



**DeptfordFolk**  
**Activity Report**  
**2018/2019**

# Governance

## Public Meetings and Attendance

DeptfordFolk is the park user group for **Deptford Park and Folkestone Gardens**. Protecting and enhancing these parks and other routes, parks and green spaces in the area is the purpose of the organisation. The organisation constitution, **meeting minutes and relevant documents are all available online**. Last year DeptfordFolk held quarterly public meetings and attended all Evelyn Ward Local Assemblies.

### DeptfordFolk Public Meetings (Minutes Online)

- 9th Feb 2018 — AGM and Spring Meeting
- 24th July 2018 — Summer Meeting
- 31st October 2018 — Autumn Meeting
- 9th December 2017 — Winter Meeting

### LBL Evelyn Ward Local Assembly Presentation

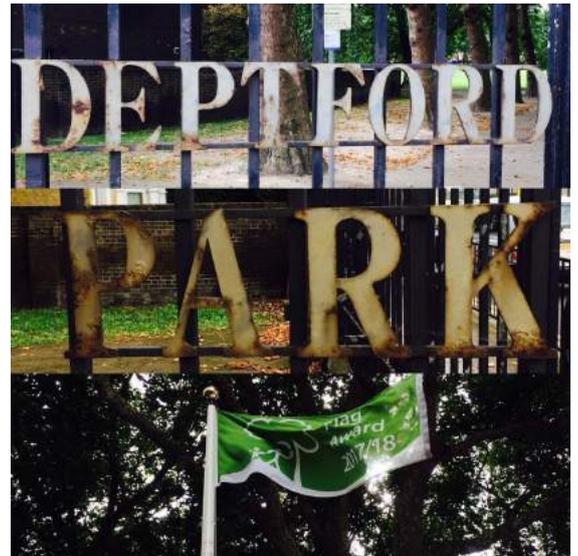
- 3rd Feb 2018
- 13th September 2018
- 27th October 2018

**DeptfordFolk public meetings** were held in in Festa Sul Prato in Folkestone Gardens and between 25 and 35 people came to each. DeptfordFolk's mailing list now contains 1600+ people and 1800+ follow on twitter. Notices are published at least 28 days prior to a meeting.

Meeting **agendas are discussed by the DeptfordFolk committee**. This consists of three quorate members elected at the AGM and others who bring various skills and insight to the organisation. The DeptfordFolk committee meets in advance of public meetings and anyone can **email [hello@deptfordfolk.org](mailto:hello@deptfordfolk.org) to suggest agenda items**.

Thank you to everyone on the DeptfordFolk committee for your hard work improving and enhancing our parks and surrounding streets. Thank you to everyone who attends meetings and events.

**Trina Lynskey**  
DeptfordFolk Chair



## Award Winning!

DeptfordFolk joining Lewisham Greenscene and the Green Flag judges and the Green Flag was awarded again to Deptford Park in 2018. At the project mid point, Evelyn200 received a special commendation at the Mayor of London's 'Tree Oscars'. We received a **Mayor of Lewisham Award for Voluntary Contribution** and a **Sugar Smart award**.

Thanks to everyone who gets involved, supports events, responds to consultations, brings ideas and inspiration to improve our neighbourhood



# DeptfordFolk Priorities

The DeptfordFolk 2016 park user survey (available on the DeptfordFolk website) identified 8 priorities. Since then we have worked to raise funding and make changes to meet these goals. We are making good progress to date (see summary below). In addition to these priorities DeptfordFolk are monitoring local planning applications and sharing that information as widely as possible so local people can have a positive impact on their parks, public spaces and streets now and for the future.



[View the 2016 survey online](#)

Priority	Progress	Funding	Next Steps
#1 FG Playground	No Progress other than raising it with Lewisham Mayor and cabinet.	None. Improvements to play space included in CIL recommendations	A priority for 2019.
#2 FG Pond	Quotes obtained. Work scheduled.	Secured Veolia	The tendering process took longer than expected. The pond will be refurbished in Winter 2019.
#3 Benches & Bins	DP - Benches with Glendale ready to go. Bins already in.  FG - AJ&B Manufacturing	Secured Veolia	DP - Glendale to install benches over the coming weeks.  FG - AJ&B to manufacture and Glendale to Install benches.
#4 DP Footpaths	The worst footpaths refurbished 2017/2018. Ongoing monitoring.	Funded form LBL Capital budget. Parks maintenance	Park users to report any deterioration so Glendale can maintain as necessary.
#5 Safety & Access	Deptford Parks Liveable Neighbourhood (DPLN) Engagement process Nov 18—Feb 19. Concept designs. Full report due.	£2.9m Mayor of London/TfL Liveable Neighbourhood Programme	Await full report and provide final feedback. Lewisham Council's statutory consultation will take place before work begins. DPLN is also dependent on Anthology and Neptune Wharf developments.
#6 DP Secret Garden	Evelyn200. Now a beautiful orchard with clear sight lines and space to play.	Funded £20k from Mayor of London Greened Cities programme	Amazing community effort watering trees across the area in summer 2018. More watering activities planned for summer 2019. Get involved.
#7 Safer Neighbourhood	DPLN, Supporting safe walking and cycling, regular meetings with police safer neighbourhood team	DPLN	
#8 Events & Activities	Ongoing	DCT/Big Lottery/TfL	Tree planting, forest school, bike rides, cycle surgery, talks, walks,

