

An Oscar in the Park

Michael Davison



Their bacon butties are famous for miles around. They're "lovely people," says Sally from Kingston; "Brilliant!" says Marion from Barnes. "They're here every day, in all weathers," says one regular customer. "I pass here just to say 'ciao' even if I don't need a snack," says another.

The object of these Park visitors' enthusiasm is the family team who run the snack van beside the Pen Ponds car park. Oscar and Lisa Posteraro are husband and wife; Lisa's brother Peter Maiera completes the trio (pictured above left to right Peter, Lisa, Oscar). Italian-born but long resident in England, they've been dispensing food in the Park for seven years. During this time they have become firm favourites among the cognoscenti. Customers with dogs welcome the drinking bowl always in place beside the van. Appreciative customers of an artistic bent have contributed cartoons of the team which are displayed proudly above the counter.

Watch out for an exciting new development this summer: with their contract just renewed by The Royal Parks, the van is to be replaced by a brand-new vehicle, with more facilities, a bigger coffee-maker, ice-cream in summer, and faster service.