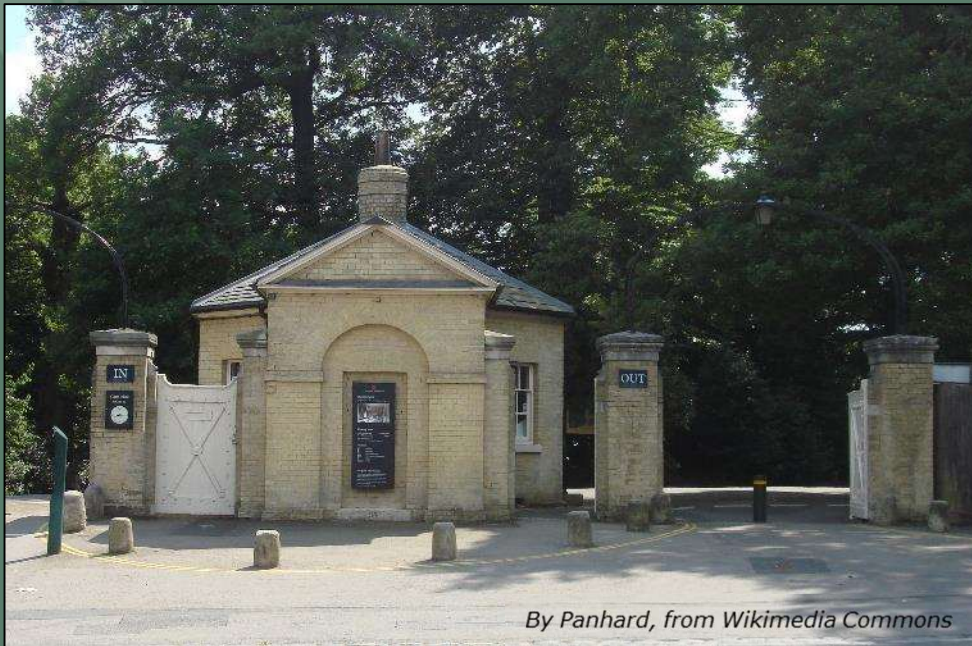


# SHARING REPTON

## A Conservation Workshop at Kenwood and Russell Square



*By Panhard, from Wikimedia Commons*

Kenwood House



Russell Square

# Our approach

We adopted a broad interpretation of 'a conservation workshop'  
We discussed our ideas with 3 different groups

A group local to Russell Square  
- Hopscotch Asian Women's Centre



A London-wide organisation  
- Refugee Women's Association



Barnet Refugee Service  
- known to have an active gardening project





# As a result of our consultations

- Introduce participants to the history of London's gardens
- Utilise participants' known interest in growing plants to engage their interest in conservation
- Focus on sharing and learning – through identifying links between origins of plants and origins of participants
- Engage participants in practical gardening



# Our Conservation Engagement Journey

Awareness of history of parks and gardens

Awareness of importance conservation issues

Awareness of volunteer roles

Knowledge of volunteering opportunities

Introduction to green spaces

Appreciation of importance of green spaces to individuals

Experience of local (accessible) green spaces

Identifying interests/skills





# SHARING REPTON at Kenwood

17<sup>th</sup> October 2018



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## At Kenwood

- A brief introduction to Kenwood and Humphry Repton using a facsimile of the Red Book for Kenwood
- A guided tour of Kenwood's grounds with opportunities to point out ancient trees and associated conservation issues
- Actively engaging participants through 'framing the landscape'



- An exhibition of plants available to Repton which originated in the home countries of our participants



Helen Monger, LPGT Director,  
welcomed everyone to the event







Emily Parker, English Heritage  
introducing Kenwood and Humphry Repton



Everyone was given a map of Kenwood



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Looking at Repton's Red Book





## Framing the landscape



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Setting off on our tour of Kenwood's grounds on a rainy day



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Meeting  
Kenwood's  
senior gardener



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Comparing Repton's 'before' and 'after' images

How would YOU improve the view today?



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# Exploring Kenwood's Kitchen Garden



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**SHARING Humphry Repton Landscape gardener 1752-1818**

**HUMPHRY REPTON** produced garden designs for many wealthy houses across - of both large country estates and more modest villas, farms and estates. In his original manuscript sketches for some 400 properties, of which around 40 were in London. Many of his landscapes are still available for us to enjoy today, including here at Kewwood.

**The Flower Garden**

Humphry Repton led a revolution in flower gardens, promoting ornamental flower beds with groups of herbaceous plants, bulbs and flowering shrubs, tree gardens, and 'terraces' across the house.

Flower beds had long existed for their beauty and there were many flower gardens in England in the 17th century. 'Landscape' and 'flower' were studied and arranged in books for educational use, and culture were combined to create them. 'Flower beds' became garden design, and the 'flower garden' during the 18th century when the new 'Landscape style' of 'Landscape' (Repton) introduced ornamental green levels spreading right up to the walls of the house.

The return of the colourful flower garden in full view of the house had gained momentum by the 18th century in Repton. The plants were grouped in masses of a single type, rather than single specimens, for 'ornamental effect'. Repton was not a 'gardenist', and his designs did not specify which flowers or shrubs were to be planted. However, the ornamental plants mentioned here were all readily available in England during Repton's time.



**The Kitchen Garden**

Humphry Repton saw 'an intimate connection between the kitchen and the garden for its produce, and between the kitchen and the garden for its view'.

The kitchen garden was traditionally enclosed by a wall, or 'kitchen wall', and was often situated near the house. The garden was laid out in a grid pattern, and the beds were raised above the ground level. The garden was used for growing vegetables, fruit, and herbs, and was often used for growing medicinal plants.



The fruit and vegetables shown in this display were all grown in kitchen gardens during Repton's time.

