



About Trees

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Deadline for next issue 30th November 2018

Planning for a Thriving Environment in Havant Borough

Members of the Havant Borough Environment Group have been pressing for more than a year for Havant Borough Council to update their 2011 Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) as part of the work they're doing on the Local Plan 2036.

The importance of a BAP with robust policies will be presented by Dr David Rumble, Head of Conservation Strategies, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWT) on 27th November. (See poster on page 2 for details.)

We've also been working with Borough-wide community and conservation groups to get a representative public view on the state of our local environment now and their wishes for its future

We have designed a short online survey for any group or individual interested to have their views reported back to the Council. It is already clear from more than 600 responses in the 2 weeks since the survey's launch that local environment and wildlife are extremely important to residents – 93.8% rate it as "Very High".

Intensive housing development (especially on green field sites) is most cited as the greatest threat to the quality of the Borough's natural environment.

Other concerns are:

- ◆ Rising traffic congestion
- ◆ Poorer air quality
- ◆ Loss of birds and animals
- ◆ Loss of tranquil green spaces

Our Council needs your views too: you can access the questionnaire using this link:

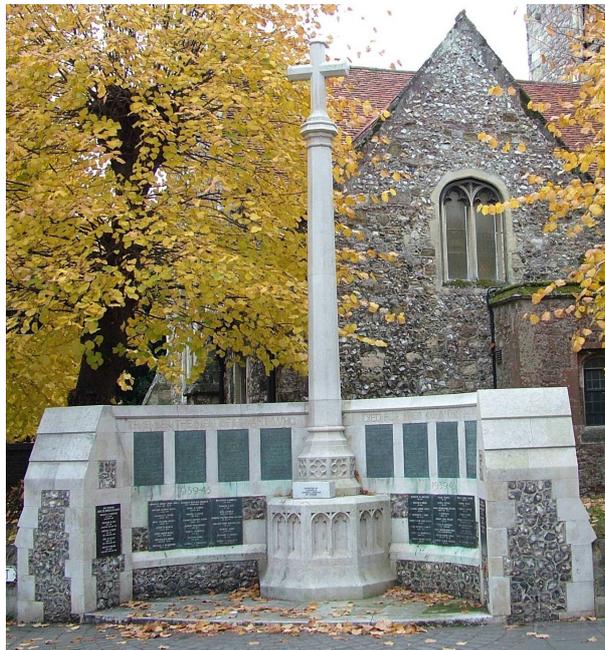
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScwHnm-ucPA1eQXSkOWDMbubE2ZtjUh2C6EpiKThTC-8EBt8g/viewform?usp=sf_link

Just click on the questions, make your choices and hit the submit button. Your input will be automatically consolidated and the results added to the database. Every submission is anonymous, so apart from your general postal area we won't know the identity of any participant.

Malinda Griffin

WWI Centenary Tree Planting

The October issue of About Trees included a description of the project by Seaford Tree Wardens to plant an Elm tree for each of the 104 names relating to the First World War on the Town's war memorial. Following that article, we have been contacted by Councillor Prad Bains who would like to see a similar project in Havant Borough.



Havant War Memorial

Photo: Terry Smith

The main war memorial, in Havant, shows 102 names from the First World War. There are other memorials throughout the Borough and it has not been easy to ascertain the total number of people lost from Havant Borough. Allowing for duplications, there appear to be 449 names on memorials and 57 names missing, a total of 506.

Bearing in mind the anniversary of the Armistice is this month, there are some difficulties in planting such a large number of commemorative trees.

The trees would need to be planted in prominent places with sufficient space to grow to maturity so that they are noticeable.

We do not, at present, have any planting sites. Some local schools, where we have previously helped pupils to plant trees and fruiting hedges, spring to mind. We can contact other local schools and, with publicity and the active involvement of Councillors, we would expect some other sites to become available, although it will not be easy to find locations for 500 substantial trees.

Havant Borough Tree Wardens have no funds. We have ordered 200 free trees for delivery in December from The Conservation Volunteers (supplied by OVO Energy). The trees are a mixture of ten native species and are suitable for parkland or large gardens. They are supplied as bare-rooted whips approximately two feet (60cm) tall and it will be several years before they grow to a significant size. Apart from initially being insignificant, small whips are susceptible to accidental damage, particularly if they are spaced out rather than in a hedge, and they would not convey the impression that this is a serious project.

