

KING HENRY'S WALK  
garden

**Annual Report 2017**



# **Friends of King Henry's Walk Garden**

Registered Charity no 1134481

## **Trustees**

Nicola Freshwater (Chair)  
Amanda Hall (Secretary)  
David Harrison (Treasurer)  
Annabel Goulding  
Angela MacGuire  
Jenny Morgan

## **Management committee**

Nicola Freshwater (Chair)  
Amanda Hall (Secretary)  
David Harrison (Treasurer)  
Annabel Goulding (Membership Secretary/Vice Chair)  
Peter Clarke  
Fiona Kirk  
Angela MacGuire  
Maggie Millman  
Jenny Morgan  
Andy Parkinson  
Philomine Wales  
Elizabeth Ward  
Michael Woolley

## **Bank**

Co-operative Bank plc  
PO Box 250  
Skelmersdale  
WN8 6WT

## **Address**

11C King Henry's Walk  
London N1 4NX

## **Website**

[www.khwgarden.org.uk](http://www.khwgarden.org.uk)

## **Email**

[info@khwgarden.org.uk](mailto:info@khwgarden.org.uk)

## Chair's Report

If you wondered why there is a fox on the front page of this annual report, it's because 2016 was the year when the foxes decided that having a large den in the woodland was no longer enough, and that taking up residence in the middle of the plots would be a good idea. They ignored efforts to block up holes and kept digging away until in January 2017 the volunteers at the monthly work day dug out the underground complex and filled it in. Spreading out under three or four plots, there was a real danger of collapse and of losing plotholders down a foxhole.

No doubt the foxes found our determined efforts to thwart their homebuilding plans quite bemusing, as they are probably equally bemused by the activities that go on throughout the year in the garden that they clearly regard as theirs.

### Education

The Garden Classroom continued to run their excellent programme of learning outside the classroom, with a total of 126 half-day educational sessions delivered at the garden, which can be broken down into approximately 3,024 individual educational experiences. The Secret Garden Theatre and Acorn Club holiday projects were also very successful, and all help to bring new families into the garden.

We ran fewer workshops in 2016 than the previous year, in order to make it more manageable for the committee, but bookings were down overall so we'll be trying to reverse that trend this year. There is a great choice of workshops planned for 2017, with booking due to open soon on the website, and we will be working hard to get word out about the variety and good value for money that they offer.

However, the range of classes offered at the garden by other providers is starting to grow, and in 2016 these included singing, mindfulness and meditation.

### Events

2016 was a challenging year for our seasonal events, with the autumn show in particular suffering from the worst weather of any large event since the garden opened nine years ago. That people still made the effort to turn up and said that they enjoyed the show is testament to the spirit and hard work of everyone involved. It's great to have the opportunity that these events give us to open up KHWG to the wider community.

We also took part in London Open Garden Squares Weekend, and held a fundraising opening for the National Gardens Scheme, which is the most significant charitable funder of nursing charities in the UK.

Community projects included get-togethers for elderly local residents, and the ever popular annual Strawberry Tea for the Mildmay Pensioners.

### Membership

Membership levels have remained steady, and we are always pleased to welcome new members to the garden. Statistics tell us that the Mildmay demographic is changing, with more young families moving into the area, and this is something that we see reflected in our membership, though it's great that we still have members from a wide range of age groups and backgrounds.

### People

We were sorry to lose Rosi Petrova as a trustee and committee member as she had to resign due to pressure of work. Although only involved with KHWG for a fairly short time she helped greatly with improving our digital communications.

Francesca Mahoney, the KHWG Treasurer since November 2014, stepped down from this role at the end of 2016. With her previous experience as Finance Director at the Museum of London, not only was she extremely efficient at keeping the accounts and fulfilling the Treasurer duties,

but her experience of working for a charity was very useful, particularly for the trustees, when advising us on aspects of charitable business.

We were very pleased to welcome David Harrison, a garden member since KHWG opened, who has taken on the position of Treasurer.

Amanda Hall, who has been our Secretary since 2007, will be standing down at this AGM. As well as carrying out her secretarial duties quietly and efficiently for all these years, she has used her culinary skills to great effect in ensuring that the catering at KHWG is of a very high standard and that food hygiene standards are adhered to. We are very grateful for all Amanda's hard work, but her talent for pizza-making will be particularly sorely missed!

