

NOVEMBER 21 newsletter



BRIDPORT TREE PLANTING

Let's help double tree cover

Tree planting season is here again. What we offer: individuals with gardens can have free of charge any three of the following species. Larger sites will be as usual subject to negotiation.

Common Oak, Silver Birch, Green Beech, Hornbeam, Common Alder, Rowan, Bird Cherry, Downy Birch, Field Maple, Goat Willow, Hawthorn, Grey Willow, Dog Rose, Hazel, Dogwood and from our own nursery White Willow and Golden Willow. Plus we have other saplings coming as gifts from individuals and, in the Spring, more trees from Groves Nurseries. Make your choice now and get in touch with us! More than 600 trees ready to go!

We're giving away four £25.00 gift cards from Groves. All you have to do is send us an email marked Garden Token and we'll randomly draw out four applicants. Entries must be in by December 1st. You can use the token towards a special tree - or anything else for your garden.



Where we are planting this season. So far, our sites include

New site behind Medical Centre, subject to Town Council approval
Cowshed - Community Project on allotment near Medical Centre - a wild garden
St Mary's Fields - enhancing some hedges and new plantings including a small copse
Bridport Town FC car park - mainly enhancing a hedge
Gift of a dozen trees to a Forest School group - children to each plant a sapling
Three or four sites from Magna Housing, including extending Dibden View
The Hyde, Walditch. Advising and helping plant after a successful Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty bid for a grant covering thirty specimen parkland trees and a shelter belt

ARE THERE OTHER SITES YOU AS NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS WISH TO BE PLANTED? DO LET US KNOW.

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On left, some of the Golden Willows we are giving away. John Hinsley raised them from cuttings and they're now six feet high and reaching for the sky. Suitable for large gardens and sites near water. Want one?

Here's a picture of the recent heavy flooding at Burton Bradstock. You may remember we helped plant some trees here last Spring - and are glad to say they seem to have survived.



APPEAL FOR HELP.

Rather than buy commercial mulch mats, costing more than a pound each, to suppress weeds around our saplings we're hoping to make a couple of hundred from cardboard boxes. They will be about eighteen inches square. Can supporters collect up cardboard boxes from supermarkets, furniture and electrical goods shops and anywhere else and bring them along to The Shed? This community venture - just fifty yards to the East of Mountfield - is open between 10 am and midday on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, so deliver your cardboard then. We have provided a tarpaulin to keep flat-folded sheets dry and in December hope to have a work party to cut out the mulch mats. Thank you.

Here's a link to a video of the successful bike ride round Bridport we helped organise in early November during the Cop 26 climate emergency conference in Glasgow.

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CV7-UwoN0Qo/>

BAMBOO CANES

Does anyone out there know of clumps of bamboo locally which might be pruned of some three-foot canes for our saplings? We need several hundred canes but don't want to import them from China when they could be locally sourced.

REWILDING

Did you know that the Mapperton Estate near Beaminster has set aside 180 hectares for rewilding?

<https://www.rewildingbritain.org.uk/rewilding-projects/mapperton-estate>

Mapperton is also working on a project to reintroduce beavers to its local catchment, and link up to neighbouring landholdings to improve corridors for wildlife. Bridport Tree Planting will be in touch with them to see if we can go on a tour of the Estate after Christmas.

Please take a look at this other Rewilding Britain link if you are interested in beavers ... there is a consultation which ends of November 17th.

<https://www.rewildingbritain.org.uk/news-and-views/policy-statements/beaver-consultation>

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And a couple more links of interest:

https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/british-trees/how-trees-fight-climate-change/?utm_campaign=2973056_E21COM005_26072021_Newsletter_Long&utm_medium=email&utm_source=woodlandtrust&MailingCode=B20EMA001&utm_content=Climate%20change&dm_i=2D76,1RQ0W,9J00D9,63815,1

and

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/oct/23/turning-over-a-new-leaf-the-humble-hedge-stages-a-remarkable-comeback>



A beech tree in Autumn

Lastly, three quotes about trees for you, and a final quote about the troubled times we live in and how not to lose hope.

“The planting of a tree, especially one of the long-living hardwood trees, is a gift which you can make to posterity at almost no cost and with almost no trouble, and if the tree takes root it will far outlive the visible effect of any of your other actions, good or evil”.
George Orwell.

“The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.”
— Chinese proverb

“Until you dig a hole, you plant a tree, you water it and make it survive, you haven’t done a thing. You are just talking.” — **Wangari Maathai** Kenyan social, environmental and political activist and the first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize

“TO BE HOPEFUL in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty, but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, kindness.

What we choose to emphasize in this complex history will determine our lives. If we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something. If we remember those times and places— and there are so many— where people have behaved magnificently, this gives us the energy to act, and at least the possibility of sending this spinning top of a world in a different direction. And if we do act, in however small a way, we don’t have to wait for some grand utopian future. The future is an infinite succession of presents, and to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all that is bad around us, is itself a marvellous victory.”

— Howard Zinn

Joe Hackett
Co-Ordinator, Bridport Tree Planting