4th July 2023

Grass & grassland management



Parks for London

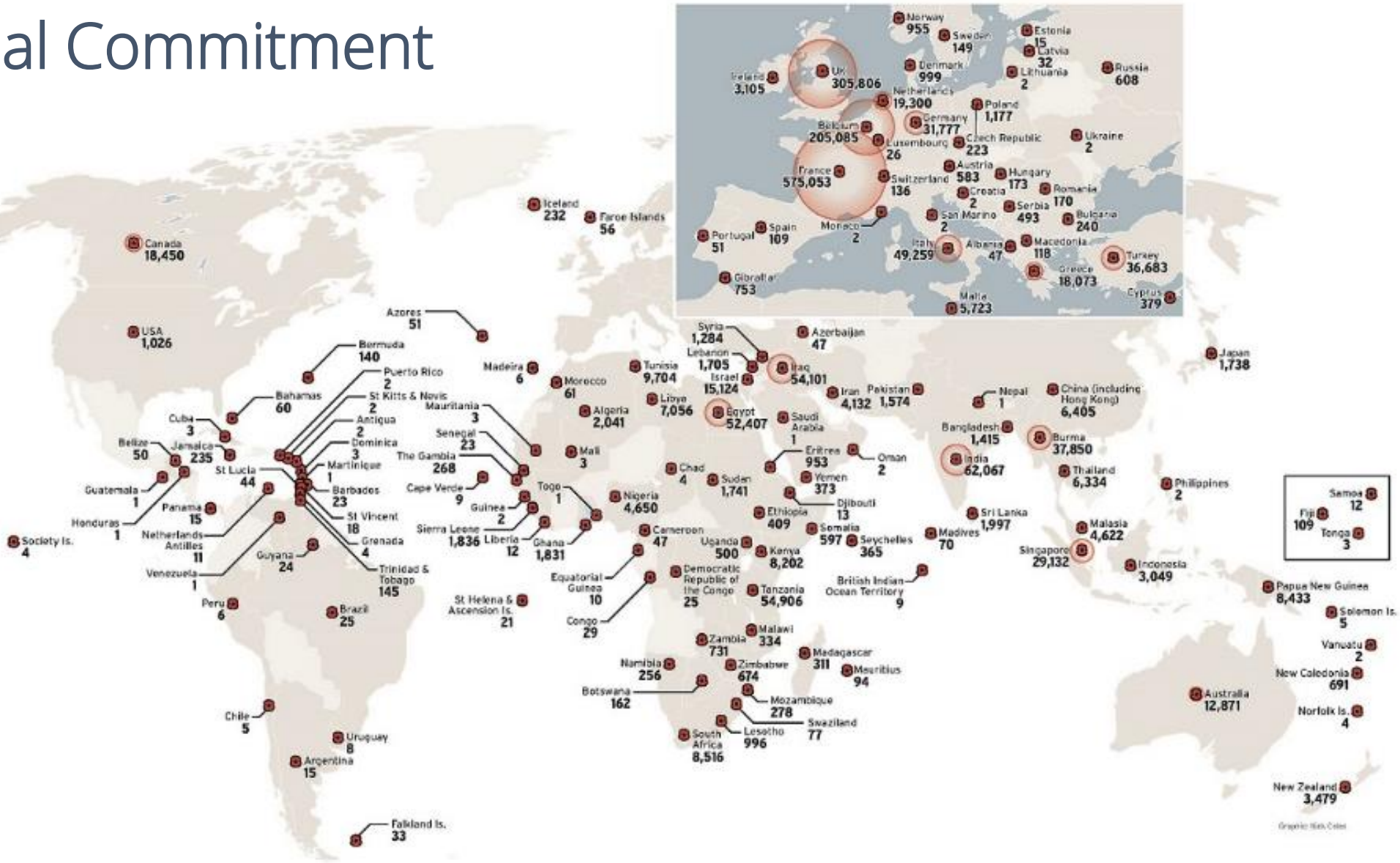
London Parks Benchmarking Group

COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES

Extensive high-quality grassland around war graves

CWGC, Marcus Forster

A Global Commitment











Change of approach

Approaches are changing across the estate to operate more sustainably

The style and management of turf, traditionally intensively managed is part of that change

The aims:

- Increase biodiversity
- Manage effects of climate change
- Reduce water usage
- Create efficiencies in operation
- Reduce use of chemicals
- Reduce fossil fuels
- Appropriate to local landscape

Managing our grassland

Changing standards

Traditionally managed fine/amenity turf areas

- Minimal, targeted chemical use
- IPM / IWM approach
- Tolerance of fine leaved species
- Mowing height
- Mowing regime
- Improved turf management approach
- Training and skill development

Zoning in sites

Areas for change, what can we do differently?

