



November 20th and December 15th - Important dates for your diary

Christmas drinks at The Boaters Inn

Join other members and friends for Christmas drinks and snacks at [The Boaters Inn](#) on **Monday 15th December between 7:00 and 9:00 pm.** All are welcome.



...and your opinion is needed on plans for the Gardens

On Thursday 20th of November at the Pavilion from 3:30 to 6:30 pm, the Council consultants will be showing their latest plans for the new children's playground near to the current site. The poster on the bandstand says "...an opportunity to view the location and discuss the design proposals".

We have already had some advanced comments, all on the same lines: "Why not spend the money [and it is a lot of money] improving the existing facilities" and similarly, "What about improving the facilities of the existing playground?". We have a petition signed by 18 teenagers aged between nine and 15 years calling for improvements to the sports area between the pavilion and the tennis courts. The CARA committee have not been told about the plan so we cannot comment until after November 20th when we will, hopefully with you, be attending the presentation at the Pavilion.



CARA AGM Highlights Bandstand and Future Flood Plains

In October, over 35 members attended the Annual General Meeting. From conversations afterwards it was a really successful evening. Richard Mobbs Chaired and Kelly Page gave a review of the year's highlights. The official procedures were kept short and included a report from our Treasurer and Membership Secretary, Charles Roscorla. He said that the finances of the Association were healthy. However, there were a number of Members who have yet to renew their membership. If you are one please read article below. Deborah Higgins introduced a resolution to formally link CARA with the Friends of the Bandstand. Martine Roscorla took the minutes which can be found on the CARA website [here](#).

After some refreshments, Jason Debney senior coordinator of the Thames Landscape Strategy gave a very interesting illustrated talk about the very latest research on the likely result of climate change on the river level in our area. Whilst these are unlikely to happen in the next couple of years we have to understand that with changes to the Thames Barrier and greater rainfall run-off upstream, much of our area will become part of the Thames Flood Plain. Areas by the river, the Gardens and Lower Ham Rd, will have more frequent flooding events than we have seen in the past.



Is your CARA membership up to date?

Your membership fee is helping....

...putting on Summer Concerts in Canbury Gardens; keeping the Gardens attractive with fresh bulbs and bushes and trees; as well as supporting other local voluntary groups.

And your membership card is worth a lot, with it you get....

...organised talks and walks, and sometimes your card is worth more than your fee when you show it and receive a discount off your bill at [The Boaters Inn](#) or [The Queen's Head](#) or [Doubletree Hilton](#) and now at the [Komoo Café](#).

Use the following link to join or renew [CARA membership](#).



Recycling in the gardens

Trevor Willis, supported by CARA and others, has been pressing for better litter clearance in Canbury Gardens for a number of years. Over the past couple of months Trevor has been putting out domestic recycling boxes for visitors to use... and it has worked.



As a result, Councillor James Manthel has persuaded the Council to support a scheme with a trial number of full size bins placed strategically in the Gardens. The Council, FoCG and CARA are providing funds to purchase these full size bins. The collected cans and bottles will be able to be deposited in a large refuse bin near Lower Ham Road to be collected once a week by our usual bin collectors. We wish all involved good luck with the scheme. Canbury Gardens will greatly benefit if it works.