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**Funding raised by The National Lottery**

**LOTTERY FUNDED**



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# Meeting some of Kenwood's volunteer gardeners in the Kitchen Garden



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From Kitchen Garden to Kenwood's terrace







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# Focusing on the participants

We were able to draw on the skills of two of LPGT's volunteer researchers – producing 6 Flower Garden stories & 6 Kitchen Garden stories focusing on plants which originated in participants' own countries of origin

Researchers used Sarah Rutherford's *Hardy Plants and Plantings for Repton and Late Georgian Gardens (1780–1820)* as the starting point for their research.

**London Parks & Gardens Trust**

**SHARING Humphry Repton Landscape gardener 1752-1818**

**CELEBRATING HUMPHRY REPTON 1752-1818**  
A LIFE IN LANDSCAPES  
FROM PAGE TO GARDEN

**HUMPHRY REPTON** produced garden designs for many wealthy house owners – of both large country estates and more modest villas in towns and cities, in all he designed improvement schemes for over 400 properties, of which almost 60 were in London. Many of his landscapes are still available for us to enjoy today, including here at Repton.

**The Flower Garden**

Humphry Repton led a revolution in Repton gardens, praising ornamental flower beds with groups of herbaceous plants, bulbs and flowering shrubs, rose gardens, and terraces around the house.

Flowers were highly valued, for their beauty and their view (many flower gardens to England in the 18th century). Colourful and eye-catching flower beds and avenues in beds for individual shrubs, and water was included to admire them, moreover these flower gardens disappeared from the pages of architecture during the 18th century and by the end of the century style of 'Capability' Brown introduced smooth green lawns sweeping right up to the walls of the house.

The return of the colourful flower garden in full view of the house had gained momentum by the 18th century thanks to Repton. The plants were grouped in masses of a single type, rather than single specimens, for a dramatic effect. Repton was not a plantman, and his designs did not specify which flowers or shrubs were to be planted. However the ornamental flower plants described here were all readily available in London during Repton's time.

**The Kitchen Garden**

Humphry Repton saw an intimate connect on between the kitchen and the garden for its produce, and between the stables and the garden for its manure.

The walled kitchen garden was traditionally attached to, or close to, the house when it existed. However the new landscape style of 'Capability' Brown replaced these walled gardens to be out of sight from the house, the lawn and the walks, and screened them behind a natural or artificial fence. Repton agreed his clients to gradually take the kitchen garden should be out of sight of the house, but still close to the kitchen, so that manure from the house could be brought to it should be really needed.

The newly relocated walled kitchen gardens were well equipped with formal walls, mushroom houses, gardeners' huts, tool sheds, and cow frames, and became a stock exchange amongst the larger and wealthier estates.

The fruit and vegetable display in the display were all grown in walled gardens during Repton's time.

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**Funding raised by The National Lottery**  
and awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund

**LOTTERY FUNDED**





### The Flower Garden I

#### Bugloss

*Bugloss* *Anastasis* species was found in the Middle East in the Middle East and the Mediterranean as well as in the east. It was first recorded in the garden of Christa Maria in Berlin from 1722-1772. She used it for a disease in Berlin's city.



The flowers are blue, they are in a flower bed, they are in a flower bed, they are in a flower bed, they are in a flower bed.

It is a member of the *Bugloss* and *Anastasis*, and has been used as a perfume for a long time. It was used as a perfume for a long time.

#### Rose

Rose is a flower that was found in the Middle East in the Middle East and the Mediterranean as well as in the east. It was first recorded in the garden of Christa Maria in Berlin from 1722-1772. She used it for a disease in Berlin's city.

By the 1500s, the rose was well established in the garden. It was used as a perfume for a long time. It was used as a perfume for a long time.



Rose was a flower that was found in the Middle East in the Middle East and the Mediterranean as well as in the east. It was first recorded in the garden of Christa Maria in Berlin from 1722-1772. She used it for a disease in Berlin's city.

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### The Flower Garden II

#### EXOTIC BULBS

Travelers to Turkey and the shores of the eastern Mediterranean (known as the Levant) in the 16th century brought back news of Persian-inspired gardens filled with more beautiful flowers than any found in Europe. Bulbs and seeds could easily be transported and a busy export trade between Constantinople (now Istanbul) and Europe soon developed. Many exotic bulbs from Turkey, Syria, Iran and elsewhere in the Middle East were introduced to the Imperial Gardens in Vienna and were cultivated by Carolus Clusius at Holland's Leiden Botanic Gardens.



#### Tulip

The vibrant colours of the tulip, Tulip, with one vivid colour breaking into another, are now known to be due to a virus. Such astonishing beauty led to fantastic sums of money being exchanged for a single tulip bulb in Holland in the 1630s, and laid the foundations of today's Dutch tulip industry.

Legend has it that an ambassador stationed in Turkey came across the sight of exotic tulips, hyacinths, and narcissi blooming in the wild. He pointed enquiringly at a single tulip stem as decoration in the turban of a Turkish farmer, who replied 'tulband'. The ambassador recorded the name, only to discover later that it was the Turkish name for turban. So 'tulip' was derived from the turban, instead of the Turkish name for tulip which is 'lily'.



Another popular story is that of a merchant who received some bales of cloth from Turkey that contained a number of tulip bulbs. The merchant tried eating them roasted with oil and vinegar and threw the rest away in disgust.

#### Crown Imperial Fritillaria

By the early 17th century, Crown Imperials, *Fritillaria imperialis*, had become very popular and were given pride of place in many flower gardens.

You will see them portrayed in numerous paintings and decorative tiles from that period. The species is native to mountainous regions in Turkey, Iraq and Iran to Afghanistan and the Himalayan foothills.



The Crown Imperial is so distinctive that it became the stuff of myths and legends. Only a few species carry their flowers in this way - with the flowers drooping gracefully downwards. One popular legend is that it was the only flower that did not bow its head on the passing of Jesus on the way to his crucifixion but now it bows forever and weeps eternal tears.

### The Flower Garden III

#### Weeping Willow

In 1606, the weeping willow, *Salix babingtonii*, came to the Netherlands from the East. It was first recorded in the garden of Christa Maria in Berlin from 1722-1772. She used it for a disease in Berlin's city.



The weeping willow is well known for its weeping branches that hang down to the water. It is a member of the *Salix* genus and is native to the East.

