



FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Friends of Oxleas Woodlands



Volunteering Dates

February

Friday 16th, 10am-1pm Woodland Conservation
Sunday 18th, 10am-noon Rose Garden
Tuesday 20th, 10am-1pm Woodland Conservation
Saturday 24th, 10am-noon Litter Picking

March

Friday 1st, 10am-1pm Woodland Conservation
Friday 8th, 2-4pm Rose Garden
Saturday 9th, 10am-1pm Woodland Conservation*
Friday 15th, 10am-1pm Woodland Conservation
Saturday 16th, 10am-noon Rose Garden
Tuesday 19th, 10am-1pm Woodland Conservation
Saturday 23rd, 10am-noon Litter Picking

*Shooters Hill Woodlands Working Party

For more information about volunteering contact oxleas.volunteers@gmail.com



Hello I'm Katie,

I have been actively volunteering with FOW almost from day one. When I saw that the roses from Castle Wood Garden had been removed, without a plan for replacement, I reached out to FOW to protect the two formal flower gardens. Since then we have replanted Castle Wood Garden and created a picnic area.

Dedicated volunteers have continued to tend to Jackwood Garden every month but the roses are old, weak and depleted in number. So we applied for a grant.

I'm delighted to announce that we have successfully been awarded £8,140 from National Grid Electricity Transmission's Community Grant Programme. This is to restore the garden by replacing the edging, improving the soil, and planting a wildlife-friendly, drought-resistant garden. All work will take place this year so you'll notice changes very soon.

Katie, FOW Steering Group Member

To become a volunteer with the Friends of Oxleas Woodlands, please email Christine oxleas.volunteers@gmail.com

www.oxleaswoodlands.uk

For More Information

@OxleasFriends

Friends of Oxleas Woodlands

Have Your Say: New Planting Scheme



We've learnt from our planting in Castle Wood that we need disease-resistant, drought-tolerant plants and greater ground cover to minimise weeds. Plants that can tolerate wear and tear from wildlife and visitors are also required, but being next to a SSSI they can't be plants that spread by seed.

When we are volunteering, people often tell us that they would like more year-round interest, that they value strong scents and that they'd enjoy seeing more pollinators.

Thanks to a successful application to the National Grid Electricity Transmission's Community Grant Programme we are in a position to plan a new planting scheme we'd like to hear what you think. Please [complete this short survey](https://forms.gle/oLWD6c6PvfVMuLmd8) to have your say.

forms.gle/oLWD6c6PvfVMuLmd8

nationalgrid

FOW Walks & Events

Paths, Verges and Scallops

Saturday 9th March, 10am

Discover the importance of scallops! This guided walk will explore what has been achieved in the first stages of the Pathways Project, demonstrating where improvements have been made and what we have planned next. If you would like to know more about woodland conservation, join Alan, for the second outing of this new walk.

Booking is essential for all walks. Please contact Mike oxleas.events@gmail.com or use the QR code to book directly. Walks are free, donations are welcome.



A Memento From Oxleas

Some roses remain in Jackwood Garden but not enough to base a planting scheme around. We'll be looking for new homes for those that are not being incorporated. If you'd like to offer a fresh bed to an Oxleas rose please email oxleas.friends@gmail.com. We'll be lifting them when they've the best chance of survival, probably in the autumn, and will contact adopters when they're ready for re-homing.



Jackwood House

Why do we call this garden Jackwood? Because it's on the site of Jackwood House, originally Mayfield House. It was built in 1862-63 in the Mock Tudor style, and demolished in 1918. The ornamental brick terrace remains almost unchanged.



To find out more about the house, and it's occupants, you should join one of Tom's popular guided walks. We will announce 2024 dates soon.

FOW AGM - Tuesday 19th March, 7:30pm

The AGM is your chance to hear about our key achievements; to have your say on FOW priorities for the year ahead; and to select Steering Committee members. This year we're actively recruiting to the Chair and Secretary roles. Following the meeting we'll be joined by a senior employee from the Parks Department.

If you'd like to know more about Oxleas Woodlands and the Friends visit www.oxleaswoodlands.uk