

# FRIENDS OF VAUXHALL PARK

England & Wales · Charity number 1166894

## Details

---

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2016-05-04

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

## Contact

---

**Address** 4 St. Barnabas Villas  
London  
SW8 2EJ

**Phone** 02077207568

**Email** [friends@vauxhallpark.org.uk](mailto:friends@vauxhallpark.org.uk)

**Website** [www.vauxhallpark.org.uk](http://www.vauxhallpark.org.uk)

## Activities

---

**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF FOVP ARE:(1) FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL INHABITANTS OF AND VISITORS TO THE LONDON BOROUGH OF LAMBETH, TO PROVIDE OR ASSIST IN THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES IN VAUXHALL PARK FOR RECREATION AND OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE;(2) TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THE PROTECTION, CONSERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF VAUXHALL PARK, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY ENCOURAGING VOLUNTEERS TO HELP MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE THE PARK; AND (3) TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE HISTORY OF THE PARK AND IN THE ENVIRONMENT AND HORTICULTURE.

**Activities:** conservation and enhancement of Vauxhall Park, Lambeth

## Classification

---

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage, Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Lambeth

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-10-31	£4,543	£3,179	-	-
2024-10-31	£2,989	£2,001	-	-
2023-10-31	£5,268	£1,019	-	-
2022-10-31	£794	£791	-	-
2021-10-31	£1,657	£5,581	-	-
2020-10-31	£1,313	£2,758	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Trevor Galloway</b>	Chair	2026-05-07
Bryn Corton Scott		2026-05-07
CHARLES RODERICK KING-FARLOW		2016-05-04
Laura Janke Jaeger		2023-03-10
Louise Norwood		2018-04-21
Major Tom Anstey		2023-11-23
POLLY FREEMAN BA		2016-05-04
Sarah Patricia Mary Macdonald		2023-03-10
TESSA KING-FARLOW		2019-10-09

**FRIENDS OF VAUXHALL PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166894

---

# Accounts

---



# FRIENDS OF VAUXHALL PARK

## Chair's report and future park activities

My report covers a review of the Friends of Vauxhall Park (FoVP) events for the year to 31 October 2025 and a summary of future activities for the forthcoming year.

We agreed at the last AGM in June 2025 that we would hold future AGMs in the Spring, rather than the Summer, so that we are better aligned with our gardening year.

The Friends have continued to be very actively engaged in many, diverse aspects of the upkeep, running and development of the park over the year.

Our gardening group continues to maintain the entire Fawcett Garden, the corner ornamental beds, the garden areas around the Parco Café, the rockery garden and the conservation area next to the Montessori school. The Parks' department's main activities are grass cutting, hedge trimming and litter picking. But it should be noted that the FoVP continues to devote a large amount of time to dealing with Lambeth Council in various park related matters, some of which are covered in this report.

The volunteer gardening sessions continue to be run almost weekly with attendance slightly down on last year at around 10 or less, but it has picked up again in early 2026. We continue to get new volunteers from a diverse range of ages, backgrounds and gardening experience. The total number in the WhatsApp group now hovers around 150 (it was 10 in 2020). The post session coffees and chat continue to be very popular and well attended – they are an important and necessary part of our annual expenditure.

A new activity in the summer was a rota of volunteers, some of whom were local residents and not in the volunteer group, who watered the park during dry spells through August. This involved moving the soaker hoses around the Fawcett Garden early in the morning and again in the early evening. The impact was significant: the heat, long hours of sunshine and the watering resulted in a spectacular horticultural display not seen before throughout the Summer and Autumn.

A major event was finally getting access to the new building in August to store our equipment. The wait was certainly worth it as the space gives us room to store our tools in an orderly way, a luxury that we have never had before. Sarah Chambers and Laura scoped the storage racks etc that we will purchase shortly. A former trustee, Faith Boardman, kindly donated £2,000 for the fitout. The Parks' department have asked for our use of the space to be legally formalised but have yet to specify how this will be achieved.

The kiosk tender process was run in October with Polly representing the FoVP. The winning bid was made by a local resident. The date of its opening is unknown to us.

We ran 2 corporate volunteering days with Hyatt Hotels and the Department of Housing, Communities and Local Government and have established a relationship with Octavia House schools for the pupils to run weekly litter picks in the park. Both events were very successful, and both groups want to come back to do more work in 2026.

We again funded a social event at the Parco Café in October to thank the volunteers for their hard work. It was generously supported by Ardian and his family.

We ran the fourth lavender harvesting of the new beds in September, and the flowers were used to make lavender oil and, for the first time, muslin lavender bags. The event was a huge success due to its organisation by Laura, Louise and Polly. We continue to sell the oil and bags through the Parco Café.

Vauxhall Park retained its Green Flag and the London in Bloom gold awards. We have reviewed the London in Bloom scoresheet and have noted the judges identifying the need for pruning and other works to be undertaken in the orchard. This is not a skillset that we have – we will need to look for assistance here from Lambeth Parks and volunteers. In addition, Vauxhall Park has been given Green Heritage Site status by the Green Flag Awards body.

