

Steyning For Trees Help Fight Climate Change



Welcome to our March 2023 Newsletter

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The Steyning Bookshop has a really interesting event coming up on **Tuesday 11th April at 7.30pm** in **Steyning Methodist Church**. It is an evening with **writer and natural navigator Tristan Gooley** talking about his new book '**How to Read a Tree**' which promises to be full of fascinating arboreal facts!

Tristan lives out in the woods near Eartham, and is a writer and natural navigator. He is the **author of the award-winning** *The Natural Navigator*, *The Walker's Guide to Outdoor Clues and Signs*, *How to Read Water* and *Wild Signs and Star Paths*. He has written for the Sunday Times, the New York Times, the BBC, Financial Times and many other periodicals. Tristan has **led expeditions in five continents**, climbed mountains in Europe, Africa and Asia, **sailed small boats across oceans** and **piloted small aircraft to Africa and the Arctic**. He has **walked with** and studied the methods of **the Tuareg, Bedouin and Dayak** in some of the remotest regions on earth. **Tickets on sale** at the bookshop or [online](#).



SFT is pleased to have given trees to '**In Her Hands**' for their wooded garden. 'In Her Hands' is a **not-for-profit project that empowers women** by teaching building, woodworking and DIY skills. They host pay-what-you-feel **workshop days** just outside Steyning and host regular **community volunteering** events, as well as offering more regular volunteering opportunities. They use 100% reclaimed timber and teach others to **upcycle wood** that would otherwise go to waste. They are regenerating the small garden space at the back of their building **into a miniature forest garden**, with lots of **native trees and shrubs**, as well as organically grown veggies for their workshop lunches.

So many of you will, I know, be **looking forward to the blossom** soon to be seen on the trees on the verges. We have now planted over 80 trees at your request throughout Steyning. At over £200 a tree this represents quite an investment both by **members of the community** and the **fund-raising efforts of SFT**, with many local charities supporting us including the **Wilson Memorial Trust**, the **SDNPA**, **Sussex Giving** and **Steyning Parish Council**. **SFT** wants to pay tribute to the excellent scheme run by **WSCC** which plants trees throughout its area, its friendly, dedicated and knowledgeable tree specialists and its excellent contractors Broadleaf. The scheme provides maintenance so there is no ongoing problem for **future generations**.



Picture credit: Flickr.com/Yarik.OK

We would like to thank all of them for their **generosity in donating and providing a memorial tree** for their colleague **Jim Mellor**. I am sure The Tree Warden will soon be announcing the date of the planting so we can all pay our respects to this admirable man. **SFT** will be providing a decorative tree guard for it.

Please contact **Steyning For Trees** if you too would like a tree on your verge. **SFT** can pay the full amount but **a donation** of whatever size **is always appreciated**.

The Government has announced that **hundreds of thousands of trees** will be planted in communities across England after two funding schemes reopened for applications. It has committed to **treble tree planting rates** (30,000 hectares of trees per year) by the end of this Parliament particularly **in urban areas** near **educational facilities** and **health centres** which will improve the **air quality**. Let's hope this figure will be realised. **SFT** is hoping to encourage authorities to use these schemes. As we said in our January Newsletter **urban trees are almost one quarter of Britain's total tree population** and represent £3.8 billion to the UK economy.

The Government has **also committed** through its Environmental Improvements Plans **to plant 35,000 miles of hedgerow** a year by 2037.

SFT are delighted that **Steyning Downland Scheme** have been working with the Grammar School pupils to **plant the hedgerow** around the **Weald to Waves** area as suggested by Dave Buckett our co-chair, supported by John Woodward. **SFT** are pleased that we have been able to **donate 800 hedging plants** from the National Park to enable this. It's great to be supporting SDS.



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

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