



**DULWICH
PARK
FRIENDS**

May 2011 e-update

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Dulwich Park Fair

Despite the cool breezy weather, Dulwich Park Fair proved a resounding success on 15 May, with traders reporting much better business than last year. It may or may not be evidence of the Big Society, but proves yet again how the community and the local authority can work together successfully. Huge thanks are due to the park manager Paul Highman and, from our own committee, Emily Montague, who organised the children's attractions (Punch & Judy, magician, Vauxhall City Farm) as well as the programme of music and dance on the small stage. Our thanks to everyone who helped out at the event. The birds of prey display took an unexpected turn when a young kestrel released on a flight around the park nearly met its end after being attacked by a gaggle of crows.

Rosebery Lodge

The proposed refurbishment of part of Rosebery Lodge is close to commencing, after a small hiccup on funding that should soon be addressed. The primary benefit will be to the Dulwich Vegetable Garden (DVG) at the rear of the building, which will have access to toilet facilities (including disabled use) and a small kitchen. The DVG is a wildlife-friendly, disability-friendly community fruit and vegetable garden which encourages people to learn how to 'grow their own'. If you would like to see the garden or join the volunteers, work sessions are held every Wednesday and Sunday, 10.30-12.30.

Green Chain Walk

Last year Dulwich Park was officially added as a link in the Green Chain Walk that runs from Erith in the east through to Dulwich Park in the west (details at <http://www.greenchain.com>). Later this year DPF is planning an organised walk of part of the Green Chain. If you would like to help, please contact Trevor Moore.

Annual General Meeting

We had a magnificent turnout for our AGM – thanks to all who attended. In practice, the event is a review of the year, with the formal AGM business taking only a few minutes. So next year we will promote it as such to try and attract an even bigger audience. Our thanks to Edward Mayer of Swift Conservation, who gave a fascinating presentation about supporting the swift population. By the way, not only are our swift boxes in situ on College Lodge, if you listen carefully you can hear the swift calls being broadcast from the building to attract the birds to nest there.

Dig the Park

There will be no 'Dig' in June as the ground is too hard and dry. Details for the July event will be in the next e-letter.

Regards

Trevor Moore

Chair, DPF

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