## March & April 2018

**Evelyn200** finished the 2017/2018 tree planting season with trees planted across the Evelyn Ward. There were planting events with **Sir Francis Drake, Deptford Park and Grinling Gibbons** primary schools. A community tree planting event in **Sayes Court Park** saw the replacement of the 4th Turkish Hazelnut and other trees. The **Sayes Court and Trinity Estates** got trees along Evelyn Street.

DeptfordFolk were invited to speak at the **TfL Shaping LDN Late Debate** about Evelyn200 and other DeptfordFolk projects. We were joined by **Cabinet Member for Parks, Neighbourhoods and Transport Sophie Mc Gevor**.

For the second year DeptfordFolk organised a **cycle powered outdoor screening in Folkestone Gardens** as part of the New Cross & Deptford Free Film Festival. 300 people came to watch *Pirates of the Caribbean*. We also organised Election at *Vive Living* and *The Big Lebowski* at *The Black Horse*. Other local organisations also started showing films at venues in the area. **The 2019 festival will see even more films in and around Deptford Park & Folkestone Gardens.**



## May & June 2018

Local artist got in touch about doing an art installation in Deptford park. We successfully applied to the Deptford Challenge Trust to do a series of art activities in and around the parks to celebrate "The Nature of Cities. A camera obscura was in Deptford Park for a week and there were pinhole photography and cyanotype workshop. The weather was glorious.

We also held a gallery event. Local photographers were invited to submit work based on the 'Nature of Cities' theme. We had a huge response from local people, many of whom had never exhibited in a formal gallery setting, or anywhere, before. Second Floor Arts gave us use of third arch gallery space for the event. 80 people came on the opening night. Workshops ran in the gallery space over the weekend too. There was also a drop in children's forest school session in Deptford Park



DeptfordFolk were invited to **TRA meetings** in the area and to the **ETRA Family fun day**. After the success of last year's outdoor family theatre in Folkestone Gardens it was great to once again be involved with a **TeatroVivo production. Evelyn's Roots**, a street theatre production drawing from the area's rich history.

Sadly, we learned that **Antonio Marchesini** was killed while on his bike by a motorist at the junction of Childers Street & Rolt Street. **Street safety remains a concern** for many local residents.



## July & August 2018

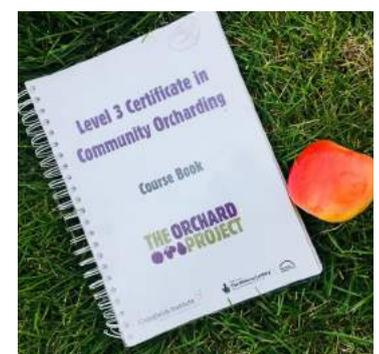
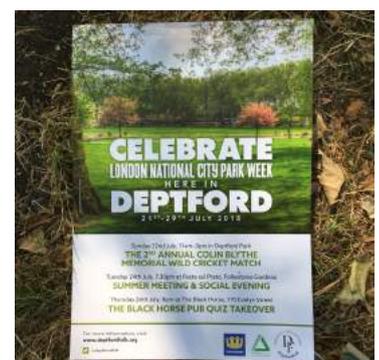
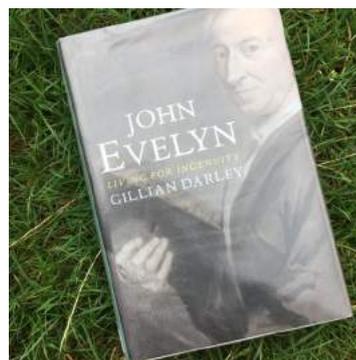
DeptfordFolk featured in new local newspaper **The Lewisham Ledger**. The article focussed on community engagement and why our parks and green spaces are fundamentally important to everybody. Most of the people attending our Summer Meeting appeared in a photograph alongside the article.

Our **Big Lottery grant** included funding for a **community orchardist**. Our orchardist was awarded a level 3 qualification. Great news for the long term sustainability of the fruit trees planted in Deptford Park.

