



Tring Memorial Garden MANAGEMENT PLAN 2018-2023



Working in partnership, to create a Borough which enables the communities of Dacorum to thrive and prosper
Affordable Housing ♦ Regeneration ♦ Building Community Capacity ♦ Safe and Clean Environment ♦ Dacorum Delivers



Zebra-drawn carriage driven by Lord Walter Rothschild

“As a shy child, my great uncle Walter found immense pleasure and even refuge in the gardens of Tring. As an adult, he dedicated his life to creating a truly unique haven of the natural world. Tring - the town, its gardens and its park - are therefore dear to myself and my family. We would very much like to see them recognised and protected in order to honour our ancestor’s memory and life’s work. That the new designs for the Tring Memorial Gardens follow Walter’s original plans is a wonderful sign that Dacorum Borough Council is already working to fulfil this task. The icing on the cake would be to obtain Green Flag status for the already impeccable Memorial Garden.”

Lord Jacob Rothschild
4th Baron Rothschild, Bt, OM, GBE, FBA

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1.0 Introduction and Site Description

Looking back over the last five years it is amazing how many great memories, friendships and achievements, this little memorial garden has made. When the project was first started the Garden was dark, un-welcoming and badly neglected, with hardly anyone venturing into it. Yet after such a short time and a lot of hard work it is now a big part of the town of Tring.

One of the reasons why this project has been such a success is due to the dedicated and hardworking friends group. The amount of work they put into the Garden is unbelievable!

Tring Memorial Gardens is situated in the small market town of Tring, on the north western boundary of the Borough of Dacorum in West Hertfordshire, approximately 10 miles North West of Hemel Hempstead, see Map 1 below for location. The Memorial Gardens are located on the eastern end of Tring High Street, bounded on the north by the High Street and on the southern side by Tring Park, and cover an area of approximately 0.9 hectares (2.24 acres). The sites town centre location offers a surprisingly tranquil area for solitude and reflection. The National Grid Reference is SP 92500 11524.

Tring's Memorial Garden was formed in the 1950's from a small section of Lord Rothschild's 300-acre Tring Park. It was originally created to commemorate the loss of those who laid down their lives in WW2, and now for those who fell in all wars. Holding Green Flag status since 2012, the garden features a giant redwood, fishpond with attractive fountain, flower beds, rivers of bulbs in Spring, and many bench seats.

This oasis of tranquillity and beauty is now greatly appreciated by those of all ages who relax, unwind, meet their friends & make new ones, and by families as a safe place to bring their children.

This plan sets out what management strategies are currently in place for the Garden and what further improvements could be made to the Garden, to enhance a visitors experience both from a facilities and infrastructure point of view and as a place where bio-diversity can be protected and encouraged. Because of the current financial climate the plan will also identify other avenues of funding, such as 106 money and capital bids, to ensure that any plans can be properly financed.

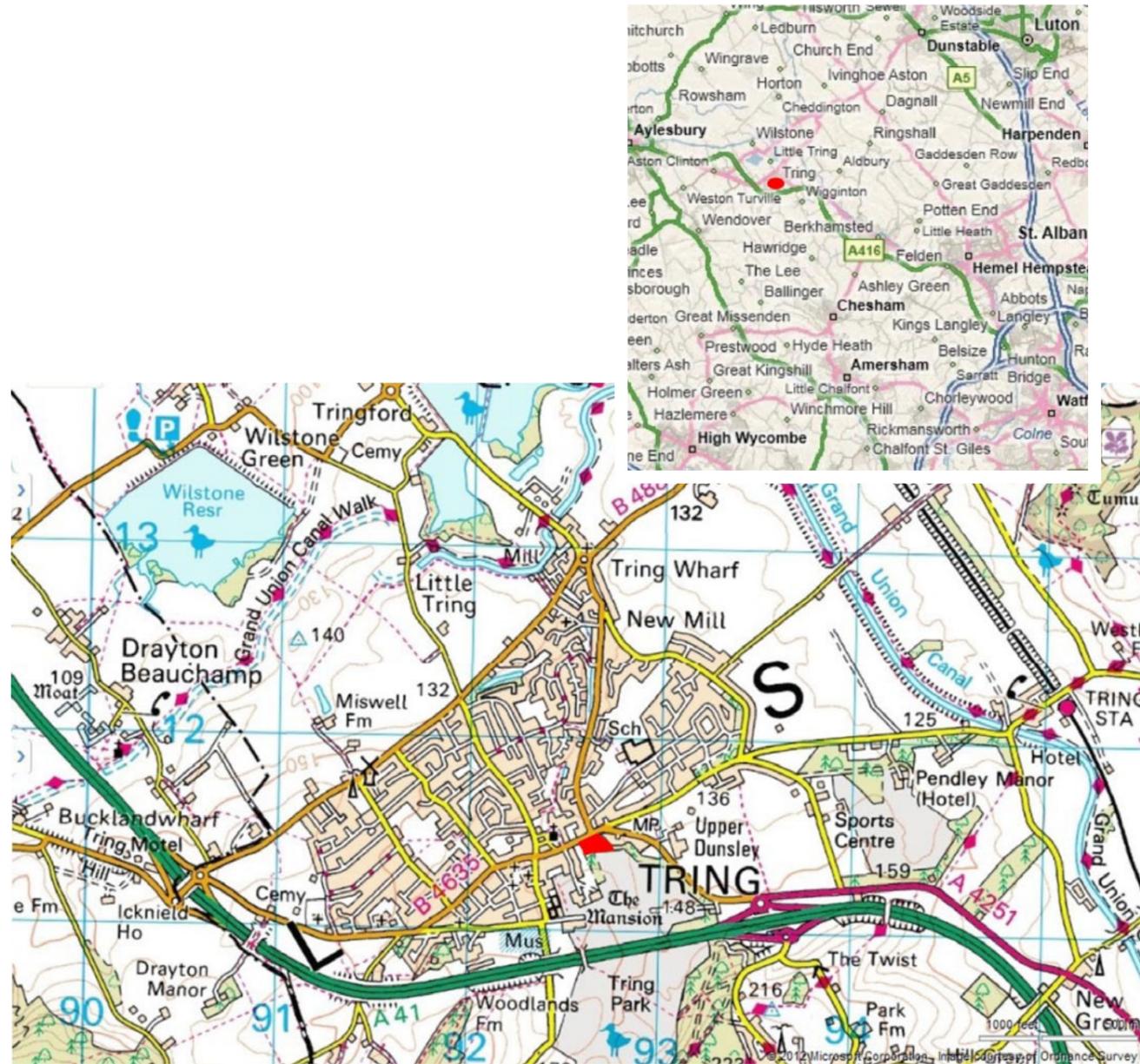


Green flag Judges Comments

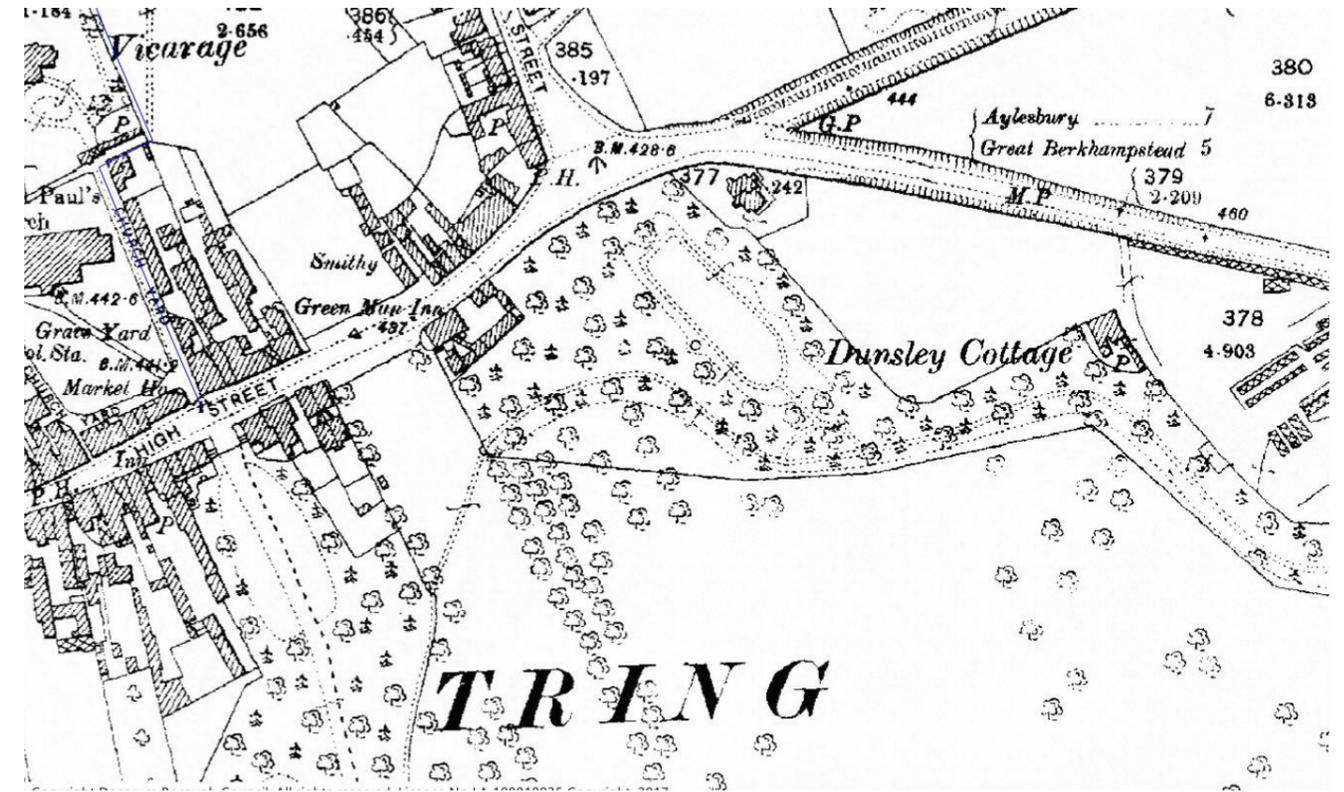
'Judges met an enthusiastic member of parks staff and representatives of the Friend of the Park group on the day of the visit.

