

Roots AND Shoots

## Annual Report 2001

THE VAUXHALL CENTRE, WALNUT TREE WALK,  
LAMBETH, LONDON, SE11 6DN

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Our Patron, **Kate Hoey MP**, has continued her committed support for Roots and Shoots throughout 2001.

### The Roots and Shoots Team

#### **Trustees:**

*Chair* - Philip Moore *Treasurer* - Boz Borowy  
Glenda King, Derek Nolan, David Sawyer,  
Jane Turcan, Catherine McCarthy

#### **Manager:**

Linda Phillips

**Staff:** *Horticultural Trainers:* Moustafa Taher, Amanda Rew

*Woodwork Trainer & Garden Furniture:* John Fowler

*Trainee Education & Work Experience:* Ruth Mitchell

*Wildlife Garden, Schools Education and Community:* David Perkins

#### **Trainees 2001:**

Philip Atkins, Jermaine Bowen, Billy Burne, Nathan Currie,  
Nicole Currie, Maggie Curtis, Michael Daly, David Fairman,  
Jason Inwood, Craig Kelly, Scott McWilliam, Martin Pearson,  
Carlos Pennant, Nicky Rutherwood, Caroline Warne, Kevin Warne, Lee Whittaker.

#### **Volunteers:**

Our special thanks to Douglas Marritt and David Sawyer (*Office*).

**Doug, who was Linda's valued administration assistant and Friends database manager, came to us for a six month placement and ended up staying for nearly six years. He has played a vital role and we all wish him well in retirement.**

*Wildlife Garden:* Rob Jackson, Siriol Davies, Dionne Doyley.

*Trainee Education and Community Events:* John Hibberd, Eileen Collins,  
Eric and Virginia Moxon, Brenda Wheeler, Hilary Schofield, Marion Manning, Claire Bamford,  
Martha MacDonald, Bernadette Thompson, Anna Packham, Mary Evans, Gayle Whittingham, Barbara Horsford.

**In this eventful and successful year we are deeply indebted to:** Lambeth Walk Partnership, Albert Hunt Trust, The Walcot Trust, Bridge House Estates Trust, FOCUS Legacy Fund, Lambeth Riverside, Lambeth Mission, Sir Walter St. John's Educational Charity, Cross River Partnership, Lambeth Social Services, Learning Skills Council,

**In addition we would like to thank the following for invaluable support:** Adrian Hall Garden Centres, Val Stapleton, John Donovan, Lesley Prescott, Jennifer Perea, Michael Smith, Ellen Fox, Jo Valentine, Gay Search, Freda Sharpe, Jo Woodcock, Alex McColl, Libby Chiltern, Elaine Aherne, Diana Braithwaite, Graham Russell.



### Aims and Objectives

**Our mission** is to provide training for young people with learning difficulties, to give them skills and self-confidence to equip them for work.

Alongside this training we aim to involve local schools and the wider community by establishing our site as an important environmental resource.

We value people. We encourage staff, trainees, volunteers and all others involved with the project to work together, enabling them to fulfil their potential.



*Above: The Open Weekend for the National Gardens Scheme was launched on the Saturday with the formal opening of two projects in the Wildlife Garden - the Children's Shelter and the Paradise Corner. Gay Search opened the projects and we were also joined by Kate Hoey MP.*



*Above: A major commission for the Garden Furniture workshop came from the Janyang Buddhist Centre in Kennington. The new Courtyard Cafe has been developed by the Centre for the local community with funding from the Cross River Partnership. Roots and Shoots workshop made thirteen tables and a set of children's garden furniture for the courtyard. The trainees are seen here watched over by the Buddha.*

*Right: The numbers of school children visiting the Wildlife Garden for environmental education have more than doubled over 2000. Here children from Turney Special School are "rubbing and smelling" the newly re-planted Thyme Circle.*



### 2000 - 2001 A Review

These pages use images to reflect this very successful year at Roots and Shoots. Work on the site has progressed well, with trainees' practical and classroom work complemented with a very wide range of work placements. Open Days and other events have all been very well supported by the community. School visits have also expanded dramatically during 2001.



