

# surrey tree wardens

## newsletter

### summer 2022

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## Brief Up on the Law

**Trees and the Law:** a dry sounding topic indeed, but an important one for Tree Wardens. It's the theme of next month's Surrey Tree Warden meeting on Saturday 11 June in Lingfield. That will take up the morning session; in the afternoon time to enjoy the outdoors with a guided visit to the Lingfield Nature Reserves.

Trees and The Law is the fourth in the series of training modules on offer to all Surrey TWs. The previous modules were presented online. But this one will be delivered in person by Sam Village, who co-ordinates the Tree Warden network nationally. It is an important topic for all TWs, and there will be plenty of time for questions.



In the afternoon: a walk through Lingfield Nature Reserves, a very special place, developed over the past thirty years or so by Anne Richardson and her band of Tree Warden volunteers. It covers 25 acres and is a mix of meadows, hedges, and woodland. It has a wetland area with a number of ponds, an orchard, a wildflower meadow and a butterfly garden. It's been awarded Local Nature Reserve status by English Nature.

The meeting will be at the **Lingfield & Dormansland Community Centre, The High Street, Lingfield, Surrey RH7 6AB on Saturday 11th June.** There is plenty of parking on site. Doors open from 9.30, and the event begins at 10.00 and finish about 4. Bring your own lunch, but tea and coffee will be laid on, and a Raffle. If you have old ink cartridges bring them too. Sue Henderson collects them for recycling - a useful contribution to funds. And whisper the word – Christmas! Surrey Network Christmas cards will be on sale – buy now while stocks last!

## Funding for Tree Planting

Thinking of planting trees and looking for funding? There are lots of tree planting initiatives these days, as the government looks to a huge tree planting programme to help meet their climate change objectives.

**Surrey County Council** is encouraging street tree planting, as described below.

**The Tree Council**, the umbrella organisation for all Tree Wardens, provides grants to UK schools and community groups for trees, hedges and orchards. Check 'What We Do' on the website: [www.treecouncil.org.uk](http://www.treecouncil.org.uk)

**The Woodland Trust** also has free planting packs for schools and community groups and can advise landowners and farmers on grants for larger schemes.

**eforests.co.uk** is a carbon offsetting organisation. It offered a wide variety of native species to choose from, along with deer guards and mulch mats. Free if you meet the criteria.

**There is a vacancy for a Treasurer at STWN. Could you do this job? Very few hours required – and you will be well briefed by the retiring Treasurer Dave Pope. Contact our Secretary Patricia Brookwick.**

## Street Trees – Surrey’s New Strategy

At last! There has been a clear change of stance by Surrey County Council over permissions to plant street trees. Several local Tree Warden groups had been reporting huge problems over the past few years with many applications being turned down. But many of these locations have been reviewed by Surrey Highways Department, and in many cases, permission has been granted. Permission was quickly followed by action and in Epsom and Ewell, Tadworth, Bookham and Ashted, new street trees have already gone in.

Surrey has committed to planting 1.2 million Trees by 2030 – one for each resident. Now any resident, or organisation such as a local Tree Warden group, can apply for trees to be planted outside their own property or on local areas of highway verge. Applicants will need to show that they have consulted adjacent properties, and a survey will be done to ensure the site is suitable. Costs will vary according to circumstances and the individual or group must agree to watering and aftercare. The planting itself is done by SCC contractors.

Up to now, many Surrey TW groups have organised and planted the trees themselves. This has now changed, and with it perhaps the role of the Tree Warden. In urban areas they are becoming facilitators – street tree champions, seeking sites, encouraging people to apply, and making sure the aftercare is carried out. The full Surrey Council tree strategy can be read here: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/permits-and-licences/planting-trees>

## Trees for the Queen



**From the Leigh Tree Warden Lucy Halahan:** Leigh and District Cottage Garden Society planted a tree in March to commemorate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. A planting ceremony was held on the Village Green attended by Cllr Helyn Clack, Chair of Surrey County Council, local councillors Mary Huggins and Corinna Osborne-Patterson, ably supported by David ‘Diddy’ Hamilton of Radio fame. Members of LDCGS were there too, together with a few younger members of the village who enjoyed helping to fill in the hole! The tree, a *Liriodendron tulipifera* or Tulip tree, was chosen for its longevity and architectural value.

**From the Nutfield Tree Wardens:** the planting of the new Jubilee Wood has been completed, and it is now part of the Queen’s Green Canopy, a Commonwealth wide celebration of her reign.

On a cold blustery day in March, 400 more trees were planted on land owned by Nutfield Parish Council. Some thousand trees have gone in overall. Any more will be left to natural regeneration. It was a well-attended community event, and the Scouts provided much welcomed refreshments. One area was set aside for the local Brownies and Cubs to plant. In years to come they will be able to return, and return, to see how a tiny whip has become a towering tree.



## Be Amazed

Look out for the **Remarkable World of Trees**. This is an exhibition that has transferred from St Albans to Epsom, thanks to the hard work of STWN secretary Patricia Brookwick. The aim of the exhibition: to inspire people as to just how amazing trees are. The exhibition at Epsom Library will run from mid October to February with photos, talks, trails and hands on events. Afterwards, it could come to a library near you .

## Training

Three of the new Tree Council Training Modules have been delivered to Surrey TWs by Zoom, one each in the months of January, February and March. The first was the Tree Warden Induction course, followed by Tree Biology then Tree Threats. They each lasted about an hour with time for questions. The fourth course, on Trees and Law, will be delivered in person, at the STWN event in June in Lingfield. More training modules will follow – the next a series on Hedges. Some of you will have missed the sessions, but the intention is to repeat them at intervals, particularly the Induction Course which all TWs are recommended to do.

## Photos Please - You can do better than this!



Would you like to see one of your photos published to raise funds for the Network? We have had Christmas cards. Now the Network needs your help to expand the range to include a general greetings card using the most striking tree photos we can find.

Get clicking, and send any images to Rod Thorn:  
[info@surreytreewardens.org.uk](mailto:info@surreytreewardens.org.uk) He will put them together on an online folder and the best will be selected.

## CONTACT US

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