



BRANCHING OUT

The news and events letter of the Community Tree Trust

No 13 Summer 2010

THE COMMUNITY TREE TRUST 2010

Wildflower, tree and shrub seed collections in Bedfordshire

Colin Carpenter (Project Manager)

In the summer of 2010, The Community Tree Trust collected a substantial amount of wildflower seed from Flitwick Wood, Salem Thrift, Clapham Park Wood, King's Wood Houghton Conquest and Marston Thrift SSSI. Early on in the year this was mainly dog's mercury and primrose, and later on bluebell, ramsons, wood spurge, hedge woundwort, enchanter's nightshade and wood avens.

About 90 school children took part from Kingsmoor Lower School in Flitwick, and 80 children from Southill Lower School on 2 further seed collections. At least 20 local volunteers were also involved.

30 Children from The Cranfield and Marston Moretaine Beavers also collected wildflower seed from Marston Thrift.

Most of the wildflower seed has now been dried and weighed ready for storage.

The Open Day was held on Sunday 23rd May 2010 and 6 volunteers and 3 children attended. One tree climber was also present to demonstrate tree climbing techniques, and most volunteers had a go at the tree climbing with ropes and harness.

Volunteers from the Beds Rural Communities Charity, Greensand Trust and Shuttleworth College students have attended work days at the Community tree nursery sowing seed, taking hardwood cuttings, tree planting and potting up seedlings and wildflowers.

Thanks to all members and volunteers who have helped out during the year with events, seed collections and work days at the Community Tree Nursery.

The Community Tree and shrub seed collections will be taking place this autumn as usual. Please see the list at the end of this Newsletter, or download at the Flyer.

Tree growing production cycle

- 1. Local provenance seed and cutting collections from ancient trees and woodlands.**
- 2. Seed sowing at the Community Tree Nursery in seed beds and seed trays.**
- 3. Planting out seedlings into rigipots and pots.**
- 4. Lining seedlings and saplings out onto the growing on beds.**
- 5. Lifting saleable trees to grade and bundle in the autumn and winter.**
- 6. Young trees and shrubs are planted out to restore old woodlands and plant new hedgerows and woodlands in and around Bedfordshire**

Native and ancient trees:

- 1. Are a sanctuary for a wide range of native wildlife and biodiversity.**
- 2. Form an essential part of the natural landscape.**
- 3. Foster a sense of mental and spiritual wellbeing.**
- 4. Provides fuel and timber for a variety of needs.**
- 5. Lock up carbon and release oxygen**

Who can take part?

Individuals and families

Tree wardens and P3 groups

Youth clubs

Community groups

Conservation volunteers

Local businesses

Members required for the Community Tree Trust

Membership of The Community Tree Trust still stands at £25.00 for 5 years, and more members are still required to keep the Trust moving forward.

More volunteers are also required to help out at the Community Nursery and to help man stalls at various events during the year.

Please contact Colin Carpenter if you are interested in helping out.

Local provenance trees, shrubs and wildflowers for sale

The Community Tree Trust has now built up a sufficient amount of stock to now sell local provenance trees and shrubs onto the open market, and this is being carried out through the new trading company, CTT Sales Ltd.

Wildflower plants and seed are also now available for sale.

Price lists are now available to download from the Community Tree Trust website, via e-mail or by post on request from the Project Manager, Colin Carpenter.



Forthcoming Seed Collection Events in 2010

Sunday 26th September 2010

Location:

Flitwick Wood, Flitwick

Meeting point:

At the end of Tennyson Road (off Byron Close), 3rd turning on right off Manor Way, Flitwick.

OS Map Ref: TL026350

Time: 10am - 3pm (or part thereof)

Sunday 3rd October 2010

Location:

Palmers Wood, Shuttleworth

Meeting point:

Next to the Equine Centre or Tobacco Pipe Spinney entrance.

OS Map Ref: TL134447

Time: 10am - 3pm (or part thereof)

Sunday 10th October 2010

Location:

Clapham Park Wood, Clapham

Meeting point:

Along Hawk Drive in Brickhill, Bedford opposite entrance to Beauchamp School.

OS Map Ref: TL050525

Time 10am- 3pm or part thereof

Sunday 31st October 2010

Location:

Holcot Wood, Brogborough

Meeting point:

At the top of the hill sign posted to Brogborough Manor Farm in gateway to Reynolds Wood.

OS Map Ref: SP966387

Time: 10am- 3pm (or part thereof)

Enquiries and Correspondence:

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The Community Tree Trust would like to thank the following for their help and support:

All landowners and farmers who have contributed and assisted with the seed collections including:

Mr and Mrs C. Helliwell, Mr and Mrs G. Barrett, Mr and Mrs Hall, Mr and Mrs G. Reynolds, Mr and Mrs Dorman, Mr and Mrs A. Parish, Mr and Mrs R. Weston, Mr and Mrs A.Owen, Mr and Mrs.D. Bavington, Mr and Mrs P.

Newman, The Forest of Marston Vale, The Marston Vale Trust, The Shuttleworth Trust Estates, Whitbread Estates, Bedfordshire County Council, The Greensand Trust, The Wildlife Trust, Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity, The Woodland Trust, Forest Enterprise and Forestry Commission.

The Trustees, Treasurer and Accountants for all their hard work, support and advice.

All volunteers and schools who have contributed to the Trust, and who sent in photos and articles that we have not had room to publish.