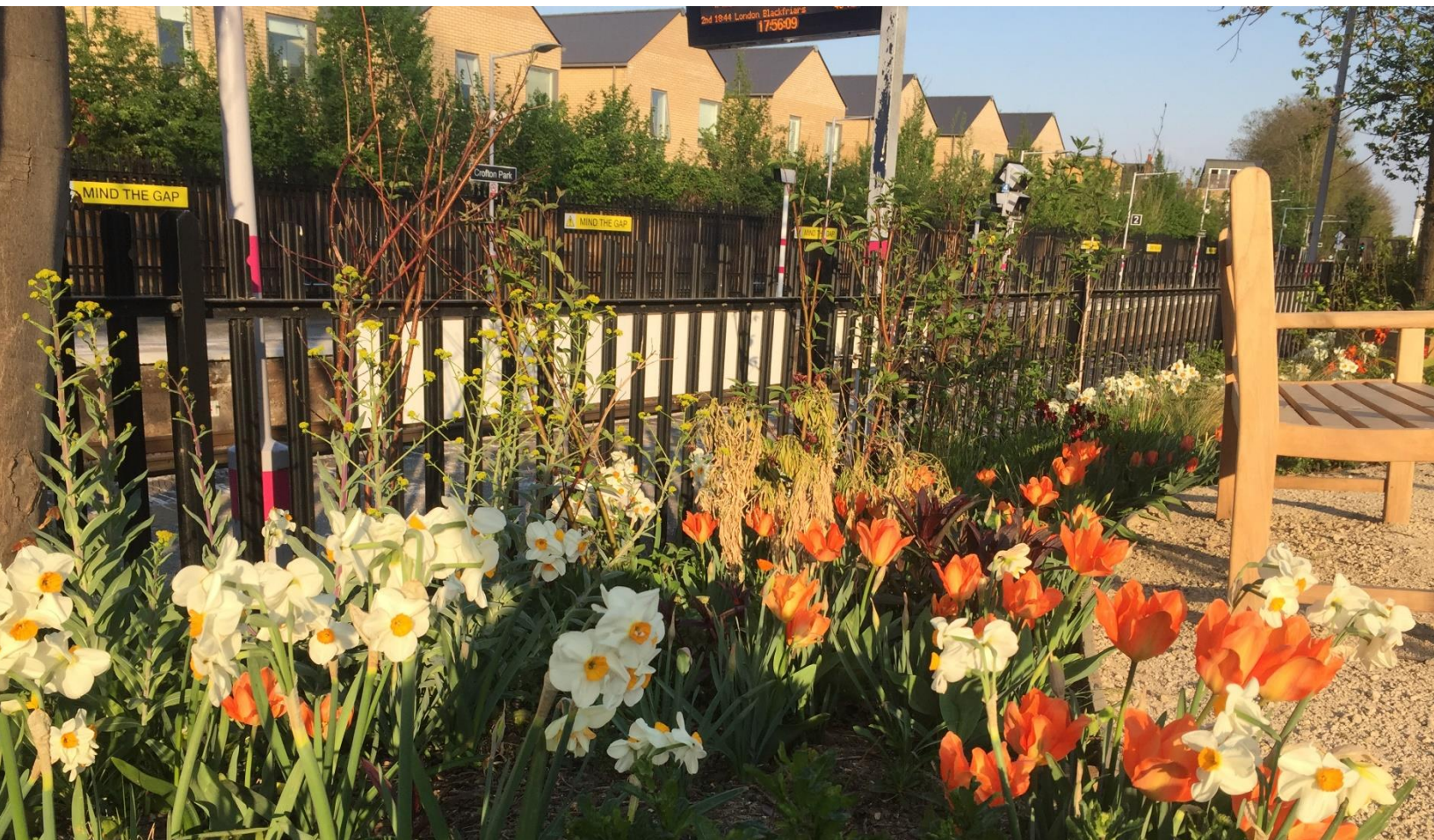


# Annual Report

2021

Crofton Park Railway Garden



# Annual AGM Report - 2021

## 1 INTRODUCTION

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- This report covers the period January 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2021.

## 2 ELECTED COMMITTEE

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- The following members were elected onto the committee in 2021

Name	Role
Aldo Piscina	Chair
Ben Ray	Co-Chair
Kay Pallaris	Treasurer
Lucy Tann	Secretary
Steve Mulford	Co-secretary
Jane Martin	Events Coordinator
Paul Coletti	Gardener
Avery Anapol	Communications
Hugo McCloud	Project and Design Assistance

## 3 CHAIR'S REPORT - ACHIEVEMENTS

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- Four market days were held, including a Christmas Market on the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021.
- A poetry reading evening was held as part of the Brockley Max festival on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021.
- A notice board was installed to help with communication of events and volunteer days at the garden.
- The Three Peaks Map was also installed at the garden. The printing and installation costs were covered by GTR as part of promoting the walking route from the station and the #RailDaysOut initiative, getting people to return to rail travel safely following covid restrictions.

