

Lotti Henley's Charity gets Government Praise and Award



PLANZHEROES (Heroes for Zero Waste) is in its 7th year. Lotti and her small team of volunteers, brought together around her kitchen table in Wetherby Mansions, were given the *London Leaders 2011* award by the Mayor at City Hall. This provided them with strategic input from business mentors and a few pounds to help with progressing their charitable cause.

Fast forward to February 2016 when PlanZheroes is being recognised by the Government and David Cameron with an award called a *Points of Light* for its innovative work solving the problem of surplus food.

"Our aim and success lies in linking donors of food to food charities" says Lotti, who can't praise her team highly enough. "Now with the aid of a second generation 'App' and a highly effective web site, both designed pro-bono by the Keytree company, we are witnessing a great advance in activities. About 240 small and medium sized food businesses in London are diverting food responsibly." Lotti continues to say that "from the well-known Borough

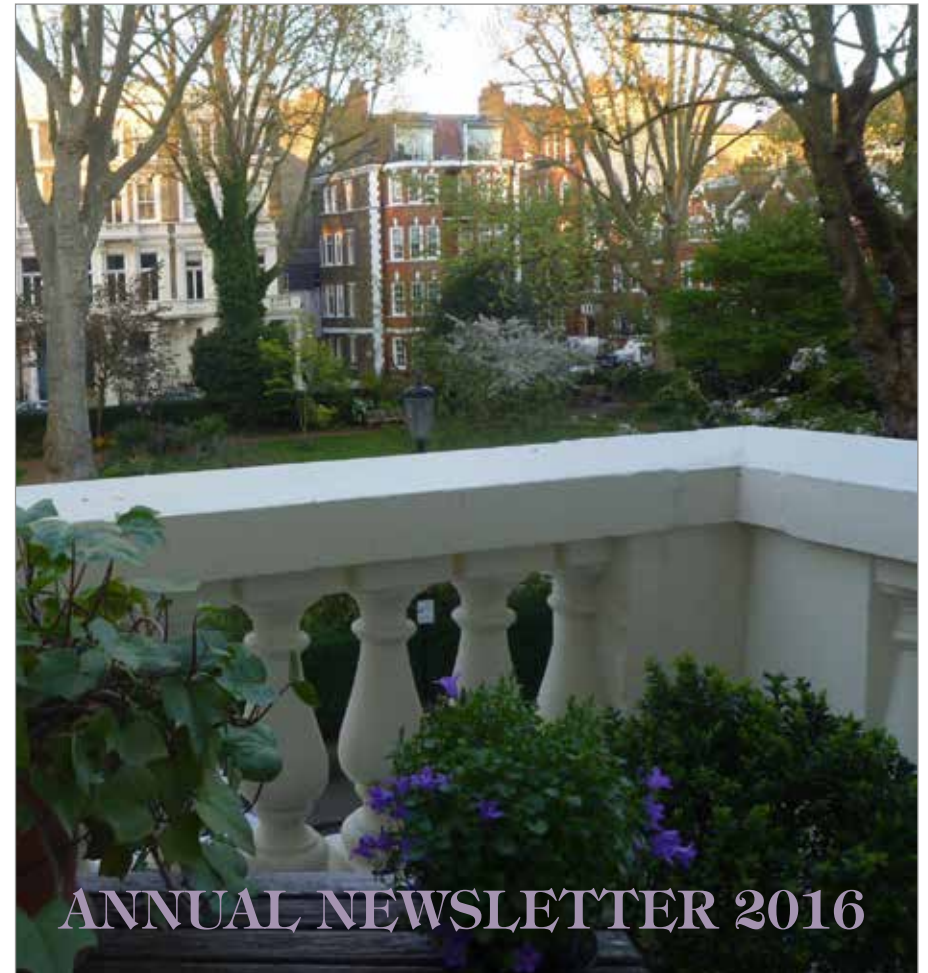
Market alone our volunteers have shifted about 17 tonnes of good food in approximately 7 months and other markets are joining. Traders simply hate binning their produce. During the same period we have created via our interactive map a network of volunteers, donors, businesses and small food charities. To give an example, our volunteers helped save mountains of heritage apples, some of which made delicious chutney."

