

Finsbury Park's monthly bulletin!

We aim to make the most of local resources, local community and local knowledge to build a more sustainable future. Our monthly bulletin will let you know what we've been up to as well as upcoming events that you can get involved in – we hope to see you soon.



Our community growers

Fruits and fun at the John Scott Health Centre

This April saw Transition volunteers, Springpark Drive neighbours and children from Woodberry Down Children's Centre turn out to work in beautiful sunny weather to plant apple trees, cherry trees, grape vines (thanks Capital

Growth), some herbs (thanks Sue) and a load of soft fruits taken from cuttings last Autumn (thanks Poppy) at the John Scott Health Centre (a.k.a. Springpark Orchard) over two afternoons.

On Saturday 10th April, we planted the apple trees and dug holes for the grape vines. Philippe, Michelle, Gloria, Adam, Jen, Anya and the family at the end of the terrace worked like Trojans. Neighbours filled numerous empty containers to water in the plants. The following Tuesday, Mary and Lizzy brought a group of nursery children out and they were with us all afternoon, so we had more than enough pairs of hands to finish the job. Patrick, John, David, Chris, Poppy, Sue and her two boys all worked really hard digging holes for the cherry trees to go in by the bench. Carol and Mia arrived fashionably late to help planting the soft fruit cuttings. John, who lives opposite, lent us his hose to water the plants in.

It was absolutely brilliant project to take part in, really satisfying, and I think it's fair to say everyone felt pretty proud and hopefully learned a little about tree planting.

Unfortunately, since then, a spate of thefts has left us with only one grape vine and two cherry trees outside Jon's house, which was extremely upsetting for everyone who put so much hard work into the planting. Despite this though, we will be looking to replace the stolen herbs and fruit trees, and will be doing the planting on Sun 23 May (see the May dates for details), so it would be lovely if you were able to join us for this community project.

<http://transitionfinsburypark.org.uk/JohnScott>

Mud Pies With A Purpose

Come make cob with us – it's fun to make, and this strong, easy to repair, non-toxic building material gives us internal air humidity that is healthy, has a super-low carbon footprint and is easily reused. Cob is made by mixing (by stamping) on clay subsoil with sand and straw, then forming it into cob 'loaves' to build with. Before concrete people built with cob (you can still see thatched cob houses in Devon) and about one third of the world's population currently live in earth dwellings. Linda from TFP runs Cob in the Community and has projects going at Vauxhall City Farm and Pooles Park Primary School here in N4. There are even plans to do a cob building as part of the Meadows project behind the health centre in Crouch End. See our 'May Events' section for your chance to come and make mud pies for a reason and for children to get lovely and muddy... and don't forget your wellies!



Linda gets stuck into Cob making

N4 Stitch 'n' Bitch

Fancy getting into crafts? This May we are starting evening knitting session at the World's End pub on Stroud Green Road. We plan on using the sofas by the window next to Lennox Road - ask at the bar for where to find us. We also want to do daytime knitting sessions in partnership with the Homeless Families Project on the corner of Gloucester Drive and Queens Drive, but need someone to take a lead on this. The sessions will be on Monday afternoons and the lead person would need to commit to attending regularly and be prepared to be CRB checked. The Homeless Families Project also has six sewing machines, so the scope of this project could be extended. If you think you can help please contact Jo Homan at tt@jo.homan.me.uk, or on 0208 802 1507, or come along to our meet-ups if you just want to learn in a friendly atmosphere.



Knit one, purl one



Money will go towards cycling lessons

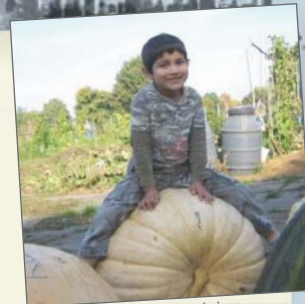
Cycling promotion in Finsbury Park gets a boost

Travel N4, Transition Finsbury Park's transport group, has successfully applied for funding for a bike project which aims to engage some of the worshippers at the Muslim

Welfare Centre on Seven Sisters Road. This money will provide the youth groups bikeability cycle training, access to pool bikes, storage for bikes and cycle maintenance teaching. Funding comes from the Community Cycling Fund, administered by London Campaign for cycling, which provides community groups with grants to promote cycling in underrepresented groups.

Greenhouses Project Meeting

Our part of north London needs a good local nursery that can provide fruiting trees and bushes as well as training sessions on plant care. There is also a huge demand for allotment spaces. We have some loose plans to create a community nursery and allotments in Finsbury Park itself - and already have £980 from Capital Growth go to towards the project. The (rough) project plan spreadsheet can be downloaded from <http://transitionfinsburypark.org.uk/nursery>. At this stage we need an organising group to do things like refine the business plan and create allotment agreement. Please come along to the open meeting on 8th May, 2pm - 4pm, at the café in the centre of Finsbury Park if you want to be part of the project's steering group.



Pumpkin training

May 2010 Dates:

Cob building

Help do some cob mixing, and build an oven, a workbench and some seats. Pooles Park Primary School, Lennox Road, N4 3NW Various dates:

Cob Oven Building	Tue 27 April 10:00 – 17:00	Tue 4 May 10:00 – 12:00
Cob workbench	Mon 10 May 10:00 – 12:00	Tue 18 May 10:00 – 17:00
Cob seats	Sat 29 May 10:00 – 16:30	

Call 07971881229 (Linda) if you want to come along.

Stitch n Bitch N4

Come along to knit and meet other knitters. Learn from others in this group for beginners and newbies.

Every Monday, 19:00 – 22:00

Worlds End pub, 21-23 Stroud Green Rd, London, N4 3EF

Community Nursery and Allotment meeting

Open meeting to discuss this project:

<http://transitionfinsburypark.org.uk/nursery>

Sat 8 May, 14:00 – 16:00

Cafe in centre of Finsbury Park

'Bring' at Jamboree

Have a spring clear-out and bring along unwanted children's toys, clothes and (non-electrical) equipment, and make way for the new items you can pick up tomorrow! It's a perfect to save money and keep the kids entertained. There is also a play session in the afternoon, 13.00 - 14.30,

to which you can also bring items. Jamboree Playhuts is just inside the main entrance to Finsbury Park, near Lidl.

Thurs 13 May, 10:30 – 12:00

Jamboree Playhuts, Finsbury Park, N4 2AA

'Take' at Jamboree

Your chance to pick up the children's toys, clothes and (non-electrical) equipment brought in from Thursday's 'bring' event. Jamboree Playhuts is just inside the main entrance to Finsbury Park, near Lidl.

Fri 14 May, 10:30 – 14:30

Jamboree Playhuts, Finsbury Park, N4 2AA

TFP social

This is a chance to meet some of us, find out what we're up to and learn about the transition town movement.

Thurs 20 May, 20:00 – 23:00

Brownwood Tavern, 271 Green Lanes, N4 2EX

GrowN4 meeting

Planting the replacement fruit trees and herbs.

Sun 23 May, 15:00 – 16:30-

John Scott Health Centre, N4 2NU

Wilberforce Gardeners plant sale

Come see our stall at this plant sale, where there will be loads of cheap plants, second hand books and yummy cakes to buy.

Sun 30 May, 11:30 – 14:00

30 Wilberforce Road