

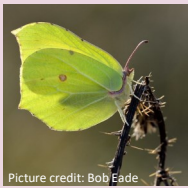
Steyning For Trees Help Fight Climate Change



Welcome to our October 2023 Newsletter

You have been sent this newsletter as you are signed up to receive emails from Steyning For Trees. If you want to stop receiving these emails please contact us using the email address at the end of this newsletter.

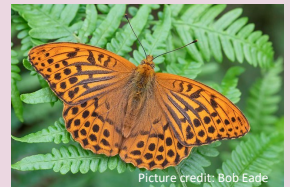
There is still a chance to buy tickets £5 from the **Steyning Bookshop** for the **MICHAEL BLENCOWE** talk on the wonderful wildlife of **"THE LOST WOODS OF THE LOW WEALD AND DOWNS"**. **Michael** is an **excellent and amusing speaker** and will tell us about **BIRDS TO BUTTERFLIES - BATS TO BEETLES** and the **value of woodland to wildlife**.



Picture credit: Bob Eade

The **talk** will be on **Monday 9th Oct** at the **Steyning Centre, 7.00 for 7.30pm**, in the **Saxon Room**. There will be **wine to purchase**, and a **raffle**.

Tickets £5 from Steyning Bookshop.



Picture credit: Bob Eade

This will be a **wonderful evening** and **SFT** is delighted to be able to hold this event to promote the **preservation** of these **important woodlands** of mature and in many cases, ancient trees. They are such **reservoirs for carbon** and provide so many **benefits to wildlife and humans** alike.

WHY IS BIODIVERSITY SO IMPORTANT?

Biodiversity is **critical for our future**. **Species**, and the **ecosystems** they form, make all aspects of **human life** possible. We depend on the natural services healthy ecosystems provide for every breath of air and every mouthful of food. **Our whole society and agricultural system** rely on the biodiversity of **pollinators, soil organisms, natural predators of crop pests** and many more. All are given homes and food in **hedges** and a diversity of **native trees**. Some species are able to move and survive in a number of conditions. **Hedgehogs** and **foxes** for example, can **adapt well** to urban environments. But wildlife like the dormouse relies on the **unique environments** found in ancient **woodland**; source [Woodland Trust](#)



Picture credit: Ettore Balocchi/Flickr.com

NEW HEDGES

We are putting **advice** on what to plant in a **new biodiverse hedge** on our [website](#) as many people are asking us. A variety of British **native hedge plants** are best to avoid a mono-culture; **different trees host different species**.

FUTURE PROJECTS

We have **6/7 hedges** to **plant this autumn** which is great news as it will be firming up our **wildlife corridors** both through town and expanding out into the surrounding countryside. **Many thanks** to those who are taking these hedges and mini-copses on their land which are adding to our **increasing ability to support bio-diversity** in and around this lovely town. This will make over 20 hedges planted. Additionally our **20 trees on verges/green spaces** this autumn will enable **SFT** to reach the 100 mark of trees planted on verges, (we have only lost 3). We feel that at last our hard work will be paying off with these maturing trees **absorbing carbon, shading our streets** etc. **Many thanks** to all of you who have so ably supported this work by requesting trees, **watering, volunteering** to plant, **mulching** and **funding** us. For the first time we are being joined by **Greening Steyning Biodiversity Action Group** hedgerow surveying team to plant at Ben Vick's lovely farm at Annington.

THORNSCROFT

Many **thanks** to all our committee who have **worked so hard** to add this Green to our Shooting Field area. Persuading the managing agent to let us plant our Dave Buckett designed **mini-copses** and allow the **grass to grow**. Thanks to Katie Parker, SFT committee member, through **her expertise** and hard **practical work** this area is already establishing. We will be **working with Michael Blencowe** on surveying this area. Also hoping that the managing agent will be **encouraged to use this format** on their other properties and estates.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

We are great believers in the **well researched advice** of the **RHS**, that's why we try to plant our hedges before Christmas. Their roots establish better in still warm but wet soil with dormant top growth. The **RHS** were reputedly the **originators** of the phrases "**No mow May**" and "**Let it Bloom June**". They do support the **re-wilding of gardens** knowing the importance of these areas with our **ever-decreasing open spaces** available for wildlife.



Picture credit: SFT

Do come and see us at the **STEYNING MARKET** on **Saturday 7th Oct**. We are giving out **FREE saplings** again for your gardens. Many thanks to those who have been taking them and caring for them over the last few years, they will be making a **contribution to carbon capture** and helping to **increase biodiversity** now - our major aims!

Remember: Trees are front-line warriors in the fight against climate change.

If you have any enquiries or suggestions please,

Email us at SteyningForTrees@gmail.com

or visit our website at steyningfortrees.com

or ring us on 01903 816726

Any donations, large or small, will be greatly appreciated and will assist in enabling us to continue our important work. Please make any contributions to the bank account below.

Steyning For Trees, Sort code: 53 61 43

Account no: 68132085

Reference: 'Your Surname'

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