

friends of Lenzie Moss

Summer 2023

The Friends of Lenzie Moss is a voluntary association dedicated to conserving the Moss for the benefit of present and future generations by all possible means: through education, liaison with official bodies, and appropriate environmental management.

THE NEW BOARDWALK AND PATH UPGRADE 2023



MORE LOCAL SKILLS

Towards the end of last year, a local resident, Ian Logan, approached us to ask whether he could have some of the recent tree loppings which had been taken down as part of the path upgrade in the north and south woods. He had recently taken up wood turning, and found that turning green wood was much easier than turning wood that had been fully dried out.

We checked with EDC and they confirmed that Ian could have some of the wood, leaving some as habitat piles for the local wildlife.

He told us that he would use some of the larger size pieces for bowls and some of the thinner pieces for peppermills, and reported later – “I lifted two logs this morning and will send some photos of the process of using them to create bowls. Basically the log is cut to approximately 12” lengths and these are then sliced up into about three pieces, each of which is then turned into a bowl. The process takes some time because, whilst the best time to turn the wood is when it is green i.e. wet, it does need to be dried out, which can often cause warping. So the drying out does take some time.”

These are just some of the photos that Ian sent us to show the making of a bowl. It's quite a complex process and you'll find more photos and descriptions on our website. Well worth a look.



Bowl mounted on the lathe and ready for fashioning



Cutting deeply into the blank



The end of the log prior to trimming and cutting with the chain saw



Nearing completion

Chairperson's Report 2023

Paul highlighted at the AGM the events of the year, in particular,

- EDC's upgrade of the paths and the new boardwalk.
- our presentation about FoLM to The Inner Wheel
- representations to EDC about the draft proposal to create a cycle route through the Moss from Lenzie Station to Westerhill
- walks to learn more about the Moss's butterflies, fossorial water voles, the role of the Moss in climate change strategies
- consultations with Butterfly Scotland in relation to creating a "bog toolkit", and a new Friends group in relation to Low Moss and High Moss
- leading a guided walk for the teachers at Lenzie Academy, and liaising with Lenzie Meadow School about future Moss-related learning projects for their pupils.

He then went on to say that this was a good juncture to take stock of where FoLM was as an organisation and what its aims should be going forward.

He ran over what our aims have been so far since its inception and how we have achieved them.

Going forward, our aims may well be different. At present, the objectives the committee undertakes on our behalf are,

- to act as a conduit between our members and EDC with regard to happenings on the Moss
- to be vigilant about adverse proposals that could affect the Moss
- to organise events on the Moss in partnership with the Rangers, and liaise with them about conservation work
- to issue a twice yearly newsletter to members about items of interest relevant to the Moss
- to maintain publicity about the Moss via our notice boards, website and Facebook page.

These objectives may need to change and this is to be a subject of ongoing discussion. Paul said, "The committee is very open to suggestions from members if a change of remit is advantageous, so let us know if you have any thoughts on this. We all welcome a fresh pair of eyes!"

The past and future of FoLM was illustrated in the subsequent slide show.

Finally, Paul thanked the committee for their work over the past year, and in particular, he gave a big thank you to Joan and Ian Christie, who are retiring from the committee. Joan and Ian have been committee members for many years, and have been regular volunteers and attendees at our meetings.

Report From Jackie Gillespie Of EDC's Streetscene Department

Paul gave an illustrated slide show of Jackie's report, the full text and photos from which you can see on our website.

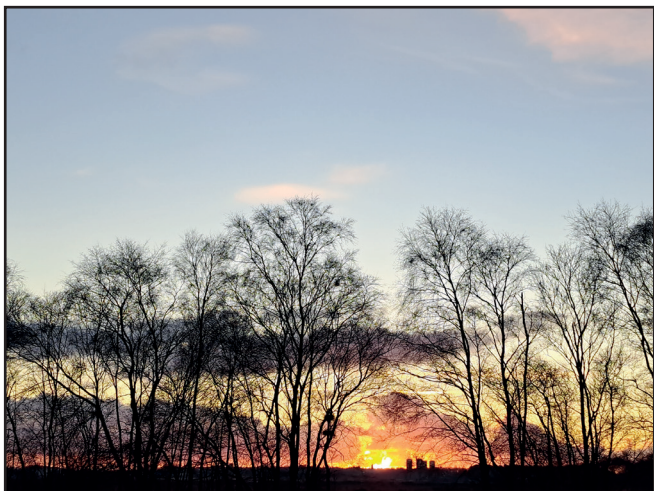
The report covers,

- technical details of the boardwalk construction and pathworks
- cleaning of drainage ditches and installing new dams
- an update on the water voles' habitat
- future works on the Moss, including a new management plan and hydrological survey



New channel put in to improve drainage in the north woods

NEWS IN BRIEF



Sunset over the Moss in February

Presentation To The Inner Wheel

In February this year Paul and Christine gave a slide presentation on Zoom to the local members of The Inner Wheel. They were interested in finding out what FoLM was all about.

It's always interesting – and useful – to put your mind to explaining to others what your organisation does, and it's always more than you think.

We covered a bit of the Moss's history; the beginnings of FoLM and its efforts over the years to protect the Moss from housing development and urbanisation; the activities we and the Rangers have put on each year for both adults and children; our support for EDC's conservation work, along with the maintenance work on the Moss undertaken by the Rangers and volunteers.

Looking back, we hope FoLM has been doing a good job, and certainly a big thankyou goes to everyone who cares about the Moss.

The Late Alma Griffin

We were very sorry to learn of the recent death of one of our long-standing members, Mrs. Alma Griffin, age 96. Alma had been a member from the very beginning alongside Bea Rae, and was a regular attendee at our meetings. She cared very much about the Moss as a community asset and was a great supporter of FoLM. Her daughter Kate, also a member, wrote a very fond tribute to her mother which we had on display at our AGM along with Alma's photo.

Upcoming Walks On The Moss

- **The Marvellous Moss,
Saturday 9th September 2pm – 3:30pm
“History, wildlife, flora & fauna”**
Bring: Dress for the weather, stout footwear. No dogs except guide dogs. **Cost: £9**
- **Fungus Amungus, Lenzie
Saturday 7th October 2pm – 3:30pm
“mushrooms and fungi – a beginner's guide”
Minimum age 12yrs.**
Bring: Dress for the weather, stout footwear, fungi ID book if you have one. No dogs except guide dogs. **Cost: £7**
**Booking essential for both events via
Mugdock Country Park website. Go to
“Things to do” then “What's On”.**

Membership

We are very grateful for your support, which is vital to us in our work of protecting this outstanding local greenspace; so please continue your membership, and persuade others to become Friends of Lenzie Moss too.

Annual Membership fees are:

- **Single, retired or unwaged £7**
- **Family £12**

Subscriptions cover the year 1st April until 31st March the following year. For this you will receive twice-yearly Newsletters, and will be notified of events and activities concerning the Moss.

Committee Members

Chairperson: Paul Dudman
email pdudman@gmail.com

Treasurer: Katherine Kelsey
email katherine.kelsey@ntlworld.com

Committee: Emily Henderson
Christine Morrison

Website: www.friendsoflenziemoss.org.uk

FoLM email: friendsoflenziemoss@gmail.com

Members wishing to join the committee are always welcome.