



Ecology Service

Events Programme 2013



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA

About us

This year the Ecology Service is promoting a great range of walks, talks and workshops giving people a chance to explore some of our Sites of Nature Conservation Importance.

We also have the exciting prospect of moving into our new, purpose-built Ecology Centre in Holland Park. We will be moving into the new building in September and you can keep updated on the progress via our website and Facebook page.

The Ecology Service work includes:

- promoting awareness and understanding of biodiversity and the local environment through formal and informal education
- protecting sites which are important for nature conservation
- developing local policies for nature conservation
- advising on the management of open spaces to enhance biodiversity within the borough

Environmental Visits for Schools

The Centre provides a key facility for local schools to study and enjoy the natural environment, and can be booked for field trips and environmental education workshops throughout the year. Outdoor investigations take place in the Holland Park Wildlife Area, which features a wildlife pond with a dipping platform, woodland and grassland habitats. Visiting groups can work independently or with a member of staff.

Forest School

The Ecology Service offers Forest School in Holland Park: a programme of regular nature sessions for school groups in our woodland environment run by qualified staff. Children participate in activities and games designed to build self esteem, communication skills, independence and self confidence through an appreciation of the natural environment.

Children's Holiday Activities

The Ecology Centre runs a scheme of outdoor and creative activities for five to 12 year olds in the spring, summer, and half-term holidays.

Booking Events

Due to high demand, booking is essential for Holiday Activities and some events. Please telephone the organiser for details or to reserve your place as spaces may be limited for safety reasons and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Details are subject to change.

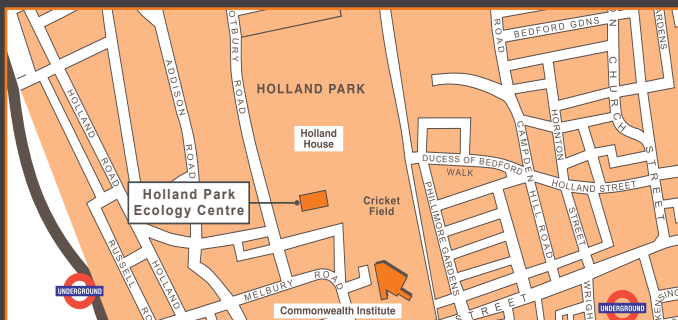
How to get there

The Ecology Centre is situated in the middle of Holland Park. Entrance to the park is via Ilchester Place Gate, Abbotsbury Road Car Park, Duchess of Bedford Gate or from Holland Walk and Holland Park Avenue.

Please note: the Ecology Centre will be moving to a new building in September. This will be located near the Abbotsbury Road entrance, next to the Adventure Playground. There will be signs to the new location once we have moved.

We strongly advise using public transport if possible.

- Travelling by bus: Buses 9, 10, 27, 28, 49 and 328 pass Holland Park
- Travelling by tube: The nearest tube stations are Holland Park and Kensington High Street



Holland Park Ecology Centre, The Stable Yard, Holland Park,
Ilchester Place London W8 6L



ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk



020 7938 8186



www.rbkc.gov.uk/ecology

Follow us on Twitter (**rbkc_ecology**) or become a Facebook fan (**R.B.K.C. Ecology**)

Events

April

Tuesday 2 to Friday 12 April

Easter Children's Holiday Activities in Holland Park

The Ecology Centre runs a full programme of fun outdoor and creative activities for children in the Easter holidays. Outdoor activities are based in our wooded Wildlife Area and have included animal tracking, camouflage and the ever popular pond dipping. We also run craft focused sessions about different animals or with a seasonal theme. Sessions run from 10am to midday and 2 to 4pm with one four hour session from 11am to 3pm.

- Two hour sessions for five to ten year olds only
- Four hour sessions for eight to 12 year olds only
- Meet at Holland Park Ecology Centre, Holland Park (W8 6LU)
- £4.10 per 2hr session or £7.70 for 4hr session (RBKC residents)
- £5.20 per 2hr session or £9.20 for 4hr session (non-residents)
- Booking is essential; please call on **020 7938 8186** or email **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk**
- For further information please go to **www.rbkc.gov.uk/ecology**
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service

Friday 5 April

Children's Night Safari in Holland Park

Discover the park after dark. Join the Ecology Team for a fun filled evening, search for the park's nocturnal inhabitants and explore the woods at night.

