

# FRIENDS OF GUNNERSBURY PARK & MUSEUM

## NEWSLETTER NO 118 NOVEMBER 2022



### FROM THE EDITOR

This edition of the Newsletter records a tremendously busy year. It includes reports of Friends' activities, grants given to support work at Gunnersbury, changes in the CIC staff team, reviews the music and other events which took place over the summer, and it lists forthcoming events.

I owe you a big apology for being unable to provide the promised quarterly Newsletter this year. A rare complication to what should have been a straightforward knee operation in the summer kept me in hospital for a long spell, and needed a long period of recovery. The Friends' Committee is only a small team, all with other roles, but they have shared reports of activities and events at Gunnersbury and their photos.

### FRIENDS' 2022 AGM

The Annual General Meeting on 29 October approved the Trustees' Annual Report, the Financial Statement for the year to 31.03.2022 and the Reserves Policy. Our Treasurer's report is summarised below:

- Although not officially required for our size of charity we invited Freeman Carr, accountants, to undertake an independent examination. They found no areas of concern and gave us a clean bill of health.
- Our financial position at 31 March 2022 was strong. Our funds, comprising (cash in the bank plus our investments) totalled £324,925 compared with £319,232 a year earlier, a 1.7% increase. Since March markets generally have fallen – in October our funds totalled £289,888.
- The majority of the charity's funds are managed by Sarasin, one of the UK's major charity fund managers, with whom the trustees maintain close contact about investment performance. During the year the trustees agreed to switch to a greener Sarasin fund, more in line with the objectives of a charity supporting a green space. This fund has performed less well recently than those investing in, say, oil and armaments but it is expected to deliver in the long term.
- Almost all of our funds are regarded as 'unrestricted', so we can spend them as we please in accordance with our charitable objectives. Expenditure on our core charitable objectives decreased but we continued to support garden projects (£3,000) and paid £1,545 of the £2,000 we had committed to the Sakura cherry tree planting celebration. (The balance would be paid in the current financial year.)

The members of the committee were all prepared to stand again and were re-elected unanimously. They are James Wisdom (Chairman), Val Bott (Newsletter Editor/Hon Secretary), Steve Larcombe (Hon Treasurer), Sonya Leydecker and Patrick Salaün (trustees), Glen Barnham, Philippa Dolphin, Carol Stiles (Committee members). If you are interested in joining the committee do please get in touch via [info@gunnersburyfriends.org](mailto:info@gunnersburyfriends.org), saying something about your interests and any specialist expertise you would be able to offer. We meet roughly quarterly online and share specific tasks between us.

### GUNNERSBURY GOVERNANCE

We are delighted that Gunnersbury's revised governance structure is now being implemented and look forward to welcoming the new board members and working with them. The change, which places the registered charity, the Gunnersbury Development Trust (GDT) in control, with the CIC as an operational subsidiary, should make fund-raising more effective and may make its approach more that of trusteeship than ownership. To provide continuity for the first year, two trustees from the present board of the GDT and two from the CIC will go forward into the revised trust. At the time of writing interviews by an independent panel for a new Chairman and 4 additional trustees are in progress; recommended candidates will be submitted to the existing trustees for ratification and they will serve for up to 3 years from 2023. There is also a plan to create advisory committees for horticulture and museums and heritage. Work on due diligence, leases and so on still has to be completed.

## LOST INDUSTRIES

A Historic England (HE) grant of £22,000 will support a new project called *Temples of Industry*. Part of HE's *Everyday Heritage* programme, celebrating working class history, it will study the decline of heavy industry and the impact this has had on West London communities in the 1970s and 80s.

The Museum team will work with local people, archives and community organisations to pull together fragmented collections of photos and documents, collect new oral histories and work with young people to create a documentary film. The end product will be a digital exhibition, co-created with project participants.

