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### **DATE FOR THE DIARY**

RVT / GMFA Sports Day.  
Monday August 25th 2008, 1pm – 6pm.  
Spring Gardens behind the Royal Vauxhall Tavern, SE11.

### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **Inflatable fun at the Vauxhall Gay Sports Day**

#### ***Last few places for teams still open***

A Space Hopper race and bouncy castle have been added to the fun of the GMFA / Royal Vauxhall Tavern Gay Sports Day, which takes place on Bank Holiday Monday. There's still time to register your team for the RVT Sports Day, although with 12 teams already registered there are only a few places left.

The 2008 RVT Sports Day will take place on Bank Holiday Monday 25th August, in Spring Gardens (the park just behind the famous South London pub). Last year's sports day attracted a crowd of over 500 revellers and a

diverse selection of serious, and distinctly unserious, sports people. For a taste of what to expect at Sports Day, join the thousands of visitors who have watched last year's event by visiting YouTube:

<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=moFkttOPJb4>. This year's event will be officially opened by the Mayor of Lambeth, Councillor Angela Meader.

GMFA's Head of Programmes, Matthew Hodson, said, "So far the summer has been a bit of a wash-out, but the same was true last year and then the sun came out for the Sports Day and we all had a glorious time. This year we are introducing two space hopper events, and we'll have a space hopper training pen for people who want to re-energise their childhood skills, or who have never experienced the joy of space hopper travel. We're also hoping to have a bouncy castle, so there's going to be a fair amount of waterproof activities if the weather doesn't hold."

The RVT Gay Sports Day offers a range of light hearted and frivolous sporting events for everyone, whatever their athletic ability, more akin to a particularly broadminded school's Sports Day than to the Olympic events currently occurring in Beijing. Popular events from last year include the drag relay, the handbag throw and the fabulous 50m mince!

"The Sports Day is a lot of fun," added Hodson, "but it also raises much needed funds for GMFA, which goes towards those projects that receive no statutory funding, such as our work for HIV positive gay men. We're delighted that the event supports local Vauxhall charities too, and we're thrilled to have Lambeth's Mayor coming to give the day her official blessing."

Whether you're gay, lesbian, trans, bi, queer or heterosexual, you're welcome to take part in the Sports Day but teams should consist of five members. To enter the event, teams are being asked to get as many people as possible to sponsor their team, via a simple to set up online sponsorship page. Proceeds from the event will be divided between GMFA, Vauxhall City Farm and the Friends of Spring Gardens. There will once again be a trophy for the winning team, and another trophy for the team that manages to raise the most money. Last year the event was won by Dried up Drag, and the top fundraisers were Saint Edna, who managed to raise over £1,000.

For more information and registration details visit [www.gmfa.org.uk/sportsday](http://www.gmfa.org.uk/sportsday).

-Ends-

For more information about this or any other of GMFA's campaigns and actions, contact:

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## **Notes to Editor**

### **About GMFA:**

GMFA was established in 1992 and is the UK's leading charity dedicated to gay men's health. GMFA's mission is to improve gay men's health by increasing the control they have over their own lives. We believe that the best health promotion for gay men comes from gay men themselves, and so we use the knowledge and ideas of our 170 volunteers (most of them gay men) to design and plan our thought provoking sexual health interventions. We have received international acclaim for our Sex and Sexual Health website ([www.gmfa.org.uk/sex](http://www.gmfa.org.uk/sex)), which was visited by one in three London gay men within a year of being launched. Our other websites include a detailed listing of sexual health services available for gay men in London

([www.gmfa.org.uk/londonservices](http://www.gmfa.org.uk/londonservices)), an information resource for HIV positive gay men ([www.gmfa.org.uk/positive](http://www.gmfa.org.uk/positive)) and a guide to gay sports and social groups in London ([www.gmfa.org.uk/theguide](http://www.gmfa.org.uk/theguide)). All of our sites can be accessed at [www.gmfa.org.uk](http://www.gmfa.org.uk). GMFA produce a range of advertising campaigns, leaflets, postcards and booklets. Independent surveys have concluded that our campaigns reach up to 60% of the London gay population and we are the most reliable agency at reaching gay men. In addition to this we distribute our own health magazine, FS, free to London's gay bars and clubs to further educate gay men about relationships, their bodies, general health and STIs. Over the last fourteen years we have provided courses for over 10,000 gay men, providing safer sex education, life skills and stop smoking courses. We currently provide a range of groupwork interventions across England and Wales. GMFA has Big Lottery funding to create sexual health interventions for Black gay men in London.