A significant event was the partial completion of the Phase II project. To recall, the work was planned to start in June 2024 and to be completed by September 2024. It started in July 2024 and was handed over by the builders in early 2025, a significant overrun. The scope of the building works was unjustifiably altered and together with defects in the build and design, this has resulted in a substantial remediation cost estimate. During 2025, the FoVP met council officials on many occasions to scope and understand the remedial works. We still await information on the scope of the works, the funding and date of the works. This could impact the opening of the kiosk.

We continue to push on repair work. After much discussion, the ‘witch’s hat’ in the playground can now be repaired. One or more of the trampolines have remained out of action since July. The FoVP paid for the ornamental fountain to be cleaned and repainted.

The 2 regular annual events of the Nigerian and Eritrean festivals were held again in 2025. On 7 July, the park was used as the start and finish of the Kidney Research London bridges walk that potentially would have involved 1,750 people with food facilities, entertainment and toilets being erected in the park. The day was wet and turnout was low. As reported at the last AGM, we were not consulted on this event, and our significant concerns were ignored by the council staff. Our local councillors assisted here, which we were very grateful for, and we eventually had some response from the council staff. However, the event was a *fait accompli*. We then put our efforts to secure the PIL funds arising from this and the other events. We were promised £1,200, which we earmarked for plants for the bed in front of the new building. In late 2025, the £1,200 was withdrawn by Lambeth Council as part of their financial remedial processes. In early 2026, this decision was apparently reversed and we were told that we would be given the funds. We still await them.

The tennis courts continue to flood and have areas of moss. In early 2025, one tennis player broke her wrist slipping on the moss. The FoVP have reported this and the risk of more injuries, but there was no power cleaning of the courts in 2025 and there may now be a question of whether the court drainage needs rectification, a point that we made when the courts were first laid.

As we discussed at the last AGM, the Parks’ department have been in discussion with the FoVP over the development of an under 5s’ play area in the unused space between the Montessori school and the new building. While no budget has been proposed, we think it should cost below £100,000, probably closer to £50,000. The FoVP have been asked by the Parks’ department to part fundraise for the project. The committee’s position on this is clear: we do not have the time or skills to fundraise; we fail to see why the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) on the new constructions in the park’s vicinity cannot be used to fund the works given the new housing is resulting in more footfall in the park; we want the phase II works completed before starting phase III; we will assist to make the project happen. These conversations continue.

In July, a statue was unveiled in Coronation Gardens, Wandsworth to commemorate Fanny Wilkinson, the designer of Vauxhall Park, one of the first female landscape gardeners in the UK, and the role that she played in helping create 75 public parks in London.

Subject to committee approval, we plan to hold another social event later in 2026, along similar lines to the 2025 event, to thank all the volunteers for their continued hard work.

In December, Faith Boardman stood down as a trustee after nearly 8 years. The board would like to thank Faith for her contribution to the FoVP and her enormous generosity.

John Roome 26 March 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Roome', with a vertical line at the end of the signature.

Friends of Vauxhall Park Accounts Year to Oct 2025

<u>Income</u>	<u>Year to 31.10.25</u>		<u>Year to 31.10.24</u>	
	£		£	
Membership Subscriptions and Donations	£	1,345.00	£	1,227.00
Ring-fenced Donation for Phase II works	£	1,000.00	£	-
Gift Aid	£	558.24	£	184.38
Bank Interest	£	840.48	£	1,001.16
Lavender Sales	£	800.00	£	577.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>4,543.72</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>2,989.54</b>
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Insurance	£	173.39	£	157.00
Gardening Tools / Hose & reel	£	327.99	£	353.39
Website Hosting and Email Domain	£	69.92	£	268.85
Cleaning supplies	£	15.75		
Friends' equipment storage outfitting (CCTV, key cutting)	£	100.48	£	-
Fountain refurbishment	£	950.00	£	-
Plants	£	-	£	94.99
Refreshments volunteer groups	£	480.05	£	512.50
Social Evening	£	317.90	£	-
25th Anniversary Event Costs*	£	350.00	£	290.00
Card Reader Purchase	£	-	£	46.80
Card Reader Service Charges	£	6.00	£	12.69
Lavender Harvest - Oil Bottles	£	-	£	165.43
Lavender Harvest - Still Donation	£	50.00	£	100.00
Lavender Harvest - Signs	£	338.40	£	-
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>3,179.88</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>2,001.65</b>
<b>Excess income over expenditure</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>1,363.84</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>987.89</b>
Balance Brought Forward from last year	£	<u>39,166.97</u>	£	<u>38,155.38</u>
<b>Balance at Year End</b>	<b>£</b>	<b><u>40,530.81</u></b>	<b>£</b>	<b><u>39,143.27</u></b>
Lloyds Current account at year end	£	9,601.90	£	5,237.02
Lloyds Business Saving account at year end	£	928.91	£	3,929.95
Fixed term deposits (mature 17/4/25)	£	<u>30,000.00</u>	£	<u>30,000.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£</b>	<b><u>40,530.81</u></b>	<b>£</b>	<b><u>39,166.97</u></b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>£</b>	<b><u>38,530.81</u></b>	<b>£</b>	<b><u>38,166.97</u></b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>£</b>	<b><u>2,000.00</u></b>	<b>£</b>	<b><u>1,000.00</u></b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>£</b>	<b><u>40,530.81</u></b>	<b>£</b>	<b><u>39,166.97</u></b>

