

National Tree Week 2001

They say practice makes perfect and National Tree Week 2001 was certainly an improvement in almost every way since our first venture in November 2000. More trees were planted, the sorting and collecting ran more smoothly; the only surprise was that fewer parishes took part, down from 41 to 36. So, those 36 really achieved an excellent result and thank you all very much. Robin and I think we can truly claim that Tree Week has become a very successful event in the Tree Warden calendar.

Also a big thank you to Diana Mitchell, Tree Warden for Shotesham who gave up her day to help sort trees at Felthorpe. We do learn from experience and this year the nursery had a couple of good ideas which helped to make the operation much simpler. Most importantly of all, the orders were 99% right!

Facts and figures are as follows, (2000 figures in brackets). A total of 866(790) trees and 913 (682) metres of hedging were planted. This includes 167 Oak trees, 700 native hedge plants, 180m in Morningthorpe and 500, 130m in Bergh Apton. Our huge pile of stakes and shelters took on a life of its own, partly because colleagues mistook our tree stakes for those to

which they attach site notices! We were also able to add a little extra touch to the completed plantings, as we had found a supplier who offered printed spirals and all the new hedging bears the legend 'South Norfolk Tree Wardens'.

Now on to Tree Week 2002. First of all, we hope that every parish will take part, particularly because we are going to theme the event to this Jubilee year. We have yet to decide exactly what form this will take, but the figure 50 will be involved, either entire or fractions of. The plants provided will become 'Jubilee Trees' or 'Jubilee Hedging'. The species will be limited by parish which will reinforce the concept of a theme. It will also greatly simplify the plant sorting arrangements which means that an increase in demand will present no problems.

Please give some thought to suitable sites over the coming months. If you would like to discuss these or any ideas with either Robin or me, please get in touch.

Lastly a follow-up to the budget news in *Treeline 8*. As you will have gathered from the above, funds have been allocated which should ensure the continuation of the South Norfolk Tree Warden Scheme for 2002/3. TG



South Norfolk
Tree Wardens Digest

Tree line

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TREE STORY

The following story was published in the *Eastern Daily Press* on 8 January in an article by Grace Corne, you may have seen it. Hidden within the text are trees, not necessarily native - a puzzle Andrew Daniels (TW Roydon) thought you might enjoy.

“The sun was shining as Penelope arrived during May to spend a holiday with her brothers Will, Owen and a pal Michael. One day they walked down a steep lane and over a small arched bridge where there was a shining boat looking very spruce. Behind was a smaller boat which they could row and sail.

They studied a map lent to them and then packed their provisions in the box provided. Owen, the elder of the two brothers, took the helm in the bay and the Busy Bee chugged sublimely away. On the first opportunity they stopped and had a dip, each diving in turn. They then decided to have a meal and while they ate, a kettle was put on the stove.

Birds with gay plumage flew around and the rays of the sun formed large, white beams across the water. When they wanted to restart, the engine gave trouble and after one pop large sparks came from the exhaust. Will opened the tool chest, nuts and bolts were adjusted and away they went once more.”

THE GREAT STORM:

WOODLAND REGENERATION 15 YEARS ON

An event is planned for Saturday 19 or Sunday 20 October, as close as possible to the 15th anniversary of 16 October 1987. We intend to visit some of the sites in South Norfolk where there are good examples of woodland regeneration following the destruction of trees caused by the Great Storm. We would be very interested in any suggestions for this part of the programme that you might have, please contact either Robin or Tina (01508 533936).

Forthcoming events 2002

Saturday 13 April “Day School” training at South Norfolk House. A comprehensive workshop will be led by Gilbert Addison of Aylmer Addison Associates on tree surveying and thinning management. Also how to assess trees in Conservation Areas and for new Wardens, or anyone who needs a refresher, an Introduction to the scheme and how it is effective. 10am to 3pm, coffee and tea provided but bring a packed lunch. Let us know by 5 April if you would like to attend, call Sonia on 01508 533818.

Thursday 30 May 6.30pm Walk in The Woods at Poringland Wood. To be led by Tara Hansford, Countryside Officer at South Norfolk Council. Details to follow.

Wednesday 3 July 7.30pm Tree Warden Annual Meeting at South Norfolk House

Saturday 19 or Sunday 20 October The Great Storm: Woodland regeneration 15 years on – see above



Chairman's Oak – see TPO News, page 4

LAWNS AND GOD

As the lawn mowers come out in force....

GOD: St. Francis, you know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there? What happened to the dandelions, violets, thistle and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect, no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honeybees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colours by now, but all I see are these green rectangles.

ST. FRANCIS: It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers weeds and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

GOD: Grass? But it's so boring. It's not colourful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees, only grubs and worms. It's temperamental with temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

ST. FRANCIS: Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

GOD: The spring rains and warm weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.