## PARKING CHARGES

From January parking charges and the way to pay is changing. Parking will remain free for 30 mins, and the next 30 mins will cost £1 as will each subsequent hour. Payment at the machines will be by credit card, ApplePay or via RingGo (full details at <https://tinyurl.com/3wkbezns>)

Blue badge holders can use the car park by the museum or the main car park without payment but need to register their badge and vehicle numbers on 020 8418 9445.

The surplus will be spent on the estate; the first priority will be repairs to pathways mainly in the south of the Park.

## ONLINE DEBRIEF ON WATERWORKS

**12 December, 6 – 7pm**

The CIC invites stakeholders and members of the public to review the event held in September. The CIC's Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85912468924> and their meeting ID is 859 1246 8924

## ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND GRANT FOR MUSEUM

Gunnersbury Park Museum has become one of National Portfolio Organisations (NPOs), chosen by the Arts Council England (ACE) based on their ability to deliver its *Let's Create* strategy which engages communities and individuals in arts, culture and heritage. The Museum will receive £129,500 each year from 2023 to 2026. Though ACE has responded to government directions to provide more funding outside London, resulting in some very large London-based arts organisations losing out, a surprising number of small organisations in Greater London have been awarded NPO status. We send hearty congratulations to the Museum team as applying was a demanding process!

The learning programme will benefit from the funding, with more outreach, enhanced digital learning and a new heritage careers focussed programme for secondary schools. There will also be a Community Cultural Champions programme, providing training and skills development for local people. A changing exhibition programme in the museum and the park, online and in the wider community and this will celebrate the creative industries from the past, such as film studios in Ealing and Hounslow boroughs as well as working with contemporary creative industries to showcase local talent. The Museum hopes also to collect new objects and archive material to support co-curated displays in our permanent galleries.

## NEW CIC STAFF

We asked two people who have recently come to work at Gunnersbury to tell us about themselves:

**Charlie Kippax** is now the Operations Manager at Gunnersbury Park. She tells us "My background is in managing art galleries, music venues and museums – Gunnersbury seems to offer a wonderful combination of all three which suits me perfectly. In my free time I sing with the Royal Choral Society and enjoy exploring the many wonderful cultural offers London has in abundance. I'm thoroughly enjoying getting established at Gunnersbury and hope I'll meet a lot of Friends soon".

**Sukh Rai** has become Estates and Facilities Manager. He has over 15 years of professional cross-industry experience, primarily specializing in operations, facilities, property management, sales and business development. He says his last role was at the University of Arts London Central Saint Martins. "This really grew my appetite for the arts world, history and culture, and helps me appreciate our Park and Museum even more. In my spare time I enjoy movies, sports, spending time with my family and my favourite is having a kick about in the park with my son. Hope to get to speak to lots of Gunnersbury Friends when I am out and about".

## PUTT IN THE PARK

This golf-themed attraction has now opened on the former bowling green near the car parking area. Though the extension to the former club-house looks reasonable, the landscaping is extremely ugly and the signage clumsy. They have had the cheek to call the licensed café the 'Bowls Green Pavilion' when they have actually destroyed the bowls green. It offers toasted sandwiches, pasta and salads.

Prices are quite high: adults pay £11 (£9 for 65+), under 15s pay £9, and a family ticket for 4 costs £36. They require 1 adult per 2 children. Booking is compulsory on [puttinthepark.com](http://puttinthepark.com)

## IN THE PARK: Storm Eunice, & cherry trees

The Park was closed during the week-end of 17 February when very high winds in Storm Eunice were predicted. Amongst the old trees that were lost was a very old lime tree in the Japanese Garden whose trunk snapped, and hoardings round the café site were blown over.

However, on 18 March we celebrated last November's planting of 80 cherry trees in a new grove near the Stables as part of the national Sakura project, one of many new groves planned originally to mark Japanese/UK friendship in the year of the Olympics, but delayed by the pandemic. Capel Manor students and Gunnersbury volunteers, many of whom came to the celebration, did the planting. For the event Capel Manor floristry students decorated the Orangery with blossom and an elegant tea party was provided for the guests.