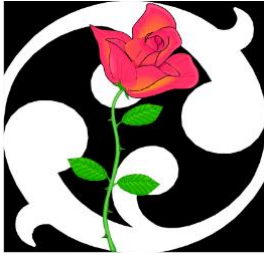
**FRIENDS OF VAUXHALL PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166894

---

# Accounts

---



# FRIENDS OF VAUXHALL PARK

## Chair's report and future park activities

My report covers a review of the Friends of Vauxhall Park (FoVP) events for the year to 31 October 2024 and a summary of future activities after that date.

The Friends have continued to be actively engaged in many aspects of the upkeep, running and development of the park over the year.

The volunteer gardening sessions continue to be run almost weekly with attendance regularly between 10 and 20 volunteers, around the same as last year. The sessions tend to be attended by the same core group; it would be good to encourage others to join us who have not attended a session before.

We now have several, more knowledgeable volunteers, which has helped in splitting activities on gardening sessions. The sessions are a significant time commitment for me, Tessa, Polly and Sarah Macdonald. The group continues to diversify, reflecting the changing demographics around the Nine Elms area and has increased to 133. The social activity after each session is an important part of the enjoyment of our work and are well attended. We again funded a social event at the Parco Café in October to thank the volunteers for their hard work and to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the FoVP, which was very well attended with more than last year with many former trustees there. It was generously supported by Ardian and his family at the Parco Cafe. Thank you to Polly, Louise and Laura for organising.

As in the previous year, our group worked throughout the winter clearing leaves and continued to maintain the entire Fawcett Garden, the ornamental beds, the garden areas around the Parco Café, the rockery garden and the conservation area next to the Montessori school. Due to the wet summer, we did not have to carry out any watering duties, but that situation looks to be changing in 2025.

The gardening input from the Lambeth Parks' department gardener at two days a week continued to be minimal and was withdrawn completely in early 2025. The Parks' department's main activities are grass cutting, hedge trimming and litter picking.

We ran the third lavender harvesting of the new beds in September, and we were able to arrange for the flowers to be used to make lavender oil, unlike 2023. The event was a huge success due to its organisation by Laura and Louise. As a result, we attracted many new volunteers and new members and, helped by the introduction of the card reader by Tom, significant donations were made. We continue to sell the oil through the Parco Café.

Following pressure from the FoVP on behalf of the tennis coaches and tennis players, the tennis court had another 2-day power wash in late autumn 2024 with the result that the court flooding of 2023 has not recurred.

Vauxhall Park retained its Green Flag and the London in Bloom gold award (in the challenging category of 'park of the year'). In addition, Vauxhall Park has been given Green Heritage Site status by the Green Flag Awards body in 2025.

The most significant event of 2024 was the approval of the Phase II project. This was reduced in scope from the original plan to replace the under 5s' play area behind the pavilion building. The work was planned to start in June and to be completed by September 2024. It started in July and remains unfinished, a delay of 8 months on a 4-month project. This has been hugely annoying for the local community with the Fentiman Gate closed for 5 months, the lack of toilet facilities and the FoVP having to use temporary storage facilities. The layout of the building was substantially changed from the one that was signed off by the FoVP in early 2024. The communications with Lambeth Council on the project have been extremely frustrating and time consuming with few discernible outcomes. There has been little change in the lack of communication by Lambeth Council with the FoVP on this and other matters, an issue that we continue to raise.

We are running the lavender harvest over the weekend of 30 and 31 August with a distillation of the oil at a third party to follow. We had planned to purchase our own still, but as we still do not have our storage facility due to the new building being closed, this is being put on hold for another year.

Subject to committee approval, we plan to hold another social event to thank all the volunteers for their continued hard work later in 2025.

The 2 annual events of the Nigerian and Eritrean festivals are being held again in 2025. On 7 July, the park is being used as the start and finish of the Kidney Research London bridges walk involving 1,750 people with food facilities, entertainment and toilets being erected in the park. We were not consulted on this and, despite many emails since we were told about it in March, we still have not had a meeting to raise our concerns. Initially we had councillor support on this, but this has disappeared, so we are now trying to engage with the Lambeth Council events' department to limit damage to the park and try to secure revenue for the FoVP from the event as it must now be a fait accompli. There is an 'Afro Fit' park event on 26 July that we also have not been consulted on.

We continue to press for the 'witches hat' in the playground to be repaired. In anticipation of the ornamental fountain being switched on, FoVP paid for the fountain to be repainted.

Spring 2025 has been very dry. We need to start a watering rota, as in 2023, but this will be severely hampered by our watering equipment continuing to be in temporary storage.

We continue to hope that the new building will be opened in time for the summer, but we have serious doubts about this. It is too late now to plant out the beds to the side and the front of the new building – we hope to do this in the late autumn.