ST. FRANCIS: Apparently not Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it; sometimes twice a week.

GOD: They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay?

ST. FRANCIS: Not exactly, Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

GOD: They bag it? Why? It is a cash crop? Do they sell it?

ST. FRANCIS: No, sir - just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

GOD: Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow, and when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

ST. FRANCIS: Yes, sir.

GOD: These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

ST. FRANCIS: You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

GOD: What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. Plus, as they rot, the leaves form compost to enhance the soil. It's a natural circle of life.

ST. FRANCIS: You'd better sit down, Lord. The Suburbanites

have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

GOD: No! What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter and to keep the soil moist and loose?

ST. FRANCIS: After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

GOD: And where do they get this mulch?

ST. FRANCIS: They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

GOD: Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore. St. Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

ST. CATHERINE: Dumb and Dumber, Lord. It's a really stupid movie about....

GOD: Never mind, I think I just heard the whole story from St Francis.



(Source: Internet)



TPO News

Five new TPOs have been served since the last issue to protect trees in Costessey, Cringleford, Long Stratton, Redenhall with Harleston and Saxlingham Nethergate Parishes.

In Costessey the Order protects the Parish-owned part of Green Hills Wood. We are currently working in partnership with the Tree Warden, Costessey Parish Council and the Forestry Commission on a management strategy for all the woodlands in Costessey Parish with a view to having detailed proposals for Green Hills. The TPO is an important part of this and protects nearly seven hectares of woodland.

Over 70 individual trees have been included on a substantial Order for Cringleford. This has been served on 120 households! Many of the trees are former

hedgerow Oaks. Nine expressions of support have been received but only six people have objected. These objections will be negotiated in the coming months.

In Redenhall with Harleston, we have served an Order to temporarily protect an Oak tree on a barn conversion site. It is proposed to fell the tree, but we are concerned that this was not debated during the planning application process. The Order in Saxlingham Nethergate protects a group of trees in the heart of the village and was served in response to a Conservation Area notice. The TPO seeks to amend the work specification.

Finally, this year's Chairman's Tree is protected by its own Tree Preservation Order. The Chairmen's Trees scheme highlights special trees in the district and this year the

Chairman of South Norfolk Council, Councillor Mrs Pat Dore (and Tree Warden for Hingham) chose a 480 year old veteran Oak on the Morningthorpe Estate at Stratton St Michael. The tree was pictured in the last *TreeLine* and is featured in the most recent issue of *The Link* - the District magazine. In the photograph printed on p.2, Pat Dore, Maureen Bennett (Tree Warden for Shelton) and Robin struggle to measure the tree's girth! *Robin Taylor*

TPO UPDATE

As predicted in *TreeLine 8*, objections were received to the Order served to protect two Robinias in Costessey and a Sites-Sub Committee was held on 13 March 2002 when the Order was confirmed. The Committee also asked that other similar trees in the street should be protected by further TPOs.

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!

Contact address and Telephone:
Landscape Officer: Robin Taylor 01508 533813
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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.

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

Any ideas -put them in the (e)mail.

FREE TO A GOOD HOME

200 hedge spirals and canes - if you are interested, please call Andrew Daniels (TW for Roydon) on 01379 643575 after 5.30pm.

APOLOGY

Many apologies to Tree Warden Sheena Florance of FRAMINGHAM EARL. In the last issue of *TreeLine* this parish was removed to Suffolk at the stroke of a pen (or finger on a key)....

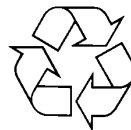


Tree Warden Hello

Welcome!
Cliff Stevens and Andy Coombes new Wardens for Thurlton and Barford & Wramplingham respectively.



Write to us



...yet another version

LOGS TO BURN

*Beech-wood fires burn bright and clear
If the logs are kept a year;
Store your Beech for Christmas tide,
With new-cut Holly laid beside.
Chestnut's only good they say,
If for years 'tis stored away;
Birch and Fir-wood burn too fast,
Blaze too bright and do not last;
Flames from Larch will shoot up high,
Dangerously the sparks will fly.
But Ash-wood green and Ash-wood brown
Are fit for a Queen with a golden crown.*

*Oaken logs, if dry and old,
Keep away the winter's cold;
Poplar gives a bitter smoke,
Fills your eyes and makes you choke;
Elm-wood burns like churchyard mould,
E'en the very flames are cold.
Hawthorn bakes the sweetest bread -
So it is in Ireland said;
Apple-wood will scent the room,
Pear-wood smells like flowers in bloom,
But Ash-wood wet and Ash-wood dry
A King may warm his slippers by.*

Anon