*Group photos by Steve Larcombe*



*Glen Barnham (Friends' committee) with Capel Manor students & staff*

The dignitaries who joined us included Mr Takeshi Ito, Minister for Public Diplomacy at the Japanese Embassy, Paul Kennerley, Deputy Lieutenant for Middlesex, Cllr Hina Mir, Mayor of Hounslow, Steve Curran, Leader and Cllr Samia Chaudhary, Cabinet member, both of Hounslow Council, Cllr Deirdre Costigan, Deputy Leader of Ealing Council, plus Lady Victoria Borwick and Chizuko Winter from the Sakura Project's UK committee. We asked some of the Capel Manor students to present beautifully wrapped copies of *Gunnersbury: the Place and the People* to the special guests and key helpers.



*L to R Deirdre Costigan, Takeshi Ito, Paul Kennerley & Hina Mir*



*The fallen lime tree photo Val Bott*

The event, a joint project of the Development Trust and the Friends, was organised by Val Bott and Jane Newman, supported by Friends committee members, staff from the Gunnersbury CIC and Capel Manor lecturers.

This was an important event as it meant that we could engage with not only the Sakura organisation but also Japan House, the Japanese Garden Society, the Three Wheels Temple in Acton and others who might help to establish a scheme for restoring the Japanese Garden.

## GARDENING UPDATE

The long drought caused some losses in the Park. Using relays of watering cans and a hose from the Orangery the Community Pay-back team spent their weekly visits watering the cherry trees which successfully minimised losses there. Gaps in some beds have been filled by moving plants and adding drought tolerant buddleia and

mallow. New planting has been introduced near the café and in the Italian Garden, and a large new bed of rhododendrons, near the main gates, will flower next May.

## SAYING GOODBYE TO CHRIS ELLIS



Chris Ellis Photo Steve Larcombe

Gunnersbury's Park Manager & Head Gardener, Chris Ellis, has moved to a new post at Marble Hill House in Twickenham. Chris played a major role in ensuring that the regeneration of the Park was implemented, sustained and enhanced.

Under his management the volunteer team was established, local businesses were welcomed for corporate away days and he fostered the partnership with Community Payback. He also engaged Capel Manor College students on a variety of courses in elements of the work, such as planting the community orchard, designing schemes for the rose basket beds, and helping plant the Sakura trees.

The quality of the work undertaken by Chris and his team was recognised by the award of the Green Flag and a Gold Award from London in Bloom in 2021. The Friends committee was so impressed that they have been making an annual gift of £3,000 to support it., specifically encouraging him to work with Capel Manor.

Chris had led very enjoyable Park tours and, starting during the pandemic lock-downs, he produced videos tours to share with those who were unable to visit. These cover such features as the innovative flower meadow and the shire horses from Operation Centaur who ploughed it in. These remain on the CIC website.

Chris' main love was the historical landscape gardens but gradually his role expanded to liaise with the grounds maintenance contractors. He also advised on the siting of major events to minimise damage and the subsequent repairs. One of his last responsibilities was to support and take part in our Sakura celebration where he was officially presented with the commemorative plaque.

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## FRIENDS' SUPPORT FOR THE PARK & MUSEUM

We're delighted to report that the Friends committee has approved a number of donations:

- the restoration of the gilt oval frame of the Four Seasons ceiling painting in the Long Gallery was completed in the spring and we reimbursed the cost of £7,150
- we continued to provide £3,000 a year to support work in the gardens, especially to involve Capel Manor College students

- we contributed the sum of £2,000 towards the cost of the event which celebrated the Sakura cherry tree grove
- we will give £10,000 towards a specialist consultant to help prepare a major grant application for the restoration of the Stables, working jointly with the Gunnersbury Development Trust
- we have offered £3,000 towards a Museum project
- we have spent substantial voluntary time on responses to planning applications which would affect the Park

In addition, we are very grateful for a bequest of £3,000 from the estate of the late Marina Suzanah Rose Dawkins. She was not one of our members but must have loved Gunnersbury. We are always happy to discuss potential bequests of this kind.