One of the first weeping willows in the garden was planted in 1606.

The weeping willow was first recorded in the garden of Christa Maria in Berlin from 1722-1772. She used it for a disease in Berlin's city.

The weeping willow was first recorded in the garden of Christa Maria in Berlin from 1722-1772. She used it for a disease in Berlin's city.



#### Zinnia

*Zinnia* *officinalis*, now widely cultivated, was introduced to the Netherlands from the East in the 16th century.

It was first recorded in the garden of Christa Maria in Berlin from 1722-1772. She used it for a disease in Berlin's city.



A number of weeping willows were planted in the garden of Christa Maria in Berlin from 1722-1772. She used it for a disease in Berlin's city.

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A number of weeping willows were planted in the garden of Christa Maria in Berlin from 1722-1772. She used it for a disease in Berlin's city.

Posters were displayed in The Old Kitchen



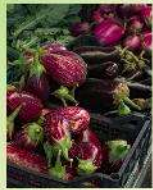
### The Kitchen Garden I

#### The Aubergine

The Aubergine, *Solanum melongena*, also known as brinjol or eggplant, has long been cultivated in southern Asia.

So early commentators show that it was used in food and medicine in India more than 2000 years ago.

These two names, Aubergine, Brinjol and Eggplant come from the sea routes, as it may have been brought to Sicily by the Arabs as they moved through North Africa in the 9th century. It was not known in England until much later. At first, the strange-looking plant with its spiny stem and white-to-purple-tinged appearance, fruit was not treated, and it was called "brinjol" because it had a "brinjol" apple of "brinjol" anyone who ate it would die.



Cultivated strawberries became popular in England when they were said to have been introduced to the country by John Rolfe in the 17th century. It was not known in England until much later. At first, the strange-looking plant with its spiny stem and white-to-purple-tinged appearance, fruit was not treated, and it was called "brinjol" because it had a "brinjol" apple of "brinjol" anyone who ate it would die.

It was then that it began to be used in the deep purple dye that was used to dye wool. The dye was made by boiling the fruit in water, and the color was fixed by adding alum. The white substance, which is used to fix the dye, is called alum.



#### The Quince

The quince grows in the temperate zone of the world. Quinces are the oldest of the pomegranates, and have been cultivated in Persia for over 2000 years. They are now grown in many parts of the world, and are used for making quince jelly and for other purposes.

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The quince was popular throughout the 17th and 18th centuries, and English country houses grew the trees for quince paste and preserves. The quince was also used for making quince jelly.

However, by the 19th century, quince was almost entirely replaced by apples and pears in English gardens.



A weekly use for quince was as a condiment, "quince marmalade" used to mean a conserve made with quince.

### The Kitchen Garden III

#### The Fig Tree

The common fig, *Ficus carica*, native to Persia, India, Greece and Syria, has long been cultivated since ancient times and is now grown widely throughout the world.



Fig trees would certainly have been familiar with the fig tree. The plant may have been introduced into England by the Romans but was known to have been brought from Italy in the 1200s. At that time some trees were planted in Lambeth Palace garden in London where they, or their descendants, are still growing.

The fig tree can be found all over England and the fruit is used in a wide variety of ways.



#### Black Mulberry

Black mulberry, *Morus nigra*, has long been cultivated for its edible fruit. It is thought to have originated in the mountains of Persia or Afghanistan and spread to other parts of the world. It was introduced to England by the Romans and is now grown in many parts of the country. The fruit is used for making mulberry jam and for other purposes.

Mulberry trees have thrived in Britain since Roman times, when the leaves were used to rear silkworms. In the 18th century, they were used to rear silkworms in the south of England. The fruit is used for making mulberry jam and for other purposes.

In the 17th century, 10,000 black mulberry trees were planted to start up a silk-making industry in England. Mulberry trees were also used for making mulberry jam and for other purposes. It has historical links to a number of old mulberry trees in many country house gardens. Some mulberries have been known to live as long as 600 years.

Humphrey Repton advised on the landscaping of the pleasure grounds at Chiddingfold, and may have recommended the planting of a black mulberry tree to mark the site of the old mulberry trees. The tree was planted in 1752 and is now one of the oldest trees in the garden.



### The Kitchen Garden II

#### Sweet Chestnut

The sweet chestnut, *Castanea sativa*, is native to the hills of the Tiber in Italy. It was introduced to England by the Romans and is now grown in many parts of the country. The fruit is used for making chestnut roasting and for other purposes.

Sweet chestnut trees were introduced to England in the 12th century. The trees were used for making chestnut roasting and for other purposes. It has historical links to a number of old chestnut trees in many country house gardens. Some chestnuts have been known to live as long as 600 years.



The sweet chestnut is a deciduous tree and is now grown in many parts of the country. The fruit is used for making chestnut roasting and for other purposes.

#### Wild Strawberry

The wild strawberry, *Fragaria vesca*, grows in the temperate zone of the world. It was introduced to England by the Romans and is now grown in many parts of the country. The fruit is used for making strawberry jam and for other purposes.



In medieval times in England, fresh strawberries were used in the street to make jam. It is said that the red of strawberry and cream was created for Henry VIII in the early 1500s.

Handwritten recipes for making strawberry jam were found in the 17th century. The recipes were for making strawberry jam and for other purposes. It has historical links to a number of old strawberry trees in many country house gardens. Some strawberries have been known to live as long as 600 years.



