

Timely Introduction?

Treeline has always been an occasional publication and we are pleased to bring you a further edition.

The Walk in the Woods held at the Greenlight Trust's Golden Wood in May was very successful and has inspired not one but two articles, which follow. July has come and gone, sadly we were unable to arrange the proposed Summer Day School due to pressure of work. As summer turns to autumn we are once again focusing on National Tree Week, which this year runs from 26 November–7 December.

Since South Norfolk Tree Wardens first took part in Tree Week they have carried out a huge amount of planting in the District and made a significant contribution to the local landscape. Our theme this year is hedgerow planting which has been identified as the most significant way that Tree Wardens can continue to make a difference in South Norfolk. The Tree Council's theme for 2003 is hedgerow tree

planting, so where appropriate we will encourage the planting of suitable trees alongside new or existing hedgerows.

South Norfolk Tree Wardens' Tree Planting Weekend will take place over the weekend of 28–30 November. The order forms have recently been sent out and these need to be returned by the end of September.

Please let us know as soon as possible what you are planning and if you have any questions, regarding site, species or anything else, contact either Robin or Tina, details on page 4. Don't forget the checklist on the order form, as it can take up to 6 weeks to obtain a highway planting license. Details of this process were published in *Treeline* no. 8 (November 2001) available on the web – but let us know if you need a paper copy.

Newly planted hedge and hedgerow trees, Ditchingham



Treeline

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GREEN LIGHT TRUST

I was very excited by our recent outing to Golden Wood at Lawshall Green, which you must read about opposite.

While I was there I purchased the book written by Richard Edmunds and Nigel Hughes called *Trees of Paradise*. This detailed their

journeys to Papua New Guinea and the stages that led them to setting up Green Light Trust. I was so inspired, after having read this book, realising that there is much more involved in the Trust than first appears. The way it works with not only planting but with groups of adults and children in educating them for the future, is an inspiration to us all.

On Sunday 13 July I attended their Summer Celebration at Lawshall Village Hall, with my family, and was so impressed to see a village

working together and having fun. There was story telling, aimed mostly at the children, about the forests of Papua New Guinea. A video, made in the village about the planting of Golden Wood was shown at intervals during the afternoon. A small fete was held in the Village Hall grounds raising funds for the project and the plan for the latest section of woodland, on land recently purchased was unveiled. The day ended with a guided tour of Golden Wood.

Richard and Nigel, with their support workers have much to teach us all and are willing to help in many ways with projects large and small in our communities in a very enthusiastic manner.

If you would like to know more, please ring me anytime on 01508 520830 or contact Green Light Trust direct on 01284 828754. They do have a website – www.greenlighttrust.org if anyone wishes to look them up first.

Carol Carpenter
Langley with Hardley
Tree Warden



CHAIRMAN'S TREE 2002-3

The second Chairman's Tree is the well-known Oak at 'The Dell' in Framingham Earl. This tree has a special root formation because of its position at the edge of the hollow and was nominated by Framingham Earl Parish Council. Councillor Peter Smith, Chairman of the Council 2002-3, agreed that this tree be designated his 'Chairman's Tree' and he brought his grandson to help measure

the tree and record the event on camera.

The Chairmen's Trees scheme was set up in 2002 to celebrate the special trees of South Norfolk District and to protect them with a Tree Preservation Order. The first tree in the scheme is a veteran Oak on the Morningthorpe estate at Stratton St Michael.



Walk in Golden Woods

Paul Gowman *Tree Warden for Swainsthorpe*

You know how it is. Deep in the herbaceous border wrestling with weeds, when your friend and neighbour pops his head around the hedge and starts talking in abstracts about village life and ‘getting involved’ and strange words like ‘co-opting’ and instead of realising that this is a life changing moment you make sounds like ‘uh huh’ and ‘mmm’ because you are concentrating on whether that self sown poppy might be a seed from the rather nice double that you planted last year and disappeared without trace.

The next thing is a visit from the Parish Clerk thanking you for your community spirit and giving you the date of the next Parish Council meeting. Hmm. Ah well – in a previous life, in a far away county, I had taken an interest in local affairs and had been Secretary and Chair of a Civic Trust, (not at the same time you understand), but since retirement and relocation to my wife’s county I had contented myself with being an active member of personal interest groups. Perhaps it was time to re-engage.

