



## Newsletter: February 2022

Please note that the next work party is 27<sup>th</sup> February, 10.30 - 12.30

### Donations

Many of you have very kindly supported FoFWOS by making donations over the last couple of years. If you pay income tax in the UK, we can claim Gift Aid from the government. It increases the value of your donation by 25%. However large or small your donation it helps us greatly. This does not cost you anything and just requires you to complete a short form. If you have not yet completed a form, you can access it [here](#) and complete it online. Thank you.

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### Seats on the Green Field

Independently from FoFWOS a local resident has worked with Barnet Council to have two benches installed on the Green Field in memory of members of her family.

The trustees feel this is a good addition to the site as it makes it more welcoming for many people. Now you can sit in comfort and watch your children play or just read in the sunshine.

The bench opposite the Finchley Way entrance is in memory of the actor **Hal Jeayes** who lived in Woodside Park.

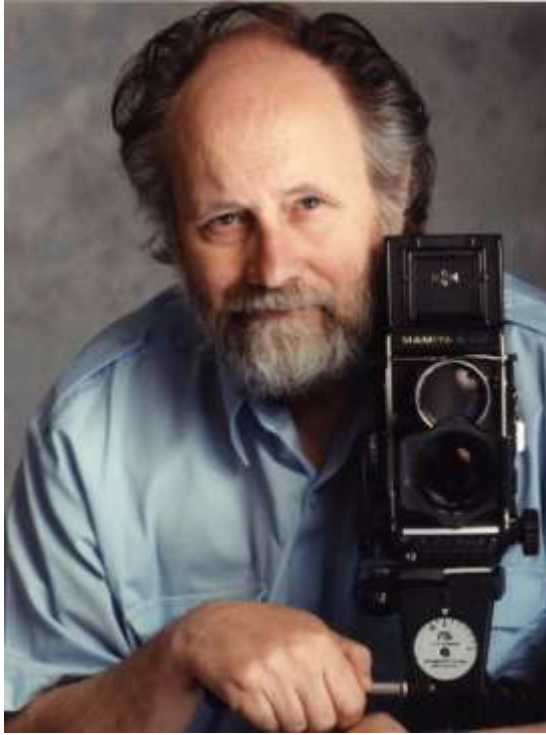
He appeared in numerous plays and TV programmes including Z cars, Crossroads, London's Burning, The Professionals and Pennies from Heaven, as well as many commercials.

Hal also spent a few years in the long running West End theatre production of The Mousetrap.



Bench is in memory of Hal Jeayes, actor.

Besides being an actor he was a professional theatrical photographer and photographed many famous faces including Victoria Beckham and some of the cast of East Enders.



Hal Jeayes, actor and photographer

The bench at the bottom of the Green Field is in memory of **Jenny Butcher OBE and Laurie Butcher** who lived in Totteridge.



Bench in memory of Jennie Butcher OBE and Laurie Butcher

Laurie was an avid autograph collector and prided himself on having collected all of them personally. The collection included “*every UK prime minister since the second world war including Churchill*” and many from the entertainment industry in Britain and the US.

There were autograph books, signed photos and theatre programmes as well as signed biographies and autobiographies.

The entire collection raised over £70,000 for the North London Hospice in Woodside Park.

Which autograph raised the most? A joint one of John Lennon and Yoko Ono.

Perhaps surprisingly John Profumo and Christine Keeler didn’t get one bid in the first auction!

Jenny trained as a ballet dancer but pursued a career in acting. She later gave up the “*precarious life of acting*” to work for the post office and subsequently Customs & Excise. After 23 years she received an OBE for her outstanding contribution to Customs & Excise North & West Collection.

### Dates for your diary: Volunteering Days

Don’t forget that work parties no longer take place every Sunday. Dates are on the gates.

The next work party is 27<sup>th</sup> February. If you have time to litter pick before then, please do. Pickers and bags from [fofwos@gmail.com](mailto:fofwos@gmail.com)

For the rest of the spring, summer and autumn volunteering days will be the second and last Sundays in the month.

- 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March
- 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> April
- 8<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> May
- 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> June
- 10<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> July
- 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> August
- 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September
- 9<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October

## Volunteering for DofE and UCAS

If you are doing the Duke of Edinburgh Award or want to add to your UCAS personal statement, come along and volunteer with us. Several DofE students come along, so you won't be alone but if you are under 18 you must come with an adult who will be responsible for you.

## Holding events on the site

Now that the better weather is approaching we are getting enquiries about holding parties or other events on the site.

FoFWOS has no jurisdiction over events. The site is owned by Barnet Council and if you want to hold an event you must apply to them for permission and comply with certain conditions.

**Importantly it is not possible to have open fires or BBQs on any Barnet site at any time.**

More information about holding events can be obtained by emailing [Barnet@theeventumbrella.com](mailto:Barnet@theeventumbrella.com).

The application form can be downloaded [here](#)

Please be sure to read all the terms and conditions.

## Barnet's sustainability strategy

Readers might like to know, if you don't already, that Barnet is developing a sustainability strategy and a biodiversity strategy to go alongside other strategies related to the environment.

For more details on the sustainability strategy and other related strategies including those on parks and green spaces, air quality, waste reduction, flood risk and tree policy, [click](#)

We understand that there will be a public consultation on the sustainability strategy in due course.

You might also like to see item 9 in the minutes of Barnet Council's Policy and Resources Committee meeting where the sustainability strategy was discussed [here](#).

## Do we have bears?

Have the teddy bears had a picnic in the woods?



What has done this?

As you can see from the photo, something has scratched the bark completely off this tree. It starts at about 2 feet (60 cm) from the ground and goes up about a foot (30 cm).

Any ideas as to what might have done this?

Could it be a big domestic cat or a muntjac deer?

It doesn't look like vandals.

## 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.

### Facebook

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

### YouTube

The YouTube channel has some entertaining videos. Have a look at [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](http://fofwos.org)

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

Phone: 07496 471659.

The phone is now 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.**

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