

1982

25th Anniversary

2007



Training young people to achieve their potential | Environmental Education for All



Roots and Shoots

Annual Review 2007

Now and then...from our official launch in September 1982 to our celebrations in 2007 Roots and Shoots has continued to grow, working with our trainees, with local communities and on our site...



2007.....1982



This year has perhaps been one of the most eventful yet as we celebrate our 25th Anniversary: HRH Prince Charles visited to 'open' the Learning Centre, Philip Moore retired as chair of trustees with a celebratory Friends party in the Apple Barn and all our events and programmes seem to have had 'added extras'. You should get a flavour of this through the pages of this review.

The main training programme for the young people is now with the Learning and Skills Council E2E (Entry to Employment) programme. This gives our trainees a 40-week course to help them move onto further education or into employment. In addition we have developed a new programme in partnership with Lambeth Education for 14-16 year old students - a 'gardening taster' course using Roots and Shoots facilities and staff.

The refurbished Wildlife Garden Study Centre provides essential space for the environmental education programme with facilities for video-microscopy workshops, lectures, films and class sessions for all ages. In the coming year it will be further improved with cedar shingles for the roof donated by HRH Prince Charles, improved heating and insulation. The Sheepdrove Trust continues to support the core costs for this work and with the expansion of our charitable objectives to formally include the 'environment' we can now apply to wider funding streams.

The launch of our new web-site this year makes it a far more efficient tool for promotion, communication and trainee recruitment. It will help with fund-raising and the involvement of the "Friends of Roots and Shoots".

We now have self-generated income through the hiring of the hall and meeting rooms, helping to cover overheads and also to employ two of our former trainees as catering assistant and receptionist. A new 5-year Business Plan, with a full strategy for development, will also help us achieve a secure financial base - essential 'root formation'.

I would like to add my personal thanks to David Sawyer (Trustee and volunteer Accountant) who has worked tirelessly behind the scenes for over 12 years keeping our financial systems and accounts on track, essential for any charity.

The walnut tree was planted in our first year, 1982. it has grown into a fine, mature tree as has, we believe, Roots and Shoots.

Linda Phillips, Founder and Manager





Training: Horticulture NVQ 1;
Retail Skills NVQ 1.
Pollarding willow by the Thames



We have again achieved excellent **outcomes** for our students, for example: Sam and Thomas with apprenticeships in Southwark Park and Holland Park; Kerry working with Design 6; several students going on to further training including Donna to the Fashion and Retail Academy and Evelyn on a management course at South Thames College. **Placements** have included: Design 6, Buckingham Palace Gardens Dept., Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, Grosvenor Estates, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, Christ Church and Upton Cafe, LUSH, Iceland, Oxfam and The London Wildlife Trust. We have a new placement at Wholefoods in their new High St. Kensington store.



Top:
In the classroom;
retail training in the R & S shop; work experience at Oxfam.

Left/above:
relaxing at the end of year trainee barbecue in the Apple Barn; interview practice and retail training.

Vocational training, 1982 - 2007



ROOTS & SHOOTS
TOP QUALITY BEDDING PLANTS AT REASONABLE PRICES
Ranging from 60p per strip Labelia, Alysson, Marigold, Petunia from 20p etc.
We are a training scheme for young people with special learning difficulties, sponsored by the Lady Margaret Hall Settlement (Reg. Charity No. 207428).
At the Vauxhall Centre, Walnut Tree Walk, London, S.E.11.
Tel. 587 1131
OPEN: Mon-Fri. 9-4, Sat. 10-1.

Ruth Mitchell,
Education
Co-ordinator
writes...



I have worked for Roots and Shoots as a trainer for around 12 years, first as a part-time teacher from Lambeth, now as co-ordinator for the vocational training. I have enjoyed being part of the journey of Roots and Shoots - a work environment that is challenging and stimulating never feels like the same job.

The current learning provision is 'holistic' - planned and developed for each individual. The City and Guilds qualifications delivered include Maths and English (3 levels available), Preparing for Employment NVQ (2 options) Level 1, Horticulture and Retail Skills NVQ Level 1. Learners also have access to Health and Fitness Level 1 (Fusion Gym), IT qualifications, First Aid and Food Hygiene.

We aim to expand our provision to reflect the aims and needs of each young person to enable them to achieve their full potential in a changing world.



2001 2002



2004 2005



Although the training at Roots and Shoots has evolved over the years and is now more complex than ever, there are nevertheless consistencies - care for the environment, physical work, team work, involvement with local communities, visits and special events - above all, variety.



2003



2006





The Roots and Shoots site in 1985/6 - beginning to reclaim the site of the Wildlife Garden, left and ready to cultivate, bottom right.

Trainee Paul Childs



Developing the site of the Wildlife Garden 1987 - 2003



1999

2001

The development of the 'back site' began in 1987 - as a more formal garden.

In 1994-5 it started its life as a Wildlife Garden, but its full development as an educational and urban biodiversity resource began to be realised from 1999.



Trainee Maggie Brennan. Maggie is still a loyal Friend and volunteer at Roots and Shoots



2002

2003

The main path layout was built in 1987 (top). A pond was added in 1989 with further projects from 1999 such as the espalier apple fence by the new apiary, the Children's Shelter and Paradise Corner (2001, built with Rob and Siriol, opened by Gay Search), the new path and gate (2002) and the Dragon's Den (with trainee, Jason 2003).





