

Power to the people: National Grid helps energise mid summer festival in Southwark

A band of volunteers from National Grid's New Cross Substation helped generate the fun at the recent Brimington Mid Summer Festival in Southwark.

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- National Grid volunteers help out at Brimington Mid Summer Festival
- Loaned generator helps provide entertainment and hot refreshments
- Event participation part of latest National Grid community initiatives in the local area

A band of volunteers from National Grid's New Cross Substation helped generate some good times at the recent Brimington Mid Summer Festival in Southwark.

The team provided a generator for the event which powered the PA equipment for the stage which was used for performances from a school dance team, community choir, individual singers and musicians. The generator also helped power the tea tent and hot food stalls.

Volunteers also ran a National Grid stall which provided children's activities alongside information on safety awareness and the work of the nearby New Cross substation. One of the games, 'guess the number of sweets in the jar', raised funds to go towards the running of future festivals at Brimington Park.

The Mayor of Southwark, Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE, visited the National Grid stand to learn more about the vital upgrade work going on at New Cross substation.

Fran Beckett OBE, Chair of Friends of Brimington Park, said: "The Friends of Brimington Park were delighted to have the financial support of National Grid for this year's Peckham based Brimington Summer Festival. Their payment for a generator meant that we could showcase local musical talent including a school dance team, community choir, and individual singers and musicians. We could also supply power to the popular tea tent and hot food stalls. It was great too to have them with us on the day actively being part of the event."

Richard Morris, a National Grid project engineer at New Cross substation, who volunteered, said: "It was great fun to volunteer at such a fantastic community event, and National Grid was delighted to support festival again this year. In spite of the grey skies and occasional rainy spell, it was excellent to see so many families from the local community enjoying their day. Thank you to Friends of Brimington Park for inviting us to participate."

New Cross Substation plays a vital part in helping keep the lights on in London. National Grid is currently carrying out work to upgrade the substation which will ensure it keeps on helping to deliver safe and reliable energy supplies to Londoners in the future.

For more information on National Grid's community volunteering activities go to: <http://www2.nationalgrid.com/Responsibility/Connecting-today/UK/Volunteering/>

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Notes for editors

Notes to Editors:

National Grid is pivotal to the energy systems in the UK and the north eastern United States. We aim to serve customers well and efficiently, supporting the communities in which we operate and making possible the energy systems of the future.

National Grid in the UK:

- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.
- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses; including interconnectors, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at <https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news>

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