

## Local History

We'd love to hear your personal recollections about the Gardens. Do come and join the Local History Group. Our next meeting is on Monday 7 July at Park House, 66 Kings Road at 8.30pm. Photographs and memorabilia welcome



## Barbecues

No open fires or barbecues are allowed in the Gardens. These damage the grass and can be dangerous.



## New Noticeboard

There is a new noticeboard at the entrance opposite 3 Dudley Road. This will be used by London Borough of Merton to display news about the Gardens, including progress on the restoration. A section will also be available to Friends of South Park Gardens to display news about events.

## South Park Gardens to be restored

Our bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund has been successful and the Council has been granted a sum of £1,076,000 to restore the Gardens and enhance it as a community resource. Plans are already underway to appoint contractors. New paths, benches, litterbins and dog-waste bins will be installed and the fountain will be restored. Work should start later this year.

It will be necessary to close the Gardens during the winter months to enable the contractors to dig up and replace the paths safely and efficiently. We are grateful for the public support we have received to do this.

## Park Watch

People are still occasionally getting into the Gardens after they have been locked for the night. There have been incidents of vandalism to trees and nuisance from noise. We are tackling known access points to make it difficult to get in to the Gardens. The Community Park Warden is organising regular patrols of volunteers on summer evenings (especially at weekends) to discourage unwelcome visitors.

If you would like to join a volunteer Park Watch team, please use the Feedback form overleaf. It will only take an hour of your time every few weeks and will help keep the Gardens safe and pleasant for everyone.



Heritage



LOTTERY FUNDED

merton





Bookfest – 13/14 October

## Wimbledon Bookfest 2009 4-12 October

The second annual Bookfest takes place in October. South Park Gardens is hosting a range of events on 11 and 12 October. The theme in the marquee this year is food and wine and we will be welcoming food critic Jay Rayner and chef Sophie Braimbridge. Events will include a wine tasting, a food demonstration and a session on writing drama for television with local celebrity screen write Michael Crompton whose credits include *Silent Witness* and *Midsomer Murders*. There will also be a fundraising dinner on Saturday evening.

Joe Swift from television gardening show, *Gardeners' World*, will be presenting a session on parks and allotments.

On Sunday it's family day with Nick Barrett from BBC's *Who Do You Think You Are?* to talk about genealogy. There will be children's story telling and a drama session.

Friends of South Park Gardens will provide refreshments.

## New event – Teddy Bears' Picnic – Wednesday 9 July

All pre-schoolers and their teddy bears are invited to a Teddy Bear's Picnic in the Gardens on Wednesday 9 July at 11.30am.

There will be games and activities and a prize for the teddy with the best home made sunhat.



## Feedback Form

Please send to Park House, 66 Kings Road, Wimbledon SW19 8QW



I'd like information about the Local History Group

please tick

I'm interested in getting involved in events

I'd like to become a Friend of South Park Gardens

I'd like to find out more about becoming a Park Watch volunteer

Name..... Tel number.....

Address..... Post code.....

Email address..... Mobile.....