



# 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, October 2020

Volume 2, Number 4

## In this issue

- **Chair's welcome**
- **Green update**
- **Dates for your diary**

## Our website

<https://fotg.uk>

## Contact Us

 [friends@fotg.uk](mailto:friends@fotg.uk)

 Facebook

 Twitter @fotg2014



## Chair's welcome

Firstly may I say that I feel proud and privileged to have been elected Chair and I should like to thank Helen Williams for the superb job she has done as Chair over the last two years.

If I could give a bit of background about myself. My working career was in travel related booking and pricing systems. With respect to community activity I have been a member of the Friends for many years and also a member of the Executive. I have been a governor of Richmond upon Thames College, Chair of governors at Orleans Park School and a local councillor. I was also a founder member of Friends of River Crane Environment (FORCE).

With respect to matters more closely related to The Green: and the national covid situation in mind, Park Events have informed us that all organised events on The Green are still suspended until further notice. Future planning for our annual fete is thus on hold. As this is written, the current restrictions on the Green are that the rule of six still applies, unless it is an organised, and Parks sanctioned, fitness activity.

Had things been different this year, we would have run our annual fete, for this first time in partnership with a local school. Hopefully this project can be resurrected next year. Whilst we did get to have our bird and bat boxes put up, the evening bat and tree walks could sadly not go ahead. Again, let us see what we can do next year. For all the negatives, The Green has served our local community well this year, and been a precious resource in a time of crisis.

At the time of writing it would appear unlikely that we can hold our annual Christmas party, given the current rules on social distancing. We shall of course be carefully monitoring the situation.

Very best regards and warmest wishes,

David Trigg  
*Chair, Friends of Twickenham Green*

## Who we are:

Chair - David Trigg

Vice Chair - Steve Guichard

Secretary - Pam McMillan

Treasurer - Nicky Rayner

Environment Officer - Howard Roberts

Membership Officer - David Vaughan

Web editor/social media - Peter Thomsen

---

## Green update

As the trees turn from green to brown, it is clear that summer is making way for autumn on The Green.

After a prolonged period of heavy use this year, The Green could definitely do with some care and attention.

- All areas of the grass are in need of remedial work, to reduce compaction and encourage fresh growth.
- Compaction, from such heavy recent use, becomes evident whenever it rains, and Twickenham Green turns into Lake Twickenham, as there is so little drainage.
- The issue has been given attention by local councillors, and we even received a visit from council leader Gareth Roberts, so he could see for himself. As a consequence, Parks have mapped out an ambitious plan to roll out over several months, to verti-drain and over-seed, and also to fertilise the area.
- The Friends and some sympathetic councillors, would have liked to have seen a temporary fencing off of the Events/Arthurs end, to give the grass a longer time to recover, but this is now appearing unlikely.

We are also looking at planting for new trees starting in November. The covid crisis put many of Park's operations on hold, but it does now appear that we will see replacement trees to fill in the gaps, with luck before the end of the year. Parks are keen to try again with Horse Chestnut saplings.

Stay safe and keep enjoying The Green.

Howard Roberts

*Environment Officer, Friends of Twickenham Green*

---

## Dates for your diary

Friends' events: All events currently on hold.

We do publish an events calendar on our website. <https://fotg.uk/calendar/>