

Parks Project Update January to March 2025

Ward	Site	Project	Status
Barnes	Castelnau Recreation Ground	We planned to make improvements to the play area, outdoor gym and MUGA, we would also like to add a basket swing and other accessible play features. These are subject to public consultation and available funding. A supporters group has now been established for the Rec.	Ongoing
	Barnes Green	We applied for a Green Flag Award for this site. A management plan has been created with support from the Barnes Community Association and judging will take place in spring.	Results in summer
		Community Bluescapes have proposed a flood resilience scheme for the Beverley Brook at Barnes Green. The scheme will look to create a new channel around the existing willow tree. They are still consulting on this proposal with a final drop in event on the 10 <sup>th</sup> of May from 10am-2pm at Barnes Green.	Works scheduled to commence Autumn 2025
East Sheen	East Sheen Common	Barnes Common Limited are continuing management of the woodland on the Common.	Ongoing
		We are working together to solve drainage issues on site with support from the Royal Parks. This will involve extending a ditch closest to the play area and creating an ephemeral pond.	Due to be complete by end of April
		We organised for the vehicle access bridge to be repaired in March.	Complete
	Palewell Common	Barnes Common Limited are continuing management of the woodland and nature conservation areas on the site Common.	Ongoing
Fulwell and Hampton Hill	Holly Road Recreation Ground	We are currently working with the Facilities Management team to deliver a new drinking fountain. We have quotations and will seek funding to deliver this at site.	In Progress
Ham, Petersham and Richmond Riverside	Ham Lands	We are currently considering the consultation results of the Multi-Use-Games-Area to the current informal pitch area by Beaufort Court. A quote has been selected for this. Final discussions with stakeholders are currently taking place and funding is being sought.	In progress
Hampton	Beveree Wildlife Site	A shallow scraped pond area was installed in the lower section of the nature reserve. The holly has been thinned out to open up the sites canopy.	Complete
Hampton North	Hatherop Park	We have worked with the Tree Team to add a number of orchard trees to two areas within the site. The dead hedge was topped up and a large stag beetle loggery was added. Clearance works were done in the nature conservation	Complete

		woodland to open up the canopy in a number of locations.	
	Oak Avenue LNR	TCV supported us by laying hedgerows along the site boundary this winter, there were scrub push backs to open up the site. We are working with our contractor to repair the liner of the Oak Avenue pond.	In progress
Hampton Wick & South Teddington	Broom Road Recreation Ground	We are planning to add play items to this site and will be consulting on the potential to add a new outdoor gym in 2025. We are seeking to add loggeries, wooden sculptures and other ecological enhancements in the longer grass area towards the riverside of the site.	Ongoing
Heathfield	Crane Park	Three more areas of woodland have been planted in the main part of the park. Two new kingfisher banks were installed One near Mill Road and the other in the main park.	Complete
	Hounslow Heath	We are working with the Arts Service and have successfully consulted on adding a community garden to this space. Site meetings have been held and public engagement will be conducted over the winter months with a view to implementing this community led scheme in summer 2025. The Arts team have been holding engagement sessions with groups for this initiative. A new planting scheme will in put in at the site around the play area in May 2025.	In progress
Kew	St Lukes' Open Space	We are working with local residents on improvements to this site, including additional picnic seating and providing more shade. The picnic table is expected to be installed over winter.	Complete
	Westerley Ware Open Space	With support from the Westerley Ware Association, we have picked a location near the new pétanque piste to add a picnic table. The picnic table has been ordered and is expected to be installed in October. This is part funded by the Council and the WWA.	Complete
Mortlake and Barnes Common	Jubilee Gardens	We will be arranging for the shrub bed to be replanted to provide new interest to the site	Complete
	Mortlake Green	We have arranged for the shrub bed on Sheen Lane to be replanted with species that are beneficial for pollinators. More bulbs will be planted on the hilly area opposite Lower Richmond Road	Complete
		We have planned for areas along the main thoroughfare to the station and on the largest grass area to be overseeded in April.	Due to be complete in April
		We will be installing wheelchair accessible picnic table into the play area to provide additional seating on the Green.	Due to be complete in May