All very committed to ensure, that the site continues to be maintained to provide a pleasant and attractive space for the local community.'

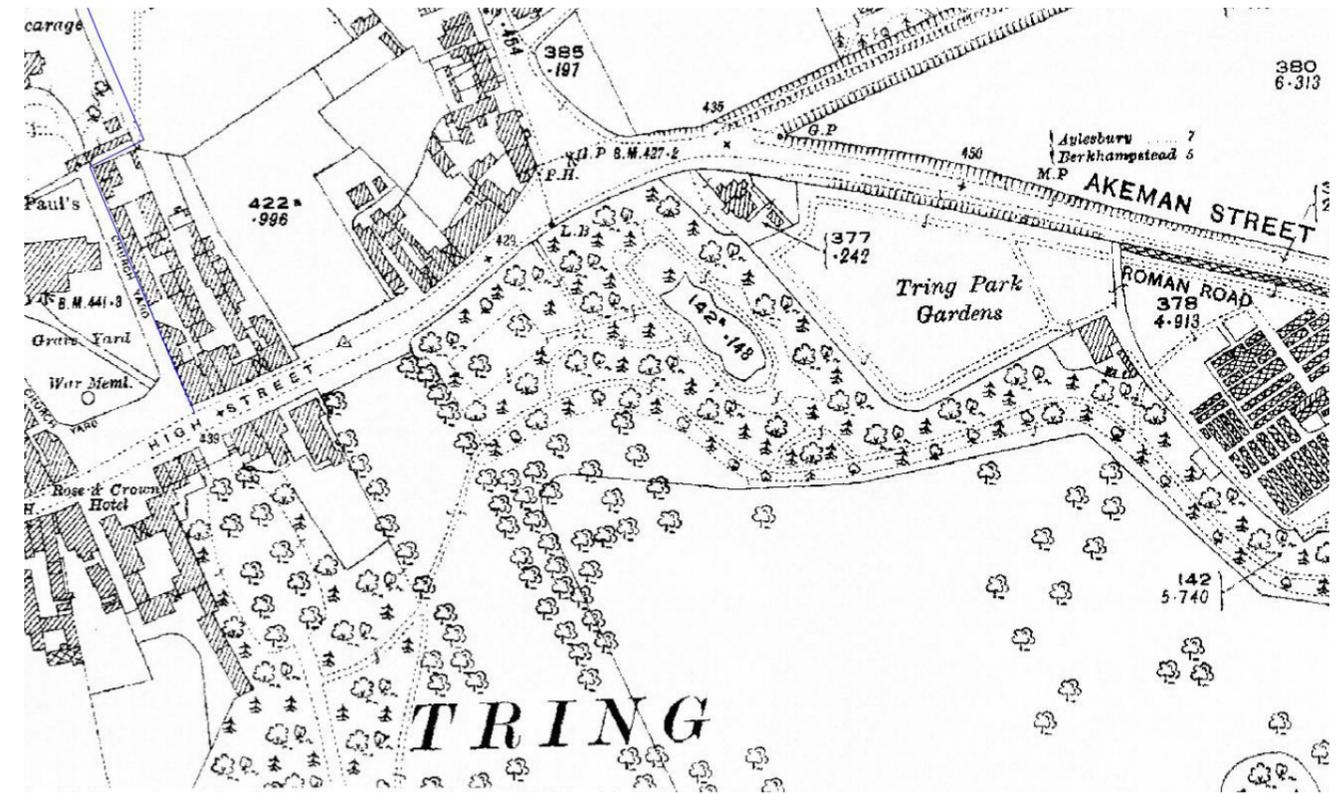
1.1 Site location, historical maps and site overview maps



Historical Maps



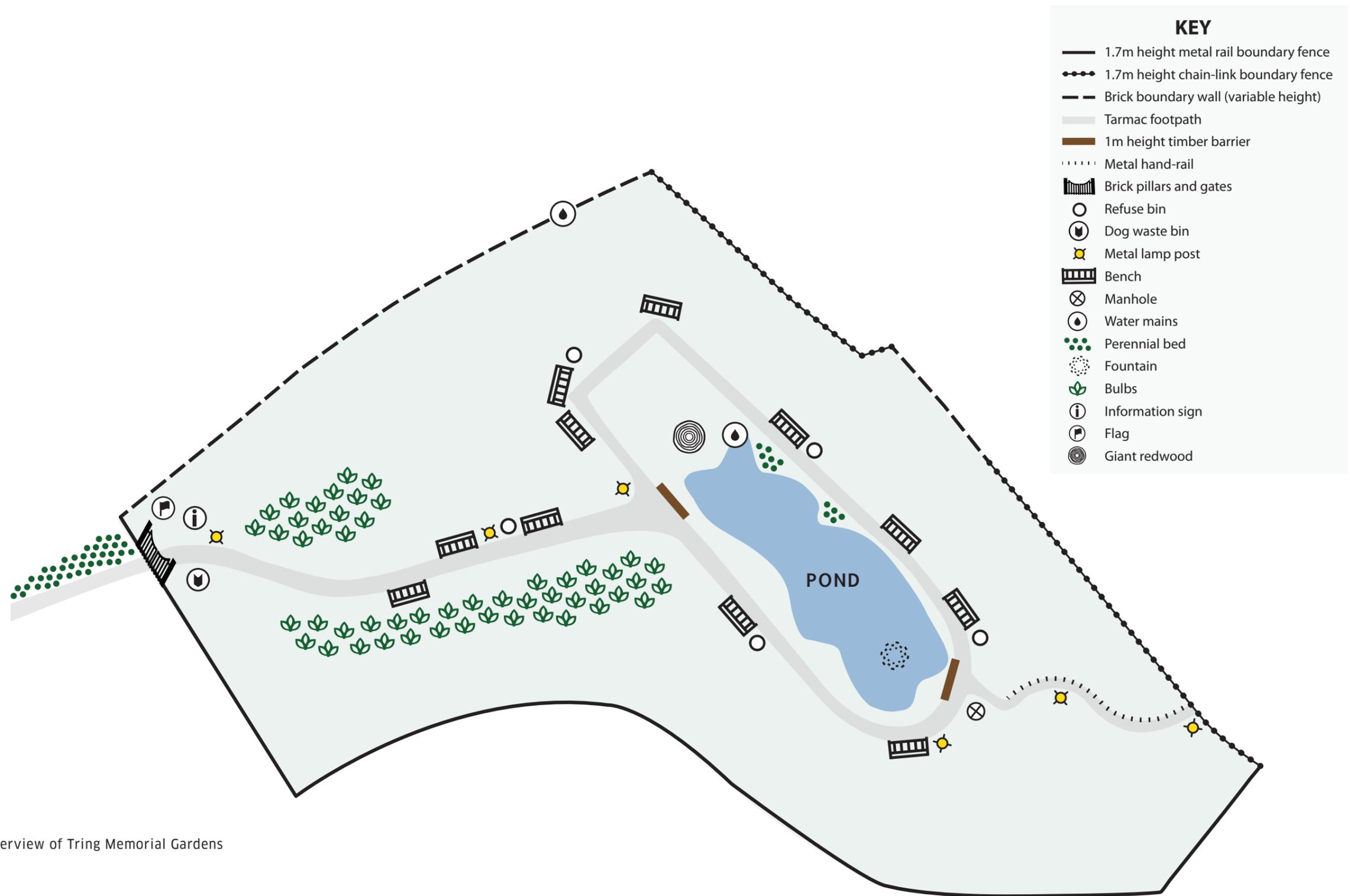
Tring Memorial Gardens 1899



Tring Memorial Gardens 1924



Tring Memorial Gardens 2010



Overview of Tring Memorial Gardens

1.2 Park Features and Infrastructure

Pond

- The pond was originally installed by the Rothschild Family as the Mansion house lily pond. When the area was donated to the town for a Memorial Garden the pond was made more formal. In 2011/12 the pond was renovated again, as it had been neglected for many years. This was carried out with capital funding £50,000.
- The pond forms the main focal point of the site. A fountain was introduced to the pond in the 2011/12 renovations. The fountain is lit at night with LED lights.
- Several species of fish were introduced to the pond, again as part of the restoration project. These include Rudd, Carp and Tench.
- Marginal plants were planted as part of the renovation and others added later on. Plants include Flag Iris, flowering rush, Marsh Marigolds and Reed sweet grass.
- The pond is a great place for wildlife. Frogs, toads, dragonflies and water boatmen abound!
- The pond has three visits a year from a specialist contractor, to check on water quality, fish health and general maintenance, as well as servicing the fountain.
- The pond is checked every day for litter etc by the local area Clean Safe and Green team (Grounds maintenance)

Giant Redwood (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*)

- The Giant Redwood is a large part of the garden and one of its attractions.
- The tree was planted around 1896, by the Rothschild family.
- The tree is around 121 years old.
- Its girth is 6.65m and it is 32.25 metres high!

