

FRIENDS OF RAPHAEL & LODGE FARM PARKS

Picture of the Season

“The Friends Can Finally Celebrate”
Raphael Park has won the Lottery !!

July 2011



Coming Events

**Monday
11th July
7:30-9pm** Please join us in Raphael Park Lodge for our Summer Meeting and see the preliminary plans for yourself.

**1st Tuesday
each month
10am** Fresh air, exercise and feel good, all in just an hour! We meet at Raphael's café, with all tools supplied.

**Sunday
24th July
1-6pm** “Concert in the Park” Featuring 3 live bands, Hog Roast, Chinese Food, Beer, Wine & Pimm's Marquee. See overleaf for full details.



HERITAGE LOTTERY BREAKING NEWS

We are absolutely delighted to announce our Heritage Lottery Park Regeneration and Enhancement Stage II Application has been successful and that the Heritage Lottery has awarded Raphael Park with £1,787,700.00

In addition to this we can confirm further funding has been awarded.

Raphael Park is to receive a staggering £ 2663,365.00 refurbishment !

We held our final Project Board Meeting on the 5th May, the meeting being held very fittingly in The Lodge, Raphael Park. The HLF Trustee's, Parks Services and The Friends, discussed the Application and both Activity and Conservation Management Plans, for 2 or so hours, we then left The Lodge and proceeded with an on-site inspection. This was a great opportunity to discuss each of the proposals, and enable the Heritage Lottery Trustees to really understand our application, and see what a huge impact the proposed refurbishment would have on the park. Mr. Wesley Kerr (HLF London Chairman) was very keen to ensure the integrity of the park remained. We feel the HLF's care to attention in preserving the historical and ecological values, will ensure all aspects of the regeneration will be done with a great deal of care and attention.

Our many, many thanks to Don Stewart, Martin Stanton and Geoff Pepper of Havering Park Services, to Chris Blandford Associates, our sponsors A.C. Preou Ltd and most importantly the Volunteers and Supporters of The Friends of Raphael & Lodge Farm Park . We are very proud and over the moon that all of our hard work has finally paid off.

“A Huge Thank You” to Heritage Lottery, Veolia and the London Borough of Havering for ensuring that the Raphael Park story will continue for many, many years to come.

Bird Watchers & Wildlife Photographers

Thanks to Susan for sending this fabulous photo of this grey squirrel nibbling his nuts!

If you would like to send your photos taken in Raphael's or Lodge Farm Park. Please email: www.forflp.org/contact_us, we'll publish the best of them in our next newsletter.



News in Brief

Website: www.forlfp.org.uk or Contact us: www.forlfp.org/contact_us

3rd Gidea Park Scouts & Raphael's

On the 16 June Len met with 20 scouts and 4 leaders from the 3rd Gidea Park Scout Group at Raphael's Lodge. After a brief history of the park and safety check, half the lads armed with gardening tools set to work tidying up the flower beds. While the others armed with litter pickers, black sacks and a great deal of determination, started to clear the park of litter. Some 2 hours later, at 9.00p.m the boys returned to The Lodge for some well earn biscuits and squash, knowing that they were a step closer to earning their Community Badge. But not happy to settle with that, 26 Beavers of the 3rd Gidea Park Beaver Group joined Len for a litter pick a few weeks later.

Our many thanks, to the Scout Leaders and boys and girls for all their help.

Heritage Walks – Update

Following a secured funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund the council set up a project to focus on specific historical areas of Havering

to produce self-guided walks with accompanying literature. We were approached by Havering Heritage Walks Regeneration Dept. and were asked to take part, Len agreed to join the team and concentrate on GIDEA PARK-GARDEN SUBURB. Over a period of 3 months he has been on research trips with the group which has included Hyland House, Royal Institute of British Architecture, London Museum, Havering Museum, and the Queens theatre. Len has now completed his training and submitted his brief to get this project off ground. So watch out for the next historic walk around Gidea Park.

Catch of the Month

Is this a leather carp? Please let us know. www.forlfp.org/contact_us



Music In The Park

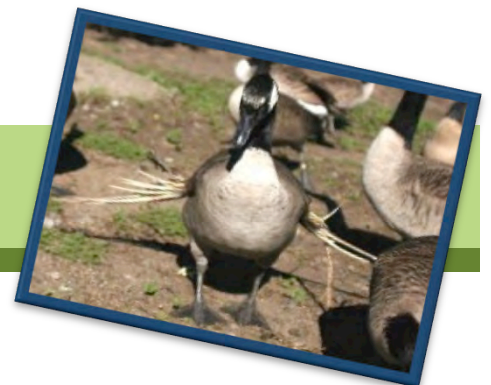
We invite you to join us, on what we hope to be a "Sizzling Summers Afternoon, In the Park", with live bands, beer, wine and Pimm's marquee, freshly cooked vegetarian and non-vegetarian Chinese food, Hog Roast and the Café serving hot & cold snacks, soft drinks, tea and coffee and the all important ice-cream! Not forgetting the little ones, we have a family fun fair too!!

So why not take the afternoon off and enjoy a lazy Sunday afternoon in Raphael's Park.

If all that wasn't a good enough reason to join us. Entry is absolutely FREE!!

If you have any items that you could spare for our tombola stall, please contact Len on: 01708 742888.

We are a not for profit organisation and all the proceeds go back into the park.



Bird Watch – Canada Geese

Bread and Canada Geese

Talking to a well informed bird watcher recently, we have learnt that you should never feed geese or any waterfowl old moldy bread. When geese eat the bread they inhale spores, which cause a lung infection. Bread and other high protein foods can also cause a condition known as angel wing (see photo above, note not taken in Raphael Park) A goose with angel wing cannot fly, they are then unable to migrate and also making them terribly vulnerable to predators. Please feed grains & corn rather than bread, as bread has little nutritional value as well as being harmful. When feeding the geese and ducks please consider other park users, feed them away from walking paths. Most people don't like their poop. Feed them on the grass close to the water, try not throw the cracked corn or bread into the water as this has a tendency to sink to the bottom and in the heat of summer, the accumulated food could become toxic.

We know feeding our ducks and geese is what we all like to do and most of have done since we were children. It's a great way of getting closer to nature and teaching children to respect the environment. If you want to feed them bread, please break it into crumbs, so when it does go in the water it's not quite as harmful to the animals and fish feeding on it. We and the Animals would really appreciate your kind consideration, yours truly, The Friends