

March 2025 newsletter



BRIDPORT TREE PLANTING Let's help double tree cover

Our tree-planting year has ended with two high notes - putting in 140 saplings behind the Medical Centre and a pioneering apple grafting session - branching out into new skills.

Organised by Steve Meek who runs the community allotment, and



part-funded by us, a small group got together on a Saturday morning and each came away with a ready to plant self-grafted apple tree.



Steve showing the grafting technique.



Grafting tool in operation



Applying tape after grafting

Two weeks earlier, in two sessions, more than 30 local people turned up to plant 140 Alders, crab apples, willows, hawthorns and other saplings suitable for damp conditions next to the River Symene behind the Medical Centre.



Thanks to George Streatfield, whose land this is, and to Bridport Town Council. These trees were requested by local people to shield them from the new Vearse Farm/Foundry Lea development.



Here's current news from Lyme-based LITTLE GREEN CHANGE. Their founder Clare Matheson not only talks the talk but really walks the walk. In other words, gets things done. Brilliant.

<https://littlegreenchange.com/news/>

And here is part of the current newsletter from our pals at TREES FOR DORSET. Recently spotted - three giant Black Poplars very near Bridport, at Corscombe. Planted in 1982, these are a great rarity and there are said to be only 7,000 specimens in England.

Black Poplar Training Day

**Also on
Saturday 12th April
10am to 1pm**

we will be running a training event on recognising native Black Poplars. The event is aimed at people who spend a fair amount of time working or walking in river valleys and flood plains and who have an interest in nature. If this sounds like you, we would love to see you at Bere Marsh Farm near Shillingstone between 10am and 1pm.

If it's not for you but you know someone who fits this description please forward this invitation to them.

Speakers - Simon Goldsack, Niki Harper and Wren Franklin

If you would like to book please email Niki Harper

Treesforwimborne@gmail.com



Black Poplar in full leaf. To join Trees for Dorset - which hopes to establish an arboretum here in West Dorset - go to info@treesfordorset.co.uk

Here is a link to the wonderful THE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS organisation, which supplies us with free trees. It's about how to deal with the anxiety caused by climate change. https://www.tcv.org.uk/media_hub/climate-resilience-just-take-one-step-further-forward/

STOP PRESS: THANKS TO OUR VERY GENEROUS SPONSOR, BRIDPORT TREE PLANTING HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH ANOTHER DONATION WHICH WILL KEEP US GOING FOR A FEW YEARS YET. THIS MEANS MORE FREE TREES INCLUDING FRUIT TREES FOR YOU THE PUBLIC.

Joe Hackett - Co-Ordinator, Bridport Tree Planting