Perennial beds

- Originally the garden had 3 beds which contained bedding. These were maintained by a local charity. However over the years these were neglected. In 2012 in consultation with the newly formed friends group, it was decided to create something more sustainable. Two perennial beds were created next to the pond. These beds were planted by the friends group and are maintained by them too.



Bulbs

- Because the Garden had been neglected for so many years, it meant that no-one really visited them. In conjunction with the friends group it was decided we needed to create something that would draw people back to the garden. It was decided to machine plant 4,000 bulbs-Crocus, Snow drops and bluebells, to create a river of colour in springtime.
- In 2013 12,000 more bulbs were added to the river.
- A pool of daffs, were planted behind the pond in 2013.
- In 2016 a further 20,000 bulbs were machine planted, adjacent to the original planting.
- In 2013 wild garlic bulbs were planted by the friends group in the tree line.

Footpath lighting

- There are six lights that are situated along the footpath. Before the refurbishment of the park these were in a sorry state, due to anti-social behaviour. In 2012 they were painted and fixed. In 2013 they were changed to LED, to cut down on energy usage.

Interpretive sign

- To make the gardens seem more relevant, it was decided to design and install an interpretive sign, that would make visitors understand, the real sacrifice that local men had made in the Second World War. The friends group and the parks officer all carried out research alongside the local history museum and the British legion. Two local men were chosen, who had served and died in the war. One had served in the Far East in the army; one had served in RAF bomber command. Photos were found along with their stories.
- The interpretive sign was unveiled at a special event, specifically for the sign. One of the relatives of the men chosen for the sign attended and was very moved by the whole event.
- In 2017 to commemorate the battle of Passchendaele the parks officer, the friends group, the British legion and the local history museum thought it would be a good idea to change the sign, to one that would remember the local men who had fallen in that battle. The sign was unveiled in July 2017.
- All the signs in the garden are cleaned on a regular basis by the Clean Safe and Green area team.



Welcome to Tring Memorial Garden

The history of Tring is closely bound up with that of the manorial estate of Tring Park, the origins of which pre-date the Norman invasion of 1066. After the Norman invasion the land was granted to Count Eustace the second of Boulogne by William the Conqueror. Much of the land around the centre of the town belonged to it and some indeed still does. In 1315 the town was granted a charter by Edward the Second. For the last three centuries the estate has centred on the Mansion, which was built in 1682 to the design of Sir Christopher Wren.

Well into the 19th century the hamlet of Lower Dunsley could be found at the eastern end of the town, on the edge of Tring Park and close to the Mansion. Its only street was effectively a southerly continuation of Brook Street. In 1872 the Tring Park Estate was bought by the Rothschild family. Nathaniel, first Lord Rothschild, did not wish to have a village in such proximity and in 1885 he had most of it demolished and its residents rehoused.

Liddington's Manor Brewery and adjacent houses at the foot of the High Street remained until 1896 when they too were demolished and a wall was built to enclose the land in order to create a water garden. A lake was formed as a lily pond and trees including the huge Wellingtonia were planted. Further up the slope stood the Green Man Inn, which lasted until the death of the landlord, John Woodman, in 1903. It was then demolished and the wall was continued so that the whole area was taken into the Mansion grounds.

After the war, many people in Tring including Councillor Robert Grace were keen to find a practical way to honour those who had lost their lives and express the gratitude of those who had survived the conflict. In 1947 a questionnaire showed that a Garden of Remembrance was the most popular suggestion. A committee formed to raise funds concluded that the Mansion's water garden was the ideal place for such a purpose and by 1950 the land had been transferred into the ownership of Tring Urban District Council. The ground was cleared, the lake bed was resurfaced and simple planting carried out. An opening was made in the wall at the point where it met the wall across the Mansion vista. Gates were made by Bushell Brothers' boatyard at New Mill and the archway reading "Memorial Garden" was made by Hampshire and Oakley of Chapel Street, see figure 1 below. The Garden was unveiled in June 1953 to coincide with the Queen's coronation and dedicated by the vicar of Tring, the Reverend Lowdell.

The third Lord Rothschild put much of the Estate up for sale in 1938 although the Mansion and the park were retained. During the Second World War the Mansion was used as offices of the family banking business and subsequently became a school. The water garden evidently became derelict during these years.

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Perennial beds planted by DCC and Friends Group



Sequoiadendron giganteum (Giant Redwood) planted by the Rothschild family



Private Charles A Saunders Suffolk Regiment 540429

Charles Saunders was born in 1919. He was the Son of Albert and Margaret who lived in 114 Longfield Road Tring. Before the war he was employed by Mr Menday a local butcher, of Western Road.

Over 200,000 civilians and 30,000 POWs were used as labour during the construction. Half of the civilians and over 16,000 POWs died working on the railway.

Charles Saunders died on the 13th of January 1944, aged 25, from Beri-Beri. He is buried in the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery Thailand.



Flight Sergeant Victor Norman Cawdrey 156 Squadron R.A.F 1315026

Victor Cawdrey was born in 1924. He was the son of Herbert Stanley and Elizabeth Maud Cawdrey, of Bulbourne Road, New Mill, Tring. Before the war he was a keen member of the Church House Boys Club.

Victor Cawdrey had flown 41 operational flights, before he was lost in action on the 14th of January 1944. He was 20 years old.

On the night of 14th of January 1944, Victor Cawdrey was on board Lancaster Bomber ND357 on its way to attack industrial targets in and around Brunswick Germany. On its return journey the Lancaster was shot down by a German night fighter. The bomber crashed in farmland near the village of Kolhorn.

55,573 Bomber Command airmen lost their lives during the war.


No dog fouling


Dispose of litter in bins provided



TRING MEMORIAL GARDEN REMEMBERS THE LOCAL MEN WHO SERVED AND FELL AT

THE BATTLE OF PASSCHENDAELE

31ST JULY - 6TH NOVEMBER 1917

The Battle of Passchendaele (also known as the Third Battle of Ypres) was fought in the West Flanders region of northern Belgium between 31st July and 6th November 1917. Heavy shelling and poor weather conditions in the area created a boggy quagmire of thick mud, rendering some weapons inoperable, and in some places the mud became so thick that men, horses and mules drowned in it. The battle came to an end following the Allied capture of the village of Passchendaele, only five miles from the start of the offensive. Approximately 500,000 men lost their lives at Passchendaele.

British casualties were estimated at around 270,000. To this day bodies are still being found but many more are lost forever under the soil of Flanders. Tyne Cot Cemetery, located close to Passchendaele, is the largest Commonwealth war cemetery in the world. There are almost 12,000 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried there; over 8,000 of these remain unidentified. UK and New Zealand servicemen who died in the Ypres Salient after 16 August 1917 are commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial within the cemetery. It bears the names of 35,000 officers and men whose graves are not known.

