



Newsletter: June 2022

The next work session is 26th June, 10.30 am - 12.30 pm

Meetings are now the second and last Sundays in the month. Times and dates of all our sessions for this year are below and on our [Website](#).

Privacy Policy

The end of test and trace means that we have revised our privacy policy. We've also taken the opportunity to up-date it. [Policies](#)

Donate cost free to you!

If you use Amazon, please consider switching to Amazon Smile. Go to [Amazon Smile](#) and set Friends of Finchley Way Open Space as your charity. It doesn't cost you anything but we will receive 0.5% of what you spend on selected items from Amazon. It really helps.

FoFwOS on film

Finchley Way Open Space will be featured in a film about doing good in Finchley to be shown at the Phoenix Cinema on 10 July at 10.30 am finishing at 13.30. See [Film Event](#) for more details.

Tickets available via [Phoenix Cinema](#)

Proceeds to go to the charities involved.

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Muntjac deer

If you've noticed that some of the new shrubs look like they've been eaten, well they have been!

Muntjac deer visit the site, probably at night. They are quite small, only about 45-52 cm tall to the shoulder. And they are quite shy.

They have been eating some of our shrubs. We know it is deer because volunteers have seen the hoof prints close to the plants.

There are no photos of them on the site but some of the trustees have seen them along Dollis Brook by Finchley Lawn Tennis Club and on Totteridge Common.

Muntjac deer were introduced from China in the 20th century and are now endemic in southeast England.

Moss Hall Nursery

As regular readers will know, Moss Hall Nursery brings some of their charges most days to the site.

They have a rule:

'No picking and no licking.'

Something we should all stick to.

This will maintain the flora and fauna of the area and ensure we don't eat anything harmful as some plants are poisonous.

Fernery

The ferns that were transplanted from a volunteer's garden a few months ago weren't doing very well. To try to protect them, volunteers used some of the bricks found on the site to create a circle round the ferns and now they're doing really well. There are more to be transplanted to build-up the area.



The fernery

Water

A local geographer who has lived in the area since the 1940s told us that Nether Street used to flood at the dip around where Chilvins Court is today.

This is because a stream runs down the hill from Ballards Lane to Dollis Brook. It was culverted so that the stream now runs underground and Nether Street no longer floods.

The well taps into this now underground water source which provides us with plenty of water. It smells of sulphur but the plants don't mind. Thanks to everyone who helped us access the water.



Memorial acer

Fencing

The fence round the site is being replaced and should be finished by the end of the month.

Upkeep

Now that the weather has been warmer and it has rained a bit, the Orchard has become very green.

Volunteers have been doing a lot of weeding to keep the newly planted trees, shrubs and whips in good condition and reduce the competition for water and other nutrients. They need space to grow.

Because May was very dry, volunteers have also been doing a lot of watering. Being able to access the well has been a great help.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

We have had a few young people volunteering for their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

If you know someone who is going to be doing the DofE Award, let them know about our volunteering opportunities.

Work Sessions - come along and join-in

If you were put off by the heavy digging that was needed in the past, please come along and try again.

The site has now got to the stage where it's more general maintenance.

The sessions are now weeding and watering to maintain the site and more planting will be done in September/October this year.

Volunteers have worked hard to clear the Orchard to enable planting.

Future dates are:

- **12th and 26th June**
- **10th and 31st July**
- **14th and 28th August**
- **11th and 25th September**
- **9th and 30th October**

Winter dates to follow.

It's a great way to meet your neighbours.

Other volunteering opportunities

We will be recruiting new trustees to join the Board later this year. Please get in touch if you're interested.

There are also other volunteering opportunities to support the charity.

The trustees are looking for people to take on specific roles, for example organising the regular work parties and writing the newsletter, which will go quarterly now that things have stabilised.

Visitors

More and more people are using the site - which is never closed. Do come along and see the progress that has been made

The Orchard is a quiet pace to sit.

One of the Council Officers can be found there from time to time, quietly doing his paperwork.

The Future



Bench at the back of the Orchard

As those of you who regularly read the newsletter and/or visit the site will have seen, tremendous progress has been made on bringing the site into public use.

Most of the structural work is now finishing and we're moving on to planting and general maintenance.

As less is happening now the newsletter will be going quarterly, so the next one will be in mid-September.

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.

If you use Amazon, please consider switching to 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](#) which 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 or use the Contact form on the website [Contact Us](#)

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

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.

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

Contributors - Suzanne King and Karen Goodman