



The new lighting scheme has bedded in well and the electricity bill has reduced drastically with new bulbs that are being used.

Brompton Cemetery

To submit further plans to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the conservation of Brompton Cemetery, a detailed survey of the diversity and abundance of flora and fauna within the site is required. If you are skilled in species identification, currently have some spare time and would like to volunteer to help, contact Nick Lane, Partnership and Community Engagement Officer at nlane@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk.

Identity theft scam warning

The Council has been made aware of an attempt to con residents into giving personal details under the guise of receiving a 'council tax adjustment'. In the emails residents are told that, as a result of an adjustment by the Listing Officer of the Valuation Office Agency, their address has been downgraded for council tax purposes and they are entitled to a refund for previous overcharges. In order to obtain a refund residents are asked to scan and send a copy of their

latest council tax bill and also a copy of their UK driving licence or passport. The Council wants to stress that these are not genuine emails and no such council tax adjustment exists. If you have been contacted please do not respond, but instead call the Council on 020 7361 3424.

Earl's Court Ward Councillors

Following the local elections held on 23 May, the following were elected to serve to represent the Earl's Court Ward for the next four years:

- Cllr Fenella Aouane: cllr.aouane@rbkc.gov.uk
- Cllr Malcolm Spalding: cllr.spalding@rbkc.gov.uk
- Cllr Linda Wade: cllr.wade@rbkc.gov.uk

Making contact with Earl's Court Square Residents' Association

If you wish to make contact with ECSRA, you can either drop a letter into 19a Earl's Court Square or email ecsra@o2.co.uk or ecsrachair@talktalk.net. Further details can be found on the ECSRA website: www.ecsra.co.uk



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 18 November:

40th Anniversary Celebrations at the Poets' House with guest speakers Caroline Welby and Evan Davis. See enclosed invitation.

Sunday 14 December:

Christmas Tree lighting. This will take place late afternoon in the Square garden. There will be Christmas music to listen to, mulled wine and mince pies to keep you warm and sweets on the tree for the children. Admission is free so come and meet your neighbours and get into the festive spirit.

Annual General Meeting

This will take place on an evening in February next year, the date being given in the Annual Report and Newsletter to be published in January, as well as by notices around the Square.

Membership

There was a slight confusion as a result of the Annual Newsletter being sent out later this year, in May, as membership forms were included. Several members who had already renewed their membership did so again and thank you to those who asked that the second subscription to be treated as a donation. Our membership now stands at 84, including 6 new members, a decrease on last year.

Planning and Property

Planning permission has been granted to build a house on the site of the three garages in the north east arm of the Square.

With thanks to our print sponsor

FARON SUTARIA
t: 020 7835 1577

It will have a basement so there will be disruption in that area once building work commences.

Rubbish and Recycling

Please do *not* place shredded paper in your recycling bag. The small pieces are a fire hazard needing to be removed by hand and can even mean plant having to be shut down for maintenance as it clogs up the equipment. Shredding also shortens the paper fibres so it is not ideal for recycling as the quality of the end product is poor. Keep shredding to a minimum and place it in black bags for general rubbish.

We are pleased to announce that a third litter bin has been erected on a lamppost in the Square, in the south west corner outside St Cuthbert's School.

Traffic and Parking

There have been on-going problems with parents double parking their cars when they come to collect their children in the afternoons from St Cuthbert's school. The south west arm of the Square is the only vehicular entrance and any congestion in that area can cause problems to other traffic trying to turn in from the busy Warwick Road.

We have been advised that there has been an article in the weekly school newsletter about this, encouraging parents to walk to and from school or to park in the Pay and Display bays. We await to see an improvement.

Footpath Renewal

The paving on the north side of Earl's Court Square, adjacent to the Garden, was replaced during August. Despite alarms that the existing York stones might be lost, we were relieved by the reassurance of the Highways department of RBK&C that damaged stones would be replaced by the original style York stones held in stock

Police and Crime

Thanks are due to the good efforts of John Walker, the Council working with local police and the probation service, have used offenders on the Community Payback Service to give the Tardis Police box outside the Earl's Court Road entrance / exit to the underground station a make over. The work was paid for through the local City Living Fund.

Social

The ambient weather helped bring out the displays of food and disco fun at the annual BBQ held for residents in the Garden Square in early July.



The Strawberry Garden Tea Party attracted 350 local friends and neighbours at the annual event held by the Earl's Court Community Trust.



RBK&C News

On 4 June, Jennifer Ware was given an award by the Mayor, along with six other RBK&C residents, for her 60 years contribution to community work within the Borough. Congratulations to her!

The Annual Civic Service was held on Sunday 29 June, the feast of St Peter and St Paul, at St Mary Abbots church, followed by a reception in the Mayor's Parlour. ECSRA was represented by Sue Lupton, Christine Powell and Jennifer Ware.

40th Anniversary Celebrations

An invitation is enclosed with this Newsletter, together with an application for tickets, for the 40th Anniversary celebrations to be held on Tuesday 18 November at the Poets' House, 21 Earl's Court Square, by the kind hospitality of Jakob and Teena Stott.

It will take the form of a reception with wine and canapés and we have Caroline Welby, who was brought up in the Square, and Evan Davis, BBC broadcaster, as guest speakers. We do hope you and your guests will be able to join us. Tickets are £15 each.

Garden News

The garden continues to thrive and to be enjoyed by many, and we are pleased to welcome new garden rate payers and subscribers alike. Eyre and Lucian continue to look after the garden for us overseen by Victor who has after many, many years of service has chosen to retire from the active side of the garden.

Needless to say, the Garden Committee is very, very grateful to Victor for his time and expertise over the years and for his kindness to continue overseeing the team who are now involved and hope that now he can enjoy being in the garden and make lists of things for others to do rather than have to do them himself!



Thank you Victor.

The wandering antics of our Egyptian hounds continue to amuse us, although sadly one did break an ear on a recent adventure. Dare we ask you to be careful with them please, and to keep an eye on your children!

Sadly, at the beginning of the summer we had to replant the newly planted central bed due to the inconsiderate behaviour of guests of one resident who, despite being asked a number of times by fellow garden users, allowed their children to rampage through the gardens destroying many of the plants and damaging the irrigation system which cost over £1,000 to remedy. We do draw your attention to the rules of the square which are in the notice boards and ask that you and your guests abide by them.

The Open Squares weekend in June was a great success, with more people visiting than before and the Chairman of the Garden Committee was interviewed on BBC Radio London's Robert Elms Show. Tea and cakes and live music in the afternoons compensated for the rather grey weather but thankfully we didn't have the torrential rain that was forecast.

The garden took part in the London Garden Squares competition and we have been awarded a Silver Certificate which is a great improvement on recent years!