



**DULWICH
PARK
FRIENDS**

March 2011 e-update

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We need your help! Dig the Park, Saturday 2 April, 10am-12pm

As you may know, we hold an event for volunteers the first Saturday of most months called Dig the Park. The next one is this Saturday 2 April from 10am-1pm. To use the last of our 2010 Cleaner, Safer, Greener funding, we have acquired 500 perennials to put into the park borders. As there are so many, we need you to help us! It isn't just about digging the holes, it's also putting the plants in, firming them down and watering them. Do come along - tools and gloves will be provided. Meet in the car park outside the Francis Peek Centre at 10am. If you'd prefer to come later there will be a notice and map on the door showing where we are working. Children especially welcome – they can come back later in the year to see the beautiful display they created!



Formal opening of College Lodge

Whippersnappers (<http://www.whippersnappers.org>), the new tenants of College Lodge, will mark the launch of their new Community Arts Centre in the building on Saturday 2 April too. Bringing the lodge back into use is a welcome revival of a key park building. In the meantime, efforts continue, led by The Dulwich Society, to bring about the refurbishment of Rosebery Lodge (on the opposite side of the park) for community use.

Impact of the cuts

The council has been consulting Friends groups including DPF about their proposed cuts to the parks budget. Although parks must bear their share of the load, the proposed cuts are less severe than in other services. This was a council policy decision, recognising that open spaces play a key role in community life. Dulwich Park Friends has given its feedback and we await the result, but we are optimistic that the impact on Dulwich Park will not be severe. However, the council's Cleaner, Greener, Safer scheme has fallen victim to the cuts. DPF has made several successful bids for this funding in recent years (the outdoor gym and numerous horticultural projects included) and we are now seeking ways of filling the gap. Any ideas welcome.

DPF Annual General Meeting, Thursday 27 April – please support us

Members are invited to our AGM at 7pm on Thursday 27 April in the Francis Peek Centre (the community building adjacent to the car park). Come and hear what we've been doing over the past year and what our plans are for the next 12 months. We are always on the lookout for new committee members, but we'd welcome your support at the AGM anyway. The meeting lasts about an hour and questions are welcome. Afterwards you can join us for a glass of wine and a chat.

Let me know what you think!

If you have any concerns or ideas about the park, feel free to email me at chair@dulwichparkfriends.org.uk or call me on 07967 000546.

Trevor Moore

Chair, Dulwich Park Friends