The Parish Council members turned out to be an intelligent, thoughtful and humorous bunch. They were very active and had recently acquired some redundant church land and made a new village green and allotments. Part of the meeting was a discussion about forming an entrance to the new green and later I looked at the area under discussion and realised that the proposal would mean hacking through the root systems of two rather decent trees. Hmm. I wonder, I thought, whether the village has a Tree Warden. A few days later Tony Talby, our

Parish Clerk, popped a letter of invitation through my letter box to attend a Tree Warden’s educational outing being organised by Tina Gray and Robin Taylor of South Norfolk Council. Intrigued, I called on Tony and asked why he thought I might be interested. “I know you garden for the Bishop,” he said, “and would probably be interested in trees.” What he did not know, was that I had been one of the first tree wardens when the scheme was set up, (in 1990) and had, with others, planted loads of trees in two Hampshire towns where I lived and worked. Serendipity or what?

And so it was on a balmy May morning I found myself on a coach, with a host of friendly like-minded people, off for a walk in the woods of Suffolk. These particular woods had come about because of a visit that Nigel Hughes and Rick Edmunds had made to the forests of Papua New Guinea and in conversation with the local elders had been embarrassed, when asked by them, what we, the English, did to ensure the survival of our native forests for future generations. The answer of course was ‘precious little’ - particularly in East Anglia – a shrine to modern farming and mono-culture. The upshot, on their return, was the formation of the Greenlight Trust’s People Planting

initiative and the starting point was on their own doorstep in the village of Lawshall Green. The donation of land and the muscle power of enthusiastic local residents led to the creation of a new wood. This success led to the acquisition of more land and an ongoing tree planting scheme with even more land in prospect, all open to the public, who were very much in evidence during our visit. Their initiative, like the trees, grew and grew and their project is now available to give advice and guidance on the setting up of similar schemes including identifying funding.

I have seldom enjoyed a day more. Nigel and Rick were palpably enthused with the Greenlight project and the pleasure which shone from the faces of Grenville and Elizabeth Clarke as they escorted us around the new woodland was a joy to see. In a few short years they and the other villagers have transformed grassland ‘desert’ into a diverse environment of native grasses, flowers and trees in which our indigenous species are thriving.

So there you have it. A moment’s inattention in the garden led to a truly wonderful and inspirational day out and the rediscovery of a passion. A golden day in a golden wood and many more to follow I am sure. On behalf of all those that attended - to those who gave up their time and organised it - thank you!

Tree Wardens at Golden Wood, 17 May



TPO News

Since the last issue of *Treeline*, 12 new Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) have been served. These protect trees in Barnham Broom, Costessey, Framingham Earl, Little Melton, Mulbarton, Roydon, Scole, Stoke Holy Cross, Wicklewood and Wymondham. 41 Oak, 4 Horse Chestnut, 3 Ash, 3 Walnut, 2 Beech, 1 Elm, 1 Field Maple, 1 Holly and 1 Wellingtonia are covered by the Orders. In addition, two as yet unsurveyed "Areas" of trees are included to protect existing vegetation on proposed development sites. For further details on these and other TPOs please contact Robin Taylor.

HELLOS

We are pleased to welcome nine new Tree Wardens. Trevor Freeborn (Burstons & Shimpling), Bruce Colman (Starston) Rubyna Sheikh and Nick Elsey (Stoke Holy Cross), Paul Gowman (Swainsthorpe), Dr P Rowan (Tivetshall St Margaret), Shane Sheedy (Tivetshall St Mary), Michael Linley (Trowse).

As a result of re-drawn parish boundaries, Jim Kay is now Tree Warden in the new parish of Heywood.

EDITORIAL HELP

Following the resignation of the co-editor of *Treeline*, Ian Dobson is still hoping that someone will volunteer to take on this role. If you think you might be interested, to find out more please contact Ian or Tina Gray, see below.



TPOd Wellingtonia at Little Melton

Forthcoming events

- 5 October 2003 East Anglian Tree Warden Forum – ‘Trees Matter for Local Diversity’. Organised and hosted by Suffolk Coast District Council, this event will be held at Butley near Woodbridge and include a walk around Staverton Thicks. *There are still places if you would like to come*, please contact Brenda Schubert as soon as possible on 01508 533818.
- 12 October Seed Gathering Sunday
- 26 Nov–7 Dec National Tree Week
- 28–30 November South Norfolk Tree Warden’s Tree Planting w/e

Access to South Norfolk Tree Wardens

Tree Wardens and the Internet/
World-Wide Web

E-mail addresses are given for those Tree Wardens and organizers already on the web. If in doubt visit Ian’s woodland web site: <http://www.ibdigital.co.uk/woodland>

... and let us know when you get online!

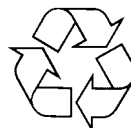
...see all issues in colour @ <http://www.ibdigital.co.uk/woodland>

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It’s all about sharing information and best practise so please contribute any item of interest, local or national activity. Your news and views will be most welcome.



Any ideas –put them in the (e)mail.