

FRIENDS OF CANNIZARO PARK

England & Wales · Charity number 1160982

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2015-03-19

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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35 High Street
Wimbledon Village
London
SW19 5BY

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Email secretary@cannizaropark.com

Website <http://www.cannizaropark.com>

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS ARE:(A) TO CONSERVE AND IMPROVE CANNIZARO PARK LOCATED IN WIMBLEDON, LONDON SW19 ('THE PARK') AS A PLACE OF HISTORIC AND ECOLOGICAL INTEREST AND BEAUTY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF MERTON AND THE BROADER COMMUNITY OF LONDON AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES; (B) TO DO ALL SUCH THINGS AS SHALL BE CONDUCIVE TO THE ATTAINMENT OF THE ABOVE OBJECT INCLUDING: PROMOTING, SUPPORTING AND ASSISTING IN THE (I) CONTINUATION OF THE PARK'S STATUS AS A GRADE II LISTED GARDEN; (II) ENHANCEMENT, MAINTENANCE AND UPKEEP OF THE PARK BY THE LONDON BOROUGH OF MERTON.

Activities: The Friends of Cannizaro Park was founded in 1997 and works with Merton Council to protect this 300 year old Grade II* listed garden. The activities of the Friends include a volunteer group to undertake garden maintenance; funding of and fund-raising for planting and restoration; providing information on the park and organizing guided walks for the public.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Environment/conservation/heritage, Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Merton

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£39,175	£27,282	-	-
2024-03-31	£24,331	£38,958	-	-
2023-03-31	£42,809	£25,269	-	-
2022-03-31	£36,654	£31,696	-	-
2021-03-31	£32,104	£26,018	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Catherine Nelson	Chair	2019-05-12
ANNE PEACOCK		2015-03-19
CAROLINE NEWSHOLME		2019-04-01
Elizabeth Rink		2019-10-13
Jane Watkins		2022-02-21
Katrine Weig		2025-06-15
Liza Llewellyn		2021-06-28
Samantha Ellis		2024-05-19
Simon Ingall		2019-01-28

FRIENDS OF CANNIZARO PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1160982

Accounts

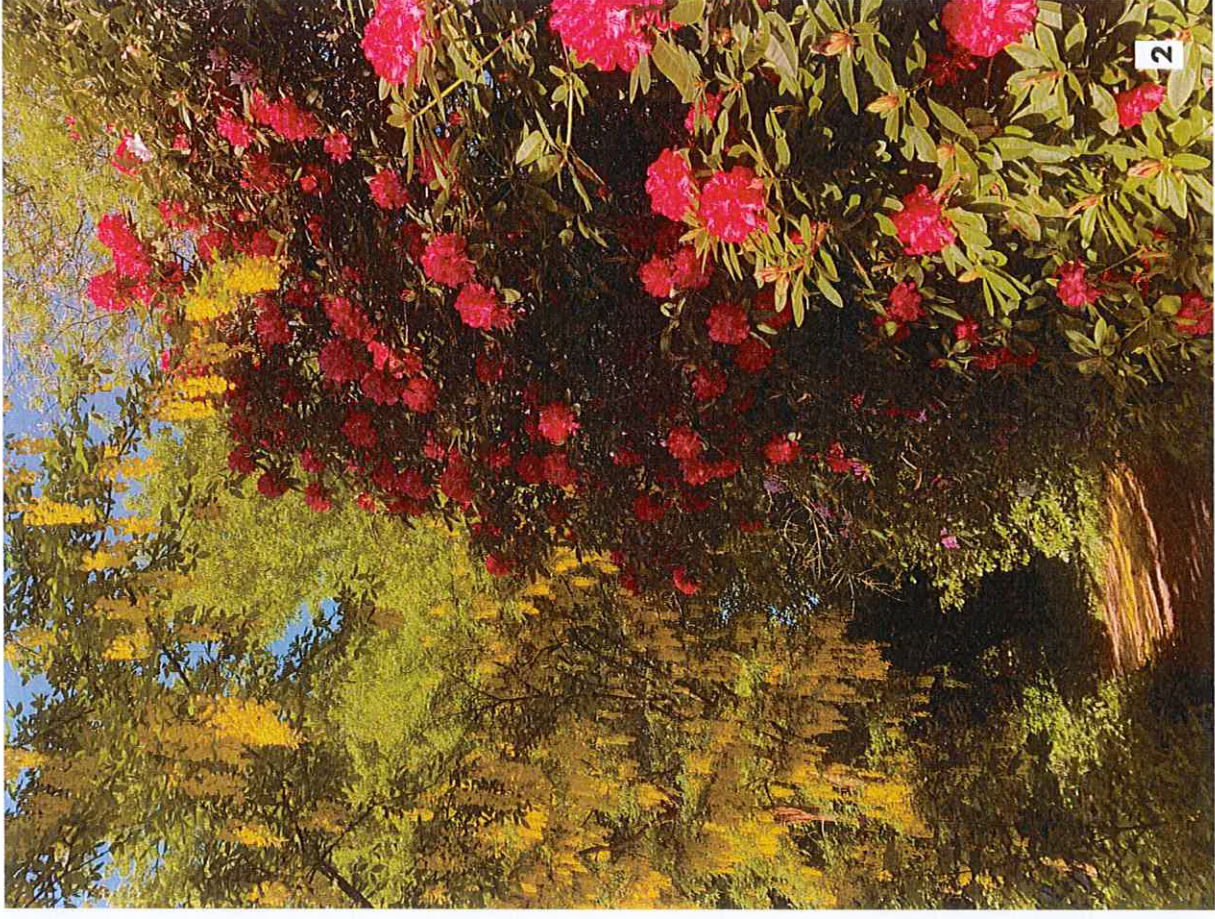


THE FRIENDS OF CANNIZARO PARK

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR

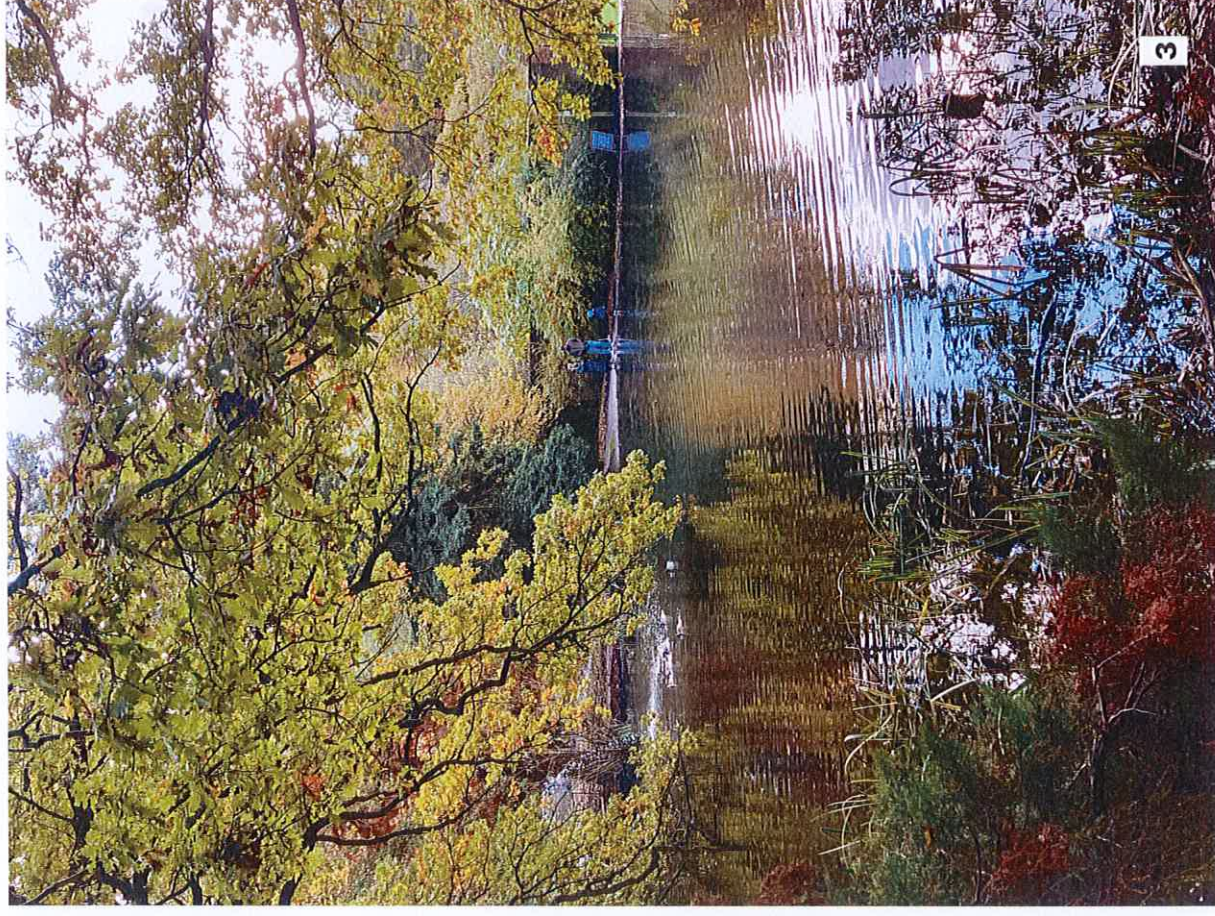
2024/25 has seen The Friends of Cannizaro Park come of age as a charity.

Thanks to the competence and commitment of experienced trustees and volunteers, we are tackling major renovation projects right across the park, from the Pond and Bog Garden to the redevelopment of the Aviary site, not forgetting a major re-design of the Sunken Garden. It continues the significant transformations we have accomplished in the past five years: something I see as “generational change” for Cannizaro Park.

Our focus is always on working in partnership with colleagues in Merton Council and with park visitors - and on ensuring projects are delivered well. This means taking our time where we need to ensure that complex initiatives are properly prepared and that volunteer work is sustainable. Without any paid administrative support, our trustee team work incredibly hard to deliver high quality, high scope projects.

I am deeply proud of the work each and every member of our team contributes, to make this wonderful Grade II* listed park a beautiful and inspiring space for our local community - and indeed, for visitors from farther afield attracted by our major tree collection. As we approach our 80th birthday as a public park in 2029, we hope visitors will appreciate the new improvements planned for 2025/26 and welcome the chance to support small fundraising opportunities to facilitate these changes.