*Above and right: For National Apple Day the trainees again visited Brogdale Orchards in Kent. The celebrations on the 21st October were thoroughly enjoyed despite the continuous downpour!*



*Right: The refurbished classroom is a brighter, warmer and more flexible environment for trainees' learning. It is also used for delivering video microscope workshops for schools. The equipment was launched in National Science Week.*



## Action 2000 -2001



*The new compost area and vegetable patch is being developed by the trainees and staff and will be in the form of a giant raised bed surrounded by dwarf 'step-over' apple trees and trained redcurrants and gooseberries. New compost bins and safe pathways built by the workshop group will become a composting demonstration area.*



*Bett's Seat and Memorial Garden were developed throughout the Spring and Summer. A new access path was laid to the seat, built by the trainees in the workshop last year. A small fountain surrounded by decorative cobbles was built alongside the path.*



*The planting of this garden was a beautiful mixture of decorative plants and food crops (see also the front cover). This and the neighbouring beds will be further planted with more exotic plants during 2002, supported by the Metropolitan Gardens Association.*



*The Paradise Corner in the Wildlife Garden was developed in the last part of the site to be reclaimed from its former use as garage/warehouses. Most of the materials were re-used and the walls were clad with bamboo. Tender plants such as Brazilian passion flowers are already flourishing.*



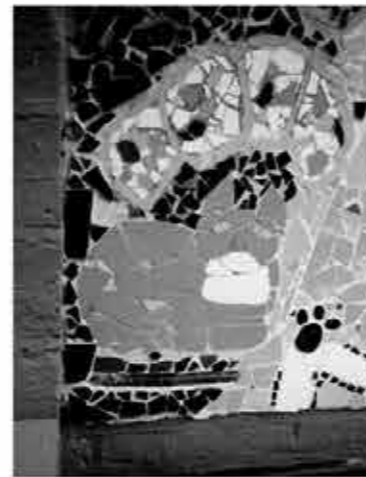
*The reconstruction of the pond took place early in the new year with the help of several volunteers. The old pond was full of reeds and the liner was leaking. There was little invertebrate life. It was decided to empty the pond and build a new ridge separating the reed bed from the newly re-lined deep pond section. The new pond attracted two previously unrecorded damselflies and a special hen blackbird. She developed 'fishing' skills - catching newts from the surface of the pond whilst in flight and feeding them to her young. This behaviour is seemingly unique to Roots and Shoots blackbirds!*



*The Tile Mosaic project was undertaken in August funded by the Walcot Trust and the Friends of Roots and Shoots.*

*Above: individual designs by trainees were drawn out in the hall. The tiles were cut to fit and then the designs were laid out on the floor to the size of the external wall.*

*Right: Philip prepares the wall by rendering it. Martha and a nurse on placement are working at transferring the individual parts of the mosaic to the wall; Anna, Linda and Martha ponder the design; the final design and two details (including two famous cats).*





**Right:** Plant sales this year were consistently good, with little stock left by the autumn. Raising the plants from seed and from 'plugs', bought in from trade nursery suppliers, keeps the trainees very busy from the New Year onwards.

**Left:** The trainees visited the MCT mobile computer training bus.

**Right and Below:** Roots and Shoots have been working closely with the local community through the Friends of Lambeth Walk Open Space to improve the area of public open space outside our new side gate. A Community Planting Day sowed a meadow and planted a border. Funding is from the Cross River Partnership.



