

Friends of Friary Park

Spring Newsletter 2025

Welcome to the Friends of Friary Park Spring newsletter

You've got Friends!

It's been a busy 12 months for the Friends of Friary Park. Over this time we've:

- Become a CIC (Community Interest Company)
- Established a community orchard with 16 different fruit trees
- Planted hundreds of mixed bulbs
- Supported the opening of a new cafe
- Held a celebration event for the Ukrainian local community
- Established a new hedgerow along the fence at Friern Barnet Lane
- Worked with Thames 21 to develop flood alleviation and wetland plans
- Built a new website and published quarterly newsletters
- Forged links with the Barnet Green Spaces Network
- Developed links with Community Focus and Friary House



There is more we'd like to do and are looking for committed and motivated individuals to take on specific projects, for example a community event, which we will support, or take the lead on looking after the orchard, flowerbed or planning improvements to the play area.

To find out more about us, please visit <https://linktr.ee/friendsoffriarypark> where you'll find links to our Facebook page, website and more.

If you'd like to be involved please email us on Friendsoffriarypark@gmail.com



Flood works under way

We're delighted to see good progress is being made with the Blackett's Brook flood alleviation work in the park.

The scheme will reduce the flood risk to nearby properties, highways and infrastructure to the south of the park, including homes in Torrington Park and Friary Close.

The constructed wetland will provide water quality improvements to Blackett's Brook. The scheme will also boost the park's biodiversity and be an attractive new amenity for park visitors.

The scheme, which is due to be completed by late summer/early autumn, will help Barnet Council achieve its goal of becoming net zero as a council by 2030 and as a borough by 2042. It is also part of their broader BarNET ZERO initiative to tackle the climate emergency and protect biodiversity across the borough.

Further updates can be found on Barnet Council's Facebook page.



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Water good bunch!

Thank you to our friends at Good Gym who lent a hand watering the community orchard and new hedgerow - both in dire need of a drink after the recent dry weather.

To find out more and how you can get involved, please visit www.goodgym.org

Please email Friendsoffriarypark@gmail.com if you'd like to join our watering rota.

Sign this Petition to prevent sewage polluting Barnet's waterways

Very sadly rivers and streams in Barnet are being polluted with raw sewage when some new residential developments are being built.

If toilet waste and foul water are incorrectly misconnected, it can mean sewage being accidentally plumbed into rain water drains, which then flows untreated into nearby waterways.

Unfortunately Dollis Brook in Finchley and Silk Stream in Hendon have both been polluted by misconnections from nearby blocks of flats. Thankfully Blackett's Brook is not currently affected, but with new local developments we are concerned the same could happen in the future.

To prevent future problems, a petition has been formed asking Barnet Council to use its planning powers to make sure the plans for new developments are designed to prevent pollution and inspected properly to make sure drains are correctly connected.

To sign the petition on Barnet Council's website before 31/05/25 please visit <http://za25.2.vu/1>