CATHERINE NELSON



WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

Founded in 1997, The Friends of Cannizaro Park (“FoCP”) is a charity(*) established both to conserve and improve the horticulture and historical structures of this Grade II* listed Wimbledon park.

We have translated this aim into two practical objectives:

- Supporting park-owner Merton Council to maintain and renew the park landscape
- Engaging with park visitors to enhance their enjoyment and appreciation of the park.

*CHARITY NUMBER 1160982



3450 Gardening Volunteer Hours (or 431 Volunteer Days!), to maintain and renovate park landscape

946 Instagram posts to inform followers of latest Cannizaro nature news and events

Won final approval from Environment Agency for **£130,000** Pond and Bog Garden grant

11 new specialist trees planted to continue Cannizaro's status as an arboreal park

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

Over **10,000** items collected by Litter Volunteers, ranging from drinks cans to dog poo, tennis balls and a GCSE chemistry test paper

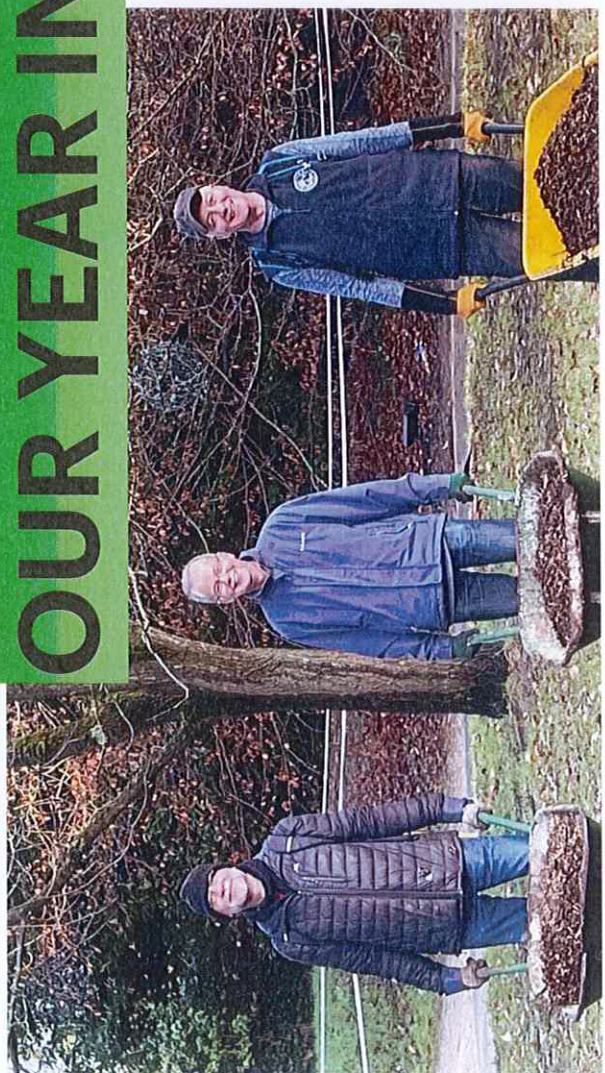
24 Walks each week from our Dog Champion Team, to engage with park visitors on dog matters in the park

Capacity audience of **120** who loved Gardening Question Time expert Matthew Pottage's colourful and iconoclastic talk



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OUR YEAR IN PICTURES



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN PARK LANDSCAPE 24/25

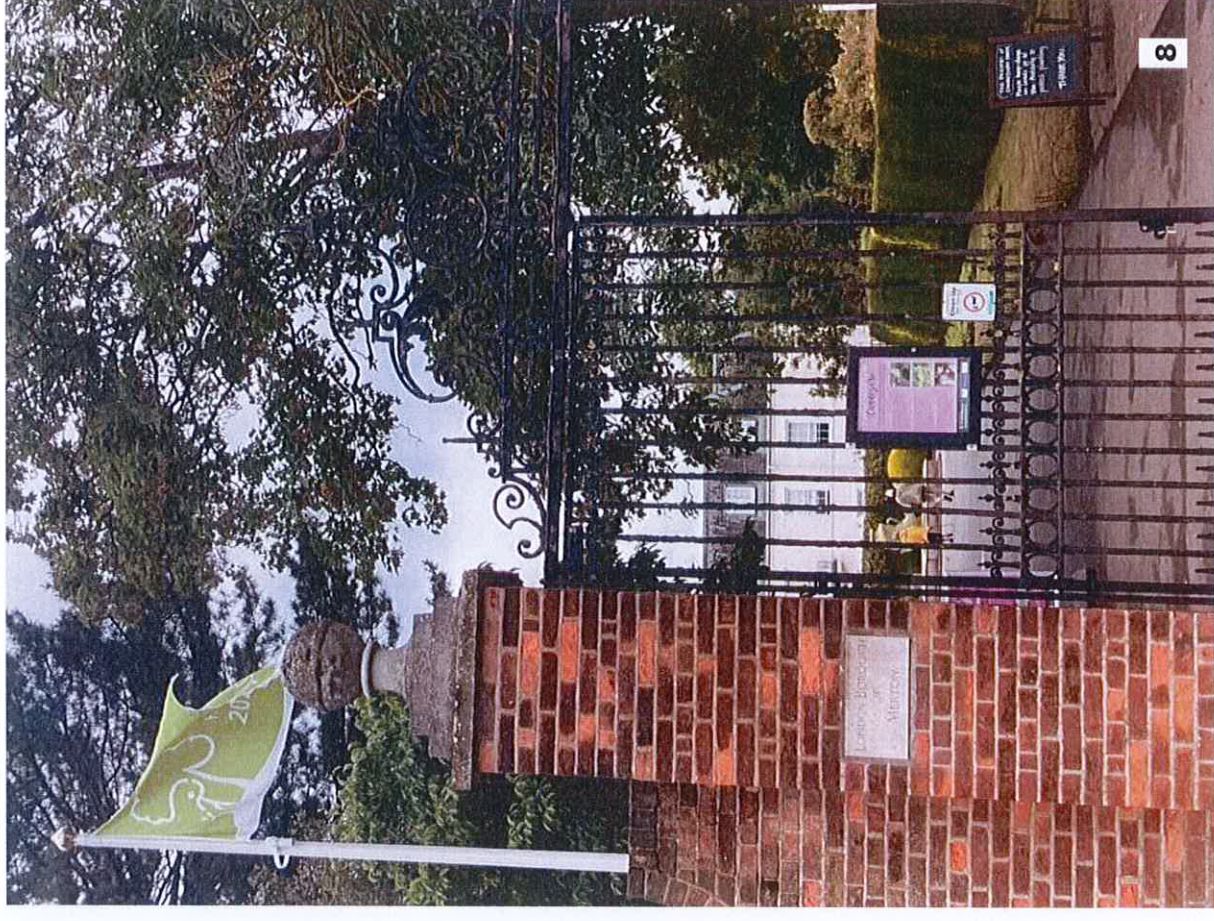
- Replacement of 200 metre failed Pond-to-Cascade drainage pipework (£30,000 CIL grant won 23/24), as part of long-term plan to reduce flooding
- Secured provision of smart new rear gates
- Developed detailed specification and final approved submission for £130,000 renovation of Pond and Bog Garden, supported by Environment Agency's Natural Flood Management Programme (implementation summer 2025)
- Renewed planting in all key feature beds, from Front Entrance to Rose Garden, Rhododendron Beds to Herb Garden and Hotel Bed



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN PARK LANDSCAPE 24/25

CONTINUED

- Agreed a partnership and brief with Landform UK, to create a sustainable planting design for the Sunken Garden (implementation in stages 2025-2028)
- Advanced re-development of the Aviary site, appointing architects Neighbourhood Studio and developing initial designs
- Contributed 3450 hours of varied park maintenance work through the year, through an active and able volunteer gardening team (equalling paid park staffing hours)
- Won second successive Green Flag award, demonstrating continued operation to high national standards of park management



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN VISITOR ENGAGEMENT 24/25

- Maintained active communications programme of monthly e-newsletters and posters, Instagram feed (3126 followers, + 7% vs 23/24) and website
- Ran sold-out nature-focussed events, including 8 expert guided walks (trees, herbal medicine and forest bathing), sold-out speaker meeting with Royal Parks' Horticulture lead Matt Pottage, and Cannizaro Park-focussed walks with Wimbledon Common & Village Walk & Talk group
- Supported pro-social dog behaviours through instigation of Cannizaro Canine Code and active liaison with visitors by new Dog Champion Team



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN VISITOR ENGAGEMENT 24/25

CONTINUED

- Organised second successful year of community Art in the Aviary programme, with nature-inspired exhibits from local schools, artists and community organisations (*)
- Increased information available on Cannizaro's outstanding tree collection, with more QR codes on trees and a new self-guided conifer tree walk



* (KEVIN HERLIHY, WIMBLEDON ART STUDIOS; KINGS COLLEGE SCHOOL & PARTNERSHIP SCHOOLS; ACVA CANNIZARO PARK STUDIOS; WORKSHOP 305)

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS



Cannizaro wins Assinda Cup for Best Novice Bloom at Camellia Competition, RHS Wisley