"PZ (the colloquial shortened version) was involved in a project giving young people an opportunity in leadership. They are enthusiastically researching potential transport facilities to help with the food distribution, of which Domino Pizza motorcycles is a promising lead being investigated."

The future? Lotti relates that last September food waste was adopted by the Unsustainable Development Plan with a target of halving global food waste by 2030. A really positive decision came less than a month ago by France making it a criminal offence to bin good food and in November the BBC aired Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall's challenge to supermarkets to relax their cosmetic standards.

She asks that if friends and neighbours would like to contribute their time or their money to the growth of the PlanZheroes Charity, to please contact her on 0207 373 1987 or lottihenley@googlemail.com. More on www.planzheroes.org and www.facebook.com/planzheroes and Twitter: @PlanZheroes

Earl's Court Square Residents' Association



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

3 March:	Earl's Court Square RA AGM
17 March:	Earl's Court Society AGM
19 April:	Kensington Society AGM
11 June:	Queen's Birthday Afternoon Tea in the garden
18 - 19 June:	London Garden Squares Open Weekend
2 July:	Earl's Court Square BBQ
17 July:	Brompton Cemetery Open Day

Thank you to Faron Sutaria for printing this newsletter



Faron Sutaria are proud to be associated with the Earl's Court Square Resident Association.

We have over 31 years of local experience, knowledge and involvement in the area. If you are thinking of buying, selling, renting, or would like free mortgage advice, please call in and see us.

In the meantime, all of our properties can be viewed on our daily up-dated website at www.faronsutaria.co.uk

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TfL consultations

Have your say on proposed changes to the road layout in the Earl's Court Square area.



As part of the Central London Grid, a cycle route is proposed to run between Brompton Cemetery and Exhibition Road, along Bramham Gardens, Earl's Court Square and Kemsford Gardens. We are therefore proposing changes to these junctions to make it safer and easier for cyclists, pedestrians and vehicles to cross.

For more details and to have your say please visit the website at: consultations.tfl.gov.uk/roads/earls-court-square. This consultation closes on Thursday, 3 March 2016.

The Three Garages Development



In preparation for construction of the house on the garages site at Earl's Court Square, meetings are being

held with the Architect to establish the rules and requirements for the management of the construction process in terms of construction traffic, maintaining pedestrian access, and minimising the impact of the construction traffic on neighbouring residents. Drafted plans have been presented for comment, so that residents' requests and concerns can be accommodated prior to a Construction Traffic Management Plan being sent for Council approval.

Brompton Cemetery

On 14 January, there was a Press Release, confirming that the Lottery and Heritage Fund has approved the Royal Parks application for £4½m towards the Conservation Project which involves turning the North Lodge into a visitor centre with shop and café, restoring the chapel, central colonnades and catacombs and wildlife conservation.

To become a Friend of Brompton Cemetery go on line to <http://brompton-cemetery.org.uk/the-friends/>

Post Office closure

The Post Office in the Earl's Court Road closed on 30th January, despite the petition and the public meeting. The Post Office have been asked by ward councillors to put in place a method for business franked mail but no details have emerged as yet.

The good news is that rather than traipse up to High Street Kensington, *Mail Boxes* in Earl's Court Road near the junction of the Old Brompton Road can send all your parcels and manage any mailing needs.

Earls Court Exhibition Site



Your editor heard that over 4,000 truckloads of rubble had been removed from the Exhibition site since work started a year ago. This was such a surprise as it is barely noticeable; so on request, an update was kindly provided for our newsletter.

The demolition of the Earls Court Exhibition Centres is progressing well and the 1,300 ton roof of Earls Court 1 was successfully lowered during an 11 hour operation at the end of 2015. The demolition of the EC1 superstructure is now in progress and both EC1 and EC2 will be completely demolished by summer 2016, allowing for the first phase of enabling works to begin to prepare the site for the construction of the first new homes and the Lost River Park.

The demolition will predominantly take place within the walls of the existing exhibition centre building, reducing the noise and dust that reaches the outside. Gary Yardley, Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer, Capco said: "Minimising the impact of

the construction on local residents is a very high priority. As we build the new Earls Court, Capco is passionately committed to being a considerate neighbour so that the area remains a fantastic place to live and work, from start to finish of the project."

