



# 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, February 2021

Volume 3, Number 1

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## Our website

<https://fotg.uk>

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## Chair's welcome

Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2021. May I say that I hope you had a good Christmas and wish you all the very best for the New Year.

We have got through the 'longest month' as it is being termed with some degree of frequency in the media. I hope that it wasn't too arduous. As you will see from Howard's report below we, and the Council's Parks Department have been active even under the restrictions of lockdown.

That age-old favourite of the British, the weather, certainly has been changeable. It was great to see families enjoying the snow on The Green and there certainly were some creative snowmen!

As a committee we are continuing to meet via Zoom\* and have been working to ensure The Green is a great facility for us all and we have been proactive in progressing with the defibrillator - see below.

Let us look forward to some brighter weather and a speedy return to more normal activities on The Green.

Very best regards

David Trigg  
*Chair, Friends of Twickenham Green*

\*Who had heard of that this time last year?

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## Green update

Who would have thought how much could have changed since last January?

On the plus side, The Green has been an invaluable resource since the outbreak of the pandemic, giving such a useful open space for local people. I was particularly touched to see The Green on Christmas Day, and seeing socially distanced festive

## 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

greetings, when so many could not meet with others in their homes. The sudden snowfall brought pleasure to many families, on the Sunday that Twickenham Green became Twickenham White.

The fabric of The Green, has been undergoing maintenance despite the current circumstances, and in the Autumn, Parks undertook an extensive re-seeding and aeration programme to help to restore the grass. Further work to reduce compaction will take place in the Spring.

The shrubbery behind the pavilion is not currently in a good state. Sadly, an unfortunate minority insist on using the recycling area as a rubbish dump, such that the overflow has now spread across the rose beds. We are working closely with the council to address this problem. New locks have been fitted to the bins, and the contractors kindly cleared the shrubbery of litter.

On a cold wet pandemic day in Twickenham, at least there was something good to report; young horse chestnut saplings being planted on Twickenham Green. We had originally intended to have our own volunteers assist the contractors, but current lock down restrictions, understandably ruled this out. Thanks to Parks for getting these replacement young trees in, and also to the contractors, KPS, for working in the rain. Now these have been planted, the next phase is to aerate around some of the other trees, to reduce compaction and assist growth.

Please keep an eye on local authority guidelines about permitted activity on The Green, and continue to enjoy our precious open space at this difficult time. Stay safe and look after yourselves.

Howard Roberts, Environment Officer

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## Defibrillator campaign

The Executive Committee decided at its meeting last November to purchase a public access defibrillator (PAD) to be sited at the Sainsbury's store on the Green - funded by donations from members and the local community.



We are pleased to report that thanks to a fantastic response to our appeal the defibrillator has now been purchased, installed in Sainsbury's on The Green and is registered with the London Ambulance Service.

The Friends of Twickenham Green would like to place on record it's sincere thanks to all those that made donations and to the local team at Sainsbury's for their help and support in bringing this project to a successful conclusion.

We believe that with the high number of people using the Green particularly in the Summer months having access to a defibrillator in an emergency could be a life saver.

*Currently less than 1 in 10 people survive an out of hospital cardiac arrest in the UK and for every minute that someone is in cardiac arrest without access to CPR or a defibrillator their chance of survival drops by up to 10%.*

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## Dates for your diary

Friends' events: All events remain on hold.

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