Lunch and a chance to look at the display in The Old Kitchen





**More plants in Britain  
that had come from  
around the world by  
Repton's time**

Twin-flowered daphne  
(*Daphne pontica*)  
from Turkey in 1750s



Lilac (*Syringa vulgaris*)  
from Turkey and the  
Balkans in 1590s



Bearded iris,  
(*Iris germanica*) now  
in Iran, Kashmir and  
Cyprus



Lamb's ear  
(*Stachys byzantina*)  
from Turkey, Iran and  
Armenia in 1780s



Catnip (*Nepeta mussinii*)  
from Turkey and Northern  
Iran in 1800s



Cedar of Lebanon  
(*Cedrus libani*)  
from the Levant in 1683



Rose mallow, *Hibiscus syriacus*,  
from Syria in early 1600s



Passion Flower  
(*Passiflora caerulea*)  
from Brazil in 1699



Fuchsia or Lady's eardrops  
(*Fuchsia magellanica*)  
from Chile and Argentina in  
1790s



Mignonette  
(*Reseda odorata*)  
from Egypt by 1750s



Alexandrian laurel  
(*Danae racemosa*)  
from Iran and Turkey in 1713



Anemone (*Anemone coronaria*)  
from the Levant in 1596



Sweet sultan  
(*Centaurea moschata*)  
from Persia in 1620s



Orange day lily  
(*Hemerocallis fulva*) from  
the Levant in 1580s





Display about plant histories and origins



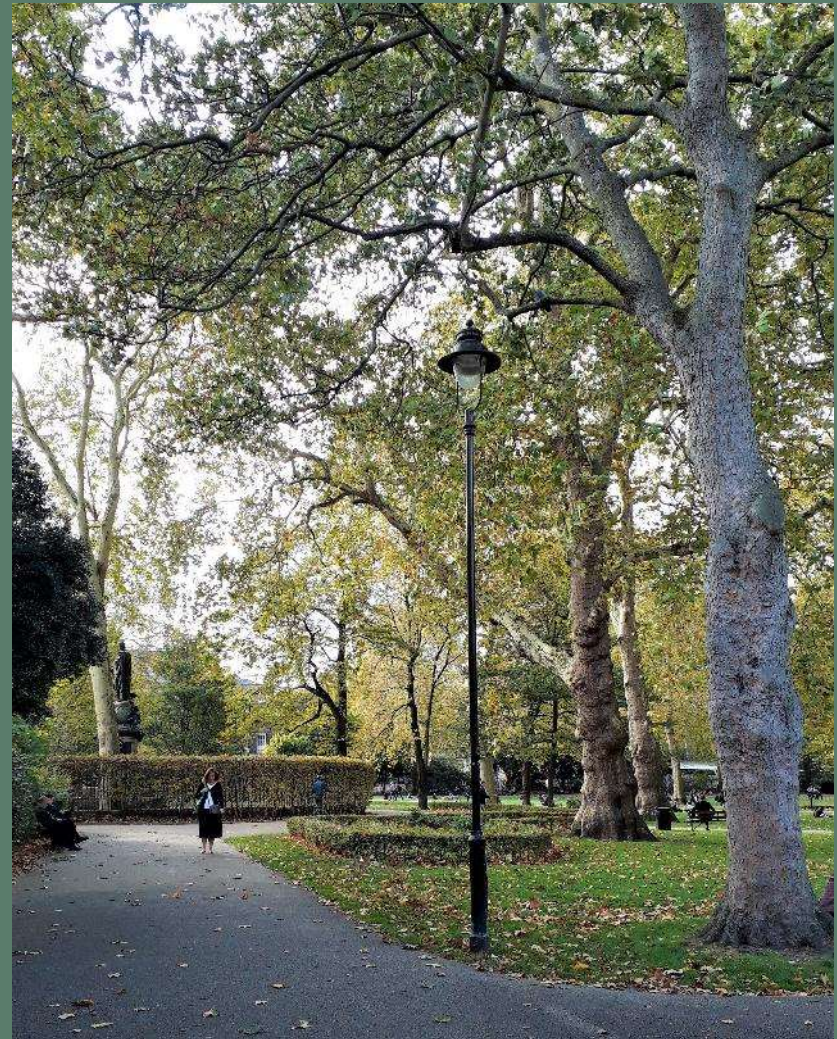
Map on which participants recorded their country of origin



# SHARING REPTON at Russell Square

and Mary Ward Centre

25 April 2019



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# Planting Day I in Russell Square – APRIL 2019



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# Checking with participants before the talk starts



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# Talk about the history of Russell Square and Repton's role



Supported by two interpreters

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Errol explaining how the roses will be planted



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Everyone joining in to plant the roses



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# Planting the roses



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# Planting the roses



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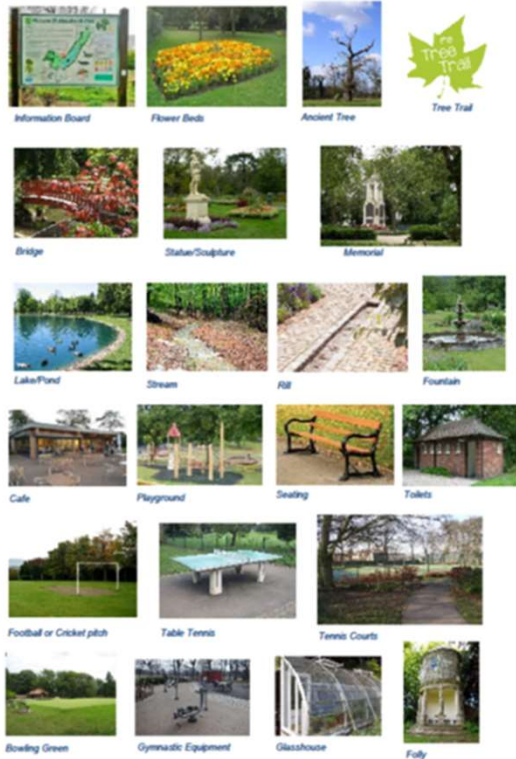


# Exploring Russell Square & Tavistock Square





# Exploring your local park



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Funding raised by  
**The National Lottery**  
and awarded by The Heritage Lottery Fund

LOTTERY FUNDED

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE SHEET FOR EACH GREEN SPACE YOU VISIT.

Name of Square (please tick)  
 Bloomsbury  Brunswick  Gordon  Queens  Russell  Tavistock  Other

How would you describe the space? Park  Garden  Open space  Square   
 Other (e.g. churchyard, mosque precinct, cemetery)

Have you visited this space before today? Yes  No

Is the space attached to a building? (e.g. a museum, house, offices, library, etc.)  
 Yes  No

If yes, is the building open to the public? Yes  No

Which of the following features does the space contain?