FoVP have been invited to be part of the selection panel to choose the operator of the new kiosk from the 25 expressions of interest received by Lambeth. To date, the selection panel has not met.

We intend to hold the 2026 AGM in March or April to align better with the start of our gardening year.

Sarah MacDonald has decided to stand down as secretary, but remain as a trustee, at this AGM. I am pleased to welcome Kate Losowsky who will take over from Sarah as the new secretary. The board would like to thank Sarah for all her hard work and welcomes Kate.

John Roome

21 June 2025

## Friends of Vauxhall Park Accounts Year to Oct 2024

<u>Income</u>	<u>Year to 31.10.24</u>	<u>Year to 31.10.23</u>
	£	£
Membership Subscriptions and Donations	1,227.00	841.00
Ring-fenced Donation for Phase II works	-	1,000.00
Gift Aid	184.38	551.78
Bank Interest	1,001.16	106.85
Lavender Sales	577.00	2,745.00
Amazon Smile donations	-	23.70
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,989.54</b>	<b>5,268.33</b>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Insurance	157.00	157.00
Gardening Tools / Hose & reel	353.39	-
Website Hosting and Email Domain	268.85	60.32
Plants	94.99	-
Refreshments volunteer groups	512.50	251.70
Social Evening	-	550.40
25th Anniversary Event Costs*	290.00	-
Card Reader Purchase	46.80	-
Card Reader Service Charges	12.69	-
Lavender Harvest - Oil Bottles	165.43	-
Lavender Harvest - Still Donation	100.00	-
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>2,001.65</b>	<b>1,019.42</b>
<b>Excess income over expenditure</b>	<b>987.89</b>	<b>4,248.91</b>
Balance Brought Forward from last year	<u>38,179.08</u>	<u>33,930.17</u>
<b>Balance at Year End</b>	<b><u>39,166.97</u></b>	<b><u>38,179.08</u></b>
Lloyds Current account at year end	5,237.02	5,830.56
Lloyds Business Saving account at year end	3,929.95	3,037.29
Fixed term deposits (mature 24/3/25)	<u>30,000.00</u>	<u>29,311.23</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>39,166.97</u></b>	<b><u>38,179.08</u></b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>38,166.97</b>	<b>37,179.08</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b><u>1,000.00</u></b>	<b><u>1,000.00</u></b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b><u>39,166.97</u></b>	<b><u>38,179.08</u></b>

\*Balance paid in Nov 24 (£350)



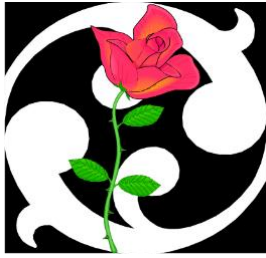
**FRIENDS OF VAUXHALL PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166894

---

# Accounts

---



# FRIENDS OF VAUXHALL PARK

## **Chair's report and future park activities**

My report covers events for the 12 months since the last AGM in June 2023.

The Friends have continued to be actively engaged in many aspects of the upkeep and running of the park over the last 12 months with significant input from our volunteer gardening group that had 71 members in June 2023 and now stands at 110. We had less than 10 in early 2020.

Volunteer gardening sessions have been running almost weekly with attendance regularly between 10 and 20 volunteers, up on last year. This has been a significant time commitment for me, Tessa, Polly and Sarah Macdonald. The group is becoming more diverse including the addition of several young people who are on the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. The social activity after each session is an important part of the enjoyment of our work. We funded a social event at the Parco Café in October to thank the volunteers for their hard work, which was very well attended, and we were thrilled to see our local councillors, Isla Wrathmell, Martin Bailey and Tom Swaine Jameson and the local MP, Florence Eshalomi, join us to show their support and appreciation for the work that we put into the maintaining the park.

Our group worked throughout the winter clearing leaves and continues to maintain the entire Fawcett Garden, the ornamental beds, the garden areas around the Parco Café and the conservation area next to the Montessori school. Jill Gregson has again been carrying out the endless task of ad hoc weeding in the lavender beds. So far this year, we have not had to carry out any watering duties due to the constant rainfall. The gardening input from the Lambeth Parks' department gardener at two days a week continues to be minimal and insufficient with no signs of changing. The Parks' department main activities are grass cutting, hedge trimming and litter picking, although we would like it to be much more.

The natural fence has now been completed in the conservation area by the Montessori school. The bog pond there was relined by us, a huge task, but sadly it does not seem to be effective in retaining sufficient water. We will see whether the water supply from the Montessori roof can be increased. The area is being temporarily used as a storage point for the plants that were removed from the front of the green building in anticipation of the start of the phase II works so any longer-term planting in the conservation area has been put on hold.

We organised the second lavender harvesting of the new beds in September. Unfortunately, we were unable to arrange for the flowers to be used to make lavender oil this year, but it did mean that the beds were pruned back in just one weekend and did not have to rely on our volunteer group having to complete the work over subsequent weeks as happened last year.

