

KING HENRY'S WALK  
garden

**Annual Report 2012**



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

Registered Charity no 1134481

## **Trustees**

Nicola Freshwater  
Amanda Hall  
Marnie Rose  
Felicity Swaffer

## **Management committee**

Nicola Freshwater (Chair)  
Marnie Rose (Vice Chair)  
Amanda Hall (Secretary)  
Felicity Swaffer (Treasurer)  
Maria Luniw/Susan Whitehead (Membership Secretary)  
Liz Cook  
Rhodri Davies  
Debby Lawrence  
Rosey Lyall  
Angela Macguire  
Andy Parkinson  
Elizabeth Ward

## **Bank**

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

## **Address**

11C King Henry's Walk  
London N1 4NX

## **Telephone**

020 7923 9035

## **Website**

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

## **Email**

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

## Chair's Report

2011 was another successful year for King Henry's Walk Garden, exemplified by the award of Best Community Garden in London in Bloom for the second year running, and the third time in the four years since KHWG opened. This is unprecedented in these awards, and provides recognition of our unique achievement in creating a garden that is successful on so many levels, offering different things to different people.

### Education

The charitable objectives assigned to the Friends by the Charity Commission focus predominantly on the educational role of the garden, particularly in relation to young people. We firmly believe that it is our responsibility to spread the benefits of the garden to as many locals as possible, and bringing children in with their schools and giving them a valuable learning experience is one of the best ways of doing this.

The programme devised by our partner, social enterprise The Garden Classroom, has continued to flourish. 58 days of workshops were delivered in 2011 (representing £2,800 of income to KHWG), which can be broken down into 116 sessions and over 2,800 individual educational experiences, the highest number since its creation in 2008. The Global Growers programme, which is funded by the Local Food Lottery, looks at food growing, sustainability and education, while TGC is also developing a growing focus on literacy, with projects designed around the KHWG bees and woodland. TGC's tree education programme won another LEAF award for the most successful project funded by the Forestry Commission since the start of the community grant scheme. Over the year TGC has worked (using KHWG as a base) with the following schools: St Jude's & St Paul's, Highbury Quadrant, Newington Green, Canonbury, William Tyndale, Rotherfield, Thornhill, St Joan of Arc, St Matthias, De Beauvoir, Grasmere and Princess May, to name a few, and is looking to expand its operations borough wide and beyond. It also has the Learning Outside the Classroom accreditation.

Education for adults remains important to us as ever, and the garden has been busy with regular talks and workshops, open to the general public, covering topics ranging from seed sowing and propagation to bee keeping, foraging, crafts and cookery. Twenty talks and workshops were held in 2011 and were attended by over 300 people. Feedback is sought at the end of every session, and this has been overwhelmingly positive, with many participants scoring every element of the course as 'very good'. We made a loss on the workshops, although this was cushioned in 2011 by grant funding, but have decided that we are prepared to subsidise the workshop programme from the income that we make on our events. We remain committed to the principle that we should keep charges as low as possible, and offer concessionary rates where appropriate, in order to ensure that the activities at King Henry's Walk Garden are open to all.

Thanks are due again to David Gething for running his popular monthly wine club, and to Faye Zubaidi and Becky Tabram for their fortnightly art club run between April and September. Susan Whitehead has started a crafts group to encourage people to get together to make items for sale at garden events, which should provide a positive focus for communal activity as well as an aid to fundraising.

### Events

Our main seasonal events of the year have been very successful, and once again the weather has been (fairly) kind. Attendances are summarised below. We depend totally on the help of volunteers to organise and run these events and would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone who has done their bit by putting on a steward's jacket, serving refreshments, counting people in and out of the gate, becoming a human fruit machine ... the list is endless.

We also held events specifically for local community groups, including a strawberry tea for the Mildmay Pensioners, and the garden was visited by organisations such as the Turkish and Kurdish Women's Welfare Group, and delegates from the Wildlife Gardening conference held at the Mayville Centre in November.

## **Membership**

The last year has seen some changes in this area as Leonie Johnson, who had been our Membership Secretary since the garden opened, resigned in June 2011 due to the increasing demands on her time caused by a new job. I would like to thank Leonie for her commitment to KHWG and wish her every success in her new role. Maria Luniw then took on the position of Membership Secretary and has worked very hard streamlining membership processes and updating information. Unfortunately Maria is also now leaving us as she has taken on a major role in training volunteers for the Olympics, but her contribution has been very much appreciated by everyone who has worked with her and we wish Maria the best of luck with this fantastic opportunity. We are very fortunate that Susan Whitehead has stepped up to become our new Membership Secretary, and we look forward to working with her.

We are currently still in the process of membership renewals and will be able to report on this in greater detail at the AGM.