Our Broken Post Box

We woke up one day to find our trusty post box in the Square had its door unhinged and warped. Upon seeing how tatty the strapping was to block further use, our Chairman Chrissie Courtney wrote to the Post Office requesting the post box be wrapped in an aesthetically acceptable manner, in keeping with its location within a Conservation Area, whilst waiting for the replacement door to be sourced.



The Post Office was helpful and responsive. But the dilemma was the post box was Victorian, an era when post boxes were made in many different styles. It took months to find an exact original replacement. Fortunately for us, there was an accident with one in Elephant and Castle and through the grapevine, the man in charge of SW London post box maintenance heard it had been sent to a Romford location. He took a trip to see it and lo! we struck lucky and it is back in operation.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



The Earl's Court Square Residents' Association (ECSRA) is celebrating the New Year with good news! ECSRA has won £2,500 from Western Riverside Waste Authority/RBKC in their Golden Ticket "Recycle Right" prize draw for organisations and community groups.

Our thanks to Heidi Bradner for all her hard work in achieving this. The ECSRA is very proud of our Refuse Collection/Recycling Team of volunteers, led by Heidi, who liaise with Streetline/RBKC to rectify the ever-constant problem of fly tipping on the Square. Executive Committee members of the ECSRA visited the Western Riverside Recycling Centre to see first-hand the financial and environmental benefits of recycling.

We have invited Karen Crozier, RBKC's Senior Contracts and Environment Officer to speak at our AGM as we feel that this is such a hot topic in the Square. Karen will also be able to explain why some things are harmful and counterproductive and should be put into recycling bags. Members will be able to raise recycling/refuse collection queries

with Karen at the AGM. The AGM is being held at The Bolton, 326 Earl's Court Road, on March 3rd 2016. More information is contained in the "Recycle Right" insert enclosed with this newsletter. Membership of the ECSRA now stands at 129. We hope to increase this number in 2016.

The Executive Committee has been thinking of ways to encourage new members and demonstrate how the ECSRA values its members. With this in mind, I will be proposing at the AGM that the current ECSRA website is modernised to give members more detailed information about the activities of our Association, its history and its events.

There will be a "Members Only" section for exclusive notices for our members and, it is hoped that the new website, accessible to all, will encourage more to join. In addition, I propose emailing members directly to advise them of ECSRA's special events and important notices. Whilst appreciating that members won't want to be flooded with emails, we hope you agree that, occasionally, a more personal approach is more inclusive. So please do update your email address when you renew your membership.

During 2015 the ECSRA organised several events for members and their guests. We started off with the annual BBQ/Disco on the 4th July. We were lucky with the weather and it was good to see so many residents of the Square making use of the communal BBQs and enjoying the mild summer evening with their friends and families.



"Lighting of the Christmas Tree" event in mid-December, in association with the Garden Square Committee. It was an evening of carols beautifully sung by The Earl's Courtiers; a gold and silver illuminated Christmas Tree festooned with chocolates for the children; mulled wine, mince pies and hot chocolate kindly provided by Jennifer Ware and Alan Malcolm and a festive atmosphere created by the residents.



Our first event for 2016 is the AGM on the 3rd March at The Bolton – see attached notice. We do hope you will join us for this and the reception, which follows the AGM. The ECSRA is planning a joint event with the Garden Square Committee on Saturday 11th June to celebrate HM The Queen's 90th Birthday with an Afternoon Tea in the garden for members and their guests. There

will also be our annual summer BBQ on the 2nd July, the Lighting of the Christmas Tree in December and we propose introducing an Autumn event in September 2016 – especially for our members.

The Executive Committee meets every three months and keeps a watchful eye, on behalf of its members, on issues such as planning, licencing, traffic and parking. Alex Tullett, our Hon. Treasurer, monitors all these applications and keeps the Committee posted on those affecting our area.

The RBKC are undertaking new appraisals of all the conservation areas within the Borough so Alex and I joined a walkabout of the Earl's Court Square Conservation Area with RBKC Planning Officers and Cllrs Spalding and Wade. The Earl's Court Square Draft Conservation Area Appraisal (Jan 2016) is available for comments until 08.03.2016. <https://planningconsult.rbkc.gov.uk/consult.ti/ECSCAA/consultationhome> is available for comment until 8 February 2016.

