

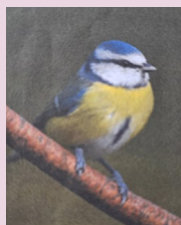
SteYning For Trees Help Fight Climate Change



Welcome to our April 2026 Newsletter

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RSPB BIG SCHOOL BIRD COUNT We were so **pleased** that **SFT** were able to help the teachers at **SteYning Grammar School** complete the RSPB Big School Bird Count. **Many thanks to all** those who helped to achieve this. **Andrew Armitage** the well-known birding expert, **Peter Wyld**, a birding expert who volunteers at RSPB Pulborough. It was great to have their **expertise** to guide the 17 pupils and **enthuse** them in this aspect of **nature conservation**. **Thanks to Celia and John** for the loan of their binoculars, invaluable for the pupils. **SFT plants birds' homes, roosts and nesting sites**. They saw **30 birds** after one hour. These results have been sent to the RSPB by Andrew on behalf of the School.



It was great to do this on the grounds of SteYning Grammar School with their **beautiful mature trees** sequestering so much carbon right in the centre of SteYning and hosting so much **nature**. **SFT** have now managed to help the school's teachers build **dead hedges**, plant a 420 mixed species **live hedge**, and do the RSPB Big Schools Bird Count. It is great to be **supporting** them on these **environmental** issues.

RHS Calling on Members to Sign a Petition banning the Sale of Peat.

This **coalition** of non-government environmental and horticultural organizations will deliver this, by hand, to **10 Downing Street**. Since the Government first set a **target** in **1999** for the UK horticultural industry to be 90% peat free by 2010, **deadlines have slipped**, and no legislation has appeared. **Clare Matterson**, RHS Director General, says the **RHS** will now only sell plants in RHS Garden Centres and on-line that are Peat-free. They are **urging the government to ban** the extraction of Peat. Gardeners who care about enhancing **biodiversity** in their gardens will now be able to shop in the knowledge they are not damaging precious peat bogs, which are so instrumental in **storing carbon**.

Hedgehog Hints

They are considered the **gardeners best friend** as they can help keep some of the garden pests under control. They can give us **pleasure** seeing them wander across our gardens at night, but we can cause them lots of problems with our gardening activities. **STRIMMERS MUTILATE** - take care when **mowing** long grass and tidying wild patches as they are an ideal place for a hedgehog's nest. When cutting long overgrown areas **check for hedgehogs** or other wildlife then cut initially to about a foot long. **Check again** before cutting any lower. Providing a suitable **nesting** or **hibernating** box can prevent accidental disturbance



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.

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