

NO.70 MAY 2013

THE FRIENDS OF



PROTECTING & ENHANCING



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BLAKERS PARK

OUR COMMUNITY GREEN SPACE



NEWSLETTER

FRIENDS OF BLAKERS PARK & STANFORD AVENUE METHODIST CHURCH

**INVITE YOU
TO OUR ANNUAL
COMMUNITY PICNIC**



SUMMER



**FREE
ENTRY**

FAIR

**SATURDAY
15TH
JUNE
11.30 TO 5PM**

**BOUNCY CASTLE • LIVE MUSIC
GAMES • FACE PAINTING
CAKES • STALLS • FIRE ENGINE
*Bring a Picnic***

Guilt-free Pleasure

Yes, it's the Community Picnic and Summer Fair again, By our reckoning (which is phenomenally fallible) it's the 20th time the Friends have organised the event, in association with Stanford Avenue Methodist Church. Watching the DVD of the very first Community Picnic (yours for just £5) it's clear that it has grown and evolved yet retained the special feeling that makes it a fine celebration for friends, neighbours and families. We hope for nothing less this year.

For many years it has been FREE to enter and this year is no exception. However, the Friends are conscious that while we are all enjoying our picnic in the most pleasant park in northern Europe, there are others in the city who cannot afford to feed their families or themselves. So we urge you to bring a donation of a food tin or a packet of dried food like pasta. An item from each person who comes along would help the FareShare charity to feed hundreds of vulnerable people in Brighton & Hove. There will be donation points by the gates – just make sure that your gift is well within its "Use By" date – and on behalf of hungry families, thank you in advance for your generosity.

The final preparations for the Community Picnic were being made as this newsletter was being written so we don't know all the details and, as above, we are famous for our phenomenal fallibility. However, we do know for certain that it will be a tremendous day because you have kindly offered to lend a hand, haven't you?

Do forgive us because we can't remember whether you've volunteered to help in the morning with the setting up (hanging bunting etc), taking a short turn running some children's games stalls, being in charge of the sack race and tug of war, or helping the toddlers to have fun on the bouncy castle. So please could you remind us by calling Sam on 07740 531250 or emailing her on samhart2@btinternet.com. We are extremely grateful for your help – we can't do without it. In the unlikely event that you happen to know anybody who hasn't yet volunteered, do encourage them. It'll look good on their CV.

We do know that the musical entertainment will get off to a rousing start at 11.15am with the wonderful Varndean Samba Band. Then the following are expected to play the soundtrack to the picnic: Dara & Ruby, Pixie Julia Angels, Sonic Gypsy, Mind of a Lion, Island Jacks, Nick Williams, Sarah Coffield, Gasoline Roosters, Xanthus, Sumerian Kings, Caitlin Stubbs, Likely Dads and Pyro. Each is being asked to write new material about Blakers Park and a CD of the songs will be on sale at the Friends' stall.

Of course, it is highly likely that there will a wide variety of stalls selling foods from all over the world, including cake. For those who cannot bring a picnic, these exotic edibles will fill the gap, as will the savouries and baking from the park café.

If you would like to book a space for a stall, complete the form on the back page of this newsletter or download and print copies from www.blakerspark.org.uk. You'll need to get a move on – stall space booking closes on 1st June.

**Community Picnic & Summer Fair – Saturday 15th June 2013
11.30am onwards**

Blakers – the friendliest park in the world

Blakers Park is a gem but it would be different if the Friends hadn't protected it from unwanted changes. Now the Friends keep an eye on it all, improve it and organise free events for everyone. So please join or renew your membership now. There's no reason not to. If you feel good about Blakers Park, join the Friends. If you feel indifferent, you can still join. If you hate Blakers Park, join and we'll give you the support you clearly need. Don't do it soon, do it now. C'mon, fair's fair. No Friends means no events or flowers. There are **two different** ways to show you care about Blakers. The **first** is the simple form you can fill in and give to us with cash or a cheque made out to "Friends of Blakers Park".
Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Phone _____

Please write your email address below to receive news and events by email:

_____ @ _____

I enclose payment for the following (please circle):

One year's individual membership	£3.00
One year's membership students and unwaged	£1.50
Three year's membership	£9.00
Five year's membership	£15.00
One year's household membership	£5.00
One year's group membership	£30.00

The **second** way to join us is to complete this standing order mandate.

Standing Order Mandate

My bank: _____
Bank address: _____ Postcode: _____
My account no: _____
Sort code: _____
My name: _____
Signature: _____ Date: _____

Bank instruction: Please pay £_____ beginning with immediate effect and on the same date each year to Friends of Blakers Park
Account no: 21262734; Sort Code 40-05-27; *HSBC 69 Pall Mall, London SW1 5EY*

This Standing Order Mandate supersedes all previous standing orders to Friends of Blakers Park

When you've filled in your name, address, phone & email details and completed **either** the membership payment panel (with payment) **or** the standing order mandate, please drop this in at 77 Chester Terrace, BN1 6GD or 61 Havelock Road BN1 6GL

Book a space for your stall at the

The 20th Blakers Park
Community Picnic & Summer Fair
in association with Stanford Avenue Methodist Church

Saturday 15th June 2013
11.30am to 6.30pm

My stall is in aid of the following Charity (if any):

.....

On my stall will be:

.....

Please delete as appropriate:

I enclose the fee of £18 for non-members

I enclose the fee of £15 for members (membership form overleaf)

The small print: Applications should be submitted by 1st June 2013. Stall space is limited and will be allocated according to date of application. Maximum stall space: strictly 3m x 3m. In the unlikely event that there is any space left on the day, the fee will be £25.

Name:

Address:

Tel & Mob nos:

Email:

Please send this form with cash or cheque (made payable to "Friends of Blakers Park") to: Graham Preston, 97 Chester Terrace, Brighton BN1 6GD. (Tel: 01273 565170)

All stall holders should bring their own tables and are asked to take their litter home.

<p>No vehicles will be allowed in the park between 11 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.</p>
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