



# Newsletter: October 2021

Welcome to the October 2021 edition of the FoFWOS newsletter.

## Mega Bulb Planting Weekend

**Saturday, 2.30 pm - 4.30 pm and Sunday, 10.30 am - 12.30 am**

We will be having a **Mega Bulb Planting Weekend** on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October. Thanks to Barnet Council for providing the funding for the bulbs.

Please bring dibbers, bulb planters, small forks and trowels as we won't have enough for everyone. You might also like to bring your own gardening gloves.

If you've never planted bulbs before, don't worry, help will be there on the day.

If you haven't been to the site before, please note that there are no facilities on site - no toilets or refreshments. Please bring something to drink and dress appropriately for the weather. [Here is our briefing for volunteers](#)

## Make your donation worth more

If you're a tax payer and you donated to our Spacehive campaign, you can increase the value of your donation to us at no extra cost to yourself. All you need to do is email [fofwos@gmail.com](mailto:fofwos@gmail.com) with your full name, postcode and the following sentence: 'I confirm that I have paid more in tax than the value of my donation.' If you prefer, you can complete the Gift Aid form [here](#).

This money will be used to fund incidentals not included in grants.

In fact, if you're a tax payer and you have ever donated to us please consider completing the Gift Aid Form and returning it to us. **Thanks!**

**Volunteers** please note that 31<sup>st</sup> October will be our last weekly meeting. We will move to monthly sessions on the last Sunday of the month. More details inside.

## Entrances

The big field gate at the top of the paved section of Hamilton Way is now secured with a padlock. Entrance is by the small pedestrian gate to the right-hand side.

All the pedestrian gates now have catches, so please remember to close the gate after you.





## Volunteers

The last Sunday of September was very busy. If you visited you probably wondered what was happening.

Our loyal, regular volunteers were joined by a group from the East Finchley Ismaili community as part of Global Ismaili Civic Day.



Ismaili Community volunteers with their community leaders and FoFWOS trustees

They split into two groups. One group dug out an area of the Orchard for seeding wildflowers. The other group helped with pruning blackberry bushes and generally cutting back the bramble along the edges of the Green Field.

We also had a visit from Good Gym runners. They were doing a run around several of the sites that they have helped, making short documentaries.



Good Gym runners exploring the site that some had helped to excavate

You can see the documentaries about Good Gym and Finchley Way Open Space and what went on that Sunday on our [Facebook Page](#). You can also learn more about the Ismaili community.

## Seats and paths

One of our Friends suggested that there should be 'resting points' along the path through the Copse where those less good on their legs could perch to catch their breath or give their legs a rest.

Volunteers are making 'perches' using some of the felled logs. They will also make a little bench for the entrance by the big field gate.

We have ordered some benches with funding from Barnet Council too.

One of our new volunteers has prepared an area for one of these seats. She cleared the area under the crab apple tree and spread wood chip.

Hopefully, along with the benches ordered for the Orchard, this will help to make the site more accessible and enjoyable for everyone.



Alan, one of our founder trustees, resting

### Dead hedge

Volunteers built a dead hedge to form a barrier where there is a significant change in height between the Copse and the Orchard.

Two rows of stakes were put into the ground at intervals and the space between the two rows was filled with organic waste.

Not only is this a great way to use the organic waste that takes years to rot down, it also provides habitat for small mammals and birds. Indeed, small birds were already exploring the hedge before it was finished!



The dead hedge

We are building another dead hedge to shield the compost area from view.

### More finds



A filial, a car wash token and Georgian glass found on the Green Field

Is this glass from the 1810 house?

### Volunteering over the winter

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October is the last weekly volunteer work party.

We will be moving to monthly work party sessions on the last Sunday of the month during the winter, starting in November. They will be at the usual time, 10.30 am-12.30 pm.

We will be planting shrubs and bulbs and this may run into November. If you've volunteered in the past or expressed an interest in volunteering with us, you might get an email with details of extra volunteering days.

### Annual consultation

Our annual survey will be launched in the next newsletter. It will be open to Friends, volunteers and anyone else with an interest in the site.

This builds on the consultation we did last year and is part of trying to ensure that the site meets the needs of the community. But we have to be realistic about what we can achieve.

The report of the survey will go on the website and a short summary will appear in a future edition of the newsletter.

## About the charity

### Charities Aid Foundation

We can now accept donations via the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF).

### Board meeting

The trustees held their third board meeting on 11 October.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and can now be found on our website [here](#).

### 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](mailto:fofwos@gmail.com)

If you use Amazon please consider switching to [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://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

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:fofwos@gmail.com) and we will delete your contact details.

Website: [fofwos.org](https://fofwos.org)

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Leave a message, we will respond.

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## Thank you for your support

Contributors - Suzanne King and Karen Goodman