A female Leaf-cutter Bee with a piece of rose leaf for her nest



A young long-winged conehead peers from a wild marjoram leaf



Sounds of Spring



The spring science programme this year, "Sounds of Spring" was a multi-media science/art project with the children listening to and recording sounds in the garden, contributions from musicians, a film-maker, artist and a drama group. A double dvd/ cd production is available.



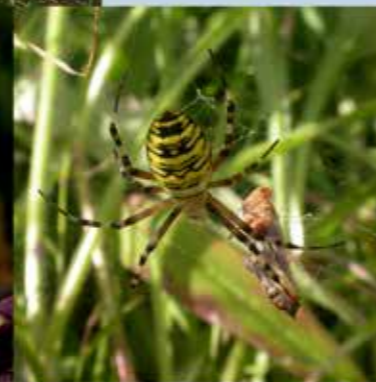
A wool carder bee shelters in a hole in one of Martha's favoured sculptural bee nest boxes.



A male Migrant Hawker dragonfly rests on an Echium stem in September.



Environmental Education and Events



The meadow was very good this year - the damp spring encouraged germination of Meadowsweet. The Bee-wolf, left, stocks its nest with paralysed honey bees; butterflies and moths had a poor year apart from Mullein moth; Common Blue; a new species for the garden this year - the Wasp Spider, expanding in southern England - poor news if you're a grasshopper!



Over 1500 school children have used the garden for their curriculum work since the last Annual Report. Even more adults are also benefiting from the Wildlife Garden as organisations such as Natural England, the Black Environment Network and the RHS use Roots and Shoots for their conferences, training and special events.



Apple pressing



The beekeeping courses run with the London Beekeepers Association continue to be very popular



Unexpected events in Kennington



Royal visits 1988 / 2007



Music Hall at Roots and Shoots. "Music Hall returns to Kennington" - a free event organised by our great friend John Hibberd



"Orchard Bounty, Roots and Shoots"



Apple Day at Roots and Shoots, 2007





"We continue to cherish our relationship with Roots and Shoots. We are so lucky to have such a wonderful resource literally on our doorstep"

*Jeanne Carabine, Headteacher
Walnut Tree Walk Primary*

The staff team top left clockwise : *Philip Moore*, Chair of Trustees, retired this year - here with *Kate Hoey MP* our patron; *David Lowick*, acting chair; *Carlene Johnson*, Catering; *Faye Slaughter*, Reception; *Amanda Rew* (r) and *Ruth Yeo*, Horticulture; *Ian Carruthers*, Employment Liaison Officer; *Ruth Mitchell*, Education Co-ordinator; *Andrew*, Cleaner and *Philip Costen*, Chef (not pictured); *Yvonne Najair-Bellinfante*, Retail; *Johanna Kenyon & Elsa Cole*, Administration; *David Sawyer*, Accounts Officer; *Linda Phillips*, Manager & *David Perkins*, Environmental/Educational Resources. We are indebted to our other trustees not shown here: *Boz Borowy*, Treasurer; *Michelle Farmer*; *Glenda King*; *Derek Nolan*; *Aster Crawshaw*; *Rev. Graham Cocking*. We are always in debt to many **Friends and volunteers**: below are some of our current partners. From left, *Arfa*, shop volunteer; *Lindsay Swan*, Promotion/Publicity; *Aude de Liedekerke*, glamorous gardener; *Mrs. Porter* and *Michael*, friends of Roots and Shoots for 25 years; *Gayle* and *David Whittingham*, our great pomological friends; *Georgina*, 'Friends' organiser; *Clive Watson*, beekeeper and supporter since 1999; *Wendy*, volunteers coordinator. **We would also like to thank** *Val Stapleton & Pam Chikoti (LSC)*, *Reen* and *Martha* for all their extra work on education in the garden; *Peggy* for the Fairs, *Catey*, *Barry*, *Brenda*, *Linda*, *Sarah* and *Raymond*.



"There is a very inspiring atmosphere here, the centre is so accessible and the sessions with David so stimulating for the children."

*Glenda King, Headteacher
Ethelred Nursery School and Trustee*

*With best wishes
and thanks
to all our Friends
and volunteers*



*Report designed by David Perkins.
Photography by David Perkins, Reen Pilkington,
Ian Carruthers, Sarah Gemein and Graham Simpson.
Printing by Hartley Reproductions Ltd., Greenhithe, Kent*

Roots and Shoots

provides vocational training for young people from the inner city, mainly from the boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark. We aim to give them the skills and self-confidence that will equip them for work.

Alongside this training we involve local schools and the wider community by establishing our site as an important green space and 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.



Roots and Shoots

funding comes from a variety of sources. We would particularly like to acknowledge the support of the Learning and Skills Council, the Big Lottery Fund, the Sheepdrove Trust, London Borough of Lambeth and Walcot & Hayles, The Lambeth Endowed Charities. We have had further assistance from The Bank of New York Mellon, ORR Mackintosh Foundation, the Western Riverside Environmental Fund (through Waterloo Green Trust), Lambeth Community Chest and the Emerton Christy Charity.

www.rootsandshoots.org.uk

Roots and Shoots, Walnut Tree Walk, Lambeth, London, SE11 6DN

020 7587 1131 fax 020 7735 0602 admin@rootsandshoots.org.uk

WALCOT & HAYLES THE LAMBETH
ENDOWED CHARITIES



Lambeth

City & Guilds

LONDON
DEVELOPMENT
AGENCY

