

# The Isabella Plantation Access Project Update

## JUNE 2011

### HLF Funding

As you may be aware, earlier this year, the Heritage Lottery Fund confirmed £164,000 for developing the Isabella Plantation Access Project to the next stage. This includes more work on design, a range of ecological and environmental studies, audience development and building partnerships. It is the intention to submit a bid for the 'delivery' stage to the HLF in February 2012.

### New Partnership and Community Engagement (PACE) Officer for Isabella Plantation

One of the key aspects of the Isabella Plantation Access Project is developing partnerships with local organisations, including key partners, The Holly Lodge Centre and the Friends of Richmond Park, as well as building links with community groups in the local area. This work will be led by the project's new worker, Hannah Pritchard, who started work in April. Hannah previously worked on the Bushy Park Heritage Lottery scheme, so is familiar with The Royal Parks and the local area. Hannah is based at Holly Lodge in Richmond Park.

## PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The project, known as **IPAP**, includes lots of opportunities for the public to find out what's going on and give their views. Following on from last summer's successful consultation events, we hope the public will come along in July and again in September to look at what is proposed, and to comment on design ideas before any detailed work takes place.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July – disabled car park gate  
12-4pm**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July – Broomfield Hill gate  
12-4pm**

There will be an exhibition of the scheme as it was submitted to the Heritage Lottery and a chance to give us your views.

By September, we hope to have developed the design further, based on public input and consultation with local groups, and will host another set of consultation days:

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September – disabled car park gate  
12-4pm**

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September – Broomfield Hill gate  
12-4pm**

There will be further consultation opportunities – announced via these Updates.



[isabella@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:isabella@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk)

**LOTTERY FUNDED**

## Project Steering Group

The project is advised by a local steering group including representatives of partner organisations and target groups as well as parks staff and other stakeholders. If you would like to know more about this group, contact us on [Isabella@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Isabella@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk).

## Isabella Plantation Appeal

To make the project happen, we have to raise match funding. We are submitting bids to a number of organisations and charities. You may also notice two new collection boxes placed in the Plantation itself, inviting members of the public to donate to the scheme. We are delighted that the response to this has been incredibly positive with many visitors giving generously. Thank you for your donations and ongoing support!

## KEEP IN TOUCH

The Isabella Plantation Access Project will be running over the next three years, and we are happy to keep you up to date with how it's progressing.

- If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, let us know.
- If you know others who might be interested, do feel free to pass this information on.
- If you want more information for your organisation or just because you are interested, contact us.
- If you DO NOT wish to continue to receive this newsletter by email please tell us.

**Contact us:**

**[Isabella@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Isabella@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk)**

### ***The Isabella Plantation Access Project ...***

#### ***Access Improvements***

- *Resurfacing and redesign of disabled users car park and approach road*
- *Improved entrance gates*
- *Resurfacing and upgrade of the exiting path network to provide a variety of more accessible routes*

#### ***Visitor Facilities***

- *New sustainably built facilities including toilet, shelter and seating*
- *Modernisation of existing toilet block to make it accessible for all users*
- *Upgrades to the exiting motorised wheelchair service*

#### ***Environmental and Ecological Improvements***

- *Desilting of ponds*
- *A new more sustainable water storage and irrigation system collecting water from the Park's natural supply*
- *Reed beds*

#### ***Community Activities***

- *The creation of a Partnership and Community Engagement Officer to work with local charities, schools and user groups to develop walks, talks, volunteer schemes and conservation opportunities.*