'IN FLANDERS FIELDS THE POPPIES STILL GROW'

Lance Corporal Henry Richard Philby
Bedfordshire Regiment
Killed in action in Belgium on 26 July 1917
Age 29

Private Stanley Francis Foster
6th Bedfordshire Regiment
Killed in action on 6 August 1917
Age 31

Private Frederick Turvey
9th Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers
Killed in action on 8 August 1917
Age 27

Bugler Oliver Wilkins
Oxfordshire and Bucks Light Infantry
Killed in action in Belgium on 16 August 1917
Age 20

Private Arthur Frederick French
East Yorkshire Regiment
Killed in action on 17 September 1917
Age 25



PRIVATE ARTHUR FREDERICK FRENCH

Private Charles Frederick Howlett
Lincolnshire Regiment
Killed in action on 4 October 1917
Age 22

Staff Sergeant Stanley R Eggleton
Australian Medical Corps
Died of wounds on 8 October 1917
Age 27



Private Ultimus George Crawley 'MM'
D Company, 6th Battalion Oxfordshire and Bucks Light Infantry
Killed in action on 20 September 1917
Age 24

Rifleman William Clement Dell
King's Royal Rifle Corps
Killed in action on 23 September 1917
Age 38

Rifleman Frederick Kempster
7th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles
Killed in action on 2 October 1917
Age 29

Lance Corporal James Harrowell
King's Royal Rifle Corps
Killed in action on 22 October 1917
Age 33



LANCE CORPORAL JAMES HARROWELL

Private George Oakley
Northumberland Fusiliers
Killed in action on 25 October 1917
Age 20

Private Joseph Poulton
Northamptonshire Regiment
Killed after being gassed on 14 November 1917
Age 32

2nd Lieutenant Gordon William Asquith
King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry
Killed in action on 2 December 1917
Age 19




Sign in flower bed

- The sign was installed in the front flower bed in 2012, to make people more aware of the Garden.
- As part of Trings 800 year celebrations of their market charter, it was decided to overlay the original design with something that would be more in keeping with the celebrations. The sign featured the original medieval spelling of Trengye (Tring).(Pic 1)
- This idea was carried over for the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, Christmas, Spring and the Battle of Passchendaele. (Pic 2)

Entrance

- The entrance gate is a double wooden gate with brick columns on either side, topped by a cast iron archway reading 'Memorial Garden'. The original gates were made by Bushel brothers boat yard Tring. The gates there now were reproductions installed in the 1980's. The archway is the original which was made by another local firm Hampshire and Oakley in 1953.(Pic 6)
- In 2015 the cast iron archway was repainted and the gateway was re-stained.
- To make the entrance stand out during darker hours, the friends group and parks officer decided to install LED spotlights. They were installed in 2015.
- Every year on remembrance Sunday a poppy wreath is put on the archway by the British legion.

Memorial plaques

- There are four memorial plaques on the entrance pillars two on each side.
- The first plaque is from the original opening in 1953. Two plaques (One on either arch) were put on the pillars in 1989 by the British legion. They are a roll of honour for all the men who died in the Second World War from the Tring area. In 2014 these two plaques were sent away to be professionally cleaned.(Pic 3)
- The final plaque was installed in 2014 as part of the 100 yrs remembrance of the First World War. The plaque commemorates the local men who fell in World War One and all other later conflicts. The plaque was unveiled by the town mayor. (Pic 4)
- In 2015 in conjunction with the friends group LED lights were installed above the plaques to light them up at night time.
- All the plaques are cleaned on a regular basis. And once a year they are polished for remembrance Sunday.



1



2



3



4



5



6

Blue council sign

- On the reverse of the entrance pillar, there is an old council sign (Please see pic). This was originally on the front of the pillar, but was moved due to the new memorial plaque. At first the sign was going to be binned as it was deemed old fashioned and a bit regulatory. However after a discussion with the friends group it was decided to keep it as it was part of the changing history of the Garden. One line in particular caught everyone's eye. 'Children under ten years of age not admitted unless in charge of an adult'. (Pic 5)

Entrance flower beds

- At the entrance to the gardens is a large flower bed. This was put in when the original entrance was moved in 1989. The bed is planted with summer bedding in June, sourced from a local charity The Sunnyside Rural trust. In autumn it is planted with bulbs. It is an aspect of the Garden that is appreciated by the whole community as it gives a blast of colour to the high street.
- The bedding scheme is chosen by the parks officer and planted and maintained by the local Clean, Safe and Green team.
- 3,500 summer bedding plants are planted and 3,500 bulbs each year.
- The bulbs do not go to waste a local horse stable charity as well as local people, pick up the bulbs once they have been dug out.

Benches

- There are 13 benches on site. All of which have been installed from 2012 onwards.
- One of these benches was installed in 2015 for the 70th anniversary of the end of World War 2. The panel of the bench was chosen by the friend's group and parks officer.
- One bench is a bespoke bench, which came about from discussions with the friends group. It was thought that at the Remembrance parade, it would be a good idea for somewhere for people to sit. It was decided a good place would be on the wall. A local company was contacted to design a bench that would fit. The bench and its parts were made at a local prison, where inmates are taught new skills to help them once they are released.
- All benches are cleaned once a week if needed. A local contractor rubs down and oils the benches on request.



Bins (Litter & dog waste)

- Litter bins are provided throughout the Garden and are emptied every day.
- All the litter bins were replaced with new bins from 2012.
- Recycling litter bin was installed in 2013.
- A dog bin is provided and is emptied once a week

Deep water signs

- There are two deep water signs to make people aware of the pond and its potential hazard.

Flag pole

- The flag pole was put in the garden once it had gained its Green flag status in 2012.
- The week leading up to and the following week of Remembrance Sunday the Green flag is replaced with a Union Jack.
- On other occasions it has flown the friend's group flag.

Paths

- Within the site a tarmac footpath leads down from the main entrance and follows the circuit of the pond and leads up to Dunsley place. The path is generally in good repair.
- Dunsley place is a retirement estate above the Gardens. Residents do have a locked entrance they can access.

Boundary wall and fence

- To the south/south east of the site there is galvanised palisade fencing. This was erected in 1990 and is in good condition.
- The brick boundary wall, located on the high street end of the site, dates from 1896. It was built by lord Rothschild to create a boundary for his new garden.



1.3 Historical background

The history of Tring is closely bound up with that of the manorial estate of Tring Park, the origins of which pre-date the Norman invasion of 1066. After the Norman invasion the land was granted to Count Eustace the second of Boulogne by William the Conqueror. In 1385 the town was granted a charter from Richard the second. For the last three centuries the estate has centred on the Mansion, which was built in 1682 to the design of Sir Christopher Wren.

Well into the 19th century the hamlet of Lower Dunsley could be found at the eastern end of the town, on the edge of Tring Park and close to the Mansion. Its only street was effectively a southerly continuation of Brook Street. In 1872 the Tring Park Estate was bought by the Rothschild family. Nathaniel, first Lord Rothschild, did not wish to have a village in such proximity and in 1885 he had most of it demolished and its residents rehoused.

Liddington's Manor Brewery and adjacent houses at the foot of the High Street remained until 1896 (see figure 2) when they too were demolished and a wall was built to enclose the land in order to create a water garden. A lake was formed as a lily pond and trees including the huge Wellingtonia were planted. Further up the slope stood the Green Man Inn, which lasted until the death of the landlord, John Woodman, in 1903. It was then demolished and the wall was continued so that the whole area was taken into the Mansion grounds.

The third Lord Rothschild put much of the Estate up for sale in 1938 although the Mansion and the park were retained. During the Second World War the Mansion was used as offices of the family banking business and subsequently became a school. The water garden evidently became derelict during these years.

After the war, many people in Tring including Councillor Robert Grace were keen to find a practical way to honour those who had lost their lives and express the gratitude of those who had survived the conflict. In 1947 a questionnaire showed that a Garden of Remembrance was the most popular suggestion. A committee formed to raise funds concluded that the Mansion's water garden was the ideal place for such a purpose and by 1950 the land had been transferred into the ownership of Tring Urban District Council. The ground was cleared, the lake bed was resurfaced and simple planting carried out. An opening was made in the wall at the point where it met the wall across the Mansion vista. Gates were made by



Lower Dunsley 1870

Bushell Brothers' boatyard at New Mill and the archway reading "Memorial Garden" was made by Hampshire and Oakley of Chapel Street, see figure 1 below. The Garden was unveiled in June 1953 to coincide with the Queen's coronation and dedicated by the vicar of Tring, the Reverend Lowdell.

In 1973 Tring Urban District was merged into the newly formed Dacorum District and most of its properties, including the Memorial Garden, were transferred to the new council. Simultaneously, Tring Town Council was formed with specific responsibilities such as allotments and other matters unique to the parish.

By the mid-1980s the Garden again presented a forlorn appearance. People were reluctant to go there because the planting had become dense and gloomy. A scheme for the improvement of Tring High Street, drawn up by Derek Rogers Associates and promoted by Tring Town Council in 1987, recommended that trees should be thinned and the entrance reconsidered. Dacorum Borough Council agreed to undertake this work and many trees, especially yews, were removed. A length of wall was taken down, a new planting bed was created alongside the High Street and the gateway was repositioned, with new gates made to replicate the old ones. The work was carried out in 1989-90 and the restored Memorial Garden was unveiled by the Mayor of Dacorum in June 1990.

The same report observed that the self-seeded trees behind the adjoining vista wall were overgrown and detracted from the setting of the Mansion. The Arts Educational School removed the trees, bringing the house back into

view. The fourth Lord Rothschild presented Tring Town Council with a strip of land in front of the wall and this was then paved and bollarded, greatly enhancing the appearance of this area.

