



THE TREE
COUNCIL



Tree Warden Update

Summer 2010

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Tree Wardens can sign up to receive *Tree Warden Update* by visiting this [link](http://www.treecouncil.org.uk/?q=UpdateSignUp) (www.treecouncil.org.uk/?q=UpdateSignUp) and completing the simple form.

DIARY DATES

Regional forums

It's one down, but many more to go for this year's 20th Anniversary regional forums. And there's a warm welcome to Tree Wardens at all of them.

Nidderdale Area of Outstanding

Dear Tree Warden

In this 20th Anniversary year of the national Tree Warden Scheme, it's really appropriate that the new Government is highlighting the concept of 'Big Society'. After all, Tree Wardening is well ahead of the game.

Tree Wardens are, for example, already the sort of trained 'community organisers' that the Government wants to encourage more of.

We know that East Hampshire Tree Wardens will be using a 10-minute slot at the beginning of a district council meeting in September to explain the value of Tree Wardening to their local authority – and we hope others, through their network co-ordinators, are seeking similar opportunities.

In the meantime, please keep the information for this newsletter coming because it's partly a showcase for your ideas, activities and achievements.

We're also looking forward to hearing about some of them at our 20th Anniversary regional forums and other gatherings during the year.

Margaret Lipscombe, Jon Stokes, The Tree Council

Natural Beauty and its Tree Wardens kicked off the season in June when they hosted a highly successful Northern Forum in Yorkshire.



It was set among the stunning trees of the National Trust's Studley Royal Water Garden and deer park, with its evocative ruins of Fountains Abbey – a World Heritage Site – shown to maximum advantage in the lovely June sunshine.

[Read more](#)

Other regional forums are planned for the autumn. They are:

[East Anglia](#) – 19 September, near Eye, hosted by Mid Suffolk District Council

[South West](#) – 25 September, Exmouth, hosted by East Devon District Council

[East Midlands](#) – 26 September, near Melton Mowbray, hosted by Leicestershire County Council

[Wales](#) – 9 October, hosted by Pembrokeshire Coast National Park

[West Midlands](#) – 10 October, Worcester, hosted by Worcestershire County Council

[South East](#) – 16 October, near Ashdown, hosted by East Sussex County Council

A **North West** forum is being planned for Manchester. The date has yet to be confirmed.

To find out more about your regional forum, either click on the regional link above, or contact your local network co-ordinator. Places at all the forums are limited.

Tree Wardens ahead of the 'Big Society' curve

Tree Wardens were singled out at a conference in Birmingham as great examples of how local volunteers can help to improve the liveability of our towns and cities by championing trees. This Tree Council event was part of the Scheme's 20th Anniversary celebrations and marked its recent new emphasis on urban treescapes.

The programme included presentations from **Manchester, Newcastle, Plymouth, Wakefield, Walsall** and **Warwick** Tree Warden networks. [Read more](#)

Make sure you're insured

Every now and then we get a whole batch of enquiries about a particular issue and we thought that *Tree Warden Update* would be a good forum for answering them. So please contact us if there are any matters that it would be particularly useful to you and other Tree Wardens for us to cover in future newsletters.

Insurance is one of the hot topics at the moment and we've had a number of queries about this very important issue. [Read more](#)

Tree strategies offer opportunity to fly the flag

A really good way of making the value of Tree Wardens more appreciated is to get them written into your local tree strategy.

[Read more](#)

Community Action Programme

Over the next 12 months the Tree Council's Community Action Programme will be stressing the importance of trees for the future.

The calendar is:

Seed Gathering Season

23 September to 23 October 2010
Collect trees, ensure the future

National Tree Week

24 November to 5 December 2010
Plant trees, make a greener future

Tree Care Campaign

21 March to 21 September 2011
Healthy trees for a healthy future

Walk in the Woods

Throughout May 2011
Enjoy trees, enjoy the future

For more details of The Tree Council's Community Action Programme and tips on organising activities, to download free Seed Gathering Season and National Tree Week posters (available from August) for advertising local events or to register your events for free publicity on the Tree Council website go to www.treecouncil.org.uk/?q=community-action-programme

Green tips on containers

From yoghurt pots to fruit juice cartons, Seed Gathering Season is a great opportunity to give a whole variety of containers a second life by growing tree seeds in them.

We'd very much like to hear from Tree Wardens what they've found particularly successful so that we can

New farm payment boosts Hedge Tree Campaign

Farmers can now receive payment for growing new hedge trees – and Tree Wardens can play a part by encouraging them to do so. [Read more](#)

Green Monuments

Recent and proposed developments in planning legislation could be good news for trees, especially the 'green monuments' of urban areas. [Read more](#)

Meanwhile, Tree Warden networks around the country are doing their bit to highlight special trees – and add grist to the mill of the Tree Council's Green Monument Campaign (<http://www.treecouncil.org.uk/?q=node/47>)

Among them are **Cotswolds**, **East Hampshire**, **Guernsey**, **Manchester** and **Pembrokeshire**. [Read more](#)

More funds needed for research into tree diseases

The Tree Council and several of its member organisations have called on the new Government to allocate more funds to Forest Research to tackle [diseases](#) like acute oak decline which is affecting a growing number of trees. [Read more](#)

TreeWatch - can you help?

Tree Wardens are being asked to help road test a project to compile a register of tree health across the country. TreeWatch is a new initiative of Tree Council member the Sylva Foundation, in partnership with

spread the word in the next issue. Photographs would be useful, too.