An information board   
*(maybe giving the history of the space or who established it, and when, opening times, who looks after the space, etc., info about trees or birds, etc.)*

Flower beds  Ancient Trees  Tree Trail  Compost area

Statues/Sculptures  Memorial   
 If yes, who/what is celebrated/represented? If Yes, to whom

Lake/Pond  Stream  Bridge  Fountain  Other Water feature/s

Sports area:  
 Football/Cricket pitch  Table Tennis  Bowling Green  Gym equipment   
 Tennis courts  Other

Cafe  Children's Playground  Seating  Toilets

Glasshouse/s  Folly (a decorative small building in a garden or park)

Other features of interest  If yes, please describe

What did you like most about the space?

ing you didn't like?

s it for you to be able to visit green spaces? Why?

ents?

THANK YOU!

Dark Island Cottage, St James's Park,  
 London SW1A 2BU  
 Telephone / Fax: 020 7339 3969  
 Email: office@englandgardenstrust.org

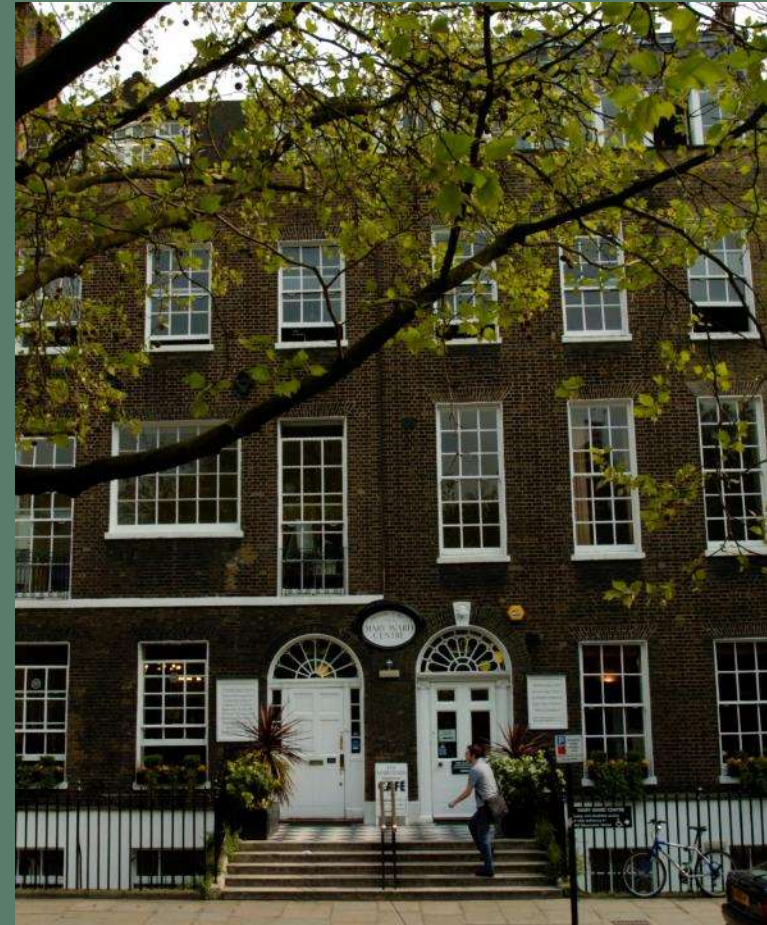
**London Parks & Gardens Trust**





## At Mary Ward Centre:

- Lunch
- Presentation from Errol, Kenwood's senior gardener, on garden-related volunteering opportunities – including some images from their Kenwood visit.



Mary Ward Centre, Queen's Square

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# Errol talking about volunteer opportunities at Kenwood



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# SHARING REPTON at Russell Square

9<sup>th</sup> November 2019

alongside Russell Square  
Volunteer Gardeners Group



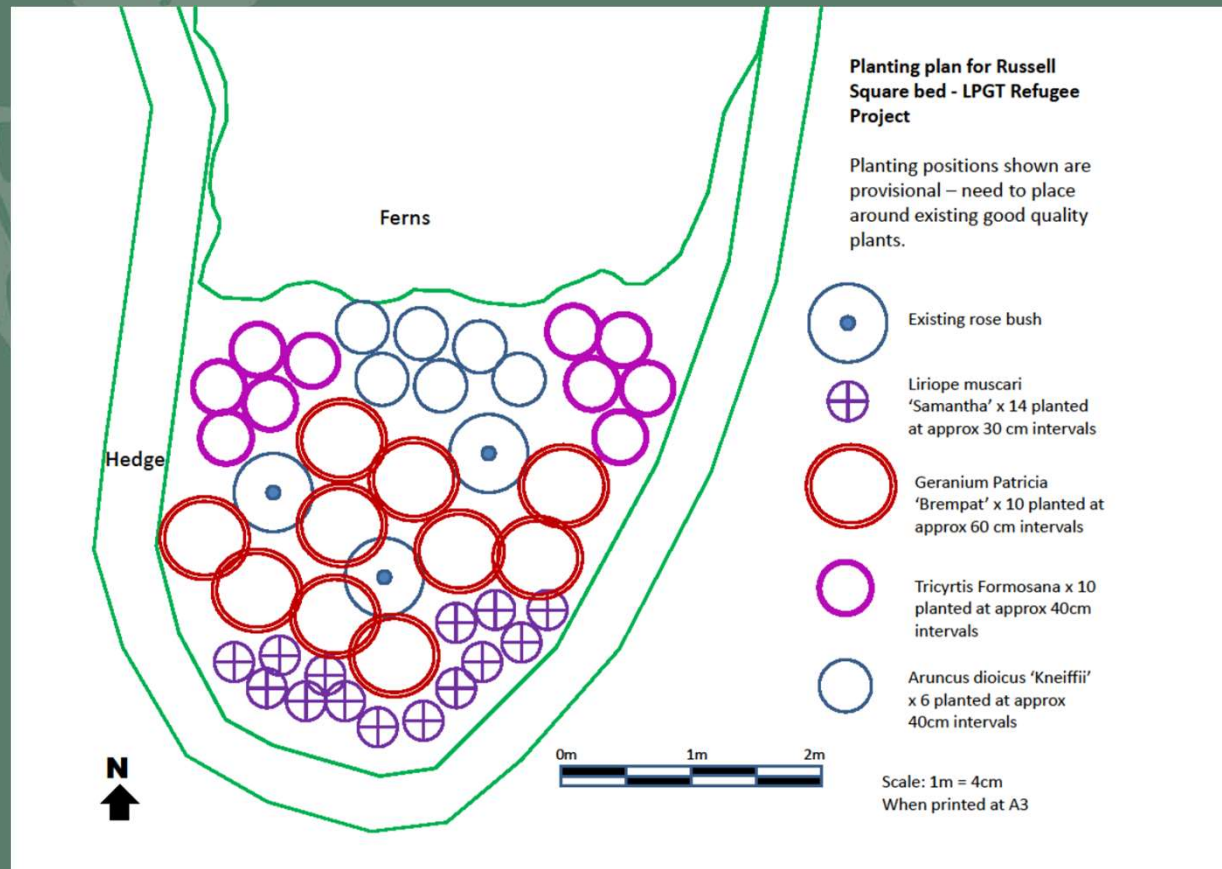
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# Planting Day II in Russell Square – NOVEMBER 2019