People who are not committee members but who make a great contribution to the garden on a regular basis and deserve our thanks include Alison Fell who works with Jenny Morgan in the greenhouse to produce plants for sale and for the garden, Louise Norton and Stephanie Irvine who help Michael Woolley with caring for the KHWG fruit trees, Sherry Morris who updates the garden's website, Judith Palmer who manages KHWG's social media presence, and Clare Jeapes who keeps all the garden's bird feeders filled.

All the committee members are volunteers who run the garden in their spare time. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for the great work they do. There are currently vacancies, and we are always looking for new enthusiasts to join us!

## **Objectives**

We set ourselves the following objectives to achieve in 2016:

- further develop relationships with partner organisations and individuals to encourage greater use of the garden - *achieved (classes include singing, mindfulness and meditation) but need to continue to develop this further in future;*
- achieve a surplus (before capital items) of £600 - *exceeded;*
- sustain the level of keyholder membership - *not achieved, numbers fallen from 110 to 101;*
- complete certain projects for improving the garden infrastructure - *partly achieved: main building roof repairs carried out and redecorated, new doors fitted to storage shed and electricity cupboard, woodland bee hut almost complete, hot water system not yet upgraded.*

The objectives we've set for 2017 are as follows:

- establish a methodology for monitoring wildlife and biodiversity;
- develop plans for and complete repairs to the bridge and decked area;
- establish a working relationship with a new partner organisation to encourage greater awareness and use of KHWG.

September 2017 will see the garden's tenth anniversary. Look out for news later in the year about how we plan to celebrate. After almost ten years as Chair, and as Secretary of the original founding committee, I will be resigning at this year's AGM, though I hope to remain a Trustee and will help Andy to run the work days. I have loved my time at KHWG, which is a very special place, and working here has given me opportunities to try my hand at all sorts of things that I would never have done otherwise, ranging from management to event planning, catering, poster design, public speaking, and even some gardening from time to time! The KHWG committee is a very friendly one, and over the years everyone has been overwhelmingly positive and supportive. Phil Wales is taking on the position of Chair and I am confident that the garden will continue to flourish in her hands, ably assisted by Annabel Goulding who is a great Vice Chair.

## **Nicola Freshwater**

Chair

March 2017

# King Henry's Walk Garden – Annual Income and Expense Accounts

Totals from 1 Jan 2016 to 31 December 2016	2016	totals
	£	£
INCOME		<u>14,089.02</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Running costs:		
Administration	2,078.51	
Bees	357.22	
Education	1,500.00	
Events	1,730.00	
Maintenance General	2,594.27	
Oven Costs / Supplies	0	
Bird Food	368.69	
Manure/compost	755.00	
Other	0	
Community Projects	123.96	
Plants	7.87	
Publicity	236.00	
Sales	85.62	
Security	349.90	
Grants	0	
Building Hire	159.24	
Miscellaneous	0	
Membership	110.00	
Training	0	
Tools	0	
Website Hosting & Development	0	
Workshops	1,104.73	
Total running costs		11,561.01
Total capital items		5,874.43
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>17,435.44</u>
NET INCOME		<u>-3,346.42</u>
Balance brought forward on 1 January		35,732.89
Bank balance as at 31 December		<u>36,529.40</u>

Of this total, £10,000 is retained as a reserve fund.

*These accounts are shortly to be submitted for independent scrutiny by an accountant.*

**David Harrison (accounts prepared by Francesca Mahoney)**

Treasurer

March 2017

## 2016 in summary

Number of plots allocated at 31 Dec 2016: 74

Number of key holders at 31 Dec 2016: 101

Number on waiting list at 31 Dec 2016: 21

### Seasonal events

	No of attendees	Profit/loss
Summer	400+	£1,431.71
Autumn	110	£782.93
Winter	350+	£1,721.43
Other		£171.02
TOTAL	860+	£4,107.09

### Workshops

Number held: 10

Total attendees: 51

Overall profit/loss: +£102.27

### Volunteer hours worked (estimated)

Committee 5,460

*(estimated on the basis of 7 committee members working an average of 10 hours per week; 7 committee members working an average of 5 hours per week)*

Weekend openings 576

Events 400

Workshops 30

Volunteer workdays 360

TOTAL 6,826

### No grant funding received