



## NEWSLETTER 2016

This is an exciting week for the Friends:

- 8 new fox proof-bins are currently being installed into the Fields. Together with a grant from the Crofton Park Ward Assembly, the Friends have purchased the bins and Glendale has paid for their installation.
- 2 new benches will be installed, one purchased by the Friends and one a donation by a local resident.
- On Saturday, we will be holding our annual Festival. The Festival is now in its 9<sup>th</sup> year and would not be possible without the support and dedication of local residents and businesses. In particular, this year we must thank Sebastian Roche, Hunters Estate Agents, the Animal Clinic, the Blythe Hill Tavern and the numerous businesses who donated a prize to our raffle. The Festival is run entirely by volunteers and public donations - we are grateful to you all. We are hoping that any surplus raised at this year's Festival will be put towards making some improvements in the playground. Keep your fingers crossed we get some sunshine. If you'd like to volunteer please email [secretary@blythefields.org.uk](mailto:secretary@blythefields.org.uk)

It has been a busy, but rewarding, year for the Friends. Our membership is steadily growing and we have lots of new fantastic and energetic volunteers who are helping to organise the Festival. We have planted 15 new trees and countless whips in the hedgerows, installed two stag beetle loggeries, planted 200+ spring bulbs, watched the bats and sung carols. Most recently we have created and installed fencing to encourage wildlife and protect the hedgerows.

In February 2016, we opened a survey. The aim of which was to understand how the park users feel about our Fields and to ensure that any future changes funded or facilitated by the Friends will benefit all. If you would like to take part in the survey, then please either email Ellie at [secretary@blythehillfields.org.uk](mailto:secretary@blythehillfields.org.uk) or head to the Friends tent at the Festival on Saturday where paper copies will be available. The survey will be closed shortly after the Festival and then we will start planning for the future!

We have some new dates for your diary:

Date	Event
2 July	<b>Friends of Blythe Hill Fields Festival 2016</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 12 – 5 pm</li><li>• Fun for everyone!</li></ul>
6 July	<b>General meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Festival debrief</li><li>• 8 pm, upstairs at the Honor Oak Pub</li></ul>
16 July	<b>Lewisham 3 Peaks Challenge</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5 mile sponsored walk</li><li>• Starts at Hilly Fields, 11 am</li><li>• Walkers due here at 12.30 pm</li></ul>
September	<b>Bat walk</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Further details to follow on Facebook</li></ul>
14 September	<b>General meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To discuss the outcome of the questionnaire</li><li>• 8 pm, upstairs at the Honor Oak Pub</li></ul>
19 October	<b>AGM!</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 8 pm, upstairs at the Honor Oak Pub</li></ul>

**James Cross**

Chairman

To become a Friend, join our mailing list at [www.blythehillfields.org.uk](http://www.blythehillfields.org.uk)



We are grateful to the Crofton Park Ward Assembly's support in helping us to fund the new rubbish bins.



