

PARKLIFE



NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF CATOR PARK AND ALEXANDRA RECREATION GROUND

www.friendsofcatorandalexandra.com



@catorandalexandra



@catoralexandra

Summer Issue 2019

Dear Friends, welcome to the Summer edition of our newsletter.



The Friends and volunteers have been busy in both parks throughout the Spring and early Summer planting new and donated roses and undertaking some very active weeding sessions to keep the park house border and sensory garden in Alex Rec and the newly planted shrub border in Cator Park tidy. We're pleased to report that the noticeboard in Alex Rec's children's play area has been repaired and the lettering of the water fountain repainted. We have also conducted a bench audit of both parks which notes that most need either a clean-up (including graffiti removal) or re-staining so we are looking at ways to have these renovated. The planters and obelisk kindly made by the Holiday at Home for the Over Fifties project at Holy Trinity Church have been installed in Alexandra Recreation ground and are looking great.



Call for watering in both parks: It's been a dry spring and our young plants and trees need everyone's' help to keep them hydrated. Please can we ask all our adopt-a-tree volunteers to continue their great work and, if visiting the parks, take some extra water and pour at the base of a young tree or plant to help us get through this dry weather. Talking of hydration – we are actively pursuing the repair of the paddling pool for summer 2019 (including the aim of setting up a small working group to liaise actively with Idverde and Bromley Council to secure its long-term future) but sadly do not have anything definite to report at the time of going to press.

Onto events news: We've held two new events so far this year. The first - Easter in the Park - in Alex Rec back in April. There was glorious sunshine...so much so the Easter eggs were at risk of melting! 60 fabulous egg rocks were hidden for children to find in exchange for a chocolate egg and it was lovely seeing the children having so much fun. Our committee secretary Helen had everyone busy decorating biscuits and eggs at her crafts stall which kept the children all very entertained. There were even a few pawsome rocks for dog owners to find with a prize of a special doggy friendly carob egg for their furry friends.



Our second new event was Poetry in the Park – an evening of poetry was held on 26th July to celebrate London becoming a National Park City. The evening began with a poetry competition the theme of which was "Nature". We were looking for an original voice and a fresh and arresting use of language. The theme was interpreted in various ways and we were pleased to announce the following winners: First prize (£50) Bernice Carter for her poem "Cator Park", second prize (£25) to Foster Murphy for "Snow Talk" and third prize (£10) to Danny Turze for "The Nature of Nature". A special prize also went to seven-year-old Sullivan Whitney for "Save Nature".



Friends of Cator Park & Alexandra Recreation Ground

Paws in the Park 2019

Family Dog Show

Sunday 8th September 1-5.30pm

Cator Park, Beckenham, BR3 1NA



Dog Friendly Doggeries

Registration from 12pm

Sponsored by **LOVE MY HOUND**

Best Groomed

Golden Oldie (8 yo+)

Dog most like its owner

Best Dressed

Best Junior handler

Best Trick

Best Rescue

Waggiest tail

Dog the judges would most like to take home

Best in show! - **Class winners**

@catoralexandra

@catorandalexandra

T&C's on our web site

www.friendsofcatorandalexandra.com

- Dog Agility
- Temptation Alley
- Dog Training Clinic
- Puppy School demonstration
- Pet Health & Animal Charity stalls
- Sand Art / Hoopla
- Pin the tail on the dog
- Face painting by Little Princess
- Pet Photo-shoot
- Food, Craft Beer & Pimm's Stalls



Up and Coming Park Events:

Paws in the Park – Cator Park September 8th, 1-5.30pm.

Building on the success of last year's event we have again lots of fun for the all the family & your dogs including entering your pooch into our friendly dog show, a Have-a-Go Dog Agility course, Temptation Alley and Puppy class lessons as well as plenty of great stalls including Hoopla, Pin the tail on the dog and doggy races. Men (& Women) in Sheds Penge are busy creating dog items for sale to help them raise funds for their future.

Bat Walk - October 12th 6pm - Cator Park. Meet by the central noticeboard. There will a talk by bat expert Ishpi Blatchley and bat detectors to enable hearing echolocation will be provided.

Friends AGM - October 9th 7.30pm, West Beckenham Bowls Club, Alexandra Recreation Ground. All Welcome.

Carols in the Park - Alex Rec. December 8th. Start the Christmas season with our annual music and mince pies event!

Santa Paws in the Parks - December 9th 1.30pm a hosted

walk taking us from Alexandra through Cator Park and ending with coffee & cake in Kent House coffee shop - Christmas Jumpers optional!

Gardening working party sessions continue in both parks throughout the year. If you are able please come along to one of the dates below. Bring trowels, pruning tools and gloves but don't worry we have spares if you need them. Supervised children very welcome.

Alex Rec – Saturdays 10-12am - 3rd, 17th & 31st Aug, 14th & 28th Sept. Meet by the water fountain.

Cator Park – Saturdays 10-12am - 10th Aug & 7th Sept and Tuesday 7pm - 20th Aug & 24th Sept. Meet by central noticeboard.

If you'd like to volunteer at any other of our events, get more involved in the committee or find out more about our projects, please get in touch. Contact details at top of newsletter.

Membership for Cator Park and Alexandra Recreation Ground We are looking for more members to help us engage with all park users and to encourage and promote the use of the parks. The annual subscription supports many park activities & helps us to preserve and enhance the park environments. It's easy to join, simply choose one of the options below:

1. Email us at friends.cator-and-alexandra@live.co.uk and we'll send you an application form
2. Complete a Bank Transfer: Friends of Cator and Alexandra, A/c No. 61592226 Sort code 60-02-12
3. Complete the details below and return to Friends of Cator and Alexandra, 262, Kent House Road, Beckenham, BR3 1JN. Please make cheques payable to Friends of Cator and Alexandra.

Name Address

.....Postcode

Email

Annual Subscription fees: Individual £3.00 Family £5.00 Organisation £10.00

Five-year Family Membership £22:50 Five- year Ind. Membership £12:50