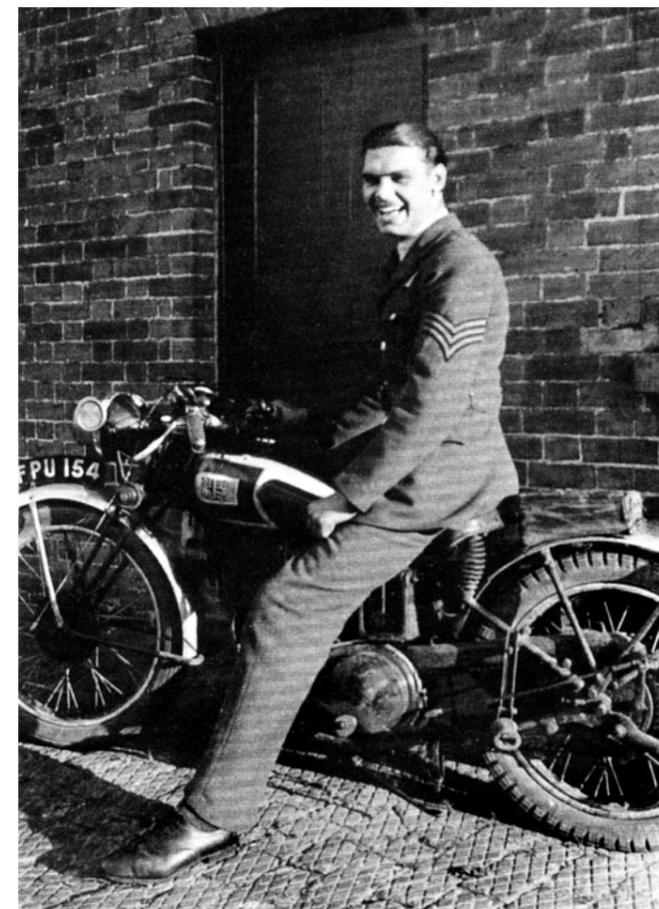
In 1989 the lake had to be drained and the fish evacuated when it was found necessary to repair a crack in the concrete base. Members of the Tring branch of the Royal British Legion attended a reopening ceremony, and presented a plaque listing the names of those men from the town killed in World War II. This is mounted on the brick gate-pillar at the entrance to the garden. The Memorial Gardens underwent improvement works in 2011 to rejuvenate the area and attract more visitors. Extensive tree work was carried out including lifting and removal of 16 trees to create more light and give the park



Original entrance gates to the Memorial Garden 1953

a less enclosed feeling. The pond was also improved, see inset photo, giving it a more natural appearance. This included installing a fountain as a decorative and to help aerate the water. Since 2012 over 36,000 bulbs have been machine planted including Crocus, Snow drops Daffodils and bluebells, 4 Japanese Cherries, two perennial beds, wildflowers and wild garlic. The Garden has an interpretive sign as well as an entrance sign.

The site now provides a green area in a built up environment. The area is used for informal recreation, dog walking and an area for families of deceased soldiers to remember them. As well as providing a focal point for the towns annual Remembrance Day parade.



Flight Sergeant Victor Norman Cawdrey



Private Charles A Saunders

1.4 Biodiversity

UK BAP supports the implementation of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) on behalf of the UK Biodiversity Partnership and the UK Government.

Biological diversity is the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.

The UK Biodiversity Partnership replaced the UK Biodiversity Group in 2002 following the Government's response to the Millennium Biodiversity Report, with the aim of bringing together all the partners involved in or with an interest in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and in policy on biodiversity, and to co-ordinate action that should be taken forward at a UK level.

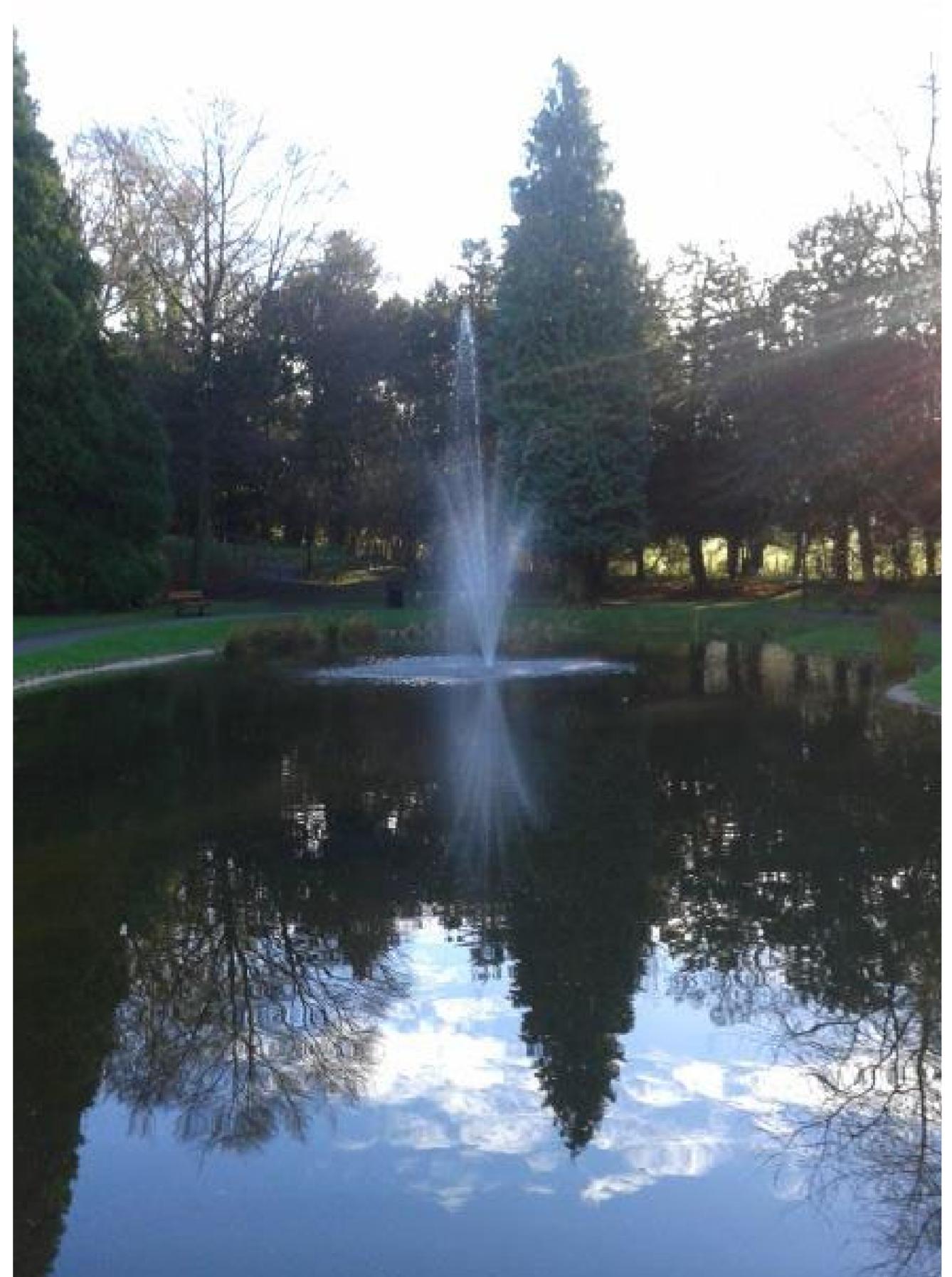
The UKBAP comprises three main elements

- Species Action Plans
- Habitat Action Plans
- Local Action Plans

Each Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) works on the basis of partnership to identify local priorities and to determine the contribution they can make to the delivery of the national Species and Habitat Action Plan targets. Often, but not always, LBAPs conform to county boundaries.

The Dacorum Borough Nature Conservation Strategy (2001) was jointly produced by Dacorum Borough Council, Dacorum Environmental Forum and Hertfordshire & Middlesex Wildlife Trust. The plan details species and habitats for which action plans have been prepared.

The habitat description most closely matching Tring Memorial Garden is 'Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland'. This includes all broadleaved and yew stands and mixed broadleaved and coniferous stands that have more than 20% of the cover made up of broadleaved and yew trees. Species listed that may be found in or close to Tring Memorial Garden include, large skipper, Purple emperor, brown long eared bat, Pipistrelle bat, Barn owl, Tawny owl, Long eared owl, Sky lark and Song Thrush.



Pond framed by trees

Pond

The pond is a fantastic asset for local biodiversity. The pond was stocked with fish in 2012, including Rudd, Carp and Tench. Over the years people have been putting their beloved pet gold fish in!

The pond attracts a variety of invertebrates, such as Water boatmen, Dragon flies, damsel flies and pond skaters. Every spring the pond is full of mating Frogs and Toads. The marginal areas are then covered in spawn, Tadpoles and then the pathways and lawn are covered in tiny little amphibians. This is great for the local community, who bring their children or grandchildren to the garden.

Wildflower area

Wildflower seed was sown in Spring 2015 in front of the palisade fence, by the entrance. The mix comprises some of the following- Red Campion, Mustard Garlic, Vetch, Yarrow etc.

Use of pesticides and herbicides

Use of pesticides or herbicides at Tring Memorial Garden will only be undertaken when all other control methods have been considered and strictly in accordance with the Councils Pesticide Policy.



Frogspawn in the pond



Pond fish stocking

Trees

Mature trees provide the framework of the Park. There is an unmistakable 'Rothschild feel' the main species being English Yew with its dark green foliage echoing the plantings of nearby Tring Mansion and Dundale. In combination with some mature Sycamore the tree cover was perhaps overbearing causing shady areas and bare ground. During 2011 16 mature trees were removed with the intention of allowing light in and creating space. There is a total of 87 trees spread throughout the site, comprised of 13 species as follows: Yew, Sycamore, Wild Cherry, Lawson cypress, Western red cedar, Holly, Beech, Elm, Silver maple, Norway spruce, Oriental spruce, Wellingtonia and Elder.