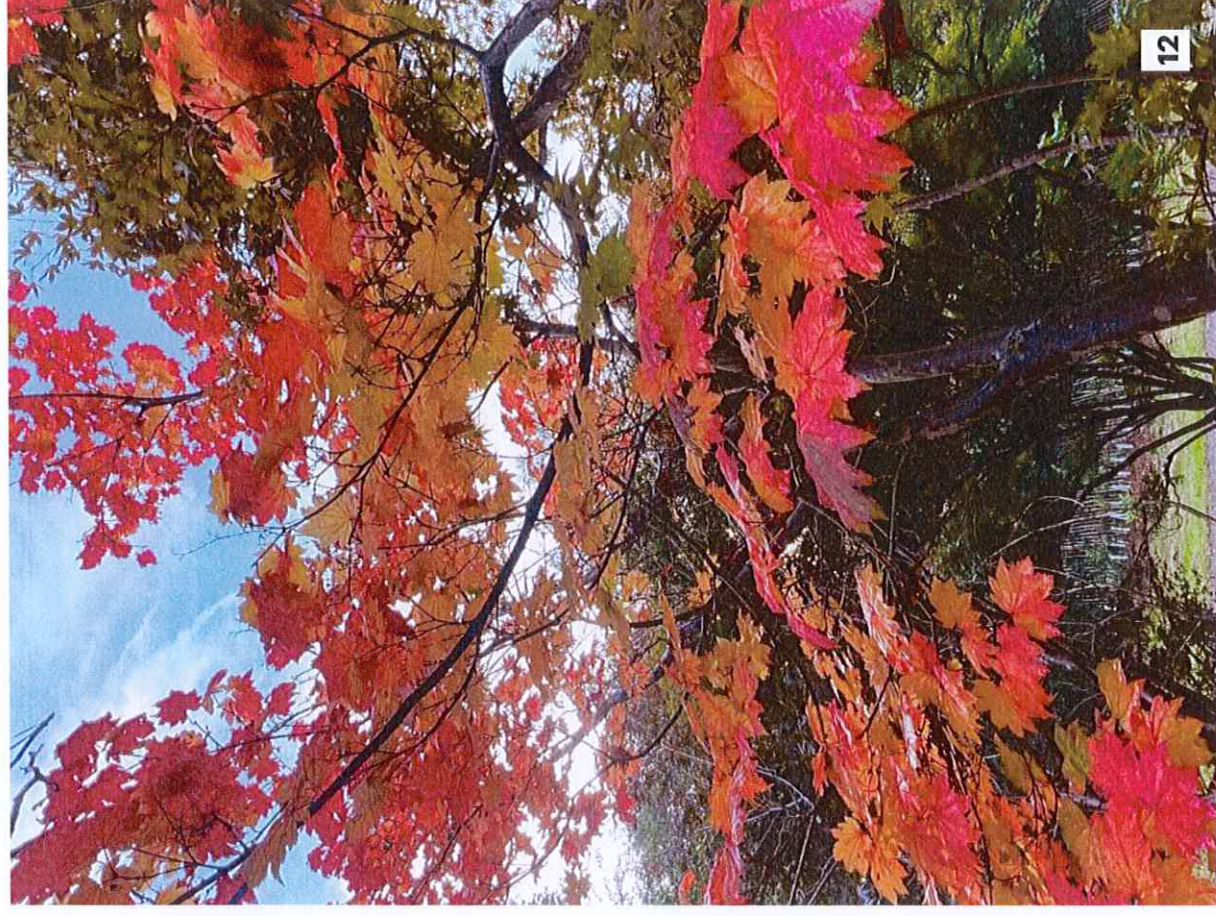
FoCP wins Environmental Volunteer Team 2024 in Merton Civic Pride Volunteer Awards



Donor makes substantial contribution to renovate Millennium Fountain

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

- FoCP funds increased +30% vs 2023/24 to £51,126, after falling a similar % in the previous year
- These movements largely reflect the timing of expenditure on major projects, such as the delayed implementation of the Aviary site redevelopment
- Donations and grants received totalled £26,000, and our events programmes made a surplus of £4,000
- Over £6,000 was spent on planting and maintenance activities; £6,000 on the Pond Redevelopment Project and £8,000 accrued for the Fountain Renovation
- Trustees revised the reserves policy to a target sum of £15,000-£20,000 (ensuring adequate funds for developing major projects, and covering ongoing annual expenditure in case of a significant reduction in income) and agreed a plan to co-fund priority park works with Merton Council, to reduce prudently the current balance of funds within 2-3 years
- Detailed modelling of 2025-27 funding indicates planned future activity is feasible



GOVERNANCE

Trustees

- Chair: Catherine Nelson
- Treasurer: Simon Ingall
- Secretary: Katie Weig (acting as Secretary from January 2025 and co-opted as Trustee on 19 May 2025)
- Volunteers: Anne Peacock
- Horticulture: Jane Watkins
- Development: Anna Watkin
- Events: Liza Llewellyn
- Communications: Cathy Wiley
- Membership: Sam Pedder
- Legal: Caroline Newsholme
- Projects: Pit Rink (formerly Secretary until January 2025)



The purposes and administration of the FoCP, which is an unincorporated association, are regulated by its Constitution filed with the Charity Commission. The current version was adopted in 2021.

The FoCP is managed by trustees, with a minimum of three and a maximum of eleven. Trustees are appointed based on their interest in the FoCPs activities and their specific skills and ability to contribute. Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers and duties.

The trustees are required to manage the FoCP in accordance with its Constitution and to maintain appropriate books and records in order to comply with the Charities Act 2011.

They are responsible for safeguarding the FoCP's assets and therefore for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and irregularities. They are also responsible for the preparation of an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and accounting requirements.

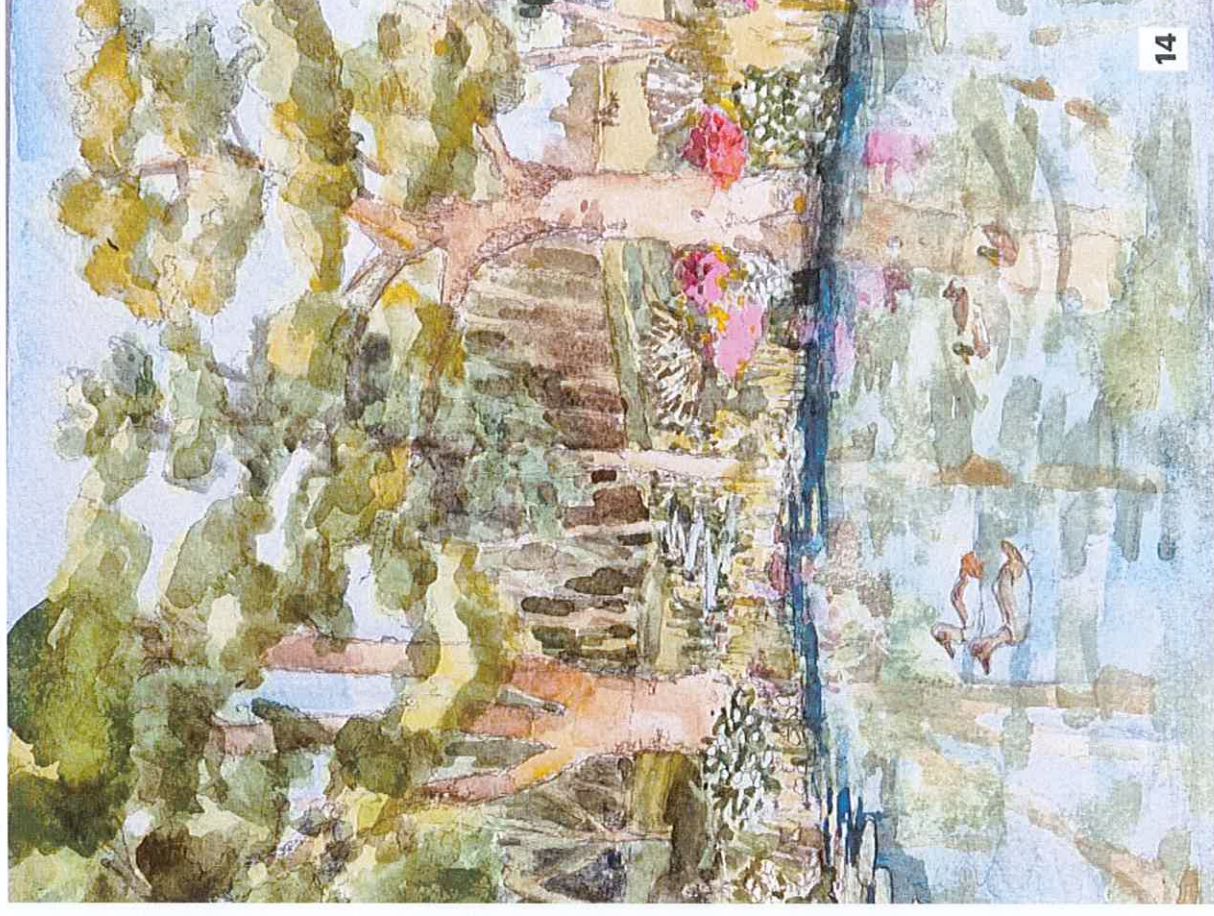
The Friends of Cannizaro Park: % 35 High Street, Wimbledon, London SW19 5BY; www.cannizaropark.com

KEY NEW PROJECTS

25/26

- Implementation of Pond and Bog Garden renovation*, bringing natural flood management and biodiversity improvements
- Creation of detailed plans, including public information meeting, for re-development of Aviary site
- Overhauling of appearance and functioning of much-valued public toilet block