- Sessions for five to ten year olds only
- All children must be accompanied by an adult
- 7.30 to 9pm, meet at Holland Park Ecology Centre, Holland Park (W8 6LU)
- £4.10 (RBKC residents) or £5.20 (non-residents)
- Booking is essential; please call on **020 7938 8186** or email **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk**
- For further information please go to **www.rbkc.gov.uk/ecology**
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service



Saturday 6 April

Bird and Nature Walk in Holland Park

A guided nature walk around Holland Park, looking for fauna and flora of seasonal interest with local expert Ian Thomson (the Friends of Holland Park).

Open to the general public who have an interest in birds and nature.

- Duration approximately one and a half hours
- 9am, meet by Lord Holland's statue, Lord Holland Pond, Holland Park (W8)
- FREE
- Contact **020 7602 0304** or visit **www.thefriendsofhollandpark.org** for further information
- Organised by the Friends of Holland Park

Tuesday 9 April

EcoPlay at Little Wormwood Scrubs

The Ecology Service and the Play Service together present an afternoon of fun and nature exploration. Search for scrubland creepy crawlies, play wild games and make grass whistles.

- Session for five to fifteen year olds only
- 2 to 4pm, Little Wormwood Scrubs (W10 6AD)
- FREE drop-in event
- Contact **020 7938 8186** or **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk** for further information
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service and Play Service

Thursday 11 April

EcoPlay at Meanwhile Gardens

The Ecology Service and the Play Service together present an afternoon of fun and nature exploration. Have a go at pond dipping and join our craft activities and games.

- Session for five to fifteen year olds only
- 2 to 4pm, Meanwhile Garden (W10)
- FREE drop-in event
- Contact **020 7938 8186** or **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk** for further information
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service and Play Service



Saturday 20 April

Task Force 4 Nature Volunteer Day

Join us for a practical conservation volunteer workday in Holland Park. A great opportunity to get out and about, meet new people, get active, help local wildlife and have fun!

- Tasks 10.30am to 3.30pm
- Tea, gloves, tools and instructions provided
- 10.30am, meet outside Holland Park Cafe, Holland Park (W8 6LU)
- FREE
- Contact **020 8762 0322** or **Netty.Ribeaux@groundwork.org.uk**
- Visit **www.london.groundwork.org.uk** for further information
- Organised by Groundwork London



May

Saturday 4 May

Dawn Chorus Bird Walk in Holland Park

Early spring is an excellent time to experience the world's oldest wake-up call – the dawn chorus – and the beauty of bird song. Led by professional ornithologist Bill Haines, this event has an early start and offers listeners a truly memorable experience as the dawn chorus builds from the first cheep to a crescendo of birdsong.

- This event is aimed at an adult audience
- 5am, meet at Abbotsbury Road Car Park, Holland Park (W8)
- FREE
- Booking is essential; please call on **020 7938 8186** or **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk**
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service
- Sponsored by the Friends of Holland Park

Saturday 4 May

Bird and Nature Walk in Holland Park

A guided nature walk around Holland Park. Please see previous event on 6 April for details.

Wednesday 8 May

Bat and Amphibian Walk in Holland Park

Discover some of the park's nocturnal residents with experts from the London Bat Group and Froglife. Learn about their natural history in an informative talk before searching for them within Holland Park equipped with bat detectors and torches.

- This event is aimed at an adult audience
- 8pm, meet at Holland Park Ecology Centre, Holland Park (W8 6LU)
- Booking is essential; please call on **020 7938 8186** or email **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk**
- Please make a donation to the London Bat Group and Froglife
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service
- Sponsored by the Friends of Holland Park



Saturday 11 May

Bird Ringing Demonstration

Drop in between 8am and midday see wild birds in the hand and hear about how the national ringing programme works. You will also learn how bird ringing aids conservation and our knowledge of birds' migratory patterns.

- This event is suitable for all ages
- 8am to midday, Holland Park Wildlife Area, Holland Park (W8)
- FREE drop-in event
- Contact **020 7938 8186** or email **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk** for further information
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service
- Sponsored by the Friends of Holland Park

Saturday 18 May

Task Force 4 Nature Volunteer Day

A nature conservation workday in Holland Park. Please see previous event on 20 April for details.

Tuesday 21 May

Wildlife Area Open Evening

Explore and enjoy the Wildlife Area on a spring's evening. You can take a stroll around the woodland and discover more about the trees through our self guided trail. There will also be an opportunity to experience wildlife firsthand with pond dipping.

