



Corporate Volunteering with Hammersmith Community Gardens & Phoenix School Farm



A miniature garden made by the team at IMG for children at Queens Manor Primary School in October 2015.



A team from Willis joined us in September to help develop the Over 50's Garden at the White City Community Centre.



Wates building new raised beds

HCGA worked with over 200 corporate volunteers last year...that's over 1000 hours of volunteer time donated! We are now taking bookings for 2016 and have some exciting projects planned; including making an African key hole garden at Phoenix School Farm, bulb planting on the White City Estate and maintaining school garden sites to improve their wildlife and vegetable gardens.

What Makes a Successful Corporate Day

Having delivered successful CSR Challenges for over three years, we know that the following components are important to ensure that the day runs smoothly and is an enjoyable experience for all those involved.

1. Adequate booking notice to allow us time to organise appropriate sites and activities and plan staff and equipment.

for HCGA's volunteer projects at the Glasshouses in Ravenscourt Park.

If you haven't yet visited HCGA and you'd like to know a bit more about our work, we've had a short video made which showcases what we do. Please take a few minutes to watch it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLAFvzczDp4>

We are a charity and donations are vital to the work we do in the local community. If you are able to give a small donation you can do so [online](#). Thank you.



2. A site visit from the member of staff within the company/organisation who is in charge of booking/organising the day, to become familiar with the site and the planned projects for the group is preferable.
3. Detailed information provided by HCGA prior to the day, including a time plan, what to wear, staff contact details, site address and map.
4. Information from company/organisation on group numbers for the day and any specific dietary requirements. Having this information a month before the day allows adequate time for planning and preparation.
5. Homemade cake and prizes always feature at the end of the day!



A vegetable garden built at a local pre-school, in July 2015 by volunteers from Arriva

Our sites are used daily by the community and we run several programmes working

with people who are long-term unemployed, have health issues or are carers. The sites we manage are precious green space for many people who do not have access to a garden. The work of corporate volunteer groups really does make a difference as we are able to complete large tasks which we simply do not have the manpower to do otherwise.

The donations we are given for the volunteering days are essential in order to cover the staff time needed to prepare for the day, extra staff members required on the day itself, extra tools and materials. Any surplus is used to pay for trips to the countryside for low-income and socially isolated families, so a big thank you from them too!



What you said about us

Below are comments from individuals who attended a corporate volunteer day with HCGA this year.

"Much fun was had by all. Honestly could not fault the day."

"I really enjoyed our day – it was so relaxed and just a joy to be outdoors for a change. I got to know the new members in our division in a very relaxed and natural way."

"The staff were lovely and it was great hearing about the history of the farm."

"One of my favourite parts was eating fresh produce grown on the farm."

100% of those who responded to our feedback questionnaire said that they would like to work with HCGA again in the future.

If you're interested in volunteering with us in 2016 please email info@hcga.org.uk or call 07773 348 294.

Thank you to Team London for supporting HCGA and Phoenix School Farm's corporate volunteering programme.



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