An LPGT volunteer drew up a planting plan using plants suggested by Kenwood's senior gardener as suitable for the shady position and soil conditions.



# Planting Day II in Russell Square – NOVEMBER 2019

The refugees planted 40 perennials  
and then.....



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# Planting Day II in Russell Square – NOVEMBER 2019

.....worked alongside the Russell Square volunteer gardeners in planting some 400 bulbs





# Enjoying the insect hotel in Russell Square



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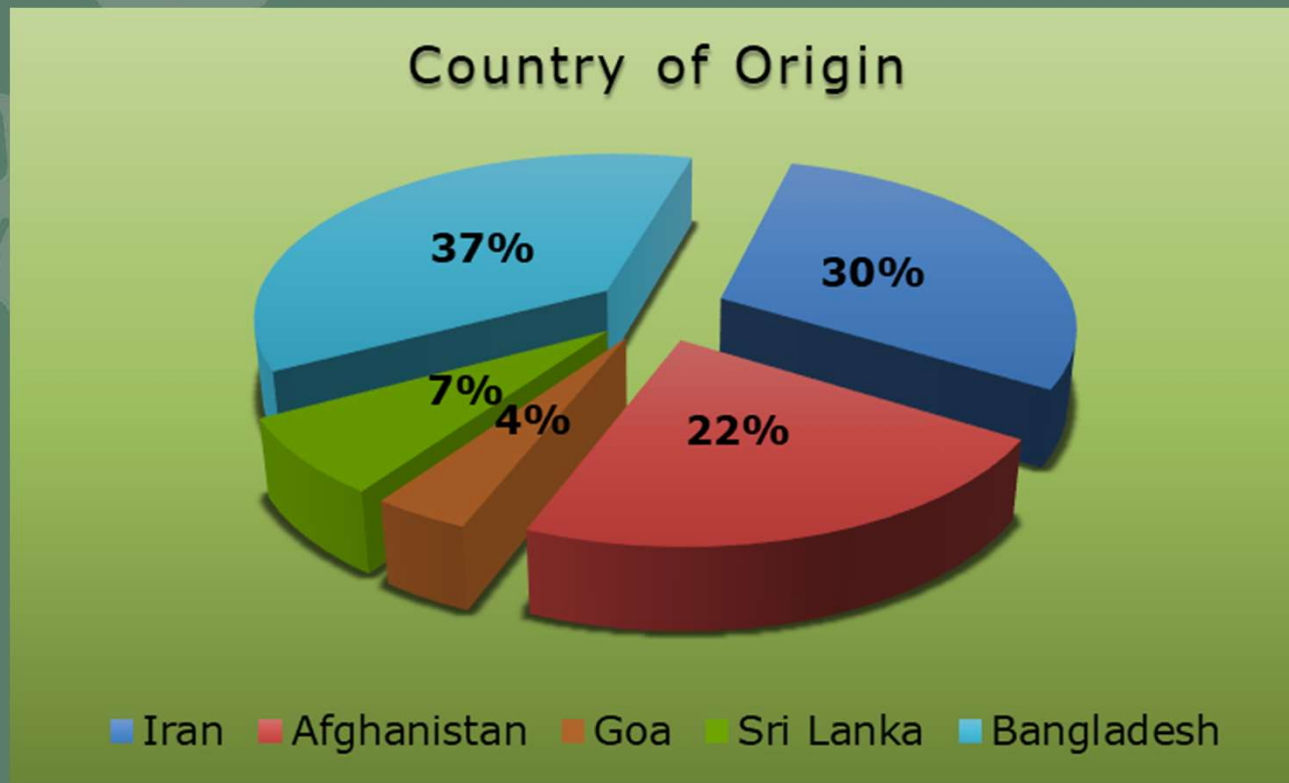
# Evaluation

## What we learned





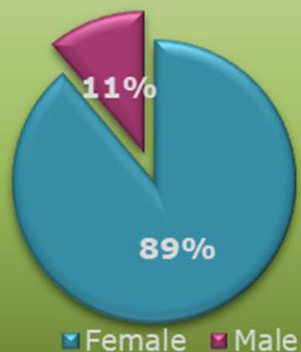
# Who were our participants?



