

FRIENDS OF VAUXHALL PARK

NEWSLETTER No. 28



DIDN'T WE HAVE A LOVELY TIME?! SUMMER FAIR 2013



Despite the gloomy forecast, no gazebos, small children or dogs flew away in the wind and the rain held off allowing us all to enjoy the fun of the fair. Probably for the first time in its' history, the Park saw a Zumba demonstration and many firm favourites returned including the unique Madame Mazurka, the Oval Montessori School's marvellous childrens' games, Wyvil Primary School's amazing Steel Pan Band keeping the Park full of people from 2 until 5pm. We would like to thank the many people who make the fair possible: Winkworth Kennington who sponsor the event and did copious amounts of copying, the Oval Montessori School for organising and sponsoring the childrens' event, Covent Garden Market

Authority who donated the plants for the plant stall, Travis Perkins who lent the generator free of charge and the many volunteers who put up gazebos, ran the different stalls and put posters up in shops as far as the eye could see. THANK YOU!

THE PERGOLA

We are extremely grateful to Tommy Candler and Alan Plaistowe who planned, sourced and paid for the new planting of the Pergola in the lavender garden area. A carefully chosen range of roses and wisteria will, before long, restore the Pergola to its' former glory. We look forward to the air being filled with the scent of these beautiful roses.



THE FOUNTAIN



After many years of being knocked by passing vehicles, the base around the fountain was in a terrible state. As it seemed unlikely that there would ever be money from the Council's budget to repair the damage, the Friends of Vauxhall Park decided to use the reserves they have built up from the many kind donations from their members for the job. Peter Hilliard, a master stonemason, has restored the base and we hope that passing vehicles will give it more of a wide berth in future. The colour of the stone will tone down as the years go by!

VOLUNTEERING IN THE PARK

Now that we no longer have adequate maintenance in the Park, the local community have stepped up to fill in the gaps left by the Parks team caused by severe cuts to the budget of the Parks Department:: Tradescant Road area residents are caring for the bed next to the Café, the Academy on Lawn Lane look after the bed on the corner of Lawn Lane and the beautiful bed by the Fentiman Road/Stanley Close entrance is cared for by two local residents. If you see the Vauxhall Park Volunteers hard at work, please encourage them. We would like to thank the organisers of the



volunteer gardeners for all their hard work. CLS, a local company and the company behind the Vauxhall Square development have generously sponsored the seasonal planting around the model village. Without their support, this corner of the Park would be much less colourful. A team of workers from the Graham House Hostel at Vauxhall Cross, organised by Emmaus South Lambeth, are repainting the railings around the dog area.



THE FAWCETT PLAQUE



In 1884, in an act of great generosity which we are still enjoying today, Henry and Millicent Fawcett gave their house and garden on The Lawn (which was approximately where the path parallel to the South Lambeth Road is) so that a Park could be established for the residents of Vauxhall. Some years ago the Friends of Vauxhall Park and the South London Fawcett Group planted a white mulberry tree to commemorate the great suffragette Millicent Fawcett. The metal plaque by the tree has become illegible and damaged so the two groups have commissioned a new stone plaque. Lucy Haugh a talented stone engraver is working on the plaque which will be installed later this summer. We are very grateful to Marmi and Granito for donating the stone for the plaque. Watch this space!

NEIGHBOURHOOD ENHANCEMENT

Residents will be aware that there is a major consultation exercise taking place at the moment to improve the local environment including the area around the Park. There will be a major event at the Wheatsheaf Hall on 20 July when everyone is invited to go along and let the Council know what they think about the proposals. Please do go along and take photos of what you do and don't like about your streets.

**FUTURE DATES
OPEN MEETING
ASHMOLE TENANTS HALL, MEADOW ROAD
SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 10.30am**