- The open evening is suitable for all ages
- 5 to 7pm, Holland Park Wildlife Area, Holland Park (W8)
- FREE drop-in event
- Contact **020 7938 8186** or email **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk** for further information
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service

Tuesday 28 to Friday 31 May

Half Term Children's Holiday Activities in Holland Park

Nature themed, outdoor and creative activities for children. Please see previous holiday activities on 2 April for more details.



June

Saturday 1 June

Bird and Nature Walk in Holland Park

A guided nature walk around Holland Park. Please see previous event on 6 April for details.

Saturday 15 June

Task Force 4 Nature Volunteer Day

A nature conservation workday in Holland Park. Please see previous event on 20 April for details.

Saturday 15 June

Friends of Holland Park Summer Tree Walk

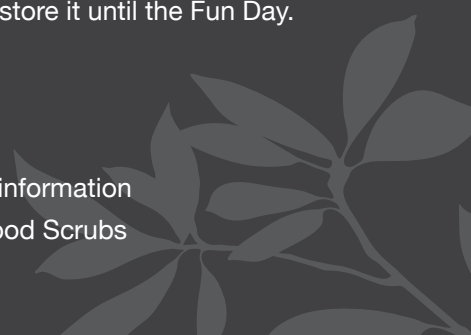
Join Alan Harrington, a retired botanist from the Natural History Museum, on a tour of the park exploring the many different native and exotic tree species found there. Throughout the fascinating walk you will learn about the wildlife and lore of different trees plus simple identification techniques for trees using their leaves and bark.

- 11am to 1pm
- Meet in the Stable Yard, Holland Park (W8 6LU)
- Contact **020 7602 0304** or visit **www.thefriendsofhollandpark.org** for further information
- Organised by the Friends of Holland Park

Saturday 15 June

Friends of Little Wormwood Scrubs Fun Day

The annual Fun Day will be having the usual stalls and events, as well as lots more for this year. The birds of prey and farm animals will be back and there will be a Dog Show early on in the day. We've started collecting for our bric-a-brac stall, so if you have anything to give us, we can store it until the Fun Day.

- FREE
 - Suitable for all ages
 - 1 to 6pm, Little Wormwood Scrubs (W10)
 - Contact **sdebrant@gmail.com** for further information
 - Organised by the Friends of Little Wormwood Scrubs
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Saturday 22 June

Wildflower and Folklore Walk in Holland Park

Join botanist and plant lore expert Roy Vickery on an afternoon walk around Holland Park. Learn how to recognise different species of wildflower and find out more about the forgotten uses of our native flora.

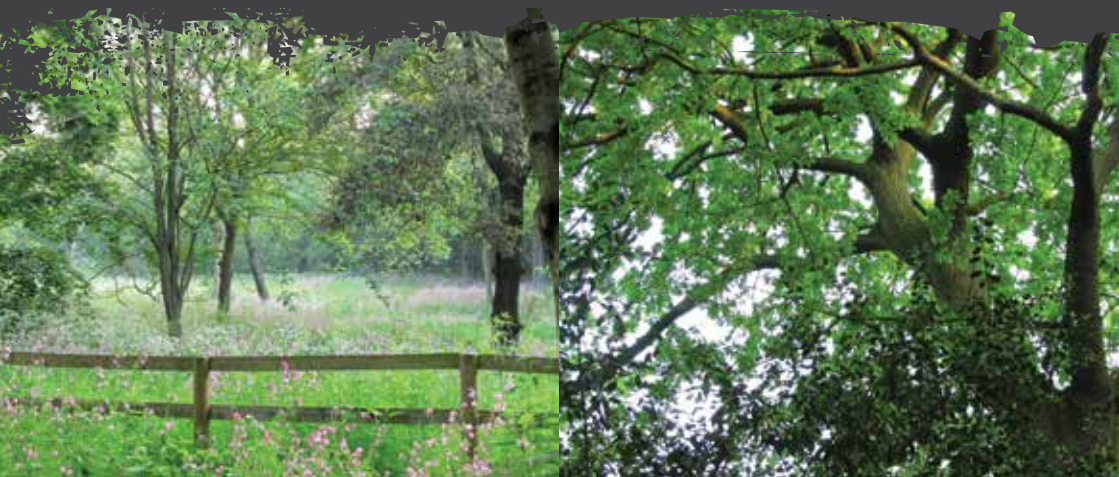
- This event is aimed at an adult audience
- 2 to 4pm, meet at Holland Park Ecology Centre (W8 6LU)
- FREE
- Booking is essential; please call on **020 7938 8186** or **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk**
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service
- Sponsored by the Friends of Holland Park

Tuesday 25 June

Wildlife Area Open Evening

Explore and enjoy the Wildlife Area on a summer's evening. You can take a stroll around the woodland and discover more about the trees through our self guided trail. There will also be an opportunity to experience wildlife firsthand with a search for minibeasts.