We have also assisted the tennis court users in dealing with the flooding of the courts that made them unusable in October 2023. Thanks to continued pressure by us to find a solution,

a 2-day power wash of the courts cleared the problem in late November. It seems that this will need to be at least an annual process to help the water drain from the courts.

The FoVP agreed to fund and plant the addition of 300 lavender plants to fill in the gaps in the lavender beds at a cost of around £3,000 using the parks' department purchase discount. Despite making the request in early April, the order was not placed at mid-June – we cancelled the order as it was too late in the season to plant them out.

Tom Anstey has joined us as a trustee and treasurer and has brought new ideas to attract more funds, members and volunteers. QR codes have been added to the notice boards to assist in making these easier.

We do not yet know whether we have retained the park's green flag award (judge to assess the park in late June) and the London in Bloom gold award (assessment later in 2024). We also do not know whether the park has been successful in obtaining a Green Heritage Award as part of a group submission.

The trustees have had to put in considerable time and effort to work with the Parks' department to help maintain the park. While we recognise that their funding and staffing have been reduced, we have struggled to have effective bilateral communication, which makes our efforts more time consuming and inefficient. We have been frustrated in our efforts throughout the year to be kept informed on Phase II of the park's works and have not been consulted on key decisions such as the removal of the under 5s' play area from the planning proposal. We reported last year that several new trees were planted in places that were inconsistent with the existing planting scheme or will not allow the trees to grow. These were moved, but then more tree planting occurred in early 2024 without consultation.

We continued to push for the key items from phase I of the park renovation to be resolved. We were successful in getting the vandalised equipment near the Ashmole entrance replaced, the witch's hat was repaired (now broken again) and the surfaces under the table tennis tables made permanent. This now completes the main items from Phase I.

### Future activities

We intend to hold the lavender harvesting managed by Louise over the weekend of 7 and 8 September with a distillation of the oil to follow. This could generate £2,000 to £3,000 for the FoVP. Subject to committee approval, we plan to hold another social event to thank all the volunteers for their continued hard work later in 2024.

We planned to hold a Late Summer Fair in September 2023, but as the process working with Lambeth Council on getting licences, approvals etc has become so complicated and risky to the FoVP, the FoVP have decided to postpone the event until a time when it becomes easier to work with the council.

Phase II of the park renovation works (the replacement of the green building and the development of the area behind it) looks likely to start in 2024, possibly imminently. We are still waiting to be updated with no real news since our last meeting with Lambeth council staff on 11 April. With 11 days' notice, we were informed of a start date of 17 June, but we objected on the basis that no storage for our equipment had been provided. Our objection was noted, and we now understand that work will commence on 24 June. We are working on a storage solution.

**John Roome 18.06.24**

**Friends of Vauxhall Park**  
**Income and Expenditure Account**  
**Year to 31 October 2023**

<b><u>Income</u></b>	<b><u>Year to 31.10.23</u></b>	<b><u>Year to 31.10.22</u></b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Membership Subscriptions	206.00	184.00
Membership Donations	635.00	506.00
Ring-fenced Donation for Phase II works	1,000.00	0.00
Gift Aid	551.78	0.00
Bank Interest	106.85	5.63
Hall Hire returned deposit	0.00	80.00
Lavender Sales	2,745.00	0.00
Amazon Smile donations	23.70	18.06
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,268.33</b>	<b>793.69</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		
Insurance	157.00	157.00
Gardening Tools / Hose & reel	0.00	238.13
Website Go Daddy	60.32	28.66
Printing Costs	0.00	31.73
Gift Martin Gardener	0.00	50.00
Plants	0.00	103.82
Refreshments volunteer groups	251.70	182.10
Social Evening	550.40	0.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,019.42</b>	<b>791.44</b>
<b>Excess income over expenditure</b>	<b>4,248.91</b>	<b>2.25</b>

Balance Brought Forward from last year	<u>33,930.17</u>	<u>33,927.92</u>
<b>Balance at Year End</b>	<b><u>38,179.08</u></b>	<b><u>33,930.17</u></b>
Lloyds Current account at year end	5,830.56	4,688.50
Lloyds Business Saving account at year end	3,037.29	29,241.67
Fix term deposit	<u>29,311.23</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>38,179.08</u></b>	<b><u>33,930.17</u></b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>37,179.08</b>	<b>33,930.17</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b><u>1,000.00</u></b>	<b><u>0.00</u></b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b><u>38,179.08</u></b>	<b><u>33,930.17</u></b>

