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THE FRIENDS OF RAPHAEL PARK  
AND LODGE FARM PARK



# NEWSLETTER

## S P R I N G 2 0 1 6

### LODGE FARM PARK MINIATURE RAILWAY RUNNING MAY BANK HOLIDAYS

Lodge Farm Park Community railway will be running train rides on both May Bank Holidays. This will boost funds to pay for insurance and licenses along with installation costs. The Friends are helping LFPCR and Open Spaces and parks department to apply for further funding from Veolia. Preliminary works began in February this year on what was the old bowling green. 17 LFPCR volunteers helped with lifting heavy paving slabs, digging works and tidying up. Why not come along to the park this May Bank Holiday, take a look, and ride and see the locomotives!

[www.rideonrailways.co.uk](http://www.rideonrailways.co.uk)



### CLEAN FOR THE QUEEN

One of the events to commemorate the Queens 90th birthday was an initiative by the Keep Britain Tidy campaign. On the weekend of 5th - 6th March all sorts of people volunteered in all sorts of places to Clean for the Queen. We hosted an event in Raphael Park and were pleased to welcome some of the

14th Hornchurch Brownies and their Brown Owl Amy. We also had a brief visit from the Liberty Shopping Centre crew and in total collected about 10 sacks of rubbish.



### TWO GREEN FLAGS FOR THE FRIENDS OF RAPHAEL AND LODGE FARM PARKS! AND OFFICIAL FRIENDS STATUS TOO!

With great pleasure Juila, Chairman for the Friends of Raphael & Lodge Farm Park, collected two green Flag awards at the Official Friends Forum on Saturday 19th March. "Both of our lovely parks were awarded these fantastic accolades, a testament to the hard work of our fantastic team of volunteers and their work with Havering Parks and Open Spaces. We have held a Green Flag in Lodge Farm Park since 2008 but were absolutely delighted when we were awarded Green Flag in Raphael Park for a second year. Our many thanks to all that helped this happen."



### LITTER PICKING ANYTIME AND EVERYWHERE

On this mild January afternoon Julia spotted Tom Hollinrake, but not just taking a stroll through the parks, he had taken his litter picker and bag and was collecting other peoples discarded litter too! Well done to you Tom, wish we had an army of Toms!



### COMING EVENTS

#### Miniature Railway

Monday - 2nd and 30th May 1am - 4pm

Lodge Farm Park

#### Meeting

Monday - 23rd May - 7.30pm-9pm

Friends Meeting Room, The Lodge, Raphael Park

#### Music in the Park

Sunday - 24th July - 1pm to 6pm

Around the Bandstand in Raphael Park

#### Regular Litter Picks

Fresh air, exercise and feel good, all in just an hour! All tools supplied

1st Tuesday of each month

10am Meet at Raphael's Playground

3rd Sunday of each month

10am Meet at Raphael's Playground

## MUSIC IN THE PARK

SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY 1PM – 6PM  
AROUND THE BANDSTAND IN  
RAPHAEL PARK



Plans are well underway for this year's Music in the Park, bands are booked and as always there will be a bar, food stalls and children's funfair coming too. All set to be your best summer day out in Havering this year! Local star of "The Voice" Lydia Lucy is lined up to perform. As well as young star Aaron Floyd. We're also delighted to announce the return for the 3 piece Houndogs who really got the park rocking in 2014, and the return of those Caribbean sounds from the White Nights band. Don't delay, put the date in your diary now! It's the first Sunday of the school holidays. Tell all your friends and bring all the family along to make this the best one yet. We are also delighted to confirm that our local radio station are supporting us on the day too, Time FM will be helping us host the event, live from Raphael Park! **The First Act and Bar opens at 1pm, funfair and food opens from 12pm.**

We would welcome anyone who would like to volunteer on the day, great jobs include: working in the bar, or selling strawberries and cream. (not so great jobs are litter picking and toilet monitor!).

## HAVERING PARKS CONSTABULARY

The Parks Protection team, based in Raphael Park, have now been attested as constables developing into a new Havering Parks Constabulary. This gives the Local Authority Team additional police powers to help them deal even more effectively with any crime and anti-social behaviour encountered in the borough's parks and open spaces. They operate seven days a week, patrolling key periods throughout the day and evening, using off road vehicles including scramble bikes. Their new powers in parks will help to further protect Havering's residents and visitors throughout the year, maintaining our parks and open spaces as safe and attractive places to visit. Steve Rawlins Parks Protection Manager commented, 'it is business as usual for my team who continue to carry on working for the parks community to help ensure our parks remain some of the best and safest in the country. Being constables with a power of arrest just means that we now have another tool available to us. Where necessary we can now engage directly with the very small minority of people whose behaviour doesn't comply with the rules and regulations and potentially causes danger to other park users or the park environment.'

To contact the Parks Protection Service: email [parksprotection@haverling.gov.uk](mailto:parksprotection@haverling.gov.uk) or phone/text 07904 805872



## HEALTHY HAPPY DUCKS, GEESE, SWANS AND FISH!

We know everyone loves to feed the ducks in our park, so why not feed them the healthy alternative to bread, and without harming them or the environment they live in. Bread is very bad for ducks, geese, swans, fish and general well being of the lake and its bio diversity.

If you feel you must feed them bread please crumble no more than a slice of brown bread into minuscule pieces. Please refrain from throwing any bread into the lake. Remember if you see bread floating on the surface, the ducks just don't want it they are simply full and their tummies are bloated, the bread will sink and rot on the lake bed.

It's this rotting that caused the terrible outbreak of a toxin called clostridium botulinum in 2013, subsequently causing the death of many of the lakes fish and wildfowl. To add to this too much bread causes a disease in Geese called angel wing.



Be kind, feed them plain porridge oats, peas, grapes, green leaf vegetables, all of which are a wonderful alternative to bread, just as cheap and easy to buy or find in your cupboard.

## SPRING QUIZ NIGHT

This March's Spring Quiz was a huge success we raised a whopping £754, well done to our "Winners Table 10" our thanks to quizzers for helping us to raise much needed funds for the Friends.

## TIMBER!!!! GRAND OLD OAK



This is just one of a series of 5 great photos taken by Mike Pitter of the grand old Oak that had to be felled in February this year due to rot. It was a terrible shame to see the old tree down, but in the interest of all park users we think you'll agree it was absolutely necessary.

## MARSHALLS PARK SCHOOL EASTER EGG HUNT

This Spring we had a new edition to the parks entertainment programme. Marshalls Park Easter Egg Hunt! A fantastic day was had by all. Our thanks to MPS for hosting this event.



## KEEP IN TOUCH

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LOTTERY FUNDED

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