

Mosaic

Lost Water Garden restored

One of Britain's finest 18th-century Water Gardens opened to the public in October, marking the completion of a major restoration project. Funded by The Royal Parks, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Crown Estate, The Royal Parks Foundation, and other supporters, the Upper Lodge Water Gardens are the centrepiece of a programme of improvements to Bushy Park, south-west of London.

Bushy Park has a history stretching back at least 4,000 years, first as a settlement and farming land, then as a park for hunting deer. The Park was also the site of a US base in the Second World War from which Eisenhower planned the invasion of Europe. Today, Bushy Park offers a unique open space for the community. Covering 445 hectares (1099 acres), the Park is home to around 320 free-roaming wild deer and countless plant and wildlife species. The Park combines 'wild' open spaces with formal avenues of trees and historic buildings, sporting grounds and a playground.

Built by Charles Montagu, 1st Earl of Halifax, in 1710 as a private recreational garden, the Water Gardens played a unique role in 20th-century events, first as a hospital for Canadian troops during World War I, then as swimming pools as part of an open-air school for East End Boys with respiratory diseases. Upper Lodge was a barracks during World War II, and after that war the site became part of the Admiralty Research Laboratory, which tested mines in one of the ponds. In the 1950s, the Admiralty built a vast tank alongside the Water Gardens to develop guided missiles and carry out submarine research. It closed in 1992 and the whole site fell into disrepair.

Comprising a Baroque-style collection of pools, cascades, basins and a canal, the gardens had disappeared beneath undergrowth and silt in the 20th century, and they were largely forgotten. Restoration plans started in the 1990s, with research undertaken by the Friends of Bushy and Home Parks, and the discovery by Sir Roy Strong of an 18th-century painting of the gardens. The Royal Parks built on this early work and secured funding and management responsibility for the site in 2006.

The £7.2 million project to restore formal gardens and buildings started in January 2006, with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund and other sources. The project has provided better facilities for visitors with the opening of the new *Pheasantry Welcome Centre* cafe and information point, improved habitats for wildlife and plants, and a more comprehensive community education programme. New and resurfaced paths have been laid, repairs and improvements made to entranceways, and the de-silting and restoration of water bodies completed. Extensive replanting has taken place in the Woodland Gardens, and facilities at the

Stockyard Education and Volunteer Centre have been upgraded.

The restoration included de-silting and returning the ponds to their original shape and depth, and overhauling the water engineering system to restore the direct connection to the Longford River. The badly-damaged southern flank cascade wall was carefully reconstructed, reincorporating original stonework and bricks into the new structure, and the cascade and northern flank wall were also restored. Archaeological investigations pinpointed the location of the original stoop basins and alcoves which flank the cascade, and these were reconstructed. Formal landscaping and the installation of footpaths have completed the reclamation of the gardens. The project has also restored and provided access to the adjacent Brew House, built to provide ale for the household and workers of the Upper Lodge estate. A new bridge links the Brew House with the Water Gardens, crossing a utility cascade built by the Admiralty in the 1950s. The final phase of the project is the restoration of the Diana Fountain, due for completion winter 2009/10.

The Upper Lodge Water Gardens will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to dusk every day except Mondays (except for Bank Holidays, when the gardens will be closed on Tuesdays).

Getting in shape for the Olympics

The London Museums Hub has announced the museums that have been selected to work on its *London: World City project*, as part of Museums Libraries Archives Council's national *Stories of the World* programme. *Stories of the World*, one of the major projects of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad, is a series of exhibitions that will reconnect museum collections with the people and communities from which they came. Many of London's treasures originated in this country but many others arrived after long journeys from the four corners of the world. *London: World City* is a 2012 project that will engage Londoners with these collections in creative ways.

The project will bring key London collections together to explore four aspects of life in the world city – identity, home, journeys and place. Youth and community groups will work with 23 museums across London to select and interpret objects that show how the capital has grown through encounters with different people and places. Hundreds of young Londoners aged between 14 and 24 will be involved in all areas of the project, from design and interpretation to marketing and promotion. The project will offer opportunities for young people to develop skills, meet new people and make a tangible contribution to the cultural celebrations around the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Their

work will result in a mix of films, podcasts, exhibitions and events that can be enjoyed across London in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Museums participating in the programme will receive funding and support to work with their collections, youth and community groups to rethink, rediscover and reinterpret London's world stories. The project is funded through the MLA's *Renaissance in the Regions* programme and builds upon the work that the London Museums Hub has done over the past five years to enable museums to work together and reach out to new audiences.

