# FRIENDS OF RAPHAEL & LODGE FARM PARKS

## WINTER NEWSLETTER

## COMING EVENTS

January 2012

Monday 27 <sup>TH</sup> February	Friends Meeting Romford Town Hall, Room 1B 7-30 to 9pm
1 <sup>ST</sup> Tuesday each month	Litter Pick. We look forward to seeing you at the park Café at 10am
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday each month	Litter Pick, We look forward to seeing you at the Playground at 10am
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Spring Quiz with a Fish 'n'Chip Supper.



# Friends News

#### Quiz's Raising Money & Having Fun

After two very successful quiz nights during 2011, we are delighted to announce we raised a whopping £2000! Lots of fun was had by all, with the winners going home happy in the knowledge that they were No.1, the prize a case of wine to celebrate. Both evenings were held in St.Michaels Church Hall with a Fish and Chip supper. Our many thanks, to all who took part.

#### **Official Friends Status**

We are busy compiling our application for this Friends Group award for 2012. Fingers crossed we achieve status for the 4<sup>th</sup> year running.

#### Woodland Picnic Area

We were delighted to learn just before Christmas that we had been awarded £5000 in the Official Friends park project competition. We have met with the wood carvers and look forward to start work on our picnic area later this year. We'll finally be bringing Percy the Park keeper back to the park!

#### Music in the Park 2012

The Marquee's are booked, bands & funfair confirmed, plans are well underway for another great concert, we have also teamed up with Sport for Havering who are hosting a fun run and fun sports activities taking place on the sports field throughout the day. Roll on Summer!

We hope you've enjoyed our news round up, Yours Truly, The Friends

### 'Well Done to our Winter Quiz Winners" The Old Baily's"

Anyone wishing to share their photo's taken in Raphael Park or

Lodge Farm Park, please email them to julia@forlfp.org.uk



#### NEWS FROM THE LITTER PICK TEAM

Fresh Air, Exercise and Feel Good, all this in just an hour and free! We provide litter picking tools and sacks. All we need is you. We are now in our fourth year of this well worthwhile activity keeping our Parks tidy and safer. The established team of nine regular volunteers who meet on the first Tuesday of each month has recently gained another member. Trevor has started a regular litter-pick on the third Sunday of each month and his team of three are hoping that a few more will soon join him for that Sunday morning feel good factor!

#### Walking in a Winter Wonderland

A Hearty breakfast – check

Hot coffee - check

Hat, scarf, gloves, thermals – check

Pickers, plastic bags - check

An eager 8 year old daughter – check !!!!

On pulling back the curtains Sunday morning, I was met with a perfect blue sky, bright sunshine and everything covered with frost; a lovely day for a January litter pick! It was going to be a cold one so good preparation was a must.

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So off we set, the park looking beautiful in its white overcoat. The sunlight glistening on the handful of bottles and cans spread across the field, it appeared our visit wouldn't be wasted; unfortunately it never is. With no Len available and no other hardy souls it was down to Chloe and myself to step up to the challenge.

An hour and a full bag of rubbish later, it was time for a well earned break at the park café. A coffee for me and a Slush for Chloe, as she had been asking for one for about an hour! (why don't children feel the cold?!) Unfortunately the Slush machine wasn't working as it had iced up overnight – how ironic. So it was an ice-lolly instead!

Break over it was time to start the homeward stretch. By now the white had turned to green and we were feeling the warmth from the sun; or was it the warm glow that we had got from our mornings achievement?

The Friends of Raphael Park are Proud to Present

# Music in the Park

Around the band stand in Raphael Park Main Road, Romford, RM2 5EB

## Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 1pm-6pm

Free entry

3 Live Bands Copperface Jack The New Serenaders Rick Christian

**Beer, Wine & Pimms Marquee** 

Hot Food Wokabout, Hog Roast

Kids fun fair



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THE FRIENDS OF RAPHAEL PARK AND LODGE FARM PARK

A few words from our Sponsors; "We at A.C.Preou Ltd, are proud to be sponsors of the Friends of Raphael & Lodge Farm Parks, and hope you will support them too, by becoming a Friend"