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## BULBS FOR LONDON

We keep up to date with activities in 4,000 or so London Parks via the newsletter of [www.goparks.London](http://www.goparks.London). They recently told us of free bulbs offered by the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association, working with Taylors Bulbs of Spalding. This year's offer is for a 'Lucky Dip' package of about 400 bulbs of four or five different varieties.

With the help of Spencer Lewis of the CIC garden team we rapidly put together and submitted a joint bid

from the Friends and the CIC which has been successful! The free bulbs have arrived and we have emailed Friends to ask for volunteers to help with the planting.

The bulbs will be planted around the south-west entrance to the Park beside the A4/M4. It has the Victorian gate-house, fantastic mature trees and shrubs, and some grass borders. About 1,000 new apartments are due to be built near there in the next few years and this will become a very busy entrance for the new residents. The area does look past its prime though native shrubs have recently been planted to create an under-storey in the woodland.

Bulbs in this corner of the Park, near the entrance, will upgrade the area, providing a splash of colour which will provide an attractive and welcoming surprise for park users in the spring.

## GUNNERSBURY'S COMMUNITY CHOICE

The CIC has announced its Community Choice initiative, an opportunity for everyone to choose a project, funded from part of the income earned through their biggest ever programme of summer events during 2022.

The project selected will bring a direct benefit to the local community. The Community Choice projects have been championed by the Gunnersbury team, some of whom appear in short films at [www.visitgunnersbury.org/news-blog/our-work/community-choice/](http://www.visitgunnersbury.org/news-blog/our-work/community-choice/)

Select from these three:

- **Project One** would provide bursaries to fund local schools who would otherwise miss out on Gunnersbury's learning sessions;
- **Project Two** would make Gunnersbury more inclusive by purchasing multi-sensory and accessible equipment to add to the playground, and
- **Project Three** would see new hedgerows, mainly of hawthorn, planted round the sports field boundary to create new habitats.

You can vote for the project you would like to support on line at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TS5ZWKC> .

**The poll closes at 5pm on Tuesday 3 January and the winning project will be announced on Wednesday 4 January**

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## SMALL MANSION, STABLES AND ORANGERY

Works funded by Historic England (HE) and National Highways (formerly Highways England) have been completed on the **Small Mansion** to make it weather-tight. The very helpful HE officers who are advisers to and supporters of Gunnersbury have visited to see what has been achieved and we must record our gratitude to them.

No recent work has been undertaken at **The Stables** which are already weather-proof. Recent changes in Heritage Lottery programmes indicate that grant applications should be prepared urgently, to support their conversion into storage and study space for the Museum collections, the archives and local studies libraries of Ealing and Hounslow, and the Thomas Layton bequest, with workshops in part of the buildings. Working with the Development Trust we have engaged Paul Jardine to review his earlier work and help with a bid.

The Sakura celebration demonstrated how difficult it can be to use **The Orangery**. A plan to add a rear wing with toilets, storage and a preparation kitchen was cut during the regeneration project but would make it more attractive for functions which earn an income. The design and costs will be reviewed soon, if the money can be found, including partial funding from the Friends.

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## LONDON PARKS & GARDENS TRUST

This small charity is based at Duck Island Cottage in St James's Park. It researches and maintains an online inventory of green spaces in Greater London and monitors planning applications which could affect them. They have two publications, *London Landscapes* and the annual *London Gardener*; they run the Open London Squares & Gardens weekend (10/11 12 June in 2023 – reduced price tickets are on sale now!) Their lively talks programme includes some online and some face-to-face events. Full details of these talks and walks are on their website at <https://londongardenstrust.org>

## CAFÉ RE-BUILDING

The pop-up food stalls continue to provide a good service and bring in an income in the absence of a café operator.

Much of the café's steel frame is in place but progress has been slow with no-one on site some days. Attempts to find an operator appear not to have succeeded so far, perhaps because they'll have to pay for the fit-out which Benugo did the first time round.