The trees are inspected and their condition classified according to Dacorum Borough Councils tree management system, 'Life'. With a single number, this system indicates how far a tree is through its life in its given location.

2.0 Policy context

Our Vision

In Dacorum, we aspire to protect and enhance our natural environment, heritage and habitats. With the involvement of the community, we will create attractive, sustainable, accessible and well-managed green spaces.

The priorities of Dacorum's community form the foundations of the Green Space Strategy and the basis of the following policies:

Policy 1 - To protect our green space from development

Policy 2 - To protect and enhance our natural environment, heritage and habitats

Policy 3 - To create attractive sustainable accessible and well managed green spaces

Policy 4 - To manage our green spaces with community involvement to ensure they are fit for purpose

Policy 5 - To make people feel safe

Policy 6 - To use development opportunities to improve the quality and provision of open space

Green Space Strategy

The Green Space Strategy is a vision and plan to deliver improved public spaces within the Borough and to help protect our environment from the pressures of development. It sets out Dacorum's commitment to manage and preserve green spaces - including managed parks and woodlands, nature reserves, and play areas - and to sustain the quality of neighborhoods.

Green spaces are integral to Dacorum, and important components of people's health and wellbeing, the Borough's economic prosperity, the biodiversity of the environment and our contribution to sustainability. The Green Space Strategy will improve the quality of neighborhood's, to meet community and planning needs, and to deliver the priorities of Dacorum Borough Council and The Dacorum Partnership.

The views of the Dacorum's residents, stakeholders and the Dacorum Partnership have helped to develop and inform the strategy.

A five year action plan designed to achieve the vision for Tring Memorial Garden can be found in Section 5. The Green Space strategy is available on request.



3.0 Neighbourhood, Volunteering & Community Use

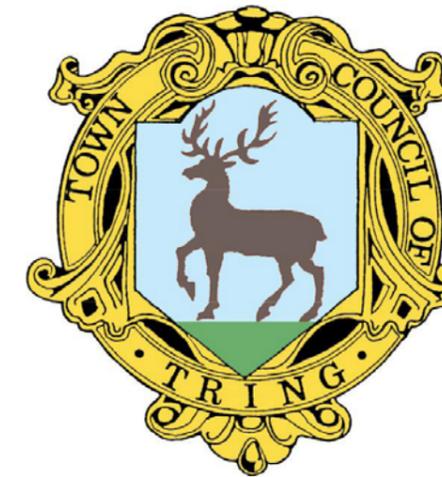
3.1 Stakeholders and partners

The park has many stakeholders both internal and external involved with day to day activities and events that happen throughout the year.

- Building Services
- Clean, Safe and Clean Service
- Environmental Health Service
- Valuation and Estates Service
- Friends of Tring memorial garden
- Royal British Legion
- Tring Town Council
- Tring Together

Some of the successful projects working with partners over the last management plan include;

- Annual Remembrance Sunday
- Tring 700 charter
- Creation of perennial beds
- Entrance signs
- Information sign
- Garden promotion
- LED spotlights
- New memorial plaque
- Memorial benches
- Raising money for the British Legion
- Bulb planting
- Wildflower planting
- Bat survey
- Community poppy event



3.2 Consultation

In the last five years the Gardens have changed considerably and the management plan to those involved has been very successful. To gauge how its users and stakeholders view this, a consultation/survey will be carried out in 2018.

3.3 Events

Dacorum's parks, playing fields and open spaces are used for public special events organised by community and charitable organisations. These are usually hired without a fee. Commercial bookings for which a fee is charged include fun fairs, hot air balloon launches, and filming units. Commercial and private functions must not restrict local residents' enjoyment of the open space nor pose safety issues for the general public. Sports training and tournaments are dealt with through the sports pitch booking system.

Hirer's of Dacorum Borough Council managed land are required to submit an Application Form for the Use of Council Land for Special Events, with a copy of their risk assessment, public liability insurance certificate and any additional operational procedures. Relevant groups such as Town and Parish Council's, Environmental Health and The Dacorum Safety Advisory Group are then notified of the event. The Dacorum Safety Advisory Group is a multi-agency group including the Police, Fire Service, Ambulance Service, Hertfordshire Highways, and chaired by Dacorum Borough Council's, Head of Public Protection. The Group aims to provide advice and guidance to enable those responsible for organising events to run them safely and successfully. A Safety Event Guide has been produced to provide some of the information event organisers need to help them plan a safe event.

Memorial Garden Events

Every Remembrance Sunday the start of the parade is from the Memorial Garden. This first happened in 2012 as an initiative between the Parks and Open Spaces Officer, The British Legion and The Friends of the Memorial Garden. It was felt by all the groups involved that this would be the most appropriate place to start the parade. This is now an annual event.

In June 2013 an event Poppy Saturday was held by the Friends group and DBC to promote the garden, unveil new Information sign and raise money for the Royal British Legion. Dacorum Borough Councils Mayor Penny Hearne



unveiled the new information board. Over 50 people attended.

On August 4th 2014, as part of the town's commemoration of the start of World War One a plaque was unveiled at the Memorial Garden in honour of the fallen men of Tring, from all conflicts. The plaque was unveiled by Group Captain Harper from nearby RAF Halton.

In 2015 to mark the 70th anniversary of VE day a ceremony was held in the gardens. The event was organised by Tring together, The British legion and Tring Church in conjunction with DBC and The Friends of Tring Memorial Garden. The event was well attended, by local people, including veterans of the campaign.

2015 was the 700th anniversary of Trings Charter granted to the town by Edward the 2nd. As part of the celebrations, the parks officer and the friends group decided to create a carpet bedding floral display and a new sign for the formal flower bed.

3.4 Volunteering

Memorial Garden Friends Group

The friends group was formed in 2012, after most of the major works in the Garden were finished. Adverts were placed asking for volunteers to help promote and protect the Memorial garden.

The Parks officer also arranged a meeting with the local Royal British Legion, to ensure they were part of the process. Out of this meeting a member of the British Legion committee joined the Friends group.

The friends group and Parks officer have established a very close and valuable relationship, with official meetings taking place once every two months, or more often depending on what projects the group is working on.

The link with The Royal British Legion has also had a positive effect for the Garden, as we can find out about nationwide campaigns the Legion is carrying out, so we can tie up with them. We also ensure that any ideas we may have they have input into them.

The friends group are a very positive and pro-active group, who are a vital link to the local community, both in promoting the Garden and listening out to any concerns/ ideas the wider community may have. All the community events, projects etc have been brought about/implemented with the partnership of the Friends Group.



They maintain both perennial beds in the Garden. All the floral bed signs, Passchendaele sign were designed by a member of the group. Dacorum Borough Council and the people of Tring could not have asked for a better friends group (And they are all wonderful people!)

Achievements over the last 5 years

- Annual Remembrance Sunday
- Tring 700 charter
- Creation of perennial beds
- Entrance signs
- Information sign
- Garden promotion
- LED spotlights
- New memorial plaque
- Memorial benches
- Raising money for the British Legion
- Bulb planting
- Wildflower planting
- Bat survey
- Community poppy event
- Bespoke bench
- Poppy Saturday
- Garden postcards
- Friends group won local community group award
- Internet promotion

3.5 Contribution to health and wellbeing

‘Green spaces promote health and well-being, providing breathing space for relaxation and stress reduction. They provide traffic-free transport routes, and opportunities for people to lead healthier lives.’

Green space strategy extract

Over the last decade there has been a shift in the health agenda towards promoting healthy lifestyle behaviour and choices. There has also been recognition of the role the environment can play in enhancing health. Less active lifestyles have led to an increase in preventable diseases which are placing increasing pressures on the National Health Service and cost the NHS £8.2 Billion annually.

Parks and green spaces contribute to all aspects of health and well-being including increasing levels of physical activity which could alleviate pressures on the NHS. Simply being outside in a green space can promote mental well-being, relieve stress, overcome isolation, improve social



cohesion and alleviate physical problems so that fewer working days are lost to ill health.

Parks provide spaces where people can get some fresh air, go for a walk, play football, exercise or just enjoy the surroundings.

- Living near parks, woodland or other open spaces helps to reduce health inequalities, regardless of social class.
- In urban areas people are more likely to rate their health as good if there is a safe and pleasant green space in their neighbourhood: an increase from 48% to 58%.
- 60% of interviewees thought pleasant local green spaces would improve their overall physical health, 48% thought it could improve their mental health, and 46% thought it would make them feel better about their relationships with family and friends.
- 91% of people believe that public parks and open spaces improve quality of life.
- In a survey of 5831 respondents, 79% agreed with the statement: Parks and open spaces help me stay fit and healthy . Only 4.5% of respondents disagreed with the statement.

Tring Memorial Garden is a popular place for dog walking, walking, picnicking, pond dipping, quiet reflection, meeting friends. All of which contribute to health and well-being.



