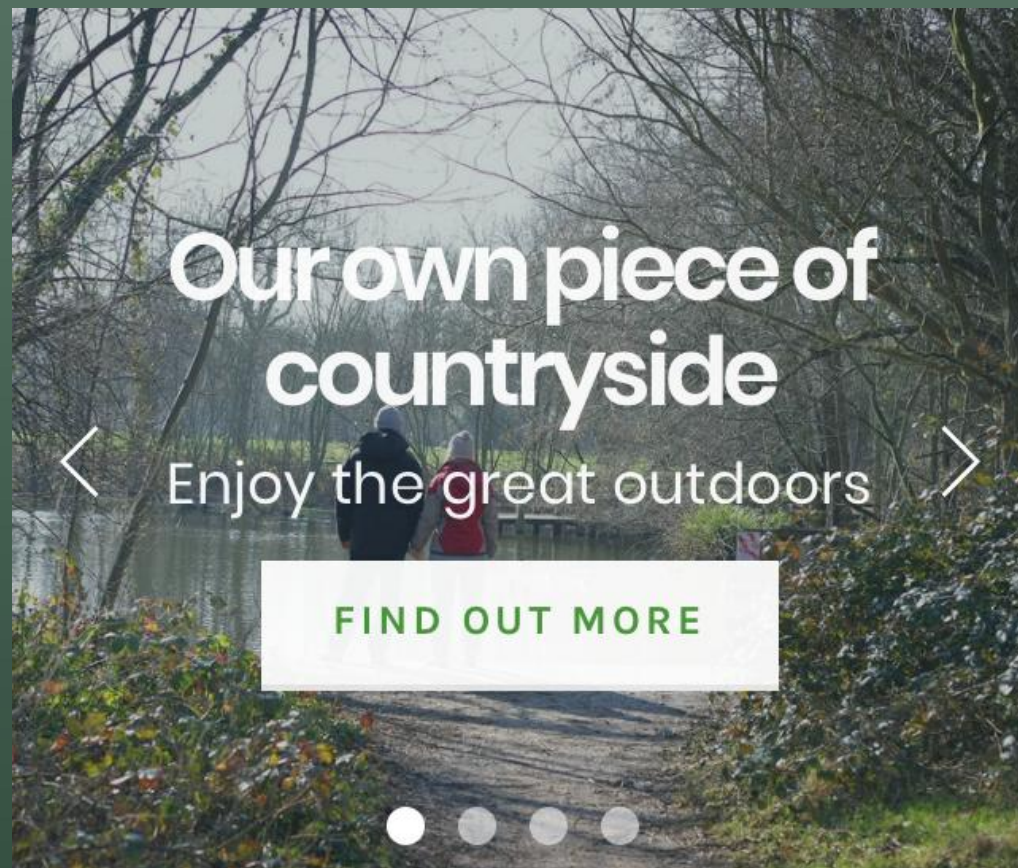


2nd Annual General Meeting

13 August 2020

THE FRIENDS OF
WANDSWORTH
—COMMON—



Agenda



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- Guest speaker **Ian Mitchell MD, Enable Leisure & Culture**
- Chairs', Treasurer's and Heritage Group reports
- Elections to the committee
- Special resolution



Guest Speaker



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Ian Mitchell MD, Enable Leisure & Culture

New management contract won & began April 1st



Chair's Report

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-COMMON-

Julia Bott and Richard Fox
Co-Chairs

- Mission statement
- Our second year
- Future plans & projects



Mission statement (summary)

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- ▶ To engage the community in the protection, conservation and enhancement of the Common, and its flora and fauna, recognising its natural beauty and ecological importance, and its sense of countryside



- ▶ In so doing, to foster a sense of community, mutual respect and understanding among different users



Our second year

- Membership & reach
- Events & activities
- Priority projects
- Future plans



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Membership and Reach

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- **Membership**

- now around 475
- 80 new members this year – 50 since lockdown
- **Highly loyal** - 97% renewal rate
- Around half have attended at least one event

- **Other reach:**

- 350 people on our non-member '**notify me**' list for info
- **Twitter & Instagram** followers have doubled: **>1,000 each**
- Facebook members >100 but still relatively small
- Increasing engagement with other groups eg recent joint litter/recyclables awareness event with Plogolution, supported by Beautify Balham, Putney Rotary, Tooting Litter etc

THE
FRIENDS
NOW HAS A REACH
WELL OVER 2,000
PEOPLE



Joint Working

Close working with MAC/Enable/WBC on:

- New Management & Maintenance Plan (MMP) for the Common
- (MAC main role is to monitor and advise on MMP delivery)
- Improved signage strategies for safe social distancing & littering since lockdown
- Public toilet upgrade – refurb and accessible
- Planning issues e.g. Jaggard Way Bellevue/Trinity Rd Jct.
- Future of Neal's Lodge



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Joint events and activities
for Love Parks Wandsworth



Joint Covid compliant
litter picks



Working with **Bolingbroke Bowls Club & AllStar Tennis** to reinvigorate interest in bowls to preserve the beautiful green (*last surviving Wandsworth public green!*)

What to do if you spot a problem



or wish to comment on the management or
maintenance of the Common

E-mails :

parks @enablelc.org

trees @enablelc.org

biodiversity@enablelc.org

Parks Police 07500 959442

parkspolice@wandsworth.gov.uk



Events and activities

- Walks & Talks programme

- Trees, bees, birds, bats, butterflies, biodiversity (Valerie Selby, Enable Love Parks), flies, flowers, fungi, swans
- Daniel Raven-Ellison (London National Park City / rewilding)
- Heritage – walks, Craig telescope, history of WC in maps

- Virtual talks since lockdown

- Biodiversity management (Annabel Osborn, Enable)
- The environment and climate change (Sally Uren FFTF)
- Butterflies (Simon Saville, Butterfly Conservation)

- Creation of nature leaflets

- Butterflies- thanks to Ian Cunningham, WC Butterfly recorder
- Wildflowers - thanks to Roy Vickery, South London Botanical Institute
- Children's nature quiz - thanks to Sarah Halonen (returned to Canada)
- Tree trail leaflet coming soon - thanks to Sarah Webley, SLBI



- Self-guided tree trail using TiCL app



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Active volunteers

Swan & duck food



- An educational project delivering a solid £2k annual income stream for FOWC
- A pool of 30 volunteers bag up over 7,000 bags a year, sold via Skylark
- Since COVID, individuals bag up at home



Litter picking



- A pool of 40 volunteers of all ages met monthly pre-lockdown
- Post lockdown, now weekly with the help of Annabel Osborne, Enable
- Equipment funded by Source Bulk Foods, Skylark Café & a small grant

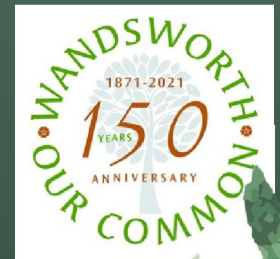
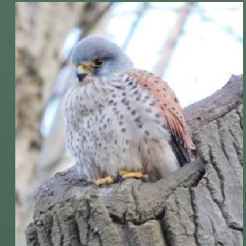


Plans for the future

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Further user information and engagement

- Continue virtual talks until indoor groups possible
- Reinstate regular small group walks: *birds in Aug, bats in Sept, trees?*
- **Outreach to schools** (keen to have a lead for this)
- Continue to build on **fruitful collaboration** with Enable/WBC/other organisations
- Celebration of **Love Parks Wandsworth**
- Continue to support renewal of interest in **bowls** (matches and rentals)
- **Heritage events** – Wandsworth Heritage Festival & WC 150 theme
- Advance our **priority projects**



Priority projects

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- **Enhancement projects** need to be agreed with Enable/MAC & be appropriate to aims of MMP
- **Priority projects** would each exhaust our reserves, so fundraising will be needed!

Priority projects include:

- Nature and heritage information boards



- **HERITAGE.....**

- Reinstallation of drinking fountain(s)



- **Neal's Lodge Community Project** in a league of its own. Steering Group: MAC, WBC, Enable, FoWC
Public consultation coming (delayed by lockdown)

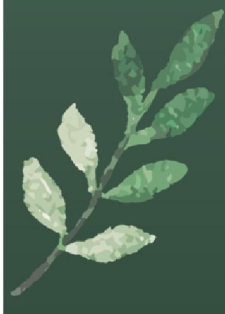
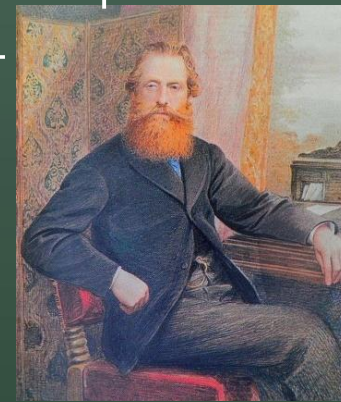
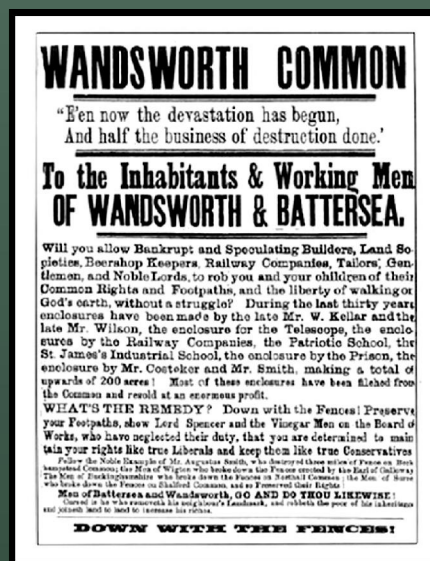