North Richmond	Tangier Green	We are arranging installation of interactive play panels on this site. These will be fence mounted and will provide inclusive play.	Due to be complete before summer
	Raleigh Road Recreation Ground	We are arranging installation of interactive play panels on this site. These will be installed throughout the site and will provide inclusive play opportunities.	Complete
		In partnership with Habitats & Heritage, we ran a consultation for improvements to this site to create a Green Hub. The proposal included creation of a 'Pollination Station' and community growing beds for local community and the nursery and asked whether residents would like to create a Friends Group. The results from the consultation will inform whether the proposals are progressed.	Ongoing
South Richmond	Bridge House Gardens	The planting is being replenished in Bridge House Garden, in line with the planting scheme which was installed last year.	Complete
	Compass Hill Wildlife Gardens	With funding from the Richmond BID, we are working to implement improvements onto Compass Hill. These include a stag beetle logger, insect hotel, bat and bird boxes and new interpretation signage.	Due to be complete in May
South Twickenham	Radnor Gardens	The Property Team with support of the Parks Team were seeking for a new tenant for the café in the park. A tenant has been selected and the café is expected to be open summer.	Due to be open in Summer
	Twickenham Green	We supported the Friends of Twickenham Green with the application and installation of new noticeboards on site	Complete in January
St Margarets and North Twickenham	Craneford Way	We are exploring improvements to the facilities on the site including the addition of new play and fitness/sports facilities. There will be a public consultation, following this the project go-ahead is subject to available funding.	In progress
	Mereway Nature Park	New river renaturalisation project will be undertaken, removing another section of concrete bank and installing artificial berms and gravels into the river channel.	Ongoing
	River Crane at London Road	New berm to be installed in the river on northern bank	Ongoing
Teddington	Church Road Play Area	Fence mounted play panels have been installed at site. The remainder of the play equipment will be painted and the whole of the safety surfacing will be replaced.	Due to be completed before July
	Grove Gardens	This site has Green Flag Judging in May 2025. The exterior of the building will be painted and a new noticeboard and drinking fountain will be installed over the summer of 2025. Two new	In progress

		stag beetle loggeries have been installed at site.	
	Manor Gardens	We are working to try to reinstate the historic drinking water fountain at this site. Investigations are on-going with this project.	In progress
	Elmfield Gardens	We have cleared one of the shrub beds near the war memorials and planted a wildflower mix that includes poppies for a fresh look to the site.	Complete
Twickenham Riverside	Orleans Gardens	We are making improvements to the play area at Orleans Gardens. The wheelchair accessible roundabout was replaced with a newer model and a new basket swing was installed. Repainting of some of the play equipment is due before summer.	Due to be completed by Summer.
	Orleans House Gallery	Two glades to be cleared in woodland for replanting with native species during winter. An alternative desire-line footpath will be created to compensate for the closed path underneath the cedar tree and more dead hedging will be added.	Complete
		The Parks, Ecology and Tree Officers assisted the Arts Team at the gallery with the installation of artwork onto the site as part of the Cultural Reforesting programme. More information can be found online <a href="#">here</a>	Complete
	York House Gardens	Following the pond repairs, we arranged for replanting of the rockery area around the pond with plants selected to continue the Japanese theme.	Complete in January
	Cambridge Gardens	<p>'Friendly Parks for All'</p> <p>This site has been developed as our 6<sup>th</sup> Friendly Park for All. We have worked with MenCap to address the barriers the group faces when accessing Parks and Open Spaces. Following feedback from the group and a supportive public consultation, we continued with the proposals and installed an outdoor gym, boat sculptures and a sensory/community garden.</p> <p>We will continue working with MenCap in the sensory/community garden to support them with taking on the planting and maintenance.</p>	Installations Complete
West Twickenham	Kneller Gardens	We have developed a Widget board to support non-verbal children to communicate within the park, this will be placed within the play area.	Expected by end of May 2025
Whitton	Chase Green	The Council has installed several new play and interactive fence mounted panels.	Complete
	Murray Park	We have successfully consulted to reintroduction of grass roots football pitches to the site and a weekend only mobile catering	Complete

		concession. Mobile catering will begin at site w/c 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	
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**Other Parks Projects**

**Towpath Tree Management**

Alongside the Port of London Authority, the Council have created a wooded towpath management plan from 2022-2036. The management plan seeks to unify the approach to managing and maintaining the bank and towpath environment for the future. The plan focuses on tree and woodland management whilst considering the wider ecology, heritage and user matters. Tree works started in February 2023. The majority of the works will be carried out without any closures with diversions directing users to alternative routes.