We missed a planning application approved in March which updated the 2021 permission for re-building the café with a 'non-material amendment'. As a result a revised design blends the café area with the former transport display gallery. The aim is to move the vehicles to the north stables when they are restored.

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## GALLERY PASSPORTS:

Until 31 March 2023 there's a special family trail on offer in the Museum, It is available during the usual opening hours, Tuesday to Sunday, at the reception desk.

Visitors can pick up a 'passport' at the front desk to enable them to follow clues around the Museum and collect a stamp from each gallery.

By placing their completed passports in the special postbox before leaving they will have the chance of winning a fluffy toy animal to keep, inspired by the wildlife in Gunnersbury Park.

There's a new prize every month so it is worth returning for more chances to win.

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## PLANNING MATTERS

This summer we saw few planning applications likely to affect the Park. However, the SEGA site on the south side of the A4 will be the next development to monitor. We hope their CIL payment (formerly "planning gain") could benefit Gunnersbury in the future.

## GUNNERSBURY EVENTS AND CONCERTS DURING 2022

The events programme during the summer was exceptionally busy and we understand that it has, as intended, brought in the level of funding needed to support the CIC during this financial year. We have been concerned that, after this busy summer and despite the drought, there are ruts in places and some areas of waterlogged ground.

We asked Michael Rowan, who managed the Park many years ago and is currently a GDT trustee, about this. He thought that the drought would have reduced the capacity of the ground to absorb water but also that areas of heavy traffic, over which all the vehicles will have driven back and forth on entering and leaving the site, will have suffered repeated damage with a cumulative effect. In his experience, because damage doesn't show too much in years 1 and 2, event organisers try avoid paying for restorative draining.

The solution is apparently to 'vertidrain' the ground at the end of the event calendar but the cost often makes this prohibitive.

Wikipedia tells us "Vertidrain is the process of inserting tines into the surface of the ground, to break up soil compaction. The tines create multiple small holes in the surface of the turf. These holes allow oxygen into the soil, making room for aeration and allowing the ground to drain properly again."

In April *Dino Kingdom*, a family-oriented event with animatronic dinosaurs from China, moved onto the old golf course site for the school holiday period. This seems to have been very successful.

Several visitors commented enthusiastically on Trip Advisor that they had also been thrilled to discover a Park and Museum they had not known about before.



Photo Philippa Dolphin



Compacted and waterlogged ground where the roadway ran

*Secret Cinema* returned to the Park in July on the south playing fields. They were licensed for an audience of 4,600 (and up to 400 behind-the-scenes workers) and the stake-holders review was pleased that no complaints had been reported.

Secret Cinema is proud of its commitment to community development. They donated £10,000 to the Hogarth Youth Trust, gave four people work experience, employed some local people who went on to work on other Secret Cinema events, ran sessions for 90 Lionel Road Primary School pupils and for over 200 other local school children, and 180 local people attended with free tickets

*Gunnersbury Live* (from Festival Republic) provided three music events also on the old cricket pitch on 13, 20 and 21 August. They were licensed for an audience of 20,000 for each event, fewer than Lovebox and more manageable. There were complaints about the noise, some from some distance away, but, there were also comments on the community forums about the pleasure such events gave to those who took part and the fact that they brought new people, many of them from younger age groups, to Gunnersbury.

*Waterworks* was promoted by Team Love, who held their first event at Gunnersbury in September 2021. A successful feed-back meeting saw them invited back this year. They were licensed for a maximum audience capacity of 15,000 for each event. The layout included an arena of inward-facing stages from which DJs played electronic music. This design was intended to minimise the risk of annoyance from noise for local residents.

The debriefing meeting on 12 December (details on page 2) may reveal whether this succeeded.

## **GUNNERSBURY EVENTS FOR 2023 (subject to planning/licensing/contracts)**

We have been notified by the CIC of these future events for which they will hold briefing meetings. The Cricket Festival begins in term-time with a schools day and Waterworks will take place in September but the other two events will occupy a large part of the Park for much of the summer. The CIC states that 80% of the Park will still be accessible, but we know this will disappoint many visitors. The CIC also says it cost £2.3 million to run the estate in 2022, of which about 27% came from events and 40% from grants and other commercial income. The two local authorities together provide a management fee of £655,000.