Citizen sense Author **Gillian Darley** came to tell us all about **John Evelyn** and his Garden at Sayes Court for Evelyn 200. Another well attended 'First Tuesday Talk'.

We celebrated the first National Park city week. We held a cricket event in Deptford Park to commemorate local cricketer Colin Blythe. There was a parks themed Pub quiz at the black horse and we held our summer meeting.

Throughout the hot dry summer many people got involved **watering trees** locally. Not just the Evelyn200 orchards but many that had been planted and uncared for on local developments.



## September & October 2018

We held our Autumn DeptfordFolk meeting on **John Evelyn's 398th Birthday** and celebrated with cake. A group of **cyclists celebrated the life and work of John Evelyn**. They **cycled from his birth place in Wotton, Surrey to Sayes Court Park** in Deptford. We planted Evelyn200 trees in Sayes Court Park with pupils from **Invicta Primary School**. We held the last of our series of **Big Lottery Funded Evelyn200 talks**. Edwin Mallins from the London Wildlife Trust came to tell us all about the **Great North Wood**.

Once again we were at the **Evelyn Assembly** to let people know about DeptfordFolk. The September assembly included a Q&A with the Mayor of Lewisham. For the October event we organised a **Forest School** activity in the Secret Garden Orchard. Children kitted out a **bug hotel** made by a DeptfordFolk volunteer. There was storytelling, jewellery making and more. **Evelyn Parents Forum celebrated 10 years working with children and families in the area**. A great achievement for this organisation who have been a great support to DeptfordFolk over the last few years. **Children planted an Evelyn200 tree** in the orchard as part of the celebrations.

We were invited to the **Metropolitan Parks & Gardens Trust (MPGA) AGM**. Great to meet the board of which might be one London's oldest park user group. The **MPGA have kindly funded some Evelyn200 Trees**.

Sadly **a second fatality on the road reminded us how dangerous our streets are** for those walking and cycling in the area. 82 year old Peter Harris was hit by a driver while he crossed at the zebra crossing. DeptfordFolk are determined to make a success of DPLN to improve road safety, air quality and encourage sustainable transport.

On **car free day** we headed to Greenwich where another **Liveable Neighbourhood** has been funded by the Mayor of London. We met Lewisham Council and Greenwich Councillors at the event. We also had a chance to **discuss Liveable and Low Emissions Neighbourhoods with Greenwich Mayor Christine May**.

Great to see another mention of the Platform Cricket event and DeptfordFolk in the Lewisham Ledger. We are already working on bring more cricket for young people in 2019.

The big exciting park improvement news is **new bins for Deptford Park**. Funded by Veoila the **bigger fox proof bins** are more suitable for the area's growing population.



## November & December 2018

DeptfordFolk were pleased to be recognised at the **Mayor of Lewisham's awards** event for our **"Outstanding Work in the Borough"**. The event itself was fun and an opportunity to meet other volunteer led organisations working in their communities. Remarkable people working on a range of projects across Lewisham. We were also given an award for our contribution to the national **Sugar Smart campaign to promote healthy diet and healthy lifestyles**.

The **Deptford Parks Liveable Neighbourhood (DPLN)** engagement events took place including the **temporary closure of the street outside Sir Francis Drake school**. This happened on **Road Safety Week**. Children had the opportunity to contribute to the design for permanent closure of Scawen Road outside the school. Members of the community could also come and speak to Sustrans, Lewisham Council and Deptford Folk. The event was supported with free bike repair with Lewisham Cyclists. There were **Stakeholder Steering Group** meetings with **Cabinet Member Councillor Brenda Dacres** to get further input for the concept designs. Engagement activities were held at **Woodpecker Youth Centre** and at **Festa Sul Prato**. We were at a fantastic **Sir Francis Drake Winter Fair** telling people about DPLN, Evelyn200 and listening to their ideas. Sustrans did **pop-up surveys and an online survey** to ensure a wide range of views were included. The **winter DeptfordFolk meeting** was held alongside an Engagement activity for DPLN at **Second Sunday Cycle repair**. This brought more views into the project and engaged more young people with DPLN. **Cabinet Member for Parks, Neighbourhoods and Transport Brenda Dacres** joined Lewisham Council, DeptfordFolk and Sustrans on a walk of the DPLN area.

Residents overlooking **Pepys Park** got in touch about Evelyn200. It was great to work with them to identify sites for **twenty trees** and have them planted during **National Tree Week**. We have now **planted trees in all the Evelyn's parks** with more to come before we get to the 200 tree target. Sadly one of the fruit trees in the Deptford Park orchard we planted with The Orchard Project did not survive. We were sent a replacement which has now been planted. **Thanks to all the summer watering** Evelyn200 has had a remarkably low failure rate. We were pleased to go to meet a new project **Trees for Grenfell** in West London and offer them support getting their fantastic project up and running. We were also awarded **£12,000 by the Thames Tideway project for Evelyn200**.