Lyn Woodcraft 10.11.23

N.B. £443.28 interest due on fixed deposit maturity 02.11.23

**FRIENDS OF VAUXHALL PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166894

---

# Accounts

---

**Friends of Vauxhall Park**  
**Income and Expenditure Account**

<b><u>Income</u></b>	<b><u>Year to 31.10.22</u></b>	<b><u>Year to 31.10.21</u></b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Membership Subscriptions	184.00	316.00
Membership Donations	506.00	963.00
Donations	0.00	20.00
Gift Aid	0.00	196.20
Bank Interest	5.63	2.94
Hall Hire returned deposit	80.00	0.00
Bank Gratuities	0.00	152.00
Amazon Smile donations	18.06	7.16
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>793.69</b>	<b>1,657.30</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		
Hall Hire	0.00	40.00
Insurance	157.00	279.75
Netting & ties	0.00	29.06
Gardening Tools / Hose & reel	238.13	47.93
Grand reopening	0.00	4,645.17
Bog Pond Excavation and build	0.00	391.80
Website Go Daddy	28.66	28.78
Printing Costs	31.73	0.00
Gift Martin Little (gardener)	50.00	0.00
Plants	103.82	118.63
Refreshments volunteer groups	182.10	0.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>791.44</b>	<b>5,581.12</b>
<b>Excess income over/expenditure</b>	<b>2.25</b>	<b>3,923.82</b>
Balance Brought Forward from last year	<u>33,927.92</u>	<u>37,851.74</u>
<b>Balance at Year End</b>	<b><u>33,930.17</u></b>	<b><u>33,927.92</u></b>
Lloyds Current account at year end	4,688.50	4,691.88
Lloyds Business Saving account at year end	<u>29,241.67</u>	<u>29,236.04</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>33,930.17</u></b>	<b><u>33,927.92</u></b>

**Lyn Woodcraft 03.11.2022**



# FRIENDS OF VAUXHALL PARK

## **Chair's report and future park activities**

My report covers events for the 13 months since the last AGM in June 2022.

The main positive item of note over the past year has been the continued massive effort by our group of volunteers to keep the park looking fantastic. When we met last June, we were faced with a prolonged dry spell without gardening support from our gardener, Martin Little, who was on sick leave. As a result of the discussions at the AGM, several members volunteered to carry out watering duties on a regular basis that ensured that the plants and new trees survived the hot spell. Without their help the outcome would have been very different.

Our WhatsApp volunteer gardening group currently has seventy-one members. At a session in March, we had our largest gardening group with twenty-one volunteers. I have lost track of how many volunteering gardening sessions that we have had over the last twelve months – it is probably around twenty. The number of volunteers at each session is higher than last year with the work focused on gardening with very little leaf clearing that dominated a lot of the sessions previously. Again, there have been ad hoc gardening sessions involving Tessa and Charles King-Farlow, and Jill Gregson has worked tirelessly on weeding the lavender beds on a regular basis.

At the last AGM we were concerned with the impending park award season having lost Martin at a critical time. As a result, the volunteers stepped in to do a huge amount of work in a very short period and we were successful in retaining our gold medal in the London in Bloom award in the 'park of the year' category (won by Victoria Embankment Gardens, Westminster). Matthew Gwyther led an initiative for the park to enter the Green Heritage Award scheme, part of the Green Flag scheme, for the first time in 2023 as an additional award to London in Bloom and Green Flag. We were subsequently informed by the Parks' department that our entry had been deferred to 2024 as a result of a group decision across several Lambeth parks.

On the conservation front, we have started work again this Spring in the area by the Montessori school following the installation of the bike racks that seem to have stopped football damage in the bed. A local Duke of Edinburgh scheme student, Charlie Scardino, has been constructing a wild fence along the area that is taking shape. We plan to plant wildflower seeds there once we are sure that plant damage is less likely. Polly Freeman has been running sessions in the conservation area for children from St Stephen's school to introduce them to nature and to extend the insect hotel.

We organised the first lavender harvesting of the new beds in September. Approximately one hundred people came along, over two days, to harvest the lavender. The flowers were taken down to Carshalton and the resulting oil sold to benefit the park. Ruth Morgan, who for many years, has overseen the distillation has now stepped down from that role and we would like to thank her for all her hard work.

We continue to encourage corporate groups to come to the park. A group of ten, from Atkins

Global Engineering, spent a couple of hours weeding the lavender beds as part of a Corporate Volunteering Day. They gave us twelve pairs of secateurs which will come in very handy for gardening groups and the next lavender harvest.

A corporate volunteer group from TFL, made up of people working at the Oval Village development, visited the park in autumn 2022 and helped with various tasks.

You may have noticed the recent addition of four crab apple trees in random points around the park. The FOVP was not involved in this and have pointed out that three are in locations that are inconsistent with the existing planting scheme or will not allow the trees to grow. We have agreed with the Parks' department that these will be moved with FOVP advice to new locations over the winter when the growing season has ended.

However, it is not all good news. We knew that one day we would be losing full time gardening support in the park. We were informed in March that Martin was going down to two days a week in our park from the beginning of June. While some of his daily duties such as litter picking will be covered by a separate team within the Parks' department, we do not yet know how this new arrangement will work across all gardening related activities.

A particular concern is watering as Martin carried this out throughout every day that he was working with the Friends carrying on the duties over the weekends. We have suggested that a potential solution could be to use refugees who are housed locally under Parks' department supervision to do this work (one refugee is in our volunteer group and regularly helps with gardening work). While the refugees cannot be paid, this work could offer them an opportunity to enjoy time out of their hotel rooms and give them a social outlet.

We continue to push for the key items from phase I of the park renovation to be resolved, the replacement of the vandalised equipment in the playground. This is now scheduled for 8 August.

