



Newsletter: Summer 2025

The next work session is Sunday 31 August, 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. All you need is a willingness to pitch-in. Volunteers are supported by trustees.

The dates of future volunteering sessions are on the gates and on the website. Usually, the second and last Sundays in the month.

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New trustees

Three of the existing trustees have come to the end of their terms of service, including the Chair. **New trustees are therefore needed.** No previous experience required but legally you must be 18 or over. You must also be prepared to come to volunteer sessions.

As a registered charity FoFWOS has a constitution agreed with the Charity Commission. Term limits are set in the constitution.

As a new trustee you will receive a thorough briefing to get you up to speed. Six trustees are carrying on, so you will have plenty of support as you find your feet.

The current board have all learnt a lot about flora and fauna, useful for our own gardens but you don't need to know anything to get involved.

Some trustees have developed skills for their professional lives.

Others have just enjoyed meeting new people and building something that local residents appreciate, as our annual consultation shows - the site is valued by visitors.

For details of the current Board of Trustees see: [The Trustees](#)



Christmas drinks - trustees and volunteers

If you would like to join the Board, please get in touch via the website at [Contact Us](#)

Or just come along to a volunteer session. Dates of sessions can be found on the website home page and on notices on the gates.

If you want to see what happens at Board meetings, the minutes of the past meetings can be found at:

Meeting Minutes

You can trace the history of what the trustees and other volunteers have achieved through the newsletters at:

Newsletters

There's a lot of other info on the website on the history of the site and other admin stuff.

New planting

The newly planted area in the Orchard is coming along very well. We've had to do more watering this year but the plants are thriving.



The newly planted area

I think this will be forever called 'The New Area'.



A beneficial 'weed'

We discovered that some of the incomers that we thought were weeds are beneficial for soil stability and/or

for wildlife, particularly butterflies and moths. So weeding is being done very carefully. We're using an app to identify what's what as none of us is sure. In any case, a weed is merely a plant in the wrong place.

Wildflowers

The wildflowers are over. The hot dry weather followed by the cooler wet has led many plants to think it's now autumn.

Volunteers have transferred some of the seeds to other parts of the site. Let's hope they take. The final cut back will be done in September.

Removing the dead elm from the wildflower area has greatly increased the light, allowing more of the flowers to come into their own.



A section of the wildflower area

Edible fruit

We're not growing food but there are apples, blackberries and elderflowers on the site.

Feel free to help yourself but you **MUST CHECK** what you take is edible. None of these have been planted by us. All were on the site when we started.



Apples - MAINLY FOR COOKING



Blackberries - a bit too small for eating this year because of the dry weather



Elderflowers - used for making drinks

Other fruit

In keeping with our objective to support wildlife, there are some fruits for birds and insects that people mustn't eat.



Wild strawberries - NOT EDIBLE



Cherry plums - NOT EDIBLE

Composting

Volunteers have at last got the compost bins sorted out. When we started four compost bins were built from pallets by volunteers.

Two trustees spent two work sessions sorting it all out and we now have a proper rotation system going.



Compost bins

We will use the compost to mulch helping to keep things healthy and watered.

About the charity

Get involved

We welcome new Friends.
Membership is free and ensures that you receive the quarterly newsletter.

Or come along and volunteer at a work session on the second or last Sunday in the month. Less often in the winter. The dates are posted on the gates and on the website.

You don't have to volunteer to be a Friend and you don't need to be a Friend to volunteer.

Donating

Donations support the purchase of plants, equipment 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 at [Donation information](#).

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

FoFWOS is registered for Gift Aid.
The form can be filled in online [here](#) or we can send you a copy by email contact our Treasurer fofwos@gmail.com.

FoFWOS also accepts donations via [PayPal](#), [Benevity](#) and [CAF](#)

Check out our website for back issues of the [newsletter](#).

Thank you for your continued support. We hope to see you soon.

Contributors - Suzanne King, Karen Goodman.

Join Give with Bing and earn points from Microsoft Rewards that turn into real donations for us! Sign up [here](#)

If you buy bird food, feeders, etc., please use this link to [CJ Wildlife](#) which is also on the FoFWOS website. It will generate some commission for FoFWOS on every sale.

Facebook

There is an open Facebook [page](#) and a closed [group](#).

YouTube

The YouTube channel has some entertaining videos. Have a look [YouTube](#)

Instagram

Follow us @fofwos20

Contact details

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

OR come along to a work session - See [Get Involved](#) above.

We are always pleased to hear from Friends.

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