**Seeds of Change project - Walk this way**

**Wellbeing Walks / Accessible Wellbeing Walks**

A new programme of walks has been developed for 2024 with partners. The dementia inclusive litter pick has been included in the programme. All activities are listed on the council website [https://www.richmond.gov.uk/services/parks\\_and\\_open\\_spaces/explore\\_richmonds\\_parks\\_and\\_open\\_spaces/friendly\\_parks\\_for\\_all](https://www.richmond.gov.uk/services/parks_and_open_spaces/explore_richmonds_parks_and_open_spaces/friendly_parks_for_all)

**Climate Change project – Re-imagining Richmond**

The project linked to the borough Climate Change emergency aims to get young people to envisage what an open space could look like and the role that it could play in mitigating climate change. The project will be working with the Friends of Heathfield and 3 local schools.

**Green Flag Award**

We achieved 22 Green Flag Awards for the below sites for 2024-25 and a new Green Flag for East Sheen Common.

Below is a list of our 21 other Green Flag sites:

- [Buccleuch Gardens](#) (combined with Terrace Gardens)
- [Cambridge Gardens](#)
- [Carlisle Park](#)
- [Crane Park](#) (joint with LB Hounslow)
- [Garrick’s Lawn](#)
- [Ham Village Green](#)
- [Hampton Common](#)
- [Hatherop Park](#)
- [Heathfield Recreation Ground](#)
- [Kew Green](#)
- [Kneller Gardens](#)
- [Murray Park](#)
- [North Sheen Recreation Ground](#)
- [Palewell Common and Fields](#)
- [Radnor Gardens](#)
- [Richmond Green](#)
- [Terrace Gardens](#) (combined with Buccleuch Gardens)
- [The Kings Field](#)
- [Twickenham Green](#)
- [Vine Road Recreation Ground](#)
- [Westerley Ware](#)

- [York House Gardens](#)

We will be applying to two new Green Flags for 2025-26, these are at Grove Gardens and Barnes Green. Each of these sites are in wards which do not already hold a Green Flag.

**Tree Team Updates**

**Tree Planting Season 2024-25**

An extensive programme of tree planting is taking place with over 800 trees due to be planted, details of the programme can be found here: [Tree planting - London Borough of Richmond upon Thames](#). Over 300 trees have been planted so far and the current focus is on the preparatory work involved in tree pit construction, which will allow for the remainder of the programme to be delivered by the end of the season.

**Grant Funding**

We received notification of a successful bid for Urban Tree Challenge Fund monies for tree planting and maintenance in the 2024-25 and 2025-26 seasons. We expect to deliver around 150 funded sites in the current season and will be eligible for funding 20% of the number planted in the following season.

**Friends of Street Trees**

2024 saw the formal launch of the Friends of Street Trees and its partnership with the London Borough of Richmond: [Getting involved - Friends of Street Trees](#). A call-to-action event is planned for spring to encourage people to join the friends ahead of the growing season, this will coincide with watering labels which promote watering and link to the Council web pages and Friends of Street Trees.

**Public Survey – Tree Planting**

We have reached out to our residents to understand attitudes towards trees and tree planting, this has received over 1300 responses and an analysis is currently pending. This will feed into the tree planting strategy being developed.

**Free Tree Giveaway**

Richmond Council has been running a free tree giveaway, this has generated strong interest with almost all the 950 trees available being reserved. The first event was run from Kneller Gardens on 25<sup>th</sup> January and saw 400 trees collected for planting within private property. The second collection event will be taking place at Old Deer Park on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

**Biodiversity**

Planting to support the Council's nature conservation efforts is taking place with trees being planted in Ham Lands, Hatherop Park, Pest House Common, Twickenham Rough, Crane Park, Old Deer Park, Kew Pond and Willow Way. This included resistant elms to support the endangered White-letter hairstreak butterfly, and cherry, damson, plum, crab apple, and pear to support pollinators and foragers.

**Greening Richmond Schools**

We are working with Habitats and Heritage to support the Greening Richmond Schools project. The Council is providing advice and will donate trees for participating schools.