

# Gardening for Disabled People at Gordon Road Allotments

The Finchley Horticultural Society has created a facility of raised beds on the Gordon Road allotment site in Finchley N3 for gardening by people with physical disabilities or sensory impairments which prevent them from gardening at ground level. This would include people using wheelchairs, people who cannot bend or have restricted mobility,



people who need to sit down or have balance problems, people with visual impairments, some people recovering from strokes and others. This facility is available from Spring 2011. Working in partnership with Disability Action in Barnet and other local charities, it is hoped that this vital therapeutic resource will benefit local residents, affected by disability, who otherwise would not have access to gardening facilities.

**The Raised Beds:** Each bed is 7.2m (24 feet) long but can be sub-divided to suit the needs of each individual. The beds are 1.2m (4 feet) wide and of various heights, and the area between them is paved for the easy movement of wheelchairs. There are water supplies, tool storage bins and compost bins.

**The Site and the Society:** Gordon Road is half a mile from Finchley Central tube station. The site is passed by the number 382 bus and is near the route of the 326 bus. The site has parking, an accessible toilet, a rain shelter, a meeting room, a small seasonal shop, wheelbarrows, mowers, woodchip and compost. Manure and straw are seasonally available to purchase. The Society runs some social events on the site and there is a community spirit with everyone helping in various ways.

**The Cost:** The 2011 annual cost is:

FHS membership	£8.00 (£5 for 60+)
Rent a bed *	£6.35 (£3.17 for 60+)
Water and hosepipe use	£2.50 (per bed)
Key	£12 (deposit)

\* Part beds are charged pro rata



## CONTACTS

### Disability Action in the Borough of Barnet

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### Finchley Horticultural Society

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## PHOTOGRAPHS

### Thrive

Web: [www.thrive.org.uk](http://www.thrive.org.uk)

[www.carryongardening.org.uk](http://www.carryongardening.org.uk)



Thrive is a small national charity whose vision is to enable those touched by a disability to transform their lives using gardening.

## FUNDERS

### City Bridge Trust



### London Borough of Barnet Innovation Fund