The museums that will participate in this project are:

Identity:

Horniman Museum	Brent Museum
Croydon Museum	Foundling Museum
Redbridge Museum	The Courtauld Gallery

Journeys:

Cuming Museum	Hackney Museum
London Transport Museum	
Orleans House and Gallery	
Florence Nightingale Museum	
The Jewish Museum	

Place:

Museum of London	Bruce Castle Museum
Enfield Museum	Greenwich Museum
Guildhall Museum	

Home:

Geffrye Museum	Design Museum
Dorich House	Keats House
National Trust: Khadambi	Asalache House
Leighton House	

Local Societies invited to join the KAS

Local and family history societies can become Affiliated Members of the Kent Archaeological Society for a subscription of £25 p.a. Members of societies taking up this offer are entitled to most of the benefits of individual membership (which costs £25 a year), including use of the KAS's Reference Library and research facilities at Maidstone Museum. The Library catalogue can be viewed on-line at www.kentarchaeology.ac.uk. The Library is open at all times that the museum is open (including Sundays).

Members of affiliated societies can also seek advice from KAS's curator and other experts; attend the society's lectures, day schools, social events and excursions; and purchase at members' rates books published by the society.

All affiliated societies receive a free copy the *KAS Newsletter* three times a year, containing news of forthcoming events, reports of past activities, letters, reviews and short articles; and *Archaeologia Cantiana*.

Further details about the KAS and a membership application form can be found on www.kentarchaeology.org.uk or obtained by post from Shiela Broomfield, KAS Membership Secretary, 8 Woodview Crescent, Hildenborough, Kent TN11 9HD (please enclose a s.a.e.)

Diary

January

12 (6.30 p.m.) London & Middlesex Archaeological Society. 'A Place by the Thames: exploring the ancient riverscape of Fulham Palace' by Nathalie Cohen. Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2.

12 (8 p.m.) Hendon and District Archaeological Society. 'The Archaeology of Anglo-Jewry in London 1066–1290 and 1656–c.1850' by Ken Marks. Drawing Room, Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley N3.

14 (8 p.m.) Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society. Hands-on session led by Julie Wileman. United Reformed Church, Eden Street, Kingston.

15 (7 p.m.) City of London Archaeology Society. 'Excavating in Egypt - rediscovery and change' by Patricia Spencer. St Olave's Hall, Mark Lane, EC3.

February

3 (8 p.m.) Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society. 'Portraits of the Past' by Sarah Ciacci. St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell.

6 (3 p.m.) Carshalton & District History & Archaeology Society. 'Hatch Furlong and the archaeology of Ewell' by Jon Cotton. Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, Nightingale Road, Carshalton.

9 (7.30 p.m.) Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. 'The Elephant Entertains' by Richard Norman. The Housing Co-op Hall, 106 The Cut, SE1.

9 (7.45 p.m.) West Essex Archaeological Group. 'The Boudiccan Revolt' by Ralph Jackson. Sixth Form Block, Woodford County High School, High Road, Woodford Green.

9 (8 p.m.) Hendon and District Archaeological Society. 'The Trendles Project' by William Cumber. Drawing Room, Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley N3.

11 (6 p.m.) Gresham College. 'The Politics of Architecture in Tudor and Stuart London' by Simon Thurley. Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2.

11 (8 p.m.) Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society. 'Searching for lost Roman Roads' by Alan Hall and David Calow. United Reformed Church, Eden Street, Kingston.

12 (6.30 p.m.) London & Middlesex Archaeological Society. AGM and Presidential Address. Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2.

12 (8 p.m.) Richmond Archaeological Society. 'The Archaeology of St Pauls' by John Schofield. Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond.

