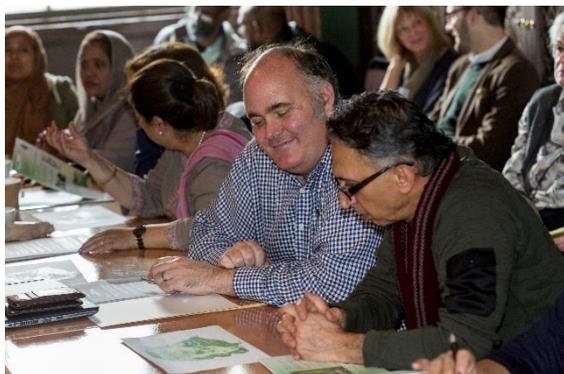


SHARING REPTON: HISTORIC LANDSCAPES FOR ALL

Introductory Conservation Workshop

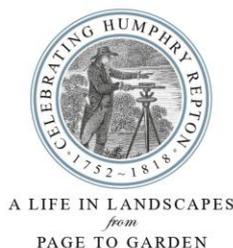
Case Study



Volunteers from London Parks and Gardens Trust connected with local groups to deliver a super-introductory conservation workshop at Kenwood and Russell Square with staff from English Heritage.

What happened: We connected with the Refugee Women's Association, Barnet Refugee Service and Hopscotch Asian Women's Centre to spend an autumn day at Kenwood with English Heritage where we enjoyed the landscape and talked about being a stakeholder in the historic open space, about volunteering, and about conservation issues such as views and tree management. The following Spring we reconvened at Russell Square so that the participants could plant roses, enjoy another Repton landscape, and share experiences of visiting open spaces near them.

Reuse potential: Working with the refugee groups was intensely rewarding and can be recommended to any organization looking to refresh its cultural horizons and social contribution. Language barriers however reduced the range of roles in which the participants could go on to volunteer for so we re-ran this pilot as a single half-day activity, inviting residents around a park in Brent, London. The take up of this simple and cheap day was very significant, and has resulted in 5 new volunteers for London Parks & Gardens Trust.





Top Tips:

- Multicultural groups may not necessarily suffer economic deprivation, but for the refugee groups we worked with the reimbursement of travel expenses was essential.
- We planned a full and carefully-scheduled event but our participants arrived late and weren't as mindful of the schedule as we were, so preparation but willingness to be flexible was essential.
- We planned a sequence of interesting activities during these workshops and these were a useful structure, but in fact the joy of the day from the participants' perspective lay in simply being welcomed into the UK's historic cultural space.
- Our participants had many different languages so our presentations had to be simultaneously translated by their translators. Be prepared to reduce your content and be 'talked over' by the translators!

Support materials include:

- Programmes for a first and second day workshop
- Survey of parks exercise
- Detailed feedback forms
- Presentation on volunteering opportunities
- Promotional flyer

For free support materials to help you run a similar activity, please visit: thegardenstrust.org/conservation/hlp-hub/networking-materials/sharing-repton-2/

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