



Summer 2016 Newsletter

<https://mountsfieldpark.wordpress.com>

mountsfieldpark@gmail.com



Trim Trail funding for Mountsfield Park

We have had fantastic news from our friends at Glendale who have secured a £15,000 grant from the London Marathon Charitable Trust. Combined with the £2000 awarded to FOMP by Rushey Green Assembly, we now have £17,000 to pay for new trim trail equipment at Mountsfield Park which will be available for adult and young adult park users. We're really pleased that both funds have chosen to invest in our park, and also grateful to Glendale for supporting these applications.

The next step is to consult with park users about the sort of equipment they would like to see in the park, so we'll be circulating a survey in the coming weeks. Your views and ideas are essential and will help us to make sure the trail is popular and well used. Watch this space!

Hither Green Festival 2016

Hither Green Festival is back with 8 days of community activity from Saturday 14 to Sunday 22 May 2016. As usual, Hither Green Community Association has done a fantastic job of curating a really diverse range of fantastic events, performances, exhibitions, and parties.

Highlights include events hosted by Haven't Stopped Dancing Yet and Hither Green Cinema, a historical photography exhibition, a quiz night, Open Gardens Sunday, performances from local schools, and a cake baking competition. And of course, FOMP is hosting the annual Teddy Bear's Picnic in the Community Garden on Sunday 15 May 2016 from 1pm.

Visit www.ourhithergreen.com or get hold of a printed brochure to find out more!

Café News!

It looks really likely that by Spring 2017, there will be a brand new café and toilets in the park! This is great news for park users and is the result of a long period of input and consultation with the Local Authority and Glendale. Part of the funding for this new facility is drawn from Rushey Green Renewal and Section 106 funds via the Local Authority. This also paid for the refurbishment of the play park, whilst the Community Garden received Pocket Park funding.



The appearance and size of the building may change during the planning application process, but pictures of the winning café designs look fantastic. We're also pleased that a café operator has been secured. Visit our blog for images of the proposed design.

The Summer's here... and so is the litter

Park users have been taking advantage of the warmer weather recently, picnicking and enjoying the sunshine with friends, family, and pets too! Sadly, this has also resulted in an increase in litter, which even when properly disposed of in the bins, is attractive to our local fox population.

Installing fox-proof bins is a fundraising priority for FOMP, but in the mean-time, this is a request to take rubbish home if you can. Remember that you can report any fly-tipping, litter, or dog litter in Lewisham using the FixMyStreet app. FOMP also runs litter picking events – keep an eye on the blog for details.

Catford South Kids' Lantern Parade

The Corbett Resident's Association and local resident Martha O'Toole are currently seeking funding for a street Lantern Parade, involving local children, mums and dads, friends, and neighbours.

With live music and creative workshops in school before the event, it's shaping up to be a fantastic event! The final event is likely to take place in late autumn or early winter 2016 and is supported by Emergency Exit Arts.

Please visit www.spacehive.com/catford-south-kids-lantern-parade for more information and to contribute.

Forest School sessions - Summer Term 2016

Great news! Forries Education will be running Forest School sessions in the park on Tuesdays this term.

Forest School activity provides an environment where children can play, explore nature, and be creative, as well as learn to take risks in the outdoors. It's suitable for children from around 2 years upwards.

Sessions are from 3.45pm to 5.30pm on Tuesdays, in the wooded area at the bottom of the park. Please visit the Forries Education website for more information: www.forrieseducation.co.uk

Community Garden Volunteering Opportunities

Mountsfield Park's Community Garden is becoming a really established and beautiful part of the park. It's open to visitors all year round so please do visit and enjoy it! We are always looking for volunteers, either to contribute to ongoing running of the garden, or to help out with one-off projects. Here are some great examples:

- Volunteers built a raised pumpkin bed next to the polytunnel. Our friends at GoodGym helped volunteers to shovel a huge pile of compost for the new pumpkin patch. Many thanks to everyone who helped out, and also to the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association who provided us with the funds to buy the compost from Glendale.
- Volunteers planted more than 300 Woodland Trust native trees in the park
- Volunteers helped with rose and bulb planting in the rose garden.

To get involved, please do get in touch with us via Facebook or Twitter, or by emailing us at mountsfieldpark@gmail.com

Do you love Mountsfield Park? Would you like to get more involved?

FOMP is run by a small group of local volunteers and there are many ways in which you can get involved! There's a lot to do to make Mountsfield Park even better:

- We run and develop community events including annual Christmas Carol singing, a summer picnic, and the Teddy Bear's Picnic.
- We volunteer in the community garden
- We consult and lobby the Local Authority and Glendale about the funding and upkeep of the park
- We organise litter picking and signpost problems in the park to Glendale and/or the Local Authority

There is always more that we could do, and we would be really grateful for any ideas, support or expertise you can offer! Please do get in touch with us via Facebook or Twitter, or by emailing us at mountsfieldpark@gmail.com