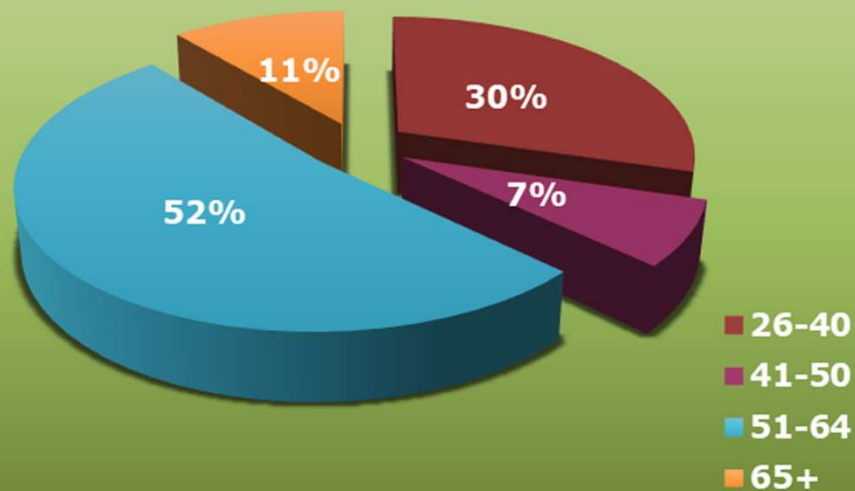


# Who were our participants?

### Participants by Gender

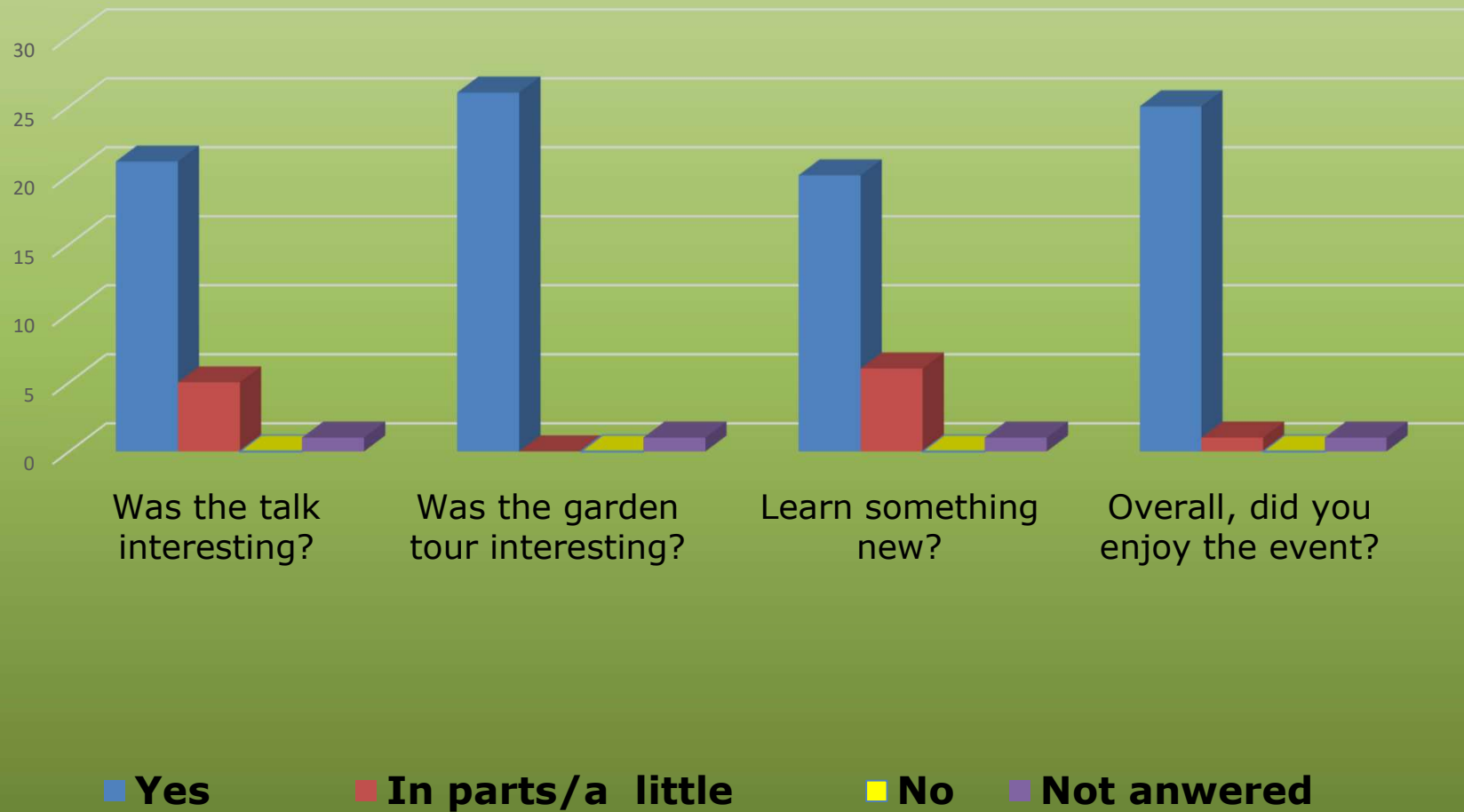


### Participants by Age





## Participants' experience of Day One



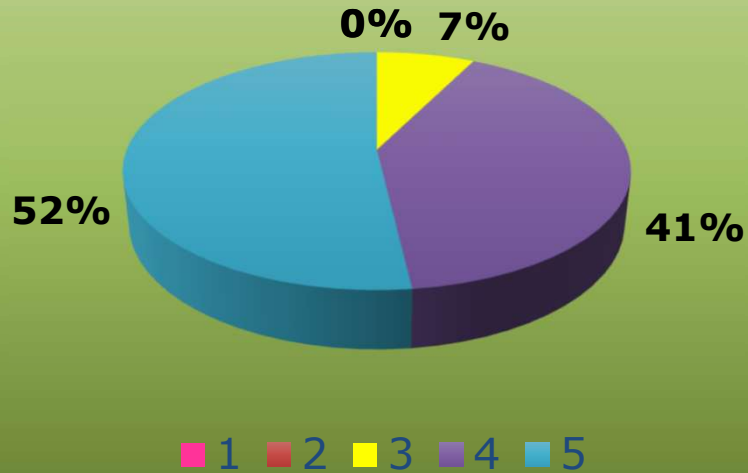
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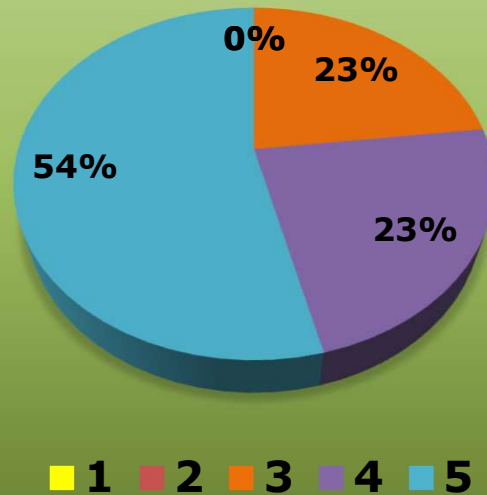