We are not aware of free sources of larger trees. Trees of a more suitable size will cost money.

It is important that planting is started this season; otherwise it will lose relevance to the centenary.

We have received the more practical alternative suggestion of planting a single oak tree in each of the 14 wards in Havant Borough. Oak canopies have a wide spread if allowed to grow to maturity without interference, so large spaces would be needed. Planting a single tree of a smaller species in each ward may be more appropriate.

Each of the trees would need a plaque to explain why the tree has been planted.

The various suggestions are being considered and sources of funding are being investigated. If you have any suggestions for where commemorative trees could be planted, please let us know.

Terry Smith

Let's meet up!

Havant Borough Tree Wardens

invite our Tree Warden members, friends and supporters
to an end-of-year

Social Gathering

The emphasis is on conviviality and catching up, though we will
spend 15 minutes discussing 3 agenda items:



A change of name for our Network



Ideas for activities in 2019



Ideas for training events

This is also an opportunity for Members to consider if they would
like to join the Committee.

7.00pm on Tuesday 4th December

at

The Wheelwright's Arms
27 Emsworth Road
Havant
PO9 2SN

Please see The Wheelwright's Arms website for menus

<https://www.wheelwrightshavant.co.uk/eat/menus/>

RSVP to hbctreewardens@gmail.com

Chancellor Announces Money for Trees

The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced in the recent budget that £60m will be spent on planting millions more trees across England, including a project to plant new street and urban trees set to receive £10m. The remaining £50m will be used to buy carbon credits from landowners who plant woodland.

The £10m for urban trees is to be matched by contributions of funding and assistance from local authorities, community groups and charities. The incentives paid to landowners are expected to create about 10 million new trees over the next 30 years, according to Treasury figures.

This is part of the Government's 25-year environment plan which includes a specific target of 'increasing woodland in England in line with our aspiration of 12% cover by 2060: this would involve planting 180,000 hectares by end of 2042'.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/25-year-environment-plan>

To put this in perspective, Hampshire has an area of 376,900 hectares.

UK Tree of the Year

A beech tree grafted into an N-shape from three saplings has been named the UK's Tree of the Year. Vic Stead created the shape as he went to meet his sweetheart Nellie almost a century ago. Nellie appears to have been impressed because they married and had a family. The nomination was made by their grandson, who was told the story as a child by his grandparents on walks past the tree beside the old collier railway in Aberford near Leeds. The tree remains a popular place for marriage proposals and is known locally as the Love Tree.



Nellie's Tree beat a giant redwood in Northern Ireland, a Scottish spruce and a Welsh oak to take the overall title. The competition, now in its fifth year, is organised by The Woodland Trust and aims to draw attention to the UK's best trees to help increase interest in their value and protection.

The national winners were chosen by public vote and each winning tree will receive a £1,000 tree care award from the People's Postcode Lottery. The money can be used to arrange a 'Tree-LC' health check from a qualified arboriculturalist, provide interpretation or educational materials or hold a celebratory event in honour of the tree.

There was a further public vote in October to select an overall British Tree of the Year from the four national finalists. The winner was announced on the BBC's One Show.



The winning tree for Scotland was Netty's Tree, a spruce on the island of Eriskay in the Outer Hebrides. It is over 100 years old and was planted by poet, priest and land rights activist Father Allan McDonald

Until a few years ago, Netty's Tree was the only tree on the island. It is named after Netty MacDonald who lived on the nearby croft and encouraged children who lived on the island to play in it.

The Welsh Tree of the Year, Pwllpriddog Oak, is in a farm hedgerow by a country lane near the village of Rhandirmwyn in Carmarthenshire. An alternative English name is the Rhandirmwyn Oak.

It is thought that the ancient tree could be 600 to 700 years old, while local historians claim it was planted to commemorate the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485 when Henry Tudor (Henry VII) defeated Richard III and took the throne for the Tudors.

The tree is described as a giant, with an impressive girth of 8.4 metres (27 feet). Its hollow trunk is said to have been used as the hiding place of a king and the pub in Rhandirmwyn is named the "Royal Oak" after this claimed connection. More recently it has served as a meeting place for lovers, a pig sty, a duck roost and a music venue.



Northern Ireland's winner was a giant sequoia at Castlewellan Forest Park in County Down. Although it has 19 trunks, it is just one tree.

