

## **Welcome to our November 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.

You have been **asking for recommendations** on what to plant if you are putting in **a new hedge**, or replacing a dead one. We have lost our Box from blight or the moth. We have **given some suggestions** on our **website**. Plant a **variety of British native species**, **avoid a mono-culture** of single species. This will prevent disease raging through single species as happened with the ash trees. **Some** 

**creatures rely on certain trees,** planting a mix of trees helps cover their needs.

The depressing latest <u>State of Nature</u> report highlights that the <u>Hazel dormouse</u> is in danger of extinction. You can help this ever-growing list of endangered creatures by planting a mix of trees that supports their unique habitats.



<u>Let us know</u> how you are getting on with planting your hedges. We will **set up a** register as this will help us to **provide increased wildlife corridors through the town**.



Thanks to so many of you for coming to the excellent talk by Michael Blencowe, with his wonderful comprehensive pictures, birdsong recordings, and cartoons. He brought the whole thing to life.

The <u>Lost Woods project</u> of improving woodland from Lewes to Pulborough will **help habitats** for many of the **endangered species**, now 1 in 6.

Let's take Michael's advice and all get out there, helping our well-being and mental health.

The <u>Woodland Trust</u> is involved in the <u>Lost Woods project</u> too. They have embarked on **an epic tree hunt**. Led by Jeremy Nason they are **searching for every ancient and veteran tree** that may have been missed out of the Trust's <u>Ancient Tree</u> <u>Inventory</u>.



If you would like to help email them at lostwoods@woodlandtrust.org.uk

Don't forget the <u>Greening Steyning</u> talk to be given by Alex Briggs and Amy Hurn, Project Coordinators, <u>Weald to Waves</u>
7.30pm, Monday 30th October, Steyning Centre.

Tickets £3, available online

This follows on from the wonderful talk given by Isabella Tree of the Knepp Estate that was hosted by Steyning for Trees last year. Your generosity enabled us to give a **substantial donation** to this project. We feel, as we said at the time, this provides us with a **beacon of hope** that Sussex **IS ON COURSE** to make an important contribution to reversing the tragic decline in **biodiversity** as now reported in the latest **State of Nature** survey. We in **Steyning** are **all doing our bit**.

## **FUTURE HEDGES AS WILDLIFE CORRIDORS**

Catholic Church: a **hedge on their land** and they will come and join us in the planting. Many thanks. An **important site** in the middle of Steyning.

Goring Road - Rebecca Louis and family. An **important stepping stone** connecting the **Weald to Waves** on **Steyning Downland Scheme** to the **Adur River Project**. They already re-nature their garden and have some lovely orchids.

Artisan Bakehouse - this is **already a haven for wildlife**, but adding some hedges will give **protection** to their bees.

Sussex Ironworks, our local blacksmiths - free trees for **farm at Patching** through the **SDNPA** supporting their drive to plant trees. Sussex Ironworks have helped **SFT** to provide **attractive recycled tree guards** for our Queens Jubilee tree and the Jim Mellor memorial tree which Simon Zec is arranging to have planted.

All the above are free.

Annington Farm, Ben Vick; we are **filling in the gaps in a hedge** at this lovely farm with a **mix of native species**, paid for by SFT and Ben. This will be planted jointly by **SFT** and Greening Steyning's BAG hedge survey group. **Many thanks** to Yann Le Bouedec for giving us his **used spirals and canes** and **a donation**. Our committee members and volunteers are also working on finding these for us, they are now a major expense.

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

If you have any enquiries or suggestions please,

Email us at <a href="mailto:SteyningForTrees@gmail.com">SteyningForTrees@gmail.com</a>
or visit our website at <a href="mailto:steyningfortrees.com">steyningfortrees.com</a>
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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