

# . BARN HILL CONSERVATION GROUP

Registered Charity No. 1085476

## 'Keeping in Touch'

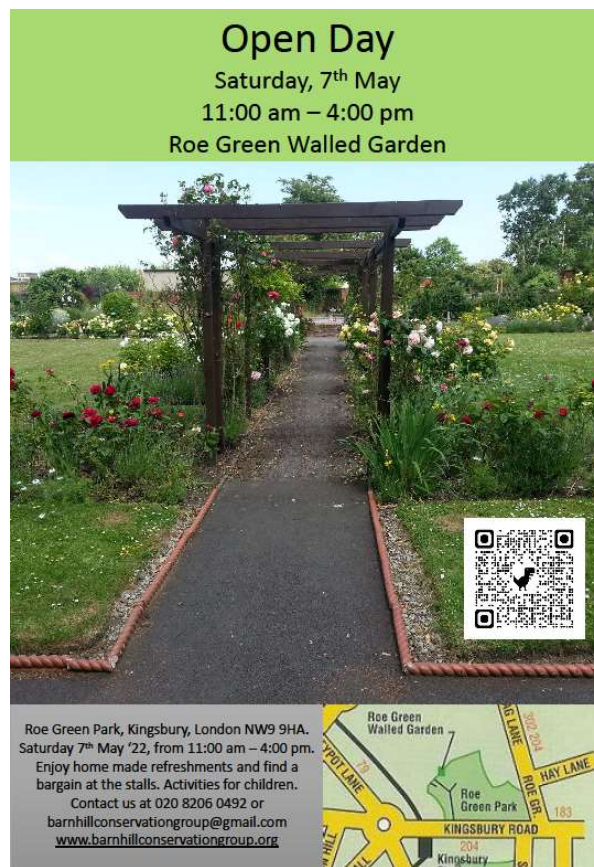
Issue 83 – April 2022

### **New web site**

Our web site has now changed to [barnhillconservationgroup.org](http://barnhillconservationgroup.org)

### **Walled Garden**

We are planning an open day for the first time since covid. It will take place on 7 May. Details are shown in the photograph below.



The poster features a green header with the text: "Open Day", "Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> May", "11:00 am – 4:00 pm", and "Roe Green Walled Garden". Below the header is a photograph of a paved path leading through a garden with a wooden pergola structure. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner of the photo. At the bottom of the poster, there is a map showing the location of Roe Green Walled Garden and Roe Green Park, with street names like Kingsbury Road, Hay Lane, and Frog Lane. To the left of the map, the following text is provided: "Roe Green Park, Kingsbury, London NW9 9HA. Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May '22, from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. Enjoy home made refreshments and find a bargain at the stalls. Activities for children. Contact us at 020 8206 0492 or [barnhillconservationgroup@gmail.com](mailto:barnhillconservationgroup@gmail.com) [www.barnhillconservationgroup.org](http://www.barnhillconservationgroup.org)

During the winter we have welcomed 120 children from Roe Green Infants school, who visited the garden They came in four groups of 30. Thanks to Carol and Ann who escorted them round the Garden showing the various animal and insect habitats.

We have now discovered that our large wooden shed - the one at the back by the stumpery - had developed serious rot in the woodwork due to water rising up from the ground. The rot has affected both the floor and the bottoms of the side panels.

Fortunately one of our volunteers, Jim, is a retired craftsman. Jim set about making good the damage by cutting back the rotten sections of the floor of the shed, and also removing the rotted side panels all around the shed. The side panels have now been replaced and Jim is now working on building up the floor area. We believe that with these repairs the shed will have many years life left.

Jim has devoted a lot of his time over the last few years as a volunteer in the garden. He has carried out many repairs to our buildings, repointing the brick walls, laying paving stones and he has restored several antique wooden benches like new.

Bernard

### **Fryent Country Park**

Since the beginning of the year the Sunday project team volunteers have completed 17 projects in Park. The Gaderbrook project has now ended with interpretation panels erected – these were designed by Isha, Rose and Mireille and we thank them for their beautiful artwork showing nature around the Gaderbrook. Thanks also to Maurice for all his hard work on this project.

The young people doing the Duke of Edinburgh Award have contributed much to the projects and are learning new skills including hedge laying.

We were joined by representatives from the Frog Life organisation for a very muddy project on Richards and Honey Slough ponds to smooth the ponds' edges. Kim

### **Frog spawn at Fryent Country Park**

The common frog is monitored at the Park by counting the clumps of spawn. This indicates the number of adult pairs. 1129 clumps were recorded in 2022 which represents a large population, but nevertheless was only half the quantity recorded in 2021. Frog spawn counts do vary and factors that can affect the common frog include habitat, disease, predation, weather and ponds losing water. We have worked on several ponds along the Gaderbrook stream to improve the ponds' habitats.

The Survey Team

### **An appreciative Barn Hill walker**

As a regular user of Barn Hill Park it gives me great pleasure to express my gratitude to all the hard working volunteers who work so hard to make the area such an enjoyable place to visit. The work you have undertaken is so professional and expertly undertaken that many users forget that it is carried out by volunteers not horticultural professionals.

The work on widening the paths and trimming back the hanging branches has really worked and enhances the place for walkers, whether solitary or in groups as it makes the paths so open and spacious, enabling people to see their surrounding areas more clearly. The litter pickers are amazing, always so cheerful and thorough, despite having to revisit specific areas again and again as the thoughtless actions of some visitors often leaves me disheartened and angry - but not, it seems, the litter pickers. If they sometimes want to scream, I understand.

The fields and wild flower areas are amazing, so expertly managed, attracting so many butterflies, bees and insects. Sometimes I get lost in its beauty and when I come home after about a two hour stroll, I don't know where the time went. During my strolls I often talk to children, as I see them so happy, learning about tadpoles, frogs, ducklings and of course the resident heron. All made possible by your work on the ponds and surrounding areas.

I notice that when you have had a good morning's work how neat and tidy the whole place is left. Nothing is left to chance, everything is planned to ensure maximum success. Your work is inspirational much appreciated. Teresa

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We are open at Roe Green Walled Garden Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 am to 2pm. Sundays we are out in Fryent Country Park from 10 am to 12.30 pm carrying out conservation project work. Our new programme of projects will start again in May. Please see the web site below for details, or telephone the Garden. Feel free to join us in our conservation projects at Fryent Country Park or Roe Green Walled Garden. We are still collecting old pottery garden pots. We also collect scrap metal such as copper, brass, aluminium, which help in fund raising.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Open day	Saturday 7 May (11am to 4pm)
AGM	Saturday 28 May 10.30am

Contact number: Garden 0208 206 0492 (answerphone if we are unable to answer)  
Email: [barnhillconservationgroup@gmail.com](mailto:barnhillconservationgroup@gmail.com)  
Our Website: [www.barnhillconservationgroup.org](http://www.barnhillconservationgroup.org)