

Friends of Friary Park

Spring Newsletter 2024

Friends of Friary Park cafe opens for business!



This Valentine's Day saw the long awaited opening of the Friends of Friary cafe, serving delicious coffee, cakes, waffles and a variety of other hot and cold snacks.

The cafe, run by local residents Katia, her sister Anna and friend Sultan, is operating from a trailer outside Friary House while the council continues to monitor the subsidence of the Grade II listed building.

Although there is currently no indoor seating they have a covered gazebo so you can enjoy a cuppa while staying dry from any passing rain showers!

The cafe opening hours are 9.30am-3pm Monday-Wednesday and 9.30am-5pm Thursday-Sunday.

Katia says: "We are so happy to be open at last!" We are too.

Please pop along and show them your support.



Blacketts Brook flood alleviation scheme update

Final plans have been drawn for the Blacketts Brook flood alleviation scheme following the Thames 21 consultation event last October. The scheme proposes to construct a wetland/flood storage basin in the north-western corner of the park as well as carry out river restoration works including removing artificial banks, river widening and the cretion of a series of small ponds and woody dams to slow down the water flow downstream.

The scheme has gone our to tender with a contractor expected to be appointed in June and works under way in the summer. To find out more please visit <https://bit.ly/3xSPXGG>



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Community Orchard plans come to fruition

Members of the Friends of Friary Park came together one Saturday in January to plant fruit trees in a new community orchard in the top of the park near the bowling club .

The Friends group have worked with the council to identify a suitable plot for the orchard which will encourage pollinators and biodiversity into the park. So far the Friends have planted 13 trees including apples, pears, cherries, damson, plum and quince. We have plans to plant more trees in the future as well as to raise funds to buy benches, bulbs and perennial flowers for the orchard.

If you are interested in planting a tree or getting involved in the upkeep of the orchard, or of the flower beds we have adopted, please email Friendsoffriarypark@gmail.com.

Help us report pollution

Sadly we are still seeing episodes of pollution like this in Blacketts Brook in the park.

If you spot pollution please help us by reporting it immediately to Thames Water on 0800 316 9800, the Environment Agency on 0800 807060 and also report on the Thames Pollution tracker on <https://www.thameswater.co.uk/help/emergencies/pollution>.

Together we can help protect the park's ecosystem and wildlife.



Read all about us!

Friends of Friary Park is made up of a group of local people who want to benefit the local community and wildlife.

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

For regular updates pls follow us X/Twitter, Instagram and Facebook using the handle friendsoffriarypark

Alternatively you can email us on Friendsoffriarypark@gmail.com

