

January 2026 newsletter

BRIDPORT TREE PLANTING

Let's help double tree cover



Free Fruit Trees!
Clockwise, from top left. Stella Cherry, Czar plum, Damson Farleigh, Denniston's Supreme Gage, Turkey Brown fig, Opal plum.



Yes, we are giving away to you lucky subscribers fifteen more fruit trees suitable for medium gardens and worth more than £300.00!

They are 3 Stella cherry, 2 Dennistons Supreme Gage plum, 2 Opal plum, 2 Damsons (Farleigh), 4 Czar plum and 2 Turkish Brown fig. These are good quality bare root trees from Adam's Apples near Cullompton, and ready for planting now.

To take part in our "lucky dip" draw, simply send us back an email to the address at the end of this newsletter. Head it **Fruit Tree Draw**. We'll then put you in for the draw and if you are lucky you come and collect your tree on Saturday January 10th. We'll tell you time and venue. Please note: You cannot specify which specimen of tree you might win. **Draw closes on January 7th, midday.**

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Talking of fruit trees, it was lovely to see the planting of a new orchard (80 trees) at Uploders a couple of weeks ago, part of a five acre market garden venture. Lots of young people came to help, many from long distance, and there were little children helping too.



Here are two pictures.

In case you missed it, here is the winner of the annual Woodland Trust “Tree of the Year” contest. It’s a beautiful ash in the heart of Glasgow. (Lots of other Instagram posts linked here too)

<https://www.instagram.com/woodlandtrust/reel/DPCQQDCjMAU/>

And an interesting article about garden “tredges”, a word meaning a mixture between solo trees and a hedge. The Royal Horticultural Society, no less, is pushing this idea for better wildlife habitat and to help fight climate change. They specially recommend beech, holly, western red cedar, common yew and hawthorn.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/dec/25/plant-tredges-boost-england-tree-cover-gardens-rhs>

Have you heard about the New England Trees Action Plan? Neither had we, but that’s not surprising because there is no public consultation. Here’s what a group called WILD CARD has to say.

<https://wildcard.land/2025/12/ancient-woodlands-and-the-new-england-tree-action-plan>

Locally, we are interested in the Brit Valley Project, which is becoming a reality. Funding application will have to be completed in the Spring, with news of DEFRA monies coming through in the early autumn. Our particular interest is the possibility of a proper local tree nursery with polytunnel shelter for education, grafting, bringing on of local seedlings and some staffing element. Watch this space. And watch out for our next plantings around Bridport in January and February. One, we hope, will have singing accompaniment!

Don’t forget, each household is entitled to three free native species such as hazel, crab apple, hawthorn, blackthorn. New stock coming in mid January. Distribution in February. Enquire below.

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