



**DULWICH
PARK
FRIENDS**

Newsletter

Autumn/Winter 2009

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MEMBERS – DPF NEEDS YOUR HELP!

1. Could you be our next fair co-ordinator?

Next year's Dulwich Park Fair is on Sunday 16 May and will coincide with the park's 150th anniversary celebrations. DPF is seeking a volunteer, perhaps someone who has recently retired, to help co-ordinate the Fair alongside park manager Paul Highman. It's fun, you meet lots of new people, organise stallholders and entertainers, and there's plenty of other help. Current co-ordinators Robert & Liz Johnson are moving out of London, but they'll be around enough to show you the ropes. Work on the Fair starts in February and ends in May. If you'd like to find out what's involved, call Robert & Liz on 020 8693 2034 or email chair@dulwichparkfriends.org.uk



2. Calling all photographers ...

Are you an keen photographer with a high-spec camera and tripod? Would you be willing to photograph certain viewpoints in the park at different times of the year, and events, Dig the Park, weather conditions, natural phenomena and so on? We want to create a pictorial 'year in the life of Dulwich Park' for next year's 150th anniversary celebrations, 'in Bloom' competitions, promoting the park and so on. If you're interested contact Trevor Moore at trevoramoores@aol.com or tel. 07967 000546.



'Tree o'clock' and Dig the Park - Sat 5 Dec

As our contribution to [BBC's Breathing Spaces 'Tree O'Clock'](#) initiative on 5 December, DPF's Dig the Park event will be helping to plant fruit trees to become Dulwich Park's community orchard – apples, pears, plums, cherries and nut trees. Come along and join Dig the Park between 10-1pm – equipment and refreshments will be provided. From 11-12pm we'll be joining the efforts of thousands of other groups trying to set a new world record for the Guinness Book of Records by planting one million trees in an hour. Most of the digging will have been done in advance so all we have to do is put the trees in the holes and fill them in!



Christmas Market & park open day - Sun 6 Dec

The Pavilion Café's Christmas Market will be held on Sunday 6 December, 9.30am-3pm, with lots of lovely things to buy, and seasonal refreshments on offer.

There will be another Dulwich Park open day alongside the market, enabling visitors to meet the people who help to make the park what it is – the park manager and his team, Quadron (gardening and maintenance), the community wardens, safer neighbourhoods team, DPF, Dulwich Going Greener, the Recumbents, Whippersnappers (who will be in College Lodge next summer) and others. Whether you have bouquets or brickbats, come and talk to us.

Anonymous reporting

Regrettably, more muggings have been reported in the park, especially by schoolchildren of other schoolchildren. Young people don't like 'telling tales' and can be afraid of the consequences, so the East Dulwich Safer Neighbourhoods Team has instigated an anonymous reporting system which enables everyone to report crime, suspects or suspicious behaviour to the police in total confidence. Look out for signs on lampposts in East Dulwich and around the park. Alternatively, call the Safer Neighbourhoods Team on 020 8721 2447 (always use 999 in an emergency) or email eastdulwich.snt@met.police.uk

Outdoor gym



The park's new outdoor gym for adults and young people (11+), paid for with the council's Cleaner, Safer, Greener (CGS) funding following DPF's successful submission, will be installed early next year. Samples are shown in the photos. There will be 13 items of equipment on the far side of

the east lawns: air skier, air walker, sit-up boards, cross trainer, hip twister, pull-down challenger, push-up and dip station, two



self-weighted rowers, seated leg press, seated chest press, rider and triple pull-up. Many items allow more than one person to use them at a time, making exercise more sociable. Soon you'll be able to work out in the fresh air!



Vegetable garden update

Work on the vegetable garden at the back of Rosebery Lodge has unfortunately been on hold for several months because of squatters. They have been evicted and work can recommence to provide an attractive, accessible, educational resource in the park to encourage people to 'grow their own'. Many hands make light work, so if you can help, please contact David Smart at smart194@btinternet.com or 020 7733 8335.

Boating: disappointing news

Regrettably, plans to bring back boats to the lake in Dulwich Park have fallen through. DPF is continuing to lobby the council to seek a boating concession for next summer, and the CGS funding for a boathouse will be carried over until next year.

Winter garden walk – Sun 31 Jan

Isaac Marks and Stella Benwell, who established the park's winter garden in 2002, will lead a walk taking in its delightful fragrance and colour on Sunday 31 January 2010 at 11.45am. Meet at the winter garden. Everyone welcome.

Dulwich wins silver in Britain in Bloom

Dulwich won a silver award in the Urban Community category in the RHS Britain in Bloom competition - a fantastic achievement. We'd like to thank our sponsors Dulwich Audi, Robert Pope Opticians, Biff, The Dental Practice in Dulwich Village, Café Rouge, Pizza Express, Romeo Jones, Pavilion Café and London Recumbents, and our volunteers, especially Sian Evans and Judith Gardiner who did sterling work helping to clear weeds and litter from the pavements in the village at the very last minute!



Planting the park

Following discussions with the head gardener and park manager, this year's CGS funding for further planting will be used for more small bulbs (winter aconites and chionodoxa) in the grass bays along Snake's Lane, and for improving the herbaceous borders.

New security system

Security for the main gates in Dulwich Park (and all other Southwark parks) is being changed to a more secure system. Keys can only be obtained from park manager Paul Highman in the Francis Peek Centre. If you have held keys in the past, please contact Paul.

Please check you've paid

Please make sure that you have paid your subscription this year (£5 families, £3 individuals). Even better, sign a standing order so that you don't need a reminder.

Help us save costs

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Contact us

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