



## News from the Committee

A very wet autumn has brought many watery problems to the park, from Marnock Lake to Roundabout Woods. This reminds me that our Park exists because the Victorians tapped the local spring water and created reservoirs. When these became redundant, the area evolved into Grosvenor Recreation Grounds - thanks to Mayor John Stone-Wigg and designer Robert Marnock. For 2025 the friends committee are working on sharing more history through new park interpretation boards and a ten point trail on the website.

Meanwhile park maintenance remains the remit of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, assisted by Kent High Weald Partnership.

FoGH have held several successful events through the autumn, uncovering a wide range of fungi with Keith Palmer, and pond life with Martin Sutton. We also had some spooky Halloween Fun, and a lively fish and chips quiz night with our first ever tie breaker! Looking ahead we have Christmas carols with Create Choir on Sunday 8th December. In 2011 this was the first event FoGH ever hosted.

After 13 years on the committee, and 3 years as Chair, I am looking to step down at the AGM next spring. We have achieved some incredible things since our formation, but I feel it's time for some fresh ideas from a new leadership. We are also looking for a secretary as the incredibly efficient Richard Woodfield is standing down. We also say goodbye to Litter Picker and Gardening Champion Lynda Steers who is moving away from the area. It was Lynda who suggested we had second hand book sales, as she looked to declutter her house, proving that everyone can bring something different to the committee. I'd like to thank Lynda for catching up with park keeper Tony Cheeseman on her morning dog walks, and passing his news on to me.

If you are interested in joining us, on the committee or just as a volunteer, please get in touch. As the year ends, let's thank all the members who have worked hard behind the scenes this year and wish everyone Season's Greetings.

*Carolyn Gray/FoGH Chair - December 2024*

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## Some Upcoming Events

**Kent High Weald Volunteer Day: Woodland Management : Thu 30th January : 10:00 am - 3:00 pm : Hilbert Gates / The Oast**

Kent High Weald run regular volunteer days to help preserve the high standard of the park's natural resources.

**Orchard Activities: Pruning : Sun 2nd February : am & pm sessions : The Community Orchard**

FoGH volunteers will be working in the orchard to keep everything tidy. We will concentrate on pruning the trees at this event.

**Tunbridge Wells Lantern Parade : Sat 8th February : The Hub**

Not a FoGH event, but the annual lantern parade now finishes in the park.

Participants gather in Calverley Precinct and will start to walk at around dusk. The Parade will process down Camden Road, Albion Road, Auckland Road and finish in the park.

**AGM + Talk : Thu 27th March : 6.30 pm : The Hub**

Join us for our annual AGM. With talk by Jeremy Kimmel on the history of beer.

**FoGH Dog Show : Sat 26th April : 10:00 am - 12.00 pm : Lower Football Pitch / Event Field**

Join us for our occasional celebration of all things canine!

**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

Event details are provisional: date and times can change, events might be cancelled.

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