



Nature first: The Friends of Cherry Tree Wood have plans to make it more biodiverse. Photo Mike Coles

Woodland plan to make Cherry Tree more biodiverse

By David Melsome

A permanent wetland and ponds, pollinator-friendly mowing and foraging gardens are among the ideas in a new woodland management plan for Cherry Tree Wood.

The draft plan has been drawn up by Barnet Council in collaboration with the Forestry Commission and the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood. It should pave the way for grants and other funding to put the ideas into practice.

Other suggestions in the plan are the reintroduction of hedge laying and coppicing, and the establishment of local recovery zones to allow flora

and fauna to flourish. Forest gardens would be specific areas populated with plants that are suitable for foraging.

The permanent wetland and ponds would be part of a new drainage plan which would seek to divert and harness the large amount of standing water that accumulates on the grass area every winter and spring.

Roger Chapman, Chair of the Friends group, said: "This

is a great step forward for the Wood. Working with the council should help increase biodiversity and interest.

"This is a 'live' plan meaning it will be continuously reviewed and updated. If you have thoughts about other things that could be done do let us know so we can work with the Council to bring the plan ideas to fruition."

Friends' Festival stall

The draft plan can be seen on the Friends' website at <https://friendsofcherrytreewood.home.blog/> and the group will be displaying it on their stall at the East Finchley Festival in Cherry Tree Wood on Sunday 18 June. Roger added: "There will be an increasing opportunity for volunteers to get involved in our work so do let us know if you might be interested as we will be setting up a new conservation task group in the coming months." For more information email friendsofcherrytreewood@gmail.com

Sub-station development

In other news for Cherry Tree Wood, the six-storey development of a derelict sub-station on the Great North Road, on the other side of the tube tracks from the park, has been given the go ahead.

As reported in previous editions of *The Archer*, the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood were opposing the mixed residential and office development because the upper floors would overlook the park. Barnet Council refused planning permission but that decision has now been overturned by a Government Planning Inspector following a public hearing.

Father's mission to put the brakes on fast fashion

By John Lawrence

An East Finchley father-of-two is spearheading a project to persuade the fashion industry to change the way it does business and help prevent climate change destroying the world for our children.

Martin Flowers has set up Kyoto Kids to urge our high street fashion chains to transport their clothing products into the country every year but bringing them by air creates about 46 times more CO2 emissions than if they came by boat. Airfreight is used to get the products onto our shelves more quickly.

Hundreds of thousands of tonnes of clothing come into the country every year but bringing them by air creates about 46 times more CO2 emissions than if they came by boat. Airfreight is used to get the products onto our shelves more quickly.

Airfreight issues

Martin, who has worked in clothing production and critical path management for more than 20 years, said it doesn't make sense for the industry to operate in this way when we know we face a climate emergency.



Fashion drive: Martin Flowers

needs practical solutions."

Facing tomorrow

Martin has set out his ideas to the British Fashion Council and has created a website for his

project at <https://kyotokids.ucraft.site/>. He believes we can all help by refusing to buy 'fast fashion' and by putting pressure on established brands and retailers to avoid using airfreight.

"Textiles were the leading industry of the Industrial Revolution through the mechanisation



Cost of clothing: Martin's daughters Sabrina and Madina back his campaign

"When I looked into it, I was shocked at the amount of products that were needlessly airfreighted into the UK. The supply chain had not been managed as well as for the amount of product that was deliberately shipped by air to cash in on the surge in sales while the product is trending," he said.

"A completely new retail model is needed. How can we hope to achieve Net Zero while this is going on? There is no shortage of clothing on the shelves, we are not facing a clothing emergency; we are facing a climate emergency that

tion of the spinning and weaving in England's cotton mills," Martin added. "Children suffered during the Industrial Revolution, just like our children today will be the ones that suffer tomorrow from the current generation's inability to find effective solutions to the climate change problem."



Spine-tingling: The Phoenix gets ready for its horror film festival. Photo courtesy of Phoenix Cinema

Night of frights at the Phoenix

By Claire Kleinman

Back in April, the Phoenix Cinema hosted a film festival for fans of horror called Creepuscula! The screening event was presented by The Malarkey Film Festival, a grassroots, mostly-for-fun but serious-about-art organisation that celebrates film makers and their community.

Originating in New York, Malarkey had two successful screenings at the Phoenix, programming short films from emerging independent filmmakers, after receiving more than 750 submissions from London and all over the world in categories such as Experimental, Docu and Queer horror. The final screening

shortlist consisted of 23 films.

The Malarkey Film Festival says it is committed to accessibility with free submissions and pay-what-you-wish entry to all of their events. Keep an eye out for future collaborations between Phoenix and Malarkey, possibly in the autumn. Find out more at malarkeyfilmfestival.com

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