Tring Memorial Garden Management Plan 2018



Tring Memorial Garden Management Plan 2018

4.3 Maintenance specification

In 2012 a full maintenance specification was written and applied to Tring Memorial Garden. This can be made available on request.

4.4 Resources, expenditure and income

The Parks and Open Spaces officer has an overall management role for the site, and co-ordinates essential repairs and replacements to infrastructure, and site furniture (bins, benches, etc.). Any large scale, infrastructural maintenance or development work will normally be organised via the internal Building Services team. The Parks and Open Spaces officer along with Trees and Woodlands manages the trees on site.

Maintenance of the green space (excluding trees) is the responsibility of the CSG area team, and maintenance tasks currently performed include grass cutting, litter collection, hedge cutting, autumn leaf clearance, litter bin emptying (including the weekends), fly tipping, sweeping of hard surfaces. All members of the CSG team from Parks Officer to maintenance staff receive annual appraisals; from these a full training programme is included.

Currently the budget for Tring Memorial Garden falls under the umbrella of the whole Parks budget. When needed, capital expenditure can be accessed. Other sources of income that as a service we access too is section 106 money.

4.5 Performance monitoring and standards

The CSG service has been accredited with ISO14001. The Parks and Open Spaces Officer is responsible for the monitoring of Tring Memorial Garden in every aspect from horticulture to infrastructure. There are also procedures in place where both the grounds maintenance team and members of the public can report any issues with the park.

4.6 Marketing

On the Dacorum Borough Council website there is a full description of Tring Memorial Garden including a copy of the management plan. There is also a full description of the Garden in the Tring Town Council website. The Friends Group also promoted the Garden on Trip Advisor, Visit the Chilterns, Parks and Gardens UK, War Memorials online and local Facebook pages.

PARKSHERTS – HERTFORDSHIRE PARKS WEB PROJECT

Background and Challenge

ParksHerts originated from the Hertfordshire Association of Cultural Officers Parks Officers Group (HACO) which recognised that there was a lack of consistent, accessible and good quality online information about the county's parks and open spaces. This is a particular challenge for a county such as Hertfordshire where park ownership is spread across administrative areas.

Hertfordshire also faces challenges to address the levels of obesity and physical activity within the population. 62.8% of Hertfordshire adults (2013-15) and 36.7% of children in year 6 (2015) were classified as overweight or obese with only 58.7% of adults classed as physically active (2015). (source: Public Health England. 2016. Public Health Outcomes Framework (Online)).



16.2 The Project

ParksHerts provides an innovative solution to these challenges. It's a mobile-first website application providing a single information point for over a hundred of Hertfordshire's parks and open spaces from recreation grounds through to woodlands and award winning flagship parks, irrespective of administrative ownership. It provides a way for people to discover and enjoy sites they know and those that they haven't yet discovered, whilst also supporting people to make outdoor exercise part of their everyday lives.

Funding for the project was secured from Hertfordshire County Council Public Health, all ten Hertfordshire District/Borough Councils and one Parish Council. Support from partners has been both financial and as officer time from communications teams, public health officers and from parks teams who will maintain the information on their own parks into the future. Hertsmere Borough Council led the project on behalf of the partnering authorities through the specification, procurement, design, data entry and training stages and will continue to be the overall administrative contact point.

ParksHerts is a clear demonstration that cross county projects really can and do work and a great tool to encourage greater park use and promote our parks, including Green Flag sites.

To remove barriers to access it is important that the site is as user friendly as possible. To support this, online and face to face consultation was undertaken.

Visit the ParksHerts web application today - www.parksherts.co.uk - and find your perfect park!

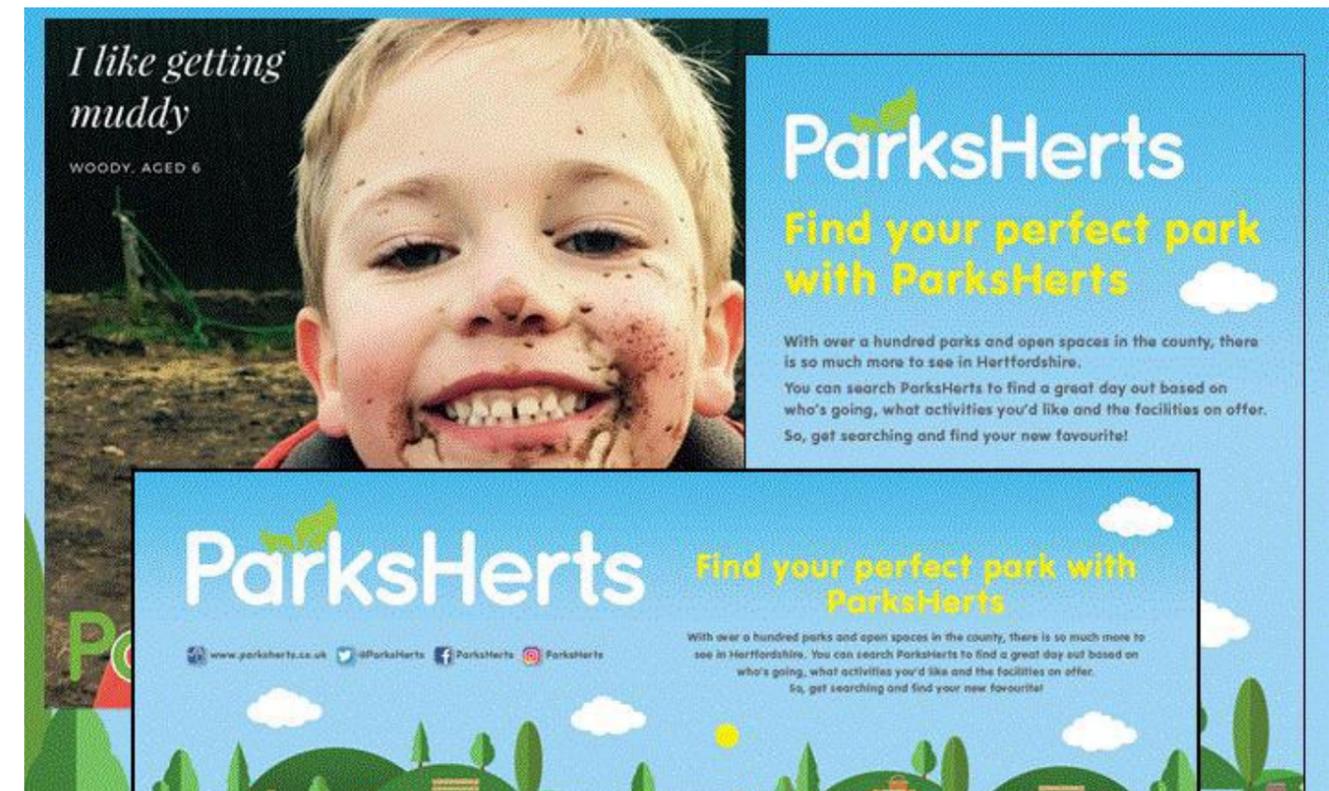
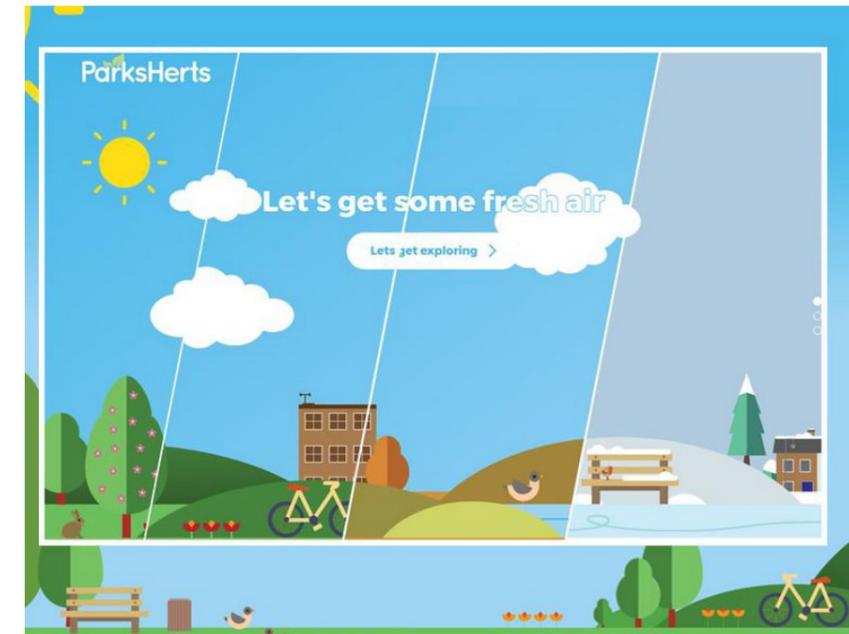
You can also like us on Facebook: facebook.com/ParksHerts, or follow us on twitter: [@ParksHerts](https://twitter.com/ParksHerts) and Instagram: [ParksHerts](https://www.instagram.com/ParksHerts) or email parksherts@hertsmere.gov.uk
Key features of the site include:

- A simple, attractive design with generic appeal that changes with the seasons.
- Mobile friendly site which can be used on desktops, tablets and mobile devices reflecting the desire from users to research at home and whilst out and about.
- The same basic info on each park (prioritised via user consultation and feedback).
- Ability to filter parks by categories - including who is going to the park, what activities you'd like to do and the facilities offered.
- Activity routes are marked on the maps ranging from easy access (pushchair and wheelchair friendly) through to running routes, nature trails and orienteering. Step counts are provided for each.
- How to find the way in to the park: on foot, via public transport and by car. Exact car park locations are provided with links to google maps.
- Ability to promote park events via specific 'events' area.
- Clickable points of interest.
- Ability to focus on what's important by personalising the points of interest that appear on the map.
- I'm in this park button provides a GPS 'where am I' location.

