



**DULWICH
PARK
FRIENDS**

June 2011 e-update

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Next Dig the Park, Sat 2 July, 10am-1pm: rose pruning masterclass

Pruning the roses around the bowling green in the park is quite a task for the gardeners, so we decided to turn it into a learning process for anyone who might be interested. Nathan Mills, part of the Quadron gardening team, has agreed to demonstrate how to get the best from your hybrids, climbers and floribundas using the bowling green roses. Meet at 10am this Saturday, 2 July by the bowling green. Please bring secateurs and gloves if you have them – a limited number will be available to borrow. *Please note, there will be no Dig the Park event in August.*



Young Friends of Parks

Some good news in spite of the cost-cutting: Southwark has re-engaged Groundwork to run the borough-wide Young Friends of Parks (YFP) programme, which targets 13-19 year-olds. There will be occasional events in Dulwich Park and we'll tell you about these in our updates. If you have any ideas for youth events in parks which can be promoted via YFP, please contact me (and see the item below about the proposed 'Light' event later in the year).

***The Wicker Man*: cinema in the park, Sunday 24 July - doors open 8pm**

Nomad open air cinema will be showing that folk-horror classic *The Wicker Man* in the park the evening of 24 July. Find out more and buy tickets online at <http://www.wherethenomad.com/events/outdoor-cinema-wicker-man-dulwich-park-london/>.

Capture the Park photo project

Thanks to the efforts of Denis Hebden, we now have a website for park-related photos. Take a look at www.capturethepark.co.uk. There is still work to be done on the site, but it is well worth a visit. As you will see, Denis has uploaded a number of archive photographs of the park and the local area. Do please submit your own photographs of the park – uploading to the site is simple. Remember, an everyday photo taken today can become the social document of tomorrow. Later in the year the 'Then & Now' project will be launched for people to take photos of the same locations as the archive pictures, to give a modern spin on the same subject.

Reed planting on Tuesday 5 and Thursday 7 July

Working with the Trust for Urban Ecology (TRUE), DPF will be planting reeds and other aquatic plants near the boardwalk on 5 & 7 July. The aim is to create denser plant growth to encourage more birds to nest, as well as tidying up the fallen debris. Reed warblers have been spotted in the park but so far none have nested. Perhaps the extra reeds will encourage these picky birds. If you can come along – we need as much help as we can get – please contact me for details.

Southwark 'Light' event

In November, Southwark is planning a major event aimed at young people to celebrate light, as a welcome counter to traditional firework displays. One aim is to identify a theme that will encourage local schools and young people to take part, producing illuminated structures as part of a parade that will terminate in the park. Emergency Exit Arts have been engaged by Southwark as consultants to the project – see <http://www.eea.org.uk/> for examples of their imaginative productions. The Southwark Events team is consulting DPF as the project develops. If you would like contribute or provide practical help on the night, please contact me.

Rubbish - again

You may have noticed that the improved weather has raised the hardy perennial of poor rubbish collection. DPF continues to press for a different approach to this, including bigger bins, later collections etc. Larger mesh bins have been ordered by the contractor and we need to see how they work in practice. If they fail, our goal is to have large paladins with lids. There seems to be a large number of people who think it is fine to leave their picnic rubbish strewn around in the park, sadly. But it is difficult to mount an education campaign if the disposal facilities are patently inadequate.

Allied to this, Southwark is proposing to remove dog bins from the borough over time, encouraging people to use general purpose bins instead. It doesn't take much imagination to picture how unpleasant that could be if the rubbish collection arrangements are not rationalised.

I hope you have a lovely summer. As always, feel free to contact me at any time on park-related issues.

Regards

Trevor Moore

Chair, Dulwich Park Friends

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