



## **Blackpool Pet-Tastic**

### **A fancy dress picnic for dogs**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2009 2pm – 5pm**

**The Princess Parade, Blackpool Promenade, Beside the North Pier, in front of the Metropole Hotel, Blackpool FY1 1RQ**

Roll up, roll up, as once again Rachael House warmly invites you to make a costume, dress up your dog and bring it along to the canine art social event of the year- *Blackpool Pet-Tastic*, a fancy dress picnic for dogs.

Peckham, Norway, Bexhill-On-Sea, Lewisham, Blackpool. Of course, we've been saving the best until last.

Blackpool. Sun, sea, fish and chips, The Tower, ballrooms, the Grundy Art Gallery, drag queens, rollercoasters and ghost trains. And now dogs dressed up. We can't believe our luck.

Have you ever been to a Pet-Tastic before? You'll be able to dress a dog shaped biscuit with icing, decorate a dog mask, or get your face painted to more closely resemble the dog you've always longed to be.

Following her triumphs in Peckham and Lewisham, Onion the miniature bull terrier will be the face of Blackpool Pet-Tastic. In her saucy tattooed sailor outfit Onion will be winking at the girls and flirting with the boys. Make sure to say 'hello sailor' when you meet her.

As well as admiring beautiful dogs, their owners, and Blackpool itself, for your aural pleasure we are thrilled to present *Johnny and the Wags*. John Carson and his band will be performing dog songs from Iggy Pop's *I wanna be your dog* to Donny Osmond's *Puppy Love*. You can howl along if you like. As if that isn't enough excitement, artists WebsterGotts are making a brand new dog related performance for the event.

Dogs will enjoy a delicious picnic, adoration from the crowds and a grand day out. Clothed canines and their consorts may also take part in a parade, culminating in a presentation of certificates and souvenir. No visitor need go home empty handed.

Please come along, mingle, meet people, celebrate and form part of a vibrant community in the heart of Blackpool for three wonderful hours. You can make it happen.

All welcome

Blackpool Pet-Tastic has been commissioned by Blackpool Council's Arts Service and is supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

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*Johnny and the Wags* are - John Carson - vocals, Conor Kelly - guitar and vocals, John Kindness - banjo and vocals, Mairead McClean - guitar and vocals, John Say - percussion

Blackpool Pet-Tastic is Rachael House's seventh fancy dress picnic for dogs. Projects in 2009 Rachael is part of include *Zinefest* at The Women's Library, London, *Basecampment* in Glasgow, *Chutney Preserves 3*, London and the touring exhibition *Kiss of a Lifetime*. Her work is featured in the publication for *Seripop* at The Baltic, Newcastle. Rachael is co-director of artist-run Space Station Sixty-Five, south London. She has a cat named Misty.

Blackpool's Arts Service develops and delivers projects which engage local communities and visitors in the arts, and places the arts at the centre of Blackpool's unique and important cultural environment. The Service has overall responsibility for the Grundy Art Gallery and Blackpool Council's art collection as well as the contemporary public art works that make up The Great Promenade Show on South Beach.

