

FROM THE PARK BENCH



Summer Newsletter – August 2007

A 'slightly damp' welcome to you all

Whilst the weather has been unseasonably wet, you cannot help but smile as you enter the well watered recreation ground at the moment. The grass is gleaming & luscious and the flowers look increasingly pleased with themselves as their thirst is met with a regular delivery of rainfall. The dog walkers continue to carry out their daily routines around the park and the children still gather in the playground (as long as mum is equipped with a towel to dry the swings). The 'great British summer' lives on in the rec!

Successful bid

From the results of a survey conducted amongst regular users of Croydon Road Recreation Ground about improvements people would like to see, the Friends, aided by Louisa Allen our LBB Friends' Liaison Officer, submitted an application for funds to enable us to host and assist other host events to the National Lottery Awards For All scheme. We are pleased to announce the success of the application and the award from the scheme of almost £5000.



As well as providing funds for infrastructure and other items that will enable the Friends to provide equipment for our and others events, part of the award will be used to fund a number of community events in the coming months. JS

Let us entertain you

Come join us for an afternoon of FREE family fun and music at the bandstand in the Croydon Road Recreation Ground from 2pm on Sunday 2nd September. Sit and enjoy music from the Don Steele Jazz band. Relax while the children are entertained by Punch & Judy and an entertainer from the Big Hand company. If the weather's nice, bring a picnic and make a day of it!

There are a limited number of seats available on a first come, first served basis.

Changes in the Rec

Long awaited notice board

When the Friends group was formed; it was our earnest wish to have a notice board. Attempts to raise the money to meet the cost were unsuccessful but at long last a board has been installed close to the café and Information Centre. We are grateful to London Borough of Bromley Environmental Services for its provision. It will be used to advise and inform, but at the same time reflect the views of the Friends members and the public at large. Please feel free to provide us with (a) your thoughts on improvements you would like to see in the park and (b) contributions which you wish to share with others. We shall endeavour to post them on the board and also keep it up to date. BH

Flying the flag of excellence in parks

To recognise the valuable contributions made by the Friends of Bromley parks and open spaces participating groups have been presented with a People for Parks flag to fly in their park, certificates and an in kind contribution to recognise their valuable work. We hope to have the new flag on display shortly on the mast by the main entrance. This reflects the input of several people whose contributions have shown that, in the words of the People for Parks literature, "friends make a difference". BH

Floral fluctuations

Of course our flower beds have marked the change in season and look very colourful. They were at their very best when the judges of the London in Bloom competition came to Croydon Road Recreation Ground as part of their inspection of the Borough's offering for the competition in the second week of July. BH

News from recent committee meeting

New climbing frame

Yet another fantastic piece of equipment for younger users of the playground has been delivered and is awaiting installation. The apparatus is scheduled for installed early September so as not to avoid closure of the playground during the school holidays.

Beckenham Beacon

Before the end of 2007 the new Beckenham hospital phase one construction will be complete and services will commence from the new build. The area the temporary hospital has occupied will then be returned to the park.

Historic imagery

To aid the work the Friends hope to initiate in the coming months (and years) need to collect photographic evidence of how the park has looked since it's opening in 1890. We have some material from the local library and from English Heritage, but the best source will be from local people. Please send copies, paper and digital to friends@becrec.net or The Friends of the Croydon Road Recreation Ground, c/o 142 Parish Lane, London SE20 7JH

Update on membership

Since we last wrote our membership numbers have been on the rise. We now have 26 families and 23 single memberships totalling 7 new members since March.

If you know someone who would like to become a member, please post the attached form to The Membership Secretary, The Friends of the Croydon Road Recreation Ground, 19 Clock House Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 4JS. Cheques payable to: The Friends of the Croydon Road Recreation Ground.

Name

Address

Telephone E-mail

Individual membership: £3.00 Family membership: £5.00 Organisational membership: £10

Please feel free to contact us via our website www.becrec.net