**I am interested in the history of London's parks & gardens (1=low: 5=high)**



**I would like to know more about conservation of parks & gardens (1=low: 5=high)**





## What participants liked about their visit to Kenwood

- *Walk around with the gardener*
- *Seeing the gardens – I would have liked to see more*
- *Visiting Kenwood House: it is beautiful; loved walking around*
- *Green space & gardens*
- *Kenwood House and its setting and the beautiful green spaces*
- *Garden, old trees, food*
- *Learning about old trees and where plants come from*
- *Being able to visit Kenwood with a group I know well*
- *Seeing new flowers, plants from my own country and very old trees: they have a history*
- *The way all three groups networked on the day*
- *Talking to staff; staff are very helpful; love the food; enjoyed everything*



## What participants liked about their visit to Russell Square

*Visiting Russell Square with other community people/Russell Square history*

*Visiting Russell Square/ Repton Garden plan; food I enjoyed helping to plan the garden/enjoyed the food*

*Enjoyed everything/I like most to help put rose plant*

*History re Russell Square/Joint visit with other groups*

*Everything - History of Russell Square/History of all area of Russell Square, enjoyed with other group visit together, food, history of Humphry Repton plan also re funding for garden*

*Everything/History of garden Russell Square history/ everything and food*





# Our Conservation Engagement Journey

Awareness of history of parks and gardens

Awareness of importance conservation issues

Awareness of volunteer roles

Knowledge of volunteering opportunities

Introduction to green spaces

Appreciation of importance of green spaces to individuals

Experience of local (accessible) green spaces

Identifying interests/skills





Awareness of history of  
parks and gardens

*'Sitting in the garden to listen to the lady who talked about the history of the park*

*'Explanation about the history of Russell Square park'.*

*'listening to the lady who talked about the history of the park - very interesting'*

*'I enjoyed both gardens and certainly learned a great deal about the history of both (Russell Sq. + Tavistock Sq.)*

From Russell Square feedback





Appreciation of importance of green spaces to individuals

## Being in a green space makes me feel.....

- *It helps me forget my sorrow and reduces my depression*
- *Happy and fresh*
- *Less depressed, opportunity to meet other people and get rid of loneliness*
- *Relaxed and enjoy the environment*
- *Less stressed, forget my problems*
- *Reminds me of back home; feeling comfortable and enjoy the fresh air and beautiful environment*

## When visiting a park or garden I enjoy.....

- *Green space – seeing the sky – chatting with other women*
- *The fresh air, green space, open space*
- *Seeing new things – different trees and plants*
- *The fresh air- being active*





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Experience of local  
(accessible) green spaces

*'Seeing/visiting a garden for the first time in London (have been here for 8 months)'* (on visiting Kenwood House)

*'I did not know about this garden. I have heard about Hyde Park but didn't know such a gem existed in Central London. I have been living in Barnet on a housing estate for 7 years but have not been to Central London until now! I will take my children to Central London from now on to see more of London. It has been a great experience for me. Thank you'*  
(on visiting Russell Square)



# What happened next – the legacy

The refugees have been invited to join future planting events organised by Russell Square Volunteer Gardeners Group



The refugees were consulted by Camden Council Parks Dept. about how to improve the Information Boards in Russell Square



## What happened next – the legacy

Requests for similar visits to Kenwood for other groups of refugees and asylum seekers

English Heritage at Kenwood have agreed to develop their own programme of visits for such groups next year



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# What happened next – the legacy

## English Heritage Volunteer application form

***Do you have the right to work in the UK? Please note: if you do not have the right to work in the UK you run the risk of deportation by volunteering***

**Do you have any unspent criminal convictions or is there any action pending against you?** This will not necessarily prevent you from volunteering – each case is dealt with on its own merits.

**Do you have a disability or specific need for which special arrangements or adjustments are needed for the role or the interview?** All information is strictly confidential. If yes, we may contact you in confidence to discuss your requirements.





## The real legacy

Refugees' sense of belonging, acceptance and well-being  
Regaining the dignity they lost through the process  
of migration and resettlement

*'Gives me an opportunity to be  
part of the bigger community'*

*'We will make history  
being part of the project'*

*'So proud to be part of  
history by planting roses'*



## The real legacy – the start of a journey

*'I loved listening to the talk and the history of the Russell Square park. I also enjoyed meeting other people and it was very beautiful and therapeutic to walk around the park and exploring. I enjoyed very much and look forward to be part of more garden experience'*

*'In Russell Square I liked the old trees and its history; in Tavistock Square I liked the combination of statues and the whole atmosphere. I will certainly bring my family to these gardens and will explore others'*





A Big THANK YOU! To:

Emily Parker – English Heritage

Errol Fernandes – Senior Gardner, Kenwood

Margaret King, Joan Pateman & Jane Wilson – LPGT volunteers

Helen Monger –LPGT Director

Camden Council Parks Department

David Marchant and other Russell Square  
Commissioners & Bedford Estates

Linden Groves – Gardens Trust

Also, to the other 4 pilots for their  
encouragement and sharing their  
ideas over the past year