- Suitable spaces outside the burial plots
- Changing the principal surface
- In keeping with local landscape
- What are other organisations doing
- Planting opportunities
- Enviromental sustainability benifets
- Workforce efficiency potentials

Managing the change

- Public perception
- Buy in from teams and management
- Key stakeholder communication
- Changes to aesthetics and ‘feel’
- Fitting into the local landscape
- Biodiversity opportunities
- Impact to views, vistas

- Signage and information boards
- Changes to equipment
- Upskilling and training
- Accessibility issues
- Damage to historic stone and features
- Quantifying results
- Informing next steps

…a change to a stereotype while still inspiring and delighting

Gallipoli, Turkey



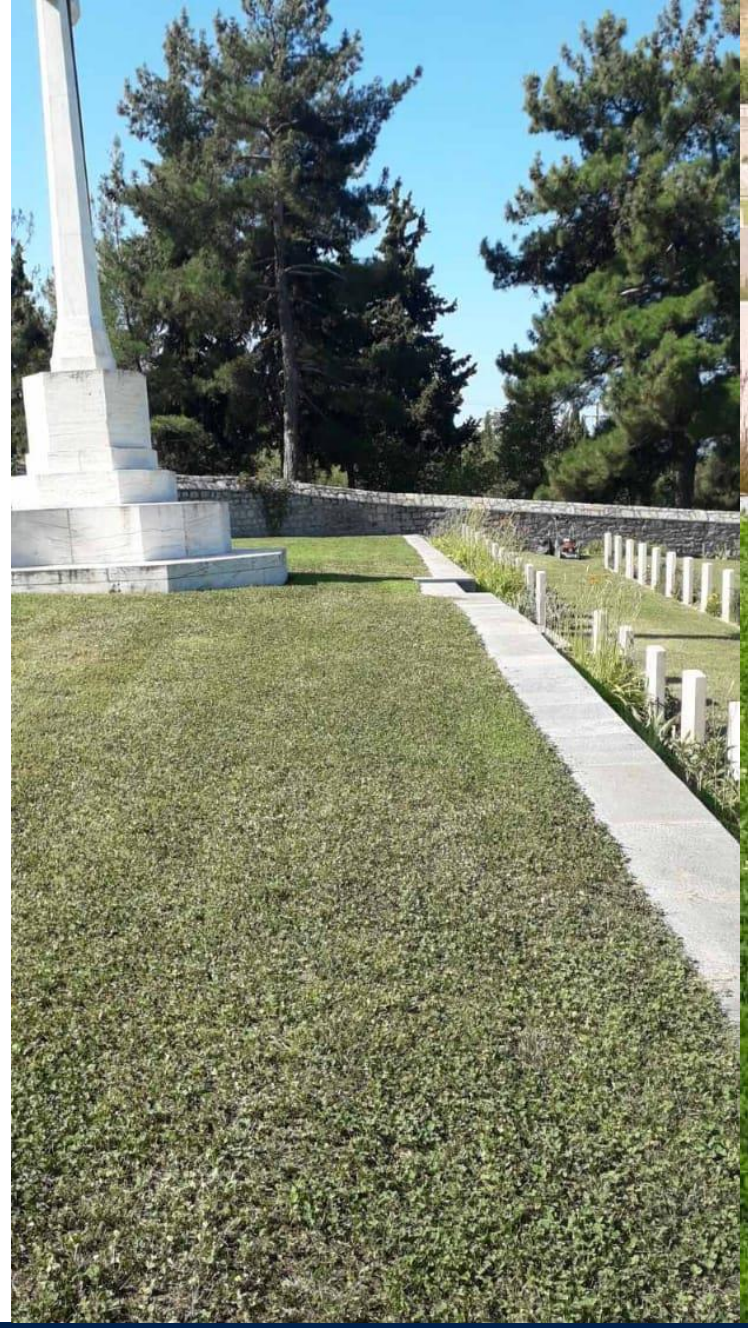




Trials and research

Micro-clover lawn

Kirechoi, Greece





Different approaches

Zoning irrigation areas

Thanbyuzayat, Myanmar



Concept designs









Ecoivres Military Cemetery, France



Ecoivres Military Cemetery, France



Vailly British Cemetery, France













Railway Dugouts, Belgium



COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES

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Visit our Resources Hub

https://parksforlondon.org.uk/resource/managing-grass



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