### Work Placements

Work experience placements are organised for trainees during their time at Roots and Shoots. Where possible these are tailored to the individual trainee's needs and desires. The list of this year's placements indicate the range of experience achieved:

*Pimlico Village; No Sheep Recording Studios, NI; Waterer's Ltd (landscape gardeners), W11; Vauxhall City Farm SE11; Town & Country Flowers, W1; London Wildlife Trust Garden Centre, SE15; Battersea Dog's Home, SW8; Petit Fleur, SE23; Happy Faces Nursery, SE15; Copleston Centre Nursery, SE15; Wandle Housing Association, SE16; Wandsworth Rathbone, SW18; Duke of Edinburgh Awards, SW11; Durning Library, SE11.*



### The Future

At last Roots and Shoots is in a position to be positive about the future. Our 25 year lease is now signed and secure and funding for our current activities has been realised. Through the generosity of the Focus Legacy Fund, we are now able to move towards making our dream of a new Hall Building with modern facilities a reality. The architect has been appointed and draft plans drawn up. We can now work towards a 5 year Plan and Strategy for the long term sustainable future of Roots and Shoots. The future will also see a difference in the way we deliver training. The first year will be a Life Skills programme leading into NVQ Level 1 in the second year. This will enable our young people to develop their skills and realise their potential.

**Left:** The Lambeth Corn Field was planted in January 2001 by children from Walnut Tree Walk Nursery. The crop grew better than in 2000 and we were able to harvest the crop in August. Some of the crop was taken to the school for their Harvest Assembly, the remainder was kept for seed to be planted this winter.



### Roots & Shoots

#### Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st March 2001

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2001 £	2000 £
<b>Incoming Resources:</b>				
Local Authority Grants	0	160,338	160,338	176,481
Donations	0	51,505	51,505	55,080
Investment income	556	0	556	332
Sales/Other incomes	4,138	0	4,138	14,106
	<u>4,694</u>	<u>211,843</u>	<u>216,537</u>	<u>245,999</u>
<b>Outgoing Resources:</b>				
Direct Charitable expenditure	970	197,860	198,830	242,134
Fund-raising and publicity	0	0	0	2,351
Administration & management of the Charity	0	3,311	3,311	4,615
	<u>970</u>	<u>201,171</u>	<u>202,141</u>	<u>249,100</u>
Net Movement in funds	3,724	10,672	14,396	-3,101
Balance forward	29,439	-3,186	26,253	29,354
<b>Balance at 31/3/01</b>	<u><b>33,163</b></u>	<u><b>7,486</b></u>	<u><b>40,649</b></u>	<u><b>26,253</b></u>



### Roots & Shoots

#### Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2001

Tangible Fixed Assets:	Notes	2001 £	2000 £
Fixed Assets	(11)	2,820	4,820
<b>Current Assets:</b>			
Prepayment/Debtors		21,764	38,167
Cash at bank - Current Account		1,798	29
- Deposit Account		24,853	160
		<u>48,415</u>	<u>38,356</u>
<b>Creditors - ( amounts due under 1 yea</b>	(10)	10,586	16,923
		<u>37,829</u>	<u>21,433</u>
		<u>40,649</u>	<u>26,253</u>
<b>Reserves:</b>			
Unrestricted funds	(9)	23,163	19,439
Restricted funds		7,486	-3,186
Designated Funds		10,000	10,000
		<u>40,649</u>	<u>26,253</u>

Accounts audited by Michael Bell & Co., Chartered Accountants, 56 St. James' Street, London E17 7PE.

#### Notes on the above accounts:

Any financial reserves and surplus shown will be put towards Roots and Shoots activities to meet its charitable objectives. The above balance sheet is an extract from the Roots and Shoots Accounts, they have not been qualified by the Auditor. For a full copy of the accounts please request a copy from the Manager at the registered office.



**Friends of Roots and Shoots are committed to supporting our organisation. Keep in touch through our newsletters, find out about developments and Open Days in advance. Join the Friends: 0207 587 1131**

**Roots and Shoots Ltd.,** The Vauxhall Centre, Walnut Tree Walk, Lambeth, London SE11 6DN  
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Registered Charity number 1064070/0