## **Committee**

Debby Lawrence is stepping down at the AGM due to work commitments, and I'd like to thank her for her contribution over the past year. I'm glad to say she will still have time to be part of the greenhouse team in 2012.

We were very pleased to welcome Rhodri Davies to the committee in 2011, and have already benefited greatly from his experience working for the Charities Aid Foundation.

All of the committee have been working as hard as ever, and King Henry's Walk Garden would not be what it is today without the dedication shown by this talented bunch. It certainly makes the job of Chair much easier to know that I can rely on people not only to get on with their jobs efficiently and professionally, but to take initiatives and step forward to make their own contribution to our vision of the garden.

## **Awards**

As mentioned at the beginning of this report, we are very pleased to have won Best Community Garden in the London in Bloom awards 2011. We also achieved the highest level possible in the RHS It's Your Neighbourhood award for the second year running, and won Best Community Garden in Islington in Bloom. We also received a Green Flag Community award (formerly Green Pennant) for the fourth year running.

## **Publicity**

Publicity for the garden has been good, with coverage of our events in the local press, and the establishment of our Facebook page has proved very popular.

We have received visitors from as far afield as Mexico, Japan, Belgium and Italy who have come to talk to us about how to set up and manage a community garden.

## **The future**

We have set ourselves the following objectives to achieve in 2012:

- to recruit 50 new keyholder members;
- to raise £3,000 from the main seasonal events;
- to get feedback from garden users by means of a survey;

- to work more closely with other local organisations to spread the influence of KHWG beyond the confines of the garden itself.

The main points that we hope to achieve by 2016 remain:

- to ensure that everyone in the catchment area is aware of KHWG;
- to attract a more diverse range of garden users to reflect the local community better;
- to encourage greater use of the garden, particularly through partnerships with other organisations;
- to become as financially self-supporting as possible.

We believe that King Henry's Walk Garden is a true community garden in that it provides a place for learning, for quiet contemplation, for fun and games, and for socialising. We hope that everyone using the garden can find what they're looking for in it, and enjoy the fact that it is shared with so many members of our community.

**Nicola Freshwater**

Chair

March 2012

# Treasurer's Report

## King Henry's Walk Garden Accounts Summary 2011

**Balance brought forward at 1 Jan 2011                    £19,062.24**

### Income

Grants	£25,400	61%
Education & Events	£8,486	20%
Building hire	£3,513	8%
Subscriptions	£2,723	6%
Outreach	£898	2%
Sales	£699	2%
Interest	£32	0%
Other	£220	1%
TOTAL	£41,971	

### Expenditure

Administration	£2401	8%
Bees	£276	1%
Capital Items	£11,442	39%
Education & Events	£7,185	24%
Maintenance	£192	1%
Outreach	£1,124	4%
Plants	£88	0%
Publicity	£1,687	6%
Purchases for resale*	£885	3%
Security	£494	2%
Tools	£362	1%
Utilities	£506	2%
Other**	£2,800	1%
TOTAL	£29,443	

**Balance brought forward at 1 Jan 2012                    £31,509.23**

Of this total £12,344 (40%) are unrestricted funds.

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

\*Compost and manure

\*\*Through payment of grants received by KHVG for TGC

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

**Felicity Swaffer**

Treasurer

March 2012

## 2011 in summary

Number of plots allocated at 21 Nov 2011: 75

Number of key holders at 21 Nov 2011: 77

Number on waiting list at 21 Nov 2011: 9

### Events

	No of attendees	Profit/loss
Spring	250	+£369
Summer	750	+£1418
Autumn	250	+£795
Winter	600	+£550
TOTAL	1850	+£3132

### Workshops

Total attendees: 323

Overall profit/loss: -£1235

### Volunteer hours worked (estimated)

Committee	4680	<i>(estimated on the basis of 6 committee members working an average of 10 hours per week; 6 committee members working an average of 5 hours per week)</i>
Weekend openings	576	
Events	400	
Workshops	80	
Volunteer days	252	
TOTAL	5988	

### Grant funding received

Barratt Homes: £5,000 towards construction of storage shed

Garfield Weston Foundation: £1,500 towards construction of storage shed

Girdlers Charitable Trust: £800 for delivery of educational sessions by TGC

Hedley Foundation: £2,000 for delivery of educational sessions by TGC

Islington Community Chest: £10,000 towards educational programmes 2011 and 2012

Islington Community Chest Local Initiatives: £4,000 towards construction of storage shed

Islington Community Chest Local Initiatives: £1,000 towards four events

LBI East Area Committee: £500 towards 2010 winter fair

LBI Festivals grant 2010: £600 towards 2010 winter fair

TOTAL £25,400