**Rock N Roll Circus** will be coming to Gunnersbury next July. It offers musical performances by well-known artists in a big top with acrobats, aerialists, stilt walkers and fortune tellers. The hire period runs from Saturday 15 to Sunday 30 July on the old cricket pitch area. There will be three days of live events with music on 21, 22 and 23 July. Each show has a capacity of 7,500. Close neighbours will benefit from an allocation of tickets (no details yet) to be distributed by Gunnersbury CIC. Look them up at [www.rocknrollcircus.co.uk](http://www.rocknrollcircus.co.uk)

**Gunnersbury Live**, run by Festival Republic will occupy the old cricket pitch from 4 to 26 August. The full programme is not yet available, but this could have an audience of 35,000-40,000. Their website indicates that chart-topping singer-songwriter, rapper and comedian Joji (aka George Kusunoki Miller/Jōji Kusunoki Mirā) will be the headliner for his biggest ever show on 17 August. Formerly known as Filthy Frank and Pink Guy, Miller's music has been described as a mix between R&B, lo-fi, and trip hop. On 18 August the hip hop trio from Camden Town known as NDubz will be performing. They comprise cousins Dappy and Tulisa, and Fazer. They won Best UK Act at the MOBO Awards 2009, then pursued solo careers before reforming in May and selling out a tour in November and December 2023

**Waterworks** is a multi-stage festival with food and bars, first put on at Gunnersbury this year, which will return on 16 September 2023 for 20,000 participants. It celebrates cutting-edge UK based and influenced electronic music with an emphasis on supporting emerging talent.

**The Festival of Cricket**, to run from 14 to 16 July 2023, is being championed by three high profile cricketers – Eoin Morgan, Brendon McCullum and Jos Buttler and promoted by Brand Events.

This company launched Pub in the Park, the Taste Festivals and Jamie Oliver's Big Festival. Tickets are already on sale, full details are online:

[www.thefestivalofcricket.com](http://www.thefestivalofcricket.com)

It will feature live music, games in 'the cage' - a netted cricket pitch, master-classes for kids and other family entertainment. They aim to provide an immersive and event on the south playing fields for 5,000 participants a day.

The hire period runs from 10 to 19 July, with a schools /grass roots cricket event on the 14th and family-friendly activities on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 July.

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## **DISCOVERING OUR NEIGHBOURS**

A short walk from Gunnersbury is another park with historic buildings, where there has recently been major investment and restoration work.

**Boston Manor Park** in Brentford had become overgrown, limiting biodiversity by keeping out the light, which made visitors feel unsafe, and access to areas by the river and woodland was difficult. It was also a poor setting for the 17th century House within the Park. Two separate restoration projects have been in progress since 2019, supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund

Hounslow Council's £5.34 million *Reconnecting Boston Manor Project* is investing in the Park's infrastructure, making it safer to use, improving access and restoring the lake. The walled garden is being redesigned as a fruit garden and community space. There will be a new café and learning space, public toilets, and improved sports changing facilities. Major tree work has now opened up some spaces to improve the layout, and pathways throughout the park are being upgraded and redesigned to make better links to the river and canal.

[BostonManorPark@hounslow.gov.uk](mailto:BostonManorPark@hounslow.gov.uk)

**Boston Manor House** has been beautifully restored with Lottery funding of £3.7 million. In the next few months it is likely to open for a trial period. Unlike Gunnersbury Boston Manor House has no collect-

ion and is not a museum – the House itself is the exhibit. The interpretation will share its story and those of past residents and will probably use local views and portraits from the Council's Local Studies collection.

Analysis of paint scrapes has inspired new colour schemes for the interiors of the 1623 Grade I Listed house. Rare 18th century wallpaper on the main stair has been replicated and extended, and silk wall hangings and replica furniture have been commissioned.