## 4 TREASURER'S REPORT

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- Summary Accounts

## Friends of Crofton Park Railway Garden

### Treasurer's Finance Report & Statement 2021

Period 01-01-2021 to 31-12-2021

**Opening Balance on 1st Jan 2021** **£3,293.67**

#### Income

Grant or Project Income	£1,281.86
Donations	£256.60
Market & Plant Sales	£1,433.00
Misc Income	£11.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£2,982.46</b>

#### Expenditure

Insurance	£145.00
Website	£73.01
Garden Maintenance (Compost & Plants etc)	£486.68
Garden Enhancements	£609.93
Other Project Costs	£150.00
Event Costs	£29.98
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£1,494.60</b>

**Closing Balance on 31st Dec 2021** **£4,781.53**

- Project income of £1,281 relates to the deposit of the Three Peaks project money (partly transferred from the Neighbourhood Forum; and partly from ongoing map sales deposited as cash deposit. A £150 expense was made to update the main map that was installed at the garden, at Crofton Park station and as the Buckthorne Cutting Nature Reserve. Balance of £1,131.86 remains and is ring-fenced for the 3 Peaks Walk Project.
- Majority of income for the garden in 2021 relates to plant sales and market stall rentals on our market days, totalling £1,433.
- Donations from the general public amounted to £256.
- Remainder shown is actually a refund from the plant order due to no stock.

- The main expenditure for 2021 was the installation of a notice board as well as summer bulbs and compost.

## 5 GARDEN ISSUES

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- Volunteer days did not resume in full; as a result the garden is in need of some maintenance. Responsibility for volunteer days needs to be spread amongst committee members to share burden and ensure they happen regularly.
- The station manager requested that we remove our compost bin. A number of reasons were given including smell near platform and that it was damaging fence. Photos showed that in fact the fence had always been slightly misaligned there. Nevertheless, they appointed contractors and have now removed it. We now need to build a bigger purpose-built one to replace this, and ensure it is hidden from the platform with a trellis, and has a lid, to avoid overfilling. An indicative quote was received from TCV - (£1477.18 Inc. of VAT).
- Some noticeable damage to planting area caused by children playing; signage went up and seemed to make some difference, however some areas continue to be trampled, i.e area by station building. Current thinking is to convert this space into a space they can play in, to incorporate natural play elements like mud kitchen.

## 6 PROJECTS

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- Following projects are linked to grants received in 2020 and will need to resume in 2022; delays due to COVID-19.

Project	Grant Source	Grant Amount
Playbark of woodland	ACORP (now community rail); part of the project was completed. The balance will go towards woodchip for the woodland play area, and any remainder feed into the other kids play plans	£621
Kids natural play	SHELL – in lieu of corporate volunteer day that was cancelled due to covid. Not started.	1200
Community Engagement	Community Rail – Paid for a notice board and compost Balance of 100 is to buy the mulch.	£100

- The following projects are planned and are mostly subject to further funding becoming available.



Project	Potential Grant Source (if applied) or other source	Indicative Quote
2 Bay Composter	Groundworks	£1,500
Irrigation System	TBC	£1,862
Kids Play	LBL NCIL Bid	£10,000

## 7 FUNDRAISING

- In 2021 we applied to the following grant bids:

Source	Amount	For	Outcome
Lewisham Council NCIL Bid	£9,840.00	Kids natural play	Have not heard back yet
Groundwards – Our Space Award	£3,072	Composter and planting and biodiversity improvements	Have not heard back yet

- We continued to fundraise through holding a market and through plant sales.
- £256 was donated in 2021 by members of the public, via the website’s donate page

## 8 SUMMARY OF 2021 USER SURVEY

- 131 responded to November 2021 survey. Survey was run to primarily see what users wanted us to prioritise in terms of enhancements or improvements. The key themes from the previous survey were extracted and formed basis of categories.
- 46% wanted to see kids natural play. This wasn’t too surprising given the majority of respondents say they visit with children 67%.
- More wildlife enhancements was the next priority with 22% choosing this, followed by more seating (15%) and more planting (10%).
- Many lovely comments about how it is a much loved garden and how it provided an important green space during the pandemic.

## 9 FORWARD PLAN FOR 2022

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- Improving the garden for kids play; depending on fund availability, prioritise different areas as per plan put together by Hugo.
- Lewisham Cultural fund bid to have activities at the garden in the summer. Covid permitting, maybe have an anniversary celebration at the start of June to mark the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of opening.
- Complete the GTR funding call. Only offering groups £200.
- Build composter
- Get more quotes for irrigation system
- Diversify funding strategy
- Update funding page with plans, upload kids play presentation and initiate crowdfunding.
- Any other priorities or project ideas?