



Newsletter: November 2021

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Our work has been recognised!

The Environment and Transport Committee of the Finchley Society has awarded FoFWOS their Environment Award, which comes with a sizable donation.

It's great to know that the work of the volunteers, trustees and management committee has been recognised in this way.

If you've been a regular reader of the newsletter and/or a regular visitor to the site, you'll have seen the changes volunteers have brought about. FoFWOS is also grateful for the support of Barnet's Greenspaces and Tree teams, businesses, local residents and the Lottery Community Fund.

And it shouldn't be forgotten that everyone involved is a volunteer, including the trustees and the management committee members.

Since FoFWOS first began working on the site in February last year (2020) we have had over 80 different people volunteer at work parties.

That's not to decry those who can't come to work parties but who have supported FoFWOS in other ways.

Let's keep up the good work.



Mega bulb planting weekend

The last weekend of October saw people gathering to plant over 1,700 bulbs across the site. We were rather let down by the weather forecast but both days turned out sunny and all the bulbs were planted.

It was great to see children taking part as most of the work that's been going on hasn't been suitable for those under-14.

The Committee prepared the ground so that it was easy for volunteers to put the bulbs in.



A volunteer preparing the ground for bulbs

In the spring there will be crocuses, bluebells, blue and white anemones, camassia and wild garlic.



Planting bulbs

There will be another bulb planting extravaganza in the spring to plant bulbs that will flower in the autumn.

Volunteering

Please note that from 31st October 2021 until the end of February 2022 work parties will only take place about once a month.

The dates are: 28th November, 12th December, 9th January, 30th January and 27th February. Spring dates will be announced nearer the time.

There might be a need for an extra day here and there. Everyone who has ever volunteered will be sent notice of these. Email fofwos@gmail.com if you want to be added to, or removed from, the list.

Annual consultation

The trustees and Committee know that the site is important to local people because they tell us. But we want to know more about who uses the site, how they use it, what they like and don't like. This will help us to plan for next year.

Please take part in the survey; it only takes a few minutes. It will be open until the end of the year. Follow this link: [FoFWOS Annual Survey](#)

We've kept the questionnaire short but if you'd like to tell us more, then email us at fofwos@gmail.com

This will help with the annual return to the Charity Commission and when applying for grants.

Annual meeting for Friends

The annual meeting for Friends will be held on 6th December 2021 online.

If you would like to attend the meeting please register by 4th December by emailing fofwos@gmail.com.

The annual report for Friends and the meeting agenda will be sent when you register.

The link to join will be sent to those who register on the morning of the 6th December.

More archaeological finds

While planting crocus bulbs on the Green Field, volunteers found this stone ink well.



An archaeological find in the Orchard

It's identical to one featured in the November 2021 edition of *Current Archaeology* (issue 380) found during excavations of Hyde Abbey on the outskirts of Winchester.

The Hyde Abbey site had been used as a Bridewell (a small prison) from 1788 to 1840 and the inkwell dates from that era.

We are building quite a collection of finds. The Hendon and District Archaeological Society (HADAS) also has some finds from excavations carried out in the 1970s.

Future projects

Three 'rustic' benches will be arriving for the Orchard before the end of November. Do go and try them out.

Two park benches are expected in the next few months for the Green Field.

New trees should be planted in the Orchard by the end of the year.

The Committee is starting to plan a new landscaping at the top of the Green Field where trees have had to be felled. Do let us have your thoughts.

We will be applying to the Woodland Trust for hedging to plant along the fence with Cedar Court.

The Committee is also thinking of making a sensory garden in this area. This would be in a raised bed made of railway sleepers.

A memorial acer has been donated by a local resident, which volunteers hope to plant at end of November.

Go Parks London

Finchley Way Open Space is now registered on [Go Parks London](#)

The Go Parks website enables users to enter their postcode and find registered parks nearby. Our entry helps people to find the site and to link through to the FoFWOS website to find out more.

Local wildlife



A fox about to explore the site

About the charity

Donating

Donations support the purchase of plants, equipment, facilities for the site and to fund work that cannot be undertaken by volunteers. All the administration is done by volunteers.

All the ways to donate are on our website [Donate to FoFWOS](#).

We accept donations via [PayPal Giving Fund](#), [GoFundMe](#) and [CAF](#)

We are registered for Gift Aid. Download the form from the website donate page or contact Karen, our Treasurer, at fofwos@gmail.com

If you use Amazon please consider switching to smile.amazon.co.uk and choose Friends of Finchley Way Open Space as your charity. We will receive 0.5% of your purchase price as a charitable donation on specified items.

If you buy bird food, feeders, etc., please use this link to [CJ Wildlife](#) that is also on our website.

It will generate some commission for FoFWOS on every sale.

Donations can be made direct by bank transfer to:

Sort Code: 01-06-28
Account Name: Friends of Finchley Way Open Space
Account number: 44189184

Go to our website for back issues of the newsletter and information about the site.

Thank you for your support

Contributors - Suzanne King and Karen Goodman

Facebook

We have an open Facebook [page](#) and a closed [group](#).

YouTube

Our YouTube channel has some entertaining videos. Have a look at [Friend of Finchley Way Open Space - YouTube](#)

Instagram

Follow us @fofwos20

There are also links available from the footer on our website.

Contact details

If you would like to get involved, please contact Suzanne, our Chair, at fofwos@gmail.com or use the Contact form on the website [Contact Us](#)

You can unsubscribe from this list at any time by emailing fofwos@gmail.com and we will delete your contact details.

Website: fofwos.org

Email: fofwos@gmail.com

Phone: 07496 471659.

The phone is now only monitored on Sunday mornings but leave a message and we will respond.