At the top of the House meeting rooms will be available, while the service wing will house a new cafe and workshops.

## DECEMBER EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS AT GUNNERSBURY

You can find full details of the programme of events at Gunnersbury at <https://www.visitgunnersbury.org>. Don't forget Friends get 10% discount in the shop in person (show your membership card) and online.

### UEFA Women's EURO 2022

This has been an important year for women's football, as England hosted the UEFA Women's EURO and the Lionesses mark their 50th anniversary.

Visit this outdoor exhibition near the Round Pond which celebrates the women's game. There you can discover over 140 years of women's football history and learn about the way local people shaped the development of the sport.

### OPENING TIMES

The Park is open daily, 7am – dusk. The Museum opens Tuesday - Sunday 10am - 4.30pm, and for booked school visits on Mondays. It will be closed on 25 and 26 December but the Park will remain open as usual.

### Christmas with Maciek O'Shea

**2-4pm 11 December**

Baritone Maciek O'Shea presents a colourful festive concert for all the family at the Museum!

Free, suggested donation £5

*No booking required*

### Festive Film screenings

**11am-1pm**

**27, 29 and 30 December**

The Museum is offering what it calls Christmas movie magic with film screenings in the Museum for all the family. Check nearer the time for more details on 020 3961 or [info@visitgunnersbury.org](mailto:info@visitgunnersbury.org)

### NEWSLETTER 118

We will assemble the next *Newsletter* in February. Comments and contributions, images, ideas and news are always welcome.

Please send them to The Editor at 25 Hartington Road W4 3TL or email [info@gunnersburyfriends.org](mailto:info@gunnersburyfriends.org)

### Marking Chanukah with Ealing United Synagogue

**1:40-2:00pm, 18 December 2022**

This is the first night of the Jewish festival of Chanukah in which candles are lit for eight days to mark a major event in Jewish history. Join the short ceremony of lighting the first candle of the 8 branched Menorah in the Museum.

Free, suggested donation £5 *No booking required, just turn up*

### Chanukah Concert with Klezmerco

**2-4pm, 18 December**

London-based Klezmerco bring joyful Klezmer music from Eastern Europe to West London to celebrate the start of Chanukah.

Tickets £15, *book on line: <https://tinyurl.com/4es4mmdj>*

### Create a 3D Chanukah Lightbox to take home

**11am-3pm, 18 December**

A *Make & Take* event for families working together. All children must be accompanied by an adult. First come, first served so there may be a wait to join in. *Suggested donation £2 per child, no booking needed*

- Please contact the Museum to see what they can offer if you wish to bring a group, for example, from a children's centre or holiday club; they may turn away organised groups that haven't booked.

### Museum tours, 2-3pm, Fridays 9, 16, 23 and 30 December

Join free volunteer-led tours where to discover more about the Museum, its people, and fascinating collections. These have been running on Sundays but have moved to Fridays during December.

- Weekday tours can be arranged by appointment for groups over 6. Please contact [info@visitgunnersbury.org](mailto:info@visitgunnersbury.org)

*Free. No booking required*

### Christmas Celebration with Park & Museum's Youth Forum

**2-4pm, 21 December 2022**

**A Christmas-themed afternoon of fun and music.**

Participants are invited to wear their ugliest Christmas jumpers! They will get the chance to make and design their own Christmas cards for friends and family, decorate Christmas cookies and biscuits all whilst sipping on hot chocolate. And for those who enjoy a bit of competition, there will be a Giant Jenga . . .

### MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Thank you to the many Friends who renewed their subscriptions. Do encourage others to join – you could buy a year's membership as a Christmas gift! This increases our numbers and adds to our funds for Park and Museum donations. Pay using the online form (eligible for Gift Aid) at [gunnersburyfriends.org/friends/join-the-friends](https://gunnersburyfriends.org/friends/join-the-friends), by cheque or standing order. Send to The Membership Secretary, The Manor House, Ampney St Peter, Cirencester GL7 5SH.

**The Friends of Gunnersbury Park & Museum is a Registered Charity no 286310**