

# Friends of Nunhead Cemetery Practical Work Annual Report 1/4/2024 to 31/3/2025

## Hours worked

This section of the report covers all Friends of Nunhead Cemetery (FONC) activities in the Cemetery recorded in the Volunteering book, other than that done by the Monument Inscriptions Recording volunteers and the Publications and Enquiries Desk volunteers, which will be reported separately.

This report covers a full 12 months.

Total hours worked (practical work):	808 hours	(Last year: 791¾ hours) (This is a record)
Total number of volunteers (practical work):	35 volunteers	(Last year: 32)
Total hours worked (external groups):	284 ¾ hours	(Last year: N/A)
Total number of external volunteers:	28 volunteers	
Total number of FONC volunteer attendances:	32 volunteers	

## Practical workday report

This was a record breaking year when it comes to the amount of work done, so a huge thankyou to all the volunteers.

Yet again, dealing with storm damaged trees has been a major component of our work. With extreme weather expected to increase with increasing global warming, we can be fairly sure we will not run out of tasks to do!

There is a small grove of hazel trees and this year we coppiced them (which means cutting all the straight stems; they will regrow with even more vigour), and used the material for fencing. Both coppicing and protecting areas from disturbance are important ways of varying the habitat within the cemetery, hopefully increasing the variety of birds, small mammals, insects and indeed plants and fungi within the cemetery.

We also spent a lot of time keeping paths clear, showing that the brambles and other weeds appreciate lots of rain, even if it is not very sunny. The wet weather showed up where the paths were prone to flooding, so we also did some barrowing of hardcore to fill in the bigger puddles, and we replaced the steps across the cemetery. And for ourselves, we put in a proper path from our storage container so that next Open Day we will not be struggling to manoeuvre heavy trolleys of tables and display boards over roots and rocks.

We have made repairs to a number of monuments but where we think a task is beyond our abilities we add it to the list for recommending for professional restoration.

Plans can change, and we arrived to a special workday to replant the stone circle flower-bed to find the plants had not arrived, but a huge limb had fallen in the compound around the East Lodge damaging the fence and letting dogs and people into the worksite, so we rectified that instead.

We had three groups of volunteers come in to work with us: pupils from Colfe School, boy scouts, and a group from Pondlife who helped us dig out the pond (removing 30 year's worth of leaf mould and great quantities of invasive Flag Iris). We have great plans for future improvements to the pond area but that will be next year....

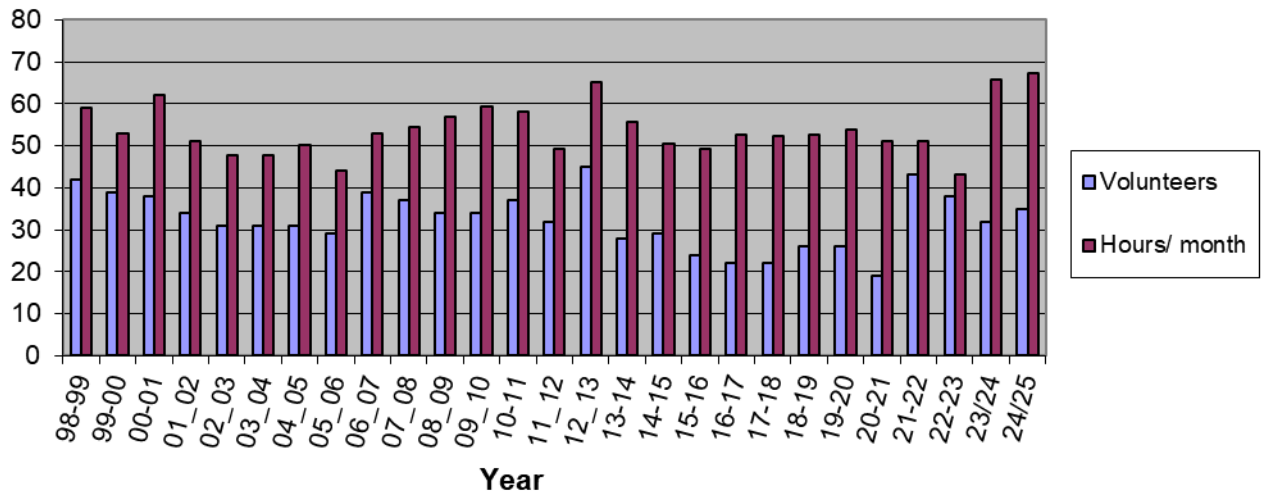
New volunteers are always welcome, you only have to do as much as suits you. We provide tools, on-the-task training, hot drinks and we have gloves if you do not have your own. Meet us at our work cabin on the first Sunday of every month, from 10am onwards. (Ring Tim and Carol Stevenson on 020 7732 8396 for more details, or e-mail [Nunhead.stevensons@gmail.com](mailto:Nunhead.stevensons@gmail.com)).

Statistics are given overleaf.

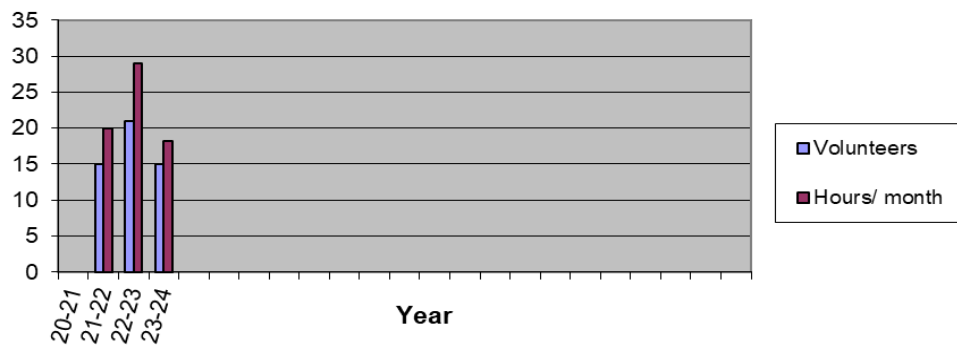


Carol Stevenson April 2025

### Voluntary work in Nunhead Cemetery



### Special events in Nunhead Cemetery



To update