For example, Margaret Lipscombe of The Tree Council heard on Gardeners' Question Time a suggestion that seeds could be planted in the 'bags for life' that supermarkets supply. The ones with sections for bottles are apparently particularly appropriate. So we'd be interested to hear from anyone who has tried this idea with tree seeds.



Wakefield Tree Warden Roger Parkinson recommends plastic milk bottles as very practical containers.

[Read more](#)

Make a Difference Day

CSV Make a Difference Day is the UK's largest day of volunteering. It is a fantastic opportunity to recruit new volunteers and raise the profile of your group.

The campaign takes place on 30 October 2010. This year there is a particular focus on involving families together in environmental and community activities.

To find out more, call Freephone 0800 284 533 or visit www.csv.org.uk/difference.

EarthWatch, the Tree Council and Forest

Research. [Read more](#)

Network developments

A warm welcome to the new **Preston** Tree Wardens and congratulations to another Lancashire network – **Hyndburn** – which has just been relaunched. [Read more](#)

Championing local trees



Eastleigh Tree Warden Dick Walters and fellow local residents are celebrating a successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund. [Read more](#)

Haringey's Tree Wardens are leading the way in their north London borough in checking the state of play of its tree preservation orders.

South Cambridgeshire Tree Wardens are also being asked to help with a TPO review in their district. [Read more](#)

Mid-Suffolk Tree Warden Lyn Hannant is co-ordinating a hedgerow survey for her village of Drinkstone – with the long-term aim of replacing some of the hedges that have been lost. [Read more](#)

Stratford Tree Warden Alan Scaife is beginning to see the results of his labours now that the approach to his village of Hampton Lucy has become quite a bit more green and leafy. [Read more](#)



Surrey Tree Wardens took to their feet and raised more than £1,700 to fund both their 150-strong network and a new Age to Age walk leaflet. [Read more](#)

Teignbridge Tree Wardens put on a Tree Art expo of creative works all inspired by local trees. [Read more](#)

Wakefield Tree Wardens had their patience rewarded

RESOURCES

Courses

Woodland management and coppicing are among the rural craft courses offered this autumn by AJS Crafts in Kent. Tutored by coppice craftsman and artist Alan Sage, topics also include twined basketry and besom brooms.

Other courses are available on request or can be tailored to suit needs. Find out more from Alan Sage on 01233 820461, email info@ajscrafts.co.uk, www.ajscrafts.co.uk

New books



Trees for your garden: Discovering the very best of British ornamental & fruit trees by Nick Dunn. ISBN 978-0-904853-08-7, £14.99, published by The Tree Council

This 322-page book is packed full of information about trees to grow at home, together with a really useful key to help choose the right tree.

The gazetteer section covers a huge range of varieties and species and includes over 1000 photographs of ornamental trees, shrubs and fruit trees. There are also sections on tree planting and information about choosing a fruit variety and fruit aftercare and maintenance. [Read more](#)

when barn owls at last moved into two of their nestboxes in 2009. [Read more](#)

Walsall Tree Wardening, still in its relative infancy, is already proving a great way to reach groups not traditionally engaged with the environment. [Read more](#)

Technical update



Help repel citrus longhorn beetle

Now that summer is well and truly here, unwanted pests are starting to emerge in the warm weather – so Tree Wardens can help by keeping a special look out for the non-native citrus longhorn beetle. [Read more](#)

Photo courtesy The Food and Environment Research Agency (Fera), Crown Copyright.

Welsh larches hit by *Phytophthora*

With *Phytophthora ramorum* now affecting Japanese larch – first in South-west England and this year in South Wales – Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority is organising a training seminar on identification of the infection.

Aimed at Pembrokeshire Tree Wardens and others, the seminar is being organised with the Food and Environment Research Agency (Fera) to take place in the autumn.

Meanwhile Forestry Commission experts are working to contain the worrying spread of the infection. [Read more](#)

Breakthrough on conker canker

Scientists from Forest Research, the University of Reading and The Sainsbury Laboratory have decoded the genetic blueprint of the bacterium causing bleeding



The Great Trees of London
Time Out Guides. ISBN
9781846701542, £20. If purchased
online at the Time Out website, the
price includes a tree planted in one of
Trees for Cities' London projects.

This is a guide to the latest collection
of trees considered worthy of note –
a path already trodden by Tree
Wardens both nationally and locally,
with huge success.

It brings together over 60 trees
around the capital that have achieved
'Great Tree' status, as judged by a
panel that considered nominations
from members of the public. From
the Greenwich Park Shagback Hickory
to the Marylebone Elm, *The Great
Trees of London* is presented as an
arboreal jaunt through the
capital. [Read more](#)

To find out more about The Tree
Council's Green Monument campaign
go to
www.treecouncil.org.uk/?q=node/47



canker in horse chestnuts, unlocking information that
can help to inform advice on managing the disease.

[Read more](#)

Because we've had other pressing technical matters to
focus on in this issue, we're delaying the promised
information on longer-term management of hedges and
their trees to a future issue – hopefully the autumn one
when it will be particularly topical.

Tell us you news

If you have news to report, dates to flag up or ideas
and information to share with fellow Tree Wardens in
the autumn issue of *Tree Warden Update*, please email
the details to

TreeWardenUpdate@treecouncil.org.uk

Or write to Tree Warden Update, The
Tree Council, 71 Newcomen Street,
London SE1 1YT