

Friends of Twickenham Green



An open society of local residents and community working towards a common goal: to protect the charm and integrity of one of West London's most-treasured public spaces.

Newsletter, July 2019

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Our website

<https://e-voice.org.uk/twickenhamgreen/>

Contact Us

friendsoftwickenhamgreen@gmail.com



Chair's welcome

Since the last newsletter, 24 members attended our June meeting with a talk on Turner's House in Twickenham from one of our members. It was lovely to see so many of you there.

We have also been busy with both the HANDS fair, making a profit of £194 and the Friends of Twickenham Green fete which netted a profit of £698. Many thanks to everyone who worked so hard in advance and on the day on both occasions. We are always keen to improve our events and would welcome any feedback and suggestions, either at our next meeting or via email via the address given opposite if you are unable to attend.

We are pleased that Twickenham Green has once again been awarded Green Flag status. The award measures a whole range of aspects associated with the management of parks including facilities, maintenance and community engagement (although see Howard's comments below).

Our next members' meeting is our AGM on **Tuesday 2nd September, 8.00 pm in the cricket pavilion**. I look forward to welcoming you there.

Best wishes
Helen Williams

What's new

Green update by Howard Roberts, Environment Officer

A member of the Friends, who has lived locally for more than thirty years, recently commented that the Green is currently looking the best it has ever been. Whilst such observations are cheerfully appreciated, first impressions can be deceptive. The consequences of its popularity mean that more people are using The Green. More events want to be located here. More fitness groups value the location for exercise. But what this means is more compaction, and struggling grass.



Who we are

Chair - Helen Williams

Vice Chair - Steve Guichard

Secretary - Pam McMillan

Treasurer - Nicky Rayner

Environment Officer - Howard Roberts

Membership Officer - Carmelle Jaitly

Web editor - Carmelle Jaitly

We recently participated in a close inspection of the grass, along with Parks, the Cricket Club, and local councillors. At the cricket end, the outfield is in a poor state, which impacts directly on the cricket club, who are assessed on the state of their pitch. At the events end (or Arthurs end as we know it), the situation is arguably worse. This is the smaller of the two parts of The Green, but now has to regularly contend with fetes from both our own organisation and the Jack and Jill School. Every September, the circus arrives for its annual visit. The Green also hosts the Hands Fair (that does such sterling work for local charities), and now every Christmas, a commercial event involving yet more heavy vehicles on The Green. Added to this we now have four different fitness groups, over seven sessions in a week, adding to the footprint. Some days it might seem that we have run out of space for dog walkers and the families who just need to stretch out.

It could be that we are approaching a time when we need to take a closer look at how The Green is used. With this in mind we are working closely with Parks, councillors and stakeholder groups, to take a serious look at the usage of our precious open space. We'll keep you posted and will be looking to hear your views in the near future.

On a different note, two of our London Plane saplings are struggling. Our volunteer waterers keep us informed of the progress of their tress, and these two may need replacing. We are particularly fortunate to have a Parks Tree Officer, Jane Crowther, who keeps close contact with The Friends, and updates us on the health of our trees. She is monitoring our young trees, and again, we will keep you informed of their progress.

Finally, do enjoy our lovely Green, make the most of the current good weather to take a walk around and enjoy the view.

Membership

We will be looking for some **new committee members from September**. If you would like to find out more about becoming a committee member, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Contact us via the email address opposite and we would be happy to talk to you about what it entails.

Dates for your diary

Next members' meeting: **AGM 2nd September, 8.00 p.m.** in the cricket pavilion, Twickenham Green.