Throughout 2015 we were contacted by members with water pressure and supply problems. Alex and I subsequently met with Cllr Wade and Thames Water to map the situation to help rectify these problems. Thanks to the replies to a survey and an essay in Garden News, there is enough data for us to go back to Thames Water for a follow up meeting identifying a clear link to a number of properties covered by the Putney Reservoir. This meeting will take place at the beginning of 2016.

Strawberry Cream Tea Garden Party.



This annual July event, which the Earl's Court Community Trust (ECCT) has been holding in Earl's Court Square for 8 years, was a great success. Although there is no age qualification, the intention is primarily to give older people who are free on a weekday afternoon an enjoyable and sociable outing. It also attracts young mums and carers with small children and the age groups mix wonderfully together.

This past year was better than ever. Including a great team of volunteers, over 130 elderlies, 5 of them in wheelchairs, were entertained by choirs from St. Cuthbert with St. Matthias Primary school, the Chelsea Bells vocalists and a highly professional drama sequence from the Chelsea Academy, to the great enjoyment of a good audience.

An uncounted number of little ones were entertained with games at the other end of the garden, so overall we swelled to 300.

A new feature, tombola was staged at the event which proved very popular.

It is a great testimony to efforts made by volunteers, local businesses who generously donate food and local entertainers, to keep Earl's Court an inclusive place to live.



The very small amount of leftover food went to St. Cuthbert's Day Centre.

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Honouring Sue Malcolm



Sue was one of the first academic appointments in Molecular Genetics at the ICH and was appointed in 1985 to establish the NHS molecular diagnostic genetic service, as well as to carry out her own research programme into gene mapping, imprinting and craniofacial disorders.

She took early retirement more than 10 years ago as head

We are sad to report that our neighbour Sue Malcolm died in August after a debilitating illness.

We will be replanting the outer hedge in the playground in the spring in memory of Sue. Sue loved fuchsias and birds and was instrumental in our upkeep of the bird boxes and vociferous in her encouragement of our planting schemes that would be advantageous to the birdlife of the square.

To complement the existing fuchsias we will be creating a hedge of her favourite fuchsia, together with myrtle and rosemary so we have a colourful, fragrant and avian-friendly environment from which we shall all benefit.

Professor Sue Malcolm, was an Emeritus Professor of Molecular Genetics at University College London (UCL) Institute of Child Health (ICH).

of genetics for Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital and continued to attend genetics seminars and lab meetings at the Institute. Sue mentored students and published an exciting educational blog called 'Me and My Genes'.

To recognise and celebrate Sue's remarkable and leading edge work, she was invited as a special guest at the Inaugural Genetics and Genomic Medicine Programme Research Symposium in January of 2015, where friends and colleagues were able to celebrate Sue's work and to showcase her research.

Sue will be greatly missed by her family and us folks in the Square for her tireless interest and contributions, not least editing these newsletters, caring for our birds and by St. Cuthbert with St. Matthias School where she was a Governor.

Some of the artists exhibiting at Gallery 286 during 2016



JONATHAN ROSS - GALLERY 286
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www.gallery286.com

Christine Powell, our Membership Secretary, and Jennifer Ware represent the ECSRA on the RBKC Environmental Round Table. Members of the Executive Committee also serve on the Earl's Court Society, The Kensington Society, Friends of Brompton Cemetery, The Earl's Court Health and Wellbeing Centre's Patient Participation Group and The Earl's Court Police Ward Panel for 2016.

We are now made aware of all reported crimes in the Earl's Court Ward and have been able to refer members' complaints of anti-social behaviour to PC Ben Palastanga, the Metropolitan Police's Dedicated Ward Officer for Earl's Court who will be attending our AGM.

Members of the Executive Committee visited Capco's "Earl's Court Masterplan" public exhibition. They received a construction update, viewed models and were able to raise queries on behalf of residents. Please do support the ECSRA by renewing your membership (or becoming a new member) and completing the membership form enclosed with this newsletter. We are a Gold Standard Residents' Association (awarded by RBKC) and we need your support to enable us to continue our work in the community.

Wishing you all the best for 2016 and we look forward to seeing you at our AGM.