The tree was grown from one of the original seeds that were brought from California in 1853 by William Lobb. When he heard about the enormous trees, he went straight to Sierra Nevada in 1852 to get some seeds, as he knew they would be popular among Victorian collectors.

Nellie's Tree will represent the UK in the European Tree of the Year competition. The winner will be announced in spring 2019.

Photos: The Woodland Trust

Seed Growing and Tree Surveys – Eric Walker

First, thanks to the seed growers, the Monterey Pines are now in hand; some more seeds are available if anyone wants some. There are some Holm Oaks from Malinda Griffin which will be particularly useful as screening along the sea front on Hayling, where the pines are devastated as immature trees by the salt laden wind and the Holm Oak enable them to get a start. We look forward to planting out your efforts.

Tree surveying has been taking place on Hayling and, with help from the Long Copse Action Group, in Emsworth. The survey method continues to be refined, with the latest, yet to be confirmed as an improvement, the postcode of the place where the photograph was taken will be recorded in the file details. This will help with Treezilla input which asks for the postcode as supplementary information. This is difficult when in the middle of a field. Will Google cope with this? We shall see.

Looking closer at the Carlton proposals for the development north of Long Copse Lane, Emsworth, there are lots of contentious points both for the Tree Wardens and others. In this case it appears the developer has not taken into account the TPOs that are in place and how they affect the proposals.

Diary Dates - November

Fridays 16th and 23rd November - Hedge Workdays in Nore Barn Woods

1.30pm to 4.00pm

The Friends of Nore Barn Woods, Emsworth will be holding two Friday afternoon workdays to start work on a new hedge on the west path. The work will clear areas of bramble and replace them with a blackthorn hedge to protect the woods from gales.



Photos: Roy Ewing

The first afternoon will be spent cutting back dense bramble and digging over the ground. The second afternoon will either continue this work or start planting.

All welcome. Some tools will be provided, but cutting tools and digging tools will be useful. Please bring gardening gloves. Refreshments will be provided.

Meet at the South West corner of the woods (the last seat when walking to Langstone).

Please note these dates are additional to the scheduled workday on Saturday 10th November.

<http://www.norebarnwoods.org.uk>

Saturday 24th November to Sunday 2nd December - National Tree Week

Tuesday 27th November 7.00pm - Planning for Biodiversity in Havant Borough and Beyond

A presentation by Dr David Rumble of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust.

Dr David Rumble (who made a huge input to HBC's 2011 Biodiversity Action Plan) is talking on the current position re HBC and biodiversity.

URC Meeting Place, Elm Lane, Havant PO9 1PP

ADMISSION FREE

Sponsored by Havant Friends of the Earth

Sunday 2nd December - Tree Dressing - Weald & Downland Museum

10.30am - 4.30pm (activities from 12.30pm)

Making greenery headdresses and lanterns and tree dressing. Procession starts at 3.45pm

Weald & Downland Museum
Singleton, Chichester, PO18 0EU

Regular admission prices apply.

<http://www.wealddown.co.uk/events/tree-dressing/>

2019 Calendar

We will not produce a 2019 calendar due to insufficient suitable photographs taken within Havant Borough. If you would like a calendar to be considered for 2020, it is not too early to start taking photos so that we have a range of seasonal images to choose from.

Newsletter Contributions

Please submit newsletter contributions to hbctreewardens@gmail.com

Photographs illustrating articles or photographs on their own (with captions) would be appreciated. If you are not the photographer, please check you have permission and say who is so that credit can be given. To keep file sizes manageable, please avoid sending high resolution images. The ideal image size is 500KB or less.

Please also let us know if you have ideas for future articles or subjects you would like to see included.

Deadline for next issue: 30th November

Would you like your own copy of this newsletter?

If this newsletter was forwarded to you and you would like to request your own copy, please send an e-mail to hbctreewardens@gmail.com

Membership of Havant Borough Tree Wardens

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in trees. We do not currently charge a membership fee and, although we need members who want to be involved in practical tasks or the running of the network, we also welcome supporters. If you would like to become a member, please request a membership application form by e-mail to hbctreewardens@gmail.com

Donations

If you would like to make a donation to Havant Borough Tree Wardens, payments can be made into our bank account.

Account No: 84937017

Sort Code: 55-70-34

Please include your name as a reference.