

# FROM THE PARK BENCH



Spring newsletter – spring 2008

## A New Year, a New Contract

We are now well into the New Year and English Landscapes have now begun their new grounds maintenance contract. English Landscapes are now responsible for the grounds maintenance in the whole Bromley borough. At the AGM in November some concern was expressed by members regarding security in the park. We have now included some useful contact numbers and would suggest adding these to your mobile phones in case of any emergencies.

## News bites

- At long last the fence on the Sainsbury's side of the park has been mended.
- As requested by the committee, the ornamental gazebo in the middle of the park has now been painted and looks great!
- The small toilet block adjacent to the playground has been re-opened due to the closure of the main block due to fire damage. We will endeavour to request that it is always re-opened during school holidays.

## Music events



The music event in September was a great success with over 150 people enjoying the free music, entertainment and Punch and Judy. We still have some money left to spend and intend to put on another event during the summer. Keep an eye out for further information.

## Old land returns to the recreation ground

The temporary hospital buildings have now been removed (on schedule) from the space loaned to Bromley NHS trust by the park and work has begun on returning them for public use.

## Cornelian Cherries

Midwinter 2008 was the time to see nine dogwood bushes in full flower in the park with their delicate yellow blossoms in little clusters on the leafless branches. Seven bushes are along the southern boundary with Whitmore Rd behind and two are by the rose garden near the Village Way entrance. We will soon see the typical dogwood leaves with their prominent curving veins and towards the end of the summer there will be berries resembling cherries. Yes, we can eat them safely and make excellent jam. Have you noticed Cornelian cherries anywhere else in Beckenham? If so, please let us know. (Pat Manning)

## Useful contact numbers

Landscape helpdesk:	020 8313 4471
Building maintenance helpdesk:	020 8461 7457
Grounds maintenance - English Landscapes:	020 8313 4438
Allotment and delegated sports enquiries:	020 8461 7520
Graffiti removal hotline:	020 8313 4557
Park security. Ward Security:	0845 847 6180
Park Services Response Team:	01689 862815
Council out of hours contact:	020 8464 4848

## Information centre

Did you know that the recreation ground has its own information centre? It is situated next to the main toilet block just behind the friend's notice board. Unfortunately there is no longer anyone to open it at key times during the year. We are looking for members to man the information centre between the months of April and October. There is not too much involved, just being on hand to answer any simple queries and handing out history and information leaflets to interested passers by. Can you commit to a couple of hours? If so, please email deb\_hoods@hotmail.com or telephone 07970 732995. Your time would be appreciated.

## Membership fees due

If you have not yet renewed your membership fees, please send a cheque to the address below, The Membership Secretary, The Friends of the Croydon Road Recreation Ground, 19 Clock House Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 4JS.

Please make cheques payable to 'The Friends of the Croydon Road Recreation Ground'.

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Name.....

Address.....

Telephone.....Email.....

Membership fee: Individual £3.00    Family £5.00    Organisation £10.00

**Please feel free to contact us via our website [www.becrec.net](http://www.becrec.net)**