Chrissie Courtney - Chair
Email: ecsrachair@btinternet.com

Environment

Earl's Court Square Residents' Association is represented by Christine Powell and Jennifer Ware on the RBK&C Environmental Round Table. Four meetings are held each year:

Air Quality tests carried out in the Earl's Court area by ClientEarth during July showed that of the 20 locations monitored, a quarter were 2½ times the legal limit. These include the three vehicular accesses to/from Earl's Court Square. Another air quality monitoring session is to be carried out during the winter months. It is thought that the 'green wall' around St Cuthbert's school is not as effective as originally thought.

There are plans to lobby the RBK&C Planning Department about the policy on solar panels. Currently solar panels are not permitted on buildings within a Conservation Area where they are visible from the street, yet permission was granted to install them on the new-build one storey dwelling in the north east arm of Earl's Court Square on the site of the garages adjacent to Northgate House.

Useful Numbers

The safer Neighbourhood team are on 020 8721 2003 or 07764 023092; earlscourt.snt@met.police.uk

For parking problems, contact RBK&C on 020 7361 3004 or parking@rbkc.gov.uk

Noise and Nuisance team on 020 7361 3002 or email at: environmentalhealth@rbkc.gov.uk

Reporting water leaks: 0800 714 614

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We are able to report back after talking with John Long, Education Officer at WRWA, that there are 'little things' people often put in their recycling bag that should go in the black bags:

1. No shredded paper, it can't be recycled effectively, it messes up the machines and the efficiency of the work environment as it tends to fly all over the plant.

2. No aluminium foil, including foil trays or foil lined wraps or bags

3. No lids, take off all caps on water bottles, juice bottles, no yogurt pot plastic lids, no tetra-pack milk cartons. All lids should be put in BLACK rubbish bags or taken to LUSH Cosmetic stores who will recycle for you.

4. No mixed plastics. Don't include thin plastic that can be scrunched in the palm of your hand. Only plastic that is stiff or hard should go into recycling bags.

5. Pizza boxes can only be recycled if they do not have grease or oil or food marks. So typically the top half goes into recycling and the rest into black bags.

6. General advice for disposing of expired or unused medicines: these can be brought to a chemist to properly dispose/incinerate, so they don't get into any land fill or water system.

We are hand distributing packets of 'golden tickets' to residents on the square who have families with children. We suggested to the Council

it was useful to also involve children, as they are the next generation of recyclers. So families, please let us know if you would like some 'golden tickets' for individuals, and we hope the children can look forward to having one of their golden tickets found in your family recycling bag for the two remaining prize draws, up until March.



For your thoughts, volunteering and input contact our ECSRA Committee Member Heidi Bradner on heidi_bradner@hotmail.com.

Earl's Court Square rubbish collections: Monday and Thursday morning.

Streetline contact information:
020 7361 3001 or
streetline@rbkc.gov.uk.

Streetline's too big for the Bin collections: Up to 10 bulky items £28.05.

To donate good quality household items contact: 020 3405 4859

Residents can book to visit WRWA on 020 8871 2788.

For Front Step or Balcony Tiling



Number 22 upgraded the front steps to their building. The work observed was professional and so we thought we should mention the company, in the event you are looking to do the same. Luis and Daughters, telephone: 07957364114 and email: lcltiler@hotmail.co.uk

It is worth noting here that the correct font to paint the numbers on buildings is Garamond, as shown.



Kensington Society

The Kensington Society arranges several events during the year and in 2015, a visit was made to the Linley Sambourne house at 18 Stafford Terrace and a talk presented by the RBK&C Environmental Team on Construction and Building Site Noise. Some of the events are free to ECSRA members or attendance is at a reduced rate. Go to the Kensington Society website: www.kensingtonsociety.org for details of the events for 2016. The Annual General Meeting will be held on 19 April in the Great Hall at Kensington Town Hall.



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Rubbish and Recycling Report back



There is continued vigilance to protect our Square from rubbish being dumped in between the twice weekly collections. Heidi Bradner is pleased to advise there are five known members of the RA that are supporting her with feedback and reporting. Between them they have sent Streetline countless emails in an effort to have a co-ordinated monitoring approach to get a better result.

There continues to be the 'hot spots' and a quarterly walk around the Square is undertaken with Karen Crozier, RBKC's Senior Contracts and Enforcement Officer, to the trouble spots, to find solutions to decrease dumping. Please advise any new residents and cleaners when the collection times are. Most buildings have vaults to store the rubbish, which people should use. We are so fortunate to have two collections a week.

