

Friends of Finchley Way Open Space

Newsletter: Winter 2023

Happy holidays to everyone.

Please note that in December, January and February there is only one volunteering session. The next sessions are 14th January 2024 and 11th February 2024 and then the 10th and 24th March 2024. As the last Sunday in March is Easter Sunday, we're moving that session to the 24th March 2024.

After that we're back to normal with the second and last Sundays in the month until the 8th December 2023.

We may arrange some extra sessions depending on plans and some may be cancelled if the weather is very bad.

The dates are on the gates and on the website.

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Improving an entrance to the Orchard

A volunteer has been creating a wooden edging by the entrance to the Orchard next to the wall, now that the wall has been made safe. Using the pallet breaker, he has disassembled pallets and is using the planks to make the edging.

We need more pallets to finish the job, so if you have some, please bring them along. Let us know when you're coming so we can move them to the storage area so that they don't get collected as fly tipping. Or we can collect. Email: fofwos@gmail.com



Volunteers have also cleared some of the dead branches so that visitors can see that there is something inside worth going to look at.

Tidying the path edges is an on-going task - so do come along and help with this fairly easy job if you feel you can.



Clearing the paths

Bulb planting

Over 700 bulbs were planted in October and November.

We got rained off on the Sunday session but an extra Wednesday enabled us to get everything planted in time.



Bulb planting finished!

Wildflower areas

The trustees and volunteers have been very pleased with the wildflower areas and how they have taken off this year.

Everything has now been cutback for the winter. Hopefully the flowering will be fuller in the coming year.

Planting a new area

Volunteers have been clearing another small area for planting with native plants.



End of 2023

At the last session of 2023 those volunteers present were treated to some seasonal treats as a thank you from the trustees.



2023 Consultation

Thanks to everyone who has completed this year's consultation questionnaire. Generally, the feedback is positive.

The trustees will consider the findings at the January Board meeting. The report with our responses will be posted on the website after that. There will also be a summary in the spring newsletter.

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.

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, 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 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

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 <u>CJ Wildlife</u> which is also on the FoFWOS website. It will generate some commission for FoFWOS on every sale.

Facebook

There is an open Facebook <u>page</u> 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 Suzanne, our Chair, at fofwos@gmail.com or use the Contact form on the website Contact Us

OR come along to a work party meeting - second and last Sundays in the month March-November, less often in the winter. The dates are posted on the gates and on the website.

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

Check out our website for back issues of the newsletter.

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

Contributors - Suzanne King, Karen Goodman