

## Press Release

### Do you remember Coram's Fields?

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Coram's Fields in Bloomsbury, London's oldest children's playground, opened 70 years ago this summer. Coram's Fields is different, a haven no adults can enter without an accompanying child. And we're looking for people who remember playing there, for a celebration display on Saturday 20 May.

Whether it was yesterday, or back when the Fields opened in 1936 – or any time in between – the Friends of Coram's Fields want to collect people's best memories of playing there, to gather together in a display that will underline the importance of the Fields to London children through the decades.

The 'Friends' will be inviting people to add their words and photos to the display during the second Lambs Conduit Street Festival, on Saturday 20 May. Memories can also be sent in advance by post to Rachel Escott, 58 Lambs Conduit Street, London, WC1N 3LW or by email to [info@rachelescott.co.uk](mailto:info@rachelescott.co.uk)

It took a ten-year campaign to raise the money needed to open Coram's Fields on the site of the old Foundling Hospital, which closed in 1926. Today, there is a renewed campaign to raise funds to ensure Coram's Fields can continue to offer children all the facilities it does today. And the traders of neighbouring Lambs Conduit Street are doing their bit to help, by donating money raised during their street festival to the Fields.

The festival, from 12 noon to 8pm on 20 May, will offer fun and interest for all ages: storytelling for under 6 years; a children's flower trail; on-street bespoke tailoring; a display of local, seasonally-produced fruit and vegetables; Moroccan food samples; local peanut butter-making demonstration; lucky dips and raffles; Indian dances; live music outside the Perseverance pub; 'undertakers games'; open air pubs and cafés; Morris dancing and more.

Coram's Fields offers playgrounds, sandpits, a sensory area, toddler drop-ins, after-school clubs, basketball court, a family café, football pitches, a 'mini farm' and activities for young people.

The independent charity that runs Coram's Fields has to raise much of the £750,000 needed each year itself. Every day it costs more than £50 for staff to maintain and clean the animals, almost £15 to feed the animals and over £5 in vet's bills. The 'Friends' group was set up to help raise money, particularly to support the small animals' 'mini farm'; but sponsors are also sought for many of the other facilities and activities.

Ends

**Note to Editors:**

For more information on Coram's Fields, the Friends' activities or on Lambs Conduit Street Festival, or for photos, please contact in the first instance:

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