While we understand the current economic climate and its impact on local funding, the FOVP continue to raise our concerns on the impact of losing full time support with Lambeth Council. The renovated park and increasing population in the area means a significant increase in gardening work that cannot be covered by the FOVP. Also, anti-social behaviour has increased, examples of which we saw last summer and are sadly already occurring again this year.

In terms of other parts of the park, the tennis courts are the most booked in the borough, another indication of how valuable the park is to the local community. The Parco Café continues to be successful and is helped by Laura Jaeger through her work on the pots and the beds.

Moving on to future activities.

Planning permission for the new building in Phase II of the park renovation project was awaited. Some objections were lodged because of the inclusion of a kiosk and toilets in the scheme. The consultation has been reopened, for unexplained reasons, but will close shortly. The application will then go before the planning committee in June and, if approved, work could start in September.

We plan to harvest the new lavender beds again over a weekend in September. Details will follow nearer the time.

There were two events in the park this summer: A Nigerian Festival on 17 June and an Eritrean Martyrs Remembrance Day on 20 June. A late Summer Fair in September, with Laura Jaeger as the organiser, was under consideration.

I would like to end by thanking Ian Ross and Kevin Wallace from the Parks' department for their time to find solutions for the changes arising from the withdrawal of full-time gardening support. Also, to the counsellors, Isla Wrathmell and Martin Bailey for their help and support, and to Claire Holland for her recent, very rapid intervention to help us when we needed help. And of course, the volunteers who have given up their free time to keep the park looking great!

John Roome

Chairman

June 2023

**FRIENDS OF VAUXHALL PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166894

---

# Accounts

---

## **Trustees' report for year ended 31 October 2021**

2021 was a very eventful and successful year for the park.

The key event of 2021 was the official re-opening of the park in September following the completion of the phase I works the previous year. Polly Freeman designed the event and took it upon herself to organise the day itself. The event was a huge success with our local MP, Florence Eshalomi opening the afternoon, which was based around local children cutting a 120-metre ribbon to signify the park entering the next chapter in its long and interesting 131-year history. The whole event was funded by the Friends at a cost of just over £4,600 and it was estimated that around 2,000 people attended the afternoon's events.

The park was awarded gold, the top level, in the London in Bloom 2021 London Park of the year category. Over the last year, the trustees worked hard with our group of volunteer gardeners to move the park up from the 2020 silver gilt by making sure the park met all the key assessment criteria, including the creation of a conservation area for wildlife. We were also helped by the wider contribution of the local community in the park, in particular parents and young children helping with plant and bulb planting. We also retained the Green Flag award.

We continued to expand our volunteer gardening group with 65 people currently in our WhatsApp group. Without their help, the park would not look as fantastic as it does. Regular volunteer gardening events were held during the year with up to 15 at a session.

During the year, the trustees escorted senior members of Lambeth Council on tours of the park. Claire Holland, the leader of the council, Councillor Sonia Winifred, cabinet member for equalities and culture and Kevin Crook, the council's assistant director of neighbourhoods, all put the time in to visit the park and to talk to the trustees. These visits have proved useful for escalating park issues, including the resolution of the snagging list items from phase I.

The trustees continued to meet Lambeth Council parks department staff on a regular basis to follow up on the phase I snagging list items. Unfortunately progress on their resolution remained slow with many still outstanding in 2022.

In February 2021, Ardian and Mimoza Neziri took over the running of the Parco Café from Dominic Alves. The Friends have maintained the borders and planters and made the whole area more attractive and welcoming, which has helped in the café's success.

Discussion with Lambeth Council officials on phase II of the park's refurbishment works began based on the results of a survey of park users. The anticipated timescales on this phase remain unknown.

The financial position of the charity remains strong despite the major outlay on the re-opening event. The financial report for the 2021 year covers the movements and year end balances in more detail.

John Roome  
Chairman

**Friends of Vauxhall Park**  
**Income and Expenditure Account**

	<u>Year to 31.10.20</u>	<u>Year to 31.10.21</u>
	£	£
<b><u>Income</u></b>		
Membership Subscriptions	212.00	316.00
Membership Donations	812.50	963.00
Donations Easter Egg Hunt	0.00	20.00
Gift Aid	176.15	196.20
Bank Interest	12.46	2.94
Hall Hire returned deposit	100.00	0.00
Bank gratuities	0.00	152.00
Amazon Smile	0.00	7.16
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,313.11</b>	<b>1,657.30</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		
Hall Hire (Unused in 2020– Refund /use 2021)	80.00	40.00
Insurance	279.75	279.75
Human Sundial restoration	2,340.00	0.00
Gardening Tools	41.61	47.93
Keys	16.99	0.00
Netting and ties	0.00	29.06
Website	0.00	28.78
Grand Re-opening event	0.00	4,645.17
Plants	0.00	118.63
Bog pond excavation and build	0.00	391.80
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>2,758.35</b>	<b>5,581.12</b>
Excess <b>Expenditure over Income</b>	<b>1,445.24</b>	<b>3,923.82</b>
Balance Brought Forward from last year	39,296.98	37,851.74
<b>Balance at year end</b>	<b>37,851.74</b>	<b>33,927.92</b>
Lloyds Current Account at year end	8,695.64	4,691.88
Lloyds Business Account at year end	29,156.10	29,236.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,851.74</b>	<b>33,927.92</b>

John Roome, Chair

**FRIENDS OF VAUXHALL PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166894

---

# Accounts

---

## Trustees' report for year ended 31 October 2020

The refurbishment of Vauxhall park with a £1.5m budget was scheduled to start in May 2019. But *idverde*, the contractors chosen by Lambeth to carry out the work, did not appear until the autumn. The discovery of asbestos in some areas then caused further delays and work did not start in earnest until January 2020.