19 (7 p.m.) City of London Archaeology Society. AGM and 'Roman Sculpture in London: the geology' by Kevin Haywood. St Olave's Hall, Mark Lane, EC3.

March

3 (8 p.m.) Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society. AGM, followed by talk by Jon Cotton. St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell.

8 (7.30 p.m.) West Essex Archaeological Group. AGM followed by 'Recent WEAG activities at Copped Hall and Wanstead Park'. Sixth Form Block, Woodford County High School, High Road, Woodford Green.

9 (6.30 p.m.) London & Middlesex Archaeological Society. 'The new Medieval European Galleries at the British Museum' by James Robinson. Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2.

9 (7.30 p.m.) Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. Symposium: recent local archaeological and historical work. The Housing Co-op Hall, 106 The Cut, SE1.

9 (8 p.m.) Hendon and District Archaeological Society. 'The History of RAF Bentley Priory' by Erica Ferguson. Drawing Room, Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley N3.

11 (6 p.m.) Gresham College. 'Town and Crown: Why London never became an Imperial Capital' by Simon Thurley. Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2.

11 (8 p.m.) Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society. 'Cheam ware' by Clive Orton. United Reformed Church, Eden Street, Kingston.

12 (8 p.m.) Richmond Archaeological Society. 'From London to Luxor: the work of an Egyptologist/Digger' by Chris Naunton. Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond.

19 (7 p.m.) City of London Archaeology Society. 'Recent fieldwork on London's Scheduled Monuments' by Jane Sidell. St Olave's Hall, Mark Lane, EC3.

April

7 (8 p.m.) Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society. 'Archaeological Survey of Minoan and Roman Remains in Crete' by Frank Pemberton. St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell.

10 (3 p.m.) Carshalton & District History & Archaeology Society. 'The Romans in Scotland' by Brenda Allen. Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, Nightingale Road, Carshalton.

13 (6.30 p.m.) London & Middlesex Archaeological Society. 'London Stone: making a myth' by John Clark. Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2.

13 (7.30 p.m.) Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. 'Recent discoveries by Museum of London Archaeology' by Sophie Jackson. The Housing Co-op Hall, 106 The Cut, SE1.

13 (8 p.m.) Hendon and District Archaeological Society. 'The GWR comes to the Thames Valley' by John Chapman.

Drawing Room, Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley N3.

Conferences

Spring Conference, Council for Kentish Archaeology and Kent Archaeological Society, 2 to 5.30 p.m., Saturday 17 April at University of Kent, Canterbury. Tickets price £4 from CKA, 7 Sandy Ridge, Borough Green, Kent TN15 8HP (sae please). Website www.the-cka.fsnet.co.uk.

Courses

Traditional Rural Trades and Crafts, weekend courses throughout the year until September 2010, at the Weald & Downland Open Air Museum, Singleton, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0EU. Further details from Diana Rowsell at this address, phone 01243 811 464, or visit www.wealddown.co.uk/Courses/adult-education-continuing-education.htm.

Membership

Individual membership of the Council for British Archaeology, which includes six issues a year of *British Archaeology*, costs £28 p.a.; full price/renewal price £34 p.a.; joint membership with *London Archaeologist* costs £36 (new CBA members only). See <http://www.britarch.ac.uk/cba/membership/pricelist> for details. Payment should be sent to C.B.A., St Mary's House, Bootham, York, YO30 7BZ (01904 671 417).

Practical archaeology

AOC Archaeology Group. Contact Melissa Melikian, Post-Excavation Manager (020 8843 7380).

London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre. Contact Archive Manager, Roy Stephenson (020 7566 9317).

Croydon & District. Contact Jim Davison, 8 Brentwood Road, South Croydon, CR2 0ND.

Borough of Greenwich. Contact Greenwich Heritage Centre, Building 41, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, SE18 6SP (020 8854 2452).

Hammersmith & Fulham. Contact Keith Whitehouse, 85 Rannoch Road, W6 9SX (020 7385 3723).

Kingston. Enquiries to 020 8546 5386.

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. Contact Finds Manager, Märit Gaimster (020 7639 9091).

Surrey. Enquiries to Rob Poulton, Archaeological Unit Manager, Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking GU21 1ND (01483 594 634).