- The open evening is suitable for all ages
- 6 to 8pm, Holland Park Wildlife Area, Holland Park (W8)
- FREE drop-in event
- Contact **020 7938 8186** or email **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk** for further information
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service



July

Saturday 6 July

Bird and Nature Walk in Holland Park

A guided nature walk around Holland Park. Please see previous event on 6 April for details.

Saturday 6 July

Butterfly and Moth Morning in Holland Park


Join lepidopterist Tim Freed to investigate the butterflies and moths found in the park. Start by discovering which species have been attracted into the moth trap and then take a guided walk to seek out butterflies.

- This event is aimed at an adult audience
- 10am to midday, meet at Holland Park Ecology Centre (W8 6LU)
- FREE
- Booking is essential; please call on **020 7938 8186** or **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk**
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service
- Sponsored by the Friends of Holland Park

Saturday 13 July

Summer Wildlife Area Open Day in Holland Park

The Wildlife Area Open Day is a great chance to explore a hidden corner of the park. This is an opportunity to explore this woodland in its summer glory. You will have the chance to enjoy woodland walks and identify different native trees. You could also search for minibeasts in the woods or find out what is lurking in our wildlife pond by having a go at pond dipping.

- The open day is suitable for all ages
 - 2 to 6pm Holland Park Wildlife Area, Holland Park (W8)
 - FREE drop-in event
 - Contact **020 7938 8186** or **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk** for further information
 - Organised by RBKC Ecology Service
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Wednesday 17 July

Tree Walk: The Basics

Join a member of the Ecology Education Team on a basic introduction to native tree species. You will learn how to hone your identification skills using examples found in Holland Park.

- This event is aimed at an adult audience
- 6.30 to 8pm, meet outside Holland Park Ecology Centre, Holland Park (W8 6LU)
- FREE
- Booking is essential; please call on **020 7938 8186** or email **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk**
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service

Saturday 20 July

Task Force 4 Nature Volunteer Day

A nature conservation workday in Holland Park. Please see previous event on 20 April for details.

Thursday 25 July to Friday 30 August

Summer Holiday Children's Activities in Holland Park

Throughout the summer holidays, the Ecology Centre runs a fun filled environmental themed programme of outdoor and creative activities. Please see previous holiday activities on 2 April for more details.

Monday 29 July

EcoPlay at Little Wormwood Scrubs

The Ecology Service and the Play Service together present an afternoon of fun and nature exploration. Please see previous event on 9 April for details.



August



Monday 5 August

EcoPlay at Meanwhile Gardens

The Ecology Service and the Play Service together present an afternoon of fun and nature exploration. Please see previous event on 11 April for details.

Monday 12 August

EcoPlay at Little Wormwood Scrubs

The Ecology Service and the Play Service together present an afternoon of fun and nature exploration. Please see previous event on 9 April for details.

Friday 16 August

Play Day at Emslie Hornimans Park

Play Day is a day where children and families come together at Emslie Hornimans Park to celebrate the wide range of play opportunities in the Royal Borough. Come and enjoy sports, games, face painting, bike riding, the Play Village, a BBQ, funfair rides, arts, rock climbing, spider mountain and pond dipping with the Ecology Service!

- Play day is for children aged five to 15
- 12 to 4:30pm Emslie Hornimans Park (W10)
- FREE drop-in event
- Contact the Play Service on **020 7938 8044** for further information
- Organised by RBKC Play Service

Saturday 17 August

Task Force 4 Nature Volunteer day

A nature conservation workday in Holland Park. Please see previous event on 20 April for details.

Monday 19 August

EcoPlay at Meanwhile Gardens

The Ecology Service and the Play Service together present an afternoon of fun and nature exploration. Please see previous event on 11 April for details.



