



Green spaces network and word from the wood

Debbie Linton, of The Friends of Cherry Tree Wood, reports on the latest activities of this group supporting our local green space.

New green network

The Friends have been looking into introducing a new Greenspaces Network across Barnet. At an inaugural meeting in July approximately 25 people representing various green spaces groups were keen to set up such an organisation. The aim is to help groups share ideas and expertise, and better liaise with the council.

Matthew Gunyon, from the Barnet Greenspaces Department, attended the meeting and explained the structure of his department. Roger Chapman

from our group has agreed to chair the new network, with the next meeting scheduled in October. The Friends are grateful to Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery for hosting the meeting.

Survey on the wood

The Friends of Cherry Tree Wood have carried out a survey asking the community about their views and aspirations for the wood, both for the short and the long term. The plan is to use the results to help prioritise and shape the activities of the Friends. Approximately 280 people responded and the results will be published on the Friends website and Facebook page towards the end of September.

Litter pick

A few local residents carried out a litter pick on 11 August. Amongst the undergrowth two discarded bespoke children's benches were discovered. The hope is to refurbish and place them in the children's playground. The council has installed new fox-proof bins

near the Summerlee exit to the wood and have also given the Friends keys for the noticeboard.

Forthcoming events and next meeting

The next full meeting for the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood is on Tuesday 17 September at 7.30pm at Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery, and everyone is welcome. The Friends are also holding a bird and bat box making event for all the family on Sunday 22 September from 10.30am to 12.30pm. In addition on Saturday 26 October anyone can join a litter-pick at 10.30am followed later by a guided history walk at 2pm.

Get in touch,

membership is free

Email the Friends at friendsofcherrytreewood@gmail.com or visit our website at <https://wordpress.com/view/friendsofcherrytreewood.home.blog> or find us on Facebook @cherrytreewood and on Instagram @friendsofcherrytreewood



The wonder of two: Diana and Elvis read The Archer. Photo Ian Cormack

Can't help falling in love with The Archer

Archer team members Diana and Ian Cormack recently returned from the USA where they enjoyed a 2,000-mile road trip through seven states in the Deep South.

Ian, a big fan of Elvis Presley, was pleased to see that his musical hero had not left the building when they visited Madame Tussauds in Music City, Nashville.

And with Prince Harry lookalike Jerry Lee Lewis smiling in the background, The King couldn't wait to get his hands on the latest copy of The Archer.

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Links with Japan:
Singer Naomi Suzuki

Join with Japan

Finchley-based singer Naomi Suzuki is staging a special event that aims to bridge the cultural space between the UK and Japan a year ahead of the Olympic Games in Tokyo.

The evening will be a celebration of the Japan-UK Year of Culture presenting much-loved J-pop classics that have been specially arranged and performed by Naomi and the James Taylor Quartet.

Special guest stars include Yuriko Kotani, the BBC New Comedy Award winning comedian, and superstar actress and singer Mari Natsuki who is travelling from Japan to give an exclusive performance. There will also be a traditional daikagura routine by Michiyo Kagami.

The Bridge Together concert takes place at the Cadogan Hall, Sloane Terrace, SW1, on Tuesday 1 October. Tickets are on sale at cadoganhall.com and you can watch a preview on YouTube by searching UK-JAPAN Bridge Together.



Kebab kings: Eddie and Mehmet, of the New Local Café.

Kebab-ulous!

The huge numbers of friends and neighbours who flocked to Cherry Tree Wood for this year's East Finchley Festival in June ensured it was one of the most popular festivals ever. Talk to Eddie and Mehmet from the New Local Café in the High Road and you get an even better idea of just how busy the day was.

Mehmet said their stall sold an astounding 500 kebabs in six hours. Hungry customers kept on coming and at peak times the two café staff were serving two kebabs every minute. "We were rushed off our feet all afternoon, it never stopped," said Mehmet. "It was our fifth festival and for us it was the busiest ever."

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