As a result of these delays no FOVP events took place in the park during 2019 except the Easter Egg hunt and an unexpected lavender harvest in September. The accounts for the year ended 31 October 2019 record the receipts from sales of lavender oil for both 2018 and 2019. Polly Freeman led a virtual 'tour' of the Park, hosted by the Tate South Lambeth Library, talking about its surprising history: **Vauxhall's Park for the People** on Wednesday 11 November. With no other events in the park Friends' subscriptions were reduced.

Once *idverde* were on site, fortnightly meetings took place with Rob Kelly of Lambeth Council and Charles Vyvyan, Chairman of FOVP, supported by Polly Freeman, John Roome and Tessa King-Farlow. They were regularly joined by Lee Turner of *idverde* and Joe Todd of Turkington Martin, the landscape architects, who were both helpful and responsive to issues raised by the FOVP.

The major works were the new playground, the new diagonal path, the new dog run and the replacement of the twenty year-old lavender beds and re-working of the adjoining garden as a sensory garden and place for relaxation. *idverde* are to be congratulated for continuing to work on the refurbishment of the park despite the Covid lockdown in March 2020. Polly Freeman played a major role in planning the new lavender garden, including the retention of the two sundials. The "human" sundial is incorporated into the lavender garden. Polly also organised the design and installation of the mosaic in the fountain. Tessa King-Farlow was invited to produce a planting plan for the new flower beds, adjoining the lavender garden and around the brick maze and the other free standing and more conventional sundial: Tessa's plan was accepted and she supervised the planting in accordance with her design of the beds. Thanks are due to Polly and Tessa for all their hard work.

The new play ground was opened on 21 October 2020. Florence Eshalomi, MP for Lambeth, visited the park on 28 October for a planting of bulbs in the children's area and again on 30 October to mark the formal end of the *idverde* contract. As a result of the park refurbishment, there has been a more diverse involvement in the park with 4 bulb planting sessions during the autumn attended by 52 parents and 66 children from local schools and an after-school playgroup. Over 3,000 bulbs were planted. In addition, the FOVP gardening group has expanded from less than 10 to over 30 volunteers.

The new railings along the South Lambeth road were delayed because of a paint problem. But completion of their installation was achieved in November 2020 and most of the outstanding work had by then been completed: snags remain to be sorted. Once *idverde* were off site work on the tennis courts could start and was completed on 30 March 2021.

Because of the lockdown FOVP's 2019 AGM was delayed but finally held on 7 November 2020 on Zoom. The accounts for the year ended 31 October 2019 were presented. Charles Vyvyan, our chairman, Helena Lewis, our Treasurer, and Clare Church retired as trustees and were thanked for their work for FOVP. John Roome has now been appointed chairman and Lyn Woodcraft as treasurer.

John Roome  
Chairman

**Friends of Vauxhall Park**  
**Income and Expenditure Account**

<b><u>Income</u></b>	<b><u>Year to 31.10.20</u></b>	<b><u>Year</u></b>
Membership Subscriptions	£212.00	
Membership Donations	£812.50	
Donations Easter Egg Hunt	£0.00	
Gift Aid	£176.15	
Bank Interest	£12.46	
Hall Hire returned deposit	£100.00	
Lavender Oil Sales	£0.00	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£1,313.11</b>	
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		
Hall Hire (Unused in 2020– Refund /use 2021)	£80.00	
Insurance	£279.75	
Human Sundial restoration	£2,340.00	
Gardening Tools	£41.61	
Keys	£16.99	
Lavender Oil Extraction	£0.00	
Website	£0.00	
Lambeth Licence	£0.00	
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£2,758.35</b>	
Excess <b>Expenditure over Income</b> /Income over Expenditure	<b>£1,445.24</b>	
Balance Brought Forward from last year	£39,296.98	
<b>Balance at year end</b>	<b>£37,851.74</b>	
Lloyds Current Account at year end	£8,695.64	
Lloyds Business Account at year end	£29,156.10	
Lavender oil sales received 30/3/20		
<b>Total</b>	<b>£37,851.74</b>	

John Roome, Chairman

**to 31.10.19**

£227.00

£737.00

£181.38

£213.79

£14.60

£0.00

£1,807.00

£3,180.77

£420.00

£279.75

£0.00

£0.00

£0.00

£100.00

£431.28

£21.00

£1,252.03

£1,928.74

£37,368.24

£39,296.98

£8,346.34

£29,143.64

£1,807.00

£39,296.98