Friday 30 August

Children's Night Safari in Holland Park

Discover the park after dark. Join the Ecology Team for a fun filled evening, search for the park's nocturnal inhabitants and explore the woods at night.

- Sessions for five to ten year olds only
- All children must be accompanied by an adult
- 7:30 to 9pm, meet at Holland Park Ecology Centre, Holland Park (W8 6LU)
- £4.10 (RBKC residents) or £5.20 (non-residents)
- Booking is essential; please call on **020 7938 8186** or email **ecology.centre@rbkc.gov.uk**
- For further information please go to **www.rbkc.gov.uk/ecology**
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service



September

Saturday 7 September

Bird and Nature Walk in Holland Park

A guided nature walk around Holland Park. Please see previous event on 6 April for details.

Wednesday 18 September

Bat Walk in Holland Park

Join an expert from the London Bat Group and delve into the nocturnal world of bats. Learn about their natural history in an informative talk before searching for them within Holland Park equipped with bat detectors.

- 7pm, meet at Holland Park Ecology Centre, Holland Park (W8 6LU)
- FREE
- This event is aimed at an adult audience
- Booking is essential; please call on **020 7938 8186** or email **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk**
- Please make a donation to the London Bat Group
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service
- Sponsored by the Friends of Holland Park

Saturday 21 September

Task Force 4 Nature Volunteer day

A nature conservation workday in Holland Park. Please see previous event on 20 April for details.