WC 150 Anniversary



July 2021 marks the 150th Anniversary of the 'Saving of Wandsworth Common'

- The Common more than halved in size in the century up to 1870 with enclosures, sales & development
- It took a campaign of mass demonstrations & legal challenges, led by John Buckmaster, to call a halt
- 'Down with the Fences' they cried....
- Until the Common was transferred from Earl Spencer into public ownership in the WC Act of July 1871

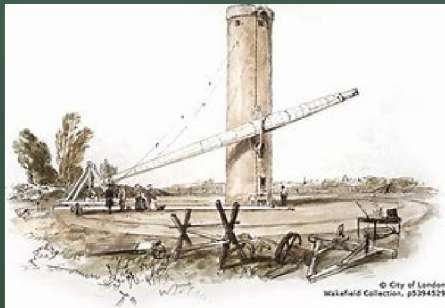


Thanks to Philip Boys

WC 150 Anniversary

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A big programme of
celebration is planned



- Our **Heritage group** is doing a fantastic job, inspired by local historian Philip Boys
- A **book** will tell the fascinating history of the Common in 150 people/places/objects - fossil hunters, maps, famous residents, rats!!, gypsies, buildings, the 'Scope' etc....
 - The planting of **150 trees**
 - Blue and green **heritage plaques** to commemorate key figures
 - Walks, talks and events
 - A big **PARTY** of course, next July



WC 150 Anniversary

THE FRIENDS OF
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-COMMON-

Can you help?



We need volunteers.....

- to plan, research, create, design, communicate
- ...to help deliver our plans
- to run events
- to engage local groups: schools, community groups, churches, businesses etc

We'll need funding and sponsorship



Treasurer's report (summary)

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Receipts & payments for the year to end March £	2020	2019
Receipts (net)	6,697	5,410
subscriptions & donations	4,059	3,067
swan & duck food	2,203	1,953
other (maps, events etc)	435	390
Expenses	2,065	1,314
website	490	490
promotional expenses (leaflets, business cards/stickers)	532	478
event costs (speaker fees, litter pick kit, AGM etc)	927	279
insurance	116	67
Income less expenses	4,631	4,095
Bank balance end March	8,727	4,095



**George
Meakin**



Election of Committee Members

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Sue Delafons retired on 1st May on moving away from the area
David Coleman is to retire as Secretary w.e.f. end of this AGM
Remaining Committee members:

Julia Bott (Chair), Richard Fox (Co-Chair), George Meakin (Treasurer), Lisa Kanter, Anne Lambert, Charlie Oppenheim, Rachel Stevenson

Constitution provides for
3 officer posts (Chair, Treasurer, Secretary) plus 3 to 8 other members
retirement by rotation of one third of the non-officer Committee members



Election of Committee Members

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Charlie Oppenheim and **Lisa Kanter** retire from the Committee by rotation but each have agreed to stand for re-election



Gabriela Ducat has put herself forward for election
As there are less than 8 non-officer Friends seeking election, the resolution proposed (to be passed by a majority of the Friends present at this meeting) is:



Not to fill a vacancy in relation to Charlie and Lisa, who have retired by rotation, such that they are both deemed re-elected w.e.f. the end of the AGM

To **elect Gabriela Ducat as a member of the Committee** w.e.f. the end of the AGM



Special Resolutions



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The pandemic has meant that it has not been possible to follow the Constitution to the letter. Accordingly it is proposed as special resolutions (to be passed by at least 75% of Friends present at this meeting) to ratify:

the holding of this AGM on 13th August and not 10th August, which was the latest date for holding the meeting under article 33 of the Constitution
any other breaches of the Constitution caused by the holding of this meeting by Zoom and not by a face to face meeting



Huge thanks to:



THE FRIENDS OF
WANDSWORTH
-COMMON-

Our Committee

Retiring officers

Our Heritage Group

Our volunteers

Our members

The MAC

Enable

WBC Officers

Local Councillors



Thank you!
Any Questions?

www.wandsworthcommon.org
friends@wandsworthcommon.org

