlife corner

As you will know, bees are having a hard time, and without them, many flowers and food crops will struggle to survive. We are therefore trying to

encourage them by putting in more bee-friendly plants both in the Gardens and in the



raised beds behind the Pavilion. Bees like plants such as lavender, salvias, crocuses, mint, hardy geraniums and asters.

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REMINDER: Join FSPG in 2017

Don't forget to renew your membership (or join us for the first time) in 2017. Membership is only £5 per household and easy to do online. Membership runs from January to December.

Your support means we can do so much more to ensure the upkeep of our lovely Gardens. Remember members get priority booking and reduced prices for select events, such as the Fireworks. <http://www.southparkgardens.org/join-FSPG.html>

EVENTS 2017

Sunday 9 April from 3pm - Easter Egg Hunt

This popular event is aimed at children under 7. Tickets available on the day only.

Friday 30 June & 14 July from 2:30pm to 4:30pm - Over 60s Cream Teas

Local residents over 60 years old are invited to the Garden Room for a free cream tea.

Sunday 18 June – Summer Picnic

Once again, feel free to come along to enjoy a picnic with friends. This year we have joined up with The Great Get Together in honour of Jo Cox. We are delighted to say that we will be having live music. This is a free community event for everyone, young and old.

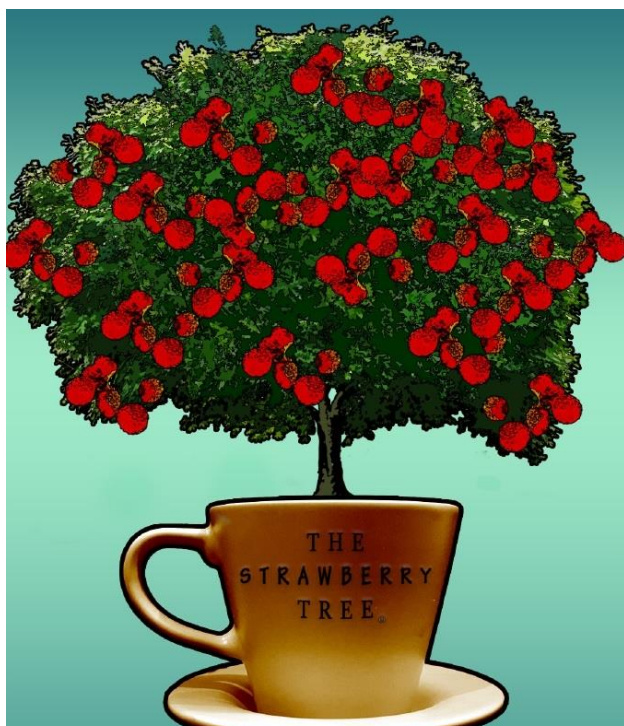
Come and join in the traditional races and tug of war and tuck into the yummy tea and cakes.

Saturday 24 June – Holy Trinity School Summer Fair

Contact hotsemail@gmail.com if you want to get involved.

Saturday 4 November 2017 – Fireworks

Our family-friendly event returns. To be in with a chance of getting a ticket for this sold-out event, please remember to join FSPG early in the New Year.



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