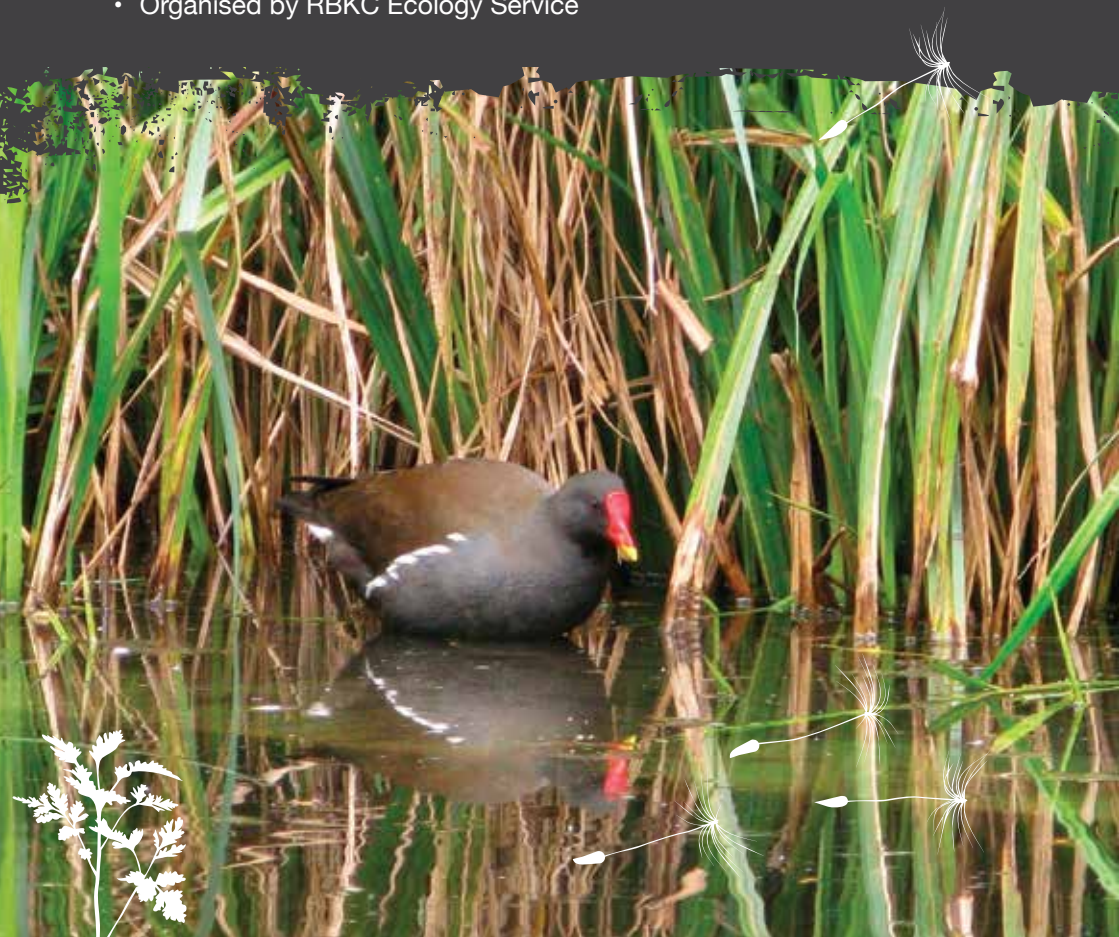


Saturday 28 September

Nature Photography Camera Skills Workshop in Holland Park

Learn how to get better nature pictures from your camera and understand more about the controls. This workshop is for beginners with DSLR, Bridge or Compact Cameras and will cover topics including composition, exposure and the best way to upload your images to your computer. You will practice your skills in the park with your tutor, professional photographer Bruce Tanner. This workshop an ideal first step to the Creative Skills session next week.

- 10am to 4pm, meet at Holland Park Ecology Centre, Holland Park (W8 6LU)
- This course is aimed at an adult audience
- £26.70 RBKC residents
- £32.35 non-residents
- Booking is essential; please call on **020 7938 8186** or email **ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk**
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service



October



Saturday 5 October

Bird and Nature Walk in Holland Park

A guided nature walk around Holland Park. Please see previous event on 6 April for details.

Saturday 5 October

Nature Photography Creative Skills Workshop in Holland Park


In this workshop you will learn some advanced techniques including how to light natural found still life, how to use composition, and both natural and controlled light while photographing nature. There will be practical sessions around the park. To get the most from this workshop, you should be reasonably confident with your camera, or have completed our Camera Skills workshop in the previous week.

- 10am to 4pm, meet at Holland Park Ecology Centre, Holland Park (W8 6LU)
- This course is aimed at an adult audience
- £26.70 RBKC residents
- £32.35 non-residents
- Booking is essential; please call on **020 7938 8186** or email **ecology.centre@rbkc.gov.uk**
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service

Saturday 12 October

Autumn Wildlife Area Open Day in Holland Park

This event is an opportunity to explore this secret corner of the park in its autumnal colours. You can investigate the woods and learn about the flora and fauna of this normally closed area, or seek out minibeasts lurking under the logs and leaves.

- The Open Day is suitable for all ages
 - 12 noon to 4pm Holland Park Wildlife Area, Holland Park (W8)
 - FREE drop-in event
 - Contact **020 7938 8186** or **ecology.centre@rbkc.gov.uk** for further information
 - Organised by RBKC Ecology Service
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Saturday 19 October

Task Force 4 Nature Volunteer Day

A nature conservation workday in Holland Park. Please see previous event on 20 April for details.

Saturday 19 October

Friends of Holland Park Autumn Tree Walk

Holland Park has an amazing collection of exotic and native trees. Join Alan Harrington, a local tree expert, to discover how to identify different trees on an autumnal walk around the park and learn some fascinating botanical facts and figures.

- 11am to 1pm
- Meet in the Stable Yard, Holland Park (W8 6LU)
- FREE
- Contact **020 7602 0304** or visit **www.thefriendsofhollandpark.org** for further information
- Organised by the Friends of Holland Park

Saturday 26 October

Fungi Foray in Holland Park

Search the wildlife area and other enclosures with expert Mark Spencer from the Natural History Museum to discover what fungi are on display at this time of year. Learn how to identify common species and hopefully discover some great specimens.

- 2pm, meet at Holland Park Ecology Centre, Holland Park (W8 6LU)
- FREE
- This event is aimed at an adult audience
- Booking is essential; please call on **020 7938 8186** or **ecology.centre@rbkc.gov.uk**
- For further information please go to **www.rbkc.gov.uk/ecology**
- Organised by RBKC Ecology Service
- Sponsored by the Friends of Holland Park

Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November

Half Term Holiday Activities in Holland Park

Nature themed, outdoor and creative activities for children. Please see previous holiday activities on 2 April for more details.

November



Saturday 2 November

Bird and Nature Walk in Holland Park

A guided nature walk around Holland Park. Please see previous event on 6 April for details.

Saturday 16 November

Task Force 4 Nature Volunteer day

A nature conservation workday in Holland Park. Please see previous event on 20 April for details.

December

Saturday 7 December

Bird and Nature Walk in Holland Park

A guided nature walk around Holland Park. Please see previous event on 6 April for details.





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