



## Friends of Finchley Way Open Space

# Newsletter: May 2022

**The next work party is 29<sup>th</sup> May, 10.30 am - 12.30 pm**

Times and dates of the meetings for this year are on our [website](#).

### Spread the word

We'd love to have more Friends join our 150 existing Friends of Finchley Way Open Space. So please let your friends and neighbours have our email address [fofwos@gmail.com](mailto:fofwos@gmail.com) They just need to send us an email and we will respond with a welcome letter and our privacy policy, which they can see on our website [fofwos.org](http://fofwos.org)

The more Friends we have the better it is for funding applications as most funders like to see that the local community is engaged. It's free (as you know).

### Are you (or someone you know) an aspiring filmmaker?

One Sunday morning in September 2021, GoodGym ran from Stevens Gardens to Finchley Way Open Space where the Ismaili community was volunteering as part of Global Ismaili Civic Day. The run was filmed and now four filmmakers are being offered the chance to make documentaries using the footage. They will be supported by experienced local filmmakers. To find out more click [One Sunday morning four films](#)

### In this issue

This issue is all about the blossoms and buds coming out on FWOS.

### The Orchard

Apple trees are in blossom and since opening-up the area more have flowered this year. Do go and explore!



Apple tree (*Malus pulima*)

The whips are growing nicely



The bluebells are out. We planted native bluebells but Spanish ones were already there when we started. We don't know if they were planted specifically or have just arrived from nearby gardens.



Also, self-seeded is garlic mustard, which is also known as Jack-in-the-bush and Penny hedge (*Alliaria petiolata*). It smells of garlic to us and butterflies love its fragrant flowers.



Garlic mustard also known as Jack-in-the-bush

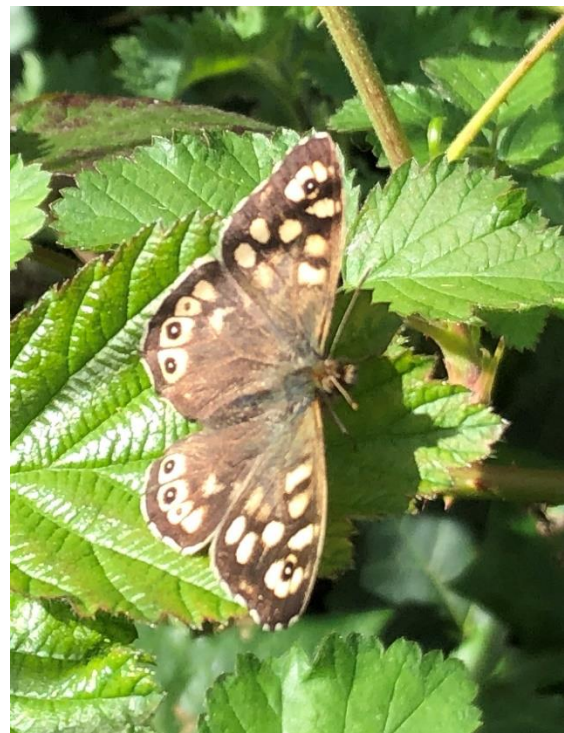
Ivy Leaved Toe Flax (next photo) is not originally native but it has been recorded in the wild in England since the 17<sup>th</sup> century, so it meets our criteria and it's self-seeded in the Orchard.



Ivy Leaved Toe Flax (*Cymbalaria muralis*)

### Butterflies

Wandering in the Orchard in the good weather over Easter this was spotted.



Speckled Wood butterfly, *Pararge aegeria*

The Speckled Wood butterfly hatches and flies in successive broods between March and September in light woodland, so there should be plenty of opportunities to see one.



Children from Moss Hall nursery also spotted an Orange Tip butterfly, which is fairly common in western Europe and flies in April and May. You'll have to be quick to spot it.

Over the course of a year 90 nursery school children come and enjoy the site and some bring their parents.

### The Green Field

On the Green Field lots of tiny wildflowers are coming out. None of these were planted by us.



Germanda speedwell also known as Bird's or Cat's eye speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*)



Cuckoo flower (*Cardamine pratensis*)

The cuckoo flower is food for caterpillars and the orange-tip and green-veined butterflies. This could be why the children from the Nursery saw an orange-tip butterfly.

And, of course, there's the obvious daisies and dandelions.



Daisies and dandelions



White deadnettle (*Lamium album*)

White deadnettle is not as tiny as the others on the Green field featured here. It appeals to pollinators, particularly bumble bees.

Sources of information about the plants are the websites of the Wildlife Trust and the charity Plantlife and the app Picture This. We also regularly use the Woodland Trusts' website. Thanks go to all of them.

## 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 [Donation information](#).

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

FoFWOS is registered for Gift Aid. The form can be filled in online [here](#) or we can send you a copy by email 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. FoFWOS 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 the FoFWOS 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 the website for back issues of the [newsletter](#) and information about the site.

## Get involved

We welcome new Friends and volunteers. You don't have to volunteer to be a Friend and you don't need to be a Friend to volunteer.

### 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 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)

Email: [fofwos@gmail.com](mailto:fofwos@gmail.com)

Phone: 07496 471659.

The phone is only monitored on Sunday mornings when there is a work party but leave a message and we will respond.

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

Contributors - Suzanne King and Karen Goodman