

Steyning For Trees Help Fight Climate Change



Welcome to our June 2021 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.

It was great to meet so many of you at the Steyning Farmers' Market on 1st May.

Thanks for coming to have a chat - many of you are working on our **Plant-a-Tree-on-the-Verge scheme**, encouraging people in your road to join in by choosing, donating and watering for the first two years, a tree on a WSCC verge by you. We planted 21 trees on verges last year - don't they look great! We hope to plant more this year. The cost is going up next year but WSCC are holding it down this year especially for Steyning For Trees.



Picture credit: SFT

Many thanks to all those who entered the Photo competition.



Picture credit: SFT

This is the **winning** adult entry taken by Emma Amphlett, a picture of Val Bullen (another keen tree planter) watering her lovely early flowering Prunus Pandora.

Emma's prize was a **free tree** on a verge near her and a voucher from [Gris et Blanc](#), jointly funded by them and SFT.

Sam Williams (11) won the junior section with a picture of one of the trees on the triangle between Ingram Road and Penlands Way. Sam received a book token for [Steyning Bookshop](#).



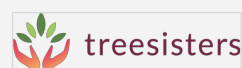
Picture credit: SFT

Trees for Tom. 35,000 trees are to be planted in memory of **Captain Sir Tom**



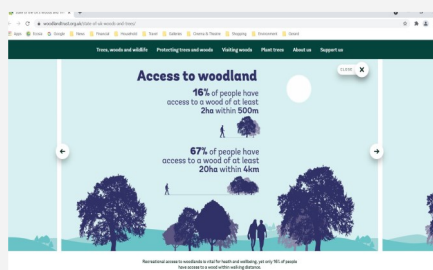
Picture credit: Moore family

Moore his daughter has announced. The planting is being done in the UK in conjunction with the [Woodland Trust](#) and internationally in conjunction with [Tree Sisters](#).



We expect some of you have read about **Suzanne Simard`s** new book **`Finding the Mother Tree`**. This is about the tallest tree in the forest nurturing the smaller trees around it by the symbiotic relationships with fungi on the outside of their roots. She says trees are more altruistic than competitive. Chris Packham spoke about this Wood Wide Web on Winter Watch. Published by Allen Lane. Buy it from [Steyning Bookshop](#).

We were invited to join the **Woodland Trust** webinar on their ground breaking report on the [State of the UK's Woods and Trees 2021](#).



Picture credit: WTML

The report covers a huge amount of data including an inventory of our Ancient Woodlands. Sadly only 7% of our woods are in good condition. We are fortunate to have the WT`s Lost Woods project improving our woodland in this area.

They emphasised the importance of areas outside major woodland needing to be planted to increase connectivity highlighting the decline by 85% in hedges etc. since 1850.

Although overall tree coverage is increasing, unfortunately this is mostly because of large amounts of conifers being planted which are not so good for wildlife. There has been a 29% decrease in birds since 1970, a 41% decrease in butterflies since 1990, and a 15% decrease in plants since 2015.

On a more positive note, they have a record of the top 10 trees with the largest girths.

Trees support people helping them, wildlife and livestock to adjust to Climate Change but only 16.2% of people have access to trees and countryside within 500m of where they live - aren`t we lucky with our wonderful National Park on our doorstep.

KEY FINDINGS of the report are that **not enough is being done**. We need more woodland but only a quarter of what we need for net zero targets is being planted.



Ecosia is an alternative search engine that plants trees for every internet search you make. You can find out more [here](#), or read a review of how it works from the [Ethical Consumer](#) website. Thanks for the information Shona.

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 steyningsociety.org.uk/steyning-for-trees 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'

And finally, if you want to **unsubscribe** from these Newsletters, please get in touch via our email address: SteyningForTrees@gmail.com