Outcomes

In the first six months since the site was officially launched, there has been:

- 6,200 unique users
- 8,500 sessions
- 30,000 page views
- 60% of user's access through mobile or tablet indicating potential usage whilst in the park.



The most popular pages are the parks search page followed by the events page. Visitor numbers can be checked and peaks in usage can be linked to particular tweets or promotional activities. Seasonal reports will collect user numbers.

Promotion and Social Media

The ParksHerts website application was launched to the public at the Hertfordshire Green Flag Award event held at Cassiobury Park, Watford on 21 July 2017.

Publicity and promotion of the site is a partnership effort coordinated by communication professionals from the participating councils, using facebook, twitter and Instagram, resident's magazines, partner websites and newsletters.

Links between the website and participating council's websites are in place to help drive traffic to the site.

Publicity material available includes roadside banners, posters and branded bags and water bottles. These have been distributed between partners for use in the parks or at events.

Since the launch, a blog feature has been created which is proving to be a useful way to highlight specific parks or activities taking place in the parks which can be promoted.

An advert for site can be found on the 2017/18 bus timetables across the whole of Hertfordshire.

- 25% found us via search engines
- 24% came directly
- 40% linked through via social media

Social Media techniques to be used:

- On Twitter posts use the daily hashtags e.g. Monday Motivation, Tip Tuesday – this widens the audience considerably.
- Tag in more popular twitter users – has led to retweets
- Pick up on relevant news stories
- Link through to wider, popular events e.g. Health Walks – known events and link directly through to the right page on the site
- Use animation, visual representations of the site, linked to the time of year
- Use real photos from the Hertfordshire parks

Next Steps

Three key aims have been identified for 2018 to further develop the web application and ensure that people use and re-use ParksHerts.

- 'Keep going and keep growing' – site to be kept up-to-date with new data. Additional sites to be added, from existing partners as well as expansion to other parks providers within the county. New opportunities of features within the site are also possible and will be added as appropriate within the budget.
- 'Governance' – a 'board' of key members from the partnership will be formed to take key decision over future developments, costings and ensure continual input from all partners.
- 'Widen usage' – the coding and design is owned by the ParksHerts partnership. Opportunities exist to for other authorities or partnerships of authorities across the country to 'purchase' the coding at a fraction of the original cost. Take up would help to ensure that ParksHerts is fully sustainable but more importantly promote the huge benefits that's parks offer to people's everyday lives across the country.

4.7 Security and dog control

There are currently no major issues around security and the area is regularly patrolled by the Community Police Officer. There is lighting in the Garden which helps deter ASB. Should problems such as vandalism, or antisocial behaviour arise then the CSG team will work with the community police to resolve the issue.

Dogs are allowed on site. Dog owners are encouraged to act responsibly by using the dog bin provided. The bin is emptied once a week. This service is managed by the Dog Warden within the Environmental Health Service. Any dog fouling incidents are dealt with by the dog warden who will contact offenders if known and has the power to issue a fixed penalty notice of £80. Tring Memorial Garden does not currently suffer from major dog fouling problems.

4.8 Environmental management and sustainability

As part of its corporate plan Dacorum Borough Council is committed to;

- Minimise waste and improve recycling levels.
- Take a leading role in reducing CO2 emissions.
- Reduce consumption of natural resources by the Council and
- set the pace as community leaders.

The Clean, Safe and Green Team actively support this plan in many ways, including;

- Neighbourhood delivery is accredited with ISO 14001.
- Pesticides are only used when no other practical solution is possible.
- All use of chemicals is recorded.
- All chemicals are stored, recorded and used appropriately.
- Only operatives with a PA1/PA6 can apply any herbicides/pesticides.
- All green waste from parks and open spaces is collected and taken to the Cupid Green Depot, where it is mixed with green and food waste from domestic household collections. It is then transported to the 'Envar' processing plant in St Ives, Cambridgeshire where it is turned into compost. The compost produced is currently used in the agricultural industry.
- It is the policy of the CSG team not to use peat at Tring Memorial Garden. When plant stock is required it will either be purchased as bare root or supplied by a nursery that uses peat free compost.
- Electric car charging point in the car park.

Dacorum Borough Councils procurement strategy states when buying materials

- The Council is committed to protecting the local environment and taking responsibility for minimising the wider environmental effects of its procurement decisions. The Council expects its contractors and suppliers to meet a similar level of commitment and will seek information to determine that commitment from potential suppliers.
- As a purchaser of services, supplies and works, the Council has an influence on the environment in the manufacture, use and disposal of goods and materials. Where possible, the Council's purchasing power will be used to promote environmental sustainability. Suppliers are encouraged to look for imaginative ways to assist the Council in achieving, these objectives.

4.9 Safety and risk assessment

- All staff are made aware of the Councils Health and Safety Policy via staff handbook, that all staff receive as part of their induction.
- CSG undertake risk assessments for all tasks, machinery and equipment.
- All staff are provided with and required to wear the appropriate PPE.
- All staff are fully trained in any machinery/equipment they use.
- All vehicles are included on a vehicle maintenance schedule, managed and maintained by the councils own vehicle maintenance team, carried out at the councils own dedicated garage.
- All fuel is safely stored at the council's main depot.
- All chemicals used are managed in compliance with COSHH regulations.

5.0 Five Year Action Plan

| Objective | How | Timescale | Resource Implications | Date Completed/Progress |
|--|--|-------------|---|-------------------------|
| COMMUNITY | | | | |
| 1. Achieve Green Flag | Continue to enter the site for the annual Green Flag Award. | Ongoing | Revenue | Ongoing. |
| 2. Ensure that the Garden is part of community celebrations and events to promote Garden | Continue to work with all the Gardens stakeholders to ensure the Gardens remain relevant to the community. | Ongoing | Staff time/Friends Group | Ongoing |
| 3. Continue to keep partnership with Friends Group and British Legion going. | Attend Friends meetings | Ongoing | Staff time | Ongoing |
| 4. Organise events for Centenary of the end of World War One. | Work in conjunction with Friends group and other stakeholders. | Spring 2018 | Staff Time/Stakeholders Revenue | |
| 5. Create annual onsite stakeholder meeting. | Invite all onsite stakeholders to an annual meeting. | Summer 2018 | Staff Time | Ongoing. |
| MARKETING | | | | |
| 6. Website. | Keep information about Tring Memorial Garden up to date on DBC website. | Ongoing | Staff Time | Ongoing |
| 7. Park survey. | Undertake further customer research to evaluate the effectiveness of the management plan. | Spring 19 | Staff Time/Friends Group Revenue | |
| 8. Park Herts. | Continue being part of Park Herts website | Ongoing | Revenue | |
| ENVIRONMENTAL/BIODIVERSITY | | | | |
| Objectives | | Year | Resource Implications | Date Completed/Progress |
| 9. Pond | Ensure pond is maintained properly. | 2015 | Continue with outside contractor Sellers Environmental. Revenue budget. | |
| 10. Increase biodiversity | Install bird boxes/bat boxes | Autumn 2021 | Staff time/revenue. | |
| 11. Install new sign by pond | Install sign indicating species etc in pond | 2019 | Revenue | |
| 12. Trees | Ensure all trees are surveyed accordingly | Ongoing | Revenue | |
| 13. Ecological survey | Conduct an ecology survey (wild flora and fauna) | Spring 2020 | Revenue. | |
| 14. Bulb planting | Consider planting more bulbs | Autumn 21 | Revenue. | |
| INFRASTRUCTURE | | | | |
| Objectives | | Year | Resource Implications | Date Completed/Progress |
| 15. Repair pathways | Repair pathways damaged by tree roots | 2019 | Staff Time Revenue | |
| 16. Benches | Ensure all benches are rubbed down and oiled | 2018 | Revenue | |
| 17. Lighting columns | Lighting columns to be rubbed down and painted | 2018 | Revenue | |
| 18. Bins | Ensure any damaged bins are replaced. | Ongoing | Revenue | |
| 19. Fountain | Fountain to be regularly serviced. | Ongoing | Revenue. Outside contractor | Completed 2015 |

6.0 Monitoring and Review

This management plan will be reviewed annually with monitoring of progress against targets. The Action Plan will also be monitored quarterly and amended when necessary. The Green Flag Criteria and the judge's comments will be used as the best indicators for measuring the achievements against this management plan.