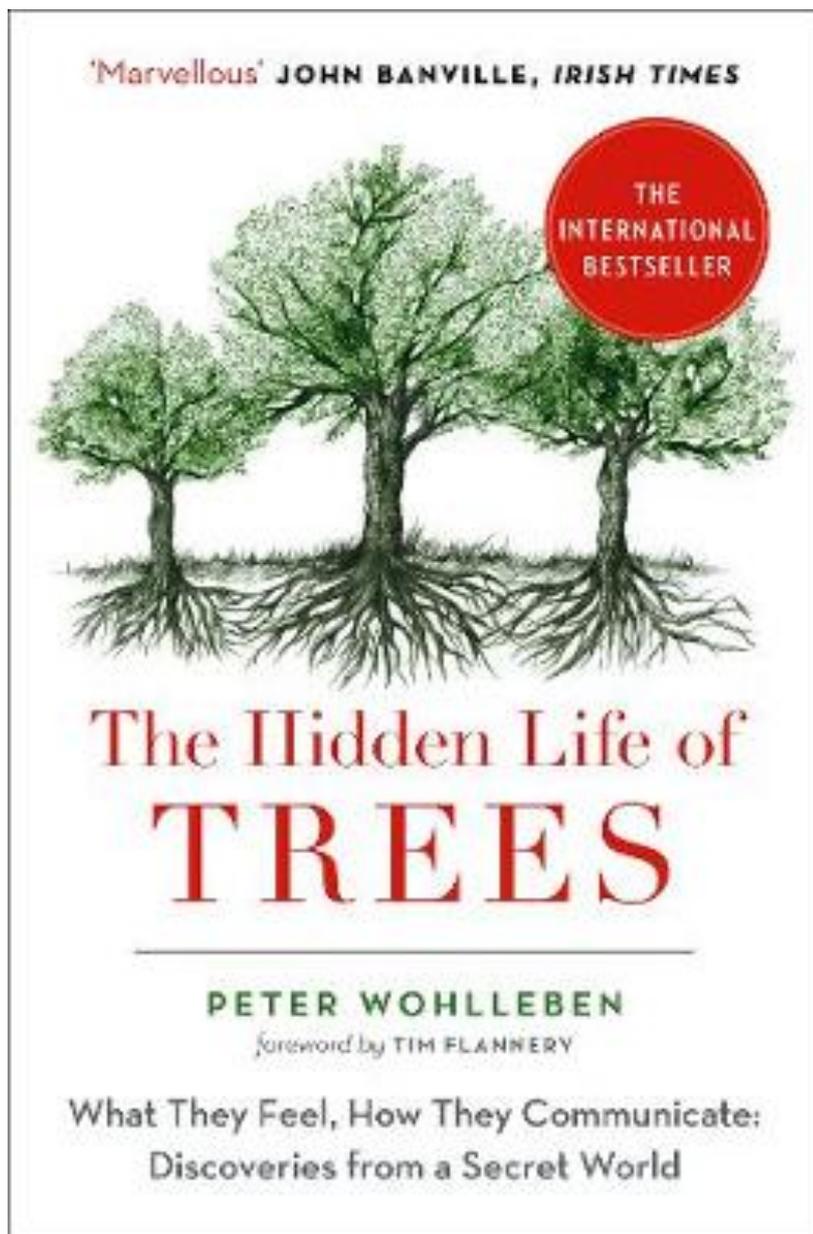


SEPTEMBER 2020

NEWSLETTER

BRIDPORT TREE PLANTING

Let's help double tree cover



We are pleased to offer a £2.00 discount for purchasers of the wonderful THE HIDDEN LIFE OF TREES by Peter Wohlleben. Just go to The Book Shop in South Street and announce you are a supporter. This book has been an inspiration to many of us planting trees to combat climate change and benefit biodiversity.

Another planting season will soon be here. By November we will have the following saplings. Please get in touch with us to discuss. crab apple , hawthorn, hazel, downy birch, silver birch, dogwood, dogrose, wild cherry, blackthorn, rowan, goat willow and a few others such as alder and sycamore ... more than 400 in total. Plus we expect donated saplings grown locally. Do you have any to give?

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We can now offer hundreds of free tree guards. Here's a photo of what they look like. They are sturdier than the ones offered by the Woodland Trust, and are 60 cms long so are rabbit, not deer, proof. Does anyone have a source of dumpy bags to store them in



please? If so, get in touch!

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Here is a picture of a small event we held in Asker Meadows to thank our thirteen "tree guardians" for looking after the saplings we planted last December - through drought and a huge growth of weeds! We seem to have lost only about three per cent of the saplings, which is very satisfying.

A message from Lin Scrannage of Bridport Cohousing.



Bridport Cohousing is a community led project which has been in the making for the last 12 years. Finally we have everything in place to begin the build and own a beautiful 7 acre site near the Community Hospital in North Allington. The 53 ecohouses will provide much needed affordable homes for local people and there will be a common house and shared amenity space for all the residents.

Our site is bounded by mature hedges on all four sides and towards the end of 2019 we decided to lay the hedge on the western boundary so that it would thicken up and provide more opportunities for wildlife to thrive. The Bridport Tree Planting project very kindly donated around 80 whips, canes and tree guards, which were duly planted by members in March this year and we have 6 tree guardians on standby to water them in dry periods. We are happy to say that they are all thriving and have already put on about a foot of new growth. The mixed native species will enhance our hedgerow and provide shelter and food for humans, insects, birds and small mammals for years to come. Thank you.

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Would you like to vote for England's TREE OF THE YEAR? Go to the Woodland Trust site here: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and->

[wildlife/british-trees/tree-of-the-year/england/](#) There is a Dorset entrant - the

Remedy Oak.

We hope you can find time to look at the latest version of the Bridport Area Tree Plan, which has now been sent out to the parishes of Allington, Bothenhampton, Bradpole, Bridport and Symondsburry.

<https://www.bridport-tc.gov.uk/bridport-area-tree-plan/>

The result of some months work, this presents maps showing areas where planting trees would NOT be a good idea, where planting to enhance the existing ecological network could be encouraged, and planting for flood risk and to help air quality. You have to play around with the maps, zoom in on them and we hope to use them to encourage planting in parishes and by agencies such as Magna Housing, with whom we are in touch. "With global warming projected to increase by a further degree within the next 2 decades and with global temperatures potentially rising to 4°C above pre-industrial levels by the end of the century, it is critical that we plan and plant our forests appropriately for both current and future climates," the document says. We agree!

That's why in the past few weeks some of our steering group members have been out visiting large-scale planters we have helped in the last year or hope to help in the next - a hillside covered in 7,000 trees, another hilltop planted with 1,000 trees carefully planned, a valley site of twenty acres with a self-seeded wood of hundreds of alder, another area where 700 trees are going in this year in an exciting mix. Elsewhere, 400 saplings which have survived but need some infilling and new guards. We can put people in touch with each other. Thank you all for your interest and with autumn coming we hope to continue to be out and about, planting trees ourselves and helping others to plant. Even if it just one humble sapling in a corner plot.



We like conifers too, sometimes. This giant Wellingtonia is said to be 150 feet tall. We reckon it is the tallest tree within ten miles of Bridport. There's a free copy of THE HIDDEN LIFE OF TREES by Peter Wohlleben for the first of our supporters to tell us its location.

Joe Hackett - Bridport Tree Planting Co-Ordinator