# January & February 2019

Engagement for **DPLN** continued in early January with a **Steering Group Meeting** and a **group tour of Woodpecker Road**. Sustrans and DeptfordFolk had **open exhibitions of the concept designs** at Festa Sul Prato and Sir Francis Drake School. We brought the concept designs to the Evelyn **Tenants & Residents Association** and the **Community Action Centre** (Pepys) AGM.

In late January a team of **volunteers from DeptfordFolk and Nature's Gym** paid some long overdue attention to the **Willow Maze in Deptford Park Playground**. This structure was installed a decade ago by a locally led community group DPRA. It should now grow into a more defined shape over the coming months.

On February 1st & 2nd we planted **five Evelyn200 trees with Clyde Nursery School**. Last year a stolen moped was set alight in the alleyway next to the school. This caused considerable damage and the loss of the two trees in the playground. It was great to be able to plant **three fruit trees** with the children. Landscapers from developer Anthology helped **replace the two trees in the playground**.

On February 3rd we learned that the **Mayor of London has awarded £19,500 to Evelyn200** from the **Greener Cities Fund**. We met with Lewisham Homes to identify sites on land they manage.

**New Cross & Deptford** were became one of the Mayor of London's first **Creative Employment Zones** and we went to the launch. Positive news for the local economy. We attended the **Client Earth Clean Air London Mayor's Question Time** with Deputy Mayor for Environment & Energy, Shirley Rodrigues. We also attended the **monthly NXDFFF meeting** in preparation for the festival in April.

Another busy **Second Sunday Cycle Repair** on February 10th brought a new volunteer to join the team. We joined **Car Free Day** and local people to discuss developments on the Thames from Rotherhithe to Greenwich and their impact on walking and cycling in the area

It is the time of year for **orchard maintenance, pruning and mulching**. Our newly qualified orchardist has been tending to the fruit trees in Deptford Park.





# Cycle Programme funded by TfL



## DeptfordFolk & Lewisham Cyclists **FREE** bike repair sessions Second Sunday of Every Month 10am-2pm on Quietway 1

🚲 Get on your bike on Quietway 1 in 2018 🚲  
Get your bike fixed 🚲 Get your children's bikes fixed  
Learn how to maintain your bike 🚲 Get cycling information  
🚲 Learn about cycling activities in your area 🚲

### 2019 Drop in Second Sunday Dates

Jan 13th - Feb 10th - Mar 10th - Apr 14th - May 12th - Jun 9th  
Jul 14th - Aug 11th - Sep 8th - Oct 13th - Nov 10th - Dec 8th



LEWISHAM  
CYCLISTS



Ron Hoskins Hall, Childers St. SE8 5NU



[www.deptfordfolk.org](http://www.deptfordfolk.org)  
[www.lewishamcyclists.co.uk](http://www.lewishamcyclists.co.uk)



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@lewicyclists



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[lewishamcyclists@gmail.com](mailto:lewishamcyclists@gmail.com)



# Cricket

**PLATFORM**  
Y4 CRICKET FESTIVAL

THURSDAY 7th JUNE 2018  
Tournament: 10am-2pm Lunch Reception: 1pm  
Deptford Park, Scawen Road, SE8 5AE

In Summer 2018 DeptfordFolk worked with Platform Cricket to bring an inter-school Year 4 cricket tournament to Deptford Park. (See report from Platform Cricket). 672 children participated. 75% had never played before. 89% were from BAME backgrounds and 55% from deprived households. It was a great success and led the formation of The Deptford Dragons. The team have been touring Kent. We hope to run the festival again 2019 possibly as a pan-Lewisham event.

We held the 2nd annual Colin Blythe *Wild Cricket* event in Deptford Park. It was great fun. The event will be happening again in summer 2019.



**Colin Blythe a Cricket Legend**

Colin "Charlie" Blythe was born in Deptford on May 30th 1879. He was a first-class cricketer who played for Kent and England. Blythe was one of the finest bowlers of cricket's "Golden Age". Over 100 years later Blythe still ranks in the top 10 fastest cricketers to reach 100 wickets.

During the First World War Blythe joined the 12th battalion of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. On November 8th 1917, while working on a railway line, Blythe was killed when shrapnel pierced his chest. He is buried in the Oxford Road Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemetery in Belgium. 2017 marks 100 years since his death.



**DEPTFORD**

**DRAGONS  
CRICKET**



BBC RADIO **5** live sports extra  
**Test Match Special**

