



## Autumn 2011

# Clissold Park and House Restoration Project

### Clissold Park

Work to the park is largely complete and we would like to thank park users for their patience during the project.

New interpretation and wayfinding signage has been installed throughout the park. The signage complements the improvements to the park as a whole and we hope that it will be a positive addition to the visitor experience at Clissold Park.

Wooden fencing will remain in some areas for a period of time to protect new planting.

The play area has been open since early summer and offers great facilities for children of all ages. The new multi-use games area for five-a-side football and basketball, alongside the built-in table tennis table, make this a great area for an array of sport and play activities.

There is a problem with water seeping into the large bowl of the wheels park and work is required to remedy this. Unfortunately this means that the wheels park will be closed from 31 October, reopening towards the end of November.

Works to the New River are now mostly complete. Two new ornamental bridges have been installed and will soon be completed by the addition of decorative side panels.

The old bowls pavilion building has been refurbished and an outdoor classroom facility has been built. The lawn is a dog free area and has proved very popular in good weather over the summer. The Council will soon be recruiting an Interpretation Officer as part of the overall Clissold Park project and they will be responsible for programming educational events and activities in the pavilion and outdoor classroom.

The deer are now living in their new enclosure and we continue to work with our deer expert Peter Green to ensure that they settle in and to safeguard their welfare for the future. The green screening that was installed to give the deer some privacy while they became accustomed to their new home is now being removed on Peter's advice. He is confident that the new enclosure provides an excellent home for the deer with more space, improved fencing and sheltered areas.

His latest report confirms that the deer are in very good health.



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The new goat enclosure is now complete and we are pleased to introduce two new young male goats who are settling in well. The new aviary, chicken run and butterfly dome are in the process of being fitted out and the birds, chickens and butterflies will be moved into their new homes as they become ready.

When the animal enclosures are fully complete, there will be a publicly accessible walkway between the fenced enclosures with a landscaped garden area for park users to enjoy. This area will be completely dog free.

### Clissold House

The main building contractor has now completed its works at Clissold House and the remaining works to the interior are now being carried out. These include installation of the café kitchen, fireplaces and the addition of up-to-date IT and telephone systems.

The beautifully restored Clissold House will offer function rooms and smaller meeting rooms for private hire and community use. These will be available to hire from early in 2012, when the restoration works to the House are fully complete and the new café is open for business.

Company of Cooks will be running the café and kiosk. They already run the Brewhouse and Steward's Room at Kenwood House as well as café facilities in Hyde Park, Regent's Park and Kensington Gardens among others.

We will start to take bookings for the House on 1 December. If you are interested in hiring the function or meeting rooms, please get in touch with Emma Finch (see below), the Clissold House Venue Manager, who can arrange to meet you. Please also look out for more information on the Council's website and in Hackney Today, where we will be advertising open house sessions and tours.



For more information on the project, please contact Eleanor Johnson, [eleanor.johnson@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:eleanor.johnson@hackney.gov.uk) For booking enquiries for Clissold House, please contact Emma Finch, [emma.finch@gll.org](mailto:emma.finch@gll.org)

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