Thankfully, the three dog-poo bins are mainly being used for the purpose

of eliminating dog waste. We hear there is a big demand for them in the borough.

Each January we arrange with the Council to remove the abandoned locks and broken bicycle wheels within the ECSRA area.

We have listed out to the Council ways we can educate and contribute to recycling awareness in the Square. These are like Pledges made in response to the initiative organized by the Council called 'Golden Ticket' Prize draw. The pledges include leaflets to educate about recycling and are included in this annual distribution of the ECSRA newsletter, hand delivered to over 600 residents.



At the end of January members of the ECSRA Committee went to the newly opened Western Riverside Waste Authority Recycling plant (WRWA) in Smugglers Way, just over the Wandsworth Bridge.

The purpose of the visit was to gain knowledge to better inform our residents about the economic and environmental benefits of recycling.



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The SW5 Theatre Group

Now in its fourth year, members have seen over 30 plays at London's finest fringe theatres - all within walking distance or a short tube ride of Earl's Court. Membership in the group is free - the only conditions being that you are over 50 and live in the SW5 postal district.

The organisers, Sharon Robinson and Camilla Nelson propose a play each month and email you. Usually about 15 members sign up, tickets are purchased on your behalf, and you pay on the night. And the tickets are always under £20.

The quality of the plays is very high with many plays receiving



4 and 5 star reviews. Favourite theatres include prizewinning theatres The Finborough and the Drayton Arms in Earl's Court, The Gate and the Print Room in Notting Hill, The Bush in Shepherd's Bush and chamber music concerts at St Cuthbert's.

The group is friendly, relaxed, often meeting up before or after the play for a light meal or drink to discuss the play and generally what is going on in Earl's Court.

The group has over 80 members and is looking to expand, so do sign up. For further information about the next event, email Sharon Robinson at sw5theatregroup@gmail.com.



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The garden at this time of year is usually a bleak place but the weather this year has made a difference. The warmth and wet has meant that roses are still flowering as are geraniums and pelargoniums and the spring flowers are coming through much earlier than expected. It's not just the camellias but we also have daffodils and crocus in bloom already. The magnolia is forming its buds and the peonies are showing through as are the tulips.

The almond trees are in flower too as are the big camellias! We have plans for the south-east corner of the square so that those living on that side can have a more open view into the garden and the plants can have more light and so prosper. To this end, the plane tree which is by the railings behind the camellias is a

split trunk and has angled away from the big tree in the garden as it is. By removing a section, the tree will be able to put its energy into more productive branches and the cherry tree will also be helped. We will then be able to re-landscape the corner, with a view to reviving the lawn, as well as hopefully getting some more flowers into that corner and making it less brown

We have planted many more bulbs this year and hopefully will have a much better show of daffodils having planted 75kg or new bulbs over the autumn. Over 1000 tulips have also gone in, which hopefully, will add to the glories of spring in the garden. It has been very exciting that the compost pens have worked and, with the help of the chopping lawnmower which kick started the degeneration,



we have been able to use the compost as mulch over the newly planted bulbs over the winter. Later in the spring we will be adding manure to the flowerbeds to enhance the soil and productivity of the new bulbs and existing planting.

The weather forecast is for a bleak and very cold February which I am sure will halt the early progress of so much in the garden, but nature is a wonderful thing and it will all rally as it is meant to. The trees were last pruned in 2013 which means that it is time to do them again. We will do our best to get them pruned before they start to sprout but the London Plane is a resilient thing and they really do not mind when they are pruned. We are fortunate that our maintenance of the trees means they are some of the best examples in the

borough and we are proud of that reputation.

The Garden AGM was held on 20 January and thanks to those who attended. The minutes of the meeting are available on the Garden website: www.ecsgarden.org.uk together with the Chairman's Review and Treasurer's Report of last year and the budget for the coming year. I would draw your attention to the matter of the share of the garden freehold and that the Sub-Committee were given the go ahead to negotiate on behalf of the Earl's Court Square garden rate payers for the other 50% of the Freehold. Should we be successful, there will be an EGM later in the year and we would ask all garden rate payers to attend this if at all possible, as it might affect you financially.