* SUPPORTED BY GRANT FROM ENVIRONMENT AGENCY NATURAL FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME



KEY NEW PROJECTS

25/26

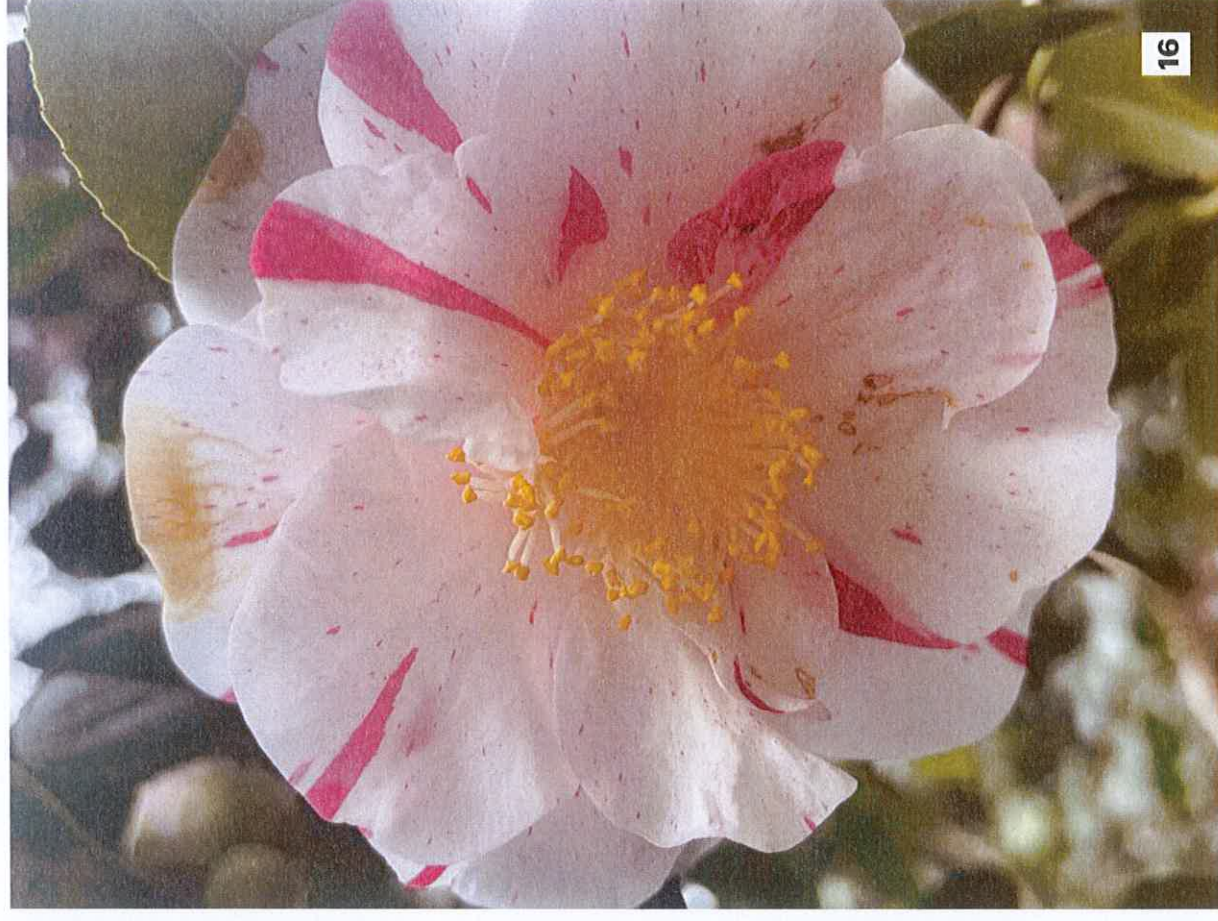
CONTINUED

- Transformation of Front Entrance “portal”, including re-conditioning entrance gates, repairing paving and new park signage
- Initiation of planting work to create visually impactful and environmentally beneficial Sunken Garden area
- Renovation of the Millennium Fountain



HUGE THANKS TO...

- **Our 3 Park Partners: Hotel du Vin, for support with amenities and also Sunken Garden planting; Landform UK, for landscape design expertise; Robert Holmes & Company, for providing core funding for park renewal work**
- **Den Anderson, for organising the wonderful annual fundraising bridge event**
- **Katie Preston and Katherine Rowe of the Commonworks Gallery, for artistic assistance of many kinds**
- **Jonie Lordache of The Bright Pink Agency, for keeping our website up and running**



HUGETHANKS TO...

CONTINUED

- Our incredible, enthusiastic and committed volunteers, who work in the gardening team, communications programme, and Dog Champion and park projects teams
- The Environment Agency Natural Flood Management Programme, for final approval of the £130,000 Pond Area redevelopment
- Workshop 305, Kings College School with partnership schools, Kevin Herlihy and ACAVA for creative art displays in the Aviary
- Merton Council, for awarding us £30,000 from the Civic Pride fund to replace damaged drainage pipes
- All of our Friends and donors, who support this generational change in Cannizaro Park.



WE WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK!

- Email us at: secretary@cannizaropark.com
- Instagram: [@cannizaro.park](https://www.instagram.com/cannizaro.park)
- Talk to us on Tuesday mornings in the park!



Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Catherine Nelson

Catherine Nelson, Chair

19 May 2025

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st March 2025

2024 £		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds (Note 5)	2025 Total £
	Income			
3,600.00	Subscriptions	3,795.00		3,795.00
14,705.16	Donations (including grants)	13,050.15	13,380.71	26,430.86
1,768.04	Gift Aid claims	2,077.52		2,077.52
3,488.46	Activities (Note 2)	6,117.74		6,117.74
769.30	Other	754.15		754.15
<u>24,330.96</u>	Total	<u>25,794.56</u>	<u>13,380.71</u>	<u>39,175.27</u>
	Expenditure			
(18,522.08)	Planting and maintenance (Note 3)	(6,135.45)		(6,135.45)
-	- Pond envelope drainage	(488.00)	(5,380.71)	(5,868.71)
-	- Fountain refurbishment		(8,000.00)	(8,000.00)
(14,220.00)	Drainage survey			-
-	- Aviary replacement	(1,231.40)		(1,231.40)
(816.66)	Activities (Note 2)	(2,287.16)		(2,287.16)
(2,437.47)	Communications and IT	(2,617.25)		(2,617.25)
(2,961.43)	Other	(1,142.33)		(1,142.33)
<u>(38,957.64)</u>	Total	<u>(13,901.59)</u>	<u>(13,380.71)</u>	<u>(27,282.30)</u>
(14,626.68)	Movement in funds	11,892.97	-	11,892.97
53,859.91	Funds brought forward	39,233.23	-	39,233.23
<u>39,233.23</u>	Funds carried forward	<u>51,126.20</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,126.20</u>

Balance Sheet at 31st March 2025

2024 £		2025 £
	Net current assets	
2,878.94	Cash at bank - current account	2,770.24
19,895.84	- deposit account	35,142.46
20,488.11	- notice account	20,995.64
97.96	PayPal account	217.86
372.38	Debtors	-
(4,500.00)	Creditors (Note 4)	(8,000.00)
<u>39,233.23</u>		<u>51,126.20</u>
	Funds	
39,233.23	Unrestricted	51,126.20
-	Restricted	-
<u>39,233.23</u>		<u>51,126.20</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 Basis of preparation and accounting policies

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice SORP (FRS 102) under the Charities Act 2011 and therefore on an accruals basis, except for subscriptions, donations and Gift Aid claims which are recognised as income when received.

2 Results of Activities

2024		Walks	Bridge	Talk	2025
£		£	£	£	Total
		£	£	£	£
3,488.46	Income	2,179.74	2,288.80	1,649.20	6,117.74
(816.66)	Expenditure	(1,065.49)	(119.80)	(1,101.87)	(2,287.16)
2,671.80	Net result	1,114.25	2,169.00	547.33	3,830.58

3 Planting and maintenance expenditure

Planting and maintenance for the year ended 31st March 2025 includes a credit of £3,000 to reverse the charge in the prior year for sunken garden bedding (no longer being billed by Merton Council). For the year ended 31st March 2024, it includes £6,432 for fencing and £3,427 for the hotel bed project.

4 Creditors

Creditors at 31st March 2025 is the amount due to be passed on to Merton Council towards refurbishment of the fountain.

5 Restricted funds

Restricted funds received during the year ended 31st March 2025 are in respect of a donation of £8,000 received towards the fountain refurbishment and £5,381 as the first stage of the grant for the pond envelope drainage project.

Approved by the trustees

19th May 2025



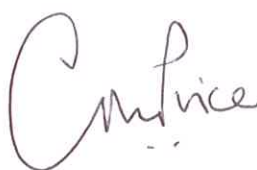
Catherine Nelson, Chair

Simon Ingall, Treasurer

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF CANNIZARO PARK

I have examined the Financial Statements of The Friends of Cannizaro Park for the year ended 31st March 2025 and confirm that they have been correctly prepared and are in accordance with the books and records.

Signed



Colin Price

19th May 2025

FRIENDS OF CANNIZARO PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1160982

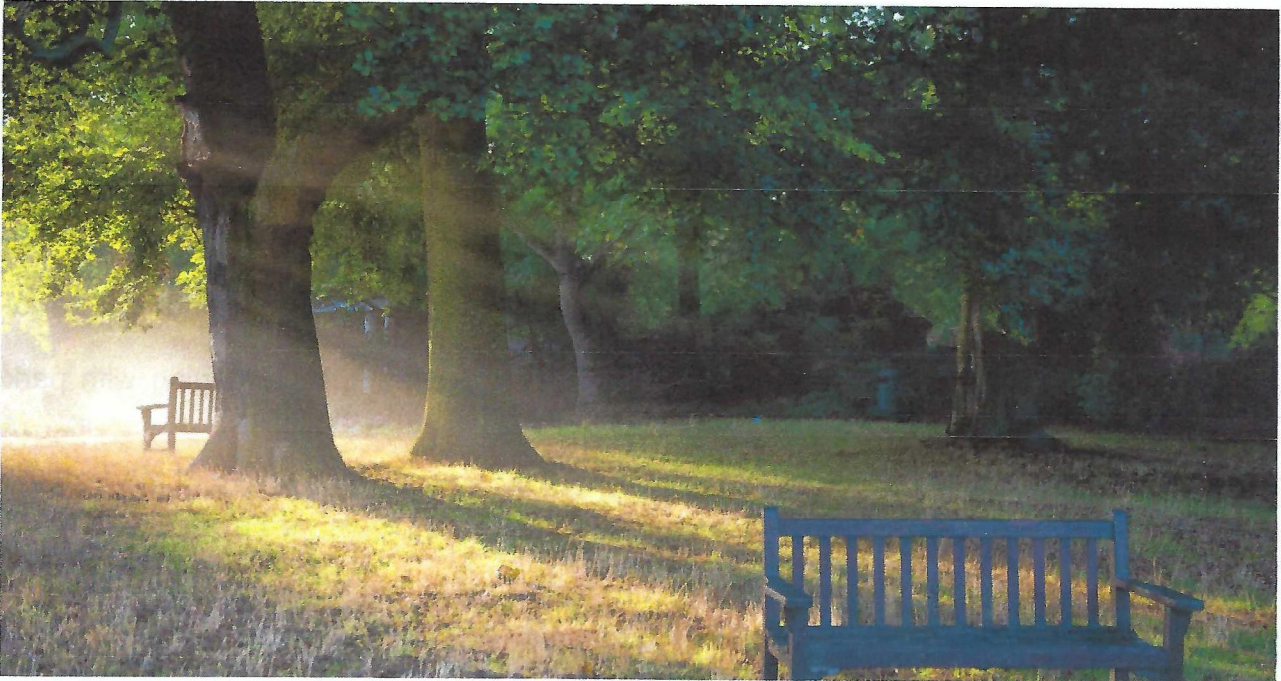
Accounts



The Friends of Cannizaro Park Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Registered Charity No. 1160982

Address: % Willow House, 35 High Street, Wimbledon, London SW19 5BY



Introduction

The Friends of Cannizaro Park ("FoCP") is pleased to report another productive year in 2022-23. Thanks to hard work from an expanding team of volunteers, we achieved almost all the objectives on our annual strategic plan, resulting in a number of improvements in the park landscape, together with enhanced engagement with park visitors.

Following a summary of our Constitution, information about these Achievements is outlined below, together with an update on Finances and People. A brief outline of 2023-24 Plans closes the Report.

Constitution

The trustees present their Report and the Financial Statements of The Friends of Cannizaro Park for the year ended 31st March 2023, which comply with the FoCP's Constitution and with applicable law and accounting requirements. In accordance with the FoCP's Rules, the Financial Statements have been examined by a person who is not a trustee nor otherwise involved in the charity's administration.

The purposes and administration of the FoCP, which is an unincorporated association, are regulated by its Constitution filed with the Charity Commission; the current version was

adopted in 2021. It is managed by trustees, with a minimum of three and a maximum of 11. Trustees are appointed based on their interest in the FoCP's activities and their specific skills and ability to contribute.

Founded in 1997, the formal objects of the FoCP set out in the Constitution are twofold:
(a) to conserve and improve Cannizaro Park located in Wimbledon, London SW19 ('the Park') as a place of historic and ecological interest and beauty for the benefit of the community of the London Borough of Merton and the broader community of London and other interested parties;
(b) to do all such things as shall be conducive to the attainment of the above object including: promoting, supporting and assisting in the (i) continuation of the Park's status as a Grade II* listed garden; (ii) enhancement, maintenance and upkeep of the Park by the London Borough of Merton.

To focus our work, the FoCP has translated this formal statement into two practical objectives:

1. The FoCP supports park-owner Merton Council with the maintenance and renewal of the park landscape
2. The FoCP enhances appreciation and enjoyment of the park, by engaging with park visitors and our local community through communications and events.

Merton Council supports most hard landscaping requirements in the park and, through its contractor idverde, provides one full-time gardener to maintain the park's thirty five acres.

2022/23 Achievements in the Park Landscape

The FoCP completed two of its three intended park landscape renewal projects within the year. In May 2022, the new Rose Garden was triumphantly completed. The project was evidence of our strong partnerships. Landform UK provided a thoughtful and environmentally enhanced design for the area, Merton Council provided funding of £15,000 for new accessible pathways and removal of old topsoil, while across 2021-23 the FoCP funded plants, new topsoil and accessories such as plant supports and a noticeboard (£7,151 in this year, for a total FoCP project funding of £17,841). The project was delayed due to Covid logistics, but with new benches in place, the Rose Garden was popular with park visitors over the summer. The FoCP's gardening volunteers were critical to achieving this transformation; from moving over 50 tonnes of topsoil, through to planting out and hand watering throughout the summer drought, the project would not have been possible without their support.

The delay in implementation of the Rose Garden project led us to simplify our autumn programme. It was decided to retain the creation of the Jubilee Walk, but to defer the Aviary Winter Border project to another year. Created as a commemoration of Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee in 2022, the Jubilee Walk comprises an extension of the existing Cherry Walk towards the Diana statue; a range of new cherry trees have been underplanted with a variety of bulbs, to provide colour and wildlife interest throughout the spring. Project costs were covered by the FoCP and by tree donations.

Significant maintenance work was carried out elsewhere in Cannizaro Park during the year. FoCP gardening volunteers maintained planting in the Front Entrance and in the Herb Garden, and there was further activity in the Bog Garden, whose planting and structure

continue to evolve. Aside from these specific areas which are largely maintained by the FoCP, gardening volunteers also carried out considerable work across the park: bramble bashing, removal of bamboo, extensive weeding, watering of new trees. Volunteer work also included clearance of drains and installation of post-and-rope protection for grass and trees, as well as mechanical removal of duckweed from the pond.

Turning to the hard infrastructure of the park, the FoCP made a successful application for Community Infrastructure Levy funds, to enable the 2023/24 renovation of the Valley Path. The new pathway will ensure key attractions such as the pond are accessible for all visitors, including those in wheelchairs, pushchairs, and those less steady on their feet. The newly-created Hard Landscape sub-committee commissioned drainage consultancy services, to assist in future planning for a major renovation of the central spine of the park.

Elsewhere, after many years of repairs, the Aviary structure was finally deemed to be an unsafe habitat for birds. The wooden original had been originally intended as a relatively temporary installation, and has degraded beyond repair. The live birds were safely rehoused and a decision was taken that any future building would not contain live creatures, due to the challenges of providing appropriate care. Following an extensive survey and a public meeting, it was agreed that the FoCP would begin the process of developing of a new "Aviary" structure in 2024, with the purpose and design of the new structure being part of a second public consultation. In the interim, the FoCP is organising a range of short-term exhibits in the present building, featuring nature artwork from local schools.

Finally, FoCP volunteers worked intensively with Merton Greenspaces colleagues to develop a ten year Cannizaro Park management plan, as a prelude to a Green Flag application. The Green Flag Award scheme recognises well-managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark for management of recreational outdoor spaces across the UK. Judging is set to take place in June 2023.

2022/23 Achievements in Enhancing Visitor Appreciation & Enjoyment

In 2022/23 and in the light of wider travel plans post-Covid, the FoCP chose to downweight and re-focus our events programme, to ensure appropriate organisational resources against our core objective of maintaining and renewing the landscape. Six walks were well-attended, and covered a variety of topics from bats to herbal medicine, and trees to the history of the park. The popular fund-raising bridge drive was a big success.

This year marked a significant step forward in our communications with visitors, through the creation of a new website. The new website features wonderful images from a professional photographer, while the structure and information of the website was extended and ordered better to address visitors' enquiries. The website now provides an excellent source of information about the park, whether for casual visitors or nature enthusiasts.

Alongside development of the new website, the Friends continued with the popular monthly newsletters (circulation: 690 households), and with a strong Instagram presence (2,600 followers, up +13% versus a year ago).

Finances & Funding

FoCP funds increased by £17,540 during the year, to a total of £53,860. This increase was due to three factors: an unexpected and generous donation of £15,000 to fund drainage consultancy work; a one-off rebate from Merton Council; and the delay to the Aviary Winter Border project which reduced spending. During the year, £7,151 was spent on the Rose Garden (bringing total project costs to £17,841), and £4,518 on the Jubilee Walk. Events made a surplus of £2,576, while donations (excluding the single donation above) comprised £14,481.

Under its reserves policy, the FoCP continues to aim for an ongoing sum of £10,000-£15,000 to be held as reserves, ensuring that there would be sufficient funds to cover expected (a) ongoing annual expenditure in case of a significant reduction in income and (b) upfront costs for major projects before any specific fundraising takes place. As part of our annual review of reserves, the trustees re-committed to reduce the level to the target range over the next two to three years, consistent with increased but judicious spending on park renewal projects.

Our longer-term funding model indicates all planned-for activity from 2023-2025 is feasible.

Structure & People

Trustees: There were no changes to the Trustee team in 2022/23.

At the end of the financial year, the following trustees remained in place:

Chair	Catherine Nelson	Secretary	Elizabeth ("Pit") Rink
Treasurer	Simon Ingall	Horticulture	Jane Watkins
Volunteers	Anne Peacock	Membership	Jeremy Lumbers
Legal	Caroline Newsholme	Fundraising	Anna Watkin
Marketing	Cathy Townsend	Events	Liza Llewellyn

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers or duties. The trustees are required to manage the FoCP in accordance with its Constitution and to maintain appropriate books and records in order to comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for safeguarding the FoCP's assets and therefore for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and irregularities. They are also responsible for the preparation of an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and accounting requirements.

Membership: Despite changes in the economy, membership remained stable at 426, down less than 1% from 429 at 31st March 2022. This was encouraging given that there were no membership campaigns during the year.

Volunteers: Everything the FoCP accomplishes is driven by its talented and hard-working team of volunteers. Despite the resumption of normal life after Covid, the gardening volunteer teams retained its strength and vigour, with an average weekly attendance of 20 people adding the equivalent of 1.5 additional full-time gardeners to the park. Again, the broad expertise of this team means a large number of activities can be tackled, from tree planting to drainage maintenance and general pruning and weeding.

Events and Marketing work is also kindly supported by 6 talented professionals who volunteer their time. In 2022/23, we were also very grateful for the assistance of Bright Pink Agency, who undertook the creation of our new website, and expressed our deep thanks to the Cow-Shed Agency, who stepped back after providing extensive communications support over many years.

Partnerships: The FoCP continues to be grateful for the advice and support of the Merton Council Greenspaces team. We also work closely with staff at idverde, Merton Council's parks contractor, who provided assistance for park projects.

The scope of FoCP activity is expanded and improved by the support of FoCP corporate partners. Hotel du Vin Cannizaro House support areas of planting and the operation and cleaning of the public toilet block, while landscape designers Landform UK provide project designs and horticultural assistance. In 2023/24, they will be joined by Robert Holmes estate agents, whose support will provide core funding for park renewal projects.

During the year, WSM Private Client generously sponsored ICANN, our health and wellness festival in the Park, and we thank Maddie Cannon for initiating and leading this wonderful festival for several years. We are grateful to our walk guides Greg Packman (Tree Guide) and Elliot Newton (Bat Guide) who continue to generously share their expertise.

In 2022/23, we are also grateful to:

- Richard True for his detailed work providing information and website copy for the tree collection, as well as creative ideas for helping visitors navigate tree data
- Katie Preston for extensive graphic design assistance, including a style guide and development of an FoCP "house style" in marketing materials
- Francesca McKenna for her photography work across 2022, developing an extensive image library for the park
- Tanya Serova for taking on the role of 'official park photographer' in a voluntary capacity from March 2022
- Local Residents' Associations and Clive Hilton for helping us share news and updates to the local community.

Plans for 2023/24

Our focus in 2023/24 remains the renewal and enhancement of the landscape of Cannizaro Park. Key projects to this end are as follows:

- Project Leonardo: creation of plans for the renovation of the central spine of the park, from the Keir Garden to the Italian Garden and its surrounds; this will include sustainable drainage systems, improved landscaping and provision of adequate hard landscaping and facilities
- Hotel du Vin bed: re-design and re-planting of this key bed below the Hotel du Vin terrace
- Improved Sustainability: work with parks contractor idverde to optimise lawn mowing regimes, to reduce fuel usage and benefit wildlife
- Optimised management of general and dog waste, and dog control
- Upgrade of hard structures: working with Merton Council, provision of new noticeboards and estate fencing, as well as the implementation of the Valley Path renovation

- Rhododendron project: expert advice on identification of plants, and management of shrubs which survived the 2022 drought.

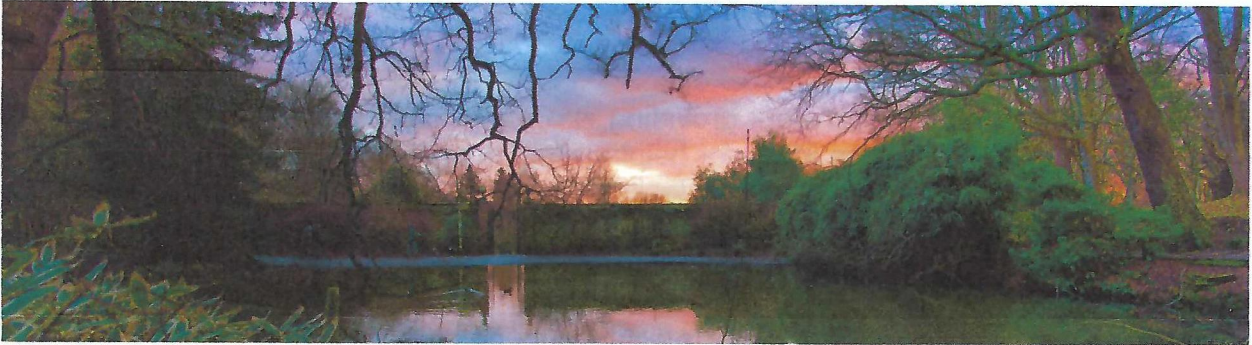
The FoCP will also broaden its engagement with the wider Merton community, through new relationships with schools, youth and older adult groups, as well as through a park user survey.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Catherine Nelson, Chair

Date of Signature: 14th May 2023



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st March 2023

2022		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023
£				£
	Income			
4,100.00	Members' subscriptions	3,825.00		3,825.00
14,767.91	Donations (Note 3)	14,480.71	15,000.00	29,480.71
2,020.99	Gift Aid claims	3,081.38		3,081.38
15,642.47	Activities (Note 2)	6,221.28		6,221.28
122.90	Other	200.31		200.31
36,654.27	Total	27,808.68	15,000.00	42,808.68
	Expenditure			
(17,662.62)	Planting and maintenance (Note 3)	(15,728.29)		(15,728.29)
(403.14)	Permanent items for visitors	(1,822.35)		(1,822.35)
(3,050.49)	Aviary	(94.58)		(94.58)
(8,021.71)	Activities (Note 2)	(3,644.93)		(3,644.93)
(845.00)	IT	(1,882.37)		(1,882.37)
(918.56)	Communications	(1,006.62)		(1,006.62)
(794.94)	Other	(1,089.72)		(1,089.72)
(31,696.46)	Total	(25,268.86)	0.00	(25,268.86)
4,957.81	Movement in funds	2,539.82	15,000	17,539.82
31,362.18	Funds brought forward	36,319.99		36,319.99
36,319.99	Funds carried forward	38,859.81	15,000	53,859.81

Balance Sheet at 31st March 2023

2022		2023
£		£
	Net current assets	
3,144.15	Cash at bank - current account	3,409.74
37,521.97	- deposit account	51,114.66
94.54	PayPal account	134.51
553.12	Debtors	701.00
(4,993.79)	Creditors	(1,500.00)
36,319.99		53,859.91
	Funds	
36,319.99	Unrestricted	38,859.81
	Restricted (Note 3)	15,000.00
36,319.99		53,859.81

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 Basis of preparation and accounting policies

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice SORP (FRS 102) under the Charities Act 2011 and therefore on an accruals basis, except for subscriptions, donations and Gift Aid claims which are recognised as income when received.

2 Results of Activities

2022					2023
Total		Bridge	Guided walks	ICANN	Total
£					£
15,642.47	Income	2,188.79	1,172.37	2,860.12	6,221.28
(8,021.71)	Expenditure	(118.79)	(626.48)	(2,899.66)	(3,644.93)
<u>7,620.76</u>	Net result	<u>2,070.00</u>	<u>545.89</u>	<u>(39.54)</u>	<u>2,576.35</u>

3 Expenditure and donations

Planting and maintenance for the year ended 31st March 2023 includes £7,151 for the park's rose garden project (2022: £10,690) and £4,518 for the Jubilee walk project. Donations for the year ended 31st March 2023 include £6,000 as a result of the waiving during the year by Merton Council of the cost of sunken garden bedding for 2021 and 2022. Restricted funds are in respect of a donation received for future expenditure on infrastructure, drainage and planting improvement projects.

Approved by the trustees

1st May 2023



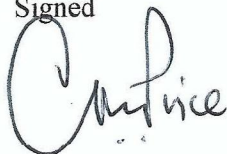
Catherine Nelson, Chair

Simon Ingall, Treasurer

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF CANNIZARO PARK

I have examined the Financial Statements of The Friends of Cannizaro Park for the year ended 31st March 2023 and confirm that they have been correctly prepared and are in accordance with the books and records.

Signed



Colin Price

1st May 2023

FRIENDS OF CANNIZARO PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1160982

Accounts



The Friends of Cannizaro Park Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Registered Charity No. 1160982

Address: % Willow House, 35 High Street, Wimbledon, London SW19 5BY

Introduction

Despite the ongoing challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic, The Friends of Cannizaro Park (FoCP) has had another successful year. For a second year, the leadership team has created and followed an annual strategic plan, and this focus has directed organisational resources and led to some notable achievements both in the landscape and in engagement with park visitors.

This report outlines our constitutional framework and charity objectives, and then shares our delivery against these objectives in 2021/22. Following information on Finance and Funding and Structure and People, there is also a preview of our 2022/23 plan.

Governance

The trustees present their Report and the Financial Statements of the FoCP for the year ended 31st March 2022, which comply with the FoCP's Constitution and with applicable law and accounting requirements. In accordance with the FoCP's Rules, the Financial Statements have been examined by a person who is not a trustee or otherwise involved in the charity's administration.

The purposes and administration of the FoCP, which is an unincorporated association, are regulated by its Constitution filed with the Charity Commission; the current version was adopted in 2021. It is managed by trustees, with a minimum of three and a maximum of 11. Trustees are appointed based on their interest in the FoCP's activities and their specific skills and ability to contribute.

Founded in 1997, the formal objects of the FoCP set out in the Constitution are twofold:

(a) to conserve and improve Cannizaro Park located in Wimbledon, London SW19 ('the Park') as a place of historic and ecological interest and beauty for the benefit of the community of the London Borough of Merton and the broader community of London and other interested parties;

(b) to do all such things as shall be conducive to the attainment of the above object including: promoting, supporting and assisting in the (i) continuation of the Park's status as a Grade II listed garden; (ii) enhancement, maintenance and upkeep of the Park by the London Borough of Merton.

To focus our work, the FoCP has translated this formal statement into two practical objectives. The first is to support park-owner Merton Council with the maintenance and renewal of the park landscape. The second is to enhance appreciation and enjoyment of the park, by engagement with park visitors and our local community through communications and events. Merton Council supports most hard landscaping requirements in the park and, through its contractor idverde, provides one full-time gardener to maintain the park's thirty four acres.

2021/22 Achievements in the Park Landscape

Once again, the FoCP focussed on realising two significant park landscape renewal projects within the year. In autumn 2021, a new Bog Garden was created in a watery triangle of land above the pond: a stream bed was established, troublesome weeds removed and new planting begun. This area is being seen as an evolving project, with planting to be supplemented as needed in future seasons. Importantly, it allows us to expand the habitat for water-loving plants and wildlife within Cannizaro Park. This consideration for wildlife enhancement now underpins all our park projects.

The new Rose Garden has taken somewhat longer to come to life! Created by FoCP partner Landform UK, the design retained the circular form of the garden, whilst adding a fresh layout which enhanced accessibility and allowed for more modern planting. Particular roses and perennials were chosen to maximise attraction for bees and other insects, while four new benches will allow visitors to sit and enjoy this wonderful new space. Following a delay due to planning timings and Covid-19 resourcing, the Rose Garden was completed in early May 2022.

2021/22 Achievements in Enhancing Visitor Appreciation & Enjoyment

The year saw a major development in our Events programme. The Nature Weekend and a programme of Guided Walks were extremely popular, and the second year of our I-CANN wellbeing festival was also well received. In the autumn, our new Art in the Park event was a big success, recording 2,500 visitors in spite of mixed weather and giving local people of all ages the opportunity to engage with art, recalling the park's historic connections to artistic activity. Our Bridge fund-raising event returned with enthusiastic participation. Across the range of FoCP events in the year, free activities were offered in the form of nature trails, planting and art opportunities, while all paid activities were profitable, being structured to at least breakeven.

Communications with visitors continued to build in 2021/22, following a huge step forward in the previous year. The monthly e-newsletter was again our primary route for news and updates, alongside our Instagram account whose follower-ship increased by 26% from 1,825 to 2,300. Work was begun on a new website, which is intended to provide improved navigation, better visuals and updated information; this project is expected to be completed in June 2022.

Finances and Funding

The FoCP's funds increased by £4,958 during the year, to a total of £36,320 at 31st March 2021, compared with an increase of £6,086 in the previous year. Expenditure in the year included £10,690 for the Rose Garden project and approximately £500 for Bog Garden works. Events made a net profit surplus of £7,621, and the charity's funds were greatly expanded by the generosity of donors, who gave £14,768 in 2021/22. We were particularly grateful for two significant donations which have released other funds for more ambitious future projects.

Under its reserves policy, the FoCP continues to aim for a total of £10,000-£15,000 to be held as reserves, ensuring that there would be sufficient funds to cover expected (a) ongoing annual expenditure in case of a significant reduction in income and (b) upfront costs for major projects before any specific fundraising takes place. As part of our annual review of reserves, the trustees re-committed to reduce the level to the target range over the next two years through the planned park renewal projects. The increase in funds

during 2021/22 came largely through one significant donation, plus a delay to additional park projects due to extended work on the Rose Garden. We anticipate spending down significant funds in 2022/23 on several park projects, as outlined below.

Our longer term funding model helps guide our plans for financing future park improvements, and suggests all planned-for activity in the next two years is feasible. As part of this more detailed fundraising approach, the FoCP also completed Donations and Commemoration guides, which are available on our website.

Structure and People

Trustees: There were three changes during the year. Cathy Townsend was appointed Trustee for Marketing, and Liza Llewellyn appointed Trustee responsible for Events. Jane Watkins became Trustee for Horticulture, with Chris Mountford stepping back from the Trustee team but remaining involved as a horticultural advisor.

At the end of the financial year, the following trustees were in place:

Chair	Catherine Nelson	Secretary	Elizabeth ("Pit") Rink
Treasurer	Simon Ingall	Horticulture	Jane Watkins
Volunteers	Anne Peacock	Membership	Jeremy Lumbers
Legal	Caroline Newsholme	Fundraising	Anna Watkin
Marketing	Cathy Townsend	Events	Liza Llewellyn

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers or duties. The trustees are required to manage the FoCP in accordance with its Constitution and to maintain appropriate books and records in order to comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for safeguarding the FoCP's assets and therefore for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and irregularities. They are also responsible for the preparation of an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and accounting requirements.

Membership: Overall levels remained strong, growing 9% across the year to a total of 437 members paying the current relevant rate. Our constitution determines that membership requires full payment of the membership rate prevailing in that year. Following a previous rise in rates and despite notifications, a number of members were still paying at an old rate. While it is not possible to deem this membership, we are grateful for these ongoing contributions which are now recognised as donations - and we thank these long-standing donors.

Volunteers: Our park projects would have been impossible without our extensive and committed volunteer gardening team. Despite the opening up of workplaces after Covid-19, the FoCP maintained its average weekly attendance of 21 people, adding the equivalent of 1.5 additional full-time gardeners to the park. Of the total group of 50 volunteers, many come weekly or biweekly, and others seasonally. The FoCP is lucky to have a wide range of talents among its garden volunteers, who turned their hand to planting trees and repairs to the Aviary, as well as the seasonal round of pruning, watering and weeding.

Our Events and Communications teams are also fully staffed with 15 enthusiastic and thoughtful professionals who are generous with their time. The high quality of execution in both events and marketing is directly attributable to their talent, and their work enables park visitors to understand more about the nature and history of the park, and also to learn about landscape changes brought about by the FoCP.

Partnerships: The FoCP continues to be grateful for the advice and support of the Merton Council Greenspaces team. In 2021/22, Merton Council funded new pathways in the Rose Garden and helped with repairs to the Aviary, as well as ad hoc drainage works. We also work closely with staff at idverde, Merton Council's park contractor, who provided assistance for park projects.

The scope of FoCP activity is expanded and improved by the support of FoCP corporate partners. Hotel du Vin Cannizaro House support the planting of the Sunken Garden and the operation and cleaning of the public toilet block, while landscape designers Landform UK provide project designs and horticultural assistance.

In 2021/22, we are also grateful to a number of event sponsors, including Robert Holmes, Viking, EQ Investors, Hartley Fowler, Peacocks Solicitors, Kings College School, Cygnet Art School, Holden Harper and Artfully Sorted. Our events were further enhanced through the support of a number of individuals and organisations. Nature Weekend raffle prizes were donated by Wimbledon Books and Coombe Stationers. Wimbledon Stables kindly arranged for an appearance by their miniature Shetland pony, Fantastic Mr Fudge. Time and expertise were donated by Adrian Podmore, Clare Million & Rebecca Dunne from the RSPB Richmond & Twickenham Local Group, and Greg Packham led entertaining and engaging tree walks.


Finally, our marketing activity was supported by generous and committed professionals who offered their skills pro-bono: The Cow-Shed Agency and Bright Pink Agency.

Plans for 2021/22

In 2021/22 the FoCP will upweight our landscape activity and re-organise our events programme, to ensure appropriate organisational focus against our core objective of maintaining and renewing the landscape. We plan to complete three soft landscaping projects; these are the replanting of the Pond Border and the Aviary Winter Border, and the extension of the Cherry Walk to create what will become a Jubilee Walk, in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. In addition, we will be applying for funding for hard landscaping of the Valley and Rear Entrance paths, in order to create an accessible paved loop through the park.

Communications with park visitors will be enhanced by completion of the new website, which will include outstanding images from a local professional photographer. Alongside this, we will continue a strong FoCP-led events programme, and are assigning the leadership of future Art in the Park events to a not-for-profit community interest company, whose profits will benefit the FoCP and arts charities within Merton.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Catherine Nelson, Chair

Date of Signature: 5 May 2022

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st March 2022

2021 £		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds (Note 3)	Total 2022 £
	Income			
4,035.00	Members' subscriptions	4,100.00		4,100.00
21,125.33	Donations (Note 3)	9,767.91	5,000.00	14,767.91
5,321.23	Gift Aid claims	2,020.99		2,020.99
1,609.00	Activities (Note 2)	15,642.47		15,642.47
13.85	Other	122.90		122.90
32,104.41	Total	31,654.27	5,000.00	36,654.27
	Expenditure			
(18,019.94)	Planting and maintenance (Note 3)	(12,662.62)	(5,000.00)	(17,662.62)
(2,721.50)	Permanent items for visitors	(403.14)		(403.14)
(383.70)	Aviary	(3,050.49)		(3,050.49)
(1,255.78)	Activities (Note 2)	(8,021.71)		(8,021.71)
(1,381.00)	IT	(845.00)		(845.00)
(1,724.23)	Communications	(918.56)		(918.56)
(532.37)	Other	(794.94)		(794.94)
(26,018.52)	Total	(26,696.46)	(5,000.00)	(31,696.46)
6,085.89	Movement in funds	4,957.81	-	4,957.81
25,276.29	Funds brought forward	31,362.18		31,362.18
31,362.18	Funds carried forward	36,319.99	-	36,319.99

Balance Sheet at 31st March 2022

2021 £		2022 £
	Net current assets	
3,743.61	Cash at bank - current account	3,144.15
32,018.57	- deposit account	37,521.97
100.00	PayPal account	94.54
-	Debtors	553.12
(4,500.00)	Creditors (Note 4)	(4,993.79)
31,362.18		36,319.99
31,362.18	Funds (unrestricted)	36,319.99

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 Basis of preparation and accounting policies

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice SORP (FRS 102) under the Charities Act 2011 and therefore on an accruals basis, except for subscriptions, donations and Gift Aid claims which are recognised as income when received.

2 Results of Activities

2021							2022
ICANN/ calendars/talk £		Art in the Park	Bridge	Guided walks	ICANN Nature weekend	Total £	
1,609.00	Income	9,763.71	2,197.81	1,427.59	1,646.32	15,642.47	
(1,255.78)	Expenditure	(5,532.24)	(73.81)	(638.59)	(1,362.68)	(8,021.71)	
353.22	Net result	4,231.47	2,124.00	789.00	283.64	7,620.76	

3 Expenditure and donations

Planning and maintenance for the year ended 31st March 2022 includes £10,690 for the park's rose garden project. For the year ended 31st March 2021, it includes £16,791 for the front entrance project; donations include £12,113 received from the related fundraising campaign.

Restricted funds were in respect of a donation received in December 2021 for future expenditure in support of long-term as well as seasonal planting needs, maintenance, and other costs, and were fully utilised during the year ended 31st March 2022.

Expenditure is shown net of the contribution from the Hotel du Vin for sunken garden bedding and, for the year ended 31st March 2021, after the reversal of £3,179 accrued at 31st March 2020 no longer required for entrance work.

4 Creditors

Creditors at 31st March 2022 comprise an amount due to Merton Council for the sunken garden bedding in 2021 and a prepayment from the Hotel du Vin for the bedding in May 2022.

Approved by the trustees

25th April 2022



Catherine Nelson, Chair

Simon Ingall, Treasurer

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF CANNIZARO PARK

I have examined the Financial Statements of The Friends of Cannizaro Park for the year ended 31st March 2022 and confirm that they have been correctly prepared and are in accordance with the books and records.

Signed



Colin Price

25th April 2022

FRIENDS OF CANNIZARO PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1160982

Accounts



The Friends of Cannizaro Park Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Registered Charity No. 1160982

Address: % Willow House, 35 High Street, Wimbledon, London SW19 5BY

Introduction & Constitution

The trustees present their Report and the Financial Statements of The Friends of Cannizaro Park ("FoCP") for the year ended 31st March 2021, which comply with the FoCP's Constitution and with applicable law and accounting requirements. In accordance with the FoCP's Rules, the Financial Statements have been examined by a person who is not a trustee or otherwise involved in the charity's administration.

The purposes and administration of the FoCP, which is an unincorporated association, are regulated by its Constitution filed with the Charity Commission; the current version was adopted in 2019. It is managed by trustees, with a minimum of three and a maximum of 11. Trustees are appointed based on their interest in the FoCP's activities and their specific skills and ability to contribute.

Founded in 1997, the formal objects of the FoCP set out in the Constitution are for the benefit of the inhabitants of Merton, to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving their conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area of benefit in particular but not exclusively by the preservation, promotion, support, assistance and improvement of Cannizaro Park.

To focus our work, the FoCP has translated this formal statement into two practical objectives. The first is to support park-owner Merton Council with the maintenance and renewal of the park landscape. The second is to enhance appreciation and enjoyment of the park, by engagement with park visitors and our local community. Merton Council supports most hard landscaping requirements in the park and, through its contractor idverde, provides one full-time gardener to maintain the park's thirty four acres.

In the wake of the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic, this past year has seen Cannizaro Park become an even more vital feature of the Wimbledon area. The trustees are proud that, with the help of a hugely expanded volunteer team and our active embrace of online meetings, the FoCP has been able to complete all areas of the 2020/21 strategic plan developed prior to Covid.

2020/21 Achievements in the Park Landscape

Despite the challenges of lockdown, we were delighted to complete our goal of two significant park landscape renewal projects. The Park Entrance Project was realised thanks to an inspiring multi-partner collaboration. Merton Council resurfaced the path and supplied new fencing; award-winning landscapers Landform UK assisted with the design and tree planting; following kind assistance from Crowdfunder, our generous local community part-funded the planting; and an amazing volunteer gardening team worked through all temperatures to complete the project before the winter lockdown. The Mayor of Merton performed the official opening ceremony in April 2021. Our second project involved re-design and re-planting of a major bed in the Tennis Court Garden. Again, volunteers worked tirelessly to remove old planting and to settle in new rhododendrons and shrubs.

Beyond these two focal projects, the volunteer gardening team did substantial maintenance work in Cannizaro. The team's numbers almost doubled over the year, with an average attendance of 20 people in non-lockdown weeks, meaning the volunteer crew adds the labour of at least one extra full-time gardener to the park. Work tackled across the year ranged from essential weeding, watering and pruning to technical projects including the installation of new trial squirrel-proof bins and improvements to drainage around the pond and the cascade. The volunteer team also completed the cleaning and re-furbishment of the Toilets block, after many years of closure.

Finally, the Tree Group began the installation of one hundred new tree labels. Marked with a QR code as well as tree name, these labels allow visitors to learn more about the park's important tree collection through links to information on our website.

Looking ahead, the trustees identified the need to develop a number of longer range plans, in order to accomplish our future strategic goals. These saw the development of an outline 10-Year Renewal Plan of Park Projects 2021-2031, together with a more detailed 5-Year Renewal Plan 2021-2026. In addition, an Annual Maintenance Plan was created to help guide volunteer gardening activity.

2020/21 Achievements in Enhancing Visitor Appreciation & Enjoyment

Throughout 2020/21, the Friends worked to increase visitor appreciation of Cannizaro in two main ways. Firstly, we transformed our communications with park visitors. A new monthly e-newsletter provided nature news and park information to over 1000 people, while our re-launched Instagram account has seen followers increase by 56% from 1167 to 1825. These initiatives were buttressed by the rollout of our new online membership system in May 2020, which facilitates easy contact with members as well as simplifying internal administration on Gift Aid and GDPR.

As part of this communication programme, the Friends conducted its first ever visitor survey in summer 2020, which helped us assess visitor numbers and profiles. During lockdown, we estimated approximately 9000 visits per week, with 50% visiting at least once per week and over three quarters of visitors coming from SW18/19/20 postcodes. We also learnt the qualities of the park most valued by visitors - the variety of its landscape, a feeling of safety and tranquillity, and the quality of its maintenance - as well as most desired improvements: a cafe; toilets; better litter collection; and drainage. We acted on these learnings, with work on toilets and drainage across the following autumn and winter. We also sought to promote the newly opened Hotel du Vin cafe van, and liaised with idverde on litter collection.

Our second route to build engagement was through the expansion of our Events programme. Sadly, staples of our calendar such as the Spring Talk and the Bridge Drive were cancelled by Covid-19. However, thanks to the energies of a new Events team, we pioneered a summer well-being festival, I CANN, which received a great response from both teachers and participants despite mixed weather.

Finances & Funding

The FoCP's funds increased by £6,086 during the year, to a total of £31,362 at 31st March 2021, compared with a decrease of £1,794 in the previous year. Expenditure in the year included £16,791 for the front entrance project and donations included £12,113 received from the related fundraising campaign. Other donations more than doubled to £9,012. The generosity of all donors is very gratefully acknowledged, as well as the contribution from the Hotel du Vin for the sunken garden bedding. The net result from Activities decreased by more than £3,000; in the previous year significant amounts were generated from the Bridge event and two talks.

Under the Constitution, the FoCP's funds shall be applied only in furthering its objects. A long-term programme of park improvement projects was begun in 2020 and, as part of the budgetary process, including fundraising considerations, the trustees reviewed the reserves policy. It was decided that £10,000-£15,000 should be held as reserves, to ensure that there would be sufficient funds to cover expected (a) ongoing annual expenditure in case of a significant reduction in income and (b) upfront costs for major projects before any specific fundraising takes place. This policy will be reviewed at least annually. The trustees intend to reduce the level to the target range over the next three years through the planned park renewal projects.

In addition to a review of the reserves policy, the FoCP began the development of a longer-term funding model, which would assess the relative contributions of membership subscriptions, donations and external funding such as grants and sponsorship in the funding of our 5-Year Renewal Plan 2021-2026.

Structure and People

Trustees: There were four changes during the year. Catherine Nelson assumed the Chair role in June 2020, in addition to Marketing responsibilities, with Chris Mountford moving to focus on his role as trustee for Park Matters; Anna Watkin was co-opted as trustee responsible for Fundraising in November 2020; and Alison Young and Juliet Willis stood down from their trustee roles in July 2020 and March 2021 respectively. We are extremely grateful for Chris' long service as Chair, and for his continued commitment to renewal work in the park. The similar long service of Alison and Juliet has been hugely valued, and we send them our very best wishes for new adventures.

At the end of the financial year, the following trustees were in place:

Chair	Catherine Nelson	Secretary	Elizabeth ("Pit") Rink
Treasurer	Simon Ingall	Park Matters	Chris Mountford
Volunteers	Anne Peacock	Membership	Jeremy Lumbers
Legal	Caroline Newsholme	Fundraising	Anna Watkin

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers or duties. The trustees are required to manage the FoCP in accordance with its Constitution and to maintain appropriate books and records in order to comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for safeguarding the FoCP's assets and therefore for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and irregularities. They are also responsible for the preparation of an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and accounting requirements.

Membership: Our membership rose substantially over the year, which we attribute to a combination of improved communications, awareness of park projects, the new membership system (spring 2020) and greater value placed on parks as a result of the pandemic. At the financial year end, membership stood at over 400, up by one-third since the new system has been in place.

Volunteers: The Friends' volunteer corps has grown significantly over the year, and we are grateful to be working with so many enthusiastic and talented individuals. The gardening volunteer team numbered forty at the year end, from which approximately twenty people were attending each week. Over 2020/21, we have also been fortunate to build our team of organisational volunteers, who lead our communications and events programmes. At year end, over twenty volunteers were helping in these areas.

Partnerships: Key to our achievements this year have been our relationships with external partners. As part of ongoing collaboration, Merton Council provided not only Park Entrance items, but also extensive new railings on Cannizaro's Chester Road boundary, and towards the end of the year, resource to investigate drainage issues around the Italian Garden. The Hotel du Vin continues to finance planting within the Sunken Garden and signed up for cleaning support in the Toilets' reopening. Catherine Macdonald, Nicola Hale and Mark Gregory of Landform UK provided invaluable support in the design and execution of the Park Entrance project, while Phil Geraghty of Crowdfunder UK guided us through our first crowdfunding project and Royal Wimbledon Golf Club assisted with some heavy lifting! Finally, we continue to appreciate working alongside the park's full-time gardener from park contractor idverde.

Plans for 2021/22

Against our charitable objective of restoring the park's horticultural fabric, next year's strategic plan will see us targeting two new renewal projects in the park (the Rose Garden and a Bog Garden). We will also undertake maintenance of last year's projects and, working with Merton Council, we will tackle further drainage work in the Italian Garden and around the pond, and consider the viability of the toilet block in the face of vandalism. As we look ahead to longer-term projects, the trustees will also be completing the development of the previously mentioned funding model, together with a donations and commemoration guide.

To address our objective of building visitor enjoyment, the next year will see the launch of an expanded events programme and a re-design of our website, while we continue to provide the regular newsletter and Instagram service.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Catherine Nelson, Chair
23rd April, 2021

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st March 2021

2020		2021
£		£
	Income	
3,485.00	Members' subscriptions	4,035.00
3,958.39	Donations (Note 3)	21,125.33
2,134.87	Gift Aid claims	5,321.23
5,978.00	Activities (Note 2)	1,609.00
10.75	Other	13.85
15,567.01	Total	32,104.41
	Expenditure (Note 3)	
(4,779.17)	Planting and maintenance	(18,019.94)
(3,099.36)	Permanent items for visitors	(2,721.50)
(2,663.81)	Aviary	(383.70)
(2,533.85)	Activities (Note 2)	(1,255.78)
(1,916.36)	IT	(1,381.00)
(1,695.61)	Communications	(1,724.23)
(672.96)	Other	(532.37)
(17,361.12)	Total	(26,018.52)
(1,794.11)	Movement in funds	6,085.89
27,070.40	Funds brought forward	25,276.29
25,276.29	Funds carried forward	31,362.18

Balance Sheet at 31st March 2021

2020		2021
£		£
	Net current assets	
3,111.06	Cash at bank - current account	3,743.61
28,010.75	- deposit account	32,018.57
33.48	PayPal account	100.00
(5,879.00)	Creditors (Note 4)	(4,500.00)
25,276.29		31,362.18
25,276.29	Funds	31,362.18

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 Basis of preparation and accounting policies

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice SORP (FRS 102) under the Charities Act 2011 and therefore on an accruals basis, except for subscriptions, donations and Gift Aid claims which are recognised as income when received.

2 Results of Activities

2020		ICANN event	Calendars	Talk	2021
£		£	£	£	Total
		£	£	£	£
5,978.00	Income	1,185.00	424.00	-	1,609.00
(2,533.85)	Expenditure	(923.91)	(231.87)	(100.00)	(1,255.78)
<u>3,444.15</u>	Net result	<u>261.09</u>	<u>192.13</u>	<u>(100.00)</u>	<u>353.22</u>

There was a Bridge event and two talks during the year ended 31st March 2020.

3 Expenditure and donations

The categories presented have been updated to provide additional transparency; comparative information has been reclassified accordingly.

Planning and maintenance for the year ended 31st March 2021 includes £16,791 for the park's front entrance project. Donations include £12,113 received from the related fundraising campaign. Expenditure is shown net of the contribution from the Hotel du Vin for sunken garden bedding and, for the year ended 31st March 2021, after the reversal of £3,179 accrued at 31st March 2020 no longer required for entrance work.

4 Creditors

Creditors at 31st March 2021 comprise the amount due to Merton Council for the sunken garden bedding in 2020 and a prepayment from the Hotel du Vin for the bedding in May 2021.

Approved by the trustees

23rd April 2021



Catherine Nelson, Chair

Simon Ingall, Treasurer

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF CANNIZARO PARK

I have examined the Financial Statements of The Friends of Cannizaro Park for the year ended 31st March 2021 and confirm that they have been correctly prepared